



St. Anthony Baseball

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Dates to Remember :

- 12-31-08:** Huskies Bag Groceries at Cub Foods
- 1-1-09:** Davanni's Fundraiser 11am to 7pm
- 2-03-09:** Huskies Bag Groceries at Cub Foods
- 2-7-09 and 2-11-09:** Booster Sign-Ups
- 3-2-09:** High School Baseball sign-ups in the Auditorium, 6:30pm
- 4-4-09:** Spring Field Workday— 9am
- 4-19-09:** St. Anthony Baseball Day at the Metrodome - Twins versus Angles
- 4-20-09:** 2008 Baseball Championship Ring Ceremony
- 5-9-09:** SAVHS Alumni Baseball Barbeque



St. Anthony Village Claims MSHSL Championship

Above: (left to right) Ryan Schrepfer, Jarron Farah, Chris Peterson, Dan Zurbey, and Ryan Couillard after the big win.

The St. Anthony Village Huskies capped a record breaking 29-2 season in the Class AA baseball tournament, claiming its second title in three years. The Huskies, who defeated Annandale 10-0 this year, won their first championship in 2006. This was the third overall appearance for St. Anthony Village.

Senior Chris Peterson, who pitched the first three innings for SAVHS, gave the Huskies a 3-0 advantage when he hit a two-run homerun in the top of the first inning. The Huskies scored in every inning but the third, and senior Steve Grewe kept the momentum going with a double in the second inning and a homerun in the fourth.

Peterson, and his reliever, senior Dan Zurbey, put identical stats on the board. They both allowed one hit while striking out four and walking two.

(Continued on page 6)

What is SABA?

The St. Anthony Baseball Association was founded in 2005 with the intent to support and promote baseball in St. Anthony Village. The support and promotion includes improving facilities, providing training resources, providing instruction, and aid in funding and communication. At this time, participation in the St. Anthony Baseball Association includes teams in the Youth Sports Boosters Program (T-Ball

through Traveling teams), St. Anthony Village High School teams, VFW Post #230, Tri City Blue American Legion, St. Anthony Hogs (Class A Amateur Men's Baseball), and St. Anthony Norsemen (Senior Men's Baseball).

The SABA board members are

all volunteers with representation from each level of participation. The board meets quarterly at St. Anthony Village High School. Further information on SABA, any of the teams mentioned can be found at SABA's new webpage:

www.stanthonybaseball.org.

CHECK OUT OUR NEW WEBSITE

www.stanthonybaseball.org

Putting Travel into Travel Baseball

Some parents get concerned about how much driving takes place during travel baseball. The St. Anthony 12U travel baseball team took **travel** to a new level in 2008 with a trip to a tournament in Cooperstown, New York! The team decided to make the trip soon after they ended their 2007 travel baseball season. The deadline for registration and fundraising efforts required that the team commit to the tournament a year in advance. All but one player from the 11U team committed to play in the tournament!

The Cooperstown Dreams Park hosts 1,200 of the top 12U baseball teams from across the United States during the summer. The St. Anthony Huskies were invited to play during week three - June 21st to June 27th. They played 8 games over a 4 day span - including an all-star team from Miami, Florida that won the tournament. The team stayed together in a bar-



racks for the entire tournament.

The team "traveled" together to the tournament via Amtrak - a 39 hour train ride from Minneapolis to Syracuse, New York. The whole team spent 4 days in Manhattan following the tournament and took a tour of Yankee Stadium during the final year that the stadium will exist. Some of the players went to the "Subway Series" with the Yankees

playing the Mets at Shea Stadium.

The trip to Cooperstown was truly a dream come true for both the parents and players. For baseball fans, there is no greater experience than visiting Cooperstown, the birthplace of baseball. For those that get concerned about a little travel during the baseball season - the 12U team logged 3,000 miles to compete in the tournament! Let's Play Ball!

FungoMan Comes To St. Anthony

Early this summer, the St. Anthony Baseball Association became owner representatives of FungoMan, an automated baseball practice machine. An expensive machine - but worth its weight in gold - FungoMan is able to be used as a fielding practice machine or pitching machine. With top-spin or back-spin at speeds between 1 - 100 MPH, FungoMan is able to place balls on the ground, on a line, or in the air with a re-



mote control PDA anywhere on Palm Field with the touch of a button.

With incredible precision, FungoMan sends a new ball out ever three seconds, allowing St. Anthony teams to productively practice skills such as digs at first base, balls at the outfield fence, pop-up priority, and pop-ups to the catcher.

As a pitching machine, FungoMan can pitch with great accuracy at any speed, throwing a fastball, curveball, or knuckleball. The St.

Left: The new FungoMan machine for St. Anthony Baseball

A New Webpage for St. Anthony Baseball

The St. Anthony Baseball Association recently launched a new website at www.stanthonybaseball.org.

The new page is designed to be a focal point for St. Anthony Baseball by providing event information, news, schedules, and organizational reports. Each organization associated with St. Anthony Baseball has its own page, providing team-specific news, game and practice schedules (including notices of game changes), statistics, contact information, and team pictures. In addition, information on FungoMan and Palm Field can be found on the new page - including a field slide show of the construction and projects completed on Palm Field.

Huskies Continue to Bag Groceries

Some of you will remember the good old days of bagging groceries for tips at the St. Anthony Cub Foods. This continues to be one of the best fundraisers for the High School Baseball program. If you are able to stop by, please support the Huskies as they bag during the day of New Year's Eve and on Super Bowl Sunday this year.

Anthony Baseball Association is the first program in the Upper Midwest to acquire FungoMan. Not even the Twins or Gophers have acquired what will be the next revolution in baseball practice machines.

FungoMan even caught the attention of KARE11's Eric Perkins who came and did a Perk at Play bit with the VFW team this past summer. To see the Perk at Play segment or to learn more about FungoMan, please visit the SABA webpage at

www.stanthonybaseball.org



SABA Receives Twins Fields for Kids Grant

The St. Anthony Baseball Association recently was awarded a \$2,250 matching grant from the Minnesota Twins Community Fund to create a grass infield on Central Park's Field 3. Field 3 is the field in the northeast corner of the Central Park quadplex where most JV baseball and Sports Boosters baseball games requiring 90' bases are played.

This matching grant will supplement efforts by St. Anthony Village High School, the City of St. Anthony, and SABA. Beginning in late July of 2009, Field 3 will have its dirt infield excavated with irrigation added and a sand-based soil put in place before seeding the field. Experts encouraged SABA to plant seed rather than sod, providing a more even, healthier turf.

The infield of Field 3 will then be closed for the rest of the summer and fall until opening back up for play in the spring of 2010.

St. Anthony Booster Baseball 2009 Signups

There will be walk in registration for summer baseball at the St. Anthony Community Center on Saturday, February 7th from 9:30 am to noon and on Wednesday, February 11th from 7 pm to 9 pm. New this year – you can register online at the St. Anthony Sports Boosters new web site www.saboosters.com.

Field Workday Improvements

The Fall 2008 workday was a success with many winterizing projects being completed, including new sod, batting cage net repairs and removal and for winter storage, grass line edging, mound and homeplate reconditioning, and concessions housekeeping. The Spring 2009 field workday to prepare for the upcoming season will be Saturday, April 4th (weather permitting) at 9am.

A Call for Statistics

The High School coaching staff recently compiled lists of individual and team records for SAVHS baseball. Most statistics on file are from 2002 to current. If any past players or families have statistics from past years, please send them to Troy Urdahl at St. Anthony Village High School, 3303 33rd Avenue NE, St. Anthony, 55418. To view the current list of records, please visit the St. Anthony Baseball Association's webpage at

www.stanthonybaseball.org

and click on the High School page.

St. Anthony Village has many records in the state's top-ten lists. To view complete lists of Minnesota High School Baseball records, please visit www.mshsbca.com or www.tinklarson.com.

SABA 2009 Twins game

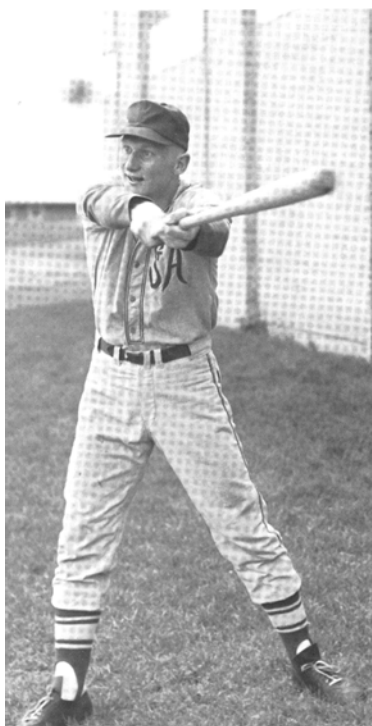
SABA has selected Sunday April 19, 2009 for our annual Twins game fundraiser.

Please plan on joining us at this afternoon game against Torii Hunter and the Los Angeles Angels of Anaheim. For an Upper Club ticket the cost is \$22, call Tim Peterson at 651 631-0648 to get your tickets. SABA purchases the Upper Club tickets at face-value of \$22 and receives a \$10 profit on every ticket sold. But, to make this a successful fundraiser we need every family to participate, so please put this game/date on your calendars. Thank you!



VHS Baseball Alumni Day

All former SAVHS baseball players and their families are invited to attend our first alumni barbeque. Please come support the Huskies on Saturday, May 9th for some food and camaraderie as the Huskies take on the Blake Bears at 12:30pm. Following the game there will be a barbeque hosted by the Dugout Club with hot dogs, chips, and beverages provided.



Above: Stan Monson, 1965 VHS Baseball Team

Norsemen Surge at Season's End

The St. Anthony Norsemen +35 men's amateur baseball team stormed to the season's end by winning the final three contests, as well as five of the final nine games to more than double 2007's inaugural year win total. The club's strong defense and late-season clutch hitting provided support for pitchers Chris Nogosek and rookie Steve Peterson, who were work horses on the hill. Leadoff man, shortstop, and 2008 team MVP Phil Schenkenberg led the league in runs scored (29) and was among the league elite in batting average (.409) and stolen sacks (28). Catcher Paul Morita (.393), Chris Nogosek (.355), left-fielder Mark Austin (.327) and Steve Green (.335) - who caught fire after a miserable one for nineteen start - were the heart of the 2008 offense. Rod Bloom homered twice and, along

with Green, led the team in RBIs with twelve.

Defensively, the team improved dramatically in 2008. Second baseman Paul Melchior and Shortstop Phil Schenkenberg produced seven double plays and were the fulcrum for a strong infield that also included Green at third and Randy Stille at first. Tim Nichols, Matty Arntzen, Tim Mezzenga, and speed merchant Tony Carpenter provided excellent coverage in the outfield, with contributions by Greg Mezzenga, Bernie Kelcher, and Tom Flock-Johnson.

As winter looms, the Norsemen look forward to 2009, and have added right-hander Bob Janoski to their mound rotation. More information on St. Anthony Villages 'other, older' town team can be found at www.norsemenbaseball.com.

2005 St. Anthony Graduate Dan Kaczrowski earns Baseball Honors

In Dan Kaczrowski's junior season with the Hamline Pipers, he was named the 2008 MIAC co-player of the year, All-American third team, and first team All-Region. Kaczrowski tore through conference pitching, hitting .500 against MIAC opponents and hitting nine doubles, one triple and four home runs this season. Overall in 2008, Kaczrowski hit .477 to lead the Pipers, with 40 RBI and 54 runs scored. He was voted team MVP in both offense and defense.

This past summer Kaczrowski played shortstop for the Danville Dans in the Central Illinois Collegiate League, a league typically dominated by Division I players. After bringing home the first half MVP award, Kaczrowski bookended that by winning the second half MVP honor, which led to him being named the league's player of the year, Kaczrowski hit .389 for the Dan's this summer and his 79 hits broke the 33-year old record for hits in a single season.

Pitching Clinic

Contact Steve Peterson at sjpeterson@comcast.net for more information on this winter's clinic with **Hamline Coach Jason Verdugo**. The camp will begin after the Holidays.



St. Anthony Hogs

The St. Anthony Hogs is a men's amateur team that plays in the St. Paul Skyline League, a Class A league that features teams from the East Metro area.

The Hogs formed in 2004 to give former St. Anthony baseball players the opportunity to continue playing beyond their Legion and college careers. More than 75% of the players on the 2008 Hogs roster were alumni of St. Anthony Village High School.

The 2008 season was full of ups and downs for the Hogs. The team was above .500 at the midpoint of the season for its best start in team history. The second half wasn't as good to the Hogs as the first, and the season ended with a tough playoff series loss to the Rooster of Maplewood. The season's highlights included the

team's first-ever wins against perennial league powers Stillwater and the Tri-City Shark.

The win over Stillwater, who had been one of the Skyline League's state tournament representatives in 2007, featured a dazzling pitching performance from emergency starter Mike Payne. He kept the Loggers off balance with a devastating changeup. The victory over cross-town rival Tri-City was especially sweet in light of some heartbreaking losses in previous years. The Hogs combined solid starting pitching along with timely hitting throughout the lineup to take down the Shark for a long-awaited victory in the rivalry.

The Hogs will be looking for new talent for the 2009 season. Please visit our page on the SABA website during the winter for news regarding tryouts and new player acquisitions.

See you in 2009!

Palm Field Gets a New Lawn Tractor

With the assistance of the Northeast Lions and the School District, SABA purchased a much needed new lawn tractor this summer. The old John Deere was nearing the end of its days of dragging the dirt and cutting the infield grass – necessitating SABA's search for a new tractor. The new Simplicity 20HP Regent has a 44" mowing deck and can roll the grass providing a professional "striped" look.



Kick off the New Year at the Roseville Davanni's and earn money for St. Anthony Baseball!

Please print off a flyer from the SABA website (www.stanthonybaseball.org) and click on Fundraising) and bring it to Davanni's for dinner (between 11am and 7pm) on Thursday, January 1st, 2009. Eat some pizza and earn St. Anthony Baseball some New Year's cash!

Troy Urdahl Receives Coach of the Year Award

Troy Urdahl has been the head coach at St. Anthony Village for seven years and has enjoyed outstanding success with a 129-43 record in that time. After finishing fourth in the state tournament in his first year of coaching in 2002, Troy has led St. Anthony Village to state championships in 2006 and 2008. The 2008 team tied a state



record for wins with 29 while only losing two games. Urdahl, an inductee into the Litchfield Baseball Hall of Fame, also coached the St. Anthony VFW team to a state tournament championship in 2006.

St. Anthony Village Claims MSHSL Championship

(continued from page 1)

Zurbey also added two RBIs on two hits for St. Anthony Village. Senior Ryan Couillard swung the heaviest bat for the Huskies. He went 3-for-4 at the plate, scored two runs, and also tallied two RBIs.

St. Anthony Village defeated Holy Family Catholic of Victoria 6-3 in the quarterfinals. The Huskies scored all six of their runs in the sixth inning. Couillard had a two-run double and Zurbey added two additional RBIs. Chris Peterson pitched the complete game for the Huskies. He allowed three earned runs on six hits while striking out five. In the semifinals, St. Anthony Village came from behind to defeat Thief River Falls 9-8. The Prowlers led 8-2 after four innings, but the Huskies' bats came alive and "set the stage for possibly the two most dramatic consecutive at bats in St. Anthony baseball history" (Brian Meyers, *Bulletin News*). The Huskies scored three runs in the fifth inning before going ahead on back-to-back homeruns in the sixth. With two outs, senior Calvin Walker hit a bases-clearing, three-run shot and Chris Peterson followed with a solo blast to

put the Huskies in the lead for good.

Senior Jarron Farah was the winning pitcher with nine strikeouts in seven innings of work. Ninth-grader Nicho Roessler led the Huskies with three hits and three RBIs.

Nicho Roessler, Chris Peterson, Calvin Walker, and Dan Zurbey were all named to the All-Tournament team for the Huskies.

Sources: *MSHSL 2007-2008 Yearbook and Record Book and the St. Anthony Bulletin*, reporter Brian Meyers.

Rowan to Coach All-Star Team

St. Anthony Village High School Assistant Coach Jack Rowan has been selected by the Minnesota State High School Baseball Coaches Association as a coach for the 35th Annual Lion's All-Star Series. "I'm excited about the opportunity and looking forward to working with some of the best players in the state," says Rowan, "Hopefully I can learn a few things from some of the other coaches to help make the Huskies better."

Coach Rowan has been a volunteer assistant coach at St. Anthony Village High School since 2002. In this time, he has been a part of three state tournament teams (2002, 2006, and 2008), including two state championships and a career .750 winning percentage.

Rowan played baseball at Hamline University from 1997 to 2001. During this time, "JR" spent time both behind the plate and in the outfield. Drawing on his background and passion for baseball, Rowan has helped produced a great stretch of Huskies outfielders and catchers over the past seven years.

The 2009 Lion's All-Star games will be held at the Chaska Athletic Field on June 19th and 20th this year. Coach Rowan will be coaching the Lion's West team. This team is comprised of Metro-Area players on the west side of the river / I-35W.





*Coach Jack Rowan:
2009 Annual Lion's All
Star Series coach*

Post #230 VFW Baseball

The Post #230 St. Anthony VFW baseball team finished another strong season this past summer with a 24-11 record. The Post #230 team consists of 15 and 16 year olds who generally are going into their 10th and 11th grade years. For many years the Post #230 team (hosted by the Columbia Heights VFW) had one team, with a blend of Columbia Heights and St. Anthony kids. When participation numbers began to grow at St. Anthony, two teams were sponsored by the Heights VFW — a gracious contributor to youth baseball in this area for decades.

Highlights from this summer included a first place trophy from the Cold Spring VFW tournament and a second place finish in the highly competitive St. Cloud tournament (at Dick Putz and Joe Faber Fields).



High School Team Travels to Florida

With fundraised dollars (and parent help), the 2008 Huskies set off for Florida last March for Spring Training at the Walt Disney Wide World of Sports complex. Twenty-one baseball players made the one week trip which was a busy blend of baseball and fun. In addition to scrimmaging other teams and practicing twice a day, the Huskies saw an Atlanta Braves versus Detroit Tigers spring training game and visited two water-parks and three of the Disney theme parks. The entire trip went well and set a great tone for the season. The Huskies plan to return to Disney once again in the next couple of years, but are unable to make this a yearly trip due to cost.

Please Help Update Our Directory

Former players and parents – we realize some of our contact information may need to be updated. Please mail, email (turdahl@stanthony.k12.mn.us), or call (612 706-1105) Troy Urdahl to update any contact information, or to add or remove any names from our mailing list. Thank you for your help!

St. Anthony Baseball Association
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The St. Anthony Baseball Association is a 501c(3) non-profit organization promoting baseball in St. Anthony Village and surrounding area.



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www.stanthonybaseball.org

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