

Baseball Receives Three More Commitments for '12

Written by Mike Flynn

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Appalachian State University baseball has received commitments from three more student-athletes to join the program in 2012,

ASU head coach Chris Pollard announced on Wednesday. RHP/IF Michael Pierson (Coral Springs, Fla./Pine Crest), RHP Taylor Thurber (Mooresville, N.C./Lake Norman) and RHP Grey Wordsworth (Greenville, N.C./J.H. Rose) will all begin attending Appalachian as freshmen in the fall and play their first collegiate season for the Mountaineers in 2012.

MICHAEL PIERSON (RHP/IF, 5-11, 180, L/R, Coral Springs, Fla./Pine Crest)

One of the top players in the high-school baseball hotbed of south Florida ... earned all-Broward County recognition from the Miami Herald as a sophomore and junior and from the South Florida Sun Sentinel as a junior ... hit .422 as a junior in 2010 with six home runs and 33 stolen bases ... coached by his father, Glen Pierson ... also recruited by Davidson, Elon and Stony Brook.

TAYLOR THURBER (RHP, 5-10, 175, R/R, Mooresville, N.C./Lake Norman)

All-Iredell-Mecklenburg Conference honoree as a junior ... nominated as the Charlotte area Pitcher of the Year ... as a sophomore, pitched for Lake Norman in Game Three of the 2009 North Carolina 3-A state championship series ... represented Mid-Atlantic Region at 2010 Team USA trials ... coached by Robert Little ... a member of Carolina's Baseball Center summer program (coached by Jeff Schaefer) ... also recruited by Wofford and Furman.

GREY WORDSWORTH (RHP, 6-1, 180, R/R, Greenville, N.C./J.H. Rose)

Went 4-2 with 1.62 ERA, 49 strikeouts and 13 walks in 33 innings as a junior at North Carolina 4-A power J.H. Rose ... coached by Ronald Vincent ... represented Region 1 at the 2010 N.C. State Games ... is also a standout on the gridiron for J.H. Rose, leading his team in tackles and earning first-team all-conference recognition as a junior ... excels in the classroom with a 4.0 grade point average and is a National Honor Society member ... also recruited by College of Charleston, UNC Asheville, Army and Navy.

Additionally Thurber, Wordsworth and ASU fall signees Brandon Burris (IF, Concord, N.C./Mt. Pleasant), Luke LaSalle (OF/C, Taylorsville, N.C./Alexander Central), Alex Leach (IF/OF, Charlotte, N.C./Ardrey Kell), Jamie Nunn (RHP, Winston-Salem, N.C./Mt. Tabor) and Jeffrey

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Springs (LHP, Belmont, N.C./South Point) were recently honored by Rawlings/Perfect Game USA as preseason all-Atlantic Region selections. Leach was tabbed as a second-team honoree while Burris, LaSalle, Nunn, Springs, Thurber and Wordsworth all received honorable-mention recognition. Pierson was an honorable-mention selection in the Florida Region.