



MADONNA UNIVERSITY
SPORTS INFORMATION OFFICE
36600 SCHOOLCRAFT
LIVONIA, MI 48150
734-432-5834 - PHONE
734-432-5555 - FAX

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Patrick Moore - Sports Information Director
734-432-5834

CRUSADER BASEBALL LANDS EIGHT STANDOUT SIGNEES

Defending WHAC champions ink two junior college transfers and six recent high school grads for 2009

LIVONIA, Mich. - - Head baseball coach **Greg Haeger** announced the signing of eight student-athletes to letters of intent to continue their athletic and academic careers starting this fall at Madonna University. Multiple all-state selections, a high school all-American and two junior college transfers highlight the latest additions to the defending Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference regular season and tournament champions.

Joining the Royal Blue and Gold is some of the top talent from both the junior college and high school level from around the state. The two junior college transfers - **Tim Duffy** (*Carleton, Mich./Airport HS*) and **Jeff Mann** (*Waterford, Mich./Kettering HS*) - are coming to MU from Jackson Community College. Haeger has also inked six high school players: **Brian Diroff** (*Allen Park, Mich./Cabrini HS*), **Robert Fraser** (*Westland, Mich./John Glenn HS*), **Tom Hansen** (*Rochester Hills, Mich./Adams HS*), **D.J. Jaglois** (*Birmingham, Mich./Groves HS*), **Chris Kangas** (*Westland, Mich./John Glenn HS*) and **Spencer Sarel** (*Brighton, Mich./Brighton HS*).

"I think that we have added a lot of talent with this group of student-athletes," commented Haeger. "These players, along with what we have returning, will make up what our staff hopes is a very strong and talented team that can help us defend our WHAC titles from 2008. There are a number of these signings who will be asked to step in right away and see significant time. I feel that our staff has done an outstanding job in evaluating talent in the area and has found just a great beginning to our class this spring and summer. We hope to add a few more pieces to the puzzle before we wrap up our efforts."

The eight newcomers join a Madonna squad that won 37 games - the most since the 2005 team posted 40 wins. MU also captured both the WHAC regular season and tournament titles for the third time in the last four seasons.

2008 Madonna Baseball Signees

Name	Pos.	B/T	Ht.	Yr.	Hometown/High School/Previous School
Brian Diroff	INF/RHP	R/R	5-11	Fr.	Allen Park, Mich./Cabrini HS
Tim Duffy	INF	R/R	6-2	Jr.	Carleton, Mich./Airport HS/Jackson CC
Robert Fraser	RHP	R/R	6-2	Fr.	Westland, Mich./John Glenn HS
Tom Hansen	LHP	L/L	5-11	Fr.	Rochester Hills, Mich./Adams HS
D.J. Jaglois	OF	R/R	6-1	Fr.	Birmingham, Mich./Groves HS
Chris Kangas	LHP/INF	R/L	6-2	Fr.	Westland, Mich./John Glenn HS
Jeff Mann	RHP	R/R	6-0	Jr.	Waterford, Mich./Kettering HS/Jackson CC
Spencer Sarel	INF/RHP	R/R	6-2	Fr.	Brighton, Mich./Brighton HS

Biographical sketches and quotes from coach Haeger are on the following pages.

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Brian Diroff
Fr. | INF\RHP
5-11 | 185 lbs. | R/R
Allen Park, Mich. | Cabrini High School

Named all-league, all-Catholic and all-state as a senior at Cabrini High School in Allen Park, Michigan, this spring...earned four varsity letters on the diamond as well as the football field to go along with two more on the basketball court...was tabbed all-league, all-Catholic, all-district, all-area and team most

valuable player as a junior on the diamond...hit .314 with 27 hits and posted a 6-1 record on the mound as a junior...had 695 yards rushing, eight touchdowns and 66 tackles while also serving as the Monarchs' punter and place kicker and took home all-Metro West and all-state awards in addition to all-league and all-Catholic honors on the gridiron as a junior...posted 750 yards rushing to go along with 350 receiving yards and 12 touchdowns as a senior...also a member of the honor roll...father played baseball at Wayne State...plans to major in fire science at MU...

Haeger's comments on Diroff:

"Brian comes to us after an all-state year at Cabrini. He made all-state as an infielder and while he is going to get a chance to do some work in the infield, we are very interested in doing work with Brian as a pitcher and see what we can get out of him."



Tim Duffy
Jr. | INF
6-2 | 195 lbs. | R/R
Carleton, Mich. | Airport HS | Jackson Community College

Has spent the last two seasons at Jackson Community College in Jackson, Michigan...Hit .305 as a sophomore at Jackson CC with 33 RBIs and 10 doubles, while leading the team with seven home runs...hit .284 with three homers and 25 RBIs to go along with 12 doubles as a freshman for the Jets

at JCC...helped JCC reach the NJCAA regional tournament each of the last two seasons...earned nine letters in baseball, basketball and football at Airport HS...helped the baseball team to a pair of district titles (2004, 2006) and a league championship (2006)...had a combined 15 home runs and 82 RBIs his last two years of high school...named as team most valuable player after helping the Blissfield American Legion team to the 2007 state title...father played football and baseball at Wayne State and his older brother played baseball at Michigan State...undecided on a major at MU...

Haeger's comments on Duffy:

"Tim is going to come in and play a very important position for us at third base with the loss of Pat Kenny. He has bounced around between first and third base during his career. Tim had a very good sophomore season at Jackson Community College, hitting seven home runs. We feel Tim is another strong player who can hit the ball hard for us."



Robert Fraser
Fr. | P
6-2 | 180 lbs. | R/R
Westland, Mich. | John Glenn HS

Earned three letters in baseball for the Rockets...played senior season for former Crusader assistant coach Tom Wakefield...threw 57 innings with 78 strikeouts against just 19 walks while posting a 2.00 ERA as a senior...named all-district and all-division in 2008...led the team in strikeouts as a junior...also

lettered in tennis as a senior, playing at the number two singles slot for the Rockets...was a four-year member of the honor roll...undecided on a major at MU...

Haeger's comments on Fraser:

I had the opportunity to see Robert throw a week ago and he was hitting 85-88 miles per hour on the gun which is something that is real exciting for us. He is a young man that played under one of my former assistants in Tom Wakefield at Glenn. Robert has an opportunity to come in and do some great things with the amount of pitching we lost due to graduation this year.



Tom Hansen
Fr. | LHP
5-11 | 160 lbs. | L/L
Rochester Hills, Mich. | Adams HS

Earned three letters in baseball at Adams HS in Rochester Hills, Michigan...named all-conference and all-area as a senior for coach Chuck VanRobays...posted a 5-0 record to go along with a 2.41 earned run average this spring...struck out 41 hitters in 40 2/3 innings pitched...averaged seven punch outs per game...hit .301 with 13 RBIs, seven doubles, three triples and eight steals...also earned a letter as a member of the Highlanders hockey team and was named all-conference...was a high school teammate of current Crusader infielder Mike Ganser...plans to major in criminal justice at MU...

Haeger's comments on Hansen:

"Tom is a former teammate of Mike Ganser at Adams and I love the way his arm works. While he might not be the prototypical pitcher we've been recruiting lately, he has great arm action and is another three pitch guy. He has great depth on the curve ball and a change up with plus movement on his fastball. We expect great things from him."



D.J. Jaglois
Fr. | OF
6-1 | 165 lbs. | R/R
Birmingham, Mich. | Groves HS

Earned one varsity letter in baseball for coach Jim Crosby at Groves High School in Beverly Hills, Michigan...named all-state, all-district and all-conference as a senior...posted a .527 batting average with 33 runs scored, 11 doubles, four home runs and 41 runs batted in...named his team's most valuable player as a senior...ranks in three different top-10 all-time categories at Groves (RBIs, hits and batting average)...won the 2007 CABA World Series home run derby as part of the Lakes Area Dodgers...undecided on a major at MU...

Haeger's comments on Jaglois:

"D.J. is another talented outfielder. He is a hitter who can drive the ball who we expect to see time early on in his career here. He comes from Groves High School and was named all-state following his senior year. We are expecting good things out of D.J. early on."



Chris Kangas
Fr. | LHP/INF
6-2 | 205 lbs. | R/L
Westland, Mich. | John Glenn HS

Earned four varsity letters in baseball and one in football at Westland's John Glenn HS...played along side fellow signee Robert Fraser for former Crusader assistant coach Tom Wakefield...named his team's defensive most valuable player as a sophomore and a junior to go along with a team MVP selection as a junior...tabbed all-district and all-division as a senior, despite missing half of the season to a dislocated elbow...as a junior, Kangas posted a 2.56 earned run average in 52 innings...set the school record with 125 at-bats as a junior as well while leading the Rockets with six doubles...undecided on a major at MU...

Haeger's comments on Kangas:

"Chris really had to gut it out this year, playing most of the year after dislocating his right elbow. He is unique in that he is a right handed hitter, left handed thrower. Our thoughts on staff here are that we want to see Chris become a first baseman We look for him first to get healthy and get his swing back so that he can drive the ball the way we know he can."



Jeff Mann
Jr. | RHP
6-0 | 215 lbs. | R/R
Waterford, Mich. | Kettering HS | Jackson Community College

Spent the last two seasons at Jackson Community College in Jackson, Michigan...played along side fellow signee Tim Duffy...went 2-2 this spring, striking out 17 hitters in 29 innings of work...as a freshman in 2007, Mann posted a 6-3 record with 41 strikeouts in 23 1/3 innings of work for the

Jets...prepped at Waterford's Kettering HS...earned two letters each in baseball and football, while picking up three in wrestling...named all-Oakland Activities Association and all-area as a pitcher following his senior season...also named all-league on the gridiron as a senior...was a three-time team captain on the wrestling mat, posting over 100 wins during his career and being named all-conference after becoming a state qualifier as a senior...the Oakland Press tabbed Mann as one of the top-10 wrestlers in the area as a senior...plans to major in sports management at MU...

Haeger's comments on Mann:

"Jeff is going to be an interesting pitcher. While he's not a flame thrower, he is a guy who gets three pitches over the plate, throwing in the 83-85 mile per hour range and has good off speed stuff. Jeff threw very valuable innings at Jackson this year and we expect that out of him next season as well."



Spencer Sarel
Fr. | INF/RHP
6-2 | 180 lbs. | R/R
Brighton, Mich. | Brighton HS

Earned four letters in baseball - three at Hartland HS before completing his senior year at Brighton HS...named all-conference and all-district as a senior...selected as a 2007 Under Armor All-American...named all-conference and team most valuable player as a junior at Hartland HS...set the MHSAA

single season record with nine triples as a junior as well...named honorable mention all-conference as a sophomore...named to the honor roll in addition to receiving academic honors as a senior at Brighton...plans to major in education at MU...

Haeger's comments on Sarel:

"Spencer is another corner infielder who also spent his senior season with an injured elbow. He is just a flat out hitter. He can hit the ball to all gaps and will have the opportunity to swing the bat right away as a freshman."