

2016

Big Train Takes Fifth League Championship

MANAGER: Sal Colangelo

CRCBL REGULAR SEASON: First Place, South Division;
Second Place, League (28-12)

CRCBL CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES: First Place (4-1)

MONTGOMERY CUP: Champions (8-4)



After losing to the Baltimore Redbirds in the championship game for four years in a row, 2016 marked the year when the terms were reversed and the Big Train captured the title. It was the usual tough competition in the championship series, as Bethesda topped Baltimore 6-3 in their first meeting, Baltimore edged Bethesda 7-6 in the second, and the Big Train squeaked out the championship win 4-3. After the season ended, *Collegiate Summer Baseball* ranked the team #14 in the nation.

First baseman Vinny Esposito was the offensive star of the team, and he took the Most Valuable Player award. He hit .321, with 45 hits, 7 homers, and 38 RBI in 39 games.

Clayton Daniel hit .348 with 55 hits in 40 games, and was named the team's Most Outstanding Hitter. Other contributors with the bat were Outfielder Cody Brown (.333), Outfielder Logan Farrar (.325), Third Baseman Allen Smoot (.293), and Catcher Justin Morris (.287).

Logan Gilbert earned the title of the team's Most Outstanding Pitcher. Starting five games, he posted a 3-0 record with a 1.70 ERA. Sean Barry, another fine starter, had a 4-0 record and a 2.17 ERA. Mack Meyer was named the Most Outstanding Relief Pitcher. He made 10 appearances, gaining a 1-0 record with 3 saves, and a stingy 1.35 ERA.

Bethesda Big Train 2016 Honors

MVP: Vinny Esposito (1B, Sacramento State)

MOST OUTSTANDING HITTER: Clayton Daniel (2B, Jacksonville State)

MOST OUTSTANDING PITCHER: Logan Gilbert (RHP, Stetson)

MOST OUTSTANDING RELIEF PITCHER: Mack Meyer (RHP, San Francisco)

BIG TRAIN HUSTLE AWARD: Cody Brown (OF, Mississippi State)

Cal Ripken Collegiate Baseball League Honors

LEAGUE MOST OUTSTANDING PLAYER: Vinny Esposito (1B, Sacramento State)

Cal Ripken Collegiate Baseball League All-League Team

FIRST TEAM: Vinny Esposito (1B, Sacramento State) Sean Barry (RHP, San Diego), Clayton Daniel (2B, Jacksonville State) Cody Brown (OF, Mississippi State) Logan Gilbert (RHP, Stetson) Johnny York (LHP, St. Mary's, California)

SECOND TEAM: Allen Smoot (3B, San Francisco) Justin Morris (UTIL, Maryland) Logan Farrar (OF, Virginia Commonwealth) John Murphy (RHP, Maryland)

2016 Final Regular Season Standings

| NORTH DIVISION | W | L | PCT | GB |
|-------------------------------------|----|----|-------|----|
| Baltimore Redbirds | 29 | 11 | 0.725 | 0 |
| Silver Spring - Takoma Thunderbolts | 20 | 20 | 0.500 | 9 |
| Gaithersburg Giants | 19 | 21 | 0.475 | 10 |
| Rockville Express | 17 | 23 | 0.425 | 12 |
| Baltimore Dodgers | 15 | 25 | 0.375 | 14 |
| SOUTH DIVISION | W | L | PCT | GB |
| Bethesda Big Train | 28 | 12 | 0.700 | 0 |
| Vienna River Dogs | 23 | 17 | 0.575 | 5 |
| Alexandria Aces | 18 | 22 | 0.450 | 10 |
| D. C. Grays | 17 | 23 | 0.425 | 11 |
| Herndon Braves | 14 | 26 | 0.350 | 14 |

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