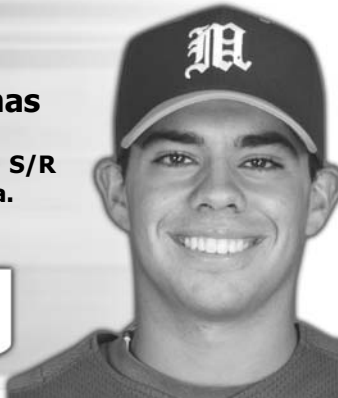




O
Roger Tomas
 Shortstop
 5-8 • 185 • Jr. • S/R
 Miramar, Fla.
 Flanagan



Career Bests

Category	Highs	Opponent (last time)	Date
Hits:	4	vs. South Carolina	June 22, 2004
RBIs:	3	two times (vs. Duke)	March 13, 2005
Runs scored:	3	two times (at North Carolina)	April 15, 2005
Home runs:	1	vs. Georgia Tech	March 27, 2005
Walks:	2	six times (vs. Maryland)	April 29, 2005
Stolen bases:	2	vs. Ball State	May 20, 2004
Strikeouts:	3	vs. Jacksonville	May 7, 2004

At Miami

Roger Tomas is Miami's most experienced infielder with 88 career starts at shortstop, second base and designated hitter ... outstanding work ethic and attitude ... does not complain about injury or illness ... will compete for a starting spot at shortstop ... had a great fall offensively and has gone back to switch-hitting after swinging from only the left side of the plate in 2005 ... tied for the team lead with five triples as a sophomore ... started a majority of the season at shortstop ... struck out the least amount of times of any regular starter in 2005 (22) ... took advantage of a chance to play everyday as a freshman at shortstop when Ryan Braun suffered a rib cage injury ...Tomas responded by starting the final 33 games of the season at shortstop and hitting .339 ... named to the 2004 College World Series All-Tournament team ... made only one error at shortstop over the final 23 games of the season ... has excellent hands and a quick bat ... has good speed and is a threat on the base paths ... four-time all-county selection and two-time all-state pick ... UM's first Dominican born baseball player ... should contend for All-ACC and All-America honors.

Sophomore (2005)

Started 55 of the 58 games played in ... had 48 starts at shortstop, four starts at second base and three starts as the DH ... batted .268 with eight doubles, a home run and 25 RBIs ... batting average was misleading about his offensive play ... had the fewest strikeouts of any regular starter with 22 in 198 at bats ... tied with Paco Figueroa for the team lead with five triples ... compiled a 10-game hitting streak from March 8-27 ... only home run of the season was an inside-the-park job against Georgia Tech (3/27). Lincoln Super Regional (6/10-11): Started both games as the DH ... went a combined 1-for-5 in both games. Coral Gables Regional (6/4-5): Started as the DH in the first game against Mississippi State (6/4) and went 1-for-3 with a walk ... Pinch-hit in the Regional Championship and reached base on an error. ACC Tournament (5/25-26): Went a combined 0-for-6 in the series, starting at second base. at Clemson (5/19-21) - Started the final two games of the series at second base. At Virginia (5/13-15): Held hitless until the series finale when he went 1-for-4 with a run scored. Vs. Jacksonville (5/6-8): Came off the bench in the final two games of the series ... went 1-for-2 with an RBI and run scored in the second game of the series. Vs. Maryland (4/29-5/1): Went 1-for-2 with two runs scored and a triple in the series opener. Vs. Florida State (4/22-24): Went hitless until the

series finale when he went 1-for-2 with an RBI. At North Carolina (4/15-17): Scored three runs in the series opener and had an RBI in all three games. At Virginia Tech (4/8-10): Had a hit in all three games, but was only 3-for-16 in the series with a pair of doubles. Vs. Oral Roberts (3/31-4/3): Hit .250 in the series but went 3-for-5 with a pair of RBIs in the series finale. Vs. Georgia Tech (3/25-3/27): Hit .333 in the series ... closed out the series with a 2-for-5 effort that included an inside-the-park home run and an RBI double. At FIU (3/23): Went 2-for-5 with two runs scored. At Wake Forest (3/18-20): Went 4-for-12 and scored three runs. Vs. Duke (3/11-13): Missed the first two games of the series with illness ... returned in the series finale to go 3-for-4 with a season-high three RBIs and a double. Vs. Pittsburgh (3/8): Went 2-for-4 with an RBI. Vs. N.C. State (3/4-6): Went 3-for-9 with three runs scored ... was 2-for-4 with an RBI in the second game. Vs. Northeastern (3/2): Went 2-for-2 with an RBI. Vs. George Washington (2/25-27): Had his only hit of the series in the opener, an RBI double. At Florida (2/18-20): Was 2-for-12 with a run scored and an RBI. Vs. South Florida (2/11-13): Went 1-for-10 with a pair of RBIs. Vs. High Point (2/4-6): 1-for-3 in the series opener with a double and two RBIs. Vs. FIU (2/1): Went 1-for-2 with an RBI and run scored.



Freshman (2004)

Tomas started 33 games on the left side of the infield after nearly redshirting before the season began ... hit .339 on the season with 10 doubles, a triple and 16 RBI ... his played during the College World Series earned him All-Tournament honors ... took over for an injured Ryan Braun at shortstop on April 11 ... started the final 31 games of the season at shortstop ... hit .367 during that stretch with six doubles a trip and 15 RBI ... was magnificent in the field, posting a .961 field percentage for the year ... made only one error in his final 23 games of the season ... went 21 games from May 1 to June 19 without an error ... was 4 for 4 on stolen base attempts ... hit .448 in eight postseason games ... named to the 2004 Coral Gables All-Regional team ... his .450 batting average in in the College World Series earned him All-Tournament accolades ... collected his first hit in a 2-for-2 effort against FIU on Feb. 26 ... smashed his first double the next day vs. FIU ... was 1 for 2 with a double vs. USF on March 17 ... made his third career start vs. Florida State on April 11 ... had one hit and scored a run vs. Florida State on April 11 ... started every game during the Florida State series due to Ryan Braun's injury ... had one hit and scored one run on April 16 vs. Florida State ... went 2 for 3 with an RBI and RBI and run scored vs. Florida State on April 17 ... had one hit and knocked in a run vs. Florida State on April 18 ... doubled and scored a run vs. Virginia on April 23 ... went 2 for 4 with an RBI vs. Coastal Carolina on May 1 ... had a career-high 3 hits, 3 RBI, and tied a career-high with 2 runs scored vs. Coastal Carolina on May 2 ... was 2 for 4 with a RBI on May 9 versus Jacksonville ... doubled, walked, and scored a run vs. North Carolina on May 15 ... was 1 for 1 with two RBI on May 20 against Ball State ... followed that up with a 1 for 2 performance on May 21 ... singled and drove in a run in the series finale with the Cardinals on May 22 ... collected an RBI-infield single to draw the Hurricanes even with Long Beach State after fouling off six pitches on May 28 ... was 1 for 3 with a double on May 29 versus the 49ers. 2004 NCAA Coral Gables Regional: Tomas recorded the first triple of his career June 6 against Florida Atlantic while adding one RBI against the Blue Wave ... went 1 for 3 with a walk in the regional opener against St. Bonaventure ... was 1 for 3 with a walk

on June 5 against North Carolina State ... earned All-Tournament honors for his play. 2004 NCAA Coral Gables Super Regional: Tomas was a major contributor to the Hurricanes' 8-7 win over Florida on June 12, going 3 for 4 with two runs scored ... followed up in the second game with a 2 for 4 performance from the plate while scoring a run in the 3-1 Miami win. 2004 College World Series: Tomas was named to the CWS All-Tournament at shortstop team after hitting .450 in three games in Omaha ... scored a run in the opener against LSU ... went 1 for 3 with a RBI against Cal State Fullerton on June 21 ... turned in a career performance on June 22 against South Carolina ... was 4 for 5 with a RBI and three runs scored ... four hits and three runs scored marked career bests.

Flanagan

Played for Tyler Munro and Paul Dailey at Flanagan High School ... a second-team all-state selection as a senior and a first-team pick as a junior ... played shortstop throughout his high school career ... finished his high school career with 15 home runs and 132 RBI ... never hit below .390. **Senior (2003):** Was a team captain for Flanagan ... hit .455 with four home runs and 31 RBI ... also stole 15 bases. **Junior (2002):** Earned first-team all-state recognition with a .440 batting average and 47 RBI ... hit six home runs and stole 17 bases in being named his team's MVP ... his 47 RBI set a school record (previous was 35) ... team won the district title. **Sophomore (2001):** Earned honorable mention all-state honors while hitting .390 with 25 RBI and two home runs. **Freshman (2000):** Won the team Rookie of the Year Award after hitting .430 with three home runs and 29 RBI ... also an honorable mention all-state pick ... helped his team to the district title.

Personal

Son of Roger and Blanca Tomas ... has two sisters, Karla and Nancy ... is majoring in criminology and minoring in sports administration ... is battling Crohn's disease that he was diagnosed with during the 2004 season.

HURRICANES



Tomas' Career Statistics

Year	BA	G-GS	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	TB	SLUG	SB-SBA	SO	BB	HBP	SF	SH	OB%	PO	A	E	FLD
2004	.339	46-33	124	31	42	10	1	0	16	54	.435	4-4	30	21	3	0	7	.446	56	90	6	.961
2005	.268	58-55	198	31	53	8	5	1	25	74	.374	1-4	22	23	3	1	3	.351	90	148	18	.930
Total	.295	104-88	322	62	95	18	6	1	41	128	.398	5-8	52	44	6	1	10	.389	146	238	24	.941

**Danny Valencia**

Third Base

6-2 • 200 • Jr. • R/R

Boca Raton, Fla.

Spanish River/UNC-Greensboro

**At Miami**

Danny Valencia will move to third base after starting 56 games at first base in 2005 ... has one of the strongest arms on the team ... played for the Anchorage Glacier Pilots in the Alaska Baseball League last summer and hit .256 with three home runs and 17 RBIs ... joined the Hurricanes after an outstanding freshman season at North Carolina-Greensboro ... was named the Freshman of the Year by the Southern Conference Sports Media Association ... played both third base and shortstop at UNC-Greensboro.

Sophomore (2005)

Started 58 of the 60 games he played in ... had 56 starts at first base and two starts at third base.... named to the All-Regional team at first base ... second on the team with 63 RBIs hitting in the five-hole ... hit .300 with 15 doubles, three triples and six home runs ... Led the team with 490 putouts ... set team single-game highs with five hits, eight RBIs and two triples at Virginia Tech (4/9) ... **Coral Gables Regional (6/3-5):** Had a hit in all three Regional games and was named to the All-Regional team at first base ... hit a solo home run in the third inning in the Regional opener against Virginia Commonwealth ... hit a sacrifice fly in the seventh inning in the first game against Mississippi State (6/4) that ended up being the game-winning run ... hit a two-run double to get Miami on the board in the first inning of the Regional

Championship against Miss. St. **ACC Tournament (5/25-26):** Went 1-for-4 against N.C. State (5/25), scoring Miami's only run of the game ... hitless in three at-bats against Clemson. **At Clemson (5/19-21):** - Went 2-for-11 with an RBI and run scored. **At Virginia (5/13-15):** Hit .545 in the series ... went 2-for-5 in the opener with two RBIs ... went 3-for-4 and hit a solo home run to win the game in the fifth inning in the second game ... went 1-for-3 with a run scored in the series finale but had a streak of eight consecutive games with an RBI ended. **Vs. Jacksonville (5/6-8):** Batted in four runs in the series ... went 2-for-5 with two runs scored and two RBIs in the series' second game. **Vs. Maryland (4/29-5/1):** Was 3-for-13 in the series with three RBIs. **Vs. Florida State (4/22-24):** Went 2-for-3 in the opener with a run scored but went 0-for-8 the rest of the series. **At North Carolina (4/15-17):** Posted three hits in five at-bats in the series' second game with two RBIs. **At Virginia Tech (4/8-10):** Totaled 10 RBIs in the series ... set team single-game highs with five hits, eight RBIs and two triples, and hit a home run in the second game of the series ... went 2-for-5 with a double and two RBIs in the opener ... **Vs. Oral Roberts (3/31-4/3):** Did not start the middle-two games of the series due to a hand injury ... went 0-for-6 in the series. **Vs. Georgia Tech (3/25-3/27):** Missed the middle game of the series due to a hand injury ... went 0-for-7 in the series with an RBI. **At Wake Forest (3/18-20):** Had game-winning RBIs in both of Miami's wins ... hit a three-run home run in the second inning of the series-opening win ... went 2-for-4 with a double, home run and four RBIs in the series finale. **Vs. Rutgers (3/16):** Went 4-for-5 with three RBIs and two doubles. **Vs. Duke (3/11-13):** Had a hit and run scored in each of Miami's three wins ... hit his first triple of the season in the series opener. **Vs. Pittsburgh (3/8):** Hit a pair of doubles, including a game-winning two-RBI double in the first inning. **Vs. N.C. State (3/4-6):** Batted in two runs in the series finale. **Vs. George Washington (2/25-27):** Posted RBIs in all three games ... closed out the series with a 4-for-4 effort that included two doubles, a home run and five RBIs. **At Florida (2/18-20):** Laid down an RBI-bunt in the ninth inning to score Jon Jay for the series-opening win ... went 4-for-13 in the series ... **Vs. South Florida (2/11-13):** Went 3-for-8 in the series with a pair of RBIs and four runs scored. **Vs. High Point (2/4-6):** Hit .500 in the series that included a 3-for-4 effort with three RBIs in the series finale. **Vs. FIU (2/1):** Went 1-for-4 with an RBI and run scored in his first game as a Hurricane.



UNC Greensboro (2004)

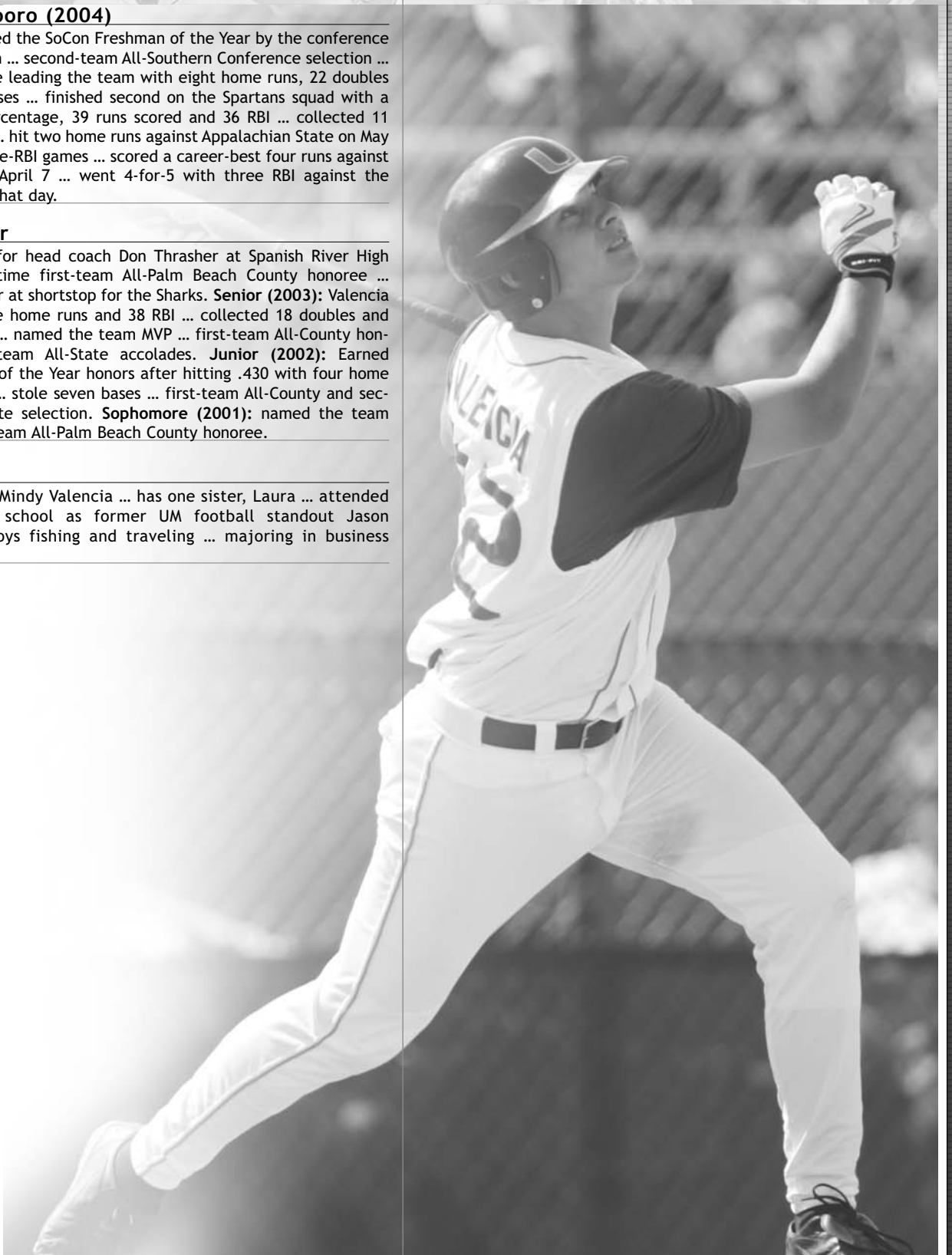
Valencia was voted the SoCon Freshman of the Year by the conference media association ... second-team All-Southern Conference selection ... batted .338 while leading the team with eight home runs, 22 doubles and 117 total bases ... finished second on the Spartans squad with a .527 slugging percentage, 39 runs scored and 36 RBI ... collected 11 three-hit games ... hit two home runs against Appalachian State on May 9 ... had four three-RBI games ... scored a career-best four runs against Wake Forest on April 7 ... went 4-for-5 with three RBI against the Demon Deacons that day.

Spanish River

Valencia played for head coach Don Thrasher at Spanish River High School ... three-time first-team All-Palm Beach County honoree ... three-year starter at shortstop for the Sharks. **Senior (2003):** Valencia hit .575 with five home runs and 38 RBI ... collected 18 doubles and stole nine bases ... named the team MVP ... first-team All-County honoree ... second-team All-State accolades. **Junior (2002):** Earned Offensive Player of the Year honors after hitting .430 with four home runs and 27 RBI ... stole seven bases ... first-team All-County and second-team All-State selection. **Sophomore (2001):** named the team MVP and a first-team All-Palm Beach County honoree.

Personal

Son of Mike and Mindy Valencia ... has one sister, Laura ... attended the same high school as former UM football standout Jason Geathers ... enjoys fishing and traveling ... majoring in business administration.



Valencia's Career Statistics

Year	BA	G-GS	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	TB	SLUG	SB-SBA	SO	BB	HBP	SF	SH	OB%	PO	A	E	FLD
2004*	.338	55-54	222	39	75	16	1	8	36	117	.527	1-2	34	16	1	1	3	.383	45	144	14	.926
2005	.300	60-58	227	39	68	15	3	6	63	107	.471	9-12	23	21	2	6	2	.355	490	52	12	.978
Totals	.318	115-112	449	78	143	31	4	14	99	224	.499	10-14	57	37	3	7	5	.369	535	196	26	.967

*At UNC Greensboro



19

Yonder Alonso
First Base/Catcher
6-2 • 210 • Fr. • L/R
Miami, Fla.
Coral Gables

2006 Outlook

Yonder Alonso is expected to make an immediate impact in the middle of the Hurricanes' lineup ... will play first base ... has outstanding ability and can hit with power to all fields ... hits lefty but throws right ... was selected in the 15th round of the 2005 MLB Draft by the Minnesota Twins ... that keeps hitters off balance ... high school teammate of junior catcher Eddy Rodriguez, pitcher Jason Santana and catcher Ben Vazquez ... UM Bookbuster for achieving a GPA greater than 3.0 in his first semester.

Coral Gables

Played for head coach Israel Camacho at Coral Gables ... three-time team MVP ... captained his team and set school records for single-season average (.530), runs batted in (33) and walks (33) ... two-time all-state selection and three-time All-Dade pick ... team Offensive Player of the Year three times and was the Dade Offensive Player of the Year as a senior ... Florida Sports Writers Association 2005 6A First-Team All-State infielder. **Senior (2005):** Hit .530 with six home runs, 33 walks and 33 RBI ... named team MVP and Miami-Dade Offensive Player of the Year. **Junior (2004):** *Miami Herald* First-Team All-Dade selection in the infield ... batted .420 with 28 RBI and five home runs. **Sophomore (2003):** Hit .510 with five home runs, 16 doubles and 25 RBI. **Freshman (2002):** Knocked in 30 runs and hit .405 with four home runs.

Personal

Son of Luis and Damaris Alonso ... has one younger sister, Yainee ... majoring in criminal justice ... attended the same high school as former Florida Marlin star Mike Lowell ... enjoys listening to Linkin Park and reading *Sports Illustrated* ... favorite book is George Orwell's *1984* ... favorite sports team is the New York Yankees.



4

Nick Freitas
Outfield
6-1 • 203 • Fr. • R/R
Honolulu, Hawai'i
Kamehameha

2006 Outlook

Nick Freitas is an athletic outfielder with a strong arm and good speed ... has earned praise from the coaching staff for his work ethic ... has the potential to develop into a major contributor and solid all-around ballplayer the more baseball he plays ... UM Bookbuster for achieving a GPA greater than 3.0 in his first semester.

Kamehameha

Played for head coach Vern Ramie at Kamehameha High School ... earned all-league, and all-state honors from the *Honolulu Advertiser* all four years ... helped lead the team to a state runner-up finish as a freshman and the state championship as a sophomore. **Senior (2005):** Team captain ... named First Team All-State and First Team All-League All-Star by the *Honolulu Advertiser* ... batted .415 with 28 runs, four doubles, five triples, three home runs, 28 RBIs and a .723 slugging percentage. **Junior (2004):** Selected as a First Team All-State and First Team All-League All-Star by the *Honolulu Advertiser*. **Sophomore (2003):** Named First Team All-State and First Team All-League All-Star by the *Honolulu Advertiser*. **Freshman (2002):** Was an All-State Honorable Mention and Second Team All-League All-Star by the *Honolulu Advertiser*.

Personal

Son of Jane and Frank Freitas ... has one sister, Garin ... majoring in communications broadcasting and is undecided on a second major ... sister is working toward a master's in marine affairs at the Miami Marine School ... father played baseball at the University of Denver, where he ranked among the nation's top 10 in stolen bases and triples as a senior.



48

Chris Gawenda
First Base/Outfield
5-11 • 220 • Fr. • L/L
Burr Ridge, Ill.
Lyons Township

2006 Outlook

Chris Gawenda has a solid frame and great strength ... got off to a quick start in the fall and played well ... hard worker who will see more time in the outfield but can also play at first base ... has power reminiscent of former Hurricane Brendan Katin and won the home run derby in the Texas Amateur Elite World Series ... UM Bookbuster for achieving a GPA greater than 3.0 in his first semester.

Lyons Township

Played for head coach George Ushela at Lyons Township and for Austin Rappe for the Chicago White Sox under-16 and 17 travel squads ... led his club team in batting average, slugging percentage and home runs four straight years. **Under 17 (2005):** Led team to first-place finish in the National USSSA Tournament in Myrtle Beach, S.C. ... hit .416 with a .685 slugging percentage. **Under 16 (2004):** Totaled 12 home runs and hit .585 for the season ... batted .435 in the Texas Amateur Elite World Series to lead his team to first place. **Under 15 (2003):** Belted 22 home runs and hit .410 with a .795 slugging percentage. **Under 14 (2002):** Hit .385 with 10 home runs and a .782 slugging percentage.

Personal

Son of Gerard and Debra Gawenda ... has two younger brothers, Zach and Haley ... is majoring in business ... lists his most-prized possession as his baseball bat ... listens to alternative music and Linkin Park ... favorite book is *Moneyball* and his favorite sports team is the Chicago White Sox.



8

Tommy Giles

Outfield

6-0 • 190 • Jr. • L/L
Vero Beach, Fla.
Vero Beach/
Central Florida CC

2006 Outlook

Tommy Giles is expected to make an immediate impact in the Hurricane lineup ... could be the Hurricanes' starting right fielder ... worked hard in the fall and winter to put on weight and get faster ... quick hands and gets the most out of his frame in his swing ... athletic player who has a penchant for making the ball jump off his bat ... played for the St. Cloud River Bats in the Northwoods League last summer, hitting .267 with 11 home runs, 11 stolen bases and 37 RBIs ... Northwoods League All-Star and winner of the home run derby.

Central Florida CC

Played for head coach Marty Smith at Central Florida CC ... **Sophomore (2005):** Fought through back and shoulder injuries to hit .252 with five home runs and 30 RBIs ... was 5-4 with a 4.10 ERA and 62 strikeouts in 74 innings. **Freshman (2004):** Was an All-Mid-Florida Conference, MFC Player of the Year, All-State and second team All-America, as a freshman at CFCC ... hit .371 with eight home runs and 52 RBIs ... also pitched and was 9-3 with a 2.69 ERA with 71 Ks in 80 innings.

Vero Beach

Played for head coach Jeff Steinman at Vero Beach HS.

Personal

Son of Tom and Teresa Giles ... has two older sisters, Pam Walker and Sherri Kirby ... took a year off after high school to attend flight school ... holds multi-engine, commercial, and instrument pilot licenses.



47

David Gutierrez

Right-Handed Pitcher

6-0 • 150 • Fr. • R/R
Miami, Fla.
Christopher Columbus

2006 Outlook

David Gutierrez has a strong arm and will compete for innings out of the bullpen this season ... *Miami Herald* Third-Team All-Dade County as a senior at Columbus HS ... one of five current Hurricanes who attended Columbus.

Christopher Columbus

Gutierrez played for head coach Joe Weber at Christopher Columbus High School. **Senior (2005):** Compiled a 5-1 record with a 1.98 ERA and two saves to help lead Columbus to a 26-5 record and a spot in the regional final ... team was GMAC and District champion ... *Miami Herald* Third-Team All-Dade County. **Junior (2004):** Helped lead Columbus to a 25-5 record and a spot in the Regional Quarterfinal.

Personal

Son of Katherine and Rafael Gutierrez ... has one sister, Marili, and one brother, Carlos, a sophomore pitcher on the team ... attended Florida International University in the fall ... favorite athlete is former Hurricane star Clinton Portis ... attended the same high school as Tampa Bay Buccaneer quarterback Brian Griese and New York Yankees All-Star Alex Rodriguez ... majoring in business.



41

Teddy Kaufman

Left-Handed Pitcher

5-10 • 167 • Fr. • L/L
Miami, Fla.
Killian

2006 Outlook

Teddy Kaufman is a finesse lefty who can attack the strike zone with three pitches ... Does a great job of keeping hitters off-balance ... did not play his senior year at Miami Killian after undergoing Tommy John surgery on Oct. 21, 2004.

Killian

Kaufman played for Pete Hertler at Killian High School ... member of the honor roll throughout high school **Senior (2005):** Underwent Tommy John surgery on Oct. 21, 2004, forcing him to sit out the season. **Junior (2004):** *Miami Herald* All-Dade First Team, Second-Team All-State selection and was selected to Team Cy Young ... Posted a 1.25 ERA with 73 strikeouts in 73 innings pitched to help lead Killian to the State Championship Game.

Personal

Son of Jean and Bob Kaufman ... has one sister, Julie ... father graduated from UM in 1967 ... has not yet declared a major ... lists favorite athlete as former Hurricane running back Willis McGahee ... attended the same high school that produced NBA players Raja Bell and Steve Blake, MLB shortstop Alex Gonzalez and fellow UM lefty pitcher Andrew Lane.

HURRICANES



16

Gus Menendez
Third Base
5-10 • 190 • Jr. • R/R
Coral Gables, Fla.
St. Brendan/
Miami-Dade CC

2006 Outlook

Gus Menendez comes to Miami after decorated careers at St. Brendan HS and Miami-Dade Community College ... is a solid infielder who will provide depth at second, third and shortstop ... roving infielder who will play primarily at second and third ... very coachable player with a great work ethic.

Miami-Dade (2005)

Played for Steve Huetz at Miami-Dade College ... selected to the all-conference, all-state and all-region first teams by NJCAA.org ... hit .380 with a home run, 36 RBIs, 13 stolen bases and 44 runs.

South Alabama (2004)

Started 24 of the 28 games as a freshman at South Alabama ... hit .167 with five doubles and 10 RBIs.

St. Brendan

Menendez played for Hal Knowles at St. Brendan High School ... three-time All-Dade selection ... **Senior (2003)**: Third Team All-Dade pick ... hit .390 with three home runs, 34 RBIs and 14 stolen bases. **Junior (2002)**: Second Team All-Dade selection ... hit .427 with two home runs, 36 RBIs and 16 stolen bases. **Sophomore (2001)**: Batted .402 with 22 RBIs and 10 stolen bases ... All-Dade second team selection.

Personal

Son of Ana and Gus Menendez ... has one brother, Daniel ... majoring in management.



34

Richard O'Brien Jr.
Catcher
6-0 • 210 • Jr. • R/R
Little Rock, Ark.
Catholic/
Connors State JC

2006 Outlook

Richard O'Brien comes to Miami after being named to the NJCAA South Central All-District First Team and the Division I Region II All-Region First Team ... attended Texas A&M University in the fall before joining the Hurricanes in January ... will provide depth and compete for playing time at catcher with Eddy Rodriguez ... two-time MLB Draft selection, picked twice in the 47th round by the Chicago White Sox (2003 and '04) ... spent last summer playing for the Highland Park Blue Sox in the Texas Collegiate League.

Connors State JC

Played for Perry Keith at two-time conference champion Connors State JC in Oklahoma ... team was ranked no. 1 in the nation during the regular season both years ... named to the NJCAA South Central All-District First Team and the Division I Region II All-Region First Team. **Sophomore (2005)**: Hit .260 with two home runs and 36 RBIs, playing the entire season with wooden bats. **Freshman (2004)**: Knocked in 28 runs, hit four home runs and hit .292.

Catholic

O'Brien played for David Estes at Catholic High School ... held a .400 career average and hit 24 home runs in four-year career at Catholic ... two-time first-team all-state pick and helped lead team to four straight state tournaments ... drafted in the 47th round by the Chicago White Sox as a senior. **Senior (2003)**: First team all-conference and all-state pick ... team MVP and all-star ... hit .416 with eight home runs and 31 RBIs and compiled a 6-0 record and 0.45 ERA with four saves on the mound. **Junior (2002)**: First team all-conference and all-state pick ... team MVP ... hit .464 with nine home runs and 34 RBIs. **Sophomore (2001)**: *Arkansas Democrat Gazette* All-Sophomore Team ... hit .333 with five home runs ... first team all-conference pick. **Freshman (2000)**: Hit .375 with two home runs.

Personal

Son of Rick and Paula O'Brien ... has one sister, Ashley ... majoring in ... enjoys duck hunting and fishing in his spare time ... was once ranked third in the state of Arkansas in tennis while in middle school.



39

Joseph Paniagua
Outfield
5-9 • 197 • Fr. • L/L
Miami, Fla.
Coral Park

2006 Outlook

Joseph Paniagua is a scrappy player with a great team attitude ... will provide depth in the outfield ... is attending UM on an academic scholarship.

Coral Park

Paniagua played for Jose Novas at Coral Park Senior ... was a *Miami Herald* Third-Team All-Dade pick as a senior. **Senior (2005)**: Hit .333 with 13 stolen bases. **Junior (2004)**: Hit .310. **Sophomore (2003)**: Hit .300. **Freshman (2002)**: Batted .270.

Personal

Son of Jose and Astrid Paniagua ... has one brother, Anthony ... majoring in computer engineering ... graduated with a 4.9 GPA and was 26th in a class of 900 at Coral Park ... earned an academic scholarship at UM

**28**

Anthony Perez
Right-Handed Pitcher
6-0 • 210 • Fr. • R/R
Hialeah, Fla.
Monsignor Pace

2006 Outlook

Anthony Perez is a right-hander with a powerful arm ... uses his body well when pitching ... tough competitor who will compete for innings this season ... comes to Miami after compiling a 28-5 record in high school.

Monsignor Pace

Perez played for Tom Duffin at Monsignor Pace ... earned All-Dade honors from the *Miami Herald* all four years at Pace ... never lost more than two games in a season or had an ERA above 2.50 his way to a 28-5 career record ... All-Dade Honorable Mention as a freshman, second team pick as a sophomore and first-team pick as a junior and senior ... played for the USA Junior Olympic team that won the gold medal in Taiwan in 2003, compiling a 2-0 record with one save. **Senior (2005):** Went 5-2 with a 1.50 ERA and was selected to his second-consecutive First Team All-Dade by the *Miami Herald* ... team captain. **Junior (2004):** Earned First Team All-Dade honors after going 8-0 with a 0.49 ERA. **Sophomore (2003):** Went 9-1 with a 1.5 ERA. **Freshman (2002):** Was 6-2 with a 2.5 ERA.

Personal

Son of German and Briseida Perez ... has one sister, Lizmary ... majoring in business ... favorite sports moment is winning a gold medal in Taiwan while playing for U.S. Junior Olympic Team.

**13**

Chris Petralli
First Base
6-2 • 205 • Jr. • L/R
El Dorado Hills, Calif.
Oak Ridge
Sacramento City CC

2006 Outlook

Chris Petralli comes to UM from one of the most reputable junior college programs in the country, Sacramento City JC ... expected to bring depth at first base and can play in the outfield.

Sacramento City JC

Played for Andy McKay at Sacramento City JC ... member of the honor roll for six consecutive semesters. **Sophomore (2005):** Hit .308 with four home runs and 38 RBIs. **Freshman (2004):** Batted .323 with a home run and 17 RBIs.

Oak Ridge

Petralli played for Mike Isherwood at Oak Ridge ... played in Oklahoma City for the 16-18 World Series as a member of the Natoma Indians ... two-time all-league selection. **Senior (2003):** Hit .350 with three home runs and 28 RBIs. **Junior (2002):** Batted .333 with two home runs and 21 RBIs.

Personal

Son of Edward and Marge Petralli ... has one sister, Summer ... majoring in business ... uncle, Geno Petralli, played 12 years in the Majors for the Texas Rangers and Toronto Blue Jays and caught Nolan Ryan's 300th win ... attended the same high school as former Hurricane F.P. Santangelo ... most-prized possession is a baseball autographed by Ted Williams.

**18**

Dennis Raben
1B/OF/LHP
6-3 • 218 • Fr. • L/L
Hollywood, Fla.
St. Thomas Aquinas

2006 Outlook

Dennis Raben is a player the UM coaching staff feels can contribute in every phase of the game ... will be the team's most versatile player ... can hit for power and average ... left-handed pitcher who knows how to win ... has a great feel for four pitches and throws a lot of strikes ... selected in the 49th round of the 2005 MLB Draft by the Seattle Mariners.

High School

Raben played and had success for the three different high schools ... never lost a game pitching in high school ... played his senior season at Ft. Lauderdale's St. Thomas Aquinas High School, his sophomore and junior years at Hollywood Hills and his freshman year at Grandview Prep ... *Sun-Sentinel* Broward County 6A-5A-5A Player of the Year in 2005 ... three-time captain ... team MVP every year of high school ... *Miami Herald* and *Sun-Sentinel* All-Broward selection each year of high school ... second-team all-state pick as a freshman ... first-team all-state as a senior ... selected to play in the all-star game in Sebring, Fla. as a senior ... member of the honor roll as a sophomore and junior at Hollywood Hills. **Senior (2005):** Played for Robert Lawson at St. Thomas Aquinas ... hit .500 with three home runs and 25 RBIs and went 9-0 with a 0.64 ERA on the mound to lead Aquinas to the regional semi-finals and a 25-4 record. **Junior (2004):** Played for Jason Stein at Hollywood Hills ... hit .380 with three home runs and 32 RBIs ... went 7-0 with a 1.44 ERA. **Sophomore (2003):** Knocked in 33 runs and hit .445 with five home runs at Hollywood Hills ... 1-0 pitching. **Freshman (2002):** Second-Team All-State pick playing for Mike Adams at Grandview Prep ... hit .573 with three home runs and 48 RBIs.

Personal

Son of Richard and Lauren Raben ... has two sisters, Dale and Kelly ... majoring in business management.



9

Blake Tekotte
Center Field
6-0 • 166 • Fr. • L/R
Columbia, Mo.
Hickman

2006 Outlook

Blake Tekotte has shown great promise in the outfield ... extremely athletic player who can run and throw very well ... has the speed to be a leadoff hitter ... projected to start in left or center field ... had a good fall and is expected to join Miami's great pedigree of outfielders.

Hickman

Tekotte played for Dave Wilson at Hickman High School ... *Collegiate Baseball All-American* as a senior ... first-team all-state selection as a junior and senior ... first-team all-district and all-area as a sophomore, junior and senior ... team captain and MVP as a junior and senior ... won state titles in football and baseball as a senior ... option quarterback who received scholarship offers as a punter ... captained football team as a junior and senior ... Second-Team All-State punter and All-District Punter ... honor roll student and a member of the National Honor Society. **Senior (2005):** Hit .529 with 11 home runs and 53 RBIs ... collected 47 hits and 20 stolen bases. **Junior (2004):** Batted .519 with seven home runs and 34 RBIs. **Sophomore (2003):** Hit .306 with four home runs and 21 RBIs.

Personal

Son of Blake and Cheryl Tekotte ... has two sisters, Lindsay and Nikki ... is a pre-pharmacy major ... father played baseball for Illinois State University ... cousin, Jake Whitesides, played for the Houston Astros in 2000.



38

Ben Vazquez
Catcher
5-8 • 170 • Fr. • R/R
Miami, Fla.
Coral Gables

2006 Outlook

Ben Vazquez is one of four players on the Miami roster from nearby Coral Gables High School ... coaches praise his diligent nature and great work ethic ... will provide depth behind the plate and also works in the middle infield ... UM Bookbuster for achieving a GPA greater than 3.0 in his first semester.

Coral Gables

Vazquez played for Israel Camacho at Coral Gables High School ... *Miami Herald* Honorable Mention All-Dade as a senior ... member of the National Honor Society and Future Business Leaders of America his senior year ... International Baccalaureate Diploma recipient. **Senior (2005):** Hit .394 with 11 RBIs and five doubles ... won team's Most Improved Player Award. **Junior (2004):** Hit .210.

Personal

Son of Jose and Elvisay Vazquez ... has not declared a major but has career aspirations of becoming a lawyer ... attended the same high school as current Hurricanes Jason Santana, Eddy Rodriguez and Yonder Alonso ... most-prized possession is an autographed baseball by Hank Aaron.



2

Jemile Weeks
Second Base
5-9 • 165 • Fr. • S/R
Altamonte Springs, Fla.
Lake Brantley

2006 Outlook

Jemile Weeks is expected to start at second base this season ... UM coaches believe he is one of the best freshmen in the country ... is a switch-hitter with speed ... could possibly be Miami's leadoff hitter this season ... drafted in the eighth round by the Milwaukee Brewers, but chose to come to Miami instead ... brother, Rickie Weeks, plays second base for the Brewers and was a college star at Southern.

Lake Brantley

Weeks played for Mike Smith at Lake Brantley High School and for Emilio Fernandez for the Florida Bombers ... went 3-for-3 in the Playstation All-America Baseball Game on June 13, 2005, hitting a home run for the All-America East squad ... also a member of the Florida Bombers summer team last summer ... played at second base his sophomore year before switching to shortstop his final two years of high school ... First-Team All-State pick as a senior and a Second-Team All-State pick as a junior ... two-time all-conference first-team pick ... voted as team's best offensive player as a junior and senior and was voted the team's best defensive player as a sophomore ... also played football for two years. **Senior (2005):** Played shortstop and hit five home runs with 12 stolen bases. **Junior (2004):** Helped lead Lake Brantley to the conference championship, playing second base ... hit .472 with four home runs and 13 stolen bases. **Sophomore (2003):** Hit .370 with a home run and nine stolen bases.

Personal

Son of Richard and Valeria Weeks ... has one older brother, Rickie, and one older sister, Kaisha ... comes from a very athletic family ... brother plays baseball for the Milwaukee Brewers and sister was an NCAA Regional Finalist at Southern University in track ... father was an all-state performer in high school in New Jersey and mother was an all-state track performer in high school ... majoring in business management.

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Comprehensive Baseball Information

All news releases are posted to the hurricanesports.com website. Media can access the latest news of University of Miami baseball by checking in regularly to hurricanesports.com's front page or the main football page.

Baseball Weekly Release

A complete informational packet is produced each Tuesday or Wednesday preceding an upcoming game or series during the regular season. The Miami Hurricanes baseball weekly game release will be posted to the website no later than 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time each Tuesday or Wednesday of a game week. Media may access the game release via a posting on the website or can download a pdf file of the release via Adobe Acrobat software.

Weekly Previews

A brief game preview will be posted to the website preceding University of Miami baseball games at <http://hurricanesports.college-sports.com/sports/m-basebl/mifl-m-basebl-body.html>

Game Coverage

Every gameday during the season, hurricanesports.com is the place to go for fans and news media for the latest on the Hurricanes. Live statistics are provided via hurricane-sports.com. Also, extensive post-game coverage will appear, including a game recap, photos, and post-game notes.

Bios, Stats, Etc.

Almost any information a media member could want regarding University of Miami baseball is available via the hurricanesports.com website. Media members can access biographical data on the entire coaching staff and current roster, along with updated statistics for the team and individual players, game recaps, and several special historical features.

Check back often for updated stories, statistics and breaking news on some of Miami's most exciting players.

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