

**COMING MONDAY:**  
Pirates finish series with Nats

# SPORTS

■ Pens on the road	2
■ Bucs lose to Nats	3
■ Orb wins Derby	5

# C

SUNDAY, MAY 5, 2013

# OVAC champions



## 3 straight in 3 classes for Wildcats

By **FRED YOUNCE**  
Sports writer

STEBENVILLE — New season, new Ohio Valley Athletic Conference class, same result for the Edison baseball machine.

Behind a strong mound performance from Ryan Kramarich, and a trio of early runs, the Wildcats claimed their third OVAC baseball title in a row, 3-1, over Cambridge Saturday at Vaccaro Field.

Fred Younce

**CLASS 5A CHAMPS** — The Edison baseball team defeated Cambridge, 3-1, Saturday at Vaccaro Field to win the Ohio Valley Athletic Conference Class 5A championship. It was the third straight OVAC title for the Wildcats, each in a different classification.

See **WILDCATS** Page 2C ⇨

## Crusaders tame Tigers



# Crusaders tame Tigers in 2A game

By **ED LOOMAN**  
Sports correspondent

**STEUBENVILLE** — Shady-side coach Mike Meintel was spot on when he said Catholic Central's Chris Murphy pitched "a heck of a game" in Saturday's Ohio Valley Athletic Conference Class 2A championship contest.

The junior right hander allowed just two hits and worked his way of several jams as the Crusaders earned their

See **CRUSADERS** Page 2C ⇨



Fred Younce

**CLASS 2A CHAMPS** — The Steubenville Catholic Central baseball team defeated Shadyside, 7-3, Saturday at Vaccaro Field to win the Ohio Valley Athletic Conference Class 2A championship.



Fred Younce

**CLASS 4A CHAMPS** — The Harrison Central baseball team defeated Steubenville, 11-4, Saturday at Vaccaro Field to win the Ohio Valley

# First title for Huskies since 2006

By **ED LOOMAN**  
Sports correspondent

**STEUBENVILLE** — Harrison Central rode the arm of Rashaen Mitchell and an opportunistic offense to the Ohio Valley Athletic Conference Class 4A championship Saturday at Vaccaro Field.

Mitchell, the senior lefty, didn't have his best stuff but what he had was good enough for the Huskies to beat Big Red 11-4 for the school's first

New York was run over in a 5-0, series-opening loss on Wednesday and seemed primed to be routed again on the night is on. That was totally clear when New York forward Kyle Okposo had the first fight of his appearance in 2007. So what lies in store will be a mystery to both clubs when the puck drops Sunday at the unusual to be, Dylana said. I got a little taste of it being here for Islanders-Rangers games and seeing the building full. It's off, the fans haven't seen us in the playoffs for a while, so everybody is really excited."

## Crusaders

first league crown since 2008 with a 7-3 victory over the Tigers at Vacarro Field.

"You know you've done a heck of a job when you only allow two hits in an OVAC title game," Meintel said. "He pitched a good game. You can't win baseball games with two hits."

Central coach Don Young praised Murphy for "gutting it out."

"He's still not 100 percent but I thought he threw a heck of a game," Young stated. "He got into some trouble at the end by walking a couple of guys. He wasn't real sharp but he battled and the kids behind him battled. It was a total team effort."

The Crusader offense gave Murphy the cushion he needed by scoring five times in the initial two innings. Aleks Porreca's

single was the big blow of the two-run first.

Central added three in the second thanks to Kyle Laukert's single, Murphy's RBI ground out and two wild pitches.

"The first two innings set the tone for the whole game," Meintel noted. "They came ready to play and we didn't."

Murphy kept the Tigers hitless until Cody Hudson's two-out single to right in the fifth. Shady-side did threaten in the third. Luke Nardo was hit by a pitch and Chase Kinemond drew a free pass. A perfect strike from catcher Laukert to second baseman Michael Barber cut down Kinemond on an attempted steal. Murphy then retired two in a row to escape trouble.

Shady-side's first two batters worked Murphy

for walks in the fourth but again, the Crusader hurler was up to the challenge, retiring three straight. A potential Tiger rally in the fifth was cut short when Murphy picked off a runner at first.

Michael Barber made several nice plays at second to give Murphy defensive support. Stone Romano did the same at first and Porreca in right.

Central added a couple of insurance runs in the seventh thanks to Brenton Colabella's single. Shady-side finally got to Murphy for its three tallies in the home half of the frame, Adam Stupak delivering a run-scoring base knock.

The Crusaders managed six hits off Shady-side starter and loser Jared Brooks. The south-paw settled down after the opening frames and

pitched well. He recorded 13 strikeouts.

"We didn't hit the ball well," Young said. "Brooks is good. We did just enough offensively and that's what we try to do every day-just enough to win."

Meintel also praised Brooks' effort but noted, "you can't win on two hits no matter how good he pitches. He really settled down after the first two innings and threw well."

"The bottom line is we only had two hits and you can't win games with two hits."

Laukert and Murphy both had two hits for Central, which entered the tournament as the fourth seed and now stands at 13-5.

Young, whose Crusaders fell in the 2012 OVAC title game to Linsly, admitted he was

## Huskies

league title since 2006.

He went the distance for Justin Clifford's club, scattering four hits and mowing down 11 Big Red batters via strikes.

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frame, Mitchell and Nick Pelegreen both drew walks from Big Red starter Anthony Zorne. Drew Horn moved them up with an infield chop single. Mitchell scored when Nice Staten worked Zorne for a free pass. Pelegreen made it 2-0, scoring on a wild pitch.

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Matt Petrella's RBI single accounted for Big Red's final run in the fifth. Harrison Central added some insurance tallies in the sixth. Staten and Kuryn both driving

fourth.

"Anthony didn't have his best stuff and Evan didn't have his best stuff," Heatherington added. "But when they put the ball in play, we have to make plays. We didn't make plays today and we threw the ball all over the field."

"That's not us, but it

feeling "a lot better this year than I was last year."

"We've come a long way and we expect a lot from our kids," the Central coach said. "The season we had last year was a stepping stone for our program. These kids have come every day and worked hard. We still have a lot of improvements to make and we have to get better before the tournament."

## Wildcats

This year's 5A crown goes with last season's 4A title, and a 3A crown from two years ago.

"It feels good," said Edison head coach Mike Collopy of his team's OVAC crown. "We never set that out as one of our goals. We just try to get better every day."

"We had the opportunity to win it, and obviously we didn't turn it down. I told these guys they worked their tail off to put themselves in this situation, and it wasn't about anything else than but just going out and getting it done."

Kramarich surrendered six hits and gave up one run over a complete seven innings of work. He pitched out of several jams throughout

"This is just a step. We were here last year and we don't want to create bad habits. We want to be in the finals every year and be competitive."

Central will return to action Monday when it hosts Martins Ferry.

Catholic Central 7, Shady-side 3  
Catholic Central 230 000 2 - 7 6 3  
Shady-side 000 000 3 - 3 2 3  
SHADYSIDE (13-7): Brooks (LP, 2BB, 13K, 1HB) and Dorris. Stupak S, RBI; Hudson S.  
CENTRAL (13-5): Murphy (WP, 4BB, 1K, 4HB) and Laukert. Laukert 2S; Murphy 2S, RBI; Colabella S, RBI; Porreca S, RBI.

Continued from Page 1C

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The Wildcats answered right back in the bottom of the frame. Nolan Marcus reached on an one-out single, and then took second on an errant throw in from left field. Alec Jones then connected for his second double of the game, this one driving home Marcus to make the score 3-1 Edison.

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For Big Red's Fred Heatherington, the result came down to a simple matter.

"Our defense was atrocious," he said. "We did a pretty good job at the plate and we battled. The game came down to the fact that we didn't make plays and they did."

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"We debated whether or not he was going to go today," Clifford said of Mitchell. "He hasn't had this best stuff in the last couple games. It was just a gutsy performance. He said last night he was ready to go and wanted the ball.

"We weren't thinking we'd get seven out of him. We were thinking four or maybe five. He kept coming in saying he wanted to go. What can you say about the kid? He did a great job."

Offensively, the Huskies managed just eight hits but took full advantage of nine walks and several Big Red fielding miscues.

"We've done that all year," Clifford stated. "We haven't really come on and recorded 15 or 16 hits in a game. We have been able to manufacture runs. The kids are doing what they're supposed to do. They are getting bunts down and being patient at the plate."

Harrison's first three runs came via some two-out lighting. In the initial

frame, Mitchell and Nick Pelegreen both drew walks from Big Red starter Anthony Zorne. Drew Horn moved them up with an infield chop single. Mitchell scored when Nice Staten worked Zorne for a free pass. Pelegreen made it 2-0, scoring on a wild pitch.

To its credit, Big Red came right back in the top of the second to take the lead.

Justin Corsi started the rally when he lined a single past the Harrison third baseman. Pat Pizzoferrato roped one up the middle and Kai McClurg reached via an error to load the sacks. Corsi raced home on a wild pitch. Lucas Herrington's sharp single to right chased home two more runs.

Mitchell's RBI single in the bottom of the frame knotted the score at 3-3. His hit plated Dalton Rutter who drew a two-out walk and advanced on a.

The Huskies broke things open in the fourth, scoring five runs on just two hits. Clifford's crew worked Big Red's pitchers for four straight walks, scored two runs on wild pitches and a third following an errant

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"Ryan pitched a heck of a game," said Collopy. "He's been pitching well for us all year. He new this was going to be his game coming into the week. He did what you ask any senior to do.

"We've got a great baseball team," said Cambridge head coach Dave Gray. "We've struggled here at the end putting the ball in play with runners in scoring position, and this is what happens.

"He stepped up, he threw strikes, kept them off balance, and we made the plays behind him when we needed to."

"We left 11 guys on base in crucial situations, we had first and third here in the seventh, and we don't get a big hit."

Edison manufactured its' first run in the bottom half of the game's opening frame courtesy the legs of Josh Pasek. Pasek drew a one-out walk to reach base. The ball went to the fence on a pickoff move to first, allowing the speedy Pasek to round all the way to third base. He then crossed on a passed ball to make the score 1-0 Wildcats.

Standiford had a strong effort on the hill for the Bobcats despite the loss. He gave up just five hits while going the distance and striking out two.

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Big Red, now 13-8, will entertain Union Local Tuesday.

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The conference crown was the fourth in school history for Harrison Central, which improved to 16-5.

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"This one has been a long time coming," Clifford said. "This senior group deserves it. They went through their aches and pains early on. They have really turned it around these last two years."

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 Steubenville 030 010 0 - 4 4 4  
 Harrison Central 210 503 x - 11 8 2  
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Edison 111 000 x - 3 5 1  
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EDISON: Kramarich (WP, 4K, 4BB) and Glasure. Pasek R; Marcus S, R; A. Jones 2D, RBI; Allese S; Horan S, RBI.

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# Edison edges Cambridge for OVAC 5A baseball title

JEFF HARRISON  
THE DAILY JEFFERSONIAN

STEUBENVILLE — Cambridge High's bid for back-to-back OVAC Class 5A baseball championship was thwarted on Saturday as Edison claimed a 3-1 victory at Vaccaro Field on the campus of the University of Steubenville.

The Bobcats had their chances, but left a total of eight runners on base including five in scoring position. Meanwhile, a couple of early miscues helped Edison take an early lead which it never relinquished in chalking up its 17th win in 20 outings.

Edison put single tallies on the scoreboard in each of the first three innings, including a run giftwrapped by the Bobcats in the bottom of the first.

Josh Pasek reached on a one-out walk; scampered all the way to third on an errant pick-off attempt and then scored on a passed ball.

The Wildcats made it 2-0 in the second when Storm Allese led off with a single; moved to second on a sacrifice bunt and to third on a groundout before heading home on an RBI single by No. 9 starter Austin Horan.

Cambridge (16-8) cut the lead to 2-1 in the top of

the third frame. Trevor Wilkinson opened with a base hit; stole second and scored on an RBI single to right by Ben Standiford.

Edison got its final run in the third with a little help from the 'Cats when Nolan Marcus singled, but sprinted for second when the throw back to the infield went awry. Edison's Alec Jones made

that pay off as he belted his second double of the day to knock Marcus in for a 3-1 advantage.

The Bobcats saw a golden opportunity slip away in the fourth with two runners at the corners, but a pick-off of the runner at first and an ensuing throw to the plate to cut down the runner from third trying to score ended the threat.

In the fifth, Wilkinson singled; moved to second on a sacrifice and to third on a wild pitch, but two infield groundouts followed to keep the Bobcats at bay and then in the seventh, again CHS had runners at first and third with one out, but consecutive strikeouts by Edison hurler Ryan Kramalich finished it off.

"We left eight guys on base, and they got some

**EDISON 3, CAMBRIDGE 1**  
Cambridge 001 000 0 — 1 8 3  
Edison 111 000 x — 3 5 1  
Ben Standiford (LP 5-1, 2 Ks, 2 BB) and  
Quintin Fettes, Ryan Kramalich (WP, 4 Ks,  
3 BB) and Dylan Glasura.  
RECORDS—Cambridge 16-8; Edison 17-3.  
STAT LEADERS— For Cambridge,  
Standiford, 2 singles, RBI; Trevor Wilkinson,  
2 singles, run; Trevor Hardesty, single;  
Devon Francis, single. For Edison, Alec  
Jones, 2 doubles, RBI; Austin Horan, sin-  
gle, RBI; Storm Allese, single, run; Nolan  
Marcus, single, run; Josh Pasek, run.

key hits and that was the difference," said Cambridge coach Dave Gray.

Kramalich — who got the call to the mound over Nolan Marcus who had pitched a one-hitter in last week's 7-0 semifinal victory over Indian Creek — spaced six hits while notching four strikeouts and three walks.

Cambridge ace Ben Standiford suffered his first loss of the year. The big right-hander (5-1) gave up only five hits while fanning two and walking two.

"Benny didn't have his best stuff today," Gray said. "His fastball was up and he couldn't get the curve across the plate, but he still kept us in the game."

Jones' two doubles led Edison's offense while Standiford and Wilkinson both had two singles for Cambridge.

Despite the loss, the Bobcats have acquitted themselves very well in OVAC play in recent years, winning the title in both 2008 and 2012.

"We've done very well (in the OVAC Tournament)," Gray offered. "Over the last seven



Jeff Harrison/The Daily Jeffersonian  
Cambridge High's Trevor Wilkinson takes lead at second base in front of Edison shutout Nolan Marcus during Saturday's OVAC Class 5A championship game at Steubenville.

See CHS page B-3



Photo by Scott McCloskey

Linsly's Justin Lee dives back into second base as Fort Frye second baseman Colton Shuster reaches for a throw during their game Saturday.

## Linsly Stymies Fort Frye

Felt fires a four-hitter

### BISHOPS

(Continued from Page 9)

It was the third straight OVAC championship for the Bishops.

"We got two runs," victorious coach Bob Kleeh said. "We didn't get many, but we had enough to get it done. We seem to play good up here, the last three years anyway."

The Bishops struck for both of their runs in the bottom of the fourth inning on a two-out double by Alex Riedel that brought home Joey Myers and Philip Smith.

Prior to the short-and-swift scoring strike by the Bishops, Fuscardo had mowed down 10 straight, nine of them on strikeouts. Fuscardo struck out the first eight Bishops who came to the plate.

However, it was a costly error by the lanky junior left-hander that set up the Bishop Donahue runs.

Myers rifled a single through the hole between shortstop and third base for the first Bishop Donahue hit of the game. Smith dribbled a swinging bunt to the right of the mound that Fuscardo fielded cleanly but he had to hurry his throw to first base and sailed the ball past first baseman Mike Rogers for a two-base error.

One out later Riedel

crushed a pitch to deep left center field that plated the two runs. Riedel attempted to stretch it into a triple and was thrown out at third base.

In the top of the fifth inning, Madonna got something going when second baseman Fargo Camerlango drew the only Blue Dons walk of the game. Senior Tòry Fuscardo ripped a line drive up the right center-field alley. As the two Blue Dons raced around the base paths, there was a miscue that saw Camerlango get caught in a rundown between third base and home plate. He was tagged out trying to get home as Fuscardo, who was credited with a double, reached third base. However, the rally ended when Rogers hit a liner right at the left fielder for the third out.

Kaschke was very effective as well. The junior right-hander scattered six hits, walked one and struck out two.

Madonna scored its lone run in the top of the sixth inning when Luca Fuscardo got a one-out single. He came around to score when the next batter, Will Bowser, crushed a 1-2 pitch to the wall over the right fielder's head for an RBI triple.

Bowser, was 3 for 3 adding two singles.



# SECTION C

Sunday,  
April 28, 2013

## Harrison trips Ferry in 4A semifinal, 7-6

By MIKE PALMER  
Times Leader Sports Writer

CADIZ - Harrison Central's baseball team advanced to the Class 4A championship after holding off Martins Ferry for a 7-6 victory on Mazeroski Memorial Field Saturday morning.

"It was not a work of art," said Harrison head coach Justin Clifford. "However, I feel it is the mark of a real quality team when they can overcome mistakes and can still win."

The Purple Riders got on the scoreboard first when Marcus Sutton drew a walk, Tyler Strama moved him into scoring position and Robert Vargo pushed him across with a single.

The Huskies answered in the bottom of the frame to knot it at one apiece when a Nick Pelegreen

See, HARRISON, Page C3



T-L Photo/MIKE PALMER  
MARTINS FERRY'S Marcus  
Sutton slides into home.

## OVAC baseball positioning down to final three days

The pennant chase is officially heating up.

The Ohio Valley Athletic Conference baseball tournament opens on Saturday and teams have through Wednesday's games to jockey for positioning.

While some of the teams appear to be locked into the tournament, there are some bubble teams and some head-to-head matchups that could certainly play a role in the seeding for the five classes.



**SETH STASKEY**  
From the  
Press Box:

One notable change in the OVAC baseball tournament is the fact that the semifinals will not be played at one host site as has been the case in years' past. The higher seed will now host the semifinal round on Saturday and the winners will advance to play at Vacarro Field

in Steubenville. The 2A and 3A divisions will be held on Friday at 5 p.m. and 7:30 p.m., respectively.

In Class 4A, the Harrison Central Huskies, despite suffering their second loss of the campaign on Saturday to Edison, maintain a 20-point cushion on Steubenville for the top seed.

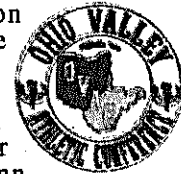
Big Red checks in with better than 38 points in their average column against yet another top-flight schedule.

The race is for the third and fourth spots. Oak Glen currently sits in third with Martins Ferry beginning the week in fourth. However, the Purple Riders, who've dropped three straight, lead Buckeye Local by 11 hundredths of a point.

The Panthers have dates with Union Local, John Marshall and St. Clairsville before the cutoff. None of those teams have a record better than .500. Ferry, meanwhile, hosts Bellaire, treks to Barnesville and welcomes Harrison Central.

In Class 3A, Magnolia has been the cream of the crop in this division all season. Outside of stubbing its toe against River earlier this month, it's been nothing but victories for Coach Dave Cisar's squad.

The Blue Eagles are 19-1 and have a solid 3-point cushion on 15-2 Linsly, which has also been highly impressive. The Cadets are the defending 2A champions and in 3A for the first time. They were hit hard by graduation, but Jay Cartwright's machine has kept rolling.



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Perennial entrant Fort Frye is 13-5 and currently Shenandoah maintains the fourth spot at 7-3.

The Zeps are being chased by Buckeye Trail and Bellaire. Ironically, those are the two schools that met for the 3A crown last season with the Big Reds prevailing.

In Class 2A, four teams seem to have a pretty good handle on the bids, but there's a tight race in the middle of the standings for the second and third seeds.

Bridgeport is currently sitting in the second spot. The Bulldogs are 12-4 on the season and have had a very solid campaign with sophomore talent Bailey McGrath leading the way.

Shadyside is currently sitting in third place and trail the Bulldogs by 92 hundredths of a point. The Tigers have lined up against a challenging slate, made up of schools primarily bigger than them.

Ironically, the Bulldogs and Tigers are scheduled to meet this afternoon in Brookside and on Wednesday they'll play at Fleming Field.

Toronto and Steubenville Central would be first and fourth if the tourney opened today.

In Class 1A, Bishop Donahue appears headed for the top seed. The Bishops are currently 11-5 and have better than a 12-point cushion on Madonna for the number one spot.

Conotton Valley and Paden City are currently third and fourth. The Wildcats hold a slim eight tenths of a point lead on St. John Central, which is 4-7. Trinity Christian and Beallsville are within striking distance, but both would probably need three wins and help.

In Class 5A, Coach Mike McLeod's Wheeling Park Patriots have developed into one of the stories of the season. Park is 16-2 and is currently atop the big-school standings. Wheeling Park hasn't won an OVAC baseball title since 2006 and the school only owns two in its history.

Edison, Morgantown and

See, OVAC, Page B2

MARTINS FERRY FOR A 7-0 VICTORY ON Mazeroski Memorial Field Saturday morning.

"It was not a work of art," said Harrison head coach Justin Clifford. "However, I feel it is the mark of a real quality team when they can overcome mistakes and can still win."

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The Huskies answered in the bottom of the frame to knot it at one apiece when a Nick Pelegreen

See, HARRISON, Page C3



T-L Photo/MIKE PALMER

**MARTINS FERRY'S** Marcus Sutton slides into home plate as Harrison Central catcher Nick Staten goes up high to catch the throw. Sutton was safe, but Harrison prevailed, 7-6.

## Shadyside tops Bridgeport in 2A

By GREG HARKNESS  
Times Leader Sports Writer

**BROOKSIDE** - Beating a team three times in a season is not easy.

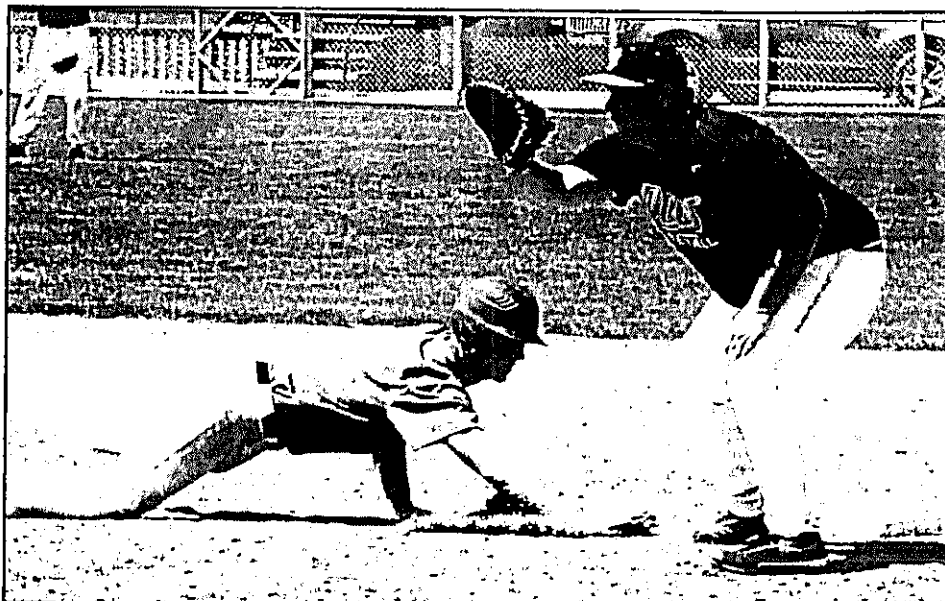
Doing it in six days makes the task even tougher.

Shadyside pulled off the feat Saturday afternoon with a 4-3 victory over Bridgeport in the OVAC Class AA baseball semifinals at Perkins Field.

"Beating a team three times in six days is tough," Shadyside head coach Mike Meintel commented. "Bridgeport saw some adversity this past week, but you have to give them credit for bouncing back today and playing a great game."

"Our seniors have really

See, SHADYSIDE, Page C2



T-L Photo/JOE LOVELL

**SHADYSIDE'S** Austin Dorris dives back into first as Bridgeport first baseman Cody Reed awaits the throw during Saturday's OVAC Class 2A semifinal on the Niekro Diamond at Perkins Field.

## ● Shadyside

Continued from Page C1

stepped up and helped us gel at the right time," he added. "(Adam) Stupak, (Cody) Hudson, Jared (Brooks) and (Chase) Kinemond deserve a lot of the credit for getting our younger guys to focus game in and game out."

The adversity Meintel mentioned for the Bulldogs occurred on Thursday when the Bulldogs had a 10-0 lead at Shadyside, only to see the Tigers rally for a 12-11 victory.

"We played the game the right way today," Bridgeport skipper Ted Downing related. "Earlier this week we played not to lose, but today the kids battled and played to win. We just came up short."

"I am disappointed for our kids and our seniors," Downing said. "Our season is far from over. We have a lot of young kids and we want to finish the season the right way."

Shadyside advances to the OVAC 2A Championship game next Friday against Steubenville Central which was a 6-2 winner over Toronto. The game will be held at the Red Knight baseball complex in Toronto.

The Tigers got a very nice mound effort from Brooks who scattered six hits in a complete game effort. He struck out six and did not permit a free pass.

"Brooks gave us a great effort today," Meintel explained. "He's not 100 percent. He's been battling some allergies and sinus stuff, but he came through with a clutch effort today."

Shadyside struck first in the top of the second inning as sophomore Austin Dorris

started things with a single. After a Zak Frizzi single, Brooks helped his own cause a run-scoring base knock to left.

Colton Campbell followed with a single to plate Frizzi before Cole Crow's fielders choice plated Brooks to make it 3-0.

The Tigers were right back at it in the fourth. Hudson started things with a single and scored on Dorris' double to right center which chased Bridgeport starter Parker Dyson.

Downing called on Bradley Pritchett and the sophomore got out of the inning.

With Shadyside leading 4-0, Bridgeport answered with senior Jonathan Kreiter smacking a leadoff single followed by classmate Cody Reed's base hit. Pritchett stepped in and crushed a three-run blast to left to pull the Dogs to within 4-3.

Shadyside loaded the bases the next two innings, but Pritchett was able to work out of the jam to keep the score 4-3.

Brooks found his groove again after the Pritchett home run and retired 11 of the final 14 batters of the game.

"We had a couple of chances to tack on some insurance, but Pritchett did a nice job of keeping us off balance and working out of some jams," Meintel related.

Shadyside improved to 11-5 on the season.

"Bradley obviously kept us in the game," Downing explained. "He hit the home run and did a nice job in relief which was big. Chance Watson also made some very big defensive plays at third base for us. We just couldn't come up with enough timely hits to get the win."

## ● Harrison

Continued from Page C1

infield hit plated Dustin Redish who had reached on a walk.

Martins Ferry stranded one in the second but Harrison Central took advantage of a pair of walks and an error allowed Dalton Rutter aboard and Nick Staten to score the go ahead run. Staten scored when Redish laid down a sacrifice bunt making it 3-1 Huskies.

Sutton reached on an error to start the third inning and Strama stroked a one hop line drive to the fence in center field to score his teammate. The would-be double was shortened when the senior buckled on the bag at first with an apparent hamstring injury.

Harrison Central would rally in the bottom of the fourth inning after a leadoff pair of walks put Rhett Kuryn and Kalub Mitchell aboard. Once again Rutter made first on a miscue, this time the damage included both base runners scoring on the overthrow.

The Huskies led 7-2 but the Purple Riders were not ready to concede. Mike Oberdick got the inning started with a single and Brenden Baire doubled to put two runners in scoring position. An error allowed Oberdick to score and put Jacobs at the opposite corner. Ethan Baire plated Brenden Baire with an RBI single and a fielding error plated Jacobs.

Nick Pelegreen got Sutton to fly out to left field ending the inning with the Huskies clinging to a 7-5 lead.

Rutter was thrown out at the plate in the sixth to keep the deficit unchanged. Scott scored in the top of the seventh to narrow the gap to a single run but the Huskies defense put the cap on the win with a 6-4 force out to end the threat.

"We hit the ball better than Harrison Central did today," said Martins Ferry head coach Anthony Reasbeck. "But we could not catch a break. Even if we catch half a break, I think we win this one."

"It was our first playoff atmosphere game," countered Clifford. "I think we have to get used to the pressure."

The Huskies will face Steubenville next Saturday at Vaccaro field for the 4A championship.

Palmer can be reached at  
mpalmer@timesleaderonline.com

## Linsly upends the Fort

Linsly's Cadets will oppose top-seeded Magnolia for an OVAC 3-A title Friday evening at Toronto.

Coach Jay Cartwright's Soldiers received a complete game mound effort from ace Momo Felt in a 5-1 Saturday semifinal decision of Fort Frye's Cadets.

Felt scattered four hits while recording nine strikeouts and exercising perfect control. At the plate, Felt contributed a single and run batted in as Linsly improved its sterling 2013 record to 20-2.

Fort Frye's Spencer Lang also worked the route but yielded runs in four innings. Lang contributed a double with teammate Chandler Lang collecting three singles and the Cadets' lone run batted in.

Linsly's Jameson Murray unloaded a home run and also singled, good for two RBIs. Aaron Seymour added a single and ribbie. Justin Lee had two singles.

The 3-A championship game is set Friday at 7:30.

SECTION  
CSunday,  
May 5, 2013**Harrison  
wins 4A  
baseball**By KIM NORTH  
Times Leader Sports Writer

STEUBENVILLE — For the fourth time since Harrison Central was formed through a consolidation to start the 1999-2000 school year, the Huskies can call themselves OVAC baseball champions.

Saturday afternoon here at sun-splashed Vaccaro Field, No. 1 seeded Harrison Central (16-5) used a complete-game mound effort from Rashaen Mitchell in rolling past second-seeded Steubenville, 11-4, to capture the Class 4A title.

The senior south paw struck out 11, including the last out of the game, and walked just two. He allowed five singles — four in the second inning when Big Red (15-6) tallied three of its runs. “This feels great,” the 6-7 Mitchell said. “When we started out as freshmen, we didn’t win too many games. Now that we’ve worked our way to the top, it feels good that we’ve won a title.”

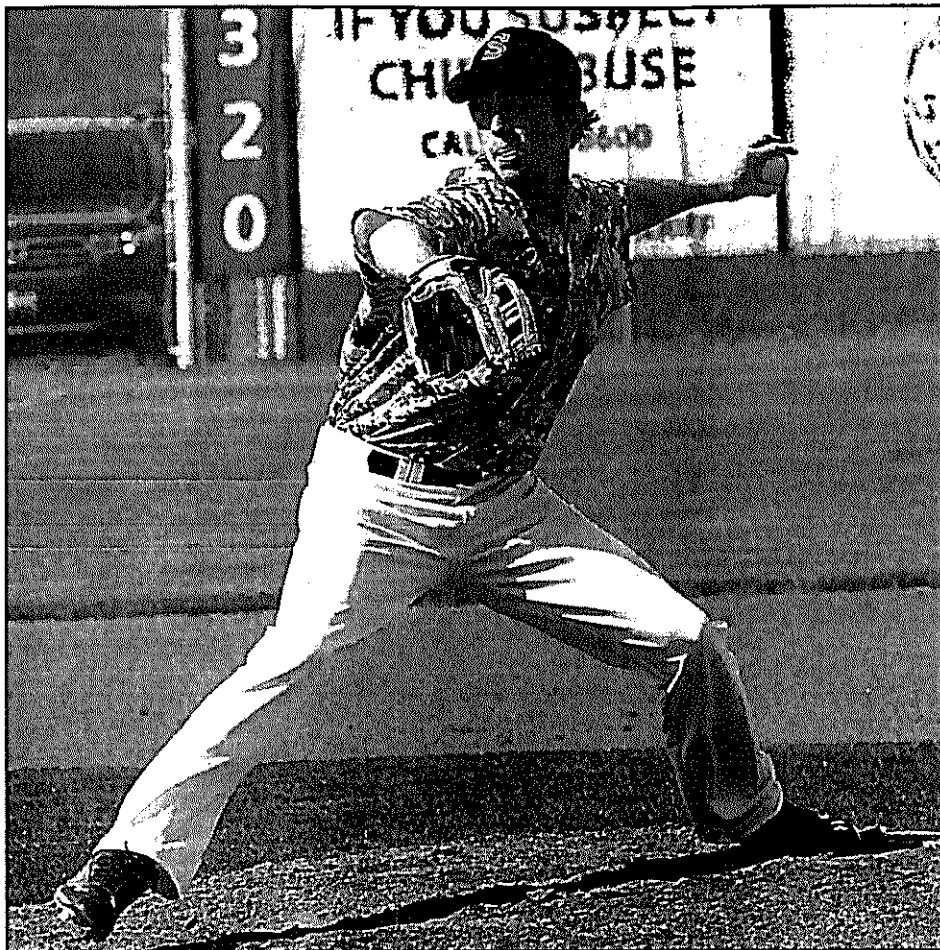
The Huskies also won titles in 2000, 2005-06. Cadiz claimed a pair of championships in 1984 and 1990.

Harrison Central took advantage

See HARRISON Page C3

**“THESE SENIORS** took their lumps in their first couple of years, so to be OVAC champions their senior year is a great accomplishment for them.”

— Justin Clifford  
Harrison Central



Photo/FRED YOUNCE

**SHADYSIDE PITCHER** Jared Brooks works to the plate during Saturday afternoon’s Class 2A OVAC Championship Game. Brooks and the Tigers fell to Steubenville Catholic Central, 7-3.

## ● Shadyside

Continued from Page C1

leaving runners on the corners. Colabella promptly stole second and, with two outs, Alex Porreca lined a 1-2 pitch to left that plated both runners.

The fourth-seeded Crusaders made it 5-0 in the third as they took advantage of wildness on Shadyside starter Jared Brooks’ part. A single, base-on-balls and hit batter loaded the bases with no outs. Two runs would come in on wild pitches, with the third crossing on a ground-out.

“They (Steubenville

Catholic) got their runners on and moved them over,” Meintel said. “We couldn’t do that today.”

The loss wasted a solid pitching performance from Tigers’ lefty Brooks, who fanned a dozen and walked just two, in a complete-game performance. He did surrender seven hits, but settled down through the middle innings, retiring 15 of 17 at one point, before being touched for a two-run single by Colabella in the seventh.

The Tigers avoided being shutout when they scored

all their runs in their final at-bat.

Jacob Spencer and Luke Nardo were hit-by-pitches leading off the bottom of the seven. Chase Kinemond walked to load the bases before Adam Stupak singled to right to plate the first run. With one out, Austin Dorris’s dribbler to short was mishandled as the second run crossed the plate. Zach Frizzi’s sacrifice fly plated the final tally.

Steub.CC 230 000 2 7 7 1  
Shad 000 000 3 3 2 1  
Batteries: Murphy and Laukert. Brooks and Dorris

## ● Harrison

Continued from Page C1

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# ● Shadyside

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Continued from Page C1

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"(Rashaen) Mitchell threw a good game," veteran Steubenville head coach Fred Heatherington said. "Offensively, I thought we did well. We put the bat on the ball, and we were disciplined at the plate, but defensively, we were pitiful. Our defense killed us."

Harrison Central head coach Justin Clifford agreed with Heatherington on Mitchell's outing, which included 116 pitches (71 strikes).

"Rashaen hasn't had his best stuff in his last couple of outings. We talked about him going or not going (today), but he came to me and told me he wanted the ball today.

"We weren't thinking (of getting) seven innings from him," Clifford admitted. "We were thinking four or five, but he kept coming in and telling me he wanted to keep going. What can you say about the kid?"

The Huskies grabbed the early lead with two runs in the bottom of the first.

Mitchell, who was on base all four times he went to the plate (3 walks, single), drew a free pass with two outs from Big Red starter Anthony Zorne. When Mitchell took second on a passed ball, Heatherington elected to intentionally walk Nick Pelegreen. Drew Horn's ensuing chopper to third turned into an infield single to load the bases, but they didn't stay that way very long as Nick Staten walked on a 3-2 pitch to force in a run. A wild pitch during Rhett Kuryn's at-bat made it 2-0.

Big Red came right back with a 3-spot in the second when Justin Corsi lined a leadoff single to left. One out later, Pat Pizzoferrato singled sharply to center. Kai McClurg's slow roller to short loaded the bases. A wild pitch scored one run and Lucas Herington's single to right on a 1-1

pitch chased home Pizzoferrato and McClurg to give Steubenville a 3-2 edge.

Rashaen Mitchell helped himself out with a 2-out opposite-field single to left that knocked in Dalton Rutter, who had walked, to tie the game at three.

With Mitchell settling into a groove, the Huskies broke the game wide-open with a 5-run fourth as all nine batters went to the plate.

Kalub Mitchell singled sharply to left leading off and went to second when the ball was kicked around. Dustin Redish drew a 1-out walk and Rashaen Mitchell was walked to load the bases. Zorne went 2-0 on Pelegreen before he was pulled in favor of Evan Westlake, who ended up walking Pelegreen to force in the first run.

That's when things started to unravel for Big Red. A wild pitch allowed Redish to sprint home, but the throw to third trying to get Rashaen Mitchell was off target, and he trotted in. One out later, Kuryn sent a drive to deep left for a run-scoring double, making it 8-3.

Matt Petrella's RBI single in the fifth made it 8-4, but Kuryn capped a 3-run sixth with a sacrifice fly to center. That came after a wild pitch allowed another runner to score. Staten added an RBI base rap.

"Rhett didn't even hit the other night because he's been slumping," Clifford noted. "We wanted to clear his head a little, and he came through today."

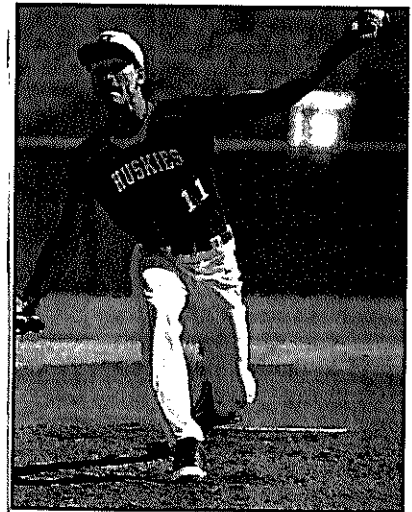
The Huskies youthful head coach couldn't praise the work of his senior class enough.

"These seniors took their lumps in their first couple years, so to be OVAC champions their senior year is a great accomplishment for them."

Harrison Central is back in action Monday at Union Local.

Steubenville 030 010 0 - 4 5 4  
Harrison Central 210 503 x - 11 8 0  
BATTERIES: Zorne, Westlake (4), and McClurg; R. Mitchell and Staten.

North can be reached at knorth@timesleaderonline.com



Photo/MIKE PALMER

**HARRISON CENTRAL'S** Rashaen Mitchell pitches during a game this season. Mitchell and the Huskies captured the OVAC 4A title Saturday.

# Shadyside denied in Class 2A

By KIM NORTH  
Times Leader Sports Writer

**STEUBENVILLE** — Getting runners on base is one thing. Moving them around is another.

Shadyside had a hard time doing either here Saturday afternoon in dropping a 7-3 decision to Steubenville Catholic in the OVAC Class 2A title tilt at sunny, but chilly, Vaccaro Field.

The third-seeded Tigers (13-7) could manage

but two singles off the Crusaders' Chris Murphy, and neither before the fifth inning.

"When you don't get base hits, you're not going to win many games,"

noted veteran Shadyside head coach Mike Meintel. "That's the bottom line.

"Their kid pitched a great game, but we didn't come ready to play."

Steubenville Catholic (13-5) tallied twice in its first at-bat as Murphy led off with the first of his three singles and stole second. One out later, Brenton Colabella's infield bouncer was thrown wildly to first,

**"THEIR KID** pitched a great game, but we didn't come ready to play."

- Mike Meintel  
Shadyside

See, SHADYSIDE, Page C3

# Huskies Win Fourth OVAC Championship

Harrison Central beats  
Steubenville, 11-4

By KIM NORTH  
For The News Register  
STEUBENVILLE — For the fourth time since Harrison Central was formed through a consolidation, the Huskies can call themselves OVAC baseball champions.

Saturday afternoon at Vaccaro Field, No. 1 seeded Harrison Central (16-5) used a complete-game mound effort from Rashaen Mitchell in beating second-seeded Steubenville, 11-4, to capture the Class 4A title.

The 6-foot-7 senior southpaw struck out 11, including the last out of the game, and walked just two. He allowed five singles — four in the second inning when Big Red (15-6) tallied three of its runs.

"This feels great," Mitchell said. "When we started out as freshmen we didn't win too many games. Now that we've worked our way to the top, it

feels good that we've won a title."

Harrison Central took advantage of whatever Steubenville would give it, and that turned out to be a lot as Big Red committed four errors and a pair of pitchers issued nine walks in six innings.

"Mitchell threw a good game," veteran Steubenville coach Fred Heatherington said. "Offensively, I thought we did well. We put the bat on the ball, and we were disciplined at the plate, but defensively, we were pitiful. Our defense killed us."

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See, HUSKIES, Page B2

## Steubenville Catholic Denies Shadyside, 7-3

Tigers rally late,  
avoid shutout

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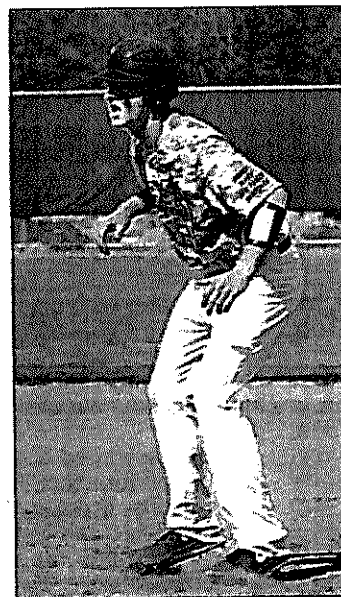


Photo by Mike Mathison  
Shadyside's Austin Dorris leads off the base during Saturday's game against Steubenville Catholic.

## SHADYSIDE

Continued from page B1

Stebenville Catholic (13-5) scored twice in its first at-bat as Murphy led off with the first of his three singles and stole second.

One out later, Brenton Colabella's infield bouncer was thrown wildly to first, leaving runners on the corners. Colabella promptly stole second and, with two outs, Alex Porreca lined a 1-2 pitch to left that plated both runners.

The Crusaders made it 5-0 in the third as they took advantage of wildness on Shadyside starter Jared Brooks' part. A single,

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## HUSKIES

Continued from page B1

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With Mitchell settling into a groove, the Huskies broke the game wide-open with a five-run fourth as all nine batters went to the plate.

A bases-loaded walk and wild pitch and ensuing error allowed the first three runs to score. Then Kuryn sent a drive to deep left for a run-scoring double, making it 8-3.

Matt Petrella's RBI single in the fifth made it 8-4, but Kuryn capped a three-run sixth with a sacrifice fly to center. That came after a wild pitch allowed another runner to score. Staten added an RBI single.



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# Bishop Donahue Puts It All Together vs. PC

Bishops' Myers spins a one-hitter

By TONY VIOLA  
Staff Writer

MOUNDSVILLE — Paden City lacked one important aspect coming into its OVAC Class 1A semifinal with Bishop Donahue: experience.

It also didn't help the Wildcats that the Bishops put together one of their best games of the season, as they exploded for 13 hits and Joey Myers pitched a one-hitter and Bishop Donahue blanked Paden City, 15-0, in five innings at Valley Fork.

"We started six freshman (Saturday) and they haven't been in a situation

like this," Wildcats coach Brent Croasmun said. "Experience means a lot when it comes to athletics. We didn't have any seniors in the lineup and you've got to have some good seniors if you're going to go far in any sport."

After Andrew Cunningham scored the game's first run off a hit by Hunter Kaschke in the first, the Bishops (13-7) collect four more in the second, highlighted by Myers' two-run double that drove in Jordan Bonar and Austin Cunningham.

"Bishop Donahue has a very good, veteran baseball team that has played in these playoffs games before," Croasmun noted. "We gave them some



Photo by Scott McCloskey

Bishop Donahue's Austin Cunningham looks for a call after swiping Paden City's Luke Cooper with a tag Saturday in an OVAC Class 1A baseball semifinal.

early opportunities in the first two innings and, like a good team does, they took advantage of those opportunities."

The first two frames, however, were just a teaser for what the Bishops had

See, Bishops, Page B2

# Standiford, Bobcats Deny Wheeling Park

Patriots stopped in 5A semifinals

By ROD JOHNSON  
For the News-Register

WHEELING — Two weeks ago, Wheeling Park administered a double-header beat down to Cambridge, torching several Bobcat pitchers for a total of 20 runs.

Cambridge's Ben Standiford was not one of those pitchers, however, and Saturday he tossed a solid five-hit complete game at the Patriots as the 'Cats posted an 10-2 road triumph in the OVAC Class 5A baseball tournament semifinals.

"Ben's effort was out-

standing," Cambridge coach Dave Gray said. "He did a good job of throwing strikes for the most part and I thought pitching coach 'Skip' Wetherell called a great game."

Standiford struck out five and walked five.

Leadoff hitter Trevor Wilkinson got things going in the top of the first with a single to right-center and scored on a Kyle Ritz double to the same gap.

Cambridge (13-6) also got Cody Huffman aboard with a walk and a Dillon Sunnafrank single, but ran itself out of a big inning with a botched safety

See, Bobcats, Page B4

## ON THE LINE



Today's Results:

Q. Do you think Sidney Crosby will return in the first round of the playoffs?

Yes: 67%

No: 33%

Tomorrow's Poll:

Q. Were you happy with the Steelers draft?

Tell us what you think.  
Register your answer at [www.news-register.net](http://www.news-register.net)

(The results of this poll are not scientific and represent only the opinions of Internet users who have chosen to participate.)



## OVAC Baseball

### Championship Games

Friday  
(At Toronto)  
Class 1A

No. 1 Bishop Donahue vs. No. 2 Madonna, 4 p.m.

### Class 3A

No. 1 Magnolia vs. No. 2 Linsly, 7:30 p.m.

### Saturday

(at Vaccaro Field in Steubenville)

### Class 4A

No. 1 Harrison vs. No. 2 Steubenville, 11 a.m.

### Class 5A

No. 2 Edison vs. No. 4 Cambridge, 1:30 p.m.

### Class 2A

No. 3 Shadyside vs. No. 4 Steub. CC, 5 p.m.

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## OVAC Baseball

### OVAC BASEBALL CHAMPIONSHIPS

#### Semifinals

Saturday at Higher Seed's field

(Some Game times not been announced)

#### CLASS 5-A

#4 Cambridge at #1 Wheeling Park

#3 Indian Creek at #2 Edison, 11 a.m.

#### CLASS 4-A

#4 Martins Ferry at #1 Harrison Central

#3 Buckeye Local at #2 Steubenville, Noon

#### CLASS 3-A

#4 Shenandoah at #1 Magnolia

#3 Fort Frye at #2 Linsly

#### CLASS 2-A

#4 Steubenville Central at #1 Toronto

#3 Shadyside at #2 Bridgeport, Noon

#### CLASS 1-A

#4 Paden City at #1 Bishop Donahue

#3 Conotton Valley at #1 Madonna

## OVAC Baseball

### Semifinals

Today at Higher Seed's field

(Some Game times not been announced)

#### CLASS 5-A

#4 Cambridge at #1 Wheeling Park, 11 a.m.

#3 Indian Creek at #2 Edison, 11 a.m.

#### CLASS 4-A

#4 Martins Ferry at #1 Harr. Central, 10:30 a.m.

#3 Buckeye Local at #2 Steubenville, Noon

#### CLASS 3-A

#4 Shenandoah at #1 Magnolia

#3 Fort Frye at #2 Linsly, Noon

#### CLASS 2-A

#4 Steubenville Central at #1 Toronto

#3 Shadyside at #2 Bridgeport, Noon

#### CLASS 1-A

#4 Paden City at #1 Bishop Donahue

#3 Conotton Valley at #1 Madonna

# BISHOPS

Continued from page B1

in store.

With one out and facing a full count, Matt Vucelick blasted one out of the park for a solo homer that made it 6-0.

"That was just the charge we needed," Bishops coach Bob Kleeh pointed out. "Everything was kinda flat. We had a couple runs here and there, but that just got us going. Sometimes you just need that spark to wake everybody up and we started playing baseball. (Vucelick) didn't take a big swing, he just met it. That kid has got some power."

After Bonar, Austin Cunningham, and Myers each drove in a run, Philip Smith tripled into right

field to clear the way for Andrew Cunningham and Myers to score and stretch the lead to 11-0.

Lane LaMasters' flyout to center field ended the inning as the Bishops came away with eight runs on eight hits and sent 12 to the plate.

Smith hit a two-run single in fourth to end the scoring for Donahue.

"That's the first time in about two weeks, and discard the John Marshall game because we did have a big error in that one that cost us three runs, that we hit the ball and fielded the ball," Kleeh said. "I'm proud of the way they played. Paden City has a very young team with a

bright future, but that's the first time in two weeks we actually hit, pitched and caught on the same day. Hopefully that's a sign of things to come."

It couldn't have happened at a better time for the Bishops as the team will now compete for their third straight 1A title against Madonna.

"That'd be big," Kleeh said. "I don't know if it ever happened for the school. We just have to show up and play and see what happens. We'll have a quality opponent whoever we play. Hopefully we can come out and play a complete baseball game and get it done."

Paden City fell to 7-13.

# BOBCATS

Continued from page B1

squeeze play.

Staked to an early lead, Standiford was dominating through the first three innings, facing just 10 hitters and yielding no hits.

The Bobcats' fourth was the decisive inning as the visitors plated seven runs on six hits and took advantage of some uncharacteristically sloppy Wheeling Park defense.

The big hits in the inning were a Devon Francis a two-run double to left and a three-run double by Kyle Ritz. Standiford added an RBI single.

"It seems like when we get off to a good start with

the bats, its contagious and everybody hits," Gray said.

Every player in the Bobcats' batting order either had hits or scored runs.

Standiford's only hiccup came in the fourth and fifth when the Patriots (19-3) reached him for single runs in each frame.

He walked three hitters and yielded an RBI single by Michael Grove in the fourth.

The Patriots managed their other run in their fifth when Justice Jackson's single delivered Jay Massey, who had reached via Standiford's fifth and final free pass.

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# Magnolia Comes Through Late, Wins 19th Straight

## Elliott quiets Shenandoah, Blue Eagles will face Linsly in Final

By RICK THORP  
Staff Writer

NEW MARTINSVILLE — Through 5 2/3 innings, Shenandoah coach Randy Sailing liked the position his team was in Saturday.

The Zeps trailed Magnolia, 1-0, and his ace, James Luyster, had just struck out the first two batters.

Then, just like that, the Blue Eagles awoke.

Ryan Walton's double sparked a four-run inning as Magnolia topped Shenandoah, 6-0, in an OVAC Class 3A baseball semifinal at the Mullett Baseball Complex.

The Blue Eagles (23-1), winners of 19 straight, will play for their seventh OVAC title, and first since 2009, against Linsly at 7:30 Friday night at Steubenville's Vaccaro Field. Linsly is aiming for its 17th conference banner.

"We got timely hits," Magnolia coach Dave Cisar stressed.

Especially in the deciding fifth.

The Blue Eagles followed Walton's two-out double with five straight singles. Cisar was simply

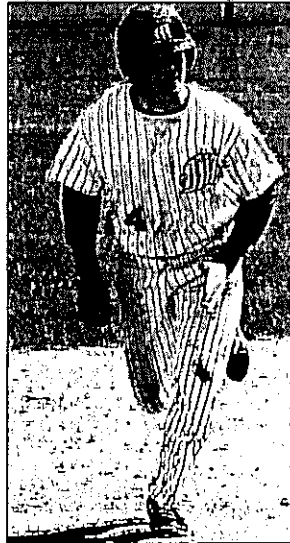


Photo by Rick Thorp

Magnolia's Kyle Elliott takes off from second base Saturday.

looking to add another run, but he got much more.

"Our top four or five guys really, really came through ... like they have all year," Cisar said. "Timely hits, I think, win big games. If it's not that, it's a homer or a big error. But (Saturday) it was timely hitting and I'm really proud of my kids."

Chandler Sapp drove

Walton home to make the score 2-0. Kyle Elliott and Zach Wilhoite added RBI singles to make the score 4-0.

Two batter later, Chase Miller added an RBI single to make the count 5-0. Tanner Hanna was the only player to single in the inning and not plate a run.

Until the hitting barrage, Luyster was cruising, having struck out seven, walked three and allowed one hit, an Elliott single in the third.

"He just kinda ran out of gas," Sailing said. "I think the hardest thing to take was they did all that with two outs.

"My hat's off to them. They're an awesome team ... by far the best team we've seen this year."

The six runs were plenty for Elliott. Magnolia's top pitcher scattered three singles, struck out 12 and walked none in picking up the victory.

Sailing said when he learned the Zeps would face Magnolia's ace he knew his batters were in for a big challenge.

"I knew from the start it was going to be a struggle to win this one," he said.

Elliott didn't allow a baserunner after the third inning.

"Kyle Elliott was tough to beat," Cisar said. "But Shenandoah was really aggressive at the plate."

The Zeps got two runners aboard in the first and one in the second and third.

"The thing about it was we got a few hits, but we didn't have anyone aboard. If we'd had somebody on it could have been a different game, Sailing said."



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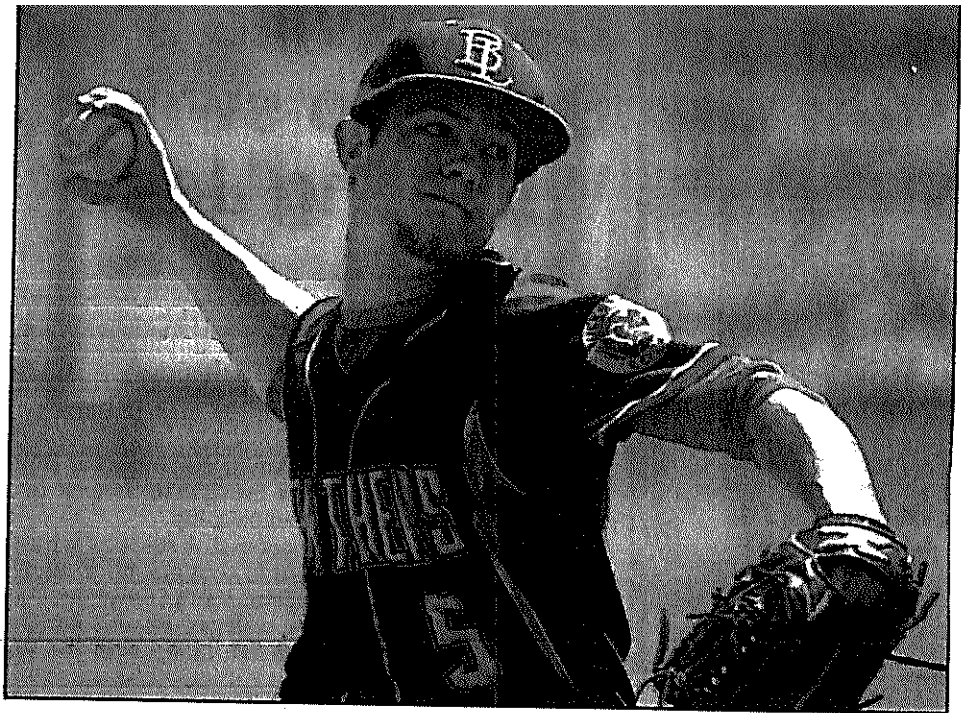
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Photo/MIKE MATHISON

**BUCKEYE LOCAL** ace Austin Marshall delivers to the plate during Saturday's OVAC Class 4A semifinal at Vacarro Field in Steubenville against Big Red. Steubenville rallied for a 6-5 victory and will meet Harrison Central next Saturday at 11 a.m. for the title.

## Steubenville rallies past Buckeye to reach OVAC 4A championship

By **ED LOOMAN**  
For The Times Leader

**STEUBENVILLE** — Kai McClurg saved the day for Steubenville in Saturday's OVAC Class 4A semifinal bout with Buckeye Local at Vacarro Field.

The junior found a way to slide under the tag of Panther catcher Josh Sokolowski in the bottom of the seventh, lifting Fred Heatherington's crew to a dramatic 6-5 come-from-behind win. The victory sends Big Red into the title game (set for 11 a.m. on Saturday at Vacarro) opposite top-seeded Harrison Central.

Big Red, now 11-6, appeared to have things under control after John Linn delivered a two-run single up the middle in the sixth, putting the hosts up 4-2. Rick DeLuca's Panthers, however, weren't quite ready to call it a day.

Buckeye (8-10) grabbed a 5-4 seventh-inning advantage following Shane Duncan's bases-loaded triple up the alley in left center. Panther starter Austin Marshall, who went the route on the bump, retired the first Big Red hitter he faced in the home half of the frame.

Cody Saltsman then drew a walk and advanced on McClurg's sharp base knock to right. Marshall recorded the second out and was one strike away from ending the game.

Big Red's Mason Heatherington, facing a 1-2 count, fouled off several pitches before working Marshall for a free pass to juice the sacks.

Bryan Pierro walked on five pitches to force Saltsman home and knot the score. Duncan's first pitch to Linn got away from

with one down in the first before Zorne recorded two outs. The same thing happened in the third, this time Zorne got a strikeout. Buckeye did finally score in the fourth thanks to an RBI single by Eric Williams. The bases were jammed with one out but again Zorne was up to the challenge.

Two walks and a single by Marshall (he finished with three hits) filled the bases with Panthers again in the fifth. Zorne fanned the next two hitters to end the threat. DeLuca's club had the sacks juiced a third time in the sixth but was only able to plate a single run (Eric Banal drawing a walk to get the RBI).

"We had tons of guys on base, but just weren't able to manufacture any runs," DeLuca stated. "We are a very, very, very good hitting team.

"We kept saying over and over that Big Red was walking on thin ice the whole game. We just kept missing opportunities.

"I know our guys are upset with what happened in the last inning, but I told them we should have never been in that situation."

Big Red drew first blood in its half of the opening inning. Pierro drew a lead-off walk, moved to second an errant throw and scored as Justin Corsi lined a two-out seeing-eye single to right. The hosts made it 2-0 in the third. Evan Westlake cranked a two-out, two-strike pitch over the fence in left for his first varsity home run.

After Buckeye tied it at two in the sixth, Big Red responded with a pair. Lucas Herrington rifled a single to right, Mason Heatherington reached on a fielder's choice and Pierro walked to fill the bases.

**BUCKEYE LOCAL** ace Austin Marshall delivers to the plate during Saturday's OVAC Class 4A semifinal at Vacarro Field in Steubenville against Big Red. Steubenville rallied for a 6-5 victory and will meet Harrison Central next Saturday at 11 a.m. for the title.

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Bryan Pierro walked on five pitches to force Saltsman home and knot the score. Duncan's first pitch to Linn got away from Sokolowski, allowing McClurg to end things with the close call at the plate.

"Kai obviously got a big hit for us in the seventh," Big Red's Heatherington said. "Then Mason was down 1-2 and fouled off three pitches before getting a walk. So, we battled and I think that shows the character of our kids."

Perhaps no Big Red player battled more than freshman lefty Anthony Zorne. He went 6 1/3 innings, scattering 12 hits (11 were singles) and recording 10 strikeouts. Zorne worked his way out of jams in the first, third, fourth, fifth and sixth innings.

"Anthony didn't have great control today but when he had to have pitches, he had them," Heatherington noted. "You can never tell what the score is when he is pitching. He shows no emotion and that is the sign of a great pitcher on the mound."

Zorne's ability to find those pitches he needed led to Buckeye Local stranding 13 runners during the first six frames.

The Panthers had runners at the corners

with one down in the first before Zorne recorded two outs. The same thing happened in the third, this time Zorne got a strikeout. Buckeye did finally score in the fourth thanks to an RBI single by Eric Williams. The bases were jammed with one out but again Zorne was up to the challenge.

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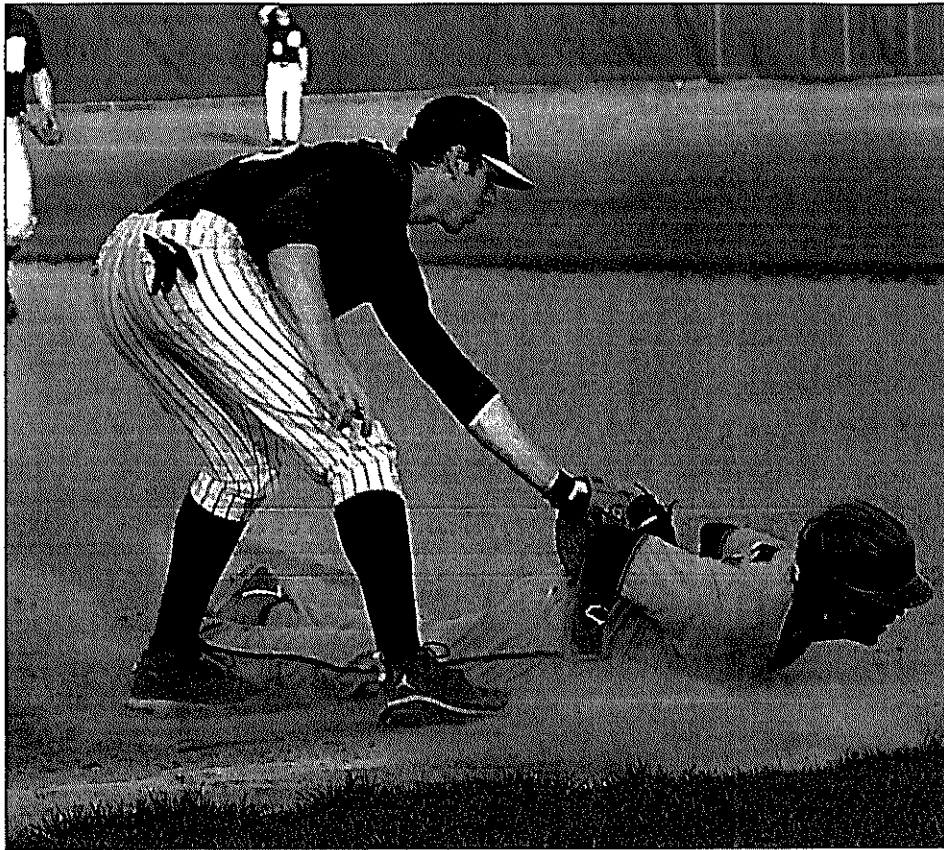
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The Panthers got going in the seventh thanks to Williams' single to left. Sokolowski dropped one over Linn's head for a hit and Chase Hopkins legged one out for an infield single. Duncan then drilled his triple. Marshall walked and Heatherington immediately replaced Zorne with Westlake. The senior recorded a strike out and induced a routine fly to avoid further damage.

"We got out of some key situations," Heatherington admitted. "They had the bases loaded twice with one out. Anthony battled up, got some strikeouts and got us out of innings. In the last inning, we bring Evan in with one out and he gets us out of the inning."

"Who knows what might have happened if they get a base hit and score two or three more runs. We battled, we never backed down."



Linsly's Arien Seymour gets back to first ahead of the tag of Magnolia first baseman Zach Wilholte on Friday

Photo by Rick Thorp

# Linsly Edges Magnolia

Felt, Elliott dazzle on the mound

By RICK THORP  
Staff Writer

TORONTO — The OVAC Class 3A baseball championship pitting Linsly and Magnolia had all the makings of a classic.

It delivered.

Colton Coss scored from third on an error in the top of the eighth inning as the Cadets edged the Blue Eagles, 2-1, in a pitcher's duel at the Knight Baseball Complex.

The title was the second straight for Linsly, which won the Class 2A crown last spring. This season, the Cadets did it with an almost entirely new starting lineup.

"It's great for these young kids," Linsly coach Jay Cartwright said.

"Our seniors led. We have a couple of young kids in the middle, a freshman and a sopho-

## Bishops Win 3rd Straight OVAC Crown

By RALPH COX  
For The Intelligencer

TORONTO — Madonna made two costly mistakes in Friday's OVAC Class 1A championship game and, despite an outstanding pitching performance by junior Luca Fuscardo, dropped a 2-1 decision to Bishop Donahue at the

Knight Baseball Complex.

On the other hand, the Bishops, who went into the OVAC tournament as the top seed, made plays when they needed them and got a good pitching performance of its own from junior Hunter Kaschke.

See BISHOPS, Page 10

more, and we had some veterans on the corners."

Put it all together, and Linsly has its 17th OVAC crown, second to Steubenville, which goes for number 20 today against Harrison Central in the Class 4A title tilt.

Coss started the eighth by singling to center. Jameson Murray grounded out, but moved Coss to second.

Momo Felt was then intentionally walked, giving Linsly runners at second and first with one

out.

After Logan Goodnight struck out, Dom Ellis stepped to the plate.

The senior slapped a Kyle Elliott pitch in the air in shallow left field. Magnolia shortstop Tanner Hanna went back to make, what looked like, a tough play on the ball. The ball fell into his glove, but then fell to the ground. Coss crossed home plate to the delight of his teammates.

Please See LINSLY, Page 11

# Donahue claims OVAC 1A crown

• Bishops down Weirton Madonna, 2-1

By RALPH COX  
For The Times Leader

TORONTO — Often in baseball it is the little things that count most.

Weirton Madonna made two costly mistakes in Friday's OVAC Class 1A championship game and despite an outstanding pitching performance by junior Luca Fuscardo, dropped a 2-1 decision to Bishop Donahue at the Knight Baseball Complex.

On the other hand, the Bishops, who went into the OVAC tournament as the top seed, made plays when they needed them and got a good pitching performance of its own from junior Hunter Kaschke. It was the third straight OVAC championship for the Bishops.

"We got two runs," said victorious coach Bob Kleeh. "We didn't get many, but we had enough to get it done. We seem to play good up here, the last three years anyway. Whatever comes out, I wish we could do it all year. In this game we played really well and we had to beat a good team like Madonna. We made some good plays in key situations.

"We have to field the ball well, which we've had problems with this year, to win a close game like this. I'm really proud of them.

"That kid (Fuscardo) is a heck of a pitcher. For us to get two runs off of him is a lot of hard work."

The Bishops struck for both of their runs in the bottom of the fourth inning on a two-out double by Alex Riedel that brought home Joe Myers and Phillip Smith.

Prior to the short-and-swift scoring strike by the Bishops, Fuscardo had mowed down 10 straight, nine of them on strikeouts. Fuscardo struck out the first eight Bishops who came to the plate.

Ironically, the same teams will meet Monday when Madonna hosts the Class A Region 1, Section 1 tournament at Ed Bowman Field. Game time is 6:30 p.m.

## Linsly nips Magnolia

By RICK THORP  
For The Times Leader

TORONTO - The OVAC Class 3A baseball championship pitting Linsly and Magnolia had all the makings of a classic.

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The title was the second straight for Linsly, which won the Class 2A crown last spring.

This year, the Cadets did

it with an almost entirely new starting lineup.

"It's great for these young kids," Linsly coach Jay Cartwright said after receiving a congratulatory hug from former Cadets coach Gary Sprague.

"Our seniors led. We have a couple of young kids in the middle, a freshman and a sophomore, and we had some veterans on the corners."

Put it all together, and Linsly has its 17th OVAC crown, second to Steubenville, which goes for number 20 today against Harrison Central in the Class 4A title tilt.

LINSLY

(Continued from Page 9)

"Dom just gutted out an at-bat," Cartwright said. "He got blown away early (he struck out his three previous at-bats) and struggled. I told him to just put the ball in play. That was huge for us."

The Blue Eagles (26-4) got the tying run, Elliott, on second with one out in the bottom of the eighth. Felt struck out Withoite for the second out. Next, Hanna belted a shot to deep center. Linsly's Arlen Seymour got a bad break on the ball, but recovered and made a diving grab to end the game. "I'm so proud of my kids," Magnolia coach Dave Cisar said. "Elliott was super on the mound, Cain was great behind the plate and we had some kids who were hurt and did a great job."

"Lookout, cause this will make us a better team. You have to look at the positives. This was just a bump in the road."

"Congrats to Linsly. It was a heck of a high school baseball game."

That it was, especially with both team's aces on the hill. Elliott and Felt both fanned nine and walked four.

"He was just very tough," Cartwright said of Elliott, who allowed four hits. "He pitched a great game."

"And, as far as our guy goes, he struggled in the first few innings

and he hit his stride later on. He's as tough as anyone out there when he's hitting his spots."

Magnolia jumped out to a 1-0 lead in the first when Chandler Sapp scored on a passed ball.

The score stayed that way until Linsly knotted things up in the sixth when Felt hit a shot that dropped fair down the left-field line. Coss scored from second on the play. Sapp finished with two of Magnolia's three hits.

By TRACY WATSON  
For The News-Register

**WHEELING** — Playing for and winning Ohio Valley Athletic Conference championships can mean different things to different schools.

However, when you are not a member of our state's athletic commission and you are not permitted to play for state titles, conference championships can take on a new meaning. Such is the case with Linsly, which always seems to compete for OVAC winners as if they are its own state championship.

For proof, take a look at coach Jay Artwright's Cadets baseball team, which is captured 16 OVAC titles, second only to Eubenville's 19, and won three of the last four Class 2A crowns.

After a convincing victory against third-seeded Fort Frye on Saturday, Linsly will be looking for a Class 3A championship this weekend.

Senior Momo Felt fired a four-hitter, fanning nine and not issuing a free pass, and Meson Murray blasted a two-run homer in the first inning for the only runs Linsly (20-1) needed as the local Cadets disposed of Fort Frye by a 5-1 count in an OVAC semifinal contest at Holloway Field.

The victory sets up a monstrous championship matchup with once-beaten Magnolia 7:30 p.m. on Friday.

"I am honestly super excited," a beaming Artwright said. "This is our goal every year, playing for and having an opportunity to win another OVAC championship. It is a great opportunity for a young team."

The difference in the game early was Linsly's ability to push runs across and Fort Frye's inability to scratch out needed hits with runners on.

Bidwell's squad stranded a runner at second in each of the opening two innings while the hosts were busy building a lead.

Colton Coss' one-out single got things going for the Cadets in the bottom of the first before Murray jumped on a 1-0 pitch and jacked it high over the left-field fence for a quick 2-0 lead. It ended up being all that needed.

The Cadets managed to scratch out single runs in the second, third and fourth frames well. Dillon Curtin singled home a run in the second, while Coss walked, stole second, went to third on a passed ball and scored when Felt aided his own cause with a base hit in the third to make it 4-0.

It became 5-0 in the fourth on a leadoff single by Justin Lee, Tyler Ashbrook's sacrifice bunt and Arien Seymour's run-scoring single to left with two down.

The visiting Cadets (14-7) pushed across their only run in the sixth on a leadoff double to deep left-center by losing pitcher Spencer Lang, followed by brother Chandler Lang's RBI single to left. Chandler Lang had three of Fort Frye's four hits, all singles. "We executed," Cartwright added. "Momo is our senior leader and he was the way all the way on the mound and I am just happy with senior Justin Lee, another senior who has battled through injuries his whole career and played so well. He has really matured.

The kids lost focus a little in the sixth, but I let them know about it and they pulled together. It was just a clutch day at the end, and especially with two outs. We also had a solid day in the field against a tough

be a little more dimensional on the mound. Their kid also did an outstanding job on the mound for them."

#### Class 5A

##### Edison 7, Indian Creek 0

**RICHMOND** — Nolan Marcus tossed a one-hitter, striking out nine, as Edison blanked Indian Creek to earn a berth in Saturday's championship game opposite Cambridge.

Marcus got plenty of offensive support, including his own two singles and RBI.

Dylan Jones slapped three singles and scored twice for the Wildcats. Josh Pasek had two singles and an RBI, while Brian Straka had two RBI and Storm Allese one.

Alex Young was the only Redskin able to reach on a hit.

#### Class 4A

##### Steubenville 6, Buckeye Local 5

**STEUBENVILLE** — Kai McClurg scored with two outs in the bottom of the seventh giving Steubenville a come-from-behind triumph.

Big Red will face top-seeded Harrison Central at 11 a.m. Saturday for the championship.

Steubenville scored twice in the final inning. Bryan Pierro scored on a bases-loaded walk to tie the score at 5-5. He finished with two singles and an RBI.

Evan Westlake homered and singled for Big Red, while John Linn and Justin Corsi both added RBI.

Austin Marshall slapped three singles for the Panthers. Shane Duncan tripled, singled and had three RBI, while Eric Williams and Josh Sokolowski both had two hits.

##### Harrison Central 7, Martins Ferry 6

**CADIZ** — In another one-run thriller, Harrison Central held on after jumping out to a 7-2 lead.

Dalton Rutter and Rashaen Mitchell both laced two hits for the Huskies. Mitchell picked up the victory, fanning five.

Robert Vargo slapped two hits for the Purple Riders, while Garrett Trudo doubled.

#### Class 2A

##### Shadyside 4, Bridgeport 3

**BROOKSIDE** — Shadyside topped Bridgeport for the third time in six days to advance the championship tilt.

The Tigers will face Steubenville Catholic at 5 Friday evening in Steubenville.

The Tigers jumped out to a 4-0 lead after three innings before watching the Bulldogs score three in fourth.

Austin Dorris, Zak Frizzi, Jared Brooks and Colton Campbell all singled in the second for the Tigers.

Brooks got the victory, fanning six and walking none. He retired 11 of the final 14 batters.

Bradley Pritchett crushed a three-run homer for the Bulldogs.

##### Steub. Catholic 6, Toronto 2

**TORONTO** — Steubenville Catholic scored four runs in the second and two more in the third and that's all the Crusaders needed to best Toronto.

Joe DeFalco doubled and plated two runs for Steubenville Catholic, while Tony Barber doubled. Aleks Porreca, Josh Merriman and Michael Barber all singled and plated a run.

Austin Lucas had a double, single and two RBI for the Red Knights.

#### Class 1A

##### Madonna 3, Conotton Valley 0

**WEIRTON** — Tory Fuscardo struck out five and walked one as Madonna topped

# OVAC baseball brackets finalized

By TONY VIOLA  
For The Times Leader

**WHEELING** — The Ohio Valley Athletic Conference has announced its pairings for its 2013 baseball tournament. All games will be played Saturday, April 27, however, times have not yet been released.

In Class 5A, No. 4-seeded Cambridge will have to start its mission for back-to-back pennants at Wheeling Park as it faces the No. 1-seeded Patriots, while Buckeye 8 rivals Indian Creek and Edison will duke it out on the Wildcat's home diamond in the other semifinal.

A new 4A champion will emerge as No. 4 Martins Ferry heads to Harrison Central to take on the top ranked Huskies. No. 2 Steubenville will host No. 3 Buckeye Local for the right to advance to the championship game.

Linsly will also be looking for a second straight title as the Cadets captured the 2A banner a year ago before making the move to 3A. The No. 2-seeded Cadets will host No. 3 Fort Frye in the semifinals, while No. 4 Sheandoah will travel to take on top seeded Magnolia.

2A features three teams returning to the tournament in Shadyside, Steubenville Catholic and Toronto. The No. 4 Crusaders will battle with the No. 1-seeded Red Knights, while the No. 3 Tigers will travel to Bridgeport to square off with the No. 2 Bulldogs.

Bishop Donahue will be the third team in the tournament looking for back-to-back titles. The defending champion and top seeded Bishops will host No. 4 Paden City, with No. 3 Conotton Valley taking on No. 2 Madonna.

#### Softball Changes

After rain washed out all of Wednesday's OVAC softball tournament action, games and times had to change accordingly.

Tonight at 5 p.m. at the J.B. Chambers I-470 Youth Sports Complex, the Class 2A semifinal between No. 1 seed Steubenville Catholic and No. 4 Cameron will be played on Field 3.

The 4A duel between top-ranked Martins Ferry and No. 4 Buckeye Local has been moved to 6:45 and will also take place on Field 3.

The other 4A battle with No. 3 St. Clairsville and No. 4 Harrison Central will be played at 5 on Field 4, while



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On Friday, the 5A championship game between No. 2 Wheeling Park and No. 1 John Marshall will be decided on Lisa's Field (Field 3).

Following the title match, No. 3 Madonna and No. 2 Bishop Donahue will compete in the second 1A semifinal.

meaning. Such is the case with Linsly, which always seems to compete for OVAC banners as if they are its own state championship.

For proof, take a look at coach Jay Cartwright's Cadets baseball team, which has captured 16 OVAC titles, second only to Steubenville's 19, and won three of the last four Class 2A crowns.

After a convincing victory against third-seeded Fort Frye on Saturday, Linsly will be looking for a Class 3A championship this weekend.

Senior Momo Felt fired a four-hitter, fanning nine and not issuing a free pass, and Jameson Murray blasted a two-run homer in the first inning for the only runs Linsly (20-1) needed as the local Cadets disposed of Fort Frye by a 5-1 count in an OVAC semifinal contest at Holloway Field.

The victory sets up a monstrous championship matchup with once-beaten Magnolia at 7:30 p.m. on Friday.

"I am honestly super excited," a beaming Cartwright said. "This is our goal every year, playing for and having an opportunity to win another OVAC championship. It is a great opportunity for a young team."

The difference in the game early was Linsly's ability to push runs across and Fort Frye's inability to scratch out needed hits with runners on.

Bidwell's squad stranded a runner at second in each of the opening two innings while the hosts were busy building a lead.

Colton Coss' one-out single got things going for the Cadets in the bottom of the first before Murray jumped on a 1-0 pitch and jacked it high over the left-field fence for a quick 2-0 lead. It ended up being all Felt needed.

The Cadets managed to scratch out single runs in the second, third and fourth frames as well. Dillon Curtin singled home a run in the second, while Coss walked, stole second, went to third on a passed ball and scored when Felt aided his own cause with a base hit in the third to make it 4-0.

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"The kids lost focus a little in the sixth, but I let them know about it and they pulled it together. It was just a clutch day at the plate, and especially with two outs. We also had a solid day in the field against a tough team.

"Don't forget, Fort Frye is a very good team and their pitcher was all around the plate. Sonny (Bidwell) has had some good teams and we have battled for years in Class AA."

Bidwell, meanwhile, was proud of his kids, but also disappointed.

"It was nice to see our kids play on a big stage," he said, "but we just came up short in a few places. Spencer challenged them at the plate and battled, but we have got to learn to

including his own two singles and RBI.

Dylan Jones slapped three singles and scored twice for the Wildcats. Josh Pasek had two singles and an RBI, while Brian Straka had two RBI and Storm Allese one.

Alex Young was the only Redskin able to reach on a hit.

## Class 4A

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## Class 1A

### Madonna 3, Conotton Valley 0

**WEIRTON** – Tory Fuscardo struck out five and walked one as Madonna topped Conotton Valley.

The Blue Dons will face Bishop Donahue in the finale of the OVAC championship games at 4 p.m. Saturday at Vaccaro Field.

Kaleb Baire had two singles, a double and an RBI for the Blue Dons, while Fuscardo aided his own cause with a double and an RBI.

Nick Ossman tripled for Madonna and Fargo Camerlengo tripled and singled.

Brandon Bailey doubled for the Rockets.