

June 22, 2006

The Enterprise's Summer

Stars

Your Guide to the Cape Cod Baseball League

**Tony Delmonico:
Vol's Fab Frosh**

Locals Proving Worth

MLB Drafts 175 CCBL Alums

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**Cotuit Kettleers' Tony Delmonico
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From The Cheap Seats

Saying It All, Nothing At All

BY RICH MACLONE

It must be a big deal when an event can pull about 200 people out of bed early on a Sunday morning, and that's what happened on June 11. The Cape Cod Baseball League held its annual First Pitch brunch at The 99 Restaurant in West Yarmouth, and it packed the house.

Normally these types of things aren't my cup of tea (actually, let's change that expression to coffee from now on. I mean, really, who drinks tea?). They tend to be boring, with a bunch of nothing spoken, but the CCBL ones are a bit different, although still, nothing much gets said on the podium.

First, the CCBL has been bringing in WEEI's Pete Sheppard, of Big Show fame, to emcee the events and the big guy never fails to entertain. One of the highlights of the event happened when Sheppard lost his place in his notes mid-sentence, saying that one of the coaches "enjoyed ...life." It was silly, but it brought the house down. And having Sheppard in the house always opens the door for countless dog food and Tom Brady cracks for me and my broadcast partner Darin Weeks. People may wonder why I laugh so much on the air, but they've never had to sit next to Mr. Weeks for three straight hours.

As for the coaches and their speeches, well there wasn't much learned. In fact, they may want to designate just one coach from now on to take the podium in representation of all 10 to speak to the crowd. Certainly the event would fly by faster than they want it to, but they all do say essentially the same thing.

If you were wondering what your team's coach thinks about this year's team, he probably said something like this. "We're going to play hard every day and play the game the right way."

He added, "We don't know too much about the club right now because we're still getting players in every day, trying to learn their names and where they play."

He went on to add "the Cape League is the greatest league in the world. It truly is an honor to come here in the summer and be associated with such a wonderful league that does things the right way for the right reason."

He then thanked the volunteers "who make it all happen. Without them, none of this would get done. They truly are the backbone of the franchise."

Coach then summed things up by saying, "I can't wait for the season to begin. This is going to be a fun eight weeks and it's just a shame that it all goes by so quickly."

I know for a fact that Falmouth manager Jeff Trundy hit all of those points in his speech, which echoed the thoughts of Chatham's John Schiffner and Wareham's Cooper Ferris. They can't help themselves when it comes to the blandness, because somewhere in a coach's makeup is the inability to make brash statements, especially before a season begins. It would give them seizures to say that that they think they're going to win the whole thing. They'd begin twitching if they said that they had the best talent.

It shouldn't surprise anyone, either. It is a Belichick Nation when it comes to coaches. The less they say, they better they feel.

That's not to say that some of it wasn't entertaining. Hyannis' skipper, Greg King, who's entering his third season with the Metropolitan, praised the Mets committee for the fine housing that he has this year before joking, "Imagine where they'll put us next year, if we win eight games this year." Of course, King's Mets posted just seven wins a year ago and had a season that the coach and everyone else would just as soon put in the rearview mirror and forget it ever happened.

The return of Farris was the highlight for everyone, though. The affable Southerner missed last year's campaign because of his wife's ill health (she died of cancer in September) and then, after that, Hurricane Katrina ripped the roof off of his house in Mississippi. Later in the year, one of his players at Mississippi Gulf Coast died in a car accident.

Farris took the podium to booming applause and was clearly moved. He thanked all of his friends for the outpouring of support he received during his hiatus and said he looked forward to returning to the diamond. He visited for four games last year, and the Gatemen won them all. He hopes that that string of luck will continue as Wareham tries to get back into the playoffs.

So with Opening Day finally upon us, just remember what every coach said, "This is the most fun we'll have all year."

Rich Maclone is the sports editor for Summer Stars and covers the Falmouth Commodores for Enterprise Publishing.



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On The Cover: Tony Delmonico stands ready for a sensational season. Photo by Don Parkinson



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PHOTOGRAPHS BY DON PARKINSON

Cotuit Kettleer shortstop Tony Delmonico pounces on a grounder during recent action. Delmonico, University of Tennessee standout, has been living the "baseball dream" since he could swing a bat.

Tony Delmonico Took The Fast Track To Tennessee

BY DAN CROWLEY

Cotuit Kettleer shortstop Tony Delmonico grew up on baseball. From the time he could stand he was swinging a bat. He took the same route all young ballplayers in Tennessee did, beginning with T-ball. Delmonico played the game with the dream, like many young boys, of one day playing in the major leagues. In fact, he was so eager to reach the top of his profession that he finished high school in three years so as to play college baseball.

This spring, his first season with the University of Tennessee Volunteers was a dream come true for the 19-year-old. He made the Southeastern Conference All-Freshman Team and Louisville Slugger Freshman All-American Team.

Delmonico started 54 games for the Vols this year, finishing fourth on the team with a batting average of .335 and led the club with a .360 average in SEC play. A switch-hitter who batted second, he had 68 hits and 36 RBI while posting a .421 on-base percentage.

But accomplishments and recognitions were nothing

new to the gritty, hardworking Delmonico. What was new and more important was that after 18 years of playing the game, his father was finally able to watch him play. When he joined the University of Tennessee Volunteers baseball team last fall, Tony Delmonico was united with his father, UT Head Coach Rod Delmonico. For the first time, it allowed father and son to finally share their mutual love of baseball together on the same field and for a father to watch his son play.

"My dad was too busy to watch me play a lot growing up," Delmonico said. "I think that's why it is kind of special for him now to watch me play every day. Growing up, he never really saw me and that kind of hurt, but now we're together every day. It all kind of evened out."

Rod Delmonico is currently the longest tenured baseball coach in the SEC and the winningest coach in Tennessee baseball history after 17 seasons at the helm of the Volunteers. He played his college baseball at Liberty University, then went on to

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coach at Gloucester County College in Sewell, New Jersey, Clemson University, and Florida State. He is a four-time Tennessee Baseball Coach of the Year, two-time SEC Coach of the Year, and Baseball America National Coach of the Year. Coach Delmonico has made three College World Series appearances, eight NCAA Regional appearances reaching the finals five times, and won two SEC Championships. More than 100 players whom he has coached have moved on to play professional baseball. But the responsibilities of running the successful, high profile UT baseball program didn't leave the coach much time. Growing up, Tony and his dad discussed baseball and high school games over the phone or at the dinner table.

"My dad would call me after a game, and I'd tell him what I thought I was doing wrong and he'd fix it right then and there," the younger Delmonico smiled. "That was the great thing. When I was in high school, and he'd be away on a road trip, sometimes I wouldn't see him for two weeks, but we'd always talk and he always knew how to fix any problem I had. Now with him as my coach, it's great because he knows me better than anybody."

Growing up, when the Vols were home, Tony had the run of Lindsey Nelson Stadium on the UT campus. There it wasn't hard for a boy in love with the sport to learn from future major leaguers and watch his father at work.

"I was always at the ballpark and would hang around with guys like Todd Helton,



DON PARKINSON

Tony Delmonico will bring his game to the Cape this summer having completed an outstanding freshman season at the University of Tennessee.

Chris Burke, and Bubba Trammell," Delmonico remembered. "That's where I got my baseball savvy, hanging around the ballpark 24/7 since I was a little kid. The older I got, I grew to love the game even more."

After his three years at Faragut High School in Knoxville, Tennessee, Delmonico thought about Florida State and Cal State-Fullerton, but with the orange and white and Rocky Top in his blood, the final decision was obvi-

ous. Besides, Tony wanted to play for his dad.

"Playing in front of a home crowd and playing for my dad have always been dreams of mine," he smiled.

Tony knew that when he took the field for the Vols, there would be no special treatment. In fact, if anything, he expected his father to expect more from him.

"He is tough on me and will sometimes make an example out of me, but I knew that going in," he said, "but something like that will only make me tougher. I'm harder on myself than anybody else. His perspective on baseball is that you have to work hard to achieve great things. That has been bred into me through him. I owe my dad quite a bit."

They may have missed those chances years ago to share in Tony's baseball successes on the field, but now the Delmonicos are making up for it on a national stage. SEC college baseball attracts large crowds and national television audiences.

"If I get a game-winning hit or a three-run home run, when I come back into the dugout, he's there," Tony said. "He doesn't have to say anything; he'll give me a high-five. It's a special kind of father-son thing that we share now that is real special."

Delmonico has received an invitation to try out for Team USA later this month. His versatility and the fact that his secondary position is catcher should go a long way in helping to find him a spot on the national team roster. If not, he'll happily rejoin the Kettleers for the rest of the 2006 season.

"It's a great honor to play on the Cape," he said. "If I make Team USA, I'll definitely be back on the Cape next year, invite or not. When Chase Headly came back to UT after his summer here, he said the game definitely looks slower after playing on the Cape. This is a great league and a place I want to be. I just love to play the game."

Delmonico has two younger brothers: 17-year-old Joey

and 14-year-old Nick. Naturally, they're both baseball players with their sights set on the University of Tennessee and, perhaps, a trip to the Cape.

Through hard work and determination, Tony has taken a step closer to his ultimate dream, that of having his dad see him play the game they both love.

Growing up baseball has taught Tony Delmonico many things, but the most important lesson his father has taught him is to work hard to achieve your goals.

"Work hard, that's the bottom line" Tony added. "If I don't go out there and work hard, I'll be doing my team and myself a disservice. My father taught me about hard work, determination, and perseverance. They're some of the things that have gotten me to where I am today and hopefully, God willing, to the big leagues one day."



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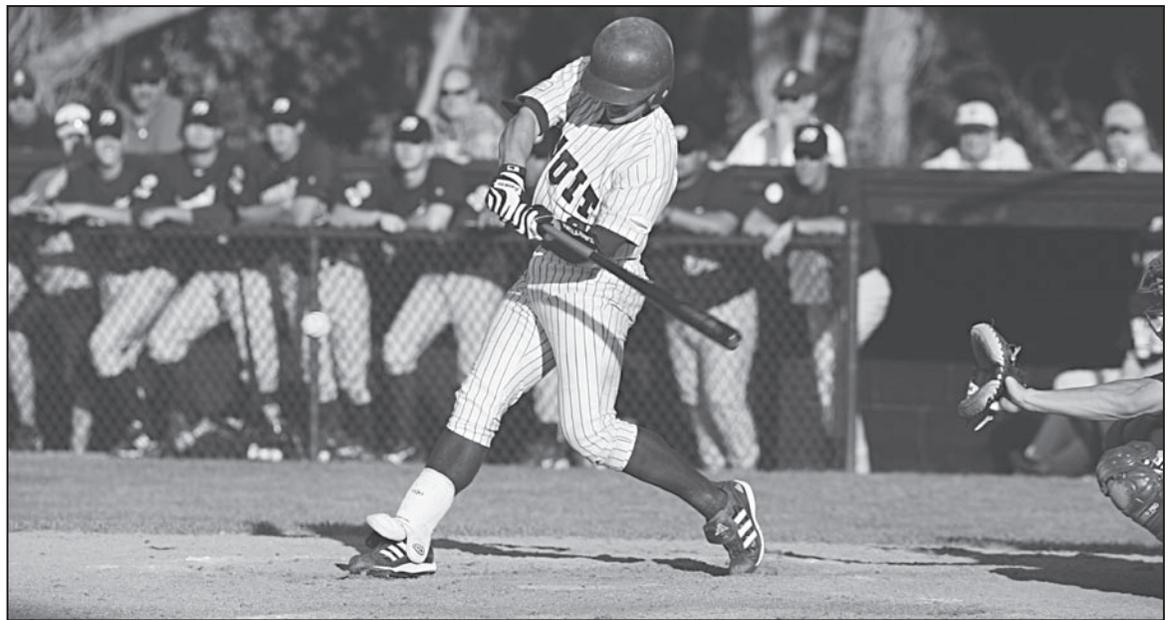
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DON PARKINSON

Switch-hitting Tony Delmonico is at home on either side of the plate.

New Englanders Getting Their Shot To Shine In CCBL

BY MICHAEL O'CONNOR

Playing in the Cape Cod League means a lot to all college baseball players, but it means a little something more to those from the New England area. Heading to the popular vacation spot for the summer while showing off their skills is something that a group of New England-area players can't wait to do.

This year there is a distinguished list of players who will see time here on Cape Cod that hail from the New England states. They are: Terry Doyle, Kevin Boggan, and Matt Meyer (Boston College); Ryan Flaherty of Portland, Maine (Vanderbilt University); Cory Riordan of Killingworth, Connecticut (Fordham); Stefan Wilson (State College and Harvard); Shawn Haviland of Farmington, Connecticut (Harvard); and Michael Parker of Newton (George Washington University).

They are all getting themselves situated with their host families and getting into daily routines of practice and work; they are very excited to be here and eager for the season to begin.

The likable trio of pitchers from Boston College will all be hurling for the Yarmouth-Dennis Red Sox.

Doyle, from Warwick, Rhode Island, is a 6-4 junior being hosted by the Sarijan family this summer. Although being the youngest of the three Eagles, he is already getting ready to play his second season of summer ball. Last year he played in the competitive New England Collegiate Baseball League.

This year he will be paired with his college teammates to take on some tough CCBL action.



Doyle

As a right-handed pitcher, he feels his best pitch is his curveball, because of location and movement. When asked how it was having a couple of fellow Eagles on the team he said, "It's good...it's a lot easier to meet people having a couple of guys you can talk to."

His biggest highlight of last year's season was the win over No. 5 Clemson. Terry hopes to continue working on location against tough hitting this summer.

Kevin Boggan is a 6-2 junior who is being hosted by the Murphy family of Chatham. This is his first year of summer ball and, like the rest of them, was just getting settled in and starting to meet people. His highlight of the



Boggan

college season came in BC's second game against Virginia Tech this spring when he shut the door on the Hokies in the bottom of the 13th inning for the save. His goals this summer are "to meet people I play against during the year, get some good coaching, and get better going back for my senior year."

Rochester, Minnesota, native Matt Meyer is a 6-4 left-handed throwing junior who was just selected by the Cleveland Indians in the 15th round. Last year he played for the Peninsula Oilers of the Alaska Baseball League, making 16 relief appearances and recording a 2.17 era in 29 innings. He enjoyed his time in Alaska and is already enjoying the scenery of Cape Cod.



Meyer

He likes fishing, so any off time he gets, he'll be able to experience some of the best saltwater fishing around. "Fishing is my thing to do," he said. He's already a seasoned fresh water fisher.

On the hill, Matt said his slider was his best pitch because it is tough against lefties and will be tested by some good hitters this summer. He feels he has one advantage entering the summer over the players from California or Texas. "I'm probably used to the weather more."

Riordan, 6-3, will be joining the Falmouth Commodores this season as a hard-throwing righty. So far Riordan, who is staying with the Ferreira family, has enjoyed his stay on the Cape. Despite only having been here for a few days, he's already found ways to enjoy himself. "I got to play golf at Falmouth Country Club the other day."

Riordan feels his best pitch is his fastball, which he demonstrated skillfully in his complete game against Bethune-Cookman this past year at Fordham, a four-hitter that his team won 1-0.

His routine right now is eating, sleeping, and playing

ball. Some of his goals this summer are to improve by watching other pitchers and getting exposure that comes along with playing in the CCBL.

Wareham Gateman Stefan Wilson is an infielder who played in the NECBL last summer for the Torrington Twisters in Connecticut, where he had a great year, making the all-star team. His host family this summer is the Chaplain family and he is also a first-timer to the Cape. His job includes reading to elementary schoolchildren each morning and then having a question-and-answer session where the players stress the importance of a good educa-



Wilson

tion and becoming involved in things like baseball.

When the discussion switched from books to bats, Wilson seemed ready to shine. "I really enjoy wood. It's just more the game of baseball and I think with a lot of guys it helps their swing out by staying back on the ball." He looks forward to working closely with the coaching staff, which he called "very knowledgeable," and looks to gain experience through them and the competition this summer.

Shawn Haviland, a right-handed sophomore at Harvard, is starting his second year with the Gatemen. He feels being a second-year player is an advantage because, "You're coming pre-



Haviland

pared for the routine. We're out here four to five hours every game and you learn to pace yourself."

Haviland's host family this year is the McKiernan family, who are very supportive and see as many games as possible. "They get more nervous for me than I do myself when I pitch," he said. Despite having a rocky start last year after battling a case of mono-nucleosis through the begin-

ning of the season, he was able to improve as the season moved forward. Through work with the coaching staff, he was able to lower his ERA and become more consistent, having his best game in his second to last appearance against Y-D. "It was good after struggling at the beginning to have some success in the end," he said.

Shawn is also included in the morning program of reading to elementary kids. As a curveball pitcher, he will be looking to improve on his splitter this summer.

Michael Parker, a versatile senior infielder at George Washington will also be joining the Gatemen this season. Parker also played in the NECBL last year for the Mill City All-Americans. His host family this summer is Rick and Lynn Amaguchi.

Parker is another player in the pro-wood bat camp. "Personally I like wooden bats better...they even out the playing field."

Michael's daily routine has him arriving at the field around 9 AM and working on the field to help make it game-ready. After that is



Parker

practice in the afternoon. He looks forward to having to face good pitching every night, the nightly exposure from scouts, and hopefully getting drafted.

The Hyannis Mets will have Charlie Furbush back this year. Furbush likes the group that the Mets have put



Furbush

together this year and hopes that his team enjoys more success than it did a year ago. "We have a good group of guys that came in and I think we can have a better year than last year."

He hopes to help the newer guys in getting settled and feeling comfortable. His host family is the DiGiovannis of Cotuit. He said his biggest highlight of last year was just making the Mets roster as he started as a temporary player and finished with the most innings on the team.

A typical day consists of getting up and having breakfast with his host family, practice, lunch, followed by lifting weights and then free time until he starts his job at Oyster Harbors.

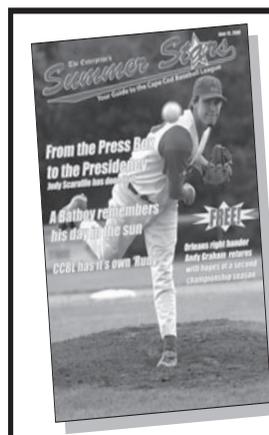
Furbush's best game came last year against Thomas College in the first game of their conference tournament where he threw a two-hit shutout with 15 strikeouts and went 2-for-3 with a double and home run. His goal this season is to "have the team succeed as much as I succeed."

Finally a newcomer joining the Mets this season is Ryan Flaherty, a sophomore from Portland, Maine. For Flaherty, the start to his summer campaign has been just right. "I have had the opportunity to meet a lot of players I played against in the SEC and I'm excited for (the season opener)."

He is being hosted by the Acheson family who are very supportive when it comes to attending games. He hasn't had much of a chance to use wooden bats, the last time being as a junior in high school. But as his father told him before he came down here, "A good hitter hits with anything."

Ryan's daily routine starts with a 9 AM wakeup, then to the field for practice, lunch, and then landscaping for a few hours before finishing up with a workout.

He felt his biggest highlight of this past season with Vanderbilt was a doubleheader against Georgia in the SEC tournament where he got six hits. As far as his goals for this summer season, he said, "experience—that's the biggest thing—and playing the best competition around." He was also working on strength and conditioning to improve his speed and quickness.



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Cape Cod Baseball League

Record 175 Cape League Alums Taken In MLB Draft

Every June on Cape Cod, two events remain constant: the onset of the summer tourist season and a new record of Cape Cod Baseball League alumni being drafted by Major League clubs in the annual amateur player draft. After the 2005 draft that saw a then-record 172 Cape Leaguers get the call they've waited their whole lives for, the 2006 draft netted the CCBL a new record of 175 draft picks.

"It's really exciting to see some many of our players drafted," admitted Cape League Commissioner Paul Galop. "Looking at the numbers, we had more (players) drafted this year than a lot of other summer leagues have had drafted in their entire histories."

When Kansas City selected former Cotuit Kettle Luke Hochevar with the first selection in the draft, it began an unprecedented run of Cape Leaguers who dominated the first round with the top six picks and 12 first round selections overall. Following San Francisco's selection of former Harwich flamethrower Tim Lincecum to round out the first 10 picks, the selections to that point showed seven of them fine-tuned their baseball crafts on diamonds throughout Cape Cod.

Though there are other summer leagues throughout the country ranging from Alaska to Florida, only the Cape Cod Baseball League can boast such astonishing draft numbers. The mere mention of the Cape League to a Major League scout quickly leads to accolades that provide proof of the league's lofty reputation among the inner circle of pro baseball's decision makers.

"The Cape League is far and away the best summer league in the country," explained Amiel Sawdaye, the assistant director of scouting for the Boston Red Sox. "(Every Major League team) scouts the Cape heavily because we all know that the best college players in America are on Cape Cod every summer."

Despite the fact that many of the players on Cape League rosters compete against each other during the spring in intercollegiate games, scouts and players know getting the best of an opponent with an aluminum bat is much different than with the wooden bats exclusively used on the Cape.

"My first two years (at Stanford) I struggled to put consistent outings together on a regular basis," explained Greg Reynolds, the second overall pick in the nation (Colorado) who spent the last summers playing for the Bourne Braves. "The biggest change occurred when I went to Cape Cod for my first summer. Facing the wood bats was a huge confidence boost

because I showed myself that I could pitch with my fastball."

For players like Reynolds, a successful summer on Cape Cod can be weighed much more heavily than even his career in school. Despite going just 7-6 with a 3.31 ERA this spring at Stanford, Reynolds's miniscule ERA of 1.70 in Bourne last summer coupled with his 34 strikeouts in 53 innings helped him become the second player taken in the nation.

"We definitely look closely at stats in the summer and in a lot of cases put more emphasis on them than what they did during their junior year at school," admitted Sawdaye. "Take a guy like Jon Still (fourth-round pick of Boston.) He didn't catch a lot at North Carolina State this year, but our scouts loved him and we drafted him as a catcher based on what we saw last summer in Falmouth."

For the players themselves, draft day is an expectedly nerve-wracking experience, even for those who had successful collegiate and Cape League careers. Most were drafted out of high school, but in lieu of offers to play pro ball, they chose to attend college in the hope of enhancing their draft position in the future. For most, it proves to be worth the wait, but few realize the Cape League's impact at the beginning.

"Heading in, I didn't think the Cape would have this much impact and never would have guessed what it ended up being for me," said Matt Antonelli, a former Falmouth Commodore who was drafted by San Diego with the 17th overall pick. "For me, the Cape is what put me on the map. Seeing all the scouts every night...the exposure I got in the Cape League was much better than what I got in my college seasons at Wake Forest."

In the end, the Cape Cod Baseball League has proven itself once again as the preeminent summer baseball league in America. During the 2005 season, 198 Cape League alumni were on Major League rosters and 1,057 former Cape Leaguers were playing professional baseball throughout the world. Time will tell how quickly the 2006 draft class will realize their lifelong dreams of putting on a big league jersey.

Surprisingly, though hundreds of amateur ballplayers arrive on Cape Cod each summer to show their baseball mettle, one Cape Leaguer, though earning himself the second overall draft selection, still left the Cape unfulfilled.

"I looked for ("Summer Catch" actress) Jessica Biel everywhere," explained a disappointed Reynolds. "But I couldn't find her."

Former CCBL Players Taken In MLB Draft

1	1	1	KC	Luke Hochevar	rhp	Tennessee	Cotuit 2003
1	2	2	COL	Greg Reynolds	rhp	Stanford	Bourne 2003-04
1	3	3	TB	Evan Longoria	3b/2b	Long Beach	Chatham 2005
1	4	4	PIT	Brad Lincoln	rhp	Houston	Bourne 2005
1	5	5	SEA	Brandon Morrow	rhp	California	YD 2004-05
1	6	6	DET	Andrew Miller	lhp	UNC	Chatham 2004-05
1	10	10	SF	Tim Lincecum	rhp	Washington	Harwich 2005
1	17	17	SD	Matt Antonelli	3b	Wake Forest	Falmouth 2004-05
1	19	19	FLA	Brett Sinkbeil	rhp	Missouri St.	Falmouth 2005
1	28	28	BOS	Daniel Bard	rhp	UNC	Wareham 2005
1	29	29	CHW	Kyle McCulloch	rhp	Texas	Hyannis 2004
1	30	30	STL	Adam Ottavino	rhp	Northeastern	Harwich 2005
1a	3	33	SF	Emmanuel Burriss	ss	Kent St.	Orleans 2005
1a	4	34	ARI	Brooks Brown	rhp	Georgia	Chatham 2005
1a	6	36	FLA	Chris Coghlan	3b	Mississippi	Chatham 2005
1a	9	39	CLE	David Huff	lhp	UCLA	Chatham 2004-05
2	3	47	TB	Josh Butler	rhp	San Diego	Y-D 2004
2	9	53	SD	Chad Huffman	1b	TCU	Falmouth 2005
2	10	54	STL	Brad Furnish	lhp	TCU	Wareham 2004-05
2	12	56	CLE	Steven Wright	rhp	Hawaii	Orleans 2005
2	17	61	SD	Wade LeBlanc	lhp	Alabama	Wareham 2005
2	18	62	NYM	Kevin Mulvey	rhp	Villanova	Harwich 2004-05
2	23	67	HOU	Sergio Perez	rhp	Tampa	Brewster 2005
2	24	68	ATL	Dustin Evans	rhp	Georgia So.	Orleans 2005
2	25	69	CLE	Wes Hodges	3b	GA Tech	Y-D 2004
2	27	71	BOS	Justin Masterson	rhp	SD St.	Wareham 2005
2	28	72	ATL	Chase Fontaine	ss	Daytona CC	Bre / War 2005-05
2	30	74	STL	Jon Jay	of	Miami	Brewster 2005
2a	2	76	STL	Mark Hamilton	1b	Tulane	Falmouth 2004-05
3	1	77	KC	Blake Wood	rhp	GA Tech	Y-D 2005
3	4	80	PIT	Shelby Ford	2b	Ok. St.	Falmouth 2005
3	6	82	DET	Brennan Boesch	of	California	Bou / Bre 2004-05
3	7	83	BOS	Aaron Bates	1b	NC St.	Brewster 2005
3	10	86	ARI	Dallas Buck	rhp	Oregon St.	Falmouth 2004-05
3	21	97	PHI	Jason Donald	ss	Arizona	Cotuit 2004-05
3	23	99	HOU	Nick Moresi	of	Fresno St.	Y-D 2004-05
3	25	101	CLE	Adam Davis	ss	Florida	Y-D 2004
4	4	110	PIT	Jared Hughes	rhp	Long Beach	Chatham 2005
4	13	119	MIN	Whit Robbins	1b	GA Tech	Wareham 2004-05
4	17	123	SD	Nate Culp	lhp	Missouri	Cotuit 2005
4	23	129	HOU	Chris Johnson	3b	Stetson	Hyannis 2005
4	24	130	ATL	Lee Hyde	lhp	GeorgiaTech	Y-D / Ori 2004-05
4	27	133	BOS	Jon Still	c	NC St.	Falmouth 2005
4	28	134	NYN	Colin Curtis	of	Arizona St.	Orleans 2004-05
5	4	140	PIT	Patrick Bresnehan	rhp	Arizona St.	Harwich 2005
5	6	142	DET	Scott Sizemore	2b	VCU	Harwich 2005
5	10	146	SF	Michael McBryde	of	Florida Atl.	Bourne 2005
5	15	151	WAS	Cory Van Allen	lhp	Baylor	Y-D 2004
5	16	152	MIL	Chris Errecart	of	California	Y-D 2005
5	23	159	HOU	Casey Hudspeth	rhp	So. Florida	Cotuit 2004-05
5	28	164	NYN	George Kontos	rhp	Northwestern	Harwich 2005
5	29	165	CWS	John Shelby	2b	Kentucky	Harwich 2005
5	30	166	STL	Shane Robinson	of	Florida St.	Hyannis 2004
6	1	167	KC	Harold Mazingo	rhp	VCU	Harwich 2005
6	4	170	PIT	Jim Negrych	2b	Pittsburgh	Harwich 2005
6	10	176	SF	Ryan Rohlinger	ss	Oklahoma	Y-D 2004
6	21	187	PHI	Daniel Brauer	lhp	Northwestern	Harwich 2004
7	8	204	CIN	Justin Turner	2b	Cal St.- F	Y-D 2005
7	10	206	SF	Brett Pill	1b	Cal St.-F	Orleans 2005
7	17	213	SD	Craig Cooper	1b	Notre Dame	Brewster 2004-05
7	28	224	NYN	Tim Norton	rhp	Connecticut	Falmouth 2005
7	29	225	CWS	Justin Cassel	rhp	UC Irvine	Chatham 2004
8	1	227	KC	Josh Cribb	rhp	Clemson	Brewster 2004
8	2	228	COL	Brandon Hynick	rhp	Birmingham	Chatham 2005
8	4	230	PIT	Alex Presley	of	Mississippi	Chatham 2005
8	5	231	SEA	Steve Richard	rhp	Clemson	Chatham 2005
8	6	232	DET	Chris Cody	lhp	Manhattan	Chatham 2004-05
9	2	258	COL	Will Harris	rhp	Louisiana St.	Y-D 2004
9	4	260	PIT	Steve MacFarland	rhp	Lamar	Falmouth 2005
9	10	266	SF	Brian Boccock	ss	Stetson	Falmouth 2005
9	20	276	MIN	Sean Land	lhp	Kansas	Y-D 2005
9	24	280	ATL	Tim Gustafson	rhp	GA Tech	Y-D 2005
10	4	290	PIT	Charles Benoit	lhp	Ok. St	Orleans 2004
10	7	293	LAD	Andy D'Alessio	1b	Clemson	Hyannis 2005
10	9	295	BAL	Emeel Salem	of	Alabama	Cotuit 2005
10	19	305	FLA	Graham Taylor	lhp	Miami	Hyannis 2003-04
10	22	308	OAK	Christian Vitters	ss	Fresno St.	Y-D 2004
10	30	316	STL	Blair Erickson	rhp	UC Irvine	Brewster 2004
11	1	317	KC	Tyler Chambliss	rhp	Florida St.	Orleans 2005
11	3	319	TB	Heath Rollins	rhp	Winthrop	Brewster 2005
11	10	326	SF	Gib Hobson	rhp	NC St.	Bourne 2005
11	20	336	MIN	Steve Singleton	ss	San Diego	Orleans 2005
11	25	341	CLE	Kelly Edmundson	c	Tennessee	Brewster 2005
11	30	346	STL	P.J. Walters	rhp	So. Alabama	Brewster 2005
12	1	347	KC	Everett Teaford	lhp	Georgia So.	Orleans 2005
12	17	363	SD	Stephen Faris	rhp	Clemson	Falmouth 2005
12	24	370	ATL	Josh Morris	1b	Georgia	Chatham 2005
13	10	386	SF	Brad Boyer	2b	Arizona	Cotuit 2004-05
13	13	389	CHC	Matthew Camp	of	NC St.	Cha / Ori 2004-05
13	16	392	MIL	Christopher Toneguzzi	rhp	Purdue	Cotuit 2005

Former CCBL Players Taken In MLB Draft

13	25	401	CLE	Brant Rustich	rhp	UCLA	Orleans 2005
13	26	402	LAA	Blake Holler	lhp	Stanford	Y-D 2004-05
13	28	404	NYY	Daniel McCutchen	rhp	Oklahoma	Y-D 2004-05
14	2	408	COL	Jeff Kindel	of	GeorgiaTech	Y-D 2005
14	8	414	CIN	Carson Kainer	of	Texas	Wareham 2004-05
14	12	418	TEX	Matt Ballard	lhp	Virginia	Orleans 2005
14	15	421	WAS	Brett McMillan	1b	UCLA	Hyannis 2003
14	20	426	MIN	Jeff Manship	rhp	Notre Dame	Cotuit 2005
14	23	429	HOU	Justin Tellam	c	Pepperdine	Hyannis 2005
14	27	433	BOS	Matt LaPorta	1b	Florida	Y-D 2004
15	5	441	SEA	Drew Fiorenza	rhp	Clemson	Hyannis 2004
15	11	447	ARI	Matthew Oxedine	ss	N. Florida	Brewster 2005
15	17	453	SD	Matt Buschman	rhp	Vanderbilt	Hyannis 2004
15	25	461	CLE	Matt Meyer	lhp	BC	Y-D 2006
15	30	466	STL	Lance Zawadzki	ss	SD St.	Wareham 2005
16	11	477	ARI	Blake Sharpe	2b	USC	Orleans 2004
16	13	479	CHC	Blake Parker	c	Arkansas	Bourne 2005
16	14	480	TOR	Chase Lirette	rhp	S. Florida	Brewster 2005
17	1	497	KC	Matt Morizio	c	Northeastern	Bre / Har 2005-05
17	4	500	PIT	Michael Crotta	rhp	Fl. Atlantic	Bourne 2005
17	13	509	CHC	Keoni Ruth	2b	San Diego	Brewster 2005
17	21	517	PHI	Jay Miller	of	Wash. St.	Hyannis 2004-05
17	30	526	STL	Nathan Southard	of	Tulane	Cotuit 2004
18	9	535	BAL	Nathan Nery	lhp	Stetson	Hyannis 2005
18	12	538	TEX	Mike Wagner	rhp	Was. St.	Falmouth 2005
18	18	544	NYM	Ritchie Price	ss	Kansas	Y-D 2005
18	22	548	OAK	Michael Ambort	rhp	Lamar	Falmouth 2005
19	7	563	LAD	Martin Beno	rhp	Miss.GC JC	Wareham 2005-06
19	8	564	CIN	Derrick Lutz	rhp	GW	Chatham 2005
19	9	565	BAL	Todd Davison	ss	Delaware	Cotuit 2005
19	17	573	SD	Brian Hernandez	c	Vanderbilt	Falmouth 2003-04
19	22	578	OAK	Greg Dowling	1b	Georgia So.	Orleans 2005
19	26	582	LAA	Chris Pettit	of	LMU	Orleans 2005
20	3	589	TB	Erik Walker	rhp	UNC-Char.	Bourne 2005
20	9	595	BAL	Zach Dillon	c	Baylor	Chatham 2003-04
20	17	603	SD	Michael Campbell	of	So. Carolina	Brewster 2004
20	18	604	NYM	Jason Jacobs	c	Georgia	Orleans 2005
20	28	614	NYY	Kevin Russo	2b	Baylor	Wareham 2005
21	2	618	COL	Andrew Graham	rhp	UC-SB	Orleans 2005
21	6	622	DET	Thomas Thorton	lhp	Notre Dame	Wareham 2004
21	13	629	CHC	Taylor Parker	lhp	Missouri Cotuit	2005
21	21	637	PHI	Jacob Dempsey	of	Winthrop	Chatham 2005
21	29	645	CWS	Matthew Inouye	c	Hawaii	Hyannis 2004
22	1	647	KC	Romas Hicks	rhp	Georgia St.	Orl / Bou 2004-05
22	6	652	DET	Chris Krawczyk	rhp	Missouri St.	Falmouth 2005
22	10	656	SF	Bobby Felmy	of	Georgia	Cotuit 2004
22	11	657	ARI	Danny Perales	of	USC	Falmouth 2004
22	12	658	TEX	Cory Luebke	lhp	Ohio St.	Falmouth 2006
22	15	661	WAS	Robert Jacobsen	1b	G. Mason	Chatham 2004
24	5	711	SEA	Kyle Parker	rhp	Washington	Harwich 2005
24	9	715	BAL	Joshua Faiola	rhp	Dartmouth	Y-D 2004
24	17	723	SD	Nick Tucci	rhp	Connecticut	Chatham 2003
25	21	757	PHI	Billy Mohl	rhp	Tulane	Falmouth 2003
25	29	765	CWS	Joseph Hunter	of	Miss. St.	Bourne 2004
26	7	773	LAD	Kody Kaiser	2b	Oklahoma	Y-D / Orl 2005-06
26	14	780	TOR	Chris Emanuele	of	Northeastern	Wa/Br/Ha 2003-05
26	21	787	PHI	Will Savage	rhp	Oklahoma	Brewster 2005
26	30	796	STL	Garrett Bussiere	c	California	Chatham 2005
28	21	847	PHI	Herman Demmink	3B	Clemson	Chatham 2004
28	26	852	LAA	Barret Browning	LHP	Florida St.	Cotuit 2005
30	28	914	NYY	Brock Ungricht	c	SD St.	Orleans 2005
31	21	937	PHI	Bruce Billings	rhp	SD St.	Wareham 2005
31	23	939	HOU	Kyle Deyoung	rhp	Fla. So.College	Orleans 2005
32	8	954	CIN	Danny Dorn	of	Cal St-F	Brewster 2005
32	23	969	HOU	Adam Hale	rhp	Texas A&M	Falmouth 2004
32	25	971	CLE	David Uribes	2b	Pepperdine	Orleans 2004-05
32	26	972	LAA	Chris Lewis	2b	Stanford	Falmouth 2003-04
33	6	982	DET	Kodiak Quick	rhp	Kansas	Falmouth 2003
33	14	990	TOR	Greg Lopez	ss	Notre Dame	Y-D 2005
33	18	994	NYM	Teddy Dziuba	c	Babson, N.J.	Bou / Hya 2004-05
34	5	1011	SEA	Stan Posluszny	of	W. Virginia	Cotuit 2005
34	30	1036	STL	Isa Garcia	2b	Houston	Wareham 2004
35	30	1066	STL	Jim Rapoport	of	Stanford	Y-D 2004-05
36	18	1084	NYM	Edgar Ramirez	rhp	LSU	Chatham 2003
36	30	1096	STL	Adrian Alaniz	rhp	Texas	Hyannis 2005
37	6	1102	DET	Ryan LaMotta	rhp	Baylor	Harwich 2004
37	10	1106	SF	Lance Salsgiver	of	Harvard	Wareham 2004-05
38	20	1146	MIN	Randy Boone	rhp	Texas	Hyannis 2004-05
39	27	1183	BOS	Jordan Abruzzo	c	San Diego	Y-D 2005
42	29	1275	STL	Kyle Mura	rhp	LMU	Chatham 2004
44	11	1315	ARI	Justin Brashear	c	Mississippi	Wareham 2004-05
45	26	1359	BOS	Jake McCarter	rhp	Alabama	Cotuit 2005
45	29	1362	STL	John Goodman	rhp	GA Tech Bou / Orl	2005-06
46	28	1390	STL	Robert Woodard	rhp	UNC	Chatham 200406
47	25	1415	BOS	Nick Hill	lhp	Army	Harwich 2006
49	13	1459	CHC	Ryne Malone	3b	Florida St.	Brewster 2005
49	24	1470	LAA	Gordon Gronkowski	1b	Jacksonville	Orleans 2004
50	14	1488	TOR	Baron Frost	of	USC	Chatham 2005
50	21	1495	HOU	Paul Henley	of	Rice	Y-D 2006

175 Count of CCBL Alumni
 4 2006 season players
 179 Total Count
 This list was compiled by John Wylde, CCBL Official Statistician



The Bourne Braves have had a slow start this season but look to improve with the weather this summer.

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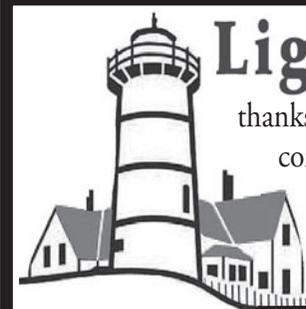
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Ballpark Review

Braves Have New Home

BY MATTHEW M. BURKE

The Bourne Braves' new field at Upper Cape Regional Technical School is almost finished and is a sight to be seen for any baseball fan; complete with a brick, Camden Yards-style backstop, and extraordinary landscaping. The paint is still fresh and the wood unblemished by the elements, making the games that much more aesthetically pleasing.

The hometown crowd is used to sand, being so close to the beach, which has yet to be replaced by grass in most areas, so what has yet to be finished does not hinder a wonderful experience in any fashion. As far as exceptional fields go, almost completed certainly works in this instance. However, when it comes to the game itself, almost just doesn't cut it, as the Braves found out in their home opener against the Wareham Gatemen last Sunday, losing 6-2.

The Braves' Tom Farmer, a right-handed sophomore from Akron, pitched six scoreless innings, giving up just one hit and striking out four, prior to leaving the game. He departed with a 2-0 lead heading into the seventh and it appeared as though the Braves would christen the field in style, walking away with their first win of the season.

The bullpen failed Farmer and the Braves, with Kyle Walker, a freshman from the University of Texas, and Ben Hunter, a sophomore from Wake Forest, each pitching an inning and giving up five earned runs between them, to seal a home-opening loss for the Braves.

For Bourne fans, it didn't really matter that their club was off to a 0-3 start. All that mattered was the fact that the team finally has a new field, a new identity, and a new vehicle to make their games more exciting and more enjoyable for fans of all ages.

Best Place to Park: The best place to park at the new Bourne Braves field is in the student, faculty, and visitors' parking lot. The lot holds over 200 cars. If you want an optimal spot, the best thing to do is to get there a half an hour before game time. Strollers and people carrying baseball gloves can be seen for several hundred yards as they leave the parking lot and enter the park.

Best Place to Watch: Although there really isn't a bad seat in the house at the new park, the best place to take in a game is on the third base line between the concession stand and the home dugout. These seats are the first to go, as there isn't much room on the small-elevated lip behind the Braves dugout. However, if you get there early enough, this is the best and most unhindered view of the game.

Best Buys: Some of the best buys at the new Braves field are in the souvenir department. Girls pink Braves visors for \$12 are an especially good deal. Miniature Braves baseball bats are \$5, as are Cape League baseballs. Even with the smallest of budgets, a souvenir is easily attainable with \$3 Braves decals.

Food: On opening day, the people lined up in droves to sample some of the great food offered by the Braves staff. Burgers, nachos, and pizza were easily the most popular fare. Terry Carrier, wife of general manager Mike Carrier, and Tom Fink, Braves president, manned the grill. The burgers were juicy and were cooked just right. A condiment table was available, as well. Burgers cost \$3 and are the best item offered by the Braves. They also have a large candy selection to keep the kids on a sugar high all afternoon. Restaurant-quality pizza was also a plus.

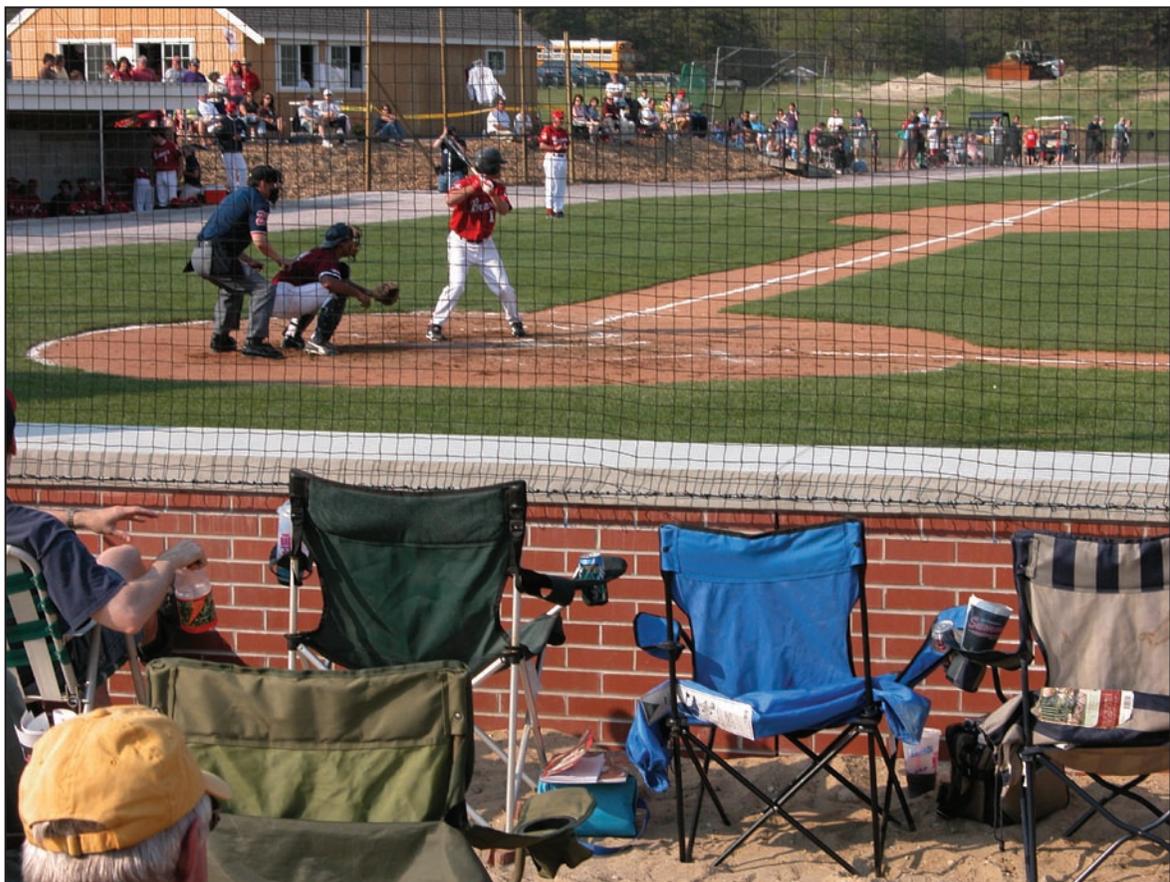
Best Feature: The best feature at the new park is the picnic area. If you travel toward the parking lot, down the left field line, there are nine picnic tables for families to use. Families utilized the area, which has grass, for pizza parties, picnics, or for just a different view of the game last Sunday. It was the staging ground for a group of kids who ran around collecting foul balls.

The Park: The Bourne Braves field is excellent, easily one of the nicest fields out of all of the Cape League teams. The visitors' side (first base) is not elevated behind the dugout and serves as the only bad view in the entire park. On the hill behind home plate is also a great spot to catch the game or next to the bullpens in right and left fields. Wherever you see the game, you will enjoy yourself in sand or on wood chips. However, children should be careful when playing in the sand berms and piles that dot the landscape. They remind us that the field is not truly finished.

With lights being added next year, 5 PM games are all fans can hope now, and the dust that lifts into the air is also a minor drawback. Despite these minor inconveniences, an exceptional Cape League experience is promised at the new Braves field. The field is one of the best landscaped fields out there, thanks to the Upper Cape students who maintain it. The field is handicapped accessible. All handicapped parties should report to the concession stand down the third base line. This is easily accessible from the parking lot.

How Far I Got On 20 Bucks: We wanted to see just how far a \$20 bill would go at the new Braves field. So we purchased a Powerade at the sweltering home opener, at \$1.50 a pop. Then we purchased a Cape Cod Baseball League camouflage hunting hat for \$15, and a burger. All good buys and worth the money spent.

The Braves didn't win the home opener, but, as for their new field, it gets four out of five stars. ★★★★★



The view from behind the dugouts is roomy and clear.



Upper Cape Regional Tech overlooks a beautiful ballpark and clubhouse.



Braves volunteers grill up treats for fans of all ages who are drawn to Cape Cod League games. A picnic area is onsite for folks to enjoy a snack while at the game.



PHOTOGRAPHS BY MATTHEW BURKE

Tim Ellstrom Honored As Ebbett Award Winner For '06

BY WILL BUSSIERRE

It's the Monday before the 2006 Cape League season starts, and Tim Ellstrom isn't doing what he came down to McKeon Park to do.

That doesn't mean that the long-time volunteer for the Hyannis Mets is slacking off. In fact, he's doing his part—literally—to take up the slack at the ballpark.

The Mets recently erected a brick backstop between the dugouts at McKeon Park, with four flagpoles planted in the wall to hold up a 30-foot protective netting. Though Ellstrom came to the park to test out the sound system, he finds himself stationed as one of a dozen volunteers helping to making the net taut as it gets raised above the field.

He'll get around to plugging in all of the mixers and speakers eventually, but for now, there's another task at hand. Tim's instant willingness to help out wherever he's needed, a drive that has endured throughout his volunteering career of over 25 years in Hyannis, has earned him the 2006 Fred Ebbett Lifetime Achievement Award, which he will receive as part of this year's CCBL Hall of Fame induction ceremony on November 4 at Chatham Bars Inn.

Ellstrom moved from New York to Cape Cod in the late '70s, working for the phone company by day and joining the Mets as a volunteer for the first time in 1979. Perhaps it's fitting that Ellstrom's honor should come in the same year as the Hall of Fame induction of Hyannis standout Ross Jones, who batted .407 in the summer of '79 to lead the Mets to their second straight Cape League title in just their fourth year of existence.

Ellstrom's been in Hyannis ever since, showing just how many titles one person can hold for a single organization over the years. In the Hyannis Athletic Association, no member is more decorated than "The Voice," as his fellow volunteers call him. He's been president, vice president, general manager, secretary, groundskeeper, flag bearer, human microphone stand, and bullpen catcher.

Wait, bullpen catcher? That's right, according to one of Ellstrom's favorite stories from his tenure as general manager in the 80s. "I was sitting out in the bullpen for the game and one of the coaches wanted a pitcher to start warming up," Ellstrom recalls.

"They gave me a catcher's mitt and I started playing catch with him, just standing up. Then something happened on the field, and the coach came out of the dugout and started pointing



WILL BUSSIERRE

Tim Ellstrom, known as "The Voice" to his fellow volunteers in Hyannis, will be honored with the 2006 Fred Ebbett Lifetime Achievement Award this fall.

down. The guys started saying, 'Tim, they want him ready to get in the game, you've gotta get down [in a crouch]!' I said, 'Okay, just don't throw it in the dirt, please.' He started throwing curveballs and bounced one and I didn't have any, um, protective gear, so I said, 'That's it, I'm done.'"

Today the Mets have bullpen catchers to fill that void on the team, but Ellstrom's laundry list of tasks is no shorter. He serves on the HAA board of directors and the Cape League board of directors, sitting in on multiple meetings each month. He is responsible for the inventory of team equipment each off-season, including the team uniforms, which are stored in his basement from August to June.

At last July's All-Star Game in Hyannis, Ellstrom was the natural choice as the volunteer coordinator, having served as a volunteer at the annual Cape League showcase for as long as he's been with the Mets. After performing tasks like collecting donations and selling 50/50 raffle tickets for decades, his job was to make sure that the dozens of volunteers from all 10 Cape League teams were occupied and geared toward the task at hand. One \$2,142 grand prize later, a figure that set an All-Star Game record, it was clear that Ellstrom had been the right man for the job.

And then there are the

announcing duties, which require him to be at the park for every home game. Since retiring from the phone company, Ellstrom works by day at a local sporting goods store, often selling cleats or sneakers to the same players he'll see in action that evening. He arrives at McKeon Park for home games at least two hours early, enough time to set up the speaker system on the third-base bleachers, raise the flag on the pole past the right-center field fence, and write out the afternoon's lineups on the team's dry erase board (for which he may have forgotten to turn in his receipt for reimbursement, as happens from time to time).

When the game starts, he's announcing the names and schools of players, selecting music and public service announcements to go out over the speakers, and keeping score in his personal scorebook, all at the same time. He sits in the cozy quarters at the McKeon Park press box without a full view of left field, since the three pieces of audio equipment that power the public address system must sit on the bench in front of him. And since those pieces of equipment have to be stored somewhere in the off-season, they also found their way into Ellstrom's basement, sliding into a spot right by the uniform racks.

Which brings Ellstrom to

that Monday at the ballpark, where a group of Hyannis volunteers holds an introductory meeting with the club's college-aged interns, many of whom are becoming Cape League volunteers for the first time. When it's his turn to be introduced, the other members of the organization make sure to head off his modesty at the pass, since Tim would never tell you himself just how involved he has been with the Mets over the last

quarter century.

After Tim introduces himself to the interns as the public address announcer, Mets assistant general manager Bill Bussiere adds, "Tim has been here since almost the beginning and he's held every job with the team except...except what, Tim?"

"Treasurer!" Ellstrom shouts back with enthusiasm. "I'll never touch the money," he said.

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			*Major League* *Baseball* *Scouts Days*	Cot @ Bou 5:00 Orl @ Bre 5:00 Y-D @ Hya 5:00 Fal @ Cha 7:00 Har @ War 7:00	Bre @ Cot 5:00 War @ Hya 5:00 Cha @ Y-D 5:00 Bou @ Fal 7:00 Orl @ Har 7:00	Cha @ Bre 5:00 Hya @ Cot 5:00 Y-D @ Har 7:00 Bou @ Orl 7:00 Fal @ War 7:00
Sun 6/18	Mon 6/19	Tue 6/20	Wed 6/21	Thu 6/22	Fri 6/23	Sat 6/24
War @ Bou 5:00 Bre @ Hya 5:00 Orl @ Y-D 5:00 Cot @ Fal 5:30 Har @ Cha 7:00	Fal @ Bre 5:00 Y-D @ Cha 7:00 Bou @ Har 7:00 Hya @ Orl 7:00 Cot @ War 7:00	Open	Bre @ Bou 5:00 Orl @ Cot 5:00 Cha @ Hya 5:00 Y-D @ Fal 7:00 War @ Har 7:00	Cot @ Bou 5:00 Cha @ Bre 5:00 Har @ Y-D 5:00 Hya @ Fal 7:00 War @ Orl 7:00	Cot @ Bre 5:00 War @ Hya 5:00 Bou @ Cha 7:00 Y-D @ Har 7:00 Fal @ Orl 7:00	Har @ Bou 5:00 Orl @ Hya 5:00 Cot @ Y-D 5:00 Bre @ Fal 5:30 War @ Cha 7:00
Sun 6/25	Mon 6/26	Tue 6/27	Wed 6/28	Thu 6/29	Fri 6/30	Sat 7/1
Orl @ Bre 5:00 Bou @ Cot 5:00 Fal @ War 5:00 Hya @ Har 5:30 Y-D @ Cha 7:00	Fal@Bou7:00@Sand War @ Bre 5:00 Har @ Cot 5:00 Hya @ Y-D 5:00 Cha @ Orl 7:00	Bre @ Y-D 5:00 Bou @ Fal 7:00 Cha @ Har 7:00 Cot @ Orl 7:00 Hya @ War 7:00	Open	Cha @ Bou 5:00 Fal @ Cot 5:00 Har @ Hya 5:00 Y-D @ Orl 7:00 Bre @ War 7:00	Orl @ Bou 5:00 War @ Y-D 5:00 Bre @ Cha 7:00 Hya @ Fal 7:00 Cot @ Har 7:00	Fal @ Hya 5:00 Bou @ Y-D 5:00 Cot @ Cha 7:00 Bre @ Har 7:00 Orl @ War 7:00
Sun 7/2	Mon 7/3	Tue 7/4	Wed 7/5	Thu 7/6	Fri 7/7	Sat 7/8
Hya @ Bou 5:00 Y-D @ Bre 5:00 War @ Cot 5:00 Har @ Orl 5:00 Cha @ Fal 5:30	Har @ Bre 5:00 Cot @ Hya 5:00 Y-D @ Fal 5:30 Cha @ Orl 7:00 Bou @ War 7:00	War @ Bou 2:00 Hya @ Cot 5:00 Bre @ Y-D 5:00 Orl @ Cha 7:00 Fal @ Har 7:00	Open	Y-D @ Cot 5:00 Bou @ Hya 5:00 Har @ Fal 7:00 Bre @ Orl 7:00 Cha @ War 7:00	Bou @ Bre 5:00 Orl @ Cot 5:00 Fal @ Y-D 5:00 Har @ Cha 7:00 Hya@War7:00@NB	Y-D @ Bou 5:00 Hya @ Bre 5:00 Cha @ Cot 5:00 War @ Fal 5:30 Har @ Orl 7:00
Sun 7/9	Mon 7/10	Tue 7/11	Wed 7/12	Thu 7/13	Fri 7/14	Sat 7/15
Bou @ Hya 5:00 Cot @ War 5:00 Orl @ Y-D 5:00 Bre @ Har 5:30 Fal @ Cha 7:00	Bou @ Cot 5:00 Har @ Y-D 5:00 Hya @ Cha 7:00 Orl @ Fal 7:00 Bre @ War 7:00	Open	Fal @ Bou 5:00 War @ Bre 5:00 Cha @ Cot 5:00 Har @ Hya 5:00 Y-D @ Orl 7:00	Hya @ Cha 7:00 Cot @ Fal 7:00 Bou @ Har 7:00 Bre @ Orl 7:00 Y-D @ War 7:00	Cha @ Bou 5:00 Orl @ Bre 5:00 Cot @ Hya 5:00 Fal @ Y-D 5:00 Har @ War 7:00	Orl @ Bou 5:00 Y-D @ Hya 5:00 Bre @ Fal 5:30 War @ Cha 7:00 Cot @ Har 7:00
Sun 7/16	Mon 7/17	Tue 7/18	Wed 7/19	Thu 7/20	Fri 7/21	Sat 7/22
Bou @ War 2:00 Hya @ Bre 5:00 Fal @ Cot 5:00 Har @ Orl 5:00 Cha @ Y-D 5:00	Cot @ Bou 5:00 Y-D @ Bre 5:00 Fal @ Hya 5:00 Cha @ Har 7:00 War @ Orl 7:00	Open	Bre @ Bou 5:00 Y-D @ Cot 5:00 War @ Hya 5:00 Orl @ Cha 7:00 Har @ Fal 7:00	Cot @ Bre 5:00 Bou @ Cha 7:00 Hya @ Har 7:00 Fal @ Orl 7:00 Y-D @ War 7:00	Bou @ Bre 5:00 War @ Cot 5:00 Cha @ Hya 5:00 Orl @ Y-D 5:00 Fal @ Har 7:00	Fal @ Bre 2:00 *Har @ Cot 5:00* Hya @ Y-D 5:00 Bou @ Orl 7:00 Cha @ War 7:00
Sun 7/23	Mon 7/24	Tue 7/25	Wed 7/26	Thu 7/27	Fri 7/28	Sat 7/29
Y-D @ Bou 2:00* Cot @ Hya 5:00 War @ Fal 5:30 Orl @ Har 5:30 Bre @ Cha 7:00	Open	Bou @ Cot 5:00 *War @ Y-D 5:00* Har @ Cha 7:00 Hya @ Fal 7:00 Bre @ Orl 7:00	Hya @ Bou 5:00 Y-D @ Bre 5:00 *Fal @ Cot 5:00* Cha @ Har 7:00 Orl @ War 7:00	*Bre @ Hya 5:00* Cot @ Cha 7:00 Bou @ Fal 7:00 War @ Har 7:00 Y-D @ Orl 7:00	Har @ Bou 5:00 Bre @ Y-D 5:00 *Orl @ Cha 7:00* Cot @ Fal 7:00 Hya @ War 7:00	All-Star Game Y-D Gates Open 11:30 HR Contest 2:15 Game 4:00
Sun 7/30	Mon 7/31	Tue 8/1	Wed 8/2	Thu 8/3	Fri 8/4	Sat 8/5
Hya @ Bou 5:00 Bre @ Cot 5:00 War @ Fal 5:30 Orl @ Har 5:30 Y-D @ Cha 7:00	Har @ Bre 5:00 Hya @ Orl 7:00 Bou @ Y-D 5:00 Cha @ Fal 7:00 Cot @ War 7:00	Open	Fal @ Bou 4:30 War @ Cot 4:30 Orl @ Hya 4:30 Cha @ Y-D 4:30 Bre @ Har 7:00	All-Star Player Recognition Night at Fenway Park Boston	Cha @ Bre 4:30 Bou @ Hya 4:30 Har @ Y-D 4:30 Cot @ Orl 7:00 Fal @ War 7:00	War @ Bou 4:30 Hya @ Cot 4:30 Orl @ Fal 5:30 Bre @ Cha 7:00 Y-D @ Har 7:00
Sun 8/6	Mon 8/7	Tue 8/8	Wed 8/9	Thu 8/10	Fri 8/11	Sat 8/12
Har @ Bre 4:30 Fal @ Hya 4:30 Cot @ Y-D 4:30 Bou @ War 5:00 Cha @ Orl 7:00	Open	Divisional Games East: Game 1 West: Game 1	Divisional Games East: Game 2 West: Game 2	Divisional Game(s) East Game 3 (if nec) West Game 3 (if nec) or Championship Game 1	Championship Game 1 or 2	Championship (if nec)

Nine New Names Inducted Into Cape League HOF

BY MARK A BROWN

Ask any Cape League player today, and he'll probably say that playing in the Cape Cod Baseball League is a unique honor. So where would induction into the league's hall of fame rank?

Nine former players and coaches will be enshrined in the hall November 4 in a ceremony at the Chatham Bars Inn in Chatham. Hall of Fame Committee Chairman Phil Edwards made the announcement on June 11 during the CCBL's First Pitch Brunch at the 99 Restaurant in West Yarmouth.

The 2006 class, the seventh to be inducted since the hall was established, includes current major leaguers Lance Niekro and Josh Paul, former major leaguers Steve Balboni and Ross Jones, and CCBL legends Rik Currier, Steve Duda, Jim Hubbard, Greg Lotzar, and Allen (Buzzy) Wilcox.

The Cape League Hall of Fame is at Heritage Museums & Gardens in Sandwich.

Coming from a baseball-rich bloodline, third baseman Lance Niekro won the Cape League's triple crown and MVP award for Orleans in 1999, batting .360 with 13 homers while knocking in 44 runs. Lance, a Winter Haven, Florida, native who played college ball at Florida Southern, also set the pace for the CCBL that year with 62 hits and 110 total bases while slugging .640. He returned to the Cape League in 2000, hitting .297 in nine games before signing with the San Francisco Giants, who'd made him their second round pick (#61 overall) in that summer's amateur draft.

After switching to first base, he reached the majors in 2003. Last year in his first full season with the Giants, he batted .253 with 12 homers and 46 RBI. He was hitting .255 this year with four HR and 26 RBI in 41 games before straining a groin muscle last week (June 12). Lance is the son of former Major League pitcher Joe Niekro, a 1979 all-star, and the nephew of Phil Niekro, who is enshrined at Cooperstown.

Hailing from Evanston, Illinois, catcher-outfielder Josh Paul took the Cape League by storm in 1995 by becoming the first player in league history to earn the batting title and both the MVP and Outstanding Pro Prospect awards. Playing for the Cotuit Kettleers, Paul hit .364 with six homers and 26 RBI, while slugging .652 and swiping 16 bases, placing him on both the mid-season and year-end CCBL all-star teams.

Heading into that stellar 1995 season, Paul had hit .388 with 11 homers,

50 RBI and 25 steals as a sophomore. Following his junior year he signed with the Chicago White Sox as their second round pick in the 1996 amateur draft. He reached the majors in 1998 as a catcher, spending parts of five seasons with the White Sox. He has since played for the Chicago Cubs, Anaheim Angels, and, most recently, the Tampa Bay Devil Rays, where he has earned a reputation as one of the better defensive backstops in the game.

With a barrel chest and a powerful swing, first baseman Steve Balboni made his mark during an 11-year Major League career with the Kansas City Royals, New York Yankees, Seattle Mariners, and Texas Rangers. Born in Brockton but raised in New Hampshire, the slugger attended Eckerd College in St. Petersburg, Florida. In the first of his two years in the Cape League, he hit .261 with six home runs and 22 RBI for the 1976 Falmouth Commodores.

Playing for the Yarmouth-Dennis Red Sox in 1977, "Bye Bye" Balboni clubbed a league-high 13 homers while knocking in 38 runs and hitting .271. At the league's All-Star Game that year at Fenway Park, he launched a pair of round-trippers over the fabled left-field wall. Balboni was selected in the second round, 58th overall, by the Yankees in the 1978 amateur draft. His 35 homers for the 1985 World Series champion Royals was third in the American League that year, and he slugged 181 over his career.

A fleet shortstop with a great eye at the plate, Ross Jones led the Hyannis Mets to the 1997 Cape League crown with a league-best .407 batting average. His season also featured a 22-game hitting streak and a two-game stretch with 10 consecutive hits. Jones knocked three homers and 12 doubles while driving in 35 runs. His performance earned him the Outstanding Pro Prospect award and selection to both the mid-season and final all-star teams. He was also named MVP of the CCBL all-star game.

Following his dominating Cape League season, Jones returned to his hometown and the University of Miami in Florida, where he led the 1980 Hurricanes with a .338 batting average and was named a first-team All-American by The Sporting News. That June the Los Angeles Dodgers made him the ninth overall pick in the amateur draft, signing him right away. Jones reached the majors in 1984 with the New York Mets as a utility infielder. He went

on to play for the Seattle Mariners before finishing his pro career in 1987 with the Kansas City Royals.

Starting pitcher Steve Duda put up consecutive all-star seasons for the Chatham A's. In 1991 he went 4-4 with a 2.89 ERA, a campaign that featured a no-hitter against Yarmouth-Dennis. Returning to Chatham the following summer, Duda, a 5-11, 170-lb righthander, logged a 6-1 record and an ERA of just 0.90. He also went 2-0 in the Cape League postseason that year, earning playoff MVP honors.

A control pitcher who mixed in a curveball and changeup with good command of his fastball, Duda led Pepperdine to the 1992 NCAA championship by going 9-1 with a 1.92 ERA. The Whittier, California, native remains the all-time career leader in wins for the Waves with 44—ahead of current major leaguers Dan Haren and Randy Wolf. Duda, who never reached the majors, was a fifth-round pick of the Milwaukee Brewers in the 1993 amateur draft.

Righthander Rik Currier, who pitched in college with Mark Prior at the University of Southern California, had two All-Star seasons for the Chatham A's in the Cape League. After going 5-2 with a 2.37 ERA in 1998, he was even more dominant the next summer with a perfect 7-0 record and a stellar ERA of 1.34. Currier was named Co-Outstanding Pitcher of the Year in 1999, and was selected to

both the mid-season and final All-Star teams.

While at USC, the native of La Mirada, California, helped the Trojans to the 1998 national championship as a freshman. He also racked up a school and Pac-10 record 449 career strikeouts, a mark that stood until this season when it was broken by ex-Harwich Mariners ace Tim Lincecum of the University of Washington. Slightly built at 5-10 and 180 lbs, Currier was a sixth round pick of the New York Yankees in the 2001 amateur draft. He pitched last season in the Philadelphia Phillies organization.

At just 5-9 and 165 lbs, center fielder Greg Lotzar was dwarfed by other Cape League hitters. But the Central Michigan University standout proved a giant at the plate and on the basepaths in 1983 for Cotuit, winning the batting title with a .414 average and setting the CCBL record with 33 stolen bases. Lotzar earned the league's MVP award while scoring 46 runs with 63 hits and a whopping .516 on-base percentage. He was also named the MVP of the Cape League playoffs.

After returning to campus, Lotzar was named a second team Academic All-American in 1984 for the Chippewas, batting .434. The Birmingham, Michigan, native was drafted by the Detroit Tigers in the 32nd round that summer but did not sign. The following season for Central Michigan, he hit two grand

slams in a game against Florida Southern and set single-season school records with 75 runs and nine triples, both of which still stand. He signed with Boston after the Red Sox made him their 12th round pick in the 1985 amateur draft.

Jim Hubbard, a graduate of Bridgewater State College, came to the Cape League in 1958 as an outfielder for Yarmouth. He spent the next three seasons with Cotuit and became the team's manager in 1961. Under his tutelage the Kettleers reeled off four consecutive CCBL titles from 1961 to 1964 with a cumulative record of 108-16 (.871). Over the next five years his Cotuit teams never finished below fourth place.

Hubbard served as a league umpire from 1970 to 1974. The Mattapoisett resident returned to the league in 1990 as general manager for Wareham, a position he held until 1996. During his tenure with the Gatemen, the team made three playoff appearances and captured the league title in 1994.

The late Allen "Buzzy" Wilcox played outfield for 17 years with the Orleans Cardinals in the 1940s, '50s and '60s. Before the CCBL became an all-collegiate league in the late 1960s, squads comprised mainly local players, and Wilcox was reknowned as one of the hometown favorites in Orleans.

(Cape Cod Baseball League archives and other sources were used for this article.)

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Batting Around

A weekly roundup of reports from around the Cape Cod Baseball League

DIVISION STANDINGS through June 18, 2006	EASTERN DIVISION					WESTERN DIVISION							
	W	L	T	PTS	STREAK	10	W	L	T	PTS	STREAK	10	
ORLEANS	3	1	0	6	W 2	3-1	WAREHAM	4	0	0	8	W 4	4-0
CHATHAM	2	0	1	5	W 1	2-0	FALMOUTH	2	1	0	4	W 1	2-1
YARMOUTH-DENNIS	1	2	0	2	L 1	1-2	COTUIT	2	1	0	4	L 1	2-1
BREWSTER	1	2	1	3	W 1	1-2	HYANNIS	0	3	0	0	L 3	0-3
HARWICH	1	3	0	2	L 2	1-3	BOURNE	0	3	0	0	L 3	0-3

East Roundup

Cardinals Play "Small Ball"



After a magical season in 2005 which ended with a Cape Cod Baseball League championship, the Orleans Cardinals brought back their winning recipe for the 2006 season. The recipe includes stellar pitching, timely hitting, and a large dose of "small ball."

Field manager Kelly Nicholson calls small ball "extremely important for scoring runs." The 2006 Orleans Cardinals will undoubtedly be a team that steals bases and commits to sacrificing players around the bases. The Cardinals brought their strategic style of play to the season opener against the Brewster Whitecaps, who were playing their first game at the new field at Stony Brook School. Orleans continued the hot play from last season with a 2-0 win to start the season. A total of five different Cardinals pitchers contributed to the two-hit pitching gem, with Eric Surkamp (NC State), Clayton Shunick (Georgia State), Cameron Betourne (Vanderbilt), Brock Baber (Kentucky) and Brett Cecil (Maryland) all lent an arm to the pitching performance. Shunick ended the night with the win.

The Cardinals got all the runs they needed in the second inning. With two outs, Kyle Scogin (West Point) was hit by a pitch and then immediately stole second, and Ryan Sonntag (Arizona State) drove in his teammate with an RBI single. Joe Mahoney (Richmond) added an insurance run in the third. Friday night was a reversal of fortune for the Cardinals after a 2-0 loss to the Harwich Mariners. Harwich lefty Dan Merklinger (Seton Hall) was effective on a cool night at Whitehouse Field in Harwich. Coach Nicholson contributed his success to "throwing strikes" and "staying ahead of our batters."

Merklinger struck out nine without letting up a walk through six strong innings of work. Harwich pitchers Josh Ellis (Wake Forest) and Dan McDonald (Seton Hall) combined for three solid innings of relief. At the end of the night, Harwich pitchers finished up with 15 strikeouts. Cardinals' pitcher Ty Davis (Vanderbilt) put forth a strong effort and only allowed one earned run through six innings of work, but Nicholson noted, "You can't win if you don't score."

Jonathan French, CCBL Intern french@capecodbaseball.org

The Waiting is the Hardest Part



Tom Petty said it best with his lyrics, "The waiting is the hardest part."

Fans of the Chatham A's have waited all year for Opening Day on June 15, and then they had to wait one more day. The aftermath of an extremely rainy spring was a field not quite ready for play. General Manager Charlie Thoms called the field "too dangerous for the players" due to the especially wet playing surface. The young, talented players of the CCBL are the league's biggest assets, and on Thursday, the league needed to protect its assets.

Instead of the A's playing their game against Falmouth, field manager John Schiffner held a practice and prepared his team for Friday night's game against the Yarmouth-Dennis Red Sox. The game would be a classic.

The game didn't start to Schiffner's liking. Y-Ds put Chatham behind the eight ball with a five-run fourth, as Chatham's starter Ricky Hargrove (Houston) was the victim of unearned runs. A dropped fly ball by Allen Dykstra (Wake Forest) and a Daniel Espinosa (Long Beach State) throwing error led to all five runs. Y-D's starter Terry Doyle (Boston College) pitched well, but ran into trouble in the seventh inning when Chatham mounted a heroic comeback. Down by four runs with the bases loaded, Matt Rizotti (Manhattan) belted a grand slam to left center. Espinosa and Dykstra scored on the homer and atoned for their previous errors.

However, the game was now merely tied. With two outs in the top of the ninth, Chris Carrara (Winthrop) stood on third as Todd Frazier (Rutgers) stepped to the plate. Frazier struck out, but the ball got behind the catcher and Frazier advanced to first, while Carrara scored the go-ahead run. Derrick Lutz (George Washington) shut the door on Y-D in the bottom of ninth to get the save, while Paul Koss (USC) got the win.

Thursday's rainout will be made up on Tuesday, June 20 at Veterans Field. General manager Charlie Thoms noted that the postponement of the season opener "will cause us to play 12 straight games." The task will be a grueling early test for the 2006 Chatham A's. Jonathan French, CCBL Intern french@capecodbaseball.org

Excitement Turns to Disappointment for the Whitecaps



Taking on the defending champs at their new field and in their new uniforms

stirred up excitement in Brewster Thursday night. The Whitecaps played their home opener at their new digs at Stony Brook School in Brewster, but despite their new surroundings and new attire, the Whitecaps couldn't pull off the win.

There was a tremendous turnout at the game; about 1,000 people came out to take part in the start of the summer here on the Cape. Many came out to be part of history, being the first spectators to watch the Brewster Whitecaps play on their very first home field in the town of Brewster. Fans were very impressed with how great the field looks and they were thrilled that they finally have a place of their own. One fan was overheard as saying, "Here we are, at our home field - finally." That was the consistent feeling throughout the ballpark.

At the same time that the realization of having a new field was settling in, disappointment from the night's result surfaced with fans and field manager Bob Macaluso.

Thursday's loss came solely down to "missed opportunities," which is upsetting because of how well the defense and bullpen performed. There also seemed to be a sense of unity among the team already, which is probably one of the reasons that general manager Ned Monthie said, "we expect good things [this season]."

One of the Whitecaps' "good things" is Harwich, Mass. native LHP Cody Crowell (Vanderbilt), who after four innings of hard-throwing relief had six strikeouts and left the game with a 0.00 ERA.

Whitecaps fans can also look forward to two other Cape Cod natives - catcher Adam LaPlante (Wheaton) of Harwich, and LaPlante's teammate and neighbor, INF Jake Yagjian (Wheaton) of Brewster. Both LaPlante and Yagjian finished up their regular seasons at school hitting over .300.

Johnna DeChristoforo, CCBL Intern dechristoforo@capecodbaseball.org

BATTING TOP 10 (MINIMUM 8 PLATE APPEARANCES)

BATTER	CLUB	AVG	G	AB	R	H	HR	RBI
Barto, Aja	FAL	.667	3	9	2	6	0	3
DeJesus, Antone	HAR	.444	3	9	1	4	0	1
Satin, Josh	OLN	.429	4	14	4	6	0	4
Wallach, Matt	YRD	.429	2	7	2	3	1	1
Snyder, Justin	BRW	.417	4	12	3	5	0	1
O'Brien, Sean	HYA	.417	3	12	1	5	0	1
Carrara, Chris	CHA	.400	3	10	4	4	0	2
Espinosa, Daniel	CHA	.400	3	10	4	4	0	2
Rea, Jeff	COT	.400	3	10	4	4	0	1
Hallberg, Mark	OLN	.400	4	15	1	6	0	4

HOME RUNS

Nuzzo, Matt	FAL	2						
Several Players Tied at		1						

RBI

Hall, Tavo	BRW	6						
Rizotti, Matt	CHA	5						
Wilson, Steffan	WAR	5						
Several Players Tied at		4						

STOLEN BASES

Gotcher, Ryan	WAR	5						
Carrara, Chris	CHA	4						
Several Players Tied at		3						

TEAM	AVG	AB	R	H	HR	BB	SO	SB	CS
Falmouth	.292	106	15	31	3	7	30	6	3
Cotuit	.269	93	18	25	0	23	15	13	3
Hyannis	.265	98	10	26	1	6	23	2	1
Wareham	.242	120	28	29	3	19	21	10	3
Orleans	.231	134	16	31	0	16	37	3	1
Yarmouth-Dennis	.206	102	15	21	2	15	20	0	1
Chatham	.202	89	19	18	2	17	26	13	1
Brewster	.185	124	16	23	1	19	29	1	3
Harwich	.162	117	6	19	0	9	31	5	6
Bourne	.160	94	3	15	0	14	26	2	3

ADDITIONAL BATTING LEADERS

HITS

Barto, Aja	FAL	6						
Hallberg, Mark	OLN	6						
Satin, Josh	OLN	6						
Wilson, Steffan	WAR	6						
Several Players Tied at		5						

DOUBLES

Satin, Josh	OLN	3						
Strausbaugh, Steven	YRD	3						
Several Players Tied at		2						

TRIPLES

Espinosa, Daniel	CHA	1						
Several Players Tied at		0						

SLUGGING PERCENTAGE

Juhl, Brian	HYA	.857						
Wallach, Matt	YRD	.857						
Nuzzo, Matt	FAL	.818						
Suttle, Bradley	WAR	.750						
Henry, Seth	WAR	.714						



A weekly roundup of reports from around the Cape Cod Baseball League

CAPE COD LEAGUE LEADERS

(Through Games Of 6/18/06)

PITCHING TOP 10 (MINIMUM 2 IP)

PITCHER	CLUB	W-L	ERA	IP	H	BB	SO
Corgan, Chance	YRD	1-0	0.00	8	2	2	9
*Detwiler, Ross	FAL	1-0	0.00	6	2	2	8
Farmer, Tom	BOU	0-0	0.00	6	1	5	4
*Luebke, Cory	FAL	1-0	0.00	6	1	2	4
*Merklinger, Dan	HAR	1-0	0.00	6	4	0	9
*Brant, Robert	HAR	0-1	0.00	5	4	3	2
Seibert, Shaun	BRW	0-0	0.00	5	3	4	5
Beno, Martin	WAR	1-0	0.00	5	2	1	5
*Surkamp, Eric	OLN	0-0	0.00	4	1	5	5
*Crowell, Cody	BRW	0-0	0.00	4	2	1	6

WINS

Several Players Tied at	1						
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SAVES

Graham, Connor	WAR	2					
Several Players Tied at							

STRIKEOUTS

*Merklinger, Dan	HAR	9					
Corgan, Chance	YRD	9					
Detwiler, Ross	FAL	8					
Several Players Tied at		7					

TEAM PITCHING

TEAM	W-L	ERA	H	CG	SHO	SV	HR	BB	SO
Orleans	3-1	1.42	22	0	1	1	2	21	27
Falmouth	2-1	1.73	14	0	1	0	1	9	24
Cotuit	2-1	2.77	26	0	0	1	2	10	18
Wareham	4-0	3.00	33	0	0	2	1	12	35
Chatham	2-0	3.46	20	0	0	2	0	10	22
Harwich	1-3	3.71	24	0	1	1	2	12	35
Bourne	0-3	3.81	17	0	0	0	1	16	23
Brewster	1-2	4.50	35	0	0	0	1	23	29
Hyannis	0-3	4.50	25	0	0	0	1	20	16
Yarmouth-Dennis	1-2	5.67	22	0	0	1	1	12	29

ADDITIONAL PITCHING LEADERS

GAMES

Cecil, Brett	OLN	3					
Several Players Tied at		2					

COMPLETE GAMES

Several Players Tied at	0						
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SHUTOUTS

Several Players Tied at	0						
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INNINGS PITCHED

Delucia, Dan	COT	8.0					
Corgan, Chance	YRD	8.0					
Dorn, Johnny	HAR	7.0					
Boening, Riley	WAT	7.0					
Several Players Tied at		6.2					

LOSSES

Several Players Tied at	1						
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WALKS

Hale, Alex	HYA	6					
Farmer, Tom	BOU	5					
Surkamp, Eric	OLN	5					
Haviland, Shawn	WAR	5					

HOME RUNS ALLOWED

Hyde, Michael	OLN	2					
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East Roundup

After Strong Start, Sox Come Up Short



The Yarmouth-Dennis Red Sox kicked off their season Friday with a home opener against the Chatham Athletics. After a scoreless three innings, the Sox exploded in the fourth, only to be outshined in the seventh inning by the A's. Starting Y-D pitcher Terry Doyle (BC) and A's hurler Ricky Hargrove (Houston) provided solid starts for both ball clubs. This season will mark Hargrove's second in the Cape League; last year he was a standout for Hyannis. However, Chatham's Hargrove appeared tired at the top of the fourth, walking two batters, Brad Emaus (Tulane) and Buster Posey (Florida State), and giving up five runs.

Michael Hollander (LSU) advanced to second base on an error and took third after Hargrove let up two walks to load the bases. A Mike Biannucci (Auburn) single and doubles by both Steven Strausbaugh (Western Caro-

lina) and Jordan Pacheco (New Mexico) gave Y-D the 5-0 lead.

However, in the top of the seventh inning, Chatham regrouped and put up five runs of their own tying Y-D on a Matt Rizotti (Manhattan) homer. Y-D couldn't answer back and the A's took the lead and the game in the top of the ninth on a wild pitch. The outcome of the game proves that in the Cape League, it really ain't over 'til it's over.

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Hooray for Harwich



When the Harwich Mariners are not mentoring kids through their Youth Baseball Clinics or getting to know the fans by passing out 50/50 raffles, their pitching staff is putting up 15 strikeouts and their defense is holding the defending champs to nine scoreless innings.

After a disappointing outing Thursday, the Mariners turned things around and came through with a big win Friday.

Coach Steve Englert says "strikes, defense and timely hits" are what made the difference for the Mariners in their home-opener win over the Orleans Cardinals. Englert also spoke about how the team is in its beginning stage and they are still figuring out which roles each player will fill, but it is likely that LHP Dan Merklinger (Seton Hall) will remain in the rotation.

Merklinger is a former temporary player for the 2005 Falmouth Commodores who went six great innings Friday with nine strikeouts, making him the early league leader. The team player wouldn't take all the credit, saying the win was an "all-around effort".

Indeed it was an all-around effort, as relief pitchers Josh Ellis (Wake Forest) and Dan McDonald (Seton Hall) finished out the game strongly. And let's not forget the guys who knocked in the runs that made this victory possible. Sergio Miranda (Virginia Commonwealth) and Antone DeJesus (Kentucky) both hit RBI singles to give the Mariners the 2-0 win.

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West Roundup

Gatemen Post Strong Early Returns



The Wareham Gatemen have been waiting for this day to come, the beginning of the 2006 season. After suffering tough losses late in the 2005 season, the Gatemen have something to prove to themselves and their fans.

Thursday marked the start of the 2006 season, where the Gatemen were hosts to the Harwich Mariners. The Gatemen sent their ace Riley Boening (Texas) to the mound, who exhibited extraordinary command by allowing no walks and surrendering one run over seven innings. Performing as a closer in his collegiate season, Nicki Cassavechia (Baylor) was sent to the hill in the eighth to relieve Boening. After loading the bases in the ninth, the Mariners were unable to score any runs and ended the game by grounding into a double play. John Wylde, president/GM of the Gatemen, was happy with his pitching staff and focused on the minimal amount of walks surrendered as a foundation. As opposed to 2005, the

Gatemen came out running this year with every opportunity they had. Managing to steal five bases in six attempts, the Gatemen showed speed on the bases and played small ball. Unfortunately for the Mariners, they were unable to tame the strong bats of the Gatemen, allowing 10 runs on eight hits.

Coming into his first at-bat, 2B Bradley Suttle (Texas) showed little nervousness after blasting the second pitch over the left field fence. Suttle became one of only five other players in CCBL history to hit a HR in his first at-bat. Other members include Bourne Braves alumnus Kevin Youkilis and former Orleans player Carlton Fisk.

Friday brought much of the same success for the Gatemen after bringing RHP John Lalor (Mississippi St.) to face the Hyannis Mets. The Gatemen came out swinging by posting an early 5-0 lead. The Mets began to quiet the Wareham bats after bringing in Charlie Furbush (St. Joseph's-Maine), who lasted four innings by giving up only three hits and posting two strikeouts. Lalor was relieved in the seventh by Martin Beno (Miss. Gulf Coast CC), who surrendered three K's and no runs in two innings. The LA

Dodgers selected Beno in the 17th round of the MLB Draft.

Having used Cassavechia on Thursday night, the Gatemen brought in RHP Connor Graham (Miami-OH) to close the game and seal the win for Lalor. Graham's velocity, reaching the mid-90s, helped him to strike out two of the three players he faced. Wylde added, "It's great to have the luxury of being able to utilize two strong closers like we do."

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Cotuit Opener is a "Hit"



Ivan Partridge said it all. "Have a hit" was his call, a phrase that echoed every home half-inning at the Cotuit Kettlers season opener Friday night.

An active fan of the Kettlers since 1954, Partridge has been directly involved with the Cape League and specifically with Cotuit for the last 18 years. He played for the U.S. Navy baseball team during World War II while serving in the South Pacific. A retired Mashpee resident and a local minister, Partridge



A weekly roundup of reports from around the Cape Cod Baseball League

West Roundup

is the Director of Community Activities for the Kettleers and a member of the Board of Directors.

His voice stands out above all others at picturesque Lowell Park, the setting of the Kettleers' first game of the 2006 season after Thursday's game was rained out. Partridge perused the stands and the area around the backstop yelling "Have a hit," and the Kettleers responded with a big offensive showing against the Brewster Whitecaps.

Cotuit racked up 16 hits, led by Tony Delmonico (Tennessee) and his four hits. Teammates Tony Thomas Jr. (Florida State) and Kellen Kulbacki (James Madison), who each toted three hits on the night, added to the mix.

The Kettleers just kept putting up runs after they got going, seeming unstoppable. They hit to every field, ran squeezes perfectly and even bunted for hits. Nearly every man in the lineup left with a hit.

Brewster's Colin Cowgill (Kentucky) tried to get his team into the hitting trend with his home run in the fourth, which plated the first Whitecaps run.

It wasn't all batting, though, as Cotuit starter Dan Delucia (Ohio State) pitched efficiently through eight innings. Laying the ball in the strike zone, Delucia let the solid defense of the Kettleers strut its stuff. He finished with four strikeouts, three hits, and just two earned runs.

Shane Matthews (East Carolina) pitched in relief in the ninth inning and sealed the deal for a Cotuit victory, with a final score of 8-2.

After the game, Ivan "Have a Hit" Partridge said he was hopeful, as always, for a successful Kettleers season. The phrase "Have a hit" can be found on t-shirts sold at Cotuit home games and it can even be heard today in some major league parks, where former Cotuit players now make their living. It has become part of the essence of Lowell Park, a place that lives and breathes baseball when the Kettleers come to town for the summer.

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Four Clemson Tigers Joining Commodores

Clawing their way to the top is a strategy these Clemson University Tigers have perfected. Holding strong as the

No. 1 baseball team in the country, they look to close in on the College World Series in Omaha, Neb., and prevail as the top college baseball team of 2006.

But if clinching a World Series isn't enough, four Tigers are ready to embark on a new journey, as they head north and spend the next few months playing under the veteran eye of Jeff Trundy for the Falmouth Commodores.

This season, the Commodores plan to avoid the rocky start which they had last summer, when they only claimed one victory out of the first seven games.

The Commodores have already found themselves on the right path, as they clinched their first win against the Bourne Braves on Friday, winning 4-0. Pitcher Ross Detwiler (Missouri State) successfully struck out eight batters while remaining in the game for 6 1/3 innings, allowing only two hits. The Commodores have begun their 2006 season smoothly, and if their pitching remains consistent throughout the summer, they may be swinging bats at the Cape Cod League Championship.

As the four Tigers from Clemson wrap up their CWS games before arriving at Arnie Allen Diamond in Falmouth, Bob Mancini (Franklin Pierce) fills in as just one of the few temporary players for the Commodores. Officially not on the roster, Mancini remains hopeful that he will land a spot as a permanent player after giving his all on and off the diamond.

Assistant General Manager Dan Dunn of the Commodores stated that, "Bob Mancini is currently one of our outfielders. We certainly wouldn't 'temp' a player if they didn't have a standing chance of making it as a permanent player on the roster. However, Mancini hasn't played at this level of baseball before, so he will have to consistently stay strong in order to land a spot for the entire season with the Commodores."

While Mancini helps carry the Commodores to their early victories, the anticipation is quickly growing as coaches, teammates, and fans await the arrival of the four Tigers. When asked about the opportunity of four of the best collegiate players in the country to represent the Commodores, Dunn stated, "We would hate to root against them in the College World Series, but we certainly do need them up here on our team as soon as possible." What may turn out to be

key to the Commodores' success this summer is the fact that each athlete from Clemson plays a different position in the game. Taylor Harbin is on the bag at second base, while Brad Chalk protects the grounds in center field. Flamethrower David Kopp, hailing from St. Louis, Mo., will take the mound as a starting pitcher, while Stan Widmann remains at shortstop. These tigers have made their Clemson baseball team unstoppable, and all will bring their star abilities to Falmouth. The opportunity awaits them this summer to showcase their top-ranked talent to a fresh crowd full of scouts, coaches, teammates, and fans.

Their "Tiger" claws are sharpened, and their wooden bats and Commodore jerseys lay untouched. Will these Clemson Tigers prove to be the top animals of the Cape League this summer? We soon shall see when they take to their diamond early next week.

Lauren B. Malone, CCBL Intern, malone@capecodbbaseball.org

Braves Wait To Christen New Field



Despite the completion of the new state-of-the-art facility that the Bourne Braves will be play in this season, the weather did not cooperate and forced the Braves to postpone their home opener Thursday night. "The field looks great and we were excited to open it. Unfortunately, the newly-placed sod around home plate has not drained very well," says Braves GM Mike Carrier.

Friday night marked the start for both the Bourne Braves and the Falmouth Commodores, squaring off at Arnie Allen Diamond in Falmouth. The Braves sent RHP Mickey Storey (FAU) to the mound to battle Ross Detwiler (Missouri State) of the Commodores. The bats of the Commodores failed to be tamed as Storey lasted only four innings, giving up four runs on four hits and striking out six. The Braves brought in relievers Tom Curran (Fordham) and Kyle Walker (Texas) to prevent the Commodores from scoring another run.

Defensively, the Braves were looking strong and showed tremendous speed at the sound of the bat, proven by the strong plays that were made in the infield. Austin Krum (Dallas Baptist) showed his speed after beating out an infield hit and coming close

to robbing the home run that came off the bat of Commodores Matt Nuzzo (Brown). Nuzzo became a part of Cape League history last night as one of 5 players to hit a home run in his first Cape League at-bat. Nuzzo connected with the first pitch he saw and delivered it over the center field fence, now sitting along side Cape League alumni Kevin Youkilis (Bourne) and Carlton Fisk (Orleans).

The Commodores were able to diminish the amount of hits allowed to the Braves with the great defensive plays performed by RF Warren McFadden (Tulane) and the strong performance of Detwiler, who lasted 6 1/3 innings, giving up two hits and striking out eight. Shooter Hunt (Virginia) came in to pitch well for 1 2/3 innings, setting up Sam Demel (TCU) to close out the game.

The Braves return home on Sunday to face the Wareham Gatemen. The field at Upper Cape Tech is turning heads with its layout and is "leaving an immense amount of potential for improvement, which is really exciting," says Braves GM Mike Carrier. Carrier, who is also a teacher at Upper Cape Tech, was able to witness his students building the new field from the ground up and will feel a sense of satisfaction at the opening of the field.

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The More Things Change, The More They Stay The Same



It seems Mother Nature is not on the Cape Cod Baseball League or Hyannis Mets' side this summer. With Thursday's home opener against the Mid-Cape rival Yarmouth-Dennis Red Sox rained out, the Mets started the season Friday against the Wareham Gatemen.

The Mets' returning players were greeted with an unwanted throwback to last year's season (7-36-1), losing to the Gatemen 5-3. Throughout the third and fourth innings, Wareham took a 5-0 lead against the Mets and starting pitcher Matt Daly (Hawaii).

Fans held hope that the Mets would answer back, and in the bottom of the fourth they did. Ryan Flaherty's (Vanderbilt) double to left center scored Sean O'Brien (Virginia Tech). Ramon Corona (NC State) returned the favor to Flaherty with a single, driving in a run from second.

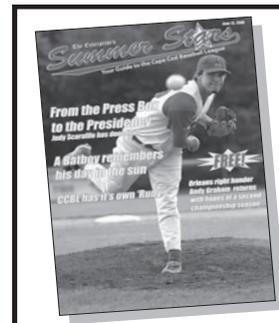
But the Mets came up empty after a promising single by Max Arsenault (Southern Maine), who went 2-for-4. The home opener proved to be a game of missed opportunities for Hyannis.

Although they lost their first game, the Mets still have a positive outlook, largely due to Mets' returnee Daniel Latham (Tulane). Upon arriving in Hyannis for his second season with the Mets, Latham has gained a tremendous new outlook on life, realizing that winning or losing a baseball is minor in the grand scheme of life.

Latham, a native of Covington, La., arrived home last August eager to meet up with friends and family before beginning his junior year at Tulane. However, Mother Nature had other plans. Louisiana was hit by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, devastating much of the Gulf Coast and leaving many Louisiana natives homeless. "My family was pretty lucky," says Latham. "Katrina didn't wreck our town too much, but we did feel the fallout from Rita." Tulane was closed because of the damage and Latham spent his first semester at Texas Tech. Returning for baseball season, he encountered several other changes. The Green Wave's home baseball field was destroyed, leaving Latham and his teammates to play at a minor league field in New Orleans.

Although on the surface, Latham seems the same man he was upon entering the Cape last summer, fans who look deeper will find someone who has dealt with a tremendous pain and grown from it. The Mets may have lost the first game, but as they will learn this summer from their teammate, "things will get better, they always do."

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The spotlight is on
Summer Stars
at www.capenews.net

Surf in for the latest on the Cape Cod Baseball League

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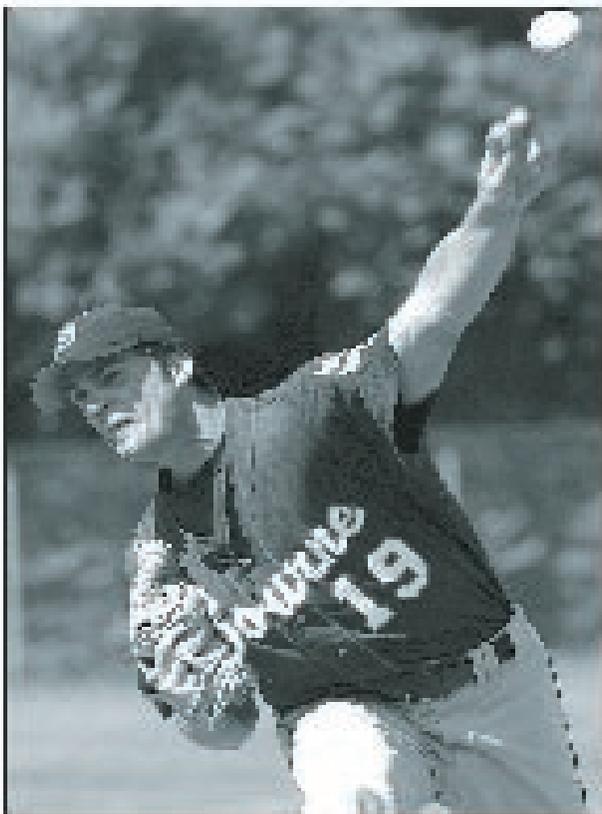
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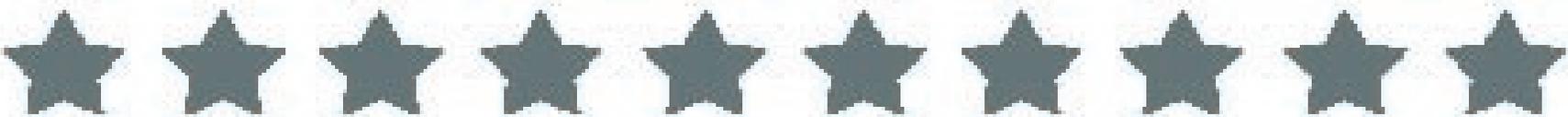
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