

Eagle/Times: Diane Szatkowski

West Lawn sets sights on championship run

The Owls have experience, talent and hopes of winning the most special in the history of the franchise.

by Darryl Grumling

Two summers ago, Tony Matz III saw something special.

Even though the West Lawn coach was enduring his only losing season in 12 years, he knew the future was as bright as the sun shining over Muhlenberg's field that warm day in July 1997.

The inexperienced Owls, who started as many as nine first-year players, had just been eliminated from the Berks Legion League playoffs by Shillington.

Instead of reflecting on West Lawn's 19-22 record, blown chances, youthful mistakes and what might have been, Matz chose to look ahead.

"We had a good feeling about these kids," he said. "We had heard so much about them, and then we saw their potential and their work ethic, we felt very good about their future."

The future arrived in a flash last year, when the Owls (36-15 overall) won, 40-2 to win the league's West-ern Division, advanced to the league championship round and won their first Pennsylvania Region 2 title.

With all but one player returning from that team, it's no wonder West Lawn's sights are set as high as the Cellular One tower outside the left-field fence at Owls Field. "I would say this is probably the most explosive team we've ever had," Matz said.

Combined with the rarity that the Owls are hosting the Berks and Region 2 Tournaments, it is quite apparent that West Lawn has a chance to enjoy the most special season in the history of the 45-year-old franchise.

"This is it," said first baseman Brad Binder, one of seven 18-year-old starters. "We have plenty of talent. We have a ton of leaders. We have experience. We've all played in big games. It's just a matter of executing and putting it all together."

With Binder, center fielder Josh Yocum, shortstop Tony Cipolla and right fielder Shane Stachurski leading the way, Matz can put together the most potent offense in the league. Last August, virtually the same lineup shattered the Region 2 record for runs scored in a tournament.

On the field, third baseman Regan Carroll and second baseman Andy Hohl join Binder and Cipolla in an air-tight infield; Yocum, Stachurski and Eric Pettit patrol a strong outfield, and Dave Schultz is a solid receiver behind the plate.

EASTERN DIVISION
SHILLINGTON RED SOX
■ COACH: Bob Houck, seventh season, 22-4-66.
■ LAST YEAR: 18-4 East, 38-7 overall; Berks playoff qualifier.
■ KEY RETURNERS: JF Dan Batz, 1B-OF Justin Holland, 2B Kyle Faust, P-SS Matt Nuhler, P-OF Brandon DeWald, CF Tim Miller.
■ OTHERS TO WATCH: P Mike Stahler, C Dan Weber, IF-C Brett Sweigart, P Tim Gombay, P Steve Gebhart, OF Paul Miller.
■ OUTLOOK: Veteran lineup and solid pitching staff should be enough to keep Red Sox atop the East.

BOYERTOWN BEARS
■ COACH: Rick Mozatz, 12th season, 53-4-130.
■ LAST YEAR: 18-4 East, 37-18 overall; Berks champion, Region 2 qualifier.
■ KEY RETURNERS: P-OF Jared Trout, P Chase Roth, C Jordan Hartline, IF Mitch Schueck, P Jon Eide, IF Brandon Mason.
■ OTHERS TO WATCH: 1B Rob Galloway, P Jordan Walsh, P-JF Nick Allen, 3B Drew Hoffmann, P-OF Todd Stachion.
■ OUTLOOK: Deep pitching staff will keep Bears in hunt for division and league titles.

BIRDSBORO ORIOLES
■ COACH: Chris Drowne, first season, 42-31.
■ LAST YEAR: 16-6 East, 21-11 overall; Berks playoff qualifier.
■ KEY RETURNERS: P-3B Jeremy Wunderlich, SS-P Brad Kexley, 1B-P John Runkle, P-JF Gary Werner, OF Charlie Werner, 2B Chad Righmyer, P-OF Jon Dressler.
■ OTHERS TO WATCH: IF Josh Majer, C Jim Everhart.
■ OUTLOOK: Orioles could be team to watch in East thanks to a nice combination of power and pitching depth.

EXETER BLUE JAYS
■ COACH: Dan Rosh, third season, 42-31.
■ LAST YEAR: 11-11 East, 19-17 overall; Berks playoff qualifier.
■ KEY RETURNERS: P Mike Gerhard, SS-P Jason Miller, 3B Zach Taylor, OF Brian Hayes, 1B John Woram, C Jason Dienerdier.
■ OTHERS TO WATCH: OF Matt Burkart, OF-P Dave Denko, IF Kyle Hassler, SS Karl Schenberg, 2B Sar-kei Kasadia, P-OF Mark Stiffel.
■ OUTLOOK: Jays are division's darkhorses, but still have to find more arms to contend.

KUTZTOWN COUGARS
■ COACH: Joel Graff, fourth season, 30-42.
■ LAST YEAR: 12-10 East, 13-12 overall; Berks playoff qualifier.
■ KEY RETURNERS: SS Luke Bricker, CF Dave Swartwood, 1B-C Jake Kutz, 3B John Marseller, P Steve Rothemel.
■ OTHERS TO WATCH: P Mike Bergstrom, RF-P Larry Fricke, P Andrew Miller, 3B Ryan Inschwaller.
■ OUTLOOK: Cougars should be at least middle of pack.

OLEY LYNX
■ COACH: Gary Reinert, eighth season, 80-86.
■ LAST YEAR: 7-15 East, 10-17 overall.
■ KEY RETURNERS: SS-P Jared Lydon, P-OF Steve Cotellasse, P-1B Brent Miller, IF Matt Sola, IF Nate Lock, C Carl Righner.
■ OTHERS TO WATCH: OF Kyle Gehring, IF Derek Yeager, 1B-OF Kyle Hoffman.
■ OUTLOOK: Lynx ought to give commanders trouble on a given night, but are longshots at best.

FLEETWOOD TIGERS
■ COACH: John Templin, first season, 5-17.
■ LAST YEAR: 8-14 East, 8-14 overall.
■ KEY RETURNERS: SS-P Ryan Negri, C-P Justin Templin, OF Luke Angstadt, 1B-C Andre Folk, P-JF Brian Battier.
■ OTHERS TO WATCH: Josh Templin, Matt Folk, Ryan Woolner, Matt Keller, Jared Treichler, Mike Rusk, Scott Stetler, Jayne Schaeffer, Chad Helfner.
■ OUTLOOK: Tigers likely a year or two away, but have potential.

BERKS LEGION LEAGUE PREVIEW

WESTERN DIVISION

WEST LAWN OWLS
■ COACH: Tony Matz III, 13th season, 352-154.
■ LAST YEAR: 20-2 West, 36-15 overall; Berks runner-up, Region 2 champion, Pennsylvania State Tournament qualifier.

■ KEY RETURNERS: CF-P Josh Yocum, 1B Brad Binder, SS Tony Cipolla, RF-P Shane Stachurski, 3B Regan Carroll, OF Eric Pettit, 2B Andy Hohl, C Dave Schultz, P Matt Fidler, P Jon Rudisill.
■ OTHERS TO WATCH: P Brad Impink, P Kyle Freese, OF Dennis Zimmerman, P Mike Schaeffer, OF Travis Yocum.

■ OUTLOOK: Owls, who return all but one player from a team that won Region 2, should be team to beat in division and league.

MULHENBERG A'S

■ COACH: Dick Godhauer, 30th season, 542-364.
■ LAST YEAR: 13-9 West, 17-14 overall; Berks playoff qualifier.

■ KEY RETURNERS: SS Kraig Kemp, OF Jason Reinhart, P Dan Runkle, 3B-P Matt Wye, 2B Brian Kerner, C Joe Faller, P-OF Tim Healy, P-OF Nate Bentley.
■ OTHERS TO WATCH: P-1B Nate Guers, 3B Jerome Lopez.
■ OUTLOOK: Definite division contender and league darkhorse.

HAMBURG HAWKS
■ COACH: Jeff Seidel, fifth season, 65-50.
■ LAST YEAR: 19-3 West, 25-7 overall; Berks playoff qualifier.

■ KEY RETURNERS: IF-P Tom Krick, C D.J. Hoshauer, IF-P Nick Evangelista, IF Terry Snyder, P Zane Karshter, OF Nat Harrison.
■ OTHERS TO WATCH: 1B Rich Shappell, IF-P Seth Gressley, OF-P Jamie Paulbanski, IF Josh Reinert, IF Travis Hartman.
■ OUTLOOK: Hawks must bounce back from disappointing scholastic campaign, but could be a player in West race.

READING WHITE SOX

■ COACH: Chad Denuzio, first season.
■ LAST YEAR: 11-11 West, 13-13 overall.
■ KEY RETURNERS: P-OF Jeff Scott, SS Matt Radway, 2B Brian Miller, C-P Steve Randolph, P-C Daryl Miller.

■ OTHERS TO WATCH: P Eli Bone, 3B John Baez, 1B Robert Ash.
■ OUTLOOK: Despite a thin roster, Sox should have enough to stay above .500 and could be in the playoff picture with a few breaks.

SCHUYLKILL VALLEY MARLINS

■ COACH: Lu Kaufman, sixth season, 30-88.
■ LAST YEAR: 3-19 West, 3-19 overall.
■ KEY RETURNERS: 1B-P Dan Weigant, OF-P Don Smith, IF Chris Starn, C-3B Carl Moyer, C-2B Joe Boxey, P-OF Brooks Miller.
■ OTHERS TO WATCH: IF Shaun McLunry, P-SS Jeff Harner, 3B-P Josh Boltz, CF Nate Bailey, P-JF Derek James.
■ OUTLOOK: Marlins likely won't contend, but could surprise.

GREGG POST KEYS
■ COACH: Charlie Flannery, 17th season, 181-205.
■ LAST YEAR: 11-11 West, 11-14 overall.

■ KEY RETURNERS: C Brian Hasler, SS Matt Matutz, CF Tim Clark, 1B Mike Gillis, P Terry Lipovsky, OF Jack Himmelberger, P-JF Zach Focht.
■ OTHERS TO WATCH: 2B Leon Adams, C David Geisler, P Matt Nowaczynski, OF Keith Fuchs, OF Joel Ralskyder.
■ OUTLOOK: Young Keys will be rebuilding and could take some lumps early with 11 16-year-olds.

WYOMISSING BISONS
■ COACH: Tom King, second season, 5-17.
■ LAST YEAR: 5-17 West, 5-17 overall.

■ KEY RETURNERS: OF Brady Kidd, P-OF Bruce Anglin, SS Eric Sweitzer, C Kerry Marshall.
■ OTHERS TO WATCH: 3B Randy Pitts, OF Rob Fyock.
■ OUTLOOK: Bisons can win anytime Anglin is on mound, but likely will struggle otherwise.

CONRAD WEISER SCOUTS

Legion non-league

Boyertown 8, North Parkland 4

West Lawn 19, Ephrata 1

Muhlenberg 4, Conestoga 3

Highlights: Lyle Loeb went 2-for-3 with three RBIs for the Bears. . . . Brad Binder was 3-for-4 with a double, triple, three runs and four RBIs for the Owls in their season opener. Shane Stachurski was 2-for-3 with four RBIs and Josh Yocum was 2-for-3 with a homer, triple and three RBIs. Mike Schaeffer and Jon Rudisill combined on a five hitter, with Schaeffer striking out 11 in five innings of three-inning shutout ball.

MAIN LINE LEGION TOURNAMENT

At Eastern College

Conrad Weiser 7, Media 7

Losing pitcher Steve Randolph went 2-for-3 for the White Sox, who led 3-0 after an inning. But the Owls (1-0, 2-1) scored four runs in each of the second and third innings to take command. Matt Fidler allowed five hits over six innings for the win.

Reading 300 000 10 - 4 7
West Lawn 044 101 54 - 19 16 2
W: Matt Fidler (1-0). L: Steve Randolph (0-1). 2B: John Baez (R). Steve Randolph (R). Shane Stacherski (WL). 2. Matt Fidler (WL). Tony Cipolla (WL). Josh Yocum (WL). Brad Impink (WL). 3B: Josh Yocum (WL).

Berks Legion

■ Josh Yocum went 2-for-3 with a home run and three runs Wednesday as West Lawn remained unbeaten in the Western Division with a 14-1 rout of Conrad Weiser in a game called after five innings due to rain at Robesonia.

Mike Schaeffer and Brad Impink combined on a four-hitter for the Owls (2-0, 3-1).

Losing pitcher Brad Brizek was 2-for-2 for the Scouts (0-1, 5-6).

Berks Legion

West Lawn	R H E
Conrad Weiser	723 02 - 14 9 0
W: Brad Impink (1-0). L: Brad Brizek (0-2).	000 10 - 14 6
2B: Joel Rush (CW), Regan Carroll (WL). HR:	
Josh Yocum (WL).	

■ **Regan Carroll** went 2-for-3 with two runs and three RBIs to lead West Lawn over Wyomissing in 21-1 blowout.

Starting pitcher **Matt Fidler** struck out six and allowed only one run. Reliever **Kyle Frees** struck out five in the last two innings.

West Lawn's **Eric Shipe** was 2-for-3 with two runs and two RBIs and teammate **Dave Schultz** was a perfect 2-for-2 with three runs and two RBIs. **Andy Hohl** pitched in with a 2-for-3 night, scoring three runs and batting in one.

		R	H	E
Wyomissing	010 000 0 -	1	3	3
West Lawn	647 130 x -	21	19	1
W: Matt Fidler (2-0), L: Andy Bausher (0-1).				
2B: Eric Shipe (WL), Jon Zeigler (WL), 3B:				
Randy Pitts (W), Dave Schultz (WL), Brad im-				
pink (WL).				

■ Jon Rudisill pitched six innings of shutout ball and West Lawn had 19 hits to beat Schuylkill Valley 18-0 in 6½ innings in a Western Division game at West Lawn.

Rudisill allowed four hits, struck out four and walked none for the Owls (4-0, 5-1), who scored in every inning. Tony Cipolla went 3-for-3 with three runs and an RBI, Josh Yocum homered and drove in three runs and Regan Carroll, Dave Schultz, Eric Pettit and Travis Yocum each had two hits and two runs for West Lawn.

	R	H	E
Schuylkill Valley	0	0	0
West Lawn	18	19	2

W: Jon Rudisill (1-0). L: Jon Smith (0-1).
 2B: Tony Cipolla (WL) 2, Dan Weyandt (SV).
 3B: Eric Shiye (WL). HR: Josh Yocum (WL).

■ West Lawn 18, Gregg Post 3: At West Lawn, the Owls collected 19 hits to roll to a Western Division win.

West Lawn's Josh Yocum and Tony Cipolla combined to go 7-for-9 with six RBIs. Yocum hit a two-run homer in the sixth inning and Cipolla had run-scoring hits in the first and fifth.

Brad Impink went seven innings for the win.

For the Keys, Mike Gillis was 4-for-4 with two RBIs.

Berks Legion

R H E
Topton.....020 011 001 — 5 12 1
Birdsboro.....151 004 01x — 11 11 7
W: John Runkle (1-0). L: Dean Godusky.
2B: Justin Shustack (B). Jeremy Wunderlich (B). Brian Deese (B). George Kresley (T) 2.
3B: Andrew Roth (T). HR: Justin Shustack (B). Chad Rightmyer (B).

R H E
Exeter.....114 203 561 — 23 21 6
Olney.....400 432 410 — 18 17 3
W: Mark Stuffle (1-0). L: Steve Cotellesse (1-2). 2B: Matthew Burkhart (E) 2. Jason Dielenderfer (E). John Woram (E). Jason Miller (E). Mark Stuffle (E). Jerad Lydon (O). Steve Cotellesse (O). Chris Miksitz (O). HR: David Demko (E). Jason Miller (E). John Woram (E). Nate Righter (O).

R H E
Gregg Post.....110 010 0 — 3 10 7
West Lawn.....333 324 x — 18 19 1
W: Brad Impink (1-0). L: Terry Lipovsky. 2B: Regan Carroll (WL). Brad Impink (WL). Brad Binder (WL) 2. Andrew Hohl (WL). 3B: Tony Cipolla (WL). Zach Focht (GP). Mike Gillis (GP). HR: Josh Yocum (WL).

R H E
Conrad Weiser...102 014 020 — 10 10 3
Wyomissing.....010 012 010 — 5 9 6
W: Dave Kazmierczak (1-1). L: Jeffrey Warmkessel (0-2). 2B: Daniel Stoltz (W). Randy Pitts (W). Robert Fyock (W). Eric Sweltzer (W). Jordan Hottenstein (W). Andrew Bausher (W). Brad Brzek (CW). Brian Grubb (CW). HR: Joel Rush (CW).

R H E
Boyers town.....400 300 010 — 8 10 0
Shillington.....000 000 021 — 3 8 5
W: Chase Roth (2-0). L: Tim Gombard (0-1). 2B: Jared Trout (B).

R H E
Schuylkill Valley...000 100 500 — 6 7 4
Hamburg.....054 002 00x — 11 11 3
W: Nick Evangelista (1-1). L: Dan Weyandt. 2B: Rich Shappell (H). Shawn McMurtry (SV). Matthew Beissel (SV). 3B: Zane Kerschmer (H). Frank Ammarell (SV). HR: Tom Krick (H).

NON-LEAGUE
West Lawn 14, Southern Area 3
Highlights: At West Lawn, Eric Pettit went 3-for-4 with three runs and three RBIs and Mike Schaeffer went 2-for-4 with two runs and two RBIs in support of winning pitcher Kyle Frees, who allowed six hits in eight innings for the Owls (7-1).

■ **West Lawn 15, Hamburg 11:**
At Hamburg, the Owls overcame a 5-0 deficit by scoring 10 runs in the middle three innings and held on for the Western Division win.

West Lawn (6-0, 8-1) scored five runs in the fifth inning, two in the sixth and three in the seventh to turn the five-run deficit into a 10-5 lead. The Hawks (1-3, 4-6) then scored four runs in the bottom of the sixth to get within a run, but West Lawn again took control with a five-run eighth.

Brad Binder and Tony Cipolla each had two-run singles and Dave Schultz had a run-scoring triple in the eighth. Binder, who also homered, went 3-for-5 with four RBIs and four runs and Cipolla was 3-for-3 with two RBIs and three runs for the Owls.

D.J. Hoshauer was 4-for-5 with two doubles, four RBIs and three runs and Tommy Krick was 3-for-5 with three RBIs and two runs for Hamburg.

West Lawn RHE
Hamburg
W: Matt Fidler (3-0), L: Jamie Palubinski (0-1), 2B: Zane Kershner (H) 2, D.J. Hoshauer (H) 2, Shane Stachurski (WL), Josh Yocum (WL), 3B: Dennis Zimmerman (WL), Tony Cipolla (WL), Dave Schultz (WL), HR: Brad Binder (WL)

Eastern Division	W	L	Pct.	GB
Boyetown Bears	5	1	.833	-
Shillington Red Sox	4	1	.800	1/2
Birdsboro Orioles	2	1	.667	1 1/2
Exeter Blue Jays	3	3	.500	2
Oley Lynx	3	3	.500	2
Fleetwood Tigers	2	3	.400	2 1/2
Topton Rams	2	5	.286	3 1/2
Kutztown Cougars	0	2	.000	3
Western Division	W	L	Pct.	GB
West Lawn Owls	6	0	1.000	-
Reading White Sox	5	1	.800	1
Muhlenberg A's	4	1	.800	1 1/2
Gregg Post Keys	2	2	.500	3
Hamburg Hawks	1	4	.200	4 1/2
Conrad Weiser Scouts	1	5	.167	5
Wyomissing Bisons	1	5	.167	5
Schuylkill Valley Marlins	1	5	.167	5
WEDNESDAY'S RESULTS				
Oley 16, Boyertown 13				
Shillington 16, Exeter 3				
Muhlenberg 16, Conrad Weiser 1				
Topton 6, Fleetwood 5				
Reading 13, Wyomissing 6				
West Lawn 15, Hamburg 11				

West Lawn routs Muhlenberg

■ Tony Cipolla homers, drives in four runs and picks up the win in the Owls' 20-4 victory.

From our news staff

Winning pitcher Tony Cipolla had four hits, including a home run, and drove in four runs as West Lawn trounced Muhlenberg 20-4 Wednesday night in a Berks Legion League Western Division game at Laureldale.

The game was a dramatic departure from Monday, when the teams played until rain forced a postponement. That one was tied 1-1 after three innings.

The Owls (7-0, 9-1) scored five runs in the first inning and led 7-1 after three. They ended any Muhlenberg hopes when they scored seven times in the seventh inning to take a 16-4 lead.

West Lawn, which finished with 14 hits, also took advantage of eight errors by the A's (4-2, 6-2).

Dave Schultz had a two-run

BERKS LEGION

double in the seventh inning and drove in four runs and Regan Carroll had three hits and three RBIs.

Matt Nye hit a home run for Muhlenberg.

		R	H	E
West Lawn	502 101 722 - 20 14 2			
Muhlenberg	010 201 000 - 4 9 8			
W: Tony Cipolla (1-0); L: Matt Nye (1-1); 2B: Regan Carroll (WL), Dave Schultz (WL); HR: Tony Cipolla (WL), Matt Nye (M).				

Schaeffer, Owls continue to roll

■ Mike Schaeffer's fifth start is his most impressive yet for powerful West Lawn, a complete-game five-hitter in an 11-2 win over Birdsboro.

By Darryl Grumling
Eagle/Times

When West Lawn Legion coach Tony Matz gave Mike Schaeffer the ball against Ephrata two weeks ago, his message to the Owls rookie was crystal clear.

In the first game of what is arguably the most anticipated season of the Owls' 45-year history, it was Schaeffer who took the mound.

Trial by fire? More like faith in the future.

"I wanted him to realize he was going to be one of our starters this year," Matz said. "It was a situation where I wanted him to feel comfortable, even though he was a first-year player."

Thus far, Schaeffer has looked plenty comfortable. And Saturday afternoon at Optimist Field, the right-hander continued his impressive start by firing a five-hitter in West Lawn's 11-2 Berks Legion League interdivision victory against Birdsboro.

Schaeffer (2-0) struck out 10 and also went 2-for-4 with three RBIs as the Owls (8-0 Western Division, 10-1 overall) continued their methodical march through league play. Through eight games, West Lawn has outscored Berks foes 136-26.

"This lineup will always get you runs," Schaeffer said. "It's so deep."

So is the pitching staff, now that Schaeffer is firmly entrenched in the rotation. Saturday's start was Schaeffer's fifth, and by far his most impressive.

"Schaeffer's got real good stuff," said first baseman Brad Binder, who went 5-for-5 with three runs to front a 17-hit attack. "He's got a good, live arm and when he spots the ball he's really tough. Today he was really on."

The Owls staked Schaeffer to a lead with a four-spot in the sec-

ond inning - in which he helped himself with a two-run single.

Schaeffer allowed just one hit until the fifth, when Pete Colon doubled in a run to get Birdsboro on the board. The Orioles (2-3 East, 6-5) got within 4-2 when Brad Kepley (2-for-4) scored on a wild pitch in the sixth inning, but the Owls broke it open with a three-run seventh capped when Schaeffer drew a bases-loaded walk.

"When they got it to 4-2, we knew we had to respond," Binder said. "It was really the first time we'd been tested this year, and that was a good thing for us."

Tony Cipolla was 2-for-4 with a double and three runs and Dave Schultz drove in four runs for the Owls, who racked up 14 hits against Birdsboro ace Jeremy Wunderlich over 7²/₃ innings.

"They keep coming at you," Birdsboro coach Chris Drowne said. "They play nine innings, and today we only played three."

Which wasn't nearly enough against Schaeffer, whose fastball, curve and change repertoire had the Orioles guessing practically all afternoon.

"I was pretty excited, but I wasn't real nervous," Schaeffer said. "The seniors have really made me comfortable so far, and that's given me a lot of confidence."

That confidence was on display throughout the game, and enabled Matz to allow Schaeffer to go the distance.

"I actually came into today more concerned about what our hitters were going to do against Wunderlich than about how Mike was going to do," Matz admitted. "We were realistically hoping to get six or seven (innings) out of him, but we broke it open in the seventh inning and saw that his pitch count was pretty low, so we decided to let him finish."

Schaeffer finished strongly, pitching out of jams in both the seventh and eighth innings before working a perfect ninth.

"He battled us and he didn't hurt himself," Drowne said. "He came right after our hitters and made people hit the ball. And we didn't."

Berks Legion

Eastern Division	W	L	Pct.	GB
Boyerstown Bears	7	1	.875	-
Shillington Red Sox	4	1	.800	1
Exeter Blue Jays	4	3	.571	2 1/2
Oley Lynx	4	3	.571	2 1/2
Topion Rams	4	5	.444	3 1/2
Birdsboro Orioles	2	3	.400	3 1/2
Kutztown Cougars	1	3	.250	4
Fleetwood Tigers	2	6	.250	5
Western Division	W	L	Pct.	GB
West Lawn Owls	8	0	1.000	-
Muhlenberg A's	6	2	.750	2
Reading White Sox	5	2	.714	2 1/2
Gregg Post Keys	2	4	.333	5
Hamburg Hawks	2	4	.333	5
Wyomissing Bisons	2	6	.250	6
Conrad Weiser Scouts	1	6	.143	6 1/2
Schuylkill Val. Marlins	1	6	.143	6 1/2

SATURDAY'S RESULTS

West Lawn 11, Birdsboro 2
Boyerstown 19, Schuylkill Valley 4
Exeter 2, Reading 1
Muhlenberg 10, Kutztown 9
Hamburg 24, Fleetwood 7
Topion 7, Fleetwood 3
Oley 18, Gregg Post 9

WEST LAWN BIRDSBORO

	ab	r	h	bi		ab	r	h	bi
Carroll 3b	5	0	1	1	Kepley ss	4	1	2	0
Stachurski rf	5	0	1	1	Everhart c	3	0	0	0
Shipe ph	1	0	0	0	Wunderlich p	3	0	0	0
Yocum cf	4	2	1	0	G. Werner 3b	3	0	0	0
Binder 1b	5	3	5	1	B. Schaeffer p	0	0	0	0
Cipolla ss	4	3	2	0	Deese ph	1	0	0	0
Schultz c	3	1	1	4	Ingram p	0	0	0	0
Pettit lf	5	0	2	1	Rightmyer 2b	3	0	0	0
M. Schaeffer p	4	1	2	3	Runkle 1b	3	0	1	0
Frees 2b	4	1	2	0	Dressler rf	4	1	1	0
					Colon lf	2	0	1	1
					Shustack cf	3	0	0	0

Totals 40 11 17 11 Totals 29 2 5 1

West Lawn040 000 331-11

Birdsboro000 011 000-2

E: G. Werner, Dressler. DP: Birdsboro 1.

LOB: West Lawn 9, Birdsboro 5. 2B:

M. Schaeffer, Yocum, Cipolla, Colon,

Runkle. SB: Binder. SF: Carroll. S: Frees.

IP H R ER BB SO

West Lawn Owls

M. Schaeffer (W, 2-0) 9 5 2 2 4 10

Birdsboro Orioles

Wunderlich (L, 0-1) 7 14 9 7 3 2

B. Schaeffer 1 2 1 1 0 0

Ingram 1 1 1 0 0 1

HBP: by M. Schaeffer (Rightmyer), by

Wunderlich (Cipolla, Schultz). WP:

M. Schaeffer 2, Wunderlich. Umpires:

Marlin Strohecker and Roy Underhill. T:

2:44. A: 250.

■ **West Lawn 26, Tipton 6:** At Tipton, Brad Impink homered twice and drove in six runs and Dennis Zimmerman was 4-for-5 with three runs as the Owls (9-0 West, 11-1) hammered the Rams (4-6 East, 9-6). Tony Cipolla (3-for-4, five RBIs) and Mike Dietrich (3-for-6, three RBIs) also homered for West Lawn, which used a six-run first, a five-run third and a seven-run fourth to take a 19-1 lead.

The Owls, who hold a two-game lead over second-place Muhlenberg in the West, have outscored their league opposition 162-32 and haven't been held under 11 runs.

For Tipton, George Kressley went 2-for-4 with four RBIs and homered for the fourth straight game and Andrew Roth had a homer and three runs.

Berks Legion

Eastern Division	W	L	Pct.	GB
Boyersburg Bears	8	1	.889	-
Shillington Red Sox	5	1	.833	1 1/2
Oley Lynx	4	3	.571	3
Birdsboro Orioles	3	3	.500	3 1/2
Exeter Blue Jays	4	4	.500	3 1/2
Tipton Rams	4	6	.400	4 1/2
Fleetwood Tigers	3	6	.333	5
Kutztown Cougars	1	4	.200	5

Western Division	W	L	Pct.	GB
West Lawn Owls	9	0	1.000	-
Muhlenberg A's	7	2	.778	2
Reading White Sox	5	3	.675	3 1/2
Hamburg Hawks	3	4	.471	5
Gregg Post Keys	2	5	.286	6
Wyomissing Bisons	2	7	.222	7
Conrad Weiser Scouts	1	6	.143	7
Sch. Valley Marlins	1	7	.125	7 1/2

SUNDAY'S RESULTS

Boyersburg 17, Reading 4
Hamburg 15, Kutztown 4
West Lawn 26, Tipton 6
Shillington 16, Wyomissing 2
Birdsboro 18, Schuylkill Valley 2
Muhlenberg 11, Exeter 4
Fleetwood 9, Gregg Post 4

	R	H	E
Schuylkill Valley.....	000	002	0 - 2 7 14
Birdsboro.....	870	210	x - 18 13 1
W: Jon Runkle (2-0). L: Jon Smith (0-2). 2B: Jon Runkle (B), Eric Everhart (B), Frank Ammarelli (SV). 3B: Brad Kepley (B).			

	R	H	E
Reading.....	000	301	000 - 4 5 3
Boyersburg.....	111	007	70x - 17 23 2
W: Jared Trout (3-0). L: Eli Bonet (2-1). 2B: Jared Trout (B), Jordan Walsh (B), Lyle Loeb (B). 2, Jordan Hartline (B), Mitch Schueck (B). HR: Jeff Soto (R), Drew Hoffman (B), Jordan Hartline (B).			

	R	H	E
Kutztown.....	000	000	031 - 4 8 2
Hamburg.....	420	421	11x - 15 15 0
W: Zane Kershner (1-0). L: Steve Rothermel (0-2). 2B: Terry Snyder (H). 2, Adam Rappert (H), Mike Bergstrom (K), Sean Jones (K), Dave Swartwood (K). 3B: D.J. Hoshauer (H), Jamie Palubinski (H), Derek Young (K), Larry Fricker (K). HR: D.J. Hoshauer (H), Zane Kershner (H), Josh Reinert (H).			

	R	H	E
West Lawn.....	615	713	3 - 26 24 0
Tipton.....	001	041	0 - 6 9 0
W: Matt Fidler (4-0). L: Dean Godusky (0-2). 2B: Dennis Zimmerman (WL), Mike Dietrich (WL), Gary Fridinger (T). 3B: Bill Keim (T). HR: Brad Impink (WL). 2, Tony Cipolla (WL), Mike Dietrich (WL), Andrew Roth (T), George Kressley (T).			

	R	H	E
Wyomissing.....	000	020	000 - 2 3 4
Shillington.....	333	013	30x - 16 17 2
W: Mike Stahler (1-0). L: Bruce Anglin (0-3). 2B: Dan Stoltz (W), Kyle Faust (S). HR: Brandon DeWald (S).			

	R	H	E
Fleetwood.....	120	022	110 - 9 13 0
Gregg Post.....	101	100	001 - 4 6 4
W: Justin Templin (1-1). L: Joe Taylor (0-2). 2B: Brian Battier (F), Ryan Negri (F). 3B: Justin Templin (F).			

	R	H	E
Exeter.....	200	000	020 - 4 6 2
Muhlenberg.....	003	010	25x - 11 12 2
W: Matt Nye (2-1). L: Mark Stuffed (1-1). 2B: Nate Guers (M), Brian Hayes (E). 3B: Jason Miller (E), Zach Taylor (E), Jason Reinhardt (M), Craig Kemp (M), Tim Heinly (M). HR: Matt Nye (M).			

BERKS LEGION LEADERS



**Zane
Kershner**
Hamburg



**Ryan
Negri**
Fleetwood



**George
Kressley**
Topton



**Matt
Fidler**
West Lawn

LEAGUE GAMES ONLY

(Unofficial; Tuesday's games not included)

DOUBLES: Zane Kershner, Hamburg, 6; Ryan Negri, Fleetwood, 6; Mark Stuffle, Exeter, 5; Tony Cipolla, West Lawn, 4; Steve Cotellesse, Oley, 4; Joe Faller, Muhlenberg, 4; Andre Folk, Fleetwood, 4; Nate Guers, Muhlenberg, 4; Terry Snyder, Hamburg, 4; Jeff Soto, Reading, 4; Justin Templin, Fleetwood, 4.

TRIPLES: Tony Cipolla, West Lawn, 2; Steve Cotellesse, Oley, 2; Mike Gillis, Gregg Post, 2; Joe Faller, Muhlenberg, 2; Tim Heintz, Muhlenberg, 2; Jarad Lydon, Oley, 2; Jason Miller, Exeter, 2; Matt Redcay, Reading, 2; Jason Reinhart, Muhlenberg, 2; Dave Schultz, West Lawn, 2; Zach Taylor, Exeter, 2; Josh Templin, Fleetwood, 2; Justin Templin, Fleetwood, 2.

HOME RUNS: George Kressley, Topton, 6; Tom Krick, Hamburg, 4; Matt Nye, Muhlenberg, 4; Dave Demko, Exeter, 3; Bill Keim, Topton, 3; Josh Yocum, West Lawn, 3.

EXTRA-BASE HITS: Zane Kershner, Hamburg, 9; George Kressley, Topton, 9; Tony Cipolla, West Lawn, 8; Joe Faller, Muhlenberg, 8; Tom Krick, Hamburg, 7; Justin Templin, Fleetwood, 7; Josh Yocum, West Lawn, 7; six tied with 6.

PITCHING (minimum three decisions): Matt Fidler, West Lawn, 4-0; Jared Trout, Boyertown, 3-0; Eli Bonet, Reading, 2-1; Nick Evangelista, Hamburg, 2-1; Brent Miller, Oley, 2-1; Matt Nye, Muhlenberg, 2-1; Jason Werley, Topton, 2-1.

Shillington's Nuhfer shackles West Lawn's potent lineup

From our news staff

For the first three weeks of the Berks Legion League season, no pitcher had come close to shutting down West Lawn's lineup.

Until Tuesday night, when Matt Nuhfer accomplished something nine league pitching staffs previously could not.

The Shillington right-hander went the route and struck out six as the Red Sox knocked off West Lawn 9-4 in an interdivision showdown of county title contenders at Owls Field.

The Red Sox (6-1 Eastern Division, 7-1 overall) broke a 1-1 tie in the second inning on a two-run single by Pat Miller. Shillington broke open a 3-2 lead with four runs in the fourth. Tim Miller's RBI double and Brett Sweigart's two-run double sparked the inning. The Red Sox scored two more on an error in the sixth to go up 9-2.

Nuhfer (3-0) scattered nine hits against the Owls (9-1 West, 11-2),

LEGION ROUNDUP

who had outscored their league opposition 162-32 and had not scored fewer than 11 runs in any league game.

Dan Batz had two hits and two RBIs for Shillington.

Brad Binder had three hits for the Owls, who committed three errors.

■ **Hamburg 4, Exeter 3:** At Hamburg, Nick Evangelista pitched 2 1/3 innings of no-hit, five-strikeout relief to earn the win for the Hawks (4-4 West, 6-6).

Hamburg scored the winning run on a two-out, eighth-inning double by Rich Shappell. For the losing Blue Jays (4-5 East, 5-5), Taylor went 3-for-5 with two runs and an RBI.

■ **Topton 13, Schuylkill Valley 10:** At Topton, George Kressley hit a grand slam in the fifth, making it his fifth straight game with a

homer, to lead the Rams (5-6 East, 10-6) over the Marlins (1-8 West, 2-10). It was Kressley's league-leading seventh homer of the season.

Kressley also scored two runs and drove in five. Teammate Jason Werley hit an inside-the-park home run.

Schuylkill Valley's Christopher Stamm was 2-for-4 with a double.

■ **Birdsboro 8, Reading 5:** At George Field, Jon Runkle went 3-for-3 with two RBIs and Jeremy Wunderlich was 2-for-4 with one RBI to lead the Orioles (4-3 East, 8-5) past the White Sox (5-4 West, 5-4). Gerry Werner (2-1) picked up the pitching win and drove in three runs at the plate. For Reading, Robert Ash was 2-for-4 with a triple and an RBI and Marino Uribe was 2-for-3 with a double and an RBI.

■ **Conrad Weiser 3, Fleetwood 2:** At Robesonia, Dave Kazmierczak pitched a complete game to lead the Scouts (2-6 West, 8-13) over the

Tigers (3-7 East, 3-7).

Kevin Yarnall's two-out single scored Andy Hoffman with the winning run for the Scouts.

Yarnall finished 3-for-5 with one RBI and Hoffman was 2-for-3 and scored two runs.

Fleetwood's Matt Keller was 2-for-4 and scored a run.

■ **Oley 11, Wyomissing 2:** At Wyomissing, Kyle Hoffman drove in three runs and Jared Lydon was

2-for-5 with a double and two RBIs as the Lynx (5-3 East, 5-4) beat the Bisons (2-8 West, 2-8).

The Lynx trailed 2-0 after three innings behind pitcher Nate Leck who struck out five Bisons in a shutout innings. Leck allowed just two hits and drove in two runs the plate.

For Wyomissing, Brady Kidd and Randy Pitts drove in runs.

Berks Legion

Eastern Division	W	L	Pct.	GB
Boyetown Bears	6	1	.889	-
Shillington Red Sox	6	1	.857	1
Oley Lynx	5	3	.625	2 1/2
Birdsboro Orioles	4	3	.571	3
Topton Rams	5	6	.455	4
Exeter Blue Jays	4	5	.444	4
Kutztown Cougars	1	4	.200	5
Fleetwood Tigers	3	7	.300	5 1/2

Western Division	W	L	Pct.	GB
West Lawn Owls	9	1	.900	-
Muhlenberg A's	7	2	.778	1 1/2
Reading White Sox	5	4	.556	3 1/2
Hamburg Hawks	4	4	.500	4
Gregg Post Keys	2	5	.286	5 1/2
Wyomissing Bisons	2	8	.200	7
Sch. Valley Marlins	1	9	.111	7 1/2

TUESDAY'S RESULTS

Shillington 9, West Lawn 4
Birdsboro 8, Reading 5
Conrad Weiser 3, Fleetwood 2
Topton 13, Schuylkill Valley 10
Oley 11, Wyomissing 2
Hamburg 4, Exeter 3

	R	H	E
Fleetwood	200	000	000 - 2 7 1
Conrad Weiser	100	001	001 - 3 12 1
W: Dave Kazmierczak (2-0). L: Brian Battler (1-3). 2B: Andre Folk (F). Andy Hoffman (CW). Joel Rush (CW). HR: Ryan Negri (F).			

	R	H	E
Schuylkill Valley	131	100	004 - 10 13 0
Topton	320	350	00x - 13 7 0
W: Ryan Henderson (1-0). L: Jeff Harner (0-1). 2B: Daniel Weyandt (SV). 3B: Christopher Stamm (SV). HR: George Kressley (T). William Keim (T). Jason Werley (T). Daniel Weyandt (SV).			

	R	H	E
Oley	000	212	42 - 11 8 1
Wyomissing	002	000	00 - 2 3 3
W: Nate Leck (1-0). L: Justin Hanley (2-1). 2B: Steve Coteliese (O). Jared Lydon (O).			

	R	H	E
Exeter	200	010	000 - 3 12 1
Hamburg	101	010	01x - 4 5 3
W: Nick Evangelista (3-1). L: Zach Taylor (0-1). 2B: John Woram (E). 2: Terry Snyder (H). Rich Shappell (H). 3B: Kyle Hassler (E).			

	R	H	E
Birdsboro	100	030	400 - 8 12 3
Reading	101	000	210 - 5 7 2
W: Gerry Werner (2-1). L: Marino Uribe (0-1). 2B: Jim Everhart (B). Brian Miller (R). Marino Uribe (R). 3B: Jeremy Wunderlich (B). Robert Ash (R).			

	R	H	E
Shillington	120	402	000 - 9 9 2
West Lawn	101	000	110 - 4 9 3

W: Matt Nuhfer (3-0). L: Jon Rudisill (1-1). 2B: Brett Sweigart (S). Tim Miller (S). Andy Hohl (WL). Shane Stacherski (WL). Brad Binder (WL). 3B: Dan Weber (S). Pat Miller (S).

■ **West Lawn 21, Fleetwood 5:** At Fleetwood, Brad Binder went 2-for-3 with a three-run home run and five RBIs to lead the Owls (10-1 Western, 12-2) to a rout of the Tigers (3-8 Eastern, 3-8) in an inter-division game halted after seven innings due to the 15-run rule.

Eric Shipe went 2-for-2 with four RBIs and Tony Cipolla had three RBIs for West Lawn.

Andre Folk was 2-for-3 with an RBI double and Matt Folk had two RBIs for Fleetwood.

	R	H	E
West Lawn.....	431	544	0-21 19 1
Fleetwood.....	000	005	0- 5 9 6

W: Kyle Frees (1-0). L: Josh Templin (1-2). 2B: Regan Carroll (W), Tony Cipolla (W), Dave Schultz (W), Shane Stacherski (W) 2. Kyle Frees (W), Andre Folk (F). 3B: Regan Carroll (W), Kyle Frees (W). HR: Brad Binder (W).

NON-LEAGUE

West Lawn 7, Bensalem 5

Richland 12, Conrad Weiser 7

Highlights: For West Lawn (13-2), Brad Binder was 3-for-5 with two RBIs, including a double and triple. Mike Schaeffer pitched six scoreless innings for his third win of the season. . . . For Conrad Weiser (8-18), Kevin Yarnell went 3-for-3 and Joel Rush was 2-for-3 with an RBI.

BERKS LEGION LEADERS



Andre Folk
Fleetwood



Jason Reinhart
Muhlenberg



Billy Keim
Topton



Matt Nuhfer
Shillington

LEAGUE GAMES ONLY

(Unofficial; Tuesday's games not included)

DOUBLES: Andre Folk, Fleetwood, 7; Ryan Negri, Fleetwood, 7; Zane Kershner, Hamburg, 7; Joel Rush, Conrad Weiser, 7; Steve Cotellesse, Oley, 6; Terry Snyder, Hamburg, 6; Jeff Soto, Reading High, 6; Shane Stacherski, West Lawn, 6; Mark Stufflet, Exeter, 6; Justin Templin, Fleetwood, 6; Dan Weyandt, Schuylkill Valley, 6.

TRIPLES: Jason Reinhart, Muhlenberg, 4; Jarad Lydon, Oley, 3; Zach Taylor, Exeter, 3; 18 tied with 2.

HOME RUNS: George Kressley, Topton, 7; Dave Demko, Exeter, 4; Bill Keim, Topton, 4; Tom Krick, Hamburg, 4; Matt Nye, Muhlenberg, 4; Andre Folk, Fleetwood, 3; Jason Miller, Exeter, 3; Ryan Negri, Fleetwood, 3; Jeff Soto, Reading, 3; Josh Yocum, West Lawn, 3.

EXTRA-BASE HITS: Andre Folk, Fleetwood, 10; Zane Kershner, Hamburg, 10; George Kressley, Topton, 10; Ryan Negri, Fleetwood, 10; Tony Cipolla, West Lawn, 9; D.J. Hoshauer, Hamburg, 9; Justin Templin, Fleetwood, 9; Jeff Soto, Reading, 9; Dan Weyandt, Schuylkill Valley, 9; six tied with 8.

PITCHING (minimum four decisions): Dave Demko, Exeter, 4-0; Matt Fidler, West Lawn, 4-0; Matt Nuhfer, Shillington, 4-0; Chase Roth, Boyertown, 4-0; Nick Evangelista, Hamburg, 4-1; Matt Nye, Muhlenberg, 3-1; Steve Randolph, Reading, 3-1.

5 with two RBIs for Wyomissing.

■ **West Lawn 6, Exeter 0:** At Owls Field, winning pitcher Brad Impink pitched 7²/₃ scoreless innings to lead the Owls (11-1 Western, 14-2) to the interdivision shutout of the Blue Jays (7-6 Eastern, 8-6).

Impink also doubled in the bottom of the seventh inning to score the game's first run. West Lawn's Tony Cipolla hit an RBI triple and stole home in a five-run eighth.

Sanket Kapadia pitched seven innings, allowing just two hits and one earned run in the loss for Exeter.

Dave Demko went 3-for-4 for the

Exeter	R H E
West Lawn	000 000 000 - 0 8 1
W: Brad Impink (2-0). L: Sanket Kapadia (0-1). 2B: Zach Taylor (E), Mark Stufflet (E), Brad Impink (WL). 3B: Tony Cipolla (WL).	000 000 15x - 6 5 0



**Brad
Kepley**



**Josh
Yocum**

in an interdivision game.

Josh Yocum was 2-for-2 with three RBIs and Regan Carroll hit two doubles for West Lawn.

Kutztown's Luke Bricker went 2-for-2.

■ **Hamburg 22, Wyomissing 12:** At Wyomissing, Nick Evangelista went 5-for-5 with a homer, six runs and three RBIs to lead the Hawks (7-7, 9-9) past the Bisons (2-12, 2-12) in a Western Division game.

Josh Reinert went 3-for-4 with a double, and Rich Shappell was 2-for-3 with a homer and four runs for Hamburg.

For Wyomissing, Dan Stoltzfus went 3-for-4 with four RBIs.

		R	H	E
West Lawn	321 315 -	15	11	2
Kutztown	200 000 -	2	6	4
W: Tony Cipolla (2-0) - L: Matt Barrell (0-1) -				
2B: Regan Carroll 2 (WL) Josh Yocum (WL),				
Dave Schultz (WL), Shane Stacherski (WL),				
Andy Hohl (WL). HR: Brad Binder (WL), Andy				
Hohl (WL).				

■ **West Lawn 15, Kutztown 2:** At Kutztown, Andy Hohl went 2-for-4 with a double and a home run to lead the Owls (12-1 Western, 15-2) past the Cougars (5-5 Eastern, 6-5)

Berks Legion

Eastern Division	W	L	Pct.	GB
Boyertown Bears	13	1	.929	-
Shillington Red Sox	12	1	.923	1/2
Birdsboro Orioles	6	5	.545	5 1/2
Kutztown Cougars	6	5	.545	5 1/2
Exeter Blue Jays	7	6	.538	5 1/2
Oley Lynx	7	7	.500	6
Topton Rams	6	8	.429	7
Fleetwood Tigers	4	10	.286	9
Western Division	W	L	Pct.	GB
West Lawn Owls	13	1	.929	-
Muhlenberg A's	9	4	.692	3 1/2
Reading White Sox	7	5	.583	5
Hamburg Hawks	7	7	.500	6
Gregg Post Keys	4	9	.308	8 1/2
Wyomissing Bisons	2	12	.143	11
Conrad Weiser Scouts	2	13	.133	11 1/2
Sch. Valley Marlins	1	12	.077	11 1/2

THURSDAY'S RESULTS

Boyertown 10, Birdsboro 2
West Lawn 16, Oley 1
Kutztown 10, Conrad Weiser 3

Birdsboro.....000 000 101 - 2 7 1
Boyertown.....110 031 22x - 10 13 2
W: Jared Trout (4-0). L: Jon Runkle (2-1).
2B: Jeremy Wunderlich (Bil) 2, Jared Trout (Bo), Jordan Hartline (Bo), Lyle Loeb (Bo), Chase Roth (Bo).

Oley.....000 100 0 - 1 5 1
West Lawn.....411 440 2 - 16 15 2
W: Matt Fidler (5-0). L: Matt Sola (1-1). 2B:
Josh Yocum (WL) 2, Tony Cipolla (WL), Brad Binder (WL), Shane Stacherski (WL), Eric Pettit (WL). 3B: Shane Stacherski (WL).

■ West Lawn 16, Oley 1: At Owls Field, Josh Yocum went 3-for-3 with four runs, two doubles and two RBIs and Shane Stacherski was 3-for-3 with a triple and double as the Owls (13-1 West, 16-2) ripped the

BERKS LEGION



Lyle Loeb
Boyertown



Shane Stacherski
West Lawn

Lynx (7-7 East, 7-8) in an interdivision game halted by the 15-run rule in seventh.

It was the eighth 15-run win for defending Region 2 champion West Lawn, which is averaging 16 runs in league play and has been held under double figures in runs just twice.

Righty Matt Fidler struck out five and allowed five hits and one unearned run to improve to 5-0.

Tony Cipolla (2-for-3, three RBIs) had a two-run double, Yocum an RBI double and Stacherski a run-scoring

Schell's

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"99"

Soto, Sox quiet Owls

■ Reading right-hander Jeff Soto scatters 10 hits and goes the distance as the White Sox upset high-scoring West Lawn. The Owls average 16 runs per league game.

From our news staff

Jim Kelly went 4-for-5 with three RBIs and three runs and Steve Randolph singled in the go-ahead run in the eighth inning Friday night as Reading rallied to upset first-place West Lawn 9-5 in a Berks Legion League Western Division game at George Field.

Right-hander Jeff Soto went the route for the White Sox (8-5 Western Division, 8-6), striking out four and scattering 10 hits against the Owls (13-2, 16-3), who had been averaging 16 runs per game in league play.

West Lawn broke a 3-3 tie with two runs in its seventh when Kyle Frees scored on a wild pitch and Eric Pettit hit an RBI single. But the White Sox went up to stay with three in their half, when Matt Redcay (3-for-5, two RBIs) and Soto each had run-scoring singles to set the stage for Randolph. Kelly singled in another run in a three-run eighth that sealed it.

Redcay went 3-for-5 with two RBIs and Robert Ash was 2-for-4 with three runs in a 14-hit Reading attack.

Dave Schultz went 2-for-3 with two RBIs for the Owls, who had won five straight and 14-of-15.

BERKS LEGION

	R	H	E
West Lawn	000	102	200 - 5 10 4
Reading	002	010	33x - 9 14 0
W: Jeff Soto (2-2); L: Kyle Frees (1-1); 2B: Brad Binder (WL); 3B: Jim Kelly (R).			

Schaeffer pitches West Lawn past A's

From our news staff

Mike Schaeffer pitched a complete-game four-hitter and Tony Cipolla went 2-for-4 with a two-run homer to lead West Lawn to an 11-3 victory over Muhlenberg in a Berks Legion League Western Division game Saturday night.

Schaeffer struck out 11 and yielded just one earned run to improve his record to 3-0.

Josh Yocum went 2-for-5 with two RBIs and Shane Stacherski was 3-for-4 with a pair of doubles for the Owls (14-2, 17-3).

Andy Rozzi hit a two-run double for Muhlenberg (10-5, 12-6) in the fifth.

BERKS LEGION

For Topton, Kyle Moll was 3-for-3.

■ Conrad Weiser 6, Schuylkill Valley 4: At Robesonia, Dave Kazmierczak scattered 11 hits in notching the complete-game win as the Scouts (3-14, 9-22) won the Western Division game over the Marlins (1-14, 2-16). Kasmierczak has all three of Weiser's league wins this season.

The Scouts got two hits and two runs from Andy Hoffman and a two-run first-inning triple from Kevin Yarnall.

Muhlenberg ...000 020 100 - 3 4 3
West Lawn ...103 130 03x - 11 11 1
W: Mike Schaeffer (3-0). L: Nate Guers (3-2).
2B: Josh Yocum (WL), Eric Pettit (WL).
Shane Stacherski (WL), Andy Rozzi (M). HR:
Tony Cipolla (WL).

■ Trailing by two runs with two outs and no baserunners in the bottom of the 12th inning, West Lawn stages a miraculous rally and defeats Boyertown in a battle of division leaders.

Eagle/Times

As the song *Unbelievable* by EMF resounded throughout the park, the Owls were celebrating wildly while the Bears were simply stunned.

Four batters later, however, West Lawn was revealing in the aftermath of a 5-4 interdivision victory that was nothing short of miraculous.

Shane Stacherski's two-out, three-run double capped a 180-degree turnaround as the Owls (15-2 Western Division, 18-3 overall) outlasted the Bears (15-2 East, 21-7) in a showdown of division leaders and rematch of last year's Berks final, won by Boyertown 18-1. "We never gave up," said first baseman Brad Binder, who went 4-for-6 and began the game-winning rally.

"This has to be the biggest comeback I've been part of," said Stacherski, who surrendered two runs in the top of the 12th inning. "To come back like that against rival like them... it's just great."

Boyetown's prayers looked to be answered in the top half, when Trout beat out a swinging bunt between Stacherski and catcher Dave Schultz, then reached third when Stacherski bounced a pickoff attempt past first baseman Binder.

And when Trout quickly got Regan Carroll to



"Truthfully, deep down inside, I was thinking there was still a glimmer of hope," Metz said. "When Binder was up and got that hit, I was thinking, 'Now we're one pitch away.' Then Yocum gets on and Tony gets hit. It all happened so quickly."

But the Bears chipped away against Owls starter Brad Impink, scratching across one run in the sixth on Jordan Hartline's RBI single and tying it at 2-2 in the

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

"Going into the bottom of the 12th I said we had to work to get on base and give somebody a chance," Matz said. "Well, we ended up getting three guys on and giving Shane an opportunity, and he came through."

BOYERTOWN		WEST LAWN				
	ab r h bl		ab r h bl			
Troul p	5 2 2 0	Carnol 3o	5 0 1 0			
Harline c	3 0 1 2	Penit r	4 0 0 0			
Walsch f	6 1 1 0	Bearr 1b	6 1 4 0			
Loop 1b	4 0 1 0	T. Vocum d-65-2	2 2 2 2			
Rotn p-1b	4 1 2 0	Cipolla s	5 1 0 0			
Allen ft	5 0 0 1	Stachritz ps	0 1 3 0			
D. Hoffman	3u40 1 0	Schutcz c	4 0 0 0			
Schuck s	5 0 1 1	Impit p	2 0 0 0			
Mason 2s	5 0 0 0	Holt 2d	5 0 1 0			
A. Hoffman	p00 0 0	T. Vocum d-42	0 0 0 0			
Galloway r	1 0 0 0					
Totals	42 4 9 4	Totals	43 5 9 5			
Boyeroun	10000 K0 C2-4 9-1	Boyeroun	10000 K0 C2-4 9-1			
West Lawn	000000000000-5-91	West Lawn	000000000000-5-91			
LOB: Boyertown 10, West Lawn 5. DP: Boyeroun, 28; Rotn (B), Troul (B); Stachritz (WL), HR, J. Vocum (WL), Ss: Harline (B), D. Hoffman (B), SF: Harline (B).						
	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Boyeroun	9 1/2	6	2	2	4	2
Rotn	2 1/2	3	1	1	1	1
Troul, L-4-1						
West Lawn						
Impit	6 1/2	3	2	2	2	3
J. Vocum	2 2/3	3	0	0	0	2
Stachritz W-1-0-2		2	2	2	2	3
HBP: Penit by Rotn, Cipolla by Troul.						
WP: Troul, J. Vocum, PB: Schutcz.						
T: 2:25; A: 1,000.						

NON-LEAGUE

Richland 6, Conrad Weiser 1

West Lawn 18, Conestoga Valley 5

Highlights: At Owls Field, Travis Yocum (2-for-4, five RBIs) and Mike Dietrich (3-for-3, four RBIs) each tripled and scored three runs for West Lawn (19-3).

■ **West Lawn 19, Conrad Weiser 3:**
At Owls Field, Eric Pettit went 3-for-3 with a double, three runs and a three-run inside-the-park homer to lead West Lawn (16-2, 20-3) to a Western Division win over the Scouts (3-15, 9-24).

Josh Yocum went 3-for-4 with a double, triple and three RBIs for West Lawn. For the Scouts, Joel Rush was 3-for-3 with a double.

	R	H	E
Conrad Weiser	100	200	0-3 8 3
West Lawn	054	352	x-19 13 0

W: Matt Fidler (6-0). L: Brad Brizek (0-4).
2B: Joel Rush (CW), Eric Pettit (WL), Josh Yocum (WL). 3B: Brad Brizek (CW), Tony Cipolla (WL), Brad Binder (WL), Josh Yocum (WL). HR: Eric Pettit (WL).

BERKS LEGION LEADERS

LEAGUE GAMES ONLY

(Unofficial; through Sunday)

DOUBLES: Shane Stacherski, West Lawn, 10; Dan Batz, Shillington, 8; Zane Kershner, Hamburg, 8; Ryan Negri, Fleetwood, 8; Joel Rush, Conrad Weiser, 8; Jared Trout, Boyertown, 8; Andre Folk, Fleetwood, 7; Tim Miller, Shillington, 7; Terry Snyder, Hamburg, 7; Jeff Soto, Reading, 7; Jeremy Wunderlich, Birdsboro, 7; Josh Yocum, Wilson, 7.

TRIPLES: Jarad Lydon, Oley, 5; Jason Reinhart, Muhlenberg, 5; Kyle Hoffman, Oley, 4; Pat Miller, Shillington, 4; Brandon DeWald, Shillington, 3; Kyle Faust, Shillington, 3; Larry Fricker, Kutztown, 3; Tim Heinly, Muhlenberg, 3; D.J. Hoshauer, Hamburg, 3; Zach Taylor, Exeter, 3.

HOME RUNS: George Kressley, Topton, 8; Bill Keim, Topton, 5; Dan Batz, Shillington, 4; Dave Demko, Exeter, 4; Andre Folk, Fleetwood, 4; D.J. Hoshauer, Hamburg, 4; Tom Krick, Hamburg, 4; Matt Nye, Muhlenberg, 4; Josh Yocum, West Lawn, 4; seven tied with 3.

EXTRA-BASE HITS: D.J. Hoshauer, Hamburg, 13; Jason Reinhart, Muhlenberg, 13; Dan Batz, Shillington, 12; Jared Trout, Boyertown, 12; Josh Yocum, West Lawn, 12; Tony Cipolla, West Lawn, 11; Andre Folk, Fleetwood, 11; Zane Kershner, Hamburg, 11; George Kressley, Topton, 11; Pat Miller, Shillington, 11; Ryan Negri, Fleetwood, 11; Shane Stacherski, West Lawn, 11; Jeremy Wunderlich, Birdsboro, 11.

PITCHING (minimum five decisions): Matt Fidler, West Lawn, 5-0; Matt Nuhfer, Shillington, 5-0; Chase Roth, Boyertown, 5-0; Nick Evangelista, Hamburg, 5-1; Jared Trout, Boyertown, 4-1; Gerry Werner, Birdsboro, 4-1; Steve Cotellesse, Oley, 3-2; Nate Guers, Muhlenberg, 3-2.

Long, Wunderlich, Yocum honored

From our news staff

A local trio of recent high school graduates have received 1999 All-USA high school baseball team recognition. The team was published in Tuesday's editions of *USA Today*.

Casey Long, Jeremy Wunderlich and Josh Yocum were each named to the Pennsylvania honorable mention team.

Long, a Gov. Mifflin second baseman, hit .403 with five home

runs, 29 RBIs and 26 runs. He helped the Mustangs (22-5) reach the Berks final and set a school record for victories.

Wunderlich, a Twin Valley pitcher/shortstop, hit .429 with seven home runs and 37 RBIs. He was 7-3 with a 1.22 ERA and had 91 strikeouts in 74²/₃ innings. He was also named All-Berks Player of the Year for baseball.

Yocum, a Wilson center field-

er, hit .425 with a team-high 38 runs. He helped the Bulldogs win the county championship.

Infielder Josh Wilson of Mount Lebanon (Pittsburgh) was named Pennsylvania Player of the Year and earned All-USA second-team honors.

Josh Beckett, a 6-5, 203-pound pitcher out of Spring, Texas, was named the country's Player of the Year.

FOCUS ON:

Brad Impink, West Lawn

By Darryl Grumling

Eagle/Times

It took Brad Impink about nine months to realize how much he appreciated baseball.

At the beginning of Legion season last year, Impink - who at the time was considered West Lawn's top pitcher by coach Tony Matz III - decided to leave the team.

"I felt I needed a break," said Impink, who as a senior in 1998 was the ace of Wilson High's staff. "I just wanted more free time."

Gradually, however, Impink began to miss the game, the competition and the camaraderie. After not being part of a summer that saw the Owls reach the Berks championship, win their first Region 2 title and host the Pennsylvania State Tournament, he began to have second thoughts about his decision.

And during his spring break from the University of Pittsburgh in February, the 18-year-old Impink re-evaluated how he wanted to spend this summer.

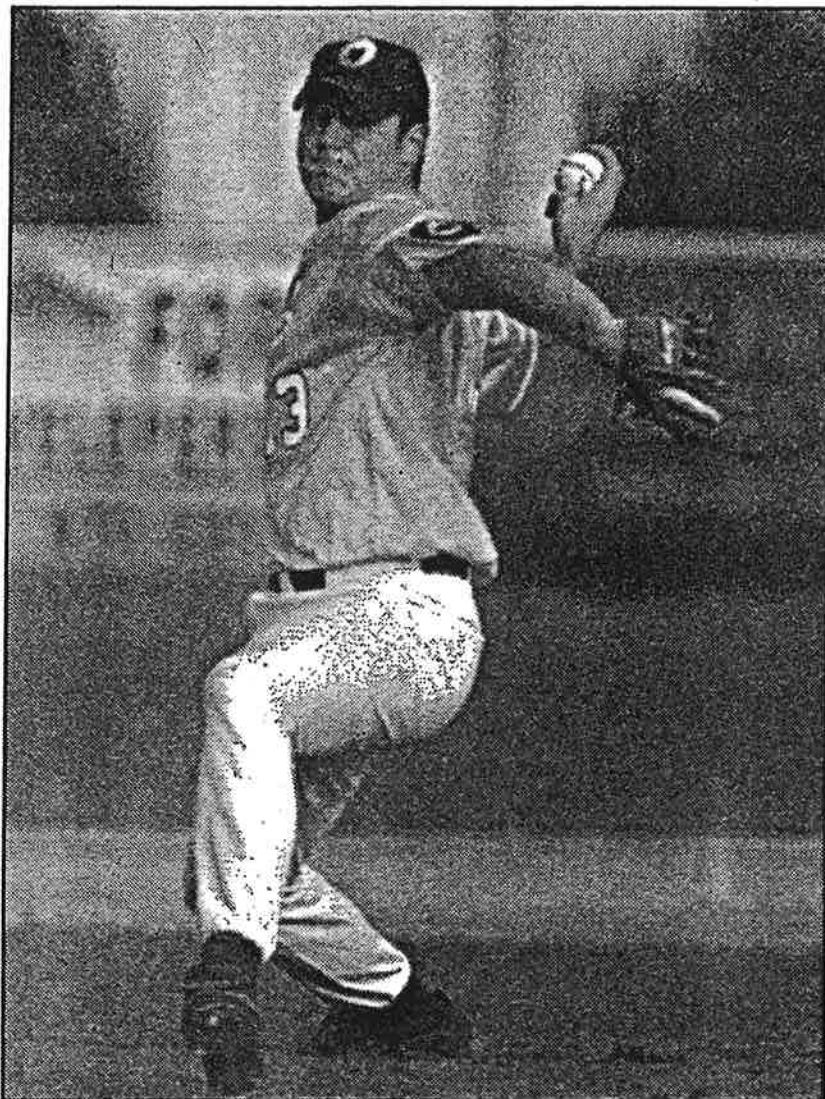
"I decided right then that I wanted to play again," Impink said. "Even if we would have just had an average team, I would have still wanted to play again."

Suffice it to say, the Western Division-leading Owls (15-2, 19-3) are far better than an average team. And, thanks to Impink, their pitching staff has been shored up even more. The righty is 2-0 with a 1.64 ERA in 33 innings.

"One way to look at it is that his arm is well-rested," joked Matz.

Matz, who said he was "devastated" when Impink quit the team last year, admitted he didn't exactly welcome him back with open arms when he found out Impink was thinking of returning for his final season.

"We had communicated via email and I was happy to hear he wanted to come back," Matz said. "But I told him we had to talk face-to-face before I made a decision. I wanted to see it and feel it from him. When he got home (from college), he stopped by my house and we talked, and I knew right then how badly he wanted to play."



Eagle/Times: Chad A. DeShazo

After taking a year off from Legion play, Brad Impink is back on the mound for West Lawn, and has a 1.64 ERA in 33 innings.

Impink, though by his own admission still a bit rusty, is starting to show glimpses of his 1998 form. Against Exeter last week, he earned the win with 7 $\frac{2}{3}$ shutout innings, and also doubled in the go-ahead run in the seventh inning. Against Boyertown Sunday, he got a no-decision despite throwing 7 $\frac{1}{3}$ innings of three-hit ball in the Owls' eventual 12-inning, 5-4 victory.

"I didn't expect to be this effective already," Impink said. "I thought it would take a little

longer, because it's been almost a year since I actually pitched from a mound."

"He doesn't get in too much trouble with walks, and that's been a big asset for him," Matz said. "He seems really locked into the strike zone. And the last two performances, he's really picked up his game. Hopefully we have enough time to get him into top form by the third or fourth week of July."

Which would be better late than never for the Owls' former - and perhaps future - ace.

NON-LEAGUE

West Lawn 11, Bethlehem 7

Highlights: Shane Stecheraki was 2-for-3 with three RBIs and Brad Binder drove in three runs to lead the Owls (21-3) to the win.

■ **West Lawn 19, Wyomissing 4:**
At Wyomissing, the Owls (17-2, 22-3) scored 10 runs in the second inning and cruised to an easy Western Division win over Wyomissing (4-15, 4-15) behind the solid pitching of right-hander Kyle Frees.

Frees held the Bisons to seven hits and three earned runs in eight innings, and also hurt them with the bat. He was 2-for-4 and drove in a run.

West Lawn's Tony Cipolla had three RBIs and Shane Stacherski drove in two runs.

Berks Legion

Eastern Division	W	L	Pct.	GB
y-Shillington Red Sox	17	1	.944	-
y-Boyertown Bears	17	2	.895	1/2
Exeter Blue Jays	10	7	.588	6 1/2
Birdsboro Orioles	9	8	.529	7 1/2
Oley Lynx	9	10	.474	8 1/2
Kutztown Cougars	7	10	.412	9 1/2
Topton Rams	6	12	.333	11
Fleetwood Tigers	4	14	.222	13

Western Division	W	L	Pct.	GB
y-West Lawn Owls	17	2	.895	-
Reading White Sox	13	5	.722	3 1/2
Muhlenberg A's	12	6	.667	4 1/2
Hamburg Hawks	10	9	.526	7
Gregg Post Keys	4	14	.222	12 1/2
Wyomissing Bisons	4	14	.222	12 1/2
Conrad Weiser Scouts	4	15	.211	13
Schuylkill Valley Marlins	2	16	.111	14 1/2

y-clinched playoff berth

THURSDAY'S RESULTS

West Lawn 19, Wyomissing 4
Muhlenberg 20, Schuylkill Valley 5
Exeter 24, Fleetwood 10
Shillington 14, Topton 1
Reading 14, Hamburg 5
Conrad Weiser 22, Gregg Post 9
Kutztown 11, Oley 10

	R	H	E
Muhlenberg.....	013	205	27 - 20 18 1
Sch. Valley.....	032	000	000 - 5 7 2

W: Nate Guers (4-2). L: Dan Weyandt (0-6).
2B: Jason Reinhart (M), Craig Snyder (M).
Steve Wise (SV). 3B: Jason Reinhart (M). HR: Tim Heintz 2 (M), Jason Reinhart (M).

	R	H	E
West Lawn.....	0(10)2	220	03 - 19 13 2
Wyomissing.....	210	000	10 - 4 7 4

W: Kyle Frees (2-1). L: Bruce Anglin (0-5).
2B: Brad Binder (WL), Shane Stacherski (WL), Brady Kidd (W), Randy Pitts (W), Rob Fyock (W). 3B: Tony Cipolla (WL).

Owls top Hawks, clinch division title

■ West Lawn takes its second straight Western Division crown and idle Reading gains a playoff berth with Hamburg's 11-2 loss.

From our news staff

West Lawn right-hander Mike Schaeffer tossed a five-hitter Friday night to lead the Owls past Hamburg 11-2 in a Berks Legion Western Division game at Owls Field.

With the win, the Owls (18-2, 23-3) clinched their second straight Western Division title and third in four years.

Hamburg's loss secured a playoff berth for idle Reading (13-5, 13-6). The Hawks fell to 10-10, 12-12.

After giving up a two-run home run to Hamburg's Tom Krick in the first inning, Schaeffer scattered four hits through the next eight innings to earn his fourth win of the year.

West Lawn's Brad Binder was 3-for-4 with an RBI double in the first and a solo homer in the fourth. The

	R	H	E
Hamburg	200	000	000 - 2 5 2
West Lawn	200	430	020 - 11 10 0
W: Mike Schaeffer (4-0); L: Nick Evangelista (5-2); 2B: Brad Binder (WL); 2.3B: Tony Cipolla (WL); HR: Brad Binder (WL); Tom Krick (H).			

BERKS LEGION

home run gave the Owls the lead for good.

Trailing 2-0, the Owls tied the game with two runs in the first off Hamburg right-hander Nick Evangelista (5-2) and eventually chased the Hawks ace in the fifth. Tony Cipolla's two-run triple was the key hit in West Lawn's three-run fifth.

West Lawn added two more runs in the eighth to seal the win. David Schultz and Andy Hohl each had two hits for the Owls.

■ Exeter 14, Gregg Post 8: At Exeter, Matt Burkhardt was 3-for-3 with three RBIs and pitched 1 1/3 innings of no-hit relief to lead the Blue Jays (11-7 East, 14-9) past the Keys (4-15 West, 4-15) in an eight-inning interdivision game cut short by darkness.

Burkhardt relieved starting pitcher Mikael Gerhard (seven runs, 3 2/3 innings) in the fourth inning with Exeter trailing 7-3. He held the Keys to one run.

Brian Hayes shut down Gregg

Post over the final three innings of the game for his first save of the year and Exeter scored four runs in the fourth, three in the fifth and four in the eighth.

John Woram was 3-for-4 with two RBIs for Exeter and Dave Demko hit his league-leading ninth home run along with two doubles.

Matt Nowaczynski was 2-for-3 with two RBIs for Gregg Post.

■ Shillington 19, Schuylkill Valley 1: At Leesport, Brett Sweigart hit a grand slam in the eighth to lead the Red Sox (18-1 East, 19-2) over the Marlins (2-17 West, 3-19) in an interdivision matchup.

Teammate Kyle Faust went 4-for-5, hitting two doubles, driving three runs and scoring two.

Dan Batz of Shillington was 3-for-4 with three RBIs.

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Berks Legion

Eastern Division	W	L	Pct.	GB
y-Shillington Red Sox	18	1	.947	-
y-Boyertown Bears	17	2	.895	1
Exeter Blue Jays	11	7	.611	6 1/2
Birdsboro Orioles	9	8	.529	8
Oley Lynx	10	9	.526	8
Kutztown Cougars	7	10	.412	10
Topton Flams	6	12	.333	11 1/2
Fleetwood Tigers	4	14	.222	13 1/2

Western Division	W	L	Pct.	GB
xy-West Lawn Owls	18	2	.900	-
y-Reading White Sox	13	5	.722	4
Muhlenberg A's	12	6	.667	5
Hamburg Hawks	10	10	.500	8
Wyomissing Bisons	4	14	.222	13
Conrad Weiser Scouts	4	15	.211	13 1/2
Gregg Post Keys	4	15	.211	13 1/2
Schuylkill Val. Marlins	2	17	.105	15 1/2
x-clinched division title				
y-clinched playoff berth				

Non-league

West Lawn 12, Norchester 11
 Exeter Fourth of July Tournament
 Exeter 10, Pine Grove 0
 Mount Morris (N.J.) 4, Dallastown 2
 Dallastown 5, Pine Grove 4

Highlights: At West Lawn, Josh Yocum was 4-for-4, including a double and a home run, to lead the Owls (24-3) to the win. West Lawn's Tony Cipolla had two triples and three hits in all and winning pitcher Brad Implink was 2-for-2 with a home run. . . . At Exeter, three Blue Jays pitchers - including winner Sanket Kapadia combined for the shutout of Pine Grove. Exeter improved to 15-9.

■ **West Lawn 21, Schuylkill Valley 2:** At Leesport, Shane Stacherski went 2-for-2 with five RBIs and three runs to lead a 16-hit attack for the Owls (19-2, 25-3), who downed the Panthers (2-18, 3-20) in a Western Division game.

Dave Schultz went 2-for-3 with three RBIs and a run and Matt Fidler drove in three runs for West Lawn. Kyle Frees pitched six scoreless innings for the win.

Berks Legion

Eastern Division	W	L	Pct.	GB
y-Shillington Red Sox	19	1	.950	-
y-Boyersport Bears	18	2	.900	1
Birdsboro Orioles	11	8	.579	7 1/2
Exeter Blue Jays	11	8	.579	7 1/2
Oley Lynx	10	10	.500	9
Kutztown Cougars	7	12	.368	11 1/2
Topton Rams	7	12	.368	11 1/2
Fleetwood Tigers	4	15	.211	14 1/2
Western Division	W	L	Pct.	GB
xy-West Lawn Owls	19	2	.905	-
y-Reading White Sox	15	5	.750	3 1/2
y-Muhlenberg A's	13	7	.650	5 1/2
Hamburg Hawks	11	10	.524	8
Wyomissing Bisons	4	15	.211	14
Conrad Weiser Scouts	4	16	.200	14 1/2
Gregg Post Keys	4	16	.200	14 1/2
Schuylkill Val. Marlins	2	18	.100	16 1/2

x-clinched division title

y-clinched playoff berth

TUESDAY'S RESULTS

Boyersport 6, Exeter 4
 Birdsboro 15, Fleetwood 5
 Topton 8, Kutztown 7
 West Lawn 21, Schuylkill Valley 2
 Hamburg 17, Gregg Post 2
 Muhlenberg 17, Wyomissing 2
 Shillington 18, Oley 10
 Reading 16, Conrad Weiser 7

Shillington432 540 - 18 13 2
Oley400 114 - 10 14 3
 W: Matt Nuhler (7-0). L: Matt Sola (2-3). 2B: Dan Weber (S), Brandon Dewald (S), Kyle Hoffman (O), Brent Miller (O). 3B: Kyle Hoffman (O). HR: Justin Holland (S).

Boyersport000 010 131 - 6 12 3
Exeter000 000 013 - 4 12 1
 W: Jared Trout (5-1). L: Dave Demko (4-1). 2B: Lyle Loeb (B), Dave Demko (E), Jason Miller (E), Zach Taylor (E). 3B: Jordan Hartline (B). HR: Jared Trout (B), Chase Roth (B).

Fleetwood002 000 201 - 5 14 3
Birdsboro ...102 001 110x - 15 19 1
 W: Brad Kepley (2-1). L: Brian Battier (1-5). 2B: Brian Deese (B), Justin Templin (F), Andre Folk 2 (F), Chad Rightmyer (B), Charles Werner (B). HR: Jeremy Wunderlich 3 (B), Brad Kepley (B).

Topton002 011 50 - 9 9 4
Kutztown100 200 31 - 7 13 5
 W: Jay Werley (3-4). L: Seth Graft (0-1). 2B: Bradley Kemp (T), George Kressley (T), Kyle Moll (T), Ryan Imeschweller (K). 3B: John Marsteller (K). HR: George Kressley (T).

West Lawn224 451 3 - 21 16 2
Schuylkill Valley .000 001 1 - 2 5 4
 W: Kyle Frees (3-1). L: Derek James (0-2). 2B: Jeff Harner (SV), Brad Binder (WL), Andy Hohl (WL), Shane Stacherski (WL), Dave Schultz (WL). 3B: Frank Ammarelli (SV), Matt Beissel (SV). HR: Shane Stacherski (WL), Dave Schultz (WL).

LEADERS

Unofficial, league games only
(Tuesday's games not included)

■ **DOUBLES:** Ryan Negri, Fleetwood, 11; Shane Stacherski, West Lawn, 11; Jeremy Wunderlich, Birdsboro, 11; Dan Batz, Shillington, 9; Joel Rush, Conrad Weiser, 9; Zach Taylor, Exeter, 9; Kyle Faust, Shillington, 8; Zane Kershner, Hamburg, 8; Jarad Lydon, Oley, 8; Tim Miller, Shillington, 8; Justin Templin, Fleetwood, 8; Jared Trout, Boyertown, 8; John Woram, Exeter, 8; Josh Yocum, West Lawn, 8.

■ **TRIPLES:** Jarad Lydon, Oley, 6; Jason Reinhart, Muhlenberg, 6; Tony Cipolla, West Lawn, 5; Zach Taylor, Exeter, 5; Kyle Hoffman, Oley, 4; Pat Miller, Shillington, 4; Steve Cotellesse, Oley, 3; Brandon DeWald, Shillington, 3; Kyle Faust, Shillington, 3; Larry Fricker, Kutztown, 3; Tim Heinly, Muhlenberg, 3; D.J. Hoshauer, Hamburg, 3; Jeremy Wunderlich, Birdsboro, 3.

■ **HOME RUNS:** Dave Demko, Exeter, 9; George Kressley, Tipton, 8; Andre Folk, Fleetwood, 5; D.J. Hoshauer, Hamburg, 5; Bill Keim, Tipton, 5; Tom Krick, Hamburg, 5; Dan



Ryan Negri
Fleetwood



Jarad Lydon
Oley



Dave Demko
Exeter

Batz, Shillington, 4; Brad Binder, West Lawn, 4; Ryan Negri, Fleetwood, 4; Matt Nye, Muhlenberg, 4; Jeff Soto, Reading, 4; Josh Yocum, West Lawn, 4.

■ **EXTRA-BASE HITS:** Jason Reinhart, Muhlenberg, 16; Jeremy Wunderlich, Birdsboro, 16; Ryan Negri, Fleetwood, 15; Zach Taylor, Exeter, 15; Tony Cipolla, West Lawn, 14; Dave Demko, Exeter, 14; Kyle Faust, Shillington, 14; D.J. Hoshauer, Ham-

burg, 14; Jarad Lydon, Oley, 14; Josh Yocum, West Lawn, 14.

■ **PITCHING:** Matt Fidler, West Lawn, 6-0; Matt Nuhfer, Shillington, 6-0; Chase Roth, Boyertown, 6-0; Brandon DeWald, Shillington, 5-0; Eli Bonet, Reading, 5-1; Dave Kazmierczak, Conrad Weiser, 4-1; Steve Randolph, Reading, 4-1; Jared Trout, Boyertown, 4-1; Gerry Werner, Birdsboro, 4-1; Nick Evangelista, Hamburg, 5-2.

NON-LEAGUE

West Lawn 9, Roslyn 4

Highlights: At Owls Field, Eric Shipe went 2-for-4 with three RBIs, Regan Carroll was 3-for-4 and scored twice and Josh Yocum and Travis Yocum each drove in two runs for West Lawn (26-3).

■ **West Lawn 22, Gregg Post 3:**
At George Field, Dave Schultz went 3-for-3 with five RBIs as the Owls (20-2, 27-3) trounced the Keys (4-17, 4-17) in a Western Division matchup stopped after seven innings because of the 15-run rule.

The victory gives the Owls the No. 1 seed for the Berks playoffs, which begin next week.

Schultz singled in two runs in West Lawn's six-run third inning and keyed its five-run fourth with a three-run home run. Matt Fidler threw six innings of six-hit ball, allowing three runs, all unearned. He was also 3-for-5 with two RBIs.

Berks Legion

Eastern Division	W	L	Pct.	GB
xy-Boyetown Bears	20	2	.909	-
y-Shillington Red Sox	19	2	.905	1/2
y-Birdsboro Orioles	13	8	.619	6 1/2
y-Exeter Blue Jays	12	9	.571	7 1/2
Oley Lynx	11	11	.500	9
Kutztown Cougars	7	14	.333	12 1/2
Topton Rams	7	14	.333	12 1/2
Fleetwood Tigers	5	15	.250	14

Western Division	W	L	Pct.	GB
xy-West Lawn Owls	20	2	.909	-
y-Reading White Sox	18	5	.762	3 1/2
y-Muhlenberg A's	13	8	.619	6 1/2
y-Hamburg Hawks	12	10	.545	8
Wyomissing Bisons	5	15	.250	14
Conrad Weiser Scouts	4	17	.200	15 1/2
Gregg Post Keys	4	17	.190	15 1/2
Schuylkill Val. Marlins	2	19	.095	17 1/2

THURSDAY'S RESULTS

Boyetown 6, Shillington 0
Hamburg 7, Schuylkill Valley 0
Wyomissing 14, Conrad Weiser 5
Oley 20, Exeter 10
Reading 10, Muhlenberg 4
Birdsboro 24, Topton 6
Fleetwood 14, Kutztown 9
West Lawn 22, Gregg Post 3

SHILLINGTON	BOYETOWN
ab r h bi	ab r h bi
TMiller cf 4 0 2 0	Trout rf 5 1 2 2
Faust 2b 4 0 0 0	Hartline c 3 0 0 1
Batz 3b 4 0 1 0	Roth p 3 0 1 0
Weber c 2 0 0 0	Loeb 1b 3 1 0 0
DeWald rf 3 0 0 0	Walsh cf 4 1 1 0
Holland 1b 4 0 0 0	Allen lf 3 1 1 0
PMiller lf 4 0 1 0	DHoffman 3b 4 0 2 0
Nuhler ss 3 0 1 0	Schueck ss 4 1 2 1
Gombar p 1 0 0 0	Mason 2b 3 1 1 1
Totals 29 0 5 0	Totals 32 6 9 5

Shillington000 000 000-0 5 4

Boyetown020 201 10x-6 9 1

E: Walsh, Nuhler, PMiller, Batz 2. LOB: Shillington 9, Boyetown 8. DP: Shillington 1, Boyetown 2. 2B: Trout, Schueck. SB: Mason. SF: Mason, Hartline.

IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Shillington Red Sox					
Gombar L, 3-2	8	9	6	4	2 2
Boyetown Bears					
Roth W, 7-0	9	5	0	0	4 12

WP: Gombar. HPB: by Gombar (Roth), by Gombar (Allen), by Roth (Gombar). T: 1:55. A: 1,277.

	R	H	E
Hamburg.....	000	100	051 - 7 11 1
Sch. Valley.....	000	000	000 - 0 2 2

W: Nick Evangelista (6-2). L: Dan Weyandt (0-7). 2B: D.J. Hoshauer 2 (H). 3B: Nick Evangelista (H).

	R	H	E
Wyomissing.....	111	470	00 - 14 9 3
Conrad Weiser.....	110	000	21 - 5 15 7

W: Andy Bausher (2-2). L: Mike Wahl (0-1). 2B: Andy Bausher (W), Randy Pitts (W), Joel Goodling (W), Daniel Stoltzfus (W), Kevin Yarnall (CW), Stephan Crott (CW). HR: Joel Rush (CW).

	R	H	E
Oley.....	410	050	(10) - 20 14 2
Exeter.....	502	200	1 - 10 12 2

W: Nate Lock (3-2). L: Mark Stifflet (1-2). 2B: Kyle Hoffman (O), Dave Demko (E), Jason Miller (E), John Woram (E). HR: Matt Sola (O), Kyle Hoffman (O), Zach Taylor (E).

	R	H	E
Birdsboro.....	360	030	39 - 24 20 4
Topton.....	012	020	10 - 6 8 5

W: Gerry Werner (5-1). L: Jason Werley (3-5). 2B: Brian Werley (T), Jeremy Wunderlich (B), Justin Shustack (B), Gerry Werner (B). 3B: Bill Kaim (T), Jon Runke (B), Chad Rightmyer (B). HR: George Kressley (T), Brad Kappley (B), Gerry Werner (B), Jeremy Wunderlich (B), Jon Runke (B), Pete Colon (B).

	R	H	E
Kutztown.....	010	800	000 - 9 14 6
Fleetwood.....	102	324	11x - 14 16 2

W: Justin Templin (2-3). L: Kyle Hardenbrook (0-3). 2B: Sean Jones (K) 2, Ryan Negri (F), Andre Folk (F), Matt Folk (F), Mike Mortimer (F). HR: Larry Fricker (K), Ryan Negri (F).

	R	H	E
West Lawn.....	006	573	1 - 22 22 3
Gregg Post.....	021	000	0 - 3 7 4

W: Matt Fidler (7-0). L: Leon Adams (0-1). 2B: Mike Dietrich (WL), Tony Cipolla (WL). HR: Brad Impink (WL), Dave Schultz (WL).

NON-LEAGUE

Boyertown 7, Severn, Md., 2
Boyertown 4, Rockland, N.Y. 3
Oley 6, Pine Forge 4

West Lawn 8, Rockland, N.Y., 5 (Friday)

Highlights: For Boyertown, Aaron Hoffman drove in two runs against Severn Park.

... Jared Trout went 3-for-3 with atwo-run ome run and Jordan Walsh had the game-winning fifth inning RBI double in Boyertown's win over Rockland. ... Jarad Lydon went 3-for-3 with an RBI, Nate Leck was 2-for-3 with a pair of doubles and Matt Sola was 1-for-3 with three RBI as Oley (12-13) downed Pine Forge. ... For West Lawn (28-3), Josh Yocum had a two-run triple and Shane Stacherski an RBI double to break a 5-5 tie.

Berks Legion

Final standings

Eastern Division	W	L	Pct.	GB
xy-Boyertown Bears	20	2	.909	-
y-Shillington Red Sox	20	2	.909	-
y-Birdsboro Orioles	14	8	.636	6
y-Exeter Blue Jays	12	10	.545	8
Oley Lynx	11	11	.500	9
Topton Rams	8	14	.364	12
Kutztown Cougars	7	15	.318	13
Fleetwood Tigers	6	18	.272	14

Western Division	W	L	Pct.	GB
xy-West Lawn Owls	20	2	.909	-
y-Reading White Sox	17	5	.773	3
y-Muhlenberg A's	14	8	.636	6
y-Hamburg Hawks	12	10	.545	8
Gregg Post Keys	6	17	.227	15
Wyomissing Bisons	5	17	.227	15
Conrad Weiser Scouts	4	18	.182	16
Schuylkill Valley Marlins	2	20	.091	18
x-clinched division title				
y-clinched playoff berth				

SUNDAY'S RESULT

Fleetwood 11, Wyomissing 1

R H E
 Fleetwood103 312 100 - 11 17 1
 Wyomissing000 001 000 - 1 3 1
 W: Ryan Negri (1-4). L: Justin Hanley (3-3).
 2B: Ryan Negri (F) 2, Justin Templin (F) 2,
 Andre Folk (F). 3B: Ryan Negri (F).

Non-league

West Lawn 12, Rockland County (N.Y.) 3
 Boyertown 4, Rockland County (N.Y.) 2
 Muhlenberg 5, Southern Area 4

Highlights: At Boyertown, Nick Allen went seven innings and gave up two runs, scattering seven hits and striking out three for the win. Jordan Walsh drove in the go-ahead run with an RBI double in the sixth inning. . . . At Owls Field, Tony Cipolla went 3-for-3 with three RBIs. Brad Binder went 2-for-5 with three runs and three RBIs and Josh Yocum was 2-for-4 with two RBIs for West Lawn (29-3). . . . At Muhlenberg, Tony Morganelli drove in Craig Kemp with the go-ahead run in the seventh inning. Brad Kantner pitched two scoreless innings for his third win of the year.

Saturday's game

Hamburg 8, Pottsville 6

Highlights: Tom Krick was 2-for-2 with three runs and Zane Kershner picked up the win with three innings of shutout relief for the Hawks (15-12).

Berks Legion

Final standings

Eastern Division	W	L	Pct.	GB
xy-Boyetown Bears	20	2	.909	-
y-Shillington Red Sox	20	2	.909	-
y-Birdsboro Orioles	14	8	.636	6
y-Exeter Blue Jays	12	10	.545	8
Oley Lynx	11	11	.500	9
Kutztown Cougars	7	15	.318	13
Topton Rams	8	14	.364	12
Fleetwood Tigers	6	16	.272	14

Western Division	W	L	Pct.	GB
xy-West Lawn Owls	20	2	.909	-
y-Reading White Sox	17	5	.773	3
y-Muhlenberg A's	14	8	.636	6
y-Hamburg Hawks	12	10	.545	8
Gregg Post Keys	5	17	.227	15
Wyomissing Bisons	5	17	.227	15
Conrad Weiser Scouts	4	18	.182	16
Schuylkill Val. Marlins	2	20	.091	18

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y-clinched playoff berth

Non-league

West Lawn 9, Pottsville 2

Highlights: Al Owls Field, Brad Binder went 2-for-4 and scored two runs and Dave Schultz and Andy Hohl each scored two runs for the Owls (30-3).

FINAL BERKS LEGION LEADERS



Ryan Negri
Fleetwood



Tony Cipolla
West Lawn



Jarad Lydon
Oley



George Kressley
Topton



Matt Nuhfer
Shillington

Unofficial, league games only

■ **DOUBLES:** Ryan Negri, Fleetwood, 17; Jeremy Wunderlich, Birdsboro, 13; Shane Stacherski, West Lawn, 12; Andre Folk, Fleetwood, 11; Tim Miller, Shillington, 11; Justin Templin, Fleetwood, 11; Zach Taylor, Exeter, 10; John Woram, Exeter, 10; six tied with 9.

■ **TRIPLES:** Tony Cipolla, West Lawn, 6; Jarad Lydon, Oley, 6; Jason Reinhart, Muhlenberg, 6; Kyle Hoffman, Oley, 5; Zach Taylor, Exeter, 5; Mike Gillis, Gregg Post, 4; Pat Miller, Shillington, 4; Jeremy Wunderlich, Birdsboro, 4; eight tied with 3.

■ **HOME RUNS:** George Kressley, Topton, 11; Dave Demko, Exeter, 9; Jeremy Wunderlich, Birdsboro, 7; D.J. Hoshauer, Hamburg, 6; Tommy Krick, Hamburg, 6; Ryan Negri, Fleetwood, 6; Jeff Soto,

Hamburg, 6; Andre Folk, Fleetwood, 5; Bill Keim, Topton, 5; seven tied with 4.

■ **EXTRA-BASE HITS:** Ryan Negri, Fleetwood, 24; Jeremy Wunderlich, Birdsboro, 24; Jason Reinhart, Muhlenberg, 18; Dave Demko, Exeter, 17; D.J. Hoshauer, Hamburg, 17; George Kressley, Topton, 17; Zach Taylor, Exeter, 17; Tony Cipolla, West Lawn, 16; Andre Folk, Fleetwood, 16; Jeff Soto, Reading, 16; Kyle Faust, Shillington, 15; Jarad Lydon, Oley, 15.

■ **PITCHING (min. six decisions):** Matt Fidler, West Lawn, 7-0; Matt Nuhfer, Shillington, 7-0; Chase Roth, Boyertown, 7-0; Eli Bonet, Reading, 6-1; Steve Randolph, Reading, 5-1; Jared Trout, Boyertown, 5-1; Gerry Werner, Birdsboro, 5-1; Nick Evangelista, Hamburg, 5-2; Dave Demko, Exeter, 4-2.

BASEBALL COLLEGE BOLDSDS

Casey Long, Rider

■ **High school:** Gov. Mifflin.
 ■ **Honors:** Two-time All-Berks selection in high school; two-time Berks County Carpenter Cup selection.

■ **Profile:** Long, a 6-1, 190-pound second baseman, hit .453 with 30 RBIs in helping the Mustangs to a school-record 22-5 season that saw them win the Berks I title, advance to the county championship game and reach the District 3-AAA semifinals. Rider lost seven players to graduation and one junior to the professional ranks from its 1999 team, which placed second in the Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference South Division.

■ **Quotable:** "Casey is big, strong and very athletic." 29th-year Rider coach Sonny Pittaro said. "He runs well and hits for power, and comes from a good, competitive program. We think he can develop into a pretty good collegiate player."

Josh Yocum, Drexel

■ **High school:** Wilson
 ■ **Honors:** Two-time All-Berks selection; two-time Berks County Carpenter Cup selection.

■ **Profile:** Yocum, a lefty-hitting power hitter and defensive stalwart in center field, hit .425 with a team-high 38 runs for the Bulldogs (19-5), who won their first Berks championship since 1977.

■ **Quotable:** "Josh can do a lot of things for you," Wilson coach Jeff Evans said. "Sometimes his defense gets overshadowed by his offense, but he's a real smart player and a great all-around talent. He's got real quick hands and he can hit the ball out of the park with anybody."

Luke Bricker, Moravian

■ **High school:** Kutztown.
 ■ **Honors:** All-Berks and Carpenter Cup pick.

■ **Profile:** Bricker, a shortstop, hit .478 with 27 runs and 14 stolen bases for the Cougars, who won the Berks III title and advanced to the District 3-AA semifinals. He provided solid leadership on a team with only three seniors and delivered plenty of clutch hits – including extra-inning game-winners in a Berks quarterfinal victory Muhlenberg and District 3-AA first-round win over Hershey.

Jordan Hartline, Ursinus

■ **High school:** Boyertown.
 ■ **Honors:** Two-time Carpenter Cup selection; All-Berks selection as a junior.

■ **Profile:** The 5-10, 145-pound catcher hit .311 with 13 runs and seven stolen bases for the Bears (15-6) this season. As a junior, he hit .459 and threw out 18-of-25 runners. He is projected either at infield or catcher for Ursinus, which qualified for NCAA Division III national regionals.

■ **Quotable:** "Jordan's got very good catching tools, and he's gone through one of the best Legion and high school programs around," Ursinus coach Brian Thomas said. "We're happy to have him."

Brad Binder, Millersville

■ **High school:** Wilson.
 ■ **Honors:** All-Berks selection.

■ **Profile:** A lefty-hitting first baseman, Binder hit .403 with 34 runs and 28 RBIs for the Berks champion Bulldogs (19-5).

■ **Quotable:** "Playing in the PSAC is really good Division II baseball, and I think Brad's the kind of kid that can make an impact and contribute right away," Wilson coach Jeff Evans said. "He's really disciplined at the plate, and he's developed into a pure hitter who's not afraid to go the other way."

Jeremy Wunderlich, Morris Junior College

■ **High school:** Twin Valley.

■ **Honors:** Two-time All-Berks pick; Eagle/Times player of the year.

■ **Profile:** The lefty-swinging Wunderlich hit .429 with seven homers and 37 RBIs for the Raiders, who qualified for the PIAA Tournament for the first time. On the mound, the right-hander went 7-3 with a 1.33 ERA and 91 strikeouts in 74²/₃ innings.

■ **Quotable:** "Jeremy is the kind of player," said Twin Valley coach Larry Bare, "who you just give him the ball and let him go out there and do his thing."

Jason Miller, Bloomsburg

■ **High school:** Antietam.

■ **Profile:** Miller, a shortstop/pitcher and all-division selection, hit a team-high .432 with three homers, four triples and four doubles for the Mounts. On the mound, he earned two of Antietam's four victories and held opponents to a .190 batting average.

A.J. Bohn, Alvernia

■ **High school:** Boyertown.
 ■ **Honors:** All-Berks pick; Carpenter Cup selection.

■ **Profile:** Bohn, an outfielder and leadoff man for the Bears (15-6), hit .393 with 22 runs and 14 stolen bases.

Shane Stacherski, Alvernia

■ **High school:** Wilson.

■ **Profile:** Stacherski, a right fielder, hit .389 with one homer, 21 RBIs and 20 runs for the Berks champion Bulldogs. He also compiled a 2-2 record on the mound.

Ryan Schiavo, Alvernia

■ **High school:** Oley Valley

■ **Profile:** Schiavo, an all-division outfielder, hit .455 and compiled a 1-2 pitching record for the Lynx (7-10).

Jeff Soto, Alvernia

■ **High school:** Reading High.

■ **Profile:** Soto, a pitcher/outfielder, hit .364 with six homers and 21 RBIs for the Red Knights. On the mound, he was 2-1 in league play.

Lyle Loeb, Alvernia

■ **High school:** Boyertown.

■ **Profile:** Loeb, an outfielder/DH during scholastic season and first baseman for Boyertown's Legion team, hit .361 for the Bears during the Legion regular season.

TEAMBYTEAM CAPSULES

■ **WHEN:** Today through Tuesday.

■ **WHERE:** Sites of the better seeds today and Friday, then all games from Saturday on will be played at West Lawn's Owls Field.

■ **WHO'S COMPETING:** Western Division champion West Lawn, Eastern Division champion Boyertown, East runner-up Shillington, West runner-up Reading, East third-place Birdsboro, West third-place Muhlenberg, at-large Hamburg, at-large Exeter.

■ **TONIGHT'S OPENERS:** Muhlenberg at Shillington, 5 p.m.; Exeter at West Lawn, 7:05; Birdsboro at Reading, 7:05; Hamburg at Boyertown, 7:05.

■ **AT STAKE:** The winner advances to the Pennsylvania Region 2 Tournament at West Lawn July 27-31. Should the Owls win the Berks championship, the runner-up would advance to regionals.

■ **HOT STOVERS AWARDS:** In each of the four first-round games, the Reading Hot Stovers will present MVP awards to a player from each team.

■ **LAST YEAR:** Boyertown defeated West Lawn 18-1 at Bear Stadium to win its 24th Berks crown.

WEST LAWN OWLS

■ **Coach:** Tony Matz III, 13th season, 382-157.

■ **Record:** 30-3.

■ **Top hitters:** 1B Brad Binder (.551, 4 HRs, 45 RBIs), SS Tony Cipolla (.495, 61 runs, 41 RBIs), CF Josh Yocum (.427, 6 HRs, 39 RBIs), RF Shane Stacherski (.411, 41 RBIs), OF Eric Pettit (.402).

■ **Top pitchers:** Righties Mike Schaeffer (6-0, 1.31), Matt Fidler (7-0, 4.15), Brad Impink (4-0, 2.74) and Jon Rudisill (2-1, 4.15).

■ **Notable:** Won second straight West title with 20-2 league mark. ... Have won four Berks championships, the last coming in 1991. Also reached final of double-elimination format in 1989, 1992, 1996 and 1998.

BOYERTOWN BEARS

■ **Coach:** Rick Moatz, 12th season, 565-140.

■ **Record:** 31-10.

■ **Top hitters:** RF Jared Trout (.421, 6 HRs, 42 RBIs, 31 SB, 54 runs), C Jordan Hartline (.365, 25 RBIs, 35 runs), 1B Lyle Loeb (.351, 22 RBIs, 26 runs), SS Mitch Schueck (.333, 26 runs).

■ **Top pitchers:** Righties Chase Roth (8-0, 1.01; 104 Ks in 80.1 IP), Jared Trout (8-1, 2.64), Jon Eidle (2-2) and Nick Allen (4-2, 3.06).

■ **Notable:** Have won 24 league titles, 18 in last 24 years. ... 140-44 alltime Berks playoff record. ... Record 34th straight county playoff appearance. ... Have stolen 148 bases.

SHILLINGTON RED SOX

■ **Coach:** Bob Houck, seventh season, 248-69.

■ **Record:** 24-3.

■ **Top hitters:** 3B Dan Batz (.489, 4 HRs, 36 RBIs), RF Brandon DeWald (.436), 1B Justin Holland (.385, 5 HRs), C Dan Weber (.382).

■ **Top pitchers:** Righties Matt Nuhfer (7-0, 2.94), Tim Gombar (2-2, 2.42), lefties Brandon DeWald (5-0, 3.74) and Steve Gebhart (4-0).

■ **Notable:** Had reached league championship game in each of Houck's first five years before losing 6-0 to West Lawn in Game 14 last year. ... Won Berks titles in 1966, 1967, 1974 and 1996. ... Went 20-2 in East, but lost tiebreaker to Boyertown since both losses were to Bears.

READING WHITE SOX

■ **Coach:** Chad Denunzio, first season, 17-6.

■ **Record:** 17-6.

■ **Top hitters:** IF Jeff Soto (.404, 7 HRs, 28 RBIs), C Steve Randolph (.444, 26 RBIs), 2B Brian Miller (.383, 25 runs), SS Matt Redcay (.367, 35 runs, 14 SB), OF Jim Kelly (.366), RF Daryl Miller (29 RBIs).

■ **Top pitchers:** Righties Eli Bonet (6-1), Jeff Soto (3-2) and Steve Randolph (5-1).

■ **Notable:** Won final 12 league games in earning first playoff berth since 1994. ... 17 wins are most since going 20-6 in 1992, when Denunzio started at first base. ... Reached championship game in 1990 before losing to Boyertown.

BIRDSBORO ORIOLES

■ **Coach:** Chris Drowne, first season, 19-13.

■ **Record:** 19-13.

■ **Top hitters:** 3B Jeremy Wunderlich (.500, 7 HRs, 40 RBIs), SS Brad Kepley (.402, 40 runs), 1B Jon Runkle (.382), IF Gerry Werner (.376).

■ **Top pitchers:** Righties Jeremy Wunderlich (3-3), Gerry Werner (7-1) and Brad Kepley (2-1); lefty Jon Runkle (4-2).

■ **Notable:** Making fourth straight playoff appearance and sixth in 1990s. ... Won lone Berks title in 1997; reached final in 1991, losing to West Lawn. ... Won last five league games by a margin of 83-22.

MUHLENBERG A'S

■ **Coach:** Dick Gochbauer, 30th season, 560-373.

■ **Record:** 18-9.

■ **Top hitters:** CF Jason Reinhart (.420, 4 HRs, 24 RBIs), SS Kraig Kemp (.372), C Joe Faller (.342, 25 RBIs), 1B Nate Guers (.318, 25 RBIs).

■ **Top pitchers:** Lefty Nate Guers (4-3, 3.58); righties Matt Nye (4-2, 3.60) and Brian Kantner (3-1, 2.95).

■ **Notable:** Making 13th straight Berks playoff appearance. ... Won league title in 1980; lost in final in 1977, 1978 and 1979.

HAMBURG HAWKS

■ **Coach:** Jeff Seidel, fifth season, 80-62.

■ **Record:** 15-12.

■ **Top hitters:** C D.J. Hoshauer (.465, 6 HRs, 34 RBIs), LF Tommy Krick (.543, 6 HRs, 23 RBIs), RF Zane Kershner (.410, 24 RBIs), 2B Terry Snyder (.435, 34 runs).

■ **Top pitchers:** Righties Nick Evangelista (6-2, 4.53), Zane Kershner (2-4) and Seth Gressley (2-2).

■ **Notable:** Won Berks titles in 1963 and 1993. ... Third straight county playoff appearance and seventh in 1990s. ... Team batting average is .349.

EXETER BLUE JAYS

■ **Coach:** Dan Fresh, third season, 59-45.

■ **Record:** 17-14.

■ **Top hitters:** 3B Zach Taylor (.479), SS Jason Miller (.446, 35 RBIs), 1B John Worrain (.438, 4 HRs), RF Matt Burkhart (.404), LF Dave Demko (.376, 9 HRs).

■ **Top pitchers:** Righties Dave Demko (5-2), Matt Burkhart (2-2) and Mark Stuffed (2-2).

■ **Notable:** Making sixth straight playoff appearance, but have never won Berks title. ... Have advanced to fourth day in three of last four years. ... Have been No. 8 seeds four of last five years.

- Compiled by Darryl Grumling

Big Three are

■ Boyertown, Shillington and West Lawn have combined for eight Berks Legion League titles and 16 title-game appearances in the last 10 years. There is no reason to suspect that will change this year.

By Darryl Grumling

Eagle/Times

Ten years ago, the Berks Legion League changed its playoff format to a double-elimination tournament.

For much of this decade, though, the county championship has remained best-of-three, so to speak.

Over the last 10 seasons, Boyertown, Shillington and West Lawn have combined for eight Berks titles and 16 championship-game appearances. In the last five years, four of the championships have been contested by a combination of those three teams.

Only 1997 champion and 1991 runner-up Birdsboro, 1993 champ Hamburg and 1990 runner-up Artisan have been able to break the three-team stranglehold this decade.

And when this season's county championship takes place either Monday or Tuesday at Owls Field, it would have to be considered an upset if the contest doesn't involve two of the three local powers.

The Western Division champion Owls (30-3), Eastern champion Bears (31-10) and Eastern runner-up Red Sox (24-3) finished with 20-2 league records in earning the top three seeds for the playoffs, which begin today at the sites of the better seeds.

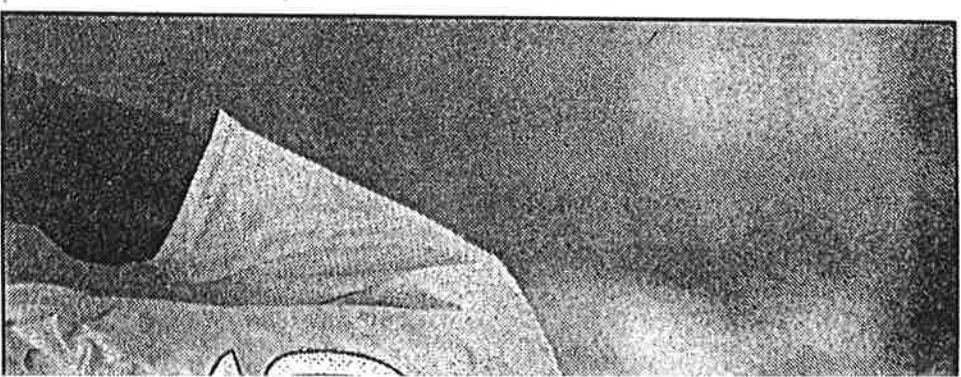
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"I guess it's a combination of the kids and the three organizations which run them," echoed West Lawn coach Tony Matz III. "Those three programs are about as committed as they come in Berks County."

That kind of commitment can be traced back three decades at Boyertown, which through the years has demonstrated that the best way to prepare for the rigors of postseason tournament play is to build a deep pitching staff, emphasize fundamentally sound play and seek an active regular season schedule against as many opponents as possible.

No one can argue with the success the Bears have enjoyed over that span. Boyertown, which routed West Lawn 18-1 in last year's final, has won six county titles since the league went to the double-elimination format, 18 in the last 24 years and 24 overall Berks crowns.

Matz, who took over at West Lawn in 1987, and Bob Houck, who became Shillington coach in 1993



"The first couple of years, you'd be the more you knew you'd be after a highly successful junior year coaching career at Boyertown, have followed suit. Not surprisingly, their squads have more often than not been battling it out - and each other - for Berks bragging rights.

"It's kind of flattering," Boyertown coach Rick Moatz said. "Even at the same time it forces us to go back to work even harder and look for new ways we can get better."

West Lawn, which won the 1991 title, has been to the championship game four other times since 1989.

"The first couple of years, you'd be the more you knew you'd be playing baseball and play Boyertown the more you knew you'd be successful," said Matz, whose team won the 1991 Berks title and played for the championship five other times. "In recent years seems like we're doing a better job of keeping up with them, and that's something we can do year and year out."

Shillington has also shown signs of developing that kind of prolonged consistency. Unbeing shut out of the title picture last summer (by a Game 14 loss West Lawn), the Red Sox have made five straight title-game appearances, winning the championship in 1996.

The seemingly annual presence of the Big 3 doesn't bode well the championship hopes of the remaining five teams - Reading (6), Birdsboro (19-13), Muhlenberg (18-9), Hamburg (15-12) and Exeter (17-14). But the White Sox, who won their final 12 league games, are

FACTS, FIGURES

	PAST CHAMPS	
1998: Boyertown	1980: Temple	1946: Gregg P.
1997: Birdsboro	1979: Boyertown	1945: Gregg P.
1996: Shillington	1978: Boyertown	1944: Gregg P.
1995: Boyertown	1977: Boyertown	1943: Gregg P.
1994: Boyertown	1976: Boyertown	1942: No season
1993: Hamburg	1975: Boyertown	1941: Gregg P.
1992: Boyertown	1974: Shillington	1940: Gregg P.
1991: West Lawn	1973: Gregg Post	1939: Gregg P.
1990: Boyertown	1972: Boyertown	1938: Gregg P.
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1983: Boyertown	1965: Gregg Post	1931: Gregg P.
1982: Boyertown	1964: Gregg Post	1930: Gregg P.
1981: Boyertown		

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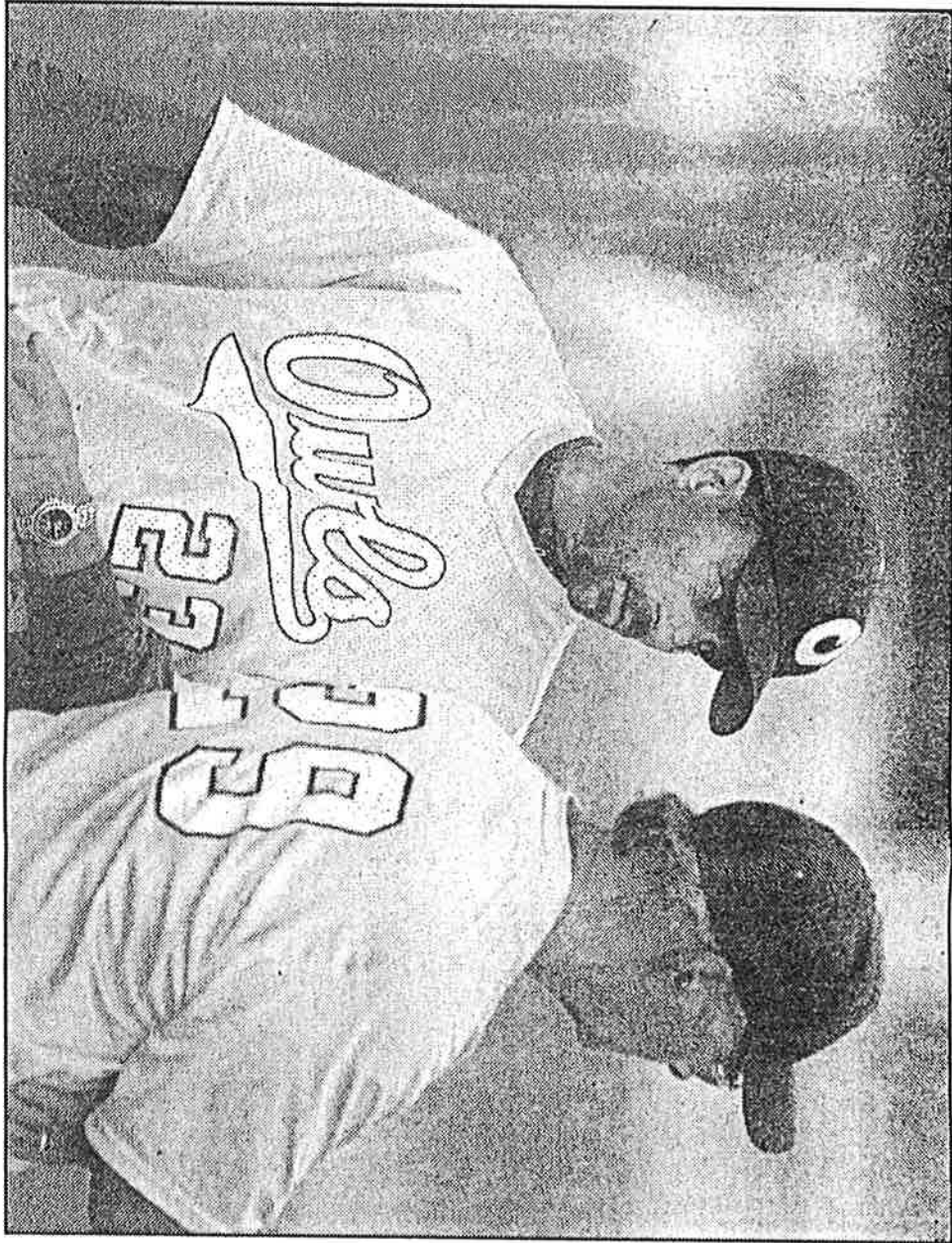
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Eagle/Times: Chad A. DeShazo

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Eagle/Times: Chad A. DeShazo

"It forces us to get back to work even harder and look for new ways we can get better," Boyertown coach Rick Moatz, on the rivalries developed over the years with West Lawn and Shillington.

The Orioles, with standout pitcher Jeremy Wunderlich and a recently hot lineup, could make things interesting.

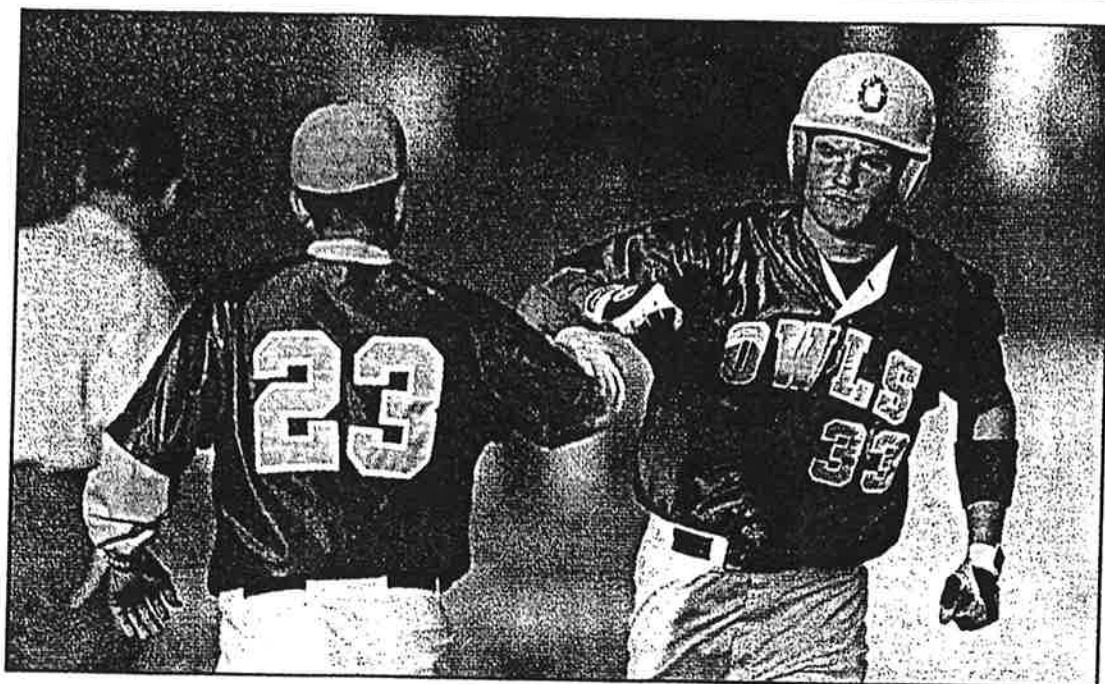
"The playoffs ought to be pretty competitive," Houck said. "Reading is really hot right now, Birdsboro is starting to play well and the final.

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1985: Boyertown	1968: Morgantown	
1984: Boyertown	1967: Shillington	
1983: Boyertown	1966: Shillington	
1982: Boyertown	1965: Gregg Post	
1981: Boyertown	1964: Gregg Post	

1998 PLAYOFFS		
FIRST ROUND		
West Lawn 7, Exeter 3		
Shillington 19, Muhlenberg 2		
Hamburg 8, Kutztown 1		
Boyertown 9, Birdsboro 4		
WINNERS BRACKET		
Boyertown 8, West Lawn 6		
Hamburg 12, Shillington 10		
LOSERS BRACKET		
Birdsboro 13, Exeter 10 (Exeter eliminated)		
1998 PLAYOFFS		
Kutztown 5, Muhlenberg 4 (10) (Muhlenberg eliminated)		
LOSERS BRACKET SEMIS		
Shillington 9, Birdsboro 5 (Birdsboro eliminated)		
West Lawn 10, Kutztown 3 (Kutztown eliminated)		
FINAL ROUND		
West Lawn 6, Shillington 0 (Shillington eliminated)		
CHAMPIONSHIP		
Boyertown 18, West Lawn 1		

Pick a winner tonight.





LEGION PLAYOFFS

THURSDAY

- Muhlenberg 4,
Shillington 3
- West Lawn 23,
Exeter 8
- Birdsboro 19,
Reading 3
- Boyertown 9,
Hamburg 5

TODAY

- West Lawn vs.
Birdsboro, 7:05
p.m., Owls Field
- Muhlenberg vs.
Boyertown, 7 p.m.,
Bear Stadium
- Exeter vs.
Reading, 7 p.m.,
George Field
- Hamburg vs.
Shillington, 5 p.m.,
at Shillington

West Lawn's Brad Binder, right, is congratulated by head coach Tony Matz III as he rounds third base after hitting a home run in the first inning.

Eagle/Times: Chad A. DeShazo

■ West Lawn 23, Exeter 8: At Owls Field, Brad Binder went 3-for-4 with four runs and seven RBIs as West Lawn overpowered the Eagles with an 18-hit attack, including nine for extra bases.

The top-seeded Owls (31-3), the Western Division champs, will meet Birdsboro in a winner's bracket semifinal at Owls Field tonight at 7:05. Eighth-seeded Exeter (17-15) will play Reading in an elimination game at George Field.

Binder, whose two-run homer highlighted the Owls' six-run first, was named Reading Hot Stovers game MVP for West Lawn.

West Lawn scored six more in the third and winning pitcher Mike Schaeffer pitched four innings of three-hit ball as the Owls led 13-2 after four.

Exeter scored six runs in the fifth off reliever Kyle Frees before Matt Fidler struck out two and induced a groundout to end the inning. Fidler went the final four innings for the save.

Josh Yocum's two-run double in West Lawn's three-run seventh ended the game via the 15-run rule. Yocum finished 2-for-4 with five RBIs. Regan Carroll and Shane Stacherski each had three hits for the Owls.

Mark Stufflet went 3-for-4 with two runs and was named Exeter's MVP.



Eagle/Times: Chad A. DeShazo

PLAYOFF BOXSCORES

Muhlenberg 4, Shillington 3

MUEHLBERG		SHILLINGTON	
	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12		1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12
Rennan d	4 1 1 1 1 Miller d	4 1 0	4 1 0
Br. Karmn 3b	4 0 2 2 Four 2b	4 0 1 0	4 0 1 0
Nie p	4 0 0 0 Bat 3b	4 0 1 0	4 0 1 0
Kern 3b	4 0 2 0 Weap 3b	3 0 1 0	3 0 1 0
Gens 1b	4 0 1 0 Swan 3b	3 0 1 0	3 0 1 0
Faler c	4 1 1 0 Swagier c	3 1 0 0	3 1 0 0
Henly f	2 2 2 0 Delvick f	2 0 1 0	2 0 1 0
Bentley H	2 0 1 0 Holland 1b	3 1 1 1	3 1 1 1
Rozz H	0 0 0 0 P. Miller f	4 0 1 0	4 0 1 0
Br. Karmn p	0 0 0 0 P. Miller f	3 0 1 0	3 0 1 0
Flaung 2b	3 0 1 0		
Totals	23 41 1 3 Totals	31 3 7 3	
Muehlberg	.....200 010 300-4-110		
Shillington	.....200 012 301-3-7 11		
<p>E. Bat. 103 Muehlberg & Shillington & Dr. Muehlberg 1. Shillington 1. SS. Rennan. Faler. Holsen. Delvick. SS. Kern. Str. Bentley. Flaung.</p>			
<p>IP H R ER BB SO</p>			
Muehlberg			
Nie W. 5-2	8 1/2	7	3
Henry	0	0	0
Br. Karmn: 5.1	4	0	0
Shillington			
Nutte L. 7-1	9	11	4
WP. Nutte: 1.2-15	2	4	1
	5		

Boyetown 9, Hamburg 5

HAALBUNG		BOYEVOTOM	
	ab f h b	ab f h b	
Singer 2d	5 3 4 0	Tout p	4 3 3 0
Horvath 1c	5 0 1 0	Hanline c	3 0 0 1
Evangelista p	4 1 1 2	Rom 1b	3 0 0 0
Koca 1c	5 0 2 1	Walsh d	4 0 0 1
Kesinger f	3 0 0 0	Allen f	3 0 0 0
Hanson d	4 0 0 0	D Hoffman 3d	4 2 1 1
Shappell 1b	2 0 0 0	Galway f	3 0 1 0
Grassley 3c	4 0 0 0	A. Hoffman p10	3 1 0 0
Remert 3c	3 1 0 0	Eide f	0 0 0 0
Herman p	0 0 0 0	Schuck 3c	4 2 2 0
		Mason 2d	2 1 1 2
Totals	35 5 8 3	Totals	39 9 5
Handing	110 200 301 582	Handing	110 200 301 582

Boyetown D11 .110 23x-993

[illegible]

West Lawn 23, Exeter 8 (7)

[illegible]

West Lawn

HSP, by Kadane (Pettit), by Roonowicz (Pettit)	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
Schaeffer w. / - / 0	2	3	2	2	4	3	3
Frees	0	6	6	6	1	0	0
Fidler S. 1	3	0	0	0	0	0	2

Birstboro 19, Reading 3

BIRDSBORO		READING	
ad r h bl		ad r h bl	
Kedley ss	5 1 2 1 Kelly R	4 1 1 0	

BIRDSBORO

	ab	t	ab	t			
Keyley SS	5	12	1	Kelly #	4	1	0
G Wernier 2b	5	2	0	Pennino 1p	0	0	0
Weldert 1b	0	0	0	Reckers SS	4	12	1
Wunderlich 2b	5	3	3	Soto d	3	0	1
Ingram 2b	0	0	0	Ranovich c	2	0	1
Runke 1b	5	4	3	Doanovic c	1	0	0
Finkle 2b	4	2	1	B Miller 2b	3	0	0
Clon 1b	5	3	3	Pena pt	1	0	0
Schnafer p	0	0	0	D Miller t	3	0	1
Dressler 2b	4	1	2	Joy Bear ph	1	0	0
Stussler t	2	1	2	Bogert p	2	0	0
Emanuel c	4	1	3	Lesapovic 2b	2	0	0
Deese c	2	0	0	Marschall 1b	2	0	1
C Wernier d	3	1	2	Jon Balaz 3b	3	0	0
Campyran c	1	0	1	Kan 1b	3	0	0
Totals	45	19	23	Totals	22	3	6
Binscheder 100L	AA(1)07r-19-23						
Reading 20L	000-3 6 2						
E C Wernier, Finkle, Ken, Nussco, Dr. Reading							
1, 105 Binscheder 7, Reading 2, 23, Conn 2, Finkle							

SB Recay 2. Ash
 0001 Pichincha CW

	IP	H	A	EA	BB	SC
Birdsborn Onions	5	5	3	2	0	6
Whiteland (W-45)	2	2	0	0	0	5
G Welter	1	0	0	0	0	0
Cout	1	0	0	0	0	1
Scashier	1	0	0	0	0	1
Reading White Sox	5	10	7	7	0	3
Borel (1-7-2)	1/2	9	9	8	1	0
Lesagoraz	1/2	0	1	0	0	2
Asin	2	4	2	1	0	2
Promitico	2	2	3	3	3	2

Borel placed three times in the 17th WP. Winner
 1st. Borel. Ast 1:25.6. A:30.

Cipolla, West Lawn throw aside Birdsboro

LEGION PLAYOFFS



Eagle/Times

Boyetown's Jared Trout dives back to second base as Muhlberg's Kraig Kemp tries to make a play on a fourth-inning pickoff attempt.

FRIDAY

- West Lawn 13, Birdsboro 4
- Boyertown 13, Muhlberg 0
- Exeter 11, Reading 9
- Shillington 20, Hamburg 2

TODAY (all games at Owls Field)

- Exeter vs. Muhlberg, 12:30
- Birdsboro vs. Shillington, 4:05
- Winners bracket final
- Boyertown vs. West Lawn, 7:35

More coverage, Page D6

■ Tony Cipolla tosses seven strong innings in a rare start and West Lawn takes control early in advancing to tonight's Berks Legion winners bracket final against Boyertown.

By Darryl Grumling

Eagle/Times

Tony Cipolla is better known for the throwing he does in the fall as quarterback of Wilson's football team.

During the spring and summer, Cipolla's throwing is mostly relegated to tosses from his shortstop position for Wilson High and West Lawn Legion.

But in Friday night's Berks Legion League playoff tournament game against Birdsboro, West Lawn coach Tony Matz III needed Cipolla's arm for a different purpose.

Matz sent Cipolla to the mound, and the right-hander responded by taming the Orioles' red-hot lineup as West Lawn earned a 13-4 winners bracket semifinal victory at Owls Field.

Cipolla threw seven strong innings and also went 2-for-3 with two doubles and three runs for the top-seeded Owls (32-3), who advance to tonight's 7:35 winners bracket final against defending league champion Boyertown (33-10).

"What we expect from Tony is pretty much what we got tonight," Matz said. "You can always count on him for a quality start."

Cipolla (5-0), who entered the game with a 1.93 ERA in 18 2/3 innings, struck out five, walked one and scattered 10 hits and four runs against the Orioles (20-14), who had rung up 69 runs against their last three league opponents and

102 against their last six.

"I know I'm only going to get six or seven innings now and then," Cipolla said, "so I just try to go out there with bulldog kind of attitude."

"Tony knows how to and perform in this kind of setting," Matz said. "I wasn't worried at all about how he would do. He probably has the best changeup of any of our pitchers."

What made it easier for Cipolla was the four-run first the Owls put up against Birdsboro left-hander Jon Runkle. After Eric Pettit sparked the rally with a one-out triple, Josh Yocum doubled in the first run, Shane Stacherski had a sacrifice fly and two more runs scored when Cipolla's deep fly to center was dropped for a three-base error.

"The first inning has been big for us so far in the playoffs," said Cipolla, who was part of a six-run first in Thursday's 23-4 victory over Exeter. "I saw they (the Orioles) had scored a lot of runs last night, so I didn't want to try and overpower them with the fastball. I wanted to spot the change and keep them guessing."

The Orioles got two in the third on a sacrifice fly by Jeremy Wunderlich and an RBI single by Jon Runkle, but West Lawn answered with two in its half.

Stacherski's RBI single making it 6-2. Leading 9-3, West Lawn put it away with a five-run seventh, highlighted by Regan Carroll's two-run triple and low lifted by four of Birdsboro's eight errors. "They made the plays for their pitchers," Birdsboro coach Chris Drown said, "and we didn't make them for our pitchers."

Yocum and Stacherski each drove in three runs and Brad Binder scored three runs for the Owls, who have pounded out 17 extra-base hits in two playoff wins.

BERKS LEGION SCOREBOARD

MUHLBERG	BOYERTOWN	BIRDSBORO	WEST LAWN	SHILLINGTON	EXETER	READING
ab r h bi Reinhart d 3 0 1 0 Trout r 4 1 2 1 Br. Kottir 3b 2 0 0 0 Eide r 1 1 1 0 Schniedt 3b 1 0 0 0 Hartline c 4 1 1 0 Nye lf 3 0 0 0 S. Hoffman cf 1 0 0 Zerneck lf 1 0 0 0 Roth p 3 2 2 0 Kemp ss 4 0 2 0 A. Hoffman 2b 1 1 1 Guers p 4 0 0 0 Walsh cf 4 1 1 2 Faller c 3 0 0 0 Stapleton cf 1 0 0 0 Br. Kottir ph 1 0 0 0 Loebe 1b 4 1 1 0 Healy lf 3 0 1 0 Coelisse p 1 0 0 1 Morgan 1b 0 0 0 0 Allen lf 3 0 2 1 Snyder p 1 0 0 0 D. Hoffman 3b 1 2 1 Bentley p 0 0 0 0 Schuck ss 3 2 1 0 Rozzi p 0 0 0 0 Mason 2b 3 1 0 0 Palango 2b 2 0 0 0 Kaefer lf 0 0 0 0 Totals 29 0 4 0 0 Totals 39 13 15 8 Muhlberg .....000 000 000- 0 4 4 Boyetown .....000 613 03x-13 15 0	ab r h bi E: Nye, Kemp, Faller 2, Loebe, Muhlberg 6, Boyertown 6, D.P.: Boyertown, 2B: Healy, Roth 2, Allen, SB: Trout, Walsh, Schuck. IP H R ER BB SO Muhlberg 3 1/3 5 4 4 1 2 Snyder 2 1/3 2 0 0 0 1 Bentley 1 1/3 2 0 0 0 0 Rozzi 1 3 3 3 1 0 Boyetown 5 3 0 0 0 1 3 Roth W, 6-0 3 1 0 0 0 2 2 D. Hoffman 3 1 0 0 0 2 2 Coelisse, S 3 1 0 0 0 2 2 WP: Guers, Snyder 3, HBP: by Snyder (Schuck), PB: Faller, T: 2:39.	ab r h bi Kepley ss 3 0 1 0 Carroll 3b 4 1 1 2 E. Werner ss 10 0 0 0 Binder 1b 4 3 2 0 Ingman 2b 1 0 0 0 J. Yocum cf 4 1 2 3 Wunderlich 3b 3 0 2 2 Cipolla p 3 3 2 0 Runkle p 4 0 2 1 Stacherski ss 2 0 1 3 Rightmyer 2b 2 1 1 0 Zimmerman lf 1 0 0 0 Schaefer p 0 0 0 0 Schultz c 4 1 2 0 Dressler ph 1 0 0 0 T. Yocum 4 1 1 0 Walbert p 0 0 0 0 Fries p 1 0 0 0 Colan 1b 4 0 1 0 Fries p 1 0 0 0 Shustack lf 2 0 0 1 Holt 2b 4 1 0 0 Deese ph 1 0 0 0 Campogiani lf 0 0 0 J. Werner cf 4 2 3 0 C. Werner cf 4 2 3 0 Totals 34 41 4 Totals 35 13 12 9 Birdsboro .....002 011 50x-13 12 3 West Lawn .....002 011 50x-13 12 3	ab r h bi E: Rightmyer 4, Kepley 2, Runkle, C. Werner, Colan, T. Yocum, Schultz, Holt, Loebe, Birdsboro 7, West Lawn 8, D.P.: West Lawn, 2B: Colan, Wunderlich, Binder, J. Yocum, Cipolla 2, T. Yocum, 3B: Pettit, Carroll, Binder, SB: Carroll, Pettit, SF: Wunderlich, Stacherski 2, Cipolla, J. Yocum, Pettit, SH: G. Werner, Kepley. IP H R ER BB SO Birdsboro 2 1/3 7 6 3 3 1 Kepley 4 5 7 2 1 2 Schaefer 2 0 0 0 0 1 Walbert 1 0 0 0 0 1 West Lawn 7 10 4 4 1 5 Cipolla W 5-0	ab r h bi Fries 1 0 0 0 0 0 HBP: by Kepley (Pettit), WP: Runkle 2, Schaefer 2, Cipolla, T: 2:57, A: 500. SHILLINGTON ab r h bi Snyder 2b 3 0 0 0 T. Miller d 5 3 4 2 Engel ss 3 0 1 0 Faust 2b 4 2 2 0 Rolt c 0 0 0 0 Ludwig 2b 0 0 0 0 Hosbauer c 3 0 0 0 Batz 3b 5 1 2 2 Krick lf 3 0 0 0 Snyder 3b 4 1 1 1 Kerschner lf 3 0 0 0 DeWald lf 0 0 0 0 Fitzpatrick 1b 0 0 0 0 Smith lf 0 0 0 0 Herman cf 3 1 1 1 Weber c 4 2 2 3 Menden 1b 1 0 0 1 Sweigart c 1 0 0 0 Menden 1b 1 0 0 0 Holland 1b 4 4 3 3 Faulstich 3b 2 0 0 0 Berger 1b 0 0 0 0 Gressley p 2 0 0 0 F. Miller lf 3 3 2 0 Hester 3b 1 0 0 0 Nutter ss 1 1 1 0 Holtier ph 0 0 0 0 Gontier p 4 1 2 4 Totals 25 2 3 2 Totals 36 22 21 7 Shillington .....010 100 0- 2 3 2 Hamburg .....225 902 x-20 22 2 Shillington .....010 100 0- 2 3 2	ab r h bi E: Batz 2, Evangelista, Reinert, Loebe, Hamburg 2, Shillington 7, D.P.: Hamburg 1, Shillington 1, 2B: Batz, Holman 2, HR: Walser, Holland, Harrison, SB: T. Miller 2, Faust, DeWald, Holland, F. Miller 2, Nutter 2, SH: Nutter. IP H R ER BB SO Hamburg 2 1/3 7 6 3 3 1 Gressley 4 5 7 2 1 2 Kerschner 2 0 0 0 0 1 Palanski 1 0 0 0 0 1	ab r h bi Dennis p 4 2 2 3 Kelly lf 3 3 1 0 Reigel 2b 1 0 0 0 Reckay ss 5 1 2 1 Scrimby 2b 2 1 0 0 Scofield 4 2 2 2 J. Miller ss 5 1 1 1 Randolph p 4 1 1 0 Taylor 3b 5 4 4 4 B. Miller 2b 5 0 2 2 Worcum 1b 4 0 2 1 D. Miller c 5 1 1 1 Stutler d 5 1 2 1 Borer lf 2 0 0 0 Guida c 5 0 1 0 Batz 3b 2 0 0 0 Burkett lf 3 1 0 0 Matzek 2b 2 1 1 0 Kutub lf 3 1 0 0 Ash 1b 4 0 0 0 Rochowicz 3b 0 0 0 0 Totals 38 11 21 0 Totals 38 9 12 6 Exeter .....101 005 102-11 12 6 Reading .....200 030 031- 9 12 6 E: Dennis, Reigel, Schenberger, Stutler, Borer, Loebe, Exeter 6, Reading 8, D.P.: Randolph, B. Miller, Matzek, HR: Taylor 3, Dennis, Stutler, Scofield, SB: Kelly, SF: Worcum, SH: Schenberger, Batz. IP H R ER BB SO Exeter 7 1/3 11 8 5 4 1 Taylor W, 1-1 1 1 1 0 1 1 Reading 5 9 7 4 3 4 Scofield 3 3 4 2 0 1 WP: Dennis, Taylor, PB: Guida, Batz, Randolph, T: 2:55.

■ The power goes out, but not the rivalry, as West Lawn wins 10-6 in the winners bracket final.

That's the way it was three weeks ago in the regular season when the Owls staged a near-miraculous three-run rally after having two outs and nobody out in

And much the way things remained in the return bout Saturday when a power failure in a light standard beyond the right-center fence, resulted in a delay of more than 30 minutes in the middle of the sixth inning.

"I'll tell you what," West Lawn coach Tony Matz III said, "there's something about Boyertown-West Lawn. No doubt about it. I don't know if there's another rivalry around here like it."

"I think we bring out the best in them. They don't necessarily bring out the best in us - there have been games we've completely fallen apart, like last year's championship (an 18-1 Bears win). But when we get together and our guys show up and play our best baseball, there is no other game like it. It's an emotional roller-coaster."

The Bears quickly got on the board, scoring an unearned run in their first when with two outs and a runner on first, Jordan Walsh singled down the left-field line. Walsh got hung up between first and second, but first baseman Brad Binder threw errantly on the rundown play, enabling Chase Roth to score from third base.

The Owls got to starter Jared Trout in the third inning when they batted around and put up a five-spot. Josh Yocum singled in a run, Cipolla doubled in two, Shane Stachurski had an RBI single and Dave Schultz doubled in another to make it 5-1.

The Bears got one back in their fourth on Drew Hoffman's RBI double.

West Lawn starting pitcher Brad Impink delivers a pitch in the first inning Saturday night.



SCOREBOARD

[illegible]

BASEBALL

A's rally in ninth to stun West Lawn

■ Muhlenberg, which hands the top-seeded Owls their first loss in 19 games, continues to exceed expectations in the Berks Legion playoffs.

By Todd Jacobson
Eagle/Times

When the Berks Legion playoffs started four days ago, Dick Gochnauer never expected his team to challenge for the Berks Legion championship.

After all, that role had been relegated to West Lawn, Boyertown and Shillington, winners of seven county championships in the 90s.

But he did hope that his young Muhlenberg team would be there.

The A's took another step in that direction Sunday by beating top-seeded West Lawn 11-10 with five runs in the ninth inning.

Muhlenberg (21-10) will play Boyertown at 7:05 tonight at Owls Field. The winner will get the league's Region 2 berth and will meet West Lawn (33-4) Tuesday for the county championship.

West Lawn beat Boyertown 10-6 Saturday in the winner's bracket final to earn a spot in the title game. The loss to Muhlenberg was West Lawn's first in 19 games.

Not as skilled as the Boyertowns and West Lawns of the league, Gochnauer said Muhlenberg used a lot of heart and a little luck to get where they are.

"When West Lawn scored four runs in the sixth, they knew they were still in it," Gochnauer said of his team. "They didn't quit. They just never gave up."

Not quitting is something they've done all tournament long. As the No. 6 seed, Muhlenberg had already pulled off the playoffs' biggest upset in the first round with a win over third-seeded Shillington. Saturday, they came from behind to beat Exeter 15-12 in an elimination game.

West Lawn coach Tony Matz III said he never expected the heavily favored Owls to run away with the game.

"They played with a lot of adrenaline and a lot of emotion," Matz said. "I knew they would. They were down to their last stick. We didn't come out with a let down, we just played poorly."

Matz said Gochnauer's teams have always been a tough team to beat in crunch time.

"Muhlenberg has always been a resilient team," Matz said. "That's just the way they are. They don't die."

Muhlenberg scored the first two runs and led until the seventh inning, when West Lawn tagged right-hander Matt Nye for four runs to take a 7-6 lead. The Owls scored three more runs in the eighth inning and took a 10-6 lead into the ninth inning.

Kraig Kemp, who, as an 18-year-old, thought he might be playing his last inning of Legion ball, led off

the Muhlenberg ninth with a single.

Pinch-hitter Nate Bentley walked and Nate Guers hit a two-run triple to chase right-hander Josh Yocum, who had relieved Shane Stacherski in the seventh inning.

Right-hander Jon Rudisill didn't fare much better. He retired the first two batters he faced, conceding an RBI groundout that made it 10-9, but gave up a single to pinch-hitter Andy Zenyuch and a double to Jason Reinhart, both with two outs.

Brian Kantner then bounced a single through the left side of the infield and past a diving Tony Cipolla to drive in the tying and go-ahead runs.

Brad Kantner, who earned the save in Muhlenberg's upset of Shillington, pitched a scoreless ninth inning for the win. Rudisill (2-2) took the loss for West Lawn.

"This is unbelievable," Kemp said. "Coming back from being down four runs against the best team in the league - I just can't believe it. It's awesome."

MUHLENBERG										WEST LAWN									
ab r h bi					ab r h bi														
Reinhart cf	6	2	1	0	Carroll 3b	5	2	3	1										
Bra. Kntnr 3b	6	2	2	3	Pettit rf	5	2	1	0										
Rozzi lf	4	1	0	0	Binder 1b	4	1	1	1										
Kemp ss	5	3	3	3	J. Yocum cf	2	2	1	1										
Henry rf	4	0	1	0	Cipolla ss	3	1	0	1										
Guers 1b	4	1	1	3	Stacherski lf	4	1	3	3										
Nye p	4	0	1	2	Schultz c	4	1	0	1										
Faller c	3	0	0	0	Hohl 2b	5	0	1	0										
Palangio 2b	3	0	0	0	Fidler p	1	0	1	0										
Bentley ph	0	1	0	0	T. Yocum lf	1	0	1	0										
Bra. Kntnr p	0	0	0	0	Zimmerman lf	2	0	0	0										
Morgan ph	1	0	1	0	Rudisill p	0	0	0	0										
Zenyuch pr	0	1	0	0															
Totals	40	11	10	11	Totals	37	10	11	8										
Muhlenberg.....	210	000	305	-11	10	6													
West Lawn.....	101	100	430	-10	11	5													
E: Nye 3, Kemp 2, Henry 2, Carroll 3.																			
Cipolla, Stacherski, LOB: Muhlenberg																			
11, West Lawn 10, 2B: Kantner, Carroll,																			
Binder, 3B: Kemp 2, Guers, SS: Henry 2,																			
Reinhart, Rozzi, GS: Carroll 2.																			
MUHLENBERG					WEST LAWN														
IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO														
Nye	6	8	7	4	6	3													
Bra. Kantner	2	2	3	3	2	1													
Bra. Kantner W	1	0	0	0	2	0													
West Lawn																			
Fidler	5	3	3	2	2	2													
Stacherski	1	0	2	1	2	2													
J. Yocum	2	4	4	3	2	2													
Rudisill	1	3	2	2	1	0													
HBP: Guers (by Fidler), Palangio (by Fidler).																			

WEDNESDAY

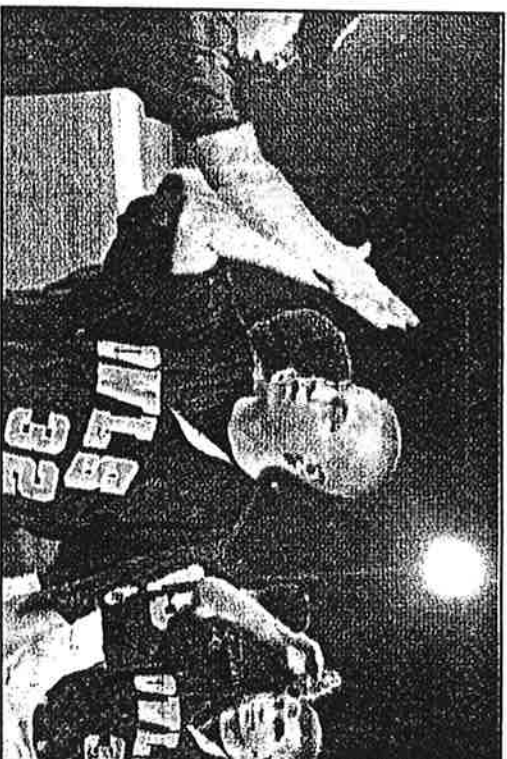
A.M.

July 21, 1999

Berks

Reading, Pa.

WINDOWS TO TODAY'S NEWS



■ Sports: West Lawn takes title

Mike Schaeffer's pitching carries West Lawn to its first Berks Legion title since 1991. Page D1

Schaeffer gets all A's

■ West Lawn wins its first Berks Legion League title since 1991 behind 16-year-old ace Mike Schaeffer, who throws a complete-game five-hitter against overachieving Muhlenberg.

By Darryl Grumling

Eagle/Times

Mike Schaeffer knew he would get the ball this summer.

The first-year pitcher for West Lawn's Legion team figured he would get to throw every fifth day, along the way getting in a little on-the-job training from the rest of the Owls' veteran pitching staff.

What Schaeffer didn't realize, however, is that come the postseason, he would be the team's stopper.

Specifically, the guy West Lawn coach Tony Matz III wanted on the mound for Tuesday's Berks League championship against Muhlenberg.

"I knew I'd be part of the team and all," Schaeffer said. "But to be pitching in the championship? ... That's something I never considered."

After West Lawn won its fifth county title with an 11-1 victory at Owls Field, there is no question who is considered the staff ace.

The right-handed Schaeffer (7-0) went the route on a five-hitter and struck out six as West Lawn (34-4) captured its first Berks crown since 1991 before a crowd of 1,357.

Schaeffer, one of just five 16-year-olds on a roster laden with two- and three-year starters, may not have known how valuable he would be in the Owls' title drive.

But Matz said he had a pretty good idea who his ace would be even as the season was ending in the state tournament a year ago.

"I felt he could have pitched for us last year," Matz said of Schaeffer, who opted to play Junior Legion at Spring Township. "We all knew what he could do, so I wouldn't call this a real surprise to any of our coaches."

"The biggest thing about Mike is that we know when we send him out there, we can send him out there for nine innings."

Schaeffer, who started the season opener in May, said he turned the corner in a complete-game victory over East contender Birdsboro in mid-June. But the biggest boost of confidence came in Saturday's 10-6 winners bracket final win over archrival Boyertown, when Schaeffer slammed the door on the Bears with three shutout innings of six-strikeout relief.

"The last two games are the best I've thrown all year," Schaeffer said.



Eagle/Times: Tim Leedy

West Lawn players celebrate after winning the Berks Legion Baseball League championship with an 11-1 victory over Muhlenberg Tuesday evening at Owls Field.

► West Lawn

Continued from Page D1

The Owls definitely needed the strong-arm performance against the feisty A's (22-11), who were within 3-1 heading to the seventh thanks to a clutch performance by 3-year-old lefty Nate Guers (4-4).

But West Lawn was able to break it open after two errors and a walk paved the way for six unearned runs. Tony Cipolla had a sacrifice fly, Shane Stacherski had a two-run double, Dave Schultz doubled in a run and Andy Hohl singled in two more to finally finish the Cinderella A's — who had knocked off league powers Shillington, Boyertown and West Lawn in a magical five-day span.

The win also was sweet for the Owls' final-year players, who had suffered a humiliating 18-1 loss to Boyertown in the final last year.

"Speaking for the seniors," said Stacherski, who went 3-for-5 with two RBIs to lead an 11-hit attack, "we knew it was our last chance to get it done. We got there last year and got our butts kicked,

and we didn't want it to happen again."

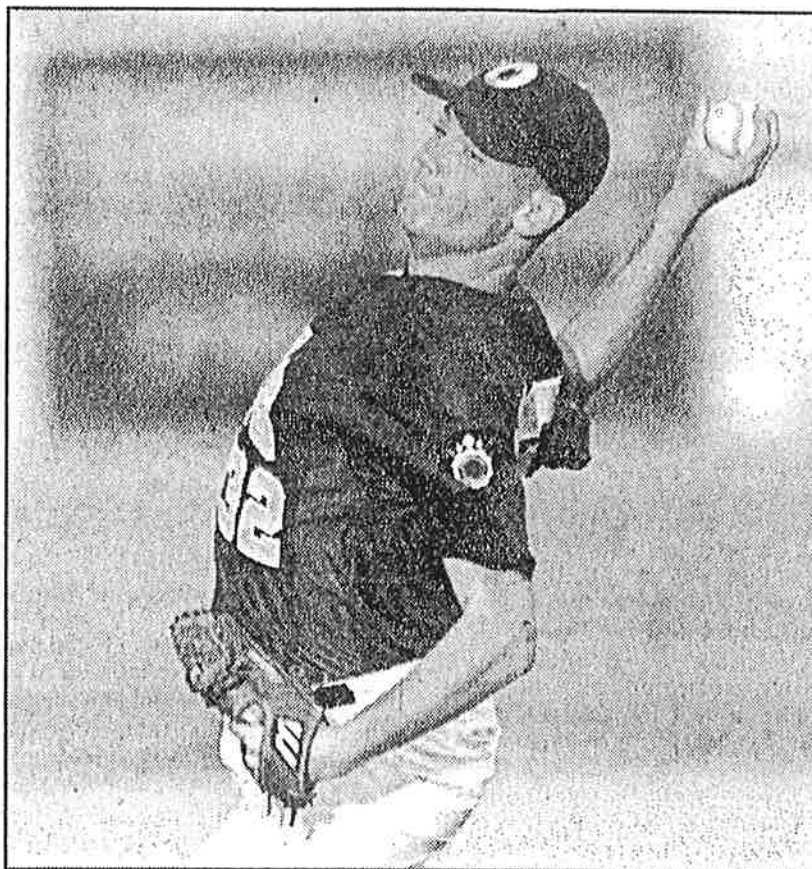
It didn't, thanks to a 3-for-5, two-run effort from Eric Pettit, two RBIs each from Schultz and Hohl, and a near-flawless defensive effort that backed Schaeffer.

"This was pretty special," said Matz, whose team had gone 0-4 on its home turf in the last two tournaments the Owls hosted — the Berks tourney in 1995 and the state tourney in 1998. "To come out here and do it in front of all these fans for a five-day period is a great feeling."

West Lawn will open defense of its Pennsylvania Region 2 title on Tuesday with a first-round game against Lehigh Valley League regular season champion North Parkland at Owls Field at 7:30.

The A's, meanwhile, open the Region 2 tourney against Lehigh Valley League No. 2 seed Lower Macungie at Owls Field at 12:45 p.m.

"Schaeffer did a super job for them," Muhlenberg coach Dick Gochner said. "I felt pretty good about our chances until that seventh inning, but then it all sort of fell apart."



Eagle/Times: Tim Leedy

Mike Schaeffer throws a five-hitter, striking out six and walking five, to lead West Lawn over Muhlenberg.

1999 BERKS PLAYOFF SCORES

FIRST ROUND

Muhlenberg 4, Shillington 3
Boyertown 9, Hamburg 5
West Lawn 23, Exeter 8 (7)
Birdsboro 19, Reading 3

WINNERS BRACKET

West Lawn 13, Birdsboro 4
Boyertown 13, Muhlenberg 0

LOSERS BRACKET

Exeter 11, Reading 9 (*Reading eliminated*)

Shillington 20, Hamburg 2 (*Hamburg eliminated*)

LOSERS BRACKET SEMIS

Muhlenberg 15, Exeter 12 (*Exeter eliminated*)

Shillington 13, Birdsboro 2 (*Birdsboro eliminated*)

WINNERS BRACKET FINAL

West Lawn 10, Boyertown 6

SEMIFINALS

Boyertown 9, Shillington 3 (*Shillington eliminated*)

Muhlenberg 10, West Lawn 11

FINAL ROUND

Muhlenberg 7, Boyertown 5 (*Boyertown eliminated*)

CHAMPIONSHIP

West Lawn 11, Muhlenberg 1

BOXSCORE

At Owls Field
MUHLENBERG

WEST LAWN

	ab	r	h	bi		ab	r	h	bi
Reinhart cf	3	1	1	0	Carroll 3b	4	2	1	1
Bri. Kantner 3b	4	0	1	1	Pettit rf	5	2	3	1
Guers p	3	0	1	0	Binder 1b	4	1	1	0
Kemp ss	3	0	0	0	Yocum cf	4	0	0	1
Heinly rf	2	0	0	0	Cipolla ss	3	1	0	1
Schneider 3b	1	0	0	0	Stacherski lf	5	1	3	2
Nye lf	3	0	0	0	Zimmerman lf	0	0	0	0
Rozzi lf	1	0	1	0	Schultz c	2	1	1	2
Faller c	3	0	0	0	Schaeffer p	3	2	1	0
Bra. Kantner ph	1	0	0	0	Hohl 2b	2	1	1	2
Morganti 1b	2	0	1	0					
Zemuch pr	0	0	0	0					
Snyder ph	0	0	0	0					
Bentley p	0	0	0	0					
Palangio 2b	3	0	0	0					
Totals	29	1	5	1	Totals	32	11	11	10

Muhlenberg000 001 000-1 5 4

West Lawn001 011 62x-11 11 1

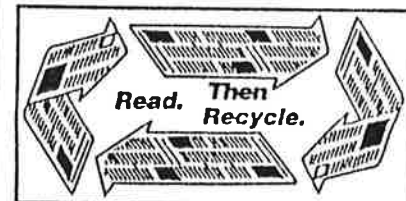
E: Guers, Reinhart, Kemp, Palangio, Carroll. DP: West Lawn 1. LOB: Muhlenberg 7, West Lawn 7. 2B: Binder, Stacherski, Schultz. SB: Reinhart 2, Heinly. SF: Schultz, Yocum, Cipolla. S: Palangio, Hohl, Carroll.

	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Muhlenberg A's						
Guers L, 4-4	6.0	5	7	2	4	3
Bentley	0	3	2	2	0	0
Bri. Kantner	1.0	3	1	1	0	0
West Lawn Owls						
Schaeffer W, 7-0	9	5	1	1	5	6

WP: Schaeffer, Heinly, Bri. Kantner 2, Bentley.

Umpires: Roy Underhill, Bob Trainer, Roy Miller, Kurt Henry.

T: 2:53. A: 1,357.



For A's, dream ends but respect lingers

By Todd Jacobson

Eagle/Times

The clock finally struck midnight for Muhlenberg, the Berks Legion League playoff's Cinderella story, but not before the pesky A's gave West Lawn all it could handle for most of Tuesday's championship game at Owls Field.

Sixth-seeded Muhlenberg pulled off the three biggest upsets of the tournament – a 4-3 win over No. 3 Shillington in the first round, a game 13 win over No. 1 West Lawn and an unlikely win over Boyertown Monday that propelled the A's into the championship game. They also came from seven runs back Saturday to beat Exeter 15-12.

They just couldn't beat the high-powered Owls (34-4) again Tuesday night.

This Cinderella didn't have a fairy godmother watching over it, but Dick Gochnauer, Muhlenberg's coach, said it had someone else guiding it.

"When you get momentum on your side, it seems like everything just clicks," Gochnauer said. "We

had it until we fell apart in the seventh inning, but I feel good about our team. We had an excellent run and we'll be back next week in Regionals."

West Lawn coach Tony Matz called Muhlenberg (22-11) "down-right scary" and admitted he was worried about facing the A's in the championship game.

After a look at Muhlenberg's playoff resume, who wouldn't be?

"What they accomplished by upsetting Shillington, Boyertown and West Lawn – you had to be a little scared of them," Matz said. "You've never seen anything like this – a team coming into the tournament and upsetting three teams considered by many to be a cut above the rest."

The A's hung around until the fateful seventh inning, when starter Nate Guers and reliever Nate Bentley combined to give up six unearned runs. Guers had held West Lawn to three runs until that point and Muhlenberg trailed just 3-1. West Lawn padded the score with two late runs.

"It was a good game for a long time," said West Lawn first base-

man Brad Binder. "I don't think the score was indicative of how good a game this was."

Muhlenberg catcher Joe Faller said beating the Berks Legion's "big three" and getting to the tournament's championship game was some consolation.

"No one ever expected us to do this," Faller said. "We proved to everyone that we are for real. It feels really good."

Binder said the A's are talented, but have something else that's allowed them to get as far as they have.

"They play well together, but more importantly they play with a lot of emotion and a lot of heart and they never seem to give up," Binder said.

They're not done yet.

Muhlenberg clinched one of the Berks Legion League's two berths in the Region 2 tournament by virtue of its win over Boyertown Monday and will play Lower Macungie Tuesday in the first round.

And they're not just happy to make it – they'd like to make the same waves in that tournament



Eagle/Times: Tim Leedy

West Lawn shortstop Tony Cipolla tags out Muhlenberg pinch-runner Andy Zenyuch attempting to steal during the fifth inning of the Owls' 11-1 win.

that they did in Berks.

Matz, who twice has seen firsthand what the underdog A's can do, said that's a good possibility.

"We just watched them make waves for four days against teams like Boyertown and Shillington, teams that could both go to (the

Region 2) tournament and win it," Matz said. "You've always got to be conscious of a team that can do what they did."

BERKS LEGION CHAMPS

1999: West Lawn 11, Muhlenberg 1	1975: Boyertown 3, Gregg Post 2	1951: Gregg Post
1998: Boyertown 18, West Lawn 1	1974: Shillington 10, Boyertown 3	1950: Gregg Post
1997: Birdsboro 3, Shillington 0	1973: Gregg Post 9, West Lawn 4	1949: Gregg Post
1996: Shillington 6, West Lawn 0	1972: Boyertown 3, West Lawn 2	1948: Gregg Post
1995: Boyertown 5, Shillington 3	1971: Boyertown 6, Shillington 4	1947: Gregg Post
1994: Boyertown 5, Shillington 1	1970: Boyertown 9, Gregg Post 3	1946: Gregg Post
1993: Hamburg 5, Shillington 4	1969: Boyertown 2, Kutztown 1	1945: Gregg Post
1992: Boyertown 24, West Lawn 8	1968: Morgantown 7, Gregg Post 1	1944: Gregg Post
1991: West Lawn 12, Birdsboro 1	1967: Shillington 4, Kutztown 1	1943: Gregg Post
1990: Boyertown 25, Artisan 1	1966: Shillington 4, West Lawn 2	1942: No teams competed.
1989: Boyertown 6, West Lawn 5	1965: Gregg Post 1, West Lawn 0	1941: Gregg Post
1988: Boyertown 10, Hamburg 9	1964: Gregg Post 2, Boyertown 1	1940: Gregg Post
1987: Boyertown 6, Hamburg 2	1963: Hamburg 3, Boyertown 0	1939: Gregg Post
1986: Oley 6, Boyertown 3	1962: West Lawn 5, Shillington 4	1938: Gregg Post
1985: Boyertown 9, Oley 2	1961: West Lawn 6, Shillington 1	1937: Gregg Post
1984: Boyertown 5, Oley 3	1960: West Lawn 4, Gregg Post 3	1936: Gregg Post
1983: Boyertown 9, West Lawn 3	1959: Boyertown def. Pulaski	1935: Gregg Post
1982: Boyertown 14, Shillington 5	1958: Boyertown 1, Leesport 0	1934: Gregg Post
1981: Boyertown 10, Shillington 0	1957: Leesport 8, Shillington 3	1933: Gregg Post
1980: Temple 2, Boyertown 1	1956: Leesport	1932: Gregg Post
1979: Boyertown 4, Temple 3	1955: Gregg Post	1931: Gregg Post
1978: Boyertown 14, Temple 1	1954: Gregg Post	1930: Gregg Post
1977: Boyertown 4, Temple 0	1953: Leesport	
1976: Boyertown 15, West Lawn 2	1952: Gregg Post	

BERKS LEGION SENIOR ALL-STAR ROSTERS

- **WHAT:** Berks County American Legion Baseball Senior All-Star Game
- **WHEN, WHERE:** 7:00 p.m., July 23 at Muhlenberg Legion Field
- **NOTABLE:** Scholarship awards will be presented to Luke Bricker of the Kutztown Cougars and Josh Yocum of the West Lawn Owls.

TEAM HEMMIG



Josh Yocum

Hamburg Hawks: Tom Krick, Nat Harrison, Terry Snyder. Muhlenberg A's: Brian Kantner, Kral Kemp, Joe Faller. Reading White Sox: Matt Redcay, Jeff Soto, Steve Randolph, Brian Miller. Schuylkill Valley Marlins: Dan Weyandt, John Smith. West Lawn Owls: Brad Binder, Josh Yocum, Shane Stacherski, Dave Schultz, Matt Fidler, Dennis Zimmerman, Andy Hohl, Regan Carroll, Brad Impink. Wyomissing Bisons: Bruce Anglin.

TEAM BOWERS



Luke Bricker

Birdsboro Orioles: Brad Kepley, Gerry Werner, Jeremy Wunderlich, Jon Runkle. Boyertown Bears: Rob Galloway, Jordan Hartline. Conrad Weiser Scouts: Kevin Yarnall, Steve Yeich, Mike Wahl, Dave Kazmierczak. Exeter Blue Jays: Jason Miller, Karl Schemberg. Gregg Post Keys: Zach Focht, Brian Hlester. Kutztown Cougars: Luke Bricker, John Marsteller, Chris Bard. Oley Lynx: Brent Miller. Shillington Red Sox: Kyle Faust, Mike Stahler, Tim Miller, Steve Gebhart.

Binder, Weyandt key rout

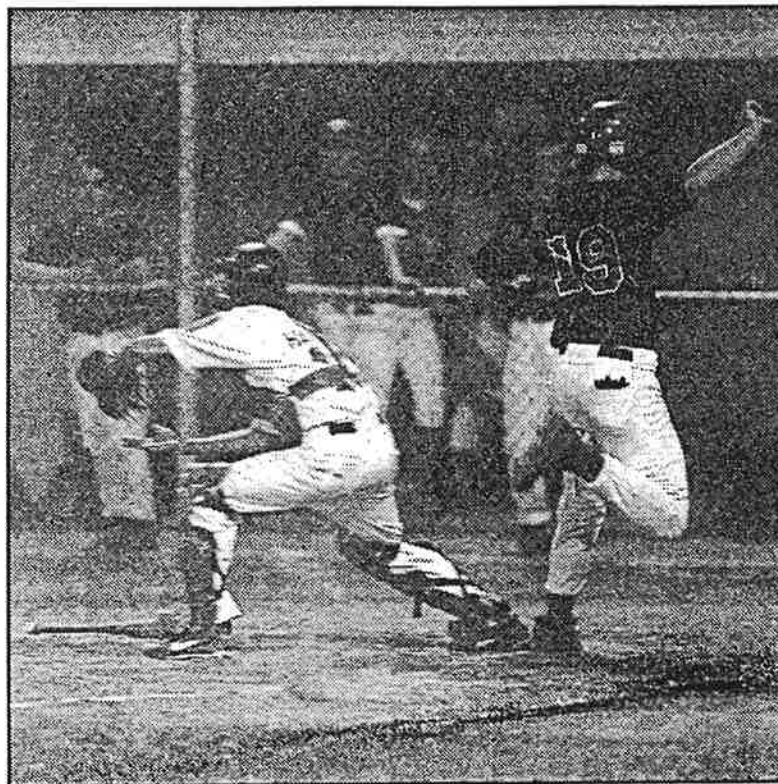
From our news staff

West Lawn's Brad Binder went 3-for-3 with two doubles and two RBIs, and Schuylkill Valley's Dan Weyandt drove in three runs and picked up the victory as Team Hemmig defeated Team Bowers 12-3 in the Berks Legion League Senior All-Star game Friday night at Muhlenberg.

Team Hemmig took the early lead on an RBI double by Binder, then went up 3-0 in a two-run fifth, when West Lawn's Brad Impink delivered a run-scoring double and scored on a single by Binder.

West Lawn's Matt Fidler, Impink and Weyandt combined for five innings of three-hit shutout ball, striking out eight.

Team Hemmig broke it open in a six-run seventh, highlighted by a two-run homer by Reading's Steve Randolph, a two-run triple by Muhlenberg's Kral Kemp, a solo homer by West Lawn's Josh Yocum and a sacri-



Eagle/Times: Tori Galluccio

Team Bowers catcher Jordan Hartline of Boyertown records the out at the plate on Team Hemmig's Josh Yocum of West Lawn during the Berks Legion League Senior All-Star Game.

fice fly by Hamburg's Nat Harrison.

Muhlenberg's Brian Kantner was 2-for-2 with two runs and Yocum, West Lawn's Dennis Zimmerman and Muhlenberg's Joe

Faller were each 2-for-3 for Team Hemmig.

For Team Bowers, Birdsboro's Jeremy Wunderlich was 2-for-3 and Birdsboro's Jon Runkle scored twice.

BERKS LEGION SENIOR ALL-STAR GAME

HEMMIG	ab	r	h	bi	BOWERS	ab	r	h	bi
Carroll 3b	2	1	0	0	T. Miller cf	2	0	0	0
Kantner 3b	2	2	2	0	Bard cf	2	0	0	0
Redcay ss	2	0	0	0	Gebhart lf	2	0	1	0
Kemp ss	3	1	1	2	Stahler p	2	0	1	0
Binder 1b	3	0	3	2	Wunderlich 3b	2	0	2	0
Weyandt p	2	0	1	3	Runkle 1b	0	2	0	0
Krick lf	3	0	0	0	B. Miller 1b	1	0	1	1
Harrison lf	1	0	0	1	Yarnall 1b	2	0	0	0
Yocum cf	3	1	2	1	Kazmierczak p	2	0	0	1
Soto rf	3	0	1	0	Marsteller rf	2	0	1	0
Anglin p	1	1	0	0	Galloway rf	0	0	0	0
Schultz c	2	0	0	0	Faust rf	2	0	1	0
Randolph c	1	1	1	2	Wahl p	2	0	0	0
Snyder 2b	2	0	0	0	J. Miller ss	1	0	0	0
Hohl 2b	3	0	0	0	Schemberg 2b	1	0	0	0
Zimmerman dh	3	1	2	0	Yeich 2b	1	0	0	0
Stacherski dh	2	1	1	0	Bricker ss	2	0	0	0
Fidler p	1	0	0	0	Kepley ss	2	1	1	0
Impink p	2	1	1	1	Hartline c	2	0	0	0
Faller c	3	2	2	0	Werner dh	2	0	0	0
Totals	44	12	17	12	Totals	32	3	8	2

Hemmig 100 020 610-12 17 1
Bowers 000 000 102-3 8 4

E: Runkle, J. Miller, Hartline, Marsteller, Weyandt. DP: Hemmig 2, Bowers 1. LOB: Hemmig 10, Bowers 9. 2B: Binder 2, Zimmerman, Impink, Marsteller, Weyandt, Stacherski, Faust. 3B: Kemp, HR: Yocum, Randolph. SB: Carroll, Anglin. SF: Harrison.

	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Hemmig						
Fidler	2	1	0	0	1	4
Impink	2	2	0	0	1	2
Weyandt, W	1	0	0	0	1	2
Soto	2	3	1	1	1	0
Anglin	2	2	2	1	3	4
Bowers						
Wahl, L	1	1	1	1	3	1
Werner	1	1	0	0	0	0
B. Miller	1	1	0	0	0	1
Wunderlich	1	0	0	0	0	1
Kazmierczak	1	3	2	2	0	0
Stahler	1	1	0	0	0	0
Yarnall	1	6	4	0	1	1
Gebhart	1	4	3	0	0	0
Kepley	1	0	0	0	0	2

HBP: by Stahler (Randolph). WP: Fidler, Anglin 2, Wahl, Werner 2, Kazmierczak. PB: Faller.

Legion

Non-league

West Lawn 9, Spring City 8

Boyerstown 9, Yardley Western 6

Highlights: Jordan Hartline went 2-for-3 with one run and one RBI and Rob Galloway had a two-run double for the Bears, who finish 35-12.

Region 2 Tournament

At Owis Field, West Lawn

Tuesday's openers: Perkiomen vs. The Birches, 9:45 a.m.; Lower Macungie vs. Muhlenberg, 12:45 p.m.; Banko's vs. Frackville, 4; North Parkland vs. West Lawn, 7:30.

REGION 2 LEGION TOURNAMENT

Location, where: Tuesday through Saturday at West Lawn's Owls Field.

■ Berks champion and host West Lawn, Berks runner-up Muhlenberg, Lehigh Valley champion North Parkland, Lehigh Valley runner-up Lower Macungie, Northampton champion The Birches, Northampton runner-up Banko's, Bux-Mont champion Perkiomen, Schuylkill champion Frackville.

■ Format: Eight teams, double-elimination.

■ At stake: Winner advances to next week's Pennsylvania State Tournament at Pottsville.

■ Tuesday's first-round games: The Birches vs. Perkiomen, 9:45 a.m.; Muhlenberg vs. Lower Macungie, 12:45 p.m.; Frackville vs. Banko's, 4 p.m.; West Lawn vs. Mountaintop, 7:30 p.m.

■ Last year: West Lawn earned its first Region 2 title, defeating Mountaintop 3-3 in the final at Allentown's Bicentennial Park.

THE TEAMS

WEST LAWN OWLS

■ Coach: Tony Matz III, 13th season, 387-158.

■ Record: 35-4.

■ Key hitters: 1B Brad Binder (526, 5 HRs, 56 RBIs), SS Tony Cipolla (446, 71 runs, 46 RBIs), RF Shane Stachurski (.426, 51 RBIs), CF Josh Locum (.413, 6 HRs, 55 runs, 52 RBIs), OF Eric Pettit (.405, 55 runs), 3B Megan Carroll (.364, 63 runs).

■ Key pitchers: RHs Mike Schaefer (8-0, 2.05), Brad Impink (5-0, 2.96), Matt Fidler (7-0, 3.96) and Tony Cipolla (6-0, 2.60).

■ Notable: Defending Region 2 champion, making fourth tourney appearance since 1991. . . . Set record for wins in a tournament with 80 in six games last year. . . . 11-5 all-time regional record. . . . Finished second to Boyertown in 1992 tourney at Bear Stadium. . . . Defeated Muhlenberg 11-1 for fifth Berks title Tuesday at Owls Field.

MUHLENBERG A'S

■ Coach: Dick Gochbauer, 30th season, 564-375.

■ Record: 22-11.

■ Key hitters: CF Jason Reinhart (.453, 4 HRs, 46 runs, 34 steals), SS Kraig Kemp (.400, 32 runs, 31 RBIs), RF Tim Heiny (.348, 39 runs), C Joe Faller (.300, 31 RBIs), 1B Nate Guers (.300, 30 RBIs).

■ Key pitchers: RHs Matt Nye (5-2, 3.59), Brian Kantner (3-1, 2.95), Brad Kantner (4-0, 1.46) and Tim Heiny (4-2, 4.20); LH Nate Guers (4-4, 3.58).

■ Notable: Making second regional appearance in 1990s; went 2-2 in 1996 as host. . . . 19-14 record in seven previous appearances; have stayed alive at least four rounds each time. . . . Qualified by advancing to Berks playoff tournament championship, notching upsets over Shillington, West Lawn and Boyertown along way.

THE BIRCHES

■ Coach: John Konawalik, 15th season.

■ Record: 20-6.

■ Key hitters: 2B Brian Lank (.447), OF Gary Washack (.403), C Kyle Szoke (.400), 3B Zach Kozicki (.382), OF Lance Leone (.375).

■ Key pitchers: LH Mike Borger (5-2, 1.91); RHs Gary Washack (7-0, 2.25), Justin Kashner (3-1, 1.70) and Lance Leone.

■ Notable: Making fifth regional appearances and third in four years. . . . All-time tourney record is 8-8, with best finish a third in 1986 and last year. . . . Won Northern Division of Northampton League, then defeated Kemp Post in best-of-three semifinals to qualify for regionals. . . . Tied Banko's 9-9 in 10 innings in final game of best-of-three title series; awarded Northampton top seed due to better league record.

BANKO'S

■ Coach: Rich Kephart, sixth season.

■ Record: 18-8.

■ Key hitters: 3B Mark Atkinson (.414), OF Tim Buck (.406), SS Pat Murphy (.386), 1B Dave Morgan (.369), C Mario D'Angelo (.327), OF Antonio Marrero (.323).

■ Key pitchers: RHs Pat Murphy (6-1, 2.56) and Antonio Marrero (2-1); LH Tim Buck (5-2).

■ Notable: First Region 2 appearance since 1994. . . . 6-8 record in four previous appearances. . . . Reached regional final in 1977, losing 3-0 to Boyertown. . . . Won Southern Division of Northampton league before beating Northampton in best-of-three league semifinals to qualify for regionals.

NORTH PARKLAND BUFFALOES

■ Coach: Terry Stoudt, 26th season.

■ Record: 31-7.

■ Key hitters: 1B Dan Dillon (.489, 10 HRs, 55 RBIs), 3B Mike Mihalik (.434), OF Cole Evans (.418), OF Terry Thomas (.394), C Ryan Eisenhard (.371), 2B Mike Adams (.363), SS Jason Markovitz (.346).

■ Key pitchers: RHs Dan Dillon (8-2), Mike Mihalik (7-0) and Peter Sherbrick (6-0).

■ Notable: Fourth straight Region 2 appearance. . . . 9-12 all-time tourney record, including 0-2 last year. . . . Won Lehigh Valley regular season with 23-3 record, then won league's double-elimination tournament, beating Lower Macungie 9-6 in final Tuesday. . . . Best finish was third in 1997.

LOWER MACUNGIE

■ Coach: Tony Santay, fourth season.

■ Record: 23-9.

■ Key hitters: DH Ryan Amey (.455), OF Steve Parr (.440, 5 HRs, 31 RBIs), SS Paul Santay (.435), CF Brian Martin (.417, 7 HRs, 30 RBIs).

■ Key pitchers: RH Ryan Amey (7-0, 2.18); LHs Matt Funk (2-3, 1.78), Matt Wiltout (6-2, 3.79).

■ Notable: First Region 2 appearance since going 0-2 in 1993. . . . Finished second to North Parkland in Lehigh Valley League regular season with 19-7 record; lost to North Parkland in league title game. . . . 3-10 in five previous tourney appearances.

PERKIOMEN INDIANS

■ Coach: Ernie Quatrani, 13th season.

■ Record: 24-11.

■ Key hitters: CF John Stezenko (.474, 7 HRs, 32 RBIs), C Julio Acosta (.441, 7 HRs, 38 RBIs), RF Joe Adam (.350, 31 RBIs), 3B Scott Gehringer (.350), 2B Brad McCabe (.335).

■ Key pitchers: RHs John Stezenko (6-1), Scott Gehringer (6-2), Mike Brannen (2-1) and Matt Derr (3-1).

■ Notable: Fourth Region 2 appearance in five years; 9-18 overall in previous nine trips. . . . Reached final in 1991 at Emmaus, losing to Boyertown. . . . Finished third in Bux-Mont regular season with 18-8-1 record; earned league's regional berth by winning double-elimination tourney, rallying from first-round loss to Souder-ton to win five straight. . . . Gehringer and Stezenko advanced to East-West all-star game Sunday at Harrisburg. . . . Acosta was drafted in 37th round by Montreal.

FRACKVILLE MOUNTS

■ Coach: Paul Koropchak, first season.

■ Record: 26-4.

■ Key hitters: SS Paul Koropchak Jr. (.605, 12 HRs, 40 RBIs), 1B Mike Dillman (.517), CF Kevin Kozak (.446), RF Brian Gadinski (.415), C Tony Wright (.388).

■ Key pitchers: LH Mike Dillman (9-2); RHs Joe Selgrade (6-1) and Paul Koropchak.

■ Notable: Defeated Pottsville 8-7 and 12-4 to sweep best-of-three final series for first Schuylkill League title since 1962. . . . First Region 2 appearance. . . . Went 16-2 to win Schuylkill League regular season, averaging more than 10 runs a game.

Compiled by Darryl Grumling

BASEBALL

Owls to follow Carroll's lead

■ As West Lawn begins defense tonight of its Region 2 championship, it does so on the coattails of the stats and spirit of third baseman and leadoff batter Regan Carroll.

by Darryl Grumling
Eagle/Times

Regan Carroll's first baseball memories date back to the mid-1980s, when his family still lived in Brooklyn, N.Y.

"When I was little my dad took me to Yankee Stadium, and the player I remember the most was Don Mattingly," Carroll recalls. "He was a hard-nosed lefty and he always hit for average. Watching him really inspired me to play."

More than a decade later, that aspiration has continued to be a key factor in the development of Carroll, the third baseman and leadoff man for West Lawn's region team.

The right-handed Carroll may come from the opposite side of the plate than Mattingly, and may also play defense on the opposite side of the infield.

But as far as heart, desire and determination, Carroll has shown plenty of similarities to the former Yankees mainstay.

"He does anything you ask," said West Lawn coach Tony Matz. "And being our leadoff hitter, we ask an awful lot of him."

Carroll, who is hitting .364 with 63 runs, 12 doubles, five triples and a .508 on-base percentage, will be asked plenty this week as the Berks champion Owls (35-4) attempt to defend their Region 2 crown. West Lawn will open the eight-team, double-elimination tournament tonight against Lehigh Valley league champion North Park (31-7) at Owls Field at 7:30.

"Basically I have a lot of restrictions when I'm at bat," Car-

REGION 2 LEGION TOURNAMENT

roll said. "I have to work the count, let the other batters see the pitcher. But I'm comfortable hitting with two strikes. I've done it all year."

What Carroll has also done successfully is reach base, providing plenty of RBI opportunities for big guns such as Brad Binder, Josh Yocum, Tony Cipolla and Shane Stacherski.

"In our offensive philosophy, Regan's plan is to get on base," Matz said. "And he does that as well as anybody."

"He's definitely the best table-setter I've seen this year," echoed Binder, the team's leading hitter. "It seems like he's on base all the time, and he makes things happen. We have some guys having great individual years, and a lot of it can be directly attributed to Regan."

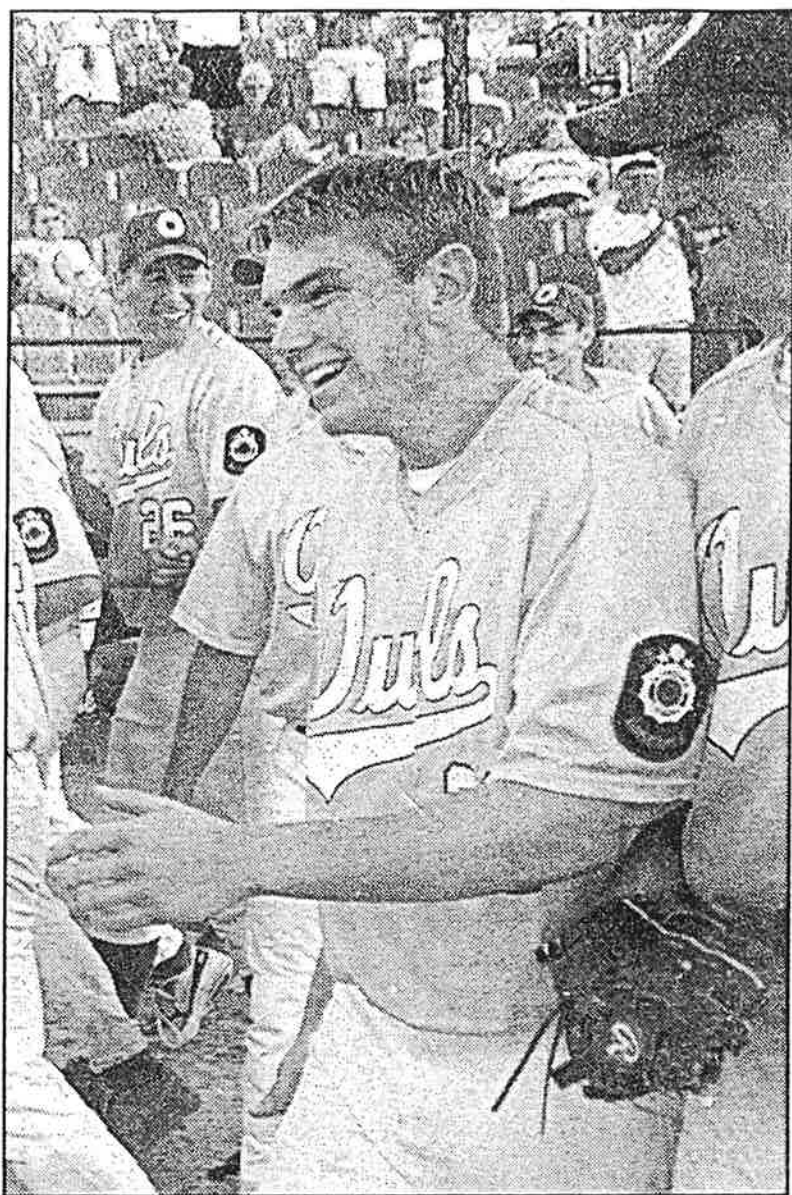
Carroll can also be somewhat of a clown and cut-up in the dugout, but his tenacity and mental toughness are no laughing matter.

Last year, he suffered a broken finger in Game 13 of Berks playoff tournament. After missing the final two county games and the first two Region 2 games, however, Carroll was back in the lineup, sparking the Owls to their first state regional crown.

"He went out there and did what Regan does best," Matz said. "And that's get on and score runs."

"Regan's real aggressive on the basepaths, and defensively, he's a stabilizing force," Binder said. "He knocks balls down, takes them off the chest. ... he does whatever it takes."

Carroll credits a lot of his defensive acumen to assistant coach John Piscitelli, a standout at both West Lawn and Allen-



Eagle/Times file photo: Ron Romanski

West Lawn's Regan Carroll gives the Owls an outstanding leadoff hitter with 63 runs and a .508 on-base percentage.

town College who has taken Carroll under his wing.

"He's helped me a lot out there," Carroll said. "I didn't have the best defensive series in the playoffs, and started to lose some confidence. But after the first Muhlenberg game, when I made three errors, he hit a lot of balls to me and it's started to pay off."

Piscitelli in turn paid Carroll a huge compliment earlier this season, one which speaks volumes about Carroll's overall value.

"He said he considers Regan our best third baseman," Matz said. "And coming from John, who I consider to be the best

third baseman that's played here since I've been here, that's pretty high praise."

For his part, the low-key Carroll is more concerned with wins and championships than stats and press clippings. And right now, the only thing he is focused on is helping his teammates try to repeat as Region 2 champions.

"This is the last chance for a lot of us," Carroll said. "We just have to go out and take care of business. If we play our kind of baseball, like we did last year, we know can win it."

The Owls also know Carroll will be doing everything he can to set the tone.

REGION 2 LEGION TOURNAMENT

Pettit powers Owls to win

■ Eric Pettit goes 4-for-4 with five runs to lead West Lawn past Banko's and keep its season alive.

By Darryl Grumling

Eagle/Times

When the electricity went off prior to West Lawn's Pennsylvania Region 2 Tournament game Wednesday, some may have seen it as a bad omen for the Owls.

But with the scoreboard and various other plug-in devices rendered inoperable much of the afternoon, Eric Pettit provided a power surge of his own — one which sparked West Lawn to a 16-10 elimination victory over Banko's at Owls Field.

Pettit went 4-for-4 with five runs and reached base in all six plate appearances as the Owls (36-5) bounced back from Tuesday's late first-round loss to North Parkland and advanced to today's 4 p.m. elimination game against Lower Macungie.

"Eric is definitely a pick-me-up type player for us," West Lawn coach Tony Matz III said.

Pettit did plenty to pick up the Owls after Northampton League No. 2 seed Banko's (18-11) struck for a run — and its only lead — on David Morgan's first-inning RBI double.

In the West Lawn half, the speedy outfielder roped a one-out single up the middle to start a rally, which was capped by a two-run single by Tony Cipolla to put the Owls up to stay at 2-1.

Pettit legged out an infield single and also scored during a five-run second, then beat out a bunt and scored during a three-run third that made it 10-1.

"My role is to get on and score runs however I can," Pettit said. "And I'll do whatever I gotta do to help us win."

Pettit can do a lot of different things for the Owls at the plate, on the field or in the dugout.

He entered state regionals with a .405 average and 55 runs out of the two-hole, combining with leadoff man Regan Carroll to set the table for the dangerous middle of the order.

Defensively, Pettit has been not only utilized in the

■ Muhlenberg stays alive, too. Page C4



West Lawn's Eric Pettit eludes the tag of Banko's catcher Mario D'Angelo to score Wednesday.

Eagle/Times: Ryan McFadden

SCOREBOARD

MUHLENBERG	13
PERKIOMEN	4

WEST LAWN	16
BANKO'S	10

THE BIRCHES	9
LOWER MACUNGIE	6

N. PARKLAND	LATE
FRACKVILLE	GAME

TODAY'S GAMES

- Muhlenberg vs. North Parkland-Frackville loser, 12:30 p.m.
- West Lawn vs. Lower Macungie, 4 p.m.
- The Birches vs. North Parkland-Frackville winner, 7:30

outfield, but is also the team's back-up catcher and an emergency infielder and pitcher.

And off the field, the 17-year-old provides a heavy dose of intensity to a team whose leaders are best characterized as laid-back.

"Eric is the type of kid who seems to be constantly hustling," said Matz. "But what we like about him the most is that he's the kind of player who will absolutely do whatever you ask him to."

That includes taking pitches, which the normally free-swinging Pettit did patiently in drawing walks in his fourth and fifth plate appearances. Then in the eighth, Pettit capped what he called "one of my best games ever" by lacing a leadoff triple off the left-field fence to begin a

two-run inning that made it 16-8.

"We didn't want this to be the final game, especially for the seniors," Pettit said. "So getting that early lead was real important."

Josh Yocum and Brad Binder (three RBIs apiece) and Carroll (three runs) were also important for the Owls, who took advantage of 11 walks.

Banko's, which outhit West Lawn 19-14 and got four hits from leadoff man Joey Bubba, crept within 10-6 on Chris Billiard's RBI double in the fifth. But the Owls took command for good in a four-run sixth, highlighted by Carroll's two-run triple.

"We came back strong today," said Pettit. "We usually do after a loss."

BANKO'S	ab	r	h	bi	WEST LAWN	ab	r	h	bi
Bubba 2b	6	2	4	2	Carroll 3b	4	3	1	2
Buck cf	6	2	1	1	Pettit rf	4	5	4	0
D'Angelo c	6	1	3	1	Binder 1b	4	2	2	3
Morgan 1b	6	0	2	2	Jyocum cf	5	3	2	4
Atkinson lf	4	0	1	1	Cipolla p	2	0	1	2
RGiering 3b	5	0	1	0	Frees p	1	0	0	0
Marrero rf	4	2	2	0	Stacherski ss	3	0	1	2

Helms ph	1	1	0	0	Schultz c	4	0	0	0
A. Giering ss	5	1	2	0	Zeigler ph	1	0	1	1
Weatherby p	1	0	1	0	Zimmerman lf	3	2	1	0
Billard rf	2	0	1	1	Dietrich ph	1	0	0	0
Yeager ph	2	1	1	1	TYocum lf	1	0	0	0
					Hohl 2b	3	1	1	0

Totals	48	10	19	10	Totals	36	16	14	14
North Central	100	410	022	-10	19	4			
West Lawn	253	004	02x	-16	14	3			

E: Billiard, Bubba, Giering, Rich, Weatherby, Binder, Frees, Stacherski. LOB: North Central 12, West Lawn 13. DP: North Central 1, 2B: Bubba, Buck, D'Angelo, Morgan 2, Cipolla, Stacherski. 3B: Carroll, Pettit. SB: Carroll. CS: Cipolla. SF: Binder, Cipolla, Stacherski.

	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
North Central						
Weatherby L, 0-1	1 1/3	5	6	5	2	0
Marrero	3 2/3	7	8	7	9	1
A. Giering	3	2	2	1	0	1
West Lawn						
Cipolla W, 1-0	7 1/3	15	8	6	1	2
Frees	1 2/3	4	2	0	0	1

WP: A. Giering, Marrero 4. HBP: by Weatherby (J. Yocum), by Marrero (Hohl). T: 3:10.

Yocum a big hit in win

■ After a slow start in the Pennsylvania Region 2 Tournament, Josh Yocum's bat comes alive for West Lawn in a victory over Lower Macungie.

By Darryl Grumling
Eagle/Times

Last summer, Josh Yocum turned the Pennsylvania Region 2 Legion Tournament his own personal hitting clinic.

The sweet-swinging West Lawn outfielder was to Allentown's Bicentennial Park what Sammy Sosa is to Wrigley Field, belting the baseball all tourney long in leading the Owls to their first state regional crown.

Which is why Yocum's slugish start in the first two days of this year's Region 2 Tournament was mystifying to himself, his teammates and West Lawn coach Tony Matz III.

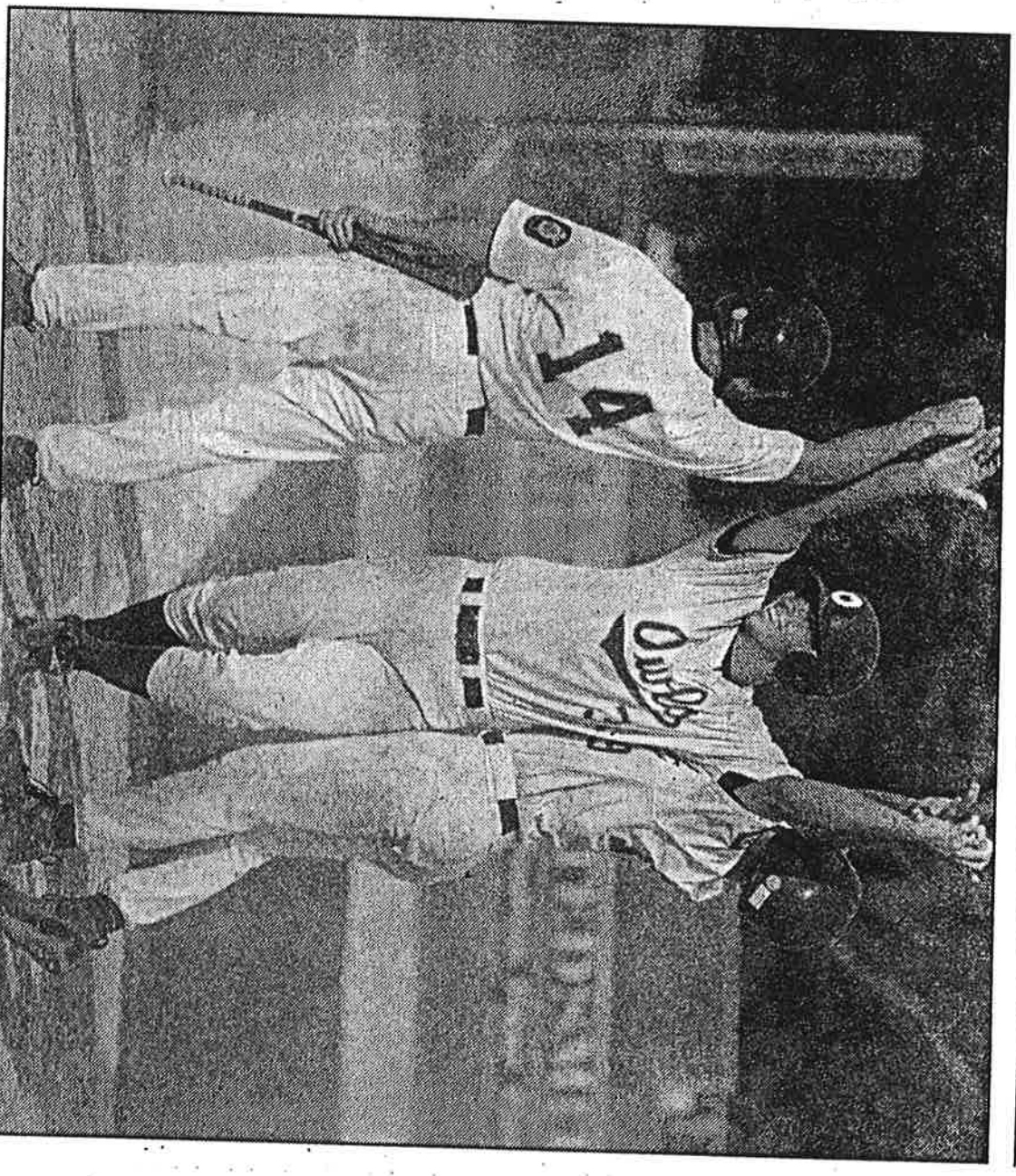
And when Yocum hit into a double play in his first time up in Thursday's elimination game against Lower Macungie, the lefty slugger had just two singles to show for his previous nine at-bats—an uncharacteristic performance from a player North Portland coach Terry Stoudt referred to two nights earlier as "the best hitter in the state."

"The last couple of days I knew I wasn't getting the job done," Yocum admitted. "I was disappointed in some of my at-bats, and I think I was pushing myself a little."

Fortunately for the Owls, Yocum found his stroke before it was too late in helping West Lawn extend its season with an 18-8 victory at Owls Field.

Yocum went 4-for-6 with six RBIs, two doubles and a three-run homer for West Lawn (37-5), which will face Northampton League top seed The Birches in an elimination game today at 7:30 p.m.

"I did so well last year, I guess I thought I could just go out and do it again," Yocum said. "But the last couple games I wasn't swinging



West Lawn's Tony Cipolla, center, is greeted at home plate after hitting a three-run home run in the eighth inning Thursday.

well. Today at BP, I just tried to concentrate on hitting it on the barrel of the bat. I told myself to attack the ball, and things would happen."

Yocum began to make things happen in the fourth inning, lacing a leadoff double and eventually scoring on a wild pitch to get the Owls within 3-2. He also singled in the sixth and delivered a run-scoring groundout in the seventh to cap a four-run rally.

But Yocum was far from finished, saving his two best at-bats for the final two innings.

In the eighth, after West Lawn had rallied to take its first lead at 9-8 on Eric Pettit's RBI single, Yocum hit a bases-loaded ground-rule double over the right-field fence. Tony Cipolla followed with a three-run homer to left to highlight an eight-run inning that made it 15-8.

Then in the ninth, in his final plate appearance, Yocum launch-

ed a towering three-run homer to right — his team-leading seventh — for the final margin.

"Josh hadn't been swinging up to his standards, and when he came up with the bases loaded (in the eighth), we certainly couldn't afford another bad at-bat," Matz said. "I was thinking we might have to have him take some pitches, but when I asked him how he felt, he felt good. I just figured he's 18, and I'd let him decide."

Matz had some tough decisions of his own to make regarding the Owls' pitching, pulling starter Matt Fidler in the top of the fifth of a 3-3 game after Steve Parr hit a leadoff double. Parr wound up scoring later in the inning, then Lehigh Valley League runner-up Lower Macungie (24-11) got four unearned runs in its sixth — the big blow a two-run double by Brian Martin — to make it 8-3.

But with their season on the line, the Owls answered right back

with a four-spot in the top of the seventh, Brad Binder's two-run double starting the rally. After Mike Schaeffer (9-1) worked a perfect seventh, firing Lower Macungie starter Ryan Amey hit Regan Carroll with the bases loaded to tie it in the top of eighth, then West Lawn unloaded on reliever Brett Stephenson in closing it out with 15 unanswered runs over the last three innings.

Pettit went 3-for-4 with two runs and two RBIs in an 18-hit attack for West Lawn, while Martin was 4-for-5 with five RBIs for Lower Macungie.

"For the first six innings, it felt like we were fighting an uphill battle," Matz said. "We had opportunities, but we just couldn't get the lead, and it was starting to get frustrating. There was a knocking on the door, but we wouldn't open it."

Until Yocum and company broke it down with a late-inning offensive barrage.

WEST LAWN		LOWER MACUNGIE			
ab r h b	ab r h b				
Carroll 3b	4 4 2 1				
Pettit rf	4 2 3 2				
Binder	5 2 1 2				
Yocum cf	6 3 4 6				
Cipolla ss	4 1 2 3				
Stachurski if	3 0 0 0				
Schaeffer p	2 1 1 0				
Schultz c	5 1 2 1				
Fidler p	1 0 0 0				
Impink p	1 0 0 0				
Zimmerman	2 2 1 0				
Hohl 2b	3 3 0 0				
Frees p	0 0 0 0				
Totals	40 18 15				
West Lawn	001 110 483-18 16 3				
Lower Macungie	201 014 000-8 12 2				
E: Cipolla 2, Yocum, Martin Oswelt, DP: West Lawn 1, Lower Macungie 1, 2B: West Lawn 6, Lower Macungie 1, 2B: Binder, Yocum 2, Parr 2, 3B: Carroll, Pettit, Martin, Fritz, Cipolla, Yocum, Lo, Stachurski, Schaeffer, Moyer, Santay, SB: Hohl, Lo, Martin, Santay, CS: Martin.					
IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
West Lawn					
Fidler	4	6	4	4	1
Impink	1 2/3	4	4	0	0
Pettit	1/2	0	0	0	0
Schaeffer W, 8-1	1	0	0	0	2
Frees	2	1	0	0	0
Lower Macungie					
Anney L, 7-1	7	10	11	11	4
Stephenson	1 1/2	3	4	3	1
Fritz	1 1/2	3	4	3	1
WP: Anney 2, HBP: by Anney (Pettit), by Anney (Santay), by Anney (Zalc), by Anney (Hohl), by Anney (Carroll), T: 3:16.					

Owls take two, win Region 2

■ West Lawn records big victories over Muhlenberg and The Bitches to win its second straight Pennsylvania Region 2 title.

By Darryl Grumling
Eagle/Times

As the West Lawn Legion team sat huddled together on the picnic tables of the Owls Grove pavilion late Saturday morning, they knew the task at hand was daunting.

To achieve their objective of successfully defeating their Pennsylvania Region 2 Legion title they had to defeat not one, but two different teams.

First they faced Berks rival Muhlenberg. Then The Bitches, who for the previous four days had taken turns playing the roles of destiny's darlings in the tournament.

If the Owls were the last team standing on a dog day afternoon, they would achieve their ultimate goal.

"We knew it was going to be a long day," said second baseman Andy Hohl, "and we knew we all just had to keep our composure."

For seven hours and eighteen innings in the triple-digit heat, the Owls did a magnificent job of doing just that in two dominating victories which earned them their second straight Region 2 title.

West Lawn gained the final by defeating Muhlenberg 11-5 in the opener, then routed The Bitches 22-3 in the most lopsided championship game in the 25-year history of the tournament.

"This one's definitely more special," said Hohl, one of seven final-year starters. "We wanted to repeat so bad, especially the seniors."

Hohl, the team's No. 9 hitter, did his part with a career-best performance, going 4-for-5 with five RBIs and three runs to lead a 20-hit barrage in the final.

But there was no shortage of heroes on an afternoon which saw West Lawn (40-5) unveil a lethal combination of offense, pitching depth and overall experience.

"Our hitting is what set it off," said catcher Dave Schultz, who went 3-for-4 with three RBIs in the title game.

Tony Cipolla went 4-for-6 with four RBIs and Brad Binder went 3-for-6 with five RBIs for the Owls, who scored in each of the first eight innings in building a 22-1 lead. All this against a team which had its top three pitchers available.

"When the day started, I felt good," West Lawn coach Tony Matz III said. "I really did. I can't be more happy with what our kids did. Last year, when everybody was saying we were a year away, we won it. Now this year, everybody expected us to do it again, and it was a lot harder."

What also made things hard on the Owls was an opening-round 7-4 loss to North Parkland Tuesday. But the team gradually gained its confidence back with elimination victories over Banko's (16-10) Wednesday and Lower Macungie (18-8) Thursday before trouncing tournament unbeaten The Bitches 18-4 Friday.

"It was such an uphill climb," Matz said. "But once we got things got rolling, our confidence kept growing. We told them it was so important to stay alive until we got to the fourth and fifth day so we could show off our depth of pitching."

The Owls displayed their wealth of arms in both games, with Tony Cipolla going seven strong in the opener and Brad Binder pitching throwing six innings of five-hit ball in the championship.

See West Lawn, Page D10 ▶

THE BITCHES 3

West Lawn 22

At West Lawn 11, Muhlenberg 5
West Lawn 22, The Bitches 3 (West Lawn wins title)



Eagle/Times: John A. Secogies

After putting in seven hours and 18 innings of work Saturday, West Lawn celebrates its second straight Region 2 Legion title.

Legion

Region 2 Tournament

At West Lawn 11, Muhlenberg 5
West Lawn 22, The Bitches 3 (West Lawn wins title)

WEST LAWN

ab r h bi

Carroll 3b 4 2 2 2

Dietrich ph 1 0 0 0

Pettit rf 4 3 1 1

Zeigler c 1 0 0 0

Binder 1b 6 0 3 5

J. Yocum cf 4 0 0 0

T. Yocum ph 2 1 0 0

Cipolla ss 6 4 4 0

Schachner lf 2 2 1 0

Zimmerman if 2 2 1 0

Schultz c 4 1 3 3

Snyder p 1 2 1 0

Impink p 4 2 0 0

Rudisill p 0 0 0 0

Fidler p 0 0 0 0

Hohl 2b 5 3 4 5

Frees 2b 0 0 0 0

Totals 47 22 20 19

West Lawn 151 215 340 22 20 1

The Bitches 000 001 011-3 11 4

E: Carroll, Hudson, Kozicki, Leone

Merrigold, LOB: Owens 10, Bitches 10

DP: Owens 1, Bitches 1, 2B: Binder 2

Cipolla 3, Hohl 2, Binder, Skinner 3B:

Binder, Hohl, Pettit, SF: Schultz, SF: Rudisill, SB: Zimmerman

IP H R ER BB SO

West Lawn

Impink W 50

Rudisill

Fidler

The Bitches

Borger L 53

Washack

Kashner

Stecker

WP: Fidler, Rudisill, Borger 2, Stecker,

Washack 2, HBP: by Impink (Mezzell),

by Washack (Carroll), by Washack (Pettit), PB: Skinner.

T: 3:08 A: 500

MUHELENBERG

ab r h bi

Reinhart cf 5 0 1 0

Bit. Kammer 3b 1 1 1 1

Guers 1b 4 1 1 1

Morgan ph 1 0 0 0

Kemp ss 4 0 0 1

Nye p 4 0 1 1

Zerbych if 0 0 0 0

Faller c 4 0 0 0

Heinly rf 4 1 2 0

Bentley if 0 0 0 0

Bra. Kammer 3 0 0 0

Snyder p 1 0 1 1

Palango 2b 2 2 1 0

Totals 33 5 8 5

Muhlenberg 003 000 110-5 8 1

West Lawn 611 102 00x-11 12 1

E: Nye, Stachurski, LOB: Muhlenberg 8

West Lawn 7, DP: Muhlenberg 1, Owens

1, 2B: Guers, Heinly, Palango, Pettit,

Schultz 2, Zimmerman 3B: Pettit, Stach-

urski 2, HF: Yocum, SF: Binder, SF:

Kemp, Binder, CS: Heinly.

IP H R ER BB SO

Muhlenberg

Nye L 54

Bra. Kammer

Snyder

West Lawn

Cipolla W 8-0

Frees

HBP: by Bra. Kammer (Pettit), BK: Cipolla.

T: 3:20 A: 500

► West Lawn

Continued from Page D1

"The funny thing is that we probably had three or four pitchers to spare," Matz said.

Northampton League top seed The Birches (23-8), comprised of several players from Saylorburg's 1998 Junior Legion state championship squad, started ace lefty Mike Borger, who had thrown just two innings Tuesday.

But Borger (5-3) was no match for an Owls lineup that scored 85 runs over its last five games in breaking its own Region 2 record for runs (89) in a tournament, set last year (80).

After Eric Pettit tripled and scored on Binder's groundout in the first inning, West Lawn took command in a five-run second keyed by Hohl's two-run single. Hohl doubled in another run in the third, Schultz singled in two more in the fourth and Binder had an RBI double in the fifth and a bases-loaded triple in a five-run sixth.

"This was a prime example of how solid our lineup is," Hohl said. "Everyone can go out and do some damage."

Which The Birches found out for the third straight meeting dating back to last year's winners bracket semifinal. Over that span, the Owls have won by a total margin of 67-12.

"We needed to play with a lot more a lot more emotion and intensity, especially against a team as relentless as them," said The Birches coach John Konawalik, whose team was making its first title-game appearance.

West Lawn, on the other hand, had beaten Mountainville twice on the final day last year and appeared to rely on that experience throughout the day.

"It was like *déjà vu*," Matz said. "I think last year helped a lot," said Schultz. "It helped us be more relaxed today, we knew we just had to come out and perform."

The Owls hope their impressive performance carries over to next week's Pennsylvania State Tournament at St. Mary's, where they open against Region 7 champion State College (46-6) Tuesday at 5:05 p.m.

"This feels great," Impink said. "It would have been better if it wasn't so much of a blowout, but we were confident the whole day. From the time we started, all we were thinking about was 18 innings."



Eagle/Times: John A. Secogies

West Lawn right-hander Brad Impink throws six innings of five-hit ball Saturday, helping the Owls win their second straight Pennsylvania Region 2 championship.

Big first lifts West Lawn past Muhlenberg in early game

It didn't take long for West Lawn's Legion team to send a message in Saturday afternoon's Pennsylvania Region 2 Tournament elimination game against Berks rival Muhlenberg at Owls Field.

A 10-batter, six-run first inning gave everybody a pretty good indication that the Owls meant business, and it sparked an 11-5 victory that finally finished the remarkable season of the A's.

"There's nothing like setting the tone like that," said West Lawn coach Tony Matz III.

After starter Tony Cipolla worked out of a two-on, two-out jam in the first inning, Regan Carroll drew a leadoff walk and scored on Eric Pettit's triple. Brad Binder followed with a sacrifice fly, then two walks set the stage for Shane Stacherst's two-run triple. Dave Schultz

and Dennis Zimmermann also doubled in runs in an inning in which all four Owls hits went for extra bases.

Cipolla (8-0) struck out five and allowed six hits over seven innings for his second tournament victory. Josh Yocum went 3-for-3 with a homer, three runs and three RBIs and Pettit was 3-for-4 with two runs in a 12-hit attack for West Lawn, which beat the Berks runner-up A's (25-13) for the fourth time in five meetings.

Tim Heinly went 2-for-4 with a run for Muhlenberg, which edged within 7-3 in a three-run third capped by Matt Nye's RBI single, but the Owls answered with single runs in their third and fourth, then made it 11-3 on Yocum's two-run homer in the sixth.

—Darryl Grunling

Owls hope second straight trip to states is a hoot

■ Saturday brought West Lawn a second straight Region 2 Legion title. Now the Owls want to make a better impression at states.

By Darryl Grumling
Eagle/Times

During West Lawn's two previous appearances in the Pennsylvania State Legion Tournament, the Owls didn't even have to travel outside Berks County.

In 1991, West Lawn qualified for states when Boyertown hosted the event, and last year, the Owls themselves played host to the eight-team tournament.

"Being in such a very familiar surrounding, you just didn't get that feeling of being in a state tournament," said Tony Matz III. "You didn't get that feeling of traveling and being away from home."

That won't be the problem this week, when the Region 2 champion Owls make the 4½ trip to St. Mary's - an Elk County town of 5,500 in Pennsylvania's northwest portion - for the state tournament.

Berks champion West Lawn (40-5) has a tough opening-round draw, meeting Region 7 champ State College (46-6) Tuesday at 5:05 p.m. State College returns much of the team that last year finished second in the state before winning the Northeast Regional and advancing to the semifinal round of the American Legion World Series in Las Vegas.

In other openers Tuesday, Region 3 champion Paoli (33-5) meets Region 8 champ Hopewell (28-6) at 10:05 a.m., Region 6 champ Moon

PA. LEGION STATE TOURNAMENT

- **WHEN, WHERE:** Tuesday through Saturday, St. Mary's.
- **WHO'S COMPETING:** Region 2 champion West Lawn, Region 3 champ Paoli, Region 4 champ Hanover, Region 5 champ Montoursville, Region 6 champ Moon Township, Region 7 champ State College, Region 8 champ Hopewell and host St. Mary's.
- **FORMAT:** Double elimination.
- **AT STAKE:** The winner and runner-up will each advance to national regional play Aug. 13-17. One team will compete in the Mid-Atlantic Region 2 Tournament at Morgantown, W.Va., while the other will compete in the Great Lakes Region 5 Tournament at Midland, Mich.
- **TUESDAY'S FIRST-ROUND MATCHUPS:** Paoli vs. Hopewell, 10:05 a.m.; Montoursville vs. Moon Township, to follow; West Lawn vs. State College, 5:05; Hanover vs. St. Mary's, to follow.
- **LAST YEAR:** Caln defeated State College 9-1 at West Lawn for its first state title.

Township (27-3) faces Region 5 champ Montoursville (27-5) at 1:05 p.m., and Region 4 champ Hanover (23-3) faces host St. Mary's at 8:05 p.m.

The double-elimination tournament continues through Saturday, with the champion and runner-up each advancing to national regional play - either at Morgantown, W.V., or Midland, Mich. - Aug. 13-17.

The Owls, who won the 1962 state crown and are making their fourth tournament appearance, are hoping to bounce back from last year's two-and-out exit, when they lost 4-1 to eventual champion Caln and 13-1 to Mount Lebanon.

"I think it was a good lesson," Owls first baseman Brad Binder said. "I think we were a little vulnerable to really good pitching last year, but I think this year we've all worked on different things and are better prepared for the tournament. Plus, we only had one 18-

year-old, and didn't have that kind of experience."

Matz is hoping the Owls' rely on their experience from last week, when they rallied from a first-round loss to North Parkland to win five straight games - including two Saturday - and earn their second straight Region 2 crown.

"I think they know now that the strength of this team can really show the longer we stay alive in these tournaments," Matz said.

West Lawn's main strength is a potent lineup led by Binder (.521, 68 RBIs), Josh Yocum (.421, 8 HR, 68 RBIs), Tony Cipolla (.438, 79 runs) and Eric Pettit (.438, 70 runs). Last week, the Owls scored a Region 2-record 89 runs in six games, breaking their previous mark of 80 set last summer.

But the team also has plenty of pitching depth in righties Mike Schaeffer (10-1), Brad Impink (6-0), Matt Fidler (7-0) and Cipolla (8-0). Over a 27-inning span from Friday

to Saturday, Schaeffer, Cipolla, Kyle Frees, Impink, Jon Rudisill and Fidler held The Birches and Muhlenberg to just 12 total runs.

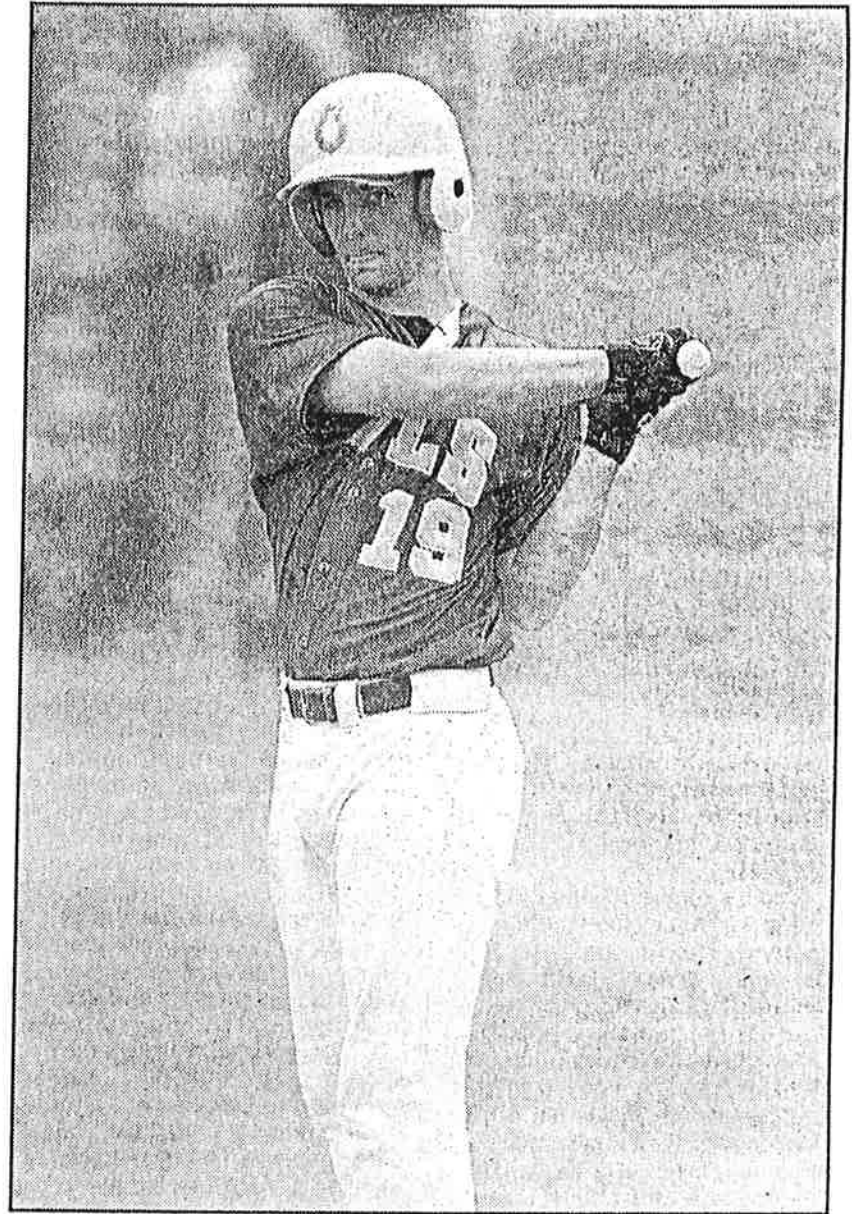
"We fought real hard to get here," Binder said, "and now we want to make the most of it."

State College, which routed DuBois 22-8 Friday for its third straight Region 7 title, features a dangerous lineup led by Penn State freshman Chris Wright (.586, 4 HRs in regionals), Andy Leakey (.619 in regionals), Asa Grunewald and Dave Wernecke, who had three homers and seven RBIs in Friday's earlier 23-11 rout of Bellefonte.

Paoli and Moon Township are each making their first state tournament appearances. Paoli stunned perennial power Yardley Western by winning two games (12-5, 17-10) for the Region 3 title Saturday, while Moon Township scored eight runs in the top of the ninth for a 14-10 victory over Mount Lebanon in the Region 6 final.

Montoursville, which beat Greater Pittston 19-10 for the Region 5 title Saturday, is making its third state appearance, including a second-place finish in 1987, when Mike Mussina was the staff ace.

Hanover is led by blue-chip lefty prospect Mark Phillips, who struck out 17 in Saturday's 11-1 Region 4 championship win over Quarryville. Hopewell, which defeated Linesville 9-2 for the Region 8 crown, is making its seventh state appearance since 1982, with its best finish third at Muhlenberg in 1994. St. Mary's (24-4), which went 2-2 in the Region 8 tourney and was eliminated by Hopewell, last qualified for states in 1991.



Eagle/Times: Ryan McFadden

West Lawn's Josh Yocum: .421 average, eight homers, 68 RBIs.

Heady, steady

Owls' Binder has a book on hitting

By Darryl Grumling

Eagle/Times

Trying to pick out a single play or performance that defines Brad Binder is almost as tough as trying to strike out the slugger West Lawn first baseman.

You could point to his five-RBI, three extra-base-hit effort in Saturday's Region 2 championship game win over The Birches.

You could look at any of the three five-hit games he has enjoyed this season. Or choose between one of the countless slick defensive stops he has made in the field.

But the one moment that probably best typifies Binder happened nearly three weeks ago, in the Owls' Berks Legion League playoff opener against Exeter.

In his first at-bat of the postseason, the lefty-swinging Binder

launched a three-run homer well over the right-field fence at Owls Field to officially christen West Lawn's playoff run.

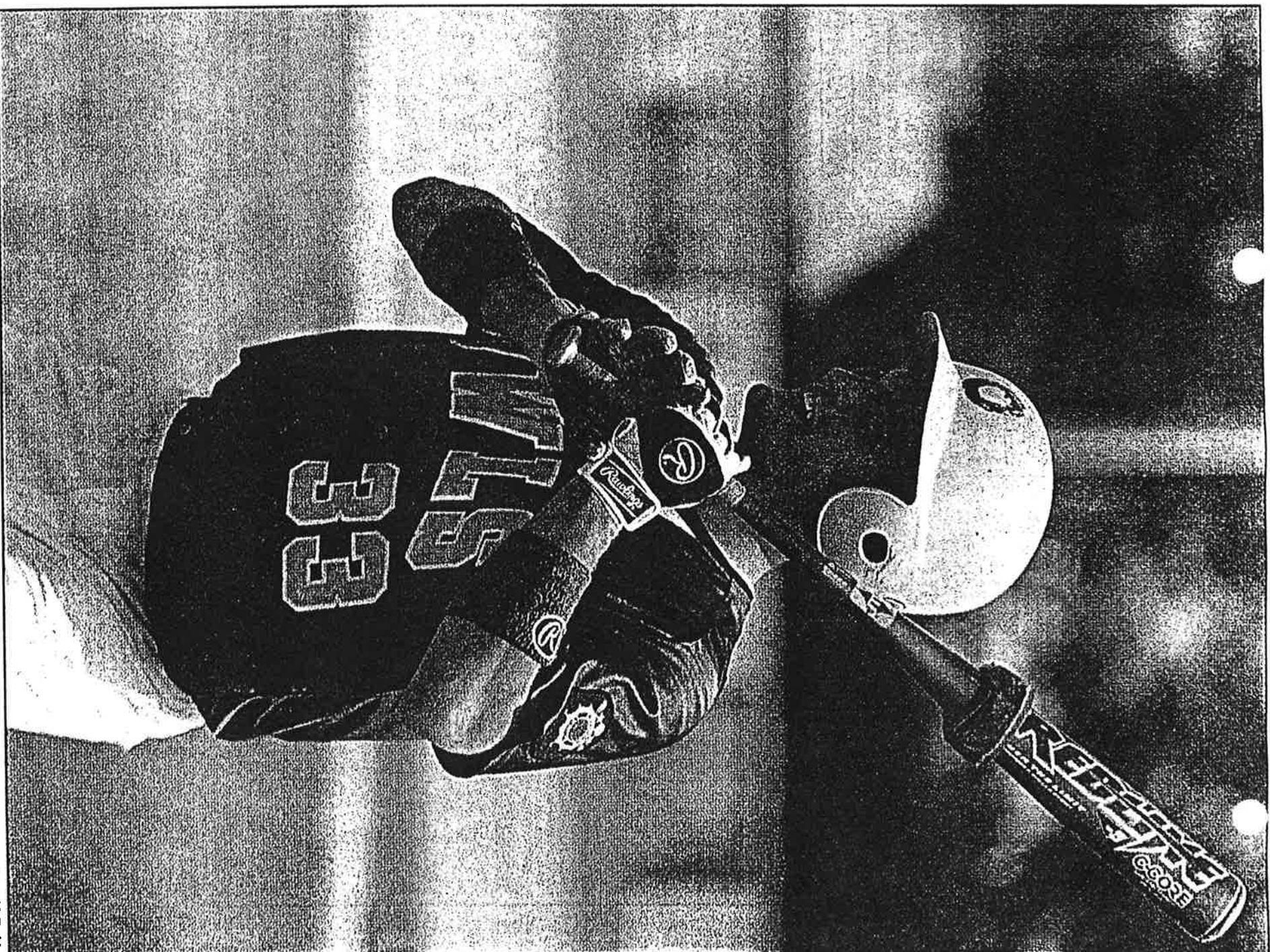
"That was the right way to get the playoffs under way," Binder said. "I was so fired up about the playoffs finally being here. It was time."

The last 11 games, during the Berks and Region 2 playoffs, definitely have been Binder's time to shine. Heading into today's Pennsylvania State Tournament opener against State College (46-6) at St. Mary's at 5:45 p.m., the three-year starter leads the team in average (.521), slugging percentage (.887), hits (74) and doubles (25), and he shares the team lead with Josh Yocum in RBIs (78).

"With Brad," said Owl's coach Tony Matz III, "there are no peaks and valleys, just a straight-across line."

OWLS OPENER

- **WHAT:** West Lawn's opening game in the double-elimination Pennsylvania Legion State Tournament.
- **OPONENT:** State College
- **WHEN:** 5:05 p.m. today
- **WHERE:** St. Mary's



West Lawn first baseman Brad Binder models his hitting approach after his hero, Philadelphia Phillies Hall of Fame third baseman Mike Schmidt.

See *Binder*, Page D3 ►

► Binder

Continued from Page D1

Line is a good term to use when speaking of Binder's hitting, which more often than not produces ropes to all parts of the field.

"I really don't try to hit homers," said Binder, who nonetheless has five of them. "I don't try to drive it out of the park. I try to hit it on a line."

Binder credits a lot of his hitting philosophy and intense focus at the plate to his idol growing up, former Phillies great Mike Schmidt.

"I have his book, *The Mike Schmidt Study*," Binder said. "It's basically my hitting bible. It's as in-depth a hitting book as I've ever

seen. He was my favorite player, but the frustrating thing is that I wanted to play third base like him, but I never could because I was left-handed."

Instead, Binder made the logical move to first, where he has been a mainstay for the Owls over the last three seasons.

"His fielding alone is just outstanding," Matz said. "I'm not just talking about picking the occasional ball in the dirt. Just the way he fields around the base is special. His fielding is arguably as good as I've ever seen at first base around here."

But what impresses most people about Binder is his overall presence in the batters box. Try to challenge him and he will turn on a fastball with ease. Try to pitch

him away and he will shoot the ball down the third-base line. And try to strike him out . . . It's been done just four times in 182 plate appearances this year.

"I'm really just trying to take what they give me," said Binder, who credited the rest of the lineup for giving him plenty of opportunities. "You know you're going to see a lot of good pitches when Yocum bats behind you, and with Regan (Carroll) and Eric (Pettit) on base all the time, there are a lot of chances to drive runs in."

There was once a chance that Binder would follow in the footsteps of his father, Rick, a standout basketball player and highly successful coach at Reading High who is the head coach at Steel-High. But Brad's enthusiasm for basket-

ball began to diminish, and by the time he reached high school he had already decided baseball was his sport.

"I played (basketball) up until ninth grade, but for whatever reason I just didn't really take to the sport," he said. "The way I looked at it, if I wanted to play a sport, I wanted to play it well."

And during his stellar Legion career with the Owls, Binder has played his chosen sport about as well as anyone.

Eagle/Times: Ryan McFadden

Dahlen shuts down West Lawn — again

■ For the second time this season, Hanover pitcher Don Dahlen beats the Owls, who face an elimination game.

By Darryl Grumling

Eagle/Times

ST. MARYS — At 5-11, 153 pounds, the bespectacled Don Dahlen isn't exactly the most imposing figure on the mound.

Heck, you'd figure the 18-year-old Hanover pitcher would more likely be keeping the scorebook than taking the hill for Wednesday's Pennsylvania State Tournament winners bracket semifinal against West Lawn.

To the Owls, however, Dahlen must've looked as if he had a giant 'S' on the front of his jersey.

Because for the second time this season, the side-arming right-hander did something that, in 47 games, only four other pitchers have accomplished once — earn a victory over West Lawn.

Dahlen struck out four and allowed nine hits over seven-plus innings before turning it over to ace Mark Phillips, who locked down a 4-1 victory at Berwind Park.

"It was really frustrating all day," Owls first baseman Brad Binder said. "But we just have to put it behind us and keep fighting."

Region 4 champion Hanover (25-3) advances to tonight's 7:35 p.m. winners bracket final against Paoli, which beat Montoursville 12-4. Berks and Region 2 champ West Lawn (41-6) faces Region 8 champ Hopewell (29-7) in an elimination game today at 12:05 p.m.

"Our lineup had to give some support today, but we didn't get any," said Owls coach Tony Matz III, whose team was held to its lowest offensive output of the season. "We had to score more than one run against these guys."

West Lawn's Brad Impink gave Matz a complete-game effort, striking out six and scattering 11 hits. But the only support came in the bottom of the second, when Andy Hohl's two-out single to left scored Tony Cipolla to make it 1-0.

Hanover drew even in the third on a two-out RBI double by Jeremy Becker (3-

for-5), then went up to stay with a three-run third keyed by Phillips' long solo homer to right and Dahlen's two-run single.

That would prove to be enough for Dahlen (5-2), who had gone 8½ innings of an 8-5 non-league win over West Lawn in May. Changing speeds effectively and moving the ball all over the strike zone, he continued to confound a lineup that had averaged more than 15 runs over its past six games.

"Donny's got such a unique motion, and he's got a lot of movement on his ball," Hanover coach Troy Wentz said. "He won't get a lot of strikeouts, but not too many teams hit the ball well against him."

West Lawn finally seemed to solve Dahlen in the fifth, when Impink, Regan Carroll and Eric Pettit singled consecutively to load the bases with one out. Dahlen then fell behind Binder 3-0 before eventually getting him to hit into a 4-6-3 double play.

"That one took the biggest wind out of our sails," Matz said. "We didn't have many opportunities early, but we seemed close to getting him as the game went on."

The Owls finally chased Dahlen in the eighth, when Carroll and Pettit each singled to put runners on first and second with nobody out. But with Binder and Josh Yocum, both left-handers, coming up, Wentz immediately summoned Phillips, a blue-chip prospect whose fastball has been clocked in the low 90s.

Phillips, who preserved a three-run lead and escaped a two-on, one-out jam in the eighth inning of Tuesday's 6-1 victory over host St. Mary's, set the tone early by blowing away Binder on a 2-2 fastball. It was only the fifth time Binder had fanned in 199 plate appearances.

Then, after walking Yocum to load the bases, Phillips struck out Cipolla and got Shane Stacherski to ground to second to end the threat. He worked a perfect ninth.

"It was tough after seeing such a difference (than Dahlen)," Binder said. "Maybe if we see him (Phillips) from the beginning of the game, we could do something the second time around the lineup. Now our job is to just get the opportunity to see him again."

"We just have to come out ready to play tomorrow (today)," Matz said. "If we show any doubts, it could be an unfortunate way to end the season."

Legion

Pennsylvania State Tournament

At Berwind Park, St. Marys

Wednesday's results

Winners bracket: Hanover 4, West Lawn 1;

Paoli 12, Montoursville 4

Elimination games: Hopewell 3, Moon Township 0 (Moon Township eliminated); State College 3, St. Mary's 0, susp. rain.

Today's games

Suspended game: State College vs. St. Mary's, 9 a.m.

Elimination games: West Lawn vs. Hopewell, 12:05 p.m.; State College-St. Mary's winner vs. Montoursville, to follow.

Winners bracket final: Hanover vs. Paoli, 7:35 p.m.

HANOVER				WEST LAWN			
	ab	r	h bi		ab	r	h bi
Boyd 2b.	5	0	0	Canoll 3b	4	0	2 0
Kotula 3b	5	0	2	Pettit rf	4	0	2 0
Phillips lf	4	2	1 1	Binder 1b	3	0	1 0
Becker cf	5	1	3 1	J. Yocum cf	3	0	0 0
Selbert cf	3	0	1	Cipolla ss	4	1	2 0
Stevenson c	4	0	1	Stacherski #3	0	0	0 0
Smith 1b	3	1	1 0	Schultz c	4	0	0 0
Dahlen p	1	0	1 2	Hohl 2b	4	0	1 1
Gartrell lf	0	0	0	Impink p	3	0	1 0
Noel ss	4	0	1	Shipe ph	1	0	0 0
Totals	34	4	11 4	Totals	33	1	9 1

Hanover.....001 030 000-4 11 0

West Lawn.....010 000 000-1 9 1

E: Pettit. LOB: Hanover 9, West Lawn 8.

DP: Hanover 1, West Lawn 1. 2B: Becker,

Kotula. HR: Phillips. SB: Smith. CS:

Binder. SH: Dahlen 2, Siebert.

IP H R ER BB SO

Hanover

Dahlen, W 7 9 1 1 1 4

Phillips, S 2 0 0 0 1 4

West Lawn

Impink, L 9 11 4 4 3 6

WP: Impink 2.

T: 2:28

Owls rally for 'huge' win

■ West Lawn overcomes a 6-0 deficit and stuns tournament favorite State College in a 10-inning thriller.

By Darryl Grumling

Eagle/Times

ST. MARY'S — As West Lawn shortstop Tony Cipolla ranged across the second-base bag, fielded Justin Callahan's grounder and fired to first for the final out, no one knew quite how to celebrate the Owls' Pennsylvania State Tournament first-round victory Tuesday.

They didn't know whether to rejoice after a thrilling 8-7, 10-inning win over tournament favorite State College at

Berwind Park.

Or breathe a huge sigh of after reliever Mike Schaeffer escaped a bases-loaded situation in the bottom of the 10th.

Or simply check their collective

pulses after a heart-stopper worthy of a championship clash than opening day matchup.

"This," said Owls coach Tony Matz III, "was a huge momentum-builder."

Especially considering that Berks and Region 2 champion West Lawn (41-5) rallied from a 6-0 deficit after five innings to earn a spot in today's winners bracket final against Region 4 champion Hanover, which beat St. Mary's 6-1 Tuesday.

WEST LAWN
STATE COLLEGE

Eric Pettit's two-out single in the top of the 10th scored Andy Hohl with the go-ahead run as the Owls snapped a three-game losing streak in states dating back to 1992.

"This group of guys has been together since little league, and we've never given up until the final out," said Schaeffer (11-1), who struck out five and threw five innings of four-hit ball. "We never feel as if we're out of it."

Heading into the sixth, however, things didn't look too bright against State College (46-7), which has scored 102 runs in six regional games, has three college players on its roster and returns most of a team that advanced to the American Legion World Series last year.

Schaeffer, who didn't start, partly because he threw 14 2/3 innings in last week's Region 2 Tournament, and partly because the Owls f e l t junkballing righty Jon Rudisill could keep State College's aggressive lineup off-balance.

"When we took Rudy out (for Kyle Frees in the fifth) and we were down 3-0, I was still happy," Matz said. "Our objective was to cut the number of innings in this game down to like three or four. And when we got the lead, we had to bring in Mike."

State College got its lone run off Schaeffer in the seventh, when Pettit failed to make a diving catch on Asa Grunewald's two-out drive to right — resulting in a double — and Conklin (5-for-5, three RBIs) followed by lacing an RBI single.

But Schaeffer retired the next eight batters, then gutted it out after Conklin's single, Andy

Leakey's fielders choice, Dave Wernecke's single and pinch-hitter Dave Burkhardt's walk loaded the bases with two outs for the leadoff-hitting Callahan.

"Our kids didn't want to start two big tournaments losing the first game," said Matz, referring to last week's 7-4 first-round loss to North Parkland. "It was real important to get this one, especially for how much we used Mike. We lose a game like this, and it would have been a tough mood to change."



Josh Yocum

2-for-5, 2 RBIs

College's aggressive lineup off-balance.

See Owls, Page D5 ▶

WEST LAWN									
Carroll 3b	4b	1	0	2	2	Callahan d	4b	1	0
Pettit r	5	1	3	1	0	Wright ss	5	1	2
Binder lb	5	1	3	1	0	Rosman lb	4	3	2
Yocum c	5	1	2	2	0	Grunewald c	5	2	1
Knobels ss	4	1	0	0	0	Conklin r	5	1	5
Schaeffer r	4	1	0	0	0	Leakey 3b	4	0	1
Schulze c	5	2	2	1	0	Wernecke r	1	0	0
Hohl 2b	5	2	0	0	0	Werner p	2	0	0
Rudisill p	2	0	0	0	0	Weaver p	2	0	0
Frees p	0	0	0	0	0	Burkhardt ph	0	0	0
Shipe ph	1	0	1	1	0				
Zimmerman pr	0	1	0	0	0				
Schaeffer p	2	0	0	0	0				
Totals	45	8	16	7	0				
STATE COLLEGE									
Callahan d	4b	1	0	0	0				
Wright ss	5	1	2	1	0				
Rosman lb	4	3	2	1	0				
Grunewald c	5	2	1	0	0				
Conklin r	5	1	5	2	0				
Leakey 3b	4	0	1	0	0				
Wernecke r	1	0	0	0	0				
Werner p	2	0	0	0	0				
Weaver p	2	0	0	0	0				
Burkhardt ph	0	0	0	0	0				
Totals	42	7	13	6	0				

Seriously, Fidler lifts West Lawn

■ Matt Fidler's sideline humor has earned more reputation than his right arm recently. But on Thursday, the West Lawn Legion pitcher fires the Owls to the state tournament's final four.

By Daryl Grumling

Eagle/Times

ST. MARYS — For a guy who likes to make his teammates laugh, Matt Fidler hasn't had too much to smile about on the baseball field this summer.

"I've had a pretty rough season," admitted Fidler, a West Lawn Legion pitcher more known for his dugout comedy.

Fidler, the ace of the Owls' staff midway through last season, ended up being shut down with arm trouble early in the 1998 Berks playoffs and watched from the bench as his teammates earned their first Region 2 title.

Then, during scholastic baseball season this spring, as most of the Owls players were helping Wilson to the county championship, Fidler was toiling for a Holy Name team that finished 6-12 overall.

And finally, during most of his final Legion season this summer, the right-hander has lacked both control and consistency despite winning all seven of his decisions.

"To be honest, we score so many runs, it's hard to lose a game," Fidler explained. "And I haven't really been pitching against any of the stronger teams we've played."

Thursday afternoon, however, it was Fidler who got the ball for West Lawn's Pennsylvania State Tournament elimination game against Region 8 champion Hopewell.

And with the Owls' season on the line, it was Fidler who turned in his best performance in a long while to highlight a 10-3 victory at Berwind Park.

Fidler went the route for the first time this season, scattering 10 hits and striking out four, as Region 2 champion West Lawn (42-5) matched its franchise record for victories in advancing to the state tournament's final four. The Owls face Paoli, a 6-1 loser to Hanover Thursday night, today at 3:35 p.m.

"To come out in an elimination game like this and throw a solid game is a great feeling," Fidler said. "It was really the first time I felt in control of all of my pitches."

Fidler felt even more in control after the Owls staked him to a 5-0 lead in the first, when Brad Binder had a two-run triple, Josh Yocum had an RBI double, Andy Hohl had a run-scoring fielder's choice and Fidler had an RBI single.

And after a rocky bottom half of the first in which Hopewell (29-8) bunched together four straight hits for a run, Fidler never allowed the Region 8 champs a serious threat.

"Even in the first inning I knew I was throwing well," Fidler said. "I was throwing strikes, and actually throwing too many of them. After the inning, (pitching coach) Steve (Carroll) took me aside and told me to



WEST LAWN 10
HOPWELL 3

Matt Fidler

► West Lawn

Continued from Page C1

keep the ball off the plate 0-2 and 1-2."

Relievers Dan Nale and Ray Antonelli kept the Owls off the scoreboard for the next four innings as Hopewell crept within 5-2, but Dennis Zimmerman scored on an error on Hohl's double in the sixth and Dave Schultz drew a bases-loaded walk in the seventh for some breathing room.

Tony Cipolla then launched a two-run homer to left in the ninth inning. Schultz followed with a solo shot to almost the same spot to make it 10-2.

Fidler allowed a two-out RBI double to Sean Honeywill (4-for-5) before closing out the 145-pitch effort.

"Definitely one of the best performances I've seen from Matt," said Schultz, who drove in two runs and scored two. "He had everything working, and after the first inning he really pulled himself together."

Which pleased a lot of teammates, coaches and fans who had been pulling for the likeable Fidler.

"You've got to be happy for him," West Lawn coach Tony Matz III said. "Not only did he throw possibly his best game, he did it in a state tournament elimination

game."

Yocum and Eric Pettit were each 2-for-4 with two runs. Binder was 2-for-5 with two RBIs and Zimmerman and Hohl were each 2-for-5 as all nine starters contributed to a 14-hit attack. But on this day, the most valuable contribution for the Owls came from their pitcher.

"It was tough for me sitting through regionals and states last year," Fidler said. "And it's kind of tough knowing that I'm only going to throw once and a while from now on. But we've all got our roles, from 1-to-18 on this team, and everybody has to do his part."

Thursday, Fidler pitched in pretty nicely to help keep the season alive.

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Legion

Pennsylvania State Tournament

At Berwind Park, St. Marys
Thursday's results
State College 13, St. Marys 3, completion of Tuesday's suspended game (St. Marys eliminated)
West Lawn 10, Hopewell 3 (Hopewell eliminated)
State College 12, Montoursville 4 (Montoursville eliminated)
Hanover 6, Paoli 1
Today's games
West Lawn vs. Paoli, 3:35 p.m.
State College vs. Hanover, 7:35 p.m.

WEST LAWN				HOPWELL				
	dr	h	bl		dr	h	bl	
Carroll 3b	5	1	1	0	Keane c	3	1	0
T. Vocum lf	0	0	0	0	Honeywill p	5	2	4
Pettit rf	4	2	2	0	Nale 3b	5	0	1
Binder 1b	5	1	2	2	Poduszny lf	4	0	1
J. Vocum cf	4	2	2	1	Antonelli rf	4	0	2
Cipolla ss	3	1	1	2	Keenan ss	3	0	0
Schultz c	3	2	1	2	Duganich 1b	3	0	2
Zimmerman 1b	1	2	0		Stalder 2b	4	0	0
Dierrich pr	0	0	0	0	Meerick cf	0	0	0
Hohl 2b	5	0	2	1	Bucsek 3b	1	0	0
Fidler p	5	0	1	1	Gueren rf	3	0	0
Totals	39	10	14	9	Totals	35	10	3
West Lawn: 500007103-10140				Hopewell: 100010007-3103				
E. Bukauskas, Guentz, Keenan, LOR: West Lawn 8, Hopewell 9, DP: West Lawn 1, 2B: Hohl 2, J. Vocum 2, Binder: Antonelli 2, Duganich: Honeywill 3B: Hopewell, Hf: Cipolla, Schultz S: Cipolla, SS: Carroll 3, Cipolla, Pettit CS: Hohl, Pettit.								
West Lawn	P	H	R	ER	BB	SC		
Fidler lf	9	10	3	3	4	4		
Hopewell	3	3	3	4	4	0		
Honeywill L	0	4	4	0	0	0		
Nale	0	4	0	2	1	1		
Antonelli	6	9	5	4	2	3		
HBP: by Nale (Pettit), by Antonelli (Cipolla), 1: 234.								

See West Lawn, Page C3 ►

Owls win a perfect gift

■ Josh Yocum gets his birthday wish: a victory over Paoli in a Pennsylvania State Legion tournament elimination game.

By Darryl Grumling

Eagle/Times

ST. MARYS — Josh Yocum had a few words of advice for his West Lawn Legion teammates prior to Friday's Pennsylvania State Tournament elimination game.

against Paoli.

"I told them I didn't want to go home disappointed, especially today," said Yocum, who turned 19 Friday.

Thanks to a gutsy performance from ace Mike Schaeffer, a 14-hit attack led by Tony Cipolla and Shane Stacherski, and a strong defensive effort spearheaded by Cipolla at shortstop, the Owls gave Yocum his birthday wish with an 11-8 victory at Bervind Park.

Yocum, the team's standout center fielder, got the final three outs and pitched out of a two-out, two-on situation in the

bottom of the ninth to preserve the win. Berks and Region 2 champion West Lawn (43-5) advanced to today's final round of the double-elimination tournament.

The Owls, who set a franchise record for wins in a season, face Region 7 champion State College (49-7) at 1:05 p.m. The winner earns a national regional tournament spot and faces Region 4 champion Hanover (26-4) for the state championship 30 minutes later.

"I guess you could say this is a pretty nice birthday present," said Yocum, who made his first pitching appearance since

the Berks playoffs last month. "A couple of weeks ago, I was just hoping we'd still be playing now."

The Owls have kept playing thanks to a multifaceted attack to which nearly everyone on the roster has contributed.

Friday, the right-handed Schaeffer got the call on two days rest against Region 3 champ Paoli (35-7), which countered with ace lefty Scott Burchow, who had thrown eight innings of shutout ball in Tuesday's 14-0 victory over Hopewell.

See West Lawn, Page D3 ▶

▶ West Lawn

Continued from Page D1

The Cardinals got two runs off Schaeffer in the second when Brian Threadgill tripled in a run and scored on Josh Pezzotti's sacrifice fly. But the Owls answered by sending 10 batters to the plate in a five-run third. Dave Schultz's two-run single put them up to stay at 4-2.

Cipolla (3-for-4, three runs) doubled and scored on a single by Stacherski (3-for-5, three RBIs) in a three-run fifth that made it 8-2. Then, after the Cardinals got one back in their half and threatened to do more damage in the sixth and seventh innings, Cipolla and second baseman Andy Hohl turned double plays to blunt both rallies.

"Our defense has been outstanding all year," West Lawn coach Tony Matz III said. "Some people may overlook it, but we certainly don't. It's definitely been a big key to our success."

So has the 16-year-old Schaeffer (12-1), who struck out five, scattered 10 hits and pitched into the ninth for his second state-tourney win.

"Mike didn't have his best stuff," Matz said, "but he had enough to get by."

With the Owls up 11-5, Matz lifted Schaeffer after Brad Haas and Eric Hoffman singled to open the ninth. Yocum then walked Greg Feiner to load the bases before Ken Elder hit a fielders choice to drive in one run and Threadgill doubled in another to make it 11-7.

But Yocum then hustled off the mound to snare Pezzotti's dribbler down the first-base line before it went foul and tagged Pezzotti for a huge out. Then, after Mitch Hoffman singled in another run, Yocum got Joe Kelly to pop out to third base-

man Regan Carroll to end it. "I just wanted to be out there and end it," Yocum said. Which he did to help the Owls continue their winningest season ever.

WEST LAWN									
ab	r	h	b						
Carroll 3b	5	1	2	1	0	0	0	0	0
Penit r	4	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Brider 1b	5	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
J. Yocum cf	5	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0
Cipolla ss	4	3	3	1	0	0	0	0	0
Schultz c	3	1	1	2	0	0	0	0	0
Stacherski lf	5	1	3	3	0	0	0	0	0
Zimmerman if	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Schaeffer p	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Hohl 2b	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
T. Yocum cf	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	38	11	14	13					
West Lawn	.....	005							
Paoli	.....	020							
E. E. Hoffman, LOB: West Lawn 6, Paoli 10. DP: West Lawn 2, Paoli 1, 2B: Cipolla 2, Schaeffer 2, A. Hoffman, Threadgill, SB: Threadgill, SB: Carroll, SH: Hohl, Burchow, SF: Pezzotti.									
PAOLI									
ab	r	h	b						
A. Hoffman cf	4	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Haas r	4	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
E. Hoffman ss	4	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Feiner 1b	4	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
Elder 3b	4	2	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
Threadgill lf	5	1	2	2	0	0	0	0	0
Pezzotti c	3	1	1	2	0	0	0	0	0
Burchow p	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
M. Hoffman r	4	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Kelly 2b	4	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	35	8	12	7					
West Lawn	.....	032							
Paoli	.....	021							
E. E. Hoffman, LOB: West Lawn 6, Paoli 10. DP: West Lawn 2, Paoli 1, 2B: Cipolla 2, Schaeffer 2, A. Hoffman, Threadgill, SB: Threadgill, SB: Carroll, SH: Hohl, Burchow, SF: Pezzotti.									
IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO				
Burchow L	8	10	7	7	6	5			
Paoli	1	2	1	1	1	0			
West Lawn	Schaeffer W, 12-1								
Paoli									
Elder	8	12	10	6	3	3			
WP: Burchow 2, HBP: by Burchow (Cipolla), by Schaeffer (M. Hoffman), BK: Schaeffer, T: 2:45.									

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SPORTS

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SECTION

D

Bad start finishes West Lawn

Early failures lead to Owls' state ouster

By Darryl Grumling

Eagle/Times

ST. MARYS - The first two innings Saturday afternoon gave a pretty good indication of what kind of day it would be for West Lawn's Legion team.

STATE COLLEGE	9
WEST LAWN	0

In the bottom of the first inning of a Pennsylvania State Tournament elimination game against State College, the Owls had the bases loaded, nobody out and a golden opportunity to take command in what amounted to a national regional qualifier.

Surprisingly, West Lawn came up empty.

Ditto for the second inning, when an ill-advised squeeze attempt turned into a double play that killed a first-and-third, one-out threat.

"Two very important innings we didn't cash in on," Owls coach Tony Matz III said.

As well as two innings that set the tone for a 9-0 loss at Berwind Park and ended West Lawn's season one win shy of the state championship game and a national regional berth.

In the state final later Saturday, Don Dahlen went 8 1/2 strong innings and ace lefty Mark Phillips got the final out in his fourth appearance of the tourney as Hanover defeated State College 7-5 for its first Pennsylvania crown.

Region 4 champion Hanover (27-4) will advance to the Great

Lakes Region 5 Tournament in Midland, Mich., this week. Region 7 champ State College (50-8) will participate in the Mid-Atlantic Region 2 Tournament at Morgantown, W.Va.

The Berks and Region 2 champion Owls, meanwhile, finished 43-6, their winningest season in the 45-year history of the franchise.

Right-hander Aaron Tressler settled down after early trouble to strike out eight on a four-hit shutout — the first against West Lawn this season — and Kevin Conklin went 3-for-4 with a game-turning grand slam that broke a scoreless tie in the fifth inning.

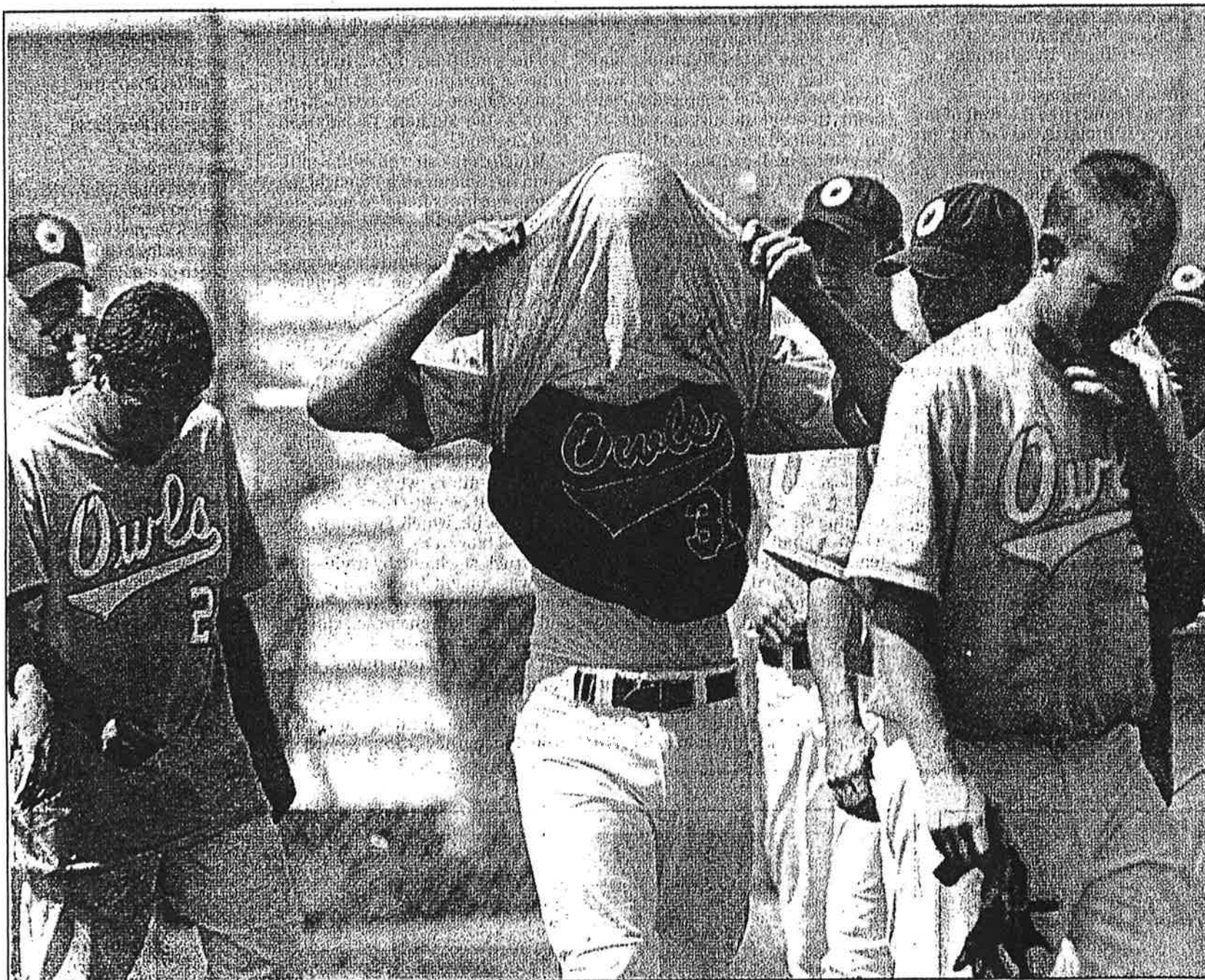
The momentum, however, may have begun to swing toward the Region 7 champs even earlier, after Regan Carroll walked and stole second, Eric Pettit reached on a sacrifice/error and Brad Binder drew a walk to load the bases for the dangerous Josh Yocum in West Lawn's first inning.

But Tressler struck out Yocum, got Tony Cipolla to hit into a force at home and induced Dave Schultz to line out to second to end the threat.

"It's hard to believe we couldn't get anything out of that," Matz said.

The Owls also didn't get anything in the second, after Andy Hohl looped a one-out double down the left-field line and moved to third on Denny Zimmerman's bunt single.

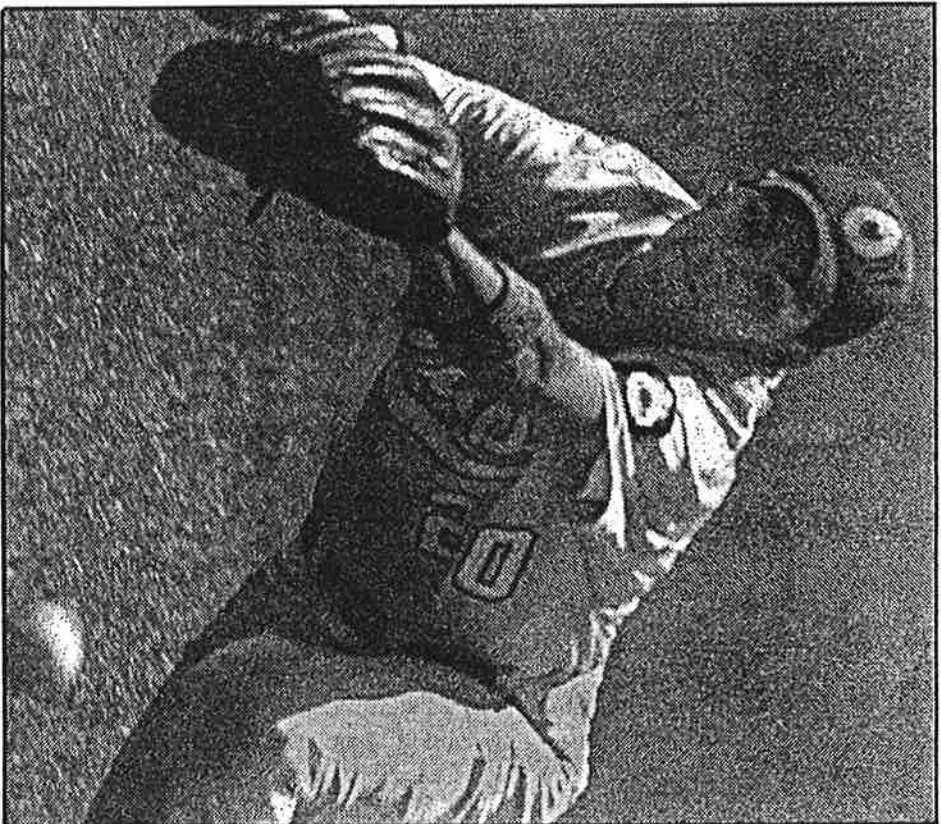
See Owls, Page D9 ▶



Eagle/Times: Tony Florini

West Lawn players dejectedly leave the field at St. Marys after their 9-0 loss to State College in the state Legion tournament.

■ Owls leave a rich legacy despite today's loss. Page D9



Eagle/Times: Tony Florini

West Lawn shortstop Shane Stacherski dives for, but misses a ground ball during Saturday's 9-0 loss to State College.

► OWLS

Continued from Page D1

Matz called for the squeeze with leadoff man Carroll up, but Carroll popped it up beyond the mound. Tressler made a leaping grab and threw to third to double up Hohl.

"I had my mind made up they'd get one or two for sure in the first," State College coach John Carfley said. "Then when they botched the squeeze in the second, it think it affected them. We kept dodging bullets."

Unfortunately for the Owls, starter Cipolla couldn't dodge one in the fifth, after shortstop Shane Stacherski couldn't handle Asa Grunewald's hard one-hopper with two outs for what was ruled an error.

Cipolla pitched around No. 3 hitter Chris Wright, who had six homers and 16 RBIs in the tourney's first four days, walking him on a 3-1 pitch.

That brought up the lefty-swinging Conklin, who jumped on the first pitch and hit a towering blast to right to make it 4-0. It was the seventh straight hit

against the Owls for Conklin, a sophomore-to-be at Lock Haven who had gone 5-for-5 in Tuesday's 8-7, 10-inning loss to West Lawn.

Tressler (13-1), a senior-to-be at State College High, then began to settle in, at one point retiring 13 straight and 18-of-19 batters.

"As the game went on," said Yocum, "you could see it start to slip away."

During the final innings, it became apparent to everyone that there would be no repeat of Tuesday's game, in which the Owls rallied from a 6-0 deficit after five innings.

"I don't think anybody believed in *deja vu* today," Matz said.

Justin Callahan (3-for-5, three runs) had a two-run double and Wright had an RBI double in a three-run sixth. State College tacked on single runs off reliever Kyle Frees in the final two innings in advancing to its second straight state final.

"We didn't score when we had the opportunities early, and they got four runs (in the fifth) after they had two outs and nobody on," Matz said. "That's two opposite ends of the spectrum, and it wound up being pretty unfortunate for us."

Owls leave a rich legacy

■ Despite Saturday's finish, this West Lawn group set a very high standard.

By Darryl Grumling

Eagle/Times

ST. MARYS — Tony Matz III paused for a few moments, then looked upward, trying to choose his final speech to the West Lawn Legion team.

The Owls coach was having a hard time saying goodbye to the most accomplished squad of his 13 years at the helm.

A team that won its first Berks Legion championship in eight years.

A team that won its second straight Region 2 title.

A team that went 43-6 to set a franchise victory for victories in a season.

And a team, after Saturday's 9-0 loss to State College, that finished third in a state that has more than 500 American Legion baseball teams.

"Nobody wanted it to end like this," he said to the group of 18 players huddled behind the third-base dugout at Berwind Park. "But some time down the road, all of you are going to look back on this and remember it for the rest of your lives."

What most of the Owls will immediately remember from Saturday's game was the fact that State College's Aaron Tressler threw a four-hit shutout to end their season one win shy of a berth in national regionals, as well as the state final.

But as time goes on, they will likely focus more on the chemistry, camaraderie and unique combination of talent and tenacity that carried the team to eight straight elimination victories during the Region 2 and Pennsylvania tournaments.

"This was just a great group of guys," star center fielder Josh Yocum said moments after tearfully embracing Matz. "I just wish I could keep playing with them. Everything was just so special this year—the players, the coaches and the fans."

With the standout duo of Yocum and Brad Binder heading a list of seven final-year starters, the Owls

were likewise a special group for Matz.

"This was definitely a team that raised the bar," Matz said. "I always looked back on the 1992 team (which went 42-12 and finished fourth in the state) as my best team, but these guys just moved the bar a little higher."

What made the ride even more enjoyable for Matz and company was the multitude of contributors to a dangerous lineup, deep pitching staff and experience-laden dugout.

From potent hitters Tony Cipolla and Shane Stacherski, to gritty table-setters Regan Carroll and Eric Pettit, to the solid mound quartet of Mike Schaeffer, Brad Impink, Matt Fidler and Jon Rudisill, to the unheralded threesome of Andy Hohl, Dave Schultz and Dennis Zimmerman, the Owls were a team in every sense of the word.

One that didn't flinch despite extremely lofty expectations after losing just one player from last season's Region 2 champion team.

One that went 20-2 in methodically rolling to the Berks West championship, then won 4-of-5 games — culminating in an 11-1 victory over Muhlenberg — to earn its fifth Berks League title.

One that bounced back from a first-round loss to North Parkland in state regionals to win five straight games and successfully defend its Region 2 crown.

And, finally, one that went a very respectable 2-2 in its fourth state tournament appearance — the two losses coming to eventual champion Hanover and runner-up State College.

"What these guys did is an outstanding achievement," said Matz, who will rely on top returners Cipolla, Schaeffer and Pettit to keep his highly successful program rolling. "We certainly weren't gunning for third place, and it's disappointing to finish one game away from national regionals, but when everybody looks back on this season, I think they'll find it very acceptable."

"We made a run at it," said Binder. "You can't ask for much more, getting to the last day with a chance to win the state title."

Legion

State Tournament

At St. Mary's

SATURDAY'S RESULTS
State College 9, West Lawn 0 (West Lawn eliminated)

Hanover 7, State College 5

STATE COLLEGE	WEST LAWN
ab r h bi	ab r h bi
Callahan d 5 3 3 2	Carroll 3b 3 0 0 0
Grunewald c 5 1 1 0	Pettit rf 3 0 0 0
Wright ss 4 1 1 1	Binder 1b 3 0 1 0
Conklin 1b 4 1 3 4	Yocum d 4 0 0 0
Carroll 1b 0 0 0 0	Cipolla p 4 0 1 0
Carter lf 0 0 0 0	Schaeffer 4 0 0 0
Rosenman 1b 4 0 0 0	Stacherski ss 3 0 0 0
Burkholder 1b 0 0 0 0	Hohl 2b 3 0 1 0
Vernecke ss 5 1 2 0	Zimmerman 1b 2 0 1 0
Leahy 2b 3 1 2 1	Shoop lf 1 0 0 0
Waltz 2b 4 0 0 0	Frees p 1 0 0 0
Tressler p 29 8 15 8	Totals 30 8 15 8
State College 000 043 011-9 15-1	
West Lawn 000 000 000-0 4-1	
E: Tressler, Stacherski, LOB: State College 10, West Lawn 8, DP: State College 1, West Lawn 2, 2B: Callahan 2, Waltz, Vernecke, Wright, Cipolla, Hohl, HR: Conklin, SB: Callahan, Carroll, St. Roseman, Tressler, Pettit.	
IP H R ER BB SO	
State College 9 4 0 0 3 9	
Tressler W, 3-1	
West Lawn 7 10 7 3 4 1	
Cipolla L, 8-1	
Frees 2 5 2 2 0 0	
HBP: by Cipolla (Waltz), by Tressler (Hohl), 1-2, OOB.	

High scores, high hopes

Berks Legion League has another season to remember

It was a summer of high temperatures, high scores and, once again, high achievement for the Berks Legion League.

The parched local fields and dried-up pitching staffs contributed to plenty of sluggers and double-digit-run shootouts around the county. But while classic pitching duels were about as rare as rainfall over the last three months, there was certainly no shortage of memorable moments.

Here's a look at some of them: **■ Outstanding Owls:** West Lawn's program had plenty to hoot about in a season that saw the Owls establish a team record for victories in a season, win their fifth Berks title, repeat as Region 2 champions and qualify for the state tournament for the fourth time in franchise history.

Led by lefty sluggers Josh Vocum and Brad Binder, West Lawn (43-6) went 20-2 to win the Western Division title, defeated Muhlenberg 11-1 in the Berks championship and routed The Birches 22-3 in the most lopsided Region 2 final in the 25-year history of the tournament.

■ Amazing As: West Lawn might have been the league's top team, but Berks runner-up Muhlenberg had to be the story of the summer. After going 13-9 in what can diplomatically be described as a mediocre league campaign, the As turned it on in the postseason to make coach Dick Gochman's 30th season one of his most special.

Muhlenberg opened the Berks playoffs by shocking Shillington 4-3, then knocked off West Lawn and Boyertown to advance to the league final and qualify for the Region 2 Tournament, where the As went a very respectable 3-2 in finishing third.

■ Best of the rest: Boyertown came with in one strike of advancing to the Region 2 Tournament before becoming a victim of the Bears' postseason magic. The Bears saw their season come to its earliest end since 1973, but also finished a very respectable 34-13.

Shillington went 20-2 in league play to the West Lawn and Boyertown for the season's best record, but the Red Sox wound up losing 3-0-8 after a 21-2 start in the earliest in coach Bob Houck's highly successful six-year tenure.

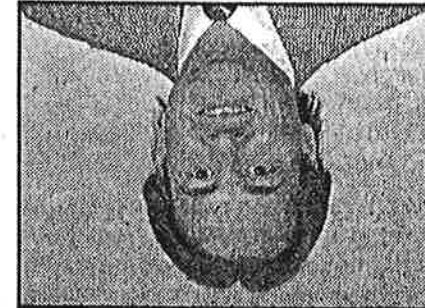
■ Pitcher of the year: Boyertown's Chase Roth, a 17-year-old right-hander who became the stopper, compiled a 10-0 record with two saves and a 1.09 ERA and 121 strikeouts in 98.1 innings.

Just ask Shillington, which lost just five games — three at the hands of Roth. **■ Top performance:** Exeter's Zach Taylor blasting three homers in an 11-9 Berks playoff win over Reading at George Field. Other candidates were the regular-season three-homer games of Birdsboro's Jeremy Wunderlich, the eight-RBI games of Reading's Steve Randolph, Hamburg's Terry Snyder and Hamburg's Zane Kershner, and the 16-strikeout game of Boyertown's Chase Roth in a win over Fleetwood.

■ Game of the year: In terms of importance, clutch play and sheer drama, West Lawn's 10-inning, 8-7 victory over State College in a Pennsylvania State Tournament first-round game couldn't be topped.

LEGION WRAPUP

DARRYL GRUMLING



appeared to have the makings of a playoff qualifier in the preseason, but nobody could have predicted that the White Sox would be the league's hottest team over the second half of the regular season. Led by the tandem of Jeff Soto and Steve Randolph, the White Sox won their final 12 league games under first-year coach Chad Denuzio to qualify for the Berks playoffs for the first time in five years.

■ Player of the year: No player did more both at the plate and on the mound than Birdsboro's Jeremy Wunderlich, who hit .496 with eight homers, 45 RBIs, 14 doubles and a .957 slugging percentage while posting a 4-3 mark with 45 strikeouts in 44.1 innings pitching mainly against the league's top teams.

Other candidates were West Lawn's Brad Binder and Josh Vocum, Boyertown's Jared Trout, Reading's Jeff Soto and Oley's Jared Lydon, the lone Berks representative in the East-West game.

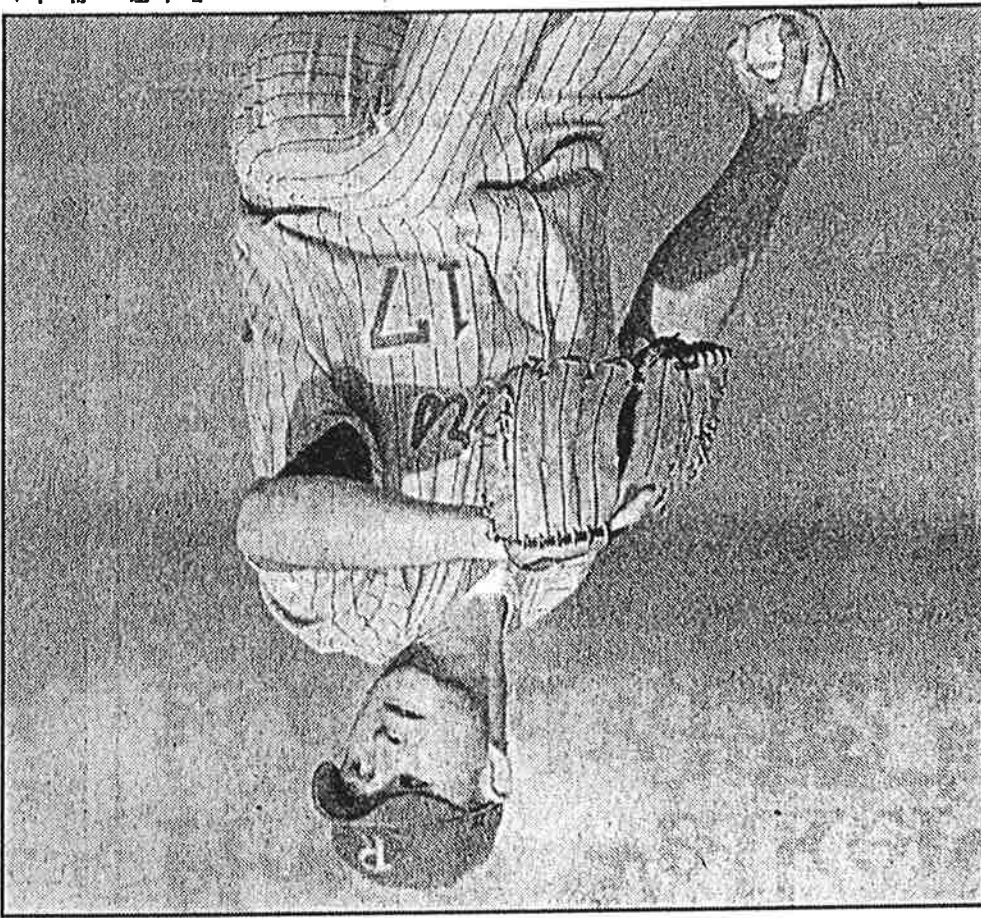
■ Rookie of the year: West Lawn's Mike Schaeffer assumed the role of staff ace for the Owls and came up huge in the postseason. The 16-year-old right-hander threw three innings of shutout relief to nail down a winners bracket final victory over Boyertown and went the route on a five-hitter in the final in the Berks playoffs and earned two victories in the state tournament.

■ Pitcher of the year: Boyertown's Chase Roth, a 17-year-old right-hander who became the stopper, compiled a 10-0 record with two saves and a 1.09 ERA and 121 strikeouts in 98.1 innings.

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■ Game of the year: In terms of importance, clutch play and sheer drama, West Lawn's 10-inning, 8-7 victory over State College in a Pennsylvania State Tournament first-round game couldn't be topped.

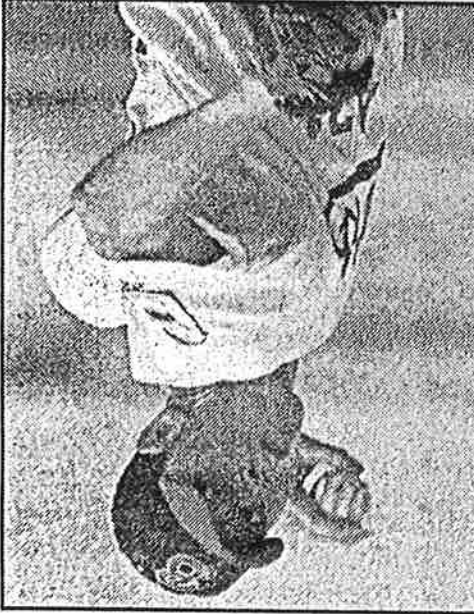
The Owls rallied from a 3-0 deficit to beat the Red Sox 8-7 in a game that was as dramatic as it was exciting. The game was played in a rain-soaked field at 6:10 p.m. and was the first of a two-game series between the two teams.



Jeremy Wunderlich went 4-3 on the mound for Birdsboro. At the plate, he batted .496 with eight home runs and 45 RBIs with a .957 slugging percentage.



Eagle/Times file photo



Eagle/Times file photo

ERA for Boyertown. Chase Roth went 10-0 with a 1.09 ERA for Boyertown. **■ Best coming attractions:** Muhlenberg, which hosts the 2000 state tournament, and Boyertown, which hosts the 2000 Mid-Atlantic National Regional, should each have very representative squads in the respective tournaments. **■ The As:** led by Jason Reinhart, Matt Nye and Nate Guers, will have the core of their team that finished second in the 1998 Junior Legion State Tournament. **■ The Bears:** with top three pitchers Chase Roth, Jared Trout and Nick Allen returning, are always tough to beat in their home fair. **■ And don't forget about Shillington,** which returns all but three players and will have several additions from this year's Junior Legion Eastern Regional championship team. **■ Darryl Grumling is the Eagle/Times Legion baseball beat writer. To comment, call Eagle Link at 610-376-6000, category 3010.**

BERKS LEGION STATISTICS

(Final)

(League games only)

INDIVIDUAL BATTING

	AB	R	H	HR	RBI	SB	AVG
Brad Binder, West Lawn	64	41	37	4	30	6	.578
Tommy Krick, Hamburg	47	17	28	6	23	3	.553
Jeremy Wunderlich, Birdsboro	85	35	46	7	37	4	.541
Tony Cipolla, West Lawn	72	50	38	3	30	1	.528
Steve Coteliese, Oley	95	31	46	0	23	9	.484
Dan Batz, Shillington	87	34	42	4	34	9	.483
George Kressley, Tipton	77	21	36	11	33	0	.468
Larry Fricker, Kutztown	86	25	40	4	32	6	.465
Brandon DeWald, Shillington	72	33	33	2	32	7	.458
Zach Taylor, Exeter	97	37	44	2	25	4	.454
Nick Evangelista, Hamburg	88	28	39	3	22	6	.443
Jon Runkle, Birdsboro	79	15	35	1	21	4	.443
John Woram, Exeter	86	32	39	3	26	3	.442
D.J. Hoshauer, Hamburg	85	30	37	6	36	0	.435
Ryan Negri, Fleetwood	97	30	42	6	33	2	.433
Jordan Hartline, Boyertown	65	26	28	1	24	18	.431
Shane Stachurski, West Lawn	70	22	30	1	28	1	.429
Jared Trout, Boyertown	96	38	41	4	29	20	.427
Terry Snyder, Hamburg	92	33	39	1	39	11	.424
Kyle Hoffman, Oley	78	29	38	2	31	3	.418
Pat Miller, Shillington	64	20	27	1	25	6	.422
Dave Schultz, Wilson	67	27	28	2	31	3	.418
Jason Miller, Exeter	91	24	38	3	29	1	.418
Brad Kepley, Birdsboro	92	36	38	2	24	10	.413
Chase Roth, Boyertown	63	23	26	1	18	4	.413
Mark Stutfield, Exeter	80	19	33	1	12	7	.413
Steve Randolph, Reading	80	23	33	0	24	4	.413
Dan Weber, Shillington	71	27	29	3	26	4	.408
Josh Yocum, West Lawn	77	42	31	4	27	1	.403
Jason Reinhart, Muhlenberg	92	35	37	4	25	17	.402
Seth Guida, Exeter	40	6	16	0	10	0	.400
Jeff Soto, Reading	91	26	36	7	29	2	.396
Jared Lydon, Oley	84	27	33	1	27	7	.393
Zane Kershner, Hamburg	79	20	31	2	24	2	.392
Andre Folk, Fleetwood	97	15	38	5	31	1	.392
Joel Rush, Conrad Weiser	82	13	32	2	21	0	.390
Brian Battler, Fleetwood	88	26	34	0	12	2	.386
Lyle Loeb, Boyertown	73	19	28	0	16	3	.384
Brad Kemp, Tipton	63	16	24	1	7	3	.381
Justin Holland, Shillington	84	30	32	4	23	12	.381
Matt Burkhardt, Exeter	58	12	22	0	17	0	.379
Kraig Kemp, Muhlenberg	85	26	32	1	17	6	.376
Justin Templin, Fleetwood	96	21	36	1	24	4	.375
Brett Sweigart, Shillington	64	21	24	2	22	5	.375
Rob Galloway, Boyertown	40	9	15	0	7	2	.375
Kyle Faust, Shillington	91	32	34	3	27	9	.374
Luke Bricker, Kutztown	75	19	28	0	14	6	.373
Jim Kelly, Reading	70	25	26	0	14	8	.371
Mike Gillis, Gregg Post	89	18	33	2	19	0	.371
Mike Nowaczynski, Gregg Post	54	16	20	2	18	1	.370
Jeff Harner, Schuylkill Valley	76	10	28	0	11	1	.368
Brandon Mason, Boyertown	68	32	25	0	15	17	.368
Jordan Walsh, Boyertown	77	23	28	0	23	5	.364
Eric Pettit, West Lawn	69	15	25	1	22	12	.362
Brian Miller, Reading	97	24	35	0	17	5	.361
Matt Sola, Oley	50	22	18	2	16	2	.360
Matt Redcay, Reading	92	35	33	0	22	14	.359
Andy Hohl, West Lawn	62	18	22	1	11	2	.355
Drew Hoffman, Boyertown	62	16	22	2	17	3	.355
Tony Reigel, Exeter	48	13	17	1	6	0	.354
Brian Werley, Tipton	57	17	20	1	8	3	.351
Matt Keller, Fleetwood	57	18	20	1	9	1	.351
Dave Demko, Exeter	103	32	36	7	25	3	.350
Dave Seltzer, Gregg Post	52	6	18	0	10	0	.346
Mitch Schueck, Boyertown	76	19	26	0	10	10	.342
Joe Faller, Muhlenberg	79	26	27	3	22	15	.342
Nat Harrison, Hamburg	82	20	28	1	11	6	.341
Dave Kazmierczak, Weiser	50	12	17	0	4	0	.340
Kevin Yarnall, Conrad Weiser	53	12	18	0	7	0	.340
Brad Hiester, Gregg Post	51	11	17	0	9	1	.333
Gerry Werner, Birdsboro	72	20	21	3	28	5	.333
Jake Kutz, Kutztown	72	10	24	0	19	0	.333
Randy Pitts, Wyomissing	88	15	29	1	18	0	.330
Regan Carroll, West Lawn	82	36	27	0	19	24	.329
Rich Shappell, Hamburg	79	19	26	2	15	1	.329



Brad Binder Chase Roth

BERKS LEGION LEAGUE ALL-STARS

Player, team	Age	HR	RBI	SB	AVG
Dan Batz, Shillington	17	4	34	9	.483
Brad Binder, West Lawn	18	4	30	6	.578
Tony Cipolla, West Lawn	17	3	30	1	.528
Brandon DeWald, Shillington	17	2	23	7	.458
Nick Evangelista, Hamburg	17	3	22	6	.443
Jared Lydon, Oley	17	1	27	7	.393
Kraig Kemp, Muhlenberg	18	1	17	6	.376
Tommy Krick, Hamburg	18	6	23	3	.553
Steve Randolph, Reading	18	0	24	4	.413
Jason Reinhart, Muhlenberg	17	4	25	17	.402
Chase Roth, Boyertown	17	1	18	4	.413
Jeff Soto, Reading	18	7	29	2	.396
Zach Taylor, Exeter	18	2	25	4	.454
Jared Trout, Boyertown	17	4	29	20	.427
Jeremy Wunderlich, Birdsboro	18	7	37	4	.541
Josh Yocum, West Lawn	18	4	27	1	.403

AWARDS

League champion: West Lawn.
 East division champ: (tie) Boyertown and Shillington.
 West division champ: West Lawn.
 Team sportsmanship award: Schuylkill Valley.
 Most valuable player: Brad Binder, West Lawn.
 Outstanding pitcher award: Chase Roth, Boyertown.
 League batting champ: Brad Binder, West Lawn.

Nick Allen, Boyertown	76	21	25	1	18	10	.329
Scott Steltzer, Fleetwood	52	8	17	1	7	2	.327
Nate Leck, Oley	83	22	27	0	16	8	.325
Charlie Werner, Birdsboro	40	13	13	0	8	2	.325
Brady Kidd, Wyomissing	62	20	20	1	11	10	.323
Matt Nye, Muhlenberg	81	26	26	4	22	6	.321
Tim Miller, Shillington	81	30	26	0	11	9	.321
Luke Angstadt, Fleetwood	97	24	29	2	11	2	.320
Brad Brizek, Conrad Weiser	57	8	18	0	9	1	.316
Dan Stoltz, Wyomissing	61	12	19	1	12	6	.311
Daryl Miller, Reading	95	15	28	1	28	6	.311
Nate Guers, Muhlenberg	84	17	26	1	25	4	.310
Tim Heiny, Muhlenberg	82	26	25	2	18	9	.305
Matt Folk, Fleetwood	83	12	25	1	12	1	.301
TEAM BATTING	AB	R	H	HR	RBI	SB	AVG
West Lawn	785	322	317	20	265	52	.404
Shillington	810	282	310	19	236	64	.383
Boyertown	817	285	306	9	218	97	.375
Exeter	832	197	306	19	184	22	.368
Hamburg	780	219	274	23	186	41	.351
Oley	706	215	242	7	179	44	.343
Birdsboro	790	227	261	21	189	57	.330

Reading	823	220	289	10	174	54	.327
Muhlenberg	788	230	241	16	182	65	.319
Fleetwood	862	173	272	17	158	17	.316
Kutztown	782	173	226	9	146	39	.302
Gregg Post	746	149	223	5	118	11	.299
Tipton	774	164	214	24	131	16	.276
Conrad Weiser	688	114	188	2	83	28	.274
Wyomissing	746	150	192	4	104	53	.257
Schuylkill Valley	727	94	171	7	84	12	.235

LEADERS

Singles: Steve Coteliese, Oley, 38. Doubles: Ryan Negri, Fleetwood, 18. Triples: Tony Cipolla, West Lawn, 6; Jason Reinhart, Muhlenberg, 6; Jared Lydon, Oley, 6. Home runs: George Kressley, Tipton, 11. Runs: Tony Cipolla, West Lawn, 50. RBIs: Jeremy Wunderlich, Birdsboro, 37. Stolen bases: Regan Carroll, West Lawn, 24. Sacrifices: Tim Miller, Shillington, 11. Sacrifice flies: Jordan Walsh, Boyertown, 8. Hit-by-pitch: Tony Cipolla, West Lawn, 6. Slugging percentage: Tommy Krick, Hamburg, 1.106. Most RBIs, game: Terry Snyder, Hamburg, 8; Steve Randolph, Reading, 8. Most hits, game: Nine tied with 5. Most runs, game: Nick Evangelista, Hamburg, 6.

INDIVIDUAL PITCHING

G	IP	H	BB	K	W-L	S	ERA
Nick Allen, Boyertown	4	15.1	11	1	7	0-2	0.117
Chase Roth, Boyertown	9	66.1	43	19	81	7-0	0.136
Mike Schaeffer, West Lawn	4	31	17	14	32	3-0	0.174
Justin Shustack, Birdsboro	6	17.1	12	9	9	1-0	1.208
Steve Gebhart, Shillington	9	36.2	30	17	18	4-0	0.221
Brad Impink, West Lawn	5	28	24	11	14	3-0	0.225
J.J. Mitchell, Boyertown	5	8	8	0	8	0-0	0.225
Jared Trout, Boyertown	8	47	34	28	45	5-1	0.230
Tim Gombar, Shillington	7	34.2	37	4	21	3-2	0.234
Tom Rochowicz, Exeter	4	7	12	3	5	0-0	0.257
Josh Yocum, West Lawn	4	10.1	9	4	9	0-0	0.261
Brad Kepley, Birdsboro	5	21	27	14	20	2-1	0.300
Steve Randolph, Reading	8	36.2	34	19	27	5-1	0.344
Matt Nuhler, Shillington	7	49	62	9	31	6-0	0.349
Brandon DeWald, Shillington	7	43.1	40	29	35	5-0	0.353
Jon Rudisill, West Lawn	5	20.1	24	9	10	1-1	0.354
Brian Kantner, Muhlenberg	10	41.2	44	21	23	3-1	0.367
Brad Kantner, Muhlenberg	10	31	31	16	8	2-0	0.377
Eli Bonel, Reading	9	63.1	72	27	28	6-1	0.388
Jon Runkle, Birdsboro	7	34.1	43	15	7	3-2	0.419
Matt Fidler, West Lawn	6	40.1	45	14	26	6-0	0.424
Matt Nye, Muhlenberg	8	48.2	34	43	65	4-2	0.425
Al Groff, Conrad Weiser	4	6.1	11	4	3	0-0	0.427
Jamie Palubinski, Hamburg	7	22.1	20	24	8	1-1	0.443
Gerry Werner, Birdsboro	10	39	48	17	23	5-1	0.462
Jeremy Wunderlich, Birdsboro	6	37	41	11	22	3-3	0.462
Kyle Frees, West Lawn	7	29	32	9	38	4-1	0.466
Jeff Soto, Reading	9	45.1	62	22	28	3-2	0.477
Nate Guers, Muhlenberg	7	43	48	21	31	4-3	0.481
Nick Evangelista, Hamburg	10	54.2	47	32	67	6-2	0.494
TEAM PITCHING	IP	H	BB	K	W-L	S	ERA
Boyertown	190.2	152	76	183	20-2	2	2.64
West Lawn	172.2	165	68	147	20-2	3	3.18
Shillington	187.1	196	85	119	20-2	3	3.36
Birdsboro	183.2	220	83	104	14-8	2	4.31
Muhlenberg	185.1	186	113	145	14-8	1	4.71
Reading	197.2	245	103	113	17-5	4	4.87
Hamburg	177	216	125	132	11-10	1	6.66
Exeter	190.2	222	146	126	12-10	2	7.88
Kutztown	183	268	139	80	7-15	2	9.25
Conrad Weiser	166	279	128	73	4-17	0	9.81
Gregg Post	183.2	327	137	145	5-17	1	9.95
Fleetwood	194.2	352	93	108	6-16	3	10.17
Tipton	185	314	81	137	8-13	1	10.26
Oley	169.2	293	139	83	11-11	1	10.71
Wyomissing	187.1	291	201	136	5-17	1	11.39
Schuylkill Valley	177.2	298	161	99	2-20	0	11.90

LEADERS

Wins: Chase Roth, Boyertown, 7. Strikeouts, game: Chase Roth, Boyertown, 16. Starts: Jason Werley, Tipton, 9; Eli Bonel, Reading, 9. Complete games: Chase Roth, Boyertown, 5. Saves: Josh Yocum, West Lawn, 2; Tim Gombar, Shillington, 2; Jeff Soto, Reading, 2; Justin Templin, Fleetwood, 2.

1999 Team Stats for West Lawn Owls (ALL)

Wins= 43 Losses= 7

Batting Report

Player	#	Side	UP	G	AB	R	H	RBI	1B	2B	3B	HR	SOS	SOL	SO	TBB	HP	SacF	SacB	Avg	3Avg	Obp	Slg	SB	CS	SB%	BB	TB
Josh Yocum	19	All	226	49	173	71	70	71	37	17	7	9	9	10	19	37	2	11	3	405	231	489	740	8	2	800	37	128
Brad Impink	13	All	66	29	55	17	16	13	8	3	1	4	9	1	10	8	1	1	1	291	125	385	600	2	0	1000	8	33
Brad Binder	33	All	215	46	166	81	79	69	43	24	7	5	2	1	3	37	1	6	5	476	308	557	795	10	3	769	37	132
Andy Hohl	10	All	186	44	151	38	44	29	32	9	2	1	17	6	23	21	4	2	8	291	364	388	397	6	5	545	21	60
Regan Carroll	30	All	237	48	176	78	62	40	42	13	7	0	7	6	13	51	6	3	1	352	231	504	506	44	4	917	51	89
Matt Fidler	18	All	53	23	46	9	14	17	12	2	0	0	10	1	11	7	0	0	0	304	167	396	348	0	0	0	7	16
Dave Schultz	27	All	186	44	139	47	50	46	37	9	1	3	17	4	21	40	3	3	1	360	200	503	504	6	3	667	40	70
Shane Stacherski	20	All	189	47	151	42	58	62	37	17	3	1	1	6	7	23	2	6	7	384	273	456	556	5	2	714	23	84
Tony Cipolla	31	All	229	50	167	84	73	56	38	19	11	5	7	4	11	35	16	5	6	437	455	556	772	5	1	833	35	129
Dennis Zimmerman	26	All	87	36	75	23	21	11	15	5	1	0	9	2	11	10	0	0	2	280	429	365	373	3	1	750	10	28
Kyle Frees	12	All	55	28	44	9	12	11	9	2	1	0	4	2	6	8	0	1	2	273	0	377	364	0	1	0	8	16
Eric Petit	14	All	218	49	159	74	67	39	51	9	6	1	4	3	7	30	16	2	11	421	182	546	572	22	2	917	30	91
John Rudisill	28	All	29	18	25	5	3	6	3	0	0	0	3	0	3	3	0	1	0	120	0	207	120	0	0	0	3	3
Eric Shipe	9	All	71	31	59	18	23	15	19	2	2	0	2	1	3	10	1	1	0	390	333	479	492	1	1	500	10	29
Mike Schaeffer	32	All	80	29	62	19	22	17	16	3	3	0	10	2	12	14	1	1	2	355	364	474	500	2	0	1000	14	31
Travis Yocum	17	All	72	33	60	19	19	15	13	3	2	1	6	1	7	8	1	2	1	317	0	394	483	1	0	1000	8	29
Jon Ziegler	11	All	35	22	30	8	10	7	8	2	0	0	6	1	7	3	1	0	1	333	333	412	400	0	0	0	3	12
Mike Dietrich	22	All	55	25	41	12	13	10	8	2	2	1	8	4	12	11	1	1	1	317	0	463	537	2	1	667	11	22
Mike Bruno	16	All	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total for Team			2290	50	1780	654	656	534	428	141	56	31	131	56	187	356	56	46	52	369	0	477	563	117	26	818	356	1002

[UP]-Times Up
Out Looking

[G]-Games
[SO]-Total Strike Outs

[AB]-At bat
[TB]-Total Bases

[R]-Runs
[SB]-Stolen Bases

[H]-Total Hits
[HPI]-Hit by Pitch

[1B]-Single
[CS]-Caught Stealing

[2B]-Double
[SOF]-Sac Fly

[3B]-Triple
[SOF]-Sac Bunt

[HR]-HomeRun
[SOF]-Strike Out Swinging

[SOL]-Strike
[OBP]-On Base Average

[Ave]-Average
[BB]-Walk

[TBB]-Total Bases

1999 Team Stats for West Lawn Owls (ALL)
Pitching Report

Player	#	Side	G	GP	W	L	S	IP	RS	ER	SOS	SOL	BB	HP	WP	BK	GS	CG	Shut	#BAT	HITS	HRA	VG	ERA	WIN%	SO	IW	SACF	SACB	ND
Josh Yocum	19	All	49	7	0	0	1	13.67	8	7	10	3	6	0	1	0	0	0	0	65	17	0	293	4.61	0	13	1	0	0	6
Brad Impink	13	All	29	13	6	1	0	70.00	35	23	24	8	17	11	8	0	8	1	0	344	85	1	272	2.96	857	32	0	0	4	6
Matt Fidler	18	All	23	16	8	0	1	66.33	44	31	31	10	25	4	9	0	10	3	0	306	73	3	264	4.21	1000	41	0	0	0	7
Shane Stacherski	20	All	47	9	1	1	1	9.33	12	9	8	3	3	1	1	0	0	0	0	48	6	0	136	8.68	500	11	0	0	0	6
Tony Cipolla	31	All	50	10	8	1	0	49.00	33	21	16	15	20	1	1	1	7	0	0	224	59	2	295	3.86	889	31	0	1	2	1
Kyle Frees	12	All	28	16	4	1	0	51.67	34	23	34	7	8	5	2	1	6	3	0	231	59	2	271	4.01	800	41	0	0	0	12
Eric Pettit	14	All	49	5	2	0	0	10.33	5	3	5	0	3	0	0	1	0	0	0	44	6	0	146	2.61	1000	5	0	0	0	3
John Rudisill	28	All	18	16	2	2	0	49.00	31	24	17	6	13	2	2	0	7	0	0	235	59	3	272	4.41	500	23	1	0	2	12
Mike Schaeffer	32	All	29	18	12	1	2	93.33	32	30	62	34	37	7	15	1	12	5	0	349	57	1	188	2.89	923	96	0	0	2	3
Travis Yocum	17	All	33	8	0	0	0	10.33	4	1	2	0	2	1	2	0	0	0	0	46	11	0	256	0.87	0	2	0	0	0	8
Total for Team			50	118	43	7	5	423.00	238	172	209	86	134	32	41	4	50	12	0	1892	432	12	252	3.66	860	295	2	1	10	64

Player	K/G
Josh Yocum	8.56
Brad Impink	4.11
Matt Fidler	5.56
Shane Stacherski	10.61
Tony Cipolla	5.69
Kyle Frees	7.14
Eric Pettit	4.35
John Rudisill	4.22
Mike Schaeffer	9.26
Travis Yocum	1.74
Total for Team	6.28

[G]-Games [GP]-Games Pitched [W]-Won [L]-Loss [S]-Save [IP]-Innings Pitched [RS]-Runs Allowed [ER]-Earned Runs Allowed [SO]-StrikeOut Swinging
 Faced [SOL]-StrikeOut Looking [H]-Hit by Pitch [WP]-Wild Pitch [WIN%-Win% [WPI]-Total Strike Outs [WJ]-Intent Walk [CG]-Complete [Shut]-Shut Outs [SACF]-Sac Fly [SACB]-Sac Bunt [ND]-No Decision
 [HITS]-Total Hits [HR]-Home Run [K/G]-StrikeOuts/Game