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The Newsletter – Volume 1 – Issue 2. February 9, 2004

Alumni Game Day – Saturday 2/7/2004

On a cold, but thankfully, sunny day, Tulane opened the 2004 pre-season with the annual Alumni game. New this year was an Old-Timer's game, consisting of Tulane alumni that have not played baseball for a few years.

Attendance for the events was very nice, peaking at about 1,000 - 1,500 for the 2001 CWS team game.

While the attendance for the Old-Timer's game was considerably less, but for everyone that was there, they were treated to a showcase of Tulane Baseball History. Performers included Dan Wagner (83-86) and David Stokes (77-80), 2 of the most prolific hitters in Tulane Baseball history. The pitchers were well represented, as well, with former Major Leaguers Frank Wills (78-80), and Kevin Mmahat (84-86). Also pitching were Kenny Francingues (77-79), who is tied for 2nd most wins in a season (13 in 1979), and Bill Kampen (79-82), the ERA leader in 1981 & 1982, with the 6th and 7th best ERA for a season in the History of Tulane Baseball.

Over 80 former players attended the 2 games, so it would be impossible to name all of the former players.

2004 Team 6 – 2001 CWS Team 5

For the 2:00pm game, the 2001 CWS (College World Series) team took on the current 2004 Tulane Baseball team.

Former Tulane greats, and current Professional players Jon Kaplan, Andy Cannizaro, James Jurries, Jake Gautreau, Michael Aubrey, Jason Fitzgerald and Tony Giarrantano recreated the tough batting lineup. For the pitchers, Professional Baseball players Nick Bourgeois, Beau Richardson and Jason Navarro pitched for the CWS team. Additional players on the CWS team included Steve Shirley, Matt Groff, Jay Heintz, Mickey McKee, Chris Searle, Brandon Belanger, Aaron Feldman, Mike Pursell, Barth Melius (aka LSU killer), Jared Berkowitz, Steven Blades, and Keith Graffagnini.

The game was one of momentum, with the 2001 team off to an early 4 run start. The 2004 Team hung tough, winning it in the late innings, off a double by Sophomore transfer Jason Pyle.

An autograph session was held after the games.

Former Tulane Coaches in attendance.

Former Tulane coaches Joe Brockhoff, Milt Retif, and Ben Abadie were all in attendance, and were introduced before the games. Brockhoff, Retif and Abadie account for more than 800 Tulane victories.



Jones, Retif, Abadie, and Brockhoff. (l-r)

Next Weekend – University Texas at Arlington.

The Wave will open up the 2004 Season with a 3 games series against UT-Arlington, on February 13-15, 2004. UT-A opens their season this Tuesday, February 10, against #6 Texas, in Austin. The NCBWA (National Collegiate Baseball Writers Association) ranked the UT-A Mavericks #44 in the 1st NCBWA pre-season poll. Tulane is ranked 10th in that poll.

Head Coach Jeff Curtis is in his 3rd year, and in 2003 guided the Mavericks to a 37-15 record, and 3rd place finish in the Southland Conference.

The Mavericks are led by Sr. RHP Mike Snapp, and Jr. OF Hunter Pence. Both players were named to the Preseason All SLC team, 1st Team. Pence hit .347 with 8 HR's, and 42 RBI's in 2003. He was named a Summer All American by Collegiate Baseball. Snapp is the Mavericks all time leader in appearances, with 95. He had 33 appearances in 2003, with a 4-4 record, and 6 saves. In 45 innings pitched, he struck out 33, walked 10, and had an ERA of 5.76.

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That's it for this week. I will close out the Newsletter with some more pictures from this past weekend.

More pictures from Saturday



1979 Team



Jake & J.J.



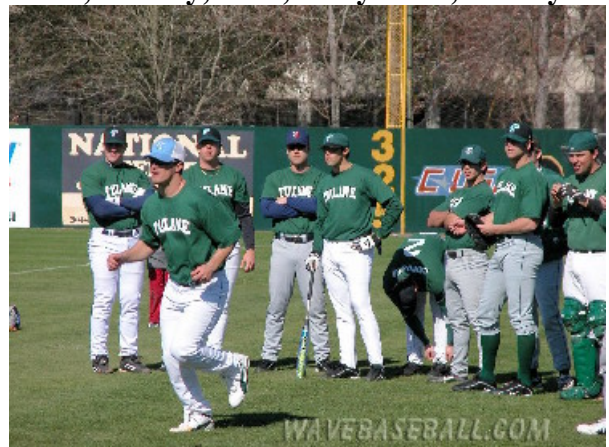
1994 Team



JJ, Aubrey, Jake, Andy Beau, Shirley



The Graffagnini / Griener Family



Belanger (running) & 2001 Team

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This is not a paid advertisement. I decided to ask you to donate to TAF, especially in light of the New Turchin Stadium. Without TAF, and the funds that are raised through TAF, the New Turchin Stadium would still be a pipe dream. So, donate now, electronic forms are available at the Tulane Website –

<http://tulanegreenwave.ocsn.com/taf/tul-taf.html>

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