

# Caldwell Wins Marathon OVAC Class 2A Championship

**ELM GROVE** - In what might be the longest OVAC Tom Bechtel Softball Championship Game in the history of the event, Caldwell defeated Bridgeport, 6-2, to win the Class 2A title Friday night on Lisa's Field at the I-470 J.B. Chambers Complex.

The top-seeded Redskins led 6-0 in the bottom of the sixth on Monday when inclement weather forced a suspension of the game. It was resumed from where it left off.

Caldwell took advantage of six errors by the second-seeded Bulldogs before the weather turned bad.

Bridgeport's Vanessa Mullen drilled a two-run homer in the top of the seventh to keep the Bulldogs from being blanked.

Mikayla Mumaw struck out 10, as the Pilots (12-13) navigated past the visitors (8-13). She now has 205 strikeouts on the season.

## Regular Season

**Martins Ferry 5, Cambridge 3**  
**MARTINS FERRY** - In the completion of a game suspended last week

due to inclement weather, the Purple Riders fell behind 3-2 after three-and-a-half innings, but Maddie Lucas belted a three-run homer in the bottom of the frame that proved to be the difference. Lucas also came on to pitch in the second after Abbey Snedeker had started the previous contest.

Lucas, who recorded her 200th career strikeout earlier this week, struck out 10, walked two and gave up three singles.

Snedeker had three Ks in her inning of work.

Averi Hughes collected an RBI double, as did Samantha Goddard. Both came in the third inning.

## River 7, Bellaire 1

**SARDIS** - Ava Wohnhas fanned 14 Big Reds and slugged a two-run homer as the Pilots (12-13) navigated past the visitors (8-13). She now has 205 strikeouts on the season.

Kaylee Hagan drove in three runs with a single and double. Jenna Talbott

added a two-run single.

## Union Local 13,

## Stuebenville Central 1

**STUEBENVILLE** - Liv Blakley singled twice, doubled twice and drove in a run as the Jets (16-9) soared past the host Crusaders (4-12).

Myah Martin also belted a three-run double while Laken Vinskovich singled twice and knocked in a pair of runs.

Ev Blakley struck out nine, walked two and gave up one hit.

## BASEBALL

## Mazeroski Classic

## Wheeling Central 7, Ridgewood 0

**CADIZ** - Kade Koroneos singled twice, doubled and drove in a run as the Maroon Knights blanked the Generals on the artificial surface at Mazeroski Field inside Sally Buffalo Park.

Braxton Billick also singled three times and Koy Lipinski drove in two runs with a single and double.

Wheeling Central plays St. Clairsville at 4 p.m. Saturday.

## Regular Season Wheeling Park 12, East Fairmont 2

**WHEELING** - The Patriots scored at least once in the first six innings in routing the visiting Bees on Patriot Field.

Kolten Whitmire (singled, triple), Jaxon Updegraff (single, 2 doubles), Coldin Burkhardt (2 singles) and Paul McGee (2 singles) all drove in two runs each to pace the Wheeling Park 13-hit attack.

Erik Blazier went the first five frames, striking out one and walking none. Updegraff struck out two in an inning.

## River 6, Shadyside 2

**SHADYSIDE** - Kaden Hunt scattered five hits and fanned six as the Pilots decimated the Tigers on Fleming Field.

Peyton Blue belted three singles and drove in three runs, while Lucas Dennis singled, tripled, and knocked in a run.

Wyatt Parr singled and doubled for Shadyside.

# Mitchell Scores 43 As Cavaliers Gain First Series Win

**INDIANAPOLIS (AP)** - Donovan Mitchell had 43 points and nine rebounds, and the finally full-strength Cleveland Cavaliers beat Indiana 126-104 on Friday night to cut the Pacers' lead to 2-1 in the Eastern Conference semifinals.

The road team has won all three games in the series, and the Pacers will have another chance to break that trend Sunday in Game 4.

Cleveland was desperate to avoid falling into a 3-0 hole and used everything in its arsenal to hold on this time - making 14 3-pointers, holding a 56-37 rebounding edge, even relying on zone defense to slow down the high-scoring Pacers.

And with NBA Defensive Player of the Year Evan Mobley, All-Star guard Darius Garland and key backup DeAndre Hunter all suited up after missing Game 2, Mitchell got the support he needed.

Max Strus made four 3-pointers and finished with 20 points, seven rebounds and seven assists. Three other Cleveland players also scored in double figures on a night the Cavs led by as

Bennedict Mathurin led the Pacers with 23 points. Pascal Siakam had 18 and Tyrese Haliburton finished with four points and five assists in his first career home loss in a post-season game he's appeared.

The most physical of the three games resulted in players routinely sprawled on the floor. Hunter turned into a hard shoulder after making a basket early in the second quarter, a collision that nearly knocked him down, and Mitchell took a nasty spill into the front-row seats while being called for an offensive foul.

Temperers also flared at times with the Pacers drawing five technical fouls, one for a delay of game.

On the court, though, Cleveland controlled most of the game after breaking a 36-36 tie with a 25-4 run that helped push the Cavs to a 66-45 halftime cushion.

Indiana cut it to 80-65 midway through the third quarter and looked ready to pull off another fourth-quarter rally when Siakam's 3 with 8:24 to play made it 104-93. But Mitchell



AP Photo  
Cleveland Cavaliers center Jarrett Allen (31) takes the ball from Indiana

## SPORTS

THE TIMES LEADER - Sunday, May 11, 2025 - C4

# Caldwell defeats Bridgeport Bulldogs for the Class 2A title

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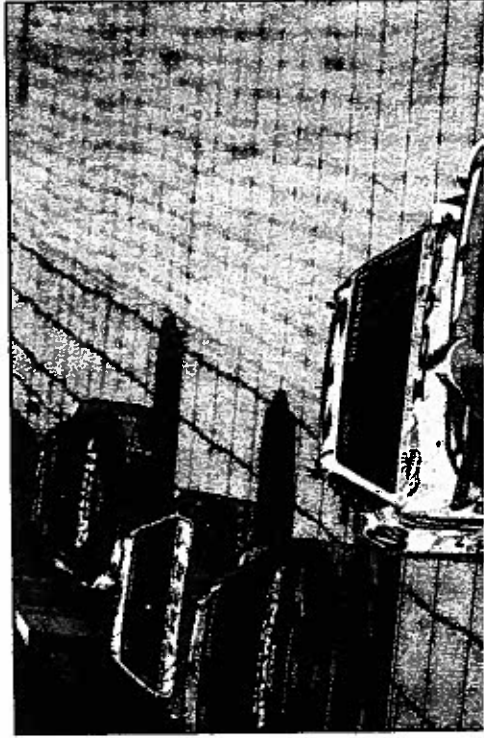
## Judges may throw out order allowing 23XI, Front Row to race as NASCAR chartered teams

**RICHMOND, Va. (AP)** — also have to qualify at every Cup Series event to make the late panel indicated Friday it might overturn an injunction that allows 23XI Racing, co-owned by retired NBA great Michael Jordan and veteran driver Denny Hamlin, and Front Row Motorsports to race as chartered teams in NASCAR this season while the two teams sue the stock car series over alleged antitrust violations.

NASCAR attorney Chris Yates argued the injunction, by plaintiff's attorney Jeffrey Kessler, who accused NASCAR of being a monopoly holding charters.

dan, Hamlin and Curtis Polk, a longtime Jordan business partner — and Front Row Motorsports, were the only two out of 15 charter-holding teams that refused to sign new agreements in September.

The charters, which teams originally signed before the 2016 season, have twice been extended. The most recent extension runs until 2031, matching the current media rights deal. It guarantees that 36 of the 40 available spots in weekly races will go to teams holding charters.



Cincinnati	18	18,500	4	2	5-5	L-3	9-10	9-8	176146
Milwaukee	18	18,500	4	2	5-5	W-2	11-6	7-12	170160
St. Louis	17	19,472	5	3	6-4	W-3	13-6	4-13	167166
Pittsburgh	12	24,333	10	8	2-8	L-5	7-12	5-12	117168

#### West Division

	W	L	Pct	GB	WCGB	L10	Str	Home	Away	RS	RA
Los Ang.	24	11,686	—	—	—	8-2	W-1	15-3	9-8	189144	
San Diego	22	11,667	1	+3½	6-4	W-5	14-4	8-7	133	95	
San Fran.	22	14,611	2½	+2	5-5	L-1	12-5	10-9	166138		
Arizona	18	16,529	5½	1	4-6	W-1	8-8	10-8	176170		
Colorado	6	28,176	17½	13	2-8	L-3	4-11	2-17	106195		

#### AMERICAN LEAGUE

##### Monday's Games

Kansas City 3, Chicago White Sox 0  
Milwaukee 5, Houston 1  
San Diego at N.Y. Yankees, late  
Seattle at Athletics, late  
Cleveland at Washington, p.pd.

##### Tuesday's Games

Cleveland (Ortiz 2-3) at Washington (Irvin 2-1), 3:35 p.m., 1st game  
Cleveland (Lively 1-2) at Washington (Lord 1-3), 6:35 p.m., 2nd game  
Texas (Eovaldi 2-2) at Boston (Giolito 0-0), 6:45 p.m.  
Philadelphia (Wheeler 2-1) at Tampa Bay (Rasmussen 1-2), 7:05 p.m.  
San Diego (King 4-1) at N.Y. Yankees (Schmidt 0-1), 7:05 p.m.  
Baltimore (Povich 1-2) at Minnesota (Lopez 2-2), 7:40 p.m.  
Chicago White Sox (Burke 2-4) at Kansas City (Lugo 3-3), 7:40 p.m.  
Houston (Wesneski 1-2) at Milwaukee (Patrick 1-3), 7:40 p.m.  
Detroit (Jobe 2-0) at Colorado (Dollander 2-3), 8:40 p.m.  
Toronto (TBD) at L.A. Angels (Anderson 2-0), 9:38 p.m.  
Seattle (Hancock 1-1) at Athletics (Springs 4-3), 10:05 p.m.

#### NATIONAL LEAGUE

##### Monday's Games

Atlanta 4, Cincinnati 0  
L.A. Dodgers 7, Miami 4  
Chicago Cubs 9, San Francisco 2  
Milwaukee 5, Houston 1  
St. Louis 6, Pittsburgh 3  
San Diego at N.Y. Yankees, late  
N.Y. Mets at Arizona, late  
Cleveland at Washington, p.pd.

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Cleveland (Lively 1-2) at Washington (Lord 1-3), 6:35 p.m., 2nd game  
L.A. Dodgers (Gonsolin 1-0) at Miami (Quantrill 2-3), 6:40 p.m.  
Philadelphia (Wheeler 2-1) at Tampa Bay (Rasmussen 1-2), 7:05 p.m.  
San Diego (King 4-1) at N.Y. Yankees (Schmidt 0-1), 7:05 p.m.  
Cincinnati (Abbott 2-0) at Atlanta (Sale 1-3), 7:15 p.m.  
Houston (Wesneski 1-2) at Milwaukee (Patrick 1-3), 7:40 p.m.  
San Francisco (Verlander 0-2) at Chicago Cubs (Rea 2-0), 7:40 p.m.  
Pittsburgh (Skenes 3-3) at St. Louis (Liberatore 2-3), 7:45 p.m.  
Detroit (Jobe 2-0) at Colorado (Dollander 2-3), 8:40 p.m.  
N.Y. Mets (Peterson 2-1) at Arizona (Gallen 2-4), 9:40 p.m.

recently signed to continue her softball career at Seton Hill University in Greensburg, Pa. Josie is flanked by her father, Chuck, and mother, Chris. Back row, from left, are athletics director Seth Staskey, assistant coach Ed Cihy, head coach Buck Davidson, assistant coach Travis Palmer and assistant coach Ambrose Bober.



Photo by Jeff Campbell

Bridgeport's Addie Snodgrass connects with a pitch during Monday night's OVAC Tom Bechtel Class 2A Softball Championship on Ben's Field at the I-470 J.B. Chambers Complex in Elm Grove. The game was halted in the bottom of the sixth due to inclement weather. It will be resumed Friday at 5 p.m.

## Bridgeport-Caldwell Suspended By Weather In OVAC 2A Championship

By KIM NORTH

Staff Writer

ELM GROVE

Bridgeport was seeking its first OVAC Tom Bechtel Class 2A Softball Championship since 2018. Caldwell has won four championships in the last five years.

The Bulldogs and Redskins will have to wait until Friday to see who adds to the tournament titles as Monday night's contest was halted by inclement weather with top seeded Caldwell holding a 6-0 advantage

over the second seeds.

Both teams will return to Ben's Field at the I-470 J.B. Chambers Sports Complex on Friday at 5 p.m. to complete the game.

Caldwell, which has won titles at the Class 2A and 3A levels in the past five years, took a 3-0 lead in the bottom of the first as Bridgeport committed a pair of costly errors.

A trio of errors by the Bulldogs in the bottom of the fifth allowed the Redskins to build a 6-0

bulge.

Bridgeport has managed just two singles off of Makyla Mumaw who also has seven strikeouts and a walk.

Meanwhile, the Bulldogs' Vanessa Mullen has pitched well enough to keep her team close. The lefty has two punch outs and was issued one free pass. She has yielded four hits.

When play resumes, Caldwell has runners on first and second with a 1-0 count on Mattie Hesson.

## LINESCORES

#### SOFTBALL

OVAC Class 2A Championship  
(at Ben's Field, I-470)

Caldwell 6, Bridgeport 0,  
(suspended, bottom 6th)

Bpt 000 000 - 0 2 7

Cald 300 300 - 6 4 0

B-Mullen (2K, 1BB) and Herman

C-Mumaw (7K, 1BB) and Reiter; Sidwell D, 2rbi; S. Marshall S, rbi; C. Marshall D

OVAC Class 3A Championship  
(at Lisa's Field, I-470)

Martins Ferry 1, Wheeling Central 0

WC 000 000 0 - 0 2 0

MF 000 100 x - 1 3 0

WC-Frizzell lp (6K, 1BB) and Hanson; Mo. Miehle D; Ma. Miehle D

MF-M. Lucas wp (7K, 0BB) and Chirpas; M. Lucas 2S; Chirpas HR, rbi

W.Va. Class AAAA Sectional Tournament

Wheeling Park 6, John Marshall 0

WP 301 010 1 - 6 14 2

JM 000 000 0 - 0 4 2

WP-Randolph wp (2K, 2BB)

JM-Cunningham, Ernest HR, S. 2rbi; Patton D, S, 2rbi;

WV-S. 2rbi; S. 2rbi; O'Donnell S, 3S; Randolph S;

WV-S. 2rbi; S. 2S

Tyler 012 310 5 - 12 9 1

Magn 060 200 0 - 8 7 3

TC-Miller (2K, 5BB), Neff

wp (2), (5K, 5BB) and Boggs;

Neff 2S, rbi; G. Jackson rbi;

Davis S, rbi; Boggs S, rbi; Mill-

er rbi; Deaton S, D, 4rbi; Nich-

ols 2S, 3rbi

M-Fluharty (4K, 7BB), Loy

lp (6), (2K, 4BB), Byers (7), (0K,

0BB) and Moffitt; Loy D; Mor-

fitt S, 2rbi; Carpenter 2S; Byers

S, 2rbi; Mason S, 3rbi; Hood

rbi

Wheeling Park 7,

Fairmont Sr. 6

(game called after 6 innings)

Fair 001 410 - 6 7 4

WP 420 100 - 7 7 1

FS-Canfield lp (4K, 2BB),

Gorby (6), (0K, 0BB) and Biga-

low; Canfield 2S; Bigalow 2D,

HR, 6rbi

WP-Robb wp (5K, 5BB), Up-

degraff (4), (2K, 2BB), Burkhart

sv (6), (0K, 0BB) and Yanchak;

Whitmire 2S; Updegraff S, rbi;

Simon rbi; Robb S, rbi; Di-

glandomenico rbi; Yanchak S,

2rbi; McGee D, rbi

Union Local 10,

Monroe Central 0

MC 000 00 - 0 2 1

UL 330 4x - 10 8 0

MC-Henthorn lp (2K, 3BB)

and Merkle

## Tyler Triumphs In Seventh; Union Local Handles Seminoles

NEW MARTINSVILLE - Tyler Consolidated scored five times in the top of the seventh to stun host Magnolia, 12-8, Monday in high school baseball action.

Nate Deaton drove in four runs with a single and double for the Silver Knights (13-12). Colby

Wheeling Park, which also received an RBI double from Paul McGee. Ryland Robb singled in a run and Kolten Whitmire had two singles.

Robb struck out five and walked five to earn the win. Coldin Burkhardt picked up the save.

Wheeling Central 7

Jessa Anderson also tallied multiple hits, reaching four times with two singles and two walks. Sienna McKeever totaled two RBI, as did Bella Sockman and Olivia Hohman.

Karly Showalter drove in a runner for Beallsville

# Lucas, Chirpas Help Martins Ferry Capture OVAC 3A Title In 1-0 Pitcher's Duel

By KIM NORTH

Staff Writer

ELM GROVE - Mad-  
die Lucas and Giana  
Chirpas have been play-  
ing softball together for  
quite some time. Mon-  
day the sophomore duo  
teamed to power Mar-  
tins Ferry (20-3) to the  
OVAC Tom Bechtel  
Class 3A championship.

Lucas did yeoman's  
work inside the circle,  
striking out seven, walk-  
ing none and permitting  
a pair of doubles, while  
Chirpas, her batterymate,  
belted a solo homer to  
account for the game's  
lone run in the top seed's  
1-0 triumph over No. 3  
Wheeling Central (17-  
7) on Lisa's Field at the  
I-470 J.B. Chambers  
Sports Complex in a  
game that took a mere  
1-hour, 4-minutes to  
play.

"This one is sweet,"  
Martins Ferry head coach  
Jerry Magistro said.

"I've won these before,  
but your last one (win) is  
always the sweetest. I'm  
happy for these girls and  
my coaches. Not many  
people realize the work  
that this group has put in  
to be able to do this to-  
day. I can't say enough  
about all of them."

In last year's champi-  
onship game, a 9-1 loss  
to Wheeling Central, Lu-  
cas didn't have her best  
stuff early on, but she  
made sure that wasn't  
going to happen again.

"I used last year as  
my motivation for to-  
day. I've been waiting  
an entire year for this  
game," Lucas said. "My  
goal today was to throw  
a first-pitch strike and  
get ahead of the hitters. I  
was pretty successful in

doing that."

Indeed she did. The  
right-hander went ahead  
0-1 on 20 of the 23 Ma-  
rion Knights she faced.

After giving up a two-  
out double to right by  
Maddie Miehle in the  
first inning, Lucas re-  
tired the next 15 batters  
she faced until Morgan  
Miehle doubled to the  
gap in right-center with  
two outs in the sixth. She  
finished the game with a  
comebacker which she  
threw to Averi Hughes  
at first to ignite a joyous  
celebration.

"This win feels a lot  
sweeter after losing to  
them in last year's final.  
I think we've all grown  
as a team," Lucas said.  
Lucas also collected two  
singles.

Please see **FERRY**,  
Page 10

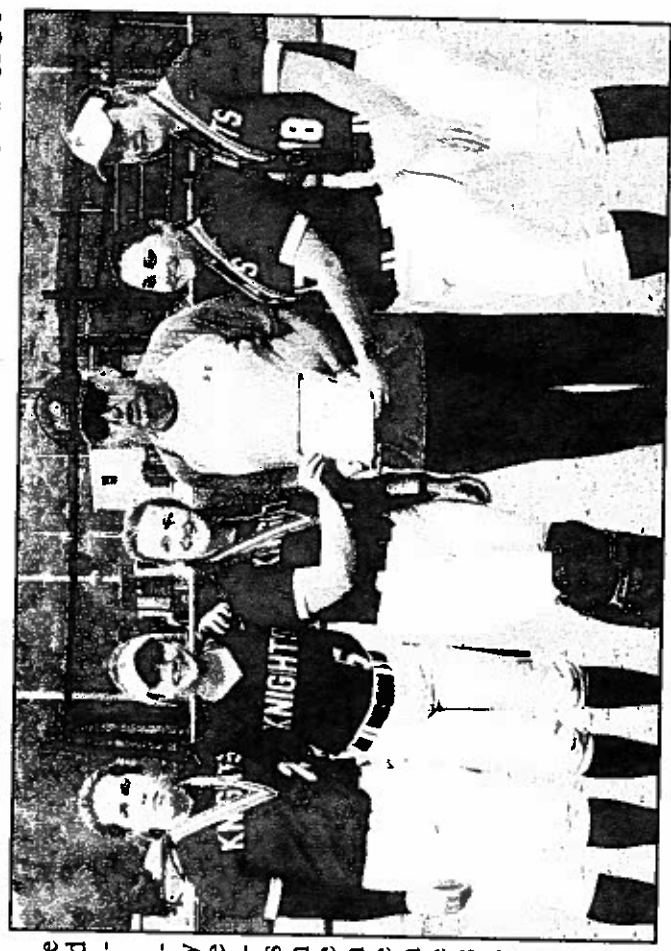
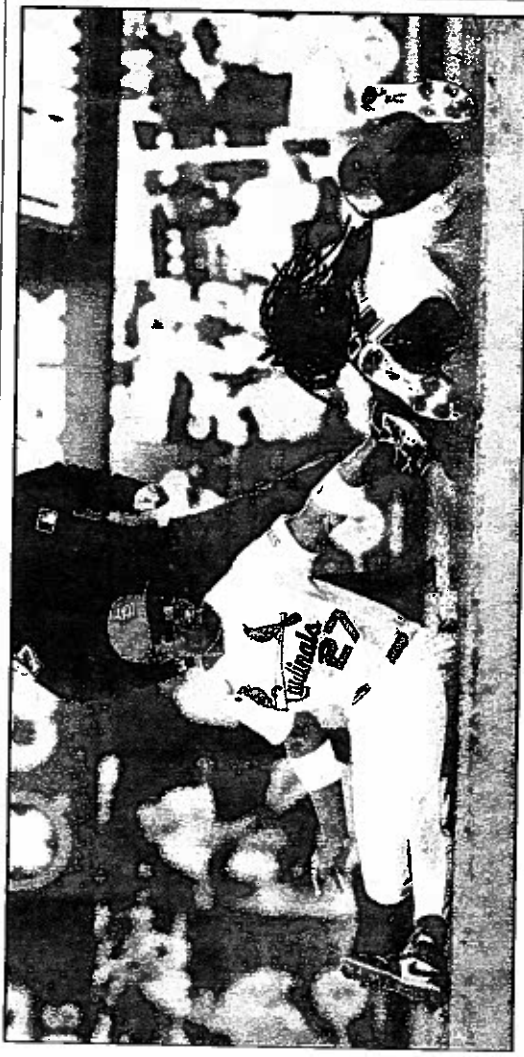


Photo by Kim North  
Wheeling Central seniors are pictured with OVAC Softball Director Tom Bechtel and the OVAC Tom Bechtel Class 3A runner up plaque. From left are Josie Friz-  
zell, Trina Baker, Ava Hanson, Bechtel, Mia DiBias and Angelina Robrecht. The  
Maroon Knights dropped a 1-0 decision to Martins Ferry Monday on Lisa's Field  
at the I-4370 J.B. Chambers Sports Complex.



AP Photo  
Pittsburgh Pirates' Oneil Cruz, right, is caught stealing second as St. Louis Cardinals sec-  
ond baseman Jose Barrero, left, places the tag during the third inning of a game.

## Busy Transfer Portal Weekend Puts West Virginia Far Over Roster Limit

By SPENCER RUPCHIK

For The Intelligencer

Rich Rodriguez and West Vir-  
ginia have gone three-straight  
weekends with multiple transfer  
portal additions. Rodriguez was  
super active in the winter, which  
is understandable because of a  
coaching change, and is almost as  
active this spring.

The Mountaineers picked up  
commitments from Austin Peay  
lineeman Donovan Haslam, Ten-  
nessee lineman Ayden Bussell,  
Slippery Rock receiver Logan  
Ramper, West Florida corner Ty

between now and the start of the  
season, so the cut players won't  
be playing football this fall.

The biggest addition of the  
weekend was another SEC line-  
man Bussell. He didn't see too  
much action with the Volunteers,  
only playing three games last  
year, but was a three-star prospect  
out of high school and the 19th-  
best player in Tennessee for the  
class. He was a three-star transfer  
prospect.

Joining Bussell, Austin Peay  
lineeman Donovan Haslam an-  
nounced his commitment sat



but his season has reach a critical time as he tries to Can he defend such talk right now?

## FERRY

(Continued from Page 9)

The championship was the fifth for the Purple Riders overall, and the second since Magistro took over. He won several Class A titles with St. John Central.

"She was dominant today," Magistro said of Lucas. "This was no doubt her best game of the season because it came against a really good team in Wheeling Central."

Lucas threw 80 pitches, of which 60 were strikes. She only went to three balls on one batter - that being the last one she faced.

"I love catching her," Chirpas said of Lucas. "She is very mature in the circle. She pitches very well. I just love catching her."

With the two well-coached squads embattled in a scoreless deadlock, one swing of the bat changed that in a heartbeat. With the count 1-2 on Chirpas, she took a Josie Frizzell offering over the fence in deep left-center with one out.

"Whatever works works. Honestly, I was just looking for anything close with two strikes," Chirpas said. "I just wanted to get the barrel (of the bat) on it. I did and it just happened to go over the fence."

The moment was a little sweeter for Magistro as he watched his granddaughter round the bases after her 12th homer of the season.

"She works so hard. I'm so happy for her."

She deserves it because teams pitch around her so much," he noted. "When she gets a hold of the ball, you can see what she can do."

Frizzell pitched well enough to win. The Seton Hill signee struck out six, walked one and gave up just three hits. She needed just 71 pitches - 52 strikes - in her six innings of work.

"I don't think either team made an error. I think we played a good game defensively, they just got one more hit and run than we did," Wheeling Central head coach Buck Davidson said. "I can't take anything away from my team. They played a good game."

"Now we have to get ready for Tyler Consolidated," he said of Tuesday's W.Va. Class AA sectional tournament opponent. "It stinks that we couldn't defend our title today, but our season starts tomorrow. We have to regroup and be ready to play."

Lucas was also aided by several defensive gems in the outfield. Ella Mamone ran down a drive down the right field line by Maddie Miehle in the fourth and Samantha Goodard made a great catch in right-center - off the bat of Maddie Miehle again - to start the seventh. Mamone then tracked down a fly ball to deep right by Erin Maxwell for the second out in the seventh before Frizzell's bouncer back to Lucas.

## TRACK

(Continued from Page 9)

On Saturday, Reese Bassinger had come out of the bullpen and pitched seven innings of relief to earn his sixth victory against no defeats and then on Sunday Jack Kartsonas was in charge from the start and combined with Carson Estridge for a seven-hit shutout to chase away the clouds and let the sun shine again upon the Mountaineers as they sang "Country Roads" to an appreciative crowd of 3,384 fans at Kendrick Family Ballpark.

Make no mistake, WVU had to combine the strong arms of Bassinger, Konsontas and Estridge with the heart of a champion to turn what had become the season's first two-game losing streak into the latest two-game winning streak and first-year coach Steve Sabins understood that better than anyone.

"I don't want to over-emphasize a game," Sabins had said on Saturday evening. "It just felt like how things had gone from the very first inning that this was one of those games where a weaker-mentality team could have said, 'This isn't our

day. We got screwed. The umpire didn't treat us right. The calls weren't right. We got ejected. A player got ejected. There were so many areas where a weaker team could have cashed it in as a bad Saturday after rain delays and lightning. I am just extremely proud of the mentality."

They were ejected, not dejected. In fact, you might say they were injected with a healthy shot of pride that drove them to take the series, a series they had to grab to stay on the right track.

The Mountaineers neither sulked nor pressed.

They simply played baseball the way the game is supposed to be played and it started with Bassinger, who has answered every call this year.

"What Bass did was special. What a performance," Sabins said. "I want to cry when I think how much that guy poured his heart and soul out there on the mound for the Mountaineers."

"You don't expect to go seven," Bassinger said. You just try to go one inning at a time. The first inning didn't work

out so great but they me ride it out. You go one pitch at a time Sabins wasn't at to apply a quick hook Bassinger.

"There were times could have potentially made some changes, we didn't," Sabins plained "We have g relievers in the bullp but in my gut, I kept ing, 'I like Bass her like Bass here. I like I here."

Each inning Sal checked on how Bass er was feeling, not cause he was looking a reason to take him but because he was le ing for a reason to le him in.

"Sabins asked me a every inning, 'How feeling? How you f ing?' I told him 'G fantastic.' I was just ing to keep myself in game."

No one had to very much to Kartsc on Sunday as the tr fer from Kent State has taken over the 5 day starting spot and a 1.01 ERA as a sta as evidence of why. worked seven inning shutout ball, giving five hits while stril out seven and walking one.

## HOMER

(Continued from

Joey Bart drew a l off walk in the fourth scored on a hit by A Frazier to put the Pir ahead.

Mikolas allowed ti runs on four hits in innings. Gordon Grac (2-0) pitched the s for the win. Ryan Hel notched his sixth save

Mlodzinski allo four hits and two run 4 2/3 innings. Shugart 2) gave up four runs five hits and didn't re an out.

The Cardinals (17- swept a doublehe with the Mets on Sur after winning two aga the Reds on Wednesd

## PORTAL

(Continued from Page 9)

Ramper stands at shrinking to 105. Although unlikely, that versatility might be a reason for this addition.

Rounding out the week-end was another JUCO player. West Virginia beefed up the trenches more but on the defensive side of the ball with Elijah Simmons. In 2024, Simmons had 21 tackles, a sack, forced a fumble and 5.5 tackles for loss.

He had offers from a couple Group of 5 schools. Rodriguez's additions put the Mountaineers one shy of Purdue for the most transfer portal commits over the winter and spring. West Virginia has 49 commits total.

Rodriguez did mention how two-way players might be more common with the roster size



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# Lucas, Chirpas combine to lift Martins Ferry to OVAC 3A title

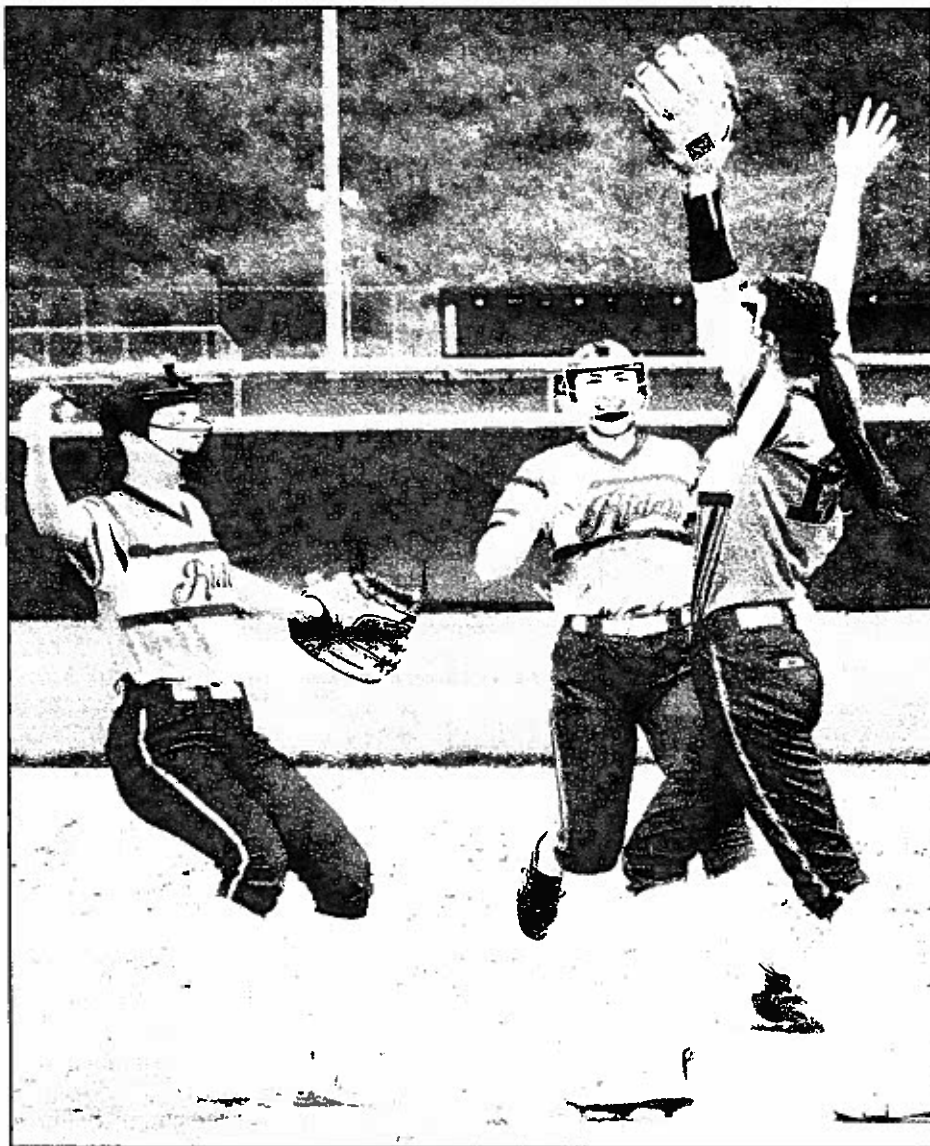
• Duo pitches, homers in 1-0 victory over Wheeling Central

By KIM NORTH  
Staff Writer

ELM GROVE — Maddie Lucas and Giana Chirpas have been playing softball together for quite some time. Monday the sophomore duo teamed to power Martins Ferry (20-3) to the OVAC Tom Bechtel Class 3A championship.

Lucas did yeoman's work inside the circle, striking out seven, walking none and permitting a pair of doubles, while Chirpas, her batterymate, belted a solo homer to account for the game's lone run in the top seed's 1-0 triumph over No. 3 Wheeling Central (17-7) on Lisa's Field at the I-470 J.B. Chambers Sports Complex in a game that took a mere 1-hour, 4-minutes to play.

See FERRY, Page B2



BRIDGEPORT'S VA to the plate Monday OVAC Tom Bechtel ship on Ben's Field Complex in Elm Grove. The bottom of the sixth will be resumed Friday ahead, 6-0.

## Bridgeport suspends weather 2A championship

By KIM NORTH  
Staff Writer

ELM GROVE — OVAC Tom Bechtel ship since 2018. Championships in the last five

The Bulldogs and til Friday to see what as Monday night's weather with top seed vantage over the second

Both teams will return J.B. Chambers Sports to complete the game

Caldwell, which and 3A levels in the in the bottom of the pair of costly errors.

A trio of errors by the fifth allowed the

Bridgeport has made Makyla Mumaw walk.

Meanwhile, the left pitched well enough lefty has two punch pass. She has yielded



ABOVE: MARTINS Ferry's Maddie Lucas (12) raises her arms in jubilation as her cousin, shortstop Gracie Lucas, left, and second baseman Makayla Cole rush towards her after the final out Monday in the OVAC Class 3A championship game against Wheeling Central. Maddie Lucas struck out seven, walked none and scattered two doubles in the Purple Riders' 1-0 victory. LEFT: MARTINS Ferry's Giana Chirpas is congratulated at home plate after hitting a solo home run with one out in the bottom of the fourth inning Monday night against Wheeling Central.

# olidated stuns host Magnolia • Ferry

- Ty-eight and didn't walk a batter. He  
times threw 59 pitches, 43 of which were  
stun strikes.

lay in Bill Schumacher rapped a single  
and double to drive in a run. Peyton  
Causby and Karson Grigatis each  
singled in two runs and Hayden  
Jenkins and Brody Gregor deliv-  
ered RBI singles.

**Wheeling Central 7, Brooke 0**  
WELLSBURG - The Maroon  
Knights found a steady rhythm on  
offense while keeping the Bruins  
off the scoreboard Monday.

Central scored one run in the  
third inning before spotting two  
runs in the fourth, fifth and sixth  
inning each.

Koy Lipinski cracked a pair of  
hits and scored twice, as did Zayne  
Rosnick. Brady Ernest drove in a  
game-high three RBI. Wheeling  
Central drew 11 walks as a team.

Brayden Cover limited Brooke  
to a single hit over seven innings,  
striking out nine in the win.

**SOFTBALL**  
**Magnolia 13, Beallsville 2**  
BEALLSVILLE - The Blue  
Eagles delivered on Monday in a  
five-inning victory over the Blue  
Devils.

Mallory McDiffitt excelled in-  
side the circle and in the batter's  
box, pitching the full game with  
seven strikeouts. She also doubled  
and totaled three hits and three

RBI.

Jessa Anderson also tallied mul-  
tiple hits, reaching four times with  
two singles and two walks. Sien-  
na McKeever totaled two RBI,  
as did Bella Sockman and Olivia  
Hohman.

Karly Showalter drove in a run-  
ner for Beallsville.

(Late Saturday)

**BASEBALL**

**Wheeling Park 10, Brooke 5**  
WELLSBURG - Jaxon Up-  
degraff singled three times and  
drove in a like number of runs as  
the Patriots doubled up the Bruins.  
Nate Simon singled and homered,  
also driving in a trio of runs. Kol-  
ten Whitmire singled, doubled and  
knocked in two runs.

Gino Provenzano singled twice  
and drove in two runs for the Bru-  
ins.

**SOFTBALL**

**Wheeling Park 17, Edison 16**  
WHEELING - Wheeling Cen-  
tral scored a dozen runs in the  
fourth inning to stockpile enough  
of a lead to survive the Wildcats' own  
offensive output on Saturday.

Bryn Ernest, Delaney Randolph  
and London Fankhouser each  
homered for Park, while Isabelle  
Thomas doubled. Fankhouser fin-  
ished with three RBI, as did Grace  
Tamburin, while Randolph had  
two RBI.

## ver takes no-hitter into 8th inning raves blank Cincinnati Reds 4-0

Smith- and walked four in eight splendid  
innings, throwing 60 of his 99  
pitches for strikes. It was his 11th  
major league start and fifth this  
year.

Enyel De Los Santos issued a  
walk in the ninth before finishing  
the one-hitter for Atlanta's second  
shutout of the season.

Kent Mercker pitched Atlanta's  
most recent no-hitter at Dodger  
Stadium on April 8, 1994.

Braves shortstop Nick Allen  
made a nifty play on a hard-hit  
grounder with one out in the third.  
But otherwise, Smith-Shawver  
was in complete control as he  
worked into the eighth inning for  
the first time as a professional.

Alex Verdugo hit an RBI dou-  
ble in the third and Austin Riley  
had an RBI single before scoring

ahead of Olson on his inside-the-  
park homer.

Brady Singer (4-2) gave up four  
runs and seven hits in six innings  
for the Reds, who dropped to 18-  
18.

**Key moment**

Espinal singled on an 0-1 fast-  
ball to break up Smith-Shawver's  
no-hit bid. He extended his hitting  
streak to six games.

**Key stat**

Reds shortstop Elly De La Cruz  
went 0 for 4, ending his streak of  
reaching base safely at 23 consec-  
utive games.

**Up next**

Reds LHP Andrew Abbott (2-  
0, 3.32 ERA) faces Braves LHP  
Chris Sale (1-3, 4.84) in the sec-  
ond game of the four-game series  
Tuesday night.

Continued from Page B1

"This one is sweet,"  
Martins Ferry head coach  
Jerry Magistro said.  
"I've won these before,  
but your last one (win) is  
always the sweetest. I'm  
happy for these girls and  
my coaches. Not many  
people realize the work  
that this group has put in  
to be able to do this to-  
day. I can't say enough  
about all of them."

In last year's champi-  
onship game, a 9-1 loss  
to Wheeling Central, Lu-  
cas didn't have her best  
stuff early on, but she  
made sure that wasn't  
going to happen again.

"I used last year as my  
motivation for today.  
I've been waiting an en-  
tire year for this game,"  
Lucas said. "My goal to-  
day was to throw a first-  
pitch strike and get ahead  
of the hitters. I was pretty  
successful in doing that."

Indeed she did. The  
right-hander went ahead  
0-1 on 20 of the 23 Ma-  
roon Knights she faced.

After giving up a two-  
out double to right by  
Maddie Miehle in the  
first inning, Lucas re-  
tired the next 15 batters  
she faced until Morgan  
Miehle doubled to the  
gap in right-center with  
two outs in the sixth. She  
finished the game with a  
comebacker which she  
threw to Averil Hughes  
at first to ignite a joyous  
celebration.

"This win feels a lot  
sweeter after losing to  
them in last year's final.  
I think we've all grown  
as a team," Lucas said.  
Lucas also collected two  
singles.

The championship was  
the fifth for the Purple  
Riders overall, and the  
second since Magistro  
took over. He won sever-  
al Class A titles with St.  
John Central.

"She was dominant  
today," Magistro said  
of Lucas. "This was no  
doubt her best game of  
the season because it  
came against a really  
good team in Wheeling

catching her."

With the two well-  
coached squads embat-  
tled in a scoreless dead-  
lock, one swing of the  
bat changed that in a  
heartbeat. With the count  
1-2 on Chirpas, she took  
a Josie Frizzell offering  
over the fence in deep  
left-center with one out.

"Whatever works  
works. Honestly, I was  
just looking for anything  
close with two strikes,"  
Chirpas said. "I just  
wanted to get the barrel  
(of the bat) on it. I did  
and it just happened to  
go over the fence."

The moment was a lit-  
tle sweeter for Magistro  
as he watched his grand-  
daughter round the bases  
after her 12th homer of  
the season.

"She works so hard.  
I'm so happy for her.  
She deserves it because  
teams pitch around her so  
much," he noted. "When  
she gets a hold of the  
ball, you can see what  
she can do."

Frizzell pitched well  
enough to win. The Se-  
ton Hill signee struck out  
six, walked one and gave  
up just three hits. She  
needed just 71 pitches  
- 52 strikes - in her  
six innings of work.

"I don't think either  
team made an error. I  
think we played a good  
game defensively, they  
just got one more hit and  
run than we did," Wheel-  
ing Central head coach  
Buck Davidson said. "I  
can't take anything away  
from my team. They  
played a good game."

"Now we have to get  
ready for Tyler Consoli-  
dated," he said of Tues-  
day's W.Va. Class AA  
sectional tournament  
opponent. "It stinks that  
we couldn't defend our  
title today, but our sea-  
son starts tomorrow. We  
have to regroup and be  
ready to play."

Lucas was also aid-  
ed by several defensive  
gems in the outfield.  
Ella Mamone ran down a  
drive down the right field  
line by Maddie Miehle in

n Ak-side the circle and in the batter's box, pitching the full game with seven strikeouts. She also doubled k out and totaled three hits and three

Thomas doubled. Fankhouser finished with three RBI, as did Grace Tamburin, while Randolph had two RBI.

room Knights she faced. After giving up a two-out double to right by Maddie Miehle in the first inning, Lucas retired the next 15 batters she faced until Morgan Miehle doubled to the gap in right-center with two outs in the sixth. She finished the game with a comebacker which she threw to Averi Hughes at first to ignite a joyous celebration.

Frizzell pitched well enough to win. The Seton Hill signee struck out six, walked one and gave up just three hits. She needed just 71 pitches — 52 strikes — in her six innings of work. "I don't think either team made an error. I think we played a good game defensively, they just got one more hit and run than we did," Wheeling Central head coach Buck Davidson said. "I can't take anything away from my team. They played a good game."

## Shawver takes no-hitter into 8th inning Lucas raves blank Cincinnati Reds 4-0

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### Key moment

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### Key stat

Reds shortstop Elly De La Cruz went 0 for 4, ending his streak of reaching base safely at 23 consecutive games.

### Up next

Reds LHP Andrew Abbott (2-0, 3.32 ERA) faces Braves LHP Chris Sale (1-3, 4.84) in the second game of the four-game series Tuesday night.

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Lucas threw 80 pitches, of which 60 were strikes. She only went to three balls on one batter — that being the last one she faced.

"I love catching her," Chirpas said of Lucas. "She is very mature in the circle. She pitches very well. I just love

## Moore

Continued from Page B1

Moore was accused of deleting text messages with Stallions before they were recovered and provided to the NCAA. Moore has said he has and will continue to cooperate with the NCAA's investigation.

Moore served a one-game suspension during the 2023 season related to recruiting infractions and filled in as head coach for four games last year when Harbaugh was punished by the school

and the Big Ten.

The NCAA previously put Michigan on three years of probation, fined the school and implemented recruiting limits after reaching a negotiated resolution in a recruiting case and banned Harbaugh from coaching college football for four years.

Michigan opens the season on Aug. 30 at home against New Mexico State and at Oklahoma, where Moore was an offensive lineman.

## Pirates

Continued from Page B1

runners on second and third to end it.



# Chirpas combine to lift Ferry to OVAC 3A title



**ABOVE:** MARTINS Ferry's Maddie Lucas (12) raises her arms in jubilation as her cousin, shortstop Gracie Lucas, left, and second baseman Makayla Cole rush towards her after the final out Monday in the OVAC Class 3A championship game against Wheeling Central. Maddie Lucas struck out seven, walked none and scattered two doubles in the Purple Riders' 1-0 victory. **LEFT:** MARTINS Ferry's Giana Chirpas is congratulated at home plate after hitting a solo home run with one out in the bottom of the fourth inning Monday night



Photo by KIM NORTH

**BRIDGEPORT'S VANESSA** Mullen delivers a pitch to the plate Monday night against Caldwell in the OVAC Tom Bechtel Class 2A Softball Championship on Ben's Field at the I-470 J.B. Chambers Complex in Elm Grove. The game was halted in the bottom of the sixth due to inclement weather. It will be resumed Friday at 5 p.m. The Redskins are ahead, 6-0.

## Bridgeport-Caldwell suspended by weather in OVAC 2A championship

By KIM NORTH  
Staff Writer

**ELM GROVE** — Bridgeport was seeking its first OVAC Tom Bechtel Class 2A Softball Championship since 2018. Caldwell has won four championships in the last five years.

The Bulldogs and Redskins will have to wait until Friday to see who adds to the tournament titles as Monday night's contest was halted by inclement weather with top seeded Caldwell holding a 6-0 advantage over the second seeds.

Both teams will return to Ben's Field at the I-470 J.B. Chambers Sports Complex on Friday at 5 p.m. to complete the game.

Caldwell, which has won titles at the Class 2A and 3A levels in the past five years, took a 3-0 lead in the bottom of the first as Bridgeport committed a pair of costly errors.

A trio of errors by the Bulldogs in the bottom of the fifth allowed the Redskins to build a 6-0 bulge.

Bridgeport has managed just two singles off of Makyla Mumaw who also has seven strikeouts and a walk.

Meanwhile, the Bulldogs' Vanessa Mullen has pitched well enough to keep her team close. The lefty has two punch outs and was issued one free



**ABOVE:** MARTINS Ferry's Maddie Lucas (12) raises her arms in jubilation as her cousin, shortstop Gracie Lucas, left, and second baseman Makayla Cole rush towards her after the final out Monday in the OVAC Class 3A championship game against Wheeling Central. Maddie Lucas struck out seven, walked none and scattered two doubles in the Purple Riders' 1-0 victory. **LEFT:** MARTINS Ferry's Giana Chirpas is congratulated at home plate after hitting a solo home run with one out in the bottom of the fourth inning Monday night against Wheeling Central. The home run was the lone run of the game. Also pictured are Alivia Reese, left, and Maddie Lucas, right.

Photos by KIM NORTH



Photo by KIM NORTH

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Bridgeport has managed just two singles off of Makyla Mumaw who also has seven strikeouts and a walk.

Meanwhile, the Bulldogs' Vanessa Mullen has pitched well enough to keep her team close. The lefty has two punch outs and was issued one free pass. She has yielded four hits.

When play resumes, Caldwell has runners on first and second with a 1-0 count on Mattie Hesson.

## Contreras homer sparks Cardinals over Pirates 6-3

ST. LOUIS (AP) — Willson Contreras hit a go-ahead home run in a four-run sixth inning and the St. Louis Cardinals beat the Pittsburgh Pirates 6-3 on Monday night for their third straight victory.

Contreras' fifth home run came off Pirates re-

## ers Hire s Coach Days ie Pittsburgh Ways

ive hired Mike Sullivan  
he Pittsburgh Penguins

ury announced the move  
ization's top candidate  
ss than a full business

shed himself as one of  
the NHL," Drury said.  
o-level presence behind  
is process and Mike be-  
us to speak with, it was  
s the best coach to lead

violette, who was fired  
playoffs following a tri-  
nal last year. Sullivan,  
ne Stanley Cup back to  
ked with trying to turn  
mediate contender.

t Sullivan not long after  
t extension of his own.  
uccess in the NHL and  
lf, and I look forward to  
rs bench," owner James  
welcome Mike back to

sons as a Rangers assis-  
ll close friend and con-  
2009-13. He coached  
the two have worked  
gh USA Hockey, most  
e-Off in February, and  
ent for the 2026 Milan

d as coach of the Phila-  
- could be a candidate  
he did at the 4 Nations,  
onfirmed Friday and the  
scuss those openings in

# Conotton Valley Claims Fifth Straight OVAC Title With 14-0 Win Over Frontier Cougars

By NICK  
HENTHORN  
Sports Editor

WHEELING - Move  
over, death and tax-  
es, the Conotton Val-  
ley Rockets are making  
their case to join you.

The two-seeded Rock-  
ets dominated their  
OVAC 1A champion-  
ship game on Friday  
against No. 1 Frontier,  
14-0, to claim their fifth  
straight OVAC title, a  
stretch of dominance  
stretching beyond an en-  
tire graduating class.

Maddison Kelley  
threw a perfect five  
innings for Conotton  
Valley, striking out 11  
inside the circle and al-  
lowing no baserunners  
at the I-470 JB Cham-  
bers Sports Complex,  
while also contributing  
to the Rockets' explo-  
sive offense with a dou-  
ble and two RBI.

"It's a great feeling,  
every year getting to  
come down here and  
compete," Conotton  
Valley head coach Jere-  
my Bleininger said.

"The girls enjoy it,  
and to walk away with  
five championships in  
a row is a pretty good  
feeling."

Frontier was able to  
hold the Rockets off the

scoreboard in the sec-  
ond, third and fifth in-  
nings- but surrendered  
seven runs in the first  
inning and seven more  
in the fourth.

"We knew [Conot-  
ton Valley] would hit  
the ball," Frontier head  
coach Samantha Liv-  
ingston said. "We knew  
they were a really solid  
team up-and-down. A  
few key plays got us in  
trouble - my left fielder  
ended up getting hurt,  
so that kind of led us  
into some more trouble.  
We're going to keep  
going, learn from it and  
hopefully we see them  
again."

Delilah Williams hit  
a two-run home run for  
the Rockets, Ava Wil-  
liams, Mylie Galigh-  
er and Maddison Kel-  
ley each doubled, and  
Brooklyn Kelley tripled  
for Conotton Valley,  
ranked atop OHSAA  
Division VII in the Ohio  
High School Softball  
Coaches Poll.

Friday's was a clash  
of two defending cham-  
pions, with Frontier hav-  
ing won the 2A title last  
season. The Cougars de-  
feated Trinity Christian  
to earn a spot in the fi-  
nal.

The Cougars will en-

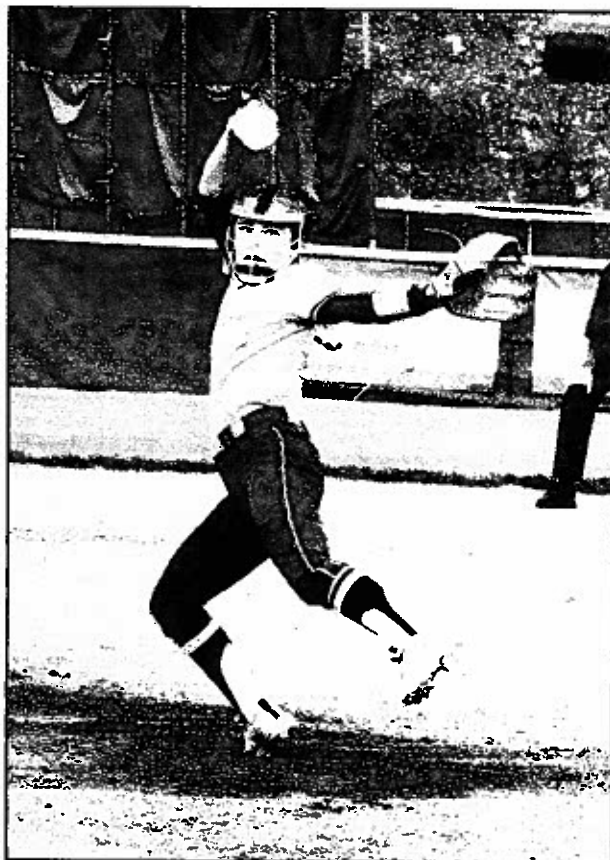


Photo by Nick Henthorn

Frontier's Kaycee Berentz throws a pitch during the Cougars' OVAC 1A championship game against the Conotton Valley Rockets on Friday at the I-470 JB Chambers Sports Complex.

ter into the state playoffs  
in less than two weeks.

"I just told them, don't  
hang your head," Liv-  
ingston said.

"Be upset that you  
lost, but it was big to

get here. It was a big  
moment. We could've  
been one of those teams  
sitting at home not doing  
anything this week. This  
is still great and I'm still  
very proud of them."

C1)

with a sacrifice bunt that  
e legged out and Caiden  
Bailey advanced both run-  
ners with another perfect  
unt before Saunders was  
walked and Balgo walked  
off.

"What he did was gut  
up and put the ball in  
play," Sliva said of Bal-  
go's game-winner.

"I was 0-for-2 and got  
walked intentionally in  
my first three plate ap-

"I got one more turn at  
bat and made the most of  
it. We got runners on and  
moved them around. I got  
up and made the play, but  
that was all because of  
what my teammates did  
before that."

Indian Creek took a 1-0  
lead in the third when Ian  
Starkey, the Redskins No.  
9 hitter, singled lead-  
ing off. He stole second  
and went to third when

er was thrown wildly to  
first. With the count 2-2  
on Barcalow, Saunders  
uncorked a wild pitch that  
allowed Starkey to score  
the game's first run.

The Redskins had a  
golden opportunity to  
add to their margin in the  
fifth when they loaded the  
bases with two outs on an  
infield single by Starkey,  
a hit-by-pitch and an in-  
tentional walk to Hyde.

any damage by inducing  
an infield pop out.

Indian Creek also left  
two runners on in the sixth  
before St. Clairsville drew  
even.

"It was a fundamen-  
tally sound game by both  
teams. Jaxon (Starks)  
made an incredible play at  
short in the top of the sev-  
enth to take away a hit,"  
Sliva recalled.

Bailey coaxed a leadoff

of the sixth. With one  
out, Saunders sent a 2-1  
pitch off the wall in deep  
left-center as Bailey cir-  
cled the bases.

Starkey had three of In-  
dian Creek's five singles.  
Saunders added a single  
to his RBI double. Colten  
Florence also doubled.

Both teams return to  
action Monday when St.  
Clairsville travels to Do-  
ver and Indian Creek vis-



# SPORTS

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## Indian Creek Single Lifts St. Clairsville to Crown For Buckeye 8

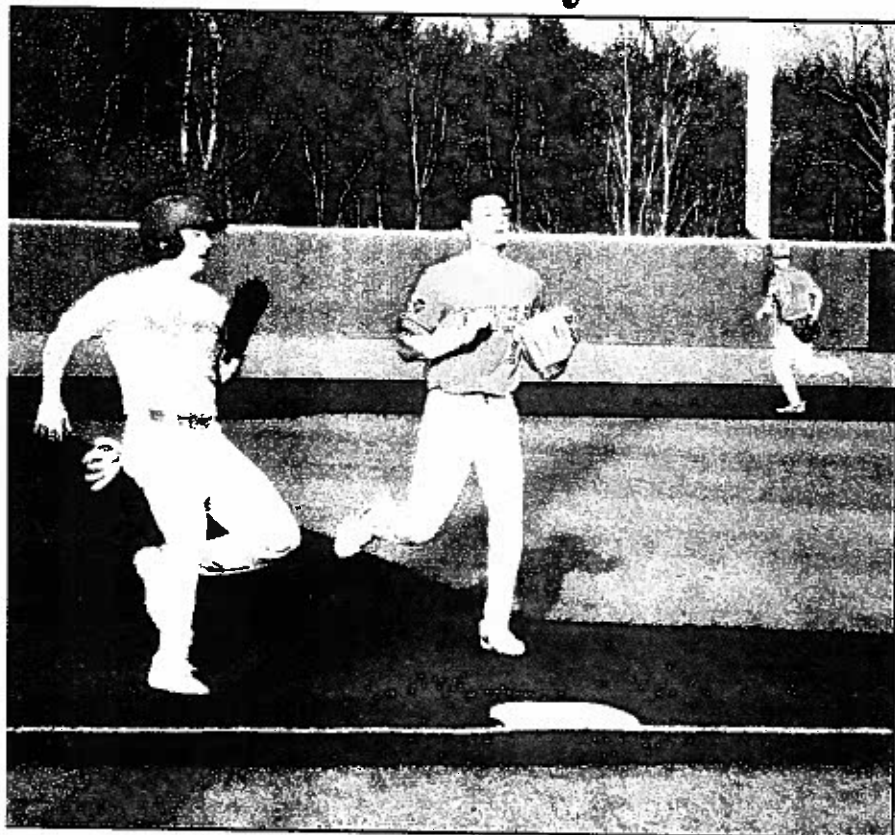


Photo by Kim North

Indian Creek's Gavin Pownall beats St. Clairsville shortstop to third base during the fourth inning of Friday's Buckeye 8 championship game on the artificial surface Mazeroski Field inside Sally Buffalo Park in Cadiz. Pownall went from first to third on a sacrifice bunt, but the Red Devils claimed a 2-1 victory for the title.

the winning run. "Both sides played really well today," Indian Creek (13-3) head coach Mike Cottis said after his team dropped its second game to St. Clairsville in the last six days.

Balgo's hit touched off a wild celebration as he was chased by his teammates to shallow centerfield before being mobbed and doused with water.

The victory was St. Clairsville's fifth in six games against Indian Creek in the last two sea-

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"We had a lot of traffic on the bases, but we just couldn't get that big base hit to break it open," Cottis lamented.

*Please see Lifts, Page C3*

## Oak Glen Finishes Strong For OVAC 4A Title Over Huskies



Photo by Nick Henthorn

Oak Glen's Addie Smith congratulates teammate Riley Bruce after Bruce crossed home plate in the bottom of the third inning Friday evening during the Golden Bears' OVAC 4A championship game against the Harrison Central Huskies at the I-470 JB Chambers Sports Complex.

By NICK HENTHORN  
Sports Editor

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Oak Glen carried a 3-2 lead into the sixth, when knocks from Bruce and Addie Smith each drove in runs to stretch the Golden Bear lead out to 6-3.

Carney held the Harrison Central offense in check throughout the middle portions of Friday's championship, entering in the second inning and going the rest of the way, striking out eight and earning the win.

The Huskies scraped one run across in the top of the seventh off the bat of Kara Blackburn, but there'd be no miracle

## Three Hits, 3 RBI To Help Padres Defeat Pirates



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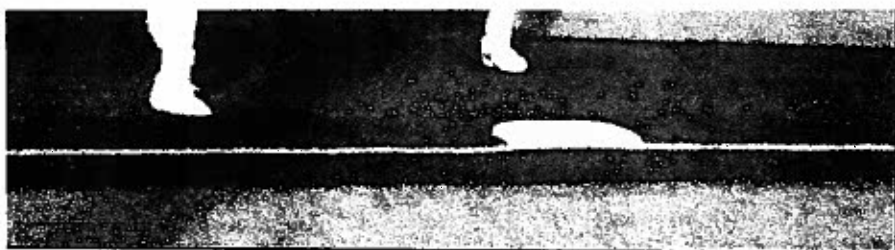


Photo by Kim North

Indian Creek's Gavin Pownall beats St. Clairsville shortstop to third base during a fourth inning of Friday's Buckeye 8 championship game on the artificial surface Mazeroski Field inside Sally Buffalo Park in Cadiz. Pownall went from first to third on a sacrifice bunt, but the Red Devils claimed a 2-1 victory for the title.

e winning run. "Both sides played really well today," Indian Creek (13-3) head coach Mike Cottis said after his team dropped its second game to St. Clairsville in the last six days.

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## 3 Hits, 3 RBI To Help Padres Defeat Pirates

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AP Photo

Pittsburgh Pirates pitcher Caleb Ferguson, center, waits with teammates for manager manager Derek Shelton to pull him from a game against the San Diego Padres during the eighth inning in Pittsburgh, Friday, May 2, 2025.

two-out single in the eighth and Arraez followed with a two-run single for an 8-4 lead. Jason Heyward had a sacrifice fly in the ninth.

Cease threw 91 pitches to get

through four innings. He allowed two runs on three hits and three walks. Jeremiah Estrada (1-1) struck out the side in the seventh for the win.

Please see Strong, Page C2

## Jazz's Postseason Disappointment

## Scottie Scheffler Leads At 18-Under Through 36 Holes After Long Weather Delay At The Byron Nelson

By SCHUYLER DIXON  
AP Sports Writer

McKINNEY, Texas — Scottie Scheffler and Jor-

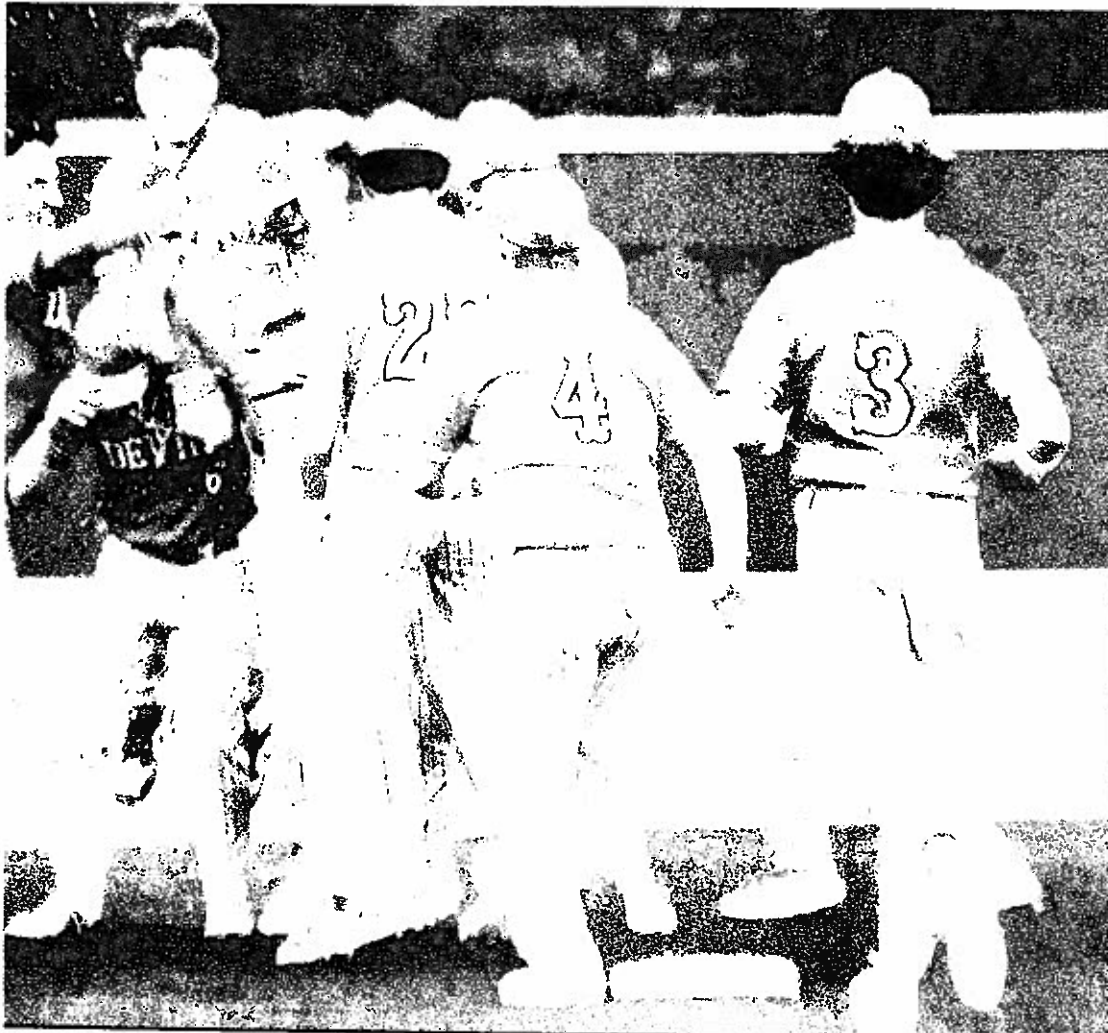


Photo by KIM NORTH  
The baseball team mob Mickey Balgo after his run-scoring infield single gave the Red Devils a 2-1 win over the Buckeye 8 championship Friday night on the artificial surface at Mazeroski Field inside Sally.

## Infield single lifts St. C. over Creek for Buckeye 8 crown

by two really good baseball teams," veteran St. Clairsville head coach Tom Sliva said. "Both pitchers battled. Both teams played hard. The fans got their money's worth tonight."

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See OAK GLEN, Page C2



Commits to Ohio Northern University





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See OAK GLEN, Page C2



Photo by NICK HENTHORN

**HARRISON CENTRAL'S** Kara Blackburn connects with a pitch on Friday evening during the Huskies' OVAC 4A championship game against the Oak Glen Golden Bears at the I-470 JB Chambers Sports Complex.

## mmits to Ohio Northern University



**UNION LOCAL'S** Peyton Casby committed Friday to Ohio Northern University, where he will continue his academic and athletic career as part of the Polar Bears' football program. Casby was an all-state third team selection and an OVAC All-Star in his career. Pictured from left is Union Local head coach Bernie Thompson, father Robert Casby, Peyton Casby, mother Randa Casby and sister Kinsley Casby.

## Inaugural McKivitz golf classic



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four hits. He threw 112 pitches, of which 69 were strikes. He continually worked his way out of situations with runners on base as Indian Creek stranded nine runners, with seven of those in scoring position.

"We had a lot of traffic on the bases, but we just couldn't get that big base hit to break it open," Cottis lamented.

Pownall, the Redskins closer, was forced to the mound as Sylus Hyde

and Sal Barcalow pitched on Wednesday and Thursday. But he wanted the ball and showed some grit with four punchouts and three base on balls. He gave up four hits and threw 91 pitches before giving way to James Brothers after he hit King with a 3-1 pitch to start the seventh. Jaxon Starks greeted Brothers with a sacrifice bunt that he legged out and Caiden Bailey advanced both runners with another perfect bunt before Saunders was walked and Balgo walked it off.

"What he did was gut it up and put the ball in play," Sliva said of Balgo's game-winner.

"I was 0-for-2 and got walked intentionally in my first three plate appearances," Balgo said. "I got one more turn at bat and made the most of it. We got runners on and moved them around. I got up and made the play, but that was all because of what my teammates did before that."

Indian Creek took a 1-0 lead in the third when Ian Starkey, the Redskins No. 9 hitter, singled leading off. He stole second and went to third when Hunter Rusnak's grounder was thrown wildly to first. With the count 2-2 on Barcalow, Saunders uncorked

a wild pitch that allowed Starkey to score the game's first run.

The Redskins had a golden opportunity to add to their margin in the fifth when they loaded the bases with two outs on an infield single by Starkey, a hit-by-pitch and an intentional walk to Hyde. Saunders escaped without any damage by inducing an infield pop out.

Indian Creek also left two runners on in the sixth before St. Clairsville drew even.

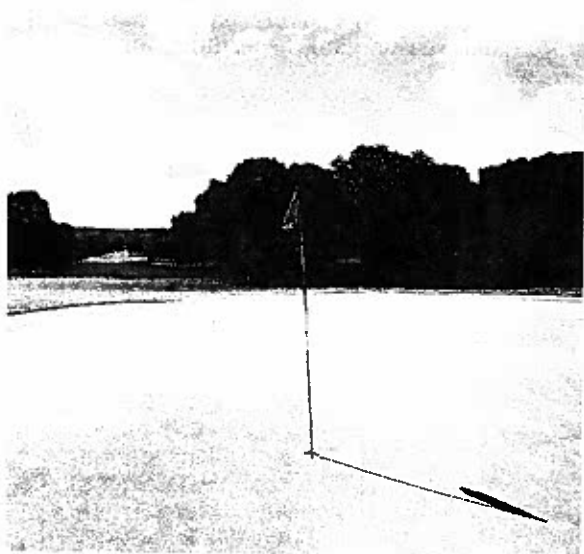
"It was a fundamentally sound game by both teams. Jaxon (Starks) made an incredible play at short in the top of the seventh to take away a hit," Sliva recalled.

Bailey coaxed a leadoff walk to start the bottom of the sixth. With one out, Saunders sent a 2-1 pitch off the wall in deep left-center as Bailey circled the bases.

Starkey had three of Indian Creek's five singles. Saunders added a single to his RBI double. Colten Florence also doubled.

Both teams return to action Monday when St. Clairsville travels to Dover and Indian Creek visits Martins Ferry.

## E YOUR GAME



## PRISTINE TAIN COURSES



### • Oak Glen

Continued from Page A1

Another hard-hit ball went for three bags later in the inning, Mattie Carney's hit to deep left field driving in a runner to tie the game. Carney scored on the next at-bat, coming home thanks to a two-out error on a ground ball.

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Something  
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## Frizzell Fires No-Hitter, Central Returns To 3A Title Game With Win Over Shamrocks

By NICK HENTHORN  
Sports Editor

**WHEELING** - They say good things come to those who wait - and after having their OVAC 3A semifinal delayed from Tuesday to Thursday due to inclement weather, the saying held true for the Wheeling Central Maroon Knights.

Central senior pitcher Josie Frizzell put together a 15-strikeout no-hitter, and the Maroon offense put up runs aplenty in a 13-0 conference tournament victory over the Barnesville Shamrocks inside the I-470 JB Chambers Sports Complex.

With the win, Central will face Martins Ferry for the 3A OVAC title on Saturday at 1 p.m. inside the I-470 Complex.

After adding another gem to her resume, Frizzell - the reigning OVAC 3A Player of the Year - is hoping she can keep it going in the finals.

"I had a couple of really good pitches I was proud of today, the way they were moving and the spin I had," Frizzell said. "I'd been fighting with that, kind of all season, so it worked out today. Ava [Hanson] was really good behind the plate, we were talking a lot. It feels good to have a whole season kind of coming full circle so I'm really excited and hopefully everything is working the same [Saturday]."

Barnesville's Chaela Smolira drew a walk for the Shamrocks, and Kylee Powell reached on a dropped third strike, the pair the only blemishes for the Central defense.

"We'll take that every day," Wheeling Central head coach Buck Davidson said.

Wheeling got on the scoreboard in the first inning off of an RBI knock from Maddie Miehle, and added to their lead in every inning except the sixth.

"Josie pitched well and we're



Photo by Nick Henthorn

The Wheeling Central Maroon Knights' Josie Frizzell throws a pitch during the Knights' 3A OVAC semifinal against the Barnesville Shamrocks on Thursday inside the I-470 JB Chambers Sports Complex. Frizzell struck out 15 as Central advanced to the championship game on Saturday.

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It was the third meeting of the season between Central and Barnesville, familiarity that Da-

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"I think today it was an advantage - the first two times we played them we did not hit the ball like we did tonight," Davidson said. "Seeing their pitchers for the third time really helped us."

Please see RETURNS, Page 12



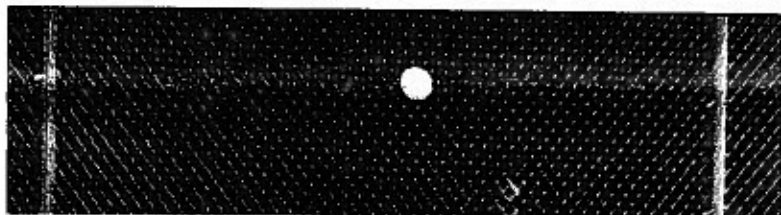
Martins Ferry first bas for a throw during Thursday softball semifinal game Field at the I-470 J.B. Grove. The Purple Riders are a tough out.

## Martins Ferry Union Local 3A Champic

By KIM NORTH  
Staff Writer

**ELM GROVE** - Wheeling Martins Ferry plays 1 it did Thursday night, Purple Riders are a tough out.

The top seeds in Class 3A punched their ticket to the OVAC championship game on Saturday at 1 p.m. against second-seeded Wheeling Central with a 11-0 nod over No. 4 Union Local on Lisa's Field at the I-470 J.B. Chambers Sports Complex. That's a rematch of last year's contest won by the Martins Ferry Knights, 9-1, 1



## Oak Glen Finally Wins OVAC Class 1A-4A Title; Morgantown

By KIM NORTH  
Staff Writer

"I felt my season was able to put

Cylie Stidd as Chirpas scored to make it 2-0.

With two out and runners on first and second in the bottom of the second inning, Cole lined a triple to the gap in right-center as the margin increased to 3-0. Chirpas was walked and with the count 2-0 on Abby Snedeker, the throw back from the catcher got away from the pitcher as Cole raced home. When the ball was kicked around in the infield, Chirpas alertly scampered home to make it 6-0.

"The only person that beat us today was us, defensively," lamented Union Local head coach Melissa Lahna. "Offensively, I thought we hit the ball really well and, late, I thought we made some really good defensive plays. Honestly, (Ky-

lie) Stidd deserved a better outcome.

"We've very young. It's exciting," Lahna added. "It's a great group of kids. They are a fun bunch to be around."

Union Local (14-9) made a game of it with four runs in the fourth, three coming on one swing of the bat by freshman Kloe Gallagher. Following an RBI single by Liv Blakley, Gallagher turned on an 0-1 pitch and sent it deep into the night in left-center.

"That was a big home run by a freshman," Lahna noted.

Martins Ferry got those four runs back an inning later and added an insurance marker in the seventh.

Samantha Goddard belted an RBI double and

Keighan Brandon added a two-run double. The fourth tally came across on an error.

Snedeker doubled home Chirpas in the seventh to cap the scoring.

Maddie Lucas struck out nine and walked two. The sophomore gave up all four hits in the fourth. She threw 113 pitches, with 78 being strikes.

Chirpas and Hughes evenly split four singles. Ella Mamone singled and doubled.

The championship game is tentatively set for Saturday at Lisa's Field. The Class 2A game - between No. 1 Caldwell and No. 2 Bridgeport - will follow at 3 on the same field. In case of inclement weather, the games could be moved to Wheeling Park's all-turf field.

## Alexis Diaz To Triple-A Louisville

CINCINNATI (AP) — The Cincinnati Reds optioned struggling closer Alexis Diaz to Triple-A on Thursday hoping he can regain the form that helped him earn 37 saves and an NL All-Star nod in 2023.

"We decided to let him try to figure out, get right in Triple-A," manager Terry Francona said. "The consistency just isn't there. It's difficult to hear that, I'm sure. We don't want that to

derail him either."

Diaz has more home runs (four) and walks (five) allowed than strikeouts (three) in six innings pitched since coming off the injured list on April 15.

His earned run average ballooned to 12.00 after he gave up three consecutive home runs in the ninth inning of a 6-0 loss to the Cardinals in the first game of Wednesday's double-header.

## RETURNS

(Continued from Page 11)

Barnesville entered Thursday as the No. 2 seed, Wheeling Central No. 3, as the two teams have been mainstays in the OVAC tournament.

"All year we were looking forward to it," Barnesville head coach Kelley Hanlon said. "We were watching the standings, everything like that. We knew that it would be us getting in and we knew it would be Ferry and Wheeling Central getting in too. We wanted to be a part of it, our seniors have been in it every year.

"It's just kind of a head game. We were excited to play Tuesday, then we got rained out after the second batter. Our heads weren't in it. It's not an excuse but we have two of our starters out, so we've had to do a lot of moving around of players and I think mentally we just weren't prepared."

Ella Betts and Becklee Oliver were unable

to play Thursday for the Shamrocks.

Wheeling Central's offense was powered by Chloe Groom (three RBI, three hits), Maddie Miehle (three hits, two RBI) and Bella Rine (two RBI). Groom, Miehle and Ava Hanson all whacked doubles for the Maroon, Groom hitting two.

Central and Ferry's conference championship date will be a rematch of last year's game, which the Knights won. Martins Ferry won the two team's regular season meeting earlier this year and the Purple Riders are the No. 1 seed in the 3A field.

"So excited- we were nervous about just making it to OVACs, and we were really hyped when we made it," Frizzell said of making the finals. "We were really hoping to get back and win it again, it'd be really great for our season before sectionals. Now we have the chance to take it home."

(11)

against the Brewers' Quinn Priester (1-0, 1.79).

Pirates: Pittsburgh welcomes San Diego for a three-game series beginning Friday. Mitch Keller (1-2, 3.97) gets the ball or Pittsburgh in the opener.



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SPLASH



## TENNIS

(Continued from Page 11)

Other members of the Oak Glen team are Leah McMahon, Elle Monaco, Zoey Caughey, Ruby Chaney and Roxye Brown.

"It's very exciting to finally win the title," Keller said. "I've got plenty of

OVAC runner up plaques at the school, so this feels very good."

The Carol Strasser Sportsmanship Award was presented to St. Clairsville's Makayla Hancock.

Team scoring was as follows:

### BIG SCHOOL

1. Morgantown 25; 2. Wheeling Park 19; 3. University 17; 4. Parkersburg South 4

### SMALL SCHOOL

1. Oak Glen 11; 2. Linsly 10; 3. Weir 9; 4. Indian Creek 4; 5. Steubenville Catholic 3; 6. Wheeling Central 2; 7. St. Clairsville 1

## WVU

(Continued from Page 11)

White doesn't have a lot of size at 5-foot-7, but he's a quick, low-to-the-ground back who has had a lot of production in just two years in college. White rushed for over 840 yards over two seasons and had 11 rushing touchdowns. He's also a pass-catching back, which is important at the next level, and had over 100 yards in both seasons, too.

The question with White is his health because he is a smaller back. This spring, Rodriguez said White had an injury, and despite dressing for the Gold-Blue Spring Showcase, he didn't play.

need to pass.

Wide receiver is the highest-paid non-quarterback position right now, and there were 30-plus receivers selected in the draft this year. Every team usually picks a receiver in the draft or signs a couple in undrafted free agency.

Bray could be one of the late-round additions or at least find a spot on a roster post-draft through undrafted free agency.

### HAMMOND RUSSELL, DEFENSIVE TACKLE

Hammond Russell is one of the leaders on WVU's defense and was produc-

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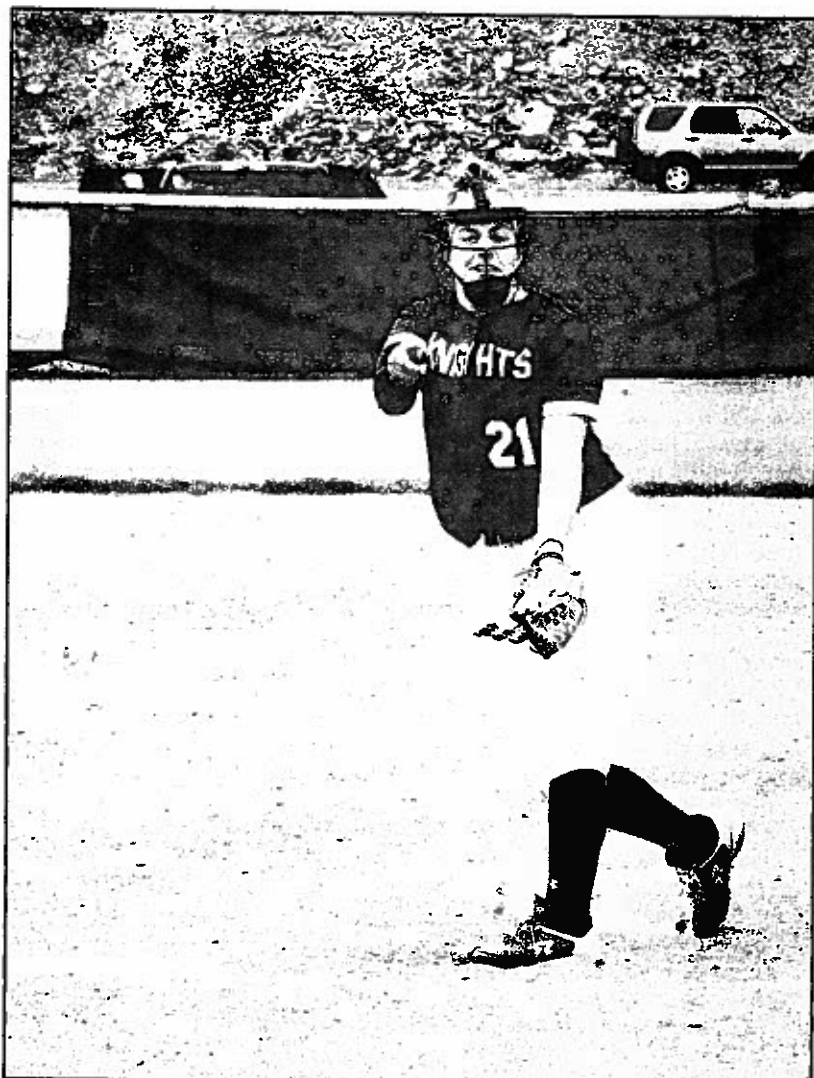


Photo by Nick Henthorn

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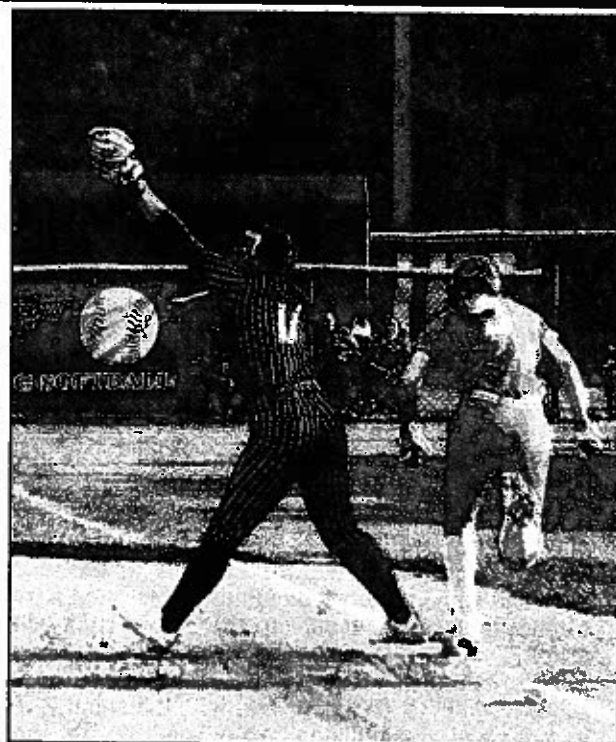


Photo by Kim North

Martins Ferry first baseman Averii Hughes stretches for a throw during Thursday night's OVAC Class 3A softball semifinal game against Union Local on Lisa's Field at the I-470 J.B. Chambers Complex in Elm Grove. The Purple Riders defeated the Jets, 11-4.

## Martins Ferry Grounds Union Local, Forces Class 3A Championship Rematch

By KIM NORTH  
Staff Writer

ELM GROVE - When Martins Ferry plays like it did Thursday night, the Purple Riders are a tough out.

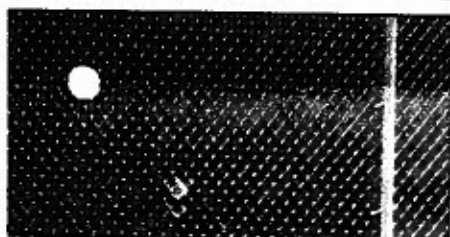
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the Purple Riders (19-4) won an earlier game this season, 5-2.

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He was referring to the bottom of the sixth when Martins Ferry had a pair of runners thrown out at third base.

Please see FORCES, Page 12



## Oak Glen Finally Wins OVAC Tennis Class 1A-4A Title; Morgantown Tops 5A

By KIM NORTH  
Staff Writer

GLEN DALE - The fourth - and final -

"I felt my serve was pretty good today and I was able to put away some shots," she added. "That's what you have to do at this level."

However, after the 2015 graduate and current starting right tackle for the San Francisco 49ers got into the NFL, he, like many other professional athletes, took up the sport.

way to give back to those who helped him reach where he is. Members of the Union Local Touchdown Club, which I belong to, began talking with him and we discussed a couple

the football program, wanted to keep the event as small as possible but still have a big-time feel.

"We wanted to make sure we put on a quality tour-

ers don't show up.

Dinner will be served immediately following the conclusion of the tournament, as will an auction.

"At that point in time,

## FORCES

(Continued from Page 11)

"We hit the ball really well. We pitched really well and I thought we played really well on defense," Magistro added. "We had some really nice catches in the outfield and infield."

The Purple Riders scored twice in the first inning and tacked on four more in the second to stake winning pitcher Maddie Lucas to a 6-0 lead. With one out, Makayla Cole drew a walk before Giana Chirpas lined a laser that nearly took the glove off of Union Local second baseman Ella Pietranton. The throw to third was wild as Cole scored and Chirpas raced to third. With two outs, Averi Hughes' bouncer back up the middle deflected off the glove of Union Local pitcher

Kylie Stidd as Chirpas scored to make it 2-0.

With two out and runners on first and second in the bottom of the second inning, Cole lined a triple to the gap in right-center as the margin increased to 4-0. Chirpas was walked and with the count 2-0 on Abby Snedeker, the throw back from the catcher got away from the pitcher as Cole raced home. When the ball was kicked around in the infield, Chirpas alertly scampered home to make it 6-0.

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The championship game is tentatively set for Saturday at Lisa's Field.

The Class 2A game - between No. 1 Caldwell and No. 2 Bridgeport - will follow at 3 on the same field. In case of inclement weather, the games could be moved to Wheeling Park's all-turf field.

## Reds Option Alexis Diaz To

CINCINNATI (AP) — The Cincinnati Reds optioned struggling catcher Alexis Diaz to Triple-A Thursday hoping he regain the form that he him earn 37 saves an NL All-Star nod in 2011.

"We decided to let try to figure out, get right Triple-A," manager Brian Francona said. "The sistency just isn't there difficult to hear that, sure. We don't want th

## RETURNS

(Continued from

Barnesville entered Thursday as the No. 1 seed, Wheeling Central No. 3, as the two teams have been mainstays in the OVAC tournament.

"All year we've been looking forward to Barnesville head coach Kelley Hanlon said. "We were watching the strings, everything like that. We knew that it would be us getting in and knew it would be Fairport and Wheeling Central getting in too. We wanted to be a part of it, seniors have been in every year.

"It's just kind of a tough game. We were excited to play Tuesday, then get rained out after second batter. Our hitters weren't in it. It's no excuse but we have a lot of our starters out, we've had to do a lot of moving around of players and I think mentally just weren't prepared. Ella Betts and Ben Lee Oliver were un-

## PULL

(Continued from Page 11)

### KEY STAT

1 — the number of home runs Skenes had allowed in his first six starts.

### UP NEXT

Cubs: visit NL Central rival Milwaukee this weekend. Ben Brown (2-2, 6.04 ERA) starts

against the Brewers' Quinn Priester (1-0, 3.79).

Pirates: Pittsburgh welcomes San Diego for a three-game series beginning Friday. Mitch Keller (1-2, 3.97) gets the ball for Pittsburgh in the opener.

## TENNIS

(Continued from Page 11)

Other members of the Oak Glen team are Leah McMahon, Elle Monaco, Zoey Caughey, Ruby Chaney and Roxye Brown.

"It's very exciting to finally win the title," Keller said. "I've got plenty of

OVAC runner up plaques at the school, so this feels very good."

The Carol Strasser Sportsmanship Award was presented to St. Clairsville's Makayla Hancock.

Team scoring was as follows:

### BIG SCHOOL

1. Morgantown 25; 2. Wheeling Park 19; 3. University 17; 4. Parkersburg South 4

### SMALL SCHOOL

1. Oak Glen 11; 2. Linsly 10; 3. Weir 9; 4. Indian Creek 4; 5. Steubenville Catholic 3; 6. Wheeling Central 2; 7. St. Clairsville 1

## WVU

(Continued from Page 11)

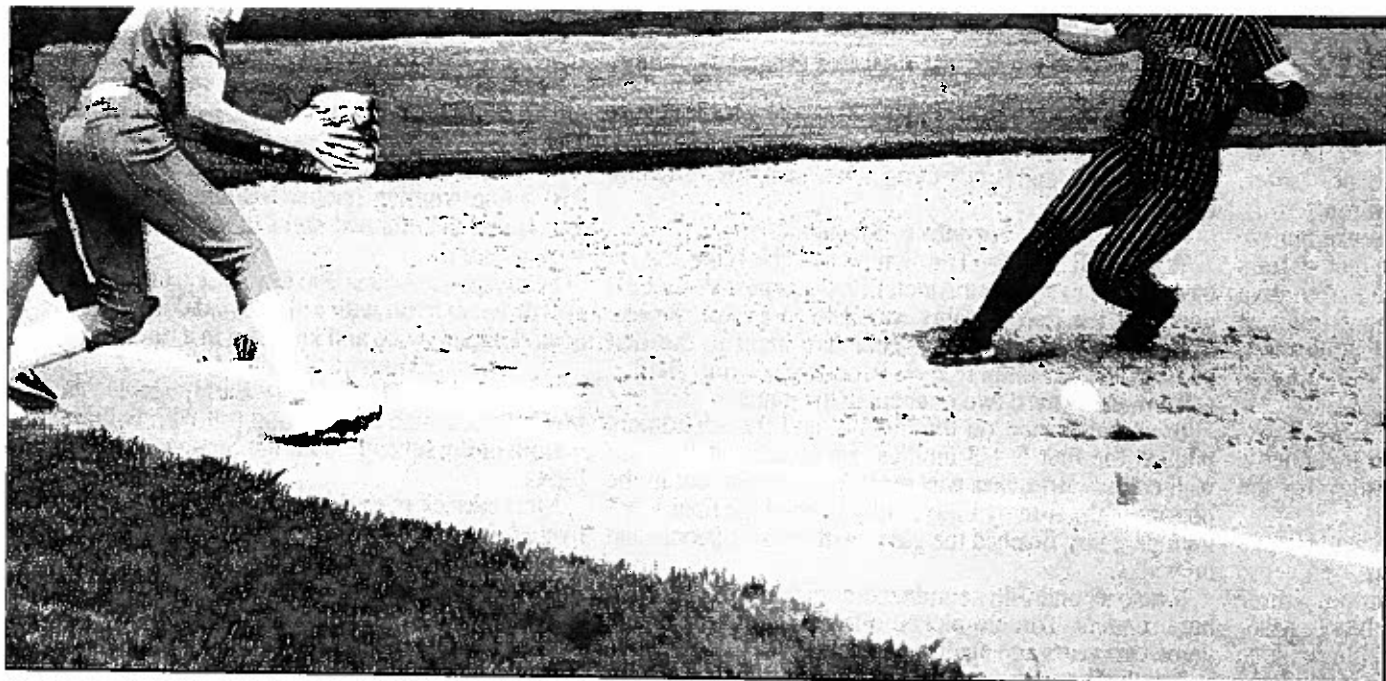
White doesn't have a lot of size at 5-foot-7, but he's a quick, low-to-the-ground back who has had a lot of production in just two years in college. White rushed for over 840 yards over two seasons and had 11 rushing touch-

need to Wide non-qua there we the draft picks a



*Seasons*





**MARTINS FERRY'S** Makayla Cole (5) slides into third base Thursday night during an OVAC Class 3A softball semifinal game against Union Local on Lisa's Field at the I-470 J.B. Chambers Complex in Elm Grove. The Jets' Edyn McGary waits on the throw. The Purple Riders defeated the Jets, 11-4.

Photo by KIM NORTH

# Martins Ferry grounds UL, forces Class 3A Title game rematch

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By NICK  
Sports Editor

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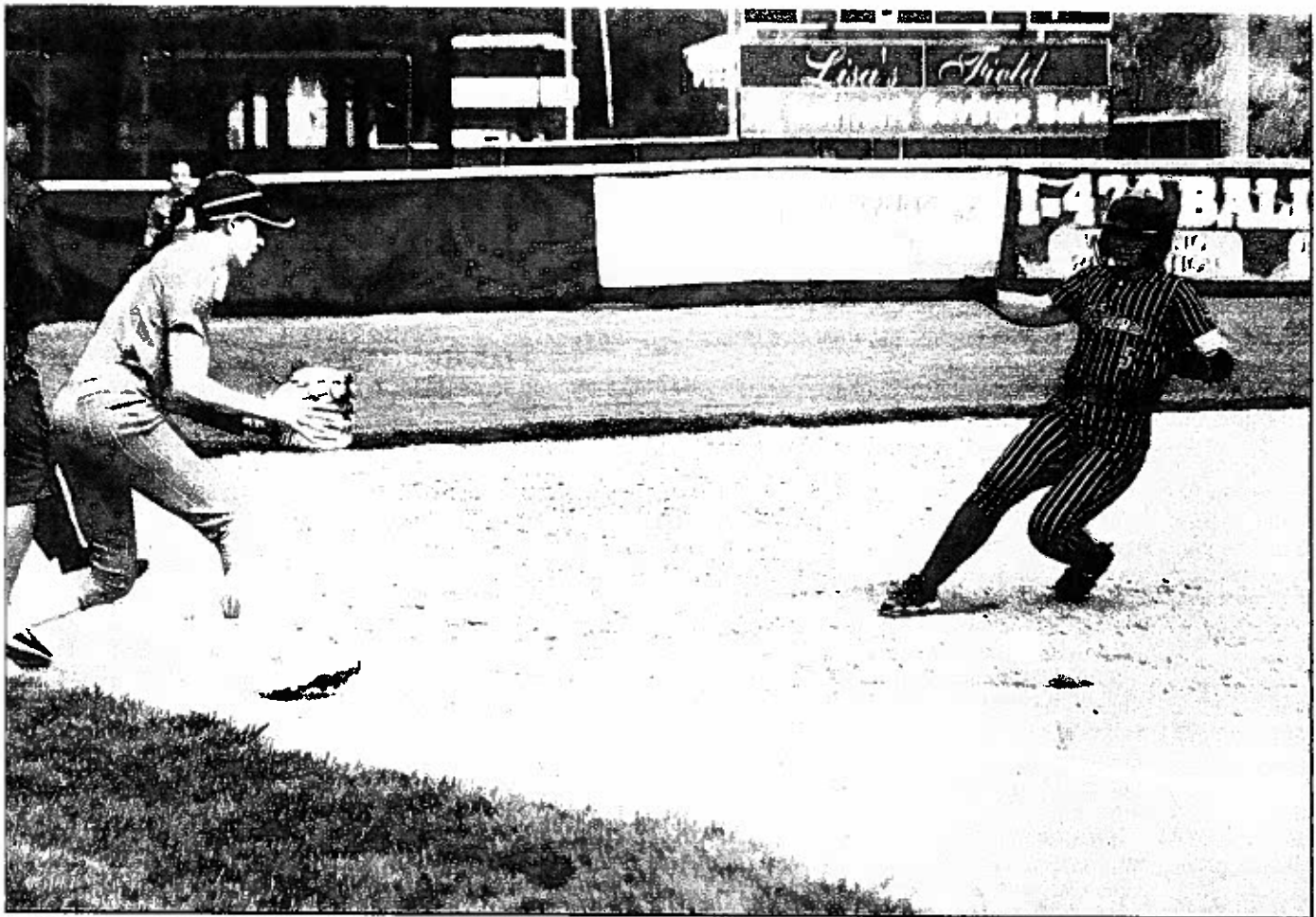


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## Wheeling Central advances with win over Barnesville

By NICK HENTHORN  
Sports Editor

**WHEELING** — They say good things come to those who wait — and after having their OVAC 3A semifinal delayed from Tuesday to Thursday due to inclement weather, the saying held true for the Wheeling Central Maroon Knights.

Central senior pitcher Josie Frizzell put together a 15-strikeout no-hitter, and the Maroon offense put up runs aplenty in a 13-0 conference tournament victory over the Barnesville Shamrocks inside the I-470 JB Chambers Sports Complex.

See **BARNESVILLE**, Page B2



Photo by NICK HENTHORN

**THE BARNESVILLE Shamrocks'** Peyton Loudin throws a pitch during the Shamrocks' 3A OVAC semifinal against the Wheeling Central Maroon Knights on Thursday inside the I-470 JB Chambers Sports Complex. The Knights prevailed to advance to the championship game on Saturday.

On the field



## • Barnesville

Continued from Page B1

With the win, Central will face Martins Ferry for the 3A OVAC title on Saturday at 1 p.m. inside the I-470 Complex.

After adding another gem to her resume, Frizzell - the reigning OVAC 3A Player of the Year - is hoping she can keep it going in the finals.

"I had a couple of really good pitches I was proud of today, the way they were moving and the spin I had," Frizzell said. "I'd been fighting with that, kind of all season, so it worked out today. Ava [Hanson] was really good behind the plate, we were talking a lot. It feels good to have a whole season kind of coming full circle so I'm really excited and hopefully everything is working the same [Saturday]."

Barnesville's Chaela Smolira drew a walk for the Shamrocks, and Kylee Powell reached on a dropped third strike, the pair the only blemishes for the Central defense.

"We'll take that every day," Wheeling Central head coach Buck Davidson said.

Wheeling got on the scoreboard in the first inning off of an RBI knock from Maddie Miehle, and added to their lead in every inning except the sixth.

"Josie pitched well and we're starting to hit the ball up and down the lineup," Davidson said. "Once we start doing that we're going to be tough to beat, if we can keep putting the ball in play and getting quality pitching from Josie and Liv Kiaski."

It was the third meeting of the season between Central and Barnesville, familiarity that Davidson thinks may have worked as an advantage for his team.

"I think today it was an

really helped us."

Barnesville entered Thursday as the No. 2 seed, Wheeling Central No. 3, as the two teams have been mainstays in the OVAC tournament.

"All year we were looking forward to it," Barnesville head coach Kelley Hanlon said. "We were watching the standings, everything like that. We knew that it would be us getting in and we knew it would be Ferry and Wheeling Central getting in too. We wanted to be a part of it, our seniors have been in it every year."

"It's just kind of a head game. We were excited to play Tuesday, then we get rained out after the second batter. Our heads weren't in it. It's not an excuse but we have two of our starters out, so we've had to do a lot of moving around of players and I think mentally we just weren't prepared."

Ella Betts and Becklee Oliver were unable to play Thursday for the Shamrocks.

Wheeling Central's offense was powered by Chloe Groom (three RBI, three hits), Maddie Miehle (three hits, two RBI) and Bella Rine (two RBI). Groom, Miehle and Ava Hanson all whacked doubles for the Maroon, Groom hitting two.

Central and Ferry's conference championship date will be a rematch of last year's game, which the Knights won. Martins Ferry won the two team's regular season meeting earlier this year and the Purple Riders are the No. 1 seed in the 3A field.

"So excited - we were nervous about just making it to OVACs, and we were really hyped when we made it," Frizzell said of making the finals. "We were really hoping

# Monroe Central rolls pass

WOODSFIELD — Karsyn Muncy drove in four runs with a pair of doubles as Monroe Central rolled past Beallsville 14-0 Thursday in high school softball action.

Karlie Haslam tossed a one-hitter with eight strikeouts and no walks. She also drove in a run.

Allie McFrederick singled three times to plate two runs, while Juana McElroy singled twice and doubled. Kenadie Loch had a three-run double that keyed a seven-run first inning.

## Marietta 5, River 3

SARDIS — Presley Kilburn singled four times and drove in a run for the Pilots while Jayda Kinney-Blair had three singles and a run batted in. Bri Wiley singled twice and tripled.

## BASEBALL

### John Marshall 3, Union Local 1

GLEN DALE — The Monarchs held down the Jets' offense on their way to a home win Thursday.

John Marshall's Kain Ankrom started the outing for the Monarchs, striking out six over five innings. Mason Markonich pitched the final two innings with three strikeouts and no hits allowed.

Hayden Hughes, Kayden Knapp and Jacob Cisar each tallied an RBI. Knapp and Cisar each had two hits.

Logan Hess and Brody Gregor each had hits for Union Local.

## Toronto 6, Brooke 4

WELLSBURG — The Bruins had the tying run on base in the seventh, but Aiden Filby was able to shut the door and the Red Knights was able to escape Brooke County with a 6-4 victory Thursday night in the first game of the season played on Brooke's new turf field.

The victors used two pitchers in the game.

Bouscher started on the mound, and the sophomore pitched the first 5 1/3 innings. He struck out five and walked one. Bouscher was replaced with one out in the bottom of the fifth by Filby. Filby pitched the final 1 2/3 innings. Filby finished the game with two strikeouts and no walks.

Bouscher and Filby combined to pick off four Brooke base runners. Toronto picked off five base runners in a game two years ago against Mathews.

Brooke recorded eight hits - five of which went for extra bases.

Aiden Provenzano produced two doubles and an RBI. Gino Provenzano ended up with a single and two RBI and Parker McMahon recorded a single and an RBI. Also, Garrett Moore tallied a single and a double, Zac O'Mery contributed a triple and Andrew Murdock collected a double.

## (Late Wednesday)

## BASEBALL

### Bridgeport 17, Paden City 2

PADEN CITY — For the third time in 10 days, a

## • Tennis

Continued from Page B1

## SMALL SCHOOL

The Golden Bears didn't have a finalist, and only had one semifinalist in Reese Witherow, but, according to veteran head coach Kenneth Keller, "used a total team effort" in securing the top hardware.

This was absolutely a total team effort. Everybody contributed in some way," Keller noted. "I'm very pleased. We have a very young team with only one se-

Bulldogs' pitcher has son Sauvageot's turn V struck out 11 in the fi Connor Nelson had the

Threet had four hits Danny Goff had a hit a had a hit and two runs t with two singles.

## Martins Fe

MARTINS FERRY 3-2 deficit into a 6-3 vi of the fifth.

Alex Reese had a si Christian Shutler sing knocked in a run with a

Eli Smith earned th ka. They each struck c three-hitter.

Jordan Kovalski sing

## Martins Fer

MARTINS FERRY

run across in the bottom Tigers.

Giana Chirpas single RBI while winning pit run. Lucas also fanned walk a batter.

Shadyside's Ariana also drove in a run with nock doubled twice an

## Monro

WOODSFIELD — McFrederick with the bottom of the seventh t Pilots.

McFrederick tripled livered the game-winn singles, as well.

Jadyn Miller singled roy singled twice to kr Karlie Haslam singled

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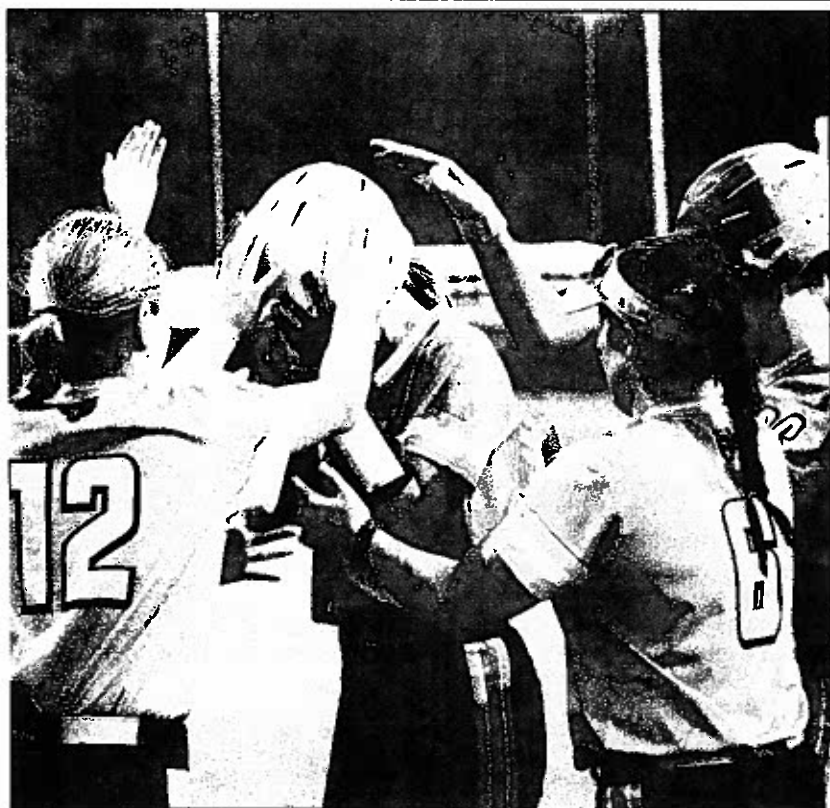


Photo by Nick Henthorn

celebrate at home plate following Mattie Carney's solo home run in the 4A semifinals victory over Beaver Local inside the I-470 JB Chambers

## Huskies Win Thriller vs. Weir To Advance To 4A Championship



Photo by Andrew Grimm

Weir's Rayna Hoover makes a play from shortstop during the Red Riders' 4A OVAC Semifinal game against Harrison Central on Wednesday inside the I-470 JB Chambers Sports Complex.

## Bears And Mohigans To OVAC Finals

Valley to grow up in and play softball. Great competition - this'll be the third time we've seen Harrison Central, we split games home and away. We're excited about it."

The final is currently set for 7 p.m. Friday at the JB Chambers Sports Complex on field four.

In Wednesday's action, Mattie Carney started the game and went six innings, striking out 10, before handing the ball off to Maddie Murray who held the Beavers off the scoreboard in the final frame.

Oak Glen scored in the top of the second after Riley Bruce drew a bases-loaded walk, and the Golden Bears scored again in the third with one swing of

the bat from Carney, a solo home run to help her own cause.

Oak Glen tacked on one more in the fifth and put together a four-run two-out rally in the sixth - needed insurance after Beaver Local scored two runs of their own in the bottom half.

Danica Holden drew a bases-loaded walk to score one, before Murray knocked a two-run single into shallow center, and Kayla Wright yanked another hit into right-center to drive in a run.

"We had good pitching from both girls - Mattie went six innings, Murray was effective too," Garner said.

Please see ADVANCE, Page 13

### By ANDREW GRIMM For The Intelligencer

ELM GROVE — For six innings in Wednesday's OVAC Class 4A semifinal, Harrison Central got runners on, but could not come up with a timely hit as Weir High's Eliza Utt was keeping them off the scoreboard.

The Huskies, though, were still within striking distance thanks to strong pitching of their own, and finally broke through in the top of the seventh.

A Kara Blackburn RBI single and Mikayala Pelegreen sac fly in back-to-back at-bats gave the Huskies their first lead, and Pelegreen worked out of a jam in the bottom of the inning to seal the deal on a comeback, 2-1, victory over the defending champ Red Riders at the I-470 Complex.

It was the third meeting be-

tween the teams; Weir High had won both regular season contests.

"That was a tough game, we knew it was going to be a tough game," Harrison Central head coach Darrin Young said. "The first time we didn't have our full line up and they beat us pretty good, the second time we were closer and it was a heck-of-a ballgame in Cadiz and I knew tonight would be a good ballgame, too."

"We've started seeing the ball better and hitting the ball — if you can get enough to beat (Utt), that's a tough task. We left a lot of runners on, but we kept scrapping and I told them this is the time of year where you have to be scrappy."

Please see **THRILLER**,  
Page 13



## Mazey Talks Retirement And Mountaineers' Success Under Sabins

to defend their home field vs. the Monarchs.

After John Marshall plated one in the top of the first, St. Clairsville scored in the fourth, fifth and sixth innings to take the win.

with an RBI, while Ryan Ivey also drove in a run for the Red Devils.

Cain Martin tallied an RBI for John Marshall.

**River 9,  
Monroe Central 0**

ge 11)

Kira Smith also drove a home run, a solo shot in the fourth inning.

Alsop's three-run blast broke open what had been a scoreless game with one out in the third inning. Morgantown scored five more in the fourth inning thanks to Alsop and Smith.

"Bats came alive tonight, pitching was great by Maddie Wisman," Morgantown head coach Lorri Lipscomb said. "Even though we had some defensive miscues, they picked each other up and came back strong. That's the key."

"They're better than us," Steubenville head coach Gus DiMarzio said. "They pitched better than us, they fielded better than us, they hit better than us."

Each team tacked on one run apiece in the final frame, a sac fly from Steubenville's Riley Zorne serving to cut into the Mohigan lead, but Morgantown would retire the following batter to advance to the 5A final, currently slated for 5 p.m. on Friday at the JB Chambers Sports Complex on field four.

"We're excited we're back to defend the OVAC championship, we want to make it two in a row."

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striking out six and earning the win.

Peyton Blue had a big outing at the plate. After signing with Potomac State baseball earlier in the day, Blue came to the diamond and hammered a home run, finishing with two hits and five RBI as well as a stolen base and two runs scored. Leadoff man Lucas Dennis scored four times. Hunt had a double and two RBI

day. Lexi Bogard pitched the entire six innings for Cameron, striking out nine. Skye Dobbs tallied three hits and two RBI, while Kendra Thomas tallied two hits and three RBI.

Jessa Anderson finished with two hits for Magnolia, a double and a single.

**(Late Tuesday)**

#### **BASEBALL**

**Brooke 9,**

**E. Fairmont 8, 8 Inn.**

However, a single run in the top of the eighth made the bus ride home a lot sweeter.

Parker McMahon earned the win in relief of Andrew Murdock. He struck out two and didn't walk a batter. He also doubled in a run.

Gino Provezano had four runs batted in and Zach O'mery triple and drove in two. Aiden Provenzano singled and doubled twice.

## **THRILLER**

(Continued from Page 11)

The victory gives the Huskies (18-7) a return trip to the I-470 Complex for Friday night's conference championship game against Oak Glen. Harrison Central had been in the semifinals four of the last five seasons but had not been able to reach the championship game.

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After taking the lead, the Huskies had to hold on for dear life to get to the final. The Red Riders' last gasp came with the bottom of the order up, and a single and an error put two runners on, a sac bunt giving the Red Riders (21-7) runners on second and third with just one out and the top of the order coming up.

Pelegreen, though, fired her third strikeout in her two scoreless innings of relief work, getting Utt, the No. 1 hitter, looking for a pivotal second out. The Huskies intentionally walked Rayna Hoover, then got a pop up to end the game on a great running catch in foul territory by first baseman Kamryn Crothers.

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"I'm not satisfied with our hitting approach the last couple of games. We've got to figure that out or it's going to be a short postseason for us."

"Eliza pitched great, she got a little tired toward the end but she had a lot of tough situations to battle though. You can't go out and put up one run and just say to you pitcher, 'Alright, go hold them down now.' You've got to give her run support and we didn't. Even in the last inning, she did a good job of keeping it at 2-1."

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Friday's championship game between the Huskies and Golden Bears is slated to start at 7 p.m.

**STON COUNTY**  
**PENNSYLVANIA**





THURSDAY,  
MAY 1, 2025

COMICS.....14  
TV/ENTERTAINMENT.....15

# The Intelligencer.

# SPORTS

Brought  
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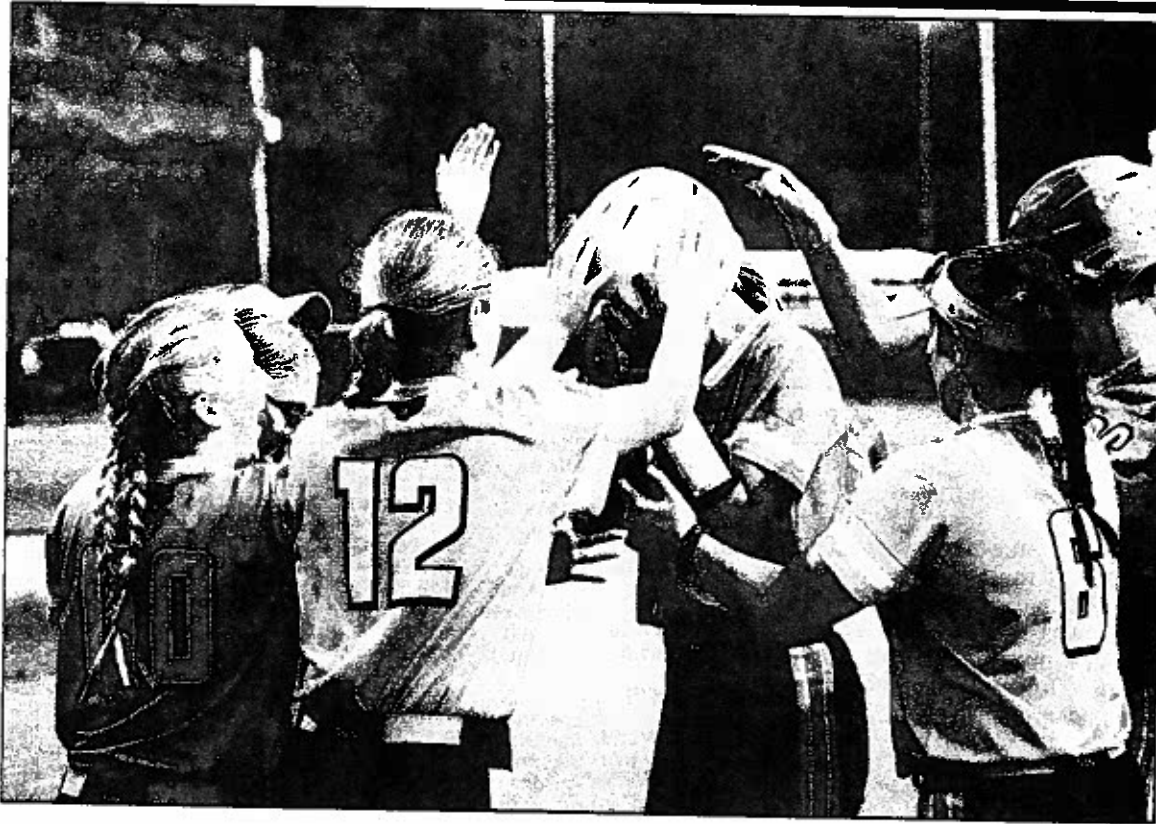


Photo by Nick Henthorn

The Oak Glen Golden Bears celebrate at home plate following Mattie Carney's solo home run in the third inning of their 7-2 OVAC 4A semifinals victory over Beaver Local inside the I-470 JB Chambers Sports Complex.

## Golden Bears And Mohigans Advance To OVAC Finals

By NICK HENTHORN  
Sports Editor

WHEELING - The Oak Glen Golden Bears are back in the OVAC championships, ready to compete for the same title that they won three years in row in 2021, '22 and '23, following a 7-2 OVAC 4A semifinals victory over Beaver Local inside the I-470 JB Chambers Sports Complex.

With the win, the No. 3 Golden Bears are set for a rubber match with No. 4 Harrison Central, who defeated No. 1 Weir 2-1.

"We're really excited," Oak Glen head coach Sherrie Garner said of the win. "The OVAC is a great place to be, this is a great

Valley to grow up in and play softball. Great competition - this'll be the third time we've seen Harrison Central, we split games home and away. We're excited about it."

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Oak Glen scored in the top of the second after Riley Bruce drew a bases-loaded walk, and the Golden Bears scored again in the third with one swing of

the bat from Carney, a solo home run to help her own cause.

Oak Glen tacked on one more in the fifth and put together a four-run two-out rally in the sixth - needed insurance after Beaver Local scored two runs of their own in the bottom half.

Danica Holden drew a bases-loaded walk to score one, before Murray knocked a two-run single into shallow center, and Kayla Wright yanked another hit into right-center to drive in a run.

"We had good pitching from both girls - Mattie went six innings, Murray was effective too," Garner said.

Please see ADVANCE, Page 13

## Huskies V vs. Weir To To 4A Cha



Weir's Rayna Hoover makes the Red Riders' 4A OVAC Semifinal Central on Wednesday inside the I-470 JB Chambers Sports Complex.

By ANDREW GRIMM  
For The Intelligencer

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It was the third meeting be-

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first, St. Clairsville scored in the fourth, fifth and sixth innings to take the win.

RBI for John Marshall.  
**River 9,  
Monroe Central 0**

## ADVANCE

(Continued from Page 11)

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## BATTLE

(Continued from Page 11)

At No. 1, the second-seeded duo of Maya Greenlee and Annika Chadha defeated the No. 1 Wheeling Park tandem of Madeline Bradshaw and Lauren Eskins by an 8-3 count. Both teams advanced with 8-0 quarterfinal victories before Morgantown prevailed 8-3 in its semifinal and Wheeling Park 8-2.

At No. 2, Morgantown's No. 1 seeded pairing of Natalia Cassim and Annabelle Goodykoontz topped Park's second-seeded sister duo of Harper and Reese Moores, 8-0.

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Visit

**WASHINGTON COUNTY**

PENNSYLVANIA

**RUNNING**





Photo by ANDREW GRIMM

**HARRISON CENTRAL** softball head coach Darrin Young congratulates his players after the final out of the Huskies' 2-1 OVAC 4A semifinals victory over Beaver Local on Wednesday evening at the I-470 JB Chambers Sports Complex. Harrison Central will face Oak Glen for the championship on Friday.

# Huskies win thriller vs. Weir to advance to OVAC finals

By **ANDREW GRIMM**  
For The Times Leader

**ELM GROVE** — For six innings in Wednesday's OVAC Class 4A semifinal, Harrison Central got runners on, but could not come up with a timely hit as Weir High's Eliza Utt was keeping them off the scoreboard.

The Huskies, though, were still within striking distance thanks to strong pitching of their own, and finally broke through in the top of the seventh.

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It was the third meeting between the teams; Weir High had won both regular season contests.

"That was a tough game, we knew it was going to be a tough game," Harrison Central head coach Darrin Young said. "The first time we didn't have our full line up and they beat us pretty good, the second time we were closer and it was a heck-of-a ballgame in Cadiz and I knew tonight would be a good ballgame, too."

"We've started seeing the ball better and hitting the ball — if you can get enough to beat (Utt), that's a tough task. We left a lot of runners on, but we kept scrapping and I told them this is the time of year where you have to be scrappy."

The victory gives the Huskies (18-7) a return trip to the I-470 Complex for Friday night's conference championship game against Oak Glen. Harrison Central had been in the semifinals four of the last five seasons but had not been able to reach the championship game.

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See **HUSKIES**, Page B3

*Diver's Peyton Blue commits to Potomac State College*

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COLUMBUS — Next March, the Ohio High School Athletic Association girls and boys basketball state tournaments will return to the traditional format of the Final Four, with all state semifinalists converging in the same area in one weekend for the state tournament.

The University of Dayton Arena will continue to host all seven state championship games, along with several semifinal games, but UD Arena cannot host all 21 games of the state tournament with the new seven division format in basketball.

Additional sites in the Dayton area will be announced as host sites for some state semifinal games. The

OHSAA Board of Directors approved the change at its April meeting.

"We looked at several options on how to conduct this year's state tournament with seven divisions, because UD Arena is not available to host all 21 games," said Doug Ute, OHSAA Executive Director. "We settled on the football model, with the state semifinals held on the weekend prior to the state finals. The feedback we received from the coaches at this year's state tournament led us to make this proposal to the board to go back to the traditional final four model, which will require additional sites. There are some great options in that area and we are already working

on those details."

Last fall, the girls volleyball state tournament, which also had 21 contests, utilized three additional sites to supplement Wright State University. This coming June, the baseball state tournament will use one additional site. Firestone Stadium in Akron is available that week to host the 21 games of the softball state tourna-

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## • Huskies

Continued from Page B1

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## • OVAC

Continued from Page B1

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## • Classic



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## SPORTS

# The Oak Glen Golden Bears return to OVAC championships

By **NICK HENTHORN**  
Sports Editor

**WHEELING** — The Oak Glen Golden Bears are back in the OVAC championships, ready to compete for the same title that they won three years in row in 2021, '22 and '23, following a 7-2 OVAC 4A semifinals victory over Beaver Local inside the I-470 JB Chambers Sports Complex.

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Oak Glen tacked on one more in the fifth and put together a four-run two-out rally in the sixth — needed insurance after Beaver Local scored two runs of their own in the bottom half.

Danica Holden drew a bases-loaded walk to score one, before Murray knocked a two-run single into shallow center, and Kayla Wright yanked another hit into right-center to drive in a run.

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THE TIMES LEADER

# Bellaire f Maroon k

**WHEELING** — The Maroon Knights cruised on Wednesday, Central starting pitcher Eli Sancomb tossing a five-inning no-hitter in an abbreviated victory over Bellaire, 13-0.

Sancomb struck out six or the mound.

Luke Tiu struck two doubles for Wheeling Central driving in three. Jake Brown also had three RBI, while Brayden Cover had two.

Wheeling Central stole six bags in the game.

### St. Clairsville 3, John Marshall 1

**ST. CLAIRSVILLE** — The Red Devils scored late to defend their home field vs the Monarchs.

After John Marshall plated one in the top of the first St. Clairsville scored in the fourth, fifth and sixth innings to take the win.

Roby Hanna pitched a complete game two-hitter for St. C., striking out four and issuing no walks. Leadoff hitter Caiden Bailey went 4-4 at the plate with an RBI, while Ryan Ivey also drove in a run for the Red Devils.

Cain Martin tallied an RBI for John Marshall.

### River 9, Monroe Central 0

**WOODSFIELD** — The Pilots got a road win over their rival Seminoles on Wednesday.

Kaden Hunt went the distance on the mound striking out six and earning the win.

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Last division state schedule announced

# • Bridgeport cages the Shadyside Tigers

By **NICK HENTHORN**  
Sports Editor

**WHEELING** — The Bridgeport Bulldogs have made their way to the OVAC 2A championship game — and blew the doors open to get there.

The Bulldogs defeated Shadyside

10-0 in six innings on Monday at the I-470 JB Chambers Sports Complex in their conference semifinal, advancing to the 2A title game which is to be held on Saturday at 3 p.m. at Lisa's Field inside the I-470 Complex.

"My team showed up to play today," Bridgeport head coach Hannah Boyer

said. "They came here and they knew what they had to do, knew we had to hit the ball and play good defense and that's exactly what we did."

Bridgeport's offense and defense were both clicking on Monday.

See **BRIDGEPORT**, Page B3



Photo By KIM NORTH

**RIVER'S MALLORIE** Maddy (16) celebrates after slugging a two-run home run in the top of the first inning Monday night in an OVAC Class 2A semifinal on Ben's Field at the I-470 J.B. Chambers Complex high above Elm Grove. Joining the celebration are teammates Ava Wohnhas (17) and Bri Wiley (9). However, the Pilots fell, 4-3.

## • Caldwell squeaks past River in OVAC Class 2A semifinal

By **KIM NORTH**  
Staff Writer

**ELM GROVE** — Veteran River softball coach Dave Wright is just like every other coach, he's not really into moral victories. However, at the same time, he was very proud of his Pilots Monday night.

Defending champion and No. 1 seed Caldwell scored twice in the bottom of the sixth to edge past No. 4 River, 4-3, in an OVAC Tom Bechtel Class 2A semifinal on Ben's Field at the I-470 J.B. Chambers Complex. The Redskins had mercy-ruled the Pilots in their earlier two meetings this season.

The youthful Pilots had taken a 3-2 advantage in the top of the inning when Mallorie Maddy raced home on a two-out single by Presley Kilburn, who had taken a line drive off her left wrist earlier in the game. However, it wasn't meant to be.

"We had a chance to win. We just made a couple of mental mistakes in the bottom of the sixth that cost us, other than that, I'm very proud of the girls," Wright said. "They fought hard. I couldn't have asked for any more out of them."

Caldwell's Breighlee Morocco tripled to deep right to start the game-winning rally. Layne Sidwell grounded back to Ava Wohnhas inside the circle. She caught Morocco off the bag at third, but the third baseman's throw home was errant, allowing Morocco to score the tying run as Sidwell advanced all the way to third. With one out, Cecelia Marshall grounded back to the mound. Ava Wohnhas fielded the ball and looked the runner back to third but as she turned and threw to first for the second out, Sidwell broke from third and slid in just before the throw from Kilburn arrived.

See **RIVER**, Page B3

## Penguins split with Stanley Cup-winning coach Mike Sullivan

**PITTSBURGH (AP)** — Mike Sullivan's relentless intensity instantly ignited the Pittsburgh Penguins.

From one of his morning skates as Penguins head coach in December 2015, when his booming voice echoed throughout an empty Consol Energy Center (now PPG Paints Arena), through back-to-back Stanley Cups in 2016 and 2017, to the penultimate practice of an otherwise lost season earlier this month, the fire may have occasionally flickered but never threatened to go out.

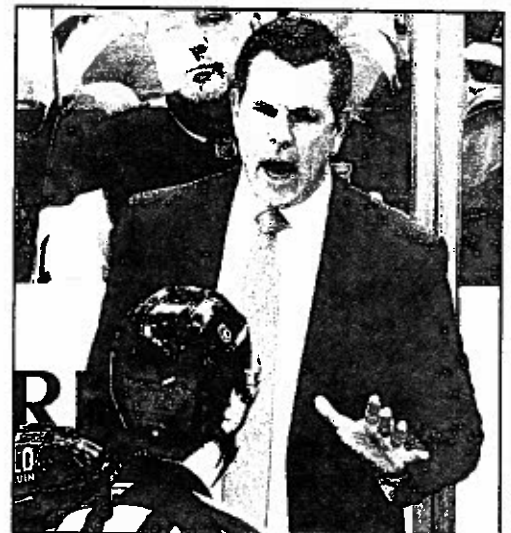
Yet with the Penguins in the middle of an inevitable reset that has no tentative end date, general manager Kyle Dubas felt it simply was time to go in another direction, parting ways with Sullivan in something that felt less like a firing and more like a shift change.

"Sometimes the class needs a new professor," Dubas said Monday. "And

postseason meetings between Dubas and Sullivan, the second one occurring in Sullivan's native Boston on Sunday. During a discussion that Dubas described as "amicable," it became apparent to Dubas that Sullivan's many strengths might be better served leading a team that's not evolving from one generation to the next.

"There's a reason why it's essentially impossible, (why) it has not been done, where a coach has led a team to winning and being in contention and through a transition all the way back," Dubas said. "And I think that two things can be true: That someone can be a great head coach and then they'll move on to become a great coach on the next stop. And it could also be time for change here."

Sullivan, whose 409 wins with Pittsburgh are a franchise record, had two seasons remaining on the contract ex-



AP Photo

**PITTSBURGH PENGUINS** head coach Mike Sullivan talks with referee Brandon

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backer coach Dan Connor, who joined Diaz's staff as a defensive analyst in 2022, Knowles can definitely fill them.

"Incredibly smart guy. Makes everyone around him better," Connor said. "You come to work and you're on edge because you know, I have

outdoor practice areas staying well behind formations to maintain a wide field of view on personnel matchups each practice. He's already envisioning what multiple position groups will look like heading into training camp.

"Really, just trying to pick up on their

## • River

Continued from Page B1

"I'm very disappointed that we lost, but I'm happy that they fought as hard as they did," Wright offered. "I hope we can bounce back from this. We've got a game every day this week.

"Caldwell is a very, very talented team. They hit the ball and they can run. How many ground balls did they turn into infield singles?" Wright asked. "They are a veteran team and we are a very young team. We played young in the sixth inning.

River took a 2-0 lead in the top of the first when Wohnas was hit with the second pitch of the game from Makayla Mumaw and Maddy sent a 1-1 pitch over the fence in dead center.

Actually, I was trying

to bunt her but she didn't see the sign," Wright noted.

However, they would only get three more hits off of Mumaw who struck out 14 and didn't walk a Pilot.

Maddy also singled in the fourth to break up a streak of 10 straight River batters set down by Mumaw.

Caldwell scored on an RBI single by Morocco in the first and drew even in the second when Colie Arick raced home on Addyson Lake's groundout.

Wohnhas, who pitched well enough to win, struck out nine and didn't issue a free pass. She retired 10 in a row at one point.

Caldwell will face No. 2 Bridgeport on Saturday at 3 p.m. The Bulldogs blanked No. 3 Shadyside, 10-0.

## • Bridgeport

Continued from Page B1

Vanessa Mullen pitched the full six innings for the Bulldogs, striking out two and issuing zero walks. Her defense was in top form behind her, including first baseman Jayde Carman who turned an inning-ending unassisted double play in the top of the third. With a runner on first and one out, Shaydside's Kamryn Parker shot a line drive down the first base line, which Carman plucked out of the air before stepping on first to double up the runner who'd advanced away from the bag.

Bridgeport's offense was methodical, scoring in every inning save the first. Carman lifted a

playoff field, will play top-seeded Caldwell for the championship. Caldwell defeated the River Pilots 4-3 on Monday.

"They have to do what they did today," Boyer said of her team going into the championship game. "We have to stay confident, we have to believe we can do exactly what we did today — hit the ball, pitch well and play good defense, that leads to wins."



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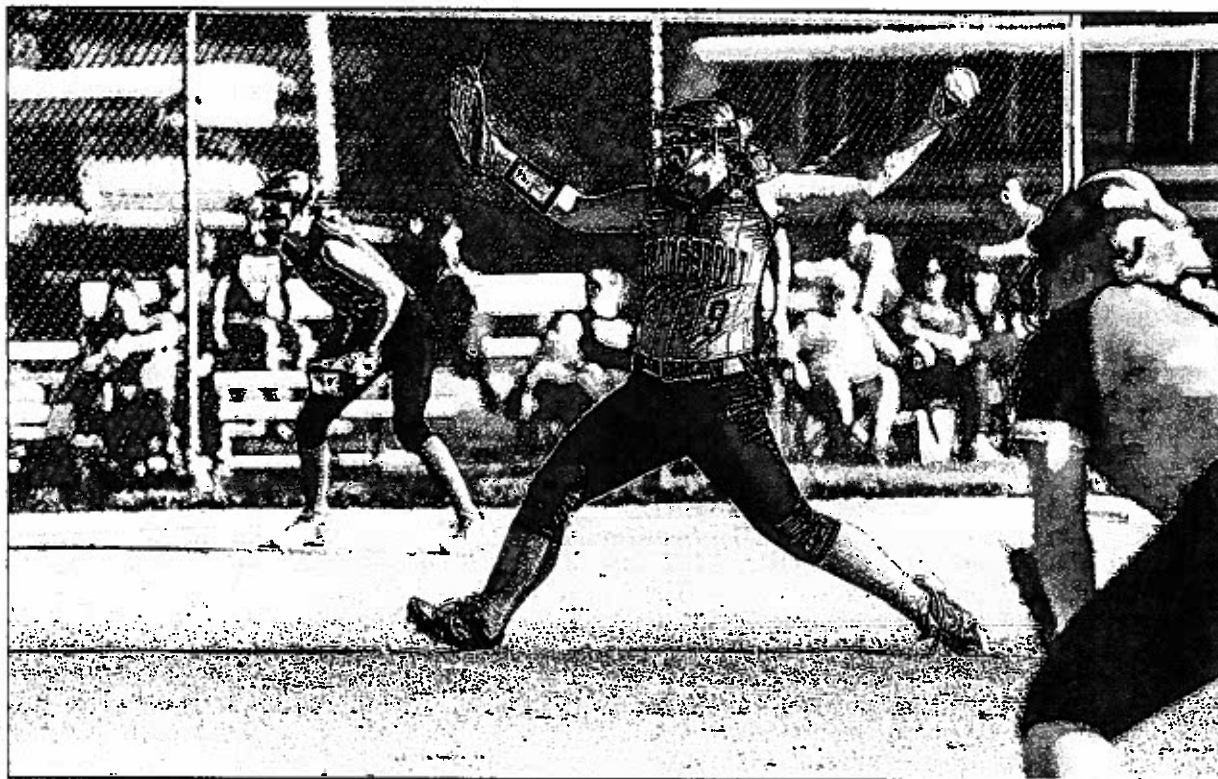
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# SPORTS

## Local teams take the mound



**BRIDGE-PORT'S VANESSA** Mullen fires in a pitch on Monday during the Bulldogs' OVAC 2A semifinal victory over Shadyside at the I-470 JB Chambers Sports Complex. Mullen pitched a complete game and earned the win inside the circle.

Photo by JEFF Campbell

## • Bridgeport cages the Shadyside Tigers

By **NICK HENTHORN**  
Sports Editor

**WHEELING** — The Bridgeport Bulldogs have made their way to the OVAC 2A championship game — and blew the doors open to get there.

The Bulldogs defeated Shadyside

10-0 in six innings on Monday at the I-470 JB Chambers Sports Complex in their conference semifinal, advancing to the 2A title game which is to be held on Saturday at 3 p.m. at Lisa's Field inside the I-470 Complex.

"My team showed up to play today," Bridgeport head coach Hannah Boyer

said. "They came here and they knew what they had to do, knew we had to hit the ball and play good defense and that's exactly what we did."

Bridgeport's offense and defense were both clicking on Monday.

See **BRIDGEPORT**, Page B3



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By **KIM NORTH**  
Staff Writer

**ELM GROVE** — Veteran River softball coach Dave Wright is

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## • Bridgeport

Continued from Page B1

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Bridgeport's offense was methodical, scoring in every inning save the first. Carman lifted a two-run home run over the centerfield fence in the second to break open the scoring. Addie Snodgrass shellacked two doubles and drove in two, Hanna Brewer and Vanessa Mullen each hit doubles as well, Brewer's driving in one and Mullen's driving in two. McKayla Plants tallied three base hits and an RBI, and Rowyn Herman also collected an RBI.

Shadyside finished with four hits — two singles from Kaylie Warnock, and one base hit apiece from Kamryn Parker and Ali Weather-son.

Brewer ended the game in the bottom of the sixth by shooting a hit to center field, scoring Katie Jackson from second base.

"Bridgeport came to hit the ball today," Shadyside head coach Robert Gorrell said. "They wanted it. We didn't play our game today, we didn't hit the ball. Big games like this, you've got to play hard, you've got to be in the game with them. We let it get away from us. Credit to Bridgeport, they played hard and they've been good this year."

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Bridgeport, the two-seed in the four-team 2A

game. We have to stay confident, we have to believe we can do exactly what we did today — hit the ball, pitch well and play good defense, that leads to wins."

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# Central's Seth Cover throws no-hitter vs. Fort Frye

and while Zach O'Mery singled twice and  
ing plated a run.

igh Ryan Ivey, Brody Saunders and  
Mickey Balgo all singled twice, with  
ing Ivey driving in two and Saunders and  
470 Balgo one each. Caiden Bailey dou-  
over bled and tripled.

## Bridgeport 7, Magnolia 5

BROOKSIDE — Jaki Threet  
fanned six and walked six in five in-  
nings as the Bulldogs defeated the  
165 visiting Blue Eagles on the Niekro  
Diamond.

runs Danny Goff had three singles and  
ylen two RBI for Bridgeport. Roman Sau-  
vageot and Connor Nelson each sin-  
gled twice, with Sauvageot driving in  
a run.

## Union Local 8, Buckeye Local 2

CONNORVILLE — Karson Griga-  
dou-tis struck out a dozen, walked three  
and teamed with Bill DSchumacher  
on a three-hitter as the Jets flew past  
five, the Panthers at Mazeroski Park. Gri-  
gatis also drove in two runs.

Logan Hess singled three times and  
bled knocked in a run for Union Local.

Mar- Kaleb Stang had an RBI single for  
RBI Buckeye Local.

## River 10, Shenandoah 0

HANNIBAL — Six runs in the  
truck first and four more in the fourth were  
1 five more than enough for the Pilots to put  
at the one in the win column Monday vs.  
2 also Shenandoah in five innings.

Ty Nething kept the scoreboard  
ouble. spotless on the mound, pitching the  
loss. complete game and striking out five  
1 while also driving in a run at the plate.

bruins Kaden Hunt and Peyton Blue, Riv-  
4 runs er's two and three-holes, each deliv-  
oming ered two RBI in the game, as did Trey  
ne Ju- Larrick.

River was out-hit 7-3 in the game.  
e runs River drew five walks to Shenando-  
1 dou- ah's one.

on had  
ed in, **Tyler Consolidated 22,  
Beallsville 3**

KIDWELL — The host Silver  
Knights erupted for 10 runs in the  
bottom of the fourth in rolling past  
the Blue Devils.

Landon Boggs drove in five runs  
with a single and double as Tyler  
Consolidated collected 17 base hits.  
Nate Deaton hit a pair of home runs  
and knocked in three runs. Gabe Jack-  
son had four runs batted in on a single  
and home run.

Dalton Fulton had two singles and a  
pair of RBI for Beallsville.

## Jefferson County Christian 14, Tuscarawas Central 6

MINGO JUNCTION — The home-  
standing Royals broke open a 5-5  
game with four runs in the fifth and  
five runs in the sixth.

Lee Gump worked 4.2 innings, giv-  
ing up one earned one. Aiden Howard  
closed out the game and picked up the  
win.

Carson Duvall led at the plate go-  
ing 3-3 with a double and two RBI.  
Lee Gump tripled and stole three  
bases. The Royals move to 11-6 on  
the season and play Malvern at home  
Tuesday.

## SOFTBALL

### OVAC 1A Semifinals Frontier 14, Trinity 3

WHEELING — The Cougars had  
little difficulty with the Warriors on  
Monday in their OVAC 1A Semifinal  
matchup at the I-470 JB Chambers  
Sports Complex.

Kaycee Berentz struck out 10 on  
the mound, while also tallying a hit  
and an RBI with the bat.

Grace Arnold brought power at the  
plate with a home run and a double,  
ending with a four-RBI day.

Leadoff hitter Keeley went 5-5 at  
the plate, all singles, with two RBI  
and three runs scored.

Alexis Livingston struck a triple  
and a single with one RBI.

Gracie Mendenhall collected two  
RBI as well.

Top-seeded Frontier will face No. 2  
Conotton Valley on Friday at 5 p.m.  
on Lisa's Field inside the same I-470  
Complex.

## Conotton Valley 14, Madonna 0

WHEELING — Through three in-  
nings, the Madonna Blue Dons were  
battling with the top team in Ohio  
D-VII, trailing 3-0 to the Conotton  
Valley Rockets in their OVAC 1A  
semifinal game on Monday at the  
I-470 JB Chambers Sports Complex  
on Lisa's Field.

The fourth inning, though, was a  
game-changer.

Conotton Valley plated 11 runs in  
the bottom of the fourth to explode to  
a 14-0 lead, the final score of Mon-  
day's semifinal after five innings.  
With the win, the Rockets will ad-  
vance to face Frontier on Friday at 5  
p.m. on Lisa's Field.

Madonna walked five and commit-  
ted three errors in the game.

Madi Owens and Ally Laughlin  
each smacked singles for Madonna  
while Geena Birkhimer struck a dou-  
ble.

## Regular Season

### Wheeling Park 9, Indian Creek 5

WHEELING — Brennan Tipton  
drove in three runs with a single and  
triple as the Patriots downed the vis-  
iting Redskins.

Grace Tamburin doubled in two  
runs and Kyla Cunningham had two  
singles and a ribbie.

### Buckeye Local 4, East Liverpool 1

CONNORVILLE — Karlie Land-  
er fanned five, singled, doubled and  
drove in a run as the Panthers defeat-  
ed the visiting Potters.

Missy Smith knocked in two runs  
with a pair of singles and Lexi Neilly  
and Paige Dombrowski each singled  
twice.

including with the  
York Rangers and  
Boston Bruins, both  
hose profiles — a  
can team with Stan-  
Cup ambitions —  
more in line with  
Pittsburgh found  
f when Sullivan re-  
ed Mike Johnston

in the early stages of  
the 2015-16 season.

The longtime NHL  
forward known for his  
defensive play brought  
a direct, no-nonsense  
approach that — com-  
bined with a series  
of shrewd moves by  
then-general manag-

er Jim Rutherford —  
helped Pittsburgh be-  
come the first team in  
nearly two decades to  
raise the Stanley Cup in  
consecutive springs.

Sullivan also devel-  
oped a deep bond with  
longtime captain Sid-  
ney Crosby and fellow  
franchise icons Evgeni  
Malkin and Kris Le-  
tang, repeatedly prais-  
ing their leadership  
during the back half  
of a 16-year stretch  
in which the Penguins

Sports Group had made  
it clear since buying the  
team in late 2021 how  
fond it was of the Bos-  
ton University forward  
who forged an 11-year  
NHL career built more  
on grit and an innate  
intelligence above all  
else.

Yet the success that  
came so easily during  
the early days of Sul-  
livan's tenure faded as  
the core grew older and  
the front office — first  
Rutherford, who left  
in early 2021, then his

son, and they were re-  
inforced during their  
recent meetings.

"Part of the reaffir-  
mation of where we're  
at is, is he still up for  
this? Does he want to  
go through this? Where  
does he sense it's at,  
and what's his energy  
and passion for?" Du-  
bas said.

Dubas added that in  
"a perfect world," they  
could have found a way  
forward. This isn't that.

"I think it's just in  
general the feeling that

eafguard

Chicago	15	13.536	4 1/2	3	5-5	W-2	9-4	6-9	124124
Wash.	13	16.448	7	3	6-4	L-1	9-7	4-9	123150
Atlanta	12	15.444	7	3	7-3	L-1	8-3	4-12	112119
Miami	12	15.444	7	3	4-6	L-2	8-8	4-7	120152

Central Division									
W L Pct	GB	WCGB	L10	Str	Home	Away	RS	RA	
Chicago	17	12.586	—	—	6-4	L-2	9-7	8-5	172133
Cincinnati	16	13.552	1	—	7-3	W-5	7-6	9-7	153110
Milwaukee	14	15.483	3	2	4-6	W-1	9-4	5-11	146129
St. Louis	12	17.414	5	4	3-7	L-2	10-5	2-12	131135
Pittsburgh	11	18.379	6	5	4-6	L-2	6-7	5-11	102127

West Division									
W L Pct	GB	WCGB	L10	Str	Home	Away	RS	RA	
San Fran.	19	10.655	—	—	6-4	W-2	9-4	10-6	135107
Los Ang.	18	10.643	1/2	+2 1/2	6-4	W-2	12-3	6-7	133117
San Diego	17	11.607	1 1/2	+1 1/2	3-7	L-4	12-4	5-7	106 83
Arizona	15	13.536	3 1/2	1/2	4-6	W-1	8-8	7-5	150138
Colorado	4	23.148	14	11	1-9	L-6	3-9	1-14	89 158

AMERICAN LEAGUE		NATIONAL LEAGUE	
Monday's Games		Monday's Games	
Minnesota 11, Cleveland 1		N.Y. Mets 19, Washington 5	
Baltimore 4, N.Y. Yankees 3		Cincinnati 3, St. Louis 1	
Houston 8, Detroit 5		Atlanta at Colorado, late	
Athletics 2, Texas 1		Miami at L.A. Dodgers, late	
Tuesday's Games		Tuesday's Games	
Minnesota (Paddock 0-3) at Cleveland (Bibee 2-2), 6:10 p.m.		Chicago Cubs (Imanaga 2-1) at Pittsburgh (Heaney 2-1), 6:40 p.m.	
N.Y. Yankees (Rodon 3-3) at Baltimore (TBD), 6:35 p.m.		St. Louis (Mikolas 0-2) at Cincinnati (Singer 4-0), 6:40 p.m.	
Kansas City (Lorenzen 2-3) at Tampa Bay (Bradley 2-1), 7:05 p.m.		Washington (Gore 2-3) at Philadelphia (Wheeler 2-1), 6:45 p.m.	
Chicago (Crochet 2-2) at Toronto (Francis 2-3), 7:07 p.m.		Arizona (Rodriguez 1-2) at N.Y. Mets (Peterson 1-1), 7:10 p.m.	
Milwaukee (Peralta 2-2) at Chicago White Sox (Wilson 0-0), 7:40 p.m.		Milwaukee (Peralta 2-2) at Chicago White Sox (Wilson 0-0), 7:40 p.m.	
Athletics (TBD) at Texas (deGrom 0-1), 8:05 p.m.		Atlanta (TBD) at Colorado (Marquez 0-4), 8:40 p.m.	
Detroit (Olson 3-1) at Houston (Gusto 3-1), 8:10 p.m.		San Francisco (Webb 3-1) at San Diego (Pivetta 4-1), 9:40 p.m.	
L.A. Angels (Kochanowicz 1-3) at Seattle (Miller 1-3), 9:40 p.m.		Miami (Alcantara 2-2) at L.A. Dodgers (TBD), 10:10 p.m.	

## PREP LINESCORES

**BASEBALL**  
**OVAC Class 1A**  
**Championship**  
**(at Edison's Unified**  
**Sports Complex)**  
**Cameron 3, Madonna 2**  
Cam 100 100 0 - 2 0 0  
Mad 000 000 3 - 3 3 1  
C-Angel (11K, 6BB), Reed 1p  
(7), (1K, 1BB) and Bellanco; Evans  
rbi  
M-Wilharm wp (10K, 4BB)  
and Wells; Lazear T, 2rbi;  
Grishkevich S, rbi  
**Regular Season**  
**Wheeling Central 4,**  
**Fort Frye 0**  
FF 000 000 0 - 0 0 1  
WC 202 000 x - 4 7 0  
FF-Hesson 1p (3K, 1BB) and  
Duskey  
WC-S. Cover wp (14K, 2BB)  
and Petry; Ernest S, T, 2rbi;  
Rosnick T; B. Cover S, 2rbi  
**Barnesville 3, Shadyside 0**  
Barn 000 001 2 - 3 5 1  
Shad 000 000 0 - 0 5 0  
B-Blon wp (10K, 1BB) and  
Powell; Blon S, rbi; Cs. Car-  
penter D; Sobutka D, rbi  
S-Collins 1p (11K, 3BB),  
Wright (7), (0K, 0BB) and Rus-  
sell  
**Tyler Consolidated 22,**  
**Beallsville 3**  
Bealls 300 00 - 3 4 1  
Tyler C 453 (10)x - 22 17 1  
B-Cole 1p (0K, 1BB), Kinzy  
(3), (1K, 1BB), Gasser (3), (0K,  
2BB), Eing (4), (1K, 0BB) and  
Dornon; Fulton 2S, 2rbi; Ram-  
sey S, rbi  
C-Deaton (2K, 1BB), Neff wp  
(2), (2K, 2BB), Sickles (3), (3K,  
1BB), Jacobson (3), (3K, 0BB)  
and Dornon; Fulton 2S, 2rbi;  
Ramsey S, rbi

2BB), Simon (7), (1K, 0BB) and  
Yanchak; Whitmire rbi; Simon  
D, HR, rbi; Robb 2S; Digiando-  
menico S, rbi; McGee 3S  
JM-Coulter 1p (1K, 0BB), Mar-  
konich (5), (2K, 4BB) and Mar-  
tin; Hughes S, D, rbi; Martin  
rbi  
**Union Local 8,**  
**Buckeye Local 2**  
UL 201 021 2 - 8 10 1  
BL 100 010 0 - 2 3 4  
UL-Grigatis wp (12K, 3BB),  
Schumacher (7), (2K, 0BB)  
and Gregor; Schumacher S,  
rbi; Hess 3S, rbi; Gregor S, D;  
Jenkins 2S, rbi; Grigatis 2rbi;  
Causby SF, rbi; K. Kovacs 2S  
BL-Stang 1p (4K, 4BB), Haight  
(6), (0K, 3BB), Griffin (7), (0K,  
1BB) and Luyster; Stang S, rbi  
**SOFTBALL**  
**OVAC Semifinals**  
**Class 1A**  
**(at Lisa's Field)**  
**Conotton Valley 14,**  
**Madonna 0**  
Maddonn 000 00 - 0 2 3  
Conotton 300 (11)x - 14 11 1  
M- Conley 1p (1K, 5BB) and  
Orecchio. Owens S; Laughlin  
S, SB.  
CV- Williams (5K, 2BB), Kelley  
wp (4) (3K, 0BB) and D. Wil-  
liams. A. Williams 2D, T, SB,  
2rbi; M. Kelley D, T, 3rbi; B.  
Kelley 3S, SB, 2rbi; Rolli SB,  
S; Spano SB, rbi; Neilson S, D;  
Williams rbi; Galigher S, 2rbi.  
**Class 2A**  
**(at Ben's Field)**  
**Caldwell 4, River 3**  
River 200 001 0 - 3 4 2  
Cald 110002 x - 4 7 0  
R-Wohnhas 1p (9K, 0BB) and  
Dornon; Fulton 2S, 2rbi;  
Ramsey S, rbi

regular-season sweep of the host Monarchs as Nate Simon doubled and belted a solo home run. Winning pitcher Rocco Digiandomenico singled in a run and struck out five, while Ryland Robb had two singles and Paul McGee singled thrice.

Nathan Hughes singled, doubled and knocked in a run for John Marshall, which also received an RBI from Cain Martin.

**Barnesville 3, Shadyside 0**  
SHADYSIDE - Dylan Blon struck out 10, walked one and scattered five singles as the Shamrocks shut out the host Tigers on Fleming Field. He also singled in a run.

Parker Sobutka had an RBI double. Ryan Collins fanned 11 in the loss.

**Brooke 13, St. Clairsville 11**  
ST. CLAIRSVILLE - The Bruins and Red Devils combined for 24 runs and 29 hits with the visitors coming out on top on Unified Field at the Junior Sports Complex.

Gino Provenzano drove in five runs with two singles and a pair of doubles for Brooke. Henry Anderson had three singles and two runs batted in, while Zach O'Mery singled twice and plated a run.

Ryan Ivey, Brody Saunders and Mickey Balgo all singled twice, with Ivey driving in two and Saunders and Balgo one each. Caiden Bailey doubled and tripled.

**Bridgeport 7, Magnolia 5**  
BROOKSIDE - Jaki Threet fanned six and walked six in five innings as the Bulldogs defeated the visiting Blue Eagles on the Niekro Diamond.

Danny Goff had three singles and two RBI for Bridgeport. Roman Sauvageot and Connor Nelson each singled twice, with Sauvageot driving in a run.

**Union Local 8, Buckeye Local 2**  
CONNORVILLE - Karson Grigatis struck out a dozen, walked three and teamed with Bill DSchumacher on a three-hitter as the Jets flew past the Panthers at Mazerowski Park. Grigatis also drove in two runs.

Logan Hess singled three times and knocked in a run for Union Local.

Kaleb Stang had an RBI single for Buckeye Local.

**River 10, Shenandoah 0**  
HANNIBAL - Six runs in the first and four more in the fourth were more than enough for the Pilots to put one in the win column Monday vs. Shenandoah in five innings.

Ty Nothing kept the scoreboard spotless on the mound, pitching the complete game and striking out five while also driving in a run at the plate.

Kaden Hunt and Peyton Blue, River's two and three-holes, each delivered two RBI in the game, as did Trey Larrick.

River was out-hit 7-3 in the game. River drew five walks to Shenandoah's

in the sixth.

Lee Gump worked 4.2 innings, giving up one earned one. Aiden Howard closed out the game and picked up the win.

Carson Duvall led at the plate going 3-3 with a double and two RBI. Lee Gump tripled and stole three bases. The Royals move to 11-6 on the season and play Malvern at home Tuesday.

## SOFTBALL

### OVAC 1A Semifinals

#### Frontier 14, Trinity 3

WHEELING - The Cougars had little difficulty with the Warriors on Monday in their OVAC 1A Semifinal matchup at the I-470 JB Chambers Sports Complex.

Kaycee Berentz struck out 10 on the mound, while also tallying a hit and an RBI with the bat.

Grace Arnold brought power at the plate with a home run and a double, ending with a four-RBI day.

Leadoff hitter Keeley went 5-5 at the plate, all singles, with two RBI and three runs scored.

Alexis Livingston struck a triple and a single with one RBI.

Gracie Mendenhall collected two RBI as well.

Top-seeded Frontier will face No. 2 Conotton Valley on Friday at 5 p.m. on Lisa's Field inside the same I-470 Complex.

### Conotton Valley 14, Madonna 0

WHEELING - Through three innings, the Madonna Blue Dons were battling with the top team in Ohio D-VII, trailing 3-0 to the Conotton Valley Rockets in their OVAC 1A semifinal game on Monday at the I-470 JB Chambers Sports Complex on Lisa's Field.

The fourth inning, though, was a game-changer.

Conotton Valley plated 11 runs in the bottom of the fourth to explode to a 14-0 lead, the final score of Monday's semifinal after five innings. With the win, the Rockets will advance to face Frontier on Friday at 5 p.m. on Lisa's Field.

Madonna walked five and committed three errors in the game.

Madi Owens and Ally Laughlin each smacked singles for Madonna while Geena Birkhimer struck a double.

## Regular Season

### Wheeling Park 9, Indian Creek 5

WHEELING - Brennan Tipton drove in three runs with a single and triple as the Patriots downed the visiting Redskins.

Grace Tamburin doubled in two runs and Kyla Cunningham had two singles and a ribbie.

### Buckeye Local 4, East Liverpool 1

CONNORVILLE - Karlie Lander fanned five, singled, doubled and drove in a run as the Panthers defeated the visiting Potters.

Missy Smith knocked in two runs with a pair of singles and Lexi Neilly and Paige Dombrowski each singled twice.

## Cave Win Rv 55 Points To Sweet Heat And Finish

came up and sent a two-out, two-run triple to the fence in right center to tie the game, then Koleton Grishkevich came up next and walked-it-off with an RBI single to plate Lazear and give the Blue Dons a thrilling 3-2 victory and stun the Dragons.

"These guys handle adversity very well and they battle," Madonna head coach TJ Miller said. "I can't say enough about these guys. We know Cameron is always going to give us their best, we

single and he did a great job and come through."

The game was an epic dual on the mound.

The Dons' starter, Reed Wilharm, fired a no-hitter and was awarded game MVP, while Cameron starter Kason Angel had held Madonna's powerful lineup out of the hit column through six innings, but was up against the pitch count limit going to the final inning.

Please see SEVENTH, Page 10



Photo by Andrew Grimm

Cameron's Wes Starcher connects with a pitch during the Dragons' OVAC 1A championship match-up against Madonna on Monday at the Edison Unified Sports Complex.

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Please se



Photo by Jeff Campbell

Bridgeport Bulldogs head coach Hannah Boyer hugs first baseman Jayde Carman after the Bulldogs' OVAC 2A semifinal victory over Shadyside at the I-470 JB Chambers Sports Complex.

## Bulldogs Punch Ticket To OVAC 2A Title Game With 10-0 Win Over Shadyside

By NICK HENTHORN  
Sports Editor

WHEELING - The Bridgeport Bulldogs have made their way to the OVAC 2A championship game - and blew the doors open to get there.

The Bulldogs defeated Shadyside 10-0 in six innings on Monday at the I-470 JB Chambers Sports Complex in their conference semifinal, advancing to the 2A title game which is to be held on Saturday at 3 p.m. at Lisa's Field inside the I-470 Complex.

"My team showed up to play today," Bridgeport head coach Hannah Boyer said. "They came here and they

Bridgeport's offense and defense were both clicking on Monday.

Vanessa Mullen pitched the full six innings for the Bulldogs, striking out two and issuing zero walks. Her defense was in top form behind her, including first baseman Jayde Carman who turned an inning-ending unassisted double play in the top of the third.

With a runner on first and one out, Shadyside's Kamryn Parker shot a line drive down the first base line, which Carman plucked out of the air before stepping on first to double up the runner who had advanced

## Morgantown, Linsly Lead OVAC

By KIM NORTH  
Staff Writer

GLEN DALE - Dover and Morgantown have made the OVAC 'Big School' tennis division a two-team race, while Linsly tops the 'Small School' field after the first of four days of competition on the John Marshall courts. Action continues Tuesday with boys' singles, with the girls taking to the courts Wednesday and Thursday for doubles and singles action, respectively. Action starts at 8:30 each morning.

In case of inclement weather, matches will be moved to the Wheeling Park Bubble.

In boys' doubles action, the Mohigans defeated the Tornadoes in two of the three matches to take a 11-10 edge in team scoring.



Linsly's Javi Vizuet r bles action from Monc at the John Marshall c

Please see LEAD, Page 10

## West Virginia Adds Two More

By SPENCER  
RIPCHIK

For The Intelligencer

West Virginia and Rich Rodriguez remained active in the portal, picking up their first running back commitment.

SMU running back Jaylan Knighton and Jacksonville State receiver Jordan McCant are reportedly committing to the Mountaineers for the 2025 season, making the portal additions this period over 10

at the collegiate ra for SMU and Miami missed most of last with an injury, allow him to redshirt and another year of eligibility. In 2023, he rec ed 745 yards on carries for seven tot downs. Before SMU played three season Miami and rushed over 1,000 yards and touchdowns. Knigl was a three-star tr fer prospect, acco ing to 247Sports, was a four star out

Soier Reed came on and, after walking a batter, fired a strikeout to put the Dragons (14-8) one out away, but the Blue Dons (16-2) had other plans.

"Kason Angel threw a great game for them, he's a great kid" Miller said. "We knew going to the last inning he was at 105 so we wanted to be patient at the plate and wait for strikes. They had to change and we got some timely hits. These guys were hyped up and got it done."

Wilhelm struck out 10 batters, walked four, and gave up just one earned run. Cameron scored on a two-out error in the first inning and

out the side in the seventh to set up the rally.

"I can't speak highly enough Reed," Miller said. "He's a great pitcher, he's one of our top dogs. He wanted the ball today and was hungry. We had a little bit of adversity and he battled through. He pitched a phenomenal game and put us in a great position to have a chance to win this game."

"He didn't want to come out. Usually I don't like to go three times through a lineup, but he was a man on a mission and we let it ride and he did a phenomenal job. He got better as the game went and that's Reed, he's a bulldog."

It is the second-straight OVAC

1 and No. 3 in West Virginia Class A by MetroNews, will likely meet again, potentially twice, in the Region 1 tournament.

"We thought we had them," Cameron coach Adam Angel said. "They got us when they had to, so good for them. We will see them again, I told the kids we know what they got, we know we're right there with them and we'll try to get them back in the tournament and make this sting a little bit less."

#### UP NEXT

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Madonna: Hosts Weir High in the annual city championship game on Wednesday.

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#### LEAD

(Continued fr

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Morgantown prev: at No. 1 as the tea Andrew McClellan Solas Chhin-Kr topped Dover's du Gabe Pavick and Jer Cappell by an 8-1 c The top-seeded Mohi breezed to the finals 8-0, 8-0 and 8-2 v ries, while the Torna upset the No. 2 University in the qua finals (8-4) and the ond-seeded Linsly i in the semis (8-3).

At No. 2, Mor town's second-se duo of Max Chen Max Warner teamed knock off the No. 1 t from Dover of A Klaiber and Lake Sickle, 8-6. The M gans had won their vious three matches identical 8-1 scores.

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#### ADDS

(Continued fr

Rodriguez has ac a couple of receivers ready this opening, he's the first this sp to have experience Rodriguez, playing the Gamecocks. He limited action in ti years at Jackson State with just 29 g and primarily saw t on special teams. Cant spent the sp and winter with Jacksonville State h coach Charles Kelly, wasn't satisfied and united with Rodrigue

#### RIVER

(Continued from Page 9)

Ava Wohnhas fielded the ball and looked the runner back to third but as she turned and threw to first for the second out, Sidwell broke from third and slid in just before the throw from Kilburn arrived.

"I'm very disappointed that we lost, but I'm happy that they fought as hard as they did," Wright offered. "I hope we can bounce back from this. We've got a game every day this week."

"Caldwell is a very, very talented team. They hit the ball and they can run. How many ground balls did they turn into infield singles?" Wright asked. "They are a veteran team and we are a very young team. We played young in the sixth inning."

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Caldwell will face No. 2 Bridgeport on Saturday at 3 p.m. The Bulldogs blanked No. 3 Shadyside, 10-0.

#### PUNCH

(Continued from Page 9)

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Shadyside finished with four

hits- two singles from Kaylie Warnock, and one base hit apiece from Kamryn Parker and Ali Weatherson.

Brewer ended the game in the bottom of the sixth by shooting a hit to center field, scoring Katie Jackson from second base.

"Bridgeport came to hit the ball today," Shadyside head coach Robert Gorrell said. "They wanted it. We didn't play our game today, we didn't hit the ball. Big games like this, you've got to play hard, you've got to be in the game with them. We

let it get away from us. Credit to Bridgeport, they played hard and they've been good this year."

Bridgeport, the two-seed in the four-team 2A playoff field, will play top-seeded Caldwell for the championship. Caldwell defeated the River Pilots 4-3 on Monday.

"They have to do what they did today," Boyer said of her team going into the championship game. "We have to stay confident, we have to believe we can do exactly what we did today- hit the ball, pitch well and play good defense, that leads to wins."

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# Comes Through In Seventh, Championship Over Dragons



Photo by Andrew Grimm

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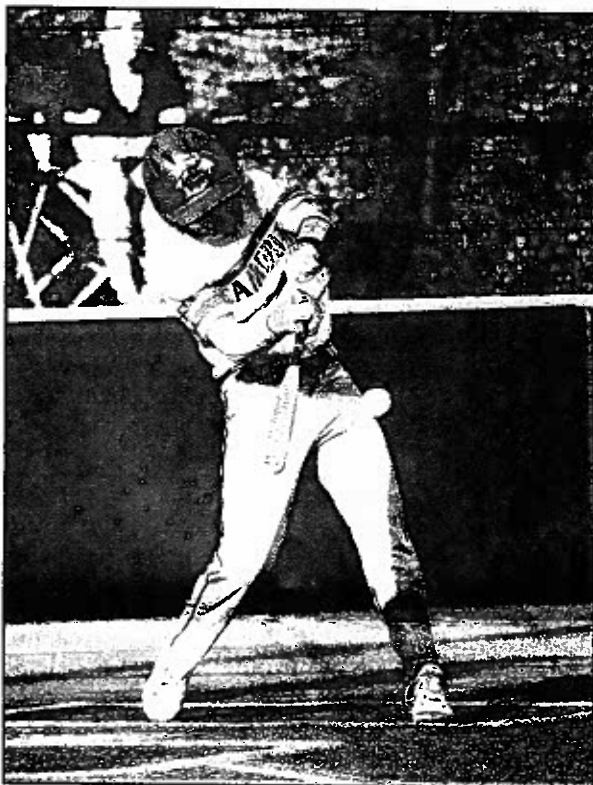


Photo by Andrew Grimm

Cameron's Wes Starnher connects with a pitch



Photo by Kim North

River's Mallorie Maddy rounds third base after belting a two-run homer in the top of the first inning Monday night in an OVAC Class 2A semifinal on Ben's Field at the I-470 J.B. Chambers Complex high above Elm Grove. However, the Pilots fell, 4-3, to Caldwell.

## Caldwell Squeaks Past River In 2A Semifinal

By KIM NORTH  
Staff Writer

ELM GROVE - Veteran River softball coach Dave Wright is just like every other coach, he's not really into moral victories. However, at the same time, he was very proud of his Pilots Monday night.

Defending champion and No. 1 seed Caldwell scored twice in the bottom of the sixth to edge past No. 4 River, 4-3, in an OVAC Tom Bechtel Class 2A semifinal on Ben's Field at the I-470 J.B. Chambers Complex. The Redskins had mercy-ruled the Pilots in their earlier two meetings this season.

The youthful Pilots had taken a 3-2 advantage in the top of the inning when Mallorie Maddy raced home on a two-out single by Presley Kilburn, who had taken a line drive off her left wrist earlier in the game. However, it wasn't meant to be.

"We had a chance to win. We just made a couple of mental mistakes in the bottom of the sixth that cost us, other than that, I'm very proud of the girls," Wright said. "They fought hard. I couldn't have asked for any more out of them."

Caldwell's Breighlee Morocco tripled to deep right to start the game-winning rally. Layne Sidwell grounded back to Ava Wohnhas inside the circle. She caught Morocco off the bag at third, but the third baseman's throw home was errant, allowing Morocco to score the tying run as Sidwell ad-

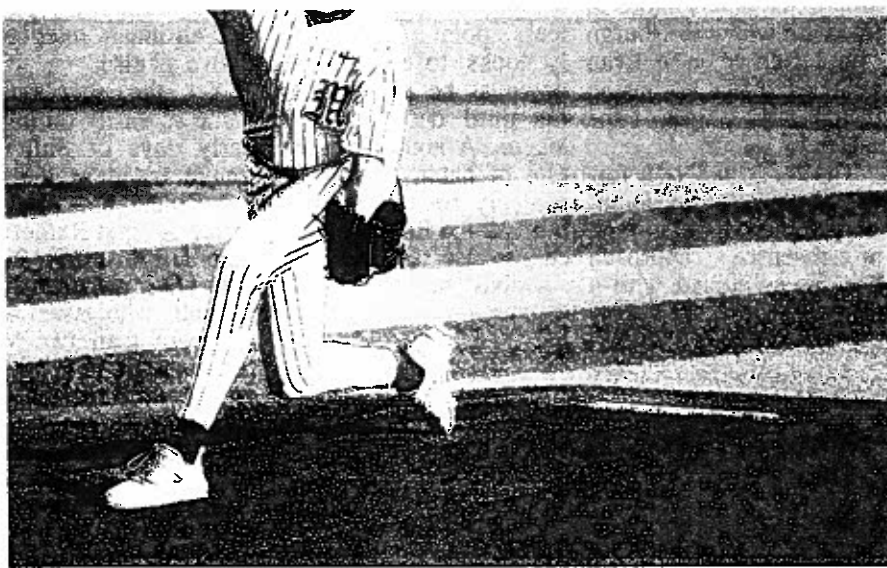


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"Koleton is a phenomenal athlete, if I could pick who I would want up in that situation he would definitely be one of them. He did a great job. We talked (before the at bat) and I told him to hunt fastballs, hunt strikes, we just needed an angle and he did a great job and come through."

The game was an epic trial on the mound.

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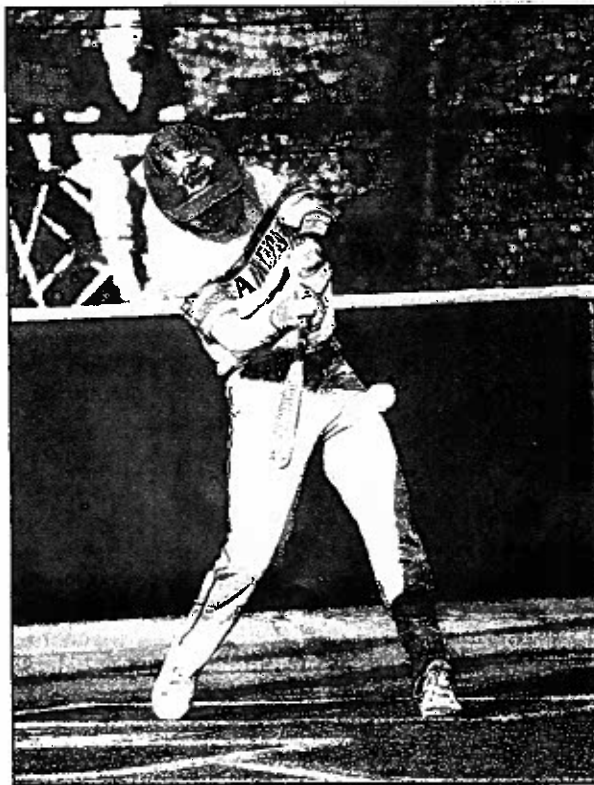


Photo by Andrew Grimm  
Cameron's Wes Starcher connects with a pitch during the Dragons' OVAC 1A championship matchup against Madonna on Monday at the Edison Unified Sports Complex.

Please see SEVENTH,  
Page 10



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Please see RIVER, Page 10



## Morgantown, Linsly Lead OVAC Tennis After Day 1

By KIM NORTH  
Staff Writer

GLEN DALE - Dover and Morgantown have made the OVAC 'Big School' tennis division a two-team race, while Linsly tops the 'Small School' field after the first of four days of competition on the John Marshall courts. Action continues Tuesday with boys' sin-



## SEVENTH

(Continued from Page 9)

Kaiden Wells leadoff single in the seventh broke up the no-hitter, and Angel was forced to depart with one out after striking out 11 batters, though he walked six and hit one which ran up his pitch count.

Soier Reed came on and, after walking a batter, fired a strikeout to put the Dragons (14-8) one out away, but the Blue Dons (16-2) had other plans.

"Kason Angel threw a great game for them, he's a great kid" Miller said. "We knew going to the last inning he was at 105 so we wanted to be patient at the plate and wait for strikes. They had to change and we got some timely hits. These guys were hyped up and got it done."

Wilharm struck out 10 batters, walked four, and gave up just one earned run. Cameron scored on a two-out error in the first inning and

went ahead 2-0 on a Hunter Evans sac bunt in the fourth. Over the final three innings, though, Wilharm shut things down, retiring the last nine-straight batters he faced, working a 1-2-3 sixth and striking out the side in the seventh to set up the rally.

"I can't speak highly enough Reed," Miller said. "He's a great pitcher, he's one of our top dogs. He wanted the ball today and was hungry. We had a little bit of adversity and he battled through. He pitched a phenomenal game and put us in a great position to have a chance to win this game."

"He didn't want to come out. Usually I don't like to go three times through a lineup, but he was a man on a mission and we let it ride and he did a phenomenal job. He got better as the game went and that's Reed, he's a bulldog."

It is the second-straight OVAC

title for the Blue Dons and their fifth in the last eight years. The Blue Dons and Dragons have combined to win the last seven Class A titles

The teams, who are ranked No. 1 and No. 5 in West Virginia Class A by MetroNews, will likely meet again, potentially twice, in the Region 1 tournament.

"We thought we had them," Cameron coach Adam Angel said. "They got us when they had to, so good for them. We will see them again, I told the kids we know what they got, we know we're right there with them and we'll try to get them back in the tournament and make this sting a little bit less."

### UP NEXT

Cameron: Hosts Clay-Battelle today.

Madonna: Hosts Weir High in the annual city championship game on Wednesday.

then his replacement Hextall, who lasted a little more than two years before being fired — unable to find the pieces to fill out a roster that quickly became and top heavy.

Pittsburgh narrowly missed the postseason in 2023. The franchise missed it by a little in 2024, and a little more still this year, undone by a combination of slumping goaltending and a shakier defense.

Yet a week ago, Dubas said that as long as Sullivan was all in on the team's commitment to the future,

## LEAD

(Continued from Page 9)

They were deadlocked at nine entering the final period. A team is awarded one point for each match win. Morgantown is the defending team champion.

Morgantown prevailed at No. 1 as the team of Andrew McClellan and Chhin-Kre topped Dover's duo of Gabe Pavick and Jer Cappell by an 8-1 count. The top-seeded Mohi breezed to the finals with 8-0, 8-0 and 8-2 victories, while the Tornado upset the No. 2 University in the quarterfinals (8-4) and the on-seeded Linsly in the semis (8-3).

At No. 2, Morgantown's second-seeded duo of Max Chen and Max Warner teamed up to knock off the No. 1 team from Dover of AJ Klaiber and Lake Sickle, 8-6. The Morgans had won their previous three matches with identical 8-1 scores.

Dover finally put a match out at No. 1 with the team of Max Ibeck and Nathan Rodriguez.

## ADDS

(Continued from Page 9)

Rodriguez has added a couple of receivers ready for this opening, he's the first this season to have experience playing.

## RIVER

(Continued from Page 9)

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let it get away from us. Credit to Bridgeport, they played hard and they've been good this year."

Bridgeport, the two-seed in the four-team 2A playoff field, will play top-seeded Caldwell for the championship. Caldwell defeated the River Pilots 4-3 on Monday.

"They have to do what they did today," Boyer said of her team going into the championship game. "We have to stay confident, we have to believe we can do exactly what we did today — hit the ball, pitch well and play good defense, that leads to wins."



# SPORTS

## OVAC Softball Tournament Begins Today

**WHEELING** — The OVAC and Conotton Valley (1A). However, Frontier has dropped to Class 1A this year.

### MONDAY

#### Class 1A

Top-seeded Frontier (17-2) faces No. 4 Trinity Christian (8-4) at 5 p.m. in one semi-final while No. 2 Conotton Valley (16-1) meets No. 3 Madonna (16-2) at 7. Both games are scheduled for Lisa's Field.

There are five defending champions in the 20-team playoff field. They are Morgantown (5A); Weir (4A); Wheeling Central (3A); Frontier (2A)

top seed and will play No. 4 Caldwell (12-3) earned the

### MORE INSIDE

• Final OVAC softball standings and pairings/11

(15-5) and No. 3 Wheeling Central (16-6) will meet in one semifinal at 5 p.m. while top-seeded Martins Ferry (17-3) and No. 4 Union Local (14-7) play in the other at 7. Both games are at Lisa's Field.

#### Class 4A

Weir (21-6) claimed the top seed and will face No. 4 Harrison Central (17-7) at 5 p.m. Third-seeded Oak Glen (218) meets No. 2 Beaver Local (15-3) at 7 p.m.

Those games are on Ben's Field.

### WEDNESDAY

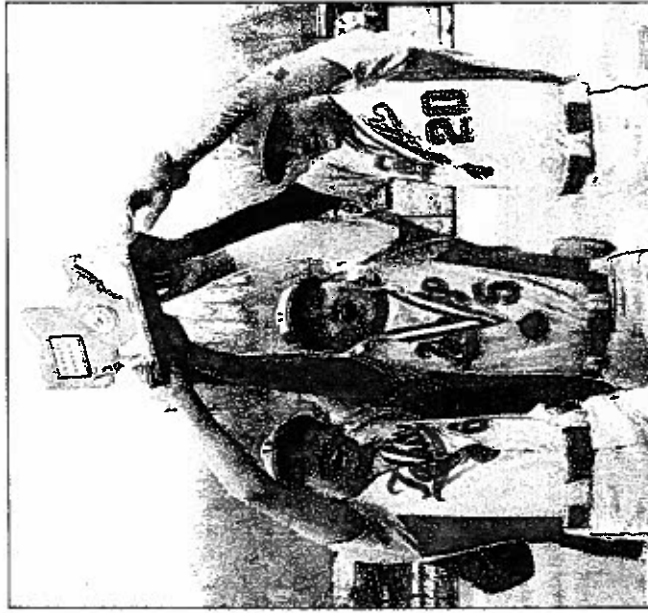
#### Class 5A

Third-seeded Parkersburg South (14-6) faces No. 2 University (17-3) at 5 p.m. and No. 1 Steubenville (17-3) goes against No. 4 Morgantown (15-9) at 7.

Those contests are set for Lisa's Field.

The championship matchups will determine which divisions play on Friday or Saturday.

## St. C. Three-Peats As OVAC 4A Champions





# Class 4A baseball championship

By KIM NORTH  
Staff Writer

RICHMOND — Entering the 2025 high school baseball season, there were a lot of unknowns about the St. Clairsville baseball team following the large numbers the graduated senior class had put up the season before. However, someone forgot to inform the group of current Red Devils.

Saturday afternoon at the cloud-covered Edison Unified Sports

Complex, St. Clairsville and Indian Creek renewed their rivalry in the OVAC Class 4A championship game. For the third year in a row, the second-seeded Red Devils (12-2) defeated the No. 1 Redskins (11-2). This time, however, they had to work a little longer with a 10-4 victory in eight innings.

"I couldn't be any prouder of this senior group ... this team," veteran St. Clairsville head coach Tom Sliva said.

See OVAC, Page B2

Staff Writer

WHEELING — The Wheeling Nailers saw a promising season come to an abrupt halt Saturday night as the Norfolk Admirals navigated their way to a 5-2 victory in Game 5 of the ECHL's Eastern Conference North Division semifinal series before a crowd of 2,095 inside WesBanco Arena.

With the win, Norfolk advances to the North Division Finals against Trois-Rivieres, while Wheeling is left to wonder what could have been after a good regular season.

Saturday night's fireworks started before the puck even hit the ice as Wheeling's Cole Tymkin and Phip Waugh and Norfolk's German Yavash and Darick Louis-Jean dropped the gloves. Each was assessed two minutes for roughing.

However, the Nailers quickly found themselves with four players in the 'sin bin' after Chase Pitila and Louis Roehl were sent off for roughing and boarding minors, respectively, in a 21-second span.

It didn't take long for the Admirals to take a 1-0 lead as Denis Smirnov lifted his own rebound

for Gauthier who attempted, but the rebound went to Smirnov for the goal. The early penalty pleased Wheeling head coach. "This wasn't how I wanted it to go," Army stressed with the officiating. The series to go for five (for them) yesterday to come out tonight and us right away that they decided to not play the game. You saw control of the game on their heels.

"That's not what I want at any level, so that was what really should have been an amped up building wind right out of our mouths. I think into how that was handled."

See K

## OVAC softball pairings set for championships

WHEELING — The OVAC Tom Bechtel Softball Championships will begin Monday at the I-470 J.B. Chambers Complex. Action will continue through Wednesday with semifinal action on Lisa's Field (Field 3) and Ben's Field (Field 4). The championship finals are set for Friday and Saturday.

There are five defending champions in the 20-team playoff field. They are Morgantown (5A); Weir (4A); Wheeling Central (3A); Frontier (2A) and Conotton Valley (1A). However, Frontier has dropped to Class 1A this year.

### Monday Class 1A

Top-seeded Frontier (17-2) faces No. 4 Trinity Christian (8-4) at 5 p.m. in one semi final while No. 2 Conotton Valley (16-1) meets No. 3 Madonna (16-2) at 7.

Both games are scheduled for Lisa's Field.

### Class 2A

Caldwell (12-3) earned the top seed and will play No. 4 River (10-10) at 5 p.m. The other semifinal has No. 2 Bridgeport (9-5) squaring off with Ohio 7 rival Shadyside (11-9) at 7.

Both contests are set for Ben's Field.

See PAIRINGS, Page B2

## Shedeur Sanders will be part of the Browns' QB spot despite drop

BEREA, Ohio (AP) — Andrew Berry said Friday night that it was less about where Shedeur Sanders got picked than what he would do with the opportunity after getting selected.

It turns out, the Browns general manager was prophetic in describing what he expects out of the player who became his fifth-round pick the next day.

Sanders, who was taken with the 144th-overall selection by Cleveland on Saturday, comes to a team that will have a quarterback competition going into training camp in July.

"I know I'm going to fit in perfectly," Sanders said on a conference call. "I feel like it's first getting in, showing the respect to the vets, showing them I'm here ready to work, show the coaches and have them understand I'm here ready to work so they can actually understand the real me. That's what I'm truly thankful to have is the opportunity for people to actually see the

real me and not be able to see stuff that could be true or not."

Sanders — the son of Pro Football Hall of Famer Deion Sanders — comes to a franchise that has failed repeatedly to find a long-term answer at the position since returning to the league in 1999.

The revolving door

The Browns have had 40 quarterbacks make at least one start over the past 26 seasons, including 11 during Kevin Stefanski's tenure as coach.

This will be the first time since Stefanski was hired in 2020 that the starting spot isn't settled going into the summer as the Browns attempt to dig themselves out of their disastrous 2022 trade for Deshaun Watson.

Watson's days in Cleveland are numbered as he potentially will miss the entire 2025 season while recovering from a ruptured Achilles tendon suffered in January. That occurred just three months after he initially injured it against Cincinnati.

Watson is 9-10 with Cleveland

## Dodgers overcome early deficit for 9-2 victory over

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Andy Pages hit a home run, drove in a career-high four runs and tied a career best with four hits as the Los Angeles Dodgers rebounded from an early deficit to earn a 9-2 victory over the Pittsburgh Pirates on Sunday.

Pages had an RBI single in the first inning when the Dodgers

Andrew McCutchen had a home run among his four hits for the Pirates, who finished 3-3 on a six-game road trip to the Los Angeles area. Left-hander Bailey Falter, from nearby Chino Hills, gave up seven runs (five earned) on eight hits in 4 1/3 innings.

McCutchen and Enmanuel Valdez hit back-to-back home

sixth.

Key moment

Pages' first inning RBI single not only increased the Dodgers' early lead, it was a continuation of a recent hot streak. Pages delivered at least three hits in all three games against the Pirates and has multiple hits in four of his last five games.



short that made it 5-4 and Roby Hanna walked for a 6-4 reading. Gavin Pownall relieved Barcalow and issued a free pass to Saunders as another run crossed to make it 7-4. Balgo slapped the first pitch he saw through the left side of the infield as Bailey and Hanna scored for a 9-4 advantage. Florence, batting for the second time in the inning, singled to right as Saunders came in to cap the six-run explosion.

"Obviously, the final score doesn't indicate how close of a game it was," Indian Creek head coach Mike Cottis said. "I thought it was a very well pitched game by our two guys and, obviously, their guy threw great."

Marshall University recruit Ty Householder had given Indian Creek a 1-0 lead with a solo home run leading off the bottom of the first. A single by Hunter Rusnak, a stolen base and a run-scoring base hit by

when Indian Creek had two on and no out, but the Ashland University recruit fanned the next three batters, the final two looking, to snuff out the rally.

Barcalow came on in relief of Hyde to start the fifth and held the Red Devils in check until the eighth. He struck out four and walked three.

Meanwhile, Saunders escaped a delicate situation in the sixth when Indian Creek loaded the bases with no outs. However, a strikeout preceded a ground ball to third that resulted in a 5-2-3 double play.

"That was another huge play for us defensively," Sliva added. "We played really well on defense today."

Cottis agreed.

"We had our chances. We took too many third-strike calls," he noted.

Of the dozen strikeouts, seven came looking.

## • Pairings

Continued from Page B1

### TUESDAY

#### Class 3A

Second-seeded Barnesville (15-5) and No. 3 Wheeling Central (16-6) will meet in one semifinal at 5 p.m. while top-seeded Martins Ferry (17-3) and No. 4 Union Local (14-7) play in the other at 7.

Both games are at Lisa's Field.

#### Class 4A

Weir (21-6) claimed the top seed and will face No. 4 Harrison Central (17-7) at 5 p.m. Third-seeded Oak Glen (218) meets No. 2

Beaver Local (15-3) at 7 p.m.

Those games are on Ben's Field.

### WEDNESDAY

#### Class 5A

Third-seeded Parkersburg South (14-6) faces No. 2 University (17-3) at 5 p.m. and No. 1 Steubenville (17-3) goes against No. 4 Morgantown (15-9) at 7.

Those contests are set for Lisa's Field.

The championship matchups will determine which divisions play on either Friday or Saturday.

## • Kelly

Continued from Page B1

Norfolk grabbed a 2-0 lead 53 seconds after the first goal when Brandon Osmundson poked a loose puck past Gauthier.

Five minutes later, Wheeling sliced the deficit in half when David Jankowski finished off a perfect pass from Pietila from the left doorstep.

Pietila sailed down the right wing before sending the puck into the crease where Jankowski tapped it past goaltender Domenic DiVincentis to make it 2-1 with just over 10 minutes left in the opening period.

Neither team was able to muster any goals in the middle period but Norfolk struck

again early in the third period when Colton Young wristed the puck past Gauthier's glove hand on a breakaway for a 3-1 advantage.

Jack Beck pulled the Nailers back to within 3-2 when he banged home a rebound of a Gabe Klassen shot, but Young collected his second lamp-lighter and Darick Louis-Jean capped the scoring with an empty-netter.

Gauthier, who made the trip to Wheeling from Lehigh Valley, Pa., after Wilkes-Barre/Scranton was eliminated from the AHL Calder Cup playoffs the night before, stopped 21 of 25 shots. DiVincentis made 29 saves while giving Thomas Milic a break between the pipes.



## Put in Bay, OH

August 6 - 8

Depart by motor coach for Port Clinton to board the Jet Express for beautiful Put-in-Bay. Upon arrival, enjoy lunch and private narrated train tour. Spend two nights at The Bayshore Resort, the only lakefront hotel on the island.

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# OVAC SOFTBALL

## FINAL STANDINGS

### CLASS 5A

	W	L	TG	CP	AVE
Steub	17	3	21*	1416	67.43
Univ	17	3	20	1318	65.90
PS	14	6	20	1100	55.00
Morg	15	9	26*	1222	47.00
JM	11	10	21	786	37.43
WP	10	14	24	830	34.58
Warr	7	11	18	482	26.78
Brk	4	18	22	278	12.64
#Mar	7	8	15		
#Dov	16	3	19		

### CLASS 4A

	W	L	TG	CP	AVE
Weir	21	6	27	1528	56.59
Bel	15	3	18	978	54.33
OG	21	8	29	1564	53.93
HC	17	7	24	1200	50.00
ED	12	10	22	878	39.91
BuL	10	11	21	710	33.81
IC	7	11	18	514	28.56
Camb	4	14	18	246	13.67
St.C	2	20	22	130	5.91
EL	2	21	23	94	4.09

### CLASS 3A

	W	L	TG	CP	AVE
Ferry	17	3	20	1234	61.70
Barn	15	5	20	1030	51.50
WC	16	6	22	1002	45.55
UL	14	7	21	776	36.95
Colu	13	5	18	664	36.89
FF	8	7	15	494	32.93
Bell	8	10	18	514	28.56
MC	8	10	18	480	26.67
Lin	5	15	20	306	15.30
Shen	3	12	15	168	11.20
BT	3	14	17	156	9.18
#Unit	13	4	17		

### CLASS 2A

	W	L	TG	CP	AVE
Cald	12	3	15	698	46.53
Bpt	9	5	14	448	32.00
Shad	11	9	20	626	31.30
River	10	10	20	558	27.90
EP	6	7	13	354	27.23
Mag	7	7	14	322	23.00
Tor	7	9	16	348	21.75
SL	5	5	10	194	19.40
Wells	5	9	14	212	15.14
SCC	2	5	7	64	9.14
CB	3	13	16	94	5.88
#VC	0	0	0		
#Lisb	6	12	18		

### CLASS 1A

	W	L	TG	CP	AVE
Fron	17	2	19	940	49.47
CV	16	1	18*	886	49.22
Mad	16	2	18	842	46.78
TC	8	4	12	302	25.17
Cam	3	8	11	140	12.73
Beall	5	10	15	176	11.73
Vall	2	14	16	80	5.00
PC	0	12	12	0	0.00
#Hun	0	0	0		
#Lee	0	9	9		
#HC	2	4	6		

\*Not participating in OVAC tournament  
 \*Format Violation/Points awarded-divisor increase

## TENTATIVE SEMIFINALS SCHEDULE

All games played at the I-470 complex in Wheeling.

### MONDAY

#### Field 3

No. 4 Trinity Christian vs No. 1 Frontier 5 p.m.  
 No. 3 Madonna vs No. 2 Conotton Valley 7 p.m.

#### Field 4

No. 3 Shadyside vs No. 2 Bridgeport 5 p.m.  
 No. 4 River vs No. 1 Caldwell 7 p.m.

### TUESDAY

#### Field 3

No. 3 Wheeling Central vs No. 2 Barnesville 5 p.m.  
 No. 4 Union Local vs No. 1 Martins Ferry 7 p.m.

San Fran.	19	10	.655	—	—	6-4	W-2	9-4	10-6	135	107
Los Ang.	18	10	.643	½	+3	6-4	W-2	12-3	6-7	133	117
San Diego	17	11	.607	1½	+2	3-7	L-4	12-4	5-7	106	83
Arizona	15	13	.536	3½	—	4-6	W-1	8-8	7-5	150	138
Colorado	4	23	.148	14	10½	1-9	L-6	3-9	1-14	89	158

## AMERICAN LEAGUE

### Saturday's Games

Cleveland 5, Boston 4, 1st game  
 Detroit 4, Baltimore 3, 1st game  
 Minnesota 5, L.A. Angels 1  
 Chicago White Sox 10, Athletics 3  
 San Francisco 3, Texas 2  
 Boston 7, Cleveland 3, 2nd game  
 Detroit 6, Baltimore 2, 2nd game  
 Kansas City 2, Houston 0  
 Tampa Bay 4, San Diego 1  
 Seattle 14, Miami 0  
 Toronto at N.Y. Yankees, p.p.d.

### Sunday's Games

Minnesota 5, L.A. Angels 0  
 Detroit 7, Baltimore 0  
 Boston 13, Cleveland 3  
 N.Y. Yankees 11, Toronto 2, 1st game  
 Houston 7, Kansas City 3  
 Athletics 3, Chicago White Sox 2, 10 innings  
 Tampa Bay 4, San Diego 2  
 San Francisco 3, Texas 2  
 Seattle 7, Miami 6  
 N.Y. Yankees 5, Toronto 1, 2nd game

## NATIONAL LEAGUE

### Saturday's Games

St. Louis 6, Milwaukee 5  
 Cincinnati 6, Colorado 4  
 San Francisco 3, Texas 2  
 N.Y. Mets 2, Washington 0  
 Philadelphia 10, Chicago Cubs 4  
 Atlanta 8, Arizona 7, 10 innings  
 Tampa Bay 4, San Diego 1  
 L.A. Dodgers 8, Pittsburgh 4  
 Seattle 14, Miami 0

### Sunday's Games

Washington 8, N.Y. Mets 7  
 Milwaukee 7, St. Louis 1  
 Cincinnati 8, Colorado 1  
 Tampa Bay 4, San Diego 2  
 San Francisco 3, Texas 2  
 Arizona 6, Atlanta 4  
 Seattle 7, Miami 6  
 L.A. Dodgers 9, Pittsburgh 2  
 Philadelphia 3, Chicago Cubs 1, 10 innings

## SPORTS ON TV

### Monday, April 28

#### GOLF

3 p.m.  
 PGA Professional Championship: 2nd Round, PGA Golf Club, Port St. Lucie, Fla.

#### MLB BASEBALL

4 p.m.  
 MLB — Regional Coverage: N.Y. Mets at Washington (4:05 p.m.) OR St. Louis at Cincinnati (6:40 p.m.)  
 7 p.m.  
 MLB — Regional Coverage: N.Y. Yankees at Baltimore (6:35 p.m.) OR St. Louis at Cincinnati (6:40 p.m.)  
 11 p.m.  
 MLB — Miami at L.A. Dodgers (10:10 p.m.)

#### NBA BASKETBALL

7:30 p.m.  
 TNT — Eastern Conference  
 First Round Playoff: Cleveland at Miami, Game 4  
 TRUTV — Eastern Conference First Round Playoff: Cleveland at Miami, Game 4  
 10 p.m.  
 TNT — Western Conference First Round Playoff: Houston at Golden State, Game 4  
 TRUTV — Western Conference First Round Playoff: Houston at Golden State, Game 4  
 9:30 p.m.  
 ESPN — Western Conference First Round Playoff: Colorado at Dallas, Game 5

## NBA PLAYOFFS

### FIRST ROUND (Best-of-7)

Eastern Conference  
 New York 3, Detroit 1  
 Saturday, April 19: New York 123, Detroit 112  
 Monday, April 21: Detroit 100, New York 94  
 Thursday, April 24: New York 118, Detroit 116  
 Sunday, April 27: New York 94, Detroit 93  
 Cleveland 3, Miami 0  
 Sunday, April 20: Cleveland 121, Miami 100  
 Wednesday, April 23: Cleveland 121, Miami 112  
 Saturday, April 26: Cleveland 124, Miami 87  
 Indiana 2, Milwaukee 1  
 Saturday, April 19: Indiana 117, Milwaukee 98  
 Tuesday, April 22: Indiana 123, Milwaukee 115  
 Friday, April 25: Milwaukee 117, Indiana 101  
 Boston 3, Orlando 1  
 Sunday, April 20: Boston 103, Orlando 86  
 Wednesday, April 23: Boston 109, Orlando 100

### Western Conference

Golden State 2, Houston 1  
 Sunday, April 20: Golden State 95, Houston 85  
 Wednesday, April 23: Houston 109, Golden State 94  
 Saturday, April 26: Golden State 104, Houston 93  
 Denver 2, L.A. Clippers 2  
 Saturday, April 19: Denver 112, L.A. Clippers 110, OT  
 Monday, April 21: L.A. Clippers 105, Denver 102  
 Thursday, April 24: L.A. Clippers 117, Denver 83  
 Saturday, April 26: Denver 101, L.A. Clippers 99  
 Oklahoma City 4, Memphis 0  
 Sunday, April 20: Oklahoma City 131, Memphis 80  
 Tuesday, April 22: Oklahoma City 118, Memphis 99  
 Thursday, April 24: Oklahoma City 114, Memphis 108  
 Saturday, April 26: Oklahoma City 117, Memphis 115  
 Minnesota 3, L.A. Lakers 1  
 Saturday, April 19: Minnesota 117, L.A. Lakers 95  
 Tuesday, April 22: L.A. Lakers 117, Minnesota 108

us, Cain Martin, Mason Markmon and Jesse Landen Snyder hit a triple.

Hayden Hughes finished with three hits from in two RBI.

# Rafaela drives in and Duran has the Red Sox roll win over the Guardians

CLEVELAND (AP) — Cedanne Rafaela homered and drove in five runs, Jarren Duran had four hits and the Boston Red Sox rolled to a 13-3 victory over the Cleveland Guardians on Sunday.

Rafaela drove a fastball from Joey Cantillo just over the center-field fence for a three-run shot in the seventh inning.

Duran had consecutive three-hit games for the second time in his career. He got into a confrontation with someone in the stands during the seventh-inning stretch. According to NESN, a fan in the front row was making fun of Duran's suicide attempt after Duran flied out in the seventh.

Duran went to confront the fan before Red Sox coaches and umpires said they would handle it.

Rob Refsnyder and Rafael Devers had solo homers for the Red Sox, who are 9-3 in their last 12 games and have won 15 games in April, second-most in the American League.

Nolan Jones had a three-run homer

# Andrew Novak finally atop the leaderboard Ben Griffin at the Z

AVONDALE, La. (AP) — Andrew Novak is having the kind of month that can transform a PGA Tour player's career.

Ben Griffin was gratified to team up with his old friend during what has become a heady time for the both of them.

Griffin drained a clutch birdie putt from nearly 35 feet on the 17th hole, and the tandem combined for a 1-under 71 in alternate-shot play Sunday to become first-time PGA Tour winners — by one stroke — at the Zurich Classic of New Orleans.

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Nicolai and Rasmus jgaard narrowly misse on a first PGA Tour finishing second after a

Play was delayed weather for just over minutes with Novak Griffin on the eighth ho

The pair credited friendship with h ing them stay comp through the delay and well off of one and during the tense final ho

Novak, 30, grew u South Carolina, and 28-year-old Griffin from North Carolina. T