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[06-08-04 MLB Draft]

Four Cougs Taken In MLB Draft

PULLMAN, Wash. -- A pair of Washington State University juniors and two seniors were selected in the Major League Baseball First-Year Player Draft Monday and Tuesday, according to WSU head coach Donnie Marbut.

Topping the list of Cougars drafted was junior pitcher Bryce Chamberlin (Okanogan), selected by Baltimore in the sixth round. Junior first baseman Grant Richardson (Richland) was chosen by Milwaukee in the 14th round.

Seniors drafted off this year's 29-26 Cougar club were catcher Brandon Reddinger (Kennewick) by Pittsburgh in the 20th round and pitcher Aaron Trolia (Tacoma) by Seattle in the 27th round.

"It is a compliment to the program to have four players taken in the first two days," Marbut offered. "We certainly would like to keep the juniors, Bryce and Grant, but we also understand this is an opportunity they have been working toward. The ultimate decision to stay at WSU for another year or sign a professional contract is their's now."

Marbut did say four members of WSU's fall recruiting class were also drafted, although WSU cannot release new information on the Cougar recruits.

"It is our hope all the recruits we have signed will be on campus next fall and every indication so far is that will be the case," he added.

Chamberlin paced WSU's mound staff with eight wins despite missing nearly a month after suffering a broken jaw in April. He worked 62.1 innings, struck out 66 batters and walked just 23 while posting an 8-3 record. In addition to 12 starts, he was used in relief three times during his late-season recovery from the injury.

Richardson has been one of WSU's top hitters the past two seasons. He hit .318 as a sophomore with 52 starts and this past spring hit .311 while starting all 55 games at first base. He led WSU with 68 RBI and had 13 home runs each of the last two seasons. His 28 career long balls is eighth on the WSU all-time list and just 12 short of the school record.

Reddinger was WSU's every-day catcher and led the Pacific-10 Conference with eight pickoffs during the 2004 season. He had his best year at the plate in three seasons, finishing with a .258 average while starting 46 games and playing in 48 contests.

Trolia led WSU's mound staff with a 4.25 ERA and finished with a 6-5 record while throwing 78.1 innings. He recorded 66 strikeouts and just 34 walks. Trolia joined WSU for the 2004 season after two years of junior college ball and one season at Clemson.

WSU's 2004 MLB draft list includes:

Bryce Chamberlin, RHP, Baltimore, 8th player taken in the 6th round, 169th overall pick;

Grant Richardson, 1B, Milwaukee, 5th player taken in the 14th round, 406th overall;

Brandon Reddinger, C, Pittsburgh, 11th player taken in the 20th round, 592nd overall pick;

Aaron Trolia, RHP, Seattle, 22nd player taken in the 27th round, 813th overall pick.

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The following are 2004 profiles for each WSU player drafted:

CHAMBERLIN, Bryce (6), RHP

JUNIOR (2003-04): V-letter...Games - 15...Starts - 12.....IP - 62.1...ERA - 5.34...Record - 8-3...received All-Pac-10 honorable mention recognition...sustained a broken jaw April 16...returned to relief action May 10...in final appearance of the season threw six innings of scoreless, three-hit ball against California...recorded wins against Nevada, Sacramento State twice, Utah Valley State, Pepperdine, Arizona, Birmingham-Southern and California...threw 8.0 innings against Utah Valley State and 6.0 innings against Sac State, Arizona, Birmingham-Southern and California...struck out a career high 11 batters against Utah Valley State and had eight against both Washington and Arizona...WSU won each of his first eight starts...started the year as the #3 starter, then moved to the #2 slot in late March...only losses were at Washington when he allowed five runs in 4.1 innings while striking out six, and in starts against LCSC and Oregon State May 19 and May 23, respectively...**WSU Rankings:** ERA/5.34/5th, W/8/1st, GP/15/7th/, GS/12/3rd, CG/1/2nd, IP/62.1/4th, SO/66/3rd/, OPP BA/.279/5th...**Pac-10 Rankings:** Wins/7th-t...monthly pitching totals: February 14.0i/2-0/5.14, March 24.1i/3-0/4.81, April 10.1i/1-1/6.10, May 13.2i/2-2/5.93...pitching against league opponents: Arizona 6.0i/1-0/4.50, ASU dnp, California 6.0i/1-0/0.00, OSU 4.0i/0-1/6.75, Stanford dnp, UCLA 0.1i/0-0/99.00, USC dnp, Washington 9.1i/0-1/7.71.
Career Notes: ranks sixth with 138 earned runs allowed and eighth with 163 runs allowed.
2004 MLB Draft: Baltimore, 8th player taken in the 6th round, 169th overall pick.

RICHARDSON, Grant (15), First Base

JUNIOR (2003-04): V-letter...Games - 55...Starts - 55...BA - .311...received All-Pac-10 honorable mention recognition...set school record with 506 putouts and tied for sixth on the season list with 68 RBI...longest hitting streak five games, which was snapped in the final game at Stanford after he went 8-for-20, drove home seven runs and had two hits in three consecutive games...four times has had three-game streaks, one in late March when he was 6-for-16 (.375), one in early March when he was 7-for-19 (.368)...went a perfect 4-for-4 against Oral Roberts...against Saint Mary's, went 3-for-4, scored twice and drove home four runs...hit two home runs in three games, Saint Mary's, Gonzaga and Birmingham-Southern...in a four-game week against Gonzaga and Birmingham-Southern, drove home 12 runs, hit five home runs, scored six times and was a collective 7-for-12 (.583) to earn Pacific-10 Conference and national player of the week honors (NCBWA)...at Washington in first of three Pac-10 games hit a grand slam and drove home five runs...at UCLA in the series opener collected two hits and drove home four runs...collected four hits, scored twice and hit a solo home run in the first two games against Oregon State...in season finale against California collected two hits, including his 13th home run, and drove home five runs...had two or more hits in 23 games, including four hits against Oral Roberts...drove home two or more runs in 16 games, including five at Washington and against California and four RBI four times...hit a three-run home run against Washington April 10...in eight-game stretch March 30 thru April 10 hit eight home runs, including two against both Gonzaga to start the string and then the final game against Birmingham-Southern...**WSU Rankings:** BA/.311/4th, At-Bats/206/2nd, Runs/33/5th, Hits/64/4th/, 2B/9/5th, HR/13/1st, RBI/68/1st, SLG%/.544/1st, BB/31/3rd, HBP/12/2nd, SF/7/1st, Chances/550/1st, Putouts/506/1st, FLD%/993/4th...**Pac-10 Rankings:** RBI/1st, HR/4th, Sac Flies/2nd-t, HBP/6th, Chances/1st, Putouts/1st...here's how he hit against Pac-10 opponents: Arizona .308 (4-13), ASU .333 (3-9), California .300 (3-10), OSU .444 (4-9), Stanford .279 (3-11), UCLA .154 (2-13), USC .100 (1-10), Washington .182 (4-22)...his monthly hitting averages: February .325 (13-40), March .328 (19-58), April .333 (18-54), May .259 (14-54).
Career Notes: After three years is sixth with 919 putouts and tied for eighth with 28 home runs, 12 short of the school record.
2004 MLB Draft: Milwaukee, 5th player taken in the 14th round, 406th overall

REDDINGER, Brandon (4), Catcher (Redd-in-jur)

SENIOR (2003-04): V-letter...Games - 48...Starts - 46...BA - .258... named to the CoSIDA All-District VIII academic team...selected to the All-Pac-10 academic first team...in late March had hits in four straight games, going 8-for-16 (.500) in one game against Washington and three at Arizona...went 5-for-10 against USC...against Nevada, collected three hits, drove home four runs and had two doubles...went 2-for-3, scored twice and drove home three runs in final game against Birmingham-Southern...went 2-for-2 with a triple and three RBI against USC...had two or more hits in 10 games, with three hits five times...five times drove home two or more runs, including four against Nevada and three against Birmingham-Southern and USC...**WSU Rankings:** Runners Picked Off/8/1st...**Pac-10 Rankings:** Runners Picked Off/1st-t, Chances/366/10th...here's how he hit against Pac-10 opponents: Arizona .385 (5-13), ASU .222 (2-9), California .222 (2-9), OSU .111 (1-9), Stanford .000 (0-6), UCLA .250 (2-8), USC .500 (5-10), Washington .211 (4-19)...his monthly hitting averages: February .414 (12-29), March .231 (9-39), April .244 (10-41), May .190 (8-42).
2004 MLB Draft: Pittsburgh, 11th player taken in the 20th round, 592nd overall pick.

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TROLIA, Aaron (9), RHP (TROW-lee-ah)

SENIOR (2003-04): V-letter...4Games - 16...Starts - 13...IP - 78.1...ERA - 4.25...Record - 6-5...received All-Pac-10 honorable mention recognition...recorded wins in three straight starts, Saint Mary's, Texas-Pan American and Gonzaga...also beat Washington, Sacramento State and California...made six straight starts early in the season before moving to the bullpen...came back for a start against USC in the first game of the series and was in the starting rotation for the rest of the season...threw 8.0 innings in win over Sacramento State when he allowed no runs and just two hits...also had a strong 8.0 innings against Oregon State, allowing five hits and three runs in a 3-2 loss...went 7.1 innings in final outing, allowing California three runs...7.0 innings against both Northwestern and Saint Mary's early in the year, then against ASU when he allowed just six hits and two runs but didn't get the win...had six innings against Texas-Pan American, USC and UCLA, allowing just two runs against the Bruins...struck out a career-high 11 Hornets against Sac State...eight strikeouts against Saint Mary's, seven in back-to-back outings against UCLA and OSU and had five in three other games...after four strong outings in his first four starts, struggled in starts against UC Irvine and Washington, then in a relief game at Arizona...came back with three strong innings of one-hit ball against Birmingham-Southern...pressed back into a starting role after Bryce Chamberlin's injury and responded with six strong innings against USC, allowing four hits and one earned run, but no decision...also had a strong outing against ASU, but again didn't get the win...struggled at Stanford, allowing five earned runs in 4.0 innings, but came back with excellent outings against Sacramento State, UCLA, Oregon State and California, allowing eight runs over his final 29.1 innings...**WSU**

Rankings: ERA/4.25/1st, W/6/3rd, GP/16/6th, GS/13/2nd, SV/1/3rd-t, IP/78.1/3rd, SO/66/2nd-t, OPP

BA/.248/1st...**Pac-10 Rankings:** OPP BA/5th, ERA/9th...monthly pitching totals: February 20.0i/2-0/2.25, March 8.2i/1-2/15.58, April 16.1i/1-1/2.20, May 33.1i/2-2/3.51...pitching against league opponents: Arizona 1.2i/0-0/10.80, ASU 7.0i/0-0/2.57, California 7.1i/1-0/3.68, OSU 8.0i/0-1/3.38, Stanford 4.0i/0-1/11.25, UCLA 6.0i/0-0/3.00, USC 6.0i/0-1/1.50, Washington 0.2i/1-1/67.50.

2004 MLB Draft: Seattle, 22nd player taken in the 27th round, 813th overall pick

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