

WEST PENN BASEBALL PROSPECTS

Special All-Star Weekend Edition

May 2008

The biggest weekend of the year in Western Pennsylvania scholastic baseball is almost here!!! The WPIAL Baseball Coaches Association (WBCA) All-Star Weekend will take place on June 13 and 14. The Weekend includes three major events:

- Awards Banquet
- Underclassmen Showcase
- All-Star Doubleheader

The **Awards Banquet** will be held on June 13 and 7:00 p.m. at the Hilton Garden Inn at Southpointe. The Banquet honors the players and coaches selected to participate in the All-Star Doubleheader and the Players and Coaches of the Year in each of the four classifications as selected by a vote of WPIAL baseball coaches. Mark Saghy will be the Master of Ceremonies and James Madison University assistant coach, and Bethel Park High product, Ted White will be the guest speaker.

The banquet is open to the public and the cost to attend is \$25 per person. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. and there will be a cash bar throughout the evening. Call Tony Villiotti at 412-429-0546 if you need more information or wish to attend the banquet.

The **Underclassmen Showcase** will be held on the morning of June 14 at Burkett Field in Robinson Township. The Showcase is limited to 2009 graduates. Most of the top juniors in Western Pennsylvania have registered for the Showcase and a large turnout of college and professional scouts is expected. The event has sold out for the fourth consecutive year. **There will be absolutely no walkup registrations as the event is a sellout.**

Any college or junior college coach or professional scout with questions about the Showcase or who would like a pre-event registration list should contact Tony Villiotti (412-429-0546, 412-429-0546, wpabaseball@hotmail.com) or Mark Saghy (412-915-0833) . The tentative Showcase itinerary is as follows:

7:15 am	Registration for Position Players
8:00	60 Yard Dash
8:30	Outfield Defense
9:00	Infield Defense
10:00	Hitting
12:30	Registration for Pitches and Catchers
1:00	60 Yard Dash (Catchers only)
1:15	Catcher Throwing
1:35	Pitching
3:30	Hitting (Catchers only)

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The **All-Star Doubleheader** will be played at Burkett Field (same location as the Showcase) beginning at 5:00 p.m. on June 14. The All-Star teams from Class A and Class AA will face off in the opener with Class AAA taking on Class AAAA in the nightcap. Both games will be seven innings and will be played using wooden bats. The rain date for the doubleheader is June 15.

The All-Star teams are listed on pages 3 through 6 of this newsletter. Seventy-six players will participate in the doubleheader, representing over 50 different high schools. Due to PIAA rules, only seniors are eligible to participate in the All-Star games.

As with most All-Star teams there are always questions about why Player A is selected over Player B. The selection process used by the WBCA is an open one and is intended to consider all deserving seniors. The selection process begins with coaches nominating seniors from their own team for consideration by a Selection Committee. Coaches are also asked to recommend players from other teams who they have seen play and who have impressed them. Information for the nominated players is then assembled and provided to the Selection Committee for their consideration.

The goal for the Selection Committee is for each classification to have at least two representatives from each section. Committee members are solicited on a volunteer basis. The Selection Committee for each classification then meets and selects the team, along with alternates. The players selected are then contacted to determine whether they will be able to play. Alternates take the place of any selected players who are unable to play.

The Selection Committee is faced with difficult choices as the number of players worthy of consideration always exceeds the number of positions available. The WBCA thanks those who took the time to participate in the selection of this year's teams.

The Class A Selection Committee included Dan Alderson (Chartiers-Houston), Dave Bates (Carmichaels), Sam Cercone (Monaca), Bob Downey (Vincentian Academy), Brian Dzurenda (Serra Catholic), Don Hartman (California), Nathan Torboli (Cornell) and Eric Verdi (Laurel).

The Class AA Committee included Larry Cujas (Ford City), Bob Grandizio (Shady Side Academy), Rich Griser (Riverview), Bruce Herstine (Beaver), Dan Oliastro (Riverside), Derek Palmer (Sto-Rox), Michael Plassio (Washington), Mark Suckfiel (South Allegheny), Shawn Trainor (Seton LaSalle), Pat Walsh (North Catholic) and Justin Zona (Deer Lakes).

The Class AAA Committee included Andy Bednar (Mars), Jeff Kuzma (West Mifflin), Tom Landman (Laurel Highlands), Glen Vietmeier (Montour) and Gary Wilson (Hampton).

The Class AAAA Committee included Tim Banner (Woodland Hills), Shawn Chory (Albert Gallatin), Bob Hinds (Shaler), Rich Krivanek (Central Catholic), Andy Maddix (North Allegheny), Joe Maize (Peters Township) and Jim Rider (Bethel Park).

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Class A All-Stars

Jimmy Battaglia	Rochester High School
Justin Berklovich	Frazier High School
Andrew DeSalle	Our Lady of Sacred Heart High School
Mike Devine	Springdale High School
Brad Duffy	Vincentian Academy
Ty Erdely	Geibel Catholic High School
Josh Himes	Monaca High School
Matt Korzen	Cornell High School
Seth Libby	Sewickley Academy
Brian McClain	Monaca High School
David Montibeller	Jefferson-Morgan High School
Curtis Nickel	Serra Catholic High School
Cam Olsen	Serra Catholic High School
Andrew Petras	Chartiers-Houston High School
Marcus Robinson	Carmichaels High School
Chase Roman	Bentworth High School
Joe Rukas	Vincentian Academy
Steve Waskin	Laurel High School
Taylor Young	Bentworth High School

Coaches

John Curtis	Jefferson-Morgan High School
Ron Del Duca	Sewickley Academy
Brian Dzurenda	Serra Catholic High School
Don Hartman	California High School

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Class AA All-Stars

Nico Baldelli	Riverside High School
Brian Billigen	Bishop Canevin High School
Patric Capatolla	Seton LaSalle High School
James Connelly	Deer Lakes High School
Manny Cutlip	Beaver High School
Nate DeFilippi	Center High School
Alex George	Beaver High School
Carter Haponski	Ford City High School
Justin King	Riverside High School
Dustin Lalle	North Catholic High School
Anthony Lamont	South Side Beaver High School
Eric Landman	Brownsville High School
Seth Naperkowski	Burrell High School
Drew Singer	Shady Side Academy
Jared Soell	Riverview High School
Nick Stewart	Waynesburg High School
Luke Szymanski	Ford City High School
Jess Tetkoski	Greensburg Central Catholic High School
Chris Weigold	Seton LaSalle High School

Coaches

James Barton	South Fayette High School
Paul DeFilippi	Center High School
Skooter Roebuck	Brownsville Area High School
Mark Suckfiel	South Allegheny High School

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Class AAA All-Stars

Jordan Carnathan	Derry High School
Nick Colella	New Castle High School
Matt Diehl	Greensburg-Salem High School
Nick Erminio	Laurel Highlands High School
Jason Hegedus	Yough High School
Matt Kirkwood	New Castle High School
Dean Langholz	Thomas Jefferson High School
Lee Lawver	Mars High School
Tim Lipp	Blackhawk High School
Cory McGinnis	Hampton High School
Zach Mikolics	Elizabeth-Forward High School
Mike Neckerman	West Mifflin High School
Sean Ryan	Indiana High School
Ryan Schroth	Mars High School
Zak Sinclair	West Allegheny High School
Kyle Thomas	Steel Valley High School
Steve Van Atta	Hampton High School
Steve Zerbini	Greensburg-Salem High School
Derrick Zeroski	West Allegheny High School

Coaches

Bryan Cornell	West Allegheny High School
Jeff Kuzma	West Mifflin High School
Dan O'Rourke	Ringgold High School
Don Runyon	New Castle High School

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Class AAAA All-Stars

Anthony DeFabio	Plum High School
Chris Dittmar	Canon McMillan High School
David Duffett	North Allegheny High School
Ryan Fairbrother	North Hills High School
Seve Franceshelli	Franklin Regional High School
Tim Geibel	Butler High School
Kyle Helisek	Seneca Valley High School
Eric Isler	Mt Lebanon High School
Jordan Jankowski	Peters Township High School
Jeff Jones	Central Catholic High School
Taylor Juran	Shaler High School
Brian Lattanzi	Upper St Clair High School
Cory Mazzoni	Seneca Valley High School
Scott McGough	Plum High School
Mike Pelekanos	Franklin Regional High School
Chris Rasky	Penn-Trafford High School
Jim Rider	Peters Township High School
Pete Ross	Peters Township
Eddie Skonieczny	Shaler High School
Jordan Steranka	Mt Lebanon High School

Coaches

Jerry Dal Canton	Gateway High School
Rich Krivanek	Pittsburgh Central Catholic High School
Joe Maize	Peters Township High School
Jim Rider	Bethel Park Valley High School
Carl Vollmer	Plum High School

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WPIAL Baseball Coaches Association Players and Coaches of the Year

The WPIAL Baseball Coaches Association has announced their Players and Coaches of the Year. Winners are selected by a vote of WPIAL coaches and winners are selected on the basis of regular season performance. The winners will be honored at the WBCA Awards Banquet on June 13.

Winners of the Player of the Year Awards are:

- Class AAAA Cory Mazzoni of Seneca Valley High School
- Class AAA Zak Sinclair of West Allegheny High School
- Class AA Manny Cutlip of Beaver High School
- Class A Mike Devine of Springdale High School

Winners of the Coach of the Year Awards are:

- Class AAAA Rich Krivanek of Central Catholic High School
- Class AAA Jeff Kuzma of West Mifflin High School
- Class AA Shawn Trainor of Seton LaSalle High School
- Class A Dave Bates of Carmichaels High School

Cory Mazzoni has won the award for a second consecutive year. He compiled a 7-1 regular season record along with a 1.15 ERA and struck out 80 batters in 48 2/3 innings. He also batted .302 with a home run and 7 RBI. Cory will attend North Carolina State.

Zak Sinclair is another two-time winner. He was 6-1 during the regular season with a 0.70 ERA and recorded 63 strike outs in 40 innings pitched. Zak was also an offensive force, batting .382 with 8 home runs and 21 RBI. He will also attend North Carolina State.

Manny Cutlip was another performer who made an impact both on the mound and at the plate. He batted .689 during the regular season with 5 home runs, 33 RBI and 37 runs scored. Manny was 5-0 on the mound with a 0.29 ERA and 57 strike outs and only 7 walks in 44 innings. He will move on to Indiana University of Pennsylvania, where he will play football.

Mike Devine also made his mark as an offensive performer and a pitcher during the regular season. He batted .500 with 2 home runs and 37 RBI. Mike was 6-1 with a 1.94 ERA and 55 strikeouts in 37 innings pitched, while throwing two no-hitters. He will attend Virginia Military Institute

Rich Krivanek led Central Catholic to a share of the Section 4 championship and a 15-3 regular season record after finishing 12-6 last season. This was the initial first place finish for Central since the WPIAL created Quad A for baseball.

Jeff Kuzma recorded the highest section winning percentage in Class AAA as his West Mifflin club finished 13-1 in their section. In the space of three seasons Kuzma has led an improvement from a 7-10 record in 2006 to 16-3 this season.

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WPIAL Baseball Coaches Association Players and Coaches of the Year (continued)

Shawn Trainor directed Seton LaSalle to the only undefeated regular season record (17-0) in the WPIAL. Seton LaSalle won their second consecutive section title, compiling a 32-2 regular season mark over the two seasons.

Dave Bates' Carmichaels team improved from 11-6 last year to a regular season 17-1 record, losing only to Class AAA Belle Vernon. Bates led his team to the only undefeated section record (14-0) in Class A. Bates rebounded from two consecutive third place finishes to capture the Section 1 crown.

Congratulations to the WPIAL Champs

This year's WPIAL champions are:

- Peters Township in Class AAAA
- West Allegheny in Class AAA
- Beaver in Class AA
- Carmichaels in Class A

Other qualifiers for the PIAA playoffs that begin on June 2 are Plum and Canon McMillan in Class AAAA, Trinity and Blackhawk in Class AAA, Bishop Canevin, Seton LaSalle and Burrell in Class AA and Rochester and Serra in Class A.

WPIAL Baseball Realignment

The WPIAL has announced baseball alignment changes for the 2009 and 2010 seasons. The changes are as follows:

Class AAAA

- Fox Chapel moves from Section 4 to Section 1
- Kiski Area moves from Section 1 to Section 2
- Franklin Regional moves from Section 2 to Section 4.

Class AAA

- Southmoreland moves up from AA and enters Section 2
- McGuffey moves from Section 4 to Section 3
- South Park moves from Section 3 to Section 4
- Yough moves from Section 2 to Section 4.

Class AA

- Steel Valley moves down from AAA and enters Section 4
- Wilksburg moves up from A and enters Section 4
- Frazier moves up from A and enters Section 2
- Laurel moves up from A and enters Section 5
- Sto-Rox moves from Section 6 to Section 1.

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WPIAL Baseball Realignment (continued)

Class A

- A 5th section is created
- Beth-Center moves down from AA and enters Section 1
- Aliquippa moves down from AA and enters Section 3
- Neshannock moves down from AA and enters Section 3
- Avonworth moves down from AA and enters Section 4
- Jeannette moves down from AA and enters Section 5
- Bentworth moves from Section 1 to Section 2
- California moves from Section 1 to Section 2
- Cornell moves from Section 2 to Section 4
- OLSH moves from Section 2 to Section 4
- Quigley moves from Section 3 to Section 4
- Sewickley Academy moves from Section 3 to Section 4
- Vincentian Academy moves from Section 5 to Section 4.

Congratulations to City League Champs

Allerdice won the City League Championship and moves on the PIAA Quad A state tournament. Runner-up Perry qualified for the PIAA Triple A tournament.

Contact Info

WEST PENN BASEBALL PROSPECTS is published by West Penn Baseball Prospects, Inc. Any correspondence should be directed to Tony Villiotti at wpabaseball@hotmail.com or 63 Stancey Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15220

Website

WEST PENN BASEBALL PROSPECTS' website address is www.wpabaseball.com. Please visit the website and tell us what you think. Back issues can be downloaded from the website.

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