



ST. ANTHONY BASEBALL ASSOCIATION :: 3303 33RD AVENUE NE • ST. ANTHONY, MN 55418

St. Anthony Baseball

THE ANNUAL NEWSLETTER OF THE ST. ANTHONY BASEBALL ASSOCIATION

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Letter from the President

I hope that 2012 was a good year for you! The baseball program had a really good year with improvements funded from the Hennepin County Youth Sports Grant Program. This year we received funding to redevelop the baseball /softball field at Wilshire Park Elementary School. The field was relocated from the southeast corner of the school to the northwest corner. The new field has irrigation, fencing, and the playing field is now level! By relocating the baseball / softball field, a full size soccer field was also created at Wilshire Park. Our hope is that the new soccer field might provide some relief for the multi-purpose fields in Central Park.

The varsity baseball team had a good year in 2012 and they are returning eight starters for the 2013 season. The VFW team had a great run at the State Tournament, making the District 7 semifinals before losing to Champlin Park 3-2 and then losing to Totino Grace in the double-elimination game by the same score. In the championship game Champlin Park beat Totino-Grace 2-1.



Above: field construction at Wilshire Park

The Boosters had another successful summer with many youth involved from t-ball all the way through our traveling programs. The Tri-City American Legion team went through a year of transition and played a limited schedule in 2012. The St. Anthony Baseball Association is working to improve the Legion schedule for the 2013 season.

I hope you all can provide some support for the St. Anthony Baseball Association through our year end contribution program. You can donate online at stanthonybaseball.org or send in a donation on the form (page 7) in this newsletter.

Here is to a great 2013 baseball season!

-Don Siggelkow, *President*
St. Anthony Baseball Association



Field cleanup day.



Coach Urdahl and the VFW team after the District 7 playoffs.



Darren Lawson, Tri-City Legion.

SABA News & Notes

Annual Twins Game Outing

Please join us on **April 28th at 1 pm** for the annual outing to the Minnesota Twins game at Target Field. The Twins will be playing the Texas Rangers. Tickets are in the left field bleachers and cost \$13.00 – the normal price for the game. St Anthony Baseball receives \$4.00 per ticket sold – this is one of our major fund raisers to help pay for field improvements. Tickets will be available through the SAVHS school store website: www.isd282.org/store.

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!

Youth Preseason Clinic

Youth Baseball players and parents: look for more information on a preseason youth baseball clinic that will take place in February and March. The camp will run on Saturdays in the high school gyms. Information will be emailed to families and posted at www.boostersbaseball.com after the Holidays.

Looking for a Winter Clinic?

Winter camp and clinic information (for all students) is posted on the High School page at www.stanthonybaseball.org.

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 or any of the teams mentioned can be found at SABA's webpage: www.stanthonybaseball.org.

Dates to Remember

Cub Foods Bagging

Dec 31, 2012 & Feb 3, 2013

HS Baseball Signups

March 4, 2013 at 6:30 pm
High School Auditorium

Spring Field Workday

April 6, 2013

SAVHS Alumni Day and Barbecue

May 20, 2013 at 7pm

High School Captains Practices

8:00pm Mondays &
8:30pm Wednesdays

Sports Boosters Season Review

Booster Baseball had another great year. There were a total of nine teams that participated in in-house and travel leagues.

The St. Anthony 14U traveling team was coached this year by Jon and Jim Demars. The 14U team finished the regular season at 11-5. They played incredible defense, giving up the third fewest runs out of 35 teams. The team won their first two playoff games before losing a heartbreaker in the tier 1 semi-finals 2-1.

The 12U traveling finished their season playing in the Mauer Cup "Kids Playing for Kids" Little League tournament. It was a fun tournament for the kids and it helped teach them the benefits of fundraising for a very worthy cause. Part of the proceeds raised through registration fees and raffle tickets were given to The St. Judes Children's Hospital for cancer research. St. Anthony made the championship game where they lost to Coon Rapids 12-8. Friends and family who were not at the game were able to hear the game broadcasted live on WCCO 830AM.

The 3rd/4th grade in-house team St. Anthony Huskies Blue coached by Doug Anderson and Rick Friebe won



its final game in dramatic fashion. They battled back to beat the previously undefeated Columbia Heights team in the playoff championship game.

Thank you to all the volunteer coaches who took the time and energy to help coach a team this past year. We are looking forward to having another successful year in 2013.

Please visit Boosters Baseball at www.boostersbaseball.com

Check the website often to view the most updated information on meeting dates, traveling tryout dates, and the in-house evaluation date. We

also have a parent meeting set for Wednesday, February 20, 2013 in the high school commons. This will be a great opportunity for you to bring up any questions you may have regarding the Booster Baseball Program. We hope you can make it.

You can also view the website for additional information on the 2013 youth clinics. We will hold clinics for grades K through 2nd grade and grades 3 through 8. They are tentatively scheduled for February and March 2013. Be on the lookout for registration information and clinic dates in the next few weeks.

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Above: the 12U Mauer Cup team hoisting their second place trophy.

Left: The 3rd/4th grade in-house Huskies Blue playoff winning team.

Season Review

St. Anthony Village High School Baseball

Most casual observers would have thought going into the 2012 baseball season that it would be a rebuilding year for the Huskies. Who could argue with that point of view? The Huskies were coming off back-to-back State Tournament runs and were graduating 16 players off the 17 man roster from 2011. However, the players and coaches had a different view. We strive to reload rather than rebuild. The expectations were the same, play the game the right way, and come to the ball park believing the team can win. The Huskies started off a daunting schedule with a tough loss against Irondale, but quickly got on the winning track and took home the Black and Blue Trophy from DeLaSalle. The Huskies would sweep the two game series

this year against the Islanders and finish the season with a record of 15 and 7. The Huskies were led by strong pitching and very tough defense this year. Mike Hanker, Jordan Wiggins, and Zach Siggelkow had a combined 1.84 ERA in 2012 and earned All-Conference recognition. Catcher Noah Bluth, shortstop Mike Studer, and centerfielder Nick Kampa were strong up-the-middle and the defense matched the pitching inning for inning. The coaches feel the future looks bright for the 2013 Huskies who will return eight of nine starters from the 2012 squad. The team will get an opportunity to jump-start the season by taking a spring training trip to the Disney Wide World of Sports complex in late March this spring.



High School Baseball Statistics

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.



Kaczrowski and BayBears Repeat in Championship

By Dan Kaczrowski

After winning the Double A Southern League Championship in 2011 with the Mobile BayBears, I was excited coming into the Arizona Diamondbacks' Spring Training this past season. Since professional baseball is all about winning, the front office loves seeing one of its affiliates take home the trophy. It gives the organization bright hopes for the future. All of my teammates from the '11 squad and I were handed rings at a ceremony toward the end of Spring Training. It was an honor being recognized in front of the entire organization. There is no doubt I will always remember this past spring, not only for the ring ceremony, but also for the opportunity to play in a Major League Spring Training game against the Giants and be on the roster for another 10 games. I went in late in the game to play second base and had one at-bat with a good swing, flying out to deep left. I learned a lot hanging out in the dugout with some of the big leaguers. Jason Kubel, who was traded to the D-Backs from the Twins last year, was my favorite to talk to. He's a very humble and quiet guy, but extremely nice and full of baseball knowledge.

The regular season started like 2011 did, in good ol' Mobile, Alabama. When people ask me how I like playing there, I tell them I don't. The climate is similar to a sauna, obviously not ideal for baseball. In late April, I got a call up to the AAA squad, the Reno Aces in Reno, Nevada, to fill in at the utility role for a week. Playing one week with the Aces and then going back to Mobile shortly after keeps me working hard because I got a taste of what AAA is like and I want to get back there as soon as I can.

Back in Mobile, I assumed the same role as the past season coming off the bench for key pinch hit at-bats and playing defense anywhere and everywhere the manager says to (even on the pitching mound). I went through a tough stretch early in the season offensively, but came around to finish stronger late in the year. I have always strived to keep my defense consistent, and I am happy with how solid it was this last year. With the number of prospects and talent we had on this 2012 BayBear team, we ended up winning the Southern League Championship again, back-to-back.

Like I've mentioned in previous newsletters, a professional season is full of ups and downs. At times, I feel like there are more downs than ups, but then I remind myself I am playing baseball for a living. Not too shabby coming from a guy coached by Troy Urdahl.



Above:
Kaczrowski playing for the Diamondbacks
AA Affiliate, the Mobile BayBears

St. Anthony Alumni Playing College Baseball

Devin Ferguson
Junior IF
St. Olaf College
(Northfield, MN)

Alex Jenson
Sophomore C
Wartburg College
(Waverly, IA)

Steven Wehr
Junior Pitcher
Southwest MN State
University
(Marshall, MN)

Nicho Roessler
Sophomore P/IF
Concordia University
(St. Paul MN)

Jordan Wiggins
Freshman Pitcher
St. Johns
(Collegetown MN)

VFW Post #230 Places 3rd in District 7

The VFW Post #230 baseball team, made up of freshmen and sophomores in high school, had a very successful season this past summer. The sophomore-laden team earned a season record of 24 wins and 16 losses. The young men made huge improvements over the course of the season ultimately proving that they could compete with the top schools in the state's VFW program.

Early in the season, Post #230 traveled to Cold Spring to take on very tough competition in the annual Cold Spring VFW Invitational. Post #230 had impressive performances to get wins over top schools Champlin Park and Chaska in order to reach the championship game against Saint Cloud Tech. The Huskies fell short in the final, but took home a rewarding second place trophy in a very competitive tournament.

Post #230 competes in a difficult 7th District VFW League. The young men quickly prepared themselves for a challenging league schedule and fought their way to 12-9 record in the district and a 5-7 record in their division. Their performance in the league placed them in a three game series with VFW baseball powerhouse Maple



Grove. In their best outings of the season, the young men overcame Maple Grove's home field advantage and took the three game series 2-1, which placed them in the 7th District double-elimination playoff tournament. After strong wins against division foes Torino-Grace and Fridley, Post #230 had a rematch with Champlin Park in the quarterfinal game. Although the team played well and gave themselves opportunities to win, the Huskies could not overcome the Rebel's potent offense. Saint Anthony Post #230 finished their playoff run and capped the 2012 season with an impressive third place finish.

The 2013 season will start in early June. Coaches Troy Urdahl, Ryan Ferkinhoff, and Zak Armstrong were all pleased with the team's performance this past summer. With only a few freshmen returning from last year's third place team, the Huskies hope to have their young players continue to improve their abilities over the off-season in preparation for making another strong run in 2013.

Special thanks are in order to Coach Ferkinhoff and Coach Armstrong for all the time and effort this past season serving as volunteer coaches. Both coaches did a great job and gained valuable coaching experience.

Hogs Update

In 2012, the Hogs returned to the Class A State Tournament for the second time in three years. However, the appearance was short-lived as the Hogs fell to the Bloomington Bandits in single elimination play, 8-2.

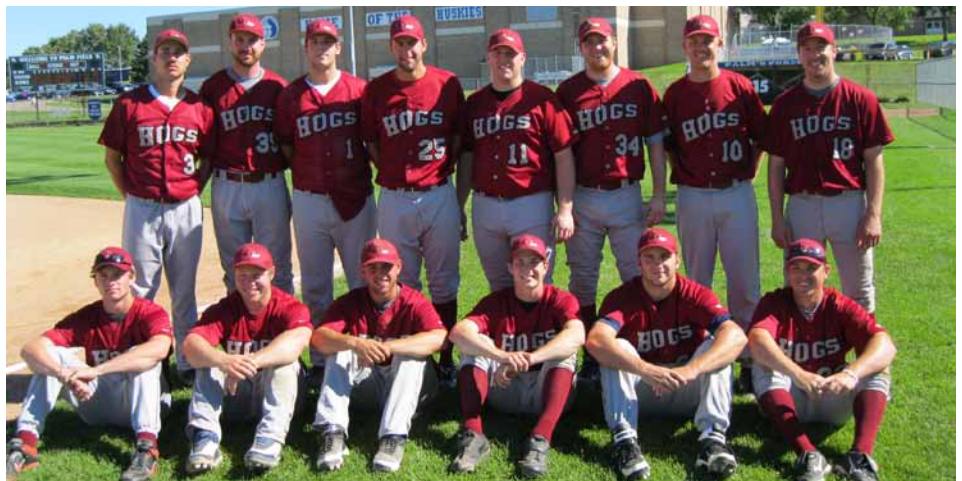
The Hogs finished the season with an overall record of 17-15 and third place in the Skyline League at 10-6. Season highlights included a victory over the eventual 2012 state champion (and perennial Class A power) Minnetonka Millers and defeating the Coon Rapids Redbirds for the first time in five meetings.

The Hogs' success was once again recognized by Skyline League peers as four Hogs were named to the Skyline All-Star team. Hogs all-stars included: pitchers, Dan Schober and Nate Iliff;

outfielder, Kyle Bixler; and shortstop, Jeff Ostrom.

Continuing St. Anthony's baseball tradition, ninety percent of the Hogs' 2012 roster graduated from St. Anthony Village High School, played Legion Baseball for Tri-City Blue, or

currently live in the St. Anthony area. As we eagerly look ahead to 2013, the Hogs continue to search for quality players to strengthen their roster. If you are interested in joining the Hogs, please contact Mike Dunn at michael.dunn3@gmail.com.



Support the St. Anthony Baseball Association

The St. Anthony Baseball Association (SABA) was established as a 501(c)3 non-profit corporation in 2006 to promote baseball in St. Anthony. In the last 12 months, the St. Anthony Baseball Association has provided youth baseball clinics for St. Anthony Boosters and provided support for numerous field and facility improvements in Central Park and at Wilshire Park.

SABA is committed to improving youth baseball facilities and youth baseball programs in St. Anthony. We are working with Sports Boosters Baseball to emphasize improvements for all youth baseball fields. 100% of your contribution will be used to enhance and improve baseball facilities and programs in St. Anthony, and is tax deductible!

St. Anthony baseball is a community asset and tradition that we need to continue to develop and fund through the efforts of SABA. We rely on individual and business donations and contributions to support the St. Anthony Baseball Association.

The St. Anthony Baseball Association would be very appreciative of any contribution that you can make to the program. Please donate so we can keep St. Anthony baseball at the high level of play that has become our standard! Mail your check to:

St. Anthony Baseball Association
3303 33rd Avenue N.E.
St. Anthony, MN 55418

DONATE ONLINE!

Please consider visiting
www.stanthonybaseball.org
to donate to St. Anthony Baseball.

Shop Online with SABA

Show your support for SABA while you save money and earn cash back!

The St. Anthony Baseball Association is participating in an exciting new fundraising program. The group now has its own website featuring thousands of partner stores like Walmart, Sears, Best Buy, Apple, The Home Depot and many more. When you make a purchase on www.marketamerica.com/saba, the St. Anthony Baseball Association receives royalties and you earn up to 35% cash back on qualified purchases.

The benefits don't stop there. You earn 0.5% cash back on the purchases of everyone you refer to our website. Now, you can take advantage of the ease and convenience of Internet shopping to buy the products and services you want, while feeling good about helping one of your favorite organizations.

**For more information contact: Rebecca Urdahl
612-636-0913 | rebecca.a.urdahl@gmail.com**

St. Anthony Baseball Association (SABA)

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP _____

EMAIL ADDRESS _____

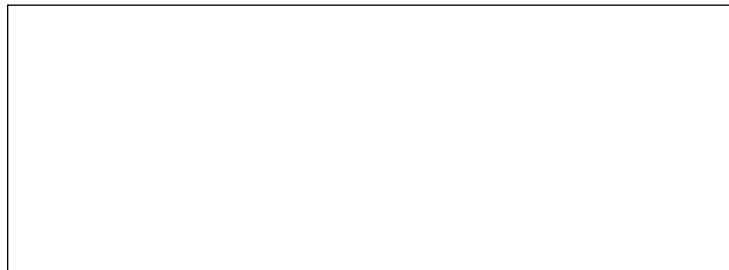
Please mail a receipt to the address above I wish to have our gift remain anonymous

Gifts to SABA are tax-deductible!

Please make checks, corporate matches, or other gifts payable to:

St Anthony Baseball Association, 3303 33rd Avenue, St Anthony, MN 55418

St. Anthony Baseball Association
3303 33rd Avenue NE
St. Anthony, MN 55418



St. Anthony Baseball News

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

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www.davewiggins.smugmug.com

There's no place like home for the holidays...



Season's Greetings! -Coaches Brever, Palm, Lehmkuhl, Niklaus, Estrada, and Urdahl