

Agate Baseball Aims to Build on Last Year's Success

By John Sandstrom

A baseball coach has never complained that they have too much pitching. Coach Tim Bott of the Two Harbors Agates has never said those words either, but he and co-head coach Tom Bott are happy to have the abundance of pitching they have in this year's squad. "We lost one player from last year's team and are very excited about our team this year. We expect a good season and are determined to build on past success." The Agates have over thirty players this season in grades seven through twelve.

The team has a group of experienced and talented pitchers. Brjen Jones was one of the top pitchers in the area last year and will be counted on to lead the Agates in big games. Jones said, "I love baseball. I always feel like it defines me for some reason. I love talking about the game and I love playing, practicing and hanging with the guys". Brjen believes he has added some velocity and has included a couple new pitches this year that will add to his repertoire.

In addition to Brjen, the Agates have Sebastian Bark, Ethan Bopp, Thor Tokvam, Zach Bentler and Caleb Waldron among the staff of pitchers.

Waldron says he enjoys everything about the game. "I love the practices, the sounds that go

along with it, as well as learning the game. I learn something new everyday. We can't wait to get at it."

For his part, Coach Bott agrees. "Even though we are overall a young team, we still have plenty of experience and are an athletic team which allows us to play an aggressive style of ball. Baseball is an involved game. There are an unending number of situations and I love teaching the game, connecting with my players and learning something new every day."

Aitkin, Esko, Proctor and Virginia are among the strongest teams in Region 7AA, with Esko and South Ridge among the Polar League favorites.

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