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Messiah College Baseball Newsletter Fall/Winter 2012

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Sharpening Intellect | Deepening Christian Faith | Inspiring Action

Messiah University is a Christian university of the liberal and applied arts and sciences. Our mission is to educate men and women toward maturity of intellect, character and Christian faith in preparation for lives of service, leadership and reconciliation in church and society.

www.Messiah.edu

One University Ave. | Mechanicsburg PA 17055



Philippians 2:3

Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others more important than yourselves

Messiah College Baseball

Newsletter

Fall/Winter 2012

Building a Program

To have a high level of success, and sustain that success, we have to think of Messiah Baseball as a "program."

A program is much more than a team. A successful program is a 24/7 and 365 days a year venture.

Everyone is responsible; it is a cooperative effort.

Everyone needs to be working together and be on the same page to achieve common goals. I have often

mentioned that the **ABC's**, (**A**cademics, **B**aseball and

Christ) are the foundation to building our program. In

the corporate world this would be considered the Mission Statement. The Coaching Staff believes in the

total person development and thus feels that all components are to be treated with equal importance.

Coaches will strive to demonstrate a strong level of mentor leadership for our players to guide them in the

classroom and encourage their spiritual growth. We

pledge to impart a professional level of baseball



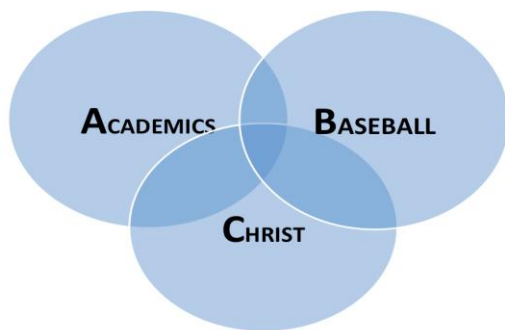
The Falcons would like to thank all those who purchased clothing! Our clothing fundraiser netted \$3,000!

instruction designed for maximum development so that each player will reach their fullest potential.

In the end, the true measurement of our success will not be only in wins and losses, but also in the success our players achieve in the classroom and in the way they live their lives as a witness for Christ.

We encourage and invite family and friends of Messiah Baseball to help in building this Program – in hopes of maximizing a player’s experience while giving God glory.

Pat Lightle



The ABC'S of the TOTAL PERSON DEVELOPMENT for the MESSIAH COLLEGE STUDENT ATHLETE

Team Goals

Our specific Baseball Team goals are:

- Win the Commonwealth Conference championship
- Win the NCAA Regional championship
- Win the Division III College World Series

Expectations for our student/athletes are:

- Demonstrate a life of Christ Preeminent
- Graduate on time and with a 3.3 or higher
- Act with class on and off the field



Get To Know... Coach Pat Lightle

Q - What is your favorite TV show?

A- My standard answer would be anything on the MLB Channel – but I really enjoy watching Law & Order

Q - What do you like to do in your free time?

A- Work in my yard

Q- What would be surprising to people who know you?

A- I have some culinary training and love to cook

Q - If you weren't a baseball coach, what would be your dream job?

A – I would love to be Santa Claus - is there anything better

Q - Why do you wear #33?

A – I was given that number in Little League and it just stuck.

Interview by Liz ☺

Fall 2012 Equipment Purchased

- Ball cart
- 12-hole pitching target
- New batting helmets
- Practice gear
- 2 Batting Tees
- Netting and padding for the batting cage turtle
- Batter's dummy
- 25 dozen new baseballs
- 6 new tarps for field
- Workout shirts/shorts
- 5 BB Core Bats



Camps

The purpose of our camp is to make every individual a better ball player. We successfully accomplish this by building on strengths as well as recognizing and improving areas of weakness. Instructor to camper ratio is kept low to ensure all campers will get ample individualized instruction. Players will be videotaped with our unique software and their skill sets will be compared side by side with Major League players. We offer camps for players of all ages and levels.

Camp details are listed on the website.



Florida

Our plans are to go to Fort Pierce, Florida arriving March 9th and returning March 15th. Currently we plan to play 5 games during our time there. The website for the Spring Training Complex is

www.floridacoastspringtraining.com

Robin and Keith Ebersole (son Casey), have volunteered to communicate with the Florida Spring Training Coordinator to help you get hotel reservations and discounts. Hotels available for the discount are the Hampton Inn, Fairfield Inn, Comfort Suites, Springhill Suites, Best Western, and Quality Inn. If you need help with hotel reservations, please contact Robin by January 15th in order to secure a spot. You can reach the Ebersoles' at kebersol@ptd.net

On the Spring Training link, there is also a list some of the restaurants in close proximity to the hotels, including Red Lobster, Ruby Tuesday's, T.G.I. Fridays, Chili's, Outback Steakhouse, Carraba's Italian Grill, Olive Garden, Longhorn Steakhouse, and several others.

Stay Connected with the team!
Check out our page on GoMessiah.com or like our [Messiah College Baseball](#) page on Facebook.



ALUMNI MENTOR PROGRAM



The Messiah College Baseball Alumni Mentor Program is designed to bring together past Messiah Baseball players with current team members to focus on career development for those players graduating each year. Messiah Baseball Alumni are asked to assist and advise current juniors and seniors in the transition from their college life to a career focus. Group members will communicate on a regular basis, and through this communication, graduating players are better able to transition into the business world.

Objectives of the Program:

- Help with transitioning to a new community (i.e. a new city, new church, living arrangements)
- Help with finding employment opportunities, internships and apprenticeships
- Assist with interviewing and networking
- Finding a group of friends in an area
- Help with new lifestyle adjustment; somebody to relate to
- Assist with career advice and goal setting

FALL SEMESTER GRADES

The team grade point average for the fall semester was 3.1. We are officially checking, but we were told that this was the highest Team GPA over the last several years! We had 20 of 30 guys finish with a GPA over 3.0! This is fantastic.

The following players achieved our team goal of 3.3 or better:

Derek Drake = 3.7

Adam Marshall = 3.3

Steven Nicholais = 3.4

Steven Ridings = 3.4

Joseph Saufley = 3.9

Jacob Sprengle = 3.3

Daniel Varno = 3.4

Russell Woelsgle = 3.3

Ethann Zimmerman = 3.6

CONGRATULATIONS!!!!





**A little about our coaching philosophy....
Team Offense**



In a nutshell, we play an aggressive style offense in which we try to put pressure on the defense. Our offense is set up so that each player has the opportunity to make instant decisions and react to situations as they occur. We focus on bat control, constant base runner movement and we look to take advantage of opponent weaknesses. All of our base runners have the green light in some form or another. Spectators may question why we take the chances that we do, because there will be times when maybe we shouldn't have risked it. However, we are trying to instill an aggressive mentality because we believe, in the long run, this aggressive style will prove too much for most teams to defend.

DUGOUT CLUB

The Dugout Club is an official organization made up of parents, alumni, and friends of the Messiah Baseball program who are devoted to supporting the program and who are committed to helping the Falcons compete on a National level. It is open to anyone interested in helping the program, with all proceeds going directly to the baseball program. Membership and support of The Dugout Club is used to facilitate valuable activities and operations, which enhance the quality of the Messiah Baseball experience. Messiah Baseball is a program with great tradition and history. The Dugout Club is vital in helping to ensure that the team's high standard is maintained by providing physical and financial support to the program. Your support of Messiah Baseball is recognized and appreciated by all of the Falcon players and coaches who have ever worn the navy and white uniform. Contact Coach Lightle for more information.

**Booster lines are on sale for our
upcoming Media Guide!**



**For \$25, put in a good luck message for
your favorite player and show your**



Please send your booster message to:

**Messiah College
Attn: Pat Lightle Department of Athletics
Baseball Office Suite 4501
One College Ave.
Mechanicsburg, PA 17055**



Please make checks payable to: **Messiah College**