

WEST PENN BASEBALL PROSPECTS

Special All-Star Weekend Edition

May 2006

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 9 and 10. The Weekend includes three major events:

- An Awards Banquet
- An Underclassmen Showcase
- An All-Star Doubleheader

The **Awards Banquet** will be held on June 9 at 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 the WPIAL baseball coaches. Randy Cosgrove will be the Master of Ceremonies and ex-Major Leaguer Jim Rooker will be the guest speaker. Last year's inaugural banquet was attended by nearly 300 people and was an unqualified success.

A buffet dinner will be served and the cost to attend the banquet is \$25 per person. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. and there will be a cash bar throughout the evening. The banquet is open to the public. An order form for tickets is included on the last page of this newsletter.

The **Underclassmen Showcase** will be held on the morning of June 10 at Ross Memorial Park (next to Falconi Field) in Washington, PA. This year's Showcase is limited to 100 players, all of whom are 2007 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. **There will be absolutely no walkup registrations as the event will be a sellout.**

Any college or junior college coaches or professional scouts with questions about the showcase or who would like a pre-event registration list should contact Tony Villiotti (412-429-0546, 412-292-8564 or wpabaseball@hotmail.com) or Mark Saghy (412-915-0883 or marksaghy@adelphia.net). The Showcase itinerary is as follows:

7:15	Registration for Position Players
8:00	60 Yard Dash
8:30	Outfielder Defense
9:00	Infield Defense
10:00	Hitting
11:00	Registration for Pitchers and Catchers
12:00	60 Yard Dash
12:30	Catcher Throwing
1:00	Pitching
2:00	Hitting
2:45	Showcase Ends

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The **All-Star Doubleheader** will be played at Ross Memorial Park (same location as the Showcase) beginning at 3:30 p.m. on June 10. 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. The rain date for the doubleheader is June 11.

The All-Star teams are shown on pages 3 through 6 of this newsletter. Seventy-six players will participate in the doubleheader, representing fifty-six 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 players. The process for selecting players begins with coaches nominating seniors from their 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. Virtually every coach in the WPIAL (119 out of 129) submitted recommendations. Information for the nominated players is then assembled and provided to the Selection Committee for their consideration.

The goal is for the Selection Committee for each classification to consist of a Chairman and 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 player selected are then contacted to determine whether they will be able to play. This year 75 of the 76 players invited to play in the doubleheader accepted their invitations. An alternate took the place of the one player who declined because of other commitments.

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 team.

The Class A Selection Committee included Dan Alderson (Chartiers-Houston), Dave Bates (Carmichaels), Sam Cercone (Monaca), Brian Dzurenda (Serra Catholic), Don Hartman (California), Ken Laquinta (Our Lady of Sacred Heart), Andy Maddix (Vincentian Academy) and Bob Sawhill (Fort Cherry).

The Class AA Selection Committee included Larry Cujas (Ford City), Pat Fabian (North Catholic), Rich Griser (Riverview), Mike Houck (South Fayette), Jamie Howell (Burgettstown), Vince Palladini (Avonworth), Bob Peton (Washington), Frank Pryor (Beth-Center), Mark Spohn (Burrell) and Frank Szatkowski (East Allegheny).

The Class AAA Selection Committee included Andy Bednar (Mars), Steve Bucci (South Park), Bryan Cornell (West Allegheny), Tom Hudzema (Mt. Pleasant), Joe Maize (Peters Township), Mike Marvin (Ambridge) and Gary Wilson (Hampton).

The Class AAAA Selection Committee included Tim Banner (North Allegheny), Bob Hinds (Shaler), Rick Krivanek (Pittsburgh Central Catholic) Mike Liebdzinski (Norwin), Jerry Malarkey (Upper St. Clair), Jim Rider (Bethel Park), Brian Shipley (Connellsville), Carl Vollmer (Plum) and Larry Wayman (Franklin Regional).

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Class A All-Stars

Jeff Baluch, P	Geibel Catholic High School
Matt Barbetta, OF	Jefferson-Morgan High School
Jason Britton, IF	California Area High School
Eric Chimenti, IF	Our Lady of Sacred Heart High School
Zach Ciccone, OF	Sewickley Academy
Jeff Cowden, IF	Fort Cherry High School
Brandon Crawford, IF	Chartiers-Houston High School
Jason Duty, P	Vincentian Academy
Ryan Garbin, IF	Bishop Canevin High School
Rick Hocanson, P	Rochester High School
Mike Landers, OF	Springdale High School
Jimmy Leo, OF	Monaca High School
Bob Mary, OF	Chartiers-Houston High School
Joe Mucho, C	Bentworth High School
Wayne Mundekis, C	Springdale High School
Mark Spirnak, IF	Serra Catholic High School
Randy Sturgill, IF	Leechburg High School
Nick Villella, IF	Fort Cherry High School
Bob Virgili, OF	Carmichaels High School

Coaches

Sam Cercone, Monaca High School
Brian Dzurenda, Serra Catholic High School
Ken Laquinta, Our Lady of Sacred Heart High School
Brian Verrico, Rochester High School

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Class AA All-Stars

Aaron Brown, OF	Burrell High School
David Evans, IF	Riverside High School
Matt Fraser, IF	Freedom High School
Greg Frederick, P	Quaker Valley High School
Sean Garrison, P	Northgate High School
Dustin Grabowski, IF	North Catholic High School
Ryan Keller, OF	North Catholic High School
Nathan Kutsch, IF	Ford City High School
Vince Lloyd, P	Beaver Falls High School
Zach Martin, OF	Greensburg Central Catholic High School
Mike McCurdy, IF	Riverview High School
Zachary Neil, OF	Charleroi High School
Scott Orris, IF	Deer Lakes High School
Bobby Siegworth, OF	Burgettstown High School
Adam Snyder, C	Burrell High School
Jesse Stivason, IF	Ford City High School
Justin Thomas, IF	Shady Side Academy
Christian Valeriano, OF	Riverside High School
Kyle Winters, C	Washington High School

Coaches

Pat Fabian, North Catholic High School
Jamie Howell, Burgettstown High School
Dave Oddi, Carlynton High School
Vince Palladini, Avonworth High School

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Class AAA All-Stars

Chris Beatty, C	Hampton High School
Craig Besong, OF	Ambridge Area High School
Josh Campanella, IF	Hampton High School
Alan Denman, IF	Blackhawk High School
Colin Durburow, IF	Pine-Richland High School
Shane Eckles, IF	South Park High School
James "JJ" Hoover, P	Elizabeth-Forward High School
John Karr, P	Pine-Richland High School
Jake Kostelnik, IF	West Mifflin Area High School
Mike Lugarich, IF	Elizabeth-Forward High School
Ty Marburger, OF	Blackhawk High School
Zach Matlas, P	Mt. Pleasant Area High School
Kevin McGuire, IF	Peters Township High School
Neil Pascarella, OF	Ringgold High School
Luke Pisarcik, OF	Peters Township High School
Raf Rincon, OF	Thomas Jefferson High School
Tyler Scruggs, C	South Park High School
Mike Seech, OF	Hopewell High School
Morgan Singletary, IF	Montour High School

Coaches

Steve Bucci, South Park High School
Bryan Cornell, West Allegheny High School
Jeff Kuzma, West Mifflin High School

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Class AAAA All-Stars

Harry Austin, OF	North Allegheny High School
Eric Brown, P	Mt. Lebanon High School
Paul Bugajski, P	Norwin High School
Neil Caponi, OF	Baldwin High School
Tom Carter, IF	Shaler Area High School
Kristian DeJeet, OF	Franklin Regional High School
Tony DeStefano, IF	Greater Latrobe High School
Dave Dimperio, IF	Bethel Park High School
Zach Duggan, OF	Seneca Valley High School
Jack Greenberg, IF	Upper St. Clair High School
Matt Hill, P	Franklin Regional High School
Kris McDonough, C	Upper St. Clair High School
Tom Neiman, OF	Shaler Area High School
Jesse Pesanka, IF	Baldwin High School
Frank Quirin, IF	Pittsburgh Central Catholic High School
Jon Salmon, OF	Norwin High School
Andy Schleihauf, IF	Connellsville High School
Kurt Schaefers, IF	Pittsburgh Central Catholic High School
Kevin Smith, C	Seneca Valley High School

Coaches

Rich Krivanek, Pittsburgh Central Catholic High School
Carl Vollmer, Plum High School

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College Decisions

College decisions since our last issue include Luke Brocks (Sewickley Academy to Rochester), Anthony DeFilippo (Mt Lebanon to Lenoir Rhyne), Tony DeStefano (Latrobe to Pitt), John Higgins (Waynesburg to Grove City), Matthew Hill (Franklin Regional to Cornell), Jake Kostelnik (West Mifflin to Thiel), Jason Krinsky (Gateway to Clarion), Jake Mihalov (Thomas Jefferson to Denison), Neil Pascarella (Ringgold to Washington & Jefferson), Drew Presto (Washington to West Virginia Wesleyan), Jason Retter (Kiski Area to US Naval Academy), Ryan Robowski (Uniontown to Ohio Dominican), Matt Rossi (Gateway to Louisburg CC), Jonathan Salmon (Norwin to Pitt - Johnstown), Tyler Scruggs (South Park to West Virginia), Shane Smith (McKeesport to Concord), Tucker Stobbe (Mt Lebanon to High Point), Justin Thomas (Shady Side Academy to Wooster), Ryan Thomas (Center to Temple) and Bob Virgili (Carmichaels to Penn State - Fayette).

Check out our monthly prospects updates for past commitments. We show new commitments on the “headlines” at www.wpabaseball.com and then in our monthly prospect updates.

If we’ve left out a commitment you know about, please let us know.

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

**WPIAL BASEBALL COACHES ASSOCIATION
AWARDS BANQUET RESERVATION FORM
June 9, 2006**

Players selected for the 2006 WPIAL Baseball Coaches Association All-Star Games and the WBCA Players and Coaches of the Year will be honored at an Awards Banquet on June 9, 2006 at the Hilton Garden Inn – Southpointe. Please join us in honoring our student-athletes. There is no charge for the selected players to attend the banquet. The cost for others is \$25 per person. Tables of 10 can be reserved.

Doors will open at 6:30 p.m. with dinner served at 7:00 p.m. and a cash bar available throughout the evening.

The Master of Ceremonies for the Banquet will be Randy Cosgrove, Athletic Director at Ambridge High School. A guest speaker will be announced at a later date.

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 Game.

The buffet menu for the banquet includes:

Mixed Garden Salad	Bowtie Pasta Salad
Chicken Piccata	Top Round of Beef
Baked Ziti	Potatoes
Vegetable Medley	Ice Cream Sundae and Cookie
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 respond by May 31. Call Mark Saghy at 412-915-0883 or Tony Villiotti at 412-429-0546 or 412-292-8564 with any questions.

Purchaser Name _____ Phone Number _____

Email address _____

Number of Attendees _____ x \$25 = _____

I would like a reserved table of 10 _____

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

Tony Villiotti
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