



SARASOTA REDS PRESS RELEASE

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2008 FSL ALL-STARS ANNOUNCED **6 Sarasota Reds Named to Western Division Squad**

Sarasota, FL - The Florida State League office in Daytona Beach released the 2008 Florida State League All-Star teams for this year's game to be played in Viera, FL on Saturday, June 14th at Space Coast Stadium, the home of the Brevard County Manatees. The Sarasota Reds received six all-star selections for the Western Division squad after the voting was completed by Florida State League managers, official scorers and media representatives from around the league.

Infielder Juan Francisco was named to his second consecutive All-Star team after being a mid and post-season Midwest League All-Star in 2007. Francisco leads the Sarasota Reds in most offensive categories including batting average (.305), hits (61), home runs (8) and RBI (34). He ranks in the top five in the Florida State League in home runs, RBI, hits, extra base hits and slugging percentage. Francisco is ranked as the Cincinnati Reds 8th best minor league prospect in Baseball America.

Outfielder Drew Stubbs was also selected to his second consecutive All-Star team joining Francisco on the mid-season Midwest All-Star team in 2007 with the Dayton Dragons. Stubbs is tied for the Reds lead in runs (31) and leads the team in triples (4), walks (27) and stolen bases (17). His 17 stolen bases rank second in the Florida State League. Stubbs is touted as the Reds fifth best minor league prospect in Baseball America and was the Reds first round pick in the 2006 Amateur player draft.

Outfielder Chris Heisey has been selected to his first professional All-Star Game. He leads the Sarasota Reds in games played (51), doubles (19), on-base percentage (.381) and is tied for the team lead with fellow all-star Drew Stubbs in runs scored (31). Heisey's 19 doubles ranks him first in the Florida State League and he is in the top five in extra base hits (22).

Pitcher Ramon Geronimo has also been selected to his first All-Star Game as a professional. Geronimo has staggering numbers out of the Reds bullpen with a 0.82 ERA in 20 appearances picking up three saves in as many chances, allowing only 10 hits in 22 innings and has struck out 26 batters while walking just five. FSL opponents are only hitting a measly .132 against Geronimo.

Pitcher Jordan Smith earned his second professional All-Star Game selection following his well-deserved promotion to Double-A Chattanooga on May 25th after dominating hitters in the Florida State League. Smith currently leads the FSL in wins (7) and innings pitched (67) and is in the top 10 in ERA (2.55). Before his recent promotion, Smith led the Reds in wins, ERA, innings pitched and strikeouts (44) while only walking seven. He was named the Cincinnati Reds minor league pitcher of the month for April.

Infielder Chris Valaika, despite being promoted to Double-A Chattanooga on May 7th, still leads the Florida State League in batting average at a .363 clip today. At the time of his promotion, Valaika was the FSL leader in home runs (7) and RBI (31) as well as batting average. Valaika was a mid and post-season Midwest League All-Star in 2007 with the Dayton Dragons and was named the FSL Offensive Player of the Week on May 5th.



MEMBER OF THE FLORIDA STATE LEAGUE

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