

Clarke Baseball Blue/Gold Fall Series Begins Tuesday

For the third consecutive fall, the Crusaders baseball team will wrap-up fall practice with a best two out-of three Blue Gold Series. Team captains Tony Harvat and Justin Haas, both true juniors, head up the blue team while true junior Ryan Kelly and senior J.D. Judd lead the gold team. The captains held a draft to choose their teams, and it was clear both teams had a strategy in mind.

The Blue team seems to have the edge on the mound, landing three of the Crusaders' four lefties. The Gold team would seem to have the edge offensively, drafting several bats who have hit above the .300 mark last season and/or this fall.

For the Blue team, the coaches have announced that southpaw Pete Sullivan will start game one. A transfer from North Iowa Area C.C., Sullivan has held the bats in check this fall, posting a 1.63 ERA in 11 innings of work while striking out 20 opponents. The Gold team has announced that sophomore Chris Brewer will take the ball in game one. Brewer, a native of West Sacramento, Calif., has been equally effective this fall in the ERA category, also posting a 1.63 ERA this fall in 11 innings of work. Potentially taking the ball in game two for the blue team is sophomore righty Jake Moser, who has posted a masterful 0.75 ERA in 12 innings of work this fall. For the Gold team in game 2 of the series, it is likely that junior right-handed transfer Steve Mabeus (Lane C.C., Eugene, OR) will get the nod on the hill. In 16 1/3 innings of work this fall, Mabeus has posted a 1.10 ERA, striking out 13 and only issuing two free passes.

Leading the way offensively for the Gold team is sophomore Chris Briggs. For the fall, Briggs has hit a respectable .378 with seven RBI's and six doubles. The Gold squad also features junior transfer Jesse Cummings (Olympic College, Bremerton, WA) who hit in the mid .300's last season and freshman DH Alex Kopf (Des Plaines, IL) who has hit a solid .391 during the fall season.

The Blue team counters the Gold squad with speed offensively. The boys in Blue have racked up 18 stolen bases during the September and October fall games. Leading the way in steals is junior transfer Jared Munson (Olympic College, Bremerton, WA) with five swipes so far. At the plate, the Blue team is lead by junior transfer Conor Kelley (Columbia Basin College, Pasco, WA) hitting a smooth .392 and driving in 9 RBI's this fall. The second leading hitter for the Blue squad is senior Michael Jimenez, hitting .305 with 6 RBI's.

Overall, this should be a very exciting series to wrap up fall practice for the Crusaders baseball team.

3rd Annual Clarke College Blue/Gold Series

BASEBALL FALL 2009

Blue (Harvat/Haas)

Davidson
Duncan
EY
Krasselt
Patton
Moser
Sully
Sobo
Jimenez
Molitor
Harris
McCabe
Yorkie
Munson
Harvat
Haas

Gold (Kelly/Judd)

Bretsch
Brewer
Beckman
Mabeus
Courtright
Cummings
Kopf
Briggs
Gust
McKinlay
Ross
Cross
Galando
Wilson
Judd
Kelly

In addition to pride and playing for position on the depth chart, the following is on the line in the Blue/Gold Series:

Winning team will provide the losing team with attire to wear on Tuesday, October 20, all day to class. The winning team will then watch the losing team jog through campus on a mapped path wearing the given attire singing "Take Me Out to the Ballgame." The path will be both indoor and outdoor. **Have some FUN with this!!! It's supposed to be FUN!!!**

Series Guidelines:

1. There will be an 8 run-rule after 5 Innings
2. Pitchers limited to 70 pitches in one outing
3. If a pitcher throws 3 innings/40+ pitches, he may not pitch on consecutive days. If a pitcher throws 5 innings/70 pitches, he may not pitch again for at least 72 hours. This comes into play if weather causes the series to be pushed back.
4. Every player must either have at least 3 AB's and 2 innings on defense or an inning pitched (or a combination) in the series if the series goes 3 games.