

B

Sunday News-Register

SUNDAY, MAY 2, 2009

SPORTS

INSIDE:

OVAC Title games/Page 2
High School Roundup/Page 3
Saturday's Scoreboard/Page 6
Outdoors/Page 7

OVAC CHAMPIONSHIP SATURDAY

Williams' Triple Helps Linsly to Baseball Crown

Cadets rally to beat Crusaders in 7th

By MIKE MATHISON
For the News-Register

STEUBENVILLE — It was a great way to win a baseball game, but a brutal way to lose one.

Both Derek Miller and Chris

Stevens scored in the bottom of the seventh inning on Dillon Williams' line-drive triple to dead center field for a 7-6 victory against Steubenville Central in the OVAC Class AA championship.

"That ranks up there," Crusaders coach Frank Spence said of the loss. "That's baseball. That's sports. You have to take the good with the bad. It just

■ Class AA Baseball

seems like we've had our share of bad this year.

"I thought we played our hearts out. I thought (Mickey Bednar) pitched his heart out. We played hard. We competed. We were enthused. It just didn't go our way in the last inning."

Added Linsly coach Jay

Cartwright: "I knew if we kept the pressure on them we'd get a chance."

Linsly loaded the bases in the bottom of the sixth inning, but Bednar struck out Leighton Gibson with a fastball. Gibson blasted a two-run homer two innings earlier.

"(Bednar) made a great pitch on our cleanup hitter who's been red hot," Cartwright said.

"It was a perfect, outside corner fastball that he couldn't catch up with. They stopped us there and got the momentum back. It was was one of those games where momentum went back and forth with two teams just competing really hard."

"It was a really good high school baseball game."

See, Linsly, Page B3

LINSLY

Continued from page B1

Steubenville Central's Jordan Teramana blasted a three-run shot in the top of the first inning. Linsly answered with two in the bottom of the frame. The Crusaders scored twice in the top of the third for a 5-2 lead and once in the top of the fifth for a 6-3 cushion.

"I have no complaints about how we played," Spence said. "They're a very good team no matter what class."

"They are one of the better teams in the valley and we're an out or two away from winning."

For the Cadets, this was their big tournament.

"We're not members of the SSAC, so this is out No. 1 goal every year, to

win this tournament," Cartwright said. "This is the 15th time that we've pulled it off. I'm very proud of these kids. They showed a lot of passion for the game to be down the way there were. Win or lose, it would have been an excellent effort."

"Hats off to Steubenville Central. They're well coaches and play the game very well."

"We both have amateur players and we're both going to make some mistakes and the momentum shifts back and forth. They got the big three-run home run in the first inning and we helped them out with some mistakes and some walks. They hit the ball in the clutch."

Big Red wins 4-A title, 15-7

By MIKE MATHISON
For The Times Leader

STEUBENVILLE — The Steubenville Big Red baseball team has been knocking the cover off the baseball offensively for most of the year.

The last thing you want as an opposing coach is to give them extra at-bats and that's what Indian Creek did Saturday at Vaccaro Field.

After scoring four runs in the top of the third inning to take a 5-3 lead, the Redskins watched Big Red score 12 runs in the next four innings for a 15-7 victory in the OVAC Class 4-A championship game.

Linsly rallies for 2-A OVAC crown

By MIKE MATHISON
For The Times Leader

STEUBENVILLE — It was a great way to win a baseball game, but a brutal way to lose one.

Linsly scored two runs in the bottom of the seventh inning off Dillon Williams' line-drive triple to dead center field for a 7-6 victory over Catholic Central in the Ohio Valley Athletic Conference Class AA championship.

"That ranks up there," Crusaders coach Frank Spence said of the loss. "That's baseball. That's sports. You have to take the good with the bad. It just seems like we've had our share of bad this year."

"I thought we played our hearts out. I thought our pitcher (Mickey Bednar) pitched his heart out. We played hard. We competed. We were enthused. It just didn't go our way in the last inning."

"I knew if we kept the pressure on them we'd get a chance," said Cadets coach Jay Cartwright.

Linsly loaded the bases in the bottom of the sixth inning, but Bednar struck out Leighton Gibson with a fastball. Gibson blasted a two-run homer two innings earlier.

"He (Bednar) made a great pitch on our cleanup hitter who's been red hot," said Cartwright. "It was a perfect, outside corner fastball that he couldn't catch up with. They stopped us there and got the momentum back. It was was one of those games where momentum went back and forth

with two teams just competing really hard."

"It was a really good high school baseball game."

Catholic Central's Jordan Teramana blasted a three-run shot in the top of the first inning. Linsly answered with two in the bottom of the frame. The Crusaders scored twice in the top of the third for a 5-2 lead and once in the top of the fifth for a 6-3 cushion.

"I have no complaints about how we played," said Spence. "They're a very good team no matter what class. They are one of the better teams in the Valley and we're an out or two away from winning."

"We have another week to keep on improving and keep on working on things to get ready for the tournament. When you're in high school sports, that's what it comes down to. That's what you practice all year for, the chance to move on and we're looking forward to it."

For the Cadets, this was their big tournament.

"We're not members of the SSAC, so this is out No. 1 goal every year, to win this tournament," said Cartwright. "This is the 15th time that we've pulled it off."

"We both have amateur players and we're both going to make some mistakes and the momentum shifts back and forth. They got the big three-run home run in the first inning and we helped them out with some mistakes and some walks"

SPORTS

Sunday, April 25, 2010



T-L Photo/SETH STASKEY

ST. CLAIRSVILLE'S Michael Young drops down a bunt single to lead off the OVAC Class 3-A semifinal Saturday morning at Robert Mazerowski Field in Cadiz. Additional images may be found at cu.timesleaderonline.com

St. C. reaches 3-A title game

• Red Devils will meet Edison, which dispatched top-seeded Union Local, 7-2

By RICH GIBSON
Times Leader Sports Writer

If St. Clairsville and Edison seemed destined to play for a OVAC 3-A title, it's only because they will.

The Red Devils and Wildcats scored semifinal victories Saturday afternoon at Cadiz' Bob Mazerowski Park.

St. C. held on for a 4-3 victory over defending 3-A champion Magnolia while Edison advanced following a 7-2 decision of Union Local.

Next Saturday afternoon (1:30) at Steubenville's Vacarro Field, St. C. and Edison will vie for the 3-A crown. The Buckeye 8 Conference rivals split a pair of regular season encounters.

ST. CLAIRSVILLE relied on two senior veterans to hand Magnolia a one-run setback.

On the mound, Kent State-bound righthander Joe Slavik stopped the Blue Eagles on five hits. He compiled

12 strikeouts and walked a pair. Slavik's batterymate, Tom Machovina, also came up big.

In the top of the third, the Devils' clean-up hitter took Magnolia starter Justin Fox deep, unloading a two-run homer well over the fence in left field.

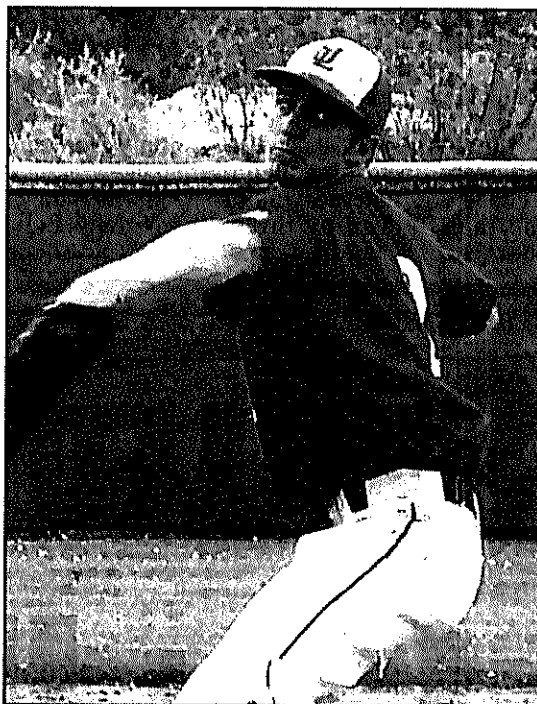
"Machovina's a dangerous hitter but he should never have come to the plate if we make two routine plays," lamented Eagles' skipper Dave Cisar.

"We just didn't handle a couple infield grounders and it cost us. It normally does when you fail to execute."

St. C.'s Michael Young reached on a one-out error and later scored when second baseman Zack Kinnick also got aboard via a Blue Eagles' bobble.

That brought up Machovina whose blast elevated St. C. to a three-run lead.

Magnolia returned the favor in the last of the fourth. Slavik walked lead-off batter Treah Keller and Fox fol-



T-L Photo/RICH GIBSON

UNION LOCAL pitcher Andrew Barbina works to the mound during Saturday's OVAC Class 3-A semifinal against Edison, which the Wildcats claimed by a 7-2 final.

● OVAC

Continued from Page C1

lowed with a base rap to left field. When Slavik threw wildly past first base on a Mason Rine's slow chopper, both Keller and Fox raced home. But the Red Devils' ace responded, retiring the next three batters.

St. C.'s Michael Androsko singled to ignite an eventful seventh inning.

After Young successfully executed a sacrifice bunt, Kinnick came through with a clutch, two-out run scoring hit resulting in a 4-2 lighting.

"Zack's hit was really huge," Sliva remarked. "He's a kid we definitely want up there in crucial situations."

Magnolia made things more than a little interesting in its final at-bat.

Pinch hitter Chuck McElhaney reached on a leadoff single and moved up when Herrick also hammered a base hit.

Slavik recorded back-to-back strikeouts before Eagles' leadoff man Seth Pay delivered a base hit to right, plating McElhaney and sending Herrick to third with the tying run.

But with Keller at the plate, Pay broke for second on an attempted delayed steal and when Herrick ventured too far off third, Machovina fired a strike to third baseman MacKenzie Koehler who applied a game-ending tag.

"I'm not going to complain (about the final out)," Cisar stressed. "The two errors in the third inning are what cost us today. It's a shame because our kids have been playing solid defense all season long."

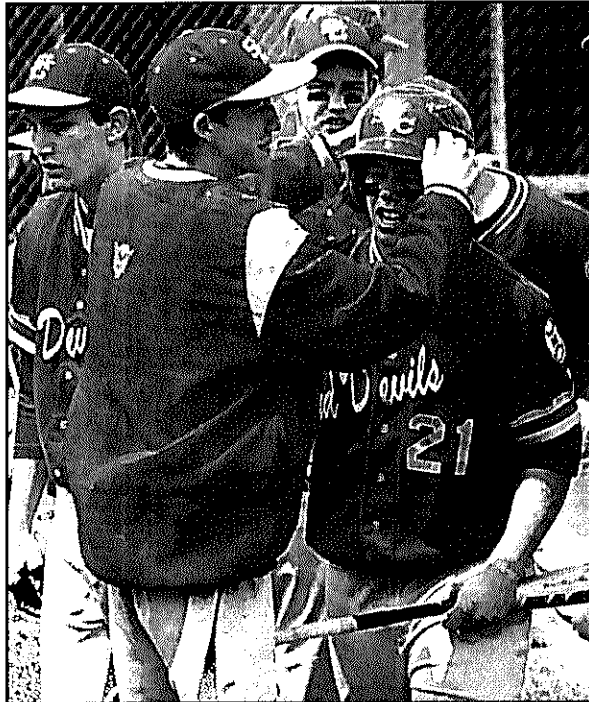
Sliva, meanwhile, waxed philosophical following the outcome. "We came in here expecting a one-run game and that's what we got," he explained.

"I really want to compliment my two seniors. That was a gutsy effort out there on Dan's part. He's a real bulldog on the mound and a tremendous competitor. It's easy to see why he's headed to the next level."

"And Tommy (Machovina) just did what he does best, get a key clutch hit, then make a game-winning play with his arm."

Fox took the loss with freshman Kyle Elliott coming on in the fifth inning. They combined for four Ks and three walks.

Now 17-3, St. Clairsville welcomes Union Local for a regular season encounter Monday at newly-



ST. CLAIRSVILLE'S Michael Androsko is greeted at the plate by Sammy Vincenzo after scoring the eventual game-winning run during the OVAC Class 3-A semifinals in Cadiz. St. Clairsville meet Edison Saturday for the OVAC title.

T-L Photo/SETH STASKEY

refurbished Memorial Park.

The 14-4 Blue Eagles are home Monday to Tyler Consolidated.

St. Clairsville 003 000 1 - 4 6 1
Magnolia 000 200 1 - 3 5 2
BATTERIES: Slavik and Machovina.
Fox, Elliott (5) and Howell.

EDISON made the most of five hits and took advantage of four UL errors in capturing Saturday's second game.

The Wildcats received another stellar mound outing from sophomore ace Greg Stagani who stopped the Jets on four hits and recorded nine strikeouts.

"We gave them a pair of five-out innings which, obviously, you can't do against a quality opponent," remarked UL skipper Richard Mercer.

"Of course, we wanted to advance (in the OVAC Tournament). But by no means does (this) ruin our season. Our kids have a whole lot more to play for."

Two Jets misplays in the top of the third led to three Wildcat runs and a 4-0 advantage.

Tyler McGary's bases-loaded, two-run single in the last of the third plated David Fisher and Darby Waller, slicing the Jets' deficit in half. But the men of Morristown would not score

again.

Edison, meanwhile, registered three insurance tallies in the seventh. Shortstop Jarod Falasca singled home Robert Spring prior to a two-run double off the bat of right fielder Mark Rogers who, earlier, had tripled home Spring in the third.

"Greg was solid again today," acknowledged Cats' skipper Mike Collopy whose team improves to 14-5. "He won two games last season as a freshman and has been very composed this year."

Edison's 10th-year mentor is anticipating next Saturday's 3-A battle against St. C.

"We played two good ones with them (in the regular season) so we expect another great game (next Saturday)," Collopy indicated.

In addition to Rogers' two extra-base blows, Jonathan Byers and Ethan Tice tagged sac-flies in Saturday's win.

Edison is scheduled to host Buckeye Local in a Monday regular season matchup at Richmond.

Edison 013 000 3 - 7 5 0
U. Local 002 000 0 - 2 4 4
BATTERIES: Barbina, Curry (3) and Jellison. Stagani and Spears.

Gibson may be reached at rgibson@timesleaderonline.com

Big Red Pockets Class 4-A Baseball Crown

By MIKE MATHISON

For the News-Register

STEUBENVILLE — The Steubenville Big Red baseball team has been knocking the cover off the baseball offensively for most of the year.

The last thing you want as an opposing coach is to give them extra at-bats and that's what Indian Creek did Saturday at Vaccaro Field.

After scoring four runs in the top of the third inning to take a 5-3 lead, the Redskins watched Big Red score 12 runs in the next four innings for a 15-7 victory in the OVAC Class AAAA championship game.

"It doesn't matter who you are playing, you can't do what we did," Redskins coach Mike Cottis said. "I think the scoreboard

■ Class AAAA Baseball

showed five errors and we probably had nine, balls getting by the outfielders and dropped pop-ups here and there. We just didn't play a very good game.

"By far that's the worst defensive game we've played all year and we've been playing great defense all year. For all days for it to happen, it had to be (Saturday)."

After the four-spot in the top of the third, Big Red came back to take a 6-5 lead in the bottom half.

Caleb Westlake started with an inning with a single. Two outs later, Darin Heatherington singled and Dominic Garay doubled. Joe Pierro came up and hit a routine

pop-up which dropped on the infield dirt.

Steubenville sent nine batters to the plate in the third and fourth innings.

"We came ready to play after last night," said Big Red coach Fred Heatherington, whose team dropped a 19-17 decision Friday to visiting John Marshall. "We hit the ball extremely well and ran the bases real aggressively. If you do that, you're going to put pressure on the defense and we did."

"I told (John Marshall) coach (Bob) Montgomery after the game that the same thing happened to them last year. We beat them here and they came back and won the OVAC the next day. Hopefully, it was a good omen for us and it was."

T.J. DeChristopher earned a vic-

tory, striking out five and walked two.

Darin Heatherington clubbed four singles for three RBI. Jordon Meyer added four singles and a double for two RBI and Joe Pierro a double and two singles for an RBI.

Alan Hastwell banged a triple and a two-run homer for three RBI for the Redskins.

"We scored enough runs that we should have won," Cottis said. "We just didn't play defense. Our pitchers didn't throw that badly. They (Big Red) were hitting the ball well, too. It was a good offensive game, it just wasn't a very good defensive game for us. We have a lot of games left to play, though."

It was Big Red's first OVAC title since 2002.

SPORTS

Sunday, May 2, 2010

AT RIGHT: The St. Clairsville Red Devils Baseball Team poses with its trophy after defeating Edison in the OVAC Class 3-A baseball final at Steubenville's Vaccaro Field.

BELOW RIGHT: St. Clairsville's Mackenzie Koehler pumps his fist after he cleared the bases on a triple during the bottom of the first inning.



T-L Photo/RICH GIBSON

St. C. wins OVAC pennant

• Red Devils knock off Edison in 3-A title game

By RICH GIBSON
Times Leader Sports Writer

Winning an OVAC championship is anything but a formality.

But Tom Sliva's St. Clairsville Red Devils made it look that way this spring.

It was simply a matter of making it official Saturday afternoon at Steubenville's Vaccaro Field where St. C. claimed the 3-A title following a 10-4 conquest of Edison.

After splitting a pair of tight regular season games, the Red Devils recovered nicely from an early deficit to win going away.

Sliva's club did so behind an array of clutch hits and the right arm of winning pitcher Dan Slavik who allowed three first inning runs before blanking Edison over the final five innings.

'Obviously, we're pleased to win here today. But I told our guys this isn't it.'

—Tom Sliva

"Obviously, we're pleased to win here today. But I told our guys this isn't it. We still have some bigger goals out there to accomplish," Sliva insisted.

Before they came to bat Saturday, the Devils trailed 3-0 after Slavik surrendered three hits, including two for extra bases.

St. C., however, was unfazed. The Saints batted around in their half of

the first, compiling six runs to take charge.

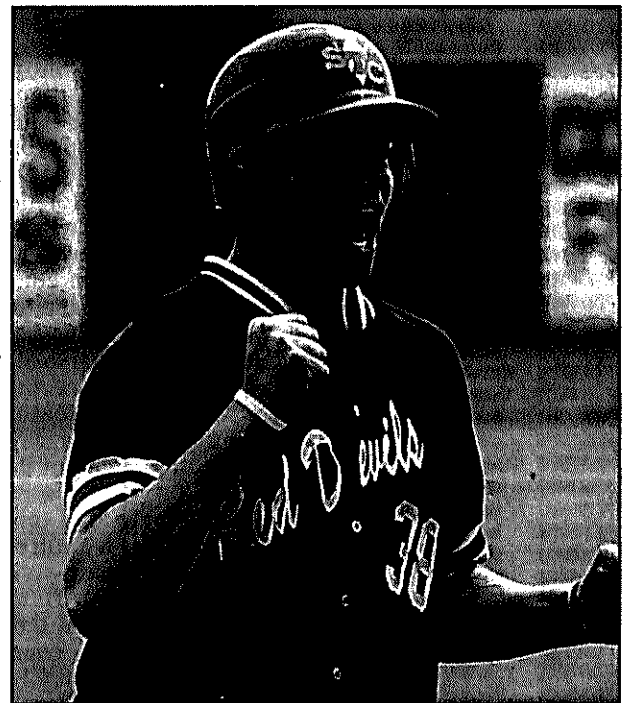
"Scoring those six runs was huge. I think that was the game right there," said Slavik who settled into a nice groove enroute to finishing with a complete game seven-hitter.

Cats' sophomore ace Greg Stagani, who had shut out St. C. in a regular season encounter, experienced a first inning to forget after Devils' leadoff man Michael Young singled and shortstop Jared Clovis drew a base on balls.

That brought on second baseman Zack Kinnick who drilled a two-run double to left field.

The Wildcats then opted to intentionally pass senior catcher Tom Machovina. Another free pass to Slavik loaded the bases for designated hitter Mackenzie Koehler.

See, ST. C., Page C2



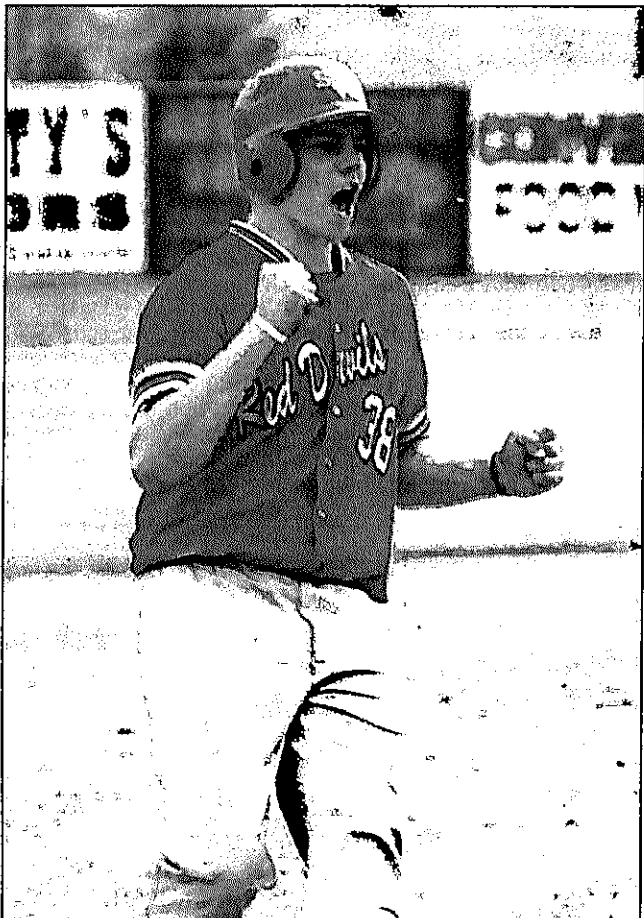


Photo by Mike Mathison

Mackenzie Koehler and the St. Clairsville Red Devils are OVAC Class AAA baseball champions.

St. C. Wins Title, Has Bigger Goals

After rough start, Slavik quiets Edison

By RICH GIBSON
For The News-Register

STEBENVILLE — Winning an OVAC championship is anything but a formality.

But Tom Sliva's St. Clairsville Red Devils made it look that way this spring.

It was simply a matter of making it official Saturday afternoon at Steubenville's Vaccaro Field where St. C. claimed the Class AAA title following a 10-4 conquest of Edison.

Sliva's club did so behind an array of clutch hits and the right arm of winning pitcher Dan Slavik, who allowed three first-inning runs before blanking Edison during the final five innings.

"Obviously, we're pleased to win here," Sliva said. "But I told our guys this isn't it. We still have some bigger goals out there to accomplish."

Before they came to bat Saturday, the Devils trailed 3-0 after Slavik surrendered three hits, including two for extra bases.

St. C., however, was unfazed. The Red Devils batted around in their half of the first, compiling six runs to take charge.

See, St.C., Page B5

■ Class AAA Baseball

● St. C.

Continued from Page C1

St. C.'s lefty-swinging junior, who has been a clutch hitter of late, pulled the trigger on a 1-2 pitch, driving a three-run triple to the center field fence for a 5-0 lighting.

First baseman T.J. Sliva followed with a sacrifice fly to left and the Devils owned a 6-3 upperhand.

After Edison second baseman Dom Controguerra clubbed a run-scoring hit in the top of the second, the Cats' offense was virtually silenced by Slavik for the duration.

St. C. made it a 7-4 issue in the third after Koehler gapped a double to right-center and dashed home when Stagani unleashed a wild pitch.

An inning later, St. C. removed all doubt, scoring three more times.

Young socked a leadoff single and swiped second base ahead of Kinnick's second extra base, RBI hit of the afternoon.

Cats' skipper Mike

Collopy opted to bring on reliever Mark Smyth who was greeted by Machovina's two-run homer off the leftfield scoreboard and a 10-4 St. C. upperhand.

Slavik finished strong, retiring the final eight batters he faced. The Kent State bound ace recorded eight strikeouts and three walks.

Offensively, Edison had no answer for Kinnick whose production totaled two singles, two doubles and three runs batted in. Koehler tagged two extra base blows, also driving in three. Young contributed a two-hit outing.

"We've won mostly this season with key contributions 1-through-9 in our lineup. That was the case again today," Sliva advised.

"Our six-run first is exactly what Dan needed. I thought he pitched just great down the stretch."

Edison 310 000 0 — 4 7 1
St Clairs. 601 300 x — 10 9 1
BATTERIES: Stagani, Smyth (4) and Spears. Slavik and Machovina.

St. C.

Continued from page B1

"Scoring those six runs was huge. I think that was the game right there," said Slavik, who settled into a nice groove en route to finishing with a complete game seven-hitter.

Edison sophomore ace Greg Stagani, who had shut out St. C. in a regular season encounter, experienced a first inning to forget after Devils' leadoff man Michael Young singled and shortstop Jared Clovis drew a walk.

That brought on second baseman Zack Kinnick who drilled a two-run double to left field.

The Wildcats then opted to intentionally walk Tom Machovina. Another free pass to Slavik loaded the bases for designated hitter Mackenzie Koehler.

St. C.'s lefty-swinging junior pulled the trigger on a 1-2 pitch, driving a three-run triple to the center-field fence for a 5-0 lighting.

T.J. Sliva followed with a sacrifice fly to left and the Devils owned a 6-3 lead.

After Edison's Dom Controguerra clubbed a run-scoring hit in the top of the second, the Wildcats offense was virtually silenced by Slavik for the duration.

St. C. made it a 7-4 issue

in the third after Koehler gapped a double to right-center and dashed home when Stagani unleashed a wild pitch.

An inning later, St. C. removed all doubt, scoring three more times.

Young socked a leadoff single and swiped second base ahead of Kinnick's second extra-base, RBI hit of the afternoon.

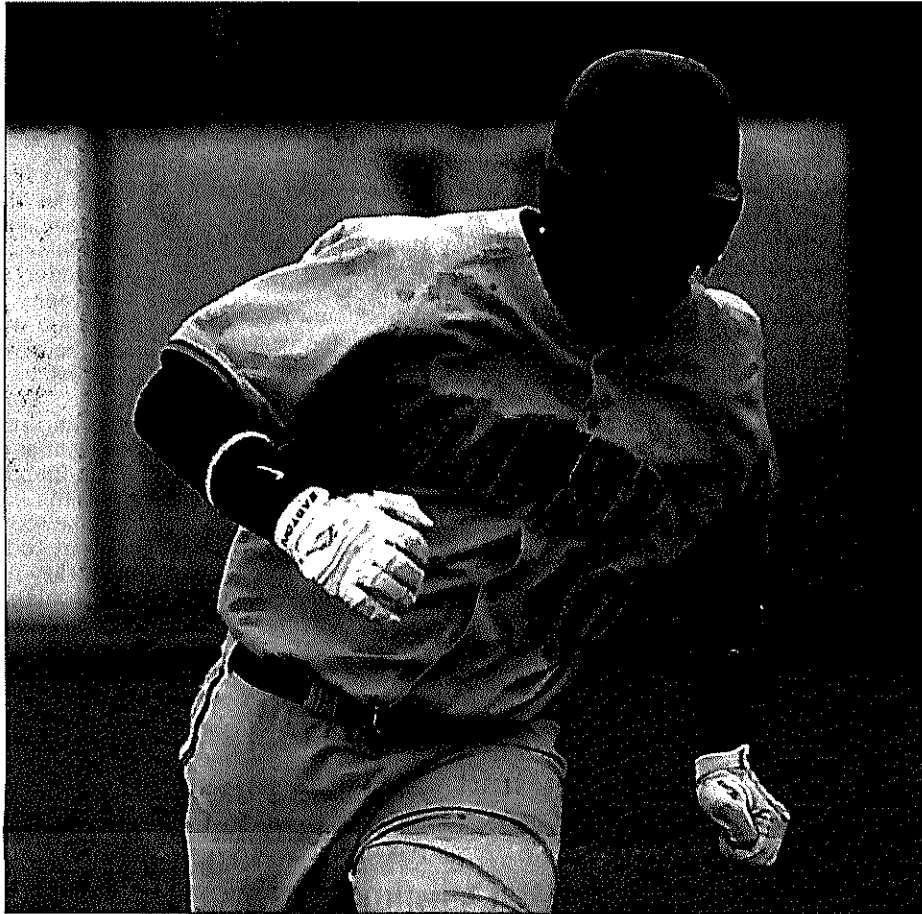
Cats' skipper Mike Collopy opted to bring on reliever Mark Smyth who was greeted by Machovina's two-run homer off the left-field scoreboard and a 10-4 St. C. lead.

Slavik finished strong, retiring the final eight batters he faced. The Kent State bound ace recorded eight strikeouts and three walks.

Offensively, Edison had no answer for Kinnick whose production totaled two singles, two doubles and three RBI. Koehler tagged two extra base blows, also driving in three. Young contributed a two-hit outing.

Contraquerra collected two Wildcat singles. Third baseman Robert Spring singled and doubled. First baseman Mark Rogers rapped a double.

OVAC BASEBALL TOURNAMENT: SEMIFINALS



Linsly's Leighton Gibson heads toward third base during Saturday's game against Fort Frye at Toronto High School.

Photo by Ashley Newman

Linsly Tops Fort Frye

Steubenville Central next in title contest

By **ASHLEY NEWMAN**
For the News-Register

TORONTO — The Linsly baseball team had rolled through its first 20 games of the season heading into the Ohio Valley Athletic Conference semifinals at the Knight Baseball Complex on Saturday.

The 21st proved to be no different, as the Cadets coasted to a 13-3 victory in six innings against Fort Frye to improve Linsly's mark to 19-2 and secured it a spot in the OVAC title game against Steubenville Catholic Central at Vaccaro Field.

"I'm very pleased with the effort," Linsly coach Jay Cartwright said. "The kids like to compete and it is fun to coach them."

Linsly's ace Ben Weimer earned a victory, striking out four and walking three through five innings. Matt Smith came on in the sixth inning to close the show for the Cadets.

"Our senior pitcher was out there and he didn't have his best stuff," Cartwright said. "But, he just gutted it out against a good hitting team. Early on, it was a ballgame. He just didn't quit. They hit some shots off of him and he was a competitor out there."

"It didn't rattle him one bit and he just kept going after hitters. Our bats kept us in it and eventually we ran away with it at the end."

Weimer helped his own cause at the plate, hitting a home run, a single, and

See, Linsly, Page B2

CLASS AAA

Red Devils Get Past Blue Eagles

St. Clairsville, Edison to battle for championship

By **RICH GIBSON**
For the News-Register

CADIZ — If St. Clairsville and Edison seemed destined to play for a OVAC AAA title, it's only because they will.

The Red Devils and Wildcats scored semifinal victories Saturday afternoon at Bob Mazerowski Park.

St. C. held on for a 4-3 victory against defending champion Magnolia while Edison advanced following a 7-2 decision against Union Local.

St. Clairsville relied on two senior veterans to hand Magnolia a one-run setback.

On the mound, Kent State-bound right-hander Joe Slavik stopped the Blue Eagles on five hits. He compiled 12 strikeouts and walked a pair.

Slavik's batterymate, Tom Machovina, also came up big.

In the top of the third, the Devils' clean-up hitter took Magnolia starter Justin Fox deep, unloading a two-run homer well over the fence in left field.

"Machovina's a dangerous hitter but he should never have come to the plate if we make two routine plays," Eagles coach Dave Cisar said. "We just didn't handle a couple infield grounders and it cost us. It normally does when you fail to execute."

St. C.'s Michael Young reached on a one-out error and later scored when second baseman Zack Kinnick also got aboard via a Blue Eagles bobble.

That brought up Machovina whose blast elevated St. C. to a three-run lead.

Magnolia returned the favor in the last of the fourth. Slavik walked leadoff batter Treah Keller and Fox followed with a base rap to left field. When Slavik threw wildly past first base on a Mason Rine's slow chopper, both Keller and Fox raced home. But the Red Devils ace responded, retiring the next three batters.

St. C.'s Michael Androsko singled to ignite an eventful seventh inning.

After Young successfully executed a sacrifice bunt, Kinnick came through with a clutch, two-out run scoring hit resulting in a 4-2 score.

"Zack's hit was really huge," St. Clairsville coach Tom Sliva said. "He's a kid we definitely want up there in crucial situations."

See, Eagles, Page B3

EAGLES

Continued from page B1

Magnolia made things more than a little interesting in its final at-bat.

Pinch-hitter Chuck McElhaney reached on a leadoff single and moved up when Herrick also hammered a base hit.

Slavik recorded back-to-back strikeouts before Eagles leadoff man Seth Pay delivered a base hit to right, plating McElhaney and sending Herrick to third with the tying run.

But with Keller at the plate, Pay broke for second on an attempted delayed steal and when Herrick ventured too far off third, Machovina fired a strike to third baseman MacKenzie Koehler who applied a game-ending tag.

"I'm not going to complain (about the final out)," Cisar stressed. "The two errors in the third inning are what cost us. It's a shame because our kids have been playing solid defense all season long."

Sliva, meanwhile, waxed philosophical following the outcome.

"We came in here expecting a one-run game and that's what we got," he explained.

"I really want to compliment my two seniors. That was a gutsy effort out there on Dan's part. He's a real bulldog on the mound and a tremendous competitor. It's easy to see why he's headed to the next level.

"And Tommy (Machovina) just did what he does best, get a key clutch hit,

then make a game-winning play with his arm."

Fox took the loss with freshman Kyle Elliott coming on in the fifth inning. They combined for four strikeouts and three walks.

Edison made the most of five hits and took advantage of four Union Local errors in capturing Saturday's second game.

The Wildcats received another stellar outing from sophomore ace Greg Stagani who stopped the Jets on four hits and recorded nine strikeouts.

"We gave them a pair of five-out innings which, obviously, you can't do against a quality opponent," Union Local coach Richard Mercer said. "Of

course, we wanted to advance. But by no means does (this) ruin our season. Our kids have a whole lot more to play for."

Two Jets misplays in the top of the third led to three Wildcats runs and a 4-0 advantage.

Tyler McGary's bases-loaded, two-run single in the last of the third plated David Fisher and Darby Waller, slicing the Jets deficit in half. But the men of Morristown didn't score again.

Edison, meanwhile, registered three insurance runs in the seventh. Shortstop Jarod Falasca singled home Robert Spring prior to a two-run double off the bat of right fielder Mark

Rogers, who earlier had tripled home Spring in the third.

"Greg was solid again," acknowledged Wildcats coach Mike Collopy whose team improves to 14-5. "He won two games last season as a freshman and has been very composed this year."

Edison's 10th-year coach is anticipating next Saturday's AAA battle against St. C.

"We played two good ones with them (in the regular season) so we expect another great game," Collopy indicated.

In addition to Rogers' two extra-base blows, Jonathan Byers and Ethan Tice tagged sac flies.

WE HAVE TAILORED OUR PRICES TO FIT OUR ECONOMY!

TAKE ADVANTAGE OF ENERGY TAX CREDITS **DON'T KEEP YOUR BLINDS DOWN!!**
NICE HOME? HOW'S THE VIEW?
 Sunlight can be as harmful as it is beautiful.

WINDOW FILM IS DESIGNED TO
 REDUCE FADING, HEAT & GLARE
 CONTROL INTERIOR TEMPERATURES
 ENHANCE PRIVACY, SAFETY & SECURITY
 CONTROLS UV A&B RAYS
 DECORATIVE FILMS NOW AVAILABLE

FREE ESTIMATES

"Making Life More Comfortable"



Made In The Shade

Glass Tinting

References Available

JUST ASK....
 • J.B. CARNES CENTER
 • HOMEOWNER ANDY YANIK
 • HOMEOWNER DIANE EDGMON
 • RITE AID STORES (TRI-STATE AREA)
 • WESBANCO ARENA
 • OLD NAVY (HIGHLANDS)

Wheeling: 929 National Road
304-233-1777

Over 25 Years Of Quality Service
 Barry Russell Owner/Installer

www.madeintheshadetint.com

MADICO SUNSCAPE
 WINDOW FILM

WHEREVER THERE IS GLASS, WE CAN *improve* IT.

Sunday, April 25, 2010

SPORTS

Westlake Homers in Big Red Victory

By TRACY WATSON
 For the News-Register

GLEN DALE — Steubenville coach Fred Heatherington was not overly pleased with the performance of his top-seeded team in an Ohio Valley Athletic Conference Class AAAA semifinal contest Saturday against Cambridge.

However, the veteran is very happy his team will get the chance to battle for its first conference baseball championship since 2002 next Saturday at Vaccaro Field.

Caleb Westlake homered and Josh Mamula chased home a run with a triple while the Bobcats squandered opportunity after opportunity before Steubenville eventually held on for a 4-3 victory against Cambridge at John Marshall High School.

Win the victory, Big Red (13-4) heads to the championship game to battle No. 4 seed Indian Creek, which blasted Parkersburg South.

It was a day in which Coach David Gray's Cambridge team stranded eight runners, including six in scoring position. The Bobcats couldn't get a big hit and had a dropped foul ball come back to haunt them.

"We just left way too many on the bases," Gray said. "Then we get the bases loaded with one out in the seventh with our five and six hitters com-

CLASS AAAA

ing up and we can't get a key hit.

"A dropped foul ball and an error cost us a 1-0 lead coming out of the first, but Steubenville is a heckuva team and they play very tough defense.

"Our pitcher did a good job throwing strikes, we just couldn't give him any help at the plate."

Cambridge manufacture a run in the top of the first with a walk, infield single, passed ball and Jimmy Antalis' fielder's choice RBI.

But Big Red got the lead for good in the home-half. Westlake worked a 3-1 count before fouling a pitch off that hit catcher Rylee Rogers' mitt but bounced away.

On the next pitch, Westlake sent a laser over the left-field fence to knot the score at 1-1. Jordan Meyer followed by reaching on an error, stole second and scored on Jordan Banks' RBI single to right.

Steubenville got some insurance in the fourth when Banks singled, moved to second on a wild pitch, third on a fielder's choice and scored on another wild pitch: Just one out after a walk to Dominic Garay, Josh Mamula drilled a run-scoring triple to deep right to make it 4-1.

Cambridge got RBI from Kyle Cox and Jake Yanico in the sixth to trim the margin to 4-3, but also stranded runners at first and third. The Bobcats, who loaded the bases and scored just once in the first, had the sacks juiced with one out in the seventh but failed to score.

"Our defense got us out of a lot of jams," Heatherington admitted. "Joven Pilutte also made some great pitches in tough spots to get some much needed pop-ups.

"But our offense didn't get the job done. Our game is to get hits when we have guys on base and we didn't do that, we just weren't as aggressive as we needed to be.

"We also didn't get to run the bases like we normally do, but we battled together and stayed together and we won the game. Good teams win tough games, I just think we could have done more.

"These kids have worked hard to be where they are now. We have talked a little about this, which is something we haven't done the last few years. But they deserve this chance and hopefully we will do it on the field and get the championship."

Pilutte went the distance on the hill to get a victory, fanning three but walking seven and allowing just four hits.

Linsly, SCC to meet for class 2-A OVAC baseball title

By **ASHLEY NEWMAN**
For The Times Leader

TORONTO — The Linsly baseball team had rolled through its first 20 games of the season heading into the Ohio Valley Athletic Conference Class AA semifinals here at the Red Knight Baseball Complex, Saturday.

The 21st proved to be no different, as the Cadets coasted to a 13-3 victory in six innings over Fort Frye to improve to 19-2. The win also secured a spot in the title game against Steubenville Catholic Central at Vaccaro Field, Saturday.

"I'm very pleased with the effort," Linsly head coach Jay Cartwright said. "The kids like to compete and it is fun to coach them."

Linsly's ace Ben Weimer earned the victory on the mound, striking out four and walking three through five innings. Matt Smith came on in the sixth inning to close the show for the Cadets.

Weimer helped his own cause at the plate, hitting a home run, a single, and accounting for three RBI. Also coming up big for the Cadets was Dillon Williams with four singles and three RBI. Jon-Michael Brunner chipped in with two singles and an RBI.

The championship is set for Vaccaro Field at 4 p.m.

Class AAAA
Steubenville 4,
Cambridge 3

Big Red's Caleb Westlake homered and Josh Mamula chased home a run with a triple while the Bobcats squandered opportunity after opportunity before the Big Red eventually held on for a narrow victory over the Bobcats at John Marshall High School.

Win the victory, Big Red

(13-4) heads to the championship game to battle No. 4 seed Indian Creek, which blasted Parkersburg South.

Indian Creek 12,
South 2, 6 inn.

Senior Michael Wayt overcame early control problems to limit the second-seeded Patriots to just five hits and Alan Hastwell chased home five runs with a single and double, as the Redskins scored nine times in the sixth inning enroute to their victory against the Patriots in a semifinal contest at John Marshall High School.

Wayt, who walked only one batter and surrendered just two hits after the first inning, got three straight outs to end it in the bottom of the sixth. After throwing 33 pitches in the first, Wayt needed only 55 more during the final five.

Class AA

Steubenville Catholic 14,
Shenandoah 0, 5 inn.

Everything seemed to come together in the semifinals at the Red Knight Baseball Complex in Toronto Saturday as the Crusaders cruised to a win in five innings over Shenandoah.

Mickey Bednar controlled the game on the mound for the Crusaders, limiting the Zeps to three scattered hits. He struck out one and walked one while going the distance.

Catholic Central's defense turned in an excellent performance, finishing the game with no errors.

Bednar did the rest, finishing the job in the bottom of the fifth.

Jordan Teramana led the Catholic Central offense with three singles and an RBI. Robinson contributed two singles and three RBI, while Justin Teramana added two singles and an RBI.

Catholic Central (12-7)



LINSLY'S LEIGHTON
Gibson heads for third during Saturday's OVAC Class 2-A semifinal at Toronto's Red Knight Baseball Complex. The Cadets advanced to the title game by virtue of a 13-3 victory over Fort Frye. They will meet Steubenville Central Saturday at Vaccaro Field.

Photo/MIKE MATHISON

will face Linsly in the championship.

Class A

Weirton Madonna 10,
Cameron 0, 5 inn.

A trio of sophomores led the Madonna baseball team to a 10-0 victory over Cameron Saturday morning on Niekro Diamond at Perkins Field.

The victory in the semifinals puts the Blue Dons into the finals for the third year in a row. This time, though, Madonna will take on Bishop Rosecrans, a 4-2 victor over Toronto.

Those two will get after it at 6:30 p.m. Saturday at Vaccaro Field.

Nogay struck out six of the 17 batters he faced and allowed three singles.

Ryan Mendenhall, Connor Mogan and Logan

Linder provided the Blue Dons' offense.

Linder began the second by reaching on an error and Austin Pitchok followed with a double. Mogan singled in both runners and Mendenhall followed with a shot deep into parking lots beyond the right field brick fence that encloses the football field.

With one out in the sixth inning, Mogan singled and Mendenhall ripped a ground-rule double. A.J. Klein followed with a bloop double to score Mogan. Chris Eloi walked to load the sacks and Nogay brought home Mendenhall with a sacrifice fly.

Bishop Rosecrans 4,
Toronto 2

There will be a new Class A champion.

Toronto, the two-time defending title-holders, did not get its first hit until there were two strikes and two outs in the bottom of the seventh inning in a 4-2 loss to Bishop Rosecrans on Niekro Diamond at Perkins Field.

The Bishops' Michael Reef struck out 13 and seven eight before the Red Knights' Mike Garman jacked an 0-2 pitch over the left field fence. Tyler Butler followed with a single to center, but that was it for Toronto (18-2).

Rosecrans scored a run in the top of the first inning and it stayed that way until the top of the sixth inning.

Rosecrans now gets Madonna, the No. 1 team in West Virginia Class A Saturday.

Big Sixth Inning Boosts Redskins

By **TRACY WATSON**
For the News-Register

GLEN DALE — Just a week ago Indian Creek was in a fight to secure one of the four seeds into the Ohio Valley Athletic Conference Class AAAA tournament field.

After an outstanding performance Saturday, Coach Mike Cottis' Redskins get the opportunity to play for the championship next Saturday at Vaccaro Field.

Senior Michael Wayt overcame early control problems to limit second-seeded Parkersburg South to five hits and Alan Hastwell chased home five runs with a single and double, as Indian Creek scored nine times in the sixth inning enroute to a 12-2, six-inning victory against the Patriots in a semifinal contest at John Marshall High School.

The victory moves Indian Creek into the big-school championship game against rival neighbor Steubenville, a 4-3 winner against Cambridge earlier Saturday.

"We are just so happy for the opportunity to come back and get to battle against Steubenville next week," a smiling Cottis said. "There is still a lot of baseball to be played this year and these kids have really stuck together."

It didn't take long for the Redskins to get going after Wayt was hit by a pitch to open the contest and Adam Young singled and moved to second on a throw to third.

Just one out later Hastwell laced a 2-2 pitch to right-center to make it 2-0. After a stolen base, Hastwell came around to score on Ty Yocom's base hit to

right for a 3-0 score.

However, Wayt had trouble finding the plate in the bottom of the inning, walking the first three batters before Anthony Cornell and Jacob Wilcox plated runs with singles.

Both Wayt and South starter Cody Shultz settled down from there and threw four innings of scoreless ball before Creek finally broke through in the sixth.

The big inning, which started with a quick out, included eight hits and two hit batters with nine runs crossing the dish. The damage was caused by Young's two-run single, Hastwell's three-run double, Tim Newburn's two-run double and Vince Petrozzi's run-scoring triple that made it a 12-2 margin.

Wayt, who walked only one batter and surrendered just two hits after the first

inning, got three straight outs to end it in the bottom of the sixth. After throwing 33 pitches in the first, Wayt needed only 55 more during the final five.

"Michael (Wayt) is a senior competitor and he did a fine job of battling after giving up those first three walks," Cottis added. "He struggled early, but settled down, the defense made some big plays and he kept us in the game."

"We really earned this win. We hit the ball hard the whole game, but we finally caught a couple of games in that big inning. I think both teams played great defense most of the way."

Young, Hastwell, Yocom, Barnhart, Newburn and Petrozzi all had two hits apiece, with Newburn and Petrozzi's both coming in the big sixth inning.



Photo by Mike Mathison

Madonna's Logan Linder makes his way around the bases following a home run Saturday.

Madonna Will Face Rosecrans

By MIKE MATHISON
For the News-Register
BRIDGEPORT - A

trio of sophomores led the Madonna baseball team to a 10-0 victory against Cameron on Saturday on Niekro Diamond at Perkins Field.

The victory in the Ohio Valley Athletic Conference semifinals puts the Blue Dons into the Class A final for the third season in a row. This time, though, Madonna will take on Zanesville Bishop Rosecrans, a 4-2 victor against Toronto.

Those two will get after it at 6:30 p.m. Saturday at Vaccaro Field.

"This one started on the mound," Blue Dons coach Jeff Baire said. "I think Max (Nogay) threw 52 pitches in five innings. When he can do that and stays ahead in the count, he is very efficient and extremely hard to hit. When he works ahead, his stuff is that much better."

"And, by working ahead he's able to work quickly, his defense is ready in the field to make plays behind him and that's pretty much what happened."

Nogay struck out six of the 17 batters he faced and allowed three singles.

Ryan Mendenhall, Connor Mogan and Logan Linder provided the Blue Dons' offense.

Linder began the second by reaching on an error and Austin Pitchok followed with a double. Mogan singled in both runners and Mendenhall followed with a shot deep into parking lots beyond the right-field brick fence that encloses the football field.

With one out in the sixth inning, Mogan singled and Mendenhall ripped a ground-rule double. A.J. Klein followed with a bloop double to score Mogan. Chris Eloi walked to load the sacks and Nogay brought home Mendenhall with a sacrifice fly.

That brought up Linder, who jacked the first pitch over the left-field fence for a three-run blast.

"I have one sophomore who is in the middle of a 13-for-15 streak (Mogan)

CLASS A

and Ryan had been struggling," Baire said. "We sat him for a couple of games as far as his bat was concerned. We kept him in the lineup defensively."

"He came back and broke out in a big way. That home run was probably 430 feet and that's not an exaggeration. That thing was crushed."

"Connor is just seeing the ball really well right now. Hitting is contagious and these three guys really did a great job for us."

Lou Comis walked to start the fifth. He eventually moved to third and scored the final run when Mogan ripped a single to right.

Cameron coach Eric James has seen his ballclub improve.

"I think our program has come a long way," he said. "We're predominantly a young squad and start all underclassmen. The goal ultimately this year was to make the tournament and hopefully put in a good showing. To our kids credit, they gutted it out. It's just unfortunate that we got a routine fly ball hit to left field that results in four runs and it just kind of snowballed from there."

"Early on I thought we did a good job of keeping Madonna's hitters at bay and making the plays we had to make."

"This is a good building block for the kids, but as a coach, I am pretty demanding and I'm never satisfied. In a sense, I'm a little disappointed in the outcome. Yet, we're trying to remain positive so our kids can get better and play our best ball come sectional time."

Rosecrans 4, Toronto 2

BRIDGEPORT - Mike Reed struck out 13 and allowed but two hits in a dominating performance against Toronto. He also doubled for one of Rosecrans' five hits.

Austin Craig singled in a run and Matthew Dowell had two singles for the Bishops.

Mike Garman hit a solo homer for Toronto, while Shane Mosti drove in the other run.

OVAC Baseball

Saturday, April 24

Class AAAA

No. 1 Steubenville 5, No. 4 Cambridge 4
No. 3 Indian Creek 12, No. 2 Parkers. South 2

Championship (Saturday, May 1)

1:30 p.m. - Steubenville vs. Indian Creek

Class AAA

No. 3 St. Clairsville 4, No. 2 Magnolia 3

No. 4 Edison 7, No. 1 Union Local 2

Championship (Saturday, May 1)

11 a.m. St. Clairsville vs. Edison

Class AA

(at Toronto)

No. 4 Steub. Central 14, No. 1 Shenandoah 0

No. 2 Linsly 13, No. 3 Fort Frye 3

Championship (Saturday, May 1)

4 p.m. - Linsly vs. Steubenville Central

Class A

(at Bridgeport)

No. 2 Weir, Madonna 10, No. 3 Cameron 0

No. 4 B. Rosecrans 4, No. 1 Toronto 2

Championship (Saturday, May 1)

6:30 p.m. - Madonna vs. Rosecrans

OVAC Baseball

Saturday, April 24

SEMIFINALS

Class AAAA

(at John Marshall)

No. 1 Steubenville 5, No. 4 Cambridge 4

No. 3 Indian Creek 12, No. 2 Parkers. South 2

Class AAA

(at Harrison Central)

No. 3 St. Clairsville 4, No. 2 Magnolia 3

No. 4 Edison 7, No. 1 Union Local 2

Class AA

(at Toronto)

No. 4 Steub. Central 14, No. 1 Shenandoah 0

No. 2 Linsly 13, No. 3 Fort Frye 3

Class A

(at Bridgeport)

No. 2 Weir, Madonna 10, No. 3 Cameron 0

No. 4 B. Rosecrans 4, No. 1 Toronto 2