

National High School Baseball Coaches Association/Baseball Factory 2005



Rookie of the Year

Not every team is blessed with talented young players. Once in a while, coaches will pray for a gamer that has talent both on and off the field. Michael Main came as an answer to that prayer.

As a sophomore Michael dominated other teams from the hill. Topping out at 95 mph, he went 6-0 with an ERA of 0.70, as well as having 59 strikeouts in 38 innings. Main's best performance of the year came against Eustis High School. It was early in the season and DeLand was ready to take on their competitive rival. Main threw 6 complete innings when the rain started coming down in buckets. In a 0-0 tie, Main had no-hit one of the most powerful teams in Florida. Out of the 18 outs, Michael struck out 15. Unfortunately this game was never finished.

"Michael is at DeLand because he is an IB, or college prep student. Here is an absolutely all-American kid. He is not one problem. When you think of talent, I think of Michael. He just is a good person and a good player," commented Coach Ric Sperling.

Michael not only pitched for DeLand High School, he also played right field. With tremendous speed he stole 22 out of 24 bases. Michael is an above average runner and ran the 60 in 6.7 seconds. He also hit for an average of .350 as a sophomore and .407 as a freshman.

"Michael's passion is baseball. He has been playing since he was 5. He works hard and practices a lot. He eats and breathes baseball," Michael's mom shared. His passion for the game helped him when he was voted top prospect of the class of 2007 by Baseball America. Michael's mom continued, "His attitude in the class reflects on the field. He is very humble."

Main was selected to play with the USA baseball's Junior team this summer, as well as having competed last year with the Youth National Team.

"Not often does a talent like this come along. Michael definitely comes to play everyday!" Coach Sperling said with pride.

Good luck Michael. Keep dealing.

By David A. Himmelstein