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MANSON AND CRONEY ADDED TO 2015 ROSTER

Pair of position players join Pippins' roster

YAKIMA, Wash. – The Yakima Valley Pippins added two more position players to the 2015 roster Tuesday, announcing the signings of Jacob Manson and Layne Croney.

"I am very excited to announce that we've signed two more quality infielders to this summer's roster," said Pippins manager Marcus McKimmy. "Both Layne and Jake will be sophomores this spring at their respective schools, are big time run producers on offense and will provide some flexibility for our club on defense due to their versatility. Pippins fans will really enjoy watching both of these players on a nightly basis."

Manson will be a familiar face to Pippins manager Marcus McKimmy, who also coaches the sophomore infielder at Yakima Valley Community College. The right-handed hitter enters his second year with the Yaks this spring, after hitting .361 with one home run and 22 RBI last season.

"Jake is a gold glove infielder at this level who we anticipate will hit for both average and power," said McKimmy. "He will join the short list of YVCC baseball players who have the skill set and maturity to be a legitimate contributor in the WCL. Jake will hit anywhere in the middle of the order this summer with plans to play him mostly at a corner infield spot."

Croney, a sophomore at University of Puget Sound, can play infield and outfield. The left-handed hitter from Corvallis, Oregon is hitting .545 with a home run and 7 RBI in his first three games of the season.

"Layne is the type of player that can significantly impact a game in a variety of ways, especially ones that don't always show up in the box score," said McKimmy. "He's a plus runner, with the ability to play the short game, hit situationally, and can also play every infield and outfield position. With that being said, the attributes I like most about Layne are his exceptional baseball IQ and that he also hits left-handed."

Both Manson, a Bellingham native, and Croney, who hails from Corvallis, will get a chance to play in their home towns this summer with the Pippins.

The 2014 East Division Champions are busy preparing for next season and want you to be involved. The 2015 season begins on June 5th, and season tickets are currently on sale as well as our full retail line at our offices at the State Fair Park. You can also purchase Pippins Gear online at <u>www.pippinsbaseball.com</u>. Call us at 509-575-HITS (4487) or email us at <u>info@pippinsbaseball.com</u> for more information regarding tickets, retail, or host families.

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