

ASU Baseball Inks Eight to Letters of Intent

Written by Mie Flynn

Thursday, 17 November 2011 08:22

Eight student-athletes signed National Letters of Intent to join Appalachian State University's baseball program during the fall signing period, head coach Chris Pollard announced on Wednesday. Right-handed pitcher Sam Agnew-Wieland (Marietta, Ga./Wheeler/Middle Georgia College), left-handed pitcher Alex Barr (Boonville, N.C./Starmount), outfielder Jaylin Davis (McLeansville, N.C./Northeast Guilford), infielder Dillon Dobson (Boonville, N.C./Starmount), catcher Alex Minton (Millers Creek, N.C./West Wilkes), infielder Dylan Richardson (Randleman, N.C./Randleman), right-handed pitcher Clyde Tate (Lexington, N.C./North Davidson) and outfielder Preston Tiller (Charlotte, N.C./Ardrey Kell) will arrive at ASU next fall and take the field for the Mountaineers in 2013.

"Once again, we feel like we have signed

one of the best classes in the state of North Carolina and the Southern Conference," Pollard said. "These are eight talented young men that will represent Appalachian well on the field, in the classroom and in the community. Recruiting coordinator Josh Jordan has done a tremendous job in identifying prospects that are great fits for our program and he and assistant coach Chris Moore have put tremendous effort into the recruiting process. I tip my cap to them for bringing these eight terrific student-athletes into the Appalachian family."

RHP SAM AGNEW-WIELAND (6-1, 210, Marietta, Ga./Wheeler/Middle Georgia College)

The only transfer among Appalachian's seven signees comes to ASU from Middle Georgia College by way of Georgia State University ... big, powerful right-hander sports a 91 mile-per-hour fastball ... went 2-1 with a 3.23 ERA as a freshman at Georgia State last spring ... struck out 34 and walked 16 while limiting opposing batters to a .230 average over 30.2 innings for the Panthers ... fanned a GSU season-best 11 batters in just six innings in a win over Alabama State ... transferred to Middle Georgia in the fall and will pitch for the Warriors this coming spring before making his way to the High Country ... was a first-team all-region selection and two-time all-county honoree as a prep at Wheeler H.S. in suburban Atlanta ... coached by Craig Young at Middle Georgia and Dave McDonald at Wheeler H.S. ... also recruited by Mercer, Kennesaw State and Georgia Southern.

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LHP ALEX BARR (6-1, 210, Boonville, N.C./Starmount)

Big-bodied southpaw sports a fastball in the 90s ... ranked by Impact Baseball as one of North Carolina's top 50 players ... represented Region 7 in the North Carolina State Games ... coached by Mike McCann ... also recruited by Western Carolina.

OF JAYLIN DAVIS (6-1, 175, R/R, McLeansville, N.C./Northeast Guiford)

Ranked by Perfect Game Crosschecker as one of the top 500 recruits in the nation and by Impact Baseball as one of the top 35 players in the state of North Carolina ... earned all-conference and all-area recognition last spring after hitting .468 with 13 doubles, 11 home runs and 54 RBI ... hit .453 with five doubles and seven homers as a sophomore in 2010 ... represented Region 5 in the North Carolina State Games ... participated in the prestigious South Atlantic Border Battle ... played for former Major Leaguer Scott Bankhead with the North Carolina Baseball Academy Golden Spikes ... coached by David Lawing ... also recruited by Elon and NC State.

IF DILLON DOBSON (6-1, 195, L/R, Boonville, N.C./Starmount)

Ranked by Impact Baseball as one of the top 25 players in the state of North Carolina ... earned all-conference recognition as a sophomore and junior ... represented Region 7 in the North Carolina State Games ... National Honor Society member ... coached by Mike McCann ... also recruited by UNC Greensboro and Western Carolina.

C ALEX MINTON (6-3, 230, L/R, Millers Creek, N.C./West Wilkes)

Regarded by many as a possible high selection in the 2012 Major League Baseball Draft ... one of the nation's top high-school power hitters ... won home run derbies at both the North Carolina State Games and North Carolina American Legion all-star game last summer ... in addition to the State Games and American Legion all-star game, participated in the prestigious East Coast Pro Showcase ... all-conference and all-county honoree as a junior at nearby West Wilkes H.S. ... helped lead West Wilkes to N.C. 1-A state championship as a sophomore ... coached by Ben

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Welborn and Drew Ward ... also recruited by Florida.

IF DYLAN RICHARDSON (5-8, 160, R/R, Randleman, N.C./Randleman)

Hit .524 with 10 home runs as a junior to help lead Randleman H.S. to the North Carolina 2-A state championship last spring ... named 2011 Randolph County Player of the Year ... all-state, all-conference and all-county honoree ... represented Region 7 in the North Carolina State Games ... ranked by Impact Baseball as one of the top 25 players in the state of North Carolina ... coached by Van Hurley, Jr. ... also recruited by Elon, UNC Greensboro and East Carolina.

RHP CLYDE TATE (6-1, 175, Lexington, N.C./North Davidson)

Ranked by Perfect Game Crosschecker as one of the nation's top right-handed pitching prospects ... tabbed as North Carolina's No. 34 recruit by PG Crosschecker and a top 30 prospect in N.C. by Impact Baseball ... boasts a 92 mile-per-hour fastball ... coached by Mike Meadows ... also recruited by UNC Wilmington and UNC Asheville.

OF PRESTON TILLER (5-8, 175, R/R, Charlotte, N.C./Ardrey Kell)

Hit .376 with two home runs and a 1.000 fielding percentage as junior last spring before season was cut short in early April due to a hand injury ... earned all-conference recognition last spring despite the injury ... three-year letterwinner was the only freshman on Ardrey Kell's N.C. 4-A state championship team in 2009 ... coached by legendary North Carolina high-school mentor Hal Bagwell, an ASU alumnus that also coached former Mountaineers David Rubinstein and Matt Andress and current ASU freshman Alex Leach ... also plays for coach Don Hutchins' South Charlotte Panthers, one of the nation's top travel teams that counts ASU's Ryan Arrowood, Tyler Tewell and Tyler Zupcic among its alums ... also recruited by Wingate and Western Carolina.

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