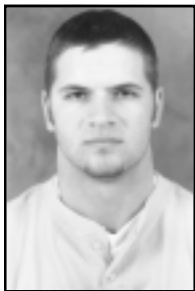


WESTERN CAROLINA UNIVERSITY BASEBALL



CHRIS AESCHLIMANN

#11

6-2 • 215 • FR • C • R/R
TUCKER, GA
TUCKER HS

HIGH SCHOOL: An all-county selection as a junior and senior at Tucker High School ... Established his school's record with 15 home runs ... Named his school's Player of the Year in both baseball and football.

PERSONAL: Born Christopher Walter Aeschlimann in Tucker, Ga., on December 12, 1982 ... Son of Roy and Patti Aeschlimann.



BOBBY CLESTER

#55

6-2 • 230 • FR • C • L/R
SPARTANBURG, SC
DORMAN HS

HIGH SCHOOL: Batted .360 with five home runs as a senior ... Helped Dorman High to a runner-up finish in the 2001 South Carolina 4A State Championship ... Helped his team to reach the region finals in 1998 ... Also played football for two years ...

Was a scholar-athlete as a junior, posting 3.85 grade point average.

PERSONAL: Born Robert Joseph Clester in Marietta, Ohio, on July 12, 1982 ... Son of Robert Lee and Karen Ann Clester.



BRIAN BARNES

#7

5-11 • 180 • FR • LHP-OF • L/L
FREDERICKSBURG, VA
CHANCELLOR HS

HIGH SCHOOL: Tabbed All-State as a pitcher, as well as all-district, all-area and all-region at Chancellor High as a senior ... Also All-State, all-district, all-area and all-region as both a pitcher and outfielder as a junior ... rated the eighth-best player

in Virginia and among the nation's top 300 by *Baseball America* ... was 7-2 with a 1.38 ERA and 112 strikeouts in 61 innings as a senior.

PERSONAL: Born Brian Alan Barnes in Groton, Conn., on June 13, 1983 ... Son of Bob and Peggy Barnes.



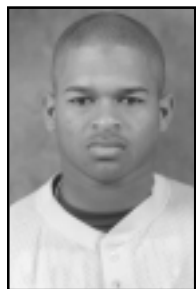
JIMMY COCHRAN

#32

6-3 • 230 • FR • 1B • L/R
CHARLOTTE, NC
INDEPENDENCE HS

HIGH SCHOOL: Named second team All-Mecklenburg County and all-conference as a senior at independence High ... Led his school to a conference title as a senior as well, being named Southwestern 4A Conference tournament MVP ... Named all-conference as a sophomore.

PERSONAL: Born James Daniel Cochran in Greensboro, N.C., on April 14, 1983 ... Son of Jim and Joanna Cochran.



CHRIS DAVIS

#1

5-9 • 170 • FR • 2B-SS • L/R
GOLDSBORO, NC
SOUTHERN WAYNE HS

HIGH SCHOOL: Player of the Year as selected by the Mt. Olive Tribune, while earning all-conference and all-area honors as a senior at Southern Wayne High ... Also named all-conference and all-area as a junior, while being voted team MVP and all-conference as a sophomore.

PERSONAL: Born Christopher Devon Davis in Dudley, N.C., on July 15, 1983 ... Son of Arthur and Carolyn Davis ... Older brother Arthur plays at North Carolina A&T.



STEPHEN BURNS

#26

5-11 • 150 • FR • OF • R/R
RALEIGH, NC
WAKE FOREST HS

HIGH SCHOOL: An all-conference pick as a senior, earning honorable mention honors as a junior ... Set a Wake Forest High single-season records with 11 doubles as a junior ... Batted .397 with nine doubles, one triple, two home runs, 15 RBI and seven stolen bases as a senior ... Had a .310 batting average with 10 RBI and six stolen bases as a junior ... Led his school to a pair of Tri-8 Conference runner-up finishes.

PERSONAL: Born Stephen Joseph Burns in Raleigh, N.C., on April 27, 1983 ... Son of Dusty and Barbara Burns.



BILLY FRANCHI

#31

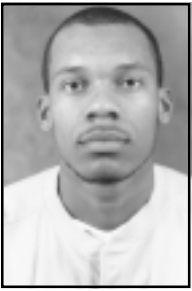
6-1 • 190 • FR • RHP • R/R
MARLTON, NJ
BISHOP EUSTACE HS

HIGH SCHOOL: Posted a career record of 18-8, setting his school record in complete games ... Named all-conference and All-Parochial, going 9-3 with a 1.80 ERA as a senior at Bishop Eustace High ... Struck out 81 batters in 74 innings as a senior ...

Selected to the Carpenter Cup team ... A second team all-area pick by the *Nashua Telegraph* as a junior.

PERSONAL: Born Billy Franchi in New Hampshire on December 5, 1982 ... Son of Dick and Denise Franchi.

2002 CATAMOUNT NEWCOMER PROFILES



ALEX GARY

#44

6-4 • 215 • FR • OF • R/R
MATTHEWS, NC
DAVID W. BUTLER HS

HIGH SCHOOL: First team All-Mecklenburg County pick as a senior at Butler High, earning second team honors as a junior ... Led his team to the state semi-finals in his final two years at Butler as his team went 45-13 over that time ... Batted .360 with seven stolen bases as a senior ... Had a .391 batting average as a junior with 11 stolen bases.

PERSONAL: Born Robert Alexander Gary in Knoxville, Tenn., on October 11, 1983 ... Son of David and Shelia Gary.



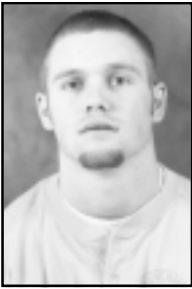
BRANDON McDOWELL

#12

6-2 • 205 • FR • LHP-1B • R/L
FRANKLIN, NC
FRANKLIN HS

HIGH SCHOOL: Named Baseball Player of the Year by the *Asheville Citizen-Times* as a senior at Franklin High ... A two-time Western Athletic Conference Player of the Year and All-State selection ... Led Franklin to the 3A state championship as a senior, going 11-2 on the mound with a 1.98 ERA, a school-record 133 strikeouts, a .371 batting average, seven home runs and 33 RBI.

PERSONAL: Born Brandon Stanton McDowell in Franklin, N.C., on January 22, 1983 ... Son of Bill and Darlene McDowell ... His grandfather, Ray Fouts, and mother attended Western Carolina.



PAT HACKETT

#5

6-0 • 210 • FR • C • R/R
RUTLAND, VT
RUTLAND HS

HIGH SCHOOL: Tabbed All-State as a junior and senior at Rutland High ... Batted .425 as a senior to earn team MVP honors ... Also an All-State selection in football as a linebacker ... Played in the Vermont-New Hampshire Maple Sugar Shrine Bowl ... Led Rutland to a football state championship ... Also led Rutland's hockey team to the state finals.

PERSONAL: Born Patrick John Hackett in Rutland, Vt., on March 25, 1983 ... Son of Brian and Brenda Hackett ... Hails from the same hometown as former WCU baseball All-American Kevin Bellomo.



ALEX OBERT

#36

6-7 • 220 • FR • RHP • R/R
CHARLOTTE, NC
INDEPENDENCE HS

HIGH SCHOOL: Named Mecklenburg County Player of the Year, as well as Southwestern 4A Player of the Year as a senior at Independence High ... Tabbed All-State as a senior, posting an 11-1 record on the mound with a save and 1.74 ERA ... Had 101 strikeouts with only 28 walks ... High school teammate of fellow freshman Jimmy Cochran.

PERSONAL: Born Alexander William Obert in Cincinnati, Ohio, on May 7, 1983 ... Son of Daniel and Rebecca Obert.



BRAD JOSEY

#33

6-0 • 205 • FR • LHP • L/L
CHARLOTTE, NC
DAVID W. BUTLER HS

Attended Western Carolina last season, but did not participate in baseball due to NCAA rules.

HIGH SCHOOL: A three-time all-conference pick at Butler High ... Posted an 8-3 record on the mound with a 1.20 ERA and 134 strikeouts in 82.1 innings ... Batted .384 with two home runs and 24 RBI ... Was a two-time participant in the State Games ... Led his team to a 22-6 record as a senior.

PERSONAL: Born Philip Bradley Josey in Charlotte, N.C., on October 15, 1982 ... Son of Phil and Pam Josey.



CLINT RAMSEY

#21

6-3 • 210 • FR • 3B/RHP • S/R
WEAVERVILLE, NC
NORTH BUNCOMBE HS

HIGH SCHOOL: Voted North Buncombe High's Most Valuable Player as a senior and sophomore ... An all-conference pick as a senior ... Was a two-time participant in the State Games.

PERSONAL: Born Clint Dean Ramsey in Orlando, Fla., on November 5, 1982 ... Son of Bill and Alana Ramsey.



BRETT KASTEN

#3

5-9 • 170 • FR • INF • R/R
MARIETTA, GA
ST. PIUS X HS

HIGH SCHOOL: An All-State and all-county pick as a senior at St. Pius X High ... Also selected all-county as a junior, while picking up honorable mention all-county honors as a sophomore.

PERSONAL: Born Raymond Brett Kasten in Decatur, Ga., on July 24, 1983 ... Son of Ray and Kathy Kasten.