



Seniors Carmine Pagano, Jordan Carr and Austin Fahr agree that good sportsmanship happens on and off the field.

Plays well with others: UNC Asheville Baseball receives 2018 Big South Conference Sportsmanship Award

SARAH SHADBURNE
Editor-in-Chief
sshadbur@unca.edu

For the second time under Coach Scott Friedholm, the UNC Asheville Baseball team calls the 2018 Big South Conference Sportsmanship Award theirs.

“It means that we do everything with class and dignity,” Friedholm said. “Whether we win or lose, we’re going to represent our university, our program and our families last names with class.”

The baseball team last won the award for the 2014-15 season, recognized alongside the men’s soccer team. Though they won’t be playing any games until the spring, seniors Carmine Pagano, Austin Fahr and Jordan Carr say they practice good sportsmanship on and off the field.

“I think we’ve done a great job playing the game the right way, no matter how low or how high we are in the moment and always respecting the other team, umpires, fans—you know how college baseball can be sometimes,” Carr said.

Fahr said the team does a good job of controlling their emotions on the field as well and not letting the occasional hiccup escalate, which helps the team maintain a positive image on the field.

“I feel for the most part, when other teams play us they’re not like ‘oh, we have to play Asheville, they’re a bunch of jerks,’” Fahr said. Carr, a left-handed pitcher from Pasadena, Maryland, said a lot of his teammates really focus on playing the game rather than on the actions of their opponents. By being into the game and

working as a team rather than trying to beat the other school, Carr said that’s when they have the most success. Carr said he and his teammates practice good sportsmanship in the way they carry themselves and set their intentions for the day every morning.

“Right now we’re lifting early in the mornings and we want to give 100 percent in the weight room and then we have to go to class from eight to whenever,” Fahr said. “We don’t take class as a break, we’re still giving everything we have. Then we have practice. It’s a long day.”

Fahr, also a left-handed pitcher, said over the summer he kept up with Friedholm, affectionately referred to as ‘Friedz,’ and sent him a gym selfie.

“I was working out and said I was grinding or something

like that and he said ‘it’s not a grind when you love what you do,’ so I liked that,” Fahr said. “We’re not grinding but at the same time we are, but we all love what we do—the school aspect and the baseball aspect at the same time.”

Carr points out that they represent things other than themselves as athletes. By being good people in the classroom and doing things that positively represent themselves play a really important role to the team overall, Carr said.

“As athletes, you have to respect everybody that’s working here,” Pagano said. “You have to respect everybody that goes here because they’re not getting the same benefits you are, so you have to take that into account when you’re talking to

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