

**2006 National High School Baseball Coaches Association  
National Player of the Year**



**Bill Rowell  
Bishop Eustace Prep High School  
Pennsauken, New Jersey  
6'5" L-R Infielder**

**There are many obstacles to playing baseball in the great state of New Jersey. One of the biggest is the rain, which is as unpredictable as it is constant. In his career at Eustace Prep, Billy Rowell was more consistent than the rain, which he spent so much time pushing off the field with a rake.**

**However, its no wonder why Rowell was selected ninth overall pick in the 2006 MLB First Year Draft the other day. At 6'4", 200 pounds, he is reported as looking even taller, with good speed and quickness. In his senior year Rowell had a standout year. He hit .561, with 46 hits, 7 home runs, 10 doubles, 1 triple, 34 walks with an on base percentage of .692.**

**Rowell set the career record for home runs at Bishop Eustace in Sewell, NJ, hitting 35 and setting the season record with 14 as a junior. Rowell's other career stats are a .508 batting average, fourth overall, 161 RBI's, first overall, 145 hits, and 32 doubles.**

**Billy was the first high school position player to be selected in the draft this year. At Eustace, Billy played in the middle of the infield as a big shortstop. He grew up watching Cal Ripken, and saw what he was able to accomplish. Who could contain excitement, when selected to play for their childhood hero's old team. The left-hand hitting Rowell was chosen by the Orioles and will most likely play with one of the team's short-season affiliates this year.**

**"He's a pretty confident kid, and he is destined to play pro ball," his high school coach Sam Tropiano was quoted as saying in an interview with the Philadelphia Inquirer's Pete Schnatz a few years ago.**

**"He can run, throw, field, hit for average and hit for power," Coach Tropiano continued. In a national showcase scouting report, there are references to Rowell being a potential middle of the order run producer. Billy has good bat speed, gets good extension and the ball explodes off his bat.**

**"Bill is a five tool player who had a tremendous high school career. Just a dream player to coach-strong arm, excellent foot speed, fantastic infielder," Tropiano adds.**

Not only is Rowell a force on the field he is a leader off as well. He is dedicated and loves the game. He has spent countless hours working out at home, where he has a batting cage in his basement.

It is apparent Bill Rowell is made for the Majors. We will all be watching you as you progress through the levels. Good luck!

By David A. Himmelstein

<b>D</b>	<b>Player</b>	<b>School, State</b>	<b>Pos</b>	<b>Yr</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>Ben Gibson</b>	<b>Center Moriches HS, Center Moriches, New York</b>	<b>Lhp</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>Bill Rowell</b>	<b>Bishop Eustace Prep HS, Pennsauken, New Jersey</b>	<b>Infield</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>Adrian Cardenas</b>	<b>Monsignor Pace HS, Miami Lakes, Florida</b>	<b>Infield</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>Joe Benson</b>	<b>Joliet Catholic HS, Joliet, Illinois</b>	<b>Outfield</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>Zach Von Tersch</b>	<b>Cedar Falls HS, Cedar Falls, Iowa</b>	<b>Rhp</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>Kyle Drabek</b>	<b>The Woodlands HS, The Woodlands, Texas</b>	<b>Rhp/SS</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>7</b>	<b>Tim Alderson</b>	<b>Horizon HS, Scottsdale, Arizona</b>	<b>Rhp</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>8</b>	<b>Travis Snider</b>	<b>Jackson HS, Mill Creek, Washington</b>	<b>OF</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>POY</b>	<b>Bill Rowell</b>	<b>Bishop Eustace Prep HS, Pennsauken, New Jersey</b>	<b>Infield</b>	<b>12</b>