

Baseball

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■ CONTINUED FROM 15 brought home Greg Johnson, and then Collin Moeller was hit by a pitch with one out. A wild pitch put runners on second and third, but the Wildcats (5-13) prevented a run from scoring on a groundout to third, setting the stage for Cascaden.

"We'd had guys come up before him and not pose a threat. But he's a senior, and he stepped up in a clutch situation," Troy coach Ty Welker said.

It was the second game in a row the Trojans (10-5) have struggled with runners in scoring position. After an offensive explosion on Monday at Greenville, Troy suffered a letdown on its home field, falling 4-3 despite numerous chances to get a big hit.

"We did that against Greenville. In the seventh, we did not have very many good at-bats," Cascaden said. "We were popping it

up right to them, and you can't do that in those situations."

"When we get those big hits early in the game, everybody does it. It's contagious for us," Welker said. "But when we don't get those early on, it's a fight."

Troy took the lead in the bottom of the second. After Lavy (2 for 3, two runs, one RBI) singled and stole second, Kevin McGraw immediately brought him home with an RBI single up the middle.

A fielder's choice and a pair of walks loaded the bases with two outs, but a meek pop-up to first put an end to that threat. The Wildcats tied it up thanks to the speed of Kawambee Moss, who singled with two outs, advanced to second on another single, stole third and came home on an errant throw on the play. And after the Trojans put runners on second and third with two down in the



PHOTOS COURTESY OF LEE WOOLERY/SPEEDSHOT PHOTO
Troy's Ben Langdon delivers a pitch Friday.

fourth, Springfield starter score tied. Jeff Mefford got Cascaden "We were all just laid to ground out to keep the back today. No one was



Troy's Ryan Lavy drives in the game-tying run Friday night against Springfield.

standing in the dugout," Cascaden said. "Someone had to step up and make a big play."

The Wildacts took the lead in the top of the sixth on a two-out RBI infield single by Jake Moore. With runners on first and second, Moore hit one in the hole between first and second base, and he beat the throw to first by a step. The Troy first baseman hesitated while waiting for the umpire's call, and Derek Williams jumped on the chance and scored from second to make it 2-1 Springfield.

After Troy's three-run rally in the bottom of the inning, Springfield made it interesting in the end. Mefford drew a leadoff walk, and a one-out single by Riley Borders put runners on the corners. A fielder's choice made it a one-run game with two outs, but a hit-batter and a steal of third put the tying and go-ahead runs on base.

But Nick Sanders struck out the final batter of the game looking, finishing off a tough game with a save.

Ben Langdon started the game for Troy, striking out all eight batters that he retired in 2 2-3 innings — six of them in a row — but leaving the game after reaching his pitch count limit. Cody Fuller came in and worked 3 2-3 innings, striking out two, walking two and giving up three hits and two runs to earn

the win in relief.

"Ben was on a pitch count since he'll be throwing against Butler next week," Welker said. "Cody did a nice job coming in and holding us in there. And Nick is the closest thing to a closer we've got, but he's been hurt since our game at Fifth Third Field. This was his first game back, and it was a learning experience for him. He needs to get into those tight situations where he's got to throw strikes late in a close game."

The Trojans hope the win will help them gain some momentum heading into the biggest series of the season on Monday and Tuesday against Greater Western Ohio Conference North Division-leading Butler. But first up, they have a doubleheader at Fairmont today.

"We got some momentum, and we'll get some more Saturday and be ready to play on Monday," Cascaden said. "Trust me. You're going to see a different level of intensity from us on Monday."

After all, down one game in the division standings, there won't be any second chances.

Spfld 001 001 1 — 3 7 0
Troy 010 003 x — 4 7 1
Mefford, Beegle (6) and Moore. Langdon, Fuller (3), Sanders (7) and Magoteaux. WP — Fuller. LP — Beegle. SV — Sanders. 2B — Cascaden (T). **Records:** Springfield 5-13, Troy 10-5.

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National Football League San Diego drafts Te'o; Smith a Jet

NEW YORK (AP) — Manti Te'o is headed to San Diego.

Geno Smith is a Jet. Radio City Music Hall was relatively silent for five second-round picks Thursday night. Then the theater shook with two selections within minutes of each other.

The Notre Dame All-America linebacker was chosen sixth in the second round by the Chargers, drawing a loud roar from the fans at Radio City Music Hall. One spot later, the Jets took the West Virginia quarterback, drawing a raucous reaction of cheers and boos.

Early in Friday's proceedings, the big names had taken over from the bulk and beef of opening night, when 18 linemen went in the first round.

Te'o, who led the Fighting Irish to the national championship game, was projected as a first-rounder last year. But his poor performance in a rout at the hands of Alabama, some slow workouts, and a tabloid-ready

hoax involving a fake girlfriend that became a national soap opera dropped his stock.

"I did expect to go in the first round," Te'o said. "But things happened and all it did was give me more motivation."

When former Chargers defensive back Jim Hill was handed the card to make the announcement by Commissioner Roger Goodell, he was told, "You're going to get a big cheer when you announce this pick."

It was more a mix of surprise and recognition of the most talked-about player in the draft finally finding a landing spot at No. 38 overall.

The Chargers traded up with Arizona to grab Te'o, the Heisman Trophy runner-up. Te'o ran a 4.82-second 40-yard dash at the NFL combine, slow for a linebacker. He did better at Notre Dame's pro day, but NFL teams already had plenty of football reasons to doubt his worthiness as a first-round pick.

Major League Baseball Reds

■ CONTINUED FROM 15 with a single to center for Cincinnati's only hit off Zimmermann. The other baserunners came when Todd Frazier reached on an error by first baseman Adam LaRoche in the fifth and Corky Miller walked in the eighth.

Washington won the first game of the series when Gio Gonzalez pitched eight innings of one-hit ball in an 8-1 victory on Thursday night. Joey Votto homered for Cincinnati's only hit in

this one. Homer Bailey (1-2) was nearly as good as Zimmermann, pitching seven crisp innings for the Reds. He allowed one run and six hits, struck out six and walked none.

The Nationals' only run came in the third. Bryce Harper tripled to right and scored on Jayson Werth's single to right.

That was enough for Zimmermann, who is 8-0 with a 3.02 ERA in his last 14 regular-season home starts.