

2010 SEASON RECAP

BIG TRAIN CAPTURES BACK-TO-BACK RIPKEN CHAMPIONSHIPS

The 2010 Big Train players had a tough act to follow. Virtually all long-time Big Train fans agree that the 2009 team was the best Big Train team ever, winning the Cal Ripken Collegiate Baseball League Regular Season and League Championship Series, being rated the ninth best team in all of summer college baseball, and completely rewriting the Big Train hitting record book. With a second consecutive Ripken League Championship and another national ranking (#28 by Perfect Game), as well as featured in articles in *USA Today* and *The Washington Post*, the 2010 Big Train will long hold a place as one of the best Big Train teams ever. Youse's Orioles captured the regular season crown, three games in front of Bethesda. After an early exit from the Ripken League Championship Series, the Orioles swept six games in Johnstown, PA to capture the national championship of the All-American Amateur Baseball Association (AAABA) for the 27th time.

Cal Ripken, Jr. was in the house for the season's first exhibition game and graciously signed autographs and took photos with nearly everyone in the ballpark. Opening night was not pretty. The team that we would defeat for the league championship 57 nights later, pasted the Big Train 18-3. A Saturday night loss to Youse's

Orioles and wins over Alexandria and Herndon along with several rainouts ended the first week at 2-2. Week two started with a rematch with the rival Orioles. Hitless and down 4-0 the Big Train bats came alive in the seventh inning. RBI doubles by Ryan Collins (Mississippi State) and Brennan Middleton (Tulane) led the attack. Nick Schneeberger (Tulane)'s opposite field walk-off double plated Collins in the ninth with the winning run.

The Big Train tumbled out of first place with a 3-2 Fathers Day loss to the Rockville Express at Povich Field and a 4-3 loss to the Baltimore Redbirds on the road at the Ripken Baseball Complex in Aberdeen. Week four of the regular season began with another classic Friday night Orioles-Big Train showdown and another capacity crowd at Povich Field. This was a must win as Bethesda trailed the Orioles in the standings by two-and-one-half games. This time, it was the Big Train jumping out with a four run first inning fueled by a two RBI single by Cody Freeman (Mississippi State). The Orioles tied the score in the third and the game remained deadlocked at 4 until the ninth. The Big Train won it 6-5 with an RBI double and some adroit base running by Connor Bernatz (San Francisco). Relief pitcher Matt Bowman (Princeton) picked up the win, and closer Bryan Hamilton



Mason Morioka (San Francisco) receiving Ripken League Championship Series MVP award from CRCBL Commissioner Bob Douglas.

2010 Final Regular Season CRCBL Standings

	W	L	%	GB
Youse's Orioles	29	13	.690	--
Baltimore Redbirds	28	14	.667	1
Bethesda Big Train	26	16	.619	3
Herndon Braves	22	20	.524	7
Rockville Express	19	22	.463	9.5
Alexandria Aces	17	25	.405	12
Southern MD Nationals	14	28	.333	15
Silver Spring-Takoma T-Bolts	12	29	.295	16.5

2010 Montgomery Cup Presented by the Gazette

	W	L	%	GB
Bethesda Big Train	9	3	.750	
Rockville Express	6	5	.545	2.5
Silver Spring-Takoma T-Bolts	2	9	.182	6.5

(UNC Charlotte) got the save. Saturday afternoon, Bethesda traveled to Baltimore to face the Redbirds and came home with another important win behind excellent pitching by Cody Allen (High Point) and Patrick Keane (St. Mary's, CA). Austin Harclerode (Towson) had three hits and scored three runs. Markus Melgosa (St. Mary's, CA) stole three bases and scored twice. Three days later, the Redbirds visited Povich Field with second place on the line. The Big Train

took a 4-0 lead in the sixth and hung on for a 4-3 victory staying just one game behind the first place Orioles. Reliever Jordan Beistline (Jacksonville State) got the win. Jarrod Parks (Mississippi State) led the offense with three hits, a run, and an RBI. Nick Vickerson (Mississippi State) drove in two runs.

The Big Train ended the first half of the season splitting a June 30 double-header with the Herndon Braves in Herndon, blowing a 6-0 lead in the

nightcap to fall two games behind the first place Orioles. July began with five straight victories to take over first place, including a 5-2 July 2 win over the Braves on the road. Josh Schneider (Morehead State) picked up the win in relief and Danny Stienstra (San Jose State) had three hits and two RBIs. On July 8, the Orioles returned to Povich Field and rocked the Big Train 9-2 in front of a standing-room-only crowd. A Friday night road loss to the third place Redbirds in Aberdeen allowed the Orioles to climb back into first place. Cameron Love (San Francisco) pulled the Big Train back into a tie for first place with a complete game shutout over the Rockville Express on Saturday night in front of 926 fans. Reliever Hugh Adams (Florida Atlantic) continued his summer of scoreless innings to pick up a win over the Southern Maryland Nationals at Regency Furniture Stadium in Waldorf. With a record of 20-10, the Big Train were tied with the streaking Redbirds in second place one-half game behind the Orioles with a dozen games left in the season.

A 6-4 win over the Nationals at Joe Cannon Stadium on July 19 secured a playoff spot for the 24-12 Big Train, two games behind the Orioles and a game and one-half in front of the Redbirds with just six games remaining. Starting pitcher David Wayne Russo (San Jose State) got the win. Rare back-to-back Povich Field losses to the Redbirds and Braves on consecutive nights left the Big Train and Redbirds tied at 24-14, three games behind the Orioles. Cameron Love gave 968 Povich Field fans a real treat on July 22 holding the Alexandria Aces scoreless for eight innings to pick up his fifth win of the season. Drew Farber (UNC Wilmington) led off the eighth with a single, stole second, advanced on a single, and scored the game's only run on a sacrifice fly by Nick Vickerson. Bryan Hamilton picked up his eighth save of the season. A Redbirds win over the Orioles brought the Big Train within two games and a chance to

pull into a tie with a Saturday double header sweep. But it was not to be as the Orioles came from behind to beat the Big Train in the first game 7-6 and win the nightcap 3-2. The Big Train finished the regular season 26-16, three games behind the Orioles and two games behind the second place Redbirds. The Herndon Braves secured the fourth and final playoff spot. The Big Train won the Montgomery Cup, a competition sponsored by the *Gazette* newspapers among the Montgomery County teams, with a 9-3 record (Rockville finished 6-5 and Silver Spring 2-9).

LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES

The Big Train fell behind 2-0 early in a first round contest as Baltimore Redbirds starting pitcher Patrick Scoggin shut the Big Train down for six innings. After Scoggin was pulled for a relief pitcher, Bethesda got a run back in the seventh and took a 3-2 lead in the eighth on RBIs by Ryan Collins and Nick Schneeberger. Closer Bryan Hamilton struck out the side in the ninth. David Wayne Russo picked up the win with four scoreless innings of relief.

In the second round, the regular season champion Orioles jumped out to a 3-1 lead but did not hold it long as the Big Train took advantage of four costly Oriole miscues. A three RBI double by Mason Morioka (San Francisco) put the Big Train ahead to

stay at 5-3. Austin Harclerode led the offense with four runs on two walks, a single, a double, and a towering home run. Cameron Love got the win and Hugh Adams the save in the 11-5 victory that put the Big Train in the championship game.

The next day, the Redbirds eliminated the Orioles and jumped out to a 10-0 lead over the Big Train after just three innings. A three run home run by Danny Stienstra led a Big Train rally that fell short. With the 12-7 victory, the Redbirds forced a decisive game on July 31. For the fourth straight night, the Big Train fell behind early. RBIs by Ryan Collins, Mason Morioka, and Jarrod Parks gave the Big Train a 3-1 lead in the third inning. Starting pitcher Joe Mantiply (Virginia Tech) gave up a first inning home run but settled down to strike out five in six strong innings and get the win. In the bottom of the eighth inning, the Big Train fans were rewarded with a special treat as three-year Big Train star and 2009 MVP Danny Stienstra blasted a home run in his last Big Train at bat and rounded the bases to a standing ovation. Bryan Hamilton did what he had done all season long, pitching a perfect ninth to pin down a save and ensure the league championship for the second year in a row. With two hits and two RBIs in the championship game, Mason Morioka was named the MVP of the League

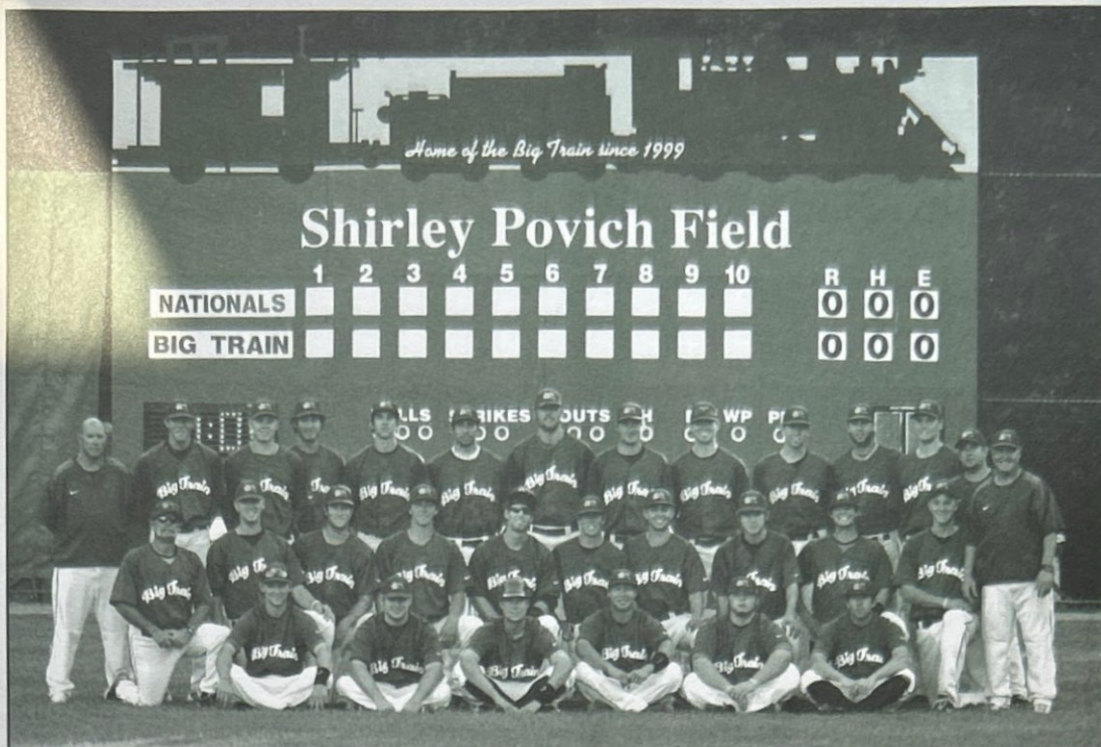
Championship Series.

A barnstorming team of Ripken League players traveled to Puerto Rico after the playoffs to play a three-game series in Caguas, Cidra, and Guaynabo, winning twice and tying the final game. Cody Allen started for the Ripken Leaguers against the University of Puerto Rico and struck out ten batters in four innings of one-hit shutout baseball. Big Train players Jordan Beistline, Bryan Hamilton, Austin Harclerode, Cameron Love, Jarrod Parks, Josh Schneider, Seth Williams (Michigan), and Nick Vickerson contributed to the Ripken success in Puerto Rico.

BIG TRAIN COACH'S AWARDS

In announcing the coach's awards for the 2010 season, Big Train Manager Sal Colangelo explained: "The 2010 season brought lots of ups and downs. Injuries really hurt us the last 10 games. The team prevailed by working hard and coming together as a family. Strong pitching performances down the stretch helped us win the League Championship Series for the second year in a row. It was a total team effort."

Colangelo named Mason Morioka (San Francisco), MVP of the League Championship Series, the team's Most Valuable Player for 2010. "He was our silent leader on and off the field all season long," explained the coach. "Mason caught most of our games but more impressively he was the leader



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who helped us win back-to-back league championships. Mason calls a great game from behind the plate. I'm excited that Mason will be returning to Bethesda for his third season in 2011."

Bryan Hamilton (UNC Charlotte) was named the team's Most Outstanding Pitcher. "Bryan was outstanding for the Big Train this summer," according to Colangelo. "When the game was on the line, Bryan came in and closed the door. He had eight saves and two wins. Bryan struck out 31 batters in 21 innings. He picked up two more saves in the league championship series." Hamilton was named the relief pitcher on the Ripken All League team.

Colangelo named Cameron Love (San Francisco) the team's Most Outstanding Starting Pitcher. "Cameron was our go-to guy when we needed to stop the bleeding. After we had lost some games, Cameron always picked up a W," Colangelo explained. "Cameron was our workhorse, picking up five regular season wins in 49 innings and gaining the crucial victory over the Orioles in the playoffs."

Austin Harclerode (Towson), a member of the Ripken All League team, was named the Big Train's Most Outstanding Hitter. "Austin started slow but picked it up as the season went on and never looked back. Austin did it all at the plate with 40 hits, 9 doubles, and 22 RBIs. Most importantly, Austin was a great team player. His clutch hitting propelled us to another championship season."



Big Train players raising the 2010 CRCBL Champions Trophy.

Connor Bernatz (San Francisco) was named Most Outstanding Fielder for the second year in a row. According to Colangelo, "Connor ran down every ball in center field. Many times he kept a go-ahead run off second by his outfield play. Conner has all the tools needed to play outfield at the next level."

Colangelo picked Ryan Collins (Mississippi State) for the team's Hustle Award. "Ryan was the team's motivational leader," according to Colangelo. "He always played the game 110 percent. His six triples put Ryan in the Big Train record book."



2010 Big Train MVP Mason Morioka

2010 Big Train Honors

Big Train Most Valuable Player
Mason Morioka (San Francisco)

Big Train Most Outstanding Pitcher
Bryan Hamilton (UNC Charlotte)

Big Train Most Outstanding Starting Pitcher
Cameron Love (San Francisco)

Big Train Most Outstanding Hitter
Austin Harclerode (Towson)

Big Train Most Outstanding Fielder
Connor Bernatz (San Francisco)

Big Train Hustle Award
Ryan Collins (Mississippi State)

**CRCBL 2010 League
Championship Series MVP**
Mason Morioka (San Francisco)

CRCBL 2010 All League First Team
1B Austin Harclerode (Towson)
RP Bryan Hamilton (UNC Charlotte)

CRCBL 2010 All League Second Team
2B Danny Stienstra (San Jose State)
OF Ryan Collins (Mississippi State)

CRCBL 2010 Player of the Week
Week 4: Austin Harclerode (Towson)
Week 5: Jarrod Parks (Mississippi State)

CRCBL 2010 Pitcher of the Week
Week 5: Cameron Love (San Francisco)

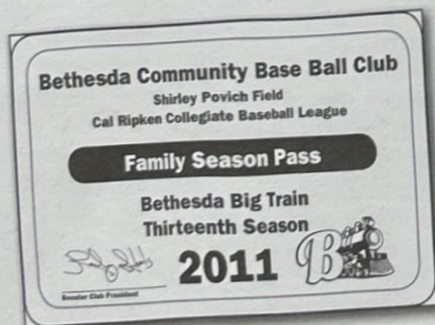
CRCBL 2010 All Stars
P Cody Allen (High Point)
P Jordan Beistline (Jacksonville State)
P Matt Bowman (Princeton)
C Cody Freeman (Mississippi State)
P Bryan Hamilton (UNC Charlotte)
1B Austin Harclerode (Towson)
P Joe Mantiply (Virginia Tech)
P Josh Schneider (Morehead State)

Baseball America Top 10 CRCBL Prospects
#5 Cody Allen (High Point)
#10 Bryan Hamilton (UNC Charlotte)

Perfect Game Top 30 CRCBL Prospects
#4 Cody Allen (High Point)
#9 Joe Mantiply (Virginia Tech)
#11 Stephen Lumpkins (American)
#13 Bryan Hamilton (UNC Charlotte)
#15 Matt Bowman (Princeton)
#29 Connor Bernatz (San Francisco)

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box office at any game, or log onto
the Big Train website.*



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