

Photo by Seth Staskey
Shadyside's Mason VanNest, left, takes part in the 200 where he finished second in the state.

VanNest Finishes As State Runner-Up

By SETH STASKEY
For The Intelligencer

COLUMBUS — Very few athletes begin the track and field season with realistic expectations of being an All-Ohioan when the dust settles at Jesse Owens Memorial Stadium during the first weekend in June.

Mason VanNest can certainly attest.

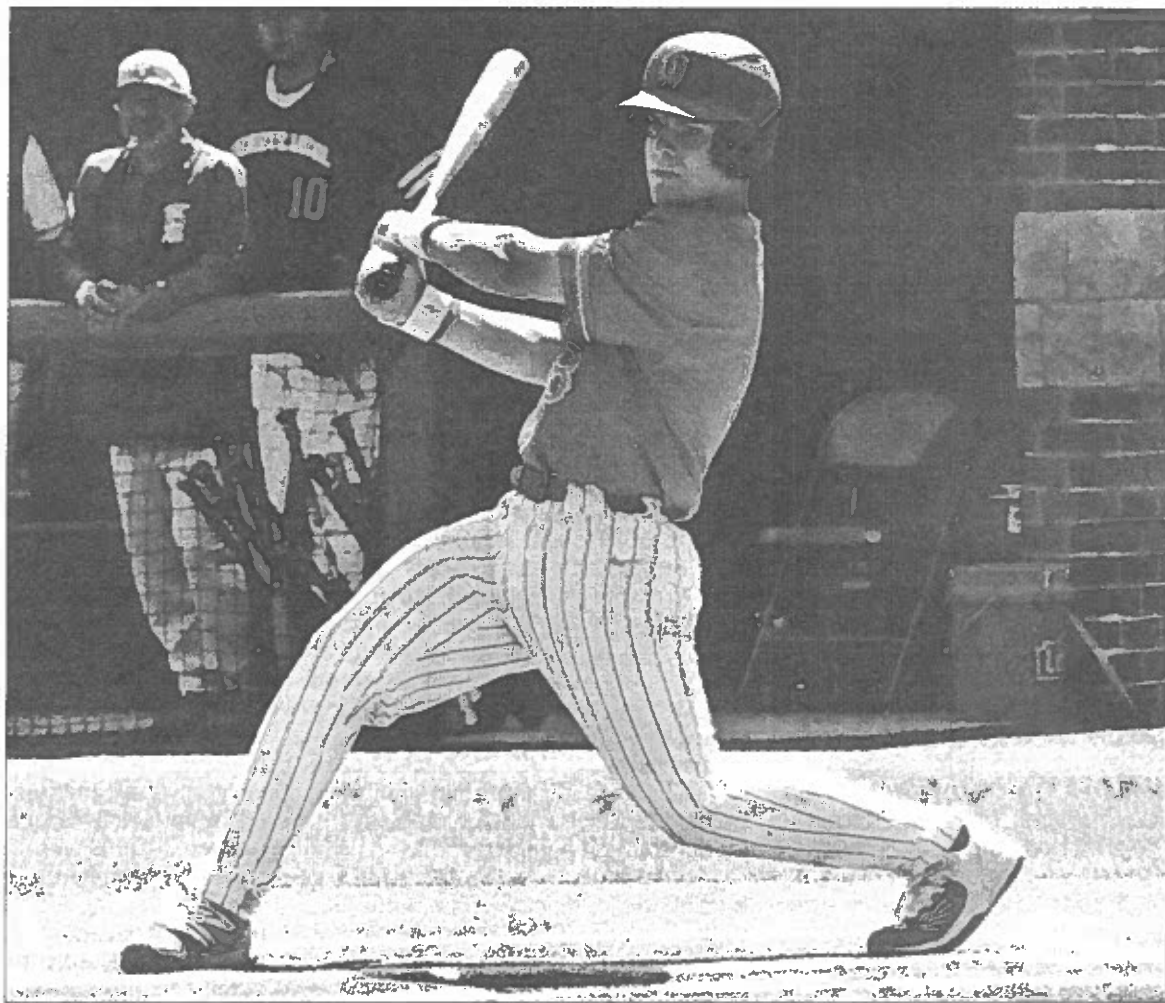
After all, the Shadyside senior hadn't even ran track since he was in eighth grade and only came out because Tigers

head coach Jeff Campbell convinced him that he'd be able to continue to play baseball, which was one of his first loves.

VanNest made Campbell's convincing worthwhile Saturday morning when the Division III track season concluded on the warm and sunny Ohio State University campus by finishing as an All-Ohioan in the 100 and 200 meter dashes.

Please see VANNESST
Page 10

Ohio Offense Too Explosive For W.Va.



Photos by Seth Staskey
Above, Wheeling Park's Luke Marsh swings away during Sunday's George Kovalick OVAC All-Star Baseball Game. Below, Cameron's Chris McCaulley makes a catch during the All-Star Game.

Buckeyes use 8-run fourth inning to pull away for win

By SETH STASKEY
For The Intelligencer

TORONTO — If you're a fan of offensive baseball then the Knight Baseball Complex was the place to be Sunday afternoon.

The annual George Kovalick OVAC All-Star Baseball Game brought out the offensive fireworks as Ohio and West Virginia combined for 26 runs, 30 hits and each team had one half inning in which it didn't produce at least one baserunner.

In the end, the eight-run fourth that Team Ohio produced was simply too much for West Virginia to overcome in a 16-10 Buckeyes' victory.

West Virginia took its first and only lead of the game in top of the fourth.

Wheeling Central product Michael Toepfer ripped a triple to the alley in left, driving in Linsly's Brodie Selmon and Trinity's Josiah Seffstall, who had both singled.

As Toepfer pulled into third, the throw skipped away, but Ohio was able to throw him out at the plate to end the inning.

The lead didn't last long.

Please see OHIO, Page 10



AP Photo
Pittsburgh Pirates' Ke'Bryan Hayes (13) singles during the seventh inning of Sunday's game in Pittsburgh.

Pirates Blank Diamondbacks

PITTSBURGH (AP) 4 on Friday.

— Jack Suwinski followed his game-winning homer a day earlier with three hits on Sunday to help the Pittsburgh Pirates beat the Arizona Diamondbacks 3-0.

The rookie has at least one hit in his past five games, and was 7 for 12 this series. Suwinski hit a two-run blast in the bottom of the ninth Saturday, giving the Pirates a 2-1 win, after going 3 for

Pittsburgh took two of three from Arizona after a three-game sweep of the Dodgers in Los Angeles.

Pirates starter Zach Thompson (3-4) allowed four hits and two walks with four strikeouts. The right-hander has surrendered seven runs in 29 2/3 innings over his past six starts.

Please see PIRATES
Page 11



Horschel's Eagle Wins



Nadal Claims French Open



OHIO

(Continued from Page 9)

Ohio proceeded to send 14 of its 20 players to the plate in the bottom of the fourth.

Shadyside's Mason VanNest, St. Clairsville's Joey Balgo, Warren's Caleb Davis all had RBI singles, while Monroe Central's Collin Kroll, who had doubled home a run in the second, plated two more runs with a base hit.

West Virginia's pitchers, when they weren't giving up hits for RBIs, they also walked in a run, which gave Barnesville's Gavin Carpenter a RBI and plunked in a run, which gave Shadyside's Ryan Florence a RBI.

From there, West Virginia chipped away against Ohio, which used a different pitcher in each of the nine innings.

The Mountain State got as close as three in the top of the seventh with a run. Weir's Jack Scopel singled home a run in the seventh, which followed a RBI single by another former Red Rider, Tyler Kelly, in the sixth.

However, following the seventh inning stretch, Ohio went back to work offensively. Beaver

Local's Avery Wiegand doubled and moved up 90 feet on a single from Toronto's Evan Wolter. After an out was recorded, Steubenville Catholic's Ryan Anderson drew a walk to load the bases.

Balgo promptly cleared the bases with a double to the fence in center.

West Virginia wasn't quite done, however. It proceeded to answer Ohio with a three spot of its own in the eighth.

Toepfer had the big blow when he hit an inside-the-park home run to straight-away center. John Marshall's Dillon Wright, who was plunked, moved all the way around on wild pitches to score. A couple of hitters later, Wheeling Park's Michael Bittinger tripled home Madonna's Matt Amsemeier, who had walked.

Ohio put to bed any hopes of a full-fledged Mountain state rally when it scored another trio of runs in the bottom of the eighth. Edison's Ian McBane had a two-run single and Frontier's J.D. Schmidt, who was winning pitcher in the game, also had a RBI.

In the ninth, Barnesville's Kyvan Johnson sat West Virginia down in order by striking out the side.

Kroll was the only player in the game to have three hits.

OVAC NOTES

MARTINS FERRY head coach Anthony Reasbeck received the OVAC Baseball Coach of the Year Award, which is chosen among all classes. It's the second straight season that the Purple Riders' skipper has received the award.

THE OVAC Players of the Year were recognized. They were Cameron's Coy Angel (1A), Shadyside's Mason VanNest (2A), Martins Ferry's Colby Shriver (3A), Harrison Central's Treston Nemeth (4A) and University's Aaron Forbes (5A).

TWO COACHES - Indian Creek's Mike Cottis and Harrison Central's Mike Valesko - received a special plaque for achieving career milestones during the course of the season. Cottis picked up his 300th career win, while Valesko surpassed the 100-win plateau.

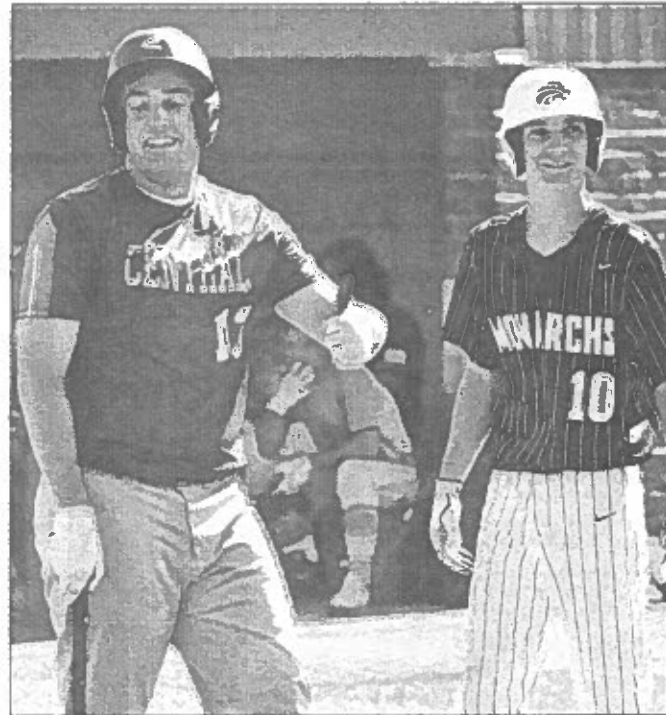


Photo by Seth Staskey

Wheeling Central's Michael Toepfer, left, gives a thumbs up after hitting an inside-the-park home run during Sunday's annual George Kovalick OVAC All-Star Baseball Game at the Knight Baseball Complex in Toronto. Ohio won the game 16-10.

MEMORIAL

(Continued from Page 9)

Before the long eagle, Horschel saved himself with par putts of 12 feet on the 13th hole and 8 feet on 14.

And then it was over. From the front of the green on the par-5 15th, Horschel's putt from just inside 55 feet had the perfect line and perfect speed, bending left and dropping in the left side of the cup as he stretched out both arms in a quiet, disbelieving celebration.

"Just like you, big man," Horschel said to Nicklaus when it was over.

His lead was up to four shots, and it was a comfortable finish. Horschel finished at 13-under 275 and won \$2.16 million, the largest paycheck of his career. As an elevated event, the win comes with a three-year exemption.

Nicklaus was impressed with Horschel's two par saves on the back nine as his memorable eagle.

"I look at putting as you make putts when you have to make putts," said Nicklaus, among the best at that in golf history. "What counts is you make them when you made them. That to me that's the mark of a champion. And those are the guys who win tournaments, and you did that and you won."

Wise did what he could in a final

round so difficult that no one shot better than 69. He and Joaquin Niemann were the only players to apply any serious pressure on Horschel. He opened the back nine with a pair of birdies and saved par from the back bunker on the 12th. But he dropped a shot on the 13th just as Horschel was looking shaky.

His wedge to the 15th spun back to tap-in range to the hole, and Wise thought he had a chance with Horschel facing such a long putt.

"I thought that was going to be a big turning point for me," Wise said. "Instead it was kind of the opposite for me. It was a birdie for me, and Billy holed a 50-footer for eagle. That was the turning point for him."

Wise made a meaningless bogey on the final hole for a 71 to finish alone in second. The consolation prize was a day off on Monday. Wise moved from No. 88 to No. 44 in the world ranking and is now exempt from 36-hole U.S. Open qualifying.

Luke List moved to No. 59 and also qualified for the U.S. Open.

Cameron Smith, who had the 36-hole lead, also started five shots behind. He had a pair of double bogeys for a 42 on the front nine and was never a factor.

FRENCH

(Continued from Page 9)

Here's what hasn't changed along the way to his 22 Grand Slam titles in all, another record, in addition to his between-point mannerisms and meticulous attention paid to the must-be-just-so placement of water bottles and towels: That lefty uppercut of a topspin-splattered, high-bouncing forehand still finds the mark much more frequently than it misses, confounding foes.

That ability to read serves and return them with a purpose still stings. That never-concede-a-thing attitude propelling Nadal from side to side, forward and backward, speeding to, and redirecting, balls off an opponent's racket seemingly destined to be unreachable.

Nadal is nothing if not indefatigable, just as he was in consecutive four-

hour-plus victories earlier in the tournament - including against Novak Djokovic, the defending champion and No. 1 seed - and again on this afternoon, even while competing on a foot devoid of any feeling.

"When you are playing defensive against Rafa on clay," said Ruud, a 23-year-old Norwegian who was participating in his first major final, "he will eat you alive."

Nadal said afterward he will try other methods of helping his foot - including, even, a way "to burn, a little bit, the nerve" - over the next week to see whether that might allow him to enter Wimbledon, where he has won two of his men's-record 22 Grand Slam titles. Play begins at the All England Club on June 27.

If these new treatments do not work, Nad-

al said, then he will need to consider having what he termed major surgery - and, eventually, a "decision about what's the next step in my future."

"It's obvious that with the circumstances that I am playing (in)," Nadal said, "I can't and I don't want to keep going."

During the trophy ceremony, Nadal thanked his family and support team, including a doctor who accompanied him to Paris, for helping him, because otherwise he would have needed to "retire much before."

"I don't know what can happen in the future," Nadal told the crowd, "but I'm going to keep fighting to try to keep going."

He played so crisply and cleanly Sunday, accumulating more than twice as many winners as Ruud, 37 to 16.

VANNEST

(Continued from Page 9)

VanNest finished as state runnerup in the 200 and was fourth in the 100, scoring all 13 of the Tigers points, which placed them 15th in the final team standings.

"Obviously, I wish I would have won, but it happens, and I am still very proud and excited about what I accomplished," VanNest said.

VanNest entered the 200 final as the top seed and appeared to be winning the race until a late surge by Hopewell-Louden's Sherron Jones edged him out at the line. Still, though, VanNest recorded a blistering 21.71, which is the best ever ran by a Tiger sprinter. He was eight hundredths of a second behind Jones.

"Hats off to Sherron," VanNest said. "(The 200) was his third race and he won them all. That's impressive."

In the 100, VanNest was able to run down much of the field en route to an 11.06 clocking.

VanNest's biggest regret wasn't about what occurred on Saturday. It dated back a few years.

"I wish I had played both (sports) all the way through high school," VanNest said. "It would have been awesome."

VanNest closes the book on a very impressive prep career, which saw him win an OVAC team title in four sports, earn All-Ohio in two and numerous other accolades during the journey.

"I wouldn't have wanted to do it at any other school," VanNest said. "From the community support to the coaches and teachers, they support you in whatever you're doing."

The only other area athlete to place in the Division III meet was Steubenville Catholic Central senior Clara Symington, who finished eighth in both the high and low hurdles.

"I feel like I ended (my career) on a good note by placing in both events," Symington said. "I have so many fond memories

sporting a new medal. Steubenville's talented contingent saw three relay teams and four individuals earn a spot on the podium.

Bellaire senior Colt Sechrest wrapped up his prep career with a bitter-sweet feeling. The future Youngstown State football player got to experience the sweet part on Friday when he finished sixth in the shot put competition.

However, Saturday's discus competition didn't unfold the way Sechrest or many others had envisioned. Sechrest, who was the defending state runnerup, came in as the second seed finished fourth in the competition with a mark of 166-3.

Sechrest uncorked his best throw in the second throw of the finals, but his final high toss resulted in a foul.

"There's really nothing else to it ... I just couldn't get (the disc) out there like I usually do," a disappointed, but classy Sechrest said. "It just wasn't my day."

Barnesville senior Tyler Jenkins put forth one of the most impressive performances in the state meet by finishing fourth in the 3200 meter run.

"I had a really good kick at the end that I wish I had used maybe a little bit sooner," Jenkins, a running strategist, explained. "The kid who ended up second passed me late, and I debated on going with him or not, but decided not to. He slowed down because I closed the gap, but he was flying."

Jenkins showed some speed in the final 200 meters when he passed three other competitors to nab his spot on the podium.

The future Rio Grande runner actually almost had to do a double take when he saw the time flash on the scoreboard.

St. Clairsville's girls entered the state meet in four events and scored in three of them.

Senior Emily Thompson put the finishing

cusing on swimming, so I just worked hard this offseason with my dad (Matt) and here I am," Henry smiled. "I feel so honored to have been on that podium and when I was up there for the 100, I really couldn't even believe it. I am already excited for next season."

Steubenville's boys and girls - fresh off winning the regional titles in Chillicothe - put forth a strong effort.

The Big Red boys finished with three medals.

Senior standout Brenton "Inky" Jones put the finishing touches on an impressive high school career by finishing fourth in the 400 meter dash in a time of 49.16.

Jones, who reported to Ohio State on Sunday to begin his college football career as a preferred walk on, soaked up the final chance to wear a Big Red uniform.

"I gave it all I had and it was just a fun meet to be a part of," Jones said. "It was a great run. I did great stuff in sports and school. I've been going to Big Red events my entire life basically. I always dreamed about running on this stage, so it's just an honor."

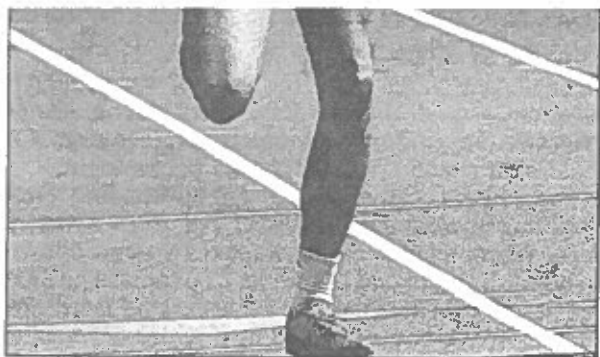
The Big Red 4x2 team of Savior Faulks, Jalen Minniefield, Micah Mitchell and Jones clocked a 1:29.32 to finish seventh.

Mitchell added an eighth-place finish in the 110 high hurdles in a time of 15.01.

Steubenville's girls, meanwhile, finished with 14 points and six of those came from senior leader Amya Livingston in the shot put.

Livingston, who is bound for the University of Kentucky, finished third in the shot put with a mark of 44-1 1/2. She actually had moved into second place, which is where she finished a season ago, but was passed on the eventual silver medalist's final throw of the competition.

Sabria Jones overcame a late-season injury to find her way back to the



T-L Photo/SETH STASKEY

SHADYSIDE SENIOR Mason VanNest sprints to the finish line in the 200M dash during Saturday's OHSAA Division III state track and field championship. VanNest finished second in 21.71.

Shadyside's VanNest brings home silver in D-III 200M dash

By **SETH STASKEY**
Times Leader Sports Editor

COLUMBUS -- Very few athletes begin the track and field season with realistic expectations of being an All-Ohioan when the dust settles at Jesse Owens Memorial Stadium during the first weekend in June. Mason VanNest can certainly attest.

After all, the Shadyside senior hadn't even ran track since he was in eighth grade and only came out because Tigers head coach Jeff Campbell convinced him that he'd be able to continue to play baseball, which was one of his first loves.

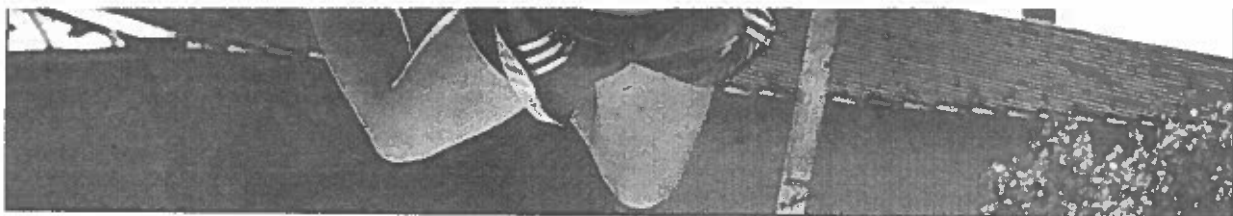
VanNest made Campbell's convincing worthwhile Saturday morning when the Division III track season concluded on the warm and sunny Ohio State University campus by finishing as an All-Ohioan in the 100 and 200 meter dashes.

VanNest finished as state runnerup in the 200 and was fourth in the 100, scoring all 13 of the Tigers points, which placed them 15th in the final team standings.

"Obviously, I wish I would have won, but it happens, and I am still very proud and excited about what I accomplished," VanNest said.

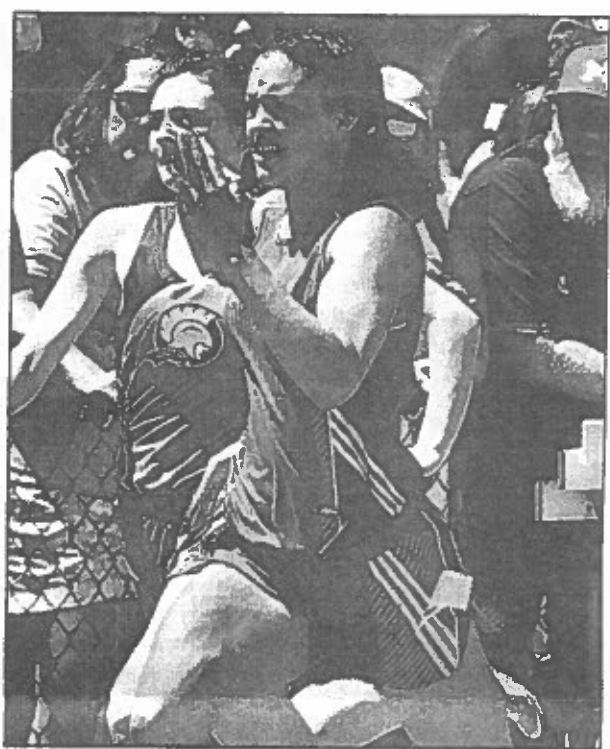
VanNest entered the 200 final as the top seed and appeared to be winning the race until a late surge by Hopewell-Loudon's Sherron Jones edged him out at the line. Still, though, VanNest recorded a blistering 21.71, which is the best ever ran by a Tiger sprinter. He was eight hundredths of a second behind Jones.

See, **VANNEST**, Page B2



T-L Photos/SETH STASKEY

ABOVE: ST. Clairsville senior Emily Thompson clears the bar en route to her third All-Ohio finish in the Division II pole vault. Thompson finished sixth. **BELOW LEFT:** Barnesville's Tyler Jenkins races to a fourth-place finish in the 3200 meter run. **BELOW RIGHT:** St. Clairsville's Emmy Henry races to an All-Ohio finish in the 100M dash. She also placed in the 200 meter dash. **BOTTOM:** Bellaire senior Colt Sechrest stands on the podium with his fourth-place medal in the Division II discus.



Belmont County athletes earn All-Ohio in D-II

By **SETH STASKEY**
Times Leader Sports Editor

COLUMBUS -- The Division II track season ended Saturday with plenty of excitement and some unfortunate disappointment for area athletes.

But, suffice to say, the former outweighed the latter.

No fewer than four Belmont County athletes added the words All-Ohioan to their vast resumes on Saturday as they returned home from Jesse Owens Memorial Stadium on the Ohio State University campus sporting a new medal. Steubenville's talented contingent saw three relay teams and four individuals earn a spot on the podi-

um.

Bellaire senior Colt Sechrest wrapped up his prep career with a bittersweet feeling. The future Youngstown State football player got to experience the sweet part on Friday when he finished sixth in the shot put competition.

However, Saturday's discus competition didn't unfold the way Sechrest or many others had envisioned. Sechrest, who was the defending state runnerup, came in as the second seed finished fourth in the competition with a mark of 166-3.

Sechrest uncorked his best throw in the second throw of the finals, but his final high toss re-

See, **D-II**, Page B2



Ohio holds off W.Va. in OVAC ASG

By **SETH STASKEY**
Times Leader Sports Editor

TORONTO -- If you're a fan of offensive baseball then the Knight Baseball Complex was the place to be Sunday afternoon.

The annual George Kovalick OVAC All-Star Baseball Game brought out the offensive fireworks as Ohio and West Virginia combined for 26 runs, 30 hits and each team had one half inning in which it didn't produce at least one base-runner.

In the end, the eight-run fourth that Team Ohio produced was simply too much for West Virginia to overcome in a 16-10 Buckeyes' victory.

West Virginia took its first and only lead of the game in top of the fourth.

Wheeling Central product Michael Toepfer ripped a triple to the alley in left, driving in Linsly's Brodie Selmon and Trinity's Josiah Seiffstall, who had both singled.

As Toepfer pulled into third, the throw skipped away, but Ohio was able to throw him out at the plate to



T-L Photo/SETH STASKEY

ST. CLAIRSVILLE'S Joey Balgo tries to avoid being tagged by Weir High's Tyler Kelly during Sunday's annual George Kovalick OVAC All-Star Baseball Game.

end the inning.

The lead didn't last long.

Ohio proceeded to send 14 of its 20 players to the plate in the bottom of the fourth.

Shadyside's Mason VanNest, St. Clairsville's Joey Balgo, Warren's Caleb Davis all had RBI singles, while Monroe Central's Collin

Kroll, who had doubled home a run in the second, plated two more runs with a base hit.

West Virginia's pitchers, when they weren't giving up hits for RBIs, they also walked in a run, which gave Barnesville's Gavin Carpenter a RBI and plunked in a

See, **OHIO**, Page B2

Maynard picks up win over Barton

By **KIM NORTH**
Times Leader Sports Writer

MAYNARD - Being the defending champion in any sport isn't easy. Every opponent wants to knock it off that throne.

Maynard has found that out as the Ohio Valley Baseball League nears the midway point of its 20-game regular season. However, a much-needed victory on Sunday is just what the doctor ordered.

Mitch Viakley scattered seven singles and the Indians (3-6) used a pair of run-scoring bloop singles in the fifth inning for a 3-1 nod over rival Barton (4-4) on the sun-baked Firemen's Field diamond inside the Community Park.

"Mitch pitched a great game. We had solid defense and didn't beat ourselves today," Maynard player/manager David Vicker said. "I tip my hat to Mitch. He came in and got the job done."

Viakley's fifth strikeout was his biggest as it marked the final out of the game with the bases full of Braves. He needed 108 pitches (70 strikes) in going the distance as Barton stranded 10 runners over the course of the game, with eight of those in scoring position. He also walked four.

Barton's lone run came in the first when former Linsly standout Alex Stephens singled in former Cadet teammate Colton Coss with two outs.

Maynard drew even in the bottom of the inning on B.A. Holloway's two-out double to deep left that glanced off the glove of the left fielder.

Eric Banal led off the bottom of the third with an infield single. He stole second and raced home on Hunt-

See, **MAYNARD**, Page B2

stand up.

"(Giminez) took a good swing and then we just hung on for dear life," manager Terry Francona said. "That's a long time to hang on."

Plesac and three relievers dutifully handled the chore, limiting the Orioles to four hits in a 3-2 victory that provided Cleveland with its first series win at Camden Yards

and not trying to be too fine, just go in there and pound the zone. It's definitely huge to take the mound with a lead."

Plesac (2-4) struck out eight over six innings. He gave up two runs and four hits with no walks to earn his first victory in seven starts since April 27. The right-hander allowed just one single before he hit Trey

from the Orioles and have won five of six overall.

Prior to this series, Cleveland had lost four of its last six games in Baltimore while being outscored 51-18.

"We have not played well here - ever," Francona said. "We've come in here and really got pushed around at times."

Horschel wins Memorial by four

DUBLIN, Ohio (AP) - Billy Horschel had a five-shot lead and a good game plan for the Memorial that he had learned by watching tournament host Jack Nicklaus and five-time winner Tiger Woods.

There was no need to try anything special on a course playing as tough as Muirfield Village.

And then the situation called for something special, and Horschel delivered.

With his lead down to two shots, Horschel produced a signature moment of his own Sunday by making an eagle putt from one end of the

green to the other on the 15th hole, sending him to a four-shot victory over Aaron Wise.

"If I had to do something special, I was ready for it," Horschel said. "Making that was huge."

No one ever got closer than two shots on a sun-soaked final round. Horschel closed with a 72. There were still a few nervous moments.

Horschel's streak of 49 consecutive holes without a bogey ended on the sixth hole. He didn't make his first birdie until the 10th hole. He had to scramble for bogey on the par-3 12th that dropped his

lead to two over Wise.

Before the long eagle, Horschel saved himself with par putts of 12 feet on the 13th hole and 8 feet on 14.

And then it was over. From the front of the green on the par-5 15th, Horschel's putt from just inside 55 feet had the perfect line and perfect speed, bending left and dropping in the left side of the cup as he stretched out both arms in a quiet, disbelieving celebration.

"Just like you, big man." Horschel said to Nicklaus when it was over.

Pirates blank Diamondbacks, 3-0

PITTSBURGH (AP) - Jack Suwinski followed his game-winning homer a day earlier with three hits on Sunday to help the Pittsburgh Pirates beat the Arizona Diamondbacks 3-0.

The rookie has at least one hit in his past five games, and was 7 for 12 this series. Suwinski hit a two-run blast in the bottom of the ninth Saturday, giving the Pirates a 2-1 win, after going 3 for 4 on Friday.

"Any time we get our kids in the lineup and they start to play, you start to see the glimpses of putting the whole thing together," Pirates manager Derek Shelton said. "There has been a process to it. I understand that maybe at times that process is frustrating to people, but (general manager Ben Cherington) has had a plan all along."

Pittsburgh took two of three from Arizona after a three-game sweep of the Dodgers in Los Angeles.

The Diamondbacks scored one run in the final 20 innings of the series after plating eight in the first seven innings.

"We have to be better, no doubt about it," Arizona manager Torey Lovullo said. "We're a very capable offensive team. We have a good approach. We don't try to do too much and have big thoughts. It looked like we were having some big thoughts based on the types of

swings I was watching us take."

Pirates starter Zach Thompson (3-4) allowed four hits and two walks with four strikeouts. The right-hander has surrendered seven runs in 29 2/3 innings over his past six starts.

"It's kind of all mechanical," Thompson said. "Direction stuff is making my pitches play out a lot better. Before, I didn't have very much consistency. Now I'm fixing direction and I'm able to stay a lot more consistent."

David Bednar had two strikeouts in a perfect ninth for his 10th save.

Cal Mitchell started the fifth inning with his first major-league home run, sending Zac Gallen's curveball 370 feet over the Clemente Wall in right field and putting the Pirates up 1-0.

"It's the future. It's the new wave," Mitchell said of being one of seven rookies on the roster. "We're all trying to come up here and learn as fast as we can so we can add value to the team as fast as we can. Today, we did that."

Gallen (4-1) gave up two runs on five hits, and had three walks and four strikeouts in his first loss since Sept. 13, 2021.

"My job is to keep us in the game," Gallen said.

"We lost today. So, for me, it's a bummer. ... Just tried to keep us in

the game, tried to not let the thing unravel."

Suwinski stole third with one out in the sixth after his second double of the day and went home on a sac fly, extending it to 2-0, before a bloop single from Ke'Bryan Hayes plated Tyler Heineman for the final run in the seventh.

Diamondbacks second baseman Ketel Marte had his 16-game hitting streak end, going 0 for 4 with one strikeout.

"He's capable of a lot offensively," Lovullo said. "He needs to continue to work, as we all do. And we will. It was a great run for Ketel. I know he's eager to start another streak tomorrow."

ROSTER MOVES

Diamondbacks: INF Cole Tucker was claimed off waivers from the Pirates and optioned to Triple-A Reno. ... RHP Jacob Webb was designated for assignment.

Pirates: OF Travis Swaggerty, Pittsburgh's first-round pick in 2018 (No. 10 overall), was recalled from Triple-A Indianapolis. ... INF Rodolfo Castro was optioned to Indianapolis, making room for Swaggerty.

TRAINER'S ROOM

Pirates RHP Heath Hembree threw a live bullpen Sunday. He last pitched May 20 because of a right calf strain.

• D-II

Continued from Page B1

sulted in a foul.

"There's really nothing else to it ... I just couldn't get (the disc) out there like I usually do," a disappointed, but classy Sechrest said. "It just wasn't my day."

Sechrest finishes as arguably the top discus thrower in Ohio Valley history with two All-Ohio finishes and the all-time Ohio Valley record, which he set earlier this season as well as numerous invitational and stadium records.

"Individual awards really never meant anything to me, in any sport I've played, but it (stinks) that I let my coaches and family down because I couldn't get it done," Sechrest said.

Barnesville senior Tyler Jenkins put forth one of the most impressive performances in the state meet by finishing fourth in the 3200-meter run.

Jenkins, who had a brilliant indoor campaign during the winter, ran a 9:19.83, dropping his personal and the Barnesville High School record by six seconds from the time he ran during the regional late last month.

"I had a really good kick at the end that I wish I had used maybe a little bit sooner," Jenkins, a run-

ning strategist, explained. "The kid who ended up second passed me late, and I debated on going with him or not, but decided not to. He slowed down because I closed the gap, but he was flying."

Jenkins showed some speed in the final 200 meters when he passed three other competitors to nab his spot on the podium.

The future Rio Grande runner actually almost had to do a double take when he saw the time flash on the scoreboard.

"I pushed a 9:25 last week (at regional), and I thought, wow! That's moving!" Jenkins said. "My goal for time this season was 9:30. How about that? So, to run 10 seconds faster than my goal is just crazy. I told my coach after last season ended, indirectly, that I was going to be better (in 2022)."

St. Clairsville's girls entered the state meet in four events and scored in three of them.

Senior Emily Thompson put the finishing touches on a brilliant season in which she earned All-Ohio three times. Her sophomore season didn't happen due to COVID-19.

Thompson, who is headed to Marietta College to continue her pole vault career, cleared 11-6 and

based on misses was awarded sixth place.

"I really enjoyed my high school career and in time it's going to be amazing to be able to look back and tell people that I placed in the state three times," Thompson said. "It was amazing to be back at Jesse Owens and to making it on to the podium was all I was looking for coming into the meet."

Sophomore speedster Emma Henry capped a season in which she exploded onto the scene in the short sprints by finishing fifth in the 100 with a 12.41 and sixth in the 200 with a 25.74.

Henry started the season simply wanting to help fill the void in the sprints scoring and really never envisioned what she accomplished.

"My friend Casadie (DiBetta) wasn't able to run this year because of an injury and she's focusing on swimming, so I just worked hard this offseason with my dad (Matt) and here I am," Henry smiled. "I feel so honored to have been on that podium and when I was up there for the 100, I really couldn't even believe it. I am already excited for next season."

Braves, 3-1.

• Maynard

Continued from Page B1

Hunter Westlake's single over short. The throw to the plate was on the mark, but the ball was misplayed as Banal scored and Westlake alertly took second. With two out, Holloway blooped a single into shallow center that plated Westlake for the final margin.

The setback came despite an outstanding effort from the Braves' Austin Bassa. The former Martins Ferry righty fanned eight, walked two and allowed just three hits. He retired the final 10 Indians he faced and set down 16 of the last 19 batters he faced after yielding Holloway's first-inning double.

"Austin pitched great today. His pitch count was down," Barton manager Billy Timko said. "We had base runners. We just couldn't get them around."

Timko said the five-team league is very balanced this summer.

"All of the teams are about even. There isn't one dominating team this year."

• Ohio

Continued from Page B1

run, which gave Shadyside's Ryan Florence a RBI. From there, West Virginia chipped away against Ohio, which used a different pitcher in each of the nine innings.

The Mountain State got as close as three in the top of the seventh with a run. Weir's Jack Scopel singled home a run in the seventh, which followed a RBI single by another former Red Rider, Tyler Kelly, in the sixth.

However, following the seventh inning stretch, Ohio went back to work offensively. Beaver Local's Avery Wiegand doubled and moved up 90 feet on a single from Toronto's Evan Wolter. After an out was recorded, Steubenville Catholic's Ryan Anderson drew a walk to load the bases.

Balgo promptly cleared the bases with a double to the fence in center.

West Virginia wasn't quite done, however. It proceeded to answer Ohio with a three spot of its own in the eighth.

Toepfer had the big blow when he hit an inside-the-park home run to straight-away center. John Marshall's Dillon Wright, who was plunked, moved all the way around on wild pitches to score. A couple of hitters later, Wheeling Park's Michael Bittinger tripled home Madonna's Matt Ameismeier, who had walked.

Ohio put to bed any hopes of a full-fledged Mountain state rally when it scored another trio of runs in the bottom of the eighth. Edison's Ian McBane had a two-run single and Frontier's J.D. Schmidt, who was winning pitcher in the game, also had a RBI.

In the ninth, Barnesville's Kyvan Johnson sat West Virginia down in order by striking out the side.

Kroll was the only player in the game to have three hits.

OVAC NOTES

MARTINS FERRY head coach Anthony Reasbeck received the OVAC Baseball Coach of the Year Award, which is chosen among all classes. It's the second straight season that the Purple Riders' skipper has received the award.

THE OVAC Players of the Year were recognized. They were Cameron's Coy Angel (1A), Shadyside's Mason VanNest (2A), Martins Ferry's Colby Shriver (3A), Harrison Central's Treston Nemeth (4A) and University's Aaron Forbes (5A).

TWO COACHES - Indian Creek's Mike Cottis and Harrison Central's Mike Valesko - received a special plaque for achieving career milestones during the course of the season. Cottis picked up his 300th career win, while Valesko surpassed the 100-win plateau.

• VanNest

Continued from Page B1

"Hats off to Sherron," VanNest said. "(The 200) was his third race and he won them all. That's impressive."

In the 100, VanNest was able to run down much of the field en route to an 11.06 clocking.

VanNest's biggest regret wasn't about what occurred on Saturday. It dated back a few years.

"I wish I had played both (sports) all the way through high school," VanNest said. "It would have been awesome."

VanNest closes the book on a very impressive prep career, which saw him win an OVAC team title in four sports, earn All-Ohio in two and numerous other accolades during the journey.

"I wouldn't have wanted to do it at any other school," VanNest said. "From the community support to the coaches and teachers, they support you in whatever you're doing."

The only other area athlete to place in the Division III meet was Steubenville Catholic Central senior Clara Symington, who finished eighth in both the high and low hurdles.

"I feel like I ended (my career) on a good note by placing in both events," Symington said. "I have so many fond memories from track."

Lindblad sets U.S. Women's Open amateur mark

SOUTHERN PINES, N.C. (AP) — Ingrid Lindblad decided months ago that she wanted to stay in college instead of turning professional.

That might be a financial decision she comes to regret.

The 22-year-old Swede shot the lowest round by an amateur in the 77-year history of the U.S. Women's Open, a 6-under 65 that left her a shot behind first-round leader Mina Harigae on Thursday.

Because she's an amateur, Lindblad wouldn't be able to collect the record \$1.8 million first-place prize if she wins. She would have had to declare as a professional before the tournament began.

When asked if, in hindsight, that was a mistake, the LSU junior known to her friends as "Iggy" paused and said with a smile, "I'm going to stay in college for like another year or so."

"But when you say it, yeah ... it would have been fun to win a little bit of money," she said.

She has a 54 holes to navigate, but Lindblad has a chance to become only the second amateur to win the U.S. Women's Open. The other was Catherine Lacoste in 1967.

Lindblad didn't seem overwhelmed at the opportunity.

"Yeah, it's possible," she said.

Three amateurs had previously shot 66 — Carol Semple Thompson in 1994, Brittany Lincicome in 2004 and Gina Kim in 2019.

Lindblad tied for 30th at 6-over 292 in her only other U.S. Women's Open appearance in 2020.

She set the tone for a strong opening round in Southern Pines by winning the Southeastern Conference individual championship in April after making a 38-foot eagle putt on the 18th hole. She showed some of that same prowess on Thursday, needing only 26 putts.

"She was fearless," said Lindblad's playing partner, Annika Sorenstam, Sweden's most famous female golfer and a three-time U.S. Women's Open champion.

Lindblad will have to contend with what is shaping up to be a strong leaderboard.

Three-time major winner Anna Nordqvist, also from Sweden, and 2021 Evian Championship champion Minjee Lee of Australia were at 67 with American Ryann O'Toole.

Lexi Thompson, who surrendered a five-shot lead in the final round of last year in the event and lost by a stroke, was four shots back after an opening round 68. Fellow American Ally Ewing

also shot 68.

"As far as last year, it's over with, it's this year," Thompson said. "I took it, I learned from it, and I moved on."

South Korea's Jin Young Ko, the world's top-ranked player and one of the most consistent ball-strikers in the tournament, shot a 69 — hitting 13 of 14 greens in regulation.

"I was just trying to get the middle of the green every shot, every hole," Ko said. "It's difficult because the green looks wider but the landing area is smaller."

Nelly Korda looked strong in her return from surgery and appears ready to contend, as well.

Outside of a double bogey at the par-4 11th, the world's No. 2-ranked player played a fairly flawless round in her first competitive tournament since Feb. 25 after developing a blood clot in her arm. She shot 70.

"I definitely had a lot of adrenaline on that first hole. I think I piped my driver so far," Korda said. "I like kind of felt sick how much adrenaline I was feeling, and then calmed myself down and played pretty well. Just had one unfortunate lost ball on I think 11, but other than that I played pretty solid."

Lydia Ko shot 72.

Michelle Wie West finished with a

73 in what is expected to be her second-to-last major before retiring.

Defending champion Yuka Saso from Japan struggled, shooting 77.

The 51-year-old Sorenstam, a 10-time major champion, was even par after her first 13 holes but finished with a 74 after qualifying for the event by winning the U.S. Women's Senior Open last year.

She said she no longer gets mad at herself when things don't go well and is simply trying to enjoy the tournament with her family. She won at Pine Needles in 1996.

Harigae has 19 career top 10s on the LPGA Tour but this is the first time she's led a tournament.

She shot 30 on the front nine and surged ahead of Lindblad with birdie on the par-3 16th hole on a heat-drenched afternoon that drove some spectators to the exits early.

Harigae, who played one year at Duke before turning pro, said she was thrilled to be back in North Carolina, joking that she drew inspiration from six-time NBA champion Michael Jordan, who played for the Tar Heels.

"Obviously, being a big Jordan fan, so just kind of like going off the Jordan vibes," Harigae said. "Must be the shoes, right?"

Oklahoma rolls by Northwestern

• Texas, Florida also advance in College World Series play

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP) — Tiare Jennings and Jana Johns hit grand slams and No. 1 seed Oklahoma rolled past No. 9 seed Northwestern 13-2 in five innings Thursday on the opening day of the Women's College World Series.

The defending national champion Sooners pounded out 11 hits. Northwestern's Danielle Williams (31-5) — a first-team NFCA All-American pitcher — lasted just three innings and took the loss.

Oklahoma (55-2) advanced to play rival Texas on Saturday in their first ever World Series meeting. Texas is responsible for one of Oklahoma's losses this season, though the Sooners won two of the three meetings. Saturday's winner would be just one victory from a spot in the best-of-three championship series.

Oklahoma coach Patty Gasso considers it a plus that the Sooners are familiar with the Longhorns.

"I think it's a benefit," Gasso said. "We know what we're dealing with. We know what to work on. We've seen it three times."

Northwestern (45-12) will play UCLA in an elimination game Friday.

Northwestern's Rachel Lewis' solo blast over the left field fence in the third inning opened the scoring. It was her 23rd homer of the season.

That was the only hit Oklahoma starter Hope Trautwein (19-1) allowed. She struck out seven and walked five in 4 2/3 innings to claim the win.

"This is the biggest stage that anyone will ever play on, so I really stuck to my process," Trautwein said. "Deep breaths. Slowing my heart rate down. Really focus on the game. Lynnise Elam had told me some advice before I came in — look at the crowd once, and don't look at them again. That's what I did."

Oklahoma took over in the bottom of the third. The Sooners tied it up on an RBI single by Johns that scored Rylie Boone. Williams walked Jocelyn Alo — the two-time USA Softball Collegiate Player of the Year — to bring up Jennings with the bases loaded. Jennings, also a first-team All-American, put Williams' first pitch over the fence in center field to give the Sooners a 5-1 lead and control for good. It was Jennings' 25th home run of the season.

"I kind of just stuck to my timing like I did, and I kind of had a feeling that it was going to come first pitch, so I saw the ball up in the zone and just went from there," Jennings said.

Alo didn't get the big hit in the inning, but she talked to the team beforehand and got her point across.

"Jocelyn Alo jumped in," Gasso said. "And that gets very stern and gets to a place where I need to walk away because ... we have a pretty strait-laced program, but when Joce jumps in, she'll say it the way she means it. I just step out so she can be herself. The response was through the roof."

Johns' grand slam in the fourth put the Sooners up 13-1.

Jordy Bahl got the last out in relief for Oklahoma. The NFCA Freshman of the Year hadn't pitched in about a month because of an arm injury. She gave up two hits but got a feel for what it's like to be in the circle in Oklahoma City.

"It was a victory just seeing her being able to pitch because truly I didn't think she would be able to come back," Gasso said. "She's done everything right and she's done it 24 hours



OKLAHOMA'S RYLIE Boone (0) celebrates at home plate after hitting a home run in the third inning of an NCAA softball College World Series game against Northwestern on Thursday, in Oklahoma City.

AP Photo

Scott had a triple, a double and two singles. She knocked in two runs and scored once for the Longhorns (44-19-1), who hadn't won a World Series game since a semifinal run in 2013.

Texas' Hailey Dolcini held the Bruins to six hits in a complete game victory.

UCLA's Megan Faraimo, a second-team NFCA All-American pitcher who missed last year's World Series with a hand injury, took the loss.

Texas advanced to play the winner of Thursday's Oklahoma-Northwestern game on Saturday. UCLA (48-9) will play an elimination game against the Oklahoma-Northwestern loser on Friday.

Texas broke through in the top of the third, highlighted by a two-run homer by Mary Iakopo that chased Faraimo and put the Longhorns up 4-0.

Texas' Bella Dayton hit a two-run homer in the sixth that chased Holly Azevedo. It was just Dayton's fifth homer of the season, and it put the Longhorns up 7-0.

Wisn broke up Dolcini's shutout with a two-run homer in the sixth.

Florida 7, Oregon State 1

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP) — Cheyenne Lindsey went 3 for 3 and scored three runs to help 14th-seeded Florida beat Oregon State on Thursday night in the Women's College World Series opener for both teams.

Avery Goelz had two hits and knocked in three runs and Charli Echols hit a solo homer for the Gators (49-17).

Natalie Lugo (12-5) stepped in for starter Lexie Delbrey and got the win in six innings of scoreless relief. She gave up one hit and struck out six.

Oregon State's Sarah Haendiges (13-7) pitched 4 2/3 innings and gave up seven runs on 10 hits in the loss.

Florida advanced to play the winner between No. 7 seed Oklahoma State and unseeded Arizona on Saturday. Oregon State (39-21) will play the Oklahoma State-Arizona loser in an elimination game Friday.

OVAC Baseball All-Star Game set for Sunday

The annual OVAC Baseball All-Star Game will be played on Sunday at 3 p.m. at the Red Knight Complex in Toronto.

Rosters for the event, which is for recently graduated players, were released Thursday.

OHIO

Bryce Amos, Ryan Florence and Mason VanNest (Shadyside); Ryan Anderson (Steubenville Catholic); Joey Balgo (St. Clairsville); Gavin Carpenter and Kyvan Johnson (Barnesville); Caleb Davis (Warren Local); Collin Kroll (Monroe Central); Ian McBane (Edison); Ethan McHugh (Buckeye Local); Brett Putnam (Conotton Valley); JD Schmidt (Frontier); Colby Shriver and Collin Snedeker (Martins Ferry); Cameron Tennant (Fort Frye); JT Thompson (Steubenville); Devin Toothman (East Liverpool); Avery Wirgand (Beaver Local) and Evan Wolter (Toronto).

Coaches include Dave DiNonato (Conotton Valley); Kurt Satterfield (Frontier); Shawn Slemmon (Shadyside); and Brian Perkins (Toronto).

WEST VIRGINIA

Matt Amaismeier and Parker Haney (Weirton Madonna); Reed Bailey and Jacob Kennell (Morgantown); Isaac Ball and Chris McCauley (Cameron); Michael Bittinger and Luke Marsh (Wheeling Park); Danny Bridges (Oak Glen); Luke Gillette, Tyler Kelly and Jack Scopel (Weirton); Alex Jezierski (Brooke); Ethan Neely and Dillon Wright (John Marshall); Adam Och and Brodie Slemmon (Linsly); Josiah Sheffstall (Trinity Christian); Kaleb Starkey (Magnolia) and Michael Toepfer (Wheeling Central).

Coaches are Jeff Baire (Weirton Madonna); Adam Angel (Cameron); Wes Hopkins (Trinity Christian) and Jason Rowe (Wheeling Central).

Flames' Sutter voted NHL COY

NEW YORK (AP) — Darryl Sutter of the Calgary Flames has won the Jack Adams Award as the NHL's coach of the year.

The league announced the