

MAY 29-30, 2009

GEORGIA HIGH SCHOOL
BASEBALL
State Championship

08  09



Presented By



AAAAA: SOUTH FORSYTH AT POPE

AAAA: STARR'S MILL AT NORTHGATE • AAA: COLUMBUS AT CARTERSVILLE

AA: DUBLIN AT LOVETT • A: LANDMARK CHRISTIAN AT WESLEYAN



Greetings, GHSA Baseball Fans!

Greetings, GHSA Baseball Fans!

Welcome to the 2009 GHSA Championship Series for Baseball. The Georgia High School Association is proud of the commitment that these teams have demonstrated throughout the season. The path through four series of competition to reach this final rung of the ladder has been rigorous, and these teams have excelled to reach this position.

We hope that you, the faithful fans, will enjoy these games, and that you will

demonstrate the highest levels of sportsmanship as you positively encourage "your team" toward victory.

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Ralph Swearngin
 GHSA Executive
 Director



GHSA BASEBALL CHAMPIONS

Year	AAAA	AAA	AA	A	B	C
1946				Lanier		
1947				West Fulton		
1948				Decatur		
1949				Marist		
1950						
1951			Bass			
1952			Richmond Acad.	Newnan		
1953			Richmond Acad.	Avondale		
1954			Richmond Acad.	Americus		
1955			Richmond Acad.	Americus		
1956			Richmond Acad.	Americus		
1957			Richmond Acad.	Thomasville		
1958		Richmond Acad.	Miller Co.	Pepperell		
1959		Griffin	Campbell, Smyrna	Pepperell		
1960		Griffin	Rossville	Model		
1961		Murphy	West Rome	Winder-Barrow		
1962		Benedictine	Crisp Co.	Americus		
1963		Griffin	West Rome	Carrollton		
1964		Murphy	East Rome	Hughes		
1965		Avondale	Headland	Americus		
1966		Lanier	Headland	Americus		
1967		Dykes	Tucker	Americus		
1968		Tucker	Wayne Co.	Westminster		
1969		Therrell	Walker	Westminster		
1970		Willingham	Headland	Americus		
1971		Dykes	Pepperell	Americus		
1972		Jordan	Lakeview	Roswell		
1973		Sequoyah	Lakeview	Hephzibah		
1974		Glynn Acad.	Stephens Co.	Irwin Co.		
1975		Henderson	Calhoun	Harlem		
1976		Wheeler	Westminster	Irwin Co.		
1977		Savannah	Bradwell Institute	Mt. de Sales		
1978		Kendrick	Marist	Pepperell		
1979		Valdosta	Gainesville	Harlem		
1980	Newton Co.	Winder-Barrow	Harlem	Gordon Lee		
1981	Griffin	Coffee	Pepperell	Mt. de Sales		
1982	Lowndes	Marist	Harlem	Brookstone		
1983	Coffee	NW Whitfield	Harlem	GAC		
1984	Coffee	Marist	Harlem	Trion		
1985	Columbus	Marist	Darlington	Gordon Lee		
1986	Forest Park	Marist	Hancock Central	Calhoun Co.		
1987	Brookwood	Roswell	Harlem	Clinch Co.		
1988	McEachern	Westside	Shiloh	Clinch Co.		
1989	Evans	Westside	Berrien	Towns Co.		
1990	Evans	Jones Co.	Washington-Wilkes	Clinch Co.		
1991	Evans	Marist	Lovett	Bremen		
1992	Newnan	Columbus	Perry	Clinch Co.		
1993	Walton	Columbus	Cook	Clinch Co.		
1994	Evans	Marist	Lovett	Pace Acad.		
1995	Evans	Columbus	Lovett	Pace Acad.		
1996	Sprayberry	Columbus	Vidalia	Pace Acad.		
1997	Parkview	Columbus	Gainesville	Toombs Co.		
1998	Colquitt Co.	Greenbrier	Gainesville	Irwin Co.		
1999	Harrison	Greenbrier	Gainesville	North Forsyth		
2000	Lassiter	Greenbrier	Thomasville	Lovett		
	Lowndes	Columbus	Cook	Calhoun		
2001	AAAAA	AAAA	AAA	AA	A	
2002	Parkview	Shaw	Gainesville	Cartersville	Walker	
2003	Parkview	Marist	Gainesville	Cartersville	Walker	
2004	Colquitt Co.	Marist	Cartersville	Vidalia	Clinch Co.	
2005	Milton	Columbus	LaGrange	Bacon Co.	Lakeview Acad.	
2006	Chattahoochee	Henry Co.	Columbus	Calhoun	Calvary Day	
2007	Lassiter	Greenbrier	Blessed Trinity	Lovett	ELCA	
2008	Walton	Greenbrier	Dunwoody	Holy Innocents'	Calvary Day	
	Brookwood	Loganville	Cartersville	Wesleyan	Pacelli	

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PREVIEWING THE GHSA FINALS



SCORE RICKY DIMON

Surprise squads reach finals in two biggest classes; Cartersville, Wesleyan hope to repeat

Another high school baseball season is coming to a close. At least three new champions will be crowned after this weekend, while two squads will be looking to pull off a repeat. Here are the finals matchups in all five classifications.

CLASS AAAAA ...

South Forsyth vs. Pope: Ranked No. 1 in Class AAAAA, South Forsyth heads into this championship series with an impressive 29-4 record for its 2009 campaign. The War Eagles swept a trio of playoff series before needing three games to get past East Paulding and its dominant senior pitcher, Zack Wheeler. South Forsyth came back from a 2-0 deficit in the deciding game as reliever Zach Alvord took over on the mound in the second inning and pitched the rest of the way, allowing no runs on just two hits. Pope (29-8) has survived three straight series in which deciding games were necessary. After outlasting North Gwinnett and Northside, Warner-Robins in rounds two and three, respectively, the Greyhounds got blown out 17-3 in their semifinal opener against defending champion Brookwood. Pope, however, responded with a 3-1 victory in game two and won the rain-delayed finale 8-3 on Wednesday. Armed with home-field advantage, the Greyhounds will continue to ride the left arm of Mississippi State signee Matt Lane. The senior starter is allowing less than one earned run per game.

CLASS AAAAA ...

Starr's Mill vs. Northgate: Two sub-region rivals are colliding with the ultimate prize in high school baseball at stake, as Starr's Mill and Northgate, separated by 16 miles, square off in the Class AAAAA championship series. Northgate (28-4) emerged victorious in both previous meetings this season, first by a 5-2

margin and then with a 9-0 rout. After three consecutive sweeps in the state playoffs, the Vikings dropped their opener to Marist in a semifinal clash. Northgate, however, bounced back to force a third game with an 11-8 victory and held on for a 1-0 win in the rubber match. Starr's Mill (25-7) finished one game behind the Vikings in Region 5, and thus will be the visitors in this championship series. The Panthers, however, have been streaking through the postseason by showcasing their best baseball of the year. They have prevailed in all eight of their state playoffs games and the team heads into the finals having won 13 of its last 14 games. Senior southpaw Danny Beadling has started all four playoff openers for Starr's Mill, while Catlan Kendrick leads the way for Northgate with both his arm and his bat.

CLASS AAA ...

Cartersville vs. Columbus: In a rematch of a third-round encounter in last year's state playoffs, Cartersville (28-4) will be looking to defend its 2008 state championship. On their way to that title, the Purple Hurricanes ousted Columbus two games to one. Cartersville has won 22 straight games heading into this final series, although the team has survived two one-run games during the state playoffs. Big-hitting outfielder Donovan Tate has signed with North Carolina, but he is projected to be a first-round pick in the upcoming MLB Draft. Columbus (32-2) has been utterly dominant throughout the postseason. The Blue Devils have surrendered one run or less in eight consecutive contests and they are coming off 12-1 and 8-0 victories over Carrollton. Columbus also hammered St. Pius X by a combined 21-0 score in a quarterfinal series. Alabama signees Matt Taylor and Taylor Wolfe form an imposing duo on the pitcher's mound.

CLASS AA ...

Lovett vs. Dublin: Lovett hopes to go one step further than it did in last year's Class AA state playoffs after getting swept by Wesleyan in the championship series. The Lions (26-8) are riding a 12-game winning streak into the final and they have not lost in over a month. Seven of their eight victories in the state playoffs have come by at least seven runs. Region 6 rival Westminster got within three runs in game one of a semifinal clash, falling 4-1. Starting pitchers Jonathan Carkhuff and Clayton McKinney have been consistently shutting down opponents. Dublin (26-9) is also peaking at just the right time. The Irish entered the state playoffs as the No. 3 seed out of Region 3 and have since rolled off three series victories over top-five opponents (Appling County, Calhoun, and Cook). Starting pitcher Kale Watson allowed just two runs over six innings in a 3-2 win over Cook in the semifinals.

CLASS A ...

Wesleyan vs. Landmark Christian: Wesleyan will try to win back-to-back state titles, going into the final with a 25-9 record. The Wolves' 2008 championship came in Class AA with a triumph over Lovett. They have lost just one game during these state playoffs and seven of their eight wins have been decided by at least five runs. Junior Devin Stanton has thrown two straight one-hitters, including the semifinal clincher over



UNCHARTED TERRITORY: South Forsyth continues its school record-breaking season with a first-ever appearance in the finals. The War Eagles took the semifinal series against East Paulding after losing in the first contest; head coach Jamie Corr's team is 30-5 overall heading into the championships. Photo courtesy of Photographic Arts.

Brookstone. Landmark Christian (24-8-1) has also dropped only one contest so far in the playoffs. The War Eagles are coming off sweeps of top-ranked Pacelli in the quarterfinals and Calvary Day in the semis. Landmark Christian's upset over Pacelli avenged a loss in last season's Class A championship. Four of the War Eagles' most reliable hitters—twins Kyle and Colby Wren, Blake Austin and Jonathan Roberts—combined to go 13-for-21 with four home runs in a 15-3 rout of Pacelli.

Dimon can be reached at rdimon@scoreatl.com.

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Team:		vs	at								www.baseballscorecard.com						
Date:		Start Time:			End Time:			Time of Game:									
Weather:		Scorer:															
Umpires:																	
#	Player	Pos	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	AB	R	H	RBI	E
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SUMS	Runs												TOTALS				
	Hits												AB:		RBI:		
	Errors												R:		E:		
	Left on Base												H:		LOB:		
Pitcher	W-L	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	HB	BK	WP	TBF	Catcher	PB				

Team:		vs	at								www.baseballscorecard.com						
Date:		Start Time:			End Time:			Time of Game:									
Weather:		Scorer:															
Umpires:																	
#	Player	Pos	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	AB	R	H	RBI	E
	sub		◇	◇	◇	◇	◇	◇	◇	◇	◇	◇					
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	sub		◇	◇	◇	◇	◇	◇	◇	◇	◇	◇					
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SUMS	Runs												TOTALS				
	Hits												AB:		RBI:		
	Errors												R:		E:		
	Left on Base												H:		LOB:		
Pitcher	W-L	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	HB	BK	WP	TBF	Catcher	PB				



CHAMPIONSHIP BASEBALL ROSTERS

GAME TIMES FRIDAY
 CLASS AAAAA: South Forsyth at Pope, TBD
 CLASS AAAA: Starr's Mill at Northgate, TBD
 CLASS AAA: Columbus at Cartersville, 3 p.m.
 CLASS AA: Dublin at Lovett, 2 p.m.
 CLASS A: Landmark Christian at Wesleyan, 5 p.m.

CLASS AAAAA
SOUTH FORSYTH WAR EAGLES

Head Coach: Jamie Corr

1	Chase Fowler	C/2B	12
2	Keith Grabowski	OF/2B	10
3	Caden Bailey	3B/2B	10
4	Jack Stout	P/OF	12
5	Jordan Neese	SS/2B	12
6	Tyler Kubiak	P/1B	11
8	Andrew Barna	1B/OF	12
9	Matt Corbin	2B/OF	11
10	Curtis Parker	1B/P	12
11	Jake Drehoff	P/DH	11
12	Zack Alvord	2B/OF	11
13	Drew Litras	C/2B	11
14	Kevin Bibler	P/3B	12
15	Chris Rowley	P/SS	12
16	Brian Adams	OF	12
17	Derek Duffey	P/OF	11
18	Kyler Clifton	OF	10
19	Nick Ciupak	P/OF	12
20	Justin Bridges	1B/C	11
21	Patrick Olvaney	P/OF	11
22	Taylor Parker	3B/2B	11
23	Alex Kriss	P/1B	12
25	Salem Collins	OF/P	11
26	Zach Schlosser	OF	9

POPE GREYHOUNDS

Head Coach: Jeff Rowland

1	Bill Gow	2B/3B	12
2	Jason Parker	OF	11
3	Conner Lynch	C/3B	10
4	Matt Liedberg	2B/P	12
6	Ryan Khan	C	12
8	Aaron Greenwell	P	11
10	Kenny Lotz	1B/P	12
12	Jake Montgomery	3B/P	12
13	Morgan Aubrecht	OF	11
14	Steve Wilkerson	SS	11
15	Jon Matthews	OF	12
16	Miller Aubrecht	2B	11
17	Alex Hegner	P	10
17	Stephen Malone	P	12
19	Ryan Walton	P	12
20	Ryan Ussery	OF	12
22	Will Kendall	P	11
24	Matt Lane	P	12
25	Ross Hester	P	12
25	Stephen White	OF	11
27	Deven Cardenas	3B	12
27	Hudson Power	OF	11
28	Robby Walton	3B	12

CLASS AAAA
STARR'S MILL PANTHERS

Head Coach: Brent Moseley

1	Mitch Holley	3B/P	12
5	Drew Johnson	OF/P	12
6	Myles Jaye	SS/P	11
8	Alex Gordon	P	12

9	Kevin Koziol	3B/2B	12
11	Jesse Baker	2B	12
12	David Norman	C	11
18	Ken Jackson	OF/P	12
23	Terrion Pope	OF	12
25	Michael Jeanes	P/1B	12
28	Danny Beadling	OF/P	12
31	Jeff Stock	1B/OF	12
35	Austin Wiley	C	12
44	Matt Symons	C	12

NORTHGATE VIKINGS

Head Coach: Greg Hamilton

2	Rufus Thompson	IF	11
3	Chris Brewer	OF	11
4	Drew Tolbert	OF	12
5	Weston Perry	IF	11
6	Marcus Wilder	OF	11
8	Daniel Norred	IF	11
9	Clay Thomas	IF	9
10	Andrew Filipowski	P	12
11	Brad Swinney	IF	10
12	Tyler Bowers	C	9
13	Catlan Kendrick	P	12
14	Kyle LaChance	C	12
15	Sean Clayton	IF	11
17	John Thompson	OF	11
18	Conner Kendrick	OF	11
19	Tyler Marvin	IF	12
20	Paul Rojas	P	12
23	Daniel McIntyre	P	12
24	Clayton Morris	C	10
31	Derek Hooper	IF	12
32	Jesse Copeland	P	9

CLASS AAA
COLUMBUS BLUE DEVILS

Head Coach: Bobby Howard

2	Ben Cason	OF	12
3	Travis Benn	C	12
4	Hunter Brocato	INF/P	11
10	Bobby Andrews	INF/OF	11
11	Zack Enfinger	INF/P	11
12	Jordan Weems	C	10
13	Charles Sheffield	INF	10
14	Tyler Mathis	INF	10
16	Drew Brooks	OF/P	12
17	Bryce Dial	INF	12
18	Brad Barto	INF	11
22	Parker Cliatt	INF	10
23	McLendon Hill	INF	11
24	Caleb Klobe	OF	10
25	Cody Walker	C	10
26	Will Solomon	P/OF	10
27	Taylor Wolfe	P/OF	12
28	Marcus McQuien	INF	12
29	Luke Sheffield	OF/P	10
30	Brendan Fox	P/OF	10
31	Josh Lester	INF	9
32	Matt Taylor	P/OF	12
33	Phil Wise	C/INF	12

36	Kyle Carter	OF	9
40	Josh Bricker	P	10
42	Anthony Padron	P/OF	9
44	J.T. Phillips	INF	9

**CARTERSVILLE PURPLE
HURRICANES**

Head Coach: Stuart Chester

1	Garison Boston	2B/SS	12
2	Taylor Greene	2B/SS	11
3	Hank Stewart	C/1B	12
4	Patrick Boling	P/1B	12
5	Ben Bridges	SS/P	12
6	Cole Payne	3B/P	12
7	Taylor Wilson	C	10
8	Tracy Prouty	INF	12
11	Laine Frazier	IF/OF	11
12	Tony Davis	OF	11
13	Harris Battle	INF/P	10
14	Adam Clark	P/1B	11
15	Levi Mauldin	P/1B	11
16	Tyler Williams	C/1B	12
19	Colin Bennett	1B	10
20	Donavan Tate	OF/P	12
21	Colton Montgomery	OF/P	12
22	Adam Thurman	OF/P	12
23	Trey Dickson	OF	11
24	Justin Croft	1B/P	11
26	Ben Venters	OF	10
27	Ben Dittmer	OF	10
NA	Luke Daniel	OF	10

**CLASS AA
LOVETT LIONS**

Head Coach: Lance Oubs

3	Stuart Coleman	SS/2B	12
4	Zach Boden	OF	10
5	Dylan Malinowski	P/SS	9
7	Daniel Candler	P/OF	11
10	Drew Stockton	OF/SS	11
11	Hunter Budd	P/SS	10
12	Jonathan Carkhuff	P/2B	11
13	David Van Horn	P/1B	11
14	Campbell Wilson	OF/C	11
15	Max Williams	OF	11
16	Davis Millians	C	11
18	Gerry O'Meara	3B/1B	12
19	Jack Geraghty	P/3B	9
20	Jack Rogers	3B/2B	10
21	Garrett Houghton	C/1B	11
22	Clayton Lau	2B/SS	10
24	Michael Steele	3B/OF	12
30	Clayton McKenney	P/1B	12
40	Kevin Reagan	P/1B	12

DUBLIN FIGHTING IRISH

Head Coach: William Barham

1	Will Barham	1B/P	10
2	Troy Wood	OF/P	9
3	Hunter Davis	SS/C	10
4	Hill Lawrence	OF/P	12

5	Kale Watson	2B/C	11
6	Trey Rozier	2B/SS	9
7	Hunter Knight	OF/P	11
9	Dylan McDaniel	OF/C	10
10	Riley Holmes	OF/C	9
11	Brandon Brown	3B/C	12
12	Casey Peacock	2B/P	12
14	Zach Mullis	SS/P	12
15	Michael Coffey	C/OF	12
16	Blake Register	1B/P	12
17	Tanner Lords	3B/C	10
20	Rob East	OF/P	9
21	Ben East	C/1B	9
22	Holby Holmes	1B/OF	12
25	Henry Mason	DH	11
29	Ronald Thomas	3B/2B	11

**CLASS A
LANDMARK CHRISTIAN
WAR EAGLES**

Head Coach: Phil Williams

1	Kyle Wren	OF/P	11
2	Drew McDuffie	2B/OF	11
3	Jonathan Roberts	OF/P	11
4	Cody Nichols	C/1B	11
10	Tanner Bryant	SS/P	12
11	Blake Austin	C/P	11
12	Seth Wessinger	2B/OF	11
15	Josh Bailey	OF/P	11
20	Phillip Garza	3B/1B	11
21	Ryan Brown	3B	11
22	Zach Van	3B	11
23	Dustin Brantley	2B/SS	10
24	Wade Kemp	OF/P	11
25	Seath Hudson	1B	11
27	Eric Burdette	1B/SS	11
47	Colby Wren	3B	11

WESLEYAN WOLVES

Head Coach: Mike Shaheen

2	Kevin O'Leary	2B/SS	11
3	Drew Fithian	3B/P	12
4	Bobby Worthington	OF	12
5	Josh Tolman	2B/OF	11
6	Lee Ellis	OF	12
8	James Russell	1B/P	12
10	Brooks Colquitt	P/1B	11
11	Conor Welton	OF	11
12	Strother White	P/3B	11
13	Alex Thykeson	OF	10
14	Daniel Cardwell	P/OF	11
15	Mason Colquitt	P/1B	9
16	Micah Mabe	P	10
18	Andrew Frerking	IF	10
19	Will Schnupp	2B/3B	11
20	Brent Pugh	C/SS	12
21	Devin Stanton	P/1B	11
22	Merritt Hall	C/DH	10
23	Carter Garrison	OF/DH	11
24	Adam Workman	C/DH	11



The 2009 High School State Championship Baseball Guide is published by *Score Prep*, a division of *Score Atlanta*, in conjunction with the GHSA. Photos on the cover are courtesy of Doug Jackson - Photographic Arts. The brackets were provided by GaSports.com. For more information on *Score Prep*, go to scoreatl.com or call 404-256-1572.



Cartersville superstar exhibits class and character in addition to amazing athleticism

To call him just a “five-tool baseball player” would be the understatement of a lifetime.

Donavan Tate, Cartersville’s do-everything two-sport star, will be in the limelight once again this Friday and Saturday when his Purple Hurricanes baseball team competes for its second straight Class 3A state title. You’ll see him hit for power and hit for average; you’ll see him run fast, throw hard and track down balls from the centerfield position (thus, five tools). Depending on what happens on the first day of the MLB Draft on June 9, he could be the second Georgia high schooler in two years to be taken No. 1 overall (Griffin’s Tim Beckham earned that honor last year). However, the son of former University of Georgia and NFL running back Lars Tate is much more than just the top senior baseball prospect in the country.

COMING TO A CROSSROADS ...

As good as Tate is on the diamond (he’s also played with USA Baseball’s junior team and in countless other tournaments with the prestigious East Cobb Baseball program), he was equally impressive on the football field for Cartersville throughout his four-year career. Playing quarterback, running back, defensive back and returning kicks and punts throughout his career, Tate shot up the recruiting rankings during his junior and senior seasons, drawing scores of football scholarship offers from schools around the country in addition to his reputation as an elite baseball prospect. This past February, he signed on to continue his football career at North Carolina, and would surely have a spot on the baseball team if he chose to pull double duty. While many had speculated Tate was a slam-dunk to play professional baseball after high school, this came as a somewhat surprising development.

In fact, it looked like Tate’s football career was finished back in August. The push-pull between his two favorite sports almost drove him to eliminate football in the fall, when Tate initially announced he would sit out his senior season to concentrate on preparing for baseball. But Tate’s love of football and dedication to his teammates won out in the end, and he reversed his decision and suited up for the Purple Hurricanes once more.

“His heart is really with football when it’s football season, and in the spring, he absolutely loves baseball,” said his mother, Traci Sims. “Donavan is our chameleon, he can’t pick one or the other.

It just depends on what the season is. He’s 110 percent behind both sports.”

Though the challenge immediately in front of him is the championship series against Columbus and a shot at a repeat title, Tate will soon have a major career decision to make. He can either

take the college route, which would keep him in Chapel Hill until at least after his third year there, or he can become a professional baseball player after the draft in just a week and a half’s time.

DOING IT ALL ...

With so much athletic talent from an early age, it’s a wonder that Tate was able to narrow down his sports of choice to just two, baseball and football.

“Growing up, Donavan played every sport,” Sims said. “It was my goal to introduce him to

every sport, because when he was younger I wanted him to be able to have a little bit of experience with everything so he could decide what he really wanted to play when he was older. He played baseball, basketball, golf, tennis, soccer ... every time the season would change I would introduce him to something new.”

Tate started focusing all his energy on football and baseball upon entering high school, and his mother and head baseball coach alike cite his work ethic for elevating his innate skills to another level. Academically, Tate has always been an exemplary student and has maintained an honor-roll level GPA throughout high school.

“Donavan is very dedicated in whatever he does and he wants to be the best,” Sims said. “He may go 3-for-4 in a baseball game on a school night, and he’ll come home and hit in the garage until late at night.”

“His work ethic is something that people don’t see, as far as how many swings he gets each day and what he does to maintain the type of body that he has,” said Cartersville head coach Stuart Chester.

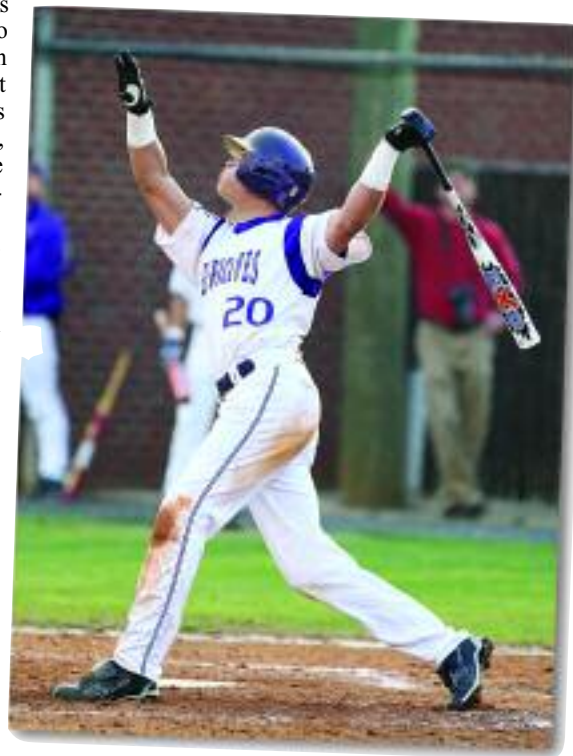
Chester, also a member of the football staff for the first two years of Tate’s high school career, has been with him every step of the way at Cartersville and, despite the jaw-dropping things Tate has done both on the football field and baseball diamond, Chester marvels at his character beyond all else.

“The thing that sticks out the most about Donavan is, sometimes when you get those high-level athletes, the coaching part can be a headache,” Chester said. “That’s not the case with Donavan. He’s very easy to coach. ‘Donavan the person’ is his greatest attribute. He can fly, he can throw it and hit it and catch it and all that, but his greatest attribute is the type of person that he is.”

WHAT LIES AHEAD ...

This weekend, the ‘Canes will once again hope to ride their star to a state championship (he’s hitting .476 with nine home runs and 39 RBIs for the year and is 15-for-15 in stolen bases), but a powerhouse Columbus squad will travel to Bartow County with championship dreams of its own. Each program has a rich history and will be looking for another trophy to add to their already stocked cases. His coach, however, thinks he has the ultimate intimidation tactic when Cartersville comes to bat the first time.

“We bat him at leadoff,” Chester said. “He’ll get more at bats at leadoff, and the intangible thing is, that’s the first thing they’re



SWINGING FOR THE STARS: Donavan Tate will try to lead Cartersville to back-to-back championships when his Purple Hurricanes take on Columbus in the finals. Tate will soon have to decide whether he will attend North Carolina to play football and likely baseball, or whether he will enter the professional baseball ranks after the MLB Draft on June 9. He is expected to be a top-three pick. Photos courtesy of Brian Bissell.

going to see about Cartersville [in the game], and that’s the first thing we want them to see.”

It was last year in Game 3 of the championship series against Stephens County that Tate provided a crucial spark from that leadoff spot, helping the ‘Canes get off to a start that would send them to their 13-1 title-clinching win. In the first at-bat of the game, Tate knocked a routine single to left field, but caught the defense off-guard and stretched it into a double. “That made everybody play harder,” according to Chester. “He’s the type of player that makes the guy next to him better.”

Tate is hoping his last memory as a high school athlete ends with another state title. What lies after this weekend, however, is still very much up in the air. “I just want Donavan to do what makes Donavan happy, whether it’s football or baseball,” said Sims.

One thing that’s for certain is that Tate will soon make someone very happy, whether that’s the folks at North Carolina or a major league front office. With as many tools as Tate the person, the scholar and the athlete has to work with, success will follow him wherever he takes that next step.

Ewalt can be reached at aewalt@scoreatl.com.



Georgia High School Baseball Class AAAAA State Tournament



R1-1	Lowndes	2	12-0, 7-1
R2-4	Newton	0	
R3-2	Camden Co	0	11-1, 6-5
R4-3	Chapel Hill	2	
R5-1	S Gwinnett	0	8-2, 5-3
R7-4	Mill Creek	2	
R8-2	Kell	1	4-5, 6-3, 16-5
R5-3	E Paulding	2	

2	Pope	9-8, 1-2, 6-4
1	N Gwinnett	13-11, 10-0
0	Jenkins	3-2, 2-0
2	Creekside	7-0, 1-2, 9-5
2	Northside, WR	9-3, 5-10, 5-3
1	Union Grove	

May 8 May 13 May 19 May 25 May 29 May 25 May 19 May 13 May 8

R2-1	Luella	2	7-0, 18-0
R1-4	Tift Co	0	
R4-2	Newnan	2	15-5, 10-0
R3-3	Groves	0	
R7-1	S Forsyth	2	5-4, 4-2
R8-4	Grayson	0	
R5-2	Harrison	2	14-3, 3-0
R8-3	Roswell	0	

0	Lassiter	4-1, 1-3, 7-5
2	Brookwood	6-4, 6-5
0	Collins Hill	15-2, 11-2
2	Brookwood	
2	E Coweta	10-0, 14-5
0	Bradwell Ins	
2	Greenbrier	12-0, 9-6
0	Valdosta	



2009



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Georgia High School Baseball Class AAAA State Tournament



May 8	May 13	May 19	May 25	May 29	May 25	May 19	May 13	May 8
R1-1 Lee Co 0 4-2, 1-0	Glynn Acad 1	Evans 0 2-11, 7-1, 7-1	Loganville 0 7-2, 11-2	Marist 0 13-10, 9-5	Marist 2 5-3, 11-4	Marist 0 11-9, 9-7	Marist 2 11-9, 9-7	Marist 0 Whitewater
R2-4 Glynn Acad 2	Evans 2 13-2, 9-1	Loganville 2 3-1, 6-3	Starr's Mill 0 6-5, 2-0	Lakeside, Ev 2 7-5, 9-3	Lakeside, Ev 0 7-5, 9-3	Lakeside, Ev 2 4-0, 11-6	Lakeside, Ev 0 Griffin	R5-4
R3-2 Evans 2	Dutchtown 0	Lakeside, Dk 2 4-1, 4-8, 3-2	Starr's Mill 0	Lakeside, Ev 0 7-5, 9-3	Lakeside, Ev 0 7-5, 9-3	Harris Co 2 16-13, 15-1	Harris Co 0 16-13, 15-1	R8-2
R4-3 Dutchtown 0	Loganville 2 13-3, 10-0	Lakeside, Dk 0	Starr's Mill 0	Lakeside, Ev 0 7-5, 9-3	Lakeside, Ev 0 7-5, 9-3	Starr's Mill 2 16-13, 15-1	Starr's Mill 0 16-13, 15-1	R7-3
R5-1 Loganville 2	Sequoyah 0	Sandy Creek 1	Starr's Mill 0	Lakeside, Ev 0 7-5, 9-3	Lakeside, Ev 0 7-5, 9-3	Lakeside, Ev 2 4-0, 11-6	Lakeside, Ev 0 Griffin	R3-1
R6-1 Loganville 2	Sequoyah 0	Sandy Creek 1	Starr's Mill 0	Lakeside, Ev 0 7-5, 9-3	Lakeside, Ev 0 7-5, 9-3	Harris Co 2 16-13, 15-1	Harris Co 0 16-13, 15-1	R3-1
R7-4 Sequoyah 0	Sequoyah 0	Sandy Creek 1	Starr's Mill 0	Lakeside, Ev 0 7-5, 9-3	Lakeside, Ev 0 7-5, 9-3	Harris Co 2 16-13, 15-1	Harris Co 0 16-13, 15-1	R4-4
R8-2 Lakeside, Dk 2	Sequoyah 0	Sandy Creek 1	Starr's Mill 0	Lakeside, Ev 0 7-5, 9-3	Lakeside, Ev 0 7-5, 9-3	Harris Co 2 16-13, 15-1	Harris Co 0 16-13, 15-1	R1-2
R5-3 Sandy Creek 1	Sequoyah 0	Sandy Creek 1	Starr's Mill 0	Lakeside, Ev 0 7-5, 9-3	Lakeside, Ev 0 7-5, 9-3	Harris Co 2 16-13, 15-1	Harris Co 0 16-13, 15-1	R2-3



2009



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Georgia High School Baseball Class AAA State Tournament



May 8	May 13	May 19	May 25	May 29	May 25	May 19	May 13	May 8
R1-1 Peach Co 2 10-3, 3-5, 6-5	Peach Co 2 4-3, 9-3	Peach Co 0 4-3, 7-3	Carrollton 0 4-3, 7-3	Cartersville 2 3-0, 15-5	Cartersville 2 10-0, 4-3	Cartersville 0 9-2, 17-3	Cartersville 2 9-2, 17-3	Cartersville 0 Druid Hills
R2-4 LaGrange 0	W Laurens 2 13-6, 3-9, 9-1	W Laurens 0	Carrollton 0	Cartersville 2 3-0, 15-5	Elbert Co 2 2-1, 6-3	Elbert Co 0 2-1, 6-3	Elbert Co 2 2-1, 6-3	R5-4
R3-2 W Laurens 2	Marys Persons 1	Carrollton 2 1-3, 1-0, 7-2	Carrollton 2	Cartersville 2 3-0, 15-5	Lumpkin Co 0 4-7, 1-0, 4-3	Lumpkin Co 0 4-7, 1-0, 4-3	Lumpkin Co 0 4-7, 1-0, 4-3	R7-3
R4-3 Marys Persons 1	Stephens Co 0 5-1, 11-9	W Forsyth 1 1-3, 1-0, 7-2	Carrollton 2	Cartersville 2 3-0, 15-5	Thomson 2 7-1, 4-6, 10-4	Thomson 0 7-1, 4-6, 10-4	Thomson 2 7-1, 4-6, 10-4	R3-1
R5-1 Stephens Co 0	W Forsyth 2	Carrollton 2	Carrollton 2	Cartersville 2 3-0, 15-5	Rutland 0 4-7, 1-0, 4-3	Rutland 0 4-7, 1-0, 4-3	Rutland 0 4-7, 1-0, 4-3	R4-4
R6-1 Stephens Co 0	W Forsyth 2	Carrollton 2	Carrollton 2	Cartersville 2 3-0, 15-5	Cairo 1 4-7, 1-0, 4-3	Cairo 1 4-7, 1-0, 4-3	Cairo 1 4-7, 1-0, 4-3	R1-2
R7-4 W Forsyth 2	Carrollton 2 2-5, 4-3, 11-4	Carrollton 2	Carrollton 2	Cartersville 2 3-0, 15-5	Northside, Col 2 4-7, 1-0, 4-3	Northside, Col 2 4-7, 1-0, 4-3	Northside, Col 2 4-7, 1-0, 4-3	R2-3
R8-2 Carrollton 2	Dunwoody 1	Carrollton 2	Carrollton 2	Cartersville 2 3-0, 15-5	Northside, Col 2 4-7, 1-0, 4-3	Northside, Col 2 4-7, 1-0, 4-3	Northside, Col 2 4-7, 1-0, 4-3	R2-3
R5-3 Dunwoody 1	Carrollton 2	Carrollton 2	Carrollton 2	Cartersville 2 3-0, 15-5	Northside, Col 2 4-7, 1-0, 4-3	Northside, Col 2 4-7, 1-0, 4-3	Northside, Col 2 4-7, 1-0, 4-3	R2-3




2009



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Georgia High School Baseball Class AA State Tournament



R1-1 Cook 2 10-0, 12-1 R2-4 Brantley Co 0 0-12, 11-1, 9-6 R3-2 Toombs Co 2 11-1, 16-4 R4-3 Henry Co 0 R5-1 Jefferson 2 3-0, 13-6 R7-4 Model 0 R5-2 Blessed Trin 2 10-8, 3-1 R5-3 Lamar Co 0 10-0, 11-1	Cook 2 Cock 2 Toombs Co 1 Blessed Trin 1 Jefferson 0 Blessed Trin 2 Dublin Dublin	Cook 2 Cook 0 Dublin Dublin	Cook 0 Dublin Dublin	Lovett 2 Lovett Jeff Davis Jeff Davis	Lovett 2 Lovett Screven Co Jeff Davis Screven Co Jeff Davis	Lovett 2 Callaway 0 N Oconee 2 Adairsville 1 Screven Co 2 Cent Macon 0 Fitzgerald 0 Jeff Davis 2	Lovett 2 Callaway 0 N Oconee 2 Adairsville 1 Screven Co 2 Cent Macon 0 Fitzgerald 0 Jeff Davis 2	
May 8	May 13	May 19	May 25	May 29	May 25	May 19	May 13	May 8



2009



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Georgia High School Baseball Class A State Tournament



R1-1 Bacon Co 1 9-5, 4-22, 14-6 R2-4 Hawkinsville 2 2-1, 9-5 R3-2 Calvary Day 2 6-4, 13-3 R4-3 Aquinas 0 R5-1 Lakeview Acad 2 10-0, 19-0 R7-4 Fellowship Chr 0 3-4, 13-3, 8-4 R5-2 Bremen 2 6-4, 14-9 R5-3 Walker 0	Hawkinsville 0 Calvary Day 2 Calvary Day 2 Lakeview Acad 1 Bremen 0 Bremen 2	Calvary Day 2 Calvary Day 0 Landmark Chr Landmark Chr	Calvary Day 0 Landmark Chr Landmark Chr	Brookstone Wesleyan Wesleyan	Brookstone Wesleyan Schley Co	Darlington 2 Mt Paran 0 Commerce 0 ELCA 2 Savannah Chr 2 Lincoln Co 0 Atkinson Co 0 Brookstone 2	Darlington 2 Mt Paran 0 Commerce 0 ELCA 2 Savannah Chr 2 Lincoln Co 0 Atkinson Co 0 Brookstone 2	
May 8	May 13	May 19	May 25	May 29	May 25	May 19	May 13	May 8



2009



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