

Monday,
June 3, 2024



Photos by KIM NORTH

LEFT: St. Clairsville's Emma Henry finishes second in the 100-meter dash during Saturday's Division II state finals at Welcome Stadium in Dayton. **RIGHT:** Martins Ferry's Alanna Williams ran to an all-Ohio finish as she placed seventh in the 800 run during Saturday's Division II state finals at Welcome Stadium in Dayton.

W.Va. claims win in OVAC All-Star Game

By **ANDREW GRIMM**
For The Times Leader

STEUBENVILLE — There wasn't much offensive action early on in Sunday's OVAC George Kovalick All-Star Baseball Game, but it did not stay that way.

After three and a half scoreless innings, the squads of the OVAC's best from each side of the river combined for 25 runs as West Virginia made it back-to-back victories in the annual contest with a 15-10 win on the Players' Field at the Crimson Complex.

The Mountaineers erased 2-0 and 5-2 deficits before a seven-run seventh put them on top for good.

"This was an awesome game, it was an awesome atmosphere," Madonna's TJ Miller, one of the West Virginia coaches, said. "The OVAC did a phenomenal job putting everything together."

"We interact with a lot of these kids playing against each other throughout the season, it's really cool to get to interact with them here. There are a lot of awesome kids in the OVAC,

it's just a really cool game to be a part of.

"The kids had fun, it's a blast to part of. And West Virginia got a big win, we get the bragging rights on our side of the river for at least another year so we'll take it."

After a couple of nice defensive plays by Ohio to cut down a W.Va. runner at the plate in the third and a double play in the fourth — the Buckeyes got on the board first while being no-hit.

After a couple of walks in the bottom of the fourth, Cambridge's Regan Rogers opened the scoring with an RBI groundout, then Martins Ferry's Mason Redinger scored on a wild pitch to make it 2-0 without a base hit.

West Virginia had produced five hits to that point without getting a run in, but that changed in the fifth when Wheeling Central's Eli Tucker, the Class 3A Player of the Year, scored on a wild pitch and Brooke's Anthony Bachinski followed it up with an RBI single to knot the score.

See **OVAC**, Page B2

Faulks receives delayed gold medal

By **KIM NORTH**
Staff Writer

DAYTON — Savior Faulks had to wait longer than usual to receive his Gold medal for winning the Ohio Division II boys' 300 low hurdles during Saturday's state track and field finals at sun-baked Welcome Stadium at the University of Dayton.

During the finals, a runner — 2023 champ Brayden Richards of Perry in lane 6 — finished first but he clipped the last hurdle and it inadvertently went into other lanes, impeding the route of two other competitors. Faulks, in lane 3, was not affected and finished second in 37.74 seconds, but the red flags went up as several runners ended up on the track surface, including Faulks who had a nice-sized abrasion on the top of his left shoulder.

After a lengthy discussion with meet officials, the eight coaches and runners involved, it was determined that Richards would be disqualified and the remaining seven runners had their choice of running again at the end of the meet. Only three of the runners opted

to run again, as the other four ran personal-bests in the finals, including Faulks.

Approximately 30 minutes later, Huron's Beau Harkleroad; Fairfield Union's Chayse Lipscomb and Lima Bath's Ethan Cole ran in the same lane as in the finals, but none topped Faulks' time, setting off a celebration among Faulks and the Steubenville contingent in the stands.

"I was watching the clock as they came down the home stretch. It went 36, 37 and when it hit 38 I knew I had won," Faulks said. "It was definitely worth the wait."

He said the decision to not re-run was a simple one.

"I had just run my personal best by almost a second. I was satisfied with my time."

"Being a state champion feels awesome. I'm very grateful for all the memories I've made in my career. Now it's time to take it to the next level."

Faulks will attend West Virginia University in the fall.

Steubenville head coach Andy Kidwell couldn't have been any prouder of his athlete.

"We're super proud of Savior. He does everything right,

on and off the track, the football field and the wrestling mat. He's also a great student."

Several other Ohio Valley athletes reached the podium, with Steubenville's Sabria Jones earning a pair of all-Ohio certificates and medals in the 100- and 200-meter dashes on the girls side. The West Virginia University recruit ran a 25.18 to take fourth in the 200 after placing seventh in the 100 in 12.54. She was also part of Big Red's 4x100 relay that clocked in eighth at 49.46. The other three team members were Laila Reed, Sarah Allen and Aniyah Warner.

"I'm really happy with what I accomplished today," Jones said. "I was able to compete in four events, something that I haven't been able to do since my freshman year. I was glad to be here and be healthy no matter what the outcome was."

St. Clairsville had a pair of state runner ups in Emma Henry and Ben Shields, both seniors. Henry finished the 100 in a time of 12.19, while Shields went 9:17.30 in the 3,200.

See **MEDAL**, Page B2

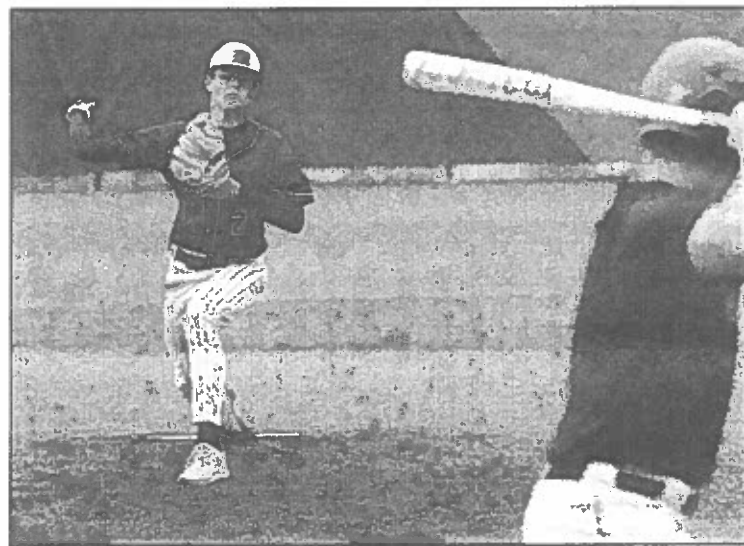


Photo by ANDREW GRIMM

MARTINS FERRY'S Mason Redinger prepares a pitch during Sunday's OVAC George Kovalick All-Star Game in Steubenville.



AP Photo

TORONTO BLUE Jays catcher Danny Jansen is forced out at second by Pittsburgh Pirates second baseman Nick Gonzales on Sunday in Toronto.

Blue Jays edge Pirates 5-4

TORONTO (AP) — Daniel Vogelbach had two hits and scored on in the first (four) in

Miners feast versus Steel City 82-13

By **NICK HENTHORN**
Sports Editor

WHEELING — The Wheeling Miners were welcomed back to WesBanco Arena on Saturday for a home game against the Steel City Stampede.

The Wheeling faithful were treated to a victory, but they better not have blinked during the action. With how the Miners were scoring, they may have missed a touchdown.

It was an impressive, but not unprecedented, offensive onslaught for the Miners, who moved to an unblemished 7-0 regular season mark against Steel City, pouring on score after score in an 82-13 victory.

The spectacle was actually not the season-high score for Wheeling, who posted a tidy 88 points in their week four game against Western Maryland.

Quarterback Grant Russell had more completions for touchdowns than not, new acquisition Jarvai Flowers recorded a kick return, rushing



Photo by NICK HENTHORN

THE WHEELING Miners' Jarvai Flowers breaks a tackle on his way to a 40-yard touchdown against the Steel City Stampede inside

• Medals

Continued from Page B1

"It was like deja vu," Henry said of finishing second to Toledo Catholic Central's Nyla King for the second straight year. "It was a hard race because I still have a little strain in my (left) hamstring. Hey, it was the state finals and I felt honored I got to compete. It was a good race. I'm proud of myself."

Shields said running in the prestigious Penn Relays helped prepare him for this type of atmosphere.

"I'll take second. It was a good race. It panned out like I thought it was going to," Shields said. "I ran just about what I wanted to."

Martins Ferry sophomore took seventh in the girls' 800 in a time of 2:16.35. She was in 11th after the first lap, but picked up the place to

reach the podium.

"It feels good. I knew I had to pick up the pace in the second lap," she said. "I gave it all I had."

LAST LAPS

• Three former Ohio Valley track standouts — all in D-III — continue to hold, or share, state records from their Gold-medal performances. Bridgeport's Brittany Hocker ran the 100 in the 2004 state finals in 11.81; Cadiz's Denver Williams shares the state record and state meet record in the boys' 100 as he clocked out at a sizzling 10.55 way back in 1995; and Barnesville distance ace Stephanie Morgan ran the 800 in 4:45.21 in 2007.

• Former U.S. Olympian and world record holder in the 400, Ohio State University's Butch Reynolds, helped present medals on Saturday.

• OVAC

Continued from Page B1

Ohio responded in the bottom half of the fifth. St. Clairsville's Marcus Bush came up to the plate with the bases loaded and no one out and produced a two-run single, then Catholic Central's Kody Carver made it 5-2 Buckeye State with a sac fly.

West Virginia had another answer, however, as in the next half inning University's Wenki Campbell led things off with a solo homer, then Madonna's TJ Decapio sent a two-run double to the wall to even the score.

An inning later the West Virginians took control, aided by four Ohio errors, plating seven runs to jump ahead 12-5.

University's Mason McDonald gave W.Va. its first lead of the day with an RBI single, Tyler McKay of Oak Glen followed it up with another and an error on the play brought in another run,

then Madonna's Grant Wilharm, the 1A Player of the Year, laced a two-run double and another throwing error brought a third runner across before the big inning was capped by an RBI single from Morgantown's Landen Bradley.

The onslaught continued an inning later as Weir High's Trey Cook made it 15-5 with a bases-clearing double.

Ohio was not done, however, as in the bottom of the eighth Catholic Central's Alex Solema crossed home plate on a dropped third strike that got away, then Union Local product Evan White drove in another run with an RBI single to make it 15-7.

Big Red's Cal Beadling, playing on his home field, put a well-hit ball off the fence for an RBI triple, then scored on a throwing error for a little league home run to make it 15-9

going to the ninth.

After Barnesville's Reese Stephen made a great catch at short in the top half to keep the deficit at six, Toronto's Blake Close hit a one-out RBI single to cut it to five, but the rally ended there as Paden City's Joey Baker was able to close things out. Cook, the third W.Va. pitcher to see the mound, got the win.

NOTES:

• Barnesville's D.J. Butler and Linsly's Jay Cartwright were recognized in between innings for reaching the 300 win mark in their coaching careers, along with Toronto's Brian Perkins for earning his 400th victory.

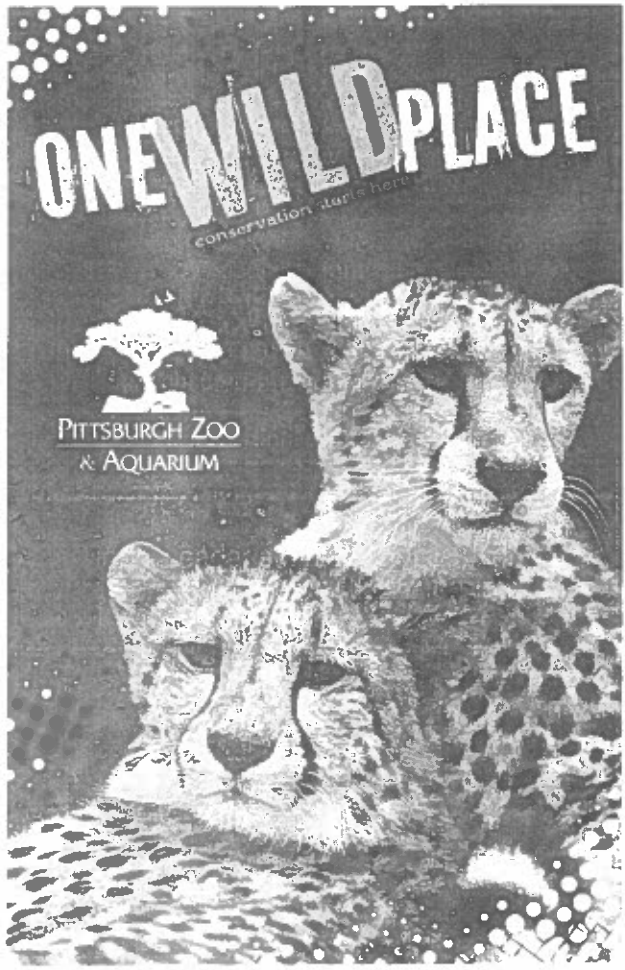
• The OVAC Players of the Year in each class were recognized between innings by OVAC Baseball Commissioner Bill Beatie. They were Wilharm (1A), Toronto's Dom Bouscher (2A), Tucker (3A), St. Clairsville's

Hunter Hoffman (4A) and Morgantown's Dylan Travinski (5A), who was not able to attend but had the award accepted by two of his teammates playing in the game.

• West Virginia was coached by Miller, Cameron's Adam Angel, Paden City's Trey Barcus and Morgantown's Tim Bradley. Ohio was guided by Big Red's Fred Heatherington, Dover's Jeff Fondriest, Beallsville's Ty English and Wheeling Park's Steve Myers.

• Hundred's Sky Goddard, a female who joined the baseball team last year due to the school not having enough players for a softball team, caught, played second and had three at bats for the Mountaineers.

• Indian Creek's Landon Pownall did not participate due to the Redskins advancing to the Ohio Division II state semifinals later this week.



• Miners

Continued from Page B1

Dioh Desuah, Devonte Tinsley, Wheeling University alum Isaiah Lewis, Joel Zellem and John Marshall alum Nick Coulter each came away with sacks. Fellow Wheeling University alum Jayvon Johnson and Marshall University alum Andrew Portis each tallied a safety in a dominant defensive day.

The Wheeling Miners play another home game on June 8 as the regular season winds down and the postseason comes into view.

"We still have to take it a game at a time," Resignalo said. "We expect to be in the championship game on July 6, that's what we play for. We've still got to take it week-by-week and so far we're 7-0. It's worked so far."

SPORTS ON TV

Monday, June 3
COLLEGE BASEBALL
 Noon
 ESPNU — NCAA Tournament: TBD, Super Regional (If Necessary)
 3 p.m.
 ESPNU — NCAA Tournament: TBD, Super Regional (If Necessary)
 6 p.m.
 ESPNU — NCAA Tournament: TBD, Super Regional (If Necessary)
 9 p.m.
 ESPNU — NCAA Tournament: TBD, Super Regional (If Necessary)
COLLEGE SOFTBALL
 Noon
 ESPN — Women's College World Series: TBD vs. Oklahoma, Game 11, Oklahoma City, Okla.
 2:30 p.m.
 ESPN — Women's College World Series: TBD, Game 12, Oklahoma City, Okla. (If Necessary)
 7 p.m.
 ESPN2 — Women's College World Series: TBD vs. Texas, Game 13, Oklahoma City, Okla.
 9:30 p.m.
 ESPN2 — Women's College World Series: TBD, Game 14, Oklahoma City, Okla. (If Necessary)

MLB BASEBALL
 6:30 p.m.
 MLBN — Regional Coverage: Milwaukee at Philadelphia OR N.Y. Mets at Washington
 9:30 p.m.
 FS1 — San Francisco at Arizona
SOCCER (MEN'S)
 11:50 a.m.
 FS2 — International Friendly: Gibraltar vs. Scotland, Al-mancil, Portugal
 2:30 p.m.
 FS2 — International Friendly: England vs. Bosnia-Herzegovina, Tyne, England
TENNIS
 5 a.m.
 TENNIS — ATP/WTA: The French Open, Round of 16, Paris
 6 a.m.
 TENNIS — ATP/WTA: The French Open, Round of 16, Paris

FRENCH OPEN

French Open Results
 Sunday at Stade Roland Garros, Paris
 Purse: 19,280,000 euros
 Surface: Red clay (seedings in parentheses)
Men's Singles
 Fourth Round
 Stefanos Tsitsipas (9), Greece, def. Matteo Arnaldi, Italy, 3-6, 7-6 (4), 6-2, 6-2.
 Carlos Alcaraz (3), Spain, def. Felix Auger-Aliassime (21), Canada, 6-3, 6-3, 6-1.
 Grigor Dimitrov (10), Bulgaria, def. Hubert Hurkacz (8), Poland, 7-6 (5), 6-4, 7-6 (3).
 Jannik Sinner (2), Italy, def. Corentin Moutet, France, 2-6, 6-3, 6-2, 6-1.
Women's Singles
 Fourth Round
 Iga Swiatek (1), Poland, def. Anastasia Potapova, Russia,

MLB STANDINGS

AMERICAN LEAGUE										
East Division										
W	L	Pct	GB	WCGB	L10	Str	Home	Away		
New York	42	19	.689	—	8-2	W-5	18-8	24-11		
Baltimore	37	20	.649	3	+5	8-2	L-1	21-12	16-8	
Boston	30	30	.500	11½	3½	4-6	L-1	13-17	17-13	
Tampa Bay	29	31	.483	12½	4½	4-6	W-1	17-18	12-13	
Toronto	28	30	.483	12½	4½	6-4	W-1	14-13	14-17	
Central Division										
W	L	Pct	GB	WCGB	L10	Str	Home	Away		
Cleveland	39	20	.661	—	7-3	L-1	20-7	19-13		
Kan. City	36	25	.590	4	+2	4-6	W-1	22-10	14-15	
Minnesota	33	26	.559	6	—	7-3	W-1	16-13	17-13	
Detroit	29	30	.492	10	—	6-4	W-1	14-15	15-15	
Chicago	15	45	.250	24½	18½	0-10	L-11	10-21	5-24	
West Division										
W	L	Pct	GB	WCGB	L10	Str	Home	Away		
Seattle	34	27	.557	—	7-3	W-3	21-11	13-16		
Texas	29	30	.492	4	—	5-5	W-2	14-13	15-17	
Houston	26	34	.433	7½	7½	4-6	L-1	15-17	11-17	
Oakland	24	37	.393	10	10	4-6	L-1	13-16	11-21	
Los Ang.	21	38	.356	12	12	2-8	L-5	7-21	14-17	
NATIONAL LEAGUE										
East Division										
W	L	Pct	GB	WCGB	L10	Str	Home	Away		
Philadel.	41	19	.683	—	5-5	L-1	24-9	17-10		
Atlanta	33	24	.579	6½	+5	4-6	W-1	19-12	14-12	
Washing.	27	31	.466	13	1½	6-4	W-1	10-13	17-18	
New York	24	35	.407	16½	5	3-7	L-2	13-21	11-14	
Miami	21	39	.350	20	8½	5-5	L-2	11-21	10-18	
Central Division										
W	L	Pct	GB	WCGB	L10	Str	Home	Away		
Milwaukee	36	23	.610	—	8-2	W-5	18-10	18-13		
St. Louis	28	29	.491	7	—	7-3	W-1	13-12	15-17	
Chicago	29	31	.483	7½	½	2-8	L-1	16-13	13-18	
Pittsburgh	27	32	.458	9	2	4-6	L-1	12-15	15-17	
Cincinnati	26	33	.441	10	3	6-4	W-1	14-17	12-16	
West Division										
W	L	Pct	GB	WCGB	L10	Str	Home	Away		
Los Ang.	38	23	.623	—	5-5	W-2	21-12	17-11		
San Diego	32	30	.516	6½	+1½	6-4	L-1	13-19	19-11	
San Fran.	29	31	.483	8½	½	5-5	L-4	17-14	12-17	
Arizona	27	32	.458	10	2	4-6	W-2	13-15	14-17	
Colorado	21	37	.362	15½	7½	5-5	L-2	13-14	8-23	

AMERICAN LEAGUE					NATIONAL LEAGUE							
Saturday's Games					Saturday's Games							
Pittsburgh 8, Toronto 1	Cleveland 3, Washington 2	Boston 6, Detroit 3	Cleveland 3, Washington 2	San Diego 7, Kansas City 3	Texas 7, Miami 0	Milwaukee 4, Chicago WS 3, 10 innings	Arizona 10, N.Y. Mets 5	Oakland 11, Atlanta 9	Philadelphia 6, St. Louis 1	Chicago Cubs 7, Cincinnati 5	N.Y. Yankees 7, San Francisco 3	L.A. Dodgers 4, Colorado 1
Sunday's Games					Sunday's Games							
Minnesota 4, Houston 3	Washington 5, Cleveland 2	Atlanta 3, Oakland 1	Texas 6, Miami 0	Tampa Bay 4, Baltimore 3	Toronto 5, Pittsburgh 4	Detroit 8, Boston 4, 10 innings	Milwaukee 6, Chicago WS 3	Cincinnati 5, Chicago Cubs 2	Kansas City 4, San Diego 3	L.A. Dodgers 4, Colorado 0	N.Y. Yankees 7, San Francisco 5	St. Louis 5, Philadelphia 4, 10 innings
Monday's Games					Monday's Games							
Baltimore (Rodriguez 5-2) at Toronto (Gausman 4-3), 7:07 p.m.	Detroit (Skubal 7-1) at Texas (Eovaldi 2-2), 8:05 p.m.	St. Louis (Gibson 4-2) at Houston (Verlander 3-2), 8:10 p.m.	Houston (Verlander 3-2), 8:10 p.m.	San Diego (Waldron 3-5) at L.A. Angels (Anderson 5-5), 9:38 p.m.	Milwaukee (Wilson 3-1) at Philadelphia (Wheeler 6-3), 6:40 p.m.	N.Y. Mets (Megill 0-2) at Washington (Gore 4-4), 6:45 p.m.	St. Louis (Gibson 4-2) at Houston (Verlander 3-2), 8:10 p.m.	Cincinnati (Abbott 3-5) at Colorado (Feltner 1-4), 8:40 p.m.	San Diego (Waldron 3-5) at L.A. Angels (Anderson 5-5), 9:38 p.m.	San Francisco (TBD) at Arizona (Nelson 0-0), 9:40 p.m.		

MLB MOVES

BASEBALL
 Major League Baseball American League
 CHICAGO CUBS — Transferred RHP Adbert Alzolay to the 60-day IL. Selected the

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Photo by Kim North

Steubenville's Savior Faulks barely clears the final hurdle in the 300-meter lows during Saturday's Division II state finals at Welcome Stadium in Dayton. Faulks was declared the state champion after a re-run by three competitors didn't beat his time of 37.74 seconds.

Faulks Wins D-II State Title After A Bizarre Finish

By **KIM NORTH**
Staff Writer

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Please see **TITLE**,
Page 10

W.Va. Outslugs Ohio In All-Star Contest



Photo by Andrew Grimm

Madonna's Chase Littleton delivers a pitch during Sunday's OVAC George Kovalick All-Star Baseball Game at Steubenville High School's Crimson Complex. The West Virginia All-Stars defeated their Ohio counterparts, 15-10.

Early Pitchers' Duel Erupts Into Scoring Showcase

By **ANDREW GRIMM**
For The Intelligencer

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Please see **ALL-STAR**, Page 10

Miners Feast Against Steel City To Remain Undefeated At 7-0

By **NICK HENTHORN**
Sports Editor

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The spectacle was actually not the season-high score for Wheeling, who posted a tidy 88 points in their week four game against Western Maryland.

Quarterback Grant Russell had more completions for touchdowns than not, new acquisition Jarvai Flowers recorded a kick return, rushing and receiving touchdown, and the Miners defense racked up seven sacks, two for safeties, and a pick-six while holding

Steel City to 13 points.

The score stood 36-13 at halftime, the Miners winning the second half 46-0.

"We played a little sloppy in the first half," Wheeling head coach Josh Resignalo said. "You only give up 13 points and there's still coaching moments. We gave up 13 points, they didn't earn 13 points, that's what made me angry about the first half. We come back out and we play better in the second half. Execution, that's all there is."

Please see **MINERS**, Page 10



Photo by Nick Henthorn

The Wheeling Miners' Jarvai Flowers breaks away for a kick return touchdown against the Steel City Stampede, one of three touchdowns for Flowers in an 82-13 victory at WesBanco Arena Saturday.

Bucs Strand 13 Runners In Loss To Jays

By **IAN HARRISON**
Associated Press

WVU Advances To 1st Super Regional

Photo by Kim North
St. Clairsville's Emma Henry stands on the podium after finishing second in the 100-meter dash during Saturday's Division II state finals at Welcome Stadium in Dayton. Her time was 12.91 seconds.

He does everything right, on and off the track, the football field and the wrestling mat. He's also a great student."

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strain in my (left) hamstring. Hey, it was the state finals and I felt honored I got to compete.

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Bucs

(Continued from Page 9)

Bassitt is 4-0 with a 2.10 ERA in five career starts against the Pirates.

Chad Green, Trevor Richards and Nate Pearson each pitched one inning of relief. Yimi Garcia pitched around Rowdy Tellez's two-out RBI single in the ninth for his third save in four chances.

Tellez reached base four times and drove in all four runs, but the Pirates lost for the fourth time in six.

Recalled from Triple-A to face the Blue Jays, Pirates right-hander Quinn Priester (0-5) allowed four runs and eight hits in 4 2/3 innings. Priester walked none and struck out three.

"When I missed my spots, that's when they were able to capitalize," Priester said.

Guerrero started at third base for the first time since the final game of his rookie season in 2019. He had made just two appearances at third since then, playing just four innings there.

"It's not a position change by any means," Schneider said. "I think it just

offers some flexibility."

Guerrero fielded the only two balls hit his way Sunday, retiring Nick Gonzales for the first out of the seventh and getting pinch hitter Yasmani Grandal to begin the eighth.

"I signed as a third baseman so it is my favorite position," Guerrero said through an interpreter. "But I'm the kind of player who thinks that if you can play both corners, first and third, the right way, that will give your manager and your team more options."

Guerrero, who won the AL Gold Glove at first base in 2022, moved to first base in the ninth inning Sunday. Isiah Kiner-Falefa went from second to third.

In a pregame interview with MLB Network Radio, Blue Jays general manager Ross Atkins said Guerrero could make some starts at third in an attempt to add more offense to Toronto's struggling lineup. The Blue Jays entered play Sunday with the third-fewest runs scored in the AL.

MINERS

(Continued from Page 9)

Russell threw for six scores, spreading the touchdowns around to Flowers, Andre Thomas-Cobb, Pete Savrides, Jeremiah Flores and West Liberty alum Isaiah Robinson, who caught two.

Russell also ran for a nine-yard score in the fourth quarter.

Flowers got into the end zone a team-high three times, doing so three different ways.

The 6-foot, Delaware Valley University alum started off his day by breaking through on a kick return early in the second quarter, a special teams play which put Wheeling ahead 21-6 with 12:15 to play in the second.

"They told me to run straight through the middle, and the middle was wide open. So I ran," Flowers said.

Five minutes of gametime later, Flower was at it in the receiving game, burning his defender down the sideline and reeling in a deep pass from Russell for a 40-yard touchdown catch.

In the second half, Flowers took a jet sweep around the edge for a one-yard touchdown run, a score which put Wheeling ahead 56-13 with a minute and a half left in the third.

The kick return and touchdown reception were the two longest plays of the day for either team.

"He's a great addition," Resignalo

said of Flowers. "We were already deep at receiver, so it's challenging at times to get the right rotation and get everybody on the field. But we just kept him up from a team in another league, we're excited to get him and he's going to have a pretty good future with us."

"Today is my first game with these guys so I just had to show out," Flowers said. "I had to show them why I'm here."

On defense, Tyre Williams and Dontae Mason came away with interceptions, Mason's a fourth-quarter pick-six which drew the score to 72-13.

Dioh Desuah, Devonte Tinsley, Wheeling University alum Isaiah Lewis, Joel Zellem and John Marshall alum Nick Coulter each came away with sacks. Fellow Wheeling University alum Jayvon Johnson and Marshall University alum Andrew Portis each tallied a safety in a dominant defensive day.

The Wheeling Miners play another home game on June 8 as the regular season winds down and the postseason comes into view.

"We still have to take it a game at a time," Resignalo said. "We expect to be in the championship game on July 6, that's what we play for. We've still got to take it week-by-week and so far we're 7-0. It's worked so far."

ALL-STAR

(Continued from Page 9)

Ohio responded in the bottom half of the fifth. St. Clairsville's Marcus Bush came up to the plate with the bases loaded and no one out and produced a two-run single, then Catholic Central's Kody Carver made it 5-2 Buckeye State with a sac fly.

West Virginia had another answer, however, as in the next half inning University's Wenki Campbell led things off with a solo homer, then Madonna's TJ Decapio sent a two-run double to the wall to even the score.

An inning later the West Virginians took control, aided by four Ohio errors, plating seven runs to jump ahead 12-5.

University's Mason McDonald gave W.Va. its first lead of the day with an RBI single, Tyler McKay of Oak Glen followed it up with another and an error on the play brought in another run, then Madonna's Grant Wilharm, the 1A Player of the Year, laced a two-run double and another throwing error brought a third runner across before the big inning was capped by an RBI single from Morgantown's Landen Bradley.

The onslaught continued an inning later as Weir High's Trey Cook made it 15-5 with a bases-clearing double.

Ohio was not done, however, as in the bottom of the eighth Catholic Central's Alex Solema crossed home plate on a dropped third strike that got away, then Union Local product Evan White drove in another run with an RBI single to make it 15-7.

Big Red's Cal Beadling, playing on his home field, put a well-hit ball off the fence for an RBI triple,

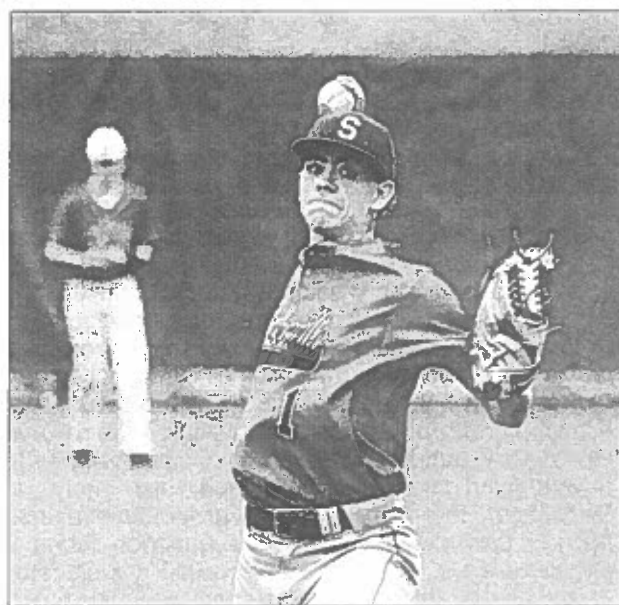


Photo by Andrew Grimm

Stuebenville's Aydan Manning works to the plate during Sunday's OVAC George Kovalick All-Star Baseball Game at Steubenville High School's Crimson Complex.

then scored on a throwing error for a little league home run to make it 15-9 going to the ninth.

After Barnesville's Reese Stephen made a great catch at short in the top half to keep the deficit at six, Toronto's Blake Close hit a one-out RBI single to cut it to five, but the rally ended there as Paden City's Joey Baker was able to close things out. Cook, the third W.Va. pitcher to see the mound, got the win.

NOTES

■ Barnesville's D.J. Butler and Linsly's Jay Cartwright were recognized in between innings for reaching the 300 win mark in their coaching careers, along with Toronto's Brian Perkins for earning his 400th victory.

■ The OVAC Players of the Year in each class were recognized between innings by OVAC Baseball Commissioner Bill Beattie. They were Wilharm (1A), Toronto's Dom Bouscher (2A),

Tucker (3A), St. Clairsville's Hunter Hoffman (4A) and Morgantown's Dylan Travinski (5A), who was not able to attend but had the award accepted by two of his teammates playing in the game.

■ West Virginia was coached by Miller, Cameron's Adam Angel, Paden City's Trey Barcus and Morgantown's Tim Bradley. Ohio was guided by Big Red's Fred Heatherington, Dover's Jeff Fondriest, Beallsville's Ty English and Wheeling Park's Steve Myers.

■ Hundred's Sky Goddard, a female who joined the baseball team last year due to the school not having enough players for a softball team, caught, played second and had three at bats for the Mountaineers.

■ Indian Creek's Landon Pownall did not participate due to the Redskins advancing to the Ohio Division II state semifinals later this week.

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