



# CHS BASEBALL WEEKLY



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## Cougars Reach States For 2nd Straight Year; Valiant in GNT Semifinal Loss to SHP

### UPCOMING SCHEDULE:

**The  
NJSIAA  
Section 2  
Group IV  
State Tour-  
nament be-  
gins Thurs-  
day May 15  
on the road.  
Team, time  
and loca-  
tion to be  
Announced**

All Photos Courtesy of Jon  
McGriff



The Columbia Cougars Varsity advanced to the North Jersey Section II Group IV state playoffs for the 2nd straight year. The Cougars needed 2 wins by last Friday to qualify, and did so by beating playoff bound Morristown and Chatham.

In Morristown, Stephen Tamayo blasted a 2 run homer to give the Cougars a 5-2 decision versus the Minutemen. Chris Porter notched the victory scattering 5 hits in the game.



**The Cougars have earned  
their second straight state  
tournament berth**

The Cougars then upended Chatham on Tuesday, clinching the state playoff berth with a 6-4 decision. Matt Weiseman got the Cou-

gars out of a bases loaded, no-out jam in the bottom of the seventh by striking out three straight Chatham batters.

On Saturday, the Cougars lost a tough luck game to Seton Hall Prep, 2-0 in the G.N.T. semifinal game. Dan Morrison was the tough luck loser in the game, yielding two bloop singles in the 6th which accounted for all of the scoring in the well played game.

*Varsity Letters: The Cougars will be on the road for the entire state playoffs as the last seed.*

## Surging J.V. Cougars Show Grit in 2 Game Streak

The JV Cougars have battled all season, and clearly have saved their best baseball for the end. The Cougars won a 10 inning battle with Chatham in a game that will most likely be the most memorable of the season. Joel Brown Christenson pitched 6 strong innings for the Cougars, leaving the game down 4-3 in the seventh.

The Cougars squeaked out a run on an RBI groundout by Charlie Nolet to tie the score at 4 and force the extra innings. Sam Annoni came back at the right time from the disabled list by tossing 4 innings of shutout ball for the win. The Cougars win included a game saving putout throw at the plate by Marcus McGriff and a game winning RBI

by Armand Spears after a triple by Eli Weiss.

The team shocked a 14-3 Morris Knolls team who had previously mercy ruled them earlier in the season. Andrew Rigassio shut down the potent hitting Golden Eagles for the complete game victory. Armand Spears and Marcus McGriff led the 12 hit Cougar attack.

## Frosh continue to battle and show improvement

The Freshman Cougars ended last week with a 1-2 record. They began the week by beating Morristown 12-2 behind a strong pitching performance by Matt McGriff. The Cougars got key hits from McGriff, Henry Ertl, both Walz brothers and Ronnie St.

Pierre. Coach Fischetti noted that Morristown had beaten the Cougars earlier in the season, and the win showed marked improvement of the freshman squad.

The Cougars followed the win with 2 hard luck losses versus Chatham and Morris

Knolls. Coach Fischetti praised his team's efforts in the losses, and stressed continued improvement of the squad. The freshman will finish their 2008 campaign with a game at West Essex.

*Notes: Mike Walz, Henry Ertl, McGriff, and Ben Surface have rounded out a solid pitching staff for the freshman... Nick Walz turned a double play in the Chatham game.*

