

Hardee selects ASU

Written by Mike Kelly
Monday, 24 August 2009 03:30

Rising senior Cal Hardee of Watauga High has made an oral commitment to attend Appalachian State University to play baseball next season.

Hardee, a two-year varsity starter for the Pioneers on the baseball diamond, will make it official by signing his national letter of intent November 1. Hardee, an all-conference selection last season, batted .356 with 31 hits, four doubles, two home runs and he drove in 18 runs. Pitching-wise, Hardee was 4-1 with a save and 4.29 earned-run-average. In 49 innings of work, Hardee gave up 30 earned runs on 70 hits, he had 41 strike outs and he walked 27.

Hardee really raised his stock at the North Carolina State Games in Charlotte back in June. Hardee batted .455 going 5 for 11 in four games, with a home run and three RBI. He also played second base and shortstop and didn't commit an error in that four-game stretch. Hardee, who also considered High Point University, East Carolina, North Carolina State, and the University of Virginia among his college choices, also played baseball for Andy Partin and Impact Baseball this past summer. Hardee played for a traveling team called the Dirt Bags that gave him a lot of exposure among the college scouts.

WHS coach Pete Hardee is very proud of his son and very pleased with his choice.

"Our family is very impressed with coach (Chris) Pollard and the ASU baseball program," Coach Hardee said. "I also want to thank Andy Partin for all his help. Playing for Impact Baseball really gave Cal a lot of exposure this summer. App had an opportunity to watch a lot of his games.

"And ASU provided Cal with the best possible offer, and they have an outstanding facility. Academically and athletically, Cal couldn't have made a better choice."

Hardee will major in business at ASU.

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