

SPORTS SHORTS

Brookdale softball wins 14th Region 19 title

The Brookdale Community College softball team defeated Northampton (Pa.) Community College, 6-2, on Wednesday to win its 14th NJCAA Region 19 championship in the last 17 years. Brookdale (34-13) advanced to the Division III national finals May 14-16 in Rochester, Minn. Region Tournament MVP Samantha Wagner went 3-for 4 including a lead-off home run in the second inning that triggered a four-run rally and gave Brookdale a 4-1 lead over the Spartans (27-10). Danielle Davenport (Matawan), the Region 19 Player of the Year, hit two doubles, a sacrifice fly and drove in four runs. Winning pitcher Lexie DeRasmo (Shore Regional) improved to 20-6, scattering five hits. Brookdale won Division III national titles in 2002 and 2005. . . . No. 4 seed Monmouth University (25-16, 11-7) will take on top-seeded Long Island (31-15, 17-1) 10 a.m. Friday in the opening game of the four-team, double-elimination 2009 Northeast Conference Tournament. Game 2 features No. 2 Robert Morris (25-19, 12-6 NEC) against No. 3 Sacred Heart (22-26, 11-7 NEC), with first pitch slated for 12:15 p.m. All games will be played on the campus of St. John's University. The championship game is scheduled for Saturday with the rain date set for Sunday. The winner of the NEC Championship will receive the league's automatic berth in the NCAA Tournament.

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