

Preparing Tomorrow's Stars



## Kevin Green



**A**t the recent grand opening of the All American Baseball Center's North Campus in Gibsonia, PA, attendees received a very special introduction. On a day filled with festivities, including the Revolution 10U winning the inaugural game at the North Campus, Kevin Green was welcomed back into the growing baseball community that is the north region of Pittsburgh. Previously serving as Director of Baseball Operations for the former Diamond Training Center, Kevin is well-primed to serve in the same position at 1035 Executive Drive.

Green joins the North Campus having recently served as Hitting Coach for two of the minor league affiliates of the Chicago Cubs in both 2006 and 2007. Following the most recent season, he vacated this position, formally accepting the position as Director of Baseball Operations for the AABC

North Campus. Since then, he has instructed both Gold Members and Militia team members in private and group training.

The Utica, New York native began his collegiate playing career at Mohawk Valley Community College in 1993, before graduating from Ohio Dominican University in 1997. During this time, he was named both Third Team and Second Team Junior College All-American, in addition to being named NAIA Honorable Mention All-American. He was also fortunate enough to have participated in both the JUCO (1995) and NAIA (1996) World Series. In 1995, he was drafted by the Florida Marlins out of Mohawk Valley Community College. During the summer of 1997, he signed with the Marlins, choosing to earn his Bachelor of Arts Degree in Communication before accepting the invitation into professional baseball. As a Marlin from 1997-1999, Kevin played in the New York-Penn League, Midwest League and Florida State

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League as a Center Fielder.

Following his professional baseball career with the Florida Marlins, Green began coaching in various capacities throughout college and professional baseball, including Division II Dowling College, where he earned a Masters Degree in Elementary Education while serving as Dowling's Hitting and Outfield Coach. During this

time, he also coached in two different summer leagues, both the New England Collegiate Baseball League and the Cape Cod League, which boasts the most prestigious and talented amateur players in America.

To schedule private lessons with Kevin Green, please call the All American Baseball Center at 724-444-8850.

## Revolution Coach of the Month

### Matt DeSantis



**M**att DeSantis, head coach of the 14U Red team at the All American Baseball Center's East Campus, is in his third year as a head coach for the Revolution Baseball program. Previously, DeSantis played college baseball for the University of Pittsburgh and Keystone Junior College.

During his time at Keystone College in La Plume, PA, Matt played catcher for two years. He was an academic All-American there for both years in which he played. In his second season, he was named team captain, while also receiving all-region honors. After graduating from Keystone College, he transferred to the University of Pittsburgh, where he played for two seasons, eventually graduating with scholastic honors.

DeSantis looks back at his time as a Revolution coach and considers it a blessing to coach within the program. Having moved up with the first team he coached, the 12U Red team, he has learned a great deal about each individual. "My favorite memories with my team are the times spent off the field getting to know the players. Obviously winning the Painesville tournament was a great baseball memory, but getting to know the kids outside of games and practices for the characters that they are has made me feel like I have 12 little brothers off the field."

"I have seen great improvements in not just the Revolution players, but also our lesson attend-

ees. I believe that we have the right formula to help kids succeed. Our instructors have the experience, passion, and dedication necessary to help young players take their game to the next level. Sometimes the development is hard to see at first, because the improvement happens over time, not over-night. When a player has the will to work hard at this game, success is bound to come."

Regarding his passion for the game of baseball, DeSantis sees no better fit than the career in which he has chosen. "I enjoy dealing with the different characters that make up a baseball team. It has been an interesting ride seeing all of these kids grow up and watching them mature as baseball players and as young men. Most of all, I enjoy having the ability to affect a child's life in a positive manner. There is no better feeling than working hard with a student, and one day seeing a light bulb turn on. That is why I do this job."

DeSantis currently serves as Director of Baseball Operations for the All American Baseball Center's East Campus. Since its opening in late 2005, he has instructed both hitters and catchers. To schedule private lessons with Matt DeSantis, please call the All American Baseball Center at 412-380-7000.



# North Campus

A new era in All American Baseball history began on January 26, 2008 with the opening of a new facility in Gibsonsia, PA. Located at 1035 Executive Drive, the North Campus features a full-sized infield, six batting cages, four Iron Mike pitching machines, a fast-pitch softball machine and a bullpen, matching the appeal of the East Campus in Trafford, PA. With this expansion into the north region of Pittsburgh, young baseball players from the local school districts now have a state-of-the-art facility at which they may train. Local school districts within a short driving distance include Hampton, Pine-Richland, Mars, Seneca Valley,

Butler, Knoch, North Allegheny, North Hills, Fox Chapel, Shaler and Deer Lakes.

All inclusive within one building, students will have the opportunity to not only improve their baseball skills, but to complete strength & conditioning training in the Alexander's Athletic Club complex. In addition, speed & agility training is available with UPMC Sports Performance, also located in the same facility. This trio represents an unprecedented combination that is the first and only such training facility within hundreds of miles of Western Pennsylvania.

One of the newest features at the North Campus is the College Bound Program, designed to

prepare high school students for the next level of baseball. With the added potential of receiving athletic scholarships, this program is essential to any serious baseball player. Students will undergo a structured training schedule that will allow them to develop the proper techniques and fundamentals necessary to compete in college baseball. At the North Campus, students will train with a former minor league baseball hitting instructor, a former Division I pitching, catching & fielding coach, and a Division I letter-winning outfielder. This combination is certain to fit any player's needs, regardless of position.

For more information about the North Campus, or to schedule private lessons, please call 724-444-8850.

## Frank LaCava



The All American Baseball Center has recently announced the addition of Frank LaCava to its East Campus staff. He joins All American with an equally impressive and extensive resume that has helped him to become a top baseball instructor. A Penn Hills graduate in 1988, he later went on to play baseball for Gulf Coast Community College in Panama City, Florida.

Following his playing career, LaCava began coaching various teams throughout the Western Pennsylvania region. Over seven seasons as an assistant at Franklin Regional High School, his team captured two WPIAL titles and three section titles.

He also coached at Gateway High School, and is now instructing the 12U Red team at the All American Baseball Center's East Campus.

LaCava will be charged with implementing the College Bound Program, an upcoming series designed to prepare high school baseball players for collegiate baseball. It will feature baseball-specific training, as well as a combination of strength, speed, agility and explosive-movement training. "I am very excited to have the opportunity to offer the College Bound Program to Western Pennsylvania's high school baseball players. It is the first of its kind in the region, and I am sure that the students involved in the program will go on to have very successful baseball careers." Designed by LaCava, with the assistance of Randy Querriera, this program is an excellent choice for all high school players who are serious about competing in college baseball.

To inquire about the College Bound Program, please contact Frank LaCava at 412-380-7000.

## Looking Back

In the summer of 2007, the Revolution 10U played in a major baseball tournament in Rehoboth Beach, DE. When they began the tournament on May 26, they took part in an unforgettable ride that will live in their memories forever. This is their story, as it was told in an essay by the players:

"What we did on the weekend of the tournament in Rehoboth Beach was great. It meant a lot of things to us. We were the underdogs on the last day of the tournament and we won all three playoff games to the win the championship. Our team worked so hard and got along so well. It was our teamwork that helped us win five games and es-

pecially the championship game, which we won in extra innings, 4 to 2."

"It felt like we were the champions of the entire east coast! We ended up playing seven games in three days. It felt very good to win because we came into the tournament seeded sixth and ended up winning the championship. It was unbelievable! We had the energy

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and the confidence that we were going to win. On the day of the championship, it was very hot, but our team never gave up, and we played great through each of the three games. Over the three days we spent in Rehoboth Beach, the temperature was over 90 degrees!"

"While we were at the tournament, we built some good relationships with each other. We became a family. It was really fun playing together, and it was a great experience. At the end of

each day, we swam in the hotel pool. We also got pizza from Domino's. One night, we all went on the boardwalk and played at the beach and swam in the ocean."

"Rehoboth Beach showed how teamwork, great leadership and a whole lot of heart can make you a winner. With the heat, the extra games, the sixth seed and everything else, the odds were against us. In the end, we pulled together and won. Rehoboth really was the best time of our lives."

Contributing to this article and the success of the team were Scott Koscho, Nick Satovich, Matt Frey, Collin Liberatore, Jordan McCall, Alex Tishko, Adam Salandro, Shane Churma, Jake Jessell, Luke Smeltz, Ashleigh Yanniruberto, Shane Mallon, Ryan Grieco, Head Coach Randy Querriera and Assistant Coaches Ken Satovich & Mark Salandro.

## Cline & Majewski



**D**avid Cline and Rich Majewski have traveled the baseball world on different paths, but those paths do seem to cross quite often. The first time, they played together on the Pittsburgh Pandas summer collegiate baseball team. This time, they have been united at 1035 Executive Drive with the same goal: to improve the foundation of baseball throughout the region. Combining their skills allows them to do just that.

Cline began his collegiate career at the University of Pittsburgh, where he hit the ground running, both literally

and figuratively. Taking nothing away from his offensive abilities, which earned him three varsity letters and two Big East Player of the Week honors, he made a name for himself with his blazing speed. After his graduation from the University of Pittsburgh with a degree in Administration of Justice, he began instructing both outfield and hitting lessons at the All American Baseball Center's East Campus and eventually the same at the North Campus.

Majewski began his career at Bethany College in West Virginia as the starting shortstop during his freshman year before switching to the outfield for his remaining three seasons. After being voted First Team All-PAC for three consecutive seasons, he graduated with a degree in Physical Education. Drawing from his collegiate experiences, Majewski currently instructs infielders, outfielders and hitters at the North Campus.

Though Majewski and Cline

played baseball in different states, they found themselves on the same team, playing in the same outfield for the Pittsburgh Pandas. Sharing the same passion for baseball, it is no surprise that they stayed friends after two seasons with the Pandas. Perhaps it was this same passion that helped them lead the Pandas to victory in the 2006 NABF Collegiate World Series.

After parting ways at the conclusion of the World Series, the two were reunited in January at the North Campus and continue to share love for the game that has inspired them to coach. Both can be found six days per week instructing private lessons, academies and AAU practices. To help young players achieve success similar to their own, they will continue to preach the value of hard work both on and off the field.

Lesson packages are available for both instructors, and can be scheduled by calling 724-444-8850.

# Junior Sluggers

The All American Baseball Center recently held its Continue to share love for the game that has inspired them to coach. The first Junior Sluggers Academy at both the East and North Campuses. The Junior Sluggers Academy is designed to build the essential motor skills needed for the development of young athletes, specifically those aged 4-5.

This academy focused not only on these gross motor skills, but also the baseball fundamentals necessary to achieve future success within the sport.

"These young children now have an understanding of the basic fundamentals of baseball," said Rich Majewski, lead instructor for the Junior Sluggers Academy. "It is crucial that they receive instruction at an early age. This allows them to develop proper mechanics, helping them to gain a competitive advantage over children not receiving similar instruction."

The students of the academy

attend four sessions lasting one hour each over the course of a month. They complete a series of drills that cover hitting, fielding, base-running and receiving skills. Majewski believes that this early training is crucial for their development. "Too many children have poor baseball mechanics and do not learn the proper style until later in life, at a time when their bodies are fully developed. It is very important to break these bad habits at an early age, helping to develop sound muscle memory."

For more information regarding the Junior Sluggers Academy, please contact the East Campus at 412-380-7000, or the North Campus at 724-444-8850.

## AABC Shorts

- The catchers in the Revolution baseball program were recently treated to a special guest instructor for one of their practices. In attendance was Mike Berger, Professional Scout for the Toronto Blue Jays. During the 90 minute practice, he instructed the young baseball players on the importance of on-the-field communication, hard work, and a positive attitude. Berger was a 4th round draft pick by the Pittsburgh Pirates as a catcher. He also played minor league baseball for the Montreal Expos and the Texas Rangers. Following his playing career, he scouted for the Expos, Houston Astros, Colorado Rockies and Blue Jays. Berger also has professional managerial experience, having served as the Manager of a minor league affiliate of the Texas Rangers.
- Seven players from the recent 18U Revolution spring team have signed letters of intent to attend local colleges.
  - Robbie Wratcher will attend Division I Youngstown State University, in Youngstown, OH.
  - John Russell will attend LaRoche College in Pittsburgh, PA.
  - J.J. Tougher will attend LaRoche College in Pittsburgh, PA.
  - Jeremy Mains will attend Saint Vincent College in Latrobe, PA.
  - Jeff Jones will attend Gannon University in Erie, PA.
  - Dan DeCaria will attend Muhlenberg College in Allentown, PA.
  - Craig Kornick will attend Washington & Jefferson College in Washington, PA.
- The Revolution 9U received runner-up trophies at the Sandcastle Open in Rehoboth Beach, DE, and the Diamond Dawgs classic in Canonsburg, PA.
- The Revolution 10U team has received the runner-up trophy three times during the 2008 spring season.
- The Revolution 11U Red team recently captured the #1 seed and later won Atlantic Coast Baseball's Regional Tournament. They also defeated the 11U Blue team to capture the Squirrel Hill Tournament Championship.
- The Revolution 11U Blue team recently defeated the 11U Red team to capture the Diamond Dawgs Classic.
- The Revolution 12U Red team recently won the Junebug Jamboree in Rehoboth Beach, DE, where they outscored opponents 81-12 on their way to a 5-0 record. They also captured the Spring Swing Tournament, hosted by Atlantic Coast Baseball, as well as the Showdown in Morgantown.
- The Revolution 13U Blue team finished as the Division II runner-up for the Battle On The Border tournament, hosted in Boardman, OH.
- The Revolution 13U Red team recently finished as the runner-up for the Diamond Dawgs Wood Bat Tournament in Canonsburg, PA.
- The Revolution 14U Red team finished as the runner-up for the Battle On The Border and the Showdown in Morgantown.



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## Free Baseball Evaluations

The All American Baseball Center will annually hold free baseball evaluations in both the spring and the fall. These baseball evaluations will give players of all skill levels an opportunity to be evaluated by our professional instructors. Upon completion of the evaluation, they will also receive feedback on the skills in which they can improve upon. For more information, please contact our East Campus at 412-380-7000 or our North Campus at 724-444-8850.

## Disclaimer

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## TIPS FROM THE ALL - AMERICAN

Baseball Players, send us your baseball questions to:  
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