

Erie Times-News

SeaWolves "School Days" Program Enters it's 8th Season!

Last changed: March 14, 2005

The SeaWolves "School Days" promotion has been one of the highlights of the month of May for thousands of area students. The program, once again sponsored by UPMC Health Plan, educates students on the dangers of drugs, alcohol, and especially tobacco use and rewards them with an unforgettable field trip.

The Front Office of the SeaWolves put together a curriculum that teachers can use to educate students on the real-world practicality of what they are currently learning. Statistical analysis is a major part of the baseball world, and kids are able to use different functions to compute the numbers that they would hear on just one hour of Sportscenter.

In addition, SeaWolves players and coaches visit area schools the days prior to the 11:05 a.m. games to talk to kids about decision making, the importance of education and staying away from tobacco. Currently, Minor League Baseball prohibits the use and even the possession of tobacco on the field and in the clubhouse. Officials deliver harsh fines for rule breakers. Players tell stories and jokes, and share information on their personal journey to the big show and sign autographs for each student. Every SeaWolves player is from somewhere other than Erie, some as far off as South America and the Carribean, so tales of their childhood offer a completely different perspective.

One fact still rings true, and this is the point that is hammered like a Altoona Curve pitchers' fastball, it's that each player has worked extremely hard, studied even harder, and made the right life choices to become the world-class athletes that they are. This is the ultimate message that is delivered Erie's youth.