

**“I am not afraid of an army of lions led by a sheep, I am afraid of an army of sheep led by a lion.”**

*- Alexander the Great*

On the baseball/softball diamond, the catcher is the field General. The catcher has to know every position and each role in detail. They have to know every play and for most teams, call the pitches. They have to be assertive and instinctive when action occurs. There is no room for the timid or “the sheep”, a team’s success almost always derives from the leadership qualities of the catcher. This year the success of Archbishop Williams has no doubt occurred because of their field General, Casey Earle, our May Athlete of the Month.

I met Casey four years ago, his freshman year, when Archies started their Saturday Captains’ practices at the BBC. He was always in attendance for these optional workouts. He had a quiet, “lead by example” quality in the cages that is still present today. The quickness of his hands and the crack of the bat would be the only thing you would hear as he went about his work like a professional. However, when I first saw him in a game last year as the catcher, I saw the defensive leader the team needed. His leadership has continued throughout this year as he led his team to a 15-5 record. Jim Dolan, Head Coach of the Archbishop Williams Baseball team stated, “Casey is an unreal captain and leader. He has been a model for the younger players on how to play ball the right way. He is the most feared hitter in our lineup with the ability to lose the ball with any pitch. As the catcher, he calls a great game and with a powerful arm he has the ability to throw out any runner. He comes from a great family and is better person than player; it is a blessing to coach him”. A great statistic to note is that, as of last week when the regular season ended, Casey was batting .426 with three homeruns and 25 Runs Batted In. His consistency at bat and behind the plate, and both on and off the field makes him such a fierce leader.

Casey Earle will be attending Stonehill College next year where he will play football. Congratulations Casey on a great career and good luck Archbishop Williams in your run for the State Title.

James Joyce