

Indiana High School Athletic Association

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Blake Ress, Commissioner

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TRITON CENTRAL SCORES EARLY, GRABS CLASS 2A BASEBALL TITLE

Putting a four-spot on the board in the top half of the first, Triton Central rolled to a 7-4 victory over Frankton in the championship game of the IHSAA Class AA Baseball State Finals in the third game of the day at Victory Field.

Frankton errors opened the early floodgate for Triton Central, as Randy Wittman (12) and Jay Broughton (10) each reached on a miscue. Brandon Roberts (12) singled through the left side, loading the bases for Brad Grant (11), who promptly sent them all home with a triple to right center. James Green (11) then proceeded to single to short, plating Grant, to end the scoring in the inning.

Frankton answered with a single tally in the bottom of the opening frame. Josh Detrick (12) opened the frame with a walk and advanced on a wild pitch. After Billy Grinstead (11) and Billy Salazar (12) were putouts, Nate McKeon (11) singled to right, scoring Detrick.

The Eagles added another run in the bottom of the second, as Lucas Etchison (9) opened up with a triple down the left field line. Joe McPhearson (11) then stepped in and singled up the middle, sending Etchison home, chopping the lead in half.

Triton Central notched another run in the top of the fifth and, again, errors came into play. Broughton singled to left center to open the inning. Following a strikeout by Roberts, Grant singled through the left side and Green reached on a fielder's choice. Grant then raced to second on an error, with Broughton scoring the fifth run of the contest, all unearned, making it 5-2.

On to the bottom of inning number-five and new life for Frankton. Grinstead walked and Salazar singled him to second, from which he advanced to third on a passed ball. McKeon then launched a long double to left center, driving in both, cutting the margin to 5-4. Etchison followed with a towering fly ball to center, on which Brad Grant made a sensational play, to put an end to what could have been an even more profitable inning.

The runs continued rolling in in the top of the sixth for Triton Central. Wittman and Mahurin both scored on a Broughton double to left, forcing a pitching change by head coach Brad Buckingham, as he brought in Joe McPhearson (11) from first base to get the final out.

Frankton was unable to score in the bottom of the sixth and seventh, giving the Tigers their first championship in any of the IHSAA sanctioned team sports.

Triton Central, under Rob Robertson, concludes the year with a 26-2 mark. Frankton finished the season at 22-9-1.

A pair of Class 2A records fell during the day's action: most hits by a single team (12) and most combined hits by both teams (21). The previous marks were 11 by Taylor vs. North Montgomery in 2000 and 16 by Taylor vs. North Montgomery in 2000 and Fort Wayne Blackhawk vs. Tecumseh in 2002.

L.V. PHILLIPS CLASS AA MENTAL ATTITUDE AWARD GOES TO JERAD YELLAND OF LAWRENCEBURG

Jerad Yelland of Lawrenceburg was named winner of the Class AA 2003 Boys Baseball L.V. Phillips Award for Mental Attitude on Saturday, June 21, 2003 at Victory Field in Indianapolis.

Members of the IHSAA Executive Committee present the award to the outstanding senior participant in each classification of the boys baseball state finals. The recipient of this award, who was nominated by his principal and coach, must excel in mental attitude, scholarship, leadership and athletic ability in baseball.

A four-year member of the Tigers' baseball squad, Jerad was this year's team captain and a three-year letterman. He was named All-Eastern Indiana Athletic Conference this season and captured the Team Mental Attitude Award, while being named an Academic All-State Nominee and garnering All-County Honorable Mention accolades.

Jerad is a three-sport athlete. He was a three-year letterman in both football and basketball. On the gridiron, he was named all-conference as a senior and won the Dick Meador Leadership Award.

At the Lawrenceburg Awards Night on June 4, 2003, Jerad received all of the end-of-year athletic awards: Scholarship Award; Crater Award; Chuck Hunter Award; John Creech Memorial Award; Robert W. Meyer Award; and, U.S. Army Distinguished Athlete Award. It is the first time in LHS history that one athlete has been the recipient of these special awards.

Maintaining a 4.0 GPA and a number-one class ranking throughout his career, he was also a member of Student Council, National Hispanic Honor Society, National Honor Society, Key Club and Tiger PIZAZZ. He was a three-year recipient of the Jack Anderson Academic Award and was an Academic Medallion Award winner each of his high school years.

His volunteer activities included residential clean-up projects, cancer fundraisers and Key Club, where he was active in the Kidney Dialysis Drive, Buddy Program Canned Food Drive, Community Comradery Lock-In and Y-Teen Choices.

Jerad Yelland is the son of Sheila and David Yelland of Lawrenceburg.

Farm Bureau Insurance, IHSAA corporate partner, presented a scholarship check for \$1,000.00 to Lawrenceburg High School in the name of Jerad Yelland.

Team Posters and Individual Action Photographs Available

Visit 20-20 Photographic, the IHSAA's photographer and the Midwest's Leader in Sports Action Photography, for images captured during Saturday's four championship games! Action photos as well as 20-20's Ultimate Sports Poster will be available for purchase later in the week following the state finals.

IHSAA State Championship Merchandise

For t-shirts and sweatshirts commemorating the 37th Annual IHSAA State Finals or for any of our events, visit our friends at Morris, Inc.

State Finals Programs Available

Couldn't be at Victory Field for the state finals? You can still purchase a copy of the official souvenir program while supplies last! Programs are \$3.00 if you purchase in person at the IHSAA Office (9150 N. Meridian Street in Indianapolis) or \$5.00 by mail (postage included). To order, send a check for \$5.00 made payable to the IHSAA, a note with your return address and brief description of your request and mail to: IHSAA Programs, PO Box 40650, Indianapolis, IN 46240-0650. Sorry, no credit cards. To further inquire, e-mail Assistant Sports Information Director Jason Wille at jwille@ihsaa.org.

Own a Video or DVD of the Championship Games

Video copies of each of the Saturday's four championship games will be available for purchase from the IHSAA Video Library courtesy of Victory Field Video Productions. VHS tapes are \$30.00 in person at the IHSAA Office or \$35.00 by mail (shipping and handling included) while DVDs are \$50.00 in person or \$55.00 by mail. For ordering instructions, see page 28 of the game program or visit the IHSAA website for a complete list of game films available in several sports down through the years.