This year proved to be the year, just long enough for opening day to commence. A typical spring day in Nebraska, clouds filled into packed bleachers. The first game of the season is supposed to be exciting, but this year there was no cheering. These were no tag lines. Today the baseball team would open the season without their friend and teammate senior Farrell. Farrell was extremely liked and easy to coach,” assistant coach Rich Christensen said. “He was the epitome of a selfless team player. The reach of our team was very seriously impacted.”

On Saturday, March 12th, Farrell attended a team bonding event at a bowling alley. Farrell had told his coaches he was bad at bowling, but by the end of the night his bowling team had won. Farrell was the new “Pistol Bob Stoker of the Year” and was awarded a bowling pin trophy. Later that night, after leaving the event, Farrell was tragically passed away in a gun-related accident.

Tanner was known for his quiet and polite demeanor in off the field and in the classroom, Farrell was a lovable student and a dedicated friend. He never failed to put a smile on anyone’s face. He was friends’ loudest supporter.

For Christensen, playing ‘For Tanner’ was amazing to be around as a friend and as a teammate. “Tanner was willing to play multiple positions if it would help the team,” Christensen said. “We have a handful of players that have done that. They’re accepting roles and positions that may not have been what they envisioned at the beginning of the year. I’m really proud of that.”

Off the field in the classroom, Farrell was a business student and a dedicated Frans. He was known for his quiet and polite demeanor in classes, but in the stands at a game, he was his friends’ loudest supporter. “Tanner was a great person,” White said. “He never failed to put a smile on anyone’s face. He was amazing to be around as a friend and as a teammate.”

For White, the outcome of games no longer matter. “This season is for Tanner.”

Standing with Six

Baseball players honor teammate

With Farrell’s family and friends in attendance, the team vowed to play ‘For Tanner’ during the season. “We have carried around a number six jersey everywhere we go, and we hang it in the dugout,” assisted coach and team captain senior Garrett White said. “During the National Anthem, we leave the field and on first base empty in honor of him. We also have a little TFP we paint behind the plate or mound on home games day.”

For Christensen, playing ‘For Tanner’ means being selfless and doing what’s best for the team. “Tanner was willing to play multiple positions if it would help the team,” Christensen said. “We have a handful of players that have done that. They’re accepting roles and positions that may not have been what they envisioned at the beginning of the year. I’m really proud of that.”

The sun peeked out from the rain, just long enough for opening day to commence. A typical spring day in Nebraska, crowds filed into packed bleachers. The first game of the season is supposed to be exciting, but this year there was no cheering. There were no tag lines. Today the baseball team would open the season without their friend and teammate senior Farrell. Farrell was extremely liked and easy to coach,” assistant coach Rich Christensen said. “He was the epitome of a selfless team player. The reach of our team was very seriously impacted.”

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