

BAY AREA TOROS

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FIRST CBL DRAFT PICKS 38 PLAYERS FROM 10 STATES



NEWS

For Immediate Release

Contact: Bob Ibach (214) 234-0018 or cell: (847) 922-6686 or Ron Baron (214) 234-0018

Players from 10 States Selected by Four Teams

First Continental Baseball League Draft Features 38 Picks, Including 20 from Texas

Dallas, Texas; April 2, 2007 - There was a 49-year old southpaw pitcher from California who flew into Texas in pursuit of his dream of playing professional baseball. Others came from New York, New Jersey, Michigan, Illinois, Minnesota and places closer, such as Tennessee, Arkansas, Kansas, Missouri and Florida.

They all had one common goal: win a spot on one of the four Continental Baseball League teams. The CBL, an independent league, will begin its first season of play on May 25, the kickoff to a 60-game, 12-week schedule. Three teams from the Dallas area will be the Lewisville Lizards, Tarrant County Blue Thunder and a regional team, the Texas Heat. The fourth team, located near Houston, is the Bay Area Toros.

Under the watchful eyes of each team manager, more than 150 players attended the March 30 all-day workout session at the MAC in Lewisville, ages ranging from 18 to 49. With bad weather, the testing, drills and hitting were conducted indoors. From this group, 38 players were drafted and 37 were signed by the four teams, 11 by the Heat, 10 each by Lewisville and Tarrant County and 6 by Bay Area.

And no, the 49-year-old lefty didn't make the cut.

Eighteen of the 38 players drafted were pitchers, however, with the Heat taking 9 hurlers from among the 11 players it drafted. The Toros selected four pitchers from among its seven draft picks, while the Blue Thunder chose three pitchers and two other players who pitched and played an infield position. Ironically, Lewisville chose only position players and did not select a hurler.

Additional roster announcements and signings will continue throughout April and into mid-May, before rosters are finalized. Upcoming selections will come from additional tryouts in April, plus professional players coming over from other independent and affiliated leagues who are seeking opportunities.

"We're very pleased and encouraged by the level of talent we saw from this first round of tryouts," noted CBL president and CEO Ron Baron. "In talking to the managers in attendance (Curtis Wilkerson of Tarrant County, Jim Bolt from Bay Area, Tom Goodwin of Lewisville and Royce Holder of the Texas Heat), I think we all felt there were some quality players in this group, guys who will be fun to watch play this summer for their respective teams and have a shot to move on to higher classifications down the road.

"It's going to be a very competitive league, I can tell you that. Each manager is trying to get an edge over the other, so I think there's going to be some healthy competition coming out of this as a result. I can't wait for the league games to begin," enthused Baron.

The following players, by team, were selected and signed as free agents:

Bay Area Toros: (7)
 Brandon Sisk, LHP, Elk Grove, CA

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Bobby Crosby, RHP, Bronx, NY (still unsigned)

Tarrant County Blue Thunder: (10)

Sergio Sencion, C, Paterson, NJ
James Belt, OF, Mesquite, CA
Brent Burger, RHP, Paso Robles, CA
Eric Lee Diaz, RHP, Hollister, CA
John Blackstock, IF, Covington, KY
Matt Leach, OF, Denton, TX
Dustin Climer, P/IF, Grand Prairie, TX
Carlos Serrano, LHP, El Paso, TX
Austin Smith, P/IF, Flower Mound, TX
Alan Betourne, 1B, Spring Bay, IL

Lewisville Lizards: (10)

Mario Spann, OF, Baton Rouge, LA
Aaron Wright, OF, Pine Bluff, AR
Ryan Grooms, OF, Florissant, MO
Luis Melendez, IF, Balch Springs, TX
Ryan Allen, C, Mesquite, TX
Kyle Patterson, IF, Fort Worth, TX
Robert Smith, IF, Justin, TX
Joey Blas, OF, Fort Worth, TX
Mike Rehfeldt, IF, Arlington, TX
Robert Morgan, OF, Lewisville, TX

Texas Heat: (11)

Matt Greanwood, RHP, San Angelo, TX
Ryan Leger, Vinton, RHP, Vinton, LA
Beau Cumbie, LHP, Wichita, KS
Kori Floyd, RHP, Antioch, TN
Brady Russo, RHP, Red Oak, TX
Jarrett Weber, RHP, St. Michael, MN
Jose Morin, IF, Houston, TX
Don Blayock, LHP, Arlington, TX
Gabriel Sanchez, LHP, Fort Worth, TX
Travis L'Hommedieu, OF, Abilene, KS
Rodney Williams, LHP, Lewisville, TX

For further information, contact: Ron Baron or Bob Ibach (214) 234-0018 or visit www.CBLproball.com

MARCH 8, 2007 - The Bay Area Toros of the Continental Baseball League have announced their full 58-game schedule for their inaugural season of play. The Toros will open on Sunday, May 27 with a three-game set against the Texas Heat, and will conclude the regular campaign on August 11 vs. the Tarrant County Blue Thunder. The League Championship Series will be played August 16-21, and the Toros will host the CBL All-Star game on Tuesday evening, July 17. The Toros will play all home games at Clear Creek High School. Please visit the Schedule page for details..



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