



MEDIA RELEASE

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Hannibal Cavemen Announce 2010 Roster Additions

HANNIBAL, MO - The Hannibal Cavemen announced additions to the 2010 roster as they near the start of the Prospect League opener on June 3.

Six players have been added to the 2010 roster, including an NCAA Division I top-10 stolen base infielder and a leader among Junior College Division II home run hitters.

Jerry Hildreth, a short stop from Mississippi Valley State, will join his college double-play partner Curtis Ford in the Cavemen infield. Hildreth has been among the NCAA Division I stolen base leaders all year. Going into the school's conference tournament, Hildreth has 38 steals in just 50 games. He is also hitting .376 with 10 doubles, 4 triples, and 2 home runs.

"Jerry has great speed and knows how to use it," explained Cavemen Manager Jay Hemond. "He has a very high success rate as well and can really disrupt an opponents defense. He will definitely be a spark at the top of the line up."

Also joining Hildreth and Ford from Mississippi Valley State will be right-hand pitcher Steven Barnes. Barnes, who has been used as both a starter and in relief is 5-5 with a 6.71 ERA. He has also compiled 61 strike outs in 61.2 innings.

"With a 90+ mph fastball and a hard slider, Steven should have great success in a wood-bat league like the Prospect League," Hemond said. "He got off to a slow start this year which skews his stats a bit, but as of late he has really come on for the Delta Devils."

The Cavemen have also added two teammates from current Cavemen Matt Burton's school of Redlands Community College. Nick Rountree, a third baseman/catcher, brings some great offensive numbers to the Cavemen. At the time of his signing with the Cavemen, Rountree was batting .440 with 16 home runs.

"Nick has put together a great offensive season. He will bring additional power to the middle of the Cavemen line up and will be a nice right-handed compliment to the left-handed power of Ryan Porter," added Hemond.

The other Redlands CC player is RHP Taylor McKinney. In limited innings, McKinney has more strike outs than innings pitched.

“McKinney originally went to Oklahoma State, a traditional power in college baseball,” Hemond explained. “He transferred to Redlands after an injury and his arm strength has come back and he is again a 90+ mph fastball guy. He should be a great pick up this late toward the start of the season.”

The Cavemen also added two other pitchers who received recognition in their conferences post-season awards. Hannibal-LaGrange RHP Justin McGhee joins the Cavemen after posting a record of 8-3 with a 5.37 ERA while striking out 69 in 68.2 innings.

“Clay Biggs (HLG head coach and hitting coach of the Cavemen) strongly recommended McGhee. He is a four-pitch pitcher and a work horse for a staff. Out of his 11 starts this season he completed 5,” Hemond said.

The other pitcher is Jake Moser of the NAIA Clarke College. Moser was 4-3 with a 5.21 ERA and struck out 46 in 46.2 innings.

“Jake has a very good fast ball,” Hemond explained. “ He throws in the 90's and has grabbed the attention of Major League scouts. We are excited to have him as a part of our pitching staff this season.”

The Cavemen open their Prospect League season at Clemens Field on June 3 at 6:35 pm against the Dekalb Liners.

Hannibal Cavemen
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