



Athletic Media Relations

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BASEBALL

Weekly Release — May 15, 2003

Media Relations Information

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Date Opp/Event Time at site of game

1/30	Arizona	Tucson, AZ	W, 6-3
1/31	Arizona	Tucson, AZ	L, 13-17
2/1	Arizona	Tucson, AZ	L, 3-32
2/6	Arizona State	Tempe, AZ +	L, 5-6
2/7	Arizona State	Tempe, AZ +	L, 6-17
2/8	Arizona State	Tempe, AZ +	L, 4-6
2/15	Cal Poly	Scottsdale, AZ	W, 11-1
2/15	Northwestern	Scottsdale, AZ	L, 0-1
2/27	%Washington St.	Lewiston, ID	W, 4-0
2/27	%Lewis-Clark St.	Lewiston, ID	L, 6-7
2/28	Univ. of Portland	Lewiston, ID	L, 5-9
3/1	Gonzaga	Lewiston, ID	W, 10-1
3/6	%TCU	Ft. Worth, TX	W, 7-6
3/7	%TCU	Ft. Worth, TX	L, 2-3
3/8	%TCU	Ft. Worth, TX	L, 6-16
3/13	New Mexico	*Albuquerque	L, 14-19
3/14	New Mexico	*Albuquerque	W, 14-9
3/15	New Mexico	*Albuquerque	L, 10-11
3/20	%UNLV *	Provo +	L, 5-6
3/21	%UNLV *	Provo +	W, 3-1
3/22	UNLV *	Provo +	L, 9-19
3/25	So. Utah	Cedar City	W, 8-1
3/25	So. Utah	Cedar City	W, 8-3
3/27-28	%Utah *	Salt Lake City	W, 9-5
3/29	%Utah *	SLC	W, 6-4 & 10-5
4/3	SDSU *	San Diego	L, 1-2
4/4	%SDSU *	San Diego	W, 7-5
4/5	SDSU *	San Diego	L, 3-4
4/7	So. Utah	Provo +	W, 18-1
4/10	Air Force *	Provo +	W, 9-2
4/11	% Air Force *	Provo +	W, 17-2
4/12%	Air Force *	Provo +	W, 22-6
4/17	New Mexico *	Provo +	L, 5-6
4/19	% N. Mexico *	Provo +	W, 12-4
4/19	New Mexico *	Provo +	W, 5-4
4/24	UNLV *	Las Vegas	L, 8-15
4/25	%UNLV *	Las Vegas	L, 4-5
4/26	%UNLV *	Las Vegas	L, 10-11
5/1	%Utah *	Provo +	W, 17-8
5/2	%Utah *	Provo +	W, 16-5
5/3	%Utah *	Provo + (TV)	W, 7-6
5/8	%SDSU *	Provo +	L, 4-11
5/9	%SDSU *	Provo +	W, 9-5
5/10	%SDSU *	Provo +	5-4
5/12-13	So. Utah	Provo + W, 14-6 & W	13-2
5/15-17	%Air Force *	Colorado Spgs.	2 p.m.
5/21-24	MWC Tournament	Albuquerque	
5/30-6/1	NCAA Regionals	TBA	
6/6-8	NCAA Super Regionals	TBA	
6/13-23	College World Series	Omaha, Neb.	

* MWC Games, %Internet Audio + webcast

Final Games of Regular Season

BYU, 26-21 overall and 16-11 in the Mountain West Conference, travels to the Air Force Academy, 14-35 and 2-25, to close the regular season with a three-game series.

Probable Pitching Rotation

May 15	Air Force	Jeff Mousser (5-6, 5.87)	Colorado Springs, 2 p.m.
May 16	Air Force	Paul Jacinto (8-5, 3.87)	Colorado Springs, 2 p.m.
May 17	Air Force	Ken Gravley (4-1, 4.97)	Colorado Springs, 2 p.m.

Radio Coverage

BYU radio coverage continues this week along with live audiostreaming on the Internet all with the play-by-play from Brent Norton, BYU's veteran broadcaster. All MWC games for BYU will be carried live on local radio KOVO (960 AM) and/or the Internet.

Probable Lineup

1B	#33 Jake Stubblefield or #1 Tim Law,				
C	#9 Casey Cloward or #24 Adam Wilkes				
SS	#8 Ranger Wiens	3B	#32 Kainoa Obrey	2B	#5 Wade Vest
RF	#22 Ryan Chambers	CF	#3 Brock Jacobsen	LF	#13 Doug Jackson
DH	#33 Jake Stubblefield or #21 Rob Itri or #23 Clayton Carson				

Regarding BYU this season

BYU has six current players who are married (Jacob Chrisman, Casey Cloward, Tyler Dabo, Brock Jacobsen, Jake Stubblefield, Adam Wilkes). There are 19 players on the team who have served two-year volunteer Church missions, 11 of whom were assigned outside the United States and speak Spanish, Portuguese, Japanese, Chinese and Russian. Incorporated into this year's team are three players who have just finished serving two-year Church missions (Anthony Bingham, Casey Cloward, Tyler Heid, Bryce Searle). Brock Jacobsen is one of five players (Kory Knell, Blair Lucas, Mike Bergeron, Beau Seil) who have transferred to BYU this season. Among those throwing batting practice to BYU again this season is former Cy Young winner Vernon Law (1960 Pittsburgh Pirates), father of BYU head coach Vance Law. Vernon turned 73-years-old last March. In January, Vance Law was in Washington, D.C., where he was again a resource player (yearly for 11 of the past 12 years) for the major league rookie training. Also in January, Coach Law attended the Cubs Convention, an annual gathering which draws thousands of fans and he was on the winning 1989 Jeopardy team with Ryne Sandberg which defeated the 1969 Cubs team with Ferguson Jenkins.

Coach Vance Law and staff

Vance Law played 14 years of pro ball, including 11 years in the majors with six different teams. In 2001 he was named Coach of the Year for the Mountain West Conference. The 47-year-old coach is in his fourth year at BYU and has a 98-82-1 record. He is assisted by Ryan Roberts, in his first year at BYU. Pitching coach Mike Karpel is in his fourth year with BYU. Volunteer assistant Nate Mathis is in his second year on the BYU staff, succeeding Hank Taylor who joined the U.S. Military Academy last season at West Point as a member of its baseball staff.

BYU Quick Facts

Location: Provo, Utah 84602
Enrollment: 30,069 (Daytime)
Founded: Oct. 15, 1875, by The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints
Colors: Blue and White
Nickname: Cougars
Mascot: Cosmo (the Cougar)
Affiliation: NCAA Division I
Conference: Mountain West
Field: Larry H. Miller Field (2,300)
President: Cecil O. Samuelson
Men's AD: Val Hale
Ticket Office Phone: (801) 378-BYU1 or 1-800-322-BYU1

Baseball Staff:

Head Coach: Vance Law (BYU, 1978)
Office Phone: (801) 378-5049
Record: 120-102-1, fourth season
Assistant Coaches:

Ryan Roberts (BYU, 1998)
Mike Karpel (Cal State San Bernardino, 1994)
Nate Mathis (BYU, 2000)
Trainer: Jared Hutchinson

Baseball Facts:

2002 Record: 31-31-1 (13-8 home, 18-23-1 away)
Conference Finish: 15-14, MWC Champions
NCAA Finish: Eliminated, first round at Los Angeles
Final National Ranking: NA
Starters Returning (5):
Ryan Chambers, 6-0, So., OF
Rob Itri, 6-3, Jr., 2B/3B
Doug Jackson, 5-7, Sr., OF
Kainoa Obrey, 6-3, Jr., 3B--redshirted in 2002
Ranger Wiens, 6-3, Jr., SS
Jake Stubblefield, 6-1, Sr., DH
Starters Lost (4):
Lars Birkeland, C
Dave Jensen, 1B
Cameron Coughlan, 2B
Matt Carson, OF
Other Key Letterwinners Returning:
Kevin Bills, 3B/OF
Casey Cloward, C
Tim Law, 1B/OF
Mike Weingarten, C
Adam Wilkes, C
Top Returning Pitchers from 2002:
Tyler Dabo, 6-2, RHP, Sr., 2-2, 5 saves, 3.90
Jason Garcia, 6-0, RHP, Sr., 3-1, 6.50
Paul Jacinto, 6-0, RHP, Jr., 2-3, 7.83
Scott Koffman, 6-2, RHP, Jr., 4-4, 6.59
Jeff Mousser, 6-2, RHP, Jr., 9-4, 4.88

Team Notes

- Casey Cloward has a current 16-game hitting streak, followed by Clayton Carson and Rob Itri each at three games. Ryan Chambers had the longest hitting streak on the team at 18 games, a season high ended four weeks ago. Jake Stubblefield had a 14-game hitting streak earlier this season and Kainoa Obrey's 13-game streak.
- Ranger Wiens leads the team with 24 multiple hit games and Kainoa Obrey leads the team with 17 multiple RBI games.
- BYU has had 15 one-run games this season and has won four of them.
- BYU hosted an Outdoor Movie Night at Miller Park on March 29 where 1,632 fans watched the movie "The Rookie," on a 20'x40' inflatable screen. A live cameo appearance by the Cougar baseball and softball teams came midway through the show. Proceeds went towards the baseball and softball programs.
- BYU hosted a reunion for the 1983 No. 1-ranked baseball team. Among the members of that team were major leaguers Wally Joyner, Cory Snyder, Gary Cooper, Colby Ward, Scott Nielsen and Rick Aguilera.
- BYU's MWC regular season title in 2001 was its first since 1994 when it won the Western Athletic Conference playoff. By winning the MWC title in 2001 and 2002, it marks the first time BYU has repeated as the league champ since 1988-89, the only other time it has happened for the Cougars. The Cougars have won 11 league titles dating back to the WAC's inception in 1962.
- Doug Jackson continues to extend the MWC and BYU's career triples record, now at 22--his last triple came on March 25 vs. Southern Utah. Last season Jackson tied a school record with seven at bats in the 14-inning victory at Cal-Irvine. Jackson got six hits in a row in the 2002 MWC Tournament and set a record of 13 hits in the MWC tourney.
- Dave Jensen, Matt Carson and Cameron Coughlan are three players who could have returned to this year's team, but skipped remaining college eligibility. Jensen, ended up signing as a third-round draft pick by the Kansas City Royals, Coughlan, was the fourth Cougar drafted (signed as the 18th-round-pick by the Texas Rangers), Matt Carson was drafted in the fifth round and signed by the New York Yankees. Kainoa Obrey, who was an 11th round draft in 2002 by the Royals, ended up not signing.

NCAA Rankings

The Cougars are ranked 28th in the nation with a .320 batting average and 20th in runs scored. BYU's Ranger Wiens is 32nd nationally with a .407 batting average and is sixth in doubles. Teammate Kainoa Obrey is ranked 22nd in doubles, while Doug Jackson is ninth in triples.

Last Action

BYU was 4-1 in recent action, winning two of three against San Diego State and sweeping a pair in non-conference action against Southern Utah, all at Provo. In the final game of the regular season, Kevin Bills hit a pair of homers, including a grand slam to lead BYU to a 13-4 victory over Southern Utah.

Graduation/Grades

BYU pitcher Jason Garcia graduated last month in sociology. Garcia, who has a 3.23 cumulative grade point average, joins catcher Casey Cloward, 3.43 in sociology, as BYU's nominees for the Verizon Academic All-America team. Catcher Mike Weingarten is scheduled for graduation in August. Volunteer coach Nate Mathis is scheduled to graduate in August with a master's.

Father and Son

BYU Coach Vance Law and his son Tim are one of at least three father/son combinations that have a coach/player relationship in college baseball. San Diego State Coach Tony Gwynn and his son Anthony and Kansas Coach Ritch Price and his son Ritchie are the other combinations.

Travel Plans

BYU rode the bus to Colorado Springs where they will headquarter at the Embassy Suites (719) 599-9100. After returning to Provo, the team flies to Albuquerque on Tuesday where they will headquarter at the AmeriSuites Uptown (505) 872-9000 where media may also contact Ralph Zobell, Baseball SID.

Date	Opponent	Attendance
5/11/01	UNLV (Night)	3,120
4/5/02	Utah (Night)	2,863
4/6/02	Utah (Night)	2,611
5/25/02	SDSU	2,396
4/11/03	Air Force (Night)	2,274
5/25/02	SDSU (Night)	—
5/2/03	Utah (Night)	2,512
4/4/02	Utah (Night)	2,251
4/26/02	Air Force (Night)	1,964
5/17/02	New Mexico (Night)	1,831
3/22/02	SDSU (Night)	1,748
5/24/02	SDSU	1,713
5/7/03	Southern Utah (Night)	1,711
5/24/02	UNLV (Night)	—
4/19/02	New Mexico	1,668
4/19/02	New Mexico	— (DH)
4/19/01	Utah (Night)	1,609
4/10/03	Air Force (Night)	1,601
3/21/03	UNLV (Night)	1,530
3/22/03	UNLV	1,527
3/23/02	SDSU, suspended	1,440
4/27/01	San Diego St. (Night)	1,398
5/1/03	Utah (Night)	1,392
4/21/01	Utah	1,371
5/7/01	UNLV	1,318
5/10/01	UNLV (Night)	1,282
4/12/03	Air Force	1,276
4/20/01	Utah (Night)	1,274
4/25/02	Air Force (Night)	1,258
5/18/02	New Mexico	1,229
5/12/03	Southern Utah	1,219
4/17/03	New Mexico (Night)	1,216
5/3/02	UNLV (Night)	1,189
5/16/02	New Mexico (Night)	1,183
5/6/02	Southern Utah	1,178
5/22/02	Air Force (Night)	1,177
3/21/02	SDSU (Night)	1,176
5/23/02	UNLV (Night)	1,167
4/13/01	New Mexico (Night)	1,143
4/14/01	New Mexico	1,119
4/14/01	New Mexico	— (DH)
3/20/03	UNLV	1,092
5/3/03	Utah	1,072
4/26/01	San Diego St. (Night)	1,059
5/4/02	UNLV	1,040
4/28/01	San Diego St.	1,014
5/10/03	San Diego St.	1,007
5/7/02	Southern Utah (Night)	948
5/2/02	UNLV (Night)	913
4/16/01	Southern Utah	809
4/17/01	Southern Utah	862
5/9/03	San Diego St.	820
5/9/03	San Diego St.	—
4/7/03	Southern Utah	543
Totals	75,322 (avg. 1,537, 5 DH)	
All Nighttime	53,223 (Avg. 1,663)	
2003	22,460(18 games)(Avg. 1,247)	
2002	31,275(22game)(Avg. 1,422)	
2001	17,378 (14 games) (Avg. 1,241)	
Losses	Night record: 22-10	
Overall Record @ Miller Park	= 36-16	

Kainoa Obrey

Kainoa Obrey, who was granted a medical hardship redshirt, brought a 12-game hitting streak into 2002, but it ended at 13 games. Obrey had a 13-game hitting streak at one point in 2001. He was a repeat selection as a tri-captain this season.

Year	Avg.	G-GS	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	TB	BB	SO
2000	.342	54-51	190	37	65	13	0	9	45	105	23	37
2001	.381	59-59	226	48	86	20	0	13	56	145	31	58
2002	.242	10-10	33	5	8	5	0	1	8	16	3	11
2003	.349	46-46	169	41	59	20	0	8	53	103	20	39
Totals	.353	169-166	618	131	218	58	0	31	162	371	77	145

Jeff Mousser

Junior Jeff Mousser picked up the first honor of the 2003 season. He was named the Mountain West Conference Pitcher of the Week when he struck out nine in 6.1 innings pitched and earned his 13th career victory as the Cougars defeated Arizona, 6-3, in the season opener for both teams. He allowed two earned runs, walked two and scattered six hits vs. the Wildcats. His nine strikeouts average 12.8 per game using the NCAA formula. Hew won MWC Pitcher of the Week honors again the final week of February for shutting out Washington State, 4-0.

Year	ERA	W-L	APP	GS	CGSV	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
2001	6.38	3-0	12	4	0 0	36.2	47	30	26	22	35
2002	4.88	9-4	19	12	1 1	90.1	109	68	49	38	73
2003	5.38	5-6	14	14	3 0	84.1	96	63	55	20	64
Total	5.54	17-10	45	30	4 1	211.1	252	161	130	80	172

Paul Jacinto

Junior Paul Jacinto has come into his own this season after serving a Church mission to Brazil. Jacinto was named MWC Pitcher of the Week for his complete game, one-hit outing against UNLV in Provo in a 3-1 victory. He lost a three-hitter in a complete game in a 1-0 decision against Northwestern in BYU's tournament in Arizona.

Year	ERA	W-L	APP	GS	CGSV	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
1999	11.52	1-1	11	4	0 1	27.1	43	38	35	23	20
2002	7.83	2-3	14	9	0 0	56.1	77	57	49	28	42
2003	3.87	8-5	16	11	4 0	97.2	83	48	42	33	69
Total	6.25	11-9	41	24	4 1	181.1	164	143	126	84	131

Second Full Year in New Ballpark at Home

This is BYU's second full season at Miller Park, named in honor of Larry H. and Gail Miller, who made a significant financial contribution toward the facility. The baseball field is built on the site the original field was constructed on in 1969 and is named Larry H. Miller Field. The baseball portion seats 2,204 (675 in the lower bowl) and mirrors a back-to-back concept with the adjoining softball field and a shared press box. Both fields have lights. The field measures 400 feet in center, 388 in the alleys and remains at 345 down the lines. BYU played its first night games in Provo with the opening of Miller Park. Should BYU win the MWC Tournament at Albuquerque, it has submitted a bid to host an NCAARegional.

Attendance Record

Three new attendance records were set last season, overall attendance at 31,275 surpassing 17,378 for last season; average attendance; and the series record. The three-game series with Utah at the start of April established a new record with 7,725 fans attending, including the second, third and fourth best crowds in Miller Park history of 2,863, 2,611 and 2,251. The old record was 5,720 against UNLV last season, including the record-setting 3,120 fans who watched BYU clinch the MWC title. The average attendance at home was up to 1,422 compared to 1,241 last season. BYU improved to 32nd from 50th the preceding year in average fans per game. Last season in total attendance BYU moved up the rungs to 38th nationally compared with 50th place in 2001.

Cougars on Missions

Player, Pos., Year @ BYU	Place of Service
Thomas Bills, 1B, 2003	Montreal (French)
*Clayton Barnes, LHP, 2003	Mexico City West
Brian Nielsen, LHP, 2002	Germany
Brad Hales, SS, 2001	Spain
*Adam Hanselman, OF, 2003	Long Beach, Calif.
Jeff Hiestand, DH, 2001	Colorado-Denver South
*Chris Johnson, SS, 2003	Everett, Wash.
*Tyler Manning, LHP, 2003	Guadalajara, Mexico
Jeff Stearman, RHP, 2001	Perth, Australia
Justin Suta, RHP, 2001	Nicaragua
*just received call	

Missions Served

Player, Pos., Year @ BYU	Place of Service
Kevin Bills, 3B, Jr.	Orlando, Fla.
Anthony Bingham, SS, 3B, Fr.	Chile
Casey Cloward, C, So.	Mexico
Tyler Dabo, RHP, Sr.	Peru
Tyler Heid, RHP, Fr.	Japan
Rob Itri, INF/OF, Jr.	Portugal
Brock Jacobsen, OF, 1B, Jr.	Michigan
Paul Jacinto, Pitcher, Jr.	Brazil
Kory Knell, Infield/1B, Jr.	Illinois
Tim Law, OF, 1B, Jr.	Toronto (Chinese)
Blair Lucas, 3B, Jr.	Brazil
Curtis Rodriguez, Pitcher, So.	Texas (Spanish)
Bryce Searle, RHP, Fr.	Ecuador
Beau Seil, OF, Jr.	Japan
Jacob Stubblefield, DH, Sr.	Chile
Wade Vest, 2b, Jr.	Chile
Mike Weingarten, Catcher, Sr.	Toronto, Canada
Ranger Wiens, SS, Jr.	Hawai'i
Adam Wilkes, Catcher, Jr.	Russia

Married Players

Jake Chrisman, Pitcher, Jr.	Emy Castagnetto
Casey Cloward, Catcher, So.	Amberlee Searle
Tyler Dabo, RHP, Sr.	Jamie Lynn
Brock Jacobsen, OF, 1B, Jr.	Dusty Hart
Jacob Stubblefield, DH, Sr.	Shauna Nielsen
Adam Wilkes, Catcher, Jr.	Erin Nelson

League* Career Triple Leaders

No.	Player	Seasons
31	Larry Harrison, New Mexico	1980-83
28	Eddie Leon, Arizona	1965-67
26	Alan Bannister, Arizona St.	1970-72
24	Tom Francis, New Mexico	1979-82
23	Keith Hagman, New Mexico	1979-80
<u>22</u>	<u>Doug Jackson, BYU</u>	<u>2000-2003</u>
22	Franz Yuen, Hawai'i	1991-94

* includes players in the old Western Ath. Conf.

Bloodlines for Current BYU Baseball Team

- Clayton Barnes—father Clint played semi-pro baseball for the Cincinnati Reds organization, brother Bryce played baseball for Sacramento State, brother Kyle played baseball for UVSC, uncles Steve and Sean Covey played football for Harvard and BYU, respectively, and cousin played basketball for Ricks.
- Luke Beck—father Kevin played football for Harvard and cousins played lacrosse for Loyola College in Maryland.
- Michel Bergeron—father Richard was a running back for the Royal Military Naval Academy.
- Kevin Bills—father Jeff played catcher for BYU from 1972-75, grandfather Karol played football and baseball in the late 1940s and early 1950s.
- Anthony Bingham—cousins are former BYU baseball players Travis (1990-95) and Tyson DowDell (1993-97).
- Clayton Carson—older brother Matt was BYU's right fielder last season and signed as a junior draft of the New York Yankees, father Eric played water polo at BYU, mother's cousin is former major leaguer Bill Buckner who played for the Boston Red Sox.
- Jacob Chrisman—father Rick played shortstop for the Cincinnati Reds, brother Jed was an outfielder for the University of Utah, sister played softball at the University of Colorado-Colorado Springs.
- Tyler Dabo—brother Mitch played water polo at BYU, grandpa David Grow was a pro boxer, uncle Lorin Grow played major league baseball for the Cincinnati Reds and Snow College, uncle David Grow played baseball for BYU.
- Tyler Heid—father Edward is a scout for Seattle Mariners, uncle David played baseball for BYU.
- Jason Garcia—cousins Jason and Jeremy Dietrich played baseball for Pepperdine and then both went on to play AAABall, cousin Eddie Guzman played football at the University of Texas and then in the WFL.
- Adam Hanselman—father Michael played football and wrestled for Juanita College in Pennsylvania.
- Rob Itri—father Nick pitched for Drexel University.
- Doug Jackson—brothers Mike and Tony played baseball for Hawai'i-Hilo.
- Brock Jacobsen—father Bill was head baseball coach at Dixie JC and is currently an assistant football coach there for the Rebels. Father was drafted by the Baltimore Orioles and uncles Lloyd Jacobsen (1966-67) and Mike Jacobsen (1968-70) played football for BYU and Mike is the current athletic director at UVSC. Cousin Jason played at UVSC and is an assistant coach at Southern Utah, cousin Eric played football for Utah and cousin Casey plays for the NBAPhoenix Suns.
- Paul Jacinto—grandfather Alvin played one year on the major league Chicago White Sox and then played in the San Francisco Giants organization, father David swam and played water polo for BYU, uncles Scott, Brett and Mark Favero were swimmers for BYU and uncle Rex Favero swam for UCLA.
- Chris Johnson—father Ken played tennis for BYU, uncle Rick Bachman pitched for Long Beach State.
- Mike Karpel, assistant BYU coach—father Peter played basketball at Bowling Green, sisters were four-time All-American tracksters at the Air Force Academy (Shannon) and Boise State (Kathy), cousin Jeff Lamb currently plays basketball for Cal Tech.
- Scott Koffman—father Barry played football at the University of Missouri, great uncle was a catcher for the St. Louis Browns organization.
- Vance Law, head BYU coach—father Vernon was 1960 Cy Young winner and was a pitcher for the Pittsburgh Pirates (1950-67), brother Veryl played basketball at BYU (1974-77) alongside Vance (1975-77), brothers Veldon (1975) and Vaughn (1979) played baseball for BYU, son Tim played baseball at Dixie and in 2000 and 2002 for BYU.
- Nate Mathis, assistant BYU coach—grandfather LeGrand Mathis played football at the University of Utah.
- Ryan Roberts, assistant BYU coach—wife Angela played volleyball at Idaho State and UVSC, sister (Allison) plays volleyball at the Univ. of Houston, uncle Larry Schenk played baseball for BYU in 1959.
- Curt Rodriguez—uncle Bob Palmer played baseball for BYU.
- Bryce Searle—father Craig ran track and played freshman basketball for BYU in 1974 with Gifford Nielsen and Dave Checketts.
- Jake Stubblefield—father James played football for BYU.
- Mike Weingarten—father Robert played semi-pro basketball, cousin was an Olympic gymnast for the New Zealand women's team.
- Ranger Wiens—father Randy played AAABaseball for the Toronto Blue Jays, grandfather Lloyd Brink played football for BYU (1938-40), uncles Bill and Justin Brink played baseball for BYU.
- Adam Wilkes—father James played baseball for the University of Arizona, grandfather was a scout for 30 years with the Los Angeles Dodgers, younger brother Garrett played basketball for the College of Eastern Arizona. His wife was an All-American soccer player for the University of Arizona.

2003 REMAINING SCHEDULE

5/15	Air Force *	Colorado Spgs.	2 p.m.
5/16	Air Force *	Colorado Spgs.	2 p.m.
5/17	Air Force *	Colorado Spgs.	2 p.m.
5/21-24	MWC Tournament	Albuquerque	
(May 22 games at 3 & 7 p.m. live national CSTV)			

5/30-6/1	NCAA Regionals	TBA
6/6-8	NCAA Super Regionals	TBA
6/13-23	College World Series	Omaha, Neb.
* Indicates MWC Games		

2003 ROSTER

No.	Player	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	B-T	Yr.	DOB	Hometown
1	*Tim Law	1B/OF	5-10	180	L-L	Jr.-1V	11-6-78	Provo, Utah (Dixie JC)
3	Brock Jacobsen	OF/1B	6-2	195	S-R	Jr.-JC	12-31-78	Santa Clara (Dixie JC)
5	Wade Vest	2B	5-9	160	R-R	Jr.-JC	12-15-79	Spanish Fork, Utah (Utah Valley St.)
6	Blair Lucas	INF	5-10	185	R-R	Jr.-JC	3-23-80	Lake Forest, California (Saddleback CC)
7	Tyler Heid	RHP	6-2	175	R-R	Fr.-RS	8-5-80	Glendale, Arizona (Cactus)
8	*Ranger Wiens	SS	6-3	200	R-R	Jr.-1V	5-7-80	Merced, California (Nevada)
9	*Casey Cloward	C	5-11	180	R-R	So.-1V	12-8-80	Salem, Utah (Spanish Fork)
10	**Kevin Bills	3B/OF	6-2	175	R-R	Jr.-2V	3-5-80	Reno, Nevada (Reno)
11	Clayton Barnes	LHP/1B	6-1	175	L-L	Fr.-HS	12-20-83	Provo, Utah (Provo)
12	Kory Knell	OF	6-0	190	R-R	Jr.-JC	2-6-80	Salt Lake City (Saddleback CC)
13	***Doug Jackson	OF	5-7	155	S-R	Sr.-3V	1-31-81	Kailua, Hawai'i (Iolani)
14	*Mike Weingarten	C	6-2	200	R-R	Sr.-1V	6-28-78	Orem, Utah (Utah Valley St.)
15	**Paul Jacinto	RHP	6-0	190	R-R	Jr.-2V	1-18-80	Encinitas, California (LaCosta)
16	*Tyler Dabo	RHP	6-2	180	R-R	Sr.-1V	2-17-79	Hollister, California (Dixie JC)
17	*Jason Garcia	RHP	6-0	195	R-R	Sr.-1V	1-26-80	Garden Grove, California (Long Beach CC)
18	**Jacob Chrisman	RHP	6-8	225	R-R	Jr.-2V	12-1-81	Provo, Utah (Provo)
19	Kenneth Gravley	LHP	6-0	185	R-L	Fr.-HS	5-5-84	Long Beach, California (Millikan)
21	**Rob Itri	INF	6-3	180	L-R	Jr.-2V	12-17-79	Broomall, Pennsylvania (Marple Newtown)
22	*Ryan Chambers	OF	6-0	165	L-L	So.-1V	12-31-82	Yucaipa, California (Yucaipa)
23	Clayton Carson	INF	6-1	175	S-R	Fr.-HS	4-6-83	Yucaipa, California (Yucaipa)
24	*Adam Wilkes	C	5-9	165	R-R	Jr.-2V	10-26-79	Tucson, Arizona (Sabino)
25	Beau Seil	OF	6-5	220	R-R	Jr.-JC	11-30-78	Boise, Idaho (Ricks JC)
26	Bryce Searle	RHP	6-3	215	R-R	Fr.-RS	11-1-80	Spanish Fork, Utah (Spanish Fork)
27	Chris Johnson	INF	5-11	175	R-R	Fr.-HS	3-30-84	Laguna Hills, California (Laguna Hills)
28	*Curtis Rodriguez	RHP	6-0	165	R-R	So.-1V	1-29-80	Laguna Niguel, California (Capistrano Valle)
30	Michel Bergeron	RHP	6-2	195	L-R	Jr.-JC	6-22-82	Ottawa, Ontario, Canada (St. Petersburg JC)
32	**Kainoa Obrey	3B	6-3	225	R-R	Jr.-2V	10-6-80	Honolulu, Hawai'i (Iolani)
33	*Jake Stubblefield	1B	6-1	200	R-R	Sr.-1V	8-16-79	San Diego, California (Ricks JC)
34	Anthony Bingham	RHP	6-2	195	R-R	Fr.-RS	11-26-80	Mission Viejo, California (Capistrano Valley)
35	**Jeff Mousser	RHP	6-2	215	R-R	Jr.-2V	9-10-81	Tempe, Arizona (Marcos de Niza)
36	Kirk Williamson	RHP	6-0	175	R-R	Fr.-RS	1-24-83	Ripon, California (Ripon)
	Luke Beck	RHP	6-2	205	R-R	Fr.-HS	9-18-84	Malibu, California (Malibu)
	Adam Hanselman	OF	6-2	195	L-R	Fr.-HS	3-4-84	Frederick, Maryland (Gov. Thomas Johnson)
	Tyler Heid	RHP	6-2	175	R-R	Fr.-RS	8-5-80	Glendale, Arizona (Cactus)
	**Scott Koffman	RHP	6-2	210	R-R	Jr.-2V	9-27-81	Salt Lake City, Utah (Olympus)
	Trevor Kuresa	1B	6-3	215	R-R	Fr.-HS	3-2-84	Roseville, California (Del Campo)
	Tyler Manning	LHP	6-2	175	L-L	Fr.-HS	1-29-84	Jacksonville, Florida (Terry Parker)

Coaches

2—Vance Law, Head Coach, 29—Ryan Roberts, Assistant Coach, 31—Mike Karpel, Assistant Coach
4—Nate Mathis, Volunteer Coach * Letters

2003 Mtn. West Standings

	MWC		Overall
	W-L	GB	W-L
UNLV	22-5	-	39-14
New Mexico	17-10	5	34-21
BYU	16-11	6	26-21
San Diego St.	15-12	7	23-30
Utah	9-18	13	22-28
Air Force	2-25	20	14-35

Series Record vs. 2003 MWC Teams

Opponent	BYU-OPP	Last Y Win	Last Loss
New Mexico	60-35-1	2003	2003
UNLV	50-52	2003	2003
Utah	187-84-1	2003	2002
SDSU	29-52-1	2003	2003
Air Force	111-20	2003	2002

2003 BYU Baseball Statistics

Record: 26-21 Home: 14-4 Away: 9-15 Neutral: 3-2 MWC: 16-11

Player	AVG	GP	GS	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	TB	SLG%	BB	HBP	SO	GDP	OB%	SF	SH	SB	ATT	PO	A	E	FLD%
WIENS, Ranger	.405	46	45	190	45	77	24	3	4	49	119	.626	16	5	21	3	.456	4	0	20	26	75	118	15	.928
CLOWARD, Casey	.368	33	28	87	17	32	9	1	0	14	43	.494	6	1	16	2	.411	1	1	1	2	166	13	3	.984
JACKSON, Doug	.349	47	46	189	59	66	9	7	4	27	101	.534	19	6	18	1	.421	2	0	9	11	104	3	1	.991
OBREY, Kainoa	.349	46	46	169	41	59	20	0	8	53	103	.609	20	7	39	5	.430	4	0	0	1	32	68	12	.893
LUCAS, Blair	.341	26	8	44	10	15	5	1	0	8	22	.500	4	3	5	0	.423	1	0	0	1	10	11	4	.840
STUBBLEFIELD	.333	46	45	174	40	58	16	1	8	39	100	.575	14	2	23	4	.385	2	0	3	5	264	11	5	.982
CHAMBERS, Ryan	.325	45	43	166	37	54	7	4	8	43	93	.560	16	2	26	2	.389	1	3	0	3	91	3	4	.959
CARSON, Clayton	.312	35	15	80	20	25	4	1	6	22	49	.613	7	0	15	1	.364	1	0	1	2	15	22	3	.925
ITRI, Rob	.309	38	28	110	24	34	5	0	5	19	54	.491	17	1	16	2	.406	0	1	0	0	37	39	6	.927
JACOBSEN, Brock	.302	46	45	162	41	49	6	3	8	39	85	.525	19	7	34	1	.395	2	2	16	19	88	3	1	.989
LAW, Tim	.273	35	11	55	12	15	1	0	0	3	16	.291	9	2	5	3	.388	1	2	1	2	98	7	1	.991
VEST, Wade	.269	36	23	78	12	21	4	1	0	7	27	.346	5	3	16	0	.333	1	1	7	11	48	62	3	.973
BARNES, Clayton	.250	14	2	20	3	5	1	2	0	6	10	.500	2	0	7	0	.304	1	0	0	0	7	3	1	.909
WEINGARTEN	.250	11	3	20	4	5	3	0	0	3	8	.400	2	0	4	0	.318	0	0	0	0	34	1	0	1.000
WILKES, Adam	.242	27	17	62	9	15	0	0	0	8	15	.242	4	1	11	4	.294	1	0	0	0	95	14	0	1.000
KNELL, Kory	.206	10	9	34	7	7	1	1	0	3	10	.294	6	0	7	1	.325	0	0	3	3	6	1	0	1.000
BILLS, Kevin	.182	19	5	33	5	6	1	0	2	10	13	.394	2	2	12	0	.263	1	0	0	0	10	0	0	1.000
SEIL, Beau	.115	15	4	26	4	3	0	0	0	2	3	.115	2	0	8	1	.179	0	0	3	3	12	0	3	.800
JOHNSON, Chris	.000	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000	0	0	0	0	.000	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	.000
Totals	.321	47	47	1700	390	546	116	25	53	355	871	.512	170	42	283	30	.392	23	10	64	89	1213	418	71	.958
Opponents	.301	47	47	1661	322	500	95	17	55	301	794	.478	151	47	284	31	.372	17	11	43	60	1214	521	84	.954

LOB - Team (342), Opp (353). DPs turned - Team (41), Opp (43). CI - Team (1), CLOWARD 1, Opp (1). IBB - Team (4), JACKSON 2, OBREY 2, Opp (2). Picked off - JACKSON 2, LAW 2, ITRI 2, CHAMBERS 1, OBREY 1, CLOWARD 1.

Player	ERA	W	L	APP	GS	CG	SHO	CBO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	2B	3B	HR	ABB/Avg	WP	HBP	BK	SFA	SHA	
SEARLE, Bryce	0.00	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	2.1	6	7	0	6	1	0	0	0	13	.462	3	0	0	1	0
JACINTO, Paul	3.87	8	5	16	11	4	0	0	0	97.2	83	48	42	33	69	14	4	9	367	.226	4	6	1	6	1
GRAVLEY, Kenneth	4.97	4	1	14	12	0	0	0	0	67.0	89	44	37	23	22	18	2	10	276	.322	4	4	3	1	2
HEID, Tyler	5.14	0	0	6	0	0	0	0	0	7.0	9	4	4	3	7	3	0	0	29	.310	0	0	0	1	0
BERGERON, Michel	5.33	5	3	15	4	0	0	0	2	50.2	70	43	30	17	45	14	2	4	220	.318	9	10	2	0	1
DABO, Tyler	5.85	0	1	16	0	0	0	0	0	20.0	24	17	13	10	14	8	2	3	82	.293	2	1	2	3	1
MOUSSER, Jeff	5.87	5	6	14	14	3	1	0	0	84.1	96	63	55	20	64	15	4	15	336	.286	3	16	3	2	4
BINGHAM, Anthony	5.93	1	0	9	1	0	0	0	0	13.2	17	12	9	5	14	2	1	0	58	.293	2	3	0	0	0
RODRIGUEZ, Curtis	7.71	0	0	6	1	0	0	0	0	9.1	20	8	8	3	5	4	0	1	46	.435	0	0	0	0	0
BARNES, Clayton	8.25	1	0	8	1	0	0	0	0	12.0	11	14	11	16	15	5	0	0	46	.239	5	2	0	1	0
GARCIA, Jason	10.65	1	4	11	3	0	0	0	1	23.2	36	29	28	9	16	7	1	8	104	.346	2	0	0	0	1
CHRISMAN, Jacob	12.08	1	0	8	0	0	0	0	0	12.2	27	21	17	5	11	1	1	3	61	.443	1	3	1	1	0
WILLIAMSON, Kirk	23.62	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	2.2	8	7	7	1	0	2	0	1	15	.533	0	1	0	1	0
KOFFMAN, Scott	27.00	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1.1	4	5	4	0	1	2	0	1	8	.500	0	1	0	0	1
Totals	5.90	26	21	47	47	7	1	0	3	404.1	500	322	265	151	284	95	17	55	1661	.301	35	47	12	17	11
Opponents	7.07	21	26	47	47	2	1	1	7	404.2	546	390	318	170	283	116	25	53	1700	.321	51	42	7	23	10

PB - Team (5), WILKES 2, CLOWARD 2, WEINGARTEN 1, Opp (11). Pickoffs - Team (6), GRAVLEY 2, MOUSSER 2, BERGERON 1, CLOWARD 1, Opp (9). SBA/ATT - CLOWARD (20-30), WILKES (18-23), GRAVLEY (13-16), MOUSSER (10-15), BERGERON (8-9), CHRISMAN (4-5), WEINGARTEN (5-5), GARCIA (4-4), JACINTO (1-4), BINGHAM (2-3), DABO (0-2), KOFFMAN (1-1), RODRIGUEZ (0-1).

2003 BYU Conference Games Only Statistics

Record: 16-11 Home: 11-4 Away: 5-7 MWC: 16-11

Player	AVG	GP	GS	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	TB	SLG%	BB	HBP	SO	GDP	OB%	SF	SH	SB	ATT	PO	A	E	FLD%
WIENS, Ranger	.414	27	26	111	27	46	15	2	3	34	74	.667	8	3	12	3	.456	3	0	5	9	38	67	4	.963
CLOWARD, Casey	.414	20	17	58	11	24	8	0	0	11	32	.552	3	1	8	2	.444	1	0	1	2	96	4	2	.980
LAW, Tim	.400	19	1	20	5	8	0	0	0	1	8	.400	2	0	2	0	.455	0	1	1	1	31	2	0	1.000
JACKSON, Doug	.385	27	27	109	41	42	4	3	4	18	64	.587	15	4	9	1	.473	1	0	4	5	64	1	1	.985
CHAMBERS, Ryan	.355	27	27	110	27	39	5	3	7	31	71	.645	7	2	15	1	.403	0	2	0	1	59	2	1	.984
OBREY, Kainoa	.344	27	27	96	24	33	13	0	3	31	55	.573	13	6	24	3	.437	4	0	0	1	23	42	8	.890
STUBBLEFIELD	.340	27	27	106	23	36	7	1	5	26	60	.566	7	1	15	1	.383	1	0	1	2	181	8	2	.990
ITRI, Rob	.338	24	17	71	14	24	3	0	2	13	33	.465	12	1	10	0	.440	0	0	0	0	22	23	3	.938
WEINGARTEN	.333	4	0	3	1	1	1	0	0	1	2	.667	1	0	1	0	.500	0	0	0	0	10	0	0	1.000
JACOBSEN	.320	27	27	100	28	32	3	3	6	26	59	.590	12	4	18	0	.410	1	0	12	14	51	3	1	.982
WILKES, Adam	.306	14	10	36	7	11	0	0	0	5	11	.306	2	0	3	2	.333	1	0	0	0	63	10	0	1.000
BARNES, Clayton	.300	8	0	10	2	3	1	1	0	4	6	.600	0	0	2	0	.273	1	0	0	0	6	1	1	.875
LUCAS, Blair	.280	13	5	25	4	7	2	0	0	5	9	.360	3	0	1	0	.345	1	0	0	0	6	4	1	.909
VEST, Wade	.273	21	17	55	9	15	2	0	0	5	17	.309	4	2	13	0	.344	0	1	3	6	37	42	2	.975
CARSON, Clayton	.245	22	10	49	12	12	3	0	4	10	27	.551	4	0	10	1	.296	1	0	0	1	4	9	2	.867
KNELL, Kory	.167	4	4	12	1	2	0	0	0	1	2	.167	3	0	4	0	.333	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000
BILLS, Kevin	.083	8	1	12	3	1	0	0	0	1	1	.083	0	2	4	0	.200	1	0	0	0	4	0	0	1.000
SEIL, Beau	.000	5	0	7	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000	1	0	1	0	.125	0	0	1	1	3	0	1	.750
Totals	.339	27	27	990	241	336	67	13	34	223	531	.536	97	26	152	14	.407	16	4	28	43	705	241	35	.964
Opponents	.300	27	27	951	184	285	60	8	38	176	475	.499	74	30	162	17	.365	11	8	21	30	695	293	42	.959

LOB - Team (197), Opp (185). DPs turned - Team (23), Opp (24). IBB - Team (1), JACKSON 1, Opp (2). Picked off - JACKSON 2, CHAMBERS 1.

Player	ERA	W	L	APP	GS	CG	SHO	CBO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	2B	3B	HR	ABB/Avg	WP	HBP	BK	SFA	SHA	
JACINTO, Paul	4.01	8	1	9	8	3	0	0	0	67.1	55	34	30	18	49	10	3	7	251	.219	3	4	1	5	1
GRAVLEY, Kenneth	4.62	3	0	9	9	0	0	0	0	48.2	66	31	25	14	16	16	2	8	202	.327	2	3	2	0	2
BERGERON, Michel	6.21	3	2	11	1	0	0	0	2	33.1	44	23	23	8	32	11	1	3	141	.312	4	7	1	0	1
DABO, Tyler	7.00	0	0	8	0	0	0	0	0	9.0	16	7	7	3	8	6	0	1	41	.390	1	1	2	2	0
CHRISMAN, Jacob	7.50	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	6.0	10	6	5	1	3	0	0	1	24	.417	0	1	0	1	0
MOUSSER, Jeff	8.24	2	6	9	9	2	0	0	0	51.1	63	50	47	12	39	10	2	12	206	.306	1	11	2	2	3
GARCIA, Jason	10.00	0	2	5	0	0	0	0	1	9.0	9	10	10	3	4	3	0	4	35	.257	1	0	0	0	1
BINGHAM, Anthony	13.50	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	2.0	2	3	3	1	2	0	0	0	8	.250	1	2	0	0	0
HEID, Tyler	13.50	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	2.0	4	3	3	2	4	1	0	0	9	.444	0	0	0	1	0
WILLIAMSON, Kirk	18.00	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1.0	3	2	2	1	0	0	0	1	6	.500	0	0	0	0	0
RODRIGUEZ, Curtis	20.25	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	1.1	5	3	3	1	1	0	0	1	9	.556	0	0	0	0	0
BARNES, Clayton	22.50	0	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	4.0	8	12	10	10	4	3	0	0	19	.421	3	1	0	0	0
Totals	6.43	16	11	27	27	5	0	0	3	235.0	285	184	168	74	162	60	8	38	951	.300	16	30	8	11	8
Opponents	7.93	11	16	27	27	1	0	0	4	231.2	336	241	204	97	152	67	13	34	990	.339	30	26	4	16	4

PB - Team (2), CLOWARD 2, Opp (6). Pickoffs - Team (4), GRAVLEY 2, BERGERON 1, MOUSSER 1, Opp (3). SBA/ATT - WILKES (10-14), CLOWARD (10-13), MOUSSER (7-10), GRAVLEY (6-8), BERGERON (4-5), CHRISMAN (2-3), JACINTO (1-2), GARCIA (1-1), WEINGARTEN (1-1), DABO (0-1).

Honors for 2003

Ryan Chambers, Outfield

MWC Player of the Week vs. Utah

Paul Jacinto, Pitcher

MWC Pitcher of the Week vs. UNLV

Jeff Mouser, Pitcher

MWC Pitcher of the Week vs. Arizona

MWC Pitcher of the Week vs. Washington State

Jake Stubblefield, First Base

MWC Player of the Week vs. Utah

Top Pitching Outings of 2003

Hits Pitcher Opponent, W-L

1* Paul Jacinto UNLV, W 3-1

3* Paul Jacinto Northwestern, L 1-0

3+ Paul Jacinto Air Force, W 17-2

3= Ken Gravley Gonzaga, W 10-1

4* Jeff Mouser SDSU, L 2-1

5* Jeff Mouser UNLV, L 6-5

5* Jeff Mouser Washington St., W 4-0

5= Jeff Mouser Cal-Poly SLO, W 11-1

*complete game, = eight innings, + 7 innings

2003 BYU Results

Date	Opponent	W/L	Score	Site	Rec.	Div-Rec.	Pitcher	Opp. Pitcher	Line	Opp. Line	Att.
1/30	@ Arizona	W	6-3	A	1-0	0-0	Mousser	Little	6-12-2	3-7-2	651
1/31	@ Arizona	L	13-17	A	1-1	0-0	Koffman	Meloan	13-15-3	17-19-1	828
2/1	@ Arizona	L	3-32	A	1-2	0-0	Garcia	Gardner	3-7-10	32-32-1	998
2/6	@ Arizona St.	L	5-6	A	1-3	0-0	Jacinto	Schroyer	5-9-3	6-10-1	2,850
2/7	@ Arizona St.	L	6-17	A	1-4	0-0	Bergeron	Thurmond	6-9-2	17-18-3	2,896
2/8	@ Arizona St.	L	4-6	A	1-5	0-0	Jacinto	Schroyer	4-10-0	6-9-0	2,691
2/15	Cal Poly-SLO	W	11-1	N	2-5	0-0	Mousser	Fitch	11-13-1	1-6-1	121
2/15	Northwestern	L	0-1	N	2-6	0-0	Jacinto	Konecny	0-5-0	1-3-1	143
2/27	Washington St.	W	4-0	N	3-6	0-0	Mousser	Banaszak	4-8-0	0-5-0	95
2/27	@ Lewis-Clark St.	L	6-7	A	3-7	0-0	Jacinto	Puckett	6-6-1	7-10-5	155
2/28	U. of Portland	L	5-9	A	3-8	0-0	Dabo	Renyer	5-7-3	9-12-1	75
3/1	Gonzaga	W	10-1	A	4-8	0-0	Gravley	Lichter	10-12-2	1-4-1	70
3/6	@ TCU	W	7-6	A	5-8	0-0	Bergeron	Jerome	7-11-1	6-14-1	797
3/7	@ TCU (10 Inn.)	L	2-3	A	5-9	0-0	Garcia	Weems	2-7-0	3-9-3	948
3/8	@ TCU	L	6-16	A	5-10	0-0	Gravley	Osentowski	6-12-1	16-19-2	1,056
3/13	@ New Mexico	L	14-19	A	5-11	0-1	Mousser	Soto	14-20-1	19-21-3	360
3/14	@ New Mexico	W	14-9	A	6-11	1-1	Jacinto	Giannetti	14-20-0	9-11-1	280
3/15	@ New Mexico	L	10-11	A	6-12	1-2	Garcia	Bullen	10-14-1	11-16-0	398
3/20	UNLV	L	5-6	H	6-13	1-3	Mousser	Pupo	5-10-2	6-5-2	1,092
3/21	UNLV	W	3-1	H	7-13	2-3	Jacinto	Van	3-8-1	1-1-0	1,530
3/22	UNLV	L	9-19	H	7-14	2-4	Bergeron	Thompson	9-12-1	19-24-2	1,527
3/25	@ Southern Utah	W	8-1	A	8-14	2-4	Bingham	Perkins	8-10-1	1-7-3	143
3/25	@ Southern Utah	W	8-3	A	9-14	2-4	Bergeron	Shepherd	8-10-3	3-4-6	—
3/28	@ Utah	W	9-5	A	10-14	3-4	Jacinto	Larsen	9-11-0	5-8-1	385
3/29	@ Utah	W	6-4	A	11-14	4-4	Bergeron	Westmorland	6-12-2	4-10-2	670
3/29	@ Utah	W	10-5	A	12-14	5-4	Gravley	Mackay	10-11-2	5-11-2	—
4/3	@ SDSU	L	1-2	A	12-15	5-5	Mousser	Moat	1-9-0	2-4-1	570
4/4	@ SDSU	W	7-5	A	13-15	6-5	Jacinto	Coon	7-13-2	5-12-0	822
4/5	@ SDSU (10 Inn.)	L	3-4	A	13-16	6-6	Garcia	Lindsey	3-8-2	4-12-1	603
4/7	Southern Utah	W	18-1	H	14-16	6-6	Barnes	Shepherd	18-22-0	1-7-3	543
4/10	Air Force Academy	W	9-2	H	15-16	7-6	Mousser	Stubbendorff	9-17-0	2-8-3	1,601
4/11	Air Force Academy	W	17-2	H	16-16	8-6	Jacinto	Vignola	17-16-1	2-3-2	2,274
4/12	Air Force Academy	W	22-6	H	17-16	9-6	Gravley	Hodgson	22-24-3	6-13-4	1,276
4/17	New Mexico	L	5-6	H	17-17	9-7	Mousser	Vermilyea	5-7-1	6-11-1	1,216
4/19	New Mexico	W	12-4	H	18-17	10-7	Jacinto	Gross	12-16-0	4-6-2	1,668
4/19	New Mexico	W	5-4	H	19-17	11-7	Bergeron	Soto	5-7-1	4-7-0	—
4/24	@ UNLV	L	8-15	A	19-18	11-8	Mousser	Scheinbaum	8-9-3	15-14-1	506
4/25	@ UNLV	L	4-5	A	19-19	11-9	Jacinto	Van	4-8-1	5-8-0	602
4/26	@ UNLV	L	10-11	A	19-20	11-10	Bergeron	Braun	10-10-0	11-14-4	704
5/1	Utah	W	17-8	H	20-20	12-10	Mousser	Mackay	8-9-4	17-15-0	1,392
5/2	Utah	W	16-5	H	21-20	13-10	Jacinto	Westmoreland	16-20-1	5-10-2	2,512
5/3	Utah	W	7-6	H	22-20	14-10	Bergeron	Martinez	7-10-2	6-14-2	1,072
5/9	SDSU	L	4-11	H	22-21	14-11	Mousser	Moat	4-11-2	11-17-0	820
5/9	SDSU	W	9-5	H	23-21	15-11	Jacinto	Carque	9-9-2	5-7-0	—
5/10	SDSU	W	5-4	H	24-21	16-11	Gravley	Coon	5-9-4	4-9-2	1,007
5/12	Southern Utah	W	14-6	H	25-21	16-11	Chrisman	Hanley	14-15-2	6-13-3	1,219
5/13	Southern Utah	W	13-2	H	26-21	16-11	Garcia	Roche	13-10-1	2-7-4	1,711

Top Crowds in the MWC for 2003

6,710	Utah @ Texas A & M
4,094	SDSU @ Miami
3,972	SDSU @ ASU
3,519	SDSU @ Miami
3,257	UNM @ Texas Tech
3,249	SDSU @ ASU
3,018	UNM @ Texas Tech
2,927	Utah @ ASU
2,896	BYU @ ASU
2,859	BYU @ ASU
2,829	UNM @ Texas Tech
2,822	SDSU @ ASU
2,745	UNLV @ New Mexico
2,691	BYU @ ASU
2,512	Utah @ BYU
2,451	AFA @ Hawai'i
2,288	AFA @ Hawai'i

Top 3-game series in the MWC for 2003

10,043	SDSU @ ASU
9,378	SDSU @ Miami
9,104	UNM @ Texas Tech
8,437	BYU @ Arizona State
5,151	AFA @ BYU
5,036	Utah @ BYU
4,149	UNLV @ BYU
3,936	UNLV @ New Mexico
3,731	UNLV @ Nevada
3,473	Southern Utah @ BYU
2,988	Santa Clara @ SDSU
2,884	New Mexico @ BYU
2,801	BYU @ TCU
2,580	Cal Fullerton @ UNLV
2,477	BYU @ Arizona
2,309	Utah @ SDSU
2,053	SDSU @ UNLV

BYU 2003 Attendance

Home Attendance	22,460 (1,247 avg.)
Away Attendance	19,890 (710 avg.)
Total Attendance	42,350 (920 avg.)

URNS CHANCE INTO SUCCESS PAUL JACINTO

BY BRANDON KOLDITZ,
BYU NEWSNET STAFFWRITER

Junior pitcher Paul Jacinto knew he could be successful in the BYU baseball team's starting rotation this year. He just needed to be given the opportunity.

Last year, Jacinto was the Cougars' third starter, finishing 2-3 with a 7.83 ERA. He said he expected to be one of the three starters coming into this season.

Before the season began, pitching coach Mike Karpel called him into his office and told Jacinto he was going to be a reliever. Jacinto was going to start off in the bullpen.

"At first, I was very disappointed," Jacinto said. "I was pretty discouraged because I felt like I had done what I needed to do to be one of the three starters.

"I told Coach K. (Karpel) it doesn't matter where I start (the season). I know where I'm going to end up. I knew I was going to get the chance to start, and I was going to succeed. I was going to perform to the best of my abilities."

Two months into the season, Jacinto is one of the Cougars' most consistent and controlling pitchers in the starting rotation.

"There's no question he's the surprise of the year," BYU coach Vance Law said. "We anticipated him pitching big innings for us coming into the season. I figured he was going to be a very solid pitcher, but he is turning into one of the dominant forces in the conference."

Several generations of the Jacinto family have enjoyed the sport of baseball. His grandfather, Alvin Jacinto, played one year for the Chicago White Sox. Listed at five-foot-six, Jacinto said his grandfather is an example of a hard worker.

"He's strong and fast, but he's the type of guy, when you look at him, you wouldn't think much of him,"

Jacinto said. "He worked



really hard and proved to a lot of people that he could play ball. I think that's helped me at times. It's helped me work hard and be persistent."

In his first three years of high school in Encinitas, Calif., Jacinto was LaCosta High's third baseman. He had a .450 batting average as a position player.

After his junior year, many of the team's pitchers graduated. The pitching coach knew Jacinto threw hard and asked him to work on becoming a pitcher over the summer.

"I took him serious and started doing it and working very hard at it," Jacinto said. "I really didn't know how to pitch. I just knew if you threw hard and threw strikes, you could

get people out. It's high school."

In Southern California, where talent is plentiful, Jacinto's hard

work paid off. He finished his senior year as a pitcher with a 7-1 record and a microscopic 1.88 ERA. His senior year gave him the opportunity to come to BYU as a pitcher.

"Everyone's good (in Southern California)," Jacinto said. "Every high school has great players. Only the ones who work hard and are very persistent in their work ethic are the ones who are able to continue on and play somewhere else."

Jacinto joined the Cougars in 1999. His freshman year was the last year under the helm of head coach Gary Pullins. Jacinto made 11 appearances during his freshman year, four of them starts, finishing 1-1 with one save and an 11.52 ERA.

After his freshman year, Jacinto served a two-year church mission to Brazil for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. He returned to a new baseball program at BYU in 2002 with a new coaching

Baseball Schedule for 2003

DATE	OPPONENT	SITE	TIME
1/30-31	Arizona	Tucson, AZ	3 p.m.
2/1	Arizona	Tucson, AZ	1:30 p.m.
2/6-8	Arizona State	Tempe, AZ	7, 1 p.m.
2/13-15	Rawlings Tourney		
2/13	Northwestern	Scottsdale, AZ	2 p.m.
2/14	Cal Poly	Scottsdale, AZ	10 a.m.
2/13	Missouri	Scottsdale, AZ	Noon
2/27-3/1	Banana Belt Tourney	Lewiston, ID	
2/27	Washington St.	Lewiston, ID	Noon
2/27	Lewis-Clark St.	Lewiston, ID	3:00 p.m.
2/28	Univ. of Portland	Lewiston, ID	10 a.m.
3/1	Gonzaga	Lewiston, ID	4 p.m.
3/6-7, 8	Texas Christian	Ft. Worth, TX	6:30, 1 p.m.
3/13-14, 15	New Mexico *	Albuquerque	2, 1 p.m.
3/20-21, 22	UNLV *	Provo	7, 2 p.m.
3/25	Southern Utah (dh)	Cedar City	11 a.m.
3/27-28, 29	Utah *	Salt Lake City	6, 7, 1 p.m.
4/3-4, 5	San Diego St. *	San Diego	6, 1 p.m.
4/7	Southern Utah	Provo	4 p.m.
4/10-11, 12	Air Force *	Provo	7, 1 p.m.
4/17-18, 19	New Mexico *	Provo	7, 1 p.m.
4/24-25, 26	UNLV *	Las Vegas	6:30, 2 p.m.
5/1-2, 3	Utah *	Provo	7, 1 p.m.
5/8-9, 10	San Diego St. *	Provo	7, 1 p.m.
5/12, 13	Southern Utah	Provo	4, 7 p.m.
5/15-17	Air Force *	Colorado Spgs.	2 p.m.
5/21-24	MWC Tournament	Albuquerque	
5/30-6/1	NCAA Regionals	TBA	
6/6-8	Super Regionals	TBA	
6/13-23	College World Series	Omaha, Neb.	

* Indicates MWC Games

Continued

staff headed by Vance Law.

"I felt a lot of pressure coming home from my mission, because it was a whole new coaching staff," Jacinto said. "They had never seen me play. I had the impression they wanted me to perform right away.

I couldn't do it, because I needed to get back in shape. I needed to get my arm where it needed to be, and I needed that extra time."

Early in the 2002 season, Jacinto was called into Karpel's office to discuss the transition. A heated discussion between the two began.

Karpel said he thought Jacinto was wasting his talent. He said he saw tremendous potential in Jacinto, but he wasn't working hard enough to achieve the potential.

Jacinto saw the situation differently.

"I felt he wasn't giving me a chance and an opportunity to show my talent," Jacinto said. "I was written off as a pitcher from the old program. He wasn't giving me the time I needed to develop coming back from a two-year mission."

Once the two knew where the other was coming from, Jacinto said they got along great. As a result, Jacinto was able to get into the starting rotation last year.

After starting this season in the bullpen for the first two series, Jacinto received his chance to enter the starting rotation. Junior Michel Bergeron went down with an arm injury, and Jacinto replaced him in the rotation.

In his first start on Feb. 15, Jacinto pitched a complete-game three hitter against Northwestern, but lost the game 1-0.

After poor run support led to an 0-4 start, Jacinto has won four straight.

Last year, Jacinto threw three different pitches: a fastball, a curveball and a changeup. During the off-season, despite coaches telling him his curveball was good enough, Jacinto developed a fourth pitch, a slider. "He had a decent curveball, but he didn't have great command of it," Law said. "Sometimes he'd throw it for a strike; sometimes he wouldn't.

"With the slider, he has really good command of it. He can throw that pitch for a strike all the time, just like his fastball. That gives him two pitches that he has very good command of in the strike zone. When you have command of two very solid pitches, you give yourself a pretty good chance to win."

The slider was his dad's idea, but Jacinto developed it on his own. In a short time, the slider has become one of Jacinto's best and most-used pitches.

"Because he's got great control of his slider, he'll throw that at any count," said sophomore catcher Casey Cloward. "That's made him very successful. Because he's got that fourth pitch, it keeps the hitters guessing and guessing."

Cloward has played catcher in many of Jacinto's games during the year. He said Jacinto is one of the most enjoyable pitchers he's ever caught for because of his confidence level.

"He knows he's good," Cloward said. "He knows he's better than the batter. A lot of times I think pitchers go out and do the motions. Yea, they have good technique, but they don't have it mentally.

"Paul just knows he's going to throw his fastball right by them, or he's going to throw his slider and they're going to swing through it. They can't hit him. He's got that mentality."

In a recent start against San Diego State on last Friday, Jacinto coasted through the Aztec lineup until he reached the fourth inning. He gave up three runs in the fourth inning before settling down once again.

Trouble in the middle innings is a common occurrence for Jacinto this year.

"I get into a groove early in the game," Jacinto said. "I get really comfortable. After a couple innings, I start to lose concentration because I'm in such a groove. That usually wakes me up and gets me back focused on what I need to do."

A sign of a good pitcher is his ability to bounce back after bad innings. Several times this year, including the game against San Diego, Jacinto rebounded from bad innings and finished the game strong.

"I think that the one thing I've noticed with Paul this year over last year is his ability to compete when he doesn't have his best stuff," Law said. "Nowhere was it more apparent than the cold night that he pitched in Utah where it took him two innings before his arm loosened up. If that would have been Paul last year, I think he would have been out of the ballgame. I don't think he would have battled through that."

Through the first two months in the season, Jacinto is 4-4 with a 4.30 ERA and 48 strikeouts. Opposing batters are hitting a conference-low .232 against him. Twice in BYU losing efforts, opponents scored two runs or less off Jacinto.

Jacinto was named the Mountain West Conference Pitcher of the week after throwing a one-hit complete game against No. 24 UNLV on March 21. He probably would have been named the national pitcher of the week if another pitcher hadn't pitched a no-hitter the same week.

This year is the first time that Jacinto has had the same teachings and the same trainings from the same coaches as the previous year.

"I've been able to work on the same things, and I'm going to do what I can," Jacinto said. "I've always had that attitude.

"I've never been the best or the prettiest player on the field, but I've been able to get the job done. I knew if the coaching staff gave me some confidence, I would show them that I could get the job done."

As the Cougars' second starter in the rotation, Jacinto has comfortably settled himself into the leading role. He has turned an opportunity into one of the year's best success stories.



SHORTSTOP DRAWS MOTIVATION FROM ARMY NAMESAKE

RANGER WIENS

BY BRANDON KOLDITZ,
BYU NEWSNET STAFFWRITER

While on a road trip in the Toronto Blue Jays minor league system, Randy Wiens, father of junior BYU shortstop Ranger Wiens, came across a military article in a magazine.

The article dealt with Army rangers, a specially trained elite combat unit in the U.S. military.

The ranger's creed inspired Randy, leading him to name his first born son Ranger.

"If I didn't play professional baseball, I wanted to be a ranger," Randy said. "They stand for loyalty and honor, teaching you to respect yourself and respect others."

As the Cougars' co-captain and starting shortstop, Ranger Wiens works to represent the creed his name stands for.

In the Ranger's creed, an acronym defines the responsibilities of being an Army Ranger.

"R - Recognizing that I volunteered as a Ranger . . . I will always endeavor to uphold the prestige, honor, and high-spirited corps of my Ranger Regiment."

The St. Louis Cardinals drafted Randy as a pitcher in the fifth round after he posted a 16-1 record in his first year at Merced College in Merced, Calif. The same night, the Cardinals informed Randy that they could not sign him because he was a Canadian citizen. Only American citizens could be selected in the Major League Draft back then.

After another season at Merced College, Randy signed as a free agent with the Toronto Blue Jays. He was in the Blue Jays organization for three years, finishing his career in the organization's AAA level, the highest level in the minor leagues.

After the Blue Jays released Randy in 1979, he met his future wife Sheryl. A year later, their first of three children was born. Randy had the choice of their first child's name. He made his son a Ranger.

"A- Acknowledging the fact that a Ranger is an elite soldier . . ." Ranger learned to play baseball from his parents. His father would throw batting practice or hit ground balls to him in the street. And if his father couldn't do it, his mother would step in and do the same.

Ranger learned to play shortstop while his younger brother, Logan, chose the position of his father.

"I just wanted to develop him (Ranger) as an overall baseball player," Randy said. "He had such gifted, natural ability that he



naturally took to the shortstop position."

Ranger began to develop his talent at Golden Valley High School in Merced, Calif. As a senior, he hit .430 and had 16 doubles, five triples, eight home runs and 24 stolen bases.

"N - Never shall I fail my comrades . . ."

After high school, Ranger played his freshman year at the University of Nevada--Reno. He helped the Wolf Pack to a 38-20 overall record and a 21-9 mark in the Big West Conference in 1999.

Ranger went on a mission for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints to Hawai'i after his freshman year at Nevada. Last year, after completing his mission, he joined the Cougars.

As a sophomore for BYU, Ranger hit .318 and had 14 doubles, three home runs and 32

RBI's. He helped the Cougars win the Mountain West Championship and barely miss the NCAA Super Regionals last year.

Ranger said team unity, not individual performances, is what brought the team together at the end of last season.

"There's 30 guys in the clubhouse and everyone's different," Ranger said. "Our job is to come together as a team. With 30 different attitudes, that's tough. It helps you grow and build character as an individual if you do it in the right way."

"G - Gallantly will I show the world that I am a specially selected and well-trained soldier. My courtesy . . . shall set the example for others to follow."

In his second year with the Cougars, Ranger is learning to be a leader for his team. His teammates voted him as one of the team's tri-captains for the 2003 season.

"He's a quiet leader," BYU baseball coach Vance Law said. "He's a shy young man, and he doesn't say a whole lot. He leads by example. That's the kind of leadership our team needs. Besides a vocal leader, you need someone who's going to play all-out all the time."

"E - Energetically will I meet the enemies of my country. I shall defeat them on the field of battle, for I am better trained and will fight with all my might . . . under no circumstances will I ever embarrass my country."

Last year, Wiens was selected to the All-Mountain West Tournament team. In the tournament, he made several outstanding defensive plays.

"I haven't seen a better shortstop play at the collegiate level than how Ranger played the last three weeks of the season in the Mountain West Tournament," Law

Continued

said. "It was spectacular. If scouts didn't like what they saw, then they don't like shortstops."

"R - Readily will I display the intestinal fortitude required to fight on to the Ranger objective and complete the mission"

In the first game of this year's season against the University of Arizona, Wiens started with a bang. He went four-for-five in the game with a home run and two doubles, helping the Cougars to a 6-3 victory.

Through eight games this year, Wiens is hitting .344 with one home run and four doubles.

As his mission at BYU comes closer to completion, Wiens anticipates his possible future mission in professional baseball.

"I've had lots of up and downs, lots of successes and lots of failures," Wiens said. "You get to the point where you wonder if you're really going to make it. But the last two years have been great for me. I really look forward to playing pro ball in the near future."

The next level will be harder and require more endurance, but Wiens can face it living the creed that comes with having the name Ranger.

Tri-captain Ranger Wiens, now in his second year after his mission and transferring from Nevada, is also a member of the Student Athletic Advisory Committee at BYU.



IOLANI GRADUATE GETS INTO BYU RECORD BOOK

DOUG JACKSON



**BY DENNIS
ANDERSON,
HONOLULU
ADVERTISER
STAFF WRITER**

Put bats in their hands and ballplayers from Hawai'i are forces to be reckoned with.

One university's baseball career triples record fell last week to a four-year pursuit from a Hawai'i player. Senior Doug Jackson (Iolani '99 of Kailua) sprinted

past BYU baseball's career triples record last weekend when he hit two at New Mexico for a four-year total of 20.

Jackson's 20th triple, a screamer down the right-field line, was hit off former Punahou and UH pitcher Chad Giannetti in Albuquerque.

Jackson also homered twice and went 8-for-15 in the Mountain West Conference series, missing the cycle by a double both Thursday and Friday.

His reward was being hit by a pitch Saturday.

Jackson is batting .364 (28-for-77) in 18 games with five triples this season. He has been errorless in center field.

He will move into BYU's career top 10 in stolen bases this season.

Junior third baseman Kainoa Obrey (Iolani '99 of Makiki) leads BYU in RBIs with 23 and shares the team lead in runs (18) and home runs (4) in 18 games. He is batting .386 (26-for-71).

Obrey led BYU in batting in 2001, but got a medical redshirt last year because of disabling herniated disks in his lower back.

Obrey also was hit by a pitch last week — by Giannetti.

FOR THE LAWS, BASEBALL IS A FAMILY AFFAIR

BY BRANDON KOLDITZ,
BYU NEWSNET
STAFFWRITER

In 1960, Vern Law, a 30-year-old pitcher from Meridian, Idaho, helped pitch the Pittsburgh Pirates past the New York Yankees in the World Series, capturing the CY Young Award along the way. The Pirates won all three games Vern started in the series.

Now closing in on the age of 73, Vern is a volunteer batting practice pitcher on the BYU baseball team. He is joined on the team by his son, Coach Vance Law, and grandson, junior first baseman Tim Law.

Tim appreciates the experience he has to be on a team assisted by both his father and grandfather.

"It's a special opportunity," Tim said. "I don't know of any other person in baseball who has this kind of opportunity. It's a special chance for me to be a part of that."

The three generations of Laws possibly form the only three-generation family to work together on the same team at the same time.

After a 16-year major league career with the Pittsburgh Pirates and a 10 year stint as the Cougar's pitching coach in the '70s, Vern spends many of his afternoons pitching batting practice to the Cougars. Even in his 70s, he still throws hard.

"I can throw all day and have my arm not bother me," Vern said. "I still have plenty left. The kids know I can throw strikes, and I have no problem doing that."

Vern said he loves to give the players an opportunity to improve their hitting skills.

"He's always there to offer extra BP or extra swings if I need them," Tim said. "He's taught me to work hard and don't put too much pressure on yourself. He's told me to play how he knows I can play." With the help of his father's name, Vance was able to enjoy a 10-year major league career with the Pirates, White Sox, Expos, Cubs and Athletics.

In his fourth season as the Cougar's head coach, Vance focuses his efforts on teaching the skills of baseball to his son and the rest of the team.

"I enjoy watching Vance coach the team," Vern said. "He relates very well with the kids. I don't know anyone who works as well with young men as Vance does. He seems to be able to push the right buttons and instruct the boys how to develop into good ballplayers."

Tim is trying to go in the direction his father and grandfather have gone before him. After playing a year at Dixie College and serving a church mission, Tim joined his father at BYU in 2001.



Head Coach Vance Law, left, with his father Vernon (1960 Cy Young Winner) and son Tim, a first baseman with BYU. Vernon, now 73, still throws batting practice for BYU.

"Tim is a great young man and has excellent skills, particularly in fielding," Vern said. "He can probably save as many runs as he'll drive in because of his glove work. He's an excellent fielder, and I enjoy watching him play."

As a sophomore in 2001, Tim hit .301 with three doubles and one triple. He struck out only six times in 83 at bats.

"Tim has done well for us," Vance said. "It's fun to be around him. I used to have that time with my own dad. It's fun to have a father around."

With opportunity comes pressure to perform, especially when your last name is Law. Tim

realizes the pressure associated with having former major leaguers as a father and grandfather and also as a coach and batting practice pitcher.

"The pressure comes from the people on the outside," Tim said. "From the inside there is no pressure. My family's always there to support me."

Tim said that he tries to focus on his responsibilities as a player on a team, rather than worry about the pressure of being the coach's son.

"I think because of what Tim has done in the past and what he's capable of doing this year, you won't have to worry about people hollering, 'Hey, the only reason you're playing is because your dad's the coach,'" Vern said. "That's hard on a kid. It puts both of them in a difficult situation. He's got to keep his nose clean. He's got to do his job and prove to people that he belongs there."

Vance can also relate to the pressures associated with having a former major leaguer as a father and a coach. His dad was the pitching coach under Glen Tuckett while Vance played for BYU.

"Coach Tuckett told me, 'Vance has got to be clearly the better player. Otherwise, it's going to reflect back on you,'" Vern said. "But he clearly showed that he belonged."

As a player for BYU, Vance was a three-time All-Western Athletic Conference shortstop from 1974-78.

"There comes a point when ability means more than family ties because you either perform or embarrass yourself," Vance said.

The Laws are showing they belong together in college baseball. With contributions made by Tim on the field and Vern in batting practices, Vance has led his team to victory in the past two Mountain West Conference Tournaments.

BYU'S HAWAIIAN PUNCH

KAINOA OBREY

**BY DEVEN McCANN,
ATHLETIC MEDIA RELATIONS**

If you drive by Miller Park these days you are likely to see one of BYU's baseball stars battling the bitter cold to work on his game. The cold is not something he's accustomed to nor something he prefers—but whatever it takes to improve is worth it to him.

The BYU baseball team enjoyed success last season despite having one of the team's best players and best kept secrets on the bench. Kainoa Obrey 6-3, 225, Jr., from Honolulu, Hawai`i played in just 13 games during the 2002 campaign. His name is pronounced k-IGH-noh-uh OH-bree.

BYU head coach Vance Law knows what the team missed not having him in the lineup.

"He's a big strong kid who can hit the ball a mile," said Law.

Obrey plays third base for BYU and has become one of the most feared hitters in the Mountain West Conference, but his junior season was cut short due to an injury suffered in practice last fall.

"We were doing base running drills and I went to plant and I couldn't because of the pain in my back," Obrey said.

The injury was diagnosed as a slight herniated disk in his lower back—an injury that makes it very painful to swing a bat or pick up ground balls. Obrey was out most of fall drills but started to feel better as the season drew closer.

"I thought I could tough it out and play through the pain but it just hurt too much," he said.

Just 13 games into the season, Obrey hung up his cleats to let his back heal.

Kainoa is the son of John Obrey and Iwalani Dayton. He grew up on the island of Oahu playing baseball and volleyball. He attended Iolani High school—a private school which includes kindergarten through 12th grade. He lettered three times in volleyball during high school—but his main interest has always been baseball.

"I always thought baseball was my best chance to play in college and hopefully play professionally," Obrey said.

He began building his baseball resume early in his career. Obrey was named Gatorade State Player of the Year as a prep junior. He earned all-league and all-star honors while helping his team to a sixth-place national ranking in 1997.

He led his team to two state championships and was named the 1999 American Legion State Tournament MVP and won the batting title.

While achieving much success Obrey began thinking about the next level—somewhere that would offer him an education and a chance to play ball.

To his surprise, the University of Hawai`i didn't do much to keep him on the island, which Obrey admits was a little disappointing.



He kept his options open and shopped around for a school that would offer him a scholarship.

Given his talent and accomplishments it's not hard to see why BYU came knocking on his door. Former BYU assistant coach David Eldredge is a Hawai`i native and began expressing interest in Obrey.

BYU liked what they saw and offered Obrey a scholarship. "My mom was real happy when BYU came into the picture. She was excited about the opportunity for me to come here and that factored into my decision," he said.

Obrey signed a letter of intent before even visiting BYU and has never regretted his decision.

"I am happy I came here, I would recommend BYU to anyone," he said.

Perhaps influenced by Obrey's decision, long-time friend from home and teammate Doug Jackson also chose to play ball at BYU. Obrey says Jackson's decision to play at BYU doesn't have anything to do with him, but he is glad to have his friend here.

The two can rarely be seen without the other.

After their freshman year they both returned to Hawai`i and played ball on the island. Since then, they have spent their time-off playing in summer leagues on the east coast.

In 2001 Obrey played for the Newport Gulls of the New England Collegiate Baseball League. Obrey was named to the all-star team and was named as one of the leagues Top 10 Prospects.

During the past summer the two friends played in the Cape Cod League. Their teams were located just 10 minutes apart and they were able to spend time together when they weren't playing ball.

Obrey says playing in those leagues gave him a good chance to improve since they played 45 games in two months.

"When you play almost every day it's easier to work on things and get into a rhythm rather than playing a few days then taking a few off like in college."

As a freshman Obrey was named Honorable Mention Freshman All-America by Collegiate Baseball magazine. He hit a team-high nine homers and batted .342 overall. He hit an 11th-inning home run to beat San Diego State 7-6.

Obrey led the team in hitting his sophomore year with a batting average of .381. He had 13 homeruns and 29 doubles. He hit a grand slam against New Mexico off prep teammate Marvin Wong.

His junior season he was named to Collegiate Baseball magazine's pre-season All-America third team. Despite the pain in his back, he hit a three-run homerun in the 14th inning to beat UC Irvine for the first Cougar win of the season. A few games later the pain increased and Obrey decided he couldn't play anymore that season.

Continued

BYU Baseball

Obrey was drafted by the Kansas City Royals in the 11th round and was given the option to leave BYU for the pros. He decided not to go.

"We talked about it for a few weeks and decided that I would come back to BYU," Obrey said. "I am so close to graduating and that is something I have to do."

Obrey hopes after a full, healthy season his value will increase in the eyes of the pro scouts. He said Kansas City had some concerns regarding the status of his back.

After losing big hitters Dave Jensen and Matt Carson to the draft, Obrey understands his status.

"My role on the team is to drive in runs. I need to look for extra base hits and bring guys in," Obrey said.

Coach Law echoed Obrey's comments and agrees with Obrey's role on the team.

"We are looking for him to drive in a lot of runs this year. He is going to be our big RBI man this season," Law said.

Whether or not Obrey can drive in a lot of runs will influence the Cougar's season and Obrey's career in baseball.

"His future depends on how well he can drive in runs," Law said.

Obrey is not very vocal, but he possess what Law calls "quiet intensity." Law says Obrey is not afraid to vocalize his opinion if things aren't going as they should.

Obrey returns the praise to his coach and says he has been able to learn a lot from Law because of his experience.

"He is a great coach," Obrey said. "He has helped me out so much defensively because he played third base. He has also taught me so much about hitting- especially with a wood bat. There is so much more skill involved when swinging a wood bat."

Law has his players using wooden bats during workouts this fall. Obrey feels using the wood bat has forced him to generate more power with his body and to find the sweet spot of the bat.

"With a metal bat you can cheat hits when you get jammed because the bat won't break. You have to be more disciplined with a wood-bat," Obrey said.

Coming in to this season,
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expectations are high for BYU since the team fared so well and made it to the NCAA Tournament last year. Obrey is excited to play a full season and to see what he can do.

According to Law, Obrey has the ability to decide how good he wants to be. When asked to describe Obrey's talent in a few words Law chose "un-tapped potential."

"Once in a while everything he has learned comes together and he hits the ball as hard as anyone I've ever seen. He could put baseballs on the steps of the Marriott Center."

Obrey isn't really thinking too far down the road yet.

"First things first, I just want to play all season and stay healthy," he said.

Law thinks if he stays healthy he could be one of the top hitters in the nation.

One day, Obrey's days at BYU will be done and playing everyday somewhere is pretty realistic.

The Island Boy has only one preference when it comes to where he plays professional ball, "hopefully, somewhere warm," he said with a smile.



All-American Obrey learned how to play the hot corner from former major-leaguer Vance Law, BYU's coach, who says "there's not telling how good he could be."