

WEST PENN BASEBALL PROSPECTS

Volume 3, Issue 3

June 2006

WPIAL All-Star Weekend

The WPIAL Baseball Coaches Association (WBCA) held their 3rd annual All-Star Weekend on June 9 and June 10. *West Penn Baseball Prospects* was pleased to work with the WBCA on this year's celebration of Western Pennsylvania high school baseball. The Weekend included three major events:

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

A report on each of the events follows.

Awards Banquet

This year's Awards Banquet was held on the evening of June 9 at the Hilton Garden Inn at Southpointe. Approximately 240 people were in attendance to honor both the players selected to participate in the 2006 All-Star doubleheader and the WBCA Players and Coaches of the Year. Ex-Pirate player and broadcaster Jim Rooker was the guest speaker and Randy Cosgrove, Athletic Director at Ambridge High School, was a big hit as the Master of Ceremonies.

The DQE Communications Players of the Year were **Rick Hocanson** (Rochester High School) in Class A, **Johnny Elms** (Riverside High School) in Class AA, **J J Hoover** (Elizabeth-Forward High School) in Class AAA and **Kevan Smith** (Seneca Valley High School) in Class AAAA.

The BWP Bats Coaches of the Year were **Brian Verrico** (Rochester High School) in Class A, **Dan Oliastro** (Riverside High School) in Class AA, **Joe Maize** (Peters Township) in Class AAA and **Ron Evans** (Penn-Trafford) in Class AAAA. This was the second consecutive year that Coach Oliastro has won the award.

Underclassmen Showcase

The second event of the weekend was the Underclassmen Showcase, co-sponsored by *West Penn Baseball Prospects* and the WBCA. The Showcase began early in the morning of June 10 at Ross Memorial Park, home field of the Washington & Jefferson baseball team. Registration in this year's showcase was limited to 2007 graduates who were varsity starters with a limit of 100 participants. As a note for those who want to participate in next year's event, this year's showcase was sold out in early May.

As compared to last year's 90 degree weather, the weather was pleasantly cool and sunny this year. The Showcase was observed by representatives from at least 55 colleges and 11 professional teams (see page 4 for a listing).

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WPIAL All-Star Weekend (continued)**Underclassmen Showcase (continued)**

A summary of the results of the Showcase are posted on the website under both the “WBCA All-Stars” and “On-line Newsletters’ pages. Some highlights of the Showcase are as follows:

Fastest Pitches (in MPH)

Richard Toal (Montour HS)	88
David Kaye (Riverview HS)	87
Tiph Harner (Fox Chapel HS)	86
Richard Raraigh (North Allegheny HS)	86
Brian Warheit (Butler HS)	86
Alex Valadja (North Catholic HS)	86
Andrew Heck (North Hills HS)	85
August Kerr (Chartiers-Houston HS)	84
Brett Mazine (Monaca HS)	84
Brett Stackhouse (Chartiers Valley HS)	84
Cole Taylor (Burrell HS)	84

Fastest 60s (in seconds)

Max Suter (Greensburg Central Cath.)	6.59
Tom Burkett (Yough HS)	6.60
Andrew Heck (North Hills HS)	6.78
Ryan Huebner (West Allegheny HS)	6.80
Tiph Harner (Fox Chapel HS)	6.93
Matt Bianco (Peters Township HS)	6.94
Shane Mackin (Bishop Canevin HS)	6.95
Jake Halusic (Greensburg Central Cath.)	6.96
Vincent Campbell (Monessen HS)	7.00
Andy Kountz (Bethel Park HS)	7.00

Outfield Arm

Mitch Monas (Waynesburg HS)	90
Richard Toal (Montour HS)	88
Richard Raraigh (North Allegheny HS)	87
Max Suter (Greensburg Central Cath.)	87
Adam Falkowski (Blackhawk HS)	86
Ryan Huebner (West Allegheny HS)	86
Tom Burkett (Yough HS)	85
Ian Gabos (Vincentian Academy)	84
Brett Mazine (Monaca HS)	84
Rich Doyle (North Allegheny HS)	83
Matt Bianco (Peters Township HS)	80
Brian Grise (Steel Valley HS)	80
Jake Halusic (Greensburg Central Cath.)	80

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WPIAL All-Star Weekend (continued)

Underclassmen Showcase (continued)

Infield Arm (in MPH)

Joe Lombardo (Shaler HS)	88
Joe Leonard (Connellsville HS)	84
Shane Liska (Pgh Central Cath HS)	84
Andrew Klimek (South Fayette HS)	83
Steve Bowser (Beaver HS)	82
Eric Gadola (Kiski Area HS)	82
Andrew Heck (North Hills HS)	82
Eddie Kessler (Bethel Park HS)	82
Marek Lapinski (North Allegheny HS)	81
Aaron Maize (Peters Township HS)	81
Dan Astfalk (Chartiers Valley HS)	80

Catcher POP (in seconds)

Matt Katich (Mohawk HS)	1.92
Josh Hospodor (Ford Cith HS)	1.94
Derek Zofchak (Canon McMillan HS)	1.95
Derek DiRuscia (Blackhawk HS)	1.96
Casey LaValle (Chartiers Valley HS)	1.99

All-Star Doubleheader

The weekend concluded with a doubleheader featuring the top senior players in the WPIAL and matched Class A vs. Class AA and Class AAA vs. AAAA. The doubleheader was played at Ross Memorial Park.

In the opener, Class AA topped Class A by a 5-0 score. Four AA pitchers combined on a two-hitter and Justin Thomas of Shady Side Academy hit a two-run triple to lead the way. Vince Lloyd (Beaver Falls) started for Class AA and struck out four batters in his two-inning stint. Greg Frederick (Quaker Valley) followed with two hitless innings. Sean Garrison (Northgate) relieved Frederick and pitched two scoreless innings while yielding the only two hits for Class A. Aaron Brown (Burrell) finished up with a scoreless final inning. Ryan Garbin (Bishop Canevin) and Matt Barbetta (Jefferson-Morgan) recorded the only hits for Class A.

Justin Thomas (Shady Side Academy) was named the game's Most Valuable Player and Greg Frederick (Quaker Valley) was named Most Outstanding Pitcher.

The nightcap was an extra inning affair with Class AAA topping Class AAAA by a 5-4 score. Kevin McGuire (Peters Township) drove home Tyler Scruggs (South Park) with the game winner in the bottom of the 8th inning. McGuire was also the winning pitcher. Class AAA came from behind in the 7th inning to tie the game on a run-scoring single by Josh Campanella (Hampton). J J Hoover (Elizabeth-Forward) registered 9 strikeouts in 3 innings of pitching for the AAA squad. Jack Greenberg (Upper St. Clair) had a big triple for the Class AAAA stars.

Kevin McGuire (Peters Township) was named the game's Most Valuable Player and Paul Bugajski (Norwin) was selected as the Most Outstanding Pitcher.

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Colleges, Junior Colleges and MLB Team Represented at the Showcase

DIVISION 1

Akron
Army
Buffalo
Cincinnati
Delaware
Duquesne
Elon
Gardner-Webb
George Mason
Harvard
James Madison
Liberty
Marist
Maryland - Baltimore County
Niagara
Penn State
Pitt
Rhode Island
Richmond
Temple
UNC - Charlotte
Villanova
VMI
Wake Forest
West Virginia
William & Mary
Wofford
Xavier
Youngstown State

DIVISION 2

California (PA)
Fairmont State
Gannon
IUP
Mercyhurst
Shippensburg

DIVISION 3

Frostburg State
Grove City
Guilford
Hiram
Juniata
LaRoche
Marietta
Mt Union
Piedmont
Pitt - Bradford
Pitt - Greensburg
St Marys
Thiel
Washington & Lee
Washington & Jefferson
Wooster

NAIA

St Vincents
Seton Hill
Walsh

JUNIOR COLLEGE

CCAC South
Potomac State

MLB TEAMS

Atlanta
Baltimore
Colorado
Cleveland
Detroit
Los Angeles
Milwaukee
Pittsburgh
St Louis
Tampa Bay
Washington

WEST PENN BASEBALL PROSPECTS

College Decisions

Many local players have made their college decisions. The following list includes all college decisions we are know about, whether there is an athletic scholarship involved or not. If we've missed anyone, as I'm sure we have please let us know so we can update the list.

<u>College</u>	<u>First Name</u>	<u>Last Name</u>	<u>High School</u>
Elon	Harry	Austin	North Allegheny
Grove City	Jeffrey	Baluch	Geibel
Purdue	Matt	Barbetta	Jefferson-Morgan
LaRoche	Ray	Benevenuti	Baldwin
Washington & Jefferson	Craig	Besong	Ambridge
LaRoche	Keith	Borman	Penn Hills
Rochester	Luke	Brocks	Sewickley Academy
Duquesne	Paul	Bugajski	Norwin
IUP	Neil	Caponi	Baldwin
Cleveland State	Tom	Carter	Shaler
Washington & Jefferson	Eric	Chimenti	Our Lady of Sacred Heart
Kenyon	Zach	Ciccione	Sewickley Academy
Clarion	Jeff	Cowden	Fort Cherry
California (PA)	Brandon	Crawford	Chartiers-Houston
Cincinnati	Jesse	D'Amico	Mohawk
Gannon	Matt	Davis	Shaler
Lenoir Rhyne	Anthony	DeFilippo	Mt Lebanon
Pitt	Tony	DeStefano	Latrobe
Washington & Jefferson	Dave	Dimperio	Bethel Park
Allegheny	Matt	Dishong	Ringgold
West Virginia	Colin	Durborow	Pine Richland
Duquesne	Jason	Duty	Vincentian Academy
Niagara	Shane	Eckels	South Park
Westminster	Dave	Evans	Riverside
LaRoche	Sam	Florie	Hempfield
Penn State - Altoona	Ryan	Garbin	Canevin
Washington & Jefferson	Sean	Garrison	Northgate
Washington & Jefferson	Michael	Gielata	Bethel Park
Rhode Island	Jack	Greenberg	Upper St Clair
Duquesne	Chris	Happ	Mt Lebanon
Johns Hopkins	Sean	Hennessey	Hampton
Seton Hill	Mark	Henry	Kiski Area
Allegheny	John	Hess	Central Catholic
Grove City	John	Higgins	Waynesburg
Cornell	Matthew	Hill	Franklin Regional
Niagara	J J	Hoover	Elizabeth-Forward
Allegheny	Joe	Jurinko	Riverside
Penn State	John	Karr	Pine-Richland
Maryland	Tim	Kearney	Neshannock
Thiel	Jake	Kostelnik	West Mifflin
Clarion	Jason	Krimsky	Gateway
Washington & Jefferson	Chris	Lamonde	Central Catholic
Robert Morris	Mike	Landers	Springdale
Maryland - Balt. Co.	Geoff	Lang	North Allegheny
Slippery Rock	Vince	Lloyd	Beaver Falls
Penn State	Mike	Lugarich	Elizabeth-Forward
California (PA)	Casey	Marburger	Riverside
Northern Iowa	Tyler	Marburger	Blackhawk

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College Decisions (Continued)

<u>College</u>	<u>First Name</u>	<u>Last Name</u>	<u>High School</u>
John Carroll	Zack	Martin	Greensburg Central Cath.
Pitt - Johnstown	Zac	Matlas	Mount Pleasant
Penn State Behrend	Matt	Matteo	Beaver
Duquesne	Mike	McCurdy	Riverview
Ohio University	Kris	McDonough	Upper St Clair
Marietta	Kevin	McGuire	Peters Township
Denison	Jake	Mihalov	Thomas Jefferson
Washington & Jefferson	Joe	Mucho	Bentworth
Oberlin	Wayne	Mundekis	Springdale
Penn State Behrend	Frank	Nagy	West Shamokin
Wheeling Jesuit	Nick	Napolitano	Plum
California (PA)	Zachary	Neil	Charleroi
Radford	Tom	Neiman	Shaler
Penn State	Scott	Orris	Deer Lakes
Washington & Jefferson	Neil	Pascarella	Ringgold
Allegheny	Mike	Pereslucha	Kiski Area
Point Park	Jesse	Pesanka	Baldwin
Slippery Rock	Luke	Pisarcik	Peters Township
Washington & Jefferson	Kyle	Polliard	Kiski Area
WV Wesleyan	Drew	Presto	Washington
Wooster	Frank	Quirin	Central Catholic
Clarion	Ryan	Raraigh	Riverside
Naval Academy	Jason	Retter	Kiski Area
Thiel	Josh	Ricketts	Penn Hills
Penn State	Rafael	Rincon	Thomas Jefferson
Winthrop	Mike	Ritson	Woodland Hills
Ohio Dominican	Ryan	Robowski	Uniontown
Louisburg CC	Matt	Rossi	Gateway
IUP	Jake	Rougeaux	Indiana
Pitt - Johnstown	Jonathan	Salmon	Norwin
Allegheny	Andy	Schleihauf	Connellsville
West Virginia	Tyler	Scruggs	South Park
Penn State - Beaver	Bobby	Siegworth	Burgettstown
Winthrop	Pat	Slowey	Upper St Clair
Pitt	Kevan	Smith	Seneca Valley
Concord	Shane	Smith	McKeesport
Penn State	Mark	Spirnak	Serra Catholic
High Point	Tucker	Stobbe	Mt Lebanon
Wooster	Justin	Thomas	Shadyside Academy
Temple	Ryan	Thomas	Center
Lehigh	Christian	Valeriano	Riverside
Penn State - Fayette	Bobby	Virgili	Carmichaels
Edinboro	Dan	Walsh	Moon
Bucknell	Casey	Williams	Moon
West Virginia Wesleyan	Kyle	Winters	Washington
Penn State - Beaver	Jake	Wojcik	Burgettstown
Lehigh	Mark	Woleslagle	Norwin

WEST PENN BASEBALL PROSPECTS

Contact Info

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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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