Chipola wins national championship in baseball

The Chipola Indians captured the school’s first national championship in baseball Saturday with a 7-3 win over New Mexico Junior College in the NJCAA National Championship.

Winning pitcher Ryan Chaffee pitched a complete game and was named Outstanding Pitcher of the tournament. He struck out eight and gave up only five hits against the New Mexico squad that was averaging nearly 10 runs a game in the tourney. Chaffee humbly admitted, “It was probably my best game and the biggest game of my life.”

Logan Pierce started Chipola’s offensive strike with a double in the first. He was three for five on the day. Paul Gatchel was three for four on the night. Tom Hatcher was three for five. Trey Manz homered in the fourth. Chipola scored one in the first, two in the fourth, two in the seventh and single runs in the sixth and eighth innings.

Indians pitcher Drew Parker earned MVP honors for the tournament with two wins and two saves. Chipola coach Jeff Johnson gave all the credit to his players. “We’ve got some great kids with some big old hearts,” he said. “They’re not worried about the draft or where they’re going to play next year. They just worried about playing for Chipola.” Tom Hatcher, Ryan Chaffee and Drew Parker were named to the All-Tournament Team.

Chipola scored six runs in the first inning and seven runs in the second inning on their way to a huge 27-12 win over Spartanburg Methodist earlier on Saturday to earn a spot in the Championship game. Trey Manz and Daniel Renfroe both homered in the first and Jesus Barroso homered twice in the offensive onslaught. Drew Parker was the winning pitcher for Chipola in six innings.

The Indians won four of five games on their way to the national title, beating Iowa Western College 11-5 on May 26, the first day of the tourney. The Indians scored five in the sixth after a two run homerun by Tom Hatcher. Hatcher hit another two-run homer in the top of the ninth to give Chipola the 11-5 advantage.

Chipola outlasted Spartanburg 14-12 in the teams’ first round meeting on Monday. The Indians earned a spot in Friday’s semi-final with a 7-6 win over San Jacinto (TX) College on Wednesday. Chipola’s only loss of the tournament was a 10-6 misfire against Spartanburg on Friday in the semi-finals.

Chipola is the first Florida team to win the national tournament since 1988 when Hillsborough Community College captured the title. Coach Johnson, an 11-year veteran of the Chipola program said, “It’s tough to get here to the national tournament so you have to take advantage of the opportunity and that’s just what our kids did.”

The baseball title was the crowning achievement in what has been an incredible year for the Chipola sports program. The national title in baseball comes just two weeks after the Lady Indians captured the school’s first national championship in softball.

Chipola made Florida history in May as the only Florida community college to win four state titles in the same year with championships in men’s and women’s basketball, baseball and softball. Of his part in the history-making year, Johnson said, “We’ve got a great administration, great coaches and great community support at Chipola. You’ve all got to be on the same page to have a year like this.”

Chipola’s first national championship came in men’s golf in 1967. In a related note, Chipola coach Jeff Johnson was presented a set of golf clubs as coach of the national championship baseball team.

**This Week at Chipola**

**11 MONDAY**
- Early Summer II Registration Payment Deadline
- Health Science Faculty Meeting — 12 Noon

**12 TUESDAY**
- Last Day to Resign from All Classes for Summer I Term
- Executive Council — 9 a.m., A 192

**15 FRIDAY**
- College Closed for Four Day Work Week

**16 SATURDAY**
- CAAP Exam for All AA Summer Graduates
Summer Session II registration is June 21

Registration for Summer Session II at Chipola College is Thursday, June 21. Classes begin Monday, June 25, with late registration continuing through noon on June 26.

Students who take at least one class during the summer term may register early for Fall 2007 classes.

College officials have revamped the schedule to provide classes at more convenient times. Many evening courses and distance learning courses are available during the six week summer sessions.

Applications for Admission are available in the Admissions Office located in the Student Service Building or on-line at www.chipola.edu

Chipola offers the Associate in Arts Degree, the Associate in Science Degree, Workforce Development programs and Bachelor of Science Degrees in Secondary and Middle School Education with majors in Math and Science.

Business majors are encouraged to contact the college for information on a new Bachelor’s of Applied Science degree in Business Management to begin in January of 2008. Application deadline for new students planning to enroll in summer classes is April 20.

The Summer Schedule is available online at www.chipola.edu. For information, call 850-718-2211.

Summer programs set at Chipola

Chipola will offer programs for children of all ages this summer.

**Chipola Baseball** Coach Jeff Johnson will offer several camps.

A **Young Pitchers Camp** for ages 8-12 will meet June 11-12. Cost is $100. A **Pitching Camp** for ages 13-18 will meet June 13-14. Cost is $100. A **Young Hitters Camp** for ages 8-12 will meet June 18-19. Cost is $100. A **Hitting Camp** for ages 13-18 will meet June 20-21. Cost is $100. All baseball camps meet from 9 a.m. to noon. Call 718-2237.

**Chipola Softball** Coach Belinda Hendrix will offer several camps.

A **Young Skills Camp** for ages 12 and under will meet June 18-19 from 1-4 p.m. Cost is $60. A **Skills Camp** for ages 13 and up will meet June 20-21 from 1-4 p.m. Cost is $60. Two **Hitting Clinics** will meet June 18 and 25 from 6-7 p.m. Cost is $25 per night.

**Private pitching lessons** are also available. Call 718-2358.

**Chipola Basketball** coach Greg Heiar will offer **Boys Basketball Camps** for two age groups, June 11-13. A camp for ages 7 to 11 meets from 9 a.m. to noon. A camp for ages 12 to 15 meets from 1 to 4 p.m. Cost is $75. The Chipola coaching staff and players will help youngsters learn the fundamentals of basketball. For information, call 718-2364 or 209-1010.

Two more basketball camps for grades 8-12 are also scheduled. Session one is July 16 and 17, from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. at Chipola College. Session two is July 18 and 19, from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. at Bay High School in Panama City. Cost is $35 per player. Each session includes individual and team instruction from Coach Heiar, and Chipola players. Contact Joe Calloway (850)718-2451.

**Swimming lessons** will be offered for ages four and up. The next session is scheduled for June 18–28. Classes are available at 9 a.m., 10 a.m. or 7:00 p.m. Sessions are Monday through Thursday for two weeks of 45-minute lessons. Cost is $45 and pre-registration is required, with a $5 late registration fee. **Infant and Preschool Swimming lessons** for children 3 and under will meet June 11-14 and July 23-27 with classes available at 10 a.m. and 7 p.m. Cost is $30. For information, call 718-2473.