

Reading Baseball

Alumni Club

Newsletter

News for Reading Baseball Alumni

In This Issue:

Alumni Dinner

Alumni Games

Alumni News

2009 Season Summary

Alumni Playing Ball

Hall of Fame

And, of course, much, much more!

Issue No. 24 Fall/Winter 2010



Hello to All Our Alumni

We hope all is well with you and your families as we bring to you our 24th Alumni Club Newsletter! Here's the thing - this was supposed to be the Winter **2009**

version of our Alumni Letter, but I never got it done. Thus, it will be a Fall/Winter 2010 edition. Much of the contents of this letter has been previously sent to you, in pieces, via email. But here it is, in more complete form. I have to admit that I have not had time to really embellish the letter with graphics, photos, or even some

of the “humorous” stories or features – it is more of a straight text document (I just looked at the most recent alumni letter; boy, it had lots of photos and graphics. Really nice. Just pretend there are photos next to each article in this letter). Nevertheless, I hope you enjoy this version. You can always view our photos (from varsity team and alumni events) on the website.

Alumni Dinner 2009

We held our annual Reading Baseball Alumni Dinner on Sunday, January 11, 2009 at On the Border in Woburn. We had a great time, despite the low turnout (16 guys). We had the usual good conversation, storytelling, and good food. So this is always a good event to begin the New Year and our Alumni Calendar.

Many thanks to the guys who attended: Mike Moscariello '77, Pete Collins '79, Joe Picano '81, Greg Bernard '82, Jim Lucci '85, Gary d'Entremont '87, Steve Langone '96, Jason Zerfas '99, Jon Rosenthal '02, Donnie Garrity '02, Nick Radocckia '02, Mike Hurley '02, Mark DeMasse '02, and Brian DeMasse '03, Coach Bryson, and Coach Mosc.

Notice that we had five guys from the class of 2002. This group has, since the time they graduated, always been well-represented at the Alumni Dinner. Thus, the 2002 team is being formally designated as **Alumni Team of the Decade!** This prestigious honor not only gets

them tremendous adulation within the alumni community, but also 10% off at future alumni dinners (you would have to work it out with restaurant yourselves, because none of us other guys are going to make up that 10%). Seriously, thanks to that group and all the others for attending.

Now, we hope to get better attendance at future events. Notice that there were no alumni from 1988-1995 nor from 2004-2008. Those are big stretches of no-shows. We need and want you guys at events; especially would like you younger guys to get involved.

Alumni Dinner 2010

Our first Alumni Club Dinner of the new decade (what do you call the decade – The Teens?) will be held in January, as usual. Check the website and emails for updates later this fall. We may return to the usual spot or may find a new venue (for example, Bertucci's of Reading has a back room that might be perfect for us.

Alumni Weddings, Engagements, and Babies

We are pleased to announce some happy events in the lives of our alumni. *Beginning with babies:*

When I originally wrote this, the following were just babies. By now, some have had their first birthdays by now and must be walking.

Congratulations to Jonathan Cignetti '93 and his wife, Erin. Their daughter, Ella Riley Cignetti (6lbs, 12oz and 19" tall) was born on April 17, 2008. The Cignetti's live in the North End of Boston.

Also congratulations to Rich Foohey '89, whose wife, Tracy, just had their 3rd little girl, also on Friday, April 17, 2008. Rowan Joan Foohey was born 10:41 am, she weighed 8 lbs even and was 19.5 inches. Rich says that big sisters Kyla and Neila are very excited about their little sister.

Congratulations to Dan Robinson '94 and his wife, Wendy, on the birth of their third child on May 8, 2008. Isaac Daniel Robinson now joins big brother, Colby, and big sister, Ella, in the Robinson household. Best of luck to Wendy, Dan, and their family.

Congratulations to David Zaya '94 and his wife, Alison, on the birth of their first child. Isabella Grace Zaya was born on June 3, 2008. Isabella weighed 7 lbs. 5 oz. at birth and we wish much happiness and good fortune to Dave, Alison, and Isabella.

And congratulations to David George '90 and his wife, Sarah, who had a baby boy on August 3, 2008. Gavin

George weighed in at 7 lbs 14 oz and 23 inches tall. Gavin has a big sister, 4 1/2 year old Maxine. The George family also moved into a new home (an old Victorian) in June, so they have been busy. Sarah is an associate professor and pediatrician at Johns Hopkins and David has been with T Rowe Price for about three years in the marketing group as a writer. According to proud grandfather, "Gavin is expected to hit like his Dad, but hopefully be able to make a throw across the diamond without distressing the windows in neighboring homes." Coach's Note: If Gavin can hit like his dad, I think I have a spare room in my house where Gavin can move when in from grades 9-12.

Congratulations to Mike (Temple) '97 Thompson and his wife, Shelby, on the birth of their first child. John Nicholas Thompson was born on Feb 16th at 3:33 a.m. Jack was 6 lbs, 13 oz and 18.5 inches long. Both Jack and Shelby are resting comfortably. Congratulations and best wishes to Shelby, Temple, and Jack.

These are more recent:

Congratulations to Josh "Java" Driscoll '95 and his wife, Gina, who are expecting their first child this winter. Best of luck to Gina and Josh for a healthy pregnancy and birth.

We are pleased to announce that John Daly '87 and his

wife, Atsuko, just had their first child last spring. Sabrina Rosemary Daly, on Friday, May 8th, at 10:46 PM (7 lbs. 13 oz., 20 inches). The proud dad reports, "We are blessed to have her enter our life and are honored to share this happy news with you. Sabrina came home for the first time today with Mom, very appropriately, on Mother's Day, making it an extra special day for us." Best wishes from all of us to Atsuko and John, who is a great guy and loyal alumnus.

Here is some more good news. Congratulations to Dan Foley '98, whose wife, Melissa, just gave birth to their first child. Lucy Rose Foley was born in the first week of June. Dan reports that Lucy Rose and Melissa are doing great and both are looking forward to a nice summer ahead of them. Here is more on what the new dad had to say, "Please give Mim a heads up that in about 15 years she's going to have a star infielder for her softball team. While I will likely push her to play second, mom had a pretty good glove at third in her heyday so that may be an option too. Soft toss starts as soon as she can support the weight of her own head." Dan and his young family have also just bought a house on 32 Grand Street, Reading.

We have from news from Hall of Famer David Pizzotti '96 who reports that "We have just moved back to Reading after 4 years in the city and the boys are enjoying the added space and backyard. Henry just

turned 2 last week and Charlie is 6 months now." Nice to have Dave, Heather, and his sons back in town.

And weddings:

Congratulations to Anthony Caporale '95 and Katie Donahue who were married in the fall of 2008. Anthony and Katie honeymooned in Italy and live in Reading.

How about engagements

We know of at least three of our guys who have recently become engaged: Ryan Carroll '98, Jason Zerfas '99, and our JV Coach Matt Morrison. Best of luck to these Grooms to Be and their fiancées.

If you would like to read about how Jason Zerfas proposed to Jennifer, scroll through the 2009 Game Results section and go to the last Stoneham game. You will read about our first Alumnus Morton Field Proposal!

More Alumni News

Here is some off-the-field news about our alumni:

Congratulations to Mike Rattigan '05 who won the Meadowbrook Country Club Men's Golf Championship last summer. Mike was a member of the golf team at St. Anselm's College.

I think this notice just came in as the last Alumni Newsletter went to press, but we did not provide much detail. So here is more info about EJ Stanton: Foxwoods Resort Casino announced in February 2008 that it has appointed Edward "EJ" Stanton '82 to Vice President of Hotel Operations. According to Foxwoods' official release: "Edward Stanton possesses over 23 years of experience in the hotel industry and holds a Six Sigma certified black belt for process improvements, revenue enhancement, cost savings and guest satisfaction index. In his roll as Vice President of Hotel Operations, Stanton will be responsible to for the day to day operations of all three hotels at Foxwoods Resort Casino including daily hotel occupancy and working with various in house departments to ensure exceptional customer service. Prior to joining Foxwoods Resort Casino, Stanton served as Hotel Manager for the Westin Copley Place in Boston. In addition, he worked as General Manager at the Sheraton in Lexington, Massachusetts and held various positions within Starwood and Marriott Hotels & Resorts."

So congratulations to EJ who has been a very generous alumnus in terms of donating hotel stays for our fundraisers. I hope I am not overstepping my bounds, but I'm pretty sure that if you go to Foxwoods Casino to play Blackjack and mention EJ's name, you get a perk (like you get to peek at dealer's cards)

Dan Costello '04 hung up his baseball cleats to play college football at Assumption. Now finishing his degree at UMass Lowell, Costy has put away his shoulder pads and donned a pair of boxing gloves. Dan is an amateur boxer who won his initial bout on December 6, 2008. According to Dan, "I stopped the kid in the second round. It was a great night." Congratulations and good luck to Costy. He has always been a hard worker and tough kid, so I know he will do well. Glad I was nice to him when he was in high school.

Alumni in Baseball

Jason Kleponis '05 completed his collegiate career as captain of his baseball team at Plymouth State. Jay had an outstanding senior season, batting .352 in 34 games, with 45 hits, 12 doubles and 32 RBI .

TJ Murphy '07 was the starting center fielder for St. Anselm's College where he played in 40 out of 47 games, had 38 hits, 11 doubles, 1 triple, 1 homer, and 12 RBI .

We had three guys who made their college teams as freshmen:

John Halsey '08 - Endicott College

Bill Cataldo '08 - Merrimack College

Steve Buitkus '08 - Merrimack College

We had a bunch of alumni playing summer baseball – in American Legion, the North Shore League, the Yawkey League, and the Intercity League. I hope I didn't miss anyone, but I know these guys all played summer ball:

Mark DeMasse '02, Rob DeMoura '02, Brian DeMasse '03, Mark Andrlick '04, Tim Melanson '05, Mike DiCicco '05, TJ Murpy '07, John Halsey '08, Tom DeMasse '08, Bill Cataldo '08, Steve Buitkus '08, Joe Harvey '08

Not all of our alumni in baseball are players. Check this out:

Congratulations to Steve Langone '96 who is working for the Boston Red Sox. Steve was hired to work in the front office at Fenway where he is responsible for preparing Advanced Scouting Reports. He watches video of those teams and players whom the Sox will be playing in the next few series and writes comprehensive reports on each player. Big responsibility. You guys remember the scouting reports I used to post on yellow paper in the locker room. Pretty easy – just said every opposing pitcher had “average fastball, average curveball.” I told Steve he could feel free to use them. Steve gets to Fenway by 9 am and leaves after the home game is over. During most home games, he sits behind home plate with an electronic panel from which he posts, on the big boards around the park, whether the pitch was a fastball, curve, splitter, etc.

As is our Alumni Letter custom, here is our update on Bob Macaluso '82. Coach Mac is an Assistant Coach with the University of California at Irvine. The Anteaters were ranked #1 in the nation for much of the 2009 season and made it to the NCAA Regionals. In 2007 the club went to the College World Series in Omaha, finishing 3rd, and last year, in Coach Mac's first season, the team fell one inning short of a return trip to Omaha, with a loss in the Super Regionals. Bob came east this summer to play in the Alumni Games in Cooperstown, and we really appreciate his effort to do so. Best of luck to Maco and his team this year. Bob, along with Jesse Woods, are our only two alumni to coach Division I college baseball.

Jesse Woods '00 completed his 2nd season as an Assistant Coach for Boston College. The team had its best year in recent memory, doing well in the ACC and making the NCAA Regionals. I'm sure you read about the classic 25-inning game they played against Texas, in Austin. Game could have ended earlier and more favorably if they let Jesse get up there and pinch hit. Best of luck to Jesse; we are proud of how well he is doing in his young coaching career.

Alumni Around the World

We have some alumni who are involved in international athletics!

You might remember reading, in the previous newsletter, about Tim Bryant '01 and Steve Gath '03, who were great players at RMHS and then at Bentley College, going to the Netherlands. They have been back home for a year now after a tremendous experience in Europe. In addition to playing on a team, they also coached a team of younger players. Tim pitched and hit (he hit something like 14 homers) and Steve, a career shortstop, became the catcher. Didn't take long for Steve to become outstanding at that position, too. We are envious of you young, single guys who can play ball and have such awesome experience.

Congratulations to Jamie Cerretani '00, who is a professional tennis player. Jamie has earned a spot into the regular draw in the Gentleman's Doubles at Wimbledon this summer! After Wimbledon, Jamie and his playing partner (Victor Hanesco) won their first professional tennis championship, the Men's Doubles Championship at the Austrian Open in July 2008. We remember him as an All-Scholastic and Middlesex League MVP baseball player, but in his freshman year at RMHS, he played in the state finals in singles. Then he had an

outstanding career at Brown University where he set the school record for matches won in a career. Jamie has been playing on a pro circuit all over the world in the last couple years. Jamie has played all over the globe adding exciting places like including South Africa, Israel, England, and Austria to his previous trips to *Melrose and Burlington MA*.

Jon Whalen '95, who had been teaching in California, has now relocated to Belgium where he is teaching and coaching. Here is a partial email from Jon: "Bon jour! It was great to see you over the summer, along with Ace and Steve as well as the new buildings at the high school. It is very comforting to know that the facilities at RMHS finally live up to the quality of the coaches. As a new teacher, I would appreciate any advice you could provide, as a new coach, I always need advice: I have one class with students from: Israel, America, Canada, Jordan, Holland, Japan, Denmark, and India; and our "community" activity to be world citizens was me showing the Reading Baseball website. I will be the head coach of the ball team next spring and I would like to have my players develop a relationship with an American team. Do you think it could be possible for our players to interact and share experiences through the course of the following baseball season? I feel that it is a unique opportunity.

The follow up: Here is a partial email from Jon – “glad to see you guys are doing well. good luck with belmont. just wanted to goive you an update on our season. we entered the year as a young team (one senior), but good athletes. we finished the season at an undefeated 15-0. We entered the international tournament (12 teams) as the number 5 seed. we played extremely well, executing first and thirds perfectly. we made it all the way to championship game, but we ran into a superior pitcher. We held it close, it was 1-1 in the fifth, but they came alive and won 7-1. you will be happy to know that our one run came on a first and third #1 play, and we successfully stole home. Overall it was a great season (19-1), and it will be great to have all of this team return next year.”

We got a chance to see Jon this summer who came to our varsity end of season cookout and spoke to our players and then Jon came down to one of our summer Sunday morning alumni workouts (he can still hit).

Intercity League

While many of our alumni have played in the Intercity League, it has been on teams such as the Wakefield Merchants, Lexington Blue Sox, Andre Chiefs, or Mooney Dental. Too bad that our guys have to travel to neighboring (enemy) towns to play baseball when they grew up in one of the best baseball towns in the area.

But Mr. John Halsey has changed all that. He has worked diligently to obtain an Intercity League franchise for Reading. That’s right, the Reading Bulldogs will be playing their home games at Morton Field next spring/summer. Hopefully the Bulldog roster will have a good number of former RMHS players on it. Congratulations and thank you to John Halsey for his love of Reading Baseball and for bringing top caliber amateur baseball **back** to Reading (the reason we say back to Reading is that Reading did have a team in the Intercity League, which was sometimes called the Carling League back then, in the 60’s. Some of Reading’s Hall of Famers like John Doherty, Bill Kelly, and Jim Kiley played on that team who used Washington Park as their home field).

Halls of Fame

Congratulations to **Steve Langone '96** who was inducted into the Boston College Athletic Hall of Fame last fall. Steve was an All Big East selection as both a Designated Hitter **and** a Pitcher while at BC. During is senior year, he led the entire nation (Division I) in ERA and then, as you know, went on to a successful professional career. Steve is already a member of the RMHS Athletic Hall of Fame and led his team to the state championship in 1996. Here is the blurb that appeared in the official BC HOF program:

Steve Langone '00 (baseball): Steve Langone was a dominant pitcher and prolific hitter for the Eagles from 1997-2000. As a pitcher, he recorded 24 victories in four seasons, including eight in each of his last two years. As a senior, he finished with an 8-2 record and nation's best 1.54 earned run average. He struck out 65 batters and walked just six in 76.0 innings that year. At the plate, the Reading, Mass., native completed his career with a .356 batting average and 117 RBI s in 154 games. As a senior, he captured ABCA/Rawlings All-America second-team honors and NCBWA All-America third-team recognition. Langone was a four-time Big East honoree - All-Rookie Team in 1991, All-Conference second team in 1998 and 1999, and All-Conference first team in 2000.

The entire story that was in the BC Hall of Fame program will be sent to you as a separate attachment.

And congratulations to **Mark Angelo '78**, already and RMHS Hall of Famer, who will be inducted into the Cape Cod Baseball League Hall of Fame in November. This is from the official press release:

Mark Angelo, Wareham & Yarmouth-Dennis
The Florida Southern standout, a 1981 All-American and member of the Division II National Championship team, played in the Cape League for three seasons (1980-82) with Wareham and Yarmouth-Dennis, batting .317 with

26 home runs, 33 doubles and 110 RBI . He hit .335 with a league-leading 14 homers and 47 RBI in 1981 for the Red Sox and followed that with a .325/12/44 campaign in '82. He is the only player to have two seasons with 100 or more total bases and the only player to have hit 10 or more home runs in two separate seasons.

Wow, congratulations to Mark who lives in Orlando and came up to Fenway with his son, Marky, this summer for the Cape Cod League All-Star Game.

Last, but not least, **Erik Olson '97** will be inducted into the RMHS Athletic Hall of Fame in November 2009. Erik excelled at football and baseball, but I think it is baseball where he made his greatest impact. As a junior in 1996, the imposing 6'7" fireballer was 8-2 on the mound, with a 1.43 ERA. He struck out 63 batters in 54 innings and walked only 13. Three of his wins came in tournament play, including the state semifinal. On the road to the state championship, Erik pitched 16.2 innings and yielded **no earned runs** while striking out 18 (I am looking at the 1996 stats now. Get this: in 6 tournament games, our pitchers gave up 6 total runs and just one earned run 0.17 ERA. Holy Cow!). As a hitter, Erik batted .318 with a homerun and 14 RBI .

Erik was named to the Middlesex League All-Star Team and was MVP for both the Middlesex League vs.

Merrimack Valley Conference All-Star Game and the MIAA State Tournament (last two games of tourney).

Erik was elected tri-captain for his senior year and had a remarkable season. As a pitcher he was dominant, going 7-1 during the regular season, with 53.1 IP, 17 BB, 73 K and 0.79 ERA. He gave up only 39 hits, about one every two innings. He was a big hitter for his Middlesex League Championship team as he batted .351 with 4 doubles, 2 triples, 4 homers, and 14 walks. Erik drove home 18 runs. He was a very good defensive player on the mound and at first base, with 93 putouts, 13 assists and just 3 errors. Erik's two year team W-L record was 43-5, with two league titles, a state championship and a 21-game win streak that stretched over parts of two years.

In the 1997 tournament Erik was the winning pitcher in the first round game, shutting out Gloucester. His next start was in the semis, but our team was stymied by an opponent's perfect game, wasting Erik's 2-run pitching performance.

For his pitching career, Erik was 16-4 with a 1.05 ERA. He won 4 tournament games, second all-time to only Steve Langone.

At the end of his senior year, Erik was selected Middlesex League MVP, Boston Globe All-Scholastic and Division II Player of the Year, Boston Herald All-

Scholastic, Daily Times Chronicle Pitcher of the Year. Erik then went on to Boston College where he had a successful pitching career for the Eagles.

So congratulations to the Big O who always represented our team, program, and community with dignity and respect. We are proud to see him inducted into the RMHS Hall of Fame.

Reading Baseball Alumni Games 2008 & 2009

It has been so long since the last letter that we can print two years' worth of Alumni Game recaps, beginning with 2008:

2008 was our fifth year of going to Cooperstown for Alumni Game(s) and I think we had our best time yet! In the first three times we came, we enjoyed playing a single game at Doubleday and last year we were thrilled to play a double header. But this year topped them all as we got **three** games in Cooperstown: Saturday afternoon at the very nice Beaver Valley Campground Field, Sunday morning at Doubleday Field, and late Sunday afternoon at Doubleday again. Add to that some BP and fielding practice prior to Game 1, a team/family dinner on Saturday night at O'Hanlan's Steakhouse, and visits to the Hall of Fame and baseball shops, and you have a very busy and exhausting weekend of great fun and camaraderie!

We had 21 players in all, and we arrived at different times: some Friday, some Saturday morning, and even a couple of guys on Sunday. Those of us who got there early had the chance to hit and shag balls at the Beaver Valley Campground Field. That was fun, especially seeing Tom Zaya's children play ball and watching some of our guys launch balls over the outfield fence. I think if we had realized what a strenuous weekend lay ahead of us, we may have chosen not to spend those 3 hours of "warming up" prior to Game 1.

Game 1 was played on a sunny, warm afternoon where the Red Team took control the game, taking the lead early and building an 8-0 lead. The Black Team came back late, spurred by Mark DeMasse's 3-run homer over the right field fence. To be honest, I can't remember the play-by-play details of any of the three games (although I can still vividly remember the 5th inning vs. in a game vs. Melrose in 1979); it is all a blur!

After the game, we all had a chance to shower (not together), regroup, refresh, and meet for dinner at O'Hanlan's Steakhouse (voted Coopertown's #1 steakhouse three years in a row. Maybe because Cooperstown doesn't have a Wendy's). It was awesome to see all the players and some families together for a meal, a re-hashing of the day's game, and brash predictions about what might happen in tomorrow's

games. After the dinner, older players went back to hotels to go to bed; younger players went someplace else.

Game Two was played at Doubleday on a brilliant Sunday morning. I can't remember the details other than the Red Team took the lead again, but this time the Black Team came back strong. Game ended (8-7, I think) in favor of the Red Team, but it was a nail-biter. The Black Team almost pulled it out as they had the bases loaded and two-outs in the 9th. But Red shortstop John Feudo fielded a ground ball and recorded the final out to preserve the one-run win.

So after 9 innings in the sun, we all had a few hours to kill before our 5 o'clock finale. Everyone grabbed something to eat then found a place to crash for a while. Playing three games in two day didn't seemed like a great idea a week ago, but right now we weren't so sure. But our guys are ballplayers, and we got ourselves ready for one more game. After all, how could we not be excited about playing on the same field as some of baseball's all-time greats? It is awe-inspiring to be standing in the same batter's box as Aaron, Mays, Mantle, Williams, and Fratto.

In this game, the Black Team was determined to avoid a sweep and took a 3-0 lead. The Red Team came back to tie and the lead went back and forth until it was tied 5-

5. The Red Team forged ahead and appeared to have their sweep (and bragging rights for the next 12 months) wrapped up when they took an 8-5 lead into the bottom of the 9th. But the Black Team would not go down easily. They mounted a rally which I remember including nice hits by Bob Macaluso, Brian DeMasse, and John Barrett, among others. Yet a nifty double play by the Red infield left the Black Team with two outs and the potential tying run on 3rd base. Up came Josh Driscoll, who was being berated by his "friends" on the Red Team. Some suggested to walk Driscoll, yet the dangerous Mark DeMasse was on deck. So we pitched to Java and he launched a bomb over the left field fence for a walk-off homer and 9-8 win. It was the first time I have ever seen both winning and losing teams equally excited about the sudden outcome of a game! What a thrilling and perfect end to our 3-game series and alumni weekend.

Some general comments about our play: I think people in attendance were impressed with the quality of play; I agree – I think we look pretty good out there. Interesting to see what skills we retain and which erode. Clearly, guys can still hit. Just smashes all over the field all weekend. And guys catch the ball just fine, both on the ground and in the air. The throwing, however, seems to be a struggle (tough transition from softball to baseball diamond!). There seemed to be a few throws from the left side of the infield that did

not quite reach their destination (actually, they did – on a few hops). And, frankly, our running is not what I used to be. We had some **long** (off the wall) singles and played station to station baseball. Scoring position was no longer 2nd base; although we *usually* were able to score from 3rd base on one of those long singles. The pitchers did great; threw strikes at a speed that was hittable, yet challenging enough. Two complete games in Game 3 by Matt Morrison and Mark DeMasse were all-time firsts. The catching was fine, too; very few balls got past the catchers.

I am sure you guys remember the game details better than I, but I clearly recall how well each guy played. So here is a description about the exploits of each of our 21 players, in no particular order:

BLACK TEAM (1-2)

Dan Callahan '03 - played all 27 innings in center field; had a great defensive series, as he made plays going left, right, back, and a diving play coming in.

Duckey Turenne '79 - first time in Cooperstown; did well with three base hits in two games and some good plays in the field.

Pete Collins '79 - a Cooperstown regular; he swung the bat well, as he always does, and made all the plays in the OF. Pete, at age 47, still has that beautiful left-handed swing.

Mark DeMasse '02 – had a terrific all-around weekend. He hit homer at Beaver Valley and hit one off the top of the wall at Doubleday On Sunday, he had an Iron Man performance at Doubleday where he caught 9 innings in the am and pitched all 9 in the afternoon. Got first ever complete game alumni game win!

Brian DeMasse '03 – a former alumni MVP, Brian once again showed his great versatility: he pitched (he took it easy on us and did not utilize his nasty curve ball), played good D, and smashed the ball to all fields all weekend.

John Barrett '84 - comes to every Cooperstown Alumni Game and shows that he still has it. Pitched in two games and showed some pop with the bat. Got robbed of possible homer in Game 2 and then hit a key double in the gap in winning rally in Game 3.

Josh "Java" Driscoll '95 - gave us the most memorable moment of the entire weekend with his two-out, two-run walk-off homer to win Game 3, 9-8, for the Black Team. With two outs and tying run on third base, hit an absolute "no doubt about it" bomb to win the game, capture the Black Team MVP Award, and create a good topic for conversation for the 4-hour ride home.

Bob Donnelly (non-alumnus) - Pete Collins' brother-in-law had a great weekend where he played good defense, pitched a bit, and hit the ball well in all three games. A good guy and we are glad to have him join us.

Tony DeMasse – the elder statesman of our group at age 55.8, Tony is a tough guy who played all three

games. Played a flawless OF and hit the ball hard all weekend. Probably hit hardest out of the weekend with a screaming bullet to 3b that almost tore a hole in 3rd baseman's gut. A great guy whose 3 sons have been outstanding players for us.

Mark Torrisi '91 – his second time playing in Cooperstown and Mark had a terrific performance. Played excellent infield defense, including making several plays at short (Mark was one of few guys who threw ball across the diamond in the air). Also had a good offensive weekend, including scorching a triple down the right field line.

Bob Macaluso '82 – Maco is a Cooperstown classic, for several reasons. Basically got out of the car after a 7-hour drive and proceeded to get a base hit every at bat. A great hitter with a sweet swing, Maco complemented his hitting by catching all 9 innings in Game 3 for the Black Team.

RED TEAM (2-1)

Jim Lucci '85 – Always one of the best players on the field, Looch continues to make plays in the infield and outfield and is an extra base hit threat every time he steps up to the plate. Was slowed a bit this year with a Game 2 injury where he dove for a ball in right field and injured his arm. But that didn't keep Looch from displaying his love of the game and great camaraderie.

Scott Farris '85 – Just a hitting machine who went

something like 11 for 13, with a couple doubles. Scott hit line drives to left, center, and right field very at bat.

Also starred in the field with nice plays in CF and shortstop. Was in running for Black Team MVP until Looch cast deciding vote against him.

Jason Zerfas '99 – Zerf had a terrific series where he pitched, played good defense all over the field, and smoked the ball. Hit one off the top of the fence in left center field at Doubleday and ripped singles and doubles each game. Prior to Game 1 at Beaver Valley, put on a BP show where he hit about 10 home runs into the woods.

Matt Morrison JV Coach – Matt is an outstanding player who can do it all. He can catch, play INF or OF, and pitched a complete Game 3. Very impressive with the bat, Matt stung the ball all weekend, ripping singles and doubles in each game.

Jon Vedder '83 – Like Bob Mac, got out of the car, into the box, and ripped the ball. Stung the ball in both games and made the best defensive play of the weekend with a fabulous backhanded diving play in RF, robbing batter of a hit. "V" made a great effort to get to the games and his excellent play made it worthwhile.

Dan Foley '98 – Dan still complements his excellent play with his extraordinary attitude and enthusiasm. His love for the game is contagious! Still plays good INF defense, turned a few DP's, and rips line drives nearly every at bat.

John Feudo '95 – Probably made more defensive plays in 3 games than anyone else. Made a couple remarkable

plays at 3b on in-between hops and got hot at SS where he made plays to his left and to his backhand.

Chuck Ross '74 - showed why he is in RMHS Athletic Hall of Fame, as he pitched, made plays in the infield and outfield, and launched a couple deep drives. At age 52, Chuck amazes us with his skill and hitting power.

Tom Zaya '87 – Made his first Cooperstown appearance a memorable one. Made plays all over the field, including leaping play at fence in RF and multitude of plays in infield. Then hit singles and doubles to all parts of the park, scored runs and drove them in. Was voted MVP for the series-winning Red Team.

Pete Moscariello '71 - caught 23 innings, including all 18 on Sunday, mostly because the catcher has the shortest run on/off field.

It was great to see families and friends on the trip.

Many thanks for joining us to:

Judy Turenne (Duckey's wife), and their two children (this will go on our website, so I will not state children's names).

Claire Zaya (Tom's wife) and their three children. It was great fun to have the Zaya kids take BP and shag some balls in the OF at Beaver Valley.

Molly Ross (Chuck's wife), an avid fan of baseball and her husband, who made her 2nd trip to Cooperstown.

Pam DeMasse, who joined husband and two sons on the trip. Pam has had three sons play for us and has

probably made 8-10 trips to Cooperstown between RMHS and Alumni Games.

Danny Callahan's girlfriend, **Jessica**, who enjoyed her first look at Reading Baseball Alumni

Hayley Barrett (John's wife), and their two children.

Also Haley's mom, **Mrs. Dalton**, joined the family who, after Cooperstown, were continuing on to Niagra Falls.

If any of you guys have any game details, stories, or quotes to share with the group, please do so. Your input can only add to the entire experience. I will tell one quick funny story. After Game Two, some of us were in the parking lot in front of Doubleday, and Hayley Barrett was talking about John's near home run (Tom Zaya made a leaping catch of John's blast on the warning track). She said, "I would have bought a t-shirt that says, 'My husband hit a homerun on Doubleday Field.'" Quick as a flash, Jim Lucci quipped, "My wife loves those shirts!"

Well, I hope you all had as much fun as I did. The baseball was great (it is gratifying to hear umpires and fans inquire about our group and note how unique it is to see an alumni family all playing together), the dinner together was wonderful, and the continuing and solidifying of relationships was the best of all. I can't begin to tell you how much I love our Alumni Club and our opportunities to spend time together. It is a thrill for me to see players from **four decades** all playing

together, enjoying their common bond. Whether you played in 1979 like Pete and Duckey or in 2003 like Brian and Dan, you've all had similar experiences and share the great Reading Baseball tradition. As I said after Game 3, it was great coaching you guys; it is even better ***playing*** alongside each of you. I was proud of you all back when you played ball for us in high school; I am even more proud of you now. Thank you all for making the trip and thank you for your continued contributions to Reading Baseball. I can't wait to play ball and hang out with you again!

Cooperstown 2009 - We had a fabulous alumni weekend in Cooperstown and here are just a few of the details (*if you see any inaccuracies or would like to add your own stories from the weekend, please do so*).

For what has become the annual highlight of our Alumni Club year, 35 members of the Reading Baseball Family (20 players and 15 family members and friends) ventured out to Cooperstown on a spectacular, albeit hot, August weekend. We had players from the '70's, 80's, 90's and 2000's all come together to share old Reading Baseball memories and create some new ones.

Many of us stayed at the Best Western, just a few minutes outside of town, while others stayed in a hotels

in town or in Oneonta, and even some stayed at Beaver Valley Campground (Lucci family - cabin; Maco and V- picnic table). Most people came up Friday to settle in, enjoy the Hall of Fame and shops, use the hotel pool, or just relax. A couple guys drove up on Saturday morning, arriving just moments before the first game (Maco and V).

On Friday night, some of the guys (mostly the Black Team) spent some time at Cooley's and observed the strict 4 am team curfew (must have worked because you will read about their dominant Saturday morning win), while some others visited Beaver Valley Campground where the Lucci family generously hosted a wonderful cookout (mostly Red Team - we should have stayed out later!).

On Saturday morning we gathered at the field at 9:00 and waited until the field manager gave us permission to enter. He read us the tedious list of regulations on field use (he could not remember that we **know** the rules, having played on his field once or twice a year for the past 17 years, but one's memory can lapse when you live in a dark, damp equipment shack and exist on a diet of raccoon meat and swamp water).

Anyway, as far as the games were concerned, we were divided into 2 teams, Red and Black, each with 10 players (at least to start the game).

Game One was played on a sunny and warm Saturday morning and the Black team prevailed by a 16-7 score. This game had two amazing connections to the 1969 Super Bowl when the New York Jets upset the heavily favored Baltimore Colts: 1) it was the identical score and 2) it was an upset of equal magnitude. But our baseball game was much less suspenseful than the football game, as the Black squad jumped to a 3-0 lead before an out was recorded. Leadoff singles by John Barrett (John has played in every one of our alumni games) and Patrick Prato (his first at bat in his first alumni game) was followed by a MONSTROUS home run down the right field line by Mark DeMasse. Mark's ball cleared the fence, the bleachers, and passed through a tree about 30 feet off the ground. Probably traveled 420 feet. Turned out that was the longest of the **three** homers Mark hit on the weekend. That was just the beginning as the Black team continued to pound out hits of every variety. Hard to remember who got those hits, as there were so many. But we do remember another home run, this one being a grand slam to the opposite field by Tommy "T-Bone" DeMasse. Tom, his brothers Brian and Mark, and father Tony combined for about 20 hits during the weekend (must have been the Tweetie Bird Pez dispenser). Team Black not only relied on hitting, but had pitching and defense. Rob DeMoura pitched 6 innings, "scattering" 15 hits to get the win. John Barrett followed and pitched the final three. John, whom his teammates

called "Bart" when he was a Middlesex League All-Star in 1984, had some real zip on his fastball this year. Maybe he was inspired by the comeback of his fellow "Forty Something" pitcher, Pedro Martinez. The Red team highlights included a couple Web Gems: an up the middle backhand stab and throw to first by 2nd baseman Jim Lucci and a beautiful sliding catch in center field by Dan Callahan. Red Team pitcher Matt Morrison was the tough luck loser despite his complete game performance.

On Saturday night, all 35 of us got together for dinner at O'Hanlon's Steakhouse. O'Hanlan's has been named one of Cooperstown's top 20 steakhouses and is well-known for it's motto: "**Place your order, mow your lawn, do your errands, visit the Hall of Fame, and your meal will be ready within 45 minutes after you return - GUARANTEED!**" Nevertheless, we had a great time talking about Game One and all of our Reading Baseball stories over the years. In addition to the 20 players in attendance, we were joined by Tom Zaya's family: wife Claire and three children; Jim Lucci's family: wife Mary and three children; John Barrett's family: wife Hayley and two children; Pam DeMasse (Tony's wife and mother of 3 players), Jean Prato (Patrick's mom), Molly Ross (Chuck's wife), and Dan Callahan's girlfriend, Jessica.

Game Two was played on the following morning and now it was pretty hot. But that was good, because it made it easier to get loose (you know you are getting old when you break a sweat lacing up your cleats). Whereas Game One was preceded by a spirited infield/outfield practice, Game Two was preceded by a rousing cry of "Do we have to do this?" Not really - our guys always love the opportunity to play, especially on a field that has been played on by such greats as Ted Williams, Willie Mays, Mickey Mantle, Hank Aaron, and Tom Fratto. The game began at the stroke of 10 o'clock and this time the Red team was victorious by a 14-10 score (probably another Super Bowl score). This was a see-saw affair with the lead changing hands a few times. The Red Team was ahead 10-7 late in the game, but Mark DeMasse hit a 3-run shot to center field to tie the game. Undaunted, the Red team got 4 runs in the top of the 9th, highlighted by hustling base running by Matt Morrison and big RBI rips by Jason Zerfas and Scott Farris. Red team pitcher, Jason Zerfas, finished his complete game "gem" (9 IP, 10 runs, 16 hits, 0 BB, 0 K, 153 pitches) by shutting down a potential Black rally in the 9th with an assortment of fast(straight)balls, knuckle balls, and changeups. Matt Morrison provided an offensive highlight with a home run into the left field screen. Mark DeMasse was named The JUJYFRUIT Most Valuable Player for his 3 home runs, plus some doubles

and singles, excellent play in the outfield, and flawless catching in Game One.

So a split was good, everyone could leave with some bragging rights and a vow to sweep the series next year. We managed to get through with just 3 injuries: John Barrett pulled a muscle in the rib cage on a swing, Pat Prato pulled a hamstring and twisted and ankle, and Tom Zaya had a more serious injury as he tore a tendon in his calf while fielding a ground ball (he is now recovering nicely).

If you would like to view photos of Game One, go to www.cooperstowntime.com and find the photos section.

Many thanks to everyone who took the time to make the trip, especially family and friend of the players. Several guys have commented that this was the most fun year of all. We played some pretty good baseball (some of our folks in the stands heard comments from fans who stopped by to watch and asked if we were former *professional* players). Maybe we were not professionals (we need Langone to come next year) but our guys can still hit and catch the ball. No one would guess that guys like Bob Macaluso, Jon Vedder, John Barrett, Pat Prato, Jim Lucci, Scott Farris, and Tom Zaya are all in the 40's considering the way they smack the ball and bounce around in the field. All, in all, just a great, great Reading Baseball weekend.

Here are the full rosters:

Black Team: Bob Macaluso '82, John Barrett '84, Patrick Prato '86, Josh Driscoll '95, Riley Hughes *(Java's brother in law), Mark DeMasse '02, Rob DeMoura '02, Brian DeMasse '03, Tommy DeMasse '08, Tony DeMasse (dad) Red Team: Chuck Ross '74 and RMHS Hall of Farmer, Jon Vedder '83, Jim Lucci '85, Scott Farris '85, Tom Zaya '87, Dan Foley '98, Jason Zerfas'99, Dan Callahan '03, Matt Morrison (our JV coach), Pete Moscariello '71

**A note about brothers in law. Seems like every year we have an alumnus' brother in law join us to help fill the roster. They are always welcome and are terrific guys but we never expect them to be particularly good players. That is fine. So when Java Driscoll offered his brother in law Riley, whom Java said "played some high school ball", I said, "Sure" and cleverly placed him on the opposing team. Bad idea. Riley might as well have been Rocco Baldelli - he was outstanding! He smashed the ball all over the park and was excellent defensively (maybe I am just bitter because of one outstanding grab he made in left field). Anyway, Riley is a great guy and is welcome to join us any time.*

We already have a plan for next year. Some guys want to bring their young families and we thought, instead of going to a restaurant, we should have a big evening

cookout at Beaver Valley Campground. Some of our families are likely to be staying there, anyway, so we can ask management if we can have a large group of visitors. The Lucci's had a cabin that was close to the ball field and directly adjacent to an expansive lawn - perfect for cookout and kids' activities. We can also rent the major league diamond and have a game or home run derby, a kids' game, etc. This fall we will put in our request for two games on Doubleday Field and, when we get our dates, contact BV, too.

Last thing: just want to say how much I appreciate you guys and your families making this a memorable weekend. The home plate umpire said that this must be a thrill for me. He is right, but he has no idea to what extent. It was my absolute privilege to have coached you guys when you played at RMHS. To continue to know you and your families and to play with/against you in Cooperstown is a joy beyond description. I humbly think that we have something special going with the fraternity we call Reading Baseball and the Alumni Club. To see guys who played 30 years ago get to know guys from 2 years ago is awesome. Maybe two guys played 30 years apart, but the experiences were the same and now you are all part of the same brotherhood. I could not be more proud. So thanks for giving this old coach more wonderful memories. Take care of yourselves and families and I know I will see you soon.

4th annual Hot Stove Holiday Party

Just wanted to give you a report about the Reading Baseball Club's fundraisers, called the Hot Stove Holiday Party. Last year's event was held on a Friday night, the day after Thanksgiving (2008) and it was a great success in every way.

We had a packed house with over 300 people in attendance. The food was good, the comedians were great, the two Miss Massachusettes (Teen and Regular) were beautiful (and good sports), the raffles and auctions were fun and productive, and the camaraderie was the best part.

We were pleased to see many alumni there. Thanks for attending and supporting the cause go to: Shawn Kennedy '77, Dave Powers '81, Tom Powers '82, Dave Gray '83, Tom Zaya '87, Dave Zaya '94, Steve Langone '96, Jamie Gath '99, Jason Zerfas '99, Mark DeMasse '02, Rob DeMoura '02, Evan Carpinito '06, TJ Murphy '07, John Halsey '08, Steve Buitkus '08, Sean McGoldrick '08, and Coach Bryson. It was great to see you there and spend some time with you all.

The youngest alumni: John, Steve, and Sean from '08 helped out by selling raffle tickets. Some current RMHS baseball and softball players were a great help by selling 125 balloons for another raffle. They worked from 6:00-8:00 and then we sent them off to dinner

before the comedians came on (did not want to poison young minds with R-rated material).

Thanks also to the many parents of current and alumni players for attending the event and for helping out in various ways.

We are grateful to all who made donations for the raffles and auctions. Some of the very best donations came from alumni Scott Reinold '96, Dave Gray '83, EJ Stanton '82, John O'Keefe '71, Evan Carpinito '06), and the Reading Baseball School and RMHS Baseball.

The biggest thanks and accolades go to Reading Baseball parents Rick Carter and John Halsey who have, for four years, made this event possible. Although many people do their share of the work, Rick and John put in countless hours around the clock, for weeks prior to the event. The in-demand comedians, the jeweler, the Miss Massachusettses, the obtaining of Hillview CC, the DJ, the food, the packed house, the auction/raffle items, the programs, and everything else we all enjoyed are all due to their work. They were the first ones to arrive at Hillview on Friday afternoon and the last ones to leave, after midnight, on Saturday morning. Already they are talking about a bigger and better event for next year! These men have been tremendous friends to Reading Baseball and Morton Field is now a beautiful venue thanks to them.

The money raised was put to good use. Washington Park and Symonds Way have enjoyed recent upgrades (new mound and home plate area, funded by Reading Baseball Club) and certainly could use more. Morton Field is great, but to finish it off, we hope to add a scoreboard and dugouts.

Now here is the announcement about the 2009 event:

5th Annual Hot Stove Holiday Party

The 5th annual Hot Stove Holiday Party will be held on Friday, November 27, the day after Thanksgiving at the Hillview Country Club in North Reading.. This is shaping up to be the best one yet. Comedian Lenny Clarke heads a list of top local talent who will entertain the crowd. A very nice buffet dinner, along with music and dancing will make it a fun night. Add to that silent and live auctions with some great prizes, and you have a terrific event. So I hope you can all join us and/or provide an item for the auction.. This is a great time of year for the Reading Baseball Community to get together and I hope we have a good turnout of alumni. 100% of the proceeds go to the Reading Baseball Club whose sole purpose is to enhance the baseball fields of Reading. **You can obtain tickets by contacting me; more details of time, price will follow soon.**

More Morton Upgrades

Thanks to the persistent work of the Reading Baseball Club, Morton Field continues to improve as a beautiful venue. In September 2009, Sports Turf Specialties did their end-of-season work which included edging, laser grading, removing weeds, adding material, aerating, overseeding, fertilizing, rebuilding mounds, etc. They also turned our bullpen mound into a double mound and plate area so we can have two pitchers do their bullpen work simultaneously at practice.

In addition, one of our good friends generously donated banners that we put on the right field end of outfield fence that say "Reading Baseball" with our logo and the words "Gift of 2007 Reading Baseball." And we have the same in left field from 2008. The same donor gave us a beautiful backstop pad - black with our team name and logo. Take a look:



And now for the long-awaited scoreboard! The RBC tirelessly pursued this goal and finally got approval from the Reading Board of Selectman to erect a scoreboard this fall. Of course, the purchase, installation, and maintenance of the scoreboard are all from donations from the RBC. It will be 24 feet long and 10 feet high and will have inning by inning scores, at bat, ball, strike, and out. Just another enhancement to our gorgeous field.

Summer Sundays

Last summer, a few of us went to Morton Field on Sunday mornings to play some ball, mostly in preparation for the games at Cooperstown. It was so much fun, that we continued to do that into the fall. I would like to make that a regular occurrence - open invitation to play baseball on Sunday mornings (we go to Symonds Way,

behind Burbank Skating Rink now). We would hit, shag flies, take ground balls, have hitting games, do whatever we wish. No need to sign up, just show up.

The Mental Game - Collegiate Baseball Article

During the past three years, we have made a strong commitment to learning and teaching the Mental Game of Baseball to our players. It began when I had purchased some DVDs by a Peak Performance Coach named Brian Cain. We has always given our players written material about the Mental Game (taken from books on the subject),but to see and hear someone (Brian Cain) talk about it on DVD was much, much more powerful. From there we just took off, making the Mental Game part of every practice, game, and meeting. Next we hired Brian, in the fall of 2007, to come to Reading (he lives in Vermont) to give our program a 3-hour seminar. Kids responded well and it strengthened or commitment to the MG. We hired Brian one more time, in the spring of 2008. We showed him our locker room which was plastered with MG sayings and quotes (most of which we had gotten from him), such as GET BIG or SO WHAT, NEXT PI TCH. He was so impressed that he asked for photos of the locker room and then wrote a feature article about Reading Baseball and its success using the MG. The article appeared Collegiate Baseball newspaper, the country's #1 periodical for

amateur baseball. **The complete article will be sent as a separate attachment.**

Mental Toughness Training Course

We so much love the Mental Game stuff (it has positive, lasting impact far beyond athletics - is awesome life skills stuff) that Scott Farris and I are now running courses on **Mental Toughness Training**. We conducted a class last winter, on Sunday mornings, for parents of players in The Reading Baseball School and got great reviews. The participants told us that they were able to apply what they learned to work, parenting, and recreation. Perfect.

If you are interested in enrolling in one of our fall or winter sessions, all the details are on the website, in the Reading Baseball School section. We think you would really like the program and would love to have you join us.

Subvarsity Seasons

The RMHS Junior Varsity and Freshman teams once again had successful seasons. Matt Morrison was our JV Coach once again, now assisted by Paul Mahoney. Dave Gray again coached the Freshman club.

Both teams had superb win-loss records, but there is much more to their success than W's. Matt, Paul, and Dave worked very hard to teach their young players the work ethic and attitude necessary to be a Reading Baseball Player. They ran organized, upbeat practices where players got the maximum number of reps of swings, ground balls, etc. And they invested in the well-being of each player, working to get players ready for potential varsity careers.

And they did all this working alone or, at most, with one assistant and on fields that kids had to travel to (Washington and Symonds) for every practice.

There is no doubt that the success the Varsity team has enjoyed over the years is directly attributable to the outstanding dedication and talent of our subvarsity coaches.

2008 and 2009 Season Summaries

First, if you are interested in the 2008 game summaries (who wouldn't be?) they are posted on the website. We do provide below some of the great highlights for that season.

Reading completed a fine and memorable season 2008 season with an overall record of 16-6 . The team started slowly, with an 0-2 start and, ultimately, the slow start,

forfeit, and late season loss to Belmont kept Reading from winning the league title. Yet, the team had some great highlights, including winning 14 in a row, the second longest winning streak ever (2003 team won 16 in a row and 1997 and 2007 teams also won 14 straight). During that stretch, Reading played great baseball and showed they were as good as any team in DII. Reading was ranked in the Boston Globe's Top Twenty (for all divisions in eastern Mass.) throughout the season.

The team provided many thrills, including two consecutive walk-off wins at Morton. The Rockets then followed those wins with a 6-game stretch where hitters pounded the ball, winning by an average score of 12-2.

Reading had an impressive team batting average of .355 and had two regulars hit over .400: Steve Buitkus (.456) and Tom DeMasse (.412). Five others batted over .300: Sean McGoldrick (.385), Bill Cataldo (.371), Joe Harvey (.356), Matt Guarino (.339) and Rob Toczykowski (.314). Five players recorded at least 20 hits: Buitkus (26), McGoldrick (25), Cataldo (23), DeMasse (21), and Guarino (20).

Bill Cataldo led the team in On Base Average (.582), Buitkus led in Slugging Pct. (.667), Guarino and McGoldrick co-led the team with 24 Runs scored, Pat Kiley and Guarino led in Stolen Bases with 9 each, John

Halsey was the team leader in doubles (6), and Cataldo led in walks with 15.

Steve Buitkus set the all-time school record for RBI in a season with 35. Steve broke Mark DeMasse's record of 32, which Mark set in 2001. Steve's career batting average of .429 ranks fifth all-time. Matt Guarino set a new record for triples in a season, as he banged out 6. Guarino also completed a rare "20-20-20" season where he had at least 20 runs, 20 hits, and 20 RBI.

For pitchers, Brian Catanzano and Tom DeMasse led the teams in Wins (6); Catanzano led with 36 K's, Pat Sheehan had the best ERA (1.00), followed by Ben O'Shea (1.08). The team had an excellent 1.92 ERA. Four Reading pitchers won at least two games: Catanzano, DeMasse, Sheehan, and O'Shea. Pat Sheehan had the team's only save, earning that in Cooperstown.

Three Reading players were selected for the Dick Scanlon Memorial All-Tournament Team: Brian Catanzano, Bill Cataldo, and Steve Buitkus. Four players were chosen as Middlesex League All-Stars: Buitkus (OF; was also an all-star as a junior). Catanzano (P), John Halsey (C), and Sean McGoldrick (2B). Buitkus was also selected to play in the EMass All-Star Game.

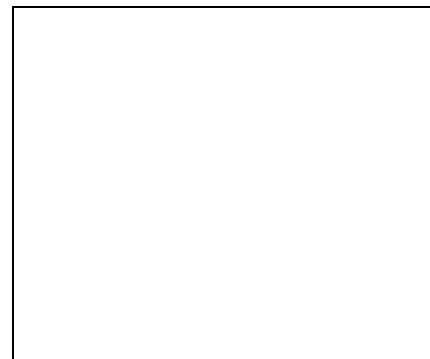
At the post-season cookout/awards ceremony, several graduating seniors were honored, as follows:

RMHS Sportsmanship Award: Pat Sheehan
Reading Baseball Player Award (selected by his teammates): Steve Buitkus

Reading Baseball Coaches Award: Bill Cataldo
Reading Baseball Alumni Club Award: Sean McGoldrick
Pete Moscariello Baseball Scholarship Award: John Halsey

Maybe the best highlight of all is when senior Scott Carter received a special honor for his outstanding love of the game and dedication to Reading Baseball. He received his game shirt with his name CARTER embroidered on the back. From this point on, no Reading Baseball player will wear #34, as we have retired Scott Carter's number

Finally, the players voted for 2009 captains: Jeff Harvey, Derek Strukel, and Jeff Wyer



Reading Baseball 2009 – Middlesex League Champions



Now here are game summaries and highlights from our most recent season, 2009.

Reading 9 Wakefield 5

Our opening game was played in Wakefield on a very cold and breezy day. Nevertheless, Reading's hitters came out swinging and produced 9 runs on 11 hits. Reading scored in the top of the 3rd when Ryan Nelson singled, Alex Ravanis doubled, and Jeff Harvey hit an RBI ground out. The Rockets followed with a big inning, scoring 5 runs in the fourth on a single by Jeff Wyer, double by Andrew Gray, 2-run triple by Chris Tucker, an

RBI single by Remy Carpinito, a reach-by-error by Nelson, a sacrifice bunt by Ben O'Shea, and a 2-run double by Ravanis. In the meantime, pitcher Ben O'Shea limited Wakefield to one run through four innings. Reading scored two more in the 6th and one in the 7th to open up a 9-1 lead. Wakefield scored one in the 6th and 3 in the 7th for the 9-5 final score. Winning pitcher O'Shea went 6 innings, giving up 5 hits, 1 earned run, and 9 K's.

Reading 3 Winchester 1

The home opener was played on a beautiful 60 degree day on Morton Field. This game was highlighted by a "staff" no-hitter, as seniors Remy Carpinito and Ben O'Shea held Winchester hitless. It was not as pretty as you might think, as Carpinito walked 9 and hit one batter in 6+ innings. Nevertheless, Remy battled hard all day and earned his first varsity win. O'Shea came on in relief in the 7th with no outs and a runner on 1st and earned a 6-pitch save with a 1-6-3 double play and a groundout.

Carpinito was also the hitting star as he went 2 for 3 including a 2-run homerun over the right field fence. The other run was scored in the bottom of the sixth when Carpinito singled, Ryan Nelson then drag bunted safely, and Alex Ravanis singled to right to score Carpinito with an insurance run.

Reading 7 Watertown 0

Lefty pitcher Ben O'Shea was dominant as he pitched 6 innings of 3-hit ball while striking out 13 hitters and walking just one. Steve Cool pitched a scoreless 7th inning. Reading's offense consisted off two innings: a 3-run 4th and a 4-run 6th. Jeff Wyer led the 11-hit attack with two hits, including an RBI triple. Chris Tucker had two doubles and two RBI , and Ben O'Shea had two hits and two RBI .

Reading 10 Burlington 3

Both Reading and Burlington had 3-0 records coming into this game at Morton Field. Burlington scored a run in the top of the first off starter Remy Carpinito, but Reading tied the game in the bottom half and an RBI single by Carpinito. Burlington scored two more in the 3rd to take a 3-1 lead, but again Reading responded with two runs to tie the game on another RBI single by Carpinito and a sacrifice fly by Alex Ravanis. Carpinito settled down and kept Burlington scoreless for the remainder of the game while his teammates scored 4 runs in the 5th and 2 more in the 6th. Carpinito ended up with a complete game win and 3 hits and 2 RBI on the day. Mike Shea had two hits, and RBI , and reached base four times.

Reading 4 Melrose 3 (9 innings)

This was a closely contested game with a wild finish. After two scoreless innings, Melrose jumped ahead 1-0,

scoring and unearned run off pitcher Ben O'Shea. Reading came back and built a 3-1 lead in the 5th inning on a hit batter, a bunt, an RBI single by O'Shea, a walk, a single by Mike Shea, and a sacrifice fly by Jeff Wyer. Melrose never quit and tied the game in the top of the 7th on a double, single, and 2-out, 2-run error. With the game tied at 3-3 and the go ahead run on 3rd, Melrose's hitter looped a soft liner toward left center. Reading's shortstop, Ryan Nelson, sprinted back and made a leaping, diving catch to keep the game tied. After a scoreless 8th inning, lefty senior Dan Blomerth replaced O'Shea and pitched a scoreless 9th. In the bottom of the 9th, O'Shea led off with a walk and was replaced by pinch runner Ryan Carter. Jeff Harvey then hit a hard shot on the ground that the Melrose infielder couldn't handle. Mike Shea got hit by a pitch to load the bases with no outs. Then Jeff Wyer lined a base hit to right field for the walk off win. Dan Blomerth earned his first varsity win for his inning of shutout work.

Reading 7 Lexington 5

In the annual game on Doubleday Field in Cooperstown, NY, Reading and Lexington had the usual hard fought battle. Reading went ahead 1-0 in the top of the first when Remy Carpinito's single drove home Jeff Harvey, who had walked. Lexington came right back with 3 runs in the bottom of the inning off Reading's lefty pitcher Remy Carpinito. Further damage was avoided when Reading turned a 6-4-3 double play with the bases

loaded and one out.

Reading made its comeback in the 4th, scoring two runs highlighted by RBI singles by Derek Strukel and Alex Ravanis. In the Lexington 5th, the bases were loaded with one out, Lexington's batter hit a hard smash toward the first base line. First baseman Alex Ravanis gloved the ball and stepped on first for the 2nd out and then fired across the diamond to nail a runner who had rounded the bag at 3rd. Reading got two more runs in the 6th, courtesy 3 walks and a 2-out, 2-run single by Carpinito. Lexington threatened with two outs in the 7th, scoring one run before succumbing, 7-5.

Reading 2 Belmont 1

In a matchup of two of the league's top lefthanders, Reading squeaked out a 2-1 win in Belmont on a cool, windy day. Ben O'Shea was masterful, carrying a no-hitter into the 7th inning and ending up with a 1-hit complete game with 7 K's. Reading scored in the top of the 1st when Jeff Harvey walked, Mike Shea sacrificed him to 2nd, Jeff Wyer singled, and Remy Carpinito singled home Harvey. The insurance run came in the 6th when Wyer and Carpinito hit consecutive doubles.

Reading 11 Woburn 3

Reading jumped out to a 2-0 lead in the first and extended it to 5-0 after five innings. But in the 6th, Woburn scored 3 runs to make the score 5-3. Reading was able to respond with 2 runs in the 5th and 6 more in

the 6th to account for the final score. Remy Carpinito earned his 4th win of the season with a complete game, 4-hit, 7 K performance. Offensive stars were Jeff Harvey (3 hits, 2 RBI), Chris Tucker (3 RBI) and 2 hits and 2 RBI each by Carpinito, Alex Ravanis, and Ryan Carter.

Reading 7 Stoneham 0

Reading finished the first half of the league season undefeated by blanking Stoneham. Ben O'Shea got the win with 6 innings of 1-hit, 12 strikeout pitching. Steve Cool pitched a scoreless 7th. Reading scored 2 runs in the top of the second on a 2-run single by O'Shea followed by a 2-run homerun by Andrew Gray. Reading scored 2 more in the 4th and one in the 5th for the 7-0 final score.

Reading 0 Wakefield 5

Reading suffered its first loss of the season when Wakefield's pitcher held the Rockets to just 4 hits. Wakefield took a 1-0 lead in the first and then pitcher Remy Carpinito kept the game close through 5 innings. But Wakefield took advantage of 5 walks in the 6th inning to break it open, 5-0.

Reading 4 Winchester 5 (8 innings)

This was a highly competitive game in which Reading took a 1-run lead into the bottom of the 7th but could not hold on. Reading went up 2-0 in the first on a walk

error, RBI single by Remy Carpinito. Winchester got one back off Reading starter Ben O'Shea to make it 2-1. Reading scored a run in the 4th on a double by Alex Ravanis, sacrifice bunt by Ryan Nelson, and a wild pitch. But Winchester tied the game with a 2-run 4th that featured 3 hits, a walk, and infield error, two missed foul popups, and 2 runners thrown out on the bases. Reading took a 4-3 lead in the top of the 7th on a single by Derek Strukel, stolen base by pinch runner Pat Mahoney, sacrifice bunt by Chris Tucker, and RBI ground ball by Ravanis. Steve Cool came on to pitch the 7th and got two outs with a runner on 2nd when Winchester's batter singled to tie the game. Reading could not score in the 8th, but Winchester combined 3 singles for the walkoff win.

Reading 5 Watertown 0

Reading bounced back after the tough loss to blank Watertown at Morton Field. Remy Carpinito pitched a complete game 3-hitter to earn his 5th win of the year. Offense was supplied by Derek Strukel, who homered, and Carpinito, Andrew Gray, and Mike Shea who drove in the other runs. Shea, Strukel, and Alex Ravanis each had 2 hits on the day.

Reading 2 Burlington 3 (10 innings)

Reading dropped another extra inning heartbreaker on the road, again relinquishing a 7th inning lead. This was a real pitcher's duel between Ben O'Shea and Burlington's

Sam Cummings. Burlington went ahead 1-0 in the 3rd and held the lead through five. Reading got two unearned runs in the 6th and went into the 7th ahead 2-1. Then a walk, single, and error allowed Burlington to tie the game. Neither team could score in the 8th or 9th, as O'Shea continued to pitch masterfully. In the 10th, Burlington mustered the winning run off Reading's reliever to win 3-2.

Reading 2 Melrose 5

Dan Blomerth got his first start on the mound for the Rockets and pitched well, giving up just 2 earned runs in 5 innings of work. Steve Cool pitched a 1-2-3 6th inning. Yet 3 unearned runs gave Melrose a total of 5 runs and Reading's offense could only manage 2. Remy Carpinito was the only Rocket with 2 hits; Jeff Harvey and Ryan Nelson drove in the Reading runs.

Reading 4 Lexington 3

Lexington came to Reading just a game behind the Rockets, so this game had first place implications. Reading took a 2-0 lead in the 2nd inning when Remy Carpinito and Derek Strukel walked, Alex Ravanis bunted them up, and then Steve Cool delivered a 2-run single. Lexington cut the lead in half with solo run in the 3rd, then tied the game in the 4th, and took a 3-2 lead in the 5th. But Reading responded with 2 runs in the home half of the 6th. Jeff Wyer led off with a double and Mike Shea beat out a perfect drag bunt. Remy

Carpinito's sacrifice fly tied the game (pinch runner Pat Mahoney scored the run). After a walk to Strukel, Ravanis roped a clutch single to left to score Shea with the go-ahead run. In the 7th, Lexington's leadoff batter walked and was sacrificed to 2nd base. But O'Shea bore down and got the next two hitters on a ground out and strikeout to end the game.

Reading 5 Belmont 4

This was another big game as four teams, including Belmont, were within two games of first place Reading. The Rockets blasted to a 4-0 lead in the bottom of the first. Jeff Harvey led off with a single, Jeff Wyer was hit by a pitch, Mike Shea's ground ball advanced the runners, and then Remy Carpinito singled to right to score both runs. Derek Strukel followed with a 2-run homer over the 361 sign in left center. After that, Belmont's pitcher settled down nicely and held Reading hitless over the next 4 innings. In the meantime, Belmont chipped away at the lead until tying the score at 4-4 in the 5th inning. Reading re-took the lead in the bottom of the 6th on a leadoff double by Steve Cool and a clutch RBI single by Harvey. Cool, who was pitching in relief of starter Remy Carpinito, retired Belmont in the 7th to seal the 5-4 win.

Reading 3 Woburn 0

Now with a 12-4 record, Reading traveled to Woburn with a chance to clinch at least a tie for the league

title. Ben O'Shea and Woburn's pitcher battled to a scoreless tie over the first four innings. Reading finally broke the ice in the 5th on a walk to Ryan Nelson, sacrifice bunt by Jeff Harvey, and an RBI single by Jeff Wyer. After Wyer stole second, Remy Carpinito singled home Wyer for a 2-0 lead. Reading got a big run in the 7th on a single, walk, and error to extend the lead to 3-0. That was more than enough for O'Shea, who finished the complete game, totaling 11 strikeouts and yielding just 3 hits. With the win, Reading was assured at least a piece of the Middlesex League title.

Reading 0 Stoneham 2 (8 innings)

The 2009 Reading Rocket Baseball Team won the Middlesex League Championship on this day, but it happened in an unconventional way. Reading held a 1-game lead over Burlington so just had to beat 5-11 Stoneham at home to clinch it outright. Reading's pitcher, Remy Carpinito, was brilliant, holding Stoneham to 3 hits and no runs over 7 innings. But Stoneham's pitcher was equally tough, as Reading had only 2 singles. Stoneham scored 2 in the 8th for the win, 2-0. Just when the team was about to accept a co-championship, we got word that Burlington also lost, so Reading won the title outright with a 13-5 record!

A whole bunch of our young alumni were at the game yesterday, including

Drew Guarino, Alex Kozlowski, Derek Rodger, Bill Cataldo, Brian Catanzano, John Halsey, Steve Buitkus, Matt Guarino, Pat Kiley, Nick Face, Sean McGoldrick, Joe Harvey, Brian Catanzano. Also TJ Murphy and Jason Angelini have come down to the field to see us lately. We love it when the alumni come by!

The day got even better when Coach Jason Zerfas proposed to his girlfriend, Jen, right at the field. After the game, when we all meet down the right field line to debrief, the coaches called Jen over to ask her a question (coaches were going out to dinner to celebrate, so we pretended we wanted her opinion whether wives and girlfriends should be included). We asked her to talk to Jason and that's when he popped the question. An all-time first at Morton Field! So huge congratulations and best wishes to Jen and Zerf.

Reading 5 St. Peter-Marian 3

In the opening round of the Dick Scanlon Memorial Day Tournament in Wilmington, Reading played a new opponent, St. Peter-Marian, a Division I school in Worcester. Reading jumped ahead, 1-0, in the top of the first on a single by Ryan Nelson and an RBI double by Jeff Wyer. St. Peter tied the game in the bottom of the first and then went ahead, 3-1, after two. Reading's starter, Dan Blomerth, settled down and kept St. Peter off the board for the next couple innings while his

teammates rallied for 3 runs in the 4th to take a 4-3 lead. In that inning, Adam Paradis reached by error, and after two outs, Blomerth singled and Steve Cool singled, to load the bases. Nelson rifled a shot to right center to score two and tie the game. Jeff Wyer and then Derek Strukel both walked off the relief pitcher to force in the go-ahead run. Blomerth pitched a scoreless 5th and, after a leadoff walk in the 6th, was relieved by Steve Cool, who promptly struck out the side. Reading got an insurance run in the 7th after two outs when Mike Shea walked and stole second and was driven home by Remy Carpinito's single. Cool retired St. Peter in the 7th to earn a save and preserve Blomerth's win. Ryan Nelson went 4 for 4, the only Reading player to have a 4-hit game this season.

Reading 2 Wilmington 1

The championship game was a pitcher's duel where all the runs were scored in the first two innings. In the bottom of the first, after two outs, Jeff Wyer tripled and Remy Carpinito singled him home. Wilmington tied the game with an unearned run off pitcher Ben O'Shea in the 2nd, but Reading responded with a run of their own when O'Shea doubled and Jeff Harvey drove him home with a single. Both pitchers were done yielding runs, accounting for the 2-1 final score. O'Shea's line included a complete game with 0 earned runs, 0 walks, and 10 K's. O'Shea's 2nd strikeout of the game established a new Reading Baseball single-season record

for strikeouts. His 83rd strikeout surpassed the 82 K's recorded by Steve Langone in 1996 (although Ben got his 83rd K in his 63rd inning, while Steve pitched 52.0 innings in his season). Ben ended the regular season with 93 K's in 69.2 innings.

After the game, Reading was awarded a plaque for winning the tournament and four players were chosen for the all-tournament team: Ryan Nelson, Jeff Wyer, Remy Carpinito, and tourney MVP Ben O'Shea.

MIAA Division II North Tournament

Division II North First Round

Reading 4 Pentucket 0

With its 15-5 regular season record, Reading was the #4 seed for the tournament, thus earning home games in the first two rounds. The first round game was vs. 11-9 Pentucket, the first times these two schools have met since the 1996 tournament. Ben O'Shea took the mound for Reading and was dominant in his 3-hit, 13 K, complete game shutout. He was supported offensively by Mike Shea, who hit a 2-run homer over the center field fence in the 3rd inning. Reading's other two runs came in the 6th, when Shea doubled, Jeff Wyer had a bunt single, and then Remy Carpinito singled home Shea. A wild pitch accounted for the final run. Shea, Wyer, and Carpinito each had two hits for Reading, with Steve Cool providing the only other Reading hit.

Division II North Quarterfinals

Reading 7 Belmont 4

The quarterfinal game, also at Morton Field, saw two Middlesex League rivals play each other for the 3rd time this season. Reading had won the first two, both by one run, so it would be a challenge to beat a tough Belmont team again. Reading jumped out to a lead in the bottom of the first. Jeff Harvey was hit by a pitch and promptly stole 2nd base. Mike Shea smoked an RBI double and Jeff Wyer singled and stole 2nd. RBI groundouts by Remy Carpinito and Derek Strukel made the score 3-0. Reading's starting pitcher, Remy Carpinito, held Belmont scoreless for the first two innings and his teammates got another run in the bottom of the 2nd on a walk by Ryan Carter, a single by Ryan Nelson, a walk by Shea, and then a wild pitch to score Carter. Belmont responded with 2 runs in the 3rd inning to close the gap to 4-2. Reading got a big run in the 5th on a single and stolen base by Steve Cool, followed by an RBI single by Shea. Once again, Belmont came back with single runs in the 5th and 6th to make it a 1-run game at 5-4. But Reading got 2 key insurance runs in the home half of the 6th: Adam Paradis led off with a pinch hit single and Nelson reached by error when his bunt was misplayed. With runners on 2nd and 3rd, Jeff Harvey lined a single to left to score two runners to make the score 7-4. Steve Cool was the winning pitcher, as he

came on in relief in the 4th inning and pitched 3 innings, yielding one earned run.

Division II North Semifinals Reading 3 Brighton 2

The semifinal games are played at a neutral site, Lowell's Alumni Field. The 7:00 game drew a nice crowd from Reading on a pleasant night. The two teams were locked in a scoreless tie through 3 and one-half innings, as Reading had only mustered 2 hits thus far, while Brighton was hitless vs. Ben O'Shea. Reading broke through with 2 runs in the bottom of the 4th when Remy Carpinito reached first on an error and Derek Strukel walked. With two outs and two men in scoring position, Steve Cool ripped a single to left to score both runs. Brighton threatened in the top of the 5th when O'Shea hit a batter and then gave up his first hit of the night. With runners on the corners, O'Shea bore down and fanned the next three hitters, keeping the score at 2-0. But Brighton threatened again in the 6th and tied the game on two singles and a fly ball lost in the twilight. The favor was returned in the bottom of the inning: with two outs, Carpinito got to second on a "twilight" double and Strukel singled up the middle for the go-ahead run. O'Shea closed the door in the 7th, giving Reading its first berth in the finals since 2001.

Division II North Finals Reading 0 North Andover 2

The sectional finals were played at spectacular LeLacheur Park in Lowell, a great thrill for the players,

coaches, and parents. After pre-game warm-ups, player introductions, and the National Anthem, Reading batted first as the visiting team. Jeff Harvey led off with a line drive single to center, but that is as far as he could advance. In the bottom half, North Andover combined an infield hit, walk, error, and single to score two runs. And that was it! North Andover got just two more hits the rest of the game off starter Remy Carpinito and reliever Ben O'Shea. Unfortunately, Reading only got five hits on the day: singles from Harvey, Derek Strukel, Alex Ravanis and doubles by Ravanis and Steve Cool. The hits came in five different innings, so Reading never could muster any real threats against North Andover's excellent pitchers and solid defense.

The team ended with an overall record of 18-6, the Middlesex League Championship, the Dick Scanlon Memorial Tournament Championship, a Division II North Finals berth, and a *Boston Globe* Top Twenty ranking. This was the first team since 1996 to win the Middlesex League **and** advance to at least the DI I North Finals, an amazing accomplishment. Add to that, two prestigious awards, described below, and you have a most memorable season!

Sportsmanship Awards

Reading Baseball was awarded the MI AA Massachusetts District B Team Sportsmanship Award, which was

accepted by Coach Jason Zerfas and captains Jeff Harvey and Jeff Wyer at LeLacheur Park, prior to the Division II State Championship Game.

To top that, the team was given the statewide MI AA Sportsmanship Award, given to just one baseball team in the entire state! This was a big deal, as the award was presented to the team at Fenway Park, prior to the Red Sox game. The entire team and coaching staff met for pizza (thanks to RMHS Athletic Director, Phil Vaccaro) at the Field House and then traveled by bus to Fenway. Mr. Vaccaro and Principal Joe Finigan were invited guests, as well. We were escorted to the field where we hung out for 45 minutes, taking in the sights and sounds from field level. Many parents joined us on the field and got great photos. Steve Langone and Scott Reinold, Reading Baseball players from 1996 who work for the Red Sox, came down to the field to greet the players. Just prior to game time, the team assembled near home plate and was presented a beautiful plaque to commemorate the award. The scene was shown on the Jumbotron, as well. Then we were brought to our seats for the game, and the team enjoyed being together for a Sox win and the 500th consecutive sellout at Fenway.

Many thanks to Mr. Vaccaro, who did the application process and legwork required for our team to be considered. He cited the outstanding behavior and

sportsmanship our players demonstrate every day, as well as :

- ?? The team's commitment to helping with Challenger Baseball
- ?? Our players' acceptance and kindness toward our various Batboys of the Day, our young team managers, and coaches' children
- ?? Our players' fulfilling promise to do a day-long spring yard cleanup for a Reading resident
- ?? Our players' patience and respectful manner toward our Cooperstown bus driver during a 2-hour flat tire delay

Some regular season (20 games) statistical highlights from 2009:

First, the team averaged 4.6 runs per game, which is *the lowest output in the past 32 years!* Probably have to go back to the wood bat era to find a lower runs per game. Which makes it even more amazing that this team had the success that it did.

Opponents averaged 2.6 runs per game and our pitchers' ERA was 1.66 with 8.0 K's per game. Maybe that's why we won the league title.

The team was 7-2 at home, 6-3 away, and 2-0 at neutral sites. First half of season: 9-1; 2nd half 6-4.

Lots of close games: 5-2 in one-run games and 2-1 in 2-run contests.

Extra inning games: 1-3. Not good.

When we scored first, we were 13-1; when opponents scored first, 2-4.

Offensive Leaders

Batting Average: Remy Carpinito (.404)

Runs scored: Carpinito and Jeff Wyer (14)

Hits: Carpinito (23)

Doubles: Wyer (7)

Homeruns: Derek Strukel (2)

RBI : Carpinito (20)

Walks: Jeff Harvey (17)**

Stolen Bases: Harvey (9)

Pitching Leaders

Innings Pitched: Ben O'Shea (69.1)*

Wins: O'Shea (7)

Strikeouts: O'Shea (91)*

ERA: O'Shea (0.61)

Opp. BAve.: O'Shea (.192)

***these were all-time Reading Baseball records!**

**** 4th in all-time single season history**

Defensive Leaders

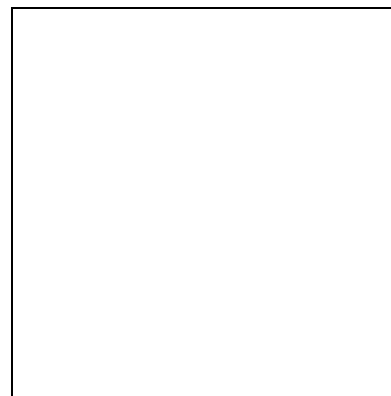
Putouts: Alex Ravanis (120)

Assists: Ryan Nelson (35)

Individual Honors

Three Reading players were selected to the Middlesex League All-Star Team. Junior first baseman Alex Ravanis, senior pitcher-outfielder Remy Carpinito, and senior pitcher Ben O'Shea, who was also named Middlesex League MVP.

Ben O'Shea received further accolades for his outstanding season as he was named to the *Boston Globe* and *Boston Herald* All-Scholastic Teams, was named *Daily Times Chronicle* Pitcher of the Year, and was selected to pitch in the Eastern Mass. All-Star Game



At the annual postseason cookout, we honored players as follows:

Pat Mahoney was presented with the Sportsmanship Award, sponsored by Mr. Vaccaro

Jeff Wyer was presented with the Reading Baseball Coaches Award

Remy Carpinito was chosen for the Offensive Player of the Year Award

Ben O'Shea was given an award for Pitcher of the Year and team MVP

Jeff Harvey was chosen for the Pete Moscariello Baseball Scholarship Award

We also noted that seniors Kevin Allard, Adam Paradis, and Dan Blomerth were the inspiration behind the A.P.E (Attitude - Preparation - Enthusiasm) Player of the Day Awards, presented as t-shirts to all players. Kevin, Adam, and Dan were three guys who worked hard every day for their team and pushed to make themselves and teammates better.

The team elected captains for 2010: Ryan Nelson and Pat Mahoney

All-Time Records

We mentioned that Ben O'Shea set single-season records for most Innings Pitched and Most Strikeouts (in fairness to Steve Langone, Ben took several more innings to surpass Steve's record).

In addition, Jeff Harvey moved into 4th place for single-season walks with 30.

The complete All-Time Single-Season and Career Individual and Team Records will be sent as a separate attachment.

The End

Okay, I guess that's it for this version of our Alumni Club Newsletter. I hope that this attempt to keep you informed about our teams, fields, players, and former players will inspire you to stay involved in The Reading Baseball Alumni Club. Next events are Hot Stove Holiday Party, Alumni Club Dinner (TBA), and Mental Toughness Training.

Until then, take good care of yourselves and your families. And remember, to yell "NOW" early and loud on all rundowns.

