

Farmingdale State College Profile

Established in 1912 as the New York State School of Agriculture on Long Island, Farmingdale State has moved far beyond the boundaries first set when it welcomed its inaugural class to a curriculum steeped in farming techniques. As it approaches the celebration of its 100th anniversary, and its 15th anniversary as a four-year, baccalaureate institution, the College offers 33 degree programs and has flourished to become one of the most important centers of learning and research in the Long Island region.

As part of the State University of New York, Farmingdale State is a coeducational, public college with over 6,500 undergraduate students, located on 380 lush acres in the heart of Long Island, approximately 45 minutes from New York City. Since its transition to a technology college in the 1980s, the campus has focused on preparing students for careers in the workplace through its Schools of Business, Arts and Sciences, Engineering Technology, and Health Sciences.

Head Coach Keith Osik, Farmingdale State College

Keith Osik was named Farmingdale State's Head Baseball Coach on July 6, 2005 and holds a career coaching record of 96-69 over his first four seasons, including one Regional Championship (2009), two Skyline Conference Championships (2008, 2009), two NCAA Tournament appearances (2008, 2009), and one National Championship appearance (2009).

Osik finished his major league career in 2004 with the Baltimore Orioles. He spent his first seven years with the Pittsburgh Pirates and one year with the Milwaukee Brewers. Primarily a catcher, he also played seven other positions while in the majors.

Osik, who made his major league debut with Pittsburgh in 1996, was selected by the Texas Rangers out of high school and selected by the Pittsburgh Pirates in the 24th round after his junior year of College.

Osik played three years at Louisiana State University, where he was an All-Southeast Conference selection at catcher in his junior year. He started at shortstop his freshman year with the Tigers and at third base his sophomore season. Osik played all nine positions in a game against Northeast Louisiana during his junior year and was the pitcher of record in a 6-5, 11-inning loss.

He is a graduate of Shoreham-Wading River High School, where he led the Wildcats to the 1987 State Championship and was the recipient of the Yastrzemski Award, which is presented annually to the most outstanding baseball player in Suffolk County.

Farmingdale State College Baseball Notes

Farmingdale won their second straight Skyline Championship this season, making their 2nd straight NCAA appearance.

Coach Osik has won two Championships in his 4 seasons as Head Coach.

Senior captains Brian Benvenuto, Rich Gili, Tom Heeman and John Anarumo lead the Rams.

This is Farmingdale State's first-ever New York Regional Championship and National Championship (World Series) appearance.

The Rams posted 5 victories against nationally ranked teams this season, including wins over Southern Maine, Cortland (2 wins) and RPI (2 wins).

This year's team broke the school record for wins (30), hits (516), runs (405), RBI's (339), Strikeouts (294) and had 7 players named All-Conference.

The team led the Skyline Conference in both Hitting (.341 batting avg) and Pitching (4.42 ERA).

This year's team was the 5th Farmingdale State team to win a Conference Championship in 2008-09 and the 6th team to make an NCAA Appearance.

Senior Tom Heeman is a 4-Time All-Conference player with a career ERA of 2.91. His ERA this year is 2.43 and he holds a record of 8-3 with 1 save. Heeman was named First Team All-Skyline, First Team All-Region and the Tournament MVP in the Regional Tournament.

Sophomore Kevin Curtis was named the Skyline Conference Player of the Year (the first-ever POY award for the Rams) and also First Team All-Region.

Brian Benvenuto (SS) was named First Team All-Skyline, First Team All-Region and to the New York Regional All-Tournament Team.

Junior outfielder Frank Yera received the ABCA Rawlings/Gold Glove Award. Yera, the Skyline Conference Tournament MVP, holds a perfect 1.000 fielding percentage from his outfield position. He has played in 29 games for Farmingdale, starting in 24, and has 46 putouts on the season. Yera hit .476 in the Regionals with a .714 slug percentage and a grand slam in the 13-9 win over RPI on Saturday afternoon. He made 14 catches in centerfield, including some spectacular diving catches.

Mike Labrozzi was named First Team All-Skyline. Primarily used as a DH all season, he has moved to First Base the last few games due to an injury and is playing great. Hit a homerun in game against RPI to spark a 6-run inning in the Rams 13-9 win to force the Championship game on Sunday.

Zak Nersesian was named Second Team All-Skyline. Splits time as a starter behind the plate with freshman Frank Scarlato. He won the ABCA/Rawlings New York Region Gold Glove in 2008.

Frank Ennis was named Second Team All-Skyline. Has been struggling at the plate since the playoffs, but led the team with 10 doubles in regular season play and batted .366.

Don Mocatelli was named Second Team All-Skyline. Batted .362 during the regular season, was second on the team with 105 at bats, 38 hits, 31 RBI and third with 24 runs scored.