

2009



Team to Watch



North Cobb High School, Acworth, Georgia

By David Himmelstein

This spring the North Cobb Warriors of Acworth, Georgia, plan to strap on their spikes and prepare for battle. After finishing second in the region last year, they are preparing to win the 5AAAAA title.

Coach Tom Callahan, in his fourth year as head coach, has several key returnees with a single goal in mind, to win. Callahan has a strong game plan and talent to execute.

“After an appearance in the state semifinals last year, we will need to find a way to replace the offensive firepower lost to graduation,” reports coach Callahan.

One way is with pitching. Senior Clay Dalton, RHP/1B, is a member of the Atlanta Journal-Constitution's All-Northwest Georgia team in 2008; Dalton helped guide his North Cobb High School squad to a 23-12 record and a state semifinals appearance in 2008.

A 2008 All-Cobb County selection by the AJC and Marietta Daily Journal, Dalton posted a 10-2 record with 89 strikeouts and a 2.14 ERA his junior season and was an alternate for the USA Baseball 18U National Team Trials.

He participated in the 16th Annual USA Baseball Tournament of the Stars presented by Major League Baseball as a member of the USA Stars team in 2008 and was listed among the top 50 prospects competing in the event.

As a number two starter Lucas Hart, a junior, is 6'3" 160 RHP/SS. Hart is clocked at 86-88 with excellent control. In 2008 he was 5-3 with 4 complete games, 17 BB in 45 IP. Rounding out the Warriors pitching rotation is Jordan Johnston, senior P/DH. Last spring Johnston hit .387, with 4 HR and 28 RBI. On the bump he went 6-4, with 73 K in 63 IP.

“The Warriors are returning an abundance of senior experience and leadership. We plan to compete for the 5AAAAA title but will contend with some tough competition,” Callahan describes.

Helping out on the defensive end and adding some much needed firepower is senior catcher Evan Hester. As a junior Evan hit .339, with 22 RBI and 14 2B. There is also senior outfielder, Lamar Bridges, who hit .359 and scored 20 runs.

Overall the Warriors have a mission and a plan to dominate. With the additional key newcomers, North Cobb will be a force in their region. Keep an eye for this experienced club. Good luck Warriors!