

Tuesday, March 31, 2009

### **EASTERN BASEBALL SURVIVES VALIANT UPSET BID, 5-4**

*Dewing hits two-run home run in seventh to help Warriors back from four-run deficit*

MANSFIELD, Conn. –**Andrew Dewing (Swampscott, MA)** hit a two-run, game-tying home run in the seventh inning and pinch runner **Joe Cousineau (Newington)** scored on a two-out passed ball in the bottom of the ninth to give the Eastern Connecticut State University baseball team a 5-4 victory over Manhattanville College Tuesday afternoon at the Eastern Baseball Stadium.

Batting No. 8 in the order, Dewing hit the first pitch from freshman lefty Dan Levine (Ronkonkoma, NY) well over the left field fence to bring Eastern (15-1) back from an early four-run hole and tie the game at 4-4 in the seventh inning.

After Manhattanville (12-10) stranded the go-ahead run on second base in the top of the ninth, the Warriors won the game in the bottom of the inning when Cousineau raced home from third on a two-out passed ball. Pinch hitter **Steve Cammuso (Rutland, MA)** singled to left to open the inning. Cousineau was sacrificed to second by **Shane Kingsley (Beacon Falls)** and moved to third on Dewing's ground ball to the right side. The first pitch to pinch hitter **Tristan Hobbes (Utica, NY)** slipped between the legs of catcher Alex Braverman, allowing Cousineau to score the game-ending run.

Right-handed pitcher **Chris Wojick (Uncasville)** struck out five over the last two innings to gain his second win without a loss as the fourth of four Eastern pitchers. The Warriors are ranked No. 1 nationally in Division III.

Manhattanville led 4-0 after three innings and carried a 4-2 lead into the seventh. Two hits and an infield ground ball gave the Valiants a 1-0 lead in the second and the visitors tacked on three more in the third on four hits – three in succession. Mike Mooney (Mahopac, NY) hit a leadoff double to spark the one-run second inning and had a two-out RBI single and scored on Chris Nardoizzi's (Poughkeepsie, NY) in the three-run third.

Levine limited Eastern to just one run through the first five innings on **Shawn Gilblair's (Windham)** RBI single in the fourth. He surrendered Eastern's second run in the sixth on **Melvin Castillo's (Danbury)** sacrifice fly, and departed after Dewing's two-run game-tying blast in the seventh.

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Making his third appearance, right-hander **Andrew Morrison (Old Saybrook)** pitched 2 1/3 innings of strong relief to set up Wojick. He took over after a leadoff walk in the sixth inning and retired three in a row. He pitched a hitless seventh inning before giving up a one-out double in the eighth and was lifted in favor of Wojick.

Mooney had three of Manhattanville's 11 hits and scored two runs. Stephen Pinto (Yonkers, NY), Chris Nastasi (Bayville, NY) and Nardoizzi had two each. Batting cleanup, Kevin Murray (Valhalla, NY) was hitless but walked three times.

Eastern hosts Amherst College Wednesday at 4 p.m.

**Eastern Conn. 5, Manhattanville College 4**

Manhattanville (12-10)	013	000	000	--	4	11	2
Eastern Conn. (15-1)	000	101	201	--	5	5	2

Dan Levine, Chad Wallace (7) and Nick Parente, Alex Braverman (9). James Kukucka, Mike Tingley (4), Andrew Morrison (6), Chris Wojick (8) and Chris Cannata. WP-Wojick (2-0), LP-Wallace (1-2). 2B-Stephen Pinto, Mike Mooney, Chris Nardoizzi (M); HR-Andrew Dewing (1) (E).

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little east conference

Saturday, March 28, 2009

### **SPLIT DECISION FOR LEC BASEBALL HEAVYWEIGHTS**

*Nationally-ranked Warriors and So. Maine each win one game of doubleheader*

MANSFIELD, Conn. – Senior All-America **Shawn Gilblair (Windham)** hit a three-run home run in the bottom of the first inning and junior righty **Matt Fontaine (Cranston, RI)** pitched 3 2/3 shutout innings in relief to pace the Eastern Connecticut State University baseball team to an 8-4 win in the second game of a season-opening Little East Conference doubleheader with the University of Southern Maine Saturday afternoon at the Eastern Baseball Stadium.

Behind senior righty Tim Therrian, Southern Maine (12-2, 1-1 little east) axed Eastern's (14-1, 1-1 little east) program-record 13-game season-opening winning streak in the first game. The Warriors' second-game win put an end to Southern Maine's 11-game winning streak.

In the most recent Division III national poll, Eastern is ranked No. 1 and Southern Maine No. 10. The teams are the most successful in the history of the Little East Conference and have combined for six national titles.

While Eastern's starting pitchers in the doubleheader met with only marginal success, junior relievers Fontaine and **Wes Dutton (Waterbury)** combined to give up only three hits and one run with five strikeouts and no walks in 8 2/3 inning.

In his second start of the year, Southern Maine junior lefty Collin Henry (0-1) never got out of the first inning of the second game. With two on base via walks, Gilblair unloaded his first home run of the season over the right field fence to give Eastern a quick 3-0 lead. Senior All-America **Melvin Castillo (Danbury)** then ended Henry's day by launching his team-leading sixth home run of the year – the 31<sup>st</sup> of his three-year career – over the left field wall.

The visitors twice pulled to within a run in the second game before Eastern added an insurance run in the fifth on junior **John Parke's (Middlefield)** sacrifice fly and two more in the seven on a two-out, two-run double by sophomore **Jim Schult (Wappingers Falls, NY)**.

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E-MAIL: [molta@easternct.edu](mailto:molta@easternct.edu)

WEB SITE: <http://www.easternct.edu/depts/athletics>

MAILING ADDRESS: Sports Center, Eastern Connecticut State University, 83 Windham St.  
Willimantic, CT 06226

While the Warriors were struggling to protect their early four-run cushion, Fontaine did not allow a hit after replacing junior righty starter **Will Musson (Wethersfield)** with two on and one out and Eastern leading 5-4 in the sixth. Fontaine got senior All-America Chris Burleson to pop out to short and induced an inning-ending ground ball from Josh Mackey. Fontaine retired all 11 batters he faced, three on strikeouts.

Therrian (4-0) pitched a complete-game six-hitter without allowing an earned run nor walking a batter in Southern Maine's first-game win. Therrian, who was reached for five hits in 3 1/3 innings of relief a year ago against Eastern, fanned eight.

Gilblair (2-1) matched Therrian through the early going and took a 1-0 lead into the fourth before the bottom dropped out. After getting all six outs over the first two innings via the strikeout, Gilblair struggled through a scoreless third and a disastrous fourth. The Huskies scored four runs in the fourth on four hits, a walk and infield error. Batting fourth in the lineup, first-game loser Henry and teammate Ryan Pike chased Gilblair with back-to-back home runs leading off the fifth that made it 6-1.

In his longest outing at Eastern, the left-handed Dutton stopped the Huskies on three hits, allowing only one run. He fanned two without a walk.

Eastern hosts Manhattanville Tuesday at 4 p.m.

**Game 1**  
**U. of Southern Maine 7, Eastern Conn. 1**

Southern Maine (12-1, 1-0 little east)	000	430	000	--	7	11	1
Eastern Conn. (13-1, 0-1 little east) 010	000	000	--	1	6	2	

Tim Therrian (4-0) and Jordan Berthiaume. Shawn Gilblair (2-1), Wes Dutton (5) and Chris Cannata. 2B-Ryan Pike (S), Jim Schult, Shane Kingsley (E); HR-Colin Henry (1), Pike (4), Berthiaume (2) (S).

**Game 2**  
**Eastern Conn. 8, U. of Southern Maine 4**

Southern Maine (12-2, 1-1 little east)	030	100	000	--	4	6	2
Eastern Conn. (14-1, 1-1 little east) 410	010	20x	--	8	11	0	

Colin Henry (0-1), Nick Hahn (1), Mike Eaton (7), Matt Leach (8) and Jordan Berthiaume. Will Musson (3-0), Matt Fontaine (6) and Chris Cannata. 2B-Ryan Gaffney (S), John Parke, Jim Schult, Andrew Dewing (E); HR-Mike Eaton (2) (S), Shawn Gilblair (1), Melvin Castillo (6) (E).

Wednesday, March 25, 2009

**EASTERN BASEBALL RALLY NETS 13TH CONSECUTIVE VICTORY**  
***Palo's game-ending pinch single in ninth gives Warriors 7-6 win over BVU***

SCOTTSDALE, Ariz. – The Eastern Connecticut State University baseball team survived six errors and rallied from an early three-run deficit for a 7-6 win over Buena Vista University Wednesday in a battle of nationally-ranked teams featuring long winning streaks Wednesday afternoon at Salt River High School.

After No. 1-ranked Eastern (13-0) scored twice in the bottom of the eighth to take a 6-4 lead, No. 22 Buena Vista (11-1) tied the game with a pair of unearned runs in the top of the ninth on two walks, an error and a game-tying single by Brandon Pietrzyk. In the bottom of the ninth, sophomore **Jim Schult (Wappingers Falls, NY)** reached on a one-out single, went to second on a wild pitch, to third on senior **Shawn Gilblair's (Windham)** ground ball to second base, and after an intentional walk to junior **Melvin Castillo (Danbury)**, scored the deciding run on junior **Mike Palo's (Brookfield)** opposite-field pinch single to right.

Eastern, which moved into the top spot earlier this week in both the D3Baseball.com and ABCA/Collegiate Baseball national polls, snapped Buena Vista's 11-game winning streak with the victory that wrapped up a perfect 8-0 spring trip to Arizona. The Beavers hadn't lost since a season-opening 8-5 setback at Nebraska Wesleyan.

Trailing 4-1 after two innings, Eastern got effective two-inning relief from junior lefty Wes Dutton (Waterbury) and scored five unanswered runs to carry a 6-4 lead into the ninth. Eastern tied the game at 4-4 with two runs in the bottom of the sixth on senior **Tristan Hobbes' (Utica, NY)** run-scoring single and a pinch ground ball by sophomore **Robert Perry (Manchester)** that brought home Castillo with the tying run. Sophomore **Andrew Dewing (Swampscott, MA)** and freshman **Steve Cammuso (Rutland, MA)** both contributed pinch singles in the inning. Cammuso's single plated Castillo with the go-ahead run and a wild pitch sent home freshman pinch runner **Justin Proctor (Meriden)** with an insurance run.

Schult, who hit for the cyle Tuesday, was 3-for-5 in the game to raise his average to .525. Castillo was 2-for-3 to raise his average to .463. Junior **Travis Bass (West Hartford)** hit a solo home run to give Eastern a 1-0 lead in the first and junior **John Parke (Middlefield)** swatted a solo homer in the fifth for Eastern's second run. Bass has hit in eight straight games.

Five Eastern pinch hitters combined for four hits and Perry's game-tying ground ball. Eastern opens its Little East Conference season Saturday at 2 p.m. against LEC pre-season favorite University of Southern Maine.

**Eastern Conn. 7, Buena Vista U. 6**

Buena Vista (11-2)	022	000	002	--	6	8	1
Eastern Conn. (13-0)	100	012	021	--	7	12	6

Ryan Wuebker, Kyle Dupic (8) and Kevin Kloewer. James Kukucka, Wes Dutton (7), Chris Wojcik (9), Matt Fontaine (9) and Andrew Magliola, Chris Cannata (5). WP-Fontaine (2-0); LP-Dupic (2-1). 2B-Jim Schult (E); HR-John Parke (3), Travis Bass (2).

Tuesday, March 24, 2009

**NO. 1-RANKED EASTERN BASEBALL BLASTS CHICAGO, 20-13**  
*Warriors challenge many records during record-setting 12th opening win*

CHANDLER, Ariz. – The Eastern Connecticut State University baseball team celebrated its return to the No. 1 national ranking with a record-setting performance that established a program record for consecutive season-opening victories Tuesday in a 20-13 victory over the University of Chicago at Snedigar Complex.

Eastern (12-0) set a program record for consecutive wins to open the season by collecting 25 hits – 13 of them for extra bases. The team's nine doubles are one shy of the program record.

A four-time national champion, Eastern is ranked first nationally in both the D3Baseball.com poll released Monday night and the ABCA/Collegiate Baseball released Tuesday afternoon.

Four hitters batting in the middle of the Eastern lineup combined to total 18 hits, drive in 15 runs and score 14. They had six doubles, three triples and a home run. Sophomore **Jim Schult (Wappingers Falls, NY)** became the sixth player in program history to hit for the cycle. Schult and junior **Travis Bass (West Hartford)** tied the program record with six hits apiece. Schult also tied the program record by scoring six runs, and Bass' two triples also tied the program record. Schult's 12 total bases were just two shy of the program record set by **Melvin Castillo (Danbury)** on April 29, 2007.

Schult and Bass were both 6-for-7. Schult scored six runs and drove in six. Bass scored five runs and drove in three. Castillo, a junior, had four hits and drove in four runs, a senior cleanup hitter **Shawn Gilblair (Windham)** had two hits, scored two runs and drove in two. Gilblair and Castillo each had two doubles.

In hitting for the cycle, Schult singled and scored in a three-run first inning, had an RBI single and scored in a seven-run second inning; reached on an error in a two-run third inning; doubled in the only run of the fourth inning; drove in both runs in a two-run sixth inning; drove in the first run and scored the second run in a two-run eighth inning, and tripled in one run and scored one in a three-run ninth.

The second of four pitchers, freshman righty **Michael Hepple (Newington)** earned his first collegiate win in his third appearance. He allowed four (earned) runs in 4 2/3 innings, giving up six hits, fanning two and walking none.

Eastern moved out to a 10-0 lead by scoring seven runs in the second inning on six hits, but Chicago answered with eight runs in the bottom of the inning on four hits, four walks and a hit batter. Freshman Trace Capps capped the inning with a three-run double for his

(more)

Monday, March 23, 2009

**CASTILLO CONTINUES TEAR AS EASTERN BASEBALL EQUALS MARK**  
*Third baseman cracks two home runs and two doubles in 17-15 comeback victory*

CHANDLER, Ariz. -- Junior **Melvin Castillo (Danbury)** reached safely six times with two home runs, two doubles and two walks, scored five runs and drove in four and **Shawn Gilblair (Windham)** sparked a four-run ninth inning with a go-ahead two-run double as Eastern equaled its best start in program history by winning its 11th straight game in a 17-15 victory over Calvin College at Snedigar Complex.

With Eastern trailing 14-13 and one out in the top of the ninth, **John Parke (Middlefield)** reached on an infield single and stole second, pinch hitter **Tristan Hobbes (Utica, NY)** walked and Gilblair plated Parke and pinch runner **Shane Kingsley (Montville)** with the tying and go-ahead runs.

With the win, Eastern equals the team record of consecutive season-opening victories set in 1972 – the fourth season in head coach Bill Holowaty's 41-year tenure. That team won 23 of 26 games.

Castillo, batting .583 since opening the season 1-for-12, had a leadoff double and scored in the second inning, hit two-run home runs in the third and fifth, doubled and scored in the sixth and was intentionally walked in the seventh and intentionally walked and scored in the ninth. His second homer gives him 30 in his three-year career. He is one of only five players in program history to reach that mark.

Eastern had nine doubles and two home runs in the game.

Eastern trailed 5-0 after one inning but later took its first lead at 10-8 after scoring six runs in the fifth on six hits after there were two out and one on base. In the inning, Castillo hit a two-run home run and No. 8-9 hitters **Andrew Dewing (Swampscott, MA)** and **Steve Cammuso (Rutland, MA)** contributed RBI doubles. Parke, **Travis Bass (West Hartford)** and Dewing all had three hits.

Junior lefty **Mike Tingley (Rockville)** gained his first win since 2007 by pitching three shutout innings. Tingley, who missed all of last year following arm surgery, gave up two hits and no walks and fanned five. With Eastern's first four pitchers largely ineffective against Calvin (0-4), Tingley was summoned while Calvin was scoring three unearned runs to take a 14-12 lead. Tingley took over for junior lefty **Wes Dutton (Waterbury)** with two on and no one on in the sixth. Tingley retired the side after allowing only one run, then pitched a scoreless eighth and ninth (the only two innings that Calvin did not score) before junior righty **Chris Wojick (Uncasville)** got the final three outs of the ninth to earn his second save.

(more)

Monday, March 23, 2009 – Baseball

Senior cleanup hitter Nate Pocock was one of three Calvin hitters with three hits. Pocock socked a double and triple, drove in four runs and scored three. His three-run home run in the bottom of the fifth returned the lead to Calvin, 11-10.

The No.-5 ranked Warriors look for their first 12-0 start when it faces the University of Chicago at 2 p.m. at Chandler.

**Eastern Conn. 17, Calvin College 15**

Eastern Conn. (11-0)	012	162	104--	17	18	4
Calvin College (0-4)	511	133	001--	15	17	0

Danny Schmiemann, Bill Roveto (1), Nathaniel Belke (4), Wes Dutton (6), Mike Tingley (6), Chris Wojick (9) and Steve Cammuso, Chris Cannata (9). Zach Thomas, Derick Vargas (5), Jeff Groenewold (6), Rob Kool (7), Brett Cavanaugh (9) and Matt Dodrill. WP-Tingley (1-0). LP-Kool (0-1). Save-Wojick (2). 2B-Melvin Castillo 2, John Parke, Shawn Gilblair, Will Musson, Robert Perry, Travis Bass, Andrew Dewing, Cammuso (E), Nate Pocock, Scott Burden, Tyler Berger (C). HR-Castillo 2 (5) (E), Pocock (1) (C).



Sunday, March 22, 2009

## **EASTERN BASEBALL SWEEPS WILLIAMS, EXTENDS STREAK**

***Warriors rout Ephs in opener, break tie in seventh inning of nightcap to cap sweep***

SCOTTSDALE, Ariz. – Juniors **John Parke (Middlefield)** and **Chris Thomson (Montville)** homered in a six-run first inning in the opener and the Eastern Connecticut State University baseball team scored twice after there were two out and none on in the seventh inning to snap a tie in the nightcap in a 10-1, 6-4 sweep of Williams College Sunday at Sagauo High School.

Ranked No. 5 in Division III, Eastern (10-0) recorded its second doubleheader sweep in two days to improve to 5-0 on its eight-game Arizona trip. The games were the first this season for Williams (0-2).

In the opener, junior righty **Will Musson (Wethersfield)** and junior lefty **Wes Dutton (Waterbury)** combined on a two-hitter and Eastern scored six runs in the bottom of the first on four hits, two walks, two passed balls, and a wild pitch. Parke and Thomson hit home runs in the inning. The home run was Thomson's second in two days. **Tristan Hobbes (Utica, NY)** had two hits and Thomson and Parke each drove in two runs. The run charged to Musson was unearned. He fanned six and walked three in seven innings.

In the nightcap, an infield throwing error with two out and the bases loaded in the top of the seventh scored two runs to snap a 3-3 tie. Junior righty **Chris Wojick (Montville)** pitched the final 3 2/3 innings to close out the win. After there were two out and none on in the seventh, Hobbes (single), Parke (walk) and Musson (hit-by-pitch) reached safely to load the bases. On a ground ball to third, the throw to second trying for the inning-ending forcout was off the mark, allowing two runs to score. Wojick gave up four hits and one (earned) run, fanned four and walked one. Junior **Melvin Castillo (Danbury)** had two hits for his fifth multiple-hit game of the year and senior **Shawn Gilblair (Windham)** drove in three runs with a two-run double in the third and a sacrifice fly in the ninth.

In ten games this year, the Warriors are batting .354 with a staff pitching ERA of 1.88. Sophomore **Jim Schult (Wappingers, NY)** tops all regulars with a .478 average, with Gilblair at .462, senior **Andrew Magliola (East Haven)** .438 and sophomore **Chris Cannata (Southington)** .400.

Eastern faces Calvin College Monday at 12:30 p.m. ET at Chandler, Ariz.

(more)

Sunday, March 22, 2009 - Baseball

**Game 1**  
**Eastern Conn. 10, Williams College 1**

Williams (0-1)	000	010	000	--	1	2	3
Eastern Conn. (9-0)	601	020	10x	--	10	11	3

Dan Benz (0-1), Tom Hester (5), Dan Marcet (8) and Chad Brown. Will Musson (2-0), Wes Dutton (8) and Steve Cannata. 2B-Jim Schult, Robert Perry, Cannata (E); HR-John Parke (2), Chris Thomson (2).

**Game 2**  
**Eastern Conn. 6, Williams College 4**

Eastern Conn. (10-0)	002	001	210	--	6	9	2
Williams (0-2)	000	111	100	--	4	11	6

Jim Schult, Wes Dutton (6), Chris Wojick (6) and Andrew Magliola. Paul Burgdorf, Harry Marino (6), Dan Grossman (7), Ben Oliva (8) and Chase Davenport. WP-Wojick (1-0). LP-Grossman (0-1). 2B-Shawn Gilblair (E), Davenport (W).

Saturday, March 21, 2009

**EASTERN BASEBALL BLASTS NEW PALTZ TWICE, 13-3, 14-4**  
*Warriors pound five home runs in second game; improve to 8-0 this season*

SCOTTSDALE, Ariz. – **Melvin Castillo (Danbury)** and **Steve Cammuso (Rutland, MA)** each hit two home runs in the second game to highlight a 31-hit, two-game attack when the Eastern Connecticut State University baseball team swept SUNY New Paltz, 13-3, 14-4 Saturday at Saguaro High School.

Ranked No. 5 nationally, Eastern (8-0) improved to 3-0 in Arizona with its 31-hit attack which included six home runs and 15 extra-base hits. Leading 5-0, the Warriors put Game 1 away with five runs in the fourth inning on five hits and one New Paltz (2-10) error. Eastern scored in every inning after the first in Game 2, with Cammuso swatting two two-run home runs and finishing with five RBI. A catcher, Cammuso was making his first career start.

A third baseman, Castillo is now tied for sixth all-time with 28 career home runs. Since starting the season 1-for-12, Castillo is 12-for-19 and at .419, is one of six players batting better than .400 this year.

In his first career appearance, sophomore righty **Andrew Morrison (Old Saybrook)** gained his first win in the second game in relief of junior lefty **Mike Tingley (Rockville)**. In his first start since missing all of 2008 due to arm surgery, Tingley gave up only three hits while fanning five and walking two in pitching into the fourth inning.

In the doubleheader, 15 different players had at least one hit, 12 drove in at least one run and nine had at least one extra-base hit. As the No. 9 hitter, In the doubleheader, Castillo had four hits, drove in five runs and scored four. Junior DH **Mike Palo (Brookfield)** drove in four runs in two games. Senior first baseman **Tristan Hobbes (Utica, NY)** hit his third home run of the year in the first game and first-year junior transfer **Chris Thomson (Montville)** belted his first homer in an Eastern uniform in Game 2 and also scored three runs.

Junior righty **Matt Fontaine (Cranston, RI)** struck out five in six innings to gain the first-game win. He allowed five hits and three (earned) runs.

In winning its first eight games this year, Eastern is out-scoring its opponent better than 3-1 and out-hitting its opponent better than 2-to-1. The Warriors have 14 home runs and 39 extra bases and a .372 team batting average thus far this year and 14 different pitchers have combined on a 1.99 ERA and a 3-for-1 strikeout-to-walk ratio.

Eastern faces Williams College Sunday in a 2 p.m. (ET) doubleheader at Scottsdale, Ariz. Baseball

Saturday, March 21, 2009 - Baseball

**at Scottsdale, Ariz.**

**Game 1**

**Eastern Conn. 13, SUNY New Paltz 3**

New Paltz (2-9)	000	300	0	--	3	6	4
Eastern Conn. (7-0)	140	530	x	--	13	16	1

Jonathan Shank (0-2), Brett Harrison (5) and Matt O'Neill. Matt Fontaine (1-0), Bill Roveto (7) and Chris Cannata. 2B-Chris Paulicelli, Michael Marash (NP), Chris Cannata 2, Shane Kingsley, Travis Bass, John Parke (E); 3B-Bass (E); HR-Tristan Hobbes (3) (E).

**Game 2**

**Eastern Conn. 14, SUNY New Paltz 4**

Eastern Conn. (8-0)	033	131	3	--	14	15	3
New Paltz (2-10)	000	111	1	--	4	9	3

Mike Tingley, Andrew Morrison (4), Tom Darby (5), Michael Hepple (6) and Steve Cammuso. Jimmy Donohue (0-1), Eric Holzapple (5) and Chris Boettcher. WP-Morrison (1-0). 2B-Shawn Gilblair, Mike Palo, Melvin Castillo (E), Michael Marash, Tyler Terlecky (NP); HR-Castillo 2 (3), Cammuso 2 (2), Chris Thomson (1) (E).

Friday, March 20, 2009

### GILBLAIR HITS, PITCHES EASTERN BASEBALL PAST JHU

*Two-time All-America wins 22nd career game, collects four hits*

PHOENIX – Two-time All-America **Shawn Gilblair (WINDHAM)** won his 22nd career game and collected four hits and drove in three runs when the Eastern Connecticut State University baseball team opened its Arizona spring trip with a 9-3 win over Johns Hopkins University in a meeting of nationally-ranked teams.

The win is the sixth without a loss this year for Eastern, ranked No. 5 nationally. No. 14 nationally-ranked Johns Hopkins (6-7) reached last year's national championship game after becoming the only team last year to defeat national champion Trinity College. Limited to one pitching win last year due to an assortment of injuries, Gilblair (2-0) pitched the first six innings against Johns Hopkins and left with a 6-3 lead after knocking in two of the team's three tie-breaking runs in the top of the sixth with an opposite-field double. Gilblair improved his career pitching record to 22-6 and moved into eight place all-time at Eastern in career wins.

Eastern collected 16 hits off three JHU pitchers and committed just one error in the field.

Junior third baseman **Melvin Castillo (Danbury)** -- batting fifth in the order behind Gilblair -- had two hits, including the 26th home run of his career. After Gilblair singled with one out in the fifth, Castillo hit a two-run game-tying home run. Junior shortstop **Travis Bass (West Hartford)** had three hits and scored two runs. With the Warriors trailing 2-0, Bass singled and scored Eastern's first run on Gilblair's single through the right side in the third inning. With one out in the sixth, junior second baseman **John Parke (Middlefield)** and Bass singled. Parke raced home from third with the go-ahead run on an infield error, and Gilblair made it 6-3 with his two-run double.

Gilblair fanned seven and walked two before senior righty **James Kukucka (Vernon)** and freshman lefty **Michael Holmes (Easton, MA)** closed out the win by pitching the final three scoreless innings. In his collegiate debut, Holmes struck out two. Eastern plays two seven-inning games with SUNY New Paltz Saturday at 1:30 p.m. ET at Saguaro High School in Scottsdale, AZ.

#### **Eastern Conn. 9, Johns Hopkins U. 3**

Eastern Conn. (6-0)	001	023	210	--	9	16	1
Johns Hopkins (6-7)	021	000	000	--	3	8	1

Shawn Gilblair (2-0), James Kukucka (7), Michael Holmes (9) and Andrew Magliola. Marco Simmons (0-2), Greg Harbeck (7), Pete Smith (7) and John Swarr. 2B-Gilblair (E), Dave Kahn (H); 3B-John Parke (E); HR-Melvin Castillo (E);, Lee Bolyard (J).

Tuesday, March 17, 2009

**EASTERN BASEBALL SURVIVES AGAINST ALBERTUS, 9-7**  
*Leading twice by five runs, No. 5 Warriors escape to remain unbeaten*

MANSFIELD, Conn. - The No. 5 nationally-ranked Eastern Connecticut State University baseball team needed all of two five-run leads to escape with a 9-7 non-conference victory over Albertus Magnus College Tuesday afternoon in its home-opener at the Eastern Baseball Stadium.

Eastern, which jumped three places to No. 5 in this week's Division III national poll, moved out to 5-0 and 8-3 leads against Albertus (0-7), but had to withstand an Albertus Magnus seventh-inning rally as it posted its best start since an identical 5-0 start nine years ago.

The game was added to the schedule Monday night and was the second played between the teams in four days.

Trailing 8-3, Albertus scored four times in the seventh before junior right-handed reliever **Matt Fontaine (Cranston, RI)** got a three-pitch strikeout to end the inning with the bases loaded. Fontaine fanned three, the second strikeout the 100<sup>th</sup> in his 88-inning Eastern career.

First-year sophomore lefty transfer **Danny Schmiemann (Sea Cliff, NY)** pitched two relief innings to record his first win at Eastern. He allowed one hit and fanned three. Five Eastern pitchers combined to strike out 14 and walk only two and give up only one earned run. The five pitchers hit three batters and committed two walks, however.

Sophomore right fielder **Jim Schult (Wappingers Falls, NY)** hit a three-run home run in the second to help stake Eastern to a 5-0 lead. It was the first home run this year for Schult, who also reached three times on walks and scored two runs.

The third Eastern pitcher, freshman **Michael Hepple (Newington)** made his collegiate debut in the seventh inning with Eastern leading 8-3. Hepple allowed four hits and was charged with four runs, leaving the game with the bases loaded and two out and Eastern clinging to an 8-7 lead. Fontaine's strikeout on three pitches kept the lead intact. Only one of the runs charged to Hepple was earned as a catcher's interference call to the

second batter of the inning helped ignite the Albertus rally. Three of the hits allowed by Hepple never left the infield. The righty fanned two batters and did not walk anyone.

Senior first baseman **Tristan Hobbes (Utica, NY)** reached base in all three of his appearances by sandwiching two walks around a two-out triple in the second. In his first game of the season, junior infielder **Travis Horrigan (Roxbury)** came off the bench to contribute two singles in as many at-bats. Horrigan singled in the seventh on the first pitch he saw, then gave Eastern an unearned insurance run with a two-out single to center in the eighth.

First-year sophomore transfer and leadoff hitter **Shane Kingsley (Beacon Falls)** left the game in the second inning after hyper-extending his finger sliding head-first into home while scoring the first run of the game on a wild pitch.

Sophomore Kyle Calechman of Albertus reached base in all five of his plate appearances and scored two runs. He was 3-for-3 with a double and was hit by pitch twice. Freshman Dan Stewart did not allow an earned run in five innings of relief for the Falcons. He gave up seven hits and one run while fanning two and walking two.

Eastern opens its six-game trip to Arizona Friday at 2 p.m. against No. 14 Johns Hopkins University. The Blue Jays were the only team to beat national champion Trinity College last year, losing in the national championship game to the Bantams.

#### **Eastern Conn. 9, Albertus Magnus College 7**

Albertus Magnus (0-7)	000	300	400	--	7	9	2
Eastern Conn. (5-0)	230	300	01x	--	9	12	2

John Stavola, Dan Stewart (4) and Robert Boscarino, Malcom Mendez (8). James Kukucka, Danny Schmiemann (5), Michael Hepple (7), Matt Fontaine (7), Chris Wojick (9) and Andrew Magliola, Chris Cannata (7). 2B-Kyle Calechman, Erik Suraci (A), Robert Perry (E); 3B-Tristan Hobbes (E); HR-Jim Schult (1) (E).

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little east conference

Sunday, March 15, 2009

### **JUNIORS' ACHIEVEMENTS LIFT EASTERN BASEBALL TO 11-2 WIN**

*Behind Musson and Castillo, Warriors blast SUNY Old Westbury for fourth win*

YAPHANK, N.Y. – In his first collegiate start after 29 relief appearances, junior righty **Will Musson (Wethersfield)** handcuffed SUNY Old Westbury on five hits over seven innings, and junior third baseman **Melvin Castillo (Danbury)** broke out of an early-season slump with four hits and three RBI as the Eastern Connecticut State University baseball team used a late rush to down SUNY Old Westbury, 11-2 Sunday afternoon at Baseball Heaven.

Making his first collegiate start after 29 relief appearances (27 at the University of Connecticut and two at Eastern this year), Musson (1-0) spaced five hits and two walks over the first seven innings to gain his first win at Eastern and third of his collegiate career. He fanned six in his stint before junior lefties **Wes Dutton (Waterbury)** and **Mike Tingley (Rockville)** each struck out two of the three batters they faced to close out the win. Tingley missed all of last year due to arm surgery.

Ranked No. 8 nationally, Eastern (4-0) last won its first four games of the season in 2003, when it went on to capture the regional tournament and place third nationally. Old Westbury (3-4) was coming off Saturday's 14-6 loss to the University of Southern Maine. Eastern's last win over Old Westbury was a 10-1 victory on March 1, 2007.

Eastern scored ten of its runs in its final four at-bats, chasing Old Westbury junior righty ace Robert Whitenack (2-1) when it took a 6-1 lead with a run in the sixth on one hit, two walks and a hit batsman. Last year's Skyline Conference Pitcher-of-the-year, Whitenack had fanned 16 in 13 innings in his first two starts. He struck out eight Eastern batters in less than six innings, but walked four and allowed seven hits. Three of the six runs charged to Whitenack were unearned and came in the fifth inning.

Castillo, a freshman All-America in 2007, put a 1-for-12 season-opening slump behind him as Eastern's only batter with more than one hit in the 13-hit attack. The third baseman and No. 6 hitter was 4-for-4 with a double and triple, drove in three runs, and scored two.

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E-MAIL: [molta@easternct.edu](mailto:molta@easternct.edu)

WEB SITE: <http://www.easternct.edu/depts/athletics>

MAILING ADDRESS: Sports Center, Eastern Connecticut State University, 83 Windham St.  
Willimantic, CT 06226



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With the score tied 1-1, Eastern scored four times in the fifth on a key infield error and a two-out, bases-clearing triple by Castillo. No. 9 hitter **Chris Cannata (Southington)** was hit by a pitch to open the inning and sophomore rightfielder **Jim Schult (Wappingers Falls, NY)** later had an RBI single to give Eastern a 2-1 lead. A single by senior leftfielder **Tristan Hobbes (Utica, NY)** and an infield error loaded the bases for Castillo. Castillo also had a leadoff double and scored on junior centerfielder **Joe Cousineau's (Newington)** RBI single in a three-run seventh.

First-year junior transfer **Chris Thomson (Montville)** had his first hit in an Eastern uniform and drove in two runs. As a mid-game replacement in left field, Thomson singled in both Eastern runs in the eighth. First-year sophomore transfer **Robert Perry (Manchester)** also recorded his first Eastern hit when he followed Thomson with an infield single.

Eastern plays the first of six games in Arizona Friday when it faces No. 5 Johns Hopkins University at Phoenix at 2 p.m. ET. The Blue Jays were the only team to defeat national champion Trinity College a year ago, reaching the national championship game.

#### Eastern Conn. 11, SUNY Old Westbury 2

Old Westbury (3-4)	001	000	100	--	2	5	3
Eastern Conn. (4-0)	010	041	32x	--	11	13	0

Robert Whitenack (2-1), Jorge Hiraldo (6), David Collado (7), Jake Tauber (8), Robert Hugli (8) and Steve Henriquez, Steve Sciamme (8). Will Musson (1-0), Wes Dutton (8), Mike Tingley (9) and Chris Cannata. 2B-Albert Bevaczua 2 (OW), Travis Bass, Melvin Castillo (E); 3B-Castillo (E); HR-Emmanuel Mateo (2).

Saturday, March 14, 2009

## **SCHULT PITCHES EASTERN BASEBALL PAST ALBERTUS, 6-1**

***Sophomore gains first win in first start; Eastern scores all the runs it needs in first***

YAPHANK, N.Y. -- Sophomore righty **Jim Schult (Wappingers Falls, NY)** scattered three singles in seven innings to gain his first collegiate win in his first start and the No. 8 nationally-ranked Eastern Connecticut State University baseball team scored three first-inning runs in posting a 6-1 victory over Albertus Magnus College Saturday afternoon at Baseball Heaven.

Schult, who is batting a team-leading .625 as Eastern's (3-0) starting rightfielder, shut out Albertus Maguns (0-5) over his final six innings of work after giving up a first-inning unearned run. He fanned four, walked two and hit two batters in his seventh career appearance.

Junior second baseman **John Parke (Middlefield)** started the game with a double and later scored on the first of two Albertus errors in the inning. Senior first baseman **Tristan Hobbes (Utica, NY)** made it 2-0 with an RBI single that plated junior pinch runner **Joe Cousineau (Newington)**, and the third run scored on a throwing error by the catcher when Hobbes took off for second.

First-year Division I sophomore transfer centerfielder **Shane Kingsley (Beacons Falls)** had three hits, scored two runs and stole base for Eastern while batting in the No. 8 slot, with Hobbes and Parke also collecting two hits.

With Eastern nursing a 3-1 lead, Kingsley led off the seventh with a single and later scored on a two-out single by junior shortstop **Travis Bass (West Hartford)**. Junior DH **Will Musson (Wethersfield)** unloaded his first collegiate home run with a solo shot in the eighth to make it 5-1. Kingsley led off the ninth with his third hit and scored again later in the inning when sophomore pinch hitter **Andrew Dewing (Swampscott, MA)** was walked with the bases loaded. Musson drove in two runs and scored two.

Two-time All-America utility player **Shawn Gilblair (Windham)** left the game after injuring his leg in the first inning while running the bases. Gilblair, limited by shoulder, elbow and knee injuries last year, had four hits through the first two games this year and had won the opener as a pitcher by fanning eight over the first three innings against Stevens Tech.

Eastern faces SUNY Old Westbury Sunday at 2:30 p.m. at Baseball Heaven.

### **Eastern Conn. 6, Albertus Magnus College 1**

Eastern Conn. (3-0)	300	000	111	--	6	9	1
Albertus Magnus (0-5)	100	000	000	--	1	3	1

Jim Schult (1-0), Chris Wojick (8) and Chris Cannata. Charles Chancio (0-1), Dan Stewart (6) and Malcom Mendez. 2B-John Parke, Tristan Hobbes (E); HR-Will Musson (1) (E).

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little east conference

Wednesday, March 11, 2009

**EASTERN ROUTS STEVENS IN 2009 BASEBALL OPENER, 10-0**  
*Gilblair fans eight in three innings; Hobbes records first multiple-HR game of career*

HOBOKEN, N.J. – After waiting 11 days for its 2009 baseball season to unfold, Eastern Connecticut State University pounded out 13 hits, allowed only two hits and played perfect defense in a 10-0 victory over Stevens Institute of Technology Wednesday afternoon at Dobbelaar Field on the SIT campus.

Junior shortstop **John Parke (Middlefield)** opened the game with a walk and junior second baseman **Travis Bass (West Hartford)** hit a home run to give No. 8 nationally-ranked Eastern a quick 1-0 lead, and the Warriors were never threatened in winning for the fourth time in as many starts against Stevens (2-7).

Eastern had a two-game trip to Virginia washed out in its scheduled openers 11 days ago and was snowed out of two more games this past weekend.

Every Eastern starter but one contributed a hit, with senior first baseman **Tristan Hobbes (Utica, NY)** homering twice – the first multiple home run game of his 136-game career – and Bass and Parke homering once each. Batting 1-2 in the order, Parke and Bass reached base six times with four hits and two walks. They each scored twice and drove in two runs apiece.

Two-time Division III All-America senior **Shawn Gilblair (Windham)** equaled his pitching win of last year's injury-plagued season. The senior lefty fanned eight batters in his three-inning starting stint, getting the first five batters on called strikes. The win was the 21<sup>st</sup> in 27 career decisions for Gilblair.

Seven of Eastern's runs in the game – including its first five – were the result of home runs. After opening the game and scoring on Bass's opposite-field homer in the first, Parke unloaded a two-run home run to left to make it 3-0 in the second. The left-handed-hitting Hobbes had a solo home run in the third to give Eastern a 5-0 lead and later added a two-run shot in the seventh to make it 9-0.

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E-MAIL: [molta@easternct.edu](mailto:molta@easternct.edu)

WEB SITE: <http://www.easternct.edu/depts/athletics>

MAILING ADDRESS: Sports Center, Eastern Connecticut State University, 83 Windham St.  
Willimantic, CT 06226

First-year University of Connecticut junior transfer **Will Musson (Wethersfield)** had two hits and two RBI and pitched on hitless inning in his Eastern debut. Bass led Eastern with three hits and senior catcher **Andrew Magliola (East Haven)** had two hits and scored a run.

Five Eastern pitchers combined on a two-hitter. They struck out 11 and walk three.

All nine of Eastern's starters in the game were upperclassmen, with all but Musson returning from a year ago. Stevens, which has lost four games this year to nationally-ranked teams, features 25 freshmen and sophomores on the roster. Stevens lost twice to No. 1 Salisbury and once to No. 4 Kean.

Eastern plays a makeup game at Farmingdale State University Friday at 3 p.m.

**Eastern Conn. 10, Stevens Institute of Technology 0**

Eastern Conn. (1-0)	221	020	210	--	10	13	0
Stevens Tech (2-7)	000	000	000	--	0	2	3

Shawn Gilblair (1-0), James Kukucka (4), Wes Dutton (6), Will Musson (8), Chris Wojick (9) and Andrew Magliola, Chris Cannata (9). John Watters (0-1), Kyle Hanas (5), Jeff Hart (8), Vincent Vinci (9) and Denis Ackermann. 2B-Travis Bass (E), Mark Rasulo (S); HR-Tristan Hobbes 2 (2), John Parke (1), Bass (1) (E).