

# Catching up with Hawks baseball

**By Melanie Koto**  
SPORTS EDITOR

While the rest of us crammed for midterms and patiently awaited the start of spring break, the Scarlet Hawks Baseball team was traveling around Arizona playing seven games in five days to start off their spring season (and also getting a tan). The trip didn't fare well for the Hawks on multiple accounts, who returned home with a 1-8 overall record. Once everyone else left for their vacations, the team stuck around to play Judson College, Holy Cross College and Olivet Nazarene University over the break. The Hawks were swept by Judson and Olivet, but split against Holy Cross. The Hawks now hold an overall 2-14 record and a 1-6 conference record.

In game two against the Saints on March 20, the Hawks won 13-9, starting the game with a giant lead, scoring 11 runs in the first inning. Sophomore Jordan Obata walked followed up by a single by senior Brian Glennon and a double by freshman Michael Malfeo bringing both Glennon and Obata in for the first two runs of the inning. Freshman Malik Alim (pinch ran for

Malfeo) advanced to third on a wild pitch and scored on an RBI by junior Jon Celestino.

Freshman Corey Gokan and junior Jack Kosar both walked and scored on a double to center by freshman Bill Cronin. Freshman Ryan Fitzpatrick advanced after being hit by a pitch, and Obata doubled to center, bringing in both Fitzpatrick and Cronin. Glennon walked, and advanced when Malfeo was hit by the pitch. Celestino singled bringing home both Obata and Glennon. Senior Nick Wise singled and brought Malfeo in for run number ten, followed by a single by Gokan bringing Celestino home for the 11th run of the inning.

The Saints answered the Hawks 11 runs with seven of their own throughout the first four innings, bringing the score to 11-7. In the 5th, the Hawks scored an additional two runs, bringing their score to 13-7. Glennon and Celestino both singled, and Gokan walked bringing Glennon in for a run. Kosar walked and brought Celestino in for the second run. The Saints scored two more runs in the 6th bringing up the final score to 13-9.

The Hawks' next home game will be on Saturday, March 31 at noon against Cardinal Stritch University.



## Athlete Spotlight : Reid Matsumoto



● **Name:** Reid Matsumoto

● **Year:** 4th year

● **Major:** Mechanical Engineering

● **Sport:** Baseball

● **Position:** Catcher/DH

● **Favorite thing about your sport:** You are able to travel all around the United States to play your favorite sport (and also skip school while doing so).

● **Pre-game ritual:** I like to tell some jokes to calm and relax myself before a game.

● **Favorite thing you've done on Campus since you came to IIT:** Probably Homecoming events.

● **Best tip for anyone who wants to be great at your sport:** To be great at Baseball takes hard work and dedication. You have to put a lot of hours in the gym, wake up for 5 a.m. practices, and like a man once said to me, "if you want to succeed as bad as you want to breathe you will be successful at anything you do."