

Baseball

Baseball

■ **CONTINUED FROM B1** was evident that Troy was a different team.

"We took our infield practice, and we were enthusiastic," Welker said. "We came out with our heads up today. After the last couple days, we could have had our heads down, but we didn't. We wanted to make sure we got back to the way things were before."

Nathan Helke was 2 for 4 with two RBIs and hit his fifth homer of the year in the opener, Jared Fisher was 2 for 4 with a run, Trey

Barkett was 2 for 2 with a run and Devon Alexander was 1 for 3 with an RBI as the Trojans and Redskins were tied at 3-3 after seven. But Loramie picked up one off of Dhaval Shah in the eighth to steal the win.

Brandon Rise got the start in the second game, and Helke came on in the sixth to get the win.

"We got great pitching out of both starters today," Welker said. "Shah kept us in the game and gave us a chance to win it, and Rose threw tremendous in the

second game. Give credit to those two seniors for keeping us in both games."

Dylan Cascaden was 2 for 4 in the second game — with the game-tying RBI in the top of the seventh. Helke was 3 for 4 with two RBIs, including the game-winner, and Thomas Harvey was 2 for 3 with two runs.

"They've (Loramie) won two state championships in the last four years," Welker said. "They play very fundamentally sound baseball. And the good news is that today, so did we."

Troy hosts Fairmont Tuesday in a regular-season game before hosting the winner between Springboro and Belmont in the second round of the sectional tournament on Thursday.

Troy.....012 000 00 — 3 9 1
FL.....120 000 01 — 4 8 1
 Shah and Nadolny. Albers and Goldschmidt. WP — Albers. LP — Shah. 2B — Fisher (T), Hilgefert (F), Miracle (F). HR — Helke (T).
Troy.....001 000 2 — 3 10 1
FL.....000 101 0 — 2 5 0
 Rose, Helke (6) and Swigard. Quintes, Schiltz (6), Plattner (7) and Goldschmidt. WP — Helke. LP — Plattner. 2B — Plattner (F), Branient (F). **Records:** Troy 14-7.

WL-S 10, Covington 7; WL-S 4, Covington 3
WEST LIBERTY — The Covington baseball team dropped two games with West Liberty-Salem Saturday, losing the first game 10-7 and the second 4-3 in eight innings.

But the two losses were very different.

"The first game, we just didn't play very well," Covington coach Mitch Hirsch said. "They only had five earned runs. So if we field the ball, we win the game. The second game, we played well. It think that

was our sixth one-run loss of the season."

Dylan Fortner took the loss in the opening game.

Steven Blei was 3 for 4 with two RBIs, while Kellen Woloch was 2 for 3 with a double and one RBI. Ben Wilson had a double and two RBIs, while Sheldon Rank was 3 for 4 with a double and one RBI.

Austin Angle took the loss in the second game.

Brandon Flora was 2 for 4, while Woloch had two RBIs. Andrew DeHart doubled and Corey Haines was 2 for 4.

Tennis

Tennis

■ **CONTINUED FROM B1** finish for the Trojans, taking second at third singles. Senior Raja Gupta — the No. 1 seed in the upcoming Troy sectional tournament — came one semifinal match shy of a GWOC title, placing third after a loss to Springboro in the semis. And Reid Wynkoop fought his way through a stacked second singles bracket — and rallied with six straight games in the finals — to claim fifth.

"I think Raja got his wakeup call in that loss to Springboro," Goldner said. "Ashlin beat a senior and knocked off someone from Centerville in the second round. Getting second was a great accomplishment. And Reid — that's probably the toughest second (singles) bracket I've seen in a long time. He did not have an easy match at all. He gave a great effort."

The second doubles team of Alex Cretsos and Sean Cothran took fourth, while the first doubles team of Ben Thompson and Chris Schmitt didn't get to finish thanks to an afternoon rain — splitting the points for the fifth-sixth place match with Butler.

"Second doubles won in the first round then played real well in a loss to Centerville in the second. And Beavercreek's second doubles is pretty good, too," Goldner said. "And first doubles was a real close match when it was rained out."

Troy gets one final tuneup before the Division I Sectional tournament starts on Wednesday, facing Chaminade Julianne on Monday. Thompson and Schmitt — both of which



Troy's Ben Thompson hits a forehand return during a match at first doubles Saturday at the Greater Western Ohio Conference gold flight tournament at Centerville High School.

are switching to singles for the sectional — will play preliminary matches on Tuesday, as well.

Tippecanoe 4, NW 1; Tippecanoe 5, NW 0
SPRINGFIELD — After getting payback against rival Kenton Ridge Friday and earning a season split, all Tippecanoe had to do was sweep an unprecedented doubleheader against Northwestern Saturday to lay claim to a share of the Central Buckeye Conference title.

No problem.

The Red Devils — forced to play back-to-back makeup matches against Northwestern thanks to a series of rainouts earlier in the season — only dropped one pro-set match on the day, beating the Warriors 4-1 and 5-0 at Snyder Park in Springfield.

James Trevino at first singles and Sam Bollinger at second singles cruised to a pair of victories, winning both of their matches 8-0, 8-0.

At third singles, Jacob Belcher won both of his

matches 8-6 and 8-3.

Blake Sowry and Jon Lin swept their matches at first doubles 8-6 and 9-8 in a tiebreaker.

At second doubles, Adam Southers and Brad O'Toole lost 9-7, but Southers and Doug Lehnkuhl won 8-2 in the second match.

With the sweep, Tippecanoe is the co-CBC champion alongside Kenton Ridge. The Devils open the Division II Sectional tournament Tuesday in Troy.

Softball

Softball

■ **CONTINUED FROM B1** And that was evident late against West Carrollton. Clinging to a 3-1 lead with runners on second and third and two outs, Herman called a meeting on the mound.

"They had second and third with two outs — and we were confident," Herman said. "The infield came in, and Haley (Gwin) said 'we got this.' And sure enough, we get the next girl out."

"That shows leadership from one of our seniors. I like to see that."

Schultz tripled and homered in the game to lead the offense, and Amber Smith took care of the rest on the mound, striking out five and scattering four hits.

But Centerville (18-5) took control early in the second game with four runs in the first and didn't look back.

"We played a very tough team that is solid one-through-nine," Herman said. "This was a good two games to pick up. It was a tournament-like atmosphere, and we picked it up to get ready for this week. I think it paid off."

Troy travels to Middletown Monday to open sectional play.

WC.....000 001 0 — 1 4 0
Troy.....010 200 x — 3 6 1
 Marrs and Harvey. Smith and Lehman. WP — Smith. LP — Marrs. 3B — Schultz (T). HR — Schultz (T). **Records:** Troy 12-10.

Troy.....000 000 0 — 0 4 2
CVille.....400 200 x — 6 8 0
 Kessler, Gwin (4) and Lehman. Hopf and Bowen. WP — Hopf. LP — Kessler. **Records:** Troy 12-11, Centerville 18-5.

Miami East 7, MV 0; ME 6, Graham 5; ME 10, Graham 1

TROY — The Miami East Vikings had one goal on their busiest day of the season.

"It was our senior ... morning," Miami East coach Brian Kadel said. "It was an extra motivator. The girls really wanted to send out the seniors with three wins today."

Three wins — all in one day — is exactly what the Viking seniors got.

Miami East (17-5, 8-3 Cross County Conference) began the day early with a 7-0 shutout of Mississinawa Valley in a conference makeup game at Duke Park, then went to Graham and swept their regularly-scheduled doubleheader 6-5 and 10-1 Saturday.

Senior Kaylee Schaefer got the win in the official Senior Night game against Mississinawa Valley, going the distance and striking out 12 to record a two-hit shutout. Paige Kiesewetter tripled and drove in two runs, Amanda Woolley tripled and Paige Mullen was 2 for 2 with a double.

Miami East was forced to rally in the first game against Graham. Trailing 5-3 going into the seventh, Mullen doubled in one run, Lindsay Brookhart tied the game with a sac fly and Kiesewetter singled home the game-winner.

Madison Linn got the win on the mound, and Jeni Accurso was 3 for 4 in the game.

"That first game against Graham was a real close one. We battled and worked out of some trouble spots," Kadel said. "We knew they'd had a successful season, so this was a good couple games to get in before the tournament next week."

The Vikings jumped all over Graham in the second game, scoring six runs in the first inning. Mullen had the big strike in the game, drilling a three-run homer, Kristy Brown was 5 for 5 and Linn was 2 for 2 with a double. Kiesewetter got the win.

"It was just like last night. After a couple close games early in the week, we let loose," Kadel said. "We swung the bats well, we ran the bases well and we played good defense."

Miami East opens tournament play against Northeastern Wednesday at Duke Park.

MV.....000 000 0 — 0 2 3
ME.....013 300 x — 7 7 0
 Welch and Wicker. Schaefer and Accurso. O'Neal (5). WP — Schaefer. LP — Welch. 2B — Mullen (M). 3B — Woolley (M), Kiesewetter (M). **Records:** Miami East 15-5, 8-3.

ME.....101 010 3 — 6 8 2
Grah.....000 221 0 — 5 5 2
 Linn and Accurso. Heckman and Foster. WP — Linn. LP — Heckman. 2B — Mullen (M), Foster (G). 3B — Heckman (G). HR — Turner (G). **Records:** Miami East 16-5.

ME.....630 000 1 — 10 13 0
Grah.....100 000 0 — 1 4 2
 Kiesewetter and Accurso, O'Neal (4). WP — Kiesewetter. 2B — Linn (M). HR — Mullen (M). **Records:** Miami East 17-5.

Troy Christian 12, Dayton Christian 2
TROY — Troy Christian may have gotten a little too rough for Dayton Christian in the first game Saturday.

Dayton Christian had four players get injured during a 12-2 six-inning run rule loss to Troy Christian, causing the Warriors to forfeit the second game of the doubleheader.

Julie Young pitched all six innings as the Troy Christian offense pounded out 25 hits, and the Eagles dominated from start to finish.

Jordan Varvel had a triple and four RBIs, while Katie Poteet had four RBIs and senior Grace Scott had three RBIs to lead the Eagles.

But when all was said and done, the 25 hits Saturday didn't even compare to the offensive explosion from just a day ago as Troy Christian put up an eye-popping 48 hits in a 30-3 five-inning run rule win over Xenia Nazarene on Friday.

The Eagles batted through their order three times in the third and had 18 hits in that inning along. Varvel pitched four innings to get the win against Nazarene, while Courtney Frantom had five RBIs and Aly Manns had four RBIs.

"We are hoping to do well in sectionals," Troy Christian coach Amy Fletcher said. "We will have to get by Triad (Tuesday). They are ranked third (in the sectional), but I'm hoping are girls are up to it and can pull it out."

DC.....000 020 — 2 9 4
TC.....320 142 — 12 25 3
 Desharp and Girard. Young and Poteet. WP — Young. LP — Desharp. 3B — Varvel. **Records:** Troy Christian 3-8.

Baseball

TC-DC

■ **CONTINUED FROM B1** providing clutch hits when they needed them to squeak by for the win.

"Michael has a record of 5-1 and has 62 strikeouts on the year," Campbell said. "He's done a good job for us. If we are going to go anywhere (in the tournament), he's going to take us there."

It looked like Dayton Christian pitcher Jeremiah Bennett would be a tough task for Eagle hitters after he struck out the side in the first inning. But that wasn't even close to the case as Seagraves led off with a single in the second inning and took second on a passed ball. Taylor Patterson knocked him in with an RBI single to plate the game's first run. The Eagles followed with two more runs in the inning to

go up 3-0.

Dayton Christian threatened in the top of the third, getting two runners on with the heart of the order at the plate. But the Eagle defense helped Seagraves out of the jam as the final two batters grounded out.

Nathan Kirkpatrick reached on a single to start the third and scored on another single by Daniel McGillivray — who would later score in the inning on an RBI sacrifice fly by Ben Morrow.

With the Eagles up 5-0 heading into the fourth, Dayton Christian once again got runners on.

This time the Warriors capitalized, batting all the way through the order and roughing up Seagraves for five hits and four runs —

three of them being earned. Troy Christian's defense — which had been superb up to that point — committed two costly errors in the inning which allowed the Warriors to jump right back in the game with the score at 5-4 by inning's end.

But in the bottom half of the inning, Troy Christian got just what it needed off the bat of David Diltz — who connected on a two-run home run that ended the day of Bennett and gave his team a 7-4 lead.

The Warriors battled back in the sixth, thanks to another costly error by the Eagles to open the inning. Despite that, heading into the seventh the score still read in Troy Christian's favor at 7-6.

Coach Campbell elected to let Seagraves finish what

he started with the bottom of the Warrior lineup coming to the plate in the final at-bat — and he got it done for him.

Seagraves fanned the first batter of the inning, then forced an infield pop for the second out and got the final batter to line out.

Patterson went 2 for 3 with an RBI and a stolen base, while Kirkpatrick scored two runs to go along with a single to lead the Eagle offense.

The Eagles play at Middletown Christian on Friday with a chance to secure at least a share of the MBC title.

DC.....000 402 0 — 6 9 2
TC.....032 200 x — 7 9 4
 Bennett, Millner (4) and Mannix. Seagraves and Patterson. WP — Seagraves. LP — Bennett. HR — Diltz (TC). **Records:** Troy Christian 10-4.

Men's College Volleyball

Buckeyes rally, win championship

STATE COLLEGE, Pa. (AP) — Add another title to Ohio State's championship resume.

Shawn Sangrey had a game-high 30 kills and the Buckeyes rallied to beat UC Santa Barbara 20-25, 25-20, 25-19, 22-25, 15-9 on Saturday to win their first NCAA men's volleyball crown.

It's just the third time a

team outside of the West has claimed the title. Penn State won in 1994 and 2008.

The Gauchos (18-15) trailed 2-1 but took the fourth set in part to stellar play at the net late by fiery leader Jeff Menzel. He finished with 12 kills but struggled overall. Cullen Irons led UCSB with 16 kills.

But Ohio State (26-6) closed the match with a 5-0 run, capped by a block on Menzel that started the Buckeyes' party in Happy Valley.

UCSB had put together a surprising postseason run that included back-to-back wins over top-ranked Southern California.

The Gauchos had said all week they play their

best when faced with elimination, and they came close to proving it again.

The Buckeyes were pushed to the limit and responded in the final set. Sangrey's powerful right arm overwhelmed the Gauchos, and setter Steven Kehoe deftly set up the offense with 65 assists. Kehoe won the tournament MVP award.