

# 2025 Spring Fling

McKenzie, Tennessee

## THE BANNER

Special Edition

TUESDAY, JUNE 3, 2025

FEATURING:

- McKENZIE BASEBALL
- HUNTINGDON BASEBALL
- CENTRAL SOFTBALL
- TRACK & FIELD

TSSAA STATE CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES

MAY 20-23, 2025

TSSAA CLASS 2A BASEBALL STATE CHAMPIONSHIP



The TSSAA Class 2A Baseball State Championship Runner-Up Huntingdon Mustangs. Photo by Russell Bush/Huntingdon Sports Pics



Above, Braylon Rich reaches first on a high throw in Mustangs loss to Lakeland in state title game. Above Right, Alan Eubanks accepts runner-up coaches award from TSSAA's Matt Gillespie. Right, Hayes Eubanks dives for a fly ball in Mustangs loss to Lakewood in state title game. Photos by Russell Bush/Huntingdon Sports Pics



### Mustangs Fall Short In State Title Game

BY RUSSELL BUSH  
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MURFREESBORO (May 24) — The Huntingdon Mustang baseball team, after playing two dramatic games on Friday to reach the state title game for the second year in a row, ran up against a talented Lakeland Prep team on Saturday and lost 9-1 to the Lions to claim a second consecutive runner-up finish in the state tournament.

The Mustangs, after recording 59 hits in their first five games of the tournament, only managed five hits on Saturday. They faced a situation that left them short with their pitching and walked seven Lion hitters and committed two errors in the game.

The Mustangs fell behind early as Lakeland scored three in the first and three in the second to lead 6-0 after two innings and added two more in the fifth as the Lions used the bunt-and-steal to their advantage to give the Mustangs an 8-0 hole before a Hayes Eubanks home run in the fifth. Owen Kreuziger took the loss on the mound as the starting pitcher.

Silas Sharp recorded two hits for the Mustangs, Braylon Rich and Caleb Ezell singled, and Eubanks provided the only run with his homer in the fifth. Owen Kreuziger took the loss on the mound as the starting pitcher.

The Mustangs finished the season with a 32-6 record and their second consecutive state runner-up. This was the Mustangs tenth appearance in the state tournament in the 21 years Alan Eubanks has been head coach.

## CONGRATULATIONS

### To All Area Athletes Who Competed at the TSSAA Spring Fling!

WEST TENNESSEE PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT

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Above, Gray Eubanks lunges for a throw as a Lakeland runner tries to steal second. Below, Braylon Rich covers first as a Lakeland runner dives back on pickoff attempt. Photos by Russell Bush/Huntingdon Sports Pics



TSSAA CLASS 1A SOFTBALL STATE CHAMPIONSHIP



The Central Lady Tigers are awarded the TSSAA 1A softball trophy.

Lady Tigers are Runner-Up With Loss to Eagleville

BY BRAD SAM  
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MURFREESBORO (May 23) — The Hollow Rock-Bruceton Central Lady Tigers are the TSSAA Class 1A Softball State Championship runner-up following an 8-1 loss to Eagleville in the title game played at Middle Tennessee State University. Eagleville struck first with three runs in the top of the first. Central answered with one in the home half. The Lady Eagles pulled away with four in the second and added another in the third. Lady Tiger Spencer Ervin was 2-for-3 with a walk. Lilly McGee went 2-for-4 with a run scored. McKinley Garrison was 1-for-2 with two walks. Olivia Scott went 1-for-4. Madison Holder was 0-for-3 with a walk and an RBI.



Coach Jamie Williams accepts the coach's runner-up plaque.

Madison Holder got the start and took the loss for Central, allowing seven runs (five earned) on seven hits and a walk. Kyleigh Baker threw five and two-thirds innings of relief, allowing one earned run on five hits while striking out one and walking none.

TSSAA CLASS 1A SOFTBALL STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

Lady Tigers Win Three Straight to Reach Title Game

BY BRAD SAM  
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MURFREESBORO (May 22) — The Hollow Rock-Bruceton Central Lady Tigers bounced back in a big way Thursday, rattling off three convincing wins to earn a spot in the TSSAA Class 1A Softball State Championship game. Central started the long day with a 14-2 rout of Halls, then took back-to-back games against Gordonsville, 12-5 and 10-5. Central Lady Tigers 14, Halls Lady Tigers 2. Central struck quickly with three runs in the top of the first inning. Halls scored two in the bottom of the second. Central pulled away with nine in the fourth and added a pair in the fifth for the early finish. Lady Tiger Spencer Ervin was 2-for-2 with a double, a walk, three RBIs and a run scored. Lilly McGee went 3-for-4 with a triple, two RBIs and three runs scored. Keely Williams was 1-for-4 with three RBIs and two runs scored. Olivia Scott went 2-for-3 with an RBI and two runs scored. Cloe Morgan was 2-for-3 with an RBI. Madison Holder went 2-for-4 with a double. McKinley Garrison and Amelia Bennett were

each 1-for-3 with an RBI and a run scored. Kyleigh Baker was 0-for-1 with two walks, an RBI and two runs scored. Madison Holder earned the complete-game win for Central, allowing two unearned runs on four hits while striking out five and walking one. Central Lady Tigers 12, Gordonsville Lady Tigers 5. Central jumped out to a 4-0 lead in the top of the first. Gordonsville closed the gap with three in the third, but Central put up four more in the fourth and padded the lead with three in top of the sixth. Gordonsville plated one in the home half, and both teams scored one in the seventh. Lady Tiger Kyleigh Baker was 2-for-4 with a double and five RBIs. Keely Williams went 3-for-4 with a walk, an RBI and three runs scored. Lilly McGee was 2-for-4 with a run scored. Spencer Ervin was 1-for-2 with a run scored. Madison Holder went 0-for-3 with two walks, an RBI and three runs scored. Amelia Bennett was 0-for-2 with two walks and a run scored. McKenzie Castleman went 0-for-1 with a walk and a run scored. Kyleigh Baker earned the complete-game win for Central, allowing five runs (three earned) on nine hits while striking out three and walking two. Central 10, Gordonsville 5. Central scored six in the top of the second inning. Gordonsville got one in the bottom half. Central added a run in the third, then scored three in the top of the fifth. Gordonsville plated a pair in the home half, then added a run in each of the final two frames. Lady Tiger Madison Holder was 3-for-5 with a home run, three RBIs and a run scored. Keely Williams went 1-for-4 with a double, three RBIs and a run scored. Kyleigh Baker was 2-for-5. Amelia Bennett went 1-for-2 with two walks, an RBI and a run scored. McKinley Garrison was 1-for-2 with two runs scored. Olivia Scott went 1-for-4 with an RBI and a run scored. Lilly McGee was 1-for-5 with an RBI and two runs scored. Spencer Ervin went 0-for-2 with a walk and a run scored. Cloe Morgan was 0-for-1 with two walks. Madison Holder earned the complete-game win for Central, allowing five earned runs on eleven hits while striking out six and walking none.

TSSAA CLASS 1A SOFTBALL STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

Central Falls to Gordonsville For First Tourney Loss

BY BRAD SAM  
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MURFREESBORO (May 21) — The Hollow Rock-Bruceton Central Lady Tigers took a tough, 6-0 loss to Gordonsville Wednesday evening, send-

ing them to the lower bracket the next day. Gordonsville scored all six runs in the bottom of the second inning. Lady Tiger Kyleigh Baker was 1-for-2 with a walk. Madison Holder, Cloe Morgan and Olivia Scott were each 1-for-3. Madison Holder took the complete-game loss for Central, allowing six runs (two earned) on five hits while striking out three and walking two.

TSSAA CLASS 2A BASEBALL STATE CHAMPIONSHIP



Above, The Mustangs swarm Braylon Rich at home plate after his three-run home run in the second game of the day. Below Left, Mustang Easton Byars started and won the first game, then pitched two and two-third shutout innings in the second game. Below Right, Mustang shortstop Gray Eubanks flips the ball to second base for the out during the second game. Photos by Brad Sam/The Banner



Huntingdon Advances to Title Game

BY BRAD SAM  
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MURFREESBORO (May 23) — The Huntingdon Mustangs earned a spot in the TSSAA Class 2A Baseball State Championship game with a pair of convincing wins Friday over White House Heritage, who had handed the Mustangs their first loss the day before. In stark contrast with Thursday's 2-1 loss, Huntingdon's bats exploded for wins of 9-1 and 11-4. Huntingdon Mustangs 9, White House Heritage Patriots 1. Huntingdon struck first with a run in the bottom of the second inning and added one in the third, four in the fourth and two in the fifth. Heritage got on the board with a run in the top of the sixth, and the Mustangs matched that in the home half. Mustang Gray Eubanks was 2-for-3 with a double, a walk, three RBIs and a run scored. Caleb Ezell went 2-for-2 with an RBI and two runs scored. Broox Bennett was 2-for-3

with a double, a walk and a run scored. Easton Byars went 2-for-4 with a double and an RBI. Brady Warbritton was 2-for-4 with an RBI and a run scored. Silas Sharp went 1-for-2 with a walk and an RBI. Braylon Rich was 1-for-4 with a run scored. Hayes Eubanks was 0-for-2 with a walk, an RBI and a run scored. Easton Byars got the start and earned the win for Huntingdon, allowing one earned run on two hits while striking out six and walking one over six innings. Braylon Rich pitched the final inning, allowing no runs, hits or walks. Mustangs 11, Patriots 4. Huntingdon started things off with a pair in the top of the first, but Heritage tied it in the home half. The Mustangs then pulled away with a run in the third, three each in the fourth and fifth and two in the seventh. The Patriots scored two in the bottom of the seventh. Mustang Braylon Rich was 2-for-5 with a home run, three RBIs and a run scored. Brady Warbritton went 3-for-4 with a walk and three runs scored. Broox Bennett was 2-for-3 with a double and an RBI. Gray Eubanks went 2-for-4 with a double, a walk, two RBIs and three runs scored. Caleb Ezell was 2-for-4 with a run scored. Hayes Eubanks went 1-for-3 with a walk, an RBI and a run scored. Braylin Dearmon was 1-for-4 with an RBI and a run scored. Silas Sharp went 1-for-4 with an RBI. Aiden Hilliard got the start and earned the win for Huntingdon, allowing two earned runs on three hits while striking out four and walking one in two and a third innings. Easton Byars pitched two and two-thirds innings, allowing no runs on one hits while striking out one and walking one. Braylin Dearmon threw an inning and two-thirds, allowing one unearned run on one hit while striking out two and walking none. Braylon Rich got the final out, allowing one earned run on two hits with no walks.

TSSAA CLASS 2A BASEBALL STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

Mustangs Outlast Chargers to Stay Alive

BY BRAD SAM  
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MURFREESBORO (May 22) — The Huntingdon Mustangs needed eight innings to secure an 11-8 win against Westview Thursday night to stay alive in the TSSAA Class 2A Baseball State Championship at Riverdale High School. Westview jumped out to a 4-0 lead with two runs each in the first and second innings. Huntingdon lunged ahead with six runs in the top of the third. The Chargers cut their deficit in half with a run in the bottom of the fifth, but the Mustangs plated two in the sixth to pad the lead.

Westview forced extras with three runs in the bottom of the seventh, but Huntingdon pulled ahead with three in the eighth and held on for the win. Mustang Gray Eubanks was 1-for-3 with a home run, two walks, three RBIs and three runs scored. Braylin Dearmon went 3-for-4 with two RBIs and a run scored. Silas Sharp was 2-for-5 with three RBIs and a run scored. Broox Bennett went 2-for-3 with a double, a walk and an RBI. Braylon Rich was 2-for-4 with a double and two runs scored. Brady Warbritton went 1-for-4 with a double, a walk, an RBI and two runs scored. Hayes Eubanks was 1-for-5

with an RBI. Easton Byars went 1-for-5. Owen Kreuziger got the start for Huntingdon, allowing four runs (three earned) on five hits while striking out one and walking one in an inning and two-thirds. Caleb Ezell pitched two and a third innings of relief, allowing one earned run on two hits while striking out one and walking none. Gray Eubanks pitched three innings and earned the win, allowing three runs (one earned) on two hits while striking out four and walking three. Braylin Dearmon threw the final frame and earned a save, allowing no runs, hits or walks while striking out one.

TSSAA CLASS 2A BASEBALL STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

Mustangs Edged by Patriots For First Tourney Loss

BY BRAD SAM  
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MURFREESBORO (May 22) — The Huntingdon Mustangs suffered a narrow, 2-1 loss to White House Heritage to start the second day of the TSSAA Class 2A Baseball State Championship at Riverdale High School.

The loss moved Huntingdon into the lower bracket. After four scoreless frames, Heritage broke through for a run in the bottom of the fifth. Huntingdon tied it in the top of the sixth, but the Patriots regained the lead in the home half. Mustang Braylon Rich was 2-for-2 with a walk. Broox Bennett went 1-for-3 with an RBI. Caleb Ezell was 1-for-1. Silas Sharp went 1-for-3. Caleb Ezell took the complete-game loss for Huntingdon, allowing two earned runs on six hits while striking out two and walking none.

TSSAA CLASS 2A BASEBALL STATE CHAMPIONSHIP



Above, The Huntingdon Mustangs gather as a team before their first tournament game. Below Left, Mustang Brady Warbritton is greeted by teammates after scoring against Sweetwater. Below Right, Mustang Gray Eubanks awaits a pitch from Sweetwater. Eubanks was 2-for-3 with a home run, a walk, three RBIs and three runs scored. Photos by Jason Martin/The Banner



Mustangs Rout Sweetwater to Open Tourney

BY BRAD SAM  
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MURFREESBORO (May 21) — The Huntingdon Mustangs opened the TSSAA Class 2A Baseball State Championship with a big, 12-0 win over Sweetwater in five innings at Riverdale High School.

Huntingdon set the tone with six runs in the top of the first and added three more in both the second and third innings.

Mustang Gray Eubanks was 2-for-3 with a home run, a walk, three RBIs and three runs scored. Easton Byars went 1-for-3 with a home run, three RBIs and a run scored. Broox Bennett was 1-for-3 with two RBIs and a run scored. Caleb Ezell went 1-for-1 with a double, two walks, an RBI and a run scored. Braylon Rich was 2-for-4 with an RBI and a run scored. Brady Warbritton

went 2-for-4 with two runs scored. Hayes Eubanks was 1-for-3 with two RBIs. Silas Sharp was 1-for-3.

Easton Byars earned the win for Huntingdon, allowing no runs on one hit while striking out seven and walking none in three and two-thirds innings. Owen Hugueley pitched an inning and a third in relief, allowing no runs on one hit while striking out one and walking one.



Huntingdon's Gray Eubanks was named Mr. Baseball for Class 2-A in the state of Tennessee this past week. Pictured from left, Hayes Eubanks, Alan Eubanks, Gray Eubanks, Kelly Eubanks, and Mac Eubanks. Photo courtesy Russell Bush/Huntingdon Sports Pics

Gray Eubanks Named Mr. Baseball

BY RUSSELL BUSH  
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Huntingdon Mustang senior baseball player and Southern Mississippi commit Gray Eubanks was named Mr. Baseball in Murfreesboro prior to the state baseball tournament.

Eubanks for the season sported a .448 batting average with ten home runs on the season and a 1.562 OPS.

Eubanks helped lead the Mustangs to a 32-6 record

and a state runner-up finish for the second consecutive year.

He saved his best baseball for his last 13 games that saw the Mustangs win the district 12-AA tournament, the Region 6-2A tournament, two sectional games and the state runner-up finish.

In the district, regional and sectional games, Eubanks was 12-for-19 at the plate, scored 11 runs and had ten RBIs, seven walks,

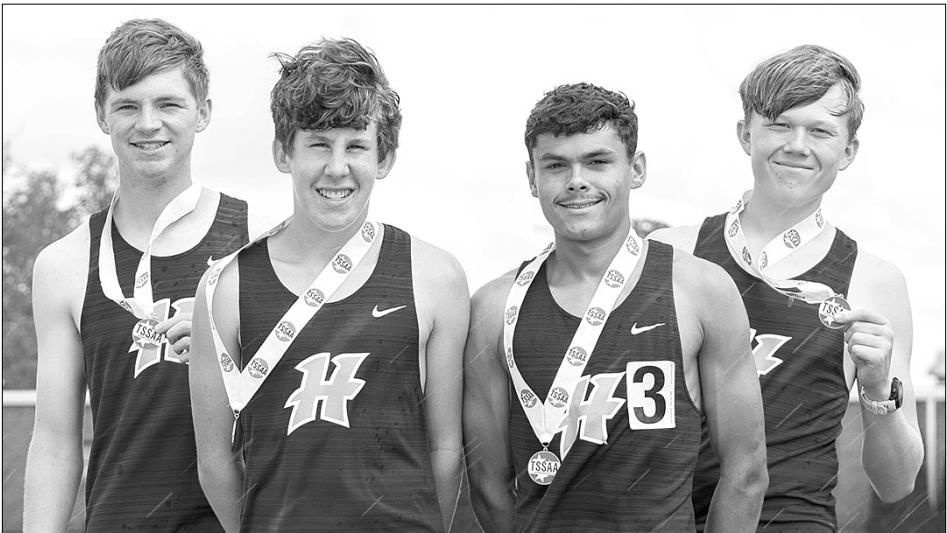
four doubles and two home runs. Eubanks did not have a strikeout in those seven games.

In the state tournament, Eubanks was 9-for-18 at the plate in six games with nine runs scored, 11 RBIs, six walks, one double and two home runs and only struck out once.

For the season, Eubanks homered 14 times for a Mustang team that set a school record with 28 homers for the season.



Above, Shawn Simpson (left) finished sixth and Blaine Todd (right) second in the 3200 meter. Below, The Huntingdon Mustang 4x800 relay team earned a third-place finish at the state track meet. (L to R) Cole Chafin, Blaine Todd, Shawn Simpson and Carson Watters. Photos by Jesse Joseph



Carroll County Has Strong Showing at State Track and Field

MURFREESBORO — Despite rain and various schedule changes, Carroll County had a strong showing in track and field at the TSSAA Spring Fling.

For McKenzie, Freshman Abigail Wallace placed first in the 800 meter race and 1600 meter race and third overall in the 3200 meter race. This is first gold metal for McKenzie in track.

Blaine Todd for Huntingdon was back at the 'Boro. This year, he place second in the 3200 meter race. Shawn Simpson had a good day also for the Mustangs in the 3200 meter race as he finished sixth. In the 4x800 meter relay, the Mustangs placed third. The team consisted of Shawn Simpson, Cole Chafin, Carson Watters, and Blaine Todd.



Abigail Wallace won three medals during the TSSAA Spring Fling Track Champion Series. File Photo

TSSAA CLASS 1A SOFTBALL STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

Lady Tigers Crush Oakdale in Opener

BY BRAD SAM  
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MURFREESBORO (May 21) — The Hollow Rock-Bruceton Central Lady Tigers started the TSSAA Class 1A Softball State Championship strong Wednesday with a 10-0 win in five innings over Oakdale.

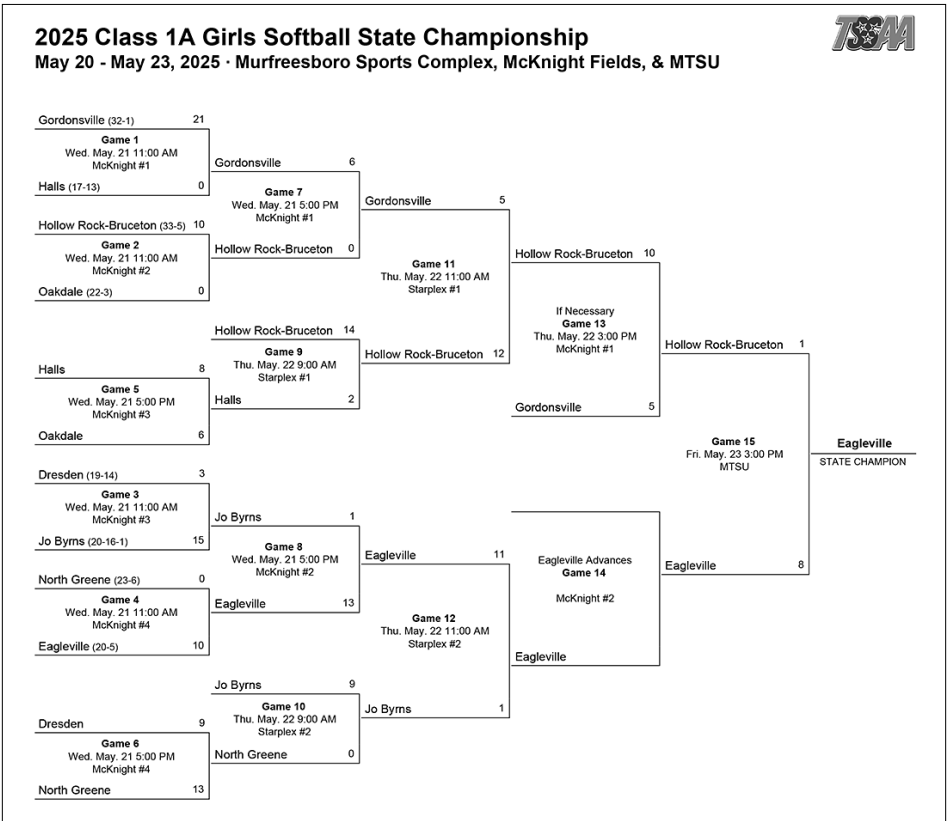
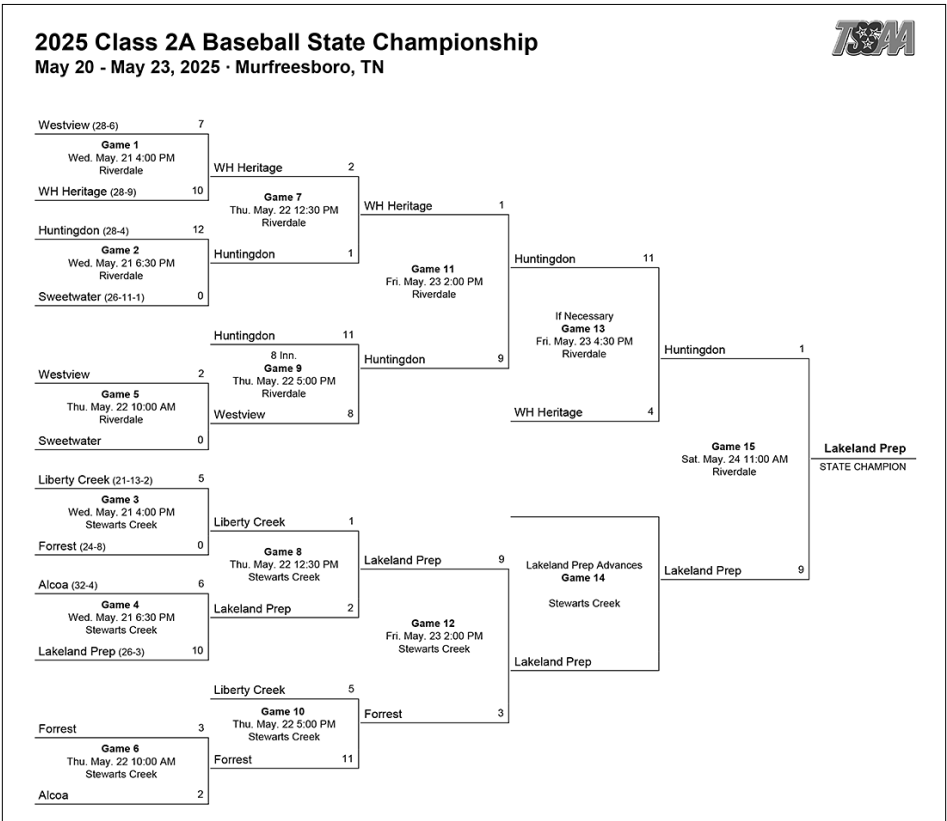
After three scoreless frames, Central exploded

for nine runs in the fourth and plated one in the fifth to end the game.

Lady Tiger Kyleigh Baker was 2-for-3 with three RBIs. Madison Holder went 3-for-3. Keely Williams was 2-for-3 with an RBI and two runs scored. Lilly McGee went 1-for-3 with two RBIs and a run scored. Cloe Morgan was 1-for-3 with a triple and a run scored. McKinley Gar-

ison went 1-for-3 with an RBI and a run scored. Spencer Ervin was 0-for-1 with a walk and a run scored.

Madison Holder earned the shutout win for Central, allowing two hits while striking out seven and walking none in four and a third innings. Kyleigh Baker pitched the final two-thirds of an inning, allowing two hits with no walks.



TSSAA CLASS 1A BASEBALL STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

Rebels End Season with Semifinal Loss

BY BRAD SAM  
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LEBANON (May 23) — The McKenzie High School baseball season came to an end Friday with an 8-4 loss to Coalfield in the semifinals of the TSSAA Class 1A Baseball State Championship held at Wilson Central High School.

Coalfield struck first with a pair of runs in the top of the first inning. The Rebels answered with a run in the home half. The Yellowjackets plated three more in the second, while McKenzie scored one in the third. After two scoreless frames, Coalfield added three more in the top of the sixth, and McKenzie scored a pair in the bottom half.

Rebel Avery Brown was 2-for-3 with a walk. Fletcher Holt went 1-for-3 with a walk, an RBI and a run scored. Craegen Travis was 1-for-3 with an RBI. Cooper Davidson went 1-for-4 with an RBI. Cole Brown was 2-for-5 with a run scored. Xander Johnsey went 1-for-5 with a run scored.

Craegen Travis took the complete-game loss for McKenzie, allowing eight runs (three earned) on six hits while striking out four and walking four.



Above, Rebel first baseman Tate Surber makes a catch in foul territory for an out. Below, Rebel second baseman Xander Johnsey fields a grounder and throws to first for the out. Photos by Brad Sam/The Banner



TSSAA CLASS 1A BASEBALL STATE CHAMPIONSHIP



Rebel pitcher Fletcher Holt catches a short pop fly coming off the back of the mound. Photo by Brad Sam/The Banner

Rebels Fall to Coalfield for First Loss

BY BRAD SAM  
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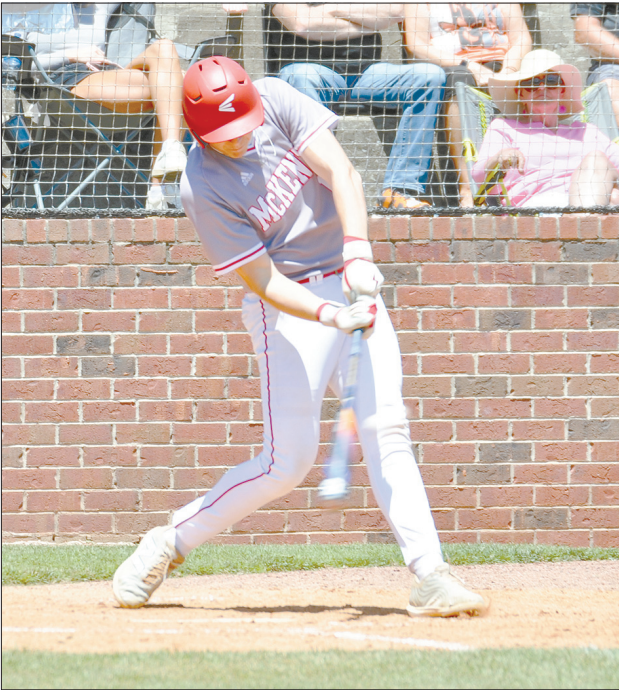
LEBANON (May 22) — The McKenzie Rebels took a tough loss to start the second day of the TSSAA Class 1A Baseball State Championship, falling to Coalfield 10-0 in five innings at Wilson Central High School.

The loss moved McKenzie to the lower bracket.

Coalfield scored a run in the top of the first, two in the third, four in the fourth and three in the fifth.

Craegen Travis had the lone hit for the Rebels, a double.

Fletcher Holt got the start for McKenzie, allowing one earned run on four hits and a walk in an inning and two-thirds. Cole Brown pitched two and a third innings of relief, allowing eight earned runs on seven hits while striking out two and walking three. Ripken



Rebel Craegen Travis connects for a double. Photo by Brad Sam/The Banner

Thompson pitched the final frame, allowing one earned run on one hit while striking out two and walking two.

TSSAA CLASS 1A BASEBALL STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

Rebels Stay Alive with Win Over Bradford, 8-5

BY BRAD SAM  
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LEBANON (May 22) — The McKenzie Rebels bounced back from a loss earlier in the day Thursday to defeat Bradford 8-5 and advance to the semifinal round of the TSSAA Class 1A Baseball State Championship at Wilson Central High School.

McKenzie struck first with three runs in the top of the second inning. Bradford got on the board with one in the home half, then tied it with a pair in the third. The Rebels pulled ahead for good with four runs in the fourth. The Red Devils scored a pair in the bottom half, but McKenzie tacked on an insurance run in the sixth.

Rebel Xander Johnsey was 3-for-4 with an RBI and two runs scored. Avery Brown went 1-for-4 with a triple, two RBIs and a run scored. Fletcher Holt was 2-for-2 with a double and a walk. Cole Brown went 2-for-4 with two RBIs and a run scored. Ace Brown was 1-for-3 with a double and a walk. Lelan Gordon went 2-for-4 with two runs scored. Craegen Travis was 1-for-4 with a double and an RBI. Cooper Davidson went 1-for-4.

Craegen Travis got the start for McKenzie, allowing no runs on two hits and a walk in an inning and two-thirds. Fletcher



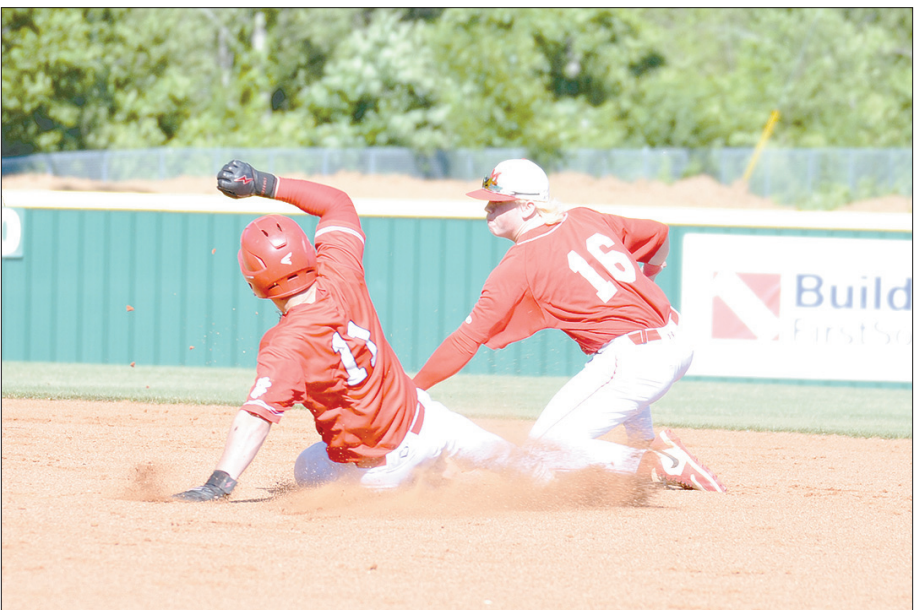
Above, Rebel Ace Brown hits a single in McKenzie's win over Bradford. Below, Rebel pitcher Craegen Travis just beats a sliding Bradford base runner to first for the out. Photos by Brad Sam/The Banner



Holt pitched an inning and a third of relief, allowing five earned runs on six hits while striking out two and walking two.

Cooper Davidson threw the final four frames, allowing no runs on three hits while striking out three and walking two.

TSSAA CLASS 1A BASEBALL STATE CHAMPIONSHIP



Rebel second baseman Xander Johnsey tags a Whitwell runner attempting to advance to second base. Photo by Brad Sam/The Banner

Rebels Top Whitwell in Opener

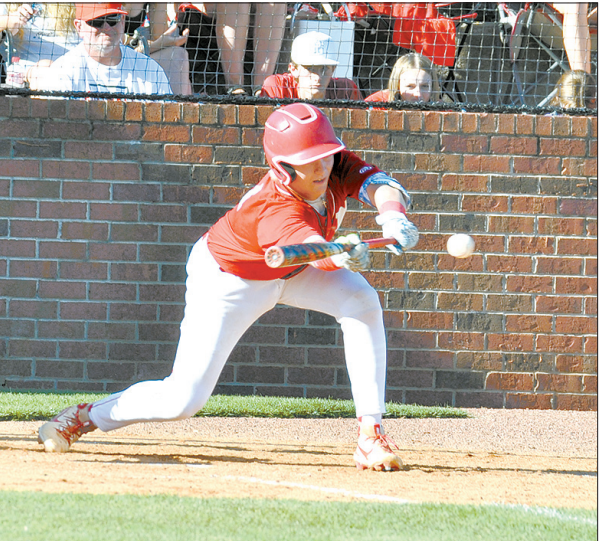
BY BRAD SAM  
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LEBANON (May 21) — The McKenzie Rebels opened the TSSAA Class 1A Baseball State Championship Wednesday with a 6-1 win over Whitwell.

McKenzie struck first with a run in the top of the third inning and added a run in both the fifth and sixth. Whitwell got on the board with a run in the bottom of the sixth. The Rebels plated three insurance runs in the seventh.

Rebel Fletcher Holt was 3-for-4 with a double, an RBI and two runs scored. Tate Surber went 2-for-4 with a double, two RBIs and a run scored. Cole Brown was 3-for-4 with a double, a run scored and two stolen bases. Cooper Davidson went 2-for-4.

Tate Surber earned the win for McKenzie, allowing one earned run on two hits while striking out eight and walking two in five and a third innings. Xander Johnsey threw an inning of relief, allowing no runs on two hits while striking out one and walking none. Fletcher Holt got the final two outs with no runs on one hit with a strikeout and no walks.



Above, Rebel Cooper Davidson lays down a perfect bunt for a base hit. Below, Rebel center fielder Tate Surber charges in to make the catch. Photos by Brad Sam/The Banner

