

Date: Jun 28, 2009; Section: Sports; Page: B2

AROUND MONTANA

Bucks run mark to 3-0 in Billings

By Chronicle Staff

Kyle Britt allowed just two earned runs over six innings and Anthony Rinard went 3-for-3 to lift the Bozeman Bucks to a 5-2 win over the Butte Miners Saturday at the UAS/Fleetwood American Legion baseball tournament in Billings. Britt struck out two batters and walked no one.

Butte carried a 1-0 lead into the fourth inning before Bozeman scored three times. Rinard led off with a triple and scored on Andy Ballinger's single. Ben Leister (3-for-4) singled and later scored on an error. Ethan Wilkes made it 3-1 with a sacrifice fly. Leister's RBI single in the fifth and Rinard's sac fly in the sixth concluded the scoring for the Bucks (28-13).

Brendan Phillips and Ballinger each had two hits. Sam Riordan pitched a complete game for Butte, allowing just three earned runs, but was tagged for 12 hits.

The Bucks are the only undefeated team in the "Easton" pool. The top two teams in each pool advance to the Gold championship bracket, which begins Monday at Dehler Park.

Bozeman plays Thompson Valley, Colo., today at 5 p.m. in Laurel. The Eagles are 0-2, losing to KB Building Services (Omaha, Neb.) 15-6 and Butte 6-3. The Bucks defeated KB on Friday 6-5.

BOZEMAN 13s MAKE IT TWO WINS IN IDAHO:

Bozeman's 13-year-old all-stars defeated the Madison Cats Friday 12-6 to improve to 2-1 at a tournament in Rexberg, Idaho. Bozeman fell behind 5-0 before using an eight-run fourth inning to pull in front for good.

Ryan Nagle hit a pair of doubles and drove in three runs and Nick Winn and Jake Ekstrom each had two hits. Ekstrom also earned the win on the mound, going 5 2/3 innings of relief and striking out five batters while allowing just one earned run. Chad Mackay drove in three runs and Jake Willard knocked in two.

The team will be hosting the Pacific Northwest Regional Baseball tournament July 31- Aug. 6 at Heroes Park in Bozeman. Opening ceremonies are July 31 and the public is welcome to join the 10 teams from five states and Canada for a bar-be-cue for \$5 per person.

For more information, contact tournament director Lance Mackay at 406-581-7038.

Cycling

LUSSIER POWERS TO SECOND:

Alex Lussier, riding for Gallatin Alpine Sports/Intrinsic Architecture, reined in the leaders on the second lap of the Discovery Basin cross-country mountain bike race on Sunday, June 21, to take second place.

The race was the second in the Montana Off Road Series.

Missoula native and professional rider for Subaru/Gary Fisher Sam Schultz took top honors.

With the runner-up finish, Lussier took the series points lead.

Guy MacKenzie, also with GAS/Intrinsic, took second in the men's cat. 2 race and Lisa Curry won the women's elite race.