



# 2021 State Baseball Championships

## Logan Wins First State Baseball Title

The Logan Longhorns (15-1) captured their first State Baseball title in school history with a 16-7 win over the Gateway Christian Warriors (15-5) at the 2021 NMAA State Baseball Championships.

The Longhorns scored 16 runs on 12 hits, including a 4-for-5 performance at the plate by Park Strong, who hit three singles and a homerun in the sixth inning. His homerun was a grand slam.



The Warriors took an early 3-0 lead, scoring one in the first and two in the second inning. However, the Longhorns responded in the bottom half of the second with five runs, taking a 5-2 lead after two inning off play. Logan added one more in the third to make it 6-2.

Gateway Christian pulled within one run at 6-5 in the top of the fourth, off a home run by Hurley Breedyk but Logan extended their lead in the bottom of the inning, scoring three to make it 9-5.

The Warriors added one more in the top half of the fifth but Logan was too much on this day, as the Longhorns added seven more run over the fifth and sixth innings, winning the game 16-7 and hoisting the blue trophy overhead.

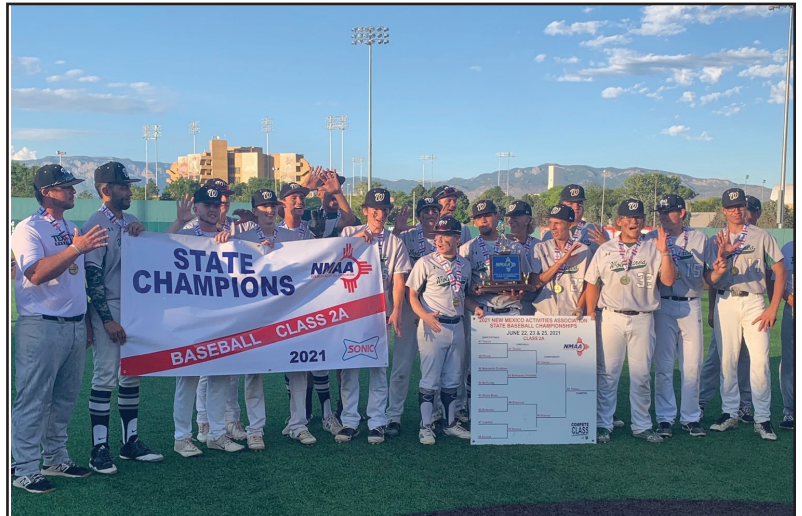
## Texico Captures Fifth Straight Blue Trophy

The Texico Wolverines (21-1) won their fifth straight blue trophy and the sixth in program history at the 2021 NMAA State Baseball Championships with a 9-5 victory over the Eunice Cardinals (15-5) in the 2A title game.

This also marked the fifth title under head coach Ty Thatcher. The Wolverines collected 15 hits in the game, as Seth Griego was 4-for-5 at the plate, including a three singles and first inning two run home run to give Texico and early lead.

Texico added one more run in the top of the third but Eunice would pull within one run in the bottom of the inning, scoring two to make it 3-2 advantage Wolverines. The Cardinals took the lead in the bottom of the fourth with three runs, making it 5-3, as Chance Tucker, Zeke Benton and Gio Chacon all scored.

The Wolverines pulled back on top in the sixth with four runs and added another in the seventh to make 9-5. The Texico defense held the Eunice offense to no runs and just one hit over the last three innings of play, as the Wolverines hoisted the blue trophy for the fifth straight time.



## Sandia Prep Wins 3A Baseball Championship

The Sandia Prep Sundevils (19-4) defeated the Robertson Cardinals (13-8) in the 2021 NMAA 3A State Baseball Championship game, 2-1. This was the sixth state title in school history and the first for the Sundevils since 2016.

It was a pitcher's duel in the 3A title game, as Sandia Prep recorded seven strikeouts, six of which belonged to starting pitcher Issac Horstman. Horstman followed just one run on two hits in six innings of work. Robertson's starting pitcher Steven Pedro recorded seven strikeouts on the day.



The two teams were scoreless thru two innings before Sandia Prep scored two runs in the bottom of the third on a two-run home run by Samuel Treme. Robertson pulled within one at 2-1 in the



top of the fifth but great pitching and a tough defense by Sandia Prep was too much for the Cardinals to overcome, as the Sundevils lifted the blue trophy.

### **ABQ Academy Wins Fourth Baseball Blue Trophy**

The Albuquerque Academy Chargers (17-6) won in thrilling fashion over the St. Pius X Sartans (17-3) in the 2021 NMAA State 4A Baseball Championship game, beating the Sartans 8-7 on a walk-off double in the bottom of the seventh by Devan Johnson.

Through the first five innings of play the game was pitching duel as Academy's Henry Mitchell recorded seven strikeouts, while St. Pius X Matthew Cornelius collected five strikeouts.



The Sartans got on the board first with two runs in the top of the fourth inning but the Chargers responded in the bottom of the fourth with three runs, as Academy lead 3-2 after four.

The Chargers extended their lead to 4-2 in the sixth and needed just three outs for the state title. The Sartans however would not go away so easily.

St. Pius X scored five runs in the top half of the seventh inning to take a 7-4 lead and seemed to have all the momentum heading into the bottom half of the inning. Academy cut the lead to 7-5 and then quickly loaded the bases with one out before Johnson hit a game-winning double to left center, giving the Chargers the win.

### **La Cueva Adds 11th State Baseball Championship**

The La Cueva Bears (18-5) captured their 11th state title in the sport of baseball at the 2021 5A State Baseball Championships with a victory over the Hobbs Eagles (20-3), 11-2. This was also the fourth title for the Bears under head coach Gerard Pineda and the first since 2018.

The Bears scored first in the bottom of the first inning with two runs but the Eagles quickly tied the game at 2-2 in the top half of the second. The score, however, would not remain tied for long as La Cueva added five more runs in the bottom of the second to go up 7-2.

La Cueva's pitching and defense took over



from that point on allowing Hobbs to collect just three more hits in the game. The Bears would add two more runs in the third and two more in the fifth to extend their lead to 11-2.

Akili Carris and Ronan Hella each had multi-hit games for the Bears, as starting pitcher Max McGaha threw sixth and two-thirds, allowing two runs on five hits and striking out four batters.