

Grinnell College Baseball Excited About Class of 2013

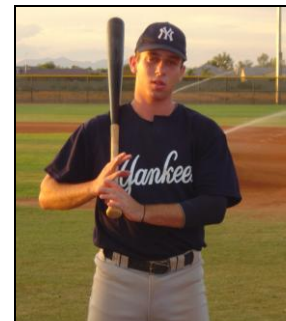
Grinnell, Iowa

After a record breaking 2009 season, head coach Tim Hollibaugh took some time to review the year before turning his attention to the future. Now, with August upon us, the future is now. With 24 returning players (21 letter winners) and 13 new players reporting in the fall, any coach would be anxious to get started. "This is a good group of first year players with some solid tools to work with" coach Hollibaugh points out. "They will add to the depth and talent of our team. I am looking forward to working with them as our fall season begins." The class of 2013 report for freshman orientation August 22.

Will Bennett (Grinnell, Iowa) played for coach Chris Coffman at Grinnell HS. Bennett was a three year starting pitcher for the Tigers. He set the career victory mark on the mound with 22 at the end of his illustrious career. This season he was 6-4 with 69 strikeouts to 35 walks. For this he was named Second Team All-Conference and Second Team All-District. Bennett ran cross country and was involved in the Art Club. Will also attended numerous Grinnell College baseball camps as well as the Head First Showcase in Richmond, Virginia.



Matt Blumenreich (Scottsdale, Arizona) attended Notre Dame Preparatory HS and played for Gaetano Gianni. Matt was a two year starter at second base and shortstop on a team that ended up being ranked 6th nationally by Baseball America. During Blumenreich's senior season, Notre Dame was state championship runners-up. Matt was an Arizona Scholar Athlete of the Year Award Winner in 2008, 2009. He also attended 2008 TPX Academic Williamsburg VA, played for LA Angels Scout Team and Yankees Arizona Collegiate Wood Bat League.



Andrew Davis (Marietta, Georgia) played for Dave MacDonald at Wheeler HS. Davis brings an impressive resume with him. Having won multiple national championships from the East Cobb area, Andrew is a two time All region selection, All North Side selection and Georgia Club All-Star. Davis was Wheeler HS MVP and won the team Leadership award his senior season. He also graduated with honors and was his high school Wendy's Heisman School winner.



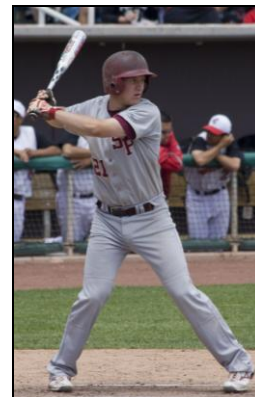
Chris Eckberg (Edina, Minnesota) attended Edina HS and played for head baseball coach Mike Olsen. This former Hornet played pitched and played outfield during his career. Eckberg also played football at Edina, was a National Merit member and an AP Scholar with honor upon graduation.



Ryan Melson (Harvard, Illinois) attended Harvard HS and played for coach Joe Tremel. Melson was his team MVP this past spring where he hit .369 and was 5-4 on the mound for the Hornets. Melson was All-Conference his senior year where he was also the Salutatorian, Student Council President, Class President and active in Big Brothers/Big Sisters. Melson attended the Grinnell College baseball camp as well as the TPX Top 96 clinic in Illinois.



Karl Nelson (Albuquerque, New Mexico) played at Sandia Prep HS for head baseball coach Paul Huitt. As a team captain his senior year, Nelson hit .368, was All-District and voted Student-Athlete of the Year for his team. Nelson was a member of NHS, enjoys camping and piano. During the summer, Nelson played for the Albuquerque Thunder and also played basketball in high school.



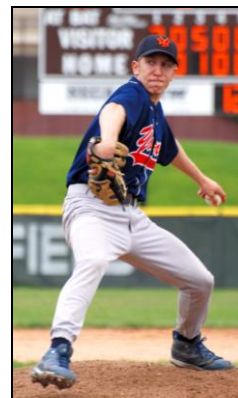
Jesse Ney (Wellman, Iowa) played at Iowa Mennonite School for coach Kent Blossom. Ney was Third Team All-State, First Team All-Conference, First Team All-District and an All Golden Triangle News Service performer. Ney hit 6 home runs his senior season. His junior season he tied a state record with 3 home runs in a game. Ney was also a first team All-State basketball player who plans to play basketball for the high scoring Pioneers. Jesse's sister Hannah is a softball player at Grinnell College



Jason Ormond (Chicago, Illinois) attended Whitney Young HS where he played for head coach Chris Cassidy. Ormond pitched and played first baseman for the Dolphins during his career. He led the team in strikeouts (49) and wins (5) while only walking 8 batters. Ormond also hit .402 during the high school season and was selected as an All-City performer and competed in the CPS All-Star game this summer. Ormond was an honor roll & principal scholar all 4 years, National Honor Society and National Society of High School Scholars in school. He was also active in Future Business Leaders of America (Club), Basketball, Football and Frisbee.



Andrew Platt (Chicago, Illinois) is another Dolphin from Whitney Young HS. The LHP had a stealer season on the mound with 4 victories to 0 defeats. Platt who also ran Cross Country and was a captain for the team was active in band as well as a principal's scholar. Andrew played summer baseball with the Chicago Nationals as well as the Windy City Heat.



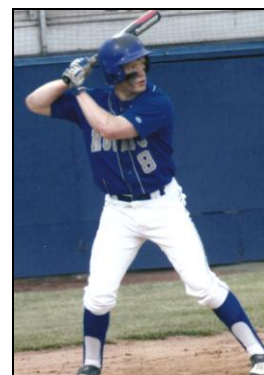
Tyler Sipala (Saddle River, New Jersey) played at Northern Highlands Regional HS where he played for Paul Albarella. The middle infielder hit .300 for the year which earned him his team Edward N. Fitzpatrick Award presented to the player who demonstrates selflessness and dedication to the success of the team. Sipala also ran winter track and selected for Teels Ravens ACEBL super select team in 2008 and 2009. Beyond the field, Sipala was active as a sports writer and VP of stock market club as well as a NHS member.



Brian Taylor, Jr. (Wichita, Kansas) played at The Independent School for coach Jamie Fowler where GC senior Brian Sollo attended. Taylor was a 4A All-State HM selection, First Team Central Plains All-League selection and Silver Slugger award winner. Brian played two summers with the Wichita Collegiate league and will also play football at Grinnell College. While in school, Taylor was a distinguished scholar, active in FCA, French Club and enjoys fishing.



George "Cody" Weber (Pullman, Washington) attended Pullman HS and played for coach Lance Lincoln. Weber was a three year starter for the greyhounds and was a two time All-League selection at second base. Weber competed in basketball, baseball and football throughout high school. He was captain of both the baseball and football teams which he plans to play both sports at Grinnell College. Cody also Academic All-Conference for all 9 varsity seasons.



Justin Westre (Lake Forest, Illinois) played for Grinnell College alum David Wick at Lake Forest Academy. The four year varsity starter and two time All-Conference performer hit .325 his senior year and was 3-2 and 1 save on the mound for the Caxys. He was captain of the team his senior year. An Illinois State Scholar, Westre is an Eagle Scout, IHSA Umpire and actively involved in community service. Justin attend TPX Top 96 clinics, played 2 year for the Chicago Muddogs and one year with the Kenosha Indians

