

Covering All Bases

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BIG TEN CHAMPIONS

American Folklore says Paul Bunyan swung a mighty axe, but no one swung a mightier axe than the Ohio State Buckeyes as they won four straight elimination games in the Big Ten Tournament to claim the Big Ten Championship and an automatic bid to the NCAA tournament.

The Buckeyes, seeded fourth, had slim hopes of winning the title after falling to Iowa in the second round of the tournament. Battling out of the loser's bracket, the Buckeyes beat Michigan for the second time in the tournament to eliminate the Wolverines. Ohio State then beat the Michigan State Spartans in back to back games to send Michigan State home.

In the championship game, Iowa jumped out to a 4-0 lead, but the Buckeyes answered with five of their own to take the lead. Ohio State extended the lead to 7-4 only to see the Hawkeyes tie the game in the bottom of the eighth. The Buckeyes took the lead in the ninth when Troy Kuhn's two out double scored Ronnie Dawson.



The Big Ten Champion Ohio State Buckeyes celebrate on the field at TD Ameritrade Park in Omaha.

Yanni Pavlopoulos closed the door on Iowa to give the Buckeyes the program's first tournament title in nine years and the ninth overall in program history.

"All you have to do is look at them, look at that comradery and they fought," head coach Greg Beals said. "This was a tough tournament to come through in the loser's bracket and we had to fight a lot. The resilience of this ball club is incredible. We wouldn't

quit."

It took record breaking performances for the Buckeyes to win the title. The pitching staff broke the tournament record with 44 strikeouts using 10 different pitchers. Seth Kinker made a tournament record five appearances. Offensively, Dawson set two records with 15 hits and six doubles. Ohio State tied the tournament record with 13 stolen bases. Craig Nennig recorded six steals to tie the individual record.

Dawson was named the tournament MVP and was joined on the All-Tournament team by Kuhn, Nennig, Jalen Washington and Troy Montgomery.

SEASON ENDS AT REGIONAL

Playing in its ninth post season game in 10 days the Buckeye saw their season come to an end at the NCAA Louisville Regional after losing to Wright State.

The Buckeyes beat the Raiders in the opening game of the regionals in 10 innings, 7-6 as Jalen Washington hit a one hop single off the wall for the walk off victory

Host Louisville knocked the Buckeyes into the loser's bracket, beating Ohio State 15-3. The Cardinals scored 8 runs in the third inning to blow it open.

The Buckeyes season ended at the hands of Wright State. The Raiders scored five first inning runs and held on to win 7-3.

The Buckeyes finished the season with a 44-20-1 record. the NCAA appearance was the 20th all-time and the first since 2009. The 44 wins were the most by a Big Ten school this year and tied for the fifth-most wins in school history.

1966 TEAM HONORED IN OMAHA

The 1966 Buckeye baseball team wrapped up its year-long celebration as they were honored on the field at this year's College World Series in Omaha. The trip also included a return to the site of Rosenblatt Stadium where the Buckeyes beat Oklahoma State in the championship game. Ironically, it was this year's semi-final game involving Oklahoma State on the day the Buckeyes were honored.

Memories ran deep on the return trip to Rosenblatt Stadium memorial and included a head first slide by Ray Shoup into third base.

Now the game is played at TD Ameritrade Park. "The ballpark, the facilities, all of it just seems surreal compared to when we were here," said John Machado, an assistant coach on the '66 team. "At the time, we thought that Rosenblatt was big, unbelievably big."

COACHES CORNER

Greetings from the baseball office at Bill Davis Stadium. The 2016 Championship season was one heck of a ride. We saw many highlights including the celebration of our 1966 National Championship, beating TTUN 5 times, winning the BIG Tourney, playing in the NCAA Tournament, and the MLB draft. But, for me as a coach, the biggest highlight was simply seeing how these guys came together and played for each other.

The summer has begun and we are hot in heavy on the recruiting trail. Coach Holick and Coach Stafford are putting a lot of miles on their cars. We are out looking for the next group of young men to be Buckeyes. We hosted the All-Ohio series here this weekend which is a great opportunity for the young men to be at our facility and on our campus – it is also a great time for me to interact and tighten the network with the high school coaches in our state.

The MLB draft has once again been very good to the Buckeyes. We had 6 players selected – 4 of them underclassman. All six have signed and are out playing professionally. The 6 players selected ranks 15th amongst NCAA D1 schools. While this means we lose 4 players early, most importantly in means that 6 Buckeyes have the chance to fulfill a dream. This is one of their main goals when coming to Ohio State.

We have many of our guys out playing summer baseball in Collegiate wood bat leagues. We also have a large group of guys who stayed on campus for the summer to take classes and work with our strength coach Dean Hansen. Also, a small group of the incoming freshman has come to campus early to get a head start. Jacob Barnwell, Connor Curlis and Kent Axcell recently played in the Great Lakes League All-Star game. Incomer, JC transfer, Noah McGowan also played in the All Star game in the Texas Collegiate League. .

The coaching staff has been hard at work this summer with recruiting and running the summer camps. Our summer camp numbers have grown significantly – furthering our outreach into the community and giving back to the game of baseball. The recruiting trail continues to be good to us – we have 7 verbal commitments from players in the 2017 graduating class and we have begun actively recruiting the 2018 class. Our 2017 class is definitely the highest ranked recruiting class we have had – for the first time we have been able to keep the best players in Ohio here as Buckeyes. We are committed to recruiting championship student-athlete and young that will represent Buckeye Nation at the highest standard.

We have 17 new student athletes schedule to join the program in the fall. The talent level will be very high but there will be a lot of new faces. We are looking forward to the fall, and getting back to work with a new group to create another championship culture within the program.

What we are able to do for our guys with the support of the Diamond Club is truly special. We thank you for your support and look forward to many more victories together. Go Bucks!

Greg Beals

SIX BUCKEYES DRAFTED

The Ohio State Buckeyes led all Big Ten schools with six players drafted in the MLB Draft.



Junior outfielder Ronnie Dawson was selected in the second round by the Houston Astros. Dawson becomes the 10th player in school history to be taken in either the first or second round and first since Alex Wimmers was selected in the first round in 2010 by the Minnesota Twins. The 61st selection overall is happy to be an Astro. "I'm excited. I'm just blessed for this opportunity to get drafted, especially on the first day. Houston is taking a chance on me, and I'm grateful for that."

On day two of the draft, junior outfielder Troy Montgomery was selected by the Los Angeles Angels of Anaheim in the 8th round.

On the final day of the draft, four more Buckeyes were selected. The Colorado Rockies selected redshirt junior first baseman Jacob BosioKovic. Senior left hand pitcher Michael Horejsei was picked in the 21st round by the Chicago White Sox, senior infielder Nick Sergakis was selected in the 23rd round by the New York Mets and junior left-handed pitcher Tanner Tully was taken in the 26th round by the Cleveland Indians.

The six picks tie the 1998 team for second-most in school history - one shy of the program-record seven selections set by the 1992 team

DAWSON HEADS POST SEASON HONORS

The Ohio State Buckeyes raked in post season awards led by Ronnie Dawson's four All-American selections.

Dawson was named a 2nd team All-American by D1 Baseball and a 3rd team All-American selection by Louisville Slugger, Baseball American and the American Baseball Coaches Association. Dawson is the 50th All-American in Buckeye history and the first since 2013.



Sergakis, Tully and Dawson were named 1st Team All-Big Ten.

Dawson also led three Buckeyes on 2016 Mideast – ABCA/Rawlings All-Region Team. Dawson and Nick Sergakis were first team selections while Tanner Tully was named 2nd team. The three regional honors were the most by a Big Ten school this spring.

Three Buckeyes, Dawson, Sergakis and Tully were named to the All-Big Ten 1st Team. It was the first time the Buckeyes placed three on the first team since 2009. Sergakis was also honored with the conference's Sportsmanship award.

BUCKEYES IN THE PROS

Jacob Bosio-kovic-Bosio-kovic is playing for the Boise Hawks (Colorado Rockies – Northwest League – Short Season A). In 31 games Bosi is hitting .341 with four home runs and 18 RBI.

Ronnie Dawson-Dawson is playing for the Tri City ValleyCats (Houston Astros – NY Penn League – Short Season A). In 30 games Dawson is hitting .178 with five home runs and 16 RBI.

Josh Edgin - Edgin, is with the Las Vegas 51s (New York Mets -Pacific Coast League-AAA). In 28 games this season Edgin is 1-1 with a 2.52 ERA and two saves.

Eric Fryer – Fryer is currently playing with the Pittsburgh Pirates. In 10 games with Pittsburgh he is hitting .320. Overall this year between the Pirates and the St. Louis Cardinals. Fryer is hitting .349 in 34 games.

Brad Goldberg- Goldberg is with the Charlotte Knights (Chicago White Sox – International League - AAA). In 29 games Goldberg is 1-2 with a 2.62 ERA and six saves.

Jake Hale-Hale is pitching for the Sugarland Skeeters. (Atlantic League – Independent). Hale’s stats were unavailable.

Michael Horejsei-Horejsei was just promoted to the Kannapolis Intimidators (Chicago White Sox – South Atlantic League – A). While with Great Falls, Horejsei appeared in eight games, was 0-1 with two saves and didn’t give up an earned run.

John Kuchno- Kuchno is currently pitching for the Indianapolis Indians (Pittsburgh – International League – AAA). In 24 games, Kuchno is 1-3 with a 5.40 ERA.

Jaron Long- Long is pitching for the Syracuse Chiefs (Washington Nationals – International League – AAA) Long has started eight games and is 2-3 with a 4.30 ERA.

Brett McKinney – McKinney is playing for the Altoona Curve (Pittsburgh – Eastern League – AA). McKinney has appeared in 32 games and is 2-2 with a 3.55 ERA and one save.

Troy Montgomery-Montgomery was just promoted to the Burlington Bees (Los Angeles Angels – Midwest League – A). Before being promoted, Montgomery was hitting .341 with four home runs and 17 RBI for Orem.

Pat Porter – Porter is playing for the Quad City River Bandits (Houston Astros – Midwest League – A) – In 62 games, Porter is hitting .187. with five home runs and 22 RBI.

Ryan Riga – Riga is playing for the Winston-Salem Dash (Chicago White Sox – Carolina League – A) Riga has started eight games and is 1-1 with a 6.59 ERA.

Drew Rucinski – Rucinski is pitching for the Iowa Cubs (Chicago Cubs- Pacific Coast League – AAA). In 19 starts Rucinski is 5-9 with a 5.78 ERA.

Nick Sergakis-Sergakis is playing for the Brooklyn Cyclones (New York Mets – New York Penn League – Short Season A). In 24 games, Sergakis is hitting .245 with two home runs and nine RBI.

Summer Ball

Fourteen members of the Ohio State baseball team are playing summer ball season in collegiate leagues. The Buckeyes are represented in four different leagues.

The Northwoods League and Great Lakes Leagues each have six Buckeyes playing in it, six.

In the Northwoods League, Tre’ Gantt, Brady Cherry and Austin Woodby are playing for the Kalamazoo Growlers. Joe Stoll is pitching for the Lakeshore Chinooks while Jacob VanderWal is playing for the Rockford Rivets and Casey Demko is with the Cincinnati Spikes.

In the Great Lakes League, Ridge Winand, Kent Axcel, Curtiss Irving and Matt Carpenter are playing for the Galion Graders. Jacob Barnwell and Connor Curlis are with the Lima Locos.

The Cape Cod League and the Prospect League each have one Buckeye. Right handed pitcher Ryan Feltner is playing in the Cape Cod League for the Brewster Whitecaps. While Andrew Fishel is playing for the Champion City Kings in the Prospect League.

Some summer highlights. Curlis, Barnwell and Axcel were named to the Great Lakes All-star team. In the Northwoods League. Gantt hit two home runs and had six RBI in one game

A RECORD YEAR

The 2016 season saw the Buckeyes set several school records as well as make a dent in the record book.

The team set a record for the most stolen bases in a season with 101 and the pitching staff recorded the most strikeouts in a season with 495. Individually Ronnie Dawson tied the record for most doubles in a season.

Other Highlights:

- 44 wins tied for 5th all time in a season.
- 133 Doubles was the fourth most in OSU history.
- Dawson had 51 RBI, the most since 2009
- Seth Kinker’s 38 appearances out of the bullpen was the second most in a season and Michael Horejsei’s 34 appearances was fourth

BUCKEYES IN THE PROS (Continued)

J.B. Shuck – Shuck is playing for Chicago White Sox. In 44 games Shuck is hitting .238 with three home runs and 13 RBI.

Tanner Tully – Tully is pitching for the Mahoning Valley Scrap-pers (Cleveland Indians – New York Penn League -Short Season A). In five game, Tully is 2-0 with a 0.75 ERA.

Alex Wimmers-Wimmers is pitching for the Rochester Red Wings. (Minnesota Twins – International League - AAA). Wim-mers has appeared in 29 games and is 2-1 with a 3.43 ERA.

MACHADO ELECTED TO OSU ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME

John Machado will be the 22nd Buckeye baseball player to be inducted in the Ohio State Athletics Hall of Fame.



Machado was a three-year letter-winner from 1962-64. He was named a second team All-American in 1963 after leading the Buckeyes in home runs, RBI and runs. He was the first three-time first team All-Big Ten selection in school history and was a captain during the 1963 campaign.

Machado also served as an assistant coach on the 1966 national championship team.

Machado will be inducted in the hall September 9th.

BUCKEYE BITS

Congratulation to Matt Angle and his wife Jaclyn on the birth of their daughter Payton.

Also, congratulations to volunteer assistant coach Dan DeLucia and his wife Carly on the birth of their daughter Gracie.

And congratulations to Nick Swisher and his wife Joanna Garcia on the birth of their second daughter Sailor Stevie.

On the field, Swisher was released by the Scranton Wilkes-Barre RailRiders while Cory Luebke was outrighted to Triple-A, but refused the assignment and was released.

J.B. Shuck made his Major League pitching debut and struck out Bryce Harper of the Nationals.

After being released by the Pittsburgh Pirates, Cory Luebke signed a minor league contract with the Miami Marlins.

Fryer Back With Pirates

For the second time in his career, Eric Fryer finds himself in the steel city. A 10th round draft pick of the Milwaukee Brewers in 2007, After two years in the Brewers' organization, Fryer started 2009 in the Yankees' system.



He was traded that year to Pittsburgh and made his major league debut in 2011 with the Pirates.

In 2013 Fryer moved to the Twins organization. Where he remained until the start of this year.

He was a spring training invitee with the St. Louis Cardinals and made the opening day roster. For three months Fryer served as the backup catcher.

In late June he was released and immediately picked up by the Pirates.

Goldberg Named AAA All-Star

When the 2016 season started, being a Triple A All-star was not in the mind of former Buckeye Brad Goldberg.



Goldberg started the season with Birmingham in Double A.

Goldberg started the season in Birmingham, throwing in four games, striking out seven in six innings.

He was promoted to Charlotte and continued to throw well. When Goldberg was named to the All-Star team he had appeared in 29 games for the Knights with a 2.17 ERA.

Goldberg is the third Buckeye to be named to the Triple A All-Star game. JB Shuck and Doug Deeds also played in the game.

GOLF OUTING AUGUST 1st



The 2016 Buckeye Diamond Club Golf Outing is scheduled for August 1st at York Country Club in Worthington.

This year's event is being presented by West Coast Chill.

Registration begins at 10:30 with the shot gun start scheduled for noon. The cost is \$ 150 per person or \$600 for a foursome. The fees include the round of golf, use of the driving range, lunch,

dinner and beverages. Hole Sponsorships are also available for \$ 250.

To make your reservation, e-mail the Buckeye Diamond Club at buckeyediamondclub@hotmail.com or call the baseball office at 614-292-1075. The Diamond Club can now accept credit cards for your payment..

For more sponsorship opportunities, please contact the Buckeye Diamond Club.

Join the Diamond Club

The Buckeye Diamond Club is an organization comprised of Ohio State Buckeye baseball fans, parents and former players who support the well-being of the student athletes in all phases of their careers at the Ohio State University.

The Buckeye Diamond Club assists the baseball program by generating the revenues necessary to meet the program's goals during the season and leave in place the platform needed for future teams to maintain the tradition.

To become a member of the Buckeye Diamond Club, contact the club at Buckeyediamondclub@hotmail.com.

Membership is \$50.00 per year. The Ohio State University requires all members to sign a yearly Certificate of Compliance. Without a signed form on record, you will not be considered a member of the Buckeye Diamond Club.

The Buckeye Diamond Club does not sell or give the organizations e-mail addresses to anyone.