



2022 Cotuit Kettleers

Game Notes

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2022 Schedule/Results

Overall: 8-0, Home: 3-0, Away: 5-0

June (8-0)

| | | |
|----|-----------------|---------------|
| 12 | at Chatham | 5-0, W |
| 13 | at Falmouth | 4-0, W |
| 14 | Bourne | 6-4, W |
| 16 | at Bourne | 7-0, W |
| 17 | Chatham | PPD |
| 18 | at Hyannis | W, 8-2 |
| 19 | Brewster (DH) | W, 1-0/W, 5-0 |
| 21 | at Wareham | 5-3, W |
| 22 | Falmouth | 5:00 |
| 23 | Chatham | 5:00 |
| 24 | Harwich | 5:00 |
| 25 | Y-D | 5:00 |
| 26 | at Orleans (DH) | 3:00 |
| 28 | Orleans | 5:00 |
| 29 | at Y-D | 5:00 |
| 30 | Wareham | 5:00 |

July (0-0)

| | | |
|----|-------------------------|------|
| 1 | at Harwich | 6:30 |
| 2 | Hyannis | 5:00 |
| 3 | at Falmouth | 6:00 |
| 4 | Falmouth | 5:00 |
| 6 | at Brewster | 5:00 |
| 7 | Bourne | 5:00 |
| 8 | Wareham | 5:00 |
| 9 | Harwich | 5:00 |
| 10 | at Bourne | 6:00 |
| 12 | Hyannis | 5:00 |
| 13 | at Wareham | 6:00 |
| 14 | Orleans | 5:00 |
| 15 | at Brewster | 5:00 |
| 16 | at Harwich | 5:30 |
| 17 | Falmouth | 5:00 |
| 19 | at Hyannis | 6:00 |
| 20 | at Bourne | 6:00 |
| 21 | Y-D | 5:00 |
| 23 | All-Star Game (Wareham) | 6:00 |
| 25 | Y-D | 4:30 |
| 26 | at Chatham | 7:00 |
| 27 | Hyannis | 4:30 |
| 29 | at Hyannis | 6:00 |
| 30 | at Wareham | 6:00 |
| 31 | Wareham | 4:30 |

August (0-0)

| | | |
|---|----------------|------|
| 1 | Bourne | 4:30 |
| 2 | at Falmouth | 6:00 |
| 4 | Playoffs Begin | |

Tonight's Matchup

Cotuit Kettleers vs Falmouth Commodores

June 22, 2022 - 5:00 -Lowell Park



Cotuit

Record: 8-0
Home/Away: 3-0, 5-0
Up Next: 6/23 vs. CHA
HC: Mike Roberts



Falmouth

Record: 3-6
Home/Away: 1-4, 2-2
Up Next: 6/24 @ BRE
HC: Jeff Trundy

Leading Off

Tonight, the Kettleers face the Falmouth Commodores for the second time this season and for the first time at Lowell Park. Cotuit won the first matchup 4-0 at Guv Fuller Field on June 13.

Looking Back

Cotuit defeated Wareham 5-3 at Spillane Field on Tuesday night. The Kettleers scored four runs in the third inning and T.J. Brock locked down his second save of the season. Ethan Chenault picked up the win with 3.2 strong IP in relief.

Home At Last

After playing just one nine-inning game at home so far this season, Cotuit begins a four-game homestand tonight against Falmouth, Chatham, Harwich and Y-D.

400 Club

Mike Roberts captured his 400th career win Monday night at Falmouth. With last night's win, Roberts is up to 406 career wins. He is one of five CCBL managers all-time with 400 or more wins and Roberts sits fifth in wins all-time.

No Runs for You

The Kettleers have posted five shutout performances over the first eight games of the season. In that stretch, Cotuit arms have allowed just six earned runs in 68 innings while striking out 56 batters as a staff.

Record-Setting Pace

With an 8-0 start to the season, Cotuit sits tied for third all time in modern CCBL history (since 1963) in wins to start a season with the 1964 Cotuit Kettleers. A top the list is the 2002 Kettleers' team, who won 13 straight games to start the season and started that season 13-0-2 before suffering a loss. All of this info comes courtesy of Bruce Hack of Sportstats.

75 Years

This season will make the 75th anniversary of Cotuit Kettleers baseball. During the year we'll commemorate the franchise, which was founded in 1947 and it's strong history. More 75-year content can be found on our website.

Going for 18

Cotuit leads all teams in the Cape Cod Baseball League with 17 championships, with its last coming in 2019. This season they'll be aiming for their 18th championship. Head coach Mike Roberts has picked up three championships in his time leading the Kettleers.

Keep up with the Ketts'

Home Cotuit games are broadcast on our YouTube channel and road games can be found on our MixLr page. Our team of Jake Starr, Tim Crowley, Jenna Meyer and Rylee Pay bring you the action of all 44 games.

Follow us on Social Media

Keep up with all things Kettleers by following us on Twitter and Instagram @CotuitKettleers. You can also find us on TikTok and like us on Facebook.

Experience at the Helm

A familiar face is leading the charge for the Kettleers this season. Mike Roberts returns as head coach for Cotuit and is in search of his fourth title with the Kettleers. Roberts led Cotuit to championships in 2010, 2013 and 2019.

Rounding out the Coaching Staff

Roberts is joined by a plethora of experienced coaches in the dugout. Andrew Shreiner leads the pitchers, Trey Holland is the bullpen coach, while Andrew Turner and Daniel Wilkerson round out the Cotuit coaching staff.

2022 Team Stats

Offense (Per Game)

| | |
|----------|----------|
| Average: | .269 |
| OBP: | .373 |
| SLG: | .379 |
| OPS: | .752 |
| Runs: | 41 (5.1) |
| Hits: | 67 (8.4) |
| BB: | 38 (4.8) |
| SO: | 68 (8.5) |
| 2B: | 10 (1.3) |
| 3B: | 0 |
| HR: | 6 |
| HBP: | 5 |
| LOB: | 59 (7.4) |

Pitching (Per Game)

| | |
|-------|----------|
| IP: | 68.0 |
| Hits: | 32 (4.0) |
| Runs: | 9 (1.1) |
| ER: | 6 (0.75) |
| BB: | 27 (3.4) |
| K: | 67 (8.8) |
| ERA: | 0.79 |
| WHIP: | 0.87 |

Fielding (Per Game)

| | |
|---------|-----------|
| DP: | 7 (0.88) |
| E: | 3 (0.3) |
| Field%: | .990% |
| CS/SBA: | 3-7 (43%) |

Cotuit Record When...

| | |
|---------------------------|-----|
| Home: | 3-0 |
| Away: | 5-0 |
| West Division: | 5-0 |
| East Division: | 3-0 |
| Score less than 3 runs: | 1-0 |
| Score 3-6 runs: | 5-0 |
| Score 6-9 runs: | 2-0 |
| Score 10+ runs: | 0-0 |
| One-run games: | 1-0 |
| Give up less than 3 runs: | 6-0 |
| Give up 3-6 runs: | 2-0 |
| Give up 6-9 runs: | 0-0 |
| Give up 10+ runs: | 0-0 |
| Lights: | 5-0 |
| No Lights: | 3-0 |
| Weekdays: | 4-0 |
| Weekends: | 4-0 |
| Hit a home run: | 6-0 |
| Did not hit home run: | 2-0 |
| Doubleheaders: | 2-0 |
| Walk-off games: | 1-0 |

Numerical Roster

| No. | Name | Pos. | School | Year |
|-----|------------------|--------|-------------------|-----------|
| 2 | Chandler Simpson | IF | Georgia Tech | Sophomore |
| 6 | Justin Miknis | C | Kent State | Junior |
| 8 | CJ Kayfus | IF/OF | Miami | Sophomore |
| 9 | Cam Collier | OF | Chipola JC | Freshman |
| 10 | Ryan Ritter | IF | Kentucky | Junior |
| 11 | Brooks Baldwin | IF/OF | UNC-Wilmington | R-Junior |
| 12 | Tommy Troy* | IF/OF | Stanford | Sophomore |
| 13 | Jackson Kelley | RHP | Mercer | Junior |
| 14 | Carter Trice | IF | NC State | Sophomore |
| 15 | Caleb Lomavita | C | Cal | Freshman |
| 16 | Kade Kern | OF | Ohio State | Sophomore |
| 17 | Victor Scott II | OF | West Virginia | Junior |
| 19 | William Privette | RHP | C. of Charleston | Sophomore |
| 20 | Zach Cole | OF | Ball State | Junior |
| 22 | Eddie Park* | OF | Stanford | Sophomore |
| 23 | Joey Dixon* | RHP | Stanford | Sophomore |
| 24 | Tyler Johnson | OF/IF | Coastal Carolina | Senior |
| 25 | Josh Pearson | OF | LSU | Freshman |
| 28 | Ben Johnson* | RHP | Ga. Southern | Sophomore |
| 30 | Ethan Chenault | RHP | UNC-Wilmington | Sophomore |
| 33 | Bo Bonds* | RHP | La-Lafayette | Sophomore |
| 34 | Isaiah Coupet | LHP | Ohio State | Sophomore |
| 36 | Harrison Cohen | RHP | George Washington | R-Senior |
| 37 | Dalton Rogers* | LHP | Southern Miss | Sophomore |
| 38 | Chris Stuart | LHP | San Jacinto | Freshman |
| 39 | Daniel Brooks | RHP | C. of Charleston | Freshman |
| 40 | Ryan Bruno* | LHP | Stanford | Sophomore |
| 41 | Kade Morris | RHP | Nevada | Sophomore |
| 42 | Kenya Huggins | RHP | Chipola JC | Freshman |
| 43 | TJ Brock | RHP | Ohio State | Senior |
| 44 | Kyle Karros | IF | UCLA | Sophomore |
| 45 | Will Jacobson | RHP/IF | Harvard | Junior |
| 46 | Ty Johnson | RHP | Ball State | Sophomore |
| 47 | Tyler Bosma | LHP | Kentucky | Graduate |
| 48 | Adam Boucher | RHP | Duke | Sophomore |
| 50 | Max Gieg | RHP | Boston College | Junior |
| 51 | Paul Skenes* | C/RHP | Air Force | Sophomore |

* indicates signed but not activated

Coaching Staff

| | |
|------------------|------------------|
| Head Coach: | Mike Roberts |
| Pitching Coach: | Andrew Shreiner |
| Bullpen Coach: | Trey Holland |
| Bench Coach: | Andrew Turner |
| Assistant Coach: | Daniel Wilkerson |

Front Office Staff

| | |
|------------------|--------------|
| President: | Terry Moran |
| General Manager: | Bruce Murphy |

Pronouciations

| |
|-----------------------------------|
| #19 - Privette (Priv-it) |
| #34 - Coupet (Coo-pay) |
| #47 - Bosma (Boz-ma) |
| #48 - Boucher (Boo-shay) |
| #50 - Gieg (gig... like gigabite) |
| #51 - Skenes (Ski-nz) |

2022 CCBL Standings

West

| | |
|---------------------------|-------|
| Cotuit Kettleers..... | 8-0 |
| Bourne Braves..... | 3-4-2 |
| Wareham Gatemen..... | 3-5-1 |
| Hyannis Harbor Hawks..... | 3-5-1 |
| Falmouth Commodores..... | 3-6 |

East

| | |
|-------------------------|-------|
| Brewster Whitecaps..... | 5-4 |
| Y-D Red Sox..... | 4-3-2 |
| Orleans Firebirds..... | 4-4-1 |
| Harwich Mariners..... | 4-5 |
| Chatham Anglers..... | 3-4-1 |

Scouting the Opposition

At a Glance

Opponent: Falmouth Commodores
 Record: 3-6 (3-6 L10, Streak: 1W)
 Last Game: W 4-1 @ Chatham on 6/21
 Next Game: June 23, @ Harwich
 Last Matchup: 6/13/22; 4-0 Cotuit Win

Team Leaders

AVG: Colby Halter (.429)
 H: Alex Mooney (8)
 R: Alex Mooney (5)
 HR: Brayden Taylor (2)
 RBI: Anthony Mackenzie (5)
 2B: Alex Mooney (4)
 BB: Jacob Cozart (7)
 SO: Maui Ahuna (12)

IP: Ben Hess (7.0)
 SO: Juaron Watts-Brown (12)
 ERA: Four Tied (0.00)
 W: Three Tied (1)
 SV: 2 Tied (1)

Opponent Team Stats

Offense (Per Game)

Average:.....178
 Runs:.....30 (3.3)
 Hits:.....48 (5.3)
 RBI:.....24 (2.7)
 BB:.....39 (4.3)
 SO:.....94 (10.4)
 2B:.....11 (1.2)
 3B:.....0 (0)
 HR:.....6 (0.7)
 HBP:.....2 (0.2)
 SAC:.....0 (0)

Pitching (Per Game)

IP:.....75.2
 Hits:.....65 (7.2)
 Runs:.....41 (4.6)
 ER:.....36 (4.0)
 BB:.....48 (5.3)
 K:.....84 (9.3)
 ERA:.....4.31
 WHIP:.....1.50

Ketts' Leaders

AVG: Chandler Simpson (.636)
 OBP: Chandler Simpson (.714)
 SLG: Chandler Simpson (.818)
 OPS: Chandler Simpson (1.532)
 AB: Brooks Baldwin (33)
 R: Kade Kern (6)
 H: Brooks Baldwin (10)
 Ryan Ritter (10)
 2B: Ryan Ritter (3)
 3B: None
 HR: Ryan Ritter (2)
 RBI: Ryan Ritter (6)
 BB: Kade Kern (6)
 HBP: Victor Scott (2)
 SO: Ryan Ritter (10)
 Brooks Baldwin (10)
 SB: Brooks Baldwin (7)

 APP: Two Tied (3)
 IP: Kade Morris (10.2)
 W: William Privette (2)
 BB: Kade Morris (5)
 SO: Jackson Kelley (13)
 SV: TJ Brock (2)
 ERA: Eight Tied (0.00 ERA)
 WHIP: TJ Brock (0.430)

Today's Probable Pitcher

Adam Boucher RHP, Duke, Rising Junior

2022 CCBL Stats: 0-0, 0.00 ERA, 1 G, 3.2 IP, 0 H, 4 K, 3 BB, 0 ER, 0 R, 0 HR, 0 BK, 0 HR, 9.8 K/9
 2022 @ Duke: 3-2, 4.29 ERA, 21G/1S, 35.2 IP, 27 H, 50 K, 20 BB, 17 ER, 17 R, 3 HR, 12.6 K/9

2022 Game Log

| Date | IP | H | R | ER | BB | K | HR |
|------|-----|---|---|----|----|---|----|
| 6/16 | 3.2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 4 | 0 |



--NEW BEGINNINGS: Boucher takes the ball after pitching just one start in 2022. Previously, Boucher last pitched in the 2020 Last Dance Tournament in New Jersey during the summer of 2020.

-LAST TIME OUT: In his first start of the season, Boucher tossed 3.2 innings without allowing a hit against Bourne in addition to three walks and four strikeouts.

-SUMMER SUCCESS: In a short stint in the NECBL last summer, Boucher dominated to strike out 16 K/9 for Martha's Vineyard.

-BLUE DEVIL REUNION: Boucher arrives in Cotuit with utility infielder Graham Pauley from Duke.

Transactions

| Date | Player | Transaction |
|-------------|-----------------|--------------------|
| Jun. 13 | Cam Hill | Released |
| Jun. 15 | Mitch Jebb | Released |
| Jun. 15 | CJ Kayfus | Activated |
| Jun. 15 | Zach Cole | Signed/Activated |
| Jun. 17 | Peyton Williams | Released |
| Jun. 17 | Kyle Karros | Activated |
| Jun. 18 | Jake Berger | Released |
| Jun. 18 | Joe Williams | Released |
| Jun. 18 | Tyler Johnson | Signed/Activated |
| Jun. 20 | Josh Pearson | Activated |

MULTI-HIT/RBI GAMES/STREAKS

| Mutli-Hit Games | 2 | 3 | 4 | Total |
|---------------------|---|---|---|-------|
| 2 Simpson, Chandler | 2 | 1 | - | 3 |
| 8 Kayfus, CJ | - | 1 | - | 1 |
| 9 Collier, Cam | 1 | - | - | 1 |
| 10 Ritter, Ryan | - | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| 11 Baldwin, Brooks | 1 | 1 | - | 2 |
| 14 Trice, Carter | 1 | - | - | 1 |
| 15 Lomavita, Caleb | 1 | - | - | 1 |
| 18 Pauley, Graham | 1 | - | - | 1 |
| 20 Cole, Zach | 2 | - | - | 2 |
| 44 Karros, Kyle | 1 | - | - | 1 |

| Mutli-RBI Games | 2 | 3 | 4+ | Total |
|------------------|---|---|----|-------|
| 6 Miknis, Justin | 1 | - | - | 1 |
| 10 Ritter, Ryan | - | - | 1 | 1 |
| 14 Trice, Carter | - | 1 | - | 1 |
| 17 Scott, Victor | 1 | - | - | 1 |

| Hitting Streaks | Longest | Current |
|---------------------|---------|---------|
| 2 Simpson, Chandler | 3 | 3 |
| 6 Miknis, Justin | 2 | - |
| 8 Kayfus, CJ | 2 | 2 |
| 9 Collier, Cam | 2 | 2 |
| 10 Ritter, Ryan | 4 | - |
| 11 Baldwin, Brooks | 6 | - |
| 14 Trice, Carter | 4 | 4 |
| 17 Scott, Victor | 2 | 2 |
| 18 Pauley, Graham | 3 | - |
| 20 Cole, Zach | 2 | 2 |

| Reached Base Streaks | Longest | Current |
|----------------------|---------|---------|
| 2 Simpson, Chandler | 3 | 3 |
| 6 Miknis, Justin | 4 | 4 |
| 8 Kayfus, CJ | 5 | 5 |
| 9 Collier, Cam | 4 | 4 |
| 10 Ritter, Ryan | 5 | - |
| 11 Baldwin, Brooks | 6 | - |
| 14 Trice, Carter | 5 | 5 |
| 16 Kern, Kade | 3 | - |
| 17 Scott, Victor | 4 | 4 |
| 18 Pauley, Graham | 7 | 7 |
| 20 Cole, Zach | 2 | 2 |
| 44 Karros, Kyle | 4 | 4 |

The Last Time (Cotuit in 2022)...

| | |
|--|---|
| Cotuit won five or more straight games | June 12-22 (8) |
| Cotuit scored 10 or more runs in a game | None |
| Cotuit shut out an opponent | vs Brewster; June 19 |
| Cotuit shut out consecutive opponents | vs Brewster; June 19 |
| Cotuit was shut out | None |
| Cotuit swept a doubleheader | vs Brewster; June 19 |
| | |
| A Kett had a multi-home-run game | None |
| A Kett hit a grand slam | None |
| Cotuit hit back-to-back homers | None |
| A Kett had four or more RBI in a game | Ryan Ritter; June 18 at Hyannis (4) |
| A Kett had four or more hits in a game | Ryan Ritter; June 18 at Hyannis (4) |
| A Kett stole three or more bases in a game | Graham Pauley; June 16 at Bourne/ Victor Scott; June 16 vs Bourne |
| A Kett had a five game hitting streak | Brooks Baldwin (6); June 12-19 |
| A Kett had a ten game hit streak | None |
| | |
| A Kett had ten or more strikeouts | None |
| A Kett pitched a complete game | None |
| Pitched a combined nine-inning shutout | June 16; at Bourne |
| Pitched a no-hitter | None |

Seventeen year old Cam Collier is one of the top draft prospects in the nation

By Clara Richards | Washington University in St. Louis

Cam Collier hates the ocean, but his first day on the Cape, he went kayaking anyways. He and his fellow classmate from Chipola College paddled out from shore. Collier fell in a few times, getting dunked in the cold June water of the Cotuit shores, before retreating to land.

"I didn't know he couldn't swim that well," his teammate Kenya Huggins said. "But I was right there, and I didn't even have to jump in to save him."

It's a good thing for the Cotuit Kettleers that Collier is better at baseball than he is at kayaking.

His at-bats are electric. During the home opener, along the green outfield of Lowell Park, Collier swings long and hard in the bottom of the fourth. He makes contact, his arms extended and body twisted with the momentum of his motion. The bat fractures under his hands, the wood stems cracking under the force of the pitch as he makes contact with the ball. Undeterred, Collier scrambles towards first base. His splintered bat lands along the base paths along with the ball skidding across the dirt, and the crowd of Kettleers fans around him inhales.

Yet, in a cloud of dust, he beats the throw. So many players before him have done the same, slung a wood bat across the infield in the maroon pinstripes of the Kettleers jerseys. Bradley Zimmer did when he played at Lowell Park. Jared Walsh, first baseman for the Angels, scuffed the dirt in 2013 when he crouched at the plate for the Kettleers. Scouts study Collier's stats on the benches behind home plate, click their stopwatches and try to see how his buttery swing might measure up in the majors. Some days, the major league onlookers head out early to catch games further down the Cape, but the benches stay packed for the entire outing — the July draft is approaching.

On the field at Lowell Park, it's easy to forget that Collier is seventeen. He blends in completely with the rest of the team of collegiate stars from around the nation. It's only when you see him leaving practice, occasionally riding a bike down the streets of Cotuit, weaving around a little, that you remember that he's a little younger than the rest of the group. For all intents and purposes, he should just be a high school senior, going to prom and walking down a long aisle in his cap and gown with the rest of his classmates. But it's not. Collier reclassified for the 2022 draft and attended Chipola Junior College. It's a choice that he said was the best decision he's ever made. On the first day of the draft, he'll be seventeen years and 239 days old.

Even though he got his GED, Collier spent very little time sitting in a physical classroom. His freshman year of high school was shut down by COVID-19, and then he stayed online to play travel ball. His classic high school experiences, like school dances and big football games, came in fragments — he went to a high school prom while attending JuCo, and he attended a friend's high school football game.

Initially, he felt like he was missing out. "But then I went to prom, and I got that experience. And it was pretty boring," he said. "So I don't mind what I'm missing anymore."

In three games with the Kettleers so far, he's notched three hits and scored one run, with a batting average of .333. He's recorded an on-base percentage of .375 and played two games at third base, a contributor to the Ketts' opening win streak. For Collier, playing on the Cape has been an adjustment. He's had to adapt to higher velocity from pitchers, more movement on breaking balls and playing with wood bats against top-tier competition.

"It's been an eye-opener," he said, describing his at-bats as "not terrible, but not where I want them to be, either."

"I do think that he's going to have some success, like all the players," Cotuit head coach Mike Roberts said about his youngest player. "The question mark that I'll find out in the next few weeks is how each player handles struggles, whether they're 17 or 23. Because that's called how you handle failure."

Roberts has only coached one other seventeen-year-old in his time in summer ball, Robert Stock from the University of Southern California. Stock eventually went on to get drafted in the second round, debuting in the majors in 2018 for the Padres. In Cotuit, though, Stock was just truly just a high schooler. In the middle of July, Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows was released, and the teenager stayed up all night reading. When the rest of the team would head down the street to the Coop for lunch, Stock would stay in the dugout and pull out the 900-page novel.

"That's my other 17-year-old," Roberts said.

Cotuit's head coach has only had a few weeks to get to know Collier, but his early impressions have been of a quiet, eager-to-learn student. As a college professor, Coach Roberts has a unique metric to judge his new athletes: eye contact. If he has eye contact, he might have a chance to have brain contact, he tells his players.

"Really good eye contact with Collier," Roberts said. "He's interested in getting better. It's extremely mature for 17-year-old to come in and practice and compete against players up to 23, 24 years of age, because of COVID. I admire him because of that."

In the opening day matchup, the team was attempting to put together its identity as a group. The dugout was quiet compared to a rowdy college team bench, yet Collier was yelling from the right side of the dugout. "Come on, Loma," he called out to the catcher, who he met two weeks ago. He nods his head at a fellow Ketts fan who boos the umpire. "Where did that miss?" It's the same energy of a student volunteering to answer a question in a silent classroom.

His contributions have impressed his new teammates. "He looks the part, plays the part," said Kentucky shortstop and Ketts returner Ryan Ritter. "It's the first time I've played with him, but I've always heard a lot about him. And he really is living up to his name."

In an interview setting, Collier is thoughtful and reflective. Yet in the dugout and while he's on the field, he's fast to speak up and support his teammate. Watching him do his drills and stride up to the cage, he's all in; you can see the frustration on his face when he takes a big hack and doesn't feel the crack of the ball. By all accounts and purposes, he doesn't have to be in Cotuit, playing in the Cape Cod League, at all — his draft stock would be high regardless, after a stunningly good year at Chipola College.

He's here anyway. "I'm not really someone who likes to sit at home when I can be playing baseball games," he said.

And that's Cam Collier—someone who will take risks, who wants to be on the field, taking hacks and learning from the best. On national television, he's a thoughtful and measured talking head, giving polished quotes about growing up with a dad who played in the majors. His dad, Lou Collier, was a utility player who played eight seasons of big-league ball. "Growing up, I learned all the right stuff, just being able to pick his mind and being able to go to the park with him," he said on MLB Network.

Yet he's also a teenager who almost quit baseball when he was thirteen and fourteen. He's an adrenaline junkie, someone who loves the Six Flags near his dad's home in Georgia. As soon he was tall enough to be allowed past the gate, he spent afternoons as a kid buckled into the steepest rides. When asked if he ever had a rebellious phase, where he didn't want to listen to his dad, he laughed a little. "To be honest, I'm still kinda in it."

CBS has him listed in the sixth overall draft slot, while a MLB mock draft by Jim Callis has him going at seventh to the Chicago Cubs. Last week, Collier flew across the country to the MLB Draft Combine, where he went through a variety of tests and interviews.

For his part, all he can do is focus on his next at-bat, the majority of the decision out of his control. The seventeen-year-old can't remember the last time that he spent a day without a baseball in his hand.