

# Redbirds, Ravens keep CVC alive

By **RED BIRCH**  
Staff Writer

How strong was the Colonial Valley Conference in baseball this spring?

Strong enough that, as of last Tuesday, the league had a legitimate chance to have a team alive in every group sectional final in the Central Jersey portion of the NJSIAA Tournament.

The two teams to come out of that and not only make the sectional finals, but also win them were Allentown and Robbinsville, two of the league's smaller schools.

After battling through the wars of the CVC Patriot Division, from which four of five teams qualified for the state tournament, Allentown, the No. 4-ranked team in the state, cruised through the Group II bracket. The top-seeded Redbirds (25-3) outscored their opponents, 28-10, in four state games and won their first sectional title by defeating Rumson-Fair Haven, 6-1, last Friday.

Standing in Allentown's way today is Buena. The 17-9 Chiefs were seeded sixth in South Jersey before surprising traditional power Audubon, 11-9, in the sectional final.

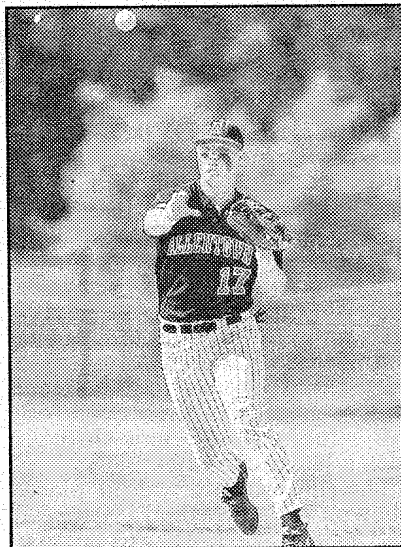
Allentown and Buena will meet at 4 p.m. today at New Egypt High in the state semifinals.

Robbinsville handled most of the surprises in Central Jersey Group I. This second-year varsity program, which only won two games a season ago, upset two teams on the road last week to win the school's first sectional crown.

The fourth-seeded Ravens (15-9) knocked off top-seeded David Brearley High in Kenilworth, 3-2, in eight innings Wednesday (because their bus broke down on the way there Tuesday), then came back to defeat third-seeded Florence on the road, 9-3, Friday to win the CJ I title before the oldest players on the team headed off to the senior prom.

Up next for Robbinsville will be Maple Shade (16-4), which came out of South Jersey as the top seed, slipping past Pitman, 5-4, in the championship game. Interestingly enough, the Ravens and Wildcats met during the regular season with Robbinsville winning at home, 10-3, back on April 18.

This time around, the teams will also meet in Mercer County, with Rider University's Sonny Pittaro Field being the destination for today's 4 p.m. state semi-final.



Tretonian Photo/GREGG SLABODA

Allentown's Logan Gallagher fires to first during last Friday's playoff game.

bled through during the regular season, toughening them up for June's biggest games, which not that long ago were just a dream.

## NJSIAA BASEBALL

### (Seeds in Parentheses) NJSIAA TOURNAMENT CENTRAL JERSEY GROUP IV

#### First Round

Hillsborough 3, Old Bridge 1  
Rancocas Valley 7, North Brunswick 5  
Manalapan 10, Howell 0  
South Brunswick 4, Sayreville 3, 8 innings

#### Friday, May 23

Jackson Memorial 11, Hillsborough 5  
Colts Neck 13, Rancocas Valley 0  
Steinert 6, Manalapan 0  
Hunterdon Central 10, South Brunswick 0

#### Tuesday, May 27

Sectional Semifinals  
Colts Neck 5, Jackson Memorial 4  
Hunterdon Central 5, Steinert 2

#### Friday, May 30

Sectional Final  
Hunterdon Central 5, Colts Neck 2

### SOUTH JERSEY GROUP IV

#### First Round

Cherry Hill West 9, Williamstown 4  
Millville 1, Cherokee 0  
Cherry Hill East 9, Winslow Twp. 4  
Washington Twp. 3, Southern Regional 2  
Toms River South 3, Toms River East 2  
Mainland 6, Vineland 4

#### Friday, May 23

Toms River North 7, Cherry Hill West 2  
Cherry Hill East 11, Millville 5  
Toms River South 4, Washington Twp. 3  
Lenape 7, Mainland 6

#### Tuesday, May 27

Sectional Semifinals  
Toms River North 20, Cherry Hill East 10  
Lenape 6, Toms River South 5

#### Friday, May 30

Sectional Final  
Toms River North 12, Lenape 2

### STATE SEMIFINAL

#### Today

(at Raritan High, Hazlet)  
Hunterdon Central (2) vs. Toms River North (1)  
CENTRAL JERSEY GROUP III

#### First Round

Hamilton 8, Point Pleasant Boro 7, 13 innings  
WW-P North 9, Hopewell Valley 1

#### Friday, May 23

Wall 3, WW-P North 2  
Monroe 3, Freehold Boro 1  
Monmouth Reg. 8, Northern Burlington 4  
Nottingham 4, Hamilton 3

#### Tuesday, May 27

Sectional Semifinals  
Wall 8, Monroe 3  
Monmouth Reg. 5, Nottingham 3

#### Friday, May 30

Cumberland 12, Highland Regional 6  
West Deptford 2, Kingsway 1  
Timber Creek 9, Deptford 2

#### Tuesday, May 27

Sectional Semifinals  
Clearview 2, Cumberland 1  
Timber Creek 8, West Deptford 2

#### Friday, May 30

Sectional Final  
Timber Creek 9, Clearview 3

### STATE SEMIFINAL

#### Today

(at College of New Jersey, Ewing)  
Timber Creek (2) vs. Wall (1)

### CENTRAL JERSEY GROUP II

#### First Round

Allentown 11, Abraham Clark 1  
Matawan 6, Roselle Park 3  
Ewing 5, Raritan 4  
Somerville 6, Manasquan 2  
Rumson-Fair Haven 11, Bordentown 1  
Gov. Livingston 14, Hillside 2  
Carteret 6, Spotswood 5  
Shore Regional 5, Delaware Valley 0

#### Friday, May 23

Allentown 5, Matawan 4  
Somerville 6, Ewing 3  
Rumson-Fair Haven 11, Gov. Livingston 1  
Shore Regional 5, Carteret 1

#### Tuesday, May 27

Sectional Semifinals  
Allentown 6, Somerville 4  
Rumson-Fair Haven 9, Shore Regional 7

#### Friday, May 30

Sectional Final  
Allentown 6, Rumson-Fair Haven 1

### SOUTH JERSEY GROUP II

#### First Round

Woodstown 2, Haddon Heights 1  
Buena 5, Burlington Twp. 4  
Gateway 3, Haddonfield 1

#### Friday, May 23

Haddon Twp. 2, Woodstown 1  
Audubon 14, Overbrook 2  
Buena 7, Collingswood 3  
Gateway 6, Delran 5

#### Tuesday, May 27

Sectional Semifinals  
Audubon 9, Haddon Twp. 5  
Buena 3, Gateway 2

#### Friday, May 30

Sectional Final  
Buena 11, Audubon 9

### STATE SEMIFINAL

#### Today

(at New Egypt High)  
Buena (6) vs. Allentown (1)

### CENTRAL JERSEY GROUP I

#### First Round

Keyport 11, Bound Brook 5  
Metuchen 14, Perth Amboy Tech 1

#### Friday, May 23

David Brearley 6, Keyport 4  
Robbinsville 4, New Providence 1  
Florence 17, South Amboy 1  
Metuchen 10, Dunellen 0

#### Tuesday, May 27

Sectional Semifinals  
Robbinsville 3, David Brearley 2 (8 innings)

#### Friday, May 30

Sectional Final  
Robbinsville 9, Florence 3

### SOUTH JERSEY GROUP I

#### First Round

Riverside 10, New Egypt 5

#### Friday, May 23

Maple Shade 9, Riverside 6  
Gloucester 15, Penns Grove 13  
Pennsville 5, Wildwood 0  
Pitman 6, Point Pleasant Beach 1

#### Tuesday, May 27

Sectional Semifinals  
Maple Shade 8, Gloucester 5  
Pitman 3, Pennsville 1

#### Friday, May 30

Sectional Final  
Maple Shade 5, Pitman 4

### STATE SEMIFINAL

#### Today

(at Rider University, Lawrence)  
Robbinsville (4) vs. Maple Shade (1)

### NON-PUBLIC A SOUTH

#### Wednesday, May 21

St. John Vianney 4, Red Bank Catholic 3

#### Tuesday, May 27

Bishop Ahr 2, St. John Vianney 1  
Christian Brothers Acad. 6, St. Augustine 3  
Holy Spirit 2, St. Joseph's-Metuchen 1  
Gloucester Catholic 10, Notre Dame 3

#### Friday, May 30

Sectional Semifinals  
Christian Brothers Acad. 4, Bishop Ahr 3  
Gloucester Catholic 9, Holy Spirit 3

#### Tuesday, June 3

Sectional Final  
(at Mercer County Park Field 1, West Windsor)  
Gloucester Catholic (7) vs. CBA (4)

### NON-PUBLIC A SOUTH