

1981

## NEIU Baseball Media Guide - 1981

Athletics Department Staff

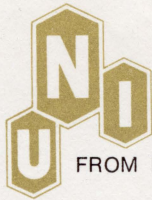
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### Recommended Citation

Staff, Athletics Department, "NEIU Baseball Media Guide - 1981" (1981). *Baseball*. 5.  
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# news

FROM NORTHEASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY ● 5500 N. ST. LOUIS AVENUE ● CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60625

## NORTHEASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY

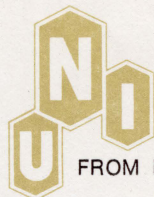
### BASEBALL OUTLOOK

"The Northeastern Illinois University baseball team is anxiously awaiting the 1981 season," said Head Coach Ron Christopher. "The Golden Eagles will begin the year with a combination of returning starters, transfers, and outstanding high school recruits. The student athletes involved in the program have shown an attitude of dedication and desire and a willingness to work hard.

"Competition at each position will be keen due to the depth of this year's team. The Eagles boast depth at every position with 11 pitchers vying for varsity roles."

The Golden Eagles have added several new opponents to their 52 game schedule. Some new teams added to this year's schedule are the University of Chicago, Elmhurst College, Trinity College, Judson College, Milton College, and Augustana College. Also added to this year's schedule will be a trip to Florida during which Northeastern will play Eckerd College, University of Tampa, Florida Institute of Technology, and Central Florida College.

"With the addition of a Junior Varsity and ex-major league pitcher Buzz Capra as pitching coach," Christopher added, "the 1981 season should be both rewarding and successful."



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## NORTHEASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY

### RETURNING PLAYERS

#### Tony Pietro

An All-Conference player in 1979. He is an outstanding field leader and captain of this year's team. He seldom strikes out and is a good defensive infielder.

Year	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	SB	BB	SO	SAC	AVE.
1978	19	28	0	4	1	0	0	0	0	2	5	0	.142
1979	24	78	11	25	3	2	1	11	2	10	3	2	.321
1980	31	98	19	33	9	0	0	2	10	6	5	6	.337
Total	74	204	30	62	13	2	1	13	12	18	13	8	.304

#### Sal Ursino

A returning starter in the outfield. He has a powerful and accurate throwing arm, and a "picture" swing with ability to hit the ball long. Sal is a team leader and captain of the team.

Year	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	SB	BB	SO	SAC	AVE.
1979	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	.000
1980	29	86	13	18	1	2	1	13	1	8	18	1	.209
Total	30	88	13	18	1	2	1	13	1	8	19	1	.205

#### Jesse Zaragoza

Second year starter at shortstop. Jesse hit well in 1980 and showed great improvement on defense this past summer.

Year	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	SB	BB	SO	SAC	AVE.
1980	32	90	11	27	0	0	1	6	5	13	14	1	.300

#### Larry Gates

Returned to school after a year of working. Outstanding fielder with an excellent arm. Left handed hitter with long ball power.

Year	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	SB	BB	SO	SAC	AVE.
1978	24	96	13	33	4	1	0	12	4	6	6	0	.343
1979	20	77	11	24	4	3	5	7	1	1	9	0	.312
Total	44	173	24	57	8	4	5	19	5	7	15	0	.329

#### Ralph Scalise

Utility infielder who is hopeful to start as catcher this year.

Year	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	SB	BB	SO	SAC	AVE.
1978	3	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	3	0	.000
1979	14	31	3	4	0	0	0	1	0	5	17	1	.129
1980	16	31	0	5	0	0	0	2	0	5	14	0	.161
Total	33	67	3	9	0	0	0	3	0	11	34	1	.134

#### Joe Hernandez

Utility infielder who can play several positions.

Year	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	SB	BB	SO	SAC	AVE.
1980	19	34	4	10	2	0	0	5	0	1	8	0	.256

Jim Hawrysko

Utility infielder who is also vying for the catching job.

Year	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	SB	BB	SO	SAC	AVE.
1980	15	29	4	4	1	0	0	2	0	2	6	0	.138

Rich Gurgul

Gained valuable experience last season and should mature into a strong starter this season.

Year	G	W	L	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
1980	8	1	5	36 2/3	40	28	16	23	21	3.93

Andy Griffin

Smart pitcher who should see service in long relief, and as a spot starter.

Year	G	W	L	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
1979	7	3	0	19 1/3	19	10	3	10	10	1.40
1980	6	1	4	27 1/3	48	34	23	11	10	7.57
Total	13	4	4	46 2/3	67	44	26	21	20	5.02

Joe Zamora

Has a smooth, effortless delivery. He earned the top pitching spot during the summer league performance.

Year	G	W	L	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
1980	8	1	3	32	51	37	20	8	19	5.63

Joe Zygowicz

Showed signs of starting ability during last season. He should see a lot of action in 1981.

Year	G	W	L	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
1980	6	1	1	19	21	13	9	11	11	4.26

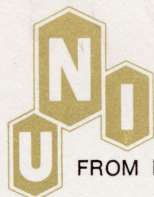
Rich Schlitter

Returned to school after a year layout. He has the physical ability to be a standout collegiate pitcher.

Year	G	W	L	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
1978	3	1	1	17	18	8	7	2	7	3.71
1979	5	0	5	24	36	30	20	11	9	7.50
Total	8	1	6	41	54	38	27	13	16	5.93

John Sokolowski

Elbow problem has John fighting to remain on the varsity staff.



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NORTHEASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY  
EAGLES VARSITY BASEBALL ROSTER - 1981

NAME	POS	B/T	HT	WT	UNIFORM NO.			SEASON
					H.Brn	L.Brn	White	
Alers, Luis	P	R/R	5'7"	140	27	27	27	1
Birtman, Scott	C	S/R	5'10"	190	26	26	26	1
Boehmer, Al	P	R/R	6'4"	205	22	22	22	1
DeLeonardis, Robert	IF	S/R	5'8"	170	17	14	17	3
DeMaria, Frank	P	R/R	6'4"	190	15	8	15	3
Flynn, Bill	OF	R/R	5'11"	175	13		13	3
Gates, Larry	OF	L/L	5'10"	170	11	10	11	3
Gurgul, Rich	P	R/R	6'0"	180	10	11	10	2
Griffin, Andrew	P	L/L	5'8"	160	19	19	19	3
Hawrysko, James A.	IF	R/R	6'0"	185	14	13	14	2
Hernandez, Joe	IF	R/R	6'1"	205	32	32	32	4
Jannis, Paul	IF	R/R	5'11"	165	8	21	8	3
Kos, Gary	P	R/R	6'0"	170	30		25	1
Muscarello, Salvatore	C	R/R	5'10"	170	29	29	29	1
Pietro, Tony	IF	R/R	5'8"	160	1	1	1	4
Poulos, Bill	OF	R/R	5'10"	175	24	24	24	2
Scalise, Ralph	IF	R/R	5'6"	155	2	2	2	3
Schlitter, Rich	P	L/L	6'4"	190	18		18	3
Sokolowski, John	P	R/R	5'10"	180	6	6	6	4
Somogyi, Mike	IF	R/R	6'0"	180	4		4	1
Soto, David	1B	R/R	6'3"	200	16	16	16	1
Stennis, Lonnie	P	R/R	6'2"	185	31	35	31	1
Szukala, Rich	1B-OF	L/R	6'2"	190	3	3	3	3
Ursino, Salvatore	OF	R/R	6'2"	190	12	12	12	4
Zamora, Joe	P	R/R	5'8"	145	28	28	28	2
Zaragoza, Jesse	IF	R/R	5'8"	150	5	5	5	2
Zygowicz, Joe	P	R/R	5'9"	180	20	30	20	2
Christopher, Ron	HEAD COACH				7	7	7	
Capra, Buzz	ASSISTANT COACH				9	34	9	
Callas, Les	ASSISTANT COACH				23	23	23	