



JOSH BROWN

CONTACT US

■ Sports Editor
Josh Brown
 (937) 440-5251,
 (937) 440-5232
 jbrown@tdnpublishing.com

TODAY'S TIPS

• **COACHING SEARCH:** Bethel High School is looking for a varsity head football coach. Please submit a letter of interest, resume, and references to Bob Hamlin, Athletic Director, Bethel High School, Tipp City 45371 or bethelathdept@bethel.k12.oh.us.

• **COACHING SEARCH:** Milton-Union High School has an opening for head varsity boys basketball coach. Interested candidates may submit a cover letter and detailed resume via email to Tom A. Koogler, Athletic Director at koogler@milton-union.k12.oh.us or by mail to MUHS, C/O Tom A. Koogler, 221 South Jefferson Street, West Milton, Ohio 45383. Available teaching positions in the high school for 2012-2013 are English, Art and RAP. Application deadline is May 4.

• **FOOTBALL:** The Troy Football Alumni Association is holding a Texas Hold 'Em Tournament at 4 p.m. Saturday at the St. Patrick's Parish Center, 409 E. Main St., Troy. Registration begins at 3:15 p.m. the day of the event. There is a maximum of 200 players. Participants may pre-register by sending a request to brad8rohifs@yahoo.com. There is a \$50 entry fee. There will be a payout to the top 10 finishers, free snacks, raffles and a 50/50 drawing. Beer and non-alcoholic beverages will be available for purchase. Proceeds from the event will go toward the Troy Football Alumni Association Scholarship Fund. Checks and money orders may be mailed to Troy Football Alumni Association, P.O. Box 824, Troy OH 45373.

• **BENEFIT:** Mike Miller is a Bradford Board of Education member, Bradford Athletic Booster member, president of Youth Baseball and Softball — and most importantly, a Bradford community member. Miller recently became ill, and as a school district and a community, the Bradford School District will be holding a benefit for Miller on May 6 from noon to 6 p.m. at the Bradford Community Club. Adult dinners will be \$6 and children's dinners will be \$4. There also will be a 50/50 drawing and auctions. Make any donations to the Mike Miller Benefit, Attn: Dusty Yingst, 750 Railroad Ave., Bradford, OH 45308.

SPORTS CALENDAR

TODAY
Baseball
 Troy at Miamisburg (5 p.m.)
 Northwestern at Tippecanoe (5 p.m.)
 Franklin Monroe at Miami East (5 p.m.)
 Bethel at Newton (5 p.m.)
 Ponitz at Troy Christian (5 p.m.)
 Mississinawa Valley at Covington (5 p.m.)
 Beaver Creek at Piqua (5 p.m.)
 Bradford at National Trail (5 p.m.)
 Lehman at Jackson Center (5 p.m.)
Softball
 Troy at Miamisburg (5 p.m.)
 Franklin Monroe at Miami East (5 p.m.)
 Newton at Loudonville Champions Challenge (7 p.m.)
 Troy Christian at Houston (5 p.m.)
 Mississinawa Valley at Covington (5 p.m.)
 Beaver Creek at Piqua (5 p.m.)
 Bradford at National Trail (5 p.m.)
 Lehman at Jackson Center (5 p.m.)
Tennis
 Troy at CJ (4:30 p.m.)
 Tippecanoe at Oakwood (4:30 p.m.)
 Milton-Union at Butler (4:30 p.m.)
 West Carrollton at Piqua (4:30 p.m.)
 Lehman at Beaver Creek (4:30 p.m.)
Track and Field
 Troy, Tippecanoe at Wayne Invite (4 p.m.)

WHAT'S INSIDE

National Football League 18
 Local Sports 18, 20
 Scoreboard 19
 Television Schedule 19
 Major League Baseball 20

Playoffs now a real possibility

College football is on the verge of finally having a playoff, its own version of the final four.

"Yes, we've agreed to use the P word," Pac-12 Commissioner Larry Scott said Thursday. See Page 18.

Dragons Lair

APPLETON, Wisc. — The Dayton Dragons (11-10) tied Thursday's game in the top of the ninth and scored two in the 10th to grab a 3-1 victory from Wisconsin.

The teams finish the series tonight.

Baseball/Softball

Ellerbrock Ks 17 in no-hitter for Bees

Four softball teams jockey for position atop Cross County Conference

Staff Reports

MIAMI COUNTY

BRANDT — Bethel has had some outstanding pitchers throughout recent history.

So when coach Brett Brookhart gushes about a performance, it has just a little more meaning.

Jon Ellerbrock was virtually untouchable Thursday night, alternately overpowering and baffling Mississinawa Valley hitters all night long and no-hitting the Blackhawks in a 7-0 Cross County Conference win by the Bees.

And that's untouchable in a

literal sense.

"Jon completely dominated tonight. He struck out 17 batters," Brookhart said. "He had his fastball going, and when he mixes it in with his curveball, he's nearly unhittable. And tonight, he was unhittable."

"It was one of the more dominant games I've seen in a long, long time."

A pair of walks and one error kept Ellerbrock from a perfect game, but only five hitters were able to put the ball in play

against him in the game.

Joey Serrer led the Bees (19-3, 7-2 CCC) on offense by going 3 for 4 with a double and two RBIs, Colin Hoke was 2 for 3 with two RBIs and Jimmy Pelphrey was 2 for 3.

Bethel travels to Newton today.

MV000 000 0 — 0 0 2
Bethel002 041 x — 7 11 1
 Stump, Armstrong (6) and Rust. Ellerbrock and Hoke. WP — Ellerbrock. LP — Stump. 2B — Serrer (B). **Records:** Bethel 19-3, 7-2.

ME 9, Bradford 2
BRADFORD — Garrett Mitchell may have had some

slight control problems.

But the wind was very pitcher-friendly, and when he allowed Bradford to touch the ball, they did nothing with it.

Mitchell gave up only three hits in a complete game, while the Vikings singled their way to a 9-2 Cross County Conference victory over the Railroaders at Bradford Thursday.

The Vikings took a 1-0 lead in the first, then tallied three in the fourth to take control — and sealed it with a four-run seventh.

■ See **ROUNDUP** on 18

Baseball



STAFF PHOTOS/ANTHONY WEBER
 Troy's Dylan Cascaden slides back into first base Thursday against Springboro at Market Street Field. Cascaden scored three runs in the Trojans' 7-6 victory.

Full steam ahead

Troy gets momentum, rallies past Springboro 7-6

BY JOSH BROWN

Sports Editor

jbrown@tdnpublishing.com

Payback from a tournament loss last season. A signature win against one of the area's best teams — and in exciting fashion.

Of all the things Troy earned Thursday, one was more important than all.

Momentum.

TROY

The Trojans (14-7) kicked off the most important five-game stretch of their season with a come-from-behind victory over the Springboro Panthers, falling behind as much as 6-2 only to rally for a 7-6 victory Thursday at Market Street Field on Senior Night.

"This was a great momentum game," said Troy senior Nathan Helke, who pitched the seventh inning to pick up a save. "They're (Springboro) probably going to be one of the top seeds in the tournament. We got a lot of momentum out of this game, and with Piqua coming on Monday and Tuesday, any momentum we can get is great."

■ See **TROJANS** on 20 Troy's Alex Potchik runs the bases Thursday against Springboro.



Track and Field

Wayne Invite kicks off with rough 1st day

Staff Reports

HUBER HEIGHTS

A pair of Troy Trojans qualified for tomorrow's finals at the two-day Wayne Invitational Thursday, while only a few events were finalized.

The girls sit in ninth place with 11 points, while the boys are 25th with one.

Ashley Rector placed third in the long jump for the Trojan girls, leaping 17-8.5, while the 4x100

shuttle hurdle relay team of Cathelyn Schmiedebusch, Tori Selcharman, Tarisai Chinoda and Jaden Huggins finished fourth in 1:08.24.

Todda Norris qualified for today's finals in the 100. Norris and Chaminade Julienne's DeVanae Mitchell both ran a time of 12.84 seconds — the best in the

qualifying round.

For Troy's boys, Seth Overla was the only scorer, finishing eighth in the discus (132-9).

Nick James tied with Springboro's Jason Bailey for the third-best qualifying time in the 100, finishing in 11.3 seconds. And in the 3,200 rising stars event, sophomore Branden Nosker was second (9:59.78) and junior Jon Osman was seventh (10:14.21).

Leah Dunivan finished second

in a pair of events for Miami East's girls, putting the Vikings in sixth place with 16 points. She was runner-up in the shot put (37-4.5) and the high jump, tied with the winner, Mason freshman Jordan Horning, at 5-2 but taking second on attempts.

Wayne (31.25) leads the boys side, while Mason (37) leads the girls.

The meet resumes today at 4:30 p.m.

Tennis

Butler knocks off Troy

Trojans now need help in North

Staff Reports

VANDALIA — Thursday's matchup between Troy and Butler was destined to decide the Greater Western Ohio Conference North Division champion.

But a title for the Trojans doesn't appear to be in the cards now.

Troy fell to 12-4 on the season and 2-1 in the GWOC North, while Butler improved to 12-1 and 4-0 in the division. Troy now needs to win out in GWOC North play and for Trotwood to knock off Butler to tie for the title.

At first singles, Troy's Luke Oaks put up a fight against David Scher before falling 2-6, 6-3, 6-2.

MIAMI COUNTY

"Butler has another strong team with most of their players back from last year," Troy coach Mark Goldner said. "Luke played very well for a set and a half before dropping the third set 6-2."

At second singles, Justin Kopronica defeated Reid Wynkoop 6-2, 6-2. At third singles, Kyle Teague defeated Sean Cothran 6-2, 6-1.

At first doubles, Ryan Helke and Lauren Jackson defeated Chris Schmitt and Ben Thompson 6-1, 6-3. At second doubles, Gary Hess and Alex Anderson defeated Matt Alexander and Ian Stutz 6-2, 6-2.

The Trojans face another tough test today, taking on Chaminade Julienne.

Tippecanoe 5, Greenon 0

TIPP CITY — With slightly more than a week to go in the regular season, Tippecanoe remains perfect. On Thursday, the Red Devils blanked Greenon 5-0 — leading up to a big test today.

At first singles, Sam Bollinger defeated Fabian Probst 6-0, 6-0. At second singles, Michael Keller defeated Ryan Dewey 6-0, 6-0. At third singles, Jacob Belcher defeated Austin Porter 6-0, 6-1.

At first doubles, Adam Southers and Joe Coughlin defeated Seth Comer and Colin

■ See **TENNIS** on 20