

Queens Voc Baseball

Baseball . . . As It Ought to Be !

vol. 11 no. 6

June 2008

Sportsmen All

The 2008 Tigers finished in 3rd place in our division and went to the second round of the playoffs. Through it all, they were noticed by the umpires they saw practically every day. The North Shore Baseball Umpires Association, led by **Paul Gilvary** and **Vince Bonini**, selected the Tigers as the B Division Sportsmen of the year. Congratulations, team. Your fine behavior on the field has been recognized! You've made your coach and your school proud.



MLB Action Team

We had a great time working with Hour Children this spring. And Hour Children apparently likes us, too, as we were invited to a goodbye party for their volunteers, held on Thursday, June 12. It was clear after the party, when the team went to the playroom, that the team members had as much fun as the children.

Patti Sterling, with whom we worked very closely to organize our efforts with Hour Children, sent us an email thanking the team for their work. She concluded the email: "I want to close this by telling you that, on behalf of **Sr Tesa** and Hour Children, we can't thank you enough for all the wonderful support and contribution you give us. It's your kind and what you do for us that makes my job so motivating. THANK YOU!"

Ms. Vittor, our principal, even while out with an injury, has kept informed about our progress on and off the field this year. She wrote, "Tell the boys I am very proud of their efforts and performance!"

We've already told **Patti** and **Robin Leavitt**, of Volunteers of America, that we'd be continuing with our volunteer work next year.

All-Stars

Three of the biggest vote-getters for the Exceptional Seniors game this year were **Steve D'Elena**, **Juan De La Cruz**, and **Angel Tejada**. Ultimately, two were selected and started the game—**Steve** behind the plate and **Angel** at second. Congratulations to all three! For photos, check the PSAL website. We also have pictures up on the team website.

Awards

At the annual team dinner at Aunt Bella's, on Friday, June 13, the following awards were presented:

Most Improved Player	Rafael De'Oleo
Tiger of the Year	Manny Portorreal
	Steve D'Elena
Golden Glove	Jonathan Matias
Cy Young Award	Carlos Belliard
Most Valuable Player	Juan De La Cruz
	Angel Tejada
Rookie of the Year	Luis Espinoza
	Esteban Soler
Coach's Award	Armando Avila
	Angel Tejada
Team Captain Award	Armando Avila
	Esteban Soler

QVTigers.org

Have you checked our website lately? We keep updating it. It takes time, with **Armando** and **Esteban** doing the bulk of the work.

When you check out our website, register for emails if you haven't already. If your email address has changed, reregister, or send a brief email to Coach@QVTigers.org

Upcoming Activities

Orientation Wednesday, August 27

Orientation – Be There!

As we have done in the past, returning Tigers players will assist at the orientation for new students, prior to the start of school. Orientation is scheduled for Wednesday, August 27. Team members will meet in room 301 at 7:30. Breakfast will be provided. Please dress appropriately, and wear your green team jerseys. Contact the coach for further information.

Goodbye to our seniors:

Juan De La Cruz
Steve D'Elena
Annaldo Jimenez
Manny Portorreal
Guillermo Taveras
Angel Tejada

Have a good summer!

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Playoffs

The 2008 Tigers finished in 3rd place in our division, and went to the second round of the playoffs. After finishing 11-5, Queens Voc's varsity team went to the playoffs for a 7th year in a row, going to the second round after defeating first round opponents Prospect Heights by a score of 9-2.

Perfect

Attendance at baseball events is very important. Some players have made a tremendous effort to attend all our activities. We conducted 25 preseason activities, and 54 activities, up to our last playoff game. One player, **Manny Portorreal**, has had perfect attendance since the very first meeting; that's 79 days of baseball activities, excluding Hour Children time. Two others have had perfect attendance since the start of practice season: **Esteban Soler**, who missed only 1 preseason activity, and **Luis Espinoza**, who missed only 2 preseason activities. Congratulations, guys, and thanks for setting such positive examples!

MLB Action Team

Hour Children is a family service organization that provides supportive services to incarcerated and formerly incarcerated women. We got involved with Hour Children as an MLB Action Team. Action Teams were established in a joint venture between Volunteers of America and the MLB Players Trust. We have worked with the children in the nursery and day care program, and assist in the thrift shop. To date, we have volunteered over 350 hours.

On Thursday, April 17, The NY Mets recognized the Queens Voc Tigers for their volunteer community service activities at Hour Children. With the whole team in attendance, Action Team Captains seniors **Steve D'Elena** and **Angel Tejada**, freshmen **Armando Avila** and **Esteban Soler**, and Assistant Coach **Joe LiVecchi** represented the team in an on-field ceremony honoring the city's first three Action Teams.

Upcoming Activities

Sports Banquet Tuesday, June 10
Team Dinner Friday, June 13



HSTW

Eleven members of Queens Voc's class of 2008 have received the *High Schools That Work (HSTW)* Award of Educational Achievement. Two of them are varsity baseball players: **Juan DeLaCruz** and **Angel Tejada**.

HSTW announced that "These students should truly be commended for their hard work and outstanding achievement." Thanks guys, for proving that school comes first and baseball comes second.

QVTigers.org

We have endeavored to keep up with our team news on the website during the season. We have also worked to update our website with pictures from the 2007 and 2008 seasons. There's still more to do, but as of now, we've added numerous baseball alumni photos, Action Team photos from Shea Stadium, RBI bat presentation, It's My Park Days, tryouts, and pictures from our many events this season. Keep checking, we're going to keep improving the website.

When you check out our website, register for emails if you haven't already. If your email address has changed, reregister, or send a brief email to Coach@QVTigers.org

Park Day

Thirteen members of the team attended the Saturday, May 17, "It's My Park Day" at Flushing Meadows Park. Throughout the day, the team worked in the children's playground weeding and planting flowers.

Division leaders

According to the PSAL website, the following players were among the top in the division:

- #5 Walks: **Raylin Leroux** - 12
- #10 HRs: **Steve D'Elena** - 1
- #13 HRs: **Angel Tejada** - 1
- #8 Strikeouts: **Carlos Belliard** - 37
- #9 Strikeouts: **Annaldo Jimenez** - 36
- #5 ERA: **Carlos Belliard** - 2.50
- #7 ERA: **Annaldo Jimenez** - 2.85
- #2 Wins: **Carlos Belliard** - 5

Not doing more than the average is what keeps the average down

- W. Winans

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February 2008

Season Begins

The beginning of our season was delayed, due in part to the poor weather. Once again the hope of a warm start has been dashed; it seems like there isn't going to be any global warming this year. You can always check our website, QVTigers.org, for the latest info on our activities. We'll keep it up-to-the-minute with any weather-related changes.



Tee Shirt Sale

We ordered extra 2008 baseball t-shirts, expecting some of our alumni would be interested in purchasing them. Some did, but we have extras. Please contact the coach if you are interested in purchasing one. They are \$10 each. After a week or so, we'll put the remaining shirts up for sale in school.

Duffle Bags

Our team duffle bags are in! Players who ordered the personalized team duffle bags can pick them up.

RiseMag

Thanks to **Daniel Medina** ('07), we have been included in the March edition of Rise Magazine. The article will be added to our website soon.

psal.org & qvtigers.org

You can keep up with the latest high school sports news by viewing the PSAL website. The website has up-to-date information about teams. Check out our roster, prospects, and coach quotes about our players.

Our own website is also rich in information, and includes our complete schedule, and our roster, which is not yet up on the PSAL website.

Freshmen Awards

Congratulations to **Anthony Arias, Armando Avila, Raymond Diaz, Larry LeBeau, and Esteban Soler**, who received third marking period awards on Tuesday, February 26. Congratulations guys. You make us proud!

Bat Contest

Last month, we entered a contest for a season's supply of free wood bats. Movie producer **Tanvir Toy** ('03), **Danny Medina** ('07), **Assistant Coach Joe LiVecchi** ('05) worked with **Anthony Arias, Armando Avila, Erick Cabello, and Esteban Soler**, to produce our video entry. We had fun, produced a great video, and we won! Check it out at Radialbat.ning.com and click on videos. Thanks to everyone!

Candy Sale II

Candy sale money is overdue, but most players have turned in their money. Those of you who haven't should do so immediately. Thanks to freshmen **Tomas Bueno and Dennis Ortega**, our JV friends, for selling candy!

Handbook Info

The newest edition of our team handbook has been distributed and we are readying the digital version with updated directions and website links. Thanks to our friend, senior **Josue Sanchez** for updating and improving our team CD. Alumni or others interested in receiving a copy can call the coach or email Coach@QVTigers.org

Upcoming Activities

Kickoff Mtg Tuesday, March 4
First Non-League Game Saturday, March 8
Team Meeting Monday, March 24
League Opener Tuesday, March 25
Parent Conferences Thu & Fri, Apr 3 & 4

Hall of Fame

Long discussed and certainly overdue, the idea of a Queens Voc Tigers Baseball Hall of Fame is back. There is a lot of work to go into the process. For one, we have to determine what the criteria are. We also have to figure out the process. Should we have an awards dinner, a ceremony in the school, or some other event? We're not sure yet, but we have decided that any hall of fame event will likely be held in the fall.

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- W. Winans