

# Yale Baseball

Winter  
2004

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**Dan Thompson**



**Mike Lombardo**



**Jon Steitz**



**Pete Ladig**

## The 2003/2004 Bulldog Club Reaches 559 Members

The support from the alumni and friends of Yale Baseball reached new levels in FY 03/04. The program received over \$78,000 in general gifting, while yielding over \$10,000 from our annual golf tournament. By adding close to \$90,000 to our operating budget we were able to improve the program in three main areas. First, we've increased our recruiting budget by another 15%. Yielding great athletes each year takes countless hours of evaluating, contacting, and courting. By adding a few thousand dollars to this budget we've been able to spend more money both travelling to acquire multiple evaluations of prospects, as well as when prospects come to campus for official visits. Secondly, we now sponsor three major alumni events throughout the academic calendar; our alumni football tailgate, spring baseball tailgate, and annual golf outing. Bringing the program to you, our alumni and friends, in a clear and professional manner via the newsletter, supplemental mailings, and special events is now happening on a consistent basis. Finally we've

been able to upgrade our uniforms and workout gear, which will be unveiled this spring. We'll be sporting new home and away uni's, a cold weather batting practice top, as well as Yale baseball shorts and t-shirts worn during individual workouts. All of this is made possible, because of your Bulldog Club support.

Our next goal will be to raise enough funds each year to finance either an international trip or extended spring trip to the west coast and Hawaii. Reaching \$100,000 each year through annual giving and the golf tournament will allow us to do this every fourth year ensuring everyone coming to the program this experience at least once.

We'd like to thank everyone in the Bulldog Club for helping us take giant strides forward this year. Your support has made a huge difference in the experience of our current players. Have a great holiday, and think about coming out to our next event this spring.

**Rich Perez**



**Ray Lamontagne**



**Rich Diana**



# ASSOCIATION NEWS & NOTES

## Bill's Bullpen

### Another Terrific Event Sponsored by Herman and Rich Bershtein

On November 13<sup>th</sup> the Yale Baseball Association led by Herman and Rich Bershtein held the annual Alumni Baseball Tailgate at the Yale-Princeton football game. We had hoards of younger alumni in attendance as well as the 2005 Bulldog baseball players. Leoni's Catering once again lit up the barbecue as we all enjoyed burgers, hotdogs, and chicken straight off the grill. Players and coaches had the opportunity to rub elbows with 6 recently graduated baseball captains in Randy Leonard, Steve Duke, Craig Breslow, R.D Desantis, Keith Caggiano, and Keith Pelatowski, as well as Matt McCarthy, Jon Steitz, Adam Doherty, Tom Hutchison, Eric Naisson-Phillips, Mike Hirschfield, Rich Perez, Tom Kokoska, and Charlie Skubas.

We owe a huge debt of thanks to both Herman and Rich who came forward three years ago to sponsor this event. Both of these gentlemen are two of the most selfless and loyal individuals I've come to know. They are the reason this event has become what it is today.

### Two Big Upgrades for the Bulldogs

The 2004/2005 Yale Baseball season is marked by 2 major improvements. First our players have found themselves in a new home thanks to the Athletic Department. We've moved into the clubhouse located just outside the left-field corner of Yale Field. It's over 5000 square feet with coach's lockerrooms, wall to wall carpeting, and a giant refrigerator. With the exit of the full-season AA New Haven Ravens, and the entrance of the short-season independent New Haven County Cutters the month long conflict between our two seasons no longer exists. So this fall marked a new era as we moved from the Smilow Field House across the street into our new space located right where we play, Yale Field.

The other major improvement to the program is the purchase of new, top-of-the-line, home and away uniforms purchased from Cap's Corner representative Mike Ciotti '90 who played football here as a freshman almost two decades ago. Our home uni's will be white with navy piping down the front vest and side pant leg, while the road uni's will be gray sporting navy pinstripes. Both will have the traditional block Yale on the front chest. In addition, we've added cold weather batting practice tops with long sleeves as well as a triple knit cold weather game fleece with a block Yale across the front and each player's number on the sleeve.

### Class of '96 will Sponsor the Spring Alumni Tailgate against Dartmouth

In the spring of 2005 the class of '96 headed by Robert Bloom and Adam Doherty will sponsor the alumni tailgate at Yale Field on Saturday, April 23<sup>rd</sup> as we take on the big Green of Dartmouth in double-header action. Bloom's gift of \$1000 got the ball rolling as we're looking to outdo last years tailgate where more than 1000 people watched us sweep a doubleheader from Harvard. The class of '96 were freshman during our last NCAA regional appearance in '93. So save the date and see if they can bring some magic back to New Haven as we fight to win the Ivy League Title.

### Yale Baseball Team Volunteered at the Connecticut Food Bank

On Wednesday, December 8<sup>th</sup> from 9am-noon the Yale Baseball Team volunteered at the Connecticut Food Bank as one of our two Community service Projects this season. Captain CJ Orrico coordinated the event as the entire team and coaching staff helped pack thousands of food items for hungry people in the Greater New Haven area. Our thanks go out to all those at the CT Food Bank for coordinating the morning as we did our best to help those less fortunate this holiday season.



### Shout Out!

Check out our new Bulldog Club on the web at [www.yalebulldogs.com](http://www.yalebulldogs.com) includes program information, important alumni dates, and our new Bulldog Club picture gallery. Any questions, comments, or concerns please contact assistant coach, Bill Asermely at 203 432-1467 or [william.asermely@yale.edu](mailto:william.asermely@yale.edu)



# Meet The Freshmen

## **Brian Irving** 6'2" 195lbs RHP

Brian is a local pitcher who went to Hopkins High School right up the road from Yale. He's a tough kid with a tremendous work ethic to go along with an outstanding curve ball. His fastball ranges from 81-85 mph, while hitting as high as 86mph this fall. He was extremely consistent this fall through intrasquad workouts and outside competition. If he keeps getting his breaking ball over, and keeps his fastball down, he'll find himself in a lot of ball games. Brian comes to Yale from Hamden, Connecticut and has yet to declare a major.

## **Steve Gilman** 6'1 195lbs RHP

Steve is a right handed pitcher coming from North Hunterdon H.S. in New Jersey. I saw Steve quite a bit last summer, where his best outing came when he pitched in the Perfect Game Northeast Showcase touching as high as 91mph on the gun. This fall he pitched comfortably between 84-87mph hitting as high as 88. His breaking ball is much improved opening a lot of eyes this fall. He threw a great inning and a half against Southern Connecticut State University holding a 6-5 lead in the fifth and sixth innings to help secure our second straight City Series Championship. Steve is another tireless worker in this class who will have a great career as a Bulldog.

## **Alex Christ** 5'11" 175lbs LHP

Alex is a crafty left handed pitcher who comes to us from South Pasadena H.S. He fashions a low to mid 80's fastball with both a very good change up and curveball. As he develops better command of his already lively fastball he'll record a ton of outs in our league. Alex had a good fall proving to be especially effective against left-handed hitters. He resides in South Pasadena, California and has yet to declare a Major.

## **John Davis** 6'3 200lbs RHP

John comes to Yale from Worcester Academy in Massachusetts with a terrific frame and the potential to record a lot of outs in the Ivy League. John has a mid 80's fastball with the potential to throw a lot harder as he continues to fill out. He pitched very well this fall getting more and more consistent as late October approached. He throws his curveball for a strike enough to keep hitters off-balance, while command of his fastball improved each inning he threw. John resides in Southbridge, Massachusetts, and has yet to declare a major.

## **Chris Wietlispach** 6'4 170lbs RHP

Chris is a lean right handed pitcher with tremendous life in his arm. His fastball ranges from 85-88 mph, but the potential for more is definitely there as he grows into his body. He has a plus breaking ball that will eventually be his knockout pitch as he learns how to

use it. Chris has the approach and the talent to be a dominant pitcher in the Ivy League. He comes to Yale from Crystal Lake, Illinois and has yet to declare a major.

## **PJ Gorynski** 5'10 185lbs C

PJ is a hard nosed kid who loves to work at the game. He's an outstanding receiver with good arm strength, very good athleticism and a simple swing from the right side. There's no question he'll be getting his share of innings behind the plate this year if the fall is indicative of what he can do. He comes to Yale from St. Francis Prep H.S and resides in Fresh Meadows, NY. PJ has yet to declare a major.

## **Josh Cox** 5'9" 165lbs MIF

Josh comes to Yale from Oak Hall Private H.S. in Florida where he was voted the 2A Player of the year as a senior. He brings speed, athleticism, and the ability to hit the ball to all fields on offense. He's got a very quick bat and if he continues working hard should eventually settle in as our everyday leadoff or two-hole hitter either this year or next. On defense his best position is second base, but as a freshman he'll see action at both middle infield slots, and possibly some games in the outfield. We're excited about what he adds to our lineup offensively. He should have an immediate impact. Josh resides in Gainesville, Florida and has yet to declare a major.

## **Dan Soltman** 5'8" 160lbs MIF

Dan came to us as a walk-on from Evanston Township H.S. this year and really finished the fall season with a bang at the plate. After tryouts in early September it became clear that Dan has a tremendous desire to succeed with the game. He made drastic improvements both offensively and defensively over the past two months providing some depth in our middle-infield. Dan resides in Evanston, Illinois and has yet to declare a major.

## Important Dates

January 10	Classes Resume
January 17	Individual Workouts begin
February 1	Official practice begins
March 4	Depart for the spring trip
March 6	First Contest against Davidson
March 19	First home contest against Sacred Heart
April 2	First league contest at Princeton
April 16 & 17	Weekend series at Harvard
April 23	Alumni Tailgate at Yale Field: Dartmouth doubleheader
May 7 & 8	Ivy League Championship
June 6	Golf Outing

## 1883 Yale Baseball Captain Added to the Bulldog Club Posthumously

Article by Dan Genovese

Allen H. Hubbard, class of 1883 in Yale's Sheffield Scientific science and engineering program and baseball captain of the early Yale dynasty team, has been added to our Bulldog Club, posthumously. Hubbard, born in Westfield Massachusetts, is one of the many fascinating subjects in a book recently published on the history of baseball in Westfield Massachusetts titled, *The Old Ball Ground, Volume One*. Hubbard was the catcher on both the 1882 and 1883 teams and would serve as captain of the 1883 squad in the midst of Yale's early dominance on the Intercollegiate Baseball Association.

While at Yale, Hubbard was described as part of a "coterie in which he and Walter Camp were leaders." This friendship between Hubbard and Walter Camp would bring Camp to Hubbard's hometown of Westfield Massachusetts during the summers of 1882 and 1883 to play together on a local town team known as the Westfield Firemen. Two additional Yale players, S.A. Booth and star pitcher Daniel Albion Jones would also join Camp and Hubbard on this club.

During the summer of 1883 Hubbard flirted with many major league clubs for his catching services, usually working as a battery mate with Yale pitcher Dan Jones. Jones, however, would sign with the Detroit Wolverines of the National League while Hubbard would remain in Westfield. By September Hubbard would join Jones, recently released by Detroit, on the Philadelphia Athletics. Sadly, he would play in just two major league games with his second game catching for his former Yale teammate. Unfortunately, Jones was hammered by the Cincinnati Red Stockings while Hubbard committed three costly errors behind the plate in an 11-2 loss.

With his major league career over, Hubbard would return to his hometown of Westfield and play for his local town team but by 1890 Hubbard would head east to Boston with his engineering degree and would begin to literally shape the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. Hubbard would become a partner in the Hollis French & Allen Hubbard consulting engineering firm and for the next thirty years he would be involved as a consultant on many high profile engineering projects such as the Boston Opera House, the Boston Art Museum, and the Boston Public Library. Hubbard would also be involved in many projects at educational institutes including his alma mater, Yale University. Hubbard was also very active in other endeavors and clubs most notably the Yale Club and the University Club. I am sure if Mr. Hubbard were here today he would be very proud of his appointment to Yale Baseball's Bulldog Club. You can learn more about Allen Hubbard in the book *The Old Ball Ground, Volume One* available at amazon.com.

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Visit our website at:  
[www.yalebulldogs.com](http://www.yalebulldogs.com)

