

Buckeye Trail Gains Conference 'A' Title

Buckeye Trail captured its first ever Ohio Valley Athletic Conference baseball championship Saturday afternoon, defeating Bellaire St. John's Central, 5-4, with a two-run bottom of the seventh inning in the Class 'A' finals at the Brookside diamond.

The Fighting Irish, which has an 8-11 record, had taken a two-run lead at 4-3 with a pair of tallies in the top of the inning, but saw the Warriors rally to gain the prized victory.

Brian Collart began the uprising with a single. He stole second and scored the tying run on a double by winning hurler Greg Bates. Wayne Hall's single broke up the game.

Buckeye Trail, which concluded its season with a 13-6 record, also scored single runs in the second, fourth and sixth innings. Mark Murray's homer

accounted for the run in the second inning, which tied the game at 1-1. In the fourth, the Warriors came back for a 2-2 tie by pushing across an unearned run. Murray's single in the sixth picked up another RBI.

Bellaire St. John's got a run in the first on Lou Pytlak's sacrifice fly and a tally in the fourth when Ken Halloy banged into a fielder's choice.

In top of the seventh, the Irish got a double by Ed Donahue, a walk and RBI singles by Pytlak and Jerry Manukin.

Bates came on to pitch in the sixth inning as he relieved starter David Allen. Donahue hurled the entire game for the Fighting Irish.

Linescore follows:

	OVAC Class A Finals					
Bell. St. John's	100	100	2	4	8	2
Buckeye Trail	010	101	3	3	10	1
Batteries: Donahue and Johnson; Allen, Bates (6) and Murray, Brown (7)						

Barnesville Tops Bridgets to Gain 'AA' Championship

Scoring four times in the first inning, Barnesville held on to defeat Bridgeport 6-3 in the OVAC Class AA championship game at Bridgeport Saturday night.

The win was a touch of revenge for the Shamrocks who fell to the Bulldogs in the sectional finals earlier this week. The win was the 17th against seven losses for the newly-crowned champions while the Bridgets dropped to 10-12.

Brian Starr opened the first inning for the winners as he reached on an error. After a base on balls, Starr scored on a single by Randy Stephen. Following a walk to Jay Stephen, Todd Hannah hit into a fielder's choice which brought in the second tally. John Sawvill delivered a double to plate two more runs and a 4-0 Barnesville lead.

The Shamrocks built their edge to 5-0 with a single run in the third before the Bulldogs pushed across three runs in the bottom of the third. Three walks

loaded the bases before the Dogs Pat Riley slammed a two-run single. Ted Ducker added a double to cut the deficit to 5-3.

The winners added an insurance marker in the seventh inning as Jay Stephen singled, stole second and moved to third on a single by Greg Harris before scoring on a throwing error on Harris' hit to center field.

Randy Stephen went the route to gain the pitching win as he allowed just two hits. He fanned 12, passed four and retired 12 of the last 13 batters he faced, eight on strikeouts.

Ducker absorbed the loss for the Bulldogs. He struck out 11, passed five and yielded eight hits.

Randy Stephen and Greg Harris led the winners with two singles and a RBI each. Line score:

Barnes	401	000	1	6	8	0
Bridge	003	000	0	3	2	3
Batteries: Stephen and Harris; Ducker and Knight						

John Marshall, Barnesville Capture OVAC Baseball Titles

John Marshall won its fourth straight Ohio Valley Athletic Conference Class AAAA baseball championship Saturday at Bridgeport with a 3-0 victory over Wintersville.

Junior right-hander Chris Jones gave up four hits and struck out 10 Wintersville batters to raise his 1981 record to 8-1. Jones, who was 9-0 as a sophomore, now has 101 strikeouts in 59 innings this season. He has fanned 10 or more batters in six of his eight starts.

The victorious Monarchs, now 22-3 on the season, visit Wheeling Park at 4:30 p.m. Monday in the first game of a best-of-three series for the West Virginia Class AAA Region 1 Section 2 title. The second game is set for 4:30 Tuesday at John Marshall. If a third game is needed, it will be played at 4:30 Wednesday at West Liberty.

For Wintersville, 17-7, the loss capped a very disappointing afternoon. Earlier, the Golden Warriors were shut out by Steubenville, 7-0, in the Ohio Class AAA sectional semi-finals.

John Marshall managed just four hits off Wintersville's Stan Cottis. But Coach Bob Montgomery's club pushed across one run in the third and two more in the sixth to give Jones all the support room he needed.

Doug Harris singled to lead off the JM third, stole second and went to third on a wild throw. Harris then scored the first run of the game on Ron Clutter's groundout.

In the sixth, consecutive one-out singles by Bob McCool, Gary Simmons and Mike Mason gave the Monarchs a 2-0 lead. Simmons then scored on Ross Johnston's sacrifice fly to right field.

Wintersville had runners on second and third with one out in the fourth, but Jones got out of the jam. In the sixth, Jones gave up a two-out double to Bill Davis but then fanned the next Warrior batter to end the inning.

Blizzard's One-Hit Hurling Gives Rebels OVAC Crown

Brad Blizzard's one-hit hurling sparked Buckeye South to a 4-0 triumph over defending champion Magnolia Saturday afternoon in the finals of the Ohio Valley Athletic Conference Class AAA baseball tournament at the Brookside diamond.

Blizzard struck out six and permitted only a fifth inning single, while hurling the Rebels to a 14th victory in their 17th and last outing of the spring. Buckeye South was eliminated from Eastern Ohio tournament play in a 7-5 setback at the hands of Toronto last Wednesday.

The campaign will go on for 28-13 record Magnolia, however, as the Blue Eagles face Ripley this Tuesday in the semi-finals of the West Virginia Region One tournament.

Yesterday's victory gave the Rebels a repeat OVAC crown. Buckeye South won the Class AA championship last season, but competed in the triple-A ranks this time.

Coach Lenny Vinci's team collected nine hits off losing hurler Phil McClain and scored two runs in the second inning and added a pair in the third frame.

Mark Makuch's single launched the rally in the second frame. He took

second on Dino Lollini's base hit. Jim Cesario followed with an RBI single and Lollini crossed the plate on an overthrow.

Scott Hughes started the third with a home run, boosting the Rebels to a 3-0 lead. A single by Dave Pontia and

Makuch's triple concluded the scoring for the day.

Line score follows:

OVAC Class AAA Championship Game				
Magnolia	000	000	0	0
Buckeye South	022	000	x	4
Batteries: McClain and Bohrer	Blizzard and Lollini			