

3-13-1986

Baseball Team Opens with Ten-Game Florida Swing

Cedarville University

Follow this and additional works at: https://digitalcommons.cedarville.edu/baseball_news_releases



Part of the [Higher Education Commons](#), and the [Sports Sciences Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Cedarville University, "Baseball Team Opens with Ten-Game Florida Swing" (1986). *Baseball News Releases*. 9.

https://digitalcommons.cedarville.edu/baseball_news_releases/9

This News Release is brought to you for free and open access by DigitalCommons@Cedarville, a service of the Centennial Library. It has been accepted for inclusion in Baseball News Releases by an authorized administrator of DigitalCommons@Cedarville. For more information, please contact digitalcommons@cedarville.edu.

SPORTS NEWS RELEASE

from Cedarville College Yellow Jackets

SPORTS INFORMATION
CEDARVILLE COLLEGE
BOX 601
CEDARVILLE, OH 45314
MARK WOMACK, DIRECTOR
513/766-2211 ext. 505 Office
513/766-5244 Home

13 March, 1986

For immediate release:

BASEBALL TEAM OPENS WITH TEN-GAME FLORIDA SWING

Cedarville College will open its 1986 baseball edition with a doubleheader Saturday at Trinity Baptist College in Jacksonville, Fla. That twinbill precedes next week's eight-team round robin tournament at Cocoa Beach that the Yellow Jackets will participate in. Cedarville has 37 games in all scheduled for this spring.

Second-year coach Dan Coomes only had 13 players last year, but the club raised some eyebrows by finishing as the NAIA District 22 runner-up with an 18-11 record. Coomes has 10 of those 13 players returning to go along with eight newcomers to face what he believes is the toughest schedule any Cedarville baseball team has ever had.

"We will have very few easy games," said Coomes. "What makes the season even tougher is the fact that it may take close to 25 wins to even qualify for the district tournament. The Mid-Ohio Conference will be strong again and we hope to challenge both Ohio Dominican and Mt. Vernon Nazarene for the title." Cedarville tied for third in the MOC a year ago at 9-5.

Coomes' main concentration during the winter workouts has been with the pitching staff. His top four hurlers from a year ago are all back and he expects a stronger staff that has depth.

All-NAIA District 22 performer Tom Pratt (7-2, 3.63 ERA) is projected to have a solid junior year. Sophomore Dan Erlandson (3-1, 1.80) is back after ranking fifth in the NAIA

-more-



Last year in earned run average. Chris Walter (6-4, 5.57) was the team-leader in strikeouts in '85 and Sam Springer had a pair of saves.

Coomes contends that this year's hitting will be much improved over last spring's team batting average of .263. "We will have a good mixture of line drive and power hitters in the line-up. I believe we'll hit at least .285 this spring."

Cedarville native Steve Cremean, Norm Cox, and Finny Rajchel all return as .300-plus hitters. Lamar Eifert is back after a year layoff when he hit five home runs as a freshman.

The Yellow Jackets are strong up the middle defensively. Brian Marburger and Rajchel will share catching duties, Cox and Cremean will form the shortstop-second base duo, and junior Danny Olinger will handle the centerfield position. Coomes anticipates an overall defense that will be better than last year's unit that ended up sixth in the NAIA with a .954 fielding percentage.

"We will be an aggressive running team," Coomes predicted. "I'll be surprised if we don't shatter the school stolen base record." The Jackets registered 81 thefts out of 100 attempts last year.

Cedarville's first home contest will come on Saturday, March 29 in a doubleheader with Defiance College.