



Seth Staskey
Sports Editor

Dunfee helps to educate OSU football staff

ST. CLAIRSVILLE — Lorrissa Dunfee is passionate about many things in life.

Two of those near the top of the list are mental health and Ohio State football.

So, it's completely understandable when Dunfee, who works for the OSU Extension Office in Belmont County, saw those things intersect, she found herself a bit nervous.

Dunfee recently spoke to the Buckeye football coaching staff and the support staff that works inside the Ohio State University Woody Hayes Athletic Center about suicide prevention through the Question, Persuade, Refer (QPR) method.

"(Death by suicide) is a very tough topic and I am very appreciative of Ohio State allowing me to speak," Dunfee said. "I've taught a lot of these classes and sometimes it's more well received than others, but I could not have asked for a better group. They actively participated and afterward several came up and shared different things with me."

Even as she drove to Columbus the morning of the first session, Dunfee still found herself in disbelief that she was chosen to serve as the speaker.

Dr. Candice Williams, who is an athletic counselor at Ohio State, first reached out to Dunfee in February. She had searched the QPR National Institute website and reached out about instructors in Ohio.

"My name was one of the names given and Dr. Williams looked me up and I think the fact that I sat on the board for the state coalition may have put me over the top," Dunfee said. "Maybe my affiliation with OSU, but they had really vetted me well and told me that they're very cognizant of who they let into the building."

After going back and forth on a few dates, Dunfee spoke just two weeks ago in the immediate aftermath of spring practice.

"There were a lot of logistics involved, but I was more than willing to be flexible," Dunfee said. "We could have done it virtually, but Coach (Ryan) Day felt like I needed to be there in person."

There were two sessions. The first was the entire coaching staff and the second was for the other staff members.

"QPR is a national program that's designed for the general population to be able to learn and it looks at seeing warning signs," Dunfee said. "There is no medical background needed."

The program takes upwards of 80 minutes to complete and during the session, Dunfee had the coaches do some "role playing."

"We had one person serve as a player and then the coach where they have to ask the question, 'are you suicidal?'" Dunfee said. "Afterward, we talked about it and how it's not an easy question to ask and it's an uncomfortable situation, especially the closer we are to someone, the harder it is to ask because, naturally, you don't want a particular answer."

Dunfee was overwhelmed at the feedback she received from the coaches in the training.

"Going into that environment and



MARTINS FERRY'S Kaylynn Zinn jumps for joy after leading off the bottom of the third inning with a solo home run that led to an 8-run outburst in the Purple Riders' 11-2 victory over Shenandoah in the Ohio Valley Athletic Conference Class 3A Tom Bechtel Softball Championships. Pictured at left is Riley Doyle. Eve Agnew (5) greets Zinn.

Ferry repeats in Class 3A

By **KIM NORTH**
Times Leader Sports Writer

ELM GROVE - After winning its first dozen games of the season, the Martins Ferry softball team tasted defeat for the initial time Thursday at Edison. They didn't like the taste.

Deadlocked with No. 2 seeded Shenandoah at 1 after two-and-a-half innings Friday, the top-seeded Purple Riders (13-1) took out their frustrations with seven hits that plated eight runs in the bottom of the third en route

to an 11-2 triumph and back-to-back Ohio Valley Athletic Conference Class 3A Tom Bechtel Softball Championships on sun-splattered Lisa's Field at the I-470 J.B. Chambers Complex. The contest was halted after five-and-a-half frames due to the 10-run mercy rule.

"Not because it's our second in a row, but I'm happy that the girls can win a second straight OVAC Championship," third-year Martins Ferry head coach Jerry Magistro, who collected his 12th overall OVAC softball title.

He won 10 Class A crowns while at St. John Central. "The girls have worked so hard this season in trying to get back here, so it's nice to see that their hard work has paid off."

"It's never a blessing in disguise when you lose, but these girls were ready to get back on the field and turn things around," Magistro said. "They don't like to lose, and neither do I."

Like in their semifinal against Linsly two days earlier, the Purple Riders found themselves down 1-0 as Laney

See, **FERRY**, Page C2



T-L Photo/SETH STASKEY

BEALLSVILLE SHORTSTOP Kaylee Hagan throws to first for an out during Friday's OVAC Class 1A championship game.

Conotton Valley shuts down Beallsville in 1A

By **SETH STASKEY**
Times Leader Sports Editor

ELM GROVE - Beallsville was well aware of just how good Conotton Valley ace pitcher Masy Baker can be in the circle.

The Blue Devils got an up-close-and-personal look at it on Friday afternoon in the OVAC Tom Bechtel Softball Championships on Ben's Field at the Chambers I-470 Complex.

Quite simply, Baker was brilliant in the 10-0, 5-inning Conotton Valley victory, which gave the Rockets their second consecutive title.

"Last year was special to win the first one in school history, but to win it a second one in a row really means a lot," Conot-

ton Valley head coach Jeremy Bleininger said.

On top of her pitching, which included 15 strikeouts and only one hit allowed, Baker hit a towering 3-run home run in the bottom of the first that caromed off the scoreboard.

"It's a special group of girls," Bleininger said. "Baker is rock solid (in the circle) and the heart of our team. When she's out there, everyone plays better."

The Blue Devils, who were in the OVAC Tournament for the first time in more than a decade, dropped to 10-10 on the season. They produced only three base runners against Baker. Kaylee Hagan had a solid single up the middle and Baker also issued a

See, **BEALLSVILLE**, Page C2

Harrison blanked by Cambridge in 4A baseball

By **CODY NESPOR**
For The Times Leader

RICHMOND — You've heard of Christmas in July, but how about Valentine's Day in April?

That was the situation at Edison High School Friday night as Cambridge right-hander Jack Valentine tossed a complete game shutout en route to the Bobcats claiming the OVAC Class 4A Championship 5-0 over Harrison Central.

"He was a workhorse tonight," Cambridge coach James Lavery said of Valentine. "He manned up and he



• Harrison

Continued from Page C1

"Basically, everything was just working. I felt really good," Valentine said. "It feels really good (to win), especially on this nice field and in front of a big crowd. It's a long drive home, but it was fun."

As good as Valentine was, his counterpart did not make it easy on him. The Huskies had their own ace on the mound in the form of left-hander Tre Rex.

Rex, who out-dueled St. Clairsville's Hunter Hoffman in the OVAC semifinal to get to the championship, struck out seven while giving up six hits and three walks. Only one of the Bobcats' five runs was earned as the Huskies committed four errors in the field behind Rex.

"I thought he pitched well enough definitely to get a win," said HC coach Mike Valesko. "He's pitched well all year and I felt like (Friday) he was great. It's tough when you've got that zero on the scoreboard (on offense)."

The game started with plenty of excitement as both teams loaded the bases in the first inning, just for both aces to strand all three runners.

In the top of the frame, Harrison Central loaded the bases with one out on two walks and an error only for Valentine to induce a harmless pop out to first base and a ground out to the second baseman.

In the bottom half, Cambridge walked and hit back-to-back singles to put themselves in the exact same situation - bases loaded with one out.

Rex, in turn, struck out the next two batters - both looking - to escape the jam.

"It felt like, in that first inning, if we get a hit there then you don't know what happens," Valesko said. "It's 2-0 on a single and then you can kind of settle in a get things going. On the flip side, I'm proud of our guys for going out in the bottom of the first and getting out of it as well."

Cambridge broke through in the bottom of the second inning as Davion Barr scored on a passed ball and Caleb Bond hit a groundball to third base that allowed Keaton Kyser to come home for a 2-0 lead.

The Bobcats added on in the

third inning on their first of two so-called "Little League home runs" in the game. With Bryce Murdock on first base, Valentine singled into right field. The right fielder misplayed the ball, allowing Murdock to score and Valentine to reach third base. Valentine never stopped running, however, and collided at home plate with Harrison Central catcher Treston Nemeth, who dropped the ball as Valentine was called safe.

The Huskies' next best chance to score came in the top of the fifth, when they got runners on first and second with one out. Valentine punched out the next two batters, however, and Harrison Central only had one more baserunner the rest of the game.

Cambridge put a bow on the game with another unusual trip around the bases when Barr tripped over the centerfielder's glove with two outs in the bottom of the sixth. Barr easily reached third base safely, but a poor relay throw afforded him the opportunity to come all the way home for the Bobcats' fifth run.

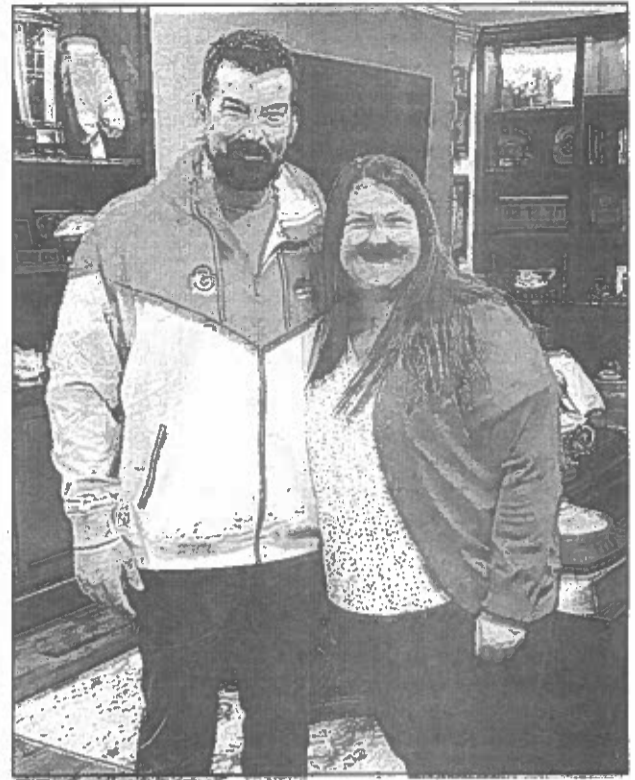


Photo Provided
LORRISSA DUNFEE, who oversees the OSU Belmont County Extension, recently spoke to the Ohio State University football staff about suicide prevention. She's pictured with OSU head coach Ryan Day.

• Beallsville

Continued from Page C1

walk and plunked a batter. However, nary another Blue Devil player put the ball in play.

"We're proud of our girls and we hope to be back next year," Beallsville head coach Rhea Pittman said. "We're a pretty young group. We only have two seniors."

Baker, who spun a five-inning perfect game against Paden City in Monday's semifinal, sat down the first seven she faced in order on Friday before getting into a bit of

trouble with some wildness. However, she settled back and got out of that jam with two more strikes.

Offensively, Baker gave herself a healthy cushion with the first-inning home run and then the Rockets blew the game open with a seven-run uprising in the third. Kenzie Willoughby, Keira Turek both had RBI singles and Chloe Stuber had a RBI double.

Jordyn Braun drove in a run

with a sacrifice fly. Daphne Stuber, who had singled and scored earlier in the inning, drove in two runs with a double.

All told, Conotton (14-1) sent 11 to the plate in the inning and pounded out six hits to chase Hagan, who is the Blue Devils' ace.

"The girls really play well together," Bleininger said. "Once we get a lead, she relaxed a little bit more and everyone seems to follow her lead."

• Ferry

Continued from Page C1

Hitchens' RBI single with two outs in the top of the first drove in Bailey Frye. However, the lead was short-lived.

Hunter Pollock was instrumental in this come-from-behind win as she walked to start the bottom of the first. Danielle Lude sacrificed her to second where she scored from on a double off the fence in

left-center by Maria Clark to even things. Kaylynn Zinn, the No. 9 hitter in the lineup, jump-started Martins Ferry's third-inning outburst in which 13 batters went to the plate. The junior sent a 3-1 pitch from Mya Leach well over the fence in left-center for a 2-1 advantage, and the Purple Riders never looked

back. It was her second roundtripper of the season. She singled in the frame, as well. Pollock walked for the second of three times and Lude singled. Clark found the gap in left-center again for another two-bagger as Pollock scored. Taylor Bell followed with a two-run double to right-center; No. 8 hitter Eve Agnew

singled in two more tallies; and Pollock capped the inning with a two-run single.

"This was another total team victory," Magistro noted.

"Every girl in the lineup contributed, as did a couple off the bench."

Martins Ferry finished with 11 base hits, of which five were for extra bases. Clark, Bell and Zinn

"We can hit the ball from No. 1 to No. 9 in our order, and we hit the ball hard," Magistro added. "I think we've got girls on the bench that can hit, too. Allarah (Jones) came off the bench and got a hit today."

The Purple Riders added solo runs in the fourth and fifth innings on an RBI double by winning pitcher Lauren McFarland and a Bell run-producing single, respectively.

McFarland wasn't overpowering with five strikeouts and just a pair of walks.

• Dunfee

Continued from Page C1

Hospital in Columbus dealing with suicide prevention.

Ohio State football was in the national news recently when Harry Miller - an offensive lineman from Georgia - came out publicly and said he contemplated suicide during his time as a collegiate athlete. Miller has medically retired from the sport, but remains with the Buckeyes and was on the sidelines at the spring game a couple of weeks ago.

Dunfee is hopeful that getting her foot in the door with the Buckeyes football program could lead to more chances to get in front of coaches and student-athletes at multiple levels.

She indicated opportunities to speak to the volleyball and soccer teams at OSU could be on the horizon.

Dunfee worked in mental health for 10 years at Ohio Valley Medical Center before it closed.

"Since the training is for all people, of any age, Dunfee would like to get in front of high school coaches, too.

"My daughter is 18 and going to be graduating in May and I have said for a while that I wish I could get this into the OHSAA and it becomes one of the mandatory trainings that coaches go through," Dunfee said.

WVU BMAC CARAVAN

The annual caravan stop will occur on Tues-

day, May 10 at River City in Wheeling.

The event, which benefits WVU's MAC and BMAC Upper Ohio Valley endowed athletic scholarship, will feature WVU coaches.

Slated to attend the event, which runs from noon until 2 p.m., are head football coach Neal Brown, head basketball coach Bob Huggins, who was recently elected to the Naismith Memorial Hall of Fame, and newly hired women's basketball coach Dawn Plitzuweit.

Tickets for the event are \$50 per person. For more information, please contact John S. Marshall at 740-695-4262.

OGLEBAY PARK GOLF CLUB

The West Sports Bar Tournament was held at Speidel Golf Club on April 24 with a solid field of players taking part.

Bryan Myers made it two wins in as many events, fending off Yadhu Urs for the win by a shot. Myers carded a 69, which was one better than the runnerup.

Justin Doerr was third with a 75, while Hunter Frye was fourth with a 76. Joey Seabright was fifth with a 76 and Mike Wetzel was sixth, also posting a 76.

The remainder of the top 10 in the medal division were Brooke Garrison (78), Paul Kurtz (78), Richard Humphrey (78) and Sean McFarland (78).

In the handicap scoring portion of the event, Penn Kurtz was the winner with a round of 71. Finishing second was David Sims.

SETH'S SCOOPS

JOHN MARSHALL has hired Melanie Knutsen as its new girls golf coach. She takes over for Bridget Carnahan, who retired following last season.

THE OHSAA unveiled its new logo at a meeting in Cambridge last week. Officials will not

1000 Islands
New York
September 12 - 15, 2022

Enjoy 3 nights in the beautiful 1000 Islands of New York with your stay at the River Edge Resort.

Step-on guide and tour of Sackett Harbor Battlefield, walking tour of Clayton and the Thousand Island Museum. Enjoy wine tasting at the Copper Moon Vineyard and shopping in the quaint village of Clayton.

Tour of antique boat museum and sail the US/Canadian waters on the St. Lawrence River. Visit the Castle of Hearst Island to explore George Boldt's Rhineland style castle and the Rock Island Lighthouse.

For all of your running and walking needs

The Runner's Connection has expert service and expertise in all footwear

Your Local Exclusive Hoka Dealer

The Runner's Connection
3287 Belmont St., Leire, OH
740-671-1982

son Unified Sports Complex.

"This is a little bigger than an OVAC championship, this is our first one in Cameron history," Cameron (13-5) head coach Adam Angel said. "It was a goal of ours at the beginning of the year. The kids probably thought I was nuts."

Cameron loaded the bases with no outs before a groundout to the pitcher was recorded, however, the throw to first as part of an attempted double play was not on target allowing the winning run to score.

"That's how we have done things this year," Madonna (7-12) head coach Jeff Baire said. "We have found a way to not come up with plays in crucial situations. We do a great job of putting ourselves in the right position. We had everything set up today, but that's what happens. They are high school kids."

"It is just something where we put ourselves in those positions. We were down 5-2 and we came back."

Cole Burkett led off the seventh with one of his three singles, and Lance Hartley reached on an infield error to give the boys from Marshall County two runners on base. Coy Angel was then intentionally walked to load the bases. Ike Ball followed by hitting a ground ball to Madonna pitcher Madonna pitcher Matt Amaismeier who threw home to record the first out, however, the throw to first was off line allow-



Cameron's Coy Angel, center, high fives teammate Mason DeBoit, left, and brother Adam Angel IV, right, during Saturday's OVAC Championship Game.

ing Hartley to score the winning run from second.

"We did everything right," Coach Angel said. "We pitched well, we played good defense and we played some small ball. We scored two runs Thursday. We faced two good pitchers."

The Blue Dons trailed 5-2 entering the sixth, but Madonna came through with a pair of clutch hits with two outs to tie

the score.

David Connors and Bryce Hair drew back-to-back walks to start the inning. After two pop-ups, Koleton Grishkevich tripled plating Connors and Hair pulling the boys from Hancock County to within 5-4. Luke Amaismeier followed with a double scoring Grishkevich knotting the score at 5-all.

Please see CAMERON, Page 10

Nailers Take A 3-2 Series Lead

By CODY TOMER

Sports Writer

WHEELING — The Wheeling Nailers are one win away from moving on in the 2022 Kelly Cup Playoffs.

In a crucial back-and-forth Game 5 on Saturday night inside WesBanco Arena, Sam Houde delivered the game-winning shot on Wheeling's power play with 2:02 left to play as the Nailers defeated Fort Wayne 3-2 and took a 3-2 series lead in the Central Division Semifinal.

Game 6 will be played on Monday night at 7:30 p.m. in Fort Wayne.

"It was a crazy game but I thought we played really well," Nailers' coach Derek Army said. "Our penalty kill was fantastic."

"Our power play was kind of hitting some skids but that's what the playoffs are all about. They come through when you need it the most and they did that in a big situation (Saturday)."

With the game dead-

locked at 2-2 and looking like a second straight overtime game, the Nailers went on the power play with 3:10 remaining.

That's when Cedric Desruisseaux and Patrick Watling set up Houde, who sent a laser from the middle of the left circle and into the top right of the cage — sending the fans into a roar.

Earlier in the period, a Wheeling power play turned into a Fort Wayne short-handed goal that evened the score at 2-2.

Army was proud of how his team made the most of its second chance.

"I would have liked our 5-on-3 to come through but we didn't quite get the look I was hoping we would, which is fine. That happens. But just by moving the right way and moving our feet we were able to draw a penalty. That's where you have to come through. That was the message."

Please see NAILERS Page 10

Musgrove Pitches Padres Past Pirates, 5-2

PITTSBURGH (AP) — Joe Musgrove struck out eight over seven solid innings and the San Diego Padres beat the Pittsburgh Pirates 5-2 Sunday.

The game was Musgrove's second with the Padres at PNC Park since being traded from Pittsburgh to San Diego after the 2020 season. He pitched three years for the Pirates.

Musgrove (4-0) looked comfortable in his old stomping grounds, scattering seven hits while allowing just one run.

"This is one I've had on the calendar marked for a little while," Musgrove said. "Not in the sense that I have a grudge against these guys or anything, but anytime you leave somewhere and you

go back, you have that sense of wanting to show them what they missed out on."

Manny Machado hit an RBI single in the third off Mitch Keller (0-4) to put the Padres in the lead. The RBI was his team-leading 16th of the season.

Trent Grisham hit a two-run single after shortstop Cole Tucker's two-out throwing error in the seventh.

Roberto Perez hit an RBI single in the seventh and the Pirates loaded the bases with no outs in the eighth, but got only a sacrifice fly by Michael Chavis.

In the Padres ninth, Abrams had a sacrifice fly and Jake Cronenworth hit an RBI single.

Taylor Rogers struck out two

for his ninth save.

Grisham had his first three-hit game of the season and had five hits over the final two games in Pittsburgh. Austin Nola had two hits and scored three times and Abrams doubled and singled as the eight, nine and one spots powered the San Diego offense.

"It's important for us to get some contributions all over the board and Grisham is now swinging the bat better at the top," Padres manager Bob Melvin said. "You can't rely on three three, four, five guys all the time."

Keller allowed one run on five hits over six innings. He struck out five and did not issue a walk.

Please see PIRATES, Page 10



AP Photo

Pittsburgh left fielder Ben Gamel makes a diving catch on a fly ball hit by San Diego Padres' Eric Hosmer during the sixth inning of a baseball game in Pittsburgh, Sunday.

Jarry Will Miss Start Of Playoffs

PITTSBURGH (AP) — The Pittsburgh Penguins will begin their first-round playoff matchup with the New York Rangers without Tristan Jarry, though they haven't ruled out the All-Star's return before the end of the series.

Head coach Mike Sullivan characterized Jarry as "day to day" but indicated Jarry would not be available when the best-of-seven series opens in New York on Tuesday. Jarry hasn't played since being diagnosed with a lower-body injury following a victory over the New York Islanders on April 14.

Casey DeSmith will get the nod when the Penguins head to Madison Square Garden. DeSmith made just one appearance against the Rangers this season and played just 4:19 against New York on March 25 before leaving following a collision with a teammate. DeSmith is 3-2-1 with a 3.45 goals against average and a pedestrian .886 save percentage in seven career appear-



AP Photo

Pittsburgh Penguins goaltender Tristan Jarry (35) will miss the start of the postseason.

ances against New York.

The 30-year-old DeSmith has played well in the run-up to the playoffs even as the Penguins limped toward the postseason. DeSmith went 8-3-3 with a 2.44 goals against and a .927 save percentage after the All-Star break.

Please see JARRY, Page 10

JM Drops Title Game

By CODY TOMER

Sports Writer

WHEELING — It was only fitting that the OVAC 5A Softball Championship would include two of the best pitchers in the conference.

John Marshall's Kadence Pettit carried a no-hitter into the sixth inning and finished with nine strikeouts but it was New Philadelphia ace Julia Miller who secured a 2-1 win for her squad, giving the Quakers their first OVAC Softball title in school history on Saturday at Ben's Field of the J.B. Chambers I-470 Complex.

Miller, an Ohio State University commit, struck out 17, walked two and allowed just one hit in the victory.

"By now everybody knows she has a full ride to Ohio State University," New Philadelphia coach John Dupke said. "She's been dominating over the last month. We count on her a lot. We can score but it's nice to have her in the circle."

Both pitchers were perfect through three innings until Pettit walked two and an error gave New Philly a 1-0



Photo by Cody Tomer

John Marshall's Kadence Pettit fires to the plate during Saturday's OVAC Championship against New Philadelphia.

edge in the fourth.

However, Ava Blake put an end to Miller's no-hit bid as she belted a solo home run over the center field fence in the bottom of the frame to even the score at 1-1.

Please see JM, Page 10

CAMERON

(Continued from Page 9)

Then, Matt Amaismeir singled to put two runners on base, however, Ike Ball, who had replaced Coy Angel on the mound earlier in the inning, got a fly-out to end the threat.

"This team battles. We do. We do a good job our giving ourselves a chance. We just have to eliminate mistakes at crucial times. When you make mistakes, you eliminate chances to win."

Both teams used multiple pitchers.

Lance Hartley - the Dragon's third pitcher of the game - ended up recording the win in relief. Hartley struck one while not walking one in his inning of work on the bump.

Coy Angel started the game on the mound, and he struck out nine while walking four in his five-plus innings of work. He was relieved by Isaac Ball following the back-to-back walks of Connors and Hair. Ball did not record a strikeout or a walk in his one inning on the mound.

"Coy pitched well," Coach Angel said. "He runs into issues when he has a lot of strikeouts because his pitch count goes up quickly. He moved the ball around. I made a bad call on a pitch. Adam and I talked about it."

"I brought Isaac ball in. He throws strikes. I thought he could get us out of that inning."

"Then, I brought Hartley into the game. Lance is tough when he is healthy. Plus, they hadn't seen him this season. We were holding him back."

Parker Hancy started the game for Madonna. He struck out six while walking two in five innings of work. Matt Amaismeir came on to start the sixth. He did not record a strikeout and walked one while going the rest of the way.

"We pitched Parker at the beginning of the week, so he would be ready for today. We pitched Matt earlier in the week, so he would be ready in relief. We were looking ahead."

"The last 16 days we have had a tight schedule. We have made plans for our guys. We wanted to make sure we had Parker and Matt available."

The Dragons scored two runs in the first to take an early two-run lead. Coy Angel brought home the first run with a groundout, and Ball doubled home the second run making it 2-0.

The Blue Dons answered right back with a pair of runs in the second. Lucas McAllister and Griskevich each singled home a run to knot the score at 2.

Cameron regained the lead and the momentum by scoring two more runs in the third. Ball brought home the first run with a base hit, and Nate Haerberle doubled home the second run.

The victors extended their lead with a run in fifth. Haerberle plated his second run of the game - this one coming on a sacrifice fly to extend Cameron's advantage to three runs at 5-2.

"We did not have a lot of walks today," Baire said. "We allowed a lot of walks last year. It is tough when you are walking guys and making mistakes. We have eliminated the walks. We just have to clean things up defensively."

"We have young guys, and they are making young mistakes. The best thing about freshmen is they are sophomores."

Both teams are scheduled to play Monday. Madonna is slated to play Linsly at home at Bowman Field, while Cameron is set to play River on the road.

Mother's Day Pendant

NOW MORE THAN EVER
TELL MOM & GRANDMA
"WE LOVE YOU"

Howard's Diamond Center
at The Highlands

Hawkins HEARING

Offering:

- Diagnostic Testing
- Assistive Devices
- Hearing Aid Sales & Repair
- Custom Hearing Protection

304-914-4009
www.hawkinshearingweirton.com

PIRATES

(Continued from Page 9)

YANKEES 6, ROYALS 4

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) — Aaron Judge homered twice to run his long-ball streak to three straight games, added the tying RBI in the seventh inning and helped the New York Yankees rally past the Kansas City Royals for their ninth straight win.

ANGELS 6, WHITE SOX 5

CHICAGO (AP) — Mike Trout homered, doubled and scored three runs, Michael Lorenzen pitched into the ninth inning and Los Angeles held off Chicago for its seventh win in eight games.

MARINERS 7, MARLINS 3

MIAMI (AP) — Logan Gilbert kept up his run of impressive starts, Julio Rodriguez hit his first major league homer and the Seattle ended Miami's seven-game winning streak.

DODGERS 6, TIGERS 3

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Walker Buehler (3-1) pitched five scoreless innings and Los Angeles beat Detroit and overcame Miguel Cabrera's 503rd career home run and his first this season.

BLUE JAYS 3, ASTROS 2

TORONTO (AP) — Santiago Espinal drove in the go-ahead run with an RBI single in the seventh inning. Bo Bichette added a two-run homer and Toronto edged Houston.

CUBS 2, BREWERS 0

MILWAUKEE (AP) — Marcus Stroman threw two-hit ball for seven innings, outpitching Cy Young Award winner Corbin Burnes and leading Chicago over Milwaukee.

RANGERS 7, BRAVES 3

ARLINGTON, Texas (AP) — Adolis Garcia highlighted a three-hit, four-RBI day with a bas-

JARRY

(Continued from Page 9)

Forward Jason Zucker is likely also out for the beginning of the series with an undisclosed injury sustained in a loss to Edmonton last Tuesday.

NAILERS

(Continued from Page 9)

"You're going to get your chances, now you have to come through and turn the page on the chances you had before." Credit to the guys. They did exactly that and what a shot by Houde."

The first period nearly went by scoreless until just 3 seconds remained on the clock.

It was not too late for Wheeling's Matthew Quercia, however, as he tipped a shot by teammate Felix Pare and knocked it into the back of the net to give his squad a 1-0 lead and boost of momentum heading into the first intermission.

"It was great," Army

JM

(Continued from Page 9)

That's how it remained until the sixth when Sarah Ciereszewski reached on a fielder's choice and Reese Loveday followed with a single.

Moments later with Ciereszewski on third, Loveday took off for second. The throw to second gave Ciereszewski enough time to race down the third base line and slide into home for what proved to be the game-winning run.

"I thought we played pretty well but I expected to play a little better defense," John Marshall coach Ed West said. "I knew it was going to be a tough challenge to try to get a hit and get some base runners but we kind of gave them two runs they didn't really earn. That was

es-clearing triple in the third inning to help Texas beat Atlanta.

CARDINALS 7, D-BACKS 5

ST. LOUIS (AP) — Harrison Bader and Nolan Arenado homered in the seventh inning to help St. Louis rally past Arizona and win for the third time in five games and salvage a split of the four-game series.

NATIONALS 11, GIANTS 5

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Yadiel Hernandez drove in a career-high five runs with three hits as Washington beat San Francisco.

GUARDIANS 7, ATHLETICS 3

OAKLAND, Calif. (AP) — Triston McKenzie threw 6 1/3 scoreless innings and Cleveland completed its first sweep in Oakland in 22 years.

Franmil Reyes, mired in a 1-for-27 slump entering the day, had a two-run single in the third when Cleveland scored four times to take control at 5-0. Andres Gimenez had two hits and an RBI, finishing 6 for 12 with six RBIs in the three-game series.

McKenzie (1-2) held the A's to three hits, struck out seven and walked one as Cleveland swept a series at the Oakland Coliseum for the first time since April 10-12, 2000.

TWINS 9, RAYS 3

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla. (AP) — Jorge Polanco drove in four runs with a pair of doubles, Carlos Correa had his fourth straight game with multiple hits and Minnesota beat Tampa Bay.

ROCKIES 10, REDS 1

DENVER (AP) — Kyle Freeland tossed seven strong innings for his first win of the season and Colorado completed a series sweep

of struggling Cincinnati.

ORIOLES 9, RED SOX 5

BALTIMORE (AP) — Jordan Lyles pitched six gritty innings, Rounned Odor homered in a six-run sixth and Baltimore beat skidding Boston.

SATURDAY

GUARDIANS 3, ATHLETICS 1

OAKLAND, Calif. (AP) — Pinch-hitter Richie Palacios hit a two-out, two-run double in the ninth inning and Cleveland took advantage of a key error to beat Oakland.

It was 1-all with one out in the Cleveland ninth with a runner on first when Oscar Mercado hit a potential double-play grounder to rookie second baseman Nick Allen, who misplayed it for an error. Palacios hit a towering double on a 3-1 pitch from Dany Jimenez (1-1).

Nick Sandlin (1-1) earned the win and Emmanuel Clase picked up his fourth save for the Guardians, who won their second straight after a seven-game losing streak.

PIRATES 7, PADRES 6 10 INNINGS

PITTSBURGH (AP) — Ke'Bryan Hayes singled in the tying run and scored the winning run on an error as Pittsburgh scored twice in the bottom of the 10th inning to beat San Diego and snap a four-game losing streak.

Hayes hit a leadoff single into center field off Luis Garcia (0-1) that scored automatic runner Jake Marisnick with the tying run. First baseman Eric Hosmer then misplayed Bryan Reynolds' ground ball. The ball rolled down the right-field line and Hayes scored from first base.

Injuries have dogged Zucker this season, limiting him to just 41 games.

The Penguins are otherwise healthy, though they face a daunt-

ing task in the Rangers. New York won three of four meetings during the regular season, limiting Pittsburgh to just four goals total in the process.

Then, it was Josh Maniscalco's time to shine as the defenseman created a steal and took off flying down the ice on a break-away.

That was all she wrote as he delivered a beauty of a back-hander past Fort Wayne goalie Samuel Harvey to create a 2-1 cushion at 6:24 of the second.

"Many's goal was incredible," Army said. "There was a little frustration because we hadn't capitalized on the power play so when Many scored everybody was juiced. It was an unbelievable move on his part. The bench was high-energy in a lot of points in

the game and there is a lot going on on the bench right now."

Fort Wayne evened the score once more when Wheeling goalie Louis-Philip Guindon went for a puck behind the net but didn't see Fort Wayne's Matthew Boudens, who beat Guindon to the front for a short-handed goal.

Again, the Nailers refused to get down on themselves and Houde provided the late-game fireworks that now leaves Wheeling just one win away from advancing. Guindon made 21 saves to secure the win, while Harvey took the loss with 25 stops.

the difference in the game."

Even with Miller in the circle, the Monarchs never gave up.

Blake walked to lead off the seventh and stole second with two outs but that's as far as she made it as Miller got the final two hitters to strikeout.

"With her in the circle our odds go way up," Dupke said. "They battled right back and got that home run to tie it up but we just needed to get one more and it's a lot easier playing with the lead."

West hated to see Pettit take the loss after such a stellar pitching performance.

"Kadence pitched really well and I feel bad for her," West said. "We just didn't come through (Sat-

urday).

"I think we'll get over it. By Monday we'll be ready to start for the sectional. That's our main goal — the state tournament. This was our second goal but now we will focus on the next one."

New Philadelphia will leave the OVAC following this title but the win was also extra special for Dupke.

"Unfortunately New Philadelphia is leaving the OVAC this year," Dupke said. "We really wanted to come down here and represent our school. I'm from the valley and I graduated from John Marshall so it was really weird to go against my alma mater but this win is great for our team."

NASCAR

■ 3 p.m. — The DuraMAX Drydene 400 at Dover Motor Speedway, FS1

GOLF

■ 3 p.m. — The Mexican Open, Final Round, CBS

MLB

■ 1:35 p.m. — San Diego at Pittsburgh, ATT

■ 7 p.m. — Philadelphia at New York Mets, ESPN

NBA

■ 1 p.m. — Eastern Conference Semifinal, Milwaukee at Boston, Game 1, ABC

■ 3:30 p.m. — Western Conference First Round, Minnesota at Memphis, Game 7, ABC

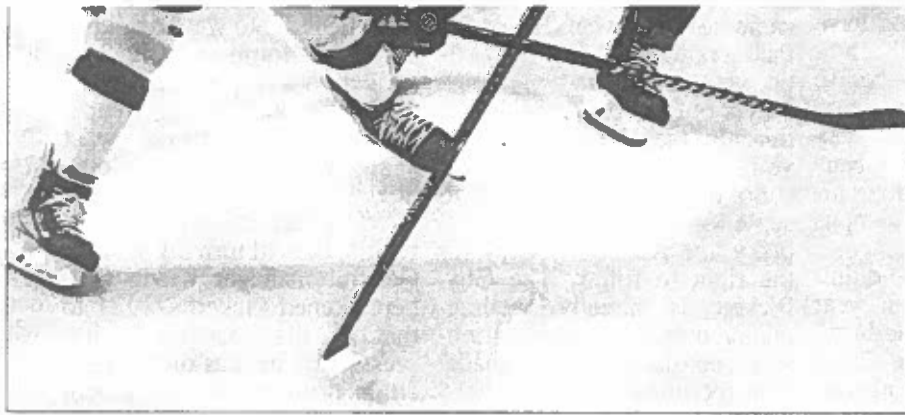


Photo by Joe Lovell

Wheeling's Shaw Boomhower, left, tangles with Fort Wayne's Anthony Petruzzelli during Friday night's playoff game inside WesBanco Arena.

Game 5 Slated for 7:10 p.m. Saturday

By CODY TOMER
Sports Writer

WHEELING — The Wheeling Nailers rallied from 3-1 down to force overtime on Friday night but Fort Wayne got the final laugh.

With 5:17 showing on the clock in the extra period, Mark Russell corralled a rebound and wrapped it around Wheeling goalie Louis-Philip Guindon for the game-winner as the Komets evened the Central Division Semifinal series at 2-2 with a 4-3 triumph inside

WesBanco Arena.

Wheeling hosts Game 5 Saturday at 7:10 p.m.

"In games like this everyone feels like they have to do something a little extra," Nailers' coach Derek Army said as he broke down the game-winning goal by the Komets. "For us it was turned over in the O-Zone and it went back into our zone. Unfortunately we couldn't get it out so we went to their point.

Please see NAILERS, Page C2

DETHRONES PARK

By CODY NESPOR
Sports Writer
RICHMOND

Taking advantage of your opportunities is important in many aspects of one's life, and baseball is no different.

In the OVAC Class 5A Championship played at the brand-new facilities at Edison High School, the team that cashed in on its opportunities ended the night with a trophy, while the team that didn't went home empty-handed.

Morgantown was the team that won, defeating defending champion Wheeling Park by a final score of 8-2.

The Mohigans (16-5) scored in every inning where they got a runner on base. Park (8-7) meanwhile left seven runners stranded.

"Anytime you have an opportunity to score and you take advan-

tage of it, it feels really good," said acting Morgantown coach Brandon Wisman. "We didn't waste too many opportunities today and that's how you win. You can't waste your opportunities and we didn't."

Morgantown's first opportunity to score came right away as Aaron Jamison's automatic double put runners on second and third with one out in the top of the first inning. Jeffrey Poach's single scored both runners and gave the Mohigans a 2-0 advantage.

"Getting a head start is always a big, big advantage," Wisman said. "Giving your pitcher a two-run lead before he even throws a pitch is a very big boost in confidence."

Please see DETHRONES Page C2

Steelers Take WR Pickens, DL Leal in NFL Draft

NFL DRAFT SECOND & THIRD ROUNDS

SECOND ROUND

- 33. Tampa Bay (from Jacksonville), Logan Hall, de, Houston.
- 34. Green Bay (from DET through MIN), Christian Watson, wr, North Dakota State.
- 35. Tennessee (from N.Y. Jets), Roger McCreary, cb, Auburn.
- 36. N.Y. Jets (from N.Y. Giants), Breece Hall, rb, Iowa State.
- 37. Houston, Jalen Pitre, s, Baylor.
- 38. Atlanta (from CAR through NYJ and NYG), Arnold Ebiketie, de, Penn State.
- 39. Chicago, Kyler Gordon, cb, Washington.
- 40. Seattle (from Denver), Boye Mafe, lb, Minnesota.
- 41. Seattle, Kenneth Walker III, rb, Michigan State.
- 42. Minnesota (from Washington through Indianapolis), Andrew Booth, cb, Clemson.
- 43. N.Y. Giants (from Atlanta), Wan'Dale Robinson, wr, Kentucky.
- 44. Houston (from Cleveland), John Metchie III, wr, Alabama.
- 45. Baltimore, David Ojabo, lb, Michigan.
- 46. Detroit (from Minnesota), Joshua Paschal, de, Kentucky.
- 47. Washington (from Indianapolis), Phidarian Mathis, dt, Alabama.
- 48. Chicago (from L.A. Chargers), Jaquan Brisker, s, Penn State.
- 49. New Orleans, Alontae Taylor, cb, Tennessee.
- 50. New England (from Miami through Kansas City), Tyquan Thornton, wr, Baylor.
- 51. Philadelphia, Cam Jurgens, c, Nebraska.
- 52. Pittsburgh, George Pickens, wr, Georgia.

- 53. Indianapolis (from LV through GB and MIN), Alec Pierce, wr, Cincinnati.
- 54. Kansas City (from New England), Skyy Moore, wr, Western Michigan.
- 55. Arizona, Trey McBride, te, Colorado State.
- 56. Dallas, Sam Williams, de, Mississippi.
- 57. Tampa Bay (from Buffalo), Luke Goedeke, g, Central Michigan.
- 58. Atlanta (from Tennessee), Troy Andersen, lb, Montana State.
- 59. Minnesota (from Green Bay), Ed Ingram, g, LSU.
- 60. Cincinnati (from Tampa Bay through Buffalo), Cam Taylor-Britt, cb, Nebraska.
- 61. San Francisco, Drake Jackson, lb, Southern Cal.
- 62. Kansas City, Bryan Cook, s, Cincinnati.
- 63. Buffalo (from Cincinnati), James Cook, rb, Georgia.
- 64. Denver (from L.A. Rams), Nik Bonito, lb, Oklahoma.

THIRD ROUND

- 65. Jacksonville, Luke Fortner, c, Kentucky.
- 66. Minnesota (from Detroit), Brian Asamoah, lb, Oklahoma.
- 67. N.Y. Giants, Joshua Ezeudu, g, North Carolina.
- 68. Cleveland (from Houston), Martin Emerson, cb, Mississippi State.
- 69. Tennessee (from N.Y. Jets), Nicholas Petit-Frere, ot, Ohio State.
- 70. Jacksonville (from Carolina), Chad Muma, lb, Wyoming.
- 71. Chicago, Velus Jones, wr, Tennessee.
- 72. Seattle, Abraham Lucas, ot, Washington State.
- 73. Indianapolis (from Washington), Jelani Woods, te, Virginia.

- 74. Atlanta, Desmond Ridder, qb, Cincinnati.
- 75. Houston (from Denver), Christian Harris, lb, Alabama.
- 76. Baltimore, Travis Jones, dt, Connecticut.
- 77. Indianapolis (from Minnesota), Bernhard Raimann, ot, Central Michigan.
- 78. Cleveland, Alex Wright, de, UAB.
- 79. L.A. Chargers, JT Woods, s, Baylor.
- 80. Denver (from New Orleans through Houston), Greg Dulcich, te, UCLA.
- 81. N.Y. Giants (from Miami), Cordale Flott, cb, LSU.
- 82. Atlanta (from Indianapolis), DeAngelo Malone, lb, Western Kentucky.
- 83. Philadelphia, Nakobe Dean, lb, Georgia.
- 84. Pittsburgh, DeMarvin Leal, dt, Texas A&M.
- 85. New England, Marcus Jones, cb, Houston.
- 86. Tennessee (from Las Vegas), Malik Willis, qb, Liberty.
- 87. Arizona, Cameron Thomas, de, San Diego State.
- 88. Dallas, Jalen Tolbert, wr, South Alabama.
- 89. Buffalo, Terrel Bernard, lb, Baylor.
- 90. Las Vegas (from Tennessee), Dylan Parham, g, Memphis.
- 91. Tampa Bay, Rachaad White, rb, Arizona State.
- 92. Green Bay, Sean Rhyan, g, UCLA.
- 93. San Francisco, Tyrion Davis-Price, rb, LSU.
- 94. Carolina (from KC through NE), Matt Corral, qb, Mississippi.
- 95. Cincinnati, Zachary Carter, de, Florida.
- 96. Indianapolis (from L.A. Rams through Denver), Nick Cross, s, Maryland.



AP Photo

Georgia's George Pickens catches a pass in front of Alabama's Kool-Aid McKinstry during the National Championship.

PITTSBURGH (AP) — George Pickens could have taken his time while rehabbing from a torn ACL in his right knee suffered last March. Could have used all of 2021 to recover. Could have taken a redshirt at Georgia and pointed toward the 2023 NFL draft.

It would have been safe, sure. The wide receiver, however, didn't

believe it was necessary. Not with the Bulldogs chasing a national title. And not with a chance to head to the pros with so many of his teammates.

Less than nine months after being injured, Pickens made an impact in Georgia's run through the College Football Playoff. Just over a year removed from a bad step

Please see DRAFT, Page C2

Ferry Goes Back-To-Back

By KIM NORTH
For the News-Register

ELM GROVE — After winning its first dozen games of the season, the Martins Ferry softball team tasted defeat for the initial time Thursday at Edison. They didn't like the taste.

Deadlocked with No. 2 seeded Shenandoah at 1 after two-and-a-half innings Friday, the top-seeded Purple Riders (13-1) took out their frustrations with seven hits that plated eight runs in the bottom of the third en route to an 11-2 triumph and back-to-back Ohio Valley Athletic Conference Class 3A Tom Bechtel Softball Championships on sun-splattered Lisa's Field at the I-470 J.B. Chambers Complex.

The contest was halted after five-and-a-half frames due to the 10-run mercy rule.

"Not because it's our second in a row, but I'm happy that the girls can win a second straight OVAC Championship." third-year Martins Ferry head



Photo by Kim North

Martins Ferry's Kaylynn Zinn rounds third base after receiving congratulations from head coach Jerry Magistro after she belted a solo home run Friday.

coach Jerry Magistro, who collected his 12th overall OVAC softball title. He won 10 Class A crowns while at St. John Central. "The girls have worked so hard this season in trying to get back here, so it's nice to see that their hard work has paid off.

Please see FERRY, Page C6

Linsly Duo Ink Letters of Intent

By SETH STASKEY
For the News-Register

WHEELING — The Linsly boys basketball team climbed to the top of the OVAC Class 3A mountain this past winter when it claimed the school's first conference title since 2012.

Two of the key contributors on that team - Caleb Murray and Raef Wykes - will now attempt to help Wheeling University take another step up the Mountain East Conference mountain.

Murray and Wykes both signed their National Letter of Intent during a brief ceremony at Linsly on Thursday afternoon where they were joined by school officials, coaches, teammates, family and friends.



Photo by Cody Nespor

Linsly's Caleb Murray, front left, and Raef Wykes, front right, signed their Letters of Intent to play college basketball as their head coach Dave Wojcik, back, looks on.

MURRAY enjoyed an impressive final two seasons for the Cadets, scoring better than 13 points a game as a junior and 16.4 as a senior.

Please see INK, Page C6

man others, but I could not have asked for a better group. They actively participated and afterward several came up and shared different things with me."

Even as she drove to Columbus the morning of the first session, Dunfee still found herself in disbelief that she was chosen to serve as the speaker.

Dr. Candice Williams, who is an athletic counselor at Ohio State, first reached out to Dunfee in February. She had searched the QPR National Institute website and reached out about instructors in Ohio.

"My name was one of the names given and Dr. Williams looked me up and I think the fact that I sat on the board for the state coalition may have put me over the top," Dunfee said. "Maybe my affiliation with OSU, but they had really vetted me well and told me that they're very cognizant of who they let into the building."

After going back and forth on a few dates, Dunfee spoke

playing." "We had one person serve as a player and then the coach where they have to ask the question, 'are you suicidal?'" Dunfee said. "Afterward, we talked about it and how it's not an easy question to ask and it's an uncomfortable situation, especially the closer we are to someone, the harder it is to ask because, naturally, you don't want a particular answer."

Dunfee was overwhelmed at the feedback she received from the coaches in the training.

"Going into that environment and talking to a group of football coaches, you'd think you'd get some eye rolling or something, but these coaches were all totally engaged," Dunfee said. "Afterward, I had people coming up to me with tears in their eyes because they know someone suffering from mental health issues. It really did my heart good."

Because of the volume and the class size being limited to

cially in collegiate athletics. Day and his wife Nina have a foundation through Nationwide Children's Hospital in Columbus dealing with suicide prevention.

Ohio State football was in the national news recently when Harry Miller — an offensive lineman from Georgia — came out publicly and said he contemplated suicide during his time as a collegiate athlete. Miller has medically retired from the sport, but remains with the Buckeyes and was on the sidelines at the spring game a couple of weeks ago.

Dunfee is hopeful that getting her foot in the door with the Buckeyes football program could lead to more chances to get in front of coaches and student-athletes at multiple levels.

She indicated opportunities to speak to the volleyball and soccer teams at OSU could be on the horizon.

Overall, Dunfee, who

was recently elected to the Naismith Memorial Hall of Fame, and newly hired women's basketball coach Dawn Piltzweil.

Tickets for the event are \$50 per person. For more information, please contact John S. Marshall at 740-695-4262.

OGLEBAY PARK GOLF CLUB

The West Sports Bar Tournament was held at Speidel Golf Club on April 24 with a solid field of players taking part.

Bryan Myers made it two wins in as many events, fending off Yadhu Urs for the win by a shot. Myers carded a 69, which was one better than the runnerup.

Justin Doerr was third with a 75, while Hunter Frye was fourth with a 76. Joey Seabright was fifth with a 76 and Mike Wetzel was sixth, also posting a 76.

The remainder of the top 10 in the medal division were Brooke Garrison (78), Paul

season. THE WHEELING University women's golf team — led by Buckeye Local graduate Emily Holzopfel — will tee it up this week in Kansas City in the NCAA Division II regionals. The tournament will be held Monday through Wednesday. The Cardinals will take part in a practice round on Sunday.

THE OHSAA unveiled its new logo at a meeting in Cambridge last week. Officials will not be required to buy new garments to reflect the change ... just yet.

THE BRACKETS for the Ohio softball tournament will be established on Sunday. The baseball brackets will be set on May 8.

THE WEST Virginia sectional softball tournament will begin this week and it once again is a double-elimination format.

Staskey can be reached via email at staskey@timesleaderonline.com

Oak Glen Defends OVAC Crown, Defeats Weir 3-2

By ANDREW GRIMM
For the News-Register

ELM GROVE — Sydney and Sarah Brown have been hitting the ball well for Oak Glen all season.

So, naturally, it was one swing of the bat from each of them that made all the difference in the Golden Bears' biggest game of the season so far in Friday's OVAC Class 4A championship game against rival Weir High at the I-470 Complex.

With McKayla Zoellers on first after a lead-off single to start the bottom of the third, Sydney Brown blasted a two-run shot over the fence in left center to break a scoreless tie, then, with two outs, it was Sarah's turn as she crushed a deep fly ball to straight-away center far over the fence, providing the run that proved to be the difference in a 3-2 victory to repeat at conference champs.

"Once again, Sydney and Sarah came through," Oak Glen head coach Sherrie Garner said. "We were fortunate to have those two home runs because they came back, and we were fortunate to have McKayla on base (for the first one)."

"Sydney and Sarah are performers. They spent a

lot of time working hard in the offseason. This is a special group of girls that have put a lot of time in and have the community behind them.

"It was a heckuva ball game and a heckuva challenge. Both teams showed up and it was a fight."

After the No. 2 seed Red Riders (18-7) had fought back to within one in the sixth, senior standout and Toledo commit Maddie McKay fanned the first two up in the top of the seventh on her way to a 1-2-3 inning to cap a complete game performance with six punchouts and just one walk.

"Maddie did a fantastic job," Garner said. "Her energy was good, and when they got on some pitches, we made some excellent plays in the field to back her up. Our fielders did an excellent job, when the ball put in play, we made outs."

Though the comeback came up short, Weir High head coach John Leary saw a lot of improvement from the first time the teams met, when Oak Glen won by the mercy rule, ahead of a potential meeting in next week's sectional tournament.

"First of all, congratu-



Photo by Andrew Grimm
The Oak Glen softball team celebrates after winning its second straight OVAC title.

lations to Oak Glen. Maddie pitched a (heck) of a game and they did what they had to do," Leary said. "This was certainly a lot different than the first time we played them. I've been telling the girls we don't win or lose, we win or learn, so we should learn something from this game — and if we don't, shame on us."

"I thought we hit the ball better against (McKay) than we have in a long time, we didn't have as many strikeouts. The first game was 9-0, they pounded us. I think they knew they were in a game (Friday night). Hopefully we learn from it and we gain a little respect ... not that I don't think they re-

spect us, but now they've seen we can play with them."

"Making the OVAC tournament has been a goal of ours since Coach (Frank) Sisinni was here in 2016, and we accomplished that. I told them you can't be dejected about accomplishing a goal, it's not what we wanted, but only one team wins the ultimate prize in any tournament. Obviously, they're not satisfied standing here, but they accomplished one of their goals and I'm proud of them."

After being held to just a single through three innings and watching the Browns hit their blasts, Weir got on the board in

the top of the fourth with one of its own.

After fouling off a couple pitches in a 3-2 count, senior slugger Mallory Rosnick, who slugged a pair of homers in the Riders' semifinal victory over Harrison Central earlier in the week, crushed her third of the tournament for a solo shot to make it 3-1.

"Mallory has been ripping the ball these last few games and it's nice to see at this time of the year," Leary said. "She came up big."

In the top of the sixth, Rylee Donaldson drew a walk and got to third on a two-base error when a throw trying to pick her off sailed deep into right field, then Rosnick singled with two outs to plate her and make it a one-run game.

Weir ace Madison Angus gave her team every chance to pull the upset, striking out six, walking just one and shrugging off the tough inning to put up zeros the rest of the way.

"Madison pitched a (heck) of a game for us," Leary said. "She made a couple mistakes, hung a couple balls over the plate and they made her pay, but we kept battling

and she kept battling. "She's tough, she battled and she's gritty. Last year, that kind of situation would have affected her, but she's matured so much that this year she just grinds right through it."

McKay, though, had one more zero left to put up when it mattered most.

BACK-TO-BACK

With the win, Oak Glen defended its crown after winning the tournament last season on the way to an undefeated regular season. It is also the third consecutive OVAC tournament that the Golden Bears reached the final, as they were runners-up to St. Clairsville in 2019.

"This is a special venue, the OVAC is the best conference in the country," Garner said. "It's glorious to live in the Ohio Valley and have a conference like this. Tom Bechtal and his comrades do a great job for the girls. The girls set this as one of their goals and accomplished it."

"It's a special night. The weather was nice, the families were here for it and we had a lot of support. And, it's extra special to have two teams from Hancock County, it shows what these girls have done through the years."

TRANSACTIONS

BASEBALL

Major League Baseball
American League
NEW YORK YANKEES — Reinstated OF Aaron Hicks from the paternity list. Optioned RHP Ron Marinaccio to Scranton/Wilkes Barre (IL).

National League

CINCINNATI REDS — Added RHP Connor Overton to the taxi squad. Transferred RHP Luis Castillo from Dayton (ML) to Louisville (IL) on rehab assignment. Assigned RHP Ryan Hendrix outright to Louisville after clearing waivers.

Minor League Baseball

Atlantic League
LONG ISLAND DUCKS — Activated LHP Stephen Tarpley from the IL. Placed RHP Frank Moscetti on the IL.

FOOTBALL

National Football League
CINCINNATI BENGALS — Exercised the fifth-year option on OT Jonah Williams.

GREEN BAY PACKERS — Exercised the fifth-year option on OLB Rashan Gary.

EST. 1925
KURTZ
MONUMENT COMPANY

WHEN YOU'RE READY...
GIVE US A CALL, 724-225-3940,
OR VISIT ONE OF OUR LOCATIONS,
TO SPEAK WITH OUR MEMORIAL
SPECIALISTS.

WE WOULD BE HONORED TO HELP
YOU AND YOUR FAMILY CRAFT THE
PERFECT MEMORIAL.

WWW.KURTZMONUMENTCO.COM

COMFORT
COMES HOME

Heating • Air Conditioning
(740) 769-7709
OH Lic. #24730
WV Lic. #025788

The new degree of comfort.™

Drover's Inn

Open Mother's Day May 8th, 12-7 pm

304-737-0188

1001 Washington Pike, Wellsburg • Located 3 miles East off St. Rt. 27

HERD REDUCTION SALE BY PRIVATE TREATY

Nine Fall 2020 Heifers - Open
Four Spring 2021 Heifers - Open
Three Fall 2020 Bulls
Four Spring 2021 Bulls

DOB's, BW's, WW's Available

724-587-5614

346 Washington Pike Avella, PA 15312

Nurses
on duty
around
the clock

Welty 304.242.5233
www.weltyhome.org

LOCAL CARD

Monday, April 25
Baseball
Wheeling Park at John Marshall
Wheeling Central at Martins Ferry
Linsly at Shadyside
Monroe Central at Magnolia
St. Marys at Paden City
Union Local at Barnesville
Buckeye Local at Harrison Central
Frontier at River
Cambridge at Bellaire
St. Clairsville at Brooke
Beallsville at Valley
Softball
Wheeling Park at Indian Creek
John Marshall at St. Clairsville
Paden City at St. Marys
Magnolia at Tyler
Barnesville at Buckeye Trail
Bridgeport at River
Buckeye Local at Beaver Local
Tennis
OVAC Doubles at John Marshall

OVAC SOFTBALL

Semifinals
(all games at the Chambers I-470 Complex)
Monday
Class 1A
(Field 3)
Madonna vs. Beallsville, 5 p.m.
Paden City vs. Conotton Valley, 6:45 p.m.
Class 2A
(Field 4)
Toronto vs. Wheeling Central, 5 p.m.
Shadyside vs. Caldwell, 7 p.m.
Tuesday
Class 3A
(Field 3)
Martins Ferry vs. Linsly, 5 p.m.
Barnesville vs. Shenandoah, 6:45 p.m.
Class 4A
(Field 4)
Indian Creek vs. Oak Glen, 5 p.m.
Harrison Central vs. Weir, 7 p.m.
Wednesday
Class 5A
(Field 4)
University vs. New Philadelphia, 5 p.m.
Morgantown vs. John Marshall, 7 p.m.

NAILERS

CENTRAL DIVISION
Wheeling 2, Fort Wayne 0
Friday, April 22: Wheeling 1, Fort Wayne 0
Saturday, April 23: Wheeling 4, Fort Wayne 2
Wednesday, April 27: Fort Wayne at Wheeling, 7:10 p.m.
Friday, April 29: Fort Wayne at Wheeling, 7:10 p.m.
x-Saturday, April 30: Fort Wayne at Wheeling, 7:10 p.m.
x-Monday, May 2: Wheeling at Fort Wayne, 7:30 p.m.
x-Tuesday, May 3: Wheeling at Fort Wayne, 7:30 p.m.

NBA PLAYOFFS

FIRST ROUND
Saturday, April 23
Toronto 110, Philadelphia 102, Philadelphia leads series 3-1
Utah 100, Dallas 99, series tied 2-2
Boston 109, Brooklyn 103, Boston leads series 3-0
Minnesota 119, Memphis 118, series tied 2-2
Sunday, April 24
Milwaukee 119, Chicago 95, Milwaukee leads series 3-1
Denver 126, Golden State 121, Golden State leads series 3-1
Monday, April 25
Boston at Brooklyn, 7 p.m.
Utah at Dallas, 9:30 p.m.
Toronto at Philadelphia, 8 p.m.
Tuesday, April 26
Atlanta at Miami, 7 p.m.
Minnesota at Memphis, 7:30 p.m.
New Orleans at Phoenix, 10 p.m.

SPORTS ON TV

Monday, April 25
COLLEGE SOFTBALL
7 p.m.
SECN - Missouri at Kentucky
MLB BASEBALL
7 p.m.
MLBN - Regional Coverage: Boston at Toronto OR NY
Mets at St. Louis (7:30 p.m.)
10 p.m.
MLBN - Cleveland at LA Angels (Joined in Progress)

MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL STANDINGS

Table with columns: League, Division, Team, W, L, Pct, GB, WCGB, L10, Str, Home, Away. Includes American League (East, Central, West), National League (East, Central, West).

Table with columns: League, Division, Team, W, L, Pct, GB, WCGB, L10, Str, Home, Away. Includes American League (Saturday's Games, Monday's Games, Tuesday's Games), National League (Saturday's Games, Monday's Games, Tuesday's Games).

NHL

Table with columns: Conference, Division, Team, GP, W, L, OT, Pts, GF, GA. Includes Eastern Conference (Atlantic, Metropolitan), Western Conference (Central, Pacific).

Martins Ferry Softball Locks Up Top Seed

WOODSFIELD - Martins Ferry swept a doubleheader from Monroe Central to lock up the top seed in the OVAC Class 3A tournament this week. The Purple Riders won 10-3 in 9 innings and then needed only five innings to win 12-1.

The Purple Riders needed nine innings before exploding for a seven spot to blow the game open. Senior Maria Clark was impressive in the circle. She logged all nine innings, striking out 15 and walking just two. She also had a double, single and two RBI.

Buckeye Local was led by Rylie White, who had a triple, single and three RBI. Isabella Hepburn had a single and two RBI, while Alli Trekal doubled. Samantha Ankrom picked up the win in the circle with two strikeouts.

The Tigers received a double, two singles and an RBI from Rylie Fulton. Bella Honeywell and Maci Hendershot each had three singles. Macy Hendershot had a single and RBI. Beallsville 13-5 Bridgeport 4-1 BRIDGEPORT - The invading Blue Devils wrapped up a spot in the OVAC Class 1A Tournament with a doubleheader sweep of the Bulldogs.

BASEBALL/SOFTBALL LINESCORES

BASEBALL
OVAC Semifinals
Class 5A
Wheeling Park 12
University 7
U 200 023 0 - 7 9 6
W 630 021 x - 12 11 4
U - Wyatt lp (3K, 1BB), Harman (2) (1K, 0BB), George (3) (1K, 1BB) and Croston. Forbes HR, S, 3rbi; Templeton S, D, 2rbi.
W - DeGenova wp (2K, 2BB), Westfall (6) (1K, 1BB), Kupsky (6) (1K, 1BB) and L. Marsh. Simons S, D, 2rbi; Kupsky S, D, 3rbi; DeGenova S, D, rbi; L. Marsh D, rbi; Bittinger 2S; Hodgson S, 3rbi.
Class 4A
Harrison Central 1
St. Clairsville 0
St. C 000 000 0 - 0 2 2
HC 010 000 x - 1 3 1
STC - Hoffman lp (5K, 1BB) and Bush
HC - Rex wp (11K, 7BB) and Nemeth; Arbaugh S, rbi.
Class 3A
Martins Ferry 2, Fort Frye 1
Fort Frye 100 000 0 - 1 6 0
Martins Ferry 000 001 1 - 2 7 2
FF - Gruely lp (2K, 0BB) and

ton, T. Fulton (6). Smith D; Honeywell D, HR, 3rbi.
Shadyside 3, Shenandoah 2
Shen 000 002 0 - 2 3 1
Shady 200 001 x - 3 5 7
Shen - Leach lp (10K, 2BB) and Frye. Irvin S, rbi.
Shad - Saxton wp (10K, 0BB) and T. Fulton. Honeywell D, R. Fulton S, rbi; Violet rbi; Hendershot rbi.
Martins Ferry 10
Monroe Central 3
MF 100 011 007 - 10 16 5
MC 000 210 000 - 3 5 4
MF - Clark wp (15K, 2BB) and Hall. Pollock 3S, rbi; Lude D, S; Clark D, S, 2rbi; Bell 3D, 2rbi; Hall 2S, rbi; E. McFarland D, S, rbi.
MC - Haslam lp (3K, 2BB), Cecil (9) (0K, 1BB) and Hamilton. Morris 2S, Matz S, rbi; Haslam S, rbi.
Martins Ferry 12, Monroe Central 1
MF 060 42 - 12 11 0
MC 010 00 - 1 3 3
MF - E. McFarland wp (4K, 0BB) and Hall. Lude D, 2S, 2rbi; Clark 2S, 2rbi; Bell HR, S, 6rbi.
MC - Cecil lp (1K, 3BB), Bak-

In the second game, it was all Riders. McFarland was impressive in the circle with four strikeouts and nary a walk. Bell had a home run, single and six RBI. Clark had two singles and a like number of RBI. Danielle Lude had a double, two singles and two RBI. Monroe Central's Makenna Matz hit a solo home run.

WHEELING - The Maroon Knights' offense fired on all cylinders, scoring 19 total runs in a doubleheader sweep of visiting Paden City. Central won game one 10-2 and the nightcap by a score of 9-4. Jensen Rine collected four total hits to lead the offense, knocking three singles and a double. Brooke Reynolds struck out nine batters in the circle in game one and also hit a single and a double. Jocelyn Shaw hit a home run in game one.

Taylor Knollinger, Ashlee Baker and Josie Frizzell all hit doubles for Central as game two went the whole seven innings. Shayna Beegle started the game and struck out three and Frizzell came on in the fourth and punched out six. Haiston Fox and Carlee Sweeney both hit a pair of singles for the Wildcats while Destiny Rone and McKenzie Thomas both hit a double in game two.

Brooke 8, Linsly 7 WELLSBURG - Landry Bone hit a grand slam and the Brooke Bruins defeated Linsly 8-7 at home. Gia Recrosio, Haley Heitz, Gace Landini and Lexi Finley all hit a double for the visitors but it was not enough. Emily Knorr, Kam Eckels, Lex Foresha and Em McKinney all added RBIs for the Bruins. Shenandoah 5-2 Shadyside 4-3 SHADYSIDE - The Tigers and Zeps split a

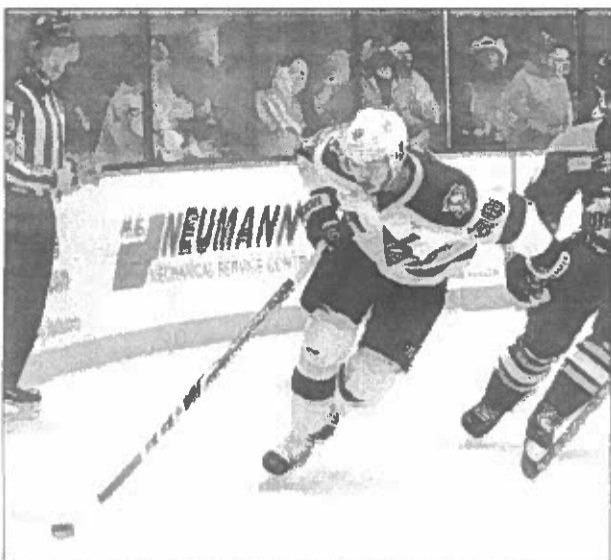


Photo by Joe Lovell

Wheeling's Sam Houde protects the puck from a Fort Wayne player during the Nailers' home playoff game Wednesday night.

Nailers Drop Game 3 at Home

By CODY TOMER
Sports Writer

WHEELING — Hockey fans in Wheeling will have to wait until Friday for a chance to see a Nailers' home playoff victory.

Wheeling fell in Game 3 of the Central Division Semifinal in the Kelly Cup Playoffs to Fort Wayne, 4-1, inside Wes-Banco Arena on Wednesday.

Despite the loss, Wheeling still carries a 2-1 series upper hand heading into Friday's Game 4 at home starting at 7:10 p.m.

The Nailers took an early lead in Game 3 and were looking to build off that momentum when penalties started to build for the home team.

The Nailers were called for 11 penalties, including two 10-minute misconducts for a total of 46 penalty minutes.

The back-breaker was that team-leader in goals and points, Patrick Watling, suffered one of those 10-minute misconducts and the Nailers struggled to recover.

"You can definitely see where officiating can change a game," Nailers' coach Derek Army said. "I thought in the first (Fort Wayne) pressed really hard. They came out like we expected them to and LP (goalie Louis-Philip Guindon) was great. We weathered the storm and we went up 1-0 and all of a sudden we started getting some momentum ourselves. That's where you take a penalty and it snowballs from there. I disagree — especially giving out two 10s — especially the Watling one. I don't even know if he was talking to the ref. Then, we get a 5-on-3 in the second period and our top scorer is not available. That was frustrating and we definitely felt like we were fighting an uphill battle."

Sam Houde and Watling set up the first goal and Cam Hausinger buried a rebound into the back of the net to give Wheeling a 1-0 edge in the first.

Please see NAILERS,
Page 16

Blake Powers JM Into OVAC Final



Photo by Cody Nespor

John Marshall shortstop Ava Blake (14) high fives coach Ed West while rounding third base after hitting a grand slam in the sixth inning of Wednesday OVAC semifinal against Parkersburg South.

Sophomore homers twice, drives in 6 as Monarchs win 11-1

By CODY NESPOR
Sports Writer

ELM GROVE — Wednesday's cold weather apparently did not bother the John Marshall softball team as the Monarchs went deep four times in an 11-1 OVAC Class 5A semifinal victory over Parkersburg South in six innings on Ben's Field at the J.B. Chambers I-470 Sports Complex.

Sophomore shortstop Ava Blake went deep twice, hitting two of the more impressive homers you'll see in high school softball. With two outs in the bottom of the first inning, Blake swung

at the first offering she got from Parkersburg South starter Alexi Dellinger and sent the ball well over the scoreboard in left-center field.

"I was looking for pitches right down the middle, normally they throw me away," Blake explained. "I was just trying to get adapted on the first pitch, seeing if I had to change my zone, but it was just right there."

"It came right down the middle and I just swung hard and hoped for the best."

Later in the game, Blake came up to the plate with one out and the bases loaded as JM led 5-1.

Blake made it a 9-1 advantage as she hit a ball out to dead center field on a line for her third grand slam of the season and her sixth home run overall.

"When she gets a hold of it, she hits it pretty good," veteran JM coach Ed West said of Blake. "I told her before she went in that she had to be patient, sometimes her biggest weakness is that she gets a little too anxious and she'll start swinging at pitches outside of the zone, but she did a nice job (Wednesday) hitting good pitches."

Please see JM, Page 18

Maroon Knights Use 5-Run 6th to Upend Big Reds

By BUBBA KAPRAL
For The Intelligencer

ELM GROVE — The weather was cold but Wheeling Central's bats were red-hot Wednesday afternoon at the J.B. Chambers I-470 complex.

The ever-improving Maroon Knights banged out 11 hits in besting Bellaire, 10-7. Coach Jason Rowe's youthful charges broke open a close 5-4 contest with a five-run sixth inning.

"We are swinging the bats really well right now, even during our tough loss at Cambridge last night," Rowe said. "Eleven hits are a good night's work. We are on a good ride right now."

"Landon (Prager) was solid on the mound for us. He gave us six quality innings," he added. "We got

a little sloppy in the field in the seventh inning, but it was a nice win."

Central improved to 8-7 and will host Cameron this afternoon.

Prager fanned five and walked four. The crafty sophomore yielded six hits. Zac Conner worked the seventh, striking out two and walking a like amount.

Central's sixth-inning uprising started thanks to a Bellaire error. After a strikeout, Peyton Toepfer walked before brother Michael Toepfer singled to load the bases.

Ben Foster delivered an RBI single. Catcher Gary Hatfield coaxed a walk to force in the second run. A wild pitch allowed another Knight to cross the plate before junior ace Peyton Hildebrand capped the frame with a two-run single to make

it a 10-4 issue heading into the seventh. Bellaire, however, didn't go quietly.

Big Reds' junior standout Jake Heatherington drew a base-on-balls to open the inning. After a strikeout, Kaden Banal walked. Junior dandy Brayden Roth plated a run via a fielder's choice.

A wild pitch brought home another Reds' run. Luke Heatherington singled, setting the table for an RBI single from Landon Preston, bringing Bellaire to within 10-7. Jaiden Kesterson was beamed but Conner closed the door with a strikeout.

Luke Heatherington started on the hill for Bellaire. He struck out five and walked one in three innings of work.

Please see KNIGHTS, Page 16



Photo by Cody Nespor

Wheeling Central starter Landon Prager delivers a pitch during the Maroon Knights' 10-7 win over Bellaire Wednesday.

JM's Morgan to Play at West Lib

Photo Provided

John Marshall's Ryleigh Morgan signed her national letter of intent to play softball at nearby West Liberty University Wednesday. Morgan is a 4-year letter-winner on the Monarchs' softball team and a 3-year letter-winner on the volleyball team. Morgan plans on studying pre-med with the goal to make it into medical school one day.

Seated next to Morgan are her mother, Ginger, and father, Bo. Standing, left to right, are JM principal Cassandra Porter, Karen Shaw, Carson Morgan, Rod Swogger, softball coach Ed West and Al Shaw.



Central's Johnson Signs With AB

Photo Provided

Wheeling Central's Andrew Johnson signed to continue his academic and lacrosse career at Alderson-Broaddus Wednesday. A four-year member of Central's lacrosse team, Johnson plans to study exercise physiology with an emphasis on pre-physical therapy.

Johnson is flanked by his parents, Chasity, left, and Brian, right. Standing are Central athletic director Donnie Murray, left, and lacrosse coach Mike Fahey.

DRAFT

(Continued from Page 15)

"Nothing compares to beating Ohio State," he said, his eyes seemingly drifting back to the Big House in Michigan. "Being drafted is a big feat, being drafted first, but I don't think anything can beat beating Ohio State."

The self-faith that the very-soon-to-be pros exhibited matched their level of performance on the field in college. A vast majority of them went to big-time football programs in major conferences, and played for a variety of championships. Big games were common for, say, any of the multitude of Georgia Bulldogs and Alabama Crimson Tide and Ohio State Buckeyes players attending the draft in Las Vegas.

Linebacker Nakobe Dean, a key contributor to Georgia's national title, noted that as many as 15 of his teammates might be drafted.

Asked how he will react if he hears his name called by Goodell on Thursday night — the second and third rounds are Friday night, the final four rounds Saturday — Dean didn't see the need to replace the word "if" with "when." But it was clear in his response.

"I'll share the moment with all of my teammates," he said. "We all talked about when we first got to college. Win a championship and then go the NFL and get drafted in the first (round). You've got to have that confidence about yourself, period. Even guys who are at a Division III

school. If you don't believe in yourself, no one will."

There is no Division III player in Las Vegas — at least none who was invited by the league — but plenty of guys who are accustomed to the big stage and crucial games are present.

Notre Dame safety Kyle Hamilton, who easily could go in the top 10, believes such a background can only help in the adjustment to the professional ranks.

"Every week and wherever we would go, it was a big game," he said, adding with a chuckle that "people either love us or hate us, mostly hate us. So we played with that chip on our shoulder. At Notre Dame, we're used to the spotlight. And every game in the NFL is a big game."

"I've always watched the draft since I can remember. To be taken on the first day of the NFL draft will be very satisfying."

It's likely that not all 20 players attending will go in the opening round. Rarely does everyone invited by the NFL wind up a first-rounder.

Mississippi quarterback Matt Corral and fellow QB Malik Willis of Liberty, Purdue defensive end George Karlaftis and Boston College offensive lineman Zion Johnson could last into Friday. Or they could go in the top dozen.

That's how speculative this grab bag is, especially this year when there is no slam dunk prospect, particularly a passer.

NAILERS

(Continued from Page 15)

However, Fort Wayne outshot the Nailers 28-6 in the opening stanza and netted three goals over the remainder of the period, two of which were power play goals.

Just as Wheeling fought off a penalty, Anthony Petruzzelli delivered the equalizer from in front of the net.

Just over 3 minutes later, Willie Corrin sent a one-timer near the blue line that rattled the cage with 39 seconds remaining on the power play to give Fort Wayne a 2-1 cushion.

Less than 2 minutes after the first power play goal, the Komets pocketed another, this one coming off the stick of Oliver Cooper from the top of the right circle with 50 seconds remaining in the frame.

"We certainly don't want to give up 28 shots in the first period alone," Army said. "Shots were about 11-6 at the 10-minute mark and we were starting to come into our own. They shoot a lot of pucks. That is part of their identity. That's where we

got bogged down and they took the momentum heavily away from us."

Mark Russell provided the final touch for the short-handed Komets with a breakaway, back-handed goal in the second period to wrap up the scoring.

Fort Wayne goalie Samuel Harvey only needed 22 saves to capture the victory, while Guindon collected 46 saves and took the loss.

"I thought they were hungry," Army said. "They were a team that was desperate. They are a veteran team and they are a well-coached hockey team. They were down 0-2 and we didn't expect them to hand us these games. They were throwing everything at the net and they were living around the net."

"I also thought we got away from our game plan and tried to be a little bit cute on some of our plays but we still had chances on the power play in the second that could have changed the game in our favor and we missed those opportunities."

KNIGHTS

(Continued from Page 15)

Southpaw Lex Wilhelm finished the final three frames and pitched quite effectively but was the victim of some tough luck. He fanned six and walked two.

"We lost to a good team tonight. They are really playing well right now," Bellaire head coach Josh Kernik noted. "You have to bring your 'A' game if you want to beat them. We did not do that tonight."

"Two innings hurt us and both of them started with errors, but I am proud of our kids' efforts. We got down and we kept fighting back," he added. "We are still a young team but I feel we are trending upward."

Bellaire is now 4-8. Both teams tallied twice in the second.

Bellaire used an RBI single from Preston, a single from Kesterson, a Knight error and a wild pitch for its two runs.

Central, meanwhile, received four straight singles off the bats off Hildebrand, rising freshman Seth Cover, Caden Ondrejko and Eli Tucker to knot matters

at 2-2.

The Maroon Knights added three more runs in the third. Foster doubled, followed by a Hatfield single. Both scored on a Bellaire error. Tucker brought home the third run on a groundout.

Bellaire cut the gap to 5-4 with a pair of runs in the fourth. Kesterson doubled and Joey Lewis singled. Lewis stole second and Kesterson came home on the throw down. Jakob Dowling crushed a double to score Lewis.

Michael Toepfer checked in with three hits while Foster and Hildebrand each had two.

"We are still very young. We started three freshmen in the field today and used two sophomore pitchers," Rowe said. "It is a group that has a bright future but right now we are focused on Cameron and then playing Toronto for an OVAC title."

Preston and Kesterson led Bellaire's seven-hit attack with two safeties each.

Bucs

(Continued from Page 15)

The Brewers had four hits on a night when the temperature was 40 degrees at first pitch.

"We pitched well, for sure, and the ball felt like it was going nowhere," Milwaukee manager Craig Counsell said. "It didn't feel like a home run was possible with the way the ball was traveling."

Christian Yelich and Hunter Renfroe started the Brewers' rally in the seventh with back-to-back singles off Wil Crowe (1-1). First baseman Yoshi Tsutsugo then mishandled Rowdy Tellez's grounder, allowing Yelich to score. Taylor followed by lining a single to left to make it 2-1.

The Brewers made it 3-1 in the ninth when Kolten Wong drew a bases-loaded walk from Sam Howard.

Wong had a one-out double into the left-field corner in the top of the sixth off Bryse Wilson for the Brewers' first hit. That was the only knock against Wilson, who pitched four innings in relief of opener Dillon Peters.

Wilson had been scheduled to start but the Pirates switched earlier Wednesday to Peters, who made his first start of the season after five relief appearances. He walked one in two-plus innings.

"The things I've been doing in the fifth and sixth innings I just did at the start of the game," said Peters, who is unscored upon in 12 1/3 innings.

NEWMAN SIDELINED

Wednesday. The 6-foot-7 Cruz made his big league debut with the Pirates during the final weekend of last season.

TRAINER'S ROOM

Pirates: Reynolds was reinstated after spending one day on the COVID-19 IL while INF/OF Cole Tucker remained on the list. Reynolds said he had the flu. "I already did COVID in January. Ain't getting me twice." ... LHP Anthony Banda (viral illness) played catch a day after being placed on the IL. ... RHP Duane Underwood Jr. (right hamstring strain) has moved his rehab to extended spring training. ... OF Greg Allen (hamstring strain) has started to sprint but is not eligible to be activated from the 60-day IL until June 6.

UP NEXT

Brewers RHP Freddy Peralta (0-1, 7.50 ERA) faces LHP Jose Quintana (0-1, 3.86) on Thursday in the finale of the three-game series. Opponents are hitting .271 against Peralta, up from .165 last season. Quintana's last win came Sept. 5, 2019 for the Chicago Cubs at Milwaukee.

CARDINALS 10, METS 5

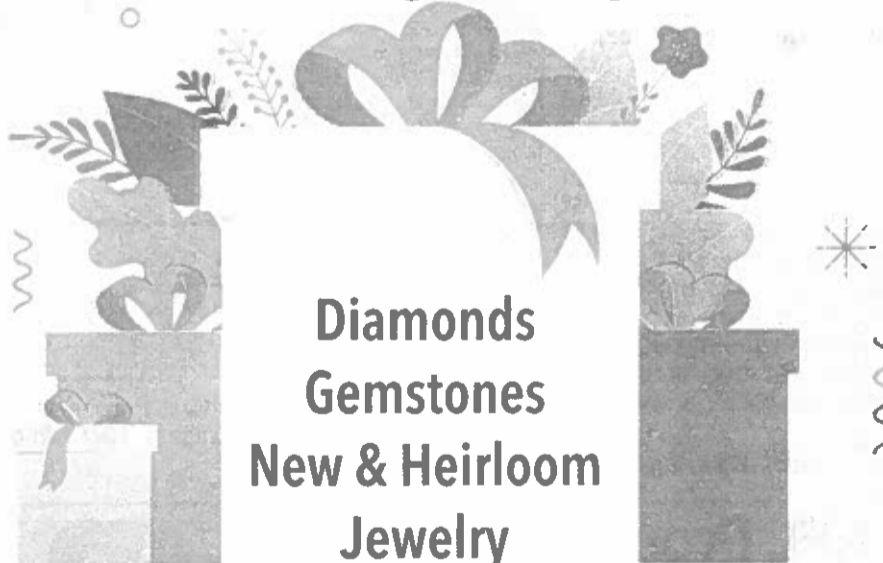
ST. LOUIS (AP) — The New York Mets' hit-by-pitch frustrations boiled over Wednesday when reliever Yoan Lopez threw a pitch near Nolan Arenado's head, sparking a benches-clearing brawl that led to Arenado's ejection in the St. Louis Cardinals' 10-5 victory.

RED SOX 7, BLUE JAYS 1

TORONTO (AP) — Xander Bo-

Mother's Day Gift Ideas

Shop for all the special ladies in your life!



Diamonds
Gemstones
New & Heirloom
Jewelry
Gifts & Decor

The
Jeweled Bird
Elegant Gifts,
Jewelry





Photo by Cody Nespor

John Marshall shortstop Ava Blake (14) celebrates while running home after hitting a grand slam in the sixth inning of Wednesday OVAC semifinal against Parkersburg South.

JM

(Continued from Page 15)

Blake said she has found success this season by striving to stay calm at the plate, even in high-pressure situations.

"I had an issue with this last year. I would get all antsy and I couldn't really think good enough," Blake admitted. "I've really learned to just regroup, take a deep breath and stay calm."

Playing under the Ohio mercy rules, the game continued with JM leading 9-1. Not for too long, however, as Adrianna Skrzynecki followed up Blake's grand slam with a shot of her out over the fence in left field and Kadence Pettit got in on the fun right after with a majestic home run out to center field. The back-to-back-to-back bombs gave the Monarchs a 10-run mercy-rule, 11-1 victory.

"I actually thought the wind was kind of pushing (the ball) in at the beginning," West said. "I was pleased that we hit the ball hard several times."

Blake finished her big night with four hits and six runs batted in. In addition to her two long-balls, Blake also had a single in the third inning and an RBI double in the bottom of the fifth.

Skrzynecki also finished with four hits, three singles and her solo home run. She collected three RBI. Pettit had two singles and her walk-off home run. Together, Blake, Skrzynecki and Pettit - JM's three, four and five hitters - combined for 11 hits, four home runs and 10 RBI.

"(We wanted to) get good swings on good pitches and we did a pretty good job of that (Wednesday)," West said.

Megan Daugherty also drove in a run in the bottom of the fifth on a groundball fielder's choice to second base.

Blake's solo shot in the bottom of the first gave the Monarchs a 1-0 lead as Pettit was on cruise

control through the early innings.

Pettit began her evening with three perfect frames, striking out four as only one ball got out of the infield, a harmless flyout to right field.

After picking up her fifth strikeout to begin the top of the fourth, Pettit surrendered her first hit as Taylor Lamp hit a triple on a ball that hit off the glove of a diving Isabella Linton in center field.

Kassidy Timble brought Lamp home one batter later with a single to knot the game up at 1-1.

Pettit faced more trouble in the fifth and sixth innings, but she was able to strand three Patriot baserunners in scoring position with five total punchouts.

South's best scoring chance came when they got runners to second and third with one out in the top of the sixth. However, Pettit struck out the next two batters she faced to end the threat.

"They had the top of the order coming up. I was glad to see her get out of that," West said. "She doesn't panic, she's got a lot of confidence, a lot of experience and a lot of skill."

West said Pettit was pitching on a bit of a sprained ankle. It didn't show, however, as Pettit fanned 10 Patriot hitters and did not issue a free pass. She scattered five hits across six innings, allowing just one run.

The victory sends the Monarchs to an OVAC Championship matchup against New Philadelphia Saturday at 2 p.m. on the same field. The Quakers defeated University in their semifinal game Wednesday afternoon.

"We played them last year and they've got a really nice pitcher," West said. "She does a nice job and keeps the ball up and we'll have our hands full. It'll be a tough game."

West Liberty Softball Sweeps Doubleheader Against Wheeling

WHEELING - The West Liberty University softball team pounded out 26 hits and crossed the plate 23 times in sweeping a Mountain East Conference doubleheader from Ohio County rival Wheeling at the I-470 Complex.

Coach Herb Minch's Hilltoppers (27-19-1, 17-10) got things rolling with a 14-6 blowout in the first game before handing the host Cardinals (12-31, 5-23) a 9-4 setback in Game Two.

In the opener, West Liberty scored 11 runs in the first three innings and never looked back in coasting to the blowout win. The Black and Gold pounded out 17 hits with 11 Hilltoppers collecting at least one base knock.

Kayla Mancuso, Annie Pateron and Katie Beeman all singled, doubled and drove in a run while Jairika Baylor also lashed out a single and double. Makayla Blair had two singles and three RBIs, Grace Swigart singled twice and chased home a run while Riley Bennington launched a solo home run.

Sidney Little added a two-run single while Riley Conkle singled and drove in a run.

In the second game, Wheeling scored three runs in the bottom of the fifth to forge a 4-4 tie but West Liberty answered with two runs in the sixth and three more in the seventh to win going away.

Bennington homered for the second straight game, drove in three runs and pitched the final two innings to earn the save. Little added a home run and single while Baylor chipped in with another single and double. Conkle lashed a two-run home run in the seventh while Beeman singled and drove in a run.

The Hilltoppers close out the regular season on the road this weekend with a 2 p.m. doubleheader at Alderson Broaddus on Friday and a 1 p.m. twinbill at Notre Dame (Ohio) on Saturday.

The Mountain East Conference Tournament is scheduled for May 6-8 in Salem, Va.

HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL Tyler Consolidated 17 Paden City 2

SISTERSVILLE - Tyler Consolidated celebrated senior day in style as senior Alec Chaplin and teammate Hayden Brown combined to throw a no-hitter over five innings to beat Paden City.

Chaplin also enjoyed the day at the plate with a hit and a RBI. Fellow seniors Garrett Ammons and Weston Henderson made it a day to remember, as well.

Ammons garnered a single, a double and two RBI, while Henderson doubled and drove in a run.

Jayden Helmick had an outstanding day at the dish with a single, a triple, a home run and a RBI. Brown provided a single, a double and two RBI and Ty Walton collected a single, a double and three RBI.

Twelve Silver Knights drove in

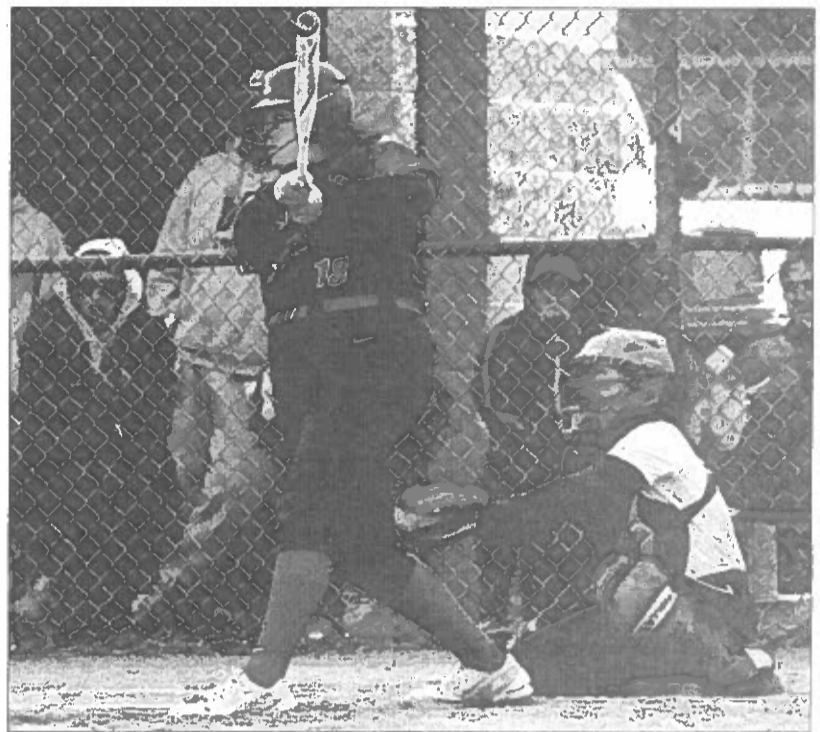


Photo by Cody Nespor

Wheeling University designated hitter Brooke Slomkowski slaps a single into right field as West Liberty's Makayla Blair catches during a doubleheader Wednesday.

runs in the victory.

Cameron 8, Magnolia 0

CAMERON - Adam Angel struck out 18, walked one and allowed just one hit as Cameron upended Magnolia.

Isaac Ball homered, tripled and drove in two runs for the Dragons, while teammate Lance Hartley homered and plated three runs. Nate Haeberle tripled and plated a run and Coy Angel added a single and a double.

Indian Creek 13, John Marshall 3
WINTERSVILLE - Chase Kerns and Brennan Sobotka singled and drove in a run each but John Marshall fell to Indian Creek.

Shadyside 4, Buckeye Local 0

CONNORVILLE - Shadyside picked up its second win of the week and received brilliant pitching from senior standout Mason VanNest in the process.

VanNest went the distance for the Tigers with 12 strikeouts and issued three walks.

Offensively, senior Rhys Francis singled home a run and Bryce Amos drove in a run with a double.

Martins Ferry 11, Edison 11

MARTINS FERRY - The Purple Riders and Wildcats battled to an 11-all deadlock after seven, which is when the umpires suspended the game due to darkness.

The Purple Riders, who trailed 5-0 before they came to the plate, were led at the plate by Coleton Redinger's home run, single and four RBI. Jesse Nagel added a double, single and three RBI, while Baron Lucey posted two singles and a double.

SOFTBALL

Martins Ferry 8, Union Local 0

MARTINS FERRY - The Purple Riders received impressive pitching and plenty of offense en route to a win over the Jets.

Kelsi Gillespie picked up the pitching win.

At the plate, the Purple Riders received a home run and three RBI from Nevaeh Hall, while Ella McFarland had a home run, double and drove in two. Maria Clark had a double, single and a RBI and Kaylynn Zinn singled in a run.

Buckeye Local 10, Bridgeport 0

BRIDGEPORT - The Panthers scored early and often en route to a convincing victory against the Bulldogs.

Kiarra Eastham got the win in the circle with four strikeouts.

Morgan Richardson produced a run with a double and a triple. Josey Meddles had two singles and a RBI, while Isabella Hepburn had three singles and two RBI. Kaydence Kinyo and Olivia Kovalski drove in a run with a base hit. Rylie White produced a double.

Shenandoah 7, Beallsville 5

SARAHSVILLE - A pair of OVAC finalists got a tuneup on Wednesday when the Zeps knocked off the Blue Devils.

Mya Leach came on in relief in the circle to pick up the win. She also had a home run and three RBI.

Kaylee Hagan had two singles for the Blue Devils, while Leah Trigg singled in a run.

Bellaire 13

Steubenville Central 2

ST. JOE - The Big Reds bounced back from a loss on Tuesday to cruise past the Crusaders.

Majestique Jackson was impressive in the circle with 12 strikeouts and nary a walk. She also had a double and two RBI.

Sophomore Alli Ault had a home run, two singles and three RBI. Sophia Porter was a home run shy of the cycle and drove in three. Alexis Morgan had two singles and two RBI, while senior Taylor Menendez posted a single, double and drove in a run. Sidney Rowson had a RBI triple.

Bucks Rout Bulls 116-100 In Game 5, Advance to Face Celtics

By STEVE MEGARGEE
AP Sports Writer

MILWAUKEE (AP) - The defending NBA champion Milwaukee Bucks continue to produce in the postseason even without key performers.

The Chicago Bulls simply don't have that kind of depth or playoff savvy.

Claudio Antetokounmpo had 33 points and nine

he's fine."

While the Bucks thrived without Middleton, Chicago didn't handle the loss of key players quite as well.

The Bulls played without the starting backcourt they used for the first four games because two-time All-Star Zach LaVine was in health and safety protocols and Alex Caruso was in concussion protocol. Without them on the floor, the Bulls fell behind by

LOCAL CARD

Thursday, April 28
BASEBALL
 Wheeling Park at Bridgeport (WV)
 Brooke at John Marshall
 Linsly at Union Local
 St. Marys at Tyler
 Ritchie County at Magnolia
 Paden City at River
 Bellaire at Steubenville Catholic
 Monroe Central at Caldwell
 Indian Creek at St. Clairsville
 Hundred at Beallsville
 Bridgeport at Buckeye Local
SOFTBALL
 Wheeling Central at Barnesville
 Cameron at North Marion
 Magnolia at River
 Buckeye Local at Shadyside
 St. Clairsville at Harrison Central
 Clay-Battelle at Beallsville
 Martins Ferry at Edison
 Monroe Central at Caldwell
 Fort Frye at Union Local
TRACK
 Beallsville, River, Frontier at Magnolia

OVAC BASEBALL

OVAC Baseball Championships
 (all games at Edison HS)
Friday
Class 5A
 Wheeling Park vs. Morgantown, 5:30 p.m.
Class 4A
 Cambridge vs. Harrison Central, 8:30 p.m.
Saturday
Class 3A
 Martins Ferry vs. Barnesville, 11 a.m.
Class 2A
 Toronto vs. Wheeling Central, 1:30 p.m.
Class 1A
 Cameron vs. Madonna, 4 p.m.

OVAC SOFTBALL

OVAC Softball Championships
 (all games at the Chambers I-470 Complex)
Friday
Class 1A
 (Field 4)
 Conotton Valley vs. Beallsville, 5 p.m.
Class 3A
 (Field 3)
 Martins Ferry vs. Shenandoah, 6 p.m.
Class 4A
 (Field 4)
 Oak Glen vs. Weir, 7 p.m.
Saturday
Class 5A
 (Field 4)
 New Philadelphia vs. John Marshall, 2:15 p.m.
Class 2A
 (Field 4)
 Toronto vs. Caldwell, 4:30 p.m.

NAILERS

DIVISION SEMIFINALS
 (Best-of-7; x-if necessary)
 All times EDT
CENTRAL DIVISION
Wheeling 2, Fort Wayne 1
 Friday, April 22: Wheeling 1, Fort Wayne 0
 Saturday, April 23: Wheeling 4, Fort Wayne 2
 Wednesday, April 27: Fort Wayne 4, Wheeling 1
 Friday, April 29: Fort Wayne at Wheeling, 7:10 p.m.
 Saturday, April 30: Fort Wayne at Wheeling, 7:10 p.m.
 x-Monday, May 2: Wheeling at Fort Wayne, 7:30 p.m.
 x-Tuesday, May 3: Wheeling at Fort Wayne, 7:30 p.m.

SPORTS ON TV

Thursday, April 28
GOLF
 8 a.m.
 GOLF — DP World Tour: The Catalunya Championship. First Round, PGA Catalunya Resort - Stadium Course, Girona, Spain
 3:30 p.m.
 GOLF — PGA Tour: The Mexico Open, First Round, Vidanta Vallarta, Vallarta, Mexico
 6:30 p.m.
 GOLF — LPGA Tour: The Palos Verdes Championship, First Round, Palos Verdes Golf Club, Palos Verdes Estates, Calif.
MLB BASEBALL
 12:30 p.m.
 ATT — Milwaukee at Pittsburgh
 1 p.m.
 MLBN — Regional Coverage: Colorado at Philadelphia OR Seattle at Tampa Bay

MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL STANDINGS

AMERICAN LEAGUE										
East Division										
W	L	Pct	GB	WCGB	L10	Str	Home	Away		
New York	12	6	.667	—	8-2	W-5	9-3	3-3		
Toronto	12	7	.632	½	—	7-3	L-1	6-3	6-4	
Tampa Bay	10	8	.556	2	1	6-4	W-1	7-5	3-3	
Boston	8	11	.421	4½	3½	3-7	W-1	3-4	5-7	
Baltimore	6	12	.333	6	5	4-6	L-3	3-3	3-9	

Central Division										
W	L	Pct	GB	WCGB	L10	Str	Home	Away		
Minnesota	10	8	.556	—	7-3	W-6	7-4	3-4		
Chicago	7	10	.412	2½	3½	2-8	W-1	5-3	2-7	
Cleveland	7	10	.412	2½	3½	3-7	L-5	3-3	4-7	
Kansas City	6	10	.375	3	4	4-6	L-1	5-5	1-5	
Detroit	6	11	.353	3½	4½	3-7	L-4	4-8	2-3	

West Division										
W	L	Pct	GB	WCGB	L10	Str	Home	Away		
Los Angeles	11	7	.611	—	7-3	W-3	6-5	5-2		
Seattle	11	7	.611	—	7-3	L-1	7-2	4-5		
Houston	9	9	.500	2	2	4-6	W-2	2-4	7-5	
Oakland	9	9	.500	2	2	5-5	L-1	4-3	5-6	
Texas	6	12	.333	5	5	4-6	L-2	2-7	4-5	

NATIONAL LEAGUE										
East Division										
W	L	Pct	GB	WCGB	L10	Str	Home	Away		
New York	14	6	.700	—	7-3	L-1	5-2	9-4		
Miami	9	8	.529	3½	2	6-4	W-4	4-3	5-5	
Philadelphia	9	10	.474	4½	3	5-5	W-3	7-5	2-5	
Atlanta	8	11	.421	5½	4	4-6	L-1	5-7	3-4	
Washington	6	14	.300	8	6½	2-8	L-7	3-10	3-4	

Central Division										
W	L	Pct	GB	WCGB	L10	Str	Home	Away		
Milwaukee	12	7	.632	—	8-2	W-2	5-3	7-4		
St. Louis	10	7	.588	1	1	5-5	W-1	4-3	6-4	
Chicago	8	10	.444	3½	3½	4-6	W-1	4-6	4-4	
Pittsburgh	8	10	.444	3½	3½	4-6	L-2	4-4	4-6	
Cincinnati	3	15	.167	8½	8½	1-9	L-2	1-6	2-9	

West Division										
W	L	Pct	GB	WCGB	L10	Str	Home	Away		
San Francisco	13	5	.722	—	7-3	W-5	5-2	8-3		
Los Angeles	12	6	.667	1	—	6-4	L-2	6-1	6-5	
San Diego	12	7	.632	1½	—	7-3	W-2	6-4	6-3	
Colorado	10	8	.556	3	1½	4-6	L-3	6-4	4-4	
Arizona	8	11	.421	5½	4	5-5	W-2	5-7	3-4	

AMERICAN LEAGUE Wednesday's Games
 Chicago White Sox 7, Kansas City 3
 Tampa Bay 3, Seattle 2
 N.Y. Yankees 5, Baltimore 2
 Minnesota 5, Detroit 0
 Boston 7, Toronto 1
 Houston 4, Texas 3
 Cleveland at L.A. Angels, 9:38 p.m.
 Oakland at San Francisco, 9:45 p.m.

NATIONAL LEAGUE Wednesday's Games
 St. Louis 10, N.Y. Mets 5
 Arizona 3, L.A. Dodgers 1
 Milwaukee 3, Pittsburgh 1
 Philadelphia 7, Colorado 3
 San Diego 8, Cincinnati 5
 Miami 2, Washington 1
 Chicago Cubs 6, Atlanta 3, 10 innings
 Oakland at San Francisco, 9:45 p.m.

Thursday's Games
 Milwaukee (Peralta 0-1) at Pittsburgh (Quintana 0-1), 12:35 p.m.
 San Diego (Martinez 0-2) at Cincinnati (Mahle 1-2), 12:35 p.m.
 Colorado (Senzatela 1-1) at Philadelphia (Wheeler 0-3), 1:05 p.m.
 Miami (Rogers 0-3) at Washington (Corbin 0-3), 1:05 p.m.
 Chicago Cubs (Smyly 1-1) at Atlanta (Wright 2-0), 7:20 p.m.
 Arizona (Castellanos 1-0) at St. Louis (Hudson 1-1), 7:45 p.m.

Friday's Games
 San Diego at Pittsburgh, 6:35 p.m.
 Seattle at Miami, 6:40 p.m.
 Philadelphia at N.Y. Mets, 7:10 p.m.
 Atlanta at Texas, 8:05 p.m.
 Chicago Cubs at Milwaukee, 8:10 p.m.
 Arizona at St. Louis, 8:15 p.m.
 Cincinnati at Colorado, 8:40 p.m.

AMERICAN LEAGUE Wednesday's Games
 Chicago White Sox 7, Kansas City 3
 Tampa Bay 3, Seattle 2
 N.Y. Yankees 5, Baltimore 2
 Minnesota 5, Detroit 0
 Boston 7, Toronto 1
 Houston 4, Texas 3
 Cleveland at L.A. Angels, 9:38 p.m.
 Oakland at San Francisco, 9:45 p.m.

NATIONAL LEAGUE Wednesday's Games
 St. Louis 10, N.Y. Mets 5
 Arizona 3, L.A. Dodgers 1
 Milwaukee 3, Pittsburgh 1
 Philadelphia 7, Colorado 3
 San Diego 8, Cincinnati 5
 Miami 2, Washington 1
 Chicago Cubs 6, Atlanta 3, 10 innings
 Oakland at San Francisco, 9:45 p.m.

Thursday's Games
 Milwaukee (Peralta 0-1) at Pittsburgh (Quintana 0-1), 12:35 p.m.
 San Diego (Martinez 0-2) at Cincinnati (Mahle 1-2), 12:35 p.m.
 Colorado (Senzatela 1-1) at Philadelphia (Wheeler 0-3), 1:05 p.m.
 Miami (Rogers 0-3) at Washington (Corbin 0-3), 1:05 p.m.
 Chicago Cubs (Smyly 1-1) at Atlanta (Wright 2-0), 7:20 p.m.
 Arizona (Castellanos 1-0) at St. Louis (Hudson 1-1), 7:45 p.m.

Friday's Games
 San Diego at Pittsburgh, 6:35 p.m.
 Seattle at Miami, 6:40 p.m.
 Philadelphia at N.Y. Mets, 7:10 p.m.
 Atlanta at Texas, 8:05 p.m.
 Chicago Cubs at Milwaukee, 8:10 p.m.
 Arizona at St. Louis, 8:15 p.m.
 Cincinnati at Colorado, 8:40 p.m.

AMERICAN LEAGUE Wednesday's Games
 Chicago White Sox 7, Kansas City 3
 Tampa Bay 3, Seattle 2
 N.Y. Yankees 5, Baltimore 2
 Minnesota 5, Detroit 0
 Boston 7, Toronto 1
 Houston 4, Texas 3
 Cleveland at L.A. Angels, 9:38 p.m.
 Oakland at San Francisco, 9:45 p.m.

NATIONAL LEAGUE Wednesday's Games
 St. Louis 10, N.Y. Mets 5
 Arizona 3, L.A. Dodgers 1
 Milwaukee 3, Pittsburgh 1
 Philadelphia 7, Colorado 3
 San Diego 8, Cincinnati 5
 Miami 2, Washington 1
 Chicago Cubs 6, Atlanta 3, 10 innings
 Oakland at San Francisco, 9:45 p.m.

Thursday's Games
 Milwaukee (Peralta 0-1) at Pittsburgh (Quintana 0-1), 12:35 p.m.
 San Diego (Martinez 0-2) at Cincinnati (Mahle 1-2), 12:35 p.m.
 Colorado (Senzatela 1-1) at Philadelphia (Wheeler 0-3), 1:05 p.m.
 Miami (Rogers 0-3) at Washington (Corbin 0-3), 1:05 p.m.
 Chicago Cubs (Smyly 1-1) at Atlanta (Wright 2-0), 7:20 p.m.
 Arizona (Castellanos 1-0) at St. Louis (Hudson 1-1), 7:45 p.m.

Friday's Games
 San Diego at Pittsburgh, 6:35 p.m.
 Seattle at Miami, 6:40 p.m.
 Philadelphia at N.Y. Mets, 7:10 p.m.
 Atlanta at Texas, 8:05 p.m.
 Chicago Cubs at Milwaukee, 8:10 p.m.
 Arizona at St. Louis, 8:15 p.m.
 Cincinnati at Colorado, 8:40 p.m.

AMERICAN LEAGUE Wednesday's Games
 Chicago White Sox 7, Kansas City 3
 Tampa Bay 3, Seattle 2
 N.Y. Yankees 5, Baltimore 2
 Minnesota 5, Detroit 0
 Boston 7, Toronto 1
 Houston 4, Texas 3
 Cleveland at L.A. Angels, 9:38 p.m.
 Oakland at San Francisco, 9:45 p.m.

NATIONAL LEAGUE Wednesday's Games
 St. Louis 10, N.Y. Mets 5
 Arizona 3, L.A. Dodgers 1
 Milwaukee 3, Pittsburgh 1
 Philadelphia 7, Colorado 3
 San Diego 8, Cincinnati 5
 Miami 2, Washington 1
 Chicago Cubs 6, Atlanta 3, 10 innings
 Oakland at San Francisco, 9:45 p.m.

Thursday's Games
 Milwaukee (Peralta 0-1) at Pittsburgh (Quintana 0-1), 12:35 p.m.
 San Diego (Martinez 0-2) at Cincinnati (Mahle 1-2), 12:35 p.m.
 Colorado (Senzatela 1-1) at Philadelphia (Wheeler 0-3), 1:05 p.m.
 Miami (Rogers 0-3) at Washington (Corbin 0-3), 1:05 p.m.
 Chicago Cubs (Smyly 1-1) at Atlanta (Wright 2-0), 7:20 p.m.
 Arizona (Castellanos 1-0) at St. Louis (Hudson 1-1), 7:45 p.m.

Friday's Games
 San Diego at Pittsburgh, 6:35 p.m.
 Seattle at Miami, 6:40 p.m.
 Philadelphia at N.Y. Mets, 7:10 p.m.
 Atlanta at Texas, 8:05 p.m.
 Chicago Cubs at Milwaukee, 8:10 p.m.
 Arizona at St. Louis, 8:15 p.m.
 Cincinnati at Colorado, 8:40 p.m.

PREP SOFTBALL/BASEBALL

OVAC Semifinal Class 5A
John Marshall 11, Parkersburg South 1
 PS 0-0-0 1-0-0 — 15 2
 JM 1-0-0 0-4-6 — 11 14 0

PS — Dellinger 1p (2K, 3BB), Johnson (OK, OBB) and Lemus. Lamp T; Timble 2S, rbi.
 JM — Pettit wp (10K, OBB) and Adkins. Tucker 2S, Blake S, D, 2HR, 6 rbi; Skrzynecki 3S, HR, 3rbi; Pettit 2S, HR, rbi; Daugherty rbi.

Regular Season
Shenandoah 7, Beallsville 5
 Beallsville 400 001 0-5 4 0
 Shen 000 230 x-7 7 0
 B — Hughes 1p (5K, 3BB), Hagan (6) (OK, 2BB). Hagan 2S, Trigg S, rbi; Huffman rbi; Otto rbi.

S — Wickham (3K, 5BB), Leach wp (4) (5K, 2BB) and Frye. Leach HR, 3rbi; Irvine D, T, 3rbi; Wickham T, S, rbi.
Martins Ferry 8, Union Local 0
 UL 000 000 0-0 4 2
 MF 024 200 x-8 8 2
 UL — Gregor 1p (3K, 2BB) and McGary. Miller D.

MF — Gillespie wp (3K, OBB) and Hall. Hall HR, 3rbi; E. McFarland HR, D, 2rbi; Zinn S, rbi; Clark D, S, rbi.
Buckeye Local 10, Bridgeport 0
 BL 350 02-10 13 0
 Br 000 00-0 1 1
 BL — Eastham wp (4K, 2BB) and Trekal. Richardson D, T, rbi; Meddles 2S, rbi; Williams

Brown (3) (4K, OBB) and Bilings, Nichols (3). Helmick S, T, HR, rbi; Brown D, S, 2rbi; Nichols D, rbi; Walton D, S, 3rbi; Henderson D, rbi; Ammons S, D, 2rbi; Chaplin S, rbi; Ferrell 2rbi; Westbrook rbi; Jackson rbi; Billings 2S, rbi; Gorby S, rbi.
Cameron 8, Magnolia 0
 M 000 000 0-0 1 4
 C 201 014 x-8 8 1
 M — Starkey 1p (3K, OBB), Streets (2) (3K, 3BB) and Di-nardo.
 C — A. Angel wp (18K, 1BB) and Burkett. Ball HR, T, 2rbi; Hartley HR, 3rbi; Haerberle T, rbi; C. Angel S, D.

Indian Creek 13
John Marshall 3
 JM 110 10 — 3 6 2
 IC 410 62 — 13 14 4
 JM — Sobutka 1p (4K, 4BB), Menendez (4) (OK, 2BB) and Wright, Mikels (4). Coffield rbi; Bren. Sobutka S, rbi; Kerns S, rbi.
 IC — Lash wp (2K, 2BB) and Franke. Franke S, D, 2rbi; Pownall S, D, 2rbi; Householder 3S, 2rbi; Vandeborne S, rbi; Howell 2S, 4rbi; Amis 2S, rbi.

Monroe Central 7, Barnesville 6
 MC 004 030 0-7 12 3
 B 120 012 0-6 7 3
 MC — Winland wp (6K, 3BB), Kroll sv (6), (1K, OBB) and Lydick; Knowlton S, T; Kroll 2S; Winland S, 2rbi; K. Dem-

Monroe Central Finishes Sweep of Barnesville

By KIM NORTH
 For The Intelligencer

BARNESVILLE — Chris Leasure isn't living in the past. He's all about the present.

The former Monroe Central product watched his alma mater collect a dozen hits and receive good pitching in a 7-6 repeat victory over Barnesville Wednesday at sunny, but chilly, Memorial Park in western Belmont County.

Leasure was quick and to the point when asked if he knew the last time Monroe Central had swept the Shamrocks. "I'm not sure. In 2022, I guess. That's all that matters to me," he said as his team celebrated around him.

With every starter collecting at least one hit, the Seminoles (10-8) put together a 4-run third inning to take a 4-3 lead, and then added three more in the fifth for a 7-3 lead at that point. The Shamrocks (9-5) tallied once in the bottom of the fifth and twice in the sixth, but couldn't get any closer as they had a runner thrown out stealing second to end the sixth and then doubled a runner off of second to end the game.

"Barnesville is a good team that is very well coached. They have a good group of seniors and they put a good product out, basically, every year," Leasure added. "We beat them once last year and kind of gave the second game away. It feels great to beat them."

Leasure, a former Bethany College standout and OVBL veteran, said this win will do a lot for his program.

"Winning this game and being able to sweep them will go a long way for us as far as (sectional tournament) seeding goes because they are one of the top dogs around."

Barnesville, which advanced to the Division III state semifinals last spring, took a 3-0 advantage after two innings. Kyvan Johnson doubled home C.J. Hannahs in the first for a 1-0 reading and an error and a Colton Hines run-scoring groundout made it 3-0.

Monroe Central bunched five hits with two Shamrock errors in scoring four times in the third with two outs. Winland singled in the first two and two batters later, Kade Demchak roped a single to left-center that plated two more.

Carter Knowlton's drive found the gap in left-center and rolled and rolled as he strolled into third with a triple. However, when the relay thrown was mishandled, he sprinted home to make it 5-3. That ended the day for Jaxon Wiley on the hill as Spencer Bliss came on in relief.

Bliss walked the first batter he faced before getting two outs. With the bases loaded, Logan Demchak duplicated his brother's fete two innings earlier when he stroked a two-run single, upping the margin to 7-3.

"Our hitting was something we struggled with early in the season and with me being a hitting-oriented coach, it was kind of difficult, but we stayed in the groove," Leasure added. "It's not about how you start, but how you finish. We're getting hot at

the right time and, hopefully, we can finish the season off on a good note going into the tournament."

Barnesville drew to within 7-4 in the fifth when Hannahs raced home after a strikeout in which the ball was dropped and thrown to first for an out.

Marshall Meade was hit with a Winland pitch to start the sixth, prompting Leasure to bring Collin Kroll on in relief. Jeremy Hunkler singled to right as pinch runner Reese Stephens went to third. Hunkler alertly took second on the errant throw from the outfield. With one out, Hines bounced to third as Stephen sprinted home for a 7-5 reading. Hannahs then dropped a single into center field that brought in Hunkler, making it 6-5.

However, Hannahs was thrown out trying to steal second on a laser by catcher Landon Lydick to end the inning. The Shamrocks had a runner on second with one out in the bottom of the seventh, but a line drive to center was gloved and thrown to second to double up the runner and end the contest.

"Jake threw very well for us tonight. He's been struggling a little lately with high pitch counts early. It looked like he was headed for another one of those tonight, but he had back-to-back 8-pitch innings there that helped," Leasure noted. "I told him before the game that I wanted to get two trips through their lineup from him. He gave me that plus six batters. I'll never complain about that."

"Collin came in and closed it. Everyone on the team wants to win, but nobody wants to win more than he does. He wants to win badly, so we had the right guy on the mound at the right time."

Winland struck out six, walked three and hit a batter in his 80-pitch (51 strikes) outing. Kroll had one K. They teamed on a seven-hitter.

Wiley didn't fan a batter and issued one free pass. Bliss had one and one.

"This is the worst coaching job I've ever done in my 15 years here, by far. We've got talent but I'm not getting it out of them for some reason," Barnesville head coach D.J. Butler explained. "It's on me. We have the talent to win and I'm not getting it out of them."

Barnesville was missing senior Gavin Carpenter who was attending practice for Saturday's Ohio North-South football game in Massillon.

"Gavin deserves to be in that North-South Game. He had a fantastic football season. You can't begrudge him for being there," Butler said of his ace pitcher and big bat in the middle of the lineup. "I'm glad he went."

When asked how he would get his squad ready after the tough loss, Butler said, "I've got to figure out a way to get them going. We go to Hiland tomorrow (today) and the plan was to see some good pitching and get ready for, most likely (Colby) Shriver on Saturday against Martins Ferry in the OVAC (3A) championship game. I've got three days to get them going again."

NHL

EASTERN CONFERENCE											
Atlantic Division											
GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA					
z-Florida	80	57	17	6	120	334	236				
x-Toronto	81	53	21	7	113	310	251				
x-Tampa Bay	80	50	22	8	108	279	224</				

Linsly Girls Claim 11th Straight OVAC Tennis Title

Ekanem's singles title gives Cadets tiebreaker over OG

By CODY NESPOR
Sports Writer

WHEELING — It came down to the final matches of the day, but the result was still what everyone has come to expect. Playing in the indoor tennis bubble at Wheeling Park due to the weather Tuesday, the Linsly girls tennis team took home the OVAC 1A-4A team championship for the 11th year in a row.

"I've been very blessed with some great players," said Linsly coach Dave Riethmiller. "It's been quite a run."

Out of all 11 titles, Tuesday's win may have been the most dramatic one of all.

Entering the final round of championship matches, Oak Glen led Linsly by a single point, 15-14, in the team standings. Each team had one player in the final round, giving host to a number of possible outcomes depending on who won which match.

Linsly had Rachel Ekanem in No. 1 singles and OG had Kittawana McKinley in No. 3, both were playing girls from Class 5A champion University.

Ekanem, Linsly's senior captain, was able to claim an 8-6 victory over University's Lyla Byers, who was the top seed in the bracket and had beaten Ekanem earlier this season.

"I've played her multiple times and it's always kind of been like this," Ekanem said. "I knew that it would be a tough match but I planned and I'm glad that I was able to pull it through in the end."

In defeating Byers, Ekanem claimed her second consecutive individual OVAC championship and pulled the Cadets into a 15-15 tie with the Golden Bears in the team standings.

"It was just completely overwhelming how I felt because that was my very last high school single

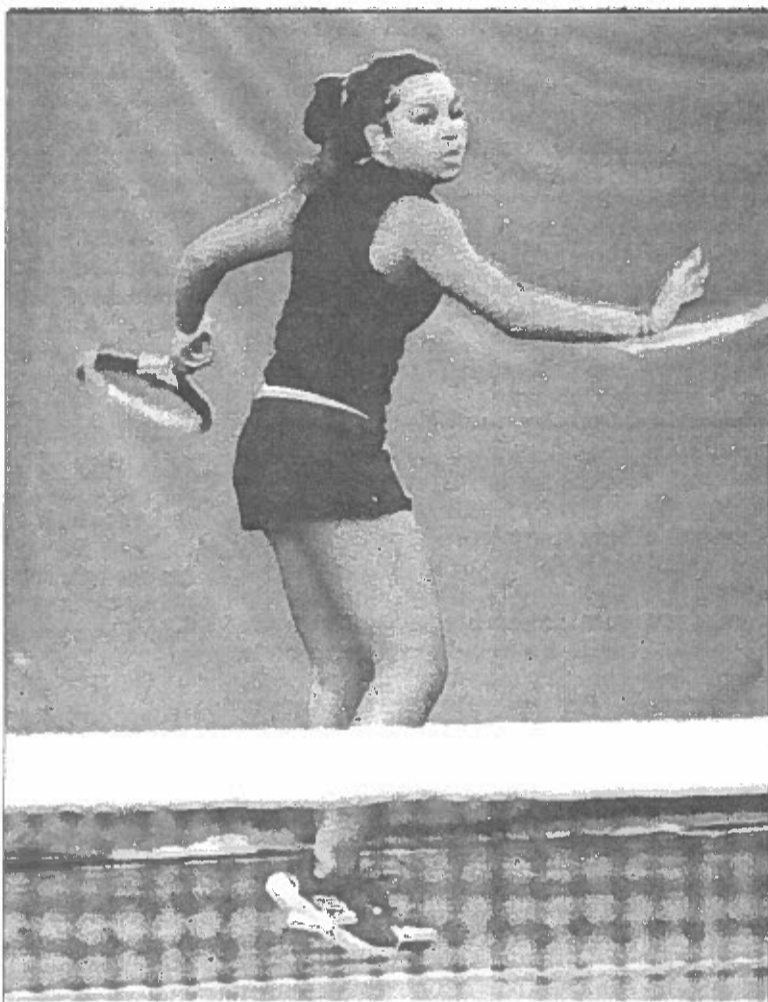


Photo by Cody Nespor
Linsly's Rachel Ekanem prepares to return volley against University's Lyla Byers in the OVAC No. 1 singles championship match Tuesday.

match that I will ever play," Ekanem said. "I was just overwhelmed with such joy and satisfaction. It was such a wonderful match and I enjoyed every minute of it, the good and the bad."

The Cadets then gathered as a team to watch how McKinley's match would conclude. McKinley fell 8-0 to University's Emma Rusiecki, keeping the team scores tied at 15-15. The tiebreaker was the number of individual championships, meaning that Ekanem's win tipped the scales for the Cadets to claim the trophy.

"I really thought (Oak Glen was) going to take it this year," Riethmiller said. "It was sweet, especial-

ly for it to come down to a match like that where our captain, Rachel, pulled it out for us. That meant a whole lot for her."

For Oak Glen coach Ken Keller, the feeling was very familiar.

"This is the second time we've tied and the second time that they won because they had more champions than us," he said. "We thought we had them this year, but Linsly's tough."

Even after 11 straight championships, Riethmiller said the excitement of winning never gets old.

"This was really fun, really exciting," he said.

Please see LINSLY, Page 12



Photo by Kim North
Linsly's Haley Heitz, right, chases after Martins Ferry's Kelsie Gillespie in a rundown between third base and home plate during Tuesday's OVAC semifinal.

Purple Riders Hold Off Cadets In 3A Semifinal

By KIM NORTH
For The Intelligencer
ELM GROVE —

When you're the defending champion, the top seed and undefeated, you get everybody's best shot.

That's what Martins Ferry received Tuesday from fourth-seeded Linsly in an Ohio Valley Athletic Conference Tom Bechtel Softball Championships Class 3A semifinal. However, the battle-tested Purple Riders (11-0) were able to stave off the Cadets (8-7) by a 5-3 count on Lisa's Field at the J.B. Chambers I-470 Complex.

The win allows the Purple a chance at defending their title against No. 2 Shenandoah on Friday. The field and time were not yet confirmed late Tuesday.

"It's never easy. Let me tell you. That's a very good team," veteran Martins Ferry head coach Jerry Magistro said of the Cadets. "They've got a lot of speed, a lot of talent and a lot of athletes. We beat them three times last year and we've played them

twice already this year. It's hard to beat a team five times like that."

Linsly took a 1-0 lead when Lexi Finley led off the top of the second by crushing a 1-0 pitch well over the fence in left field.

Martins Ferry took advantage of two Linsly errors in the bottom of the third in taking a 3-1 lead it would not relinquish.

Hunter Pollock's rocket up the middle scored Eve Agnew to tie things at 1. After a fielder's choice, Maria Clark singled to right-center as Pollock and Danielle Lude circled the bases for a 3-1 reading.

"That was a huge hit," Magistro said of Clark's clutch hit.

Lude doubled leading off the fifth and scored on Taylor Bell's fielder's choice. Bell went to third on a sacrifice fly off the bat of winning pitcher Lauren McFarland and came home on Nevaeh Hall sent a two-out single to right-center.

Please see SEMIFINAL, Page 12

Nailers Bring 2-0 Series Lead Back to Wheeling

By CODY TOMER
Sports Writer

WHEELING — The Wheeling Nailers flipped home ice advantage after taking Game One in the opening round of the 2022 Kelly Cup Playoffs at Fort Wayne on Friday night.

They flipped the entire series when they took Game Two the following night to sweep the first two games on the road and return to WesBanco Arena with a 2-0 series lead after not winning a game in Fort Wayne all season.

"They are incredibly well-coached and they are the former champions," Nailers' coach Derek Army said. "They were on a run down the stretch and it's a hard building for us to play in. That's not something we can control. The only thing we can control is our mentality and how we play so for us it was, 'Just go in and take it one game, one shift and one period at a time and see what happens.' It's nice to have a lead but I expect a heavy push

in goals, assists and points netted the lone goal of the game as Patrick Watling lit the lamp with 5 seconds to play in the first period.

That was all the Nailers needed as Louis-Philip Guindon slammed the door the rest of the way as he collected 34 saves in the shutout.

"LP has been great," Army said. "We also defended well and were able to keep them out of our net."

After taking the opener, Army believes the team felt loose and hungry going into Game 2, which became a 4-2 Wheeling triumph.

"I'm sure we were a little bit looser," Army said. "Any road team in any playoff feels that you try to win one game on the road and go from there. We more or less caught some bounces in Game One and LP stood on his head. We were able to come out with the result and in Game Two we were feeling confident and were able to get some more bounces."

by Dylan MacPherson and a go-ahead netter by Jared Cockrell in the first and second periods, respectively.

"We just started chipping away and playing our game," MacPherson said. "That first goal was huge for us."

Cockrell added, "We were just trying to stay calm and dialed into the moment and didn't get ahead of ourselves."

That continues to be the mindset for Wheeling as it prepares to host Games Three, Four and Five (if needed), even though it can be easy to get excited about a 2-0 lead in the postseason.

"That's the hard part of the playoffs and the hard part about having a young team in general," Army said. "We don't have a lot of guys who have been in a best-of-7 series. People can get carried away and say, 'We're going to win the series,' but we have to bring ourselves back to earth. They are a well-coached team, they are big, they are experienced and they are the defending champions. If you think Games

fault in 2016. We looked ahead and you can't do that. They're going to be coming hard."

Game Three is tonight inside of WesBanco Arena, with Games Four and Five taking place Friday and Saturday (if needed). All three games begin at 7:10 p.m.

"Hopefully we get a big crowd Wednesday," Cockrell said. "It'd be nice to get the city buzzing a little bit and make some noise around here."

After missing out on the playoffs every year dating back to Army's run as a key player on the 2016 team, Cockrell believes the team's youth, energy and passion for the game creates the perfect recipe for success.

"This team is so young," Cockrell said. "We have a lot of energy and will to get things done. We're ready to play. The hard work we put in early in the year gives us the opportunity that we have now."

"At the end of the day, it's more about what we are doing and trusting our pro-

Myers Triples, Hurls Complete Game to Lift St. C. Over Park

By **BUBBA KAPRAL**
For The Intelligencer

ST. CLAIRSVILLE — Be it with his arm or with his bat, Mason Myers got it done for St. Clairsville Tuesday afternoon.

The Red Devils' talented sophomore sparkled on the hill and delivered the game's biggest hit in a 3-0 win over Wheeling Park in a well-played game in windy and chilly conditions.

Myers went the distance on the hill, scattering six hits. He fanned four, three coming in the seventh, while issuing no walks.

With the game still knotted at 0-0 in the home half of the sixth, St. Clairsville broke into the scoring column. With one out, Jason Starks reached on an error. Sophomore standout Braylen Blomquist lined a single to left center. Myers followed with a triple down the left field line, plating both teammates. Myers subsequently scoring on a wild pitch.

The loss spoiled sharp pitching effort from Park's Nick Taurus. He stymied the hosts for the first five innings, allowing just one hit over that span. Taurus ended with a three-hitter while walking just two.

"I am happy with the win and I am happy for Mason Myers," St. Clairsville Hall of Fame coach Tom Sliva offered. "Mason had great control tonight and he also came through with the big hit when we needed it."

"We made the plays behind him. Our defense was solid," he added. "I commend their pitcher. He did a great job, also."

St. Clairsville is now 7-5 and will visit Oak Glen this afternoon.

Wheeling Park dropped to 8-4. The Patriots will travel to Bridgeport (WV) Thursday before heading to Edison High Friday to face Morgantown in the OVAC 5A championship game in a 5:30 p.m. start.

"I thought it was a well-played game. Both pitchers were really good," Park head coach Steve Myers said. "They got the key hit when they needed to."

"St. Clairsville has a quality program. We have a lot of respect for them," he added. "We had some opportunities but could not take advantage of them."

Park's best scoring opportunity came in the fourth inning.

Senior catcher Luke Marsh opened the frame with a single. After a fielder's choice, a Red Devils' error placed runners on first and third. Myers, however, induced a groundout and routine flyball to end the threat.

Junior Quinn Jamison was the lone Patriot to collect two hits. The Patriots stranded eight runners.

St. Clairsville's third hit came from senior Logan Shields.

"It's a nice win against a very good program. Park is good

year-in and year-out," Sliva said. "I wish them well in their OVAC title game."

Buckeye Local 7 Union Local 6

CONNORVILLE - The Panthers bounced back with a run in the home half of the sixth after invading Union Local had knotted the game to pull out the victory on Tuesday.

Kaleb Stang, who came on in relief, earned the pitching win. He fanned four.

Ethan McHugh had a double, single and two RBI, while Skyler Ebright had a two-run double.

The Jets received two singles and two RBI from Evan White. Logan Hess had a single and two RBI, while Dylan Higgenbotham had an RBI single. Billy Schumacher had three singles.

River 11, Magnolia 1

HANNIBAL - The home-staying Pilots made quick work of cross-river rival, Magnolia on Tuesday.

Colton Cisar picked up the mound win with a complete-game effort. He fanned six and issued nary a walk, while allowing just a single. He also drove in a run with a single.

Peyton Blue had a single and two RBI, while Elijah Wayt had two RBI. Finn Bowers had a double and a single.

Martins Ferry 9 East Liverpool 3

MARTINS FERRY - The Purple Riders picked up their 10th win in 13 tries, Tuesday, toppling the invading Potters.

Ayden Ludolph worked into the seventh to earn the mound win. He also had a single, double and three RBI.

Senior Colby Shriver had two singles and two RBI, while Baron Lucey posted two singles and a RBI.

SOFTBALL

Shadyside 9, River 8

SHADYSIDE - The Tigers bounced back from a tough loss in the OVAC semifinals on Monday to edge rival River, 9-8.

Taylor Fulton picked up the win in the circle, working into the seventh. She had 11 strikeouts.

Offensively, junior standout Gentry Brown slugged a home run, two singles and drove in three. Rylee Fulton had four singles and a RBI. Abby Gorrell had a double, single and two RBI.

River was led by Kelsey Harlan who had a home run and two RBI. Rylee Knight had a triple and two RBI. Hannah Raper had two singles.

St. Clairsville 12 East Liverpool 5

EAST LIVERPOOL - The Red Devils went on the road and picked up their second win of the season.

Junior Abby Salisbury was the winner in the circle with five strikeouts and a like number of walks. She also had two singles.

Emily Dubinsky had a big game at the plate with four singles and five RBI. Dekotah Namack had a home run and three RBI. Hannah Thoburn produced a triple and a single.

Bridgeport 18

Jefferson Christian 2

BRIDGEPORT - The Bulldogs picked up their third win of the season and first via the mercy rule against Jefferson Co. Christian.

Hailee Aubrey picked up the win in the circle with four strikeouts.

Brooke Stewart had two singles, a double and three RBI, while Riley Bell had a single and three RBI.

Union Local 11-12

Buckeye Local 4-7

CONNORVILLE - The visiting Jets and Panthers split a doubleheader.

UL led 11-0 in the opener before Buckeye Local scored four in the sixth.

Emmy Kellaway singled three times, tripled and drove in two runs for the winners. Torre Kildow singled twice, doubled and also plated two runs. Abi Marinelli drove in a run with a home run. She also singled.

For the Panthers, Morgan Richardson, Josey Meddles and Alexa Williams all singled twice, with Williams recording an RBI. Madison Roset had a two-run single.

In the nightcap, the hosts led 6-5 before plating half-a-dozen runs in the bottom of the fourth.

Williams knocked in four runs to lead the victors with a pair of doubles. Richardson singled in two, as did Alli Trekal.

Ava Lucas laced a trio of singles for Union Local to account for an RBI. Marinelli singled twice and had a run batted in, while Hannah Merritt doubled twice.

Brooke 15, Toronto 3

WELLSBURG - The Brooke softball team's offensive surge continued against Toronto.

The Bruins scored 12 runs in the bottom of the third inning en route to a 15-3 victory on a chilly Tuesday evening at home on Senior Day.

Landry Bone started and recorded the win. She struck out two and walked six in four innings of work.

Bone helped her own cause with three singles, a double and two RBI. Ang Lippoli tallied a single, two doubles and three RBI and Madison Brown delivered a double and two RBI. Also, Baylei Jones ended up with two singles and three RBI, while Emilee Knorr and Emilee McKinney each collected two singles and two RBI.

Michelle Anderson and Ashton Thomas both doubled for the Red Knights. Calle Anderson singled home a run and Laney Danko delivered a single.

SEMIFINAL

(Continued from Page 11)

While the Purple Riders were adding to their lead, Linsly was shooting itself in the foot with several failed scoring opportunities. The Cadets had a runner on base in every inning and stranded at least one (9 total) in six of the seven - the lone exception being the first when a runner got caught stealing third. They left the sacks full in the fourth and had runners on second and third with only one out in the sixth before scoring twice in the seventh and having the tying run at the plate.

"That's where you want to be at that time but, obviously when it's all said and done, you want to be on top and we fell a little short," Linsly head coach Paul Recrosio said. "We executed, but we left a few runners on base. That comes back to hurt you. There's some little things like getting bunts and such. They all add up. Every run counts. It was 5-1 and you think you need a lot, but if we would've gotten one here and one there, a couple of runs might have been all we would've needed."

"We're still young. We're still learning, but we're getting better and better every time we take the field," Recrosio continued. "I'm proud of how hard the girls have worked. They never gave up today."

Brooke Edge drove in two runs in the seventh with a two-out triple that ended McFarland's day inside the circle. Kelsie Gillespie needed just one pitch to induce a comebacker and earn the save. McFarland struck out three, walked a pair and scattered 10 hits. She threw 112 pitches (67 strikes).

Pollock singled twice and drove in a run, while Gillespie had a pair of base raps.

"We hit the ball really well. We hit it hard," Magistro acknowledged. "But their outfielders, especially that left fielder (Addie Strauss), made a couple of outstanding catches."

Baeleigh Burwell was the tough-luck loser with two punchouts, a walk, a hit batter and seven hits allowed. She needed 93 pitches (66 strikes).

Martins Ferry returns to action today against Union Local.

Shenandoah 8 Barnesville 1

ELM GROVE - Shenandoah's Mya Leach overcame a shaky top of the first and the Zeps scored five unearned runs in an 8-1 decision over the third-seeded Shamrocks in an Ohio Valley Athletic Conference Tom Bechtel Softball Championships Class 3A semifinal Tuesday night on Lisa's Field at the J.B. Chambers I-470 Complex.

Leach yielded a lead-off triple to deep center by Maddy Shaffer to start the game. Shaffer raced home when Jayln Skinner reached on an error for a 1-0 lead. Ellie Thompson walked on a full-count and both runners advanced

ing strike threes to end the threat.

However, Savanna Robinson's leadoff single in the second would be the last hit for Barnesville. Counting the final two outs of the first, Leach retired 20 of the final 23 batters she faced.

The Zeps responded with two runs of their own in the bottom of the inning and were never headed after that.

Bailey Frye tripled down the right field line with one out and scored when the throw to third skipped away. Leach followed with a three-bagger of her own to right-center. She sprinted home on Laney Hitchens' RBI groundout with all the run support she would need.

Class 4A Oak Glen 7

Indian Creek 2

ELM GROVE - Maddie McKay came to the plate with the bases loaded in the bottom of the fifth and cleared them with a base hit, sparking a six-run outburst that carried Oak Glen to a 7-2 victory over No. 4 seed Indian Creek.

McKay's shot was followed up by a Sarah Brown RBI double and Lizzie Kell put another ball into the outfield that went in and out of the outfielder's glove to bring two more runs across before Creek could get out of the inning.

Those runs came after Indian Creek used some two-out magic to take the lead in the top half of the fifth.

Carley Jo Penner legged out a two-out, infield single to extend the inning and Abby Starkey doubled in next at bat to even the score at 1-1. Trinity Taylor put the ball in the play in the next at bat and an error allowed Starkey to cross, making it 2-1 IC.

McKay, the Toledo commit who a day earlier earned the 50th win of her high school career, made it 5-1 by going the distance and striking out seven without issuing a walk.

Weir 3

Harrison Central 1

ELM GROVE - When the chips are down, any coach wants to be able to rely on their seniors.

Weir High head coach John Leary had that luxury on Tuesday night as two of his 12th graders led his Red Riders to a 3-1 OVAC 4A semifinal victory over Harrison Central at the I-470 Complex.

Mallory Rosnick provided all of No. 2 seed Weir High's offense with a pair of homers and Madison Angus tossed a complete game, while holding the third-seeded Huskies to just four hits.

After the Huskies took a 1-0 lead with a Sarah Touville RBI double in the top of the first inning, Rosnick tucked a deep shot just inside the left field foul post for a solo shot with two outs to even the score.

After a scoreless second by both sides, she again came up with two outs, this time with a runner on after Sophia Anefine had sin-

DREAM CLEAN
"The Company to Trust"

SPRING SPECIAL

\$89⁹⁵
2 ROOMS

304-242-2577 - Whg
740-282-4816 - Steub

LINSLY

(Continued from Page 11)

"We were behind the whole time. I really thought that Oak Glen was going to edge us out. They've been our competition pretty much the whole (11 years). They've got a great program and a great coach."

Along with Ekanem, Olivia Rosenthal and Kate Bondarchuk each advanced to the semifinals in the No. 3 and No. 4 brackets, respectively, and Ava Bartlett won a match in the No. 2 bracket as well.

For Oak Glen, Lyndsay Reynolds and Gabie Pasco advanced to the semifinals in No. 1 and No. 3 singles, respectively, and Katie Zoellers won a match in No. 2.



TL Photo/KIM NORTH

MARTINS FERRY'S Danielle Lude applies a tag to Linsly's Haley Heitz who was out trying to steal third base Tuesday during their Ohio Valley Athletic Conference Tom Bechtel Softball Championships Class 3A semifinal Tuesday on Lisa's Field at the J.B. Chambers I-470 Complex in Elm Grove. The Purple Riders prevailed, 5-3.

Harrison falls in 4A semifinal

By ANDREW GRIMM
For The Times Leader

ELM GROVE — When the chips are down, any coach wants to be able to rely on their seniors.

Weir High head coach John Leary had that luxury on Tuesday night as two of his 12th graders led his Red Riders to a 3-1 OVAC 4A semifinal victory over Harrison Central at the I-470 Complex.

That senior duo, both of whom have been a key part of the Red Riders' successful season to date, was Mallory Rosnick and Madison Angus.

Rosnick provided all of No. 2 seed Weir High's offense with a pair of homers and Angus tossed a complete game while holding the third-seeded Huskies to just four hits.

"That's what seniors do," Leary said. "When you get into big games like this, sometimes your seniors carry you, two seniors carried us. Madison on the mound and Mallory at the plate. To win big games, sometimes you need people to carry you and I am glad I have those two."

After the Huskies (12-4) took a 1-0 lead with a Sarah Touville RBI double in the top of the first inning, Rosnick tucked a deep shot just inside the left field foul post for a solo shot with two outs to even the score.

After a scoreless second by both sides, she again came up with two outs, this time with a runner on after Sophia Aperfine had singled, and

Ferry holds off Linsly in 3A semi

By KIM NORTH
Times Leader Sports Writer

ELM GROVE - When you're the defending champion, the top seed and undefeated, you get everybody's best shot.

That's what Martins Ferry received Tuesday from fourth-seeded Linsly in an Ohio Valley Athletic Conference Tom Bechtel Softball Championships Class 3A semifinal. However, the battle-tested Purple Riders (11-0) were able to stave off the Cadets (8-7) by a 5-3 count on Lisa's Field at the J.B.

Chambers I-470 Complex.

The win allows the Purple a chance at defending their title against No. 2 Shenandoah on Friday. The field and time were not yet confirmed late Tuesday.

"It's never easy. Let me tell you. That's a very good team," veteran Martins Ferry head coach Jerry Magistro said of the Cadets. "They've got a lot of speed, a lot of talent and a lot of athletes. We beat them three times last year and we've played them twice already this year. It's hard to beat a team five times like that."

Linsly took a 1-0 lead when Lexi Finley led off the top of the second by crushing a 1-0 pitch well over the fence in left field.

Martins Ferry took advantage of two Linsly errors in the bottom of the third in taking a 3-1 lead it would not relinquish.

Hunter Pollock's rocket up the middle scored Eve Agnew to tie things at 1. After a fielder's choice, Maria Clark singled to right-center as Pollock and Danielle Lude circled the bases for a

See, FERRY, Page B2

See, HARRISON, Page B2



TL Photo/KIM NORTH

BARNESVILLE THIRD baseman Katelynn Arigoni (10) and catcher Lilly Welch watch a bunt by a Shenandoah's Brittany Farmer stay fair during their Ohio Valley Athletic Conference Tom Bechtel Softball Championships Class 3A semifinal Tuesday on Lisa's Field at the J.B. Chambers I-470 Complex in Elm Grove. The Shamrocks fell to the Zeps, 8-1.

Barnesville falls to Shenandoah

By KIM NORTH
Times Leader Sports Writer

ELM GROVE - The third time isn't always a charm. Just ask Barnesville head softball coach Kelly Hanlon.

Shenandoah's Mya Leach overcame a shaky top of the first and the Zeps scored five unearned runs in an 8-1 decision over the third-seeded Shamrocks (10-6) in an Ohio Valley Athletic Conference Tom Bechtel Softball Championships Class 3A semifinal Tuesday night on Lisa's Field at the J.B. Chambers I-470 Complex.

With its third victory of the season over Barnesville, No. 2 seed Shenandoah (11-4) will take on top-seeded Martins Ferry (11-0) on Friday. The time and field were not yet confirmed late Tuesday.

"No third-time-is-a-charm on this one. I'm not quite sure what happens to us when we play them," Hanlon said of the Zeps' dominance this season. "We don't hit the ball and we don't make the routine plays in the field. They definitely don't bring out the best in us."

Leach yielded a leadoff triple to deep center by Maddy Shaffer to start the game. Shaffer raced home when Jayln Skinner reached on an error for a 1-0 lead. Ellie Thompson walked on a full-count and both runners advanced a base on a wild pitch. With one out, Lilly Welch walked to load the bases, but Leach bore down and got back-to-back swinging strike threes to end the threat.

However, Savanna Robinson's leadoff single in the second would be the last hit for Barnesville. Counting the final

two outs of the first, Leach retired 20 of the final 23 batters she faced.

"We don't hit her," Hanlon said of Leach, who recorded 13 strikeouts and three walks - two of them in the first inning when she threw 33 pitches, of which 19 were strikes. She finished with 76 strikes on 114 offerings. "We hadn't had a hit off of her in the first two games she pitched against us this season, so I was really happy with the way we started. We had the bases loaded and we already had a run and a hit."

Hanlon would have liked to see how the game could've played out if her team would have scored a couple more runs.

"I think it would have given us some more momentum going into the game," Hanlon said

See, BARNESVILLE, Page B2

Myers, St. Clairsville stymie Wheeling Park

By BUBBA KAPRAL
For The Times Leader

ST. CLAIRSVILLE Be it with his arm or with his bat, Mason Myers got it done for St. Clairsville Tuesday after

in windy and chilly conditions.

Myers went the distance on the hill, scattering six hits. He fanned four, three coming in the seventh, while issuing no walks.

With the game still knotted at 0-0 in the home half of the sixth, St. Clairsville

left field line, plating both teammates. Myers subsequently scored on a wild pitch.

The loss spoiled a sharp pitching effort from Park's Nick Taurus. He stymied the hosts for the first five innings, allowing just one hit over that span.

"Mason had great control tonight and he also came through with the big hit when we needed it.

"We made the plays behind him. Our defense was solid," he added. "I commend their pitcher. He did a great job, also."

"I've been very blessed with some great players," said Linsly coach Dave Riethmiller. "It's been quite a run."

Out of all 11 titles, Tuesday's win may have been the most dramatic one of all.

Entering the final round of championship matches, Oak Glen led Linsly by a single point, 15-14, in the team standings. Each team had one player in the final round, giving host to a number of possible outcomes depending on who won which match.

Linsly had Rachel Ekanem in No. 1 singles and OG had Kittawana McKinley in No. 3, both were playing girls from Class 5A champion University.

her second consecutive individual championship and pulled the Cadets into a 15-15 tie with the Golden Bears in the team standings.

"It was just completely overwhelming how I felt because that was my very last high school singles match that I will ever play," Ekanem said. "I was just overwhelmed with such joy and satisfaction. It was such a wonderful match and I enjoyed every minute of it, the good and the bad."

The Cadets then gathered as a team to watch how McKinley's match would conclude. McKinley fell 8-0 to University's Emma Rusiecki, keeping the team scores tied at 15-15. The tiebreaker was

"This is the second time we've tied and the second time that they won because they had more champions than us," he said. "We thought we had them this year, but Linsly's tough."

Even after 11 straight championships, Riethmiller said the excitement of winning never gets old.

"This was really fun, really exciting," he said. "We were behind the whole time, I really thought that Oak Glen was going to edge us out. They've been our competition pretty much the whole (11 years). They've got a great program and a great coach."

Along with Ekanem, Olivia Rosenthal and Kate Bondarchuk each ad-

"We tell them that it's going to be a totally different atmosphere than the regular season. We tell them to just try to look calm and collected and to smile and laugh and your body can kind of be fooled by that."

For Oak Glen, Lyndsay Reynolds and Gabie Pasco advanced to the semifinals in No. 1 and No. 3 singles, respectively, and Katie Zoellers won a match in No. 2.

University won the 5A team title 24-16 over Morgantown, claiming championships in No. 2 singles, No. 3 singles, No. 1 doubles and No. 3 doubles along the way. Morgantown won in No. 4 singles and No. 2 doubles.

• Harrison

Continued from Page B1

other shot over the fence in left to make it 3-1 Red Riders (18-6).

Angus made sure that was they would need.

"Madison has been incredible this year," Leary said. "She has just been a work horse. She has taken the ball every time we've given it to her and she just keeps throwing strikes and showing a lot of toughness. She has pitched around 160 innings now and has more strikeouts than innings pitched. I'm very proud of her."

"This has been one of our goals every year since I was an assistant in 2016. I don't know when the last time Weir High made the OVAC tournament was, but this is

first time since I've been here that we have. It was goal we set at the beginning of the year to qualify and make it to the final."

The Huskies best chance to plate another run came in the top of the fifth when Olivia Tonkovich and Isabel Yeager started the inning with back-to-back singles.

A fielder's choice and a strike-out put two away with no damage, though, before an intentional walk of Maddy Butler loaded the bases, but a ground out to first ended the threat.

"I told the girls I thought our game plan worked perfectly, our pitcher (Tristen Kovarik) did what we wanted her to do, we just missed

two pitches and they hit balls over the fence," Harrison Central head coach Darrin Young said.

"Our defense played well, she did a good job pitching, to keep a team like that to three runs is something."

"We had the bases loaded there in the fifth and just couldn't get the hit we needed. I told the girls not to hang their heads. We came down here last year and got 10-runned and this year they hung with a very good team. Playing a good team like that will only help us going into the (OHSAA) tournament."

The Huskies who are scheduled to play St. Clairsville on Thursday.

• St. C.

Continued from Page B1

Patriots will travel to Bridgeport (WV) Thursday before heading to Edison High Friday to face Morgantown in the OVAC 5A championship game in a 5:30 p.m. start.

"I thought it was a well-played game. Both pitchers were really good," Park head coach Steve Myers said. "They got the key hit when they needed to."

"St. Clairsville has a quality program. We have a lot of respect for them," he added. "We had some opportunities but could not take advantage of them."

Park's best scoring opportunity came in the fourth inning.

Senior catcher Luke Marsh opened the frame with a single. After a fielder's choice, a Red Devils' error placed runners on first and third. Myers, however, induced a groundout and routine flyball to end the threat.

Junior Quinn Jamison was the lone Patriot to collect two hits. The Patriots stranded eight runners.

St. Clairsville's third hit came from senior Logan Shields.

"It's a nice win against a very good program. Park is good year-in and year-out," Sliva said. "I wish them well in their OVAC title game."

• Barnesville

Continued from Page B1

said of the first inning. "You never know." The Zepps responded with two runs of their own in the bottom of the inning and were never headed after that.

Bailey Frye tripled down the right field line with one out and scored when the throw to third skipped away. Leach followed with a three-bagger of her own to right-center. She sprinted home on Laney Hitchens' RBI groundout with all the run support she would need.

Shenandoah added other unearned runs in the third and fourth innings and two in the sixth.

"We're still a very young team and we've improved from last year, but we've got to make the routine plays ... catch the fly balls and field the ground balls," Hanlon said. "We're working at it. We'll get there."

Abigail Johnson suffered the loss with two Ks and a like number of base on balls. She yielded seven hits and threw 93 pitches (65) strikes.

Barnesville hosts Wheeling Central on Thursday

• Ferry

Continued from Page B1

3-1 reading.

"That was a huge hit," Magistro said of Clark's clutch hit.

Lude doubled leading off the fifth and scored on Taylor Bell's fielder's choice. Bell went to third on a sacrifice fly off the bat of winning pitcher Lauren McFarland and came home on Nevaeh Hall sent a two-out single to right-center.

While the Purple Riders were adding to their lead, Linsly was shooting itself in the foot with several failed scoring opportunities. The Cadets had a runner on base in every inning and stranded at least one (9 total) in six of the seven - the lone exception being the first when a runner got caught stealing third. They left the sacks full in the fourth and had runners on second and third with only one out in the sixth before scoring twice in the seventh and having the tying run at the plate.

"That's where you want to be at that time but, obviously when it's all said and done, you want to be on top and we fell a little short," Linsly head coach Paul Recrosio said. "We executed, but we left a few runners on base. That comes back to hurt you. There's some little things like getting bunts down to move runners and such. They all add up. Every run counts. It was 5-1 and you think you need a lot, but if we would've gotten one here and one there, a couple of runs might have been all we would've needed."

"We're still young. We're still learning, but we're getting better and better every time we take the field," Recrosio continued. "I'm proud of how hard the girls have worked. They never gave up today."

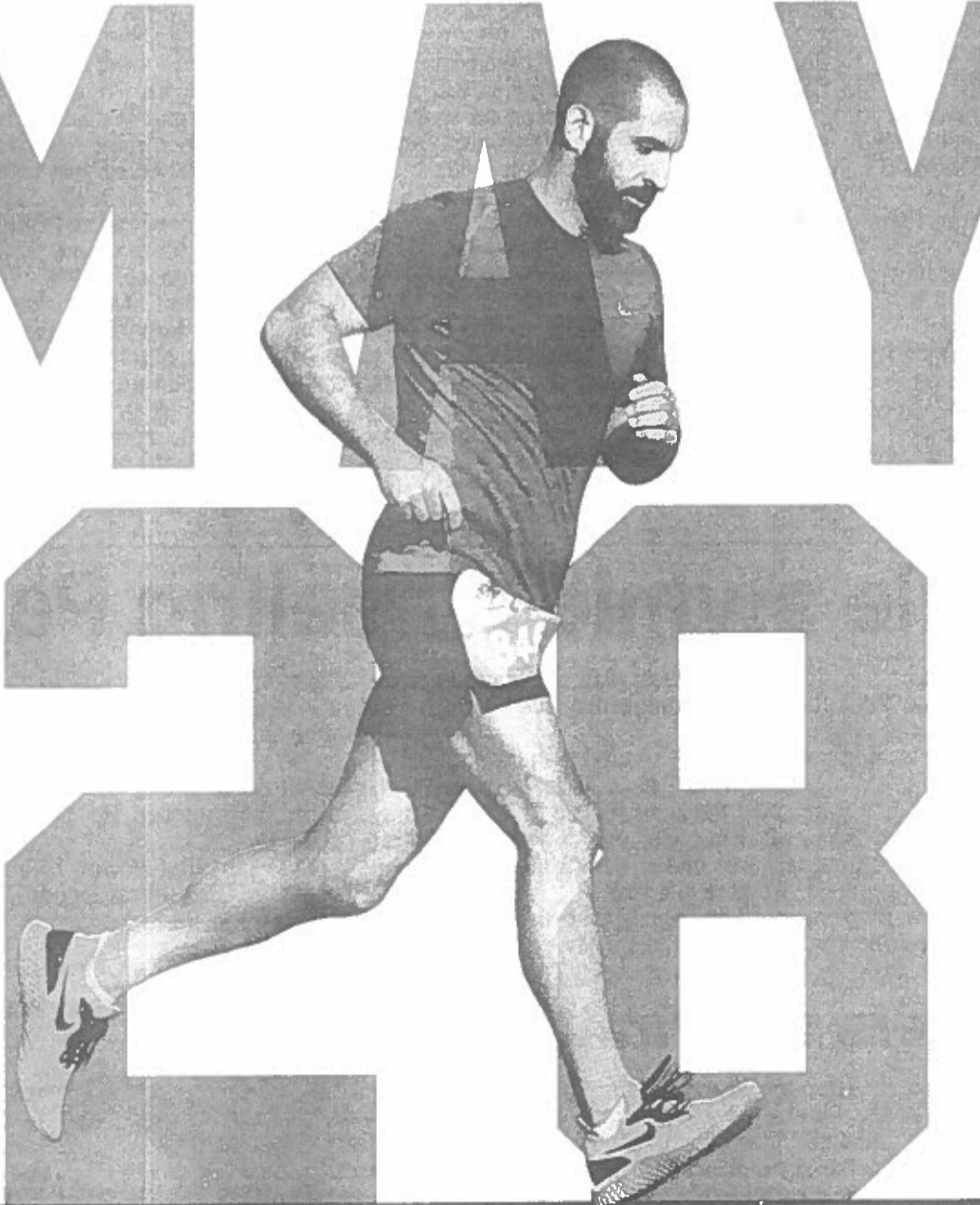
Brooke Edge drove in two runs in the seventh with a two-out triple that ended McFarland's day inside the circle. Kelsie Gillespie needed just one pitch to induce a comebacker and earn the save. McFarland struck out three, walked a pair and scattered 10 hits.

OGDEN NEWSPAPERS

5K TWIN POPS RUN

PRESENTED BY Ziegenfelder cool treats. great values.

MAY 2018



OGDENWELLNESSWEEKEND.COM

OGDEN NEWSPAPERS

• Harrison

Continued from Page B1

other shot over the fence in left to make it 3-1 Red Riders (18-6).

Angus made sure that was they would need.

"Madison has been incredible this year," Leary said. "She has just been a work horse. She has taken the ball every time we've given it to her and she just keeps throwing strikes and showing a lot of toughness. She has pitched around 160 innings now and has more strikeouts than innings pitched. I'm very proud of her.

"This has been one of our goals every year since I was an assistant in 2016. I don't know when the last time Weir High made the OVAC tournament was. but this is

first time since I've been here that we have. It was goal we set at the beginning of the year to qualify and make it to the final."

The Huskies best chance to plate another run came in the top of the fifth when Olivia Tonkovich and Isabel Yeager started the inning with back-to-back singles.

A fielder's choice and a strike-out put two away with no damage, though, before an intentional walk of Maddy Butler loaded the bases, but a ground out to first ended the threat.

"I told the girls I thought our game plan worked perfectly, our pitcher (Tristen Kovarik) did what we wanted her to do, we just missed

two pitches and they hit balls over the fence," Harrison Central head coach Darrin Young said.

"Our defense played well, she did a good job pitching, to keep a team like that to three runs is something.

"We had the bases loaded there in the fifth and just couldn't get the hit we needed. I told the girls not to hang their heads. We came down here last year and got 10-runned and this year they hung with a very good team. Playing a good team like that will only help us going into the (OHSAA) tournament."

The Huskies who are scheduled to play St. Clairsville on Thursday.

• St. C.

Continued from Page B1

Patriots will travel to Bridgeport (WV) Thursday before heading to Edison High Friday to face Morgantown in the OVAC 5A championship game in a 5:30 p.m. start.

"I thought it was a well-played game. Both pitchers were really good," Park head coach Steve Myers said. "They got the key hit when they needed to."

"St. Clairsville has a quality program. We have a lot of respect for them," he added. "We had some opportunities but could not take advantage of them."

Park's best scoring opportunity came in the fourth inning.

Senior catcher Luke Marsh opened the frame with a single. After a fielder's choice, a Red Devils' error placed runners on first and third. Myers, however, induced a groundout and routine flyball to end the threat.

Junior Quinn Jamison was the lone Patriot to collect two hits. The Patriots stranded eight runners.

St. Clairsville's third hit came from senior Logan Shields.

"It's a nice win against a very good program. Park is good year-in and year-out," Sliva said. "I wish them well in their OVAC title game."

• Barnesville

Continued from Page B1

said of the first inning. "You never know."

The Zeps responded with two runs of their own in the bottom of the inning and were never headed after that.

Bailey Frye tripled down the right field line with one out and scored when the throw to third skipped away. Leach followed with a three-bagger of her own to right-center. She sprinted home on Laney Hitchens' RBI groundout with all the run support she would need.

Shenandoah added other unearned runs in the third and fourth innings and two in the sixth.

"We're still a very young team and we've improved from last year, but we've got to make the routine plays ... catch the fly balls and field the ground balls," Hanlon said. "We're working at it. We'll get there."

Abigail Johnson suffered the loss with two Ks and a like number of base on balls. She yielded seven hits and threw 93 pitches (65) strikes.

Barnesville hosts Wheeling Central on Thursday

• Ferry

Continued from Page B1

3-1 reading.

"That was a huge hit," Magistro said of Clark's clutch hit.

Lude doubled leading off the fifth and scored on Taylor Bell's fielder's choice. Bell went to third on a sacrifice fly off the bat of winning pitcher Lauren McFarland and came home on Nevaeh Hall sent a two-out single to right-center.

While the Purple Riders were adding to their lead, Linsly was shooting itself in the foot with several failed scoring opportunities. The Cadets had a runner on base in every inning and stranded at least one (9 total) in six of the seven - the lone exception being the first when a runner got caught stealing third. They left the sacks full in the fourth and had runners on second and third with only one out in the sixth before scoring twice in the seventh and having the tying run at the plate.

"That's where you want to be at that time but, obviously when it's all said and done, you want to be on top and we fell a little short," Linsly head coach Paul Recrosio said. "We executed, but we left a few runners on base. That comes back to hurt you. There's some little things like getting bunts down to move runners and such. They all add up. Every run counts. It was 5-1 and you think you need a lot, but if we would've gotten one here and one there, a couple of runs might have been all we would've needed."

"We're still young. We're still learning, but we're getting better and better every time we take the field," Recrosio continued. "I'm proud of how hard the girls have worked. They never gave up today."

Brooke Edge drove in two runs in the seventh with a two-out triple that ended McFarland's day inside the circle. Kelsie Gillespie needed just one pitch to induce a comebacker and earn the save. McFarland struck out three, walked a pair and scattered 10 hits. She threw 112 pitches (67 strikes).

Pollock singled twice and drove in a run, while Gillespie had a pair of base raps.

"We hit the ball really well. We hit it hard," Magistro acknowledged. "But their outfielders, especially that left fielder (Addie Strauss), made a couple of outstanding catches."

Baeleigh Burwell was the tough-luck loser with two punchouts, a walk, a hit batter and seven hits allowed. She needed 93 pitches (66 strikes).

Martins Ferry returns to action today against Union Local.

OGDEN NEWSPAPERS

5K TWIN POPS RUN

PRESENTED BY **Ziegenfelder** cool treats. great values.

OGDENWELLNESSWEEKEND.COM

OGDEN NEWSPAPERS

wellnessweekend
RUN FOR YOUR LIFE

PRESENTED BY **WVU Medicine**

The Official Healthcare Provider of the Wellness Weekend.

Scoreboard/B3
xxx/B4
Counsel/B5
Comics/B6
Classified/B7-8

SPORTS

Tuesday,
April 26, 2022

Martins Ferry comes up short to Wheeling CC

By **BUBBA KAPRAL**
For The Times Leader

MARTINS FERRY - All games are not created equal.

Both Martins Ferry and Wheeling Central posted thrilling OVAC semifinal wins Saturday afternoon.

The Purple Riders advanced to the 3A finals via a 2-1 nod over Fort Frye. The Maroon Knights, meanwhile, downed Shadyside by an identical score in a 2A semifinal. Thus, both will play for conference crowns Saturday at Edison.

As fate would have it, the two OVAC finalists met Monday in a regular-season contest in the Purple City with much less fanfare. Both teams rode the arms of their respective aces in the crucial Saturday games.

On Monday, Wheeling Central used strong efforts from the Brothers Toepfer to pull out a wild 10-9 win. The win was the seventh in 13 starts for coach Jason Rowe's club.

Senior Michael Toepfer was the hitting star for the Maroon Knights, blasting a home run, triple and single, knocking in three runs. He also drew an intentional walk.

Sophomore Peyton Toepfer turned in a yeoman's relief effort. He entered in the first frame with one out and the Purple Riders leading 5-0. He yielded just two runs in 5.2 innings of work to earn the mound triumph.

"Michael has a real nice night at the plate. He just needed a double to complete the cycle," Rowe offered. "Peyton was strong in relief. He helped us weather the storm."

Ferry plated its five first-inning runs on just one hit - that coming off the bat of Hayden Smith. However, the hosts made the most of four walks, a hit-batter and two wild pitches.

Central replicated Ferry's first inning in its second, scoring five runs on just one hit - a two-run blast by Michael Toepfer. The home run was complemented by three base-on-balls and two Purple errors.

The hosts regained the lead with two runs in the second on two walks, a hit-batter and an error.

Central bounced back to forge an 8-7 lead in the fourth. Eli Turner and Braxton Billik singled before Gary Hatfield delivered an RBI double. Peyton Toepfer plated another run with a sacrifice fly. Michael Toepfer capped the frame with a run-scoring triple. That score stood until a wild seventh inning.

Central stretched its lead to 10-7 on doubles by freshman dandy Seth Cover and Turner to go with two Purple errors.

Those two runs proved to be game-winners as Ferry scored a pair of runs in the home half of the seventh without netting a hit. Ayden Ludolph drew a one-out walk. After a strike-out, the next four Purple Riders were beamed, drawing the hosts to within one.

However, Central closer Peyton Hildebrand induced a popup to shortstop, ending the affair.

"It was a real nice win," Rowe said. "Ferry is an excellent team and they have a great program here."

"We are playing at a high level right now," he added. "We are a young team,"

See, **FERRY**, Page B2



T-L Photo/KIM NORTH

BEALLSVILLE'S LEAH Trigg (23) slides across home plate on a wild pitch as Madonna pitcher Madison Cross looks on during the third inning of Monday's OVAC Tom Bechtel Class 1A Softball Championships semifinal on Lisa's Field at the I-470 J.B. Chambers Complex in Elm Grove. The Blue Devils won, 12-0, and will meet Conotton Valley Friday at 5 p.m. for the title.

Beallsville routs Madonna in 1A

By **KIM NORTH**
Times Leader Sports Writer

ELM GROVE - A pair of youthful squads faced off in an Ohio Valley Athletic Conference Tom Bechtel Softball Championships Class 1A semifinal Monday.

Beallsville, the No. 2 seed, scored four times in the top of the first inning and never looked back in handing third-seeded Madonna a 12-0 setback in a game halted after four-and-a-half innings due to the 10-run mercy rule on Lisa's Field at the J.B. Chambers I-470 Complex.

With the victory, the Blue Devils (8-

8) not only evened their record but advanced to the Class 1A title tilt for the first time in roughly a decade-and-a-half. They will meet defending champion and No. 1 seed Conotton Valley which blanked No. 4 Paden City, 10-0, in another mercy-rule contest. That game will be played Friday at 5 p.m. at Ben's Field.

"We think it was 2005," Beallsville head coach Rhea Pittman said when asked how long it's been since the Blue Devils have played for an OVAC softball title. "We're not positive, but we think it was 2005."

Beallsville was the 2000 Class 1A champion.

Winning pitcher Kaylee Hagan, a promising freshman, and standout sophomore shortstop Kinley Hughes got things rolling with back-to-back RBI hits with one out. Hagan singled and Hughes doubled. Sophomore catcher Leah Trigg delivered a two-run double with two outs for a 4-0 reading as all nine Blue Devils batted.

"We wanted to get an early start," Pittman said. "This has been one of our goals the past two seasons. To win a game here is really big for our program. These girls have worked really hard all season."

See, **BEALLSVILLE**, Page B2



T-L Photo/KIM NORTH

SHADYSIDE SECOND baseman McKenzie Zdunczyk (12) forces out Caldwell's Sydney Saling in the first inning of Monday night's Ohio Valley Athletic Conference Tom Bechtel Softball Championships Class 2A semifinal on Ben's Field at the J.B. Chambers I-470 Complex in Elm Grove. The Redskins nipped the Tigers, 2-1, and will defend their title Saturday. Shadyside shortstop Gentry Brown (71) is also pictured.

Shadyside comes up short to Caldwell in 2A

By **KIM NORTH**
Times Leader Sports Writer

ELM GROVE - Robert Gorrell Jr. may be in his first season as the Shadyside softball head coach, but he's just like many of his cohorts when it comes to moral victories.

The Tigers (6-9) battled and clawed their way into the Ohio Valley Athletic Conference Tom Bechtel Class 2A Softball Championships on the final day. Their reward: a date with defending champion and top seed Caldwell who they were mercy-ruled by (11-0) earlier this season.

However, Monday night fourth-seeded Shadyside gave the Redskins everything they had before falling 2-1 in semifinal action on Ben's Field at the J.B. Chambers I-470 Complex.

"This was the kind of game that the fans like to watch. I would have liked to have come out on top, but it's a tough loss," Gorrell Jr. said. "The season's not over yet and you can learn a lot from losing. You have to have a short memory and step back up in the next game."

"We've only got one senior, so we've got everybody coming back next year."

The Tigers drew first blood as they bunched three

See, **SHADYSIDE**, Page B2

Steelers may
be looking



Olave, Wilson
among top

Mets rally with 5 in 9th after Arenado error, beat Cards

ST. LOUIS (AP) — Pinch-hitter Dominic Smith hustled for an infield single that drove in two pivotal runs, and the New York Mets capitalized on an uncharacteristic error by Gold Glove third baseman Nolan Arenado to rally for five unearned runs with two outs in the ninth inning of a 5-2 victory over the St. Louis Cardinals on Monday night.

After the hit by Smith gave New York the lead, Brandon Nimmo capped the outburst with a two-run homer.

Max Scherzer struck out 10 over seven innings of two-hit ball in a scoreless duel with Cardinals starter Miles Mikolas. A two-run single by Tyler O'Neill off Trevor May (1-0) put St. Louis

ahead in the eighth. Edwin Diaz worked the ninth for his second save.

New York was down to its final strike when Mark Canha hit a grounder to third against Giovanni Gallegos (0-1). Arenado threw high for an error that allowed Eduardo Escobar to score from second, making it 2-1.

GIANTS 4, BREWERS 2
MILWAUKEE (AP) — Luis Gonzalez hit his first major league homer, a two-run drive with two outs in the ninth inning that sent San Francisco past Milwaukee.

The Giants went 8-3 on their four-city trip. Their one-game visit to Milwaukee was part of a makeup for a series post-

poned because of the lockout, and San Francisco will return for a doubleheader in September.

Gonzalez connected after Wilmer Flores drew a two-out walk from Jake Cousins (2-1).

Joc Pederson hit his sixth homer for the Giants, a two-run blast that made it 2-1 in the eighth.

The Brewers tied it in their half on Willy Adames' homer into the left-field bullpen off Jake McGee (1-1).

Camilo Doval threw a scoreless ninth to record his fourth save.

BLUE JAYS 6, RED SOX 2
TORONTO (AP) — Bo Bichette broke an eighth-inning tie with his first

career grand slam and Toronto beat slumping Boston.

Lourdes Gurriel Jr. and Matt Chapman also homered for the Blue Jays. Josh Berríos allowed two runs in a season-high seven-plus innings and Adam Cimber (4-0) got three outs for his major league-leading fourth win as Toronto won for the fifth time in six games.

The long balls by Gurriel and Chapman came off Red Sox starter Nathan Eovaldi, who allowed two runs and five hits in a season-high seven innings. Left-hander Matt Strahm (1-1) replaced Eovaldi in the eighth and allowed two baserunners who scored on Bichette's slam off Tyler Danish.

• Steelers

Continued from Page B1

and Mason Rudolph for the right to replace a future Hall of Famer.

Oh, and they'll likely have to win almost immediately at a place that hasn't endured a losing season since 2003.

No pressure or anything. No wonder the Steelers used nearly a quarter of the 30 pre-draft visits they're allowed on quarterbacks, meetings where they didn't ask them to throw a 20-yard out but instead picked their respective brains on their thought process.

"Some of (the factors) are not football-related, but personality-related," Tomlin said. "Some people are introverted, extroverted and (media attention) are draining for them, etc. And so for us, it was, yes, getting to know them as play-

ers. But just as significant a component of it ... was getting to know them as young people as well."

Colbert, who will retire sometime after the draft, feels good about the track the organization is on. The Steelers re-signed safety Terrell Edmunds to a one-year deal on Monday, a move that means on paper they have at least one veteran starter at all 22 positions.

That includes at quarterback. Pittsburgh brought Trubisky — the No. 2 overall pick by Chicago in 2017 who spent last season as the backup to Josh Allen in Buffalo — in on a two-year deal in free agency. Dwayne Haskins' tragic death on a Florida highway earlier this month leaves Rudolph as the only quarterback on the roster

with any experience with offensive coordinator Matt Canada. The organization participated in a memorial service for Haskins last Friday, and Tomlin declined to delve into any impact Haskins' passing might have on the business of football.

While Colbert said the team could roll with just two quarterbacks, simple math indicates at least one and likely two more will need to be drafted or signed before organized team activities begin.

Tomlin likened Pittsburgh's uncertainty at quarterback this season to where it stood at the same time last year in regards to running back. The Steelers drafted Najee Harris in the first round and he set a franchise rookie record for yards rushing.

• Receivers

Continued from Page B1

City Chiefs, who have reached the Super Bowl two of the past three seasons, sent three-time All-Pro Tyreek Hill to the Miami Dolphins.

Kansas City has since added former Steelers receiver JuJu Smith-Schuster and ex-Packers wideout Marquez Valdes-Scantling, while the Packers brought in 2014 first-round pick Sammy Watkins. But both teams still may need to add more receivers, and they each have two first-round picks in this year's draft.

The Packers have the 22nd and 28th overall picks and have two more selections in the second round. The Chiefs are drafting 29th and 30th overall. The Tennessee Titans, who pick 26th overall, also could use a receiver.

How soon any rookie receivers taken in the lower portion of the first round will develop remains uncertain.

Wide receiver traditionally has been a developmental position in the NFL. Even wideouts taken in the first round generally didn't do much as rookies and instead needed time to develop.

Not anymore. The emergence of 7-on-7 camps and spread offenses has made wide receivers more equipped to contribute as rookies.

"They've been coached probably better than back in the day maybe 10-12 years ago," Packers wide receivers coach Jason Vrable said. "The reason why, people were passing since they've been in fifth grade now, right? And the growth of them as far as the pass game and route knowledge and all that stuff, typically guys are pretty clean in

that aspect coming out. The biggest thing is you've got to feel good about the playbook, knows the ins and outs, know the audible system and know why we're doing things. And that just takes some time."

For some young receivers, it hasn't taken much time at all.

Jefferson, drafted 22nd overall, caught 88 passes for 1,400 yards receiving for the Minnesota Vikings in 2020. Chase, the fifth overall pick in last year's draft, surpassed Jefferson's rookie total by accumulating 1,455 yards receiving while helping the Cincinnati Bengals earn their first Super Bowl berth since the 1988 season.

Jefferson's 1,400 yards receiving were the most by a rookie in the Super Bowl era, until Chase surpassed it last season.

This year's class of receivers also looks promising, though it lacks the star power of last year's group.

"None of these guys have the same grade as a DeVonta Smith, a Ja'Marr Chase or a Jaylen Waddle," ESPN's Mel Kiper Jr. said. "Those three last year all had elite grades."

Kiper and NFL Network draft analyst Daniel Jeremiah both predicted six or seven receivers could get taken in the first round. Jeremiah has Ohio State's Garrett Wilson and Southern California's Drake London ranked among his top 10 overall prospects.

"I really like this group, and I think it's, again, got those six or seven guys that you really like there at the top," Jeremiah said. "I don't think the depth into like the fourth round and beyond is as good

as some of the others we've seen, but I think up until that point it's pretty good."

Other receivers projected as potential first-round picks include Olave, Arkansas' Treyton Burks, Penn State's Jahan Dotson, Western Michigan's Skyy Moore, North Dakota State's Christian Watson and Alabama's Jameson Williams.

The trick is figuring out which of these guys can contribute right away. Vrable says some receivers need time to develop the confidence necessary to face elite cornerbacks such as Green Bay's Jaire Alexander.

"That's the hardest part — getting a guy to truly walk out there and look across from him and see Jaire and truly believe in yourself, like 'I can beat this guy one-on-one, not only do I know my route, I know the details of it, but then I've got to beat a guy who's a dominating force on the opposing side of the ball,'" Vrable said. "And typically every team has an elite corner, so you're going up against guys that you've just got to have that confidence. I think that, for some guys, takes a little bit more time than others."

There aren't many rookie receivers who possess that attitude plus the physical skills to back it up, but they're a lot more plentiful than before.

"For what it used to be, kind of a coin flip on first-round receivers with the hit rate, it has gone way up over the last few years," Jeremiah said. "It's been pretty consistent with these guys being solid, solid players — if not more than that — right away."

• Shadyside

Continued from Page B1

of their four hits in the top of the first. Rylie Fulton singled to right and Mary Smith followed with an infield single. After both runners moved up on a passed ball, Bella Honeywell's fly ball to right fell near the line for a single as Fulton raced home.

That would be all the scoring for the Belmont Countians as Caldwell's Madi Mumaw allowed just one more hit — a third-inning infield single off Smith's bat. The righthander struck out seven and hit a batter. She retired 13 of the final 14 Tigers she faced.

Her counterpart, Shadyside's Arianna Saxton, was just as effective. The freshman permitted just two singles to Sydney Saling, struck out three and walked only one. She threw 80 pitches (55 strikes) and threw a first-pitch strike to 14 of 24 batters.

"Arianna pitched excellent. She hit her spots and shut them down," Gorrell Jr. praised. "It came down to one run."

Caldwell drew even in the third when Hanna Reitter reached on an error leading off. She went to second on a groundout to first and scored on Saling's two-out single to center.

The Redskins took their first lead in the bottom of the sixth. Saling reached on the third Shadyside error of the contest leading off, and eventually ended up at third as the ball rolled down the right field line. With one out, Jaden Haught grounded to second as Saling sprinted home.

Mumaw retired the Tigers in order to preserve the win.

Smith had half of Shadyside's four hits.

Caldwell will meet Toronto, which took out Wheeling Central in the other semifinal, on Saturday at 4:30 p.m. for the 2A crown.

• Beallsville

Continued from Page B1

That's all Hagan needed as she sparkled inside the circle. The righty struck out eight, walked one and scattered four harmless singles. She threw 83 pitches (64 strikes) and went ahead in the count on half of the 20 batters she faced.

"We are very young. We lost eight seniors and a transfer from last season," first-year Madonna head coach Jason Backel explained. "We are basically all freshmen and sophomores."

"We didn't hit the ball like we should and they took advantage of us on the basepaths," he added. "That all comes with experience, which is something we don't have right now."

"We got a little embarrassed out there, but we knew we would take some lumps this year," Backel continued. "I promise you we will be back next year."

Hughes doubled in Hagan, who had singled, with two outs in the second to make it 5-0 and the Blue Devils batted around in the third, sending nine batters to the plate with five crossing the plate for a 10-0 advantage.

Three of the runs scored on wild pitches, one when Hannah Phillips stole home and the last on a Hagan RBI single to right. Trigg tripled with one out to start the explosion.

An error and run-scoring single by Phillips in the fourth capped the scoring.

The Blue Dons' lone threat came in the second when they had runners on second and third with two outs, but Hughes made a web-gem diving catch of Jenna Costello's soft liner near second base to end the inning.

"That was a huge play by Kinley," Pittman said of the defensive play.

Hagan, Hughes and Trigg all enjoyed multi-hit outings. Six of the nine Blue Devils recorded a base hit as they totalled 10, and all but one scored at least once. Four scored twice.

"We received good hitting from just about everyone in our lineup," Pittman noted. "Our baserunning was on point, as well. We got stolen bases when we needed them and we took advantage of some of their wildness."

• Ferry

Continued from Page B1

team, starting three been working hard and it freshmen. The kids have shows."

Ferry dropped to 9-3.

Drover's Inn

Open Mother's Day May 8th, 12-7 pm




304-737-0188


1001 Washington Pike, Wellsburg • Located 3 miles East off St. Rt. 27

MASSEY FERGUSON

GC1723E L TRACTOR

- LOADER & 60" DRIVER OVER MOWER DECK
- SKID STEER QA BUCKET
- 23 HORSEPOWER
- 3-CYLINDER DIESEL
- 4X4

\$235/MO. 0% FOR 72MO.



Offer valid with approved credit from AGCO Finance, LLC. Dealer participation may vary. Contact your participating dealer for more details. Offer may be subject to change without notice.

Fork Ridge Rd • Glen Easton, WV

KNIGHT'S
304-854-1525 or 304-686-2525
www.knightsfarmssupply.com

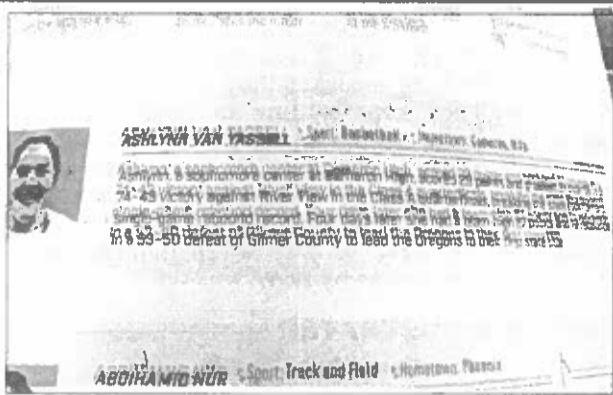


Photo Provided
Cameron's Ashlynn Van Tassell was featured in the latest issue of Sports Illustrated for her performance in the state basketball tournament.

Van Tassell Gets Recognition From Sports Illustrated

By CODY TOMER
Sports Writer

CAMERON — Not only has the Cameron girls' basketball team received recognition for its thrilling W.Va. Class A state title triumph throughout the state, but the Dragons' remarkable performance has now reached the national level.

The day following the title game, freshman Maci Neely's game-winning 3-point shot was No. 9 on Sportscenter's Top 10 plays.

Now, in the latest issue of Sports Illustrated, Ashlynn Van Tassell was featured in the magazine's 'Faces in the Crowd' segment.

The write-up includes her picture and mentions Van Tassell's record-breaking state quarterfinal performance when she hauled in a state tournament record 31 rebounds in a 74-43 win over River View. It also notes her 27-point, 19-rebound showing in the state title victory over Gilmer County.

"It's pretty exciting," Van Tassell said of the Sports Illustrated recognition. "I'm still shocked with all the recognition that my team and I have been receiving. I'm still searching for a copy of the Sports Illustrated."

What the magazine doesn't mention is that Van Tassell also knocked down a pair of free throws to tie the game with only 4 seconds remaining to set up the game-winning shot.

"This is awesome and we're all elated," Cameron coach Holly Pettit said. "Still to this day people are talking about it. As a coach you obviously want the best for your kids. It couldn't have happened to a nicer kid. She works so hard and it makes me so proud. Cameron is beaming with pride. The state tournament really put Cameron on the map state-wide but also with Sportscenter and Sports Illustrated, so we are definitely on the map now."

Pettit was thrilled when Sports Illustrated reached out to the school for information on the rising star.

"One of the writers from Sports Illustrated contacted our athletic director (Roger Cain)," Pettit said.

Please see SPORTS ILLUSTRATED, Page 10

Central Downed In OVAC Semis



Photo by Cody Tomer
Wheeling Central's Taylor Knollinger delivers a two-run single during Monday's OVAC 2A Semifinal contest against Toronto at Ben's Field.

Reeves fans 13 to lead Toronto into Class 2A finals

By CODY TOMER
Sports Writer

WHEELING — The last time Toronto's softball team faced Wheeling Central, the Red Knights struck out 12 times.

Red Knights' coach Steve Trifonoff simply wanted that number cut in half during Monday's OVAC 2A Semifinal.

He got his wish and much more as No. 3 Toronto managed to whiff just six times and took down No. 2 Wheeling Central 9-7 at Ben's Field at the I-470 Sports Complex.

"I told them, 'If you can cut

that number in half (12 strikeouts), put the ball in play and force them to make plays we would have a chance,'" Trifonoff said. "We struck out six times and were putting the ball in play. We had two freshmen step up with big hits — Isabell Cattrell in the seventh inning with a big two-run single and Laney Danko got a couple things started in some innings where we scored runs."

Wheeling Central also suffered from four errors on defense, which came back to haunt the Maroon Knights.

"You can't take anything away from Toronto," Central coach Buck Davidson said. "We made mistakes and they made us pay for them. That was the worst defensive game we've played all year. I think we ended up giving them four or five runs over simple mistakes but looking at the big picture, I'd rather have a breakdown now instead of in the sectional or regional playoffs."

Toronto pitcher Andrea Reeves was strong to pocket the win with 13 strikeouts and seven walks.

Please see OVAC, Page 10

Korngiver Pitches John Marshall Past Park, 4-3

By TRACY WATSON
For The Intelligencer

GLEN DALE - With 10 games postponed this Spring already, John Marshall's baseball team had yet to face a West Virginia Class AAA sectional opponent heading into the final week of April.

However, with games against Wheeling Park and Brooke on the slate over the next four days Coach Mark Cisar's Monarchs are looking to send a message that they should not be overlooked. Monday that first message was delivered via the left arm of Jacob Korngiver and four runs over the first two innings, three of them unearned.

Korngiver went the distance, scattering six hits while fanning five and walking two on 96 pitches, and John Marshall overcame numerous threats from the Patriots to record a hard-

earned, and cherished, 4-3, victory over their sectional rivals at John Marshall High School.

The victory pushes Cisar's crew to 6-10 on the campaign with Weir slated to pay a visit this afternoon for Senior Night. Meanwhile, Coach Steve Myers' Park squad, which will play for an Ohio Valley Athletic Conference 5A title this weekend, drops to 7-3 and will travel to St. Clairsville today.

"I am a little upset with our offense once again going stagnant and leaving too many runners on, but Jacob (Korngiver) threw the ball very well and limited walks and we made plays on defense, and I am very pleased with that," Cisar admitted. "It's crazy that this is our first sectional opponent we have played, but it is a big win and hopefully we can keep this going."

While the Monarchs were opportu-

nistic over the first two frames the Patriots were their own worst enemy and could very well have dug themselves an even deeper hole. The bottom of the first began with Brennan Sobotka working a four-pitch lead-off walk and stealing second. Sobotka went to third on Jacob Coffield's base hit, however, Coffield was gunned down trying to advance to second.

Ethan Neely then reached on an the first of three Wheeling Park errors allowing Sobotka to score the game's initial run. A fielder's choice and another miscue put a runner at third, however, Patriots' starter, and loser, Luke Doyle recorded a strikeout to end the threat.

Park manufactured a run of its own in the top of the second on the first of two Luke Marsh singles on the day, a pair of wild pitches that advanced courtesy runner Nate Bittenger and a two-

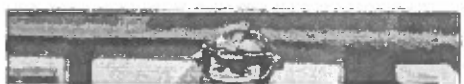
out run-scoring single off the bat of Braydon Kupsky that knotted the count at 1-1.

The big inning of the contest came in the home-half of the frame with lead-off singles from Conner Blatt and Braden Sobotka and a wild pick-off attempt at first that allowed Blatt to cross to make it 2-1. Dillon Wright then brought Sobotka around with a double into the left-center field gap before stealing third and scoring himself on a wild pitch to give the hosts a 4-1 advantage.

Marsh's second hit in the top of the fourth started what looked like a big inning for the Patriots, who eventually loaded the bases with just one out, but the visitors were only able to push across one run when Bittenger, again

Please see KORNGIVER, Page 10

Caldwell



Toepfers Lead Central

OVAC

(Continued from Page 9)

"She really gutted through a tough time there," Trifonoff said. "It didn't look good for her there in the middle innings but she was staying in there regardless."

"I think she kind of figured that out and in the fifth, sixth and seventh innings, she threw some really good ball there."

Toronto scored on an error in the first inning and plated two more in the third on another error and a RBI single off the bat of Callie Anderson to make it a 3-0 upper hand.

Central rallied in the bottom of the

third when Josie Frizzell delivered a two-run knock and an error allowed the tying run to cross the plate.

A two-run single from Taylor Knollinger in the fourth gave the Ma-roon Knights their first lead of the game.

Then it was Toronto's turn to rally.

The Red Knights pushed four runs across the dish in the fifth frame as Andra Reeves provided a sac-fly, Abby Liddick garnered the game-tying RBI single and a two-out error allowed the go-ahead run and another run to race home for a 7-5 Toronto cushion.

Natalie Yates cut the deficit in half in the sixth with a RBI knock but Central left the bases loaded and Toronto made it pay.

In the top of the seventh, Cattrell delivered a two-out, two-run single to give the Red Knights some much-needed insurance and a 9-6 advantage.

Frizzell knocked in a run in the seventh but Central could not get any closer.

"It's our goal to win the OVAC Tournament," Trifonoff said. "Hopefully we can make it to district and hopefully win the district. We're still working on

it." Despite the setback, Central has a young group that can learn from this loss and use it as a growing experience.

"We started four freshmen," Davidson said. "Even though they were making mistakes they didn't give up. They kept battling as hard as they could until they made the final out. Their pitcher pitched really well but we weren't picking up on her change-up like I thought we should have but you have to play seven innings and they got us by two."

CENTRAL

(Continued from Page 9)

Central bounced back to forge an 8-7 lead in the fourth. Eli Turner and Braxton Billik singled before Gary Hatfield delivered an RBI double.

Peyton Toepfer plated another run with a sacrifice fly. Michael Toepfer capped the frame with a run-scoring triple.

That score stood until a wild seventh inning.

Central stretched its lead to 10-7 on doubles by freshman dandy Seth Cover and Turner to go with two Purple errors.

Those two runs proved to be game-winners as Ferry scored a pair of runs in the home half of

the seventh without netting a hit.

Ayden Ludolph drew a one-out walk. After a strikeout, the next four Purple Riders were beamed, drawing the hosts to within one.

However, Central closer Peyton Hildebrand induced a popup to shortstop, ending the affair.

"It was a real nice win," Rowe said. "Ferry is an excellent team and they have a great program here."

"We are playing at a high level right now," he added. "We are a young team, starting three freshmen. The kids have been working hard and it shows."

Ferry dropped to 9-3.

Central finished with 10 hits. The Purple Riders mustered just

six.

"It was a bad baseball game. We played poorly," Ferry head coach Anthony Reasbeck said. "Every time we get a big win we have a letdown. We are not a humble baseball team right now."

"I tell them every day that the mark of a man is picking up your lunch pale and going to work," he added. "We did not to that day. It was a disappointing showing."

Baron Lucy started on the mound for Ferry.

He struck out one and walked four. Jackson Romshack came on in the second and fanned three and passed one in going the balance of the game.

KORNGIVER

(Continued from Page 9)

walking three. running for Marsh, scored on a wild pitch to cut the deficit in half at 4-2.

Doyle settled in for the Park after the second inning, allowing just two hits the rest of the way in going the distance and got a huge strikeout with two-on and two-out in the fourth, the last time John Marshall threatened. Doyle was charted with 107 pitches in the game, fanning three and

The Patriots got a lead-off single from Will James in the fifth, who stole second and scored on Jared Marsh's base hit to make it a 4-3 game. Marsh was then thrown out trying to steal second and Korngiver retired Wheeling Park's three and four hitters to end that threat.

Wheeling Park again had opportunities in both the sixth and the seventh

with a lead-off error and sacrifice bunt putting a runner at second with one out in the sixth, which was stranded, and a lead-off, pinch-hit single from Daniel Crumm in the seventh before a strike-out and taylor-made double-play ended the game in the seventh.

"Jacob (Korngiver) made big pitches when he need too and really kept them off-balance all day," Cisar added. "But

this was a team win and I am very happy about that."

Myers, meanwhile, had little problem putting his finger on what the biggest issue was.

"Not taking advantage of our opportunities killed us," Myers said. "We gave them a good start and to come back you have to have time-ly hitting, and we just couldn't get any (Monday)."

SPORTS ILLUSTRATED

(Continued from Page 9)

"He said he wanted to feature her because he read about her performance in the state tournament and he had to get permission to post in the 'Faces in the Crowd.' Roger reached out to me and I said 'Heck yeah!' I don't know if anyone from Cameron has ever been in Sports Illustrated. Her mom (Mary Van Tassell) said 'Absolutely!' as well and gave them the picture and the information."

Winning a state title and receiving national recognition will always be remembered by Van Tassell and the Dragons but Pettit knows that with such glory comes responsibility and pressure.

"It brings a lot of excitement but a lot of nerves, too," Pettit said. "There is a target on our back now. We are even playing Morgantown next year. They are telling me that Cameron girls are celebrities in Morgantown, too. So it's neat to see the national recognition."

SHADYSIDE

(Continued from Page 9)

The Tigers drew first blood as they bunched three of their four hits in the top of the first. Rylie Fulton singled to right and Mary Smith followed with an infield single. After both runners moved up on a passed ball, Bella Honeywell's fly ball to right fell near the line for a single as Fulton raced home.

That would be all the scoring for the Belmont Countians as Caldwell's Madi Mumaw allowed just one more hit - a third-inning infield single off Smith's bat. The righthander struck out seven and hit a batter. She retired 13 of the final 14 Tigers she faced.

Her counterpart, Shadyside's Arianna Saxton, was just as effective. The freshman permitted just two singles to Sydney Saling, struck out three and walked only one. She threw 80 pitches (55 strikes) and threw a first-pitch strike to 14 of 24 batters.

"Arianna pitched ex-

cellent. She hit her spots and shut them down," Gorrell Jr. praised. "It came down to one run."

Caldwell drew even in the third when Hanna Reitter reached on an error leading off. She went to second on a groundout to first and scored on Saling's two-out single to center.

The Redskins took their first lead in the bottom of the sixth.

Saling reached on the third Shadyside error of the contest leading off, and eventually ended up at third as the ball rolled down the right field line. With one out, Jaden Haught grounded to second as Saling sprinted home.

Mumaw retired the Tigers in order to preserve the win.

Smith had half of Shadyside's four hits.

Caldwell will meet Toronto, which took out Wheeling Central in the other semifinal, on Saturday at 4:30 p.m. for the 2A crown.

TRANSACTIONS

Major League Baseball American League
 BOSTON RED SOX — Placed RHPs Kutter Crawford and Tanner Houck on the restricted list. Recalled RHPs Tyler Danish and John Schreiber from Worcester (IL).
 DETROIT TIGERS — Optioned RHP Rony Garcia to Toledo (IL).
 SEATTLE MARINERS — Reinstated C Luis Torrens from the 10-day IL. Optioned INF Mike Ford to Tacoma (PCL) then designated him for assignment.

National League
 LOS ANGELES DODGERS — Recalled RHP Andre Jackson

from Oklahoma City (PCL). Optioned INF/OF Zach McK-instry to Oklahoma City.
 ST. LOUIS CARDINALS — Recalled INF Brendan Donovan from Memphis (IL). Optioned OF Lars Nootbaar to Memphis.

NBA
 NBA — Fined Memphis head coach Taylor Jenkins an undisclosed amount for public criticism of the officiating following a game on April 23 against Minnesota. Fined Philadelphia C Joel Embiid an undisclosed amount for public criticism of the officiating in a game on April 23 against Toronto.

OGDEN NEWSPAPERS

TOUGH AS NAILS

Urban Challenge

PRESENTED BY

The HealthPlan

MAY 29

