

A Team



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Nova High School

Davie, Florida

The Nova High School Titans had another great year. This was the first time in the county that a team has gone undefeated in the regular season. The Titans held a record of 27-0 going into the region tournament.

According to coach Pat McQuade, "They did a great job. Really over achieved. We just didn't have the same amount of talent as in past years."

In 2004 and 2005 the Nova High School Titans won the state championship. Even during this year Colligate Baseball and Baseball America ranked them the number one school in Florida. Unfortunately, the Titans lost the district championship and then again in the regions, completing their season at 28-2.

Not to take away from a tremendous season, but as coach McQuade put it, "We just sorta ran out of gas. We had a bunch of baseball rats who really love to play. We just weren't nearly as talented."

However, there are some players who stood out. JJ Housey, a pitcher and third baseman, had a 12-1 record from the bump. He threw 98 strikeouts in 70 innings, with a 1.28 ERA. He also helped the offense hitting .356. Then there is Donny Amos, an outfielder and pitcher, who hit .436 with 7 home runs and 36 RBI's. He also was 5-1 as a pitcher with 70 strikeouts in 42 innings.

In the middle of the field were Kevin Nelson, shortstop, and Michael Duckworth, second base. With the help of their solid defense, the Titans were able to win as many games as they did. Kevin hit .405 with 34 hits and 24 stolen bases. While Michael also hit .405 with 3 home runs, 32 RBI's and 32 runs scored.

Then there was Randy Withers a left-handed pitcher and first baseman. He was the best hitter on the team, batting .488, and earning a 7-0 record as a pitcher. Randy is most notably a "control guy" reports McQuade. All above-mentioned players were seniors doing their best job to lead their team to victory.

One highlight of the season was the 4-0 performances at the La Grange Tournament in Georgia. An eight-team tournament, where all teams were either state champs from the previous year, or a region champion. It was some really good teams playing really good ball. All the same, this is where Nova beat Russell County, Alabama for the championship.

Good job this year. Rest up over the summer, because before long it will be time to compete again. Good luck.

David A. Himmelstein