

Indiana High School Athletic Association

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Blake Ress, Commissioner

June 21, 2003

TECUMSEH CAPTURES 2003 CLASS A BASEBALL TITLE

Tecumseh High School, under the leadership of head coach Ron Kahle, defeated Southwood, 7-4, to win the 2003 IHSAA Class A State Baseball Championship at Victory Field in Indianapolis, on Saturday, June 21.

Tecumseh opened the scoring in the top half of the third inning when Jamen Elbert (11) singled to third, the first of their eight hits in the contest, and Josh Roeder (12) reached on a fielder's choice, with Elbert out at second. Kellin Stein (12) then struck out looking, setting the stage for Cory Julian (11) who tripled to right center, scoring Roeder.

The Braves broke the game open in the top half of the fifth, pounding out a half-dozen hits and putting six runs on the board. Roeder opened the inning with a single, one of his two hits in the frame, with Julian, Josh Pemberton (11), Drew Sellers (11), and Elbert all contributing to the deluge with base hits.

But Southwood, coached by Kevin Yenna, would not go quietly. In the bottom half of the inning, the Knights brought their fans to life with four tallies crossing the plate on only two hits, with Tecumseh committing three costly errors, to go along with a hit batter and a catcher's interference call. Southwood hits came from Ryan Warren (12) and Bryant Paul (12), two of their six on the day, as they left two runners on base to head into the sixth down by what turned out to be the final score.

Southwood had a pair of base-runners in the bottom of the sixth, but couldn't get anyone home and, following Tecumseh's failure to score in the top of the final inning, got their first two hitters on base in their final at-bat. With the tying run at the plate, Nick Ehret (12) sacrificed the runners into scoring position. Nate Holly (12) struck out looking and Trevor Yenna (11) went down swinging for the final out.

Andrew Hay (4-4) was the winning pitcher for Tecumseh, which finished the season with a record of 16-12. Todd Dale (8-1) was the losing pitcher for Southwood, as their season concluded at 24-6.

For Tecumseh, it was their first-ever IHSAA baseball title and the second championship in any sport in the school's history, having won the Class A IHSAA boys basketball title in 1999.

COLBY HALDERMAN OF SOUTHWOOD WINS L.V. PHILLIPS CLASS A MENTAL ATTITUDE AWARD

Colby Halderman of Southwood High School was named winner of the Class A 2003 Boys Baseball L.V. Phillips Award for Mental Attitude on Saturday, June 21, 2003 at Victory Field in Indianapolis, thus becoming the first athlete from the school ever to capture a mental attitude award.

Members of the IHSAA Executive Committee present the award to the outstanding senior participant in each classification of the boys baseball state finals. The recipient of this award, who was nominated by his principal and coach, must excel in mental attitude, scholarship, leadership and athletic ability in baseball.

Athletically, Colby won eight school varsity awards, along with the Best Hitter Award in 2002 and the Gus Dorais Loyalty Award in 2003. He was named All Three Rivers Conference Second Team this past season. He was a member of the Knights' Class A state championship football team last fall, playing both offense and defense, and was second team All-Conference. He was also a starter on the basketball team.

Scholastically, he ranks 12th in his class of 103 and is a member of the National Honor Society. He captured honors as Academic All-Three Rivers Conference during his junior and senior seasons. As an Eli Lilly Scholarship winner, he will attend Tri-State University to major in Civil Engineering.

Colby's other activities include Peers Educating Peers Program, Fellowship of Christian Athletes and Harvest Garden Food Bank.

Colby is the son of Nancy and Mike Halderman of Wabash.

Farm Bureau Insurance, IHSAA corporate partner, presented a scholarship check for \$1,000.00 to Southwood High School in the name of Colby Halderman.

Team Posters and Individual Action Photographs Available

Visit 20-20 Photographic, the IHSAA's photographer and the Midwest's Leader in Sports Action Photography, for images captured during Saturday's four championship games! Action photos as well as 20-20's Ultimate Sports Poster will be available for purchase later in the week following the state finals.

IHSAA State Championship Merchandise

For t-shirts and sweatshirts commemorating the 37th Annual IHSAA State Finals or for any of our events, visit our friends at Morris, Inc.

State Finals Programs Available

Couldn't be at Victory Field for the state finals? You can still purchase a copy of the official souvenir program while supplies last! Programs are \$3.00 if you purchase in person at the IHSAA Office (9150 N. Meridian Street in Indianapolis) or \$5.00 by mail (postage included). To order, send a check for \$5.00 made payable to the IHSAA, a note with your return address and brief description of your request and mail to: IHSAA Programs, PO Box 40650, Indianapolis, IN 46240-0650. Sorry, no credit cards. To further inquire, e-mail Assistant Sports Information Director Jason Wille at jwille@ihsaa.org.

Own a Video or DVD of the Championship Games

Video copies of each of the Saturday's four championship games will be available for purchase from the IHSAA Video Library courtesy of Victory Field Video Productions. VHS tapes are \$30.00 in person at the IHSAA Office or \$35.00 by mail (shipping and handling included) while DVDs are \$50.00 in person or \$55.00 by mail. For ordering instructions, see page 28 of the game program or visit the IHSAA website for a complete list of game films available in several sports down through the years.