

2007 Aggie Baseball Recruiting Class from www.aggiebaseball.net

OF David Alleman, 6-0, 190, S/L, Fr-HS
The Woodlands, TX (High)

Injuries hampered his senior season but he was the leading hitter on the Woodland's national championship team as a junior. He batted leadoff and played centerfield, high honors on that talented team. When I saw him in the playoff he was not fully recovered but he was hitting the ball hard. I expect him to start and play a key role from 2009 on.



1B/RHP Nick Fleece, 6-2, 220, R/R, Fr-HS
Ft. Worth, TX (Boswell)

Maybe the biggest surprise of the recruiting class, Fleece was arguably the top hitter in the DFW region this year. He is also a talented pitcher and with the new limits on scholarship players, he could pitch and play in the field for the Aggies. I saw him in the Texas High School All-Star game and he has powerful yet compact swing that has the Aggie coaches very excited.



LHP Aaron Daab, 6-3, 210, L/L, Fr-HS
Katy, TX (High)

Daab is a pitcher, he knows how to throw strikes and work the plate. He led Katy to the state championship game as a junior and the #1 ranking in the nation this season before losing a tough two-game playoff against Langham Creek this year. He reminds me of Justin Simmons from Texas, a tall LHP who misses bats while on the mound.



RHP Barrett Loux, 6-4, 210, R/R, Fr-HS
Houston, TX (Stratford)

Frankly, if Loux had not missed six weeks with an injury, he would have been drafted in the first five rounds of the draft and signed a pro contract. After missing six weeks with a shoulder injury, he threw 94 mph in Stratford's first playoff game against a talented Lamar team and struck out eight in a complete game shutout.



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C Andrew Nettune, 6-1, 200, R/R, Fr-HS
Athens, TX (Tyler All-Saints)

A motorcycle accident caused Nettune to miss almost all of the 2007 season but it did nothing to hurt his future in Aggieland. A website devoted to the New York Yankees had him as the fourth best high school catcher before the injury. He showed tremendous power and a strong arm and that ranked him #56 among the Perfect Games' National Top 100 position players.



LHP/OF Brooks Raley, 6-1, 160, L/L, Fr-HS
Uvalde, TX (High)

Led Coyotes to Region IV-4A final before falling to eventual state champion Moody HS. He had an 8-2 record with two saves and 1.34 ERA in an injury shortened season. He struck out 92 batters in 572/3 innings with only 11 walks and had a .525 batting average with 31 hits, 12 extra-base hits and 21 RBIs. When I watched him at the THSBCA All-Star game he stood out as an athlete and followed that up by being named an alternate on the 2007 USA Junior National Team after a great performance in Cary, NC.



INF Jose Duran, 5-10, 180, R/R, Jr-TR
Ft. Worth, TX (Paschall/North Central JC)

One of the top JUCO infielders in Texas this year and younger brother of Texas Ranger AA All-Star German Duran, Jose will compete for a starting role on the Aggie infield next season. He stole 30 bases the past two seasons (20 this year) and is considered a player just like Jose Salazar was two years ago, except much more athletic. He played in the Texas JUCO All-Star game last year.



LHP Jordan Kratz, 6-2, 175, L/L, Jr-TR
McKinney, TX (High/Paris JC)

Always in the need of left handed pitching, the Aggies signed a "Kratzy" one from Paris. He went 11-4 with 4.21 ERA, 95 Ks, and 37 BBs in 111 IP over the past two years at Paris JC and made the Texas JUCO All-Star game year. Kratz will add important depth from the left side of mound for the Aggies to advance farther in the playoffs next season.



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1B/RHP Steven Martin, 6-5, 225, R/R, So-TR
Brenham, TX (High/Seminole JC)

Martin might not have been the best player on his high school team but he had continued to develop and his athletic potential has never been questioned. He put it all together at Seminole JC this year at the plate and on the mound. Martin hit .293 with eight home runs and 45 RBIs in a wooden bat league at Seminole State last season, and he also established himself as a relief pitcher, going 2-0 with a 3.46 ERA in 26 innings. He was third team All-State after hitting .333-10-33 as a senior.



<http://www.flickr.com/photos/saintseminole/470133417/>
Photo courtesy of Wil C. Fry

RHP Hank Robertson, 5-11, 180, R/R, Jr-TR
Nacona, TX (High/North Central JC)

Robertson was the best closer in Texas JUCO baseball the past two seasons as he went 5-2 with 26 saves, a 3.36 ERA and also had 52 Ks and 30 BBs in 59 IP the past two years. That was 31 positive decisions in 40 games and he was fourth in the nation in saves this year. A hard thrower that can hit the low nineties, he has an extremely fresh arm since he was only used in relief and should be a key contributor in the bullpen.



RHP Matt Speake, 6-0, 200, R/R, Jr-TR
Tyler, TX (New Mexico JC/Grace Community)

Speake went 19-3 with a 2.79 ERA and a save while striking out 162 and only walking 47 in 148.1 innings pitched for the top JUCO team in the country the past two seasons. By his coach's account, Speake lost command of his slider and was not nearly as effective as he was during his freshman season and he still went 10-2. He was 1-1 with a save at the JUCO World Series this year.



RHP Carson Middleton, 6-3, 200, R/R, So-TR
Lindale, TX (High/McLennan JC)

A top summer recruit, Middleton will make an early contribution to the Aggies. He went 3-5 with a 3.72 ERA and 72 Ks for a down McLennan JC team this year. The East Texas MVP as both a junior and senior, he went 23-4 with six saves, 0.55 ERA, and 329 strikeouts in 189.1 innings pitched. He was drafted by Pittsburgh in 2006 and was also recruited by South Carolina, Houston and Louisiana-Lafayette.



(photo courtesy of Insideprepbasesball.com)

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Alberto Lopez, 5-9, 190, L/R, Jr-TR
Waco, TX (Midway/Odessa College)

INF Phil Carey, 6-0, 180, L/R, Jr-Tr
London, ON (Lucas/Winthrop)

Lopez is a key recruit with A&M losing two experienced catchers, he starting for two seasons at Odessa College. He hit .411-4-41 with 21 doubles as a sophomore and was named All-Conference at catcher. He batted in the three-hole all season long as a testament to his hitting ability. Started in the outfield and was named 2005 All-State Tournament for the runner-up Midway Panthers. He hit .380-2-31 as a senior.

Carey was a two-year starter for perennial NCAA contender Winthrop in the infield and in the outfield. Winthrop played a tough schedule of NCAA tournament teams in 2007 and he hit .275 in those games. Carey is a career .325 hitter with 11 HRs and 82 RBI in 96 games and has twice been named to the Big South All-Tournament team. Played for Falmouth in the Cape Cod league this past summer.

