

Compiled by Aaron Fitt

Postseason recap: The Atlantic Collegiate Baseball League championship game featured a familiar face as well as a fresh face. Defending ACBL champion Kutztown squared off against upstart Long Island, an expansion franchise that won the Kaiser Division in its inaugural season.

Long Island, run by former ACBL players Doug Manfredonia (manager) and Phillip Andiola (general manager), punched its ticket to the championship in dramatic fashion. The Mustangs were tied 3-3 with the Metro New York Cadets heading into the bottom of the ninth in the second game of the Kaiser Division championship, when P.J. Como (Fordham) led off with a single and stole second base. With one out, Bryan Burke (Keane, N.J.) delivered a line-drive into short left-field that scored Como with the winning run, setting off a celebration and sending Long Island to the finals. Kutztown's road was a little easier--the Rockies swept the Lehigh Valley Catz, winning both games by seven runs.

Kutztown captured its second straight league title with a 5-2 win in the championship game behind 5 1/3 strong innings by right hander Brad Unger (Harvard).

1. Ryan Buch, rhp, Quakertown (So., Monmouth)

Buch earned Northeast Conference rookie of the year honors after going 9-2, 2.44 as a freshman at Monmouth this spring, and he was even better in the ACBL this summer. After striking out 76 in 81 innings this spring, Buch whiffed 50 in 34 innings for Quakertown. At 6-foot-3, 190 pounds, Buch has a good pro body to go along with a low-90s fastball and an outstanding, sharp curveball. He needs to improve his command, but his power stuff and good frame make for a nice package.

2. Ryan Page, lhp, Lehigh Valley (Sr., Liberty)

Page went 3-3, 4.57 in a relief role as a junior this spring and went un-drafted in June, but he thrived as a starter in the ACBL, going 6-1, 0.92 with an eye-popping 61-5 strikeout-walk ratio in 49 innings. Page showed outstanding command of his repertoire, and he pitches off his high-80s fastball. At 6-foot-3, 205 pounds, he has a professional body.

3. Adam Matos, ss, Kutztown (Sr., West Georgia)

Matos had a pedestrian spring at West Georgia, batting just .273/.344/.435 in 161 at-bats, but he finished second in the ACBL in batting (.385), third in slugging (.471) and tied for first in stolen bases (16 in 19 attempts). The 6-foot-1, 200-pound Matos showed above-average speed (6.6-second 60-yard dash) and some defensive skills at shortstop.