

# Hunterdon Central Places Six Players On Coaches' All-DRC Baseball Squad



Doug Reichenbach Leads Four-Man All-DRC Pitching Staff.

## Pitching Keys Red Devils To Top Of County Stats

Connie Mack of the old Philadelphia Athletics used to say that pitching is 85 percent of the game of baseball.

That old adage could very well apply to Hunterdon Central's success on the baseball diamonds this spring.

The Red Devils finished the season 17-5 overall and 14-1 in the DRC.

It's no wonder when you look at the success that Coach Jake Holcombe's pitching staff had this year.

Doug Reichenbach, the Red Devils' mainstay, ended up with a 10-0 mound record, the best in the conference. The three-spot senior also paced the DRC with strikeouts (114) and earned run average (.106).

Right behind Reichenbach, Steve Burroughs, who turned in a perfect 5-0 state record, struck out 35 and walked 19 in 41 innings of pitching.

North Hunterdon had two five-game winners in Dave Smigelsky and Al Wardell. Smigelsky, a junior, dropped one decision while Wardell, a senior, bowed three times.

The only other county pitcher to win five games this spring was Jeff Lenahan, who dropped an equal amount of decisions for Del Val.

But the Tigers' junior left-hander posted more than half the number of wins that the team had. He also posted a low ERA of 1.97 and racked

up just about one strikeout per inning.

Hunterdon Central led league departments in several categories too.

Reichenbach, who had a sensational season for Hunterdon Central, also led the league in batting with a .420 mark. (That applies to hitters who had at least 50 plate appearances.)

The potent bat of Reichenbach exploded safely 29 times to tie him for high in the county in that category with teammate Dan Tricarico.

In all, there were six Hunterdon County baseball players who turned in batting averages of .400 or better.

Dave Schaeble of South Hunterdon, who won the Rookie of the Year Award for the Eagles, hit a robust .469.

Randy Voorhees and Stew Burroughs of South Hunterdon both had the required number of at-bats and turned in plate percentages of .401 and .400 respectively.

Three Eagles hit .400. In fact, South Hunterdon had a team batting average of .294.

Mike Comes Strong.

Jim Albert of Voorhees, only a sophomore, came on strong at the end of the year to end up with a .400 average in 50 official times at bat.

He did not start the first two games of the year for the Vikings, but once he got into the lineup, he was a tough out.

Twenty-nine was a lucky

number for Reichenbach. He drove home that many runs in a short season.

Stew Burroughs of South Hunterdon was the only other county player to drive in more than 20 runs. The Eagle infielder drove 22 runners home this season.

Butch Sutterley of Voorhees knocked in 19 runs. He also led the circuit with five home runs.

The Vikings were noted for their long-ball hitting this year. Bob Clucas, their second baseman, ended up runner in the fourth base department. He had four.

No one else in the county hit more than two.

Vic Storkel of Del Val did a lot of running this year. He tossed three extra base hits to third base to read in that category.

Rich Manning, Dwight Pancottine, and Dave Smigelsky, and Jeff Lenahan of Del Val followed with twelves.

Manning, the Lions' catcher, also finished high in the two-base department, leading all county diamondmen with four.

Bryon White and Tricarico of Hunterdon Central and Pancottine and Mike Gasparetti of North Hunterdon finished one off the pace with three.

Notarangelo Scores

Two Hunterdon Central players scored 20-or-more runs this season. Mike Notarangelo led the local teams with 26 while Andrew and Bill Summers of Voorhees tied for second with 20.

But, in the end, the difference between Hunterdon Central and its challengers for the DRC crown came down to pitching.

The Red Devils got 15 wins out of their top two starters. North Hunterdon, which finished second in the conference, got only ten.

Those five wins add up to a two and one-half game difference between the two clubs.

That was the exact spread between the two teams at the end of the season.

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Hunterdon Central, which won the DRC baseball championship this year, led the Coaches' All-Star Team, which was picked at the Flemington high school last week, with six first-team selections on the 16-man squad.

Named to the first team for the Red Devils, who finished 17-5 on the season and 14-1 in the DRC, were Doug Reichenbach, pitcher; Dan Tricarico, second base; Bryon White, third base; Mike Notarangelo, utility infielder; Harold Hartum and Dave Witt, outfielders.

Hackettstown, which completed an ambitious schedule with a record of 16-12, placed four members on the league team: John Francis, pitcher; Dave Robertson, first base; Tony Rossi, shortstop; and Rob Souder, designated hitter.

North Hunterdon had three of its players placed on the team: batter Matt Al Wardell, pitcher; and Rick Manning, catcher; and Mike Gasparetti, outfielder.

There were four pitchers and two catchers named to the first team.

George Hydock of Warren Hills was the fourth pitching selection. Dave Turdo of Phillipsburg Catholic was the second baseman choice.

John Leidy of Del Val was the other outfielder picked to the second squad.

Reichenbach Goes Two Ways

Doug Reichenbach, the right-hander for Hunterdon Central had a super year.

On the mound he was the star of the staff, winning all six of his decisions. He pitched 82 innings, struck out 114, walked 54, and allowed only 20 runs. His low rate of 1.06 earned runs per game.

He was equally as imposing at the plate, where he led the Red Devils with a .420 mark. The versatile senior stroked 29 hits, which tied him for the club lead with Dan Tricarico.

He also drove home 22 runs, which is a school record.

In addition, he hit two doubles, four triples, and four home runs while scoring 13 runs.

At bat, he hit mostly out of the designated hitter's spot.

He was the best of the best defensive outfielders on the club.

John Francis: The senior left-hander for Hackettstown is another DRC standout who excelled two ways.

On the mound he turned in a record of 7-4. Two of his victories came in the last week against Del Val and Voorhees. In 77 innings of pitching, he struck out 67 batters and posted an ERA of 2.25.

At the plate he stroked the ball for a 310 average.

He is the son of Bert, who led the Tigers to DRC titles in the 1960's. Bert was drafted by the St. Louis Cardinals and is bound for Somerset College.

Al Wardell: The senior Lion hurler was instrumental, along with Dave Smigelsky, in pitching North Hunterdon to a 15-6 record.

He posted a 5-3 record. Included in his impressive statistics are 74 strikeouts, 77 walks, and a 2.16 ERA.

George Hydock: The Warren Hills' senior was the mainstay of the Blue Streaks' staff all season long. He had to do double duty for Coach Joe Steinhardt's nine after the Red Devils' pitching staff was hindered by arm troubles early in the year.

Manning Swings Hot Bat

Rich Manning, the senior catcher for North Hunterdon, who did not start for the Lions last year, came a long way. In fact, he led his club in most of the batting department.

He got 22 sacrifices in 63 attempts for a club-pacing .349 average, and he tied Dwight

Nancy Barkman of Flemington was a member of the women's track and field team at Southern Illinois.

University-Carbondale that completed the 1976 season by claiming the Illinois State Track and Field Title.

In addition to the first place finish at the state level, six members of the track team 2 qualified for the national 2 championships.

During the season, SIU-C placed first at the Illinois 50 State Invitational, second at the Saluki and University of Illinois Invitational, third at the Eastern Illinois Invitational, fifth at the Ohio State Invitational and ninth at the Memphis State Invitational.

Carlton Sluggish White, former assistant golf professional at Washington Valley and Newburg River, made the cut in the United States Open last week for the second year in a row.

The 27-year-old pro fired four rounds of 73 for a 300 total which netted him \$1000 in Atlanta, Ga.

The local squig joined the tour last year and has recently qualified for a series of regular events including the TVB in Philadelphia.

Pancottine for the lead in runs batted in with 18. He also led the Lions in doubles with four and tied for the lead in triples with three.

In addition, he scored 15 runs, which was one from the lead.

Manning is headed to Lehigh where he will play football for the Engineers.

Days Turdo: The big backstop for Phillipsburg Catholic hit well over 300 to lead the Terriers offense. He had the knack of coming up with the big hit at the right time.

He is also an expert at handling pitchers, especially Rich Gaydos, who pitched the Green and White to the state sectional title a year ago.

Dave Robertson: The junior left-hander, a Felix Mill-type hitter, according to Tiger Coach Art Dimicelli, met the bat safely 20 times in 87 appearances this year to end up the season with a .345 mark.

He drove home ten runs and scored 16.

Perhaps his most impressive stat is turning in a .967 defensive mark with the few errors made only two errors in 31 games.

Dan Tricarico: Called the best second baseman that the Red Devils have ever had, Tricarico did it all in his senior year for the Red Devils.

The Hunterdon Central pivotman struck up 29 hits in 78 at bats for a .372 average, the second highest mark on the league's leading team.

He scored 11 runs and knocked home seven. In addition, he hit three doubles, which tied him for the team high with four triples.

But undoubtedly his greatest contribution came at second base where he fielded flawlessly behind pitchers such as Tricarico, Rob Brost, and Bob Birkenhead.

Bryon White: Placed by Coach Holcombe on an even par with Vince Ashman, one of the better hot corner men in Hunterdon Central baseball history, White had an outstanding year in the Red Devils' infield, also.

Sports Quiz

The answers to Hunterdon 18-Lites' sports quiz follow:

- 1) Wes Ferrell (1929-32)
- 2) Gerald Warner, Pete Fox, Hank Greenberg, and Charlie Gehringer
- 3) Lefty Grove
- 4) Cliff Mape
- 5) Johnny Mize
- 6) Spud Chandler, 7-17
- 7) Blackwell, who lost his second year when Eddie Stanky of the Dodgers signed with one out in the ninth in 1947.

At bats, 699. He broke Matty Alou's former mark of 588.

- 9) Christy Mathewson
- 10) Joe Mauer, Joe Gordon, and Bob Meusel
- 11) Roger Hornsby, the Cards, Braves, and Cubs
- 12) Jimmy Foy, the A's and Red Sox
- 13) Joe
- 14) Tommy Holmes (37)
- 15) Early Wynn and Lefty Grove
- 16) Roberto Clemente
- 17) Roy Campanella (243)
- 18) They lead the National League (18) and American League (12), respectively, in the most pinch-hit home runs for a career.

They lead the National League (5), respectively, in most pinch-hit home runs for a season.

- 20) Joe Nuxhall
- 21) Don Drysdale, 58 and two thirds innings
- 22) Bob Feller
- 23) Johnny Mize (51)
- 24) Jim Busby
- 25) Frank Robinson and Walter Benger
- 26) A) Vince, B) Mort, C) Paul, D) Frank, E) Cloyd, F) Dixie, G) Dave, H) Faye
- 27) Mickey Stanley, Pete Rose, and Jimmy Piersall, in that order
- 28) Luke Appling
- 29) A) Charley Grimm, B) Marty Marion, C) Eddie Joost, D) Bill Rigney, E) Walter Alston, F) Cookie Lavagotto, G) Bobby Bragan, H) Luke Appling, I) Joe Schultz, and J) Ted Williams
- 30) A) Yogi Berra, B) Terry Moore, C) Carl Furillo, D) Don Mueller, E) Matty Alou, F) Dick Sialer, G) Roger Maris, H) Frank Robinson, I) Reggie Smith, J) Cookie Lavagotto
- 31) A) Sal Bando, B) Ron Cey, C) Whitey Kurowski, D) Ken Keltner, E) Billy Cox, F) Willie Jones, G) Hank Thompson, H) Eddie Mathews, I) Ken Boyer, J) Ron Santos

He collected 25 hits while compiling a .325 batting mark. He also scored 12 runs and drove home 12. In addition, he tied for the club lead in doubles with three and hit one triple.

Rossi: The captain of two sports at Hackettstown this year (baseball was not one of them), Rossi culminated a fine Tiger career with an outstanding spring diamond season.

He batted .325, scored 27 runs, and got on base 62 times. He also drove home 15 runs and posted an .867 fielding percentage.

Very competitive, he played shortstop for the Tigers for four years. In the last three of those years, he ended up in the top three batsmen on the Orangemen's squad.

Coach Dimicelli describes Rossi as very fast, with a strong arm, and a good bat. A coach's ballplayer, Dimicelli says.

Rossi is headed to Bucknell on a football scholarship.

Mike Notarangelo: The senior shortstop, who had throwing accuracy problems last year, shifted from the outfield and made a great recovery.

He had a very strong second half of the year and ended up the season with a .285 mark.

In addition, he scored 29 runs to lead the Red Devils in that department, and he drove home 14 runs, which was the third highest in that area.

Notarangelo is going to West Point next year.

For his strong play in the field and at bat, Notarangelo was named the utility infielder on the DRC team.

John Leidy: The only Del Val hitter to post a .300

average. Leidy finished the season with a .330 mark.

A spray hitter, he collected 24 hits in 75 official at bats.

Possessed with good speed, Leidy held the Terrier outfield together in center field, and gave them a dangerous threat on the base paths.

He is headed to Rutgers in the fall.

Harold Hartum: The junior center-fielder hit .372 to the Tricarico for the second spot in that department. He hit 18 hits in 43 at bats.

A consistent performer, Hartum scored and drove home 12 runs this year.

From the Red Devils' standpoint, Hartum, a junior, is moving out of their district for his senior year.

Dave Witt: Talk about Hunterdon Central ballplayers, and it doesn't take Coach Holcombe long before he gets around to speaking in superlatives about Witt.

The senior outfielder did not baffle the year, but that he has had in the past, but he did consistently come up with big plays, both in the field and at the plate.

Hitting in tough luck at the outset of the season, Witt's hits began to find the holes in the second half of the season. In the last two weeks of the season, two of his timely hits won games for the Red Devils.

Witt will attend the Naval Academy in the fall.

Rob Souder: Another Felix Mill-type hitter, according to Coach Dimicelli, Souder, the Tigers' captain, hit .303 as a designated hitter this year.

The Tigers had better fielders in Souder's spot, according to Dimicelli. So Souder was willing to stand aside and specialize as the Tigers' DH.

Coaches' All-DRC Team

| Pos. | Name             | Sch. | Yr. |
|------|------------------|------|-----|
| 1B   | Dave Robertson   | H    | Jr. |
| 2B   | Dan Tricarico    | HC   | Sr. |
| SS   | Tony Rossi       | H    | Sr. |
| 3B   | Bryon White      | HC   | Sr. |
| UI   | Mike Notarangelo | HC   | Sr. |
| C    | Rich Manning     | NH   | Sr. |
| P    | Mike Rovi        | CV   | Sr. |
| OF   | John Leidy       | DC   | Sr. |
| OF   | Harold Hartum    | HC   | Sr. |
| OF   | Dave Witt        | HC   | Sr. |
| OF   | Mike Gasparetti  | NH   | Sr. |
| P    | Doug Reichenbach | HC   | Sr. |
| P    | Al Wardell       | NH   | Sr. |
| P    | John Francis     | H    | Sr. |

HONORABLE MENTION: Scott Kliment, Steve James, Paul Mondelli, and Jeff Lenahan, Del Val; Dwight Pancottine, Joe VanHorn, and Dave Smigelsky, North Hunterdon; Butch Sutterley and Bob Clucas, Voorhees; Tom Schapley and Tom Andrews, Hunterdon Central; Dale Paulus and Brian Bodine, Warren Hills; Mike Rovi and Rich Gaydos, Phillipsburg Catholic; Stew Burroughs, South Hunterdon.

HC Baseball Stats

These statistics pertain only to Hunterdon County teams. They are as complete as the managers of the respective teams made them.

Batting Averages

| Name             | Sch. | AB | H  | Avg. |
|------------------|------|----|----|------|
| Dave Schaeble    | SH   | 32 | 15 | .469 |
| Doug Reichenbach | HC   | 89 | 29 | .326 |
| Randy Voorhees   | SH   | 57 | 22 | .386 |
| Stew Burroughs   | SH   | 55 | 22 | .400 |
| Jim Albert       | V    | 50 | 20 | .400 |
| Dan Tricarico    | HC   | 78 | 29 | .372 |
| Harold Hartum    | HC   | 43 | 16 | .372 |
| Rich Manning     | NH   | 61 | 22 | .361 |
| Mike Gasparetti  | SH   | 60 | 17 | .347 |
| Dave Smigelsky   | HC   | 77 | 25 | .325 |
| John Leidy       | DV   | 75 | 24 | .320 |
| Bryon White      | HC   | 77 | 25 | .320 |
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| Mike Gasparetti  | NH   | 63 | 19 | .302 |

Runs Batted In

| Name             | Sch. | AB | RBI |
|------------------|------|----|-----|
| Dave Schaeble    | SH   | 32 | 29  |
| Doug Reichenbach | HC   | 89 | 22  |
| Randy Voorhees   | SH   | 57 | 22  |
| Stew Burroughs   | SH   | 55 | 22  |
| Jim Albert       | V    | 50 | 20  |
| Dan Tricarico    | HC   | 78 | 29  |
| Harold Hartum    | HC   | 43 | 16  |
| Rich Manning     | NH   | 61 | 22  |
| Mike Gasparetti  | SH   | 60 | 17  |
| Dave Smigelsky   | HC   | 77 | 25  |
| John Leidy       | DV   | 75 | 24  |
| Bryon White      | HC   | 77 | 25  |
| Bryon White      | HC   | 77 | 25  |
| Mike Gasparetti  | NH   | 63 | 19  |

Errors

| Name             | Sch. | AB | E |
|------------------|------|----|---|
| Dave Schaeble    | SH   | 32 | 2 |
| Doug Reichenbach | HC   | 89 | 2 |
| Randy Voorhees   | SH   | 57 | 2 |
| Stew Burroughs   | SH   | 55 | 2 |
| Jim Albert       | V    | 50 | 2 |
| Dan Tricarico    | HC   | 78 | 2 |
| Harold Hartum    | HC   | 43 | 2 |
| Rich Manning     | NH   | 61 | 2 |
| Mike Gasparetti  | SH   | 60 | 2 |
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| Bryon White      | HC   | 77 | 2 |
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Double Plays

| Name             | Sch. | AB | DP |
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| Dave Schaeble    | SH   | 32 | 2  |
| Doug Reichenbach | HC   | 89 | 2  |
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