The Charlestown High School Pirates baseball team has finalized its 2009 schedule and includes an exciting opening game to begin the season.

Charlevoix High School, of Michigan, is making a stop to play the Pirates on their way to Tennessee for their annual Spring Break trip. The game will be both team's opening game for the 2009 season, and also will mark the first time the Pirates have played an out of state team since the 2005 season (when they traveled to Ballard High School (KY) for the Ballard Invitational).

Coach Ricky Romans comments, "We are eager to get things going this season. After finishing up last season with a disappointing ending, the guys are ready to hit the ground running in 09."

The Pirates return many of the same faces from a year ago, including 11 that have experienced varsity action.

"As with any program, pitching will be the key. We will be led by senior Cameron Metzger and junior Bryan Williams; and will need contributions from some of our young guys as well."

Offensively, the Pirates will miss the production and overall leadership of graduate All-State Clayton Merschbrock, but will have many guys that have the experience to fill his shoes.

"Leading that charge should be Cameron Metzger, followed by fellow seniors Matt Wyatt, Damon Vest, Joel Rodriguez, and Chad Brady,” said Coach Romans.

Overall, it will be another challenging season in the Mid-Southern Conference. Annual out of conference games against New Albany, Providence, and Madison will provide plenty of tests for the team in preparation of a successful post-season.

Coach Romans continued, "If we come ready to work everyday and focus on improving throughout the season, we should be primed for another winning season and an opportunity to make some noise in the Conference and Sectional." The complete schedule, including a printable version is available from the Pirate Baseball Sports Page. Catch Coach Romans' halftime interview during the Corydon boys basketball game broadcast, February 7 on Pirate Pride Sports Broadcasting.