

# WEST PENN BASEBALL PROSPECTS

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## Contact Info

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## Next Issue:

The next issue of WEST PENN BASEBALL PROSPECTS will be published in late June. Check our website for monthly prospect updates.

## Website:

WEST PENN BASEBALL PROSPECTS' website address is [www.wpabaseball.com](http://www.wpabaseball.com). Please visit and tell me what you would like to see added to the site. Back issues can be downloaded from the website.

## Donations:

Donations to West Penn Baseball Prospects, Inc. are tax-deductible. Such donations are used to pay ongoing operating costs and are much appreciated. Donations can be made either by a check payable to West Penn Baseball Prospects, Inc. or through Paypal by using the "button" on the home page of the website.

**We greatly appreciate the very generous donation made to West Penn Baseball Prospects, Inc. by the law firm of Kirkpatrick Lockhart Nicholson Graham LLP.**

## WPIAL All-Star Weekend

The WPIAL Baseball Coaches Association announced that its 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual All-Star Games will be the highlight of an All-Star Weekend to be held on June 10 and 11 in Washington, PA. The Weekend provides a venue to feature the talents of many of the top WPIAL baseball players.

To kick-off the Weekend, players selected for the games will be honored at an awards banquet open to the public on Friday evening, June 10 at the Holiday Inn – Meadow Lands. The WPIAL Baseball Coaches will also honor players and coaches of the year in each of the four WPIAL classifications.

The All-Star Weekend continues with an Underclassmen Showcase on Saturday, June 11 at 8 a.m. at Washington & Jefferson's Ross Memorial Park. The Showcase is being held by West Penn Baseball Prospects.

Participation in the Showcase is limited to 2006 and 2007 high school graduates. Space is limited and registrations will be accepted on a first-come, first served basis. The cost for the Showcase is \$25. A showcase itinerary will distributed at a later date. Email Tony Villiotti for more information about the Showcase.

The Weekend concludes with its main event, an All-Star doubleheader featuring 80 of the top senior baseball players in the WPIAL. The games are scheduled for Saturday, June 11 at Falconi Field, home of the Washington Wild Things. The first game of the doubleheader will start

at 3 p.m. and will pit the WPIAL Class A All-Stars versus the WPIAL Class AA All-Stars. The second game will start at approximately 6 p.m. and will match the WPIAL Class AAA All-Stars against the WPIAL Class AAAA All-Stars.

## More All-Star Weekend Items

### Awards Banquet

If you are interested in attending the Awards Banquet, a registration form is included at the end of this newsletter. The cost to attend the Banquet is \$25 per person. If you follow high school baseball in any capacity, this is a can't miss event. Game participants will attend for free and will receive Banquet invitations immediately after the teams are selected (in mid-May). Family members and friends may purchase tickets for the Banquet at \$25 per person. Tickets must be purchased in advance.

### Auction Items

To help defray the cost of the Banquet, sports-related items will be auctioned at the Banquet. Please let Tony Villiotti (412-429-0546) or Mark Saghy (412-762-6044 or 412-915-0883) if you are interested in donating any auction items. Your support is greatly appreciated.

### Sponsorships

Sponsorship opportunities for the All-Star Weekend are still available. These opportunities start at \$25 and are a great way to be associated with a major high school event. Contact Mark or Tony for more sponsorship information.

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## New WPIAL Section Alignments

### Class AAAA

**Section 1** Butler, Fox Chapel, Kiski Area, North Allegheny, North Hills, Seneca Valley, Shaler

**Section 2** Albert Gallatin, Connellsville, Hempfield, Latrobe, Norwin, Penn-Trafford, Uniontown

**Section 3** Baldwin, Bethel Park, Canon-McMillan, Mt. Lebanon, Trinity, Upper St. Clair

**Section 4** Central Catholic, Franklin Regional, Gateway, McKeesport, Penn Hills, Plum, Woodland Hills

### Class AAA

**Section 1** Blackhawk, Ellwood City, Hampton, Highlands, Knoch, Mars, New Castle, Pine-Richland

**Section 2** Derry, Greensburg-Salem, Indiana, Kittanning, Laurel Highlands, Mt. Pleasant, Yough

**Section 3** Ambridge, Chartiers Valley, Hopewell, Keystone Oaks, Montour, Moon, West Allegheny

**Section 4** Belle Vernon, Elizabeth-Forward, McGuffey, Peters Township, Ringgold, South Park, Thomas Jefferson, West Mifflin

### Section AA

**Section 1** Aliquippa, Beaver, Center, Freedom, New Brighton, Quaker Valley, South Side Beaver

**Section 2** Beth-Center, Brownsville, Burgettstown, Charleroi, Southmoreland, Washington, Waynesburg

**Section 3** Apollo-Ridge, Burrell, Deer Lakes, Ford City, Freeport, Valley, West Shamokin

**Section 4** Brentwood, East Allegheny, Greensburg Central Catholic, Riverview, Shadyside Academy, South Allegheny, Steel Valley

**Section 5** Beaver Falls, Laurel, Mohawk, Neshannock, Riverside, Shenango, Summit Academy

**Section 6** Avonworth, Carlynton, North Catholic, Northgate, Seton LaSalle, South Fayette, Sto-Rox

### Section A

**Section 1** Bentworth, California, Carmichaels, Frazier, Geibel, Jefferson-Morgan, Mapletown, West Greene

**Section 2** Avella, Canevin, Chartiers-Houston, Clairton, Duquesne, Fort Cherry, Monessen

**Section 3** Cornell, Monaca, Our Lady of Sacred Heart, Quigley, Rochester, Sewickley Academy, Union, Western Beaver

**Section 4** Elderton, Jeannette, Leechburg, Serra, Springdale, St. Joseph's, Vincentian Academy

## Baseball Playoff Dates

May 18-21 First Round WPIAL Playoffs

May 19 City League Quarterfinals

May 23-25 WPIAL Quarterfinals

May 24 City League Semifinals

May 25-27 WPIAL Semifinals

May 29 or 31 City League Championship

May 31

& June 1 WPIAL championships

June 6 PIAA First Round

June 9 PIAA Quarterfinals

June 13 PIAA Semifinals

June 17 PIAA Finals

## A Recruiting Story

I recently traded emails with one of the top local high school seniors about his recruiting experience. This player, who I'm not going to identify, wanted very much to play Division I college baseball. He had good enough grades to get into virtually any school in the country. His performance on the baseball field was noteworthy and he received a lot of local newspaper coverage.

He told me, "I thought I was doing everything right. My name appeared a lot in the paper. I thought they'd come looking for me. Which, in retrospect, was very unrealistic. That's just not the way it happens. At least not often. You really have to take it upon yourself to let those schools that you're interested in know about you. And stay with it."

The bad news is that he won't be playing Division I baseball. The good news is that he will be playing at one of two excellent academic schools. As he said, "Keeping my grades high is what enabled me to get in the door at both schools — and the money offered for academics is what makes it all affordable."

Last summer, he received a letter from a prestigious Ivy League school asking for more information and a video. He sent the information to the college but he didn't have a video on

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### A Recruiting Story (continued)

hand, so it took a while to respond to that request. Of that situation, he related “it was actually one of the ones I think I messed up by not having a video on hand”.

This player wanted to pass along his recruiting experience so that a younger player can learn from it. “With baseball being a spring sport, your senior season is meaningless for college recruiting purposes. By the time your senior year comes along, your applications and commitments are long done. That’s why you have to start early, and keep information in any potential coaches hands, and begin going to showcases between your sophomore and junior years even if it’s just for a first look.”

“I didn’t begin early enough contacting prospective colleges. I should have started a “sending information to coaches” campaign right after my sophomore year, and then followed up with them all again after my junior year.”

He continued, “I didn’t have a video on hand, and by the time my coach and I put one together, again, it was too late in the recruiting season. I should have had one on hand waiting to go.” College coaches have told West Penn Baseball Prospects that the video you provide doesn’t have to be a fancy production. A homemade video works just fine. Under the Player’s page on our website you can find tips on how to make a video that allows a college coach to see what he needs to see.

In conclusion, the player told me “my final mistake was in thinking that coaches would come find me. I worked hard at school and I worked very hard at making my sophomore and junior baseball seasons the best that I could. But, I learned you really do need to actively promote yourself. Unless you somehow get a nod from Baseball American or some big national showcase like that, you really have to market yourself hard to college coaches.”

### Player Interviews

I recently had the opportunity to speak with Josh Hungerman, Jeff Vincent and Brian Youchak about their recruiting experiences. All three made their college decisions before the start of their senior season. Their recruiting experiences were all different so I thought it might be interesting for those who have not yet been through the recruiting process to hear what they had to say.

**Brian Youchak** is a middle infielder from Vincentian Academy who will be attending Johns Hopkins (NCAA Division III). How did the process with Johns Hopkins get started?

“I first heard from Johns Hopkins in July after my junior season with a typical letter and questionnaire. I was very excited to learn about their baseball program. It was a surprise to find out how successful the team was. I already knew about the high academic standards at the school.”

Brian continued, “Coach (Bob) Babb initiated the contact with a handwritten letter, after the initial first letter and questionnaire. The handwritten letter was great because it showed that the coach cared and put effort into it. He would write me about once every other week.”

I asked Brian what other schools he had considered. He told me, “I made visits to Lehigh and Cleveland State. Close to 20 schools had called me through the process. I feel I was under recruited because of my height (5’7”). I really needed to run fast in the 60. During the fall of my junior year I was consistently running in the 6.61 range. But in the summer I sprained my ankle, and probably rushed back into playing, causing a pretty serious groin pull. I could not run as well as I wanted to at any showcases in the summer.”

Brian explained why he chose John Hopkins. “The academics and baseball. I believe that Johns Hopkins has one of the best combinations of academics and baseball in the country. Coach Babb also showed a lot of interest in me. I really

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### Player Interviews (continued)

wanted to go to a competitive program. Even though Johns Hopkins is not D1, I do believe that it is a great fit for me athletically. D1 was never really a goal of mine. The school that I was going to needed to have what I wanted to study.”

Any advice for those who are about to be in the recruiting process?

“Well, first of all, there isn’t going to be any recruiting process if you don’t work hard and keep good grades. You need to practice year-round on your own. You also need to keep good grades because it aids in your attractiveness as a player. If you can work hard in the classroom, you can also probably work hard on the baseball field. The recruiting process is also going to have a lot of ups and downs. Don’t get frustrated, not everyone is going to like you, and not everyone is going to need you. But I believe if you work hard you will find a coach that will want you. You also have to market yourself, send videos out to several colleges, attend showcases, and send out schedules and references. Try to improve every aspect of your game and always hustle on the field. Try not to worry about mistakes, coaches like to see hustle and how you respond to mistakes. “

North Allegheny’s **Josh Hungerman** is a pitcher who signed with Division I Cleveland State during the early signing period.

Josh told me that he entered the process with a few criteria in mind. “I was concerned about the size of the school, its location, academics and having an opportunity to play. Initially I thought I might want to head south and play in the warm weather. But the more I thought about it, I realized that a school like Florida probably wouldn’t recruit me.”

Josh began receiving mail from schools during the spring of his junior year. Cleveland State was among those schools. Josh spoke with a Cleveland State assistant coach during the

summer after his junior year. “I told the coach the tournaments and showcases I would be participating in. I didn’t see him at the games or showcases but I assume he was there.”

Josh continued, “I went to 5 or 6 showcases. The biggest one was the Team One showcase at Notre Dame. I wasn’t the best player or anything, but I had the chance to pitch a few innings and showed that I could compete. I also attended some showcases at West Virginia, including Ed Santa’s.”

How did he come to choose Cleveland State? “I visited there in October and liked it. I went back a couple of weeks later and met with the coaches and they offered me a scholarship. I liked the location. It wasn’t too far from home and it was in a city so there will be things to do. The size was about what I was looking for. I went to a large high school and I wanted a school that was only a little bigger than North Allegheny. Cleveland State is a good academic school. I also wanted the opportunity for early playing time.”

The final player I talked with was **Jeff Vincent**, a shortstop from Franklin Regional. Jeff will be playing his college baseball at Division I Fairleigh Dickinson. I asked Jeff if he entered the recruiting process with any well-defined criteria in mind.

He told me, “I was looking for a college with a good business school and a decent baseball program. I also wanted a situation that fit me. I wanted a good shot at playing right away. I didn’t want to sit on the bench for a couple of seasons.”

When did you first hear from Fairleigh Dickinson? “It was in the fall (of 2004). I was playing for an Atlanta Braves scout team. They saw me play in a tournament in New Jersey and called me. They said they were interested in me and asked where I would be playing next. They traveled to Maryland to see me play again.”

Jeff continued, “They called again and asked me

to come visit the school. They told what they could offer in the way of financial aid and asked that I make a quick decision. I decided to accept their offer right then.”

What did Jeff like about Fairleigh Dickinson? “It was a good fit. It was Division I. They are located very close to New York City so it seemed like a perfect location for a business career. It was a good academic school and they said I would have a chance to play as a freshman.”

I concluded by asking Jeff what surprised him the most about the recruiting process. He told me, “I was surprised that I didn’t get any interest from the high school season or from some of the showcases that I did. Playing for an elite fall team made all the difference for me. The elite fall teams play in front of lots of pro and college scouts and you get noticed. I would advise anyone to play for an elite fall team. It’s worth all the travel.”

### **Donations**

You may have noticed that we have donation information on both the front page of this newsletter and on the home page of our website. I want to explain why.

An integral part of West Penn Baseball Prospects’ strategy is that we charge neither the athletes who are listed in our newsletter and website nor the college coaches who receive our information. Our mission is to provide information on **ALL** local players to **ALL** college and junior college coaches for the purpose of maximizing the number of opportunities for local student-athletes to play college baseball. If there is a fee for either the players listed or the college coaches we move away from the **ALL** part of the strategy and don’t stay faithful to our mission.

I thought we would be able to attract corporate sponsorship to fund operating costs. To that end we applied for and received a 501(c) (3) exemption that means that all donations are tax

deductible for the donor. Unfortunately, with one notable exception, the corporate solicitation campaign has been a flop, or at least mistimed. That exception was the law firm of **Kirkpatrick Lockhart Nicholson Graham LLP** and I am extremely grateful for their support.

Given the failure of the corporate solicitation, the next logical step is to turn to the public for support. And that’s why the donation info is included on the website and in this newsletter. Tax-deductible contributions can be made either through a check written to West Penn Baseball Prospects or through PayPal (on our website).

Where do we spend our money? Let me tell you first where we don’t spend it. No salaries or anything that could remotely be considered compensation in nature are paid. Operating costs include the cost of operating the website, periodic updates to the website, postage (a big expense in the gathering of information), printing (we use a lot of forms and send out a lot of form letters) and office supplies such as paper and printer cartridges. We would also like to sponsor or help sponsor showcases and such events as the WPIAL All-Star games. Longer term, we would also like to be able to sponsor scholarships for deserving student-athletes.

One last thing. I’m prepared to personally fund WPBP’s operating costs for at least a couple of years. So while I would certainly appreciate a donation, I don’t want anyone to take this as a “contribute or we’re out of business” appeal. Donations, though, will allow us to expand our activities and do a better job of supporting our student-athletes.

End of commercial.

The updated March Prospect  
Listing and Bios are now available  
on our website

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### **Website Guide**

We have made a number of changes to our website ([www.wpabaseball.com](http://www.wpabaseball.com)) over the past several months. Given all the changes that have taken place, I thought it might be helpful to include a Website Guide in this issue that describes the contents of our website in some detail.

The **Home Page** is the introduction to our website and includes links to other pages in the website. At the bottom of the **Home Page** we recognize one of our largest contributors and also provide the ability for anyone who wants to do so to make a contribution to West Penn Baseball Prospects, Inc. through PayPal.

**WPBP, Inc.** describes our corporate structure and lists the members of our Board of Directors and our Advisory Board.

**Publication Schedule** shows the newsletter publication schedule.

**On-line Newsletters** contains all the back issues of West Penn Baseball Prospects. Visitors to the website can click on the issue they want and either print the newsletter or read it on-line.

**Online Prospect Data Base** contains (1) a listing of WPIAL and Pittsburgh City League baseball prospects, (2) a brief bio for each of the prospects listed and (3) a list of and contact information for WPIAL and Pittsburgh City League baseball coaches. The prospect listing and prospect bios are updated at the end of each month. Newly listed prospects and information changes are highlighted in bold print to make it easy for the reader to focus on changes from the prior month. The coaches list is updated from time-to-time as required.

**College Coaches** provides a brief background on western Pennsylvania baseball and allows coaches to add their name to the newsletter email distribution list.

**High School Coaches** provides a brief background on the purpose of West Penn Baseball Prospects and lists the officers of the WPIAL Baseball Coaches Association. This page also allows high school coaches to submit prospect information through an on-line form.

**Summer/Fall League Coaches** is very similar to the High School Coaches page, including allowing those coaches to submit prospect information through an on-line form. Soliciting information from summer and fall league coaches provides another viewpoint of a player's abilities and reduces the chances of a player "falling through the cracks."

**Players** provides information on the recruiting process, including a discussion of NCAA and NAIA regulations and academic requirements. This page is intended to be helpful to parents and players. Through this page, a player can also provide us with information on his abilities and interests. This serves the dual purpose of increasing the amount of information we can pass along to college coaches and reducing the chance of a deserving player not being noticed.

**Where Are They Now** is one of our newest features and lists WPIAL and City League players who are playing professional baseball or college/junior college baseball. Players are sorted by high school. I try to keep this as up to date as possible, but rosters are continually changing. If I've missed someone, please let me know. We update this page on a periodic basis as I read rosters instead of doing my household chores.

**Showcases and Camps** is another new feature. This is a listing of showcases, camps, clinics and tryouts that may be of interest to local players. We update this page as we receive new information.

**Media** includes an archive of press releases sent out by West Penn Baseball Prospects and contact information should the media wish to contact us.

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### Website Guide (continued)

**Links** lists websites that may be of interest to our readers.

**Message Boards** is another new feature. We would like to use these message boards for readers to ask questions and to share information on camps, showcases, the recruiting process and anything else related to high school or college baseball. Usage of the **Message Boards** has been pretty light so far. We think the sharing of information can be very useful and hope to see more activity on the boards over time.

### Prospect Listings

Do you think you, your son or one of your players should be included in our prospect listings and they're not shown? Please let us know. We try our best to include all deserving players in our prospect listings but we sometimes do miss out on someone, either through a mistake or because no one has recommended the player. The best way of passing this information along to us is to go to our website and use either the Player, High School Coach or Summer/Fall Coach pages to submit the information electronically.

### Prospect Contact Information

A number of college and junior college coaches have told us they would like to have access to contact information for the prospects included in our newsletter. We are providing that information (to the extent we have it) on a request only basis and only to college or junior college coaches. We will not include that information on the website for confidentiality reasons.

A number of coaches have already requested and received that information. Please email me at [wpabaseball@hotmail.com](mailto:wpabaseball@hotmail.com) if you are interested and have not yet asked for the contact data. If you have already requested contact information there is no need to ask for it again. Updated contact info will be periodically provided as we continue to accumulate information.

### Ed Santa Invitational Baseball Showcase

Seeing is Believing. That is the mantra we heard frequently when we surveyed college and junior college baseball coaches on the reliability they placed on various sources of information about recruits. Coaches want to see the players with their own eyes.

This has resulted in showcases becoming an increasingly popular venue for coaches and players to come together. Coaches get what they want – a chance to see the players live and in person. And players get a chance to demonstrate their abilities in front of coaches and scouts.

All showcase pretty much do the same thing as far as the drills go (60 yard dash, infield and outfield fungos, take a few swings, etc.). What sets the good showcases apart from the others is the ability to attract pro scouts and college coaches to watch the players.

A local showcase with an excellent reputation is the Ed Santa Invitational Baseball Showcase. The Showcase has been held in recent years at West Virginia University's Caperton Indoor Facility, typically right before the beginning of the NCAA early signing period for baseball. The 2004 Showcase was held on November 7 and cost \$140 to attend. The 2005 Showcase will be the 6<sup>th</sup> annual event.

Two things make this Showcase special. The first is the number of college and professional scouts that attend. In 2004 about 50 college coaches and 20 pro scouts were there and the number seems to grow each year. The second is the fact that it is run by a professional baseball scout. Santa obviously knows what scouts are looking for and you can take comfort in knowing that the proper skills will be demonstrated.

There is certainly no questioning Ed Santa's baseball background. A 1978 graduate of North Catholic High School and a former catcher, he was a college baseball coach for 7 years.

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### **Ed Santa Invitational (continued)**

Ed started as an assistant at the University of Pittsburgh in 1985. From there he moved on to Kent State as a graduate assistant to Bob Todd. When Todd moved on to Ohio State in 1988, Ed moved with him and stayed until 1991 when the Colorado Rockies offered him a scouting position. Santa has been a Rockies Area Scouting Supervisor since that time and the organization named him "Scout of the Year" in 1999.

Players are invited to the Showcase based on Santa's observations and recommendations from his associate scouts, high school coaches and college coaches. The Showcase is typically limited to about 150 players and only sophomores, juniors and seniors can attend. There are morning and afternoon sessions, one devoted to pitchers and catchers and the other for infielders and outfielders. The Showcase attracts players from West Virginia, Ohio, Pennsylvania and, occasionally from Maryland. In addition to the drills, there are hitting and pitching seminars and a talk on what pro scouts look for in a player.

In addition to the West Virginia event, Santa runs a showcase at Eastern Michigan University that is usually held either the same weekend or the week before the local event. That showcase principally attracts players from Michigan, Ohio and Illinois.

### **College Prospects of America**

*On our website we recommend that players be cautious in their use of college scholarship services. Martin Rock of College Prospects of America contacted us and believes that CPOA does deliver value to student-athletes and asked for "equal time" to explain why.*

### **By Martin Rock**

Decisions regarding a student's college education are among the most important that a family will make in a lifetime. Including athletic participation in education decisions makes it even more important that a family be an educated consumer. It is important for families to be proactive in making a college choice. In many

ways, it is like finding a job. Upon graduation from college, will a graduate send out resumes or just sit by the phone and wait for an employer to call?

The student-athlete doesn't know if the recruiting process is working well for them until it is too late. Competing at the collegiate level is a once in a lifetime opportunity, and you can't go back and redo the recruiting process. This makes a proactive approach crucial in finding the right college opportunity.

### **The Problem**

There are more 18,000 high schools in the United States all filled with student athletes who have dreams of a college career. According to the NCAA, only about 4% of those kids will ever participate in college athletics. With so much competition, what are you going to do to set yourself apart from the crowd? The biggest problem is that there is very little help available for high school athletes and their families who want to play in college. High school coaches, even well-meaning ones, don't have the time and money and tournament or club coaches have many kids that they need to help. Ultimately, a family is on its own. The recruiting process will be a first time experience for most families and the approach many families take is to piece together what they "hear to be true" and try to map out the best plan possible.

### **The Solution**

The CPOA process is unique in that it offers help in the most critical areas of need. CPOA's **planning process** ensures that the family understands the recruiting process entails and then assists in devising a strategy that helps the athlete achieve his or her goals.

CPOA's **preparation** makes sure the student fully understands the commitment necessary to pursue a college opportunity and their role in the process. CPOA gains **exposure** for the student-athlete by mailing the student's athletic profile to every college coach across the country (NCAA

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### **College Prospects of America (continued)**

DI, DII, DIII, NAIA, Junior College) that competes in their sport and provides the family with a detailed list of the schools receiving the profile. A student will also have a web page created that will be available for online viewing.

CPOA provides **general assistance** from shooting and professional editing of videos to contacting individual coaches on the student's behalf. CPOA provides **guidance** by staying in contact with the family to ensure that the process is progressing as planned. This includes bi weekly follow up through email and access to monthly recruiting meetings where families are encouraged to share and learn from others. Families will also receive unlimited guidance on the most relevant aspects of the athletic scholarship process like negotiating and using leverage, as well as assistance with the general financial aid process and understanding NCAA rules and regulations .

### **Our Track Record**

CPOA has helped in excess of 40,000 athletes achieve their dream of participating in college sports while finding financial aid. More than 90% of our clients receive multiple athletic offers, and more than 85% are playing in their sport at the collegiate level.

CPOA alumni include such professional players as Sean Casey, Jay Payton, Eric Chavez, Barry Zito and Mark Prior.

### **The Bottom Line**

Competition for roster spots and scholarships is great. Your athletic abilities alone will not assure you the opportunity to participate in college athletics because the number of student athletes wanting to attend college has significantly increased. This means a lot more athletically qualified prospects are now competing for a chance to play at the next level. College coaches want the very best players for their programs and they can not afford to make any mistakes in the recruiting process. They want the best recruiting

information they can get on a potential student athlete. For this reason, college coaches and their staffs have come to depend on our services. Coaches have been using our scouting profiles, evaluations and recommendations for over 18 years . They know the information being supplied is coming from a respected, reliable scouting organization that only recommends qualified student athletes who can compete at the collegiate level.

### **Local Players in Pros and College**

The details are shown on the website under the "Where Are They Now" section, but there are nearly 600 former WPIAL or City League grads playing professional or college baseball. The number is always a little bit of a moving target because rosters change on a daily basis, but the best counts we have are as follows:

Professionals	47
NCAA D-1	79
NCAA D-2	95
NCAA D-3	202
NAIA	85
JUCO	66

The JUCO numbers are probably somewhat understated because we have not been able to get the rosters of a couple of local junior colleges.

## HIGH SCHOOL COACHES

**If you haven't done so already, please complete your 2005 recommendations form and send it to us. You can also complete the form online at the "High School Coaches" page on our website.**

## PLAYERS

**The more we know about you, the more information we can provide to college and junior college coaches. Go to the "Players" page on our website and complete the information form.**

# WEST PENN BASEBALL PROSPECTS

## The Honor Roll

College coaches are always on the lookout for players with excellent academic credentials. In this section, which is restricted to 2005 and 2006 graduates, we list those players who make our Highest Honor Roll (3.5 GPA **and** 1200 on SATs) and High Honor Roll (3.5 GPA or 1200 on SATs). **Since we don't have academic information on all players, it is quite possible that we have left off some deserving student-athletes.** If you, one of your players or someone you know belongs on this list, please send me the academic information and we will publish a supplement list and distribute it to college and junior college coaches.

First Name	Last Name	High School	Position	Ht	Wt	B	T
<b><u>2005 Grads - Highest Honor</u></b>							
Nick	Basso	Canon-McMillan	OF	5-10	175	R	R
Brian	Bernardo	Shaler	IF/P	6-0	175	R	R
Dan	DeJuliis	Seton LaSalle	OF/P	5-11	185	R	R
Dave	DeJuliis	Seton LaSalle	SS/P	5-10	180	R	R
Joe	Fogel	Quaker Valley	OF	5-7	165	R	R
Zach	Gaceck	Albert Gallatin	2B	5-6	145	R	R
Derek	Henson	Brentwood	P/OF	6-1	180	R	R
Brett	Holland	Baldwin	OF	6-0	170	S	L
Donnie	Howard	Hopewell	C	6-0	215	R	R
Mike	Juliano	North Allegheny	3B/P	5-10	175	R	R
Jake	Klinvex	Shadyside Academy	OF	5-8	165	R	R
Phil	Mains	Plum	OF	5-11	185	R	R
Dan	Pierre	Mars	P/1B/OF	6-0	150	L	L
Ben	Schmerin	Shadyside Academy	P/C	6-1	185	R	R
Dan	Seery	Blackhawk	C	5-10	225	R	R
Zach	Skowvron	South Side Beaver	OF	6-1	185	R	R
Jared	Steranka	Mt Lebanon	3B/P	6-2	172	R	R
Doug	Susco	Seton LaSalle	C	5-10	190	R	R
R T	Tourek	Shadyside Academy	P/1B	6-3	215	L	L
Derek	Wisnieski	Indiana	1B/C	6-4	225	R	R

### **2005 Grads - High Honor**

Phil	Avolio	Canon-McMillan	P/1B	5-9	160	L	L
Vince	Bartczak	Albert Gallatin	OF	5-10	155	R	R
Mike	Birsic	North Allegheny	P/OF	6-0	170	R	R
Alex	Bonelli	Apollo-Ridge	OF/1B	5-7	140	L	L
Eric	Boylan	Sto-Rox	2B/P	6-1	175	R	R
Evan	Browne	Thomas Jefferson	2B/SS/OF	6-0	172	R	R
Andy	Chrobak	Laurel	IF/P	6-2	180	R	R
Justin	Daley	Hopewell	P	6-0	200	R	R
Sam	DiMatteo	Center	C/P	6-0	180	R	R
Joe	Fairley	Beaver Falls	1B/3B	6-0	185	R	R
Joe	Fogel	Quaker Valley	OF	5-9	160	R	R
Michael	Goedeker	Monaca	1B	5-11	210	L	R
Tony	Greco	New Brighton	P/1B	6-3	180	R	R
Mike	Harvat	Hempfield	C/IF/OF	5-8	165	R	R
Ryan	Irvine	Seton LaSalle	OF	5-9	170	R	L
Zach	Jones	South Park	OF	5-7	150	R	R
Blake	Jurena	North Allegheny	OF	5-10	170	R	R
Doug	Komoroski	Peters Township	1B/P	6-3	170	R	R

# WEST PENN BASEBALL PROSPECTS

## The Honor Roll (continued)

<b>First Name</b>	<b>Last Name</b>	<b>High School</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Ht</b>	<b>Wt</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>T</b>
<b><u>2005 Grads - High Honor (continued)</u></b>							
Chris	Kozak	Baldwin	OF/2B	5-5	170	R	R
Ron	Kramer	Woodland Hills	OF/2B	5-10	155	R	R
Jared	Lapinowicz	Carmichaels	P/1B	6-0	185	L	L
Jeff	Lapinowicz	Carmichaels	C	6-0	195	R	R
Jacob	Lassinger	Freeport	C/IF	6-0	150	R	R
Adam	Liberatore	Blackhawk	OF/P	6-1	195	L	L
Mike	Lingenfield	Mt Pleasant	3B/OF	5-9	165	R	R
Jarrold	Lint	Albert Gallatin	P/IF	6-0	180	R	R
Matt	Litzinger	Serra Catholic	OF/P	6-3	180	L	R
Nick	Maiorano	New Castle	2B/P	5-11	170	R	R
Kevin	Majzlik	New Brighton	OF	5-10	150	L	R
Matt	McCartney	Baldwin	P/IF	6-2	190	R	R
Chase	McNutt	New Brighton	P/1B	6-1	185	L	L
Mark	McRobie	Penn-Trafford	OF/P	6-2	180	L	L
John	Navage	Blackhawk	P/1B	6-3	175	R	R
Dan	Panek	Albert Gallatin	IF	6-0	170	R	R
Louie	Parrilla	Sto-Rox	C/OF	5-8	170	L	R
Robert	Patula	Mt Pleasant	P/1B	6-5	230	R	R
Bryan	Reft	Brashear	2B/IF/OF	6-0	160	R	R
Justin	Revak	Albert Gallatin	C	5-10	205	R	R
Tom	Rothbauer	Serra Catholic	OF/P	5-8	160	R	R
Jason	Shepard	Franklin Regional	P/3B	6-0	190	R	R
Matthew	Starmack	Elizabeth-Forward	C/1B	5-10	210	R	R
Tyler	Steffy	West Shamokin	3B/P	5-10	165	R	R
Brad	Stombaugh	Mt Lebanon	1B/DH	6-0	170	R	R
Matt	Stumpf	Sto-Rox	SS/2B	5-7	160	L	R
Brian	Thompson	Baldwin	C/P/1B	6-4	195	R	R
Chris	Tremblay	Seneca Valley	SS	5-11	160	R	R
Joe	Vicini	West Shamokin	P/1B	6-0	190	R	L
Dan	Vietmeier	Montour	3B/P	6-0	165	R	R
Jeff	Vincent	Franklin Regional	SS/2B	5-11	180	R	R
Adam	Vish	Quaker Valley	OF/1B	5-7	150	L	L
Brian	Youchak	Vincentian Academy	SS/2B	5-7	170	L	R
<b><u>2006 Grads - Highest Honor</u></b>							
John	Higgin	Waynesburg	1B/3B/2B	5-10	190	R	R
Christian	Valeriano	Riverside	OF/P/1B	6-3	200	B	L
<b><u>2006 Grads - High Honor</u></b>							
Justin	Abbott	Seton LaSalle	SS/2B/P	6-0	170	R	R
Jon	Anthony	Hempfield	P/1B	6-4	190	R	R
Mike	Cafaro	Penn Hills	1B	6-0	190	R	R
Ryan	Cain	Upper St Clair	P/IF	6-2	190	R	R
Eric	Chimenti	OLSH	IF/P	5-10	175	L	R
P J	Cubeta	Indiana	OF	5-7	160	R	R
Justin	Darby	Upper St Clair	P/IF	5-11	170	R	L
Matt	Dishong	Ringgold	P/3B	5-10	160	R	R
Shane	Eckels	Peters Township	SS/P	6-1	190	R	R
Rege	Flowers	Norwin	SS/P	6-1	180	R	R
Mark	Henry	Kiski Area	OF/P	5-10	152	R	R
Anthony	Hepler	Apollo-Ridge	SS/2B	5-9	160	R	R

# WEST PENN BASEBALL PROSPECTS

## The Honor Roll (continued)

<b>First Name</b>	<b>Last Name</b>	<b>High School</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Ht</b>	<b>Wt</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>T</b>
<b>2006 Grads - High Honor (continued)</b>							
Joe	Jurinko	Riverside	1B/C	5-10	203	L	R
Michael	Lugarich	Elizabeth-Forward	SS/2B/3B	5-9	180	R	R
Nick	Mains	Southmoreland	3B/C	5-9	170	R	R
Dan	Mangini	Burrell	IF	5-9	165	R	R
Matt	Matteo	Beaver	2B/P	5-9	160	R	R
Matt	McTiernan	Quaker Valley	1B/OF	6-2	195	L	L
Brian	Miller	North Hills	P/OF	5-11	185	R	R
Gary	Miller	Apollo-Ridge	SS	5-9	155	R	R
Michael	Morgan	Pine Richland	3B/1B/OF	5-10	195	R	R
Chris	Murdy	Penn Hills	OF/P	5-6	156	R	R
Neil	Novak	Brownsville	3B	6-1	190	R	R
Neil	Pascarella	Ringgold	1B/OF/P	6-0	180	L	L
Rick	Pietrantonio	OLSH	P/OF	6-3	185	R	R
Brian	Roberts	North Allegheny	C/IF	5-9	160	R	R
Jake	Rogueaux	Indiana	P	5-11	182	L	L
Greg	Sansone	New Castle	1B/P	6-2	220	R	R
Phillip	Shallenberger	Apollo-Ridge	C/3B	5-9	160	R	R
Jesse	Shamp	Center	2B	5-10	150	R	R
Pat	Slowey	Upper St Clair	P/OF	6-2	180	R	R
Kevan	Smith	Seneca Valley	C	6-3	210	R	R
Mark	Spirnak	Serra Catholic	SS	5-10	155	R	R
Matt	Stay	Beth-Center	SS/P	6-0	175	R	R
Mark	Tomchick	Indiana	C/3B	6-1	180	R	R
Nick	Vilella	Fort Cherry	SS	5-8	165	R	R
Dan	Walsh	Moon	SS/2B/3B	6-2	168	R	R
Mike	Watson	Deer Lakes	2B	5-11	175	R	R

**Have any ideas for newsletter articles you would be interested in  
or information you would like to see on our website? Send me an  
email at [wpabaseball@hotmail.com](mailto:wpabaseball@hotmail.com)**

**WPIAL BASEBALL COACHES ASSOCIATION  
AWARDS BANQUET RESERVATION FORM  
June 10, 2005**

The players selected for the 2005 WPIAL Baseball Coaches Association All-Star Games will be honored at an Awards Banquet on June 10, 2005 at the Holiday Inn Meadow Lands. There is no charge for the selected players to attend the banquet. The cost for all others to attend is \$25 per person.

Doors will open at 6:00 p.m. with dinner served at 7:00 p.m.

The Master of Ceremonies for the Banquet will be Randy Cosgrove, Athletic Director at Ambridge High School and the voice of the Steelers at Heinz Field.

There will also be a silent auction for various sports items and memorabilia so don't forget to bring your checkbook. All auction proceeds will benefit the All-Star Weekend.

The tentative buffet menu for the banquet includes:

- Tossed Garden Salad
- Baked Rigatoni
- Fettuccine Alfredo
- Various Desserts
- Coffee, tea and soft drinks

There will also be a cash bar available throughout the night.

Advance registration is required to attend the Banquet. Please make your reservation by May 31. Call Tony Villiotti at 412-429-0546 with any questions.

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Purchaser Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Email address \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Attendees \_\_\_\_\_ x \$25 = \_\_\_\_\_

Please send check made payable to WPIAL Baseball Coaches Association to:

Tony Villiotti  
63 Stancey Road  
Pittsburgh, PA 15220