

# Top Tier Americans From Lake Forrest, Illinois Continental Amateur Baseball Association 2009 CABA High School Age Division Champion



## Continental Amateur Baseball Association 2009 CABA High School World Series

### CABA High School age Division World Series Champions

#### Top Tier Americans, Lake Forest, Illinois

1 Chris Massimilion, 2 Scott Heelan, 4 Jack Fischer, 5 Mike Pudlo, 7 Patrick Guinane, 9 Kyle Ruchim, 12 Ryan Hudspeth,  
13 Eli Anderson, 14 Robert McDonnell, 15 Shane Conlon, 16 Brian Monette, 18 Jesse O'Connor, 21 Jon Surber, 22 Kevin Koziol,  
8 Ryan Kozaiol, 25 Charles Jacques, 26 Adam Robinson, 28 Tim Barry, 32 Sean Bucholz, 34 Marc Corigliano, 36 Dan Connolly, Coach Todd Fine

#### Continental Amateur Baseball Association High School Age Division CABA World Series Euclid, Ohio July 17 - 25, 2009

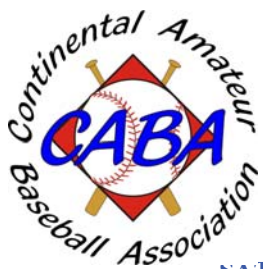
##### CHAMPIONSHIP GAMES

Team	Team	Score
1 Columbus Cannons	8 Storm Baseball Club	0
2 Cincinnati Hurricanes	6 Cincinnati Stix	0
3 Top Tier Americans	10 USA Mavericks	2
4 Georgia Academy Baseball	8 Top Tier Nationals	7
5 Columbus Cobras	4 Schaumburg Seminoles	2
6 Florida American Post 43 Red	12 Highland Hts Baseball	0
7 Brooklyn Bergen Beach	2 Florida American Post 43 Black	1
8 Diamond Boys	7 Cincy Flames	2
9 Storm Baseball Club	7 Cincinnati Stix	6
10 Top Tier Nationals	16 USA Mavericks	8
11 Schaumburg Seminoles	6 Highland Hts Baseball	5
12 Florida American Post 43 Black	2 Cincy Flames	1
13 Columbus Cannons	4 Cincinnati Hurricanes	2
14 Top Tier Americans	9 Georgia Academy Baseball	7
15 Florida American Post 43 Red	7 Columbus Cobras	6
16 Brooklyn Bergen Beach	9 Diamond Boys	5
17 Florida American Post 43 Black	9 Cincinnati Hurricanes	8
18 Georgia Academy Baseball	7 Schaumburg Seminoles	0
19 Top Tier Nationals	7 Columbus Cobras	5
20 Storm Baseball Club	18 Diamond Boys	1
21 Top Tier Americans	15 Columbus Cannons	10
22 Brooklyn Bergen Beach	5 Florida American Post 43 Red	3
23 Top Tier Nationals	7 Storm Baseball Club	3
24 Florida American Post 43 Black	12 Georgia Academy Baseball	3
25 Top Tier Nationals	9 Columbus Cannons	6
26 Florida American Post 43 Red	11 Florida American Post 43 Black	2
27 Top Tier Americans	8 Brooklyn Bergen Beach	0
28 Florida American Post 43 Red	10 Top Tier Nationals	3
29 Florida American Post 43 Red	8 Brooklyn Bergen Beach	0
30 Top Tier Americans	6 Florida American Post 43 Red	0

#### Continental Amateur Baseball Association High School Age Division CABA World Series Euclid, Ohio July 17 - 25, 2009

##### Seeding Report

Team	From	Won	Lost	RA Avg	RS Avg
1 Columbus Cannons	Dublin, OH	6	0	2.16	9.66
2 Cincy Flames	Cincinnati, OH	6	0	2.5	11.83
3 Columbus Cobras	Columbus, Ohio	5	1	3	7.16
4 GA Academy BB	Atlanta, GA	5	1	3.83	9.33
5 Top Tier Americans	Lake Forest, IL	5	1	4.66	10.83
6 FL Am. Post 43 Red	Miami, FL	5	1	4.83	11
7 FL Am. Post 43 Black	Miami, FL	5	1	4.83	10.5
8 Cincinnati Stix	Cincinnati, OH	5	1	5.16	7.5
9 Cincinnati Hurricanes	Cincinnati, OH	5	1	5.5	8.66
10 Bergen Beach	Brooklyn, NY	4	2	3.66	7.83
11 Highland Hts BB	Highland Hts., OH	4	2	4.83	
12 USA Mavericks	Newington, NH	4	2	7.66	8.83
13 Top Tier Nationals	Lake Forest, IL	4	2	6.5	10.33
14 Seminoles	Schaumburg, IL	3	3	3.83	5.83
15 Diamond Boys	Kent, OH	3	3	4.83	6
16 Storm Baseball Club	Solon, OH	3	3	5	6.66
17 Indiana Bomb Squad	Valparaiso, IN	3	3	5	5.16
18 Ohio Orioles	Cleveland, OH	3	3	6	6.5
19 N Ohio Hurricanes	Brunswick, OH	3	3	6.16	4.83
20 JABC 17	Bellville, OH	3	3	6.66	5.83
21 N OH Hurricanes Or.	Strongsville, OH	3	3	7.33	
22 Lake Erie Bulldogs	Cleveland, OH	3	3	7.5	4.16
23 Premier Baseball U17	Cleveland, OH	3	3	7.83	6.5
24 Ohio Heat 17U	Cincinnati, OH	3	3	8.66	7.66
25 Cincinnati Mustangs	Cincinnati, OH	3	3	10.16	9.33
26 Chardon Blizzard	Chardon, Ohio	2	4	6	3.5
27 Premier BB Acad.-16U	Valley City, OH	2	4	6.5	7.33
28 Mentor Post 352 Cards	Mentor, OH	2	4	7	4.16
29 South Bergin Mets	Rutherford, NJ	2	4	7.83	7.16
30 NE Ohio Yankees	Ravenna, OH	2	4	9.83	6.5
31 Wisconsin All Star- College - Scout Team	Franklin, WI	2	4	11.33	7.5
32 LK Catholic Cougars	Mentor, OH	1	5	6.5	3.66
33 North Coast Vipers	Elyria, OH	1	5	11	6.66
34 Rockford Cyclones	Rockford, IL	1	5	11.16	3.66
35 Lions Baseball Club	Chardon, OH	0	6	9.5	0.66
26 Am Legion Post 343	Euclid, OH	0	6	9.66	2.83
37 Ohio Glaciers	Youngstown, OH	0	6	10.33	19.15
38 Eastlake N Rangers	Willoughby Hills, OH	0	6	11.83	19.30



**Continental Amateur Baseball Association**  
**High School Age Division CABA World Series**  
**Euclid, Ohio July 18-27, 2009**

**Pool Play**  
**Game Scores**

**SATURDAY JULY 18, 2009**

Cincinnati Stix	4	Indiana Bomb Squad	3
Indiana Bomb Squad	9	Eastlake North Rangers	6
Cincinnati Stix	7	Highland Hts Baseball	6
Highland Hts Baseball	14	Eastlake North Rangers	2
Rockford Cyclones	9	JABC 17	8
Columbus Cobras	13	Rockford Cyclones	1
South Bergin Mets	8	North Coast Vipers	1
Cincinnati Mustangs	18	North Coast Vipers	10
Florida American Post 43 Red	9	American Legion Post 343	1
Cincinnati Mustangs	7	South Bergin Mets	3
Chardon Blizzard	5	Ohio Glaciers	1
Cincinnati Hurricanes	12	Florida American Post 43 Red	9
Ohio Orioles	8	American Legion Post 343	0
Top Tier Americans	6	Chardon Blizzard	5
Cincinnati Hurricanes	10	Ohio Orioles	9
Columbus Cobras	8	JABC 17	0
Ohio Heat 17U	9	Lake Erie Bulldogs	1
Diamond Boys	12	Ohio Heat 17U	3
Brooklyn Bergen Beach	19	Lake Erie Bulldogs	1
Brooklyn Bergen Beach	6	Diamond Boys	1
Columbus Cannons	9	Florida American Post 43 Black	1
Columbus Cannons	11	Lake Catholic Cougars	2
Florida American Post 43 Black	12	Premier Baseball Academy-16U	4
Premier Baseball Academy-16U	1	Lake Catholic Cougars	0
Schaumburg Seminoles	8	Premier Baseball U17	3
Mentor Post 352 Cardinals	5	Schaumburg Seminoles	4
Georgia Academy Baseball	18	Premier Baseball U17	3
Georgia Academy Baseball	8	Mentor Post 352 Cardinals	3
N Ohio Hurricanes Orange	11	USA Mavericks	6
USA Mavericks	12	Top Tier Nationals	3
N Ohio Hurricanes Orange	8	Lions Baseball Club	0
Top Tier Nationals	12	Lions Baseball Club	0
Cincy Flames	20	WI All-St. College - Scout Team	8
WI All-St.College - Scout Team	17	Northeast Ohio Yankees	11
Cincy Flames	17	Northern Ohio Hurricanes	4
Northern Ohio Hurricanes	8	Northeast Ohio Yankees	0
Top Tier Americans	7	Storm Baseball Club	4
Storm Baseball Club	8	Ohio Glaciers	1

**SUNDAY JULY 19, 2009**

Columbus Cobras	8	South Bergin Mets	7
Lake Erie Bulldogs	4	Lake Catholic Cougars	3
Georgia Academy Baseball	8	Schaumburg Seminoles	4
Premier Baseball U17	7	Mentor Post 352 Cardinals	3
Cincinnati Stix	10	North Coast Vipers	4
Florida American Post 43 Red	10	Mentor Post 352 Cardinals	0
Top Tier Nationals	10	N Ohio Hurricanes Orange	1
USA Mavericks	11	Lions Baseball Club	0
Georgia Academy Baseball	10	Indiana Bomb Squad	1
Cincinnati Hurricanes	8	Lions Baseball Club	0
WI All-St. College - Scout Team	3	Northern Ohio Hurricanes	2
Cincy Flames	12	Northeast Ohio Yankees	1
Premier Baseball Academy-16U	22	Cincinnati Mustangs	5
Northeast Ohio Yankees	14	USA Mavericks	2
Top Tier Americans	11	Ohio Glaciers	2
Storm Baseball Club	10	Chardon Blizzard	2
Columbus Cannons	15	Storm Baseball Club	5
Ohio Orioles	15	Rockford Cyclones	7

**MONDAY JULY 20, 2009**

JABC 17	4	N Ohio Hurricanes Orange	0
N Ohio Hurricanes Orange	13	Eastlake North Rangers	4
JABC 17	4	Top Tier Americans	3
Top Tier Americans	18	Eastlake North Rangers	0
Highland Hts Baseball	23	Ohio Heat 17U	10
Highland Hts Baseball	2	Chardon Blizzard	0
Brooklyn Bergen Beach	8	Top Tier Nationals	6
Chardon Blizzard	8	WI All-St. College - Scout Team	6
Top Tier Nationals	19	American Legion Post 343	8
Florida American Post 43 Black	7	Northern Ohio Hurricanes	0
Premier Baseball U17	6	Brooklyn Bergen Beach	4
Premier Baseball U17	10	American Legion Post 343	2
Northern Ohio Hurricanes	8	Ohio Heat 17U	6
Florida American Post 43 Black	17	WI All-St. College - Scout Team	9
Cincy Flames	6	Schaumburg Seminoles	1
Cincy Flames	7	Diamond Boys	1
Schaumburg Seminoles	16	Ohio Glaciers	0
Diamond Boys	13	Ohio Glaciers	5
Lake Erie Bulldogs	8	South Bergin Mets	5
Lake Catholic Cougars	10	South Bergin Mets	5
Lake Erie Bulldogs	5	Columbus Cobras	1
Columbus Cobras	3	Lake Catholic Cougars	1
Florida American Post 43 Red	17	North Coast Vipers	8
Mentor Post 352 Cardinals	10	North Coast Vipers	8
Florida American Post 43 Red	13	Cincinnati Stix	8
Cincinnati Stix	5	Mentor Post 352 Cardinals	4
Cincinnati Hurricanes	9	Georgia Academy Baseball	3
Lions Baseball Club	1	Indiana Bomb Squad	9
Cincinnati Hurricanes	5	Indiana Bomb Squad	6
Lions Baseball Club	3	Georgia Academy Baseball	9
USA Mavericks	11	Premier Baseball Academy-16U	10
USA Mavericks	11	Cincinnati Mustangs	8
Northeast Ohio Yankees	8	Premier Baseball Academy-16U	6
Cincinnati Mustangs	14	Northeast Ohio Yankees	5
Rockford Cyclones	0	Columbus Cannons	10
Storm Baseball Club	12	Rockford Cyclones	2
Columbus Cannons	10	Ohio Orioles	4
Ohio Orioles	3	Storm Baseball Club	1

**SUNDAY JULY 19, 2009**

Highland Hts Baseball	4	Indiana Bomb Squad	3
Cincinnati Stix	11	Eastlake North Rangers	1
Top Tier Americans	20	N Ohio Hurricanes Orange	13
JABC 17	6	Eastlake North Rangers	5
South Bergin Mets	15	JABC 17	13
Florida American Post 43 Red	8	Ohio Orioles	0
Northern Ohio Hurricanes	7	Highland Hts Baseball	4
Top Tier Nationals	12	Premier Baseball U17	10
Brooklyn Bergen Beach	4	American Legion Post 343	0
Columbus Cobras	10	Cincinnati Mustangs	4
Cincinnati Hurricanes	8	American Legion Post 343	6
Ohio Heat 17U	10	WI All-St. College - Scout Team	2
Florida American Post 43 Black	11	Chardon Blizzard	1
North Coast Vipers	9	Rockford Cyclones	3
Ohio Heat 17U	8	Brooklyn Bergen Beach	6
Diamond Boys	8	Lake Erie Bulldogs	6
Schaumburg Seminoles	2	Diamond Boys	1
Cincy Flames	9	Ohio Glaciers	0
Columbus Cannons	3	Premier Baseball Academy-16U	1
Florida American Post 43 Black	15	Lake Catholic Cougars	6

**Continental Amateur Baseball Association**  
**High School Ultimate Age Division World Series History**

<b>Year</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Champion</b>	<b>Runner-up</b>	
1985	Chillicothe, Ohio	Fresno, California George "Hats" Omachi All Stars	La Crosse, Wisconsin Juniors	2
1986	Chillicothe, Ohio	La Crosse, Wisconsin Juniors	Greater Fresno, California All Stars	5
1987	Euclid, Ohio	Seattle, Washington A-One Transfer	Brooklyn, New York Bergen Beach Youth Organization	5
1988	Euclid, Ohio	Brooklyn, New York Bergen Beach Youth Organization	Euclid, Ohio American Legion Post #343 Panthers	1
1989	Euclid, Ohio	Caguas, Puerto Rico Caguitas Diaz Baseball Club	Brooklyn, New York Bergen Beach Youth Organization	3
1990	Euclid, Ohio	Fresno, California George "Hats" Omachi All Stars	Chicago Heights, Illinois Oak Forest High School	2
1991	Euclid, Ohio	San Diego, California Select	Brooklyn, New York Bergen Beach Youth Organization	1
1992	Euclid, Ohio	Brooklyn, New York Bergen Beach Youth Organization	Sterling Heights, Michigan Steele's Sports	0
1993	Euclid, Ohio	Brooklyn, New York Bergen Beach Youth Organization	Miami, Florida Miami Baseball	0
1994	Euclid, Ohio	Brooklyn, New York Bergen Beach Youth Organization	Miami, Florida Miami Baseball	2
1995	Euclid, Ohio	Brooklyn, New York Bergen Beach Youth Organization	Miami, Florida Miami Baseball	1
1996	Euclid, Ohio	Brooklyn, New York Bergen Beach Youth Organization	Honolulu, Hawaii	6
1997	Cleveland Area, Ohio	Fairfax, Virginia	Miami, Florida	5
1998	Cleveland Area, Ohio	Brooklyn, New York Bergen Beach Youth Organization	Twitty City - AFPC, Nashville, Tennessee	2
1999	Cleveland Area, Ohio	Brooklyn, New York Bergen Beach Youth Organization	Twitty City, Nashville, Tennessee	9
2000	Cleveland, Ohio	Brooklyn, New York Bergen Beach Youth Organization	Oakland, California	2
2001	Euclid, Ohio	Panama City, Florida Team USA	Miami, South Florida Baseball Production	0
2002	Euclid, Ohio	Brooklyn, New York Bergen Beach Youth Organization	Miami, (Team Florida)	2
2003	Euclid, Ohio	Brooklyn, New York Bergen Beach Youth Organization	Kansas City(TC), MO	1
2004	Euclid, Ohio	Brooklyn, New York Bergen Beach Youth Organization	Ann Arbor, Michigan	1
2005	Euclid, Ohio	Brooklyn, New York Bergen Beach Youth Organization	Ohio Thunder Orange	4
2006	Euclid, Ohio	Columbus, Ohio Sharks	Richmond, Virginia	4
2007	Euclid, Ohio	Brooklyn, New York Bergen Beach Youth Organization	Hamlin Park, Illinois, Top Tier	1
2008	Euclid, Ohio	Brooklyn, New York Bergen Beach Youth Organization	Florida American Leagion Post # 43	5
2009	Euclid, Ohio	Top Tier Americans, Lake Forest, Illinois	Florida American Leagion Post # 43 Red	0

**CABA WORLD SERIES**

**Sshh! Talent at work In Euclid, Ohio publicity is secondary to putting on a great baseball tournament**

**Bill Tilton: The News Herald**

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Since 1987, Euclid, Ohio has been home to "The Greatest Show on Dirt."

Just don't expect Ed Carpenter, Tom McNamara, John Mocny or the rest of the administrative staff who has run the CABA High School World Series for the past 23 summers to turn into ringmaster P.T. Barnum to promote it.

"We're the best-kept secret in town," said Carpenter. National Director for the CABA High School World Series.

With names and numbers associated with the CABA World Series, you would think keeping a secret like that would be impossible. As far as Carpenter and the crew at Euclid are concerned, the weeklong showcase is not about barking circus tactics, bells and whistles, or fancy flashing neon lights.

Since the CABA World Series first came to Euclid from Chillicothe, Ohio in 1987, it has always been about one thing.

"Pure baseball," Carpenter said. "We don't seek publicity. We don't go get corporate sponsors. Last year we actually lost money. The only thing we want id for these kids from all over the country to come play against the top talent around and get a chance to get some exposure from colleges."

Mission accomplished as far as exposure is concerned.

This year, about 50 colleges and two major-league teams (Colorado-Rockies and St. Louis Cardinals) have sent scouts to Euclid, Ohio to watch the action.

All you have to do is look at past performers to realize why the CABA High School World Series draws scouts like moths to a flaming diamond.

Consider that in 1991, major league All-stars Alex Ridriguez, Todd Helton and Johnny Damon not only played in the World series at Euclid, but were on the same team --- 15 time champion Brooklyn Bergen Beach.

Bergen Beach coach Steve Bort has coached 30 first-round picks and 320 players drafted at some point in the MLB Draft. Josh Hamilton (Texas), Matt Cain (San Francisco) and Brian McCann (Atlanta) are other high profile alum of the Bergen Beach Team.

Brooklyn does not have a monopoly on the talent. From 1987-2000, 84 players who participated in the CABA High School World Series at Euclid, Ohio went on to play in the majors.

"My favorite stories are when a guy who is 33 or 34 now, but played in the World Series remembers going against those future major leaguers," Carpenter said.

"I know on kid who faced Josh Hamilton and Hamilton hit a home run off him. So if he watched Hamilton in the Home Run Derby last year, he could have said, "Well, he hit one 500 feet off me, too"

Forget the sparkling statistics that some of the elite players around the country can put up in terms of home runs, RBI or ERA.

A total of 38 teams----up more than 300 percent from 1987's 12-team field -- came to Northeast Ohio for the World Series.

"There are other numbers that bring a smile to the face of Carpenter and the other World Series directors, the biggest of which is 30 million.

It is estimated that former participants at the CABA World Series in Euclid, Ohio have earned close to \$30 million in scholarship money.

Players from Bergen beach have earned \$10 million in scholarships alone.

"Carpenter, whose son Matt -- a former Euclid, Ohio star -- played in the CABA World Series in the 80's, McNamara and Mocny are all members of the CABA Hall of Fame.

All three men are responsible for making "The Greatest Show on Dirt" run as smoothly as possible, and each can quickly recall vivid memories of past CABA World Series scandalous -- highlighted by A-Rod who was a "skinny thing when he played here" according to McNamara.



**CABA High School World Series Directors**  
 from left John Mocny, Ed Carpenter and Tom McNamara  
 The CABA High School World Series moved to Euclid, Ohio from Chillicothe, Ohio in 1987

**Continental Amateur Baseball Association**  
**2009 High School Age Division World Series**

**All Tournament Team**

Player	TEAM
Brandon Roush	Florida American Post 43 Black
Nico Hernandez	Florida American Post 43 Black
Kevin Gannon	Top Tier Nationals
Scott Sutton	Top Tier Nationals
John Barbato	Florida American Post 43 Red
Juan Gomes	Florida American Post 43 Red
Julian Santos	Florida American Post 43 Red
Alexis Pena	Florida American Post 43 Red
Kevin Koziol	Top Tier Americans
Scott Heelan	Top Tier Americans
Jessie O'Connor	Top Tier Americans
Seth Varner	Cincinnati Hurricanes
<b>Tournament MVP</b>	Shane Conlon Top Tier Americans
<b>MVP Pitcher</b>	Kyle Ruchim Top Tier Americans
<b>MVP- Hitter</b>	Tim Barry Top Tier Americans
<b>Golden Glove</b>	Lazaro Vazquez Florida American Post 43 Black
<b>George "Hats" Omachi</b>	Steve Trobenter Euclid, Ohio
<b>Mr. Hustle Award</b>	

One of the exciting things for everyone involved with the Series or all the fans who attend the CABA World Series is you never know if you are watching the next big MLB star or not.

"This is just good, old-fashioned baseball at it's finest, and the neat thing is you really won't know just how good the kids you are watching today are until sometime in the future," Carpenter said. "That 1991 Brooklyn team with A-Rod and Damon and Helton really stood out obviously. Whether any of these teams produce players like that is yet to be seen."

It's players like that which makes it easy to understand why the Euclid, Ohio showcase event has been dubbed "The Greatest Show on Dirt" and why it's a series you would have to assume would make even P.T. Barnum put down his megaphone and become a baseball fan for at least a week every summer.

**A note of thanks to Jack O'Breeza**

**"The Breeze"**

Jack a retired Staff Reporter for the Euclid Sun Journal Volunteered to take pictures during the Series which we have used in this Newspaper

Thanks again Jack  
 2009 HSWS Committee

## CABA WORLD SERIES

CINDERELLA STORY:  
EVENT IS TREASURE**Bill Tilton: The News Herald****Re-Printed with the permission of the News Herald**

You don't know what you got, 'til it's gone.

Did I first hear that in some academic circles as profound quote and maxim of life? Or maybe it was during a mean game of Sega Hockey while at Ohio University in the early 90's when a friend put Cinderella CD in and turned up the volume.

The CABA High School World series is taking place this week in "Baseball City USA" -- better known as Euclid, Ohio --- and surrounding sites.

For all of those soon-to-be high school seniors participating in the World Series this year, it is the last time you will be eligible to suit up in "The Greatest Show on Dirt"

Remember it . Cherish the opportunity.

Chances like this don't come around that often or this geographically convenient.

I'd be lying to you if I told you i give a ton of thought about the CABA World Series the past few years, I was always very aware of it and most sports fans in this area --- especially baseball nuts --- have all been version in the story of the 1991 Brooklyn team that featured Alex Rodriguez, Jonny Damon and Todd Helton.

However until this week when I was assigned to cover the event, it never really hit me exactly what the folks at Euclid who run the CABA World Series are really offering to the 17-and under set of budding prep standouts from across the country.

How about a guaranteed six games on some of the area's premier diamonds against elite competition with the eyes of so many scouts watching that you get lost in a sea of radar guns and color coordinated outfits? How about walking in the same dirt-laden path once walked by A-Rod, Damon, Helton, Matt Cain, Brian McCann, Josh Helton and many others current MLB Studs?

How about experience gained against some of the best the United States has to offer in the national pastime, experiences that should be invaluable come next spring in your promising senior campaigns in high school?

I'd be willing to wager that once it's over and many of these kids look back on this weeklong baseball odyssey, they won't know what they had til it's gone.

Those who don't go on to play college or pro baseball may never know competition like it again between the white lines.

I worry it might seem like just another summer tournament to some players, but to me---a kid who was never good enough to play in the CABA World Series and one who feels fortunate I get to cover it as part of my job---it shouldn't be taken for granted.

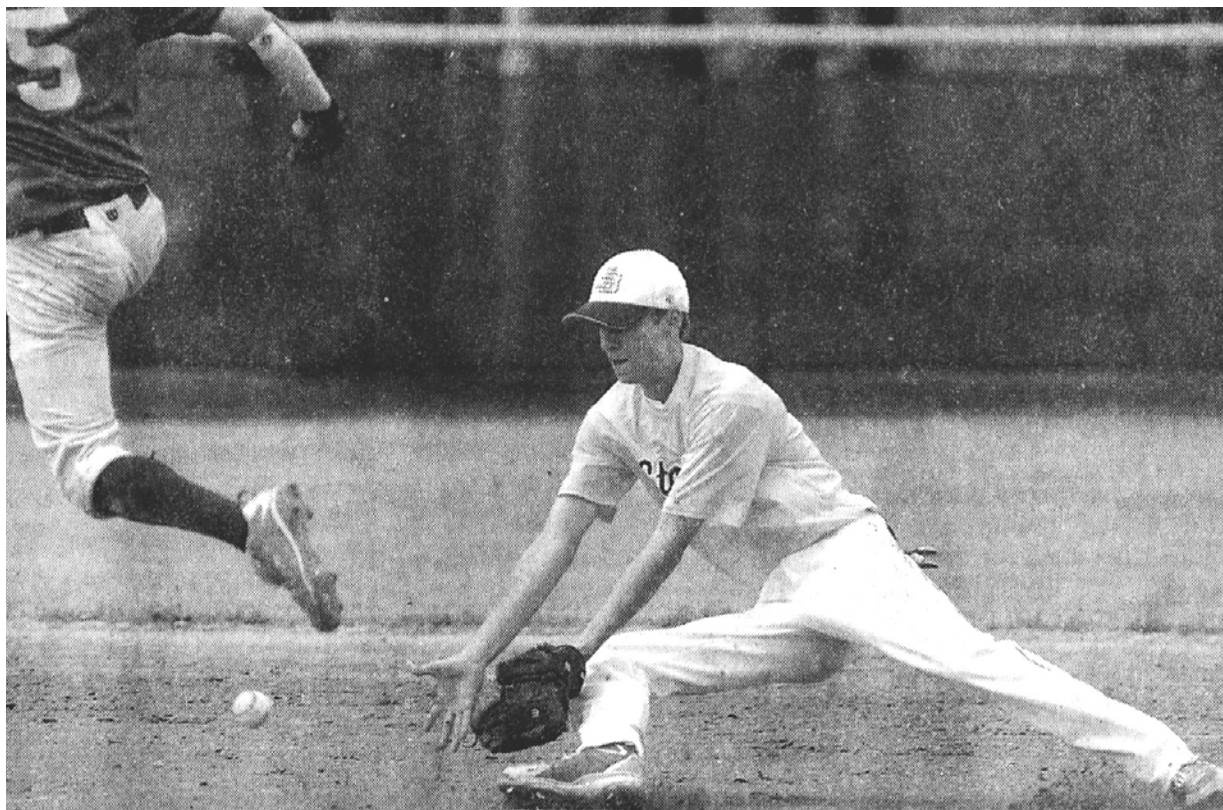
And I am not alone in the sentiment.

Mayfield's Kyle Koski ended his CABA World series career with a bang, smacking a three-run home run for Highland Heights Baseball on Wednesday. Koski's Wildcats teammate, Tim Wetzel, will be donning the sacred scarlet and grey after high school for Ohio State, but he to played his last game in the CABA World Series on Wednesday.

Berkshire senior-to-be Bryce Smetana still alive in the loser's bracket of the series as an infielder and pitcher on the Ohio Storm.

These are just three of the young men who seem to have a similar appreciation of the series. Only more so because they suited up and toted a bat and a glove instead of a pen and a pad of paper.

"Look at a team like the Miami team, and they paid \$45,000 to come here, but were able to play in a series like this in our own backyard," Koski said. "I think it



**Storm second baseman Joe Nelson makes a diving stop of a groundball hit by the Chardon, Ohio Glaciers Blake Otterson. He then made the throw from his knees for the out during the CABA High School World Series on Tuesday at Euclid's Paul Serra Field.**

gives you a better appreciation of the kind of baseball played in the CABA High School World Series once you exuberance it and you are done. I would tell all the young guys at Mayfield if they get the chance to play in it, take advantage of the opportunity."

And almost as importantly as I feel the opening [phrase is to the players, it should be equally as crucial to the city of Euclid, Ohio. I only hope that years and years from now, when I am an old sportswriter way past my prime, hanging out in a rocking chair with some grand kids and checking a portable display unit for the high school scores and the location of my teeth, the CABA High School World Series is still going on every summer in Euclid, Ohio.

That is where it belongs, and every effort should be made to help the fine people who run the series to keep it there. Whether that effort be spiritual, physical or financial, Euclid, Ohio and the CABA High School World Series go hand in hand.

You don't know what you got 'til it's gone.

I don't need a 1980's hair band like Cinderella to sing me a ballad to grasp the concept.

And hopefully, the players, the coaches, the city of Euclid, Ohio and the entire Northeast Ohio community understand just what those fine words mean in a high school baseball and real-life sense.

We should all hang on and appreciate something as unique and special as "The Greatest Show on Dirt."

## CABA NOTES

## Highland Heights advances

**Bill Tilton: The News Herald****Re-Printed with the permission of the News Herald**

Ten of the 38 teams that began the 2009 CABA World Series are based in Northeast Ohio.

Only one has advanced to the double-elimination championship round of 16, beginning today.

Highland Heights, Ohio Baseball finished preliminary pool play with a 4-2 record and made the field of 16 as the No. 11 seed. It will take on Team Florida Red. Florida Red is led by top right-handed pitching prospect **John Barbato**, who was clocked at 93 mph on the radar gun during the preliminary round.

Three teams from Cincinnati and two from the Columbus area will also represent the Buckeye State in the Championship Series.

Members of Highland Heights Baseball include area players **David Ianiro** (Mayfield), **Joe Wilson** (Mayfield), **John Wilson** (Hawken), **Mike Brown** (Mayfield), **Kyle Koski** (Mayfield), **Tony Galioto** (Wickliffe), **Carey Spear** (Mayfield), **Cory Nager** (Mayfield), **Rob Razzante** (Mayfield) and **Tim Wetzel** (Mayfield). Wetzel verbally committed to play at Ohio State last week.

## CAMPUS LIFE

Among the Division ! Colleges that have been in Euclid, Ohio this past week to scout the CABA High School World series are North Carolina, Wake Forest, Xavier, Ohio University, Toledo, Akron, Miami (Ohio) Kansas State, Kent State, Bowling Green, Cleveland State, Purdue, and the University of Cincinnati, Not to mention countless Division II and Division III programs as well.

## AROUND THE TOWN

With 38 teams each playing six games in the preliminary round, sites for the CABA World Series aside from Euclid, Ohio.

This year, Eastlake North, Lake Catholic, Mentor , Notre Dame Cathedral Latin (NDCL), Solon, Ravenna and Kent State were also host sites for the early round games.

## HEFTY PRICE

Coach **Dave Westberry**, who brought two teams up to the World Series from Miami, Florida, said it was close to \$45,000 in travel, food and lodging.

Westberry, coaching in his 19th World Series at Euclid, said his hope is that with the big money being put into the local restaurants and hotels by all of the out-of-town teams that the City of Euclid, Ohio and the community gets behind the CABA World Series.

"They could have a great thing here in Euclid, Ohio for a long time, but I think the city and the community and everyone need to get behind this World Series more." Westberry said. "The guys who run the World series, like Ed and Mac, are great. But I think more needs to be done in support of the event by the City."

## Several area teams compete in CABA World Series

By Brian Lavrich Euclid Sun Journal

Re-Printed with the permission of the Euclid Sun Journal

**Euclid, Ohio** --- The Continental Amateur Baseball Association's High School World Series kicked off this weekend in several sites across northeast Ohio, with close to 40 (38) talented teams slugging it out in "The Greatest Show on Dirt."

One of the closest contest came between two area teams. The Northern Ohio Hurricanes, based in Brunswick, Ohio defeated Highland Heights Baseball, 7-4, on Paul Serra Field in Euclid, Ohio.

It looked like Highland Heights had taken control as it scored two runs in the bottom of the sixth to break a 2 - 2 tie, but the Hurricanes countered with five in the seventh.

**David Ionaro** of Mayfield was cruising along on the mound for Heighland Heights until the seventh. He struck out **Zak Knettel** to start the inning, but **Brian Kennedy** of Brunswick and **Zach Miller** (two for three, two runs) both singled.

Leadoff hitter, **Cory Napoli** of Brunswick singled home Kennedy to pull the Hurricanes to 4-3 Napoli finished two for four with two runs scored and two RBIs.

Ianiro reached his pitch count limit and was lifted for reliever **Kyle Koski**, who had been playing left field.

Ianiro was the tough luck loser as he worked 6 1/3 innings. He surrendered five runs on nine hits and one walk with three strikeouts, though he allowed just six hits over the first six innings.

Highland Heights coach **Dave Ianiro** said it was a tough loss because they played well against a tough opponent.

"It just didn't happen for us today," he said. "We made a few mistakes and had a few missed opportunities."

"(Northern Ohio) is a very talented team. They're part of the great competition of this series."

"The hurricanes' **Jake Thomas** doubled home miller with the tying run before Koski fanned **Matt Corpora** for the second out.

**Chaz McGrain** of Olmstead Falls, Ohio was hit by a pitch to load the bases, setting up a showdown between Koski and **Matt Ellenbest** of Medina, Ohio.

Ellenbest blasted a bases clearing double into the right field gap for the 7-4 final.

"That felt great," Ellenbest said. "We came in after the sixth inning and said, "We have to do something. If we lose the game, we're pretty much done (for the series)."

The victory upped Northern Ohio's record to 3-3 and kept its chances alive to advance to the round-of-16 Championship double elimination series.

Highland Heights which fell to 4-2 is mostly compared of players from mayfield, but it also had players from Hawken, Benedictine and St. Edward.

Northern Ohio coach **Gregg Napoli** said he enjoyed the seventh. "We had not had a big inning like that in a couple of weeks," Napoli said.

Regardless of winning or losing both teams were happy to be a part of the CABA High School World Series.

"Teams from every part of Ohio and from other states," Dave Ianiro said. "There's a lot of talent. These kids go on to play college baseball.

"It's a lot of fun. Fans can come out and see some really good baseball, It's awesome."

Gregg Napoli agreed. "The competition is stellar. You see really good defense and pitching. You need to bring your 'A' game."

Earlier in the day, Euclid American Legion Post 343 lost to the Cincinnati Hurricanes, 8-6 as five Euclid errors proved costly.

American Legion coach **Dave Sprochi** said the Euclid club hurt itself.

"Most of their runs scored when we dropped a pop up or made other miscues," Sprochi said. "it's the little things like that. They scored four or five runs because of mistakes." American Legion fell to 0-4 and will miss advancing to the sweet 16.

Sprochi said he had trouble getting some players to commit to the World Series. He reached out and got three players from Kenston, plus one each from Hawken and Mayfield.

"It's a great deal (for the City of Euclid)," Sprochi said. "it's a heck of a tournament." "Plus it's an excellent chance for kids to get looked at (by college scouts)."

Other area teams in the series include the Diamond Boys (2-3) with players from Solon, Ohio, Cuyahoga Heights, Ohio, Brecksville, Ohio and Twinsburg, Ohio, the Storm Baseball Club (1-1), also from Solon, Ohio with players from St. Ignatius and University School, Northern Ohio Hurricanes (Orange) (3-3) from Strongsville, with players from Bay Village, Ohio and North Olmstead, Ohio; Premier Baseball Academy (2-3), with players from St. Ignatius, Ohio and the Lake Erie Baseball Club Bulldogs (2-3) with players from Solon, Ignatius, Westlake and Twinsburg.

## Weather can't stop another successful CABA World Series

By Brian Lavrich Euclid Sun Journal

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The annual Continental Amateur Baseball Association High School World Series concluded Saturday at Paul Serra field and at Kurt Stanic High School field with the Top Tier Americans from Lake Forest, Illinois defeating the Florida American Post 43 Red team from Miami, Florida 6-0 in the final game.

Florida Red, hailing from Miami, had to win three straight games on the same day just to reach the final. One of its victories was an 8-0 elimination of defending World Series Champion Brooklyn Bergen Beach.

The Columbus Cannons were the best Ohio team, losing to the Top Tier Nationals from Lake Forest, Illinois 9-6 on the final day.

Tournament director Tom McNamara said this was one of the most difficult World Series to run because of the repeated thunderstorms during the week.

"It was the worst World Series we have had weather wise" McNamara said. "We had a lot of obstacles to overcome but we got the Series in."

As always, the World Series is all about getting young players recognition.

"I've heard from scouts themselves that this is the only tournament where 17-year-olds get seen by the maximum number of college and professional scouts," McNamara said. "That's whether your's local of from out of state."

One of the local teams from Highland Heights Baseball, competes every year. This year it went 4 - 2 and advanced to the Championship round of 16 teams before loosing the last two games.

"We did well" Ianiro said. "The competition is great. We right with teams out there that select who they want on their team."

Highland Heights Baseball is comprised almost entirely with players from Mayfield.

"That's the way it always was," Ianiro said. "We don't go out and scout people. It's more important to have good families and good personalities."

Still, Ianiro said there's plenty to like about the CABA World Series.

"It's not all about baseball." Ianiro said. "It's the surroundings and the

great experience for the kids. They make friendships that last a lifetime."

Field director Paul Serra said it's always fun to watch the CABA World Series.

"It's one of the things that makes Euclid, Ohio called 'Baseball City USA'" Serra said.

"It brings in a lot of people and scouts, so the platers have a good chance to be seen."

Serra agreed with McNamara about this years Series.

"It went as well as it could considering the weather," Serra said. "That's always tough on teams."

Serra also wanted to complement McNamara and World Series National Director Ed Carpenter. "They do a great job of keeping it going," Serra said.

McNamara wanted to make sure to thank all the people that helped put the World Series on, especially the ground crews.

"The guys at both Euclid (Recreation Department) and the Euclid Board of Education went above and beyond the call of duty to get the fields ready." McNamara said.

"McNamara called the rain "unprecedented" for the World Series.

When asked what his favorite moment of the World Series was, he couldn't pin one time.

"We saw a lot of good games, but the general cooperation of everyone involved and getting everything done (is what I remember)," McNamara said. "We had terribly unusual circumstances."

McNamara said more than 400 players from outside Ohio came to play in the World Series and help northeastern Ohio's economy by staying in hotels, eating in restaurants and shopping in stores.

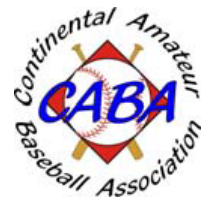
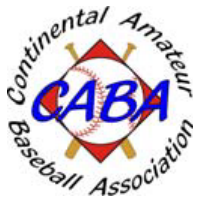
There were 38 teams in this years' field just two off the all-time high of 40 in the past two years. "That's an indication of what the World Series means to players," McNamara added "It's a wonderful opportunity for the kids."



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**Continental Amateur Baseball Association**  
2009 Official 16 Team Double Elimination Championship Bracket  
High School CABA World Series  
Revised August 2, 2009



Held in Euclid, Ohio July 17 - 25, 2009

**Round 1** Wednesday 7-22  
**Round 2** Wednesday 7-22  
**Round 3** Friday 7-24  
**Round 4** Friday 7-24  
**Round 5** Saturday 7-25  
**Round 6** Saturday 7-25  
**Round 7** Saturday 7-25

