



New England Intercollegiate Baseball Association



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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UNIVERSITY DIVISION TEAM DEFEATS COLLEGE DIVISION, 5-3, IN 2012 NEIBA ALL-STAR GAME

BROCKTON, MA – The 38th annual New England Intercollegiate Baseball Association (NEIBA) All-Star Game was held last night at Campanelli Stadium in Brockton, Massachusetts with the Division I University team coming out on top with a 5-3 victory over the Division II and III athletes of the College Division squad. Though roster numbers were small for the University team, a three-run homerun by Holy Cross senior Steve Tkowski in the top of the 6th gave his team the 3-1 lead en route to the eventual two-run win.

The College Division team got on the board first in the bottom of the third inning when senior Matt Jacobs from the University of Massachusetts Lowell reached base on a fielding error by the University squad. He advanced to second on a single by Endicott College senior Danny Mello and both base runners moved up on a passed ball. Jacobs was then able to score on a second passed ball giving the College Division team the 1-0 lead.

It remained 1-0 until the top of the 6th inning when University team got on the board. Senior Tim Martin from the University of Connecticut singled through the right side and Central Connecticut State University sophomore JP Sportman followed with a walk. Tkowski then homered to left field bringing in three runs, giving the University team the 3-1 advantage. The Division I squad later tacked on another run in the top of the 7th when Brown junior Kevin Carlow walked and scored on a double by Northeastern freshmen Jason Vosler. The University team then capped its scoring in the 9th when Carlow singled through the right side, took second on a single from Vosler, moved to third on a wild pitch, and scored on a single from Sportman.

The College Division team did not go quietly in the bottom half of the 9th, as they scored their second run of the game after Rhode Island College senior Kyle Allaire reached base on a fielding error and went to third on a double to right center by UMass Lowell junior James Katsiroubas. Allaire then crossed home on a wild pitch to make it 5-2, and a single from Katsiroubas's teammate, senior Cam Kneeland, brought him home to cut the College Division team's deficit to just two runs, 5-3. However, that would be all the College squad would muster as the University team finished off the 5-3 win.

Vosler led the University team with two hits and Tkowski led all players with three RBI. Five different pitchers saw time for the Division I squad including Carlow, who pitched two innings while striking out four. Senior Joe Popielarczyk from the University of Massachusetts also had a solid performance on the mound, pitching three full innings and striking out three batters. Junior Sean Furney of the University of Rhode Island earned the win with two scoreless innings of relief.

Western Connecticut State University senior Mike Yates and Mello each finished with two hits for the College Division team. The Division II and III team also saw five pitchers take the mound including the NEIBA Division III Pitcher of the Year, senior Tyler Erickson from Castleton State, who pitched two perfect innings on just 18 total pitches. Southern New Hampshire senior Brad Monroe started on the mound and also went two innings, striking out four batters.

At the conclusion of the game, Monroe was named the Pitcher of the Game and Tkowski was named the Player of the Game. With the win, the University Division team improves their overall record to 23-12-2 in the 38-year history of the event.

The 2012 NEIBA award winners were recognized prior to Monday's first pitch. Sacred Heart received the Division I Team of the Year award and Greg DiCenzo of Holy Cross accepted the Division I Coach of the Year accolade. Southern New Hampshire received both Team of the Year and Coach of the Year honors for Division II while Eric Podbelski of Wheaton College and his team took home the Division III awards. Tim Shea, head coach at Southern Connecticut State University, was honored as the Jack Butterfield Award winner for integrity and dedication to the game of baseball while Brian Lambert, assistant coach at Brandeis University, was awarded the Kevin Burr Assistant Coach Award. The Andy Baylock Distinguished Service Award was presented to long-time Massachusetts Maritime Academy Coach Bob Corradi, who just completed his 40th season as head coach of the Buccaneers.

The NEIBA would like to thank Campanelli Stadium and all those who helped make last night's game a memorable experience for all involved.