Leipsic Vikings   29 - 1
1976 State Champions

Kneeling left to right – Dan Cuevas, Mgr., Dan Mangas, Don Christman, Manuel Gonzalez, Roy Tooman, Jim Wagler, Gary Kreinbrink, Steve McCullough and Ruben Gonzalez. Standing left to right – Duane Tooman, Ron Christman, Bruce Meyer, Tracy Place, Denny Maag, Duane Niese, Dave Maag, Roger Meyer and Coach Ted Miller.

The first baseball state champion from Putnam County was the 1976 Leipsic Vikings. This was arguably the best team to date to play the game of high school baseball in Putnam County. The Vikings which went 29-1 were coached by the legendary Ted Miller. Two of Putnam County's greatest baseball players on that team were Rueben Gonzalez and Denny Maag. Leipsic claimed the state title by defeating Cuyahoga Heights 6-5.

The 1976 Vikings were an amazing team. When Leipsic started tournament play, they were 16-1. They then coasted through the Sectional Tournament with out allowing a run when they defeated Patrick Henry 3-0 and McComb 8-0.

Entering the District Tournament, Leipsic was 21-1. Over the next days, the Vikings defeated Tiffin Calvert 7-1 and Toledo Northwood, 3-0.

After four more regular season victories, Leipsic defeated Columbus Grove 1-0 in the Regional Semi-Finals on a homer by Denny Maag. The next day, the Vikings jumped all over Sandusky St. Marys for three runs in the first and went on to win their first Regional-Final game 8-2.

Both games in the State Tournament were exciting and went down to the excruciating final out. In the State Semi-Finals, Leipsic went into the bottom of the 7th with a 3-0 lead, but Chillicothe Flaget scored two runs and had runners on 2nd and 3rd with two outs. Denny Maag then struck out the final batter to preserve the win. The State Finals were just as exciting. Leipsic went into the bottom of the 7th leading 6-3, but Cuyahoga Heights scored two runs to cut the lead to 6-5. Denny Maag then bore down and retired the last three batters in a row to preserve the victory.