



Dear Alumni and Friends of Amherst Baseball:

On behalf of the Amherst Baseball Program, I wish you all a happy New Year. There is much to report since the fall newsletter. The squad is currently gearing up for another exciting season and looking forward to practices starting later this month. This year, we return a group of highly skilled players this year and welcome many talented first-year students who will help us regain our spot atop the NESCAC West Division. This newsletter recaps all that the players, alumni, and program have done leading up to the start of the season.

The most exciting news has to do with two of our alumni taking leadership of Major League organizations. In late October, Ben Cherington '96 was promoted to General Manager of the Boston Red Sox, and weeks later, Dan Duquette '80 was named Executive Vice President of Baseball Operations of the Baltimore Orioles. Earlier in the fall, Neal Huntington '91 received a contract extension as the General Manager of the Pittsburgh Pirates. Amherst is the only college in the country to have three General Managers in Major League Baseball. The only other school with more than one General Manager in the big leagues is Stanford (2). A picture of Dan, Neal, and Ben is posted on the next page.

3rd Annual Networking Night - NYC

This year's event was a hit with 38 alumni in attendance. Chris Russo - radio personality with SiriusXM Satellite Radio - was the guest speaker. He had fun with our group sharing baseball stories and trivia. Prior to the gathering, some players received a private tour of Yankee Stadium, while others participated in a live taping of Chris Russo's *Mad Dog Radio Show*. Mark DeWaele '79, assistant coaches Bryan Adamski and Brian Merrigan '11 did a great job organizing the event and a special thanks to Rich Thompson '80 for being a co-sponsor. We are looking for future sponsors for our networking event; please let me know if you would like to be involved. We hope to see you in Boston next year for our fourth Networking Night.



Chris 'Mad Dog' Russo offers baseball stories to alumni and players

Mark Your Calendar

Join us this spring at one of our games or alumni events. Season highlights are below and visit our website for the full schedule:

- March 20 Western N.E. Winter Haven, FL
* 2011 College World Series Team
- March 28 Dartmouth Hanover, NH
* Big Green's home winning streak = 24
- April 6 Williams Williamstown, MA
April 7 Williams (DH) Amherst, MA
* *Young Alumni Weekend*
* Amherst swept the EPHS in 2011
- April 27 Wesleyan Amherst, MA
April 28 Wesleyan (DH) Middletown, CT
* Amherst won the series in 2011
- May 2 Eastern CT Amherst, MA
- May 26 Reunion Game Memorial Field
- Sept 21 Golf Tournament TBD
* Golf with alumni and coaches and stay for football's home opener

Fall Sports at Amherst

Amherst Athletics had a lot of success this fall. Amherst posted the most student-athletes to the All-NESCAC Academic team, while its sports teams finished with a combined winning percentage .850. Football, Women's Soccer, and Men's Soccer won NESCAC Championships.

Our parents hosted alumni, players, and friends of the program at the baseball tent during the home football games against Wesleyan and Trinity. The tailgates were a good opportunity for the alumni who attended the game to better get to know the current players. A special thanks to the parents of our captains (Kevin Heller, Mike Samela, and Tom Wheeler) for organizing the tailgates.

W.E.B. DuBois Academy

This is the third year of our relationship with the W.E.B DuBois Academy in Springfield. In an effort to better get to know the boys we work with, we spend time with the group at the Boys & Girls Club in Springfield and host the group at Amherst. The group will visit campus in the spring to watch a baseball game, run the bases afterwards, and join us for a post-game dinner at Valentine Hall.

Summer Baseball

This fall, the coaching staff worked tirelessly to place current players in the top summer leagues. Five players are slated to play in some of the top leagues in the country (listed below). Please let me know if you would like to see one of our players in action.



Rugged Maniac

This fall, members of the Amherst College baseball team had the opportunity to run in the Rugged Maniac 5k in Southwick, MA. The challenge course contains fifteen obstacles and features some of the steepest terrain Western Massachusetts has to offer. Senior John Wagner had the top time of the group, finishing in 26:59 which was good enough for second place in his wave, and 11th overall. There were over 3,500 hundred racers throughout the day. Other players to run were Ryan D'Souza '14 (31:06), John Cook '15 (32:38), Adam Medoff '13 (32:56), Hayden Metz '12 (33:32), Bob Cook '13 (37:33), Dylan Joyce '12 (37:47), Tom Wheeler '12 (37:50), Andrew Hurn '15 (38:59), and Nolan Stewart '13 (40:25). The team plans on competing in the race annually.



Amherst players bond after the race

Baseball Clinics

Giving back to the community is important to us. During the week of January 16, we held two baseball clinics for area youth. This year was the 21st consecutive year of the winter baseball clinics at Amherst College. We are adding a clinic for youth coaches this spring. The objective of the coaches' clinic is to give coaches in the community access to teaching techniques and baseball tactics.

Class of 2016

Most of the Class of 2016 was accepted in the early decision round. So far, next year's players hail from: California, Arizona, Tennessee, North Carolina, New Jersey, Connecticut, and Massachusetts. These students are thrilled to come to Amherst and will be exciting to follow in the coming years.

Florida Trip

We are returning to Winter Haven, FL, and for the second straight year, we will play a College World Series team. Each year we play a strong Florida schedule to prepare for NESCAC play. Last year, we returned from Florida with a 6-4 record; we need to do better during this year's trip. When we return from Florida, we travel north to play Dartmouth College on March 28. Our schedule is posted online.

2012 Networking Night Attendees

A special thanks to the following alumni and friends for attending the networking event:

Art Boothby '73
David Moriarty '74
Don Judd '77
Frank Forgione '79
Mac Budd '85 P'14
Rob McGlarry '90
Adam Slocum '94
Jon Cross '98
Michael Spirito '98
Andrew Green '06
Mark Mazzone '07
Chris Edgar '08
Nat Pedley '09
Will Kenney '10
Max Einhorn '11
Jeff Keenan '11
Max McKenna '11
Scott Einhorn
Shaun McNamara

Len Samela '73, P'12,'00
Andy Bohjalian '77
Mark DeWaele '79, P'13
Rich Thompson '80
Ed Angelini '90
Stephan Rapaglia '92
Keith Poopor '96
Geoffrey Spies '98
Duncan Webb '04
Brian Donahue '07
Josh Card '08
Jim Logue '08
Teddy Blank '10
Bryce Einhorn '11
Pat Harris '11
Ryan Healy '11
Scott Shaffer '11
Art Hamm
Zak Tanne



Amherst players and coaches at Yankee Stadium

2012 Coaching Staff



Brian Hamm
Head Coach



Bryan Adamski
Pitching Coach



Brian Merrigan '11
Hitchcock Fellow
Hitting & Outfield Coach

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Ben Cherington'96, Dan Duquette'80, & Neal Huntington'91 at MLB Winter Meetings