

# SPORTS

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JOSH BROWN

## CONTACT US

■ Sports Editor  
**Josh Brown**  
 (937) 440-5231,  
 (937) 440-5232  
 jbrown@tdnpublishing.com

# B1

April 1, 2011

## TODAY'S TIPS

• **TENNIS:** The Troy Tennis Association is now forming spring and summer leagues for the 2010 season. All levels are welcome for men's and women's; singles, doubles and mixed doubles. For information, call Max Brown at (937) 689-1938, or for more information about the Troy Tennis Association, go to [troytennis.net](http://troytennis.net). The membership drive will run through April.

• **TENNIS:** Wittenberg University's men's and women's tennis teams have scheduled a free clinic for boys and girls ages 9-17 for April 6. The clinic will take place from 5-7:30 p.m. at Wittenberg's David and Georgiana Albright Tennis Complex. Players of all skill levels are welcomed to participate, and racquets will be made available to those who do not have their own. Participants will be divided into beginner, intermediate and advanced groups. The deadline to sign up is March 30. Call head coach Justin Stuckey at (937) 327-6453 or contact him via e-mail at [jstuckey@wittenberg.edu](mailto:jstuckey@wittenberg.edu) for more information or to sign up.

## SPORTS CALENDAR

**TODAY**

**Baseball**  
 Miamisburg at Troy (5 p.m.)  
 Tri-County North at Milton-Union (5 p.m.)  
 Miami East at Lehman (5 p.m.)  
 Troy Christian at Catholic Central (5 p.m.)

**Softball**  
 Miamisburg at Troy (5 p.m.)  
 Tippecanoe at St. Bede, Ill. (at Tenn.) (6 p.m.)  
 Tippecanoe at Smyrna, Tenn. (8 p.m.)  
 Tri-County North at Milton-Union (5 p.m.)  
 Miami East at Lehman (5 p.m.)  
 Anna at Bethel (5 p.m.)  
 Piqua at TBA (at Florida) (DH) (noon)  
 Bradford at Botkins (5 p.m.)

**Tennis**  
 Eaton at Milton-Union (4:30 p.m.)  
 Lehman at Greenville (4:30 p.m.)

**SATURDAY**

**Baseball**  
 Kenton Ridge at Milton-Union (DH) (noon)  
 Xenia Christian at Newton (DH) (noon)  
 Northwestern at Bethel (DH) (noon)  
 Covington at Lehman (DH) (11 a.m.)  
 Stivers at Troy Christian (DH) (11 a.m.)  
 Tecumseh at Piqua (DH) (11 a.m.)  
 Bradford at Marion Local (DH) (11 a.m.)

**Softball**  
 Tippecanoe at Siegel, Tenn. (11 a.m.)  
 Tippecanoe at Lincoln County, Tenn. (1 p.m.)  
 Brookville/Miami East at Milton-Union (11 a.m.)  
 Versailles at Newton (noon)  
 Bethel at Greenon (DH) (11 a.m.)  
 Covington at Lehman (DH) (11 a.m.)  
 Troy Christian at Mississinawa Valley (DH) (10 a.m.)  
 Bradford at Marion Local (DH) (11 a.m.)

**Track**  
 Troy, Milton-Union, Troy Christian, Lehman at Tippecanoe Invitational (10 a.m.)  
 Bradford at Versailles Invitational (boys only) (9 a.m.)

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## OSU opens spring amidst questions

While Jim Tressel's NCAA violations hang like a specter over his program, the Buckeyes begin spring practice faced with a number of other key questions.

"It's going to be a little bit different team," Tressel said in an understatement on Wednesday, addressing the on-the-field product after apologizing for what he termed his "mistakes" off it. "There are some folks who have played a lot of football who aren't here anymore. There is a tremendous amount of leadership that isn't here anymore." See Page B2.

## Major League Baseball

# Where they left off

## Reds win in walk-off fashion, 7-6

CINCINNATI (AP) — The Brewers got off to a powerful start, and the defending NL Central champions had the big finish.

One game in, the Reds are at it again.

Ramon Hernandez hit a two-out, three-run homer in the bottom of the ninth inning Thursday, rallying Cincinnati to a 7-6 victory over Milwaukee in

an opening-day flashback to its championship season.

"I've played 12 years, and this is the most amazing opening day," said Hernandez, who ended it with his fourth hit. "To get that type of win is great, and to do it on a day like today gets people even more excited. It's amazing."

Quite a start. Quite a finish.



AP PHOTO  
 Cincinnati Reds' Ramon Hernandez hits a three-run walk-off home run in the ninth inning Thursday in Cincinnati.

■ See REDS on B2

## Baseball



STAFF PHOTOS/ANTHONY WEBER  
 Troy starting pitcher Doug Burchfield fires to the plate Thursday against Beavercreek. Burchfield went the distance it the Trojans' 3-1 win.

# No pressure at all

Barkett's hit, Burchfield's pitching lead Troy to win

BY JOSH BROWN  
*Sports Editor*  
 jbrown@tdnpublishing.com

Troy Barkett knows that sometimes it's not about putting pressure on the opposition.

It's about taking it off of your own guys.

## TROY

Barkett's two-out, two-run single in the fifth inning gave Troy a 3-1 lead — and took all the weight off of pitcher Doug Burchfield's shoulders. Burchfield mowed through the Beavercreek lineup the rest of the way, going the distance in the Trojans' victory Thursday at Market Street Field.

"It just takes the pressure off

■ See TROJANS on B2



Troy third baseman Nick Antonides knocks down a ground ball Thursday afternoon at Market Street Field during the Trojans' 3-1 victory over Beavercreek.

## Baseball/Softball

# Goulette comes up big for Tippecanoe

Staff Reports

FLORIDA — Tippecanoe got off to a great start in Florida Thursday with an 11-2 victory over Reynoldsburg in its first game and a 7-6 win over Mosley in its second game of the day.

Nick Muse pitched seven strong innings to get the win over Reynoldsburg. Muse had 10

## MIAMI COUNTY

strikeouts and no walks. Chase Goulette was 3 for 4 with a double and two RBIs, while Braden Price went 3 for 5 with a double and one RBI, Ben Hughes went a perfect 3 for 3 with three RBIs and Craig Koehler went 2 for 3 with two RBIs.

Goulette continued his strong play in the win over Mosley, going 3 for 3 with two RBIs, along with a double, triple and home run. Kyle Pignatiello had a big two-run single which broke the game open early on for the Devils.

"It was a big day for Chase Goulette," Tippecanoe coach Bruce Cahill said. "The last two

days he has had six hits, so we hope he continues to keep up his solid play.

"We had two freshman on the mound today that really stepped up for us," Cahill said. "To come down to Florida and get two wins right off the bat is great for us. Our pitching was great today."

■ See ROUNDUP on B2

## Tennis

# Devils blank Urbana

Staff Reports

The Tippecanoe Red Devils reeled off their second straight victory to start the season Thursday, shutting out Urbana in Central Buckeye Conference action 5-0.

At first singles, James Trevino defeated Doug Burkett 6-0, 6-0. At second singles, Sam Bollinger defeated Austin Cawdia 6-1, 6-0. At third singles, Jacob Belcher defeated Brandon Miller 6-3, 6-3.

## URBANA

At first doubles, Nick Denuzzo and Tyler Heil defeated Wayne Wildman and Casey Evans 6-0, 6-1. At second doubles, Joe Coughlin and Blake Sowry defeated Barnaby Ofori and Jason Holmes 6-0, 6-1.

Tippecanoe takes on Kenton Ridge Monday.

## College Basketball

# Shockers upset Tide, win NIT

NEW YORK (AP) — The players flooded off the Wichita State bench, jumping together near the corner of the floor. Gregg Marshall smiled and pumped his fist. A few thousand fans dressed in yellow stood on their feet, cheering for a championship.

Good luck convincing any of them that they didn't deserve it.

Or that they didn't belong in a more prestigious postseason tournament.

J.T. Durlley and Graham Hatch scored 12 points each to lead a balanced offense, and the fourth-seeded Shockers simply overwhelmed top-seeded Alabama 66-57 on Thursday night to win the NIT championship at Madison Square Garden.

Hatch was 4 for 4 from beyond the arc, including back-to-back shots in the closing minutes, as Wichita State finished up a remarkable postseason run in style.

"We obviously, as a team, have gone through a roller coaster," Hatch said. "We came back from those disappointments, we pulled together, and it's just magical."

The Shockers beat Nebraska by 27 points, won at Virginia Tech, beat College of Charleston, then set a school record for wins in a season with a 75-44 romp over Washington State in the semis.