

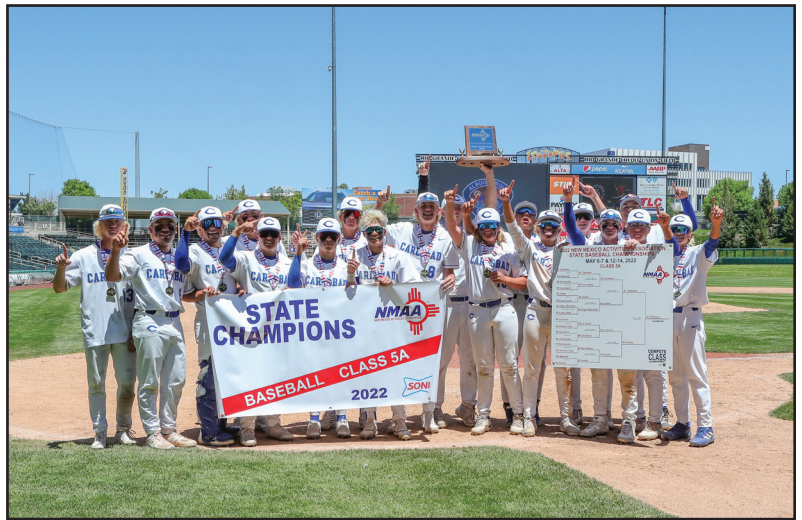


2022 State Baseball Championships

Class 5A

Carlsbad High School has one of the most successful baseball programs in New Mexico and the Cavemen added another chapter to their storied history in 2022. Carlsbad beat Sandia 7-0 to win the Class 5A State Baseball Championship crown. It's the 12th baseball title for Carlsbad, but their first since 2016.

Carlsbad's pitching played a big role in their postseason success. Nolan Perry, Mack Mabrey and Grant Harvill only surrendered four runs in their five playoff wins. Harvill started in the championship game against the Matadors and struck out 11 batters, handing Sandia (22-8) their first shutout of the season.



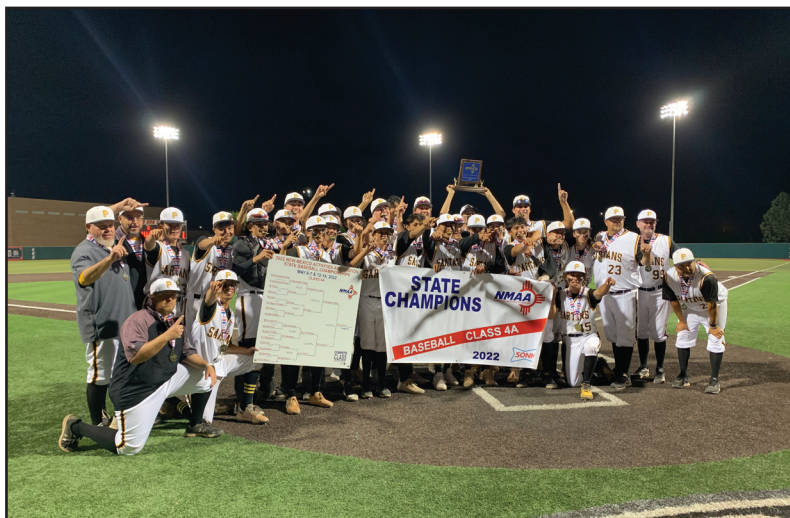
With their senior lefty on the mound, Carlsbad (27-4) didn't need much offense to pull this one out, but they plated their first runs in the first inning. Nolan Perry knocked in Tristan Thomas to give the Cavemen a 1-0 lead, part of a 3-run inning for Carlsbad. Brandon Ganaway gave Carlsbad a 4-0 lead with an RBI single in the third. Carlsbad posted three more runs in the seventh to seal the deal on their championship win. Ganaway was perfect at the plate going 4-4 with a double and 3 RBIs on the game.

Class 4A

The 2022 Class 4A title game was a match-up of 1-versus-2 and longtime rivals. Defending state champ Albuquerque Academy took on St. Pius X in a rematch of last year's final. This time, it was the Sartans who finished the season on top. The Sartans got their revenge with a 15-2 emphatic win over the Chargers to claim the Class 4A State Baseball Championship.

St. Pius X senior Nolan Esterly started the hit parade with a two-run single in the first. In the third, Esterly drove in another run with a double in his second plate appearance. Esterly would score on a Jacob Sena single to make it 4-0. The Sartans would add two more runs in the fourth, followed by another 9 runs in the fifth to hang 15 total on the board. The Sartans sent 13 batters to the plate in that explosive fifth inning. Academy (26-5) had five errors and only four hits on the game.

Esterly led the charge offensively going 3-3 with a double, triple and 4 RBIs on the game. It's the second state title for St. Pius X since 2019.



Class 3A

New Mexico Military Institute left little doubt who had the best pitcher in Class 3A during the 2022 season. The Colts relied on the state's strikeout leader to help them win their first state championship in program history. NMMI took down East Mountain 15-1 to win the Class 3A State Baseball Championship.

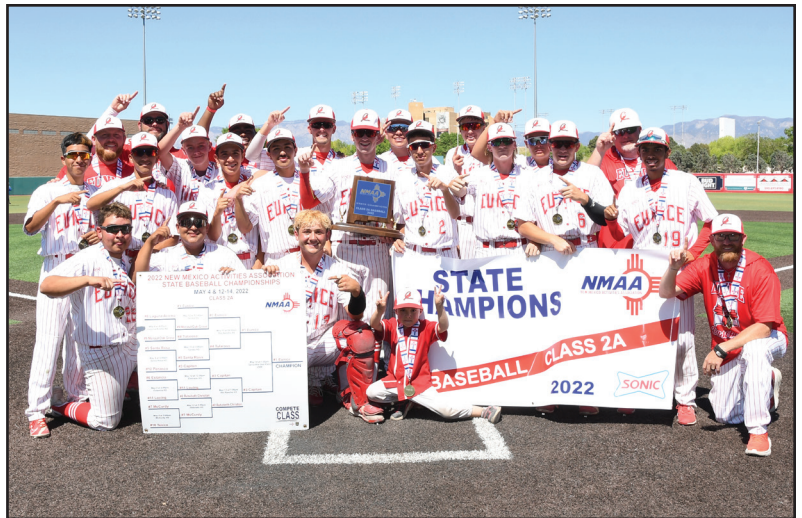
Luis A. Patron, New Mexico's strikeout leader and one of the top K-men in the country, struck out 12 East Mountain batters and only gave up three hits in his championship game performance. His first 10 outs over his 4 and two-thirds innings were by strikeout. Patron also drove in the first runs of the game with a bases-clearing double in the first. NMMI (23-6) scored at least three runs in each of their first four innings. East Mountain (19-8) gave up 13 walks on the game.



Class 2A

Eunice took down Capitan 21-3 to claim the 2022 Class 2A State Baseball Championship. This game was decided in the second inning. The Cardinals (26-1) sent 20 batters to the plate in the second and scored 15 runs to close the door on the Tigers (15-7).

Eunice spotted Capitan the first run of the game in the opening frame, but posted two runs in their first at bat to take the lead for good. The marathon second inning was highlighted by an inside the park grand slam courtesy of senior center fielder Micah Tippet. It's the 18th state title for Eunice (most in New Mexico history), but the first for the Cardinals since 2015.



Class A

The Logan Longhorns ended the 2022 season the same way they ended 2021, with the blue trophy. Logan beat Gateway Christian 11-4 to claim the Class A State Baseball Championship for the second year in a row. This year's game was a rematch of last year's final.

The Longhorns took a 2-nothing lead in their first trip to the plate. Gateway Christian would cut the deficit in half, until a three-run outburst by the Longhorns in the fifth. The Warriors made it a 5-4 game in the sixth, but the Longhorns exploded for seven runs in the top of the final frame putting it out of reach.

