



NASHUA SILVER KNIGHTS

2020 SEASON IN REVIEW



ON THE FIELD



HOME-GROWN TALENT

Over the last decade, the Nashua Silver Knights and the Futures League have put an emphasis on recruiting local players. This season's roster saw more New England-based players than ever before. Local powerhouse, Dominic Keegan (pictured left) of Vanderbilt University, made an immediate impact in the 2020 FCBL season. A native of Methuen, MA, Keegan led the league in RBIs, was an MVP finalist and quickly became the Knights' go-to home run derby hitter. In addition to the 15 players from Massachusetts, the Silver Knights roster included 13 New Hampshire-natives, three of whom were from Nashua like Babson pitcher Stephen McLendon (pictured right).



#KNOWYOURKNIGHTS



Each franchise in the Futures League is comprised of elite collegiate athletes from the Division I, II and III levels, and that was reflected in Nashua this summer. The 2020 Silver Knights roster had 16 Division I, 3 Division II, and 6 Division III schools represented.



5-TIME CHAMPIONS

In the team's tenth season, the Silver Knights reclaimed their throne as the Futures Collegiate Baseball League's champions of 2020. Finishing the regular season with a 23-16 record, only a half of a game behind first place, the Silver Knights bounced back from a 3-2, series-opening loss and won two consecutive games. The championship series was highlighted by key performances from Nick Guarino (Clark University) and Ben Rounds (Harvard University). Guarino threw six innings, striking out four and only allowing one earned run. In Saturday's finale, Rounds hit an eighth-inning single that scored the championship series MVP Kyle Bouchard (Nichols College) for a key insurance run. Rounds went 4-for-9 during the three-game series with a run and an RBI.

IN THE COMMUNITY



COVID-19 READINESS PLAN

In an unprecedented year, the Silver Knights were at the forefront of the league's efforts to deliver a safe baseball experience for all despite the coronavirus pandemic. The team put together and executed a comprehensive COVID-19 Readiness Plan that allowed play to commence while operating Holman Stadium with a 25 percent seating capacity. The plan received strong support from Nashua Mayor Jim Donchess, the city's Director of Public Health Bobby Bagley (pictured above addressing the players), and the New Hampshire Governor's Policy Director.



BE THE MATCH

This season, the Silver Knights partnered with Be The Match New England to help find a match for 5-year-old Bryce Linton of Auburn, MA, who has an autoimmune disorder. The Brothers for Bryce initiative encourages people to join the national bone marrow registry. In addition to players from across the league participating in Be The Match, fans were able to get swabbed at Silver Knights games, helping to get nearly 1,000 new registrations this summer.

BASEBALL ACADEMY

New to 2020, the Silver Knights introduced the Baseball Academy for fall skills clinics and private lessons. The Baseball Academy offered young players the chance to further develop their skills and improve techniques. Additionally, weekly skills clinics allowed kids in the community to take a break from technology and stay active this fall.



TICKET TO READ PROGRAM

During the past school year, the Silver Knights launched their Ticket to Read Program, where students in grades K-6 can earn free Silver Knights tickets. Each month, students could earn a free ticket for reading 10 books. Sir Sterling and Assistant GM Katie Arend visited seven schools to help kick-off the program. In its first year, the Silver Knights had over 175 reading log submissions with more than 1,800 books read by students in the Greater Nashua community.



SUMMER BASEBALL CAMP

This summer, the Silver Knights were fortunate enough to triple the scope of the youth baseball camp from one week to three. Boys and girls, ages 5-13, were able to sharpen their baseball skills in a fun and safe environment at Holman Stadium. Attended by over 70 kids, the summer baseball camp was led by coaches Kyle Jackson and Ariel Ramos, who were assisted by members of the 2020 Silver Knights roster.

AWARDS & RECOGNITION



FCBL FIRST- AND SECOND-TEAM SELECTIONS

During the regular season, Silver Knights players collected numerous Player and Pitcher of the Night awards. Furthermore, there were seven Nashua players named to the All-FCBL First and Second Teams. First-team selections included Dominic Keegan (Vanderbilt), Jared Dupere (Northeastern), John Mead (Franklin Pierce), and Nick Guarino (Clark). Second-team selections included Nick Shumski (Merrimack), Griffin Young (Wheaton College), and Dylan Jones (Franklin Pierce).



ADAM KEENAN SPORTSMANSHIP AWARD

The Silver Knights had their first-ever recipient of the Adam Keenan Sportsmanship & Scholarship Award. This prestigious award is bestowed upon a Futures League player who exemplifies the outstanding attitude, character and sportsmanship that is synonymous with Adam Keenan's legacy. Josh Roberge (pictured left) of Wheaton College was the Adam Keenan Sportsmanship Award recipient for Nashua. Roberge was a team player on the field and a great leader to the youth in the community during summer camp.

MANAGER OF THE YEAR & CHAMPIONSHIP MVP

In his first year as field manager, Kyle Jackson was named Manager of the Year for the FCBL. Jackson helped lead the Silver Knights to a 23-16 regular season record before capturing the franchise's fifth league championship. First baseman Kyle Bouchard (pictured right) of Nichols College was named the Championship Series MVP after going 5-for-11 with three runs scored and five RBIs for Nashua. Bouchard, who was a late-season addition, hit a double and added an RBI on a sacrifice fly in his final at-bat.



LEAGUE AWARDS

Following a league-record fifth championship during the Futures League's milestone 10th summer, the Nashua Silver Knights were recognized with both the Organization of the Year Award and William J. Terlecky Executive of the Year honors for General Manager Cam Cook. Cook helped to lead the team's effort in getting city and state approval to stage the season and hired, trained and led the staff that successfully kept hundreds of fans safe and healthy all summer long. Cook also provided a fresh voice to the FCBL's Rules Committee and is active in the Greater Nashua community, most recently as member of the Nashua Cal Ripken Baseball Board of Directors.



TESTIMONIALS



ARLEN CHAPMAN - SEASON TICKET HOLDER

Thanks for a great season. Through difficult and challenging times, you were instrumental in making sports happen again. What a great example of team work, cooperation and perserverance. And throw in a championship to boot! Go Knights.



MARY JARRIL - HUDSON, NH

I felt so safe at last night's game. A big two thumbs up to the entire staff and making sure social distancing was followed. Considering both teams could not play this spring at school, the level of play was amazing. Always enjoy the games. Job well done by all.



Kyle Skidmore
@K_SKID20

Another great summer with @SilverKnightsNH ending with a championship. Huge thank you to Cam, @katie_arend & @kylejax25 for pulling off what most couldn't this summer and getting us back on the field.

#KnightsAreHot #NK



BeTheMatchNE
@BeTheMatchNE

Hey Nashua! Come see the @SilverKnightsNH play tonight and stop by our table! Let's get Bryce his match!! @BeTheMatch #savealife

jack_arend4 Holman Stadium

1 Like by jackdice13 and 345 others

jack_arend4 Big shoutout to the @nashuasilverknights for letting me come back to throw BP, catch some baseballs, hit some home runs for the second year in a row, oh and win a championship 🎉



SILVER KNIGHTS FAN

Going by Holman today I was reminded of what my grandson (7 yrs old) said to me, "I was so happy when I saw the Sir Sterling balloon today." (He lives across the street.) I ask if they went to the game, he said no, so I asked what about it made him happy? "Well it makes me feel like things might be like normal again!" Love that kid.



CJ WALKER - NASHUA, NH

What a job the Silver Knights have done! This team, year after year, gives us Knights fans something to be proud of. A quality team, and a quality organization - gave us all a chance to enjoy baseball and smile again during this year of doom. Thank you Knights!



Top Fan

Meriah Helming

Absolutely! Silver Knights Camp has been basically the only normal thing about this summer for our son... makes us love the Silver Knight's even more! Thanks for EVERYTHING! ❤️

MEDIA BY THE NUMBERS

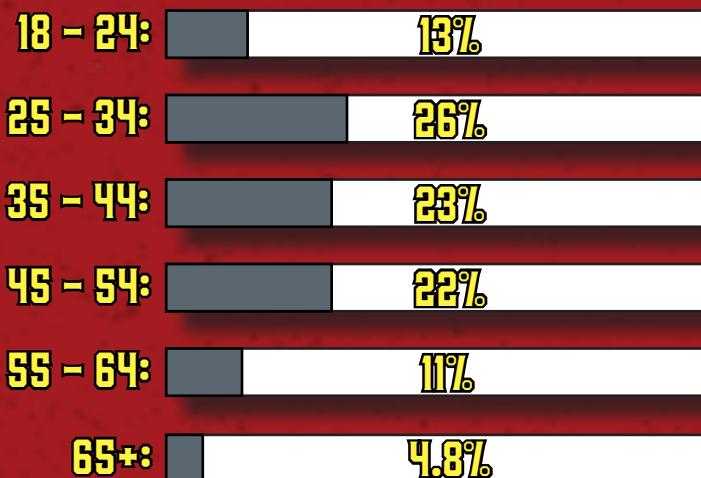


Total Attendance:
16,944

Average Attendance:
706

Season Ticket
Holders:
141

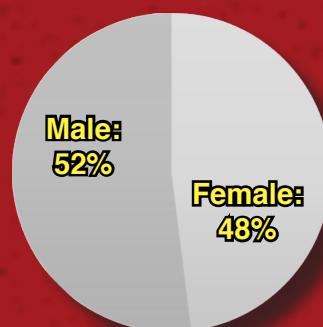
AGE DEMOGRAPHICS*



TOP 5 TOWNS WITH SILVER KNIGHTS FANS* (BESIDES NASHUA)

- MANCHESTER, NH
- HUDSON, NH
- MERRIMACK, NH
- LOWELL, MA
- BOSTON, MA

SOCIAL MEDIA AUDIENCE*



FCBL NETWORK

840

SILVER KNIGHTS SUBSCRIBERS

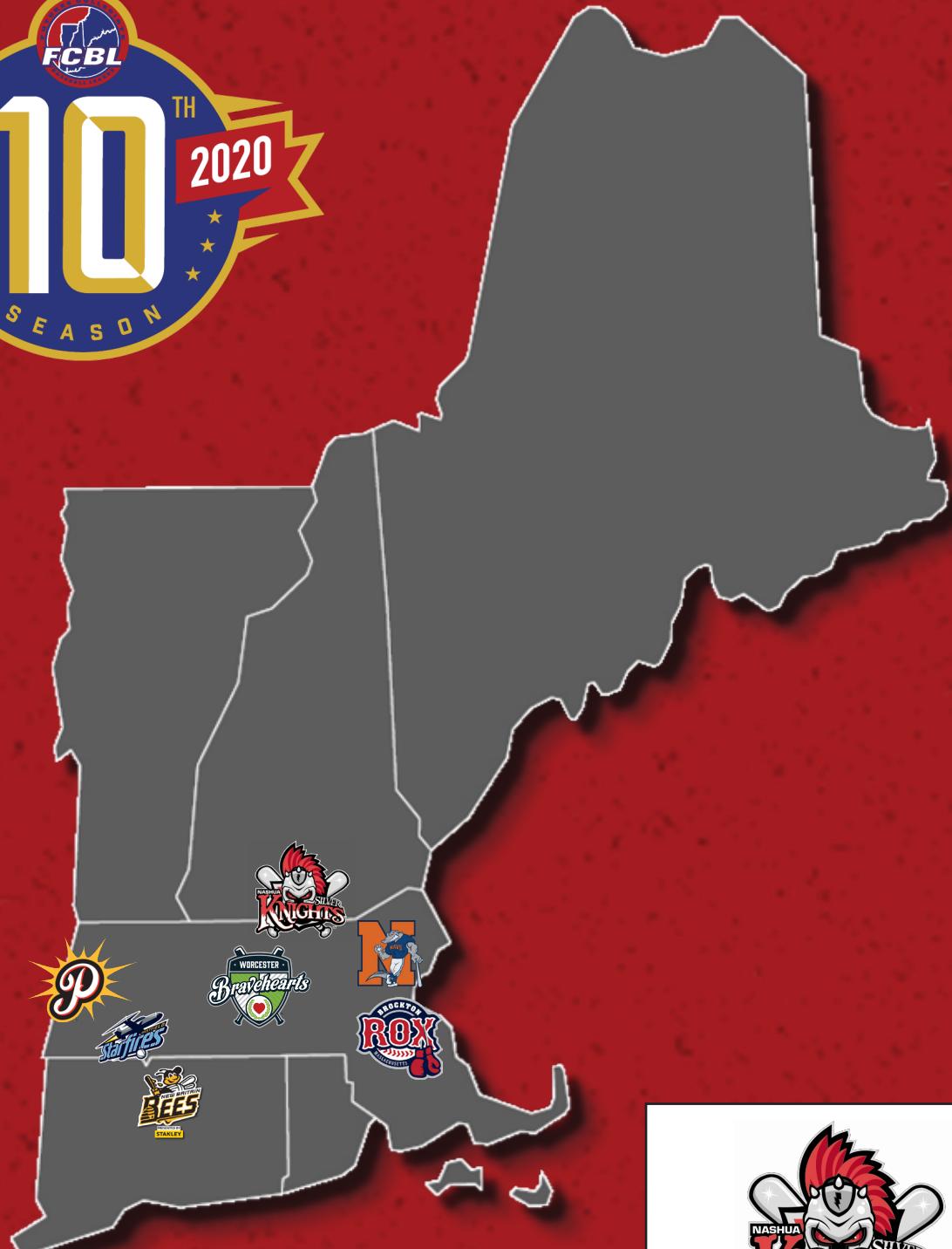
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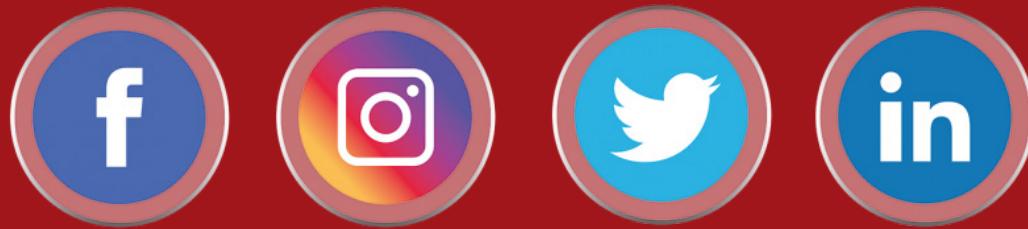
First-ever regionally televised game
on the New England Sports Network:

10,000 VIEWERS
at any given time

* According to Facebook Insights, Twitter Analytics, and Instagram Insights

FUTURES LEAGUE





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@NSKGAMECALL