



The Official Baseball Newsletter of the Manchester College Spartans

From Espy's Desk

Six Seniors Highlight 2008 Roster

It is an honor to put my thoughts on paper regarding our senior class. In three years they have accomplished more than a lot of classes do in a career: three trips to the conference tournament, a regular season conference championship and a tournament championship. They have also been a part of two teams that have advanced to the NCAA national tournament. These seniors have collected over 80 wins and are excited and driven to keep the Manchester baseball tradition of success intact.

Shaun Carrico

Previous school: Marion High School
Espy's comments: Shaun Carrico is the type of person you like to be around. He has a quiet personality off the field but shows intense competitiveness on the field. He has a career record of 5-1 and has been a part of our varsity roster for three seasons. He has thrown 44 innings in his career. Both Shaun and I have high expectations for his senior year.



Derek Hanson

Previous schools: Wauseon (OH) High School and Defiance College (OH)
Espy's comments: Derek joined us last year after transferring from conference competitor Defiance College. He was a nice addition to our pitching staff and appeared in eleven games. He was a starter early in the season and was later moved to the bullpen. He ended up with two saves. I expect Derek to throw significant innings for us in 2008 and could very likely fill the closers role.



Matt Holycross

Previous school: New Haven High School
Espy's comments: Matt Holycross is a great story of perseverance. After three years in the program he has only thrown seven innings. He has worked tirelessly over the three years and got over the hump this fall and looks to be one of our top four pitchers. The key for Matt's transformation is his velocity. He jumped from 79 mph as a first-year player to 85 mph this past fall. While making this jump he was able to maintain his tremendous consistency to throw strikes. I look for Matt to throw a number of innings this year.



Danner Partridge

Previous school: New Haven High School
Espy's comments: If one word could describe Danner it would be tough. Anyone that gets hit by 63 pitches in three years has to be tough. He is on pace to become the most hit player in the history of Division III, 75 is the record. He broke into our lineup in his freshman year and has never left. Danner has played left field for three years and could make the move to center this year. Danner has been selected as one of the captains of the 2008 team.



Adam Piotrowicz

Previous schools: John Glenn High School and Bethel College
Espy's comments: Adam came into our program at the beginning of his sophomore year. Although he has not had much playing time, Adam has been a big contributor to our program. He has had the privilege of working behind two All-Conference catchers. I have tremendous confidence in Adam's ability behind the plate. He is the type of guy who makes everyone around him a better player. This season I expect Adam to share time with Matty Miller. Adam has tremendous leadership ability and is a captain of the 2008 team.



Heath Williams

Previous schools: Jay County and Ancilla College
Espy's comments: I was very excited when Heath decided to join us last year. He came to our program after spending two years at Ancilla College. He is the type of player that is extremely enjoyable to watch play the game. He is probably the best athlete on our team and plays the game the right way, hard. Defensively he is a very smooth second baseman and offensively his speed makes him a threat at the plate and on the bases. I expect Heath to be our second baseman and hit at the top of our lineup.



Manchester College Baseball 2008

February

| | | | |
|-----|----|--------------|-----|
| Thu | 28 | Myrtle Beach | TBA |
| Fri | 29 | Myrtle Beach | TBA |

March

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|-----|----|----------------------------|-------|
| Sat | 1 | Myrtle Beach | TBA |
| Sun | 2 | Myrtle Beach | TBA |
| Sat | 8 | at Huntington | TBA |
| Sat | 8 | Mount Vernon at Huntington | TBA |
| Sun | 9 | Depauw (V-JV) | 1:00 |
| Thu | 13 | at Taylor | 3:00 |
| Sat | 15 | Grace | 12:00 |
| Sun | 16 | at Tri-State (V-JV) | 1:00 |
| Mon | 17 | Lakeland (DH) | 1:00 |
| Tue | 18 | at Indiana Wesleyan (V-JV) | 1:00 |
| Fri | 21 | at Hanover | 4:00 |
| Sat | 22 | at Hanover (DH) | 12:00 |
| Tue | 25 | Defiance | 4:15 |
| Thu | 27 | at Ohio Northern (DH) | 2:00 |
| Sat | 29 | Rose | 12:00 |
| Sun | 30 | Rose (DH) | 1:00 |

April

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|-----|----|-------------------------------|-------|
| Tue | 1 | Bluffton | 4:15 |
| Fri | 4 | at Franklin | 4:00 |
| Sat | 5 | at Franklin (DH) | 12:00 |
| Fri | 11 | at Anderson | 4:00 |
| Sat | 12 | Anderson (DH) | 12:00 |
| Tue | 15 | at Defiance | 4:00 |
| Sat | 19 | Transy (DH) | 12:00 |
| Sun | 20 | Transy | 1:00 |
| Fri | 25 | at Mount St. Joseph | 6:00 |
| Sat | 26 | at Mount (DH) | 12:00 |
| Sun | 27 | at Cincinnati-Clermont (V-JV) | 12:00 |
| Tue | 29 | at Bluffton | 4:00 |

May

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|-----|------|----------------|-----|
| Sat | 3 | at Centre (DH) | TBA |
| Thu | 8-10 | HCAC Tourney | |



Dugout Chatter (News and Notes):

- The Spartans will be traveling to Myrtle Beach, SC for their annual spring trip from Feb. 28 – March 1.
- If you are interested in becoming a Spartan or learning more about our program email Coach Sprunger at DJSprunger@manchester.edu or call 260-982-5047.
- Did you know? In the State of Indiana the Spartans have had the best winning percentage over any college in the last six years.
- Our very own, Coach Espeset has been named Manchester College's new Athletic Director.
- Selected Games will be broadcasted live on 89.5 FM WBKE and online at www.manchester.edu/athletics/baseball.
- Manchester College is going through our first full year of having a new Student Union and cafeteria. Also housed in the Union is our new Success Center, where students can get tutoring, study help, and advice from our Office of Career Services.



Manchester's new Student Union

Camps:

Winter camp information is available on request or at our website, www.manchester.edu. If you are in high school and interested in attending Manchester consider the High School Prospect Camp. Please contact Coach Espeset, rbespeset@manchester.edu for more information.

**The Spartan baseball family hopes you
have a great holiday season!**

Coach Espy and Coach Sprunger