



PORTER BASEBALL

MESSAGE FROM THE DUGOUT: Season Outlook From Coach Satunas

The 2011 Lockport Varsity Baseball team opened up training camp on February 28th with a focus on TODAY. In order to prepare for the rugged Southwest Suburban Blue Conference, the Porters are focusing on what they can do each day to improve themselves. With this TODAY focus, our players are concentrating on playing high level catch and creating pressure on offense.

Entering into the 2011 season as the defending SWSC Blue champions, the Porters are going to rely on a very experienced pitching staff and one of the most athletic teams in recent memory (12 multi-sport athletes; 4 of which play 3 sports) to defend their crown. As always, we believe that the journey towards a conference championship will get us battle tested for a berth in June's IHSA 4A State Tournament at Silver Cross Field in Joliet.

The Porters experience on the mound can be seen in the stats, with the return of 18 wins and 169 of the 243 innings pitched during the 2010 season. Seniors Jake Bulthuis (8-1, 69 innings, 82 K), Mike Hamilton (52 innings, 61 K), Garret Kooi (31 innings), Pat Domke and Bob Wilmsen look to challenge each other for innings. Our senior class will be pushed by a talented junior class who will be looking to get experience and contribute.

On defense, the old adage that you can judge a team's defense by how strong they are up the middle, should reflect well on the Porters. In 2011, the Porters are excited to have their starting catcher Brenden Dunleavy, second baseman Matt Skrzypiec, shortstop Tommy Hook and centerfielder Billy Reed return. Along with them, leftfielder John Kosmowski and 1st baseman Mike Hines also return. At third base, Sean Frain will be challenged by newcomer Josh

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No. 2- Spring 2011 Highlights Inside



March/April Calendar

A complete listing of games and special events during the first two months of the 2011 season.

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A few tips on the importance of outfield defense to the overall defensive game plan of a baseball team

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A closer look at Jon Cisna Class of 09', as he begins his sophomore season with the Cardinals of Ball State.

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A quick look at two of this year's seniors, Jake Bulthuis and Pat Domke, who will take on leadership roles for the Porters.

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Where Are They Now?

A look back at a special Porter who hit one of the biggest HR's in Porter Baseball history. Remember this guy?

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Also inside:

- *Complete Rosters of All Teams
- *Another Look at the Record Book
- *Latest Booster Club News

Special Events of Note

- **PORTERS SPRING YOUTH CAMP**
Sat.March 6^t 8-11:00 am
- **PORTERS SPRING JUNIOR HIGH CAMP**
Sat.March 6th 12-3:00 pm
- **SPRING CLEAN-UP DAY**....Sat. March 12th
- **CANDLELIGHT BOWL NIGHT**
Sat. ...March 26th...Lemont Lanes.... Time TBA
- **BROTHER RICE AT UIC**
Les Miller Field.....Tues...March 29th...7:30 PM
- **YOUTH BASEBALL NIGHT**
Fri.April 29th.....vs. New Trier.....7:00 PM

MARCH 2011 HOME GAMES-**BOLD CAPS** Away Games-Plain Lower Case *SWSC-Italics*

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	28 Tryouts Field House	1 Tryouts Field House	2 Tryouts Field House	3 Tryouts Field House	4 Tryouts Field House	5 Var. Overnight 10pm-6am Rec. Center East
6 Youth Camp 8-11am Jr.H. Camp 12-3pm East Field House	7	8	9	10	11	12 SPRING CLEANUP DAY!!!!
20	21	22	23	24	25	26 V-DGN 11:00a S-@DGN (2) 11:00a FA-@DGN (2) 11:00a <i>Candlelight Bowl6:30p</i>
27 S-@DGS 4:30p FA-@DGS 4:30p	28 V-@Br.Rice 7:30p UIC FIELD S- Br. RICE 4:30p FA- BR. RICE 4:30p	29	30	31 V- THORNTON 4:30p S-@Thornton 4:30p FA-@Thornton 4:30p FB- GLEN.W. 4:30p		

APRIL 2011

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1 V-WJOL TOUR. TBA FA- PLFD.C. 4:30p	2 V-WJOL TOUR. TBA FB- LYONS(2) 11:00a
3	4	5 V-@L-Way W. 4:30p S- L-WAY W. 4:30p FA- L-WAY W. 4:30p	6	7 V- L-WAY N. 4:30 p S-@L-Way N. 4:30p FA-@L-Way N. 4:30p	8	9 V- ST. LAUR. 1:30p S-@St.Laur. (2) 10:00a FA-@St.Laur.(2)10:00 FB-@Lyons (2) 11:00a
10 S- T'RIDGE 4:30p FA- T'RIDGE 4:30p	11	12	13 V- JOLIET W. 4:30p S-@Joliet W. 4:30p FS-@Joliet W. 4:30p FB- JOLIET W. 4:30p	14 V-@Bradley 4:30p S- BRADLEY 4:30p FA- BRADLEY 4:30p FB-@Bradley 4:30p	15 V-@Joliet W. 4:30p S- JOLIET W. 4:30p FA- JOLIET W. 4:30p FB-@Joliet W. 4:30p	16 V-@Minooka 10:00am S- MINOOKA(2) 10:00 FA- MINOOKA 10:00a FB- MINOOKA 12:30p
17 FB- MT.CARM. 4:30p	18 V-@Sandburg 4:30p S- SANDBURG 4:30p FA- SANDBURG 4:30p	19 V-@JCA 4:30p S- JCA 4:30p FA- JCA 4:30p	20 V-@JCA 4:30p S- JCA 4:30p FA- JCA 4:30p	21 V- SANDBURG 4:30p S-@Sandburg 4:30p FA-@Sandburg 4:30p FB- SANDBURG 4:30p	22	23 V- NAP. CEN. 10:00a S-@Nap.C.(2) 10:00a FA-@Nap.C.(2)10:00a FB- NAP.C.(2) 10:00a
24 V-@H-F 4:30p S- H-F 4:30p FA- H-F 4:30p	25 FB- WILMINGTON 4:30p	26 V- H-F 4:30p S-@H-F 4:30p FA-@H-F 4:30p	27 V-@H-F 4:30p S-@H-F 4:30p FA-@H-F 4:30p	28 B- B'BROOK 4:30p FB- HERSCHER 4:30p	29 V- NEW TRIER 7:00p S-@B'Brook 4:30p FA-@B'Brook 4:30p FB- B'BROOK 4:30p	30

Who's On First? 2011 Lockport Porters Baseball Rosters

Congratulations to all of the following 82 players who were selected members of their respective teams during the five day tryouts earlier this month.

2011 Porter Varsity

Josh Altmann
Derek Bangert
Dan Bauer
Jake Bulthuis
Nick Davito
Matt DeGraw
Pat Domke
Brenden Dunleavy
Sean Frain
Mike Hamilton
Rick Hermosillo
Adam Hillebold
Mike Hines
Tommy Hook
Garret Kooi
John Kosmowski
Alex Mares
Austin Mastela
Tyler McAdams
Billy Reed
Justin Salvetti
Nick Serpico
Matt Skrzypiec
Rob Walus
Bob Wilmsen

2011 Porter Sophomore

Ryan Christian
Tony Cielenski
Mike Coladipietro
Jeff Duschene
Eric Duzan
Austin Kolmodin
Nick Larson
Nick Lindemann
Evan Martens
Doug Matthews
Jeff Milas
Kevin Neylon
Tyler Pastore
Jeff Pattison
Connor Ryan
Ron Sessler
Ted Snidanko
Jake Stanton
Brett Stogsdill
Dan Sullivan
Nick Wagner

2011 Porter Freshmen

Zachary Allison
Mike Bierovic
Lorenzo Blazekovich
Tom Bochenek
Mike Ciciora
Keenan Conklin
Colin Cruz
Ryan Dalton
Frank Diaz
Christopher Doubek
Matthew Duplessis
Joe Findley
Matt Fischer
Mike Formella
Chris Grazioli
Jeffery Hayes
Russell Hoh
Andrew Kosmowski
Justin Krzeczowski
Avery Lochow
Noah Masa
Ken Mashek
William Mrowczynski
Connor Onak
Jordan Parker
Ryan Reed
Jacob Speechley
Tyler Strutz
Samuel Teerling
Evan Thomas
Tony Walters
James Walthers
Dan Westra
Ryan Zajeski

Head Coach Andy Satunas
Asst. Coach Butch Markelz
Asst. Coach Matt Bartley
Asst. Coach Ken Dobson
Asst. Coach Adam DeCaire

Head Coach Dan Blaskovitz
Asst. Coach Dave Jeglinski
Asst. Coach Mike Creevy

Head Frosh A Tim Harmatys
Asst. Coach Adam Wason
Head Frosh B Ben Duggan
Asst. Coach Kevin O'Donovan

Coaches Corner:

Outfield? Does It Really Matter?

Is outfield play really important? I mean come on, pitching and hitting is where it's at right? Well in this issue we will make the case that outfield is not only important but could be the most important part of a team's defensive success.

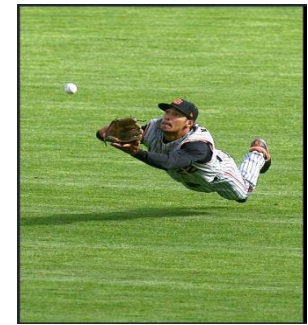
Future issues will address some of the fundamental parts of outfield play. This issue will stress the importance of "attitude". The attitude with which the outfielder approaches the way he plays his position. The attitude that he carries to the field.

In the Porter baseball program a lot of importance is placed on training outfielders not only on the physical fundamentals of their position but the mental approach as well. One very important thing is that Porter outfielders know how important

they are to the team by how much time we spend on outfield defense in practices. "Back in the day" outfielders were too often "cheated" in practice. It was something that was done to fill time during practice and not every day either. Other things, such as pitching, hitting and infield defense were placed higher on the list of things to be covered.

The attitude with which a player practices and plays is vital to his success. Therefore, in our program we create an aggressive attitude on the part of our outfielders. By "aggressive" we mean they attack every ball and don't play with fear of failure. It's "see the ball, get a good 1st step, track and pursue with aggressiveness, adjust to the ball and catch it". It's that simple!

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An outfielder must be prepared to go all out with a game on the line. As is often said, "the outfield is a team's last line of defense".

Porter Baseball Alumni Focus

Jon Cisna.....Class of 09'



Jon Cisna will enter his sophomore season with the Cardinals of Ball State University. A left hand pitcher and designated hitter his freshman season, Jon will look to play a bigger role and assume more playing time with the Cardinals.

Jon was a three-year letter winner at LTHS and earned All-State honors his senior season. He posted a .363 batting average with 11 HR and 38 RBI. On the mound he had a 4-2 record with 57 K's.

During his freshman season at Ball State, Jon appeared in 23 games out of the bullpen. He became one of his team's top relievers with a 1-1 record, 1 save and a 4.28 ERA and earned his first letter.

Jon majors in Exercise Science and posted a 3.34 G.P.A.

Porter Baseball “Senior Moments”



Jake Bulthuis.....P/1B

Jake Bulthuis, a senior pitcher-first basemen will take his career to St. Joseph College in Renssaler, Indiana next year where he will enter the Natural Resource Management and Law Enforcement programs. But before he does he has some business to take care here at LTHS.

Jake recognizes the responsibility he and the other seniors have to the team. “It’s hard to be a “team” if there are no leaders. We as seniors have to set an example and be leaders.....”. Big Jake saw how last season, Adam Wachowiak provided that leadership and it made an impression. “Even though he (Adam) was injured and couldn’t play, he was the glue that bonded us together”.

Last season Jake experienced his most memorable playing moment when he no-hit tough Minooka. Though having done that, Jake still sees room for improvement. As a hitter “I need to attack the ball more” and from the hill, he says he needs to work on “staying ahead”.

A big White Sox fan who admires Mark Buehrle, Jakes listens to “a lot of different music” and lists his all-time favorite movie as *Miracle* because its “great motivation for when things go bad”.



Pat Domke.....P

Senior Pat Domke has big plans for the future both this season and after. A talented pitcher for the Porters, Pat is also an accomplished musician and lists *Pink Floyd*, *Foo Fighters* and *Kings of Leon* as some of his favorites. His music ability has helped open opportunities at colleges he hopes to attend. Looking to major in Business, he wants to continue playing trombone and minor in Music.

Pat accepts the responsibility of being a senior. Seniors, Pat states, “have to step up and lead by example”. He understands that this season, juniors will play a major role and it is up to seniors to “make sure they do everything to help the team”. He recognizes that its also “one big chain” from one year to the next and that they need to prepare the juniors “to lead next year’s team”. He looks back on Josh Marszalek as a senior he admired for doing those things. Josh “always gave it 110% and came to work every day”.

This season Pat wants to be “more consistent”. He’s been working on his stride and increasing his arm strength and endurance as he looks to move from being a closer to the starting rotation. He wants to win, “not share” the conference title and get to the state tournament where he feels it’s important to take it “one game at a time”.

A big White Sox fan, Pat lists Paul Konerko and Mark Buehrle as his favorites. *Field of Dreams* and *For the Love of the Game* are movies he likes because they tell you to “follow your dreams” and to “tune out the crowd and focus”.

Pride of the Porters

From The Dugout (cont'd)

Altmann for playing time and Dunleavy will be pushed by Tyler McAdams, Adam Hillebold and Derek Bangert at catcher. Soph Ted Snidanko and junior Justin Salvetti will vie for playing time in the outfield.

At the plate and on the bases is where the Porters hope to use their athleticism to overcome some inexperience. John Kosmowski (.382, 25 runs, 35 hits), Matt Skrzypiec (.327, 35 runs, 36 hits, 14 2B, 10 HR) and Billy Reed will anchor our lineup with some talented underclassmen like Austin Mastela, Adam Hillebold and Derek Bangert looking to contribute.

Finally, our returning seniors chose the motto, “We Don’t Feel Pressure-We Apply It” as the way we are going to carry ourselves and play the game this season. Our coaching staff likes to call this PORTER BALL and would like to invite you out to a game and see us play this exciting brand of baseball.

See you at the field!

Coach Andy Satunas

**Chi-Town Here We Come!**

The Porters will take a road trip to Chicago to take on the Crusaders of Brother Rice on Tuesday, March 29th at 7:30 pm. The game will be played at the Les Miller Baseball Field located on Maxwell Street just east of Halsted.

Outfield Play (cont'd)

An outfielder must be free to attack a ball without “fearing” that he won’t make the play or has made a bad decision. Our outfielders know that once they have “attacked” the ball the team will support that effort and respect it regardless of outcome. That’s outfield play “Porter style”.

(*Editors Note: If you have any questions about anything regarding these articles or about fundamentals at all, feel free to contact us:

Email: porterball@comcast.net

Porters Taking Their Show On The Road and Heading South!!

On the weekend of May 7th, the Porters will take their show on the road to southern Illinois and the city of Edwardsville.

The Porters will be playing in the 5th Annual Tiger Baseball Classic against great competition including the host team Edwardsville Tigers, the defending 2009 Class 3A State Champion Chatham-Glenwood Titans and the Giants of Highland Park High School (IL). The schedule will be:

Fri. 5/6....Edwardsville...@7:00 pm
Sat. 5/7....Chatham-G....@11:00am
Sat. 5/7....Highland Pk...@ 1:30pm

All games will be played at the Tom Pile Field complex on the campus of Edwardsville H.S. Pile Field without a doubt is the finest H.S. baseball facility in the state of Illinois.

Flink Field Update**2011 Improvements**

One of the biggest changes you will see at Flink Field will be the resurfacing of the batting cages down the RF line.

During the early part of the season, when rains occur frequently (you alumni remember those great days of spring don’t you?) drainage has been a major problem because of muddy conditions .

Holes in the batter’s boxes are especially troublesome and in need of constant care.

This season the program has purchased some Astro-Turf and will be installing it on both sides of the cage in the areas where hitters stand. The rest of the cage areas will remain crushed limestone.

We will also be changing where the hitters bat in and around the cage to add more hitting stations. This will enable us to do our hitting drill sessions more effectively and in less time.

News From the Booster Club.....

Porter Baseball Boosters Golf Outing

The big announcement coming out of the most recent Booster Club meeting was that plans for this year's Annual Golf Outing are being finalized. The Prairie Bluff Golf Course in Lockport has been selected as the site. The outing will be held on **Thursday, July 14th** with a 12:00 noon shotgun start followed by a 6:00 dinner. This year's dinner will have a theme "Lockport Baseball Alumni".

We hope that players from past teams will not only join us for a round of golf but to enjoy a post golf evening of food and camaraderie. Email invitations and details will be forthcoming as plans finalize.

Candlelight Bowl Meet and Greet

Coaches and Team Parents will take to the alley's of Lemont Lanes on **March 26th** at 7:00 p.m.

Porter Baseball Fans Looking Good!

The newest Porter baseball fashions are now available for purchase. Items for sale are listed on the team's website (www.eteamz.com/porterbaseball). Many items available include caps, t-shirts, sweats and much more.

Where Are They Now?????



Greg Blaesing.....Class of 99'

Let's set the scene. It's the 1997 I.H.S.A Class AA State Championship game at Kane Co. Stadium in Geneva on a cool summer night in early June. It is the last game of a very long season for high school baseball. The game is in the bottom of the 7th inning, the Porters are down by a score of 4-2 to the Schaumburg Saxons with a runner on 1st and 2 outs. Up to the plate comes the last hope for the Porters, sophomore left-fielder Greg Blaesing. After three pitches, with a 1-2 count, Greg is down to his last strike, when Saxon pitcher Mike Nall delivers a high fastball. BAM! Greg connects and the ball sails over the outfield wall and off the scoreboard to tie the game at 4-4 and send the game into extra-innings! What a clutch hit by a clutch player.

Unfortunately the Porters went on to lose 5-4 in 9 innings but boy what a game!

Greg continued to play two more seasons for the Porters and was an All-State selection as a catcher his senior year. He went to downstate Bloomington-Normal where he was a 4-year letter winner and 3 year captain at Illinois State University. He was also named Louisville Slugger Freshman All-American.

After college Greg played with the Gateway Grizzlies in the Frontier League. Over time Greg has caught numerous pro pitchers including Neal Cotts, Jeremy Accardo, Brian Bullington and Tom Gorzellany.

On December 7th, 2010 Greg, as operating manager, opened the Quarry Fieldhouse, (inset right) an indoor multi-sports training facility in Romeoville, Illinois. It's a 30,000 square foot training center with indoor playing fields, batting cages and other training areas. It will mainly focus on baseball, softball and soccer. It's an awesome facility and one that Greg is very proud of as we certainly are of him! (www.quarryfieldhouse.com)



On the Record: A Look Back at the Record Book

In our previous issue we focused on the theme that at LTHS “*Winning is THE Tradition*”. On further examination, some could ask the question; “is winning baseball games the only source of Porter “pride”? Good question and of course the answer is no.

The Porter baseball program is extremely proud of our athlete’s accomplishments on and off the field. We are proud of those who have continued to play baseball in college and on the professional level. We are equally as proud of those who left Flink Field (the Athletic Field to oldsters) and have accomplished much in private life including police officers, fire fighters, teachers, coaches, business

owners, entrepreneurs, engineers, and of course as family men.

LTHS players have accomplished much on the field. Over the past 25+ yrs. the Porters have been extremely successful on all three levels. For example, in 19 of the past 27 yrs. the program has amassed a .700 or better winning pct. In fact, between 1983 and 2010, the varsity never had a losing season. Over the past 51 yrs. the Porters have had only 5 sub .500 seasons.

Equally amazing is the quality of student athletes that have filled our rosters. Looking back from the early 60’s, 117 athletes have gone on to play baseball in the college ranks. Because our records aren’t as accurate

as we’d like, we’re sure that this number is even higher.

In addition, 18 former Porters have gone on to play some level of pro ball. Included are the Haller brothers. Bill Haller was a major league umpire for 15 seasons and became supervisor of umpires of the American League. His brother Tom played 14 years of pro baseball (Giants, Dodgers, Tigers) including 3 straight All-Star appearances (66’-68’). He eventually became Vice-Pres. of Baseball Operations (GM) for the S.F. Giants.

On our website it states, “the Lockport H.S. baseball program is proud of all of our players. Their accomplishments are a source of pride for all of us”. How very true that is.

“The quality of a person’s life is in direct proportion of their commitment to excellence, regardless of their chosen field of endeavor”

Porter Baseball

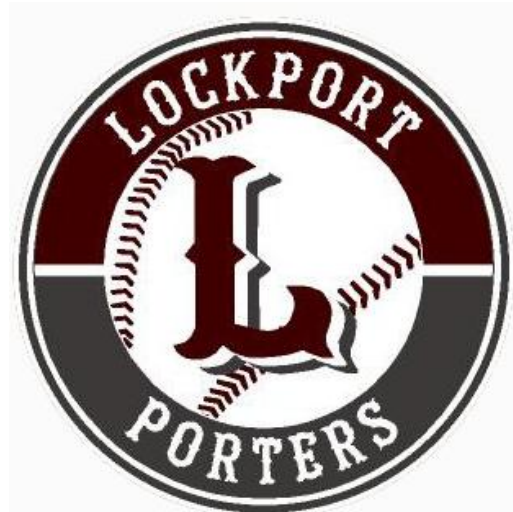
Coach Andy Satunas
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GO PORTERS!



Look for our next issue in April and will be a mid-season update on how the Porters are doing. Included will be scores, stats and standings as well as our usual features.