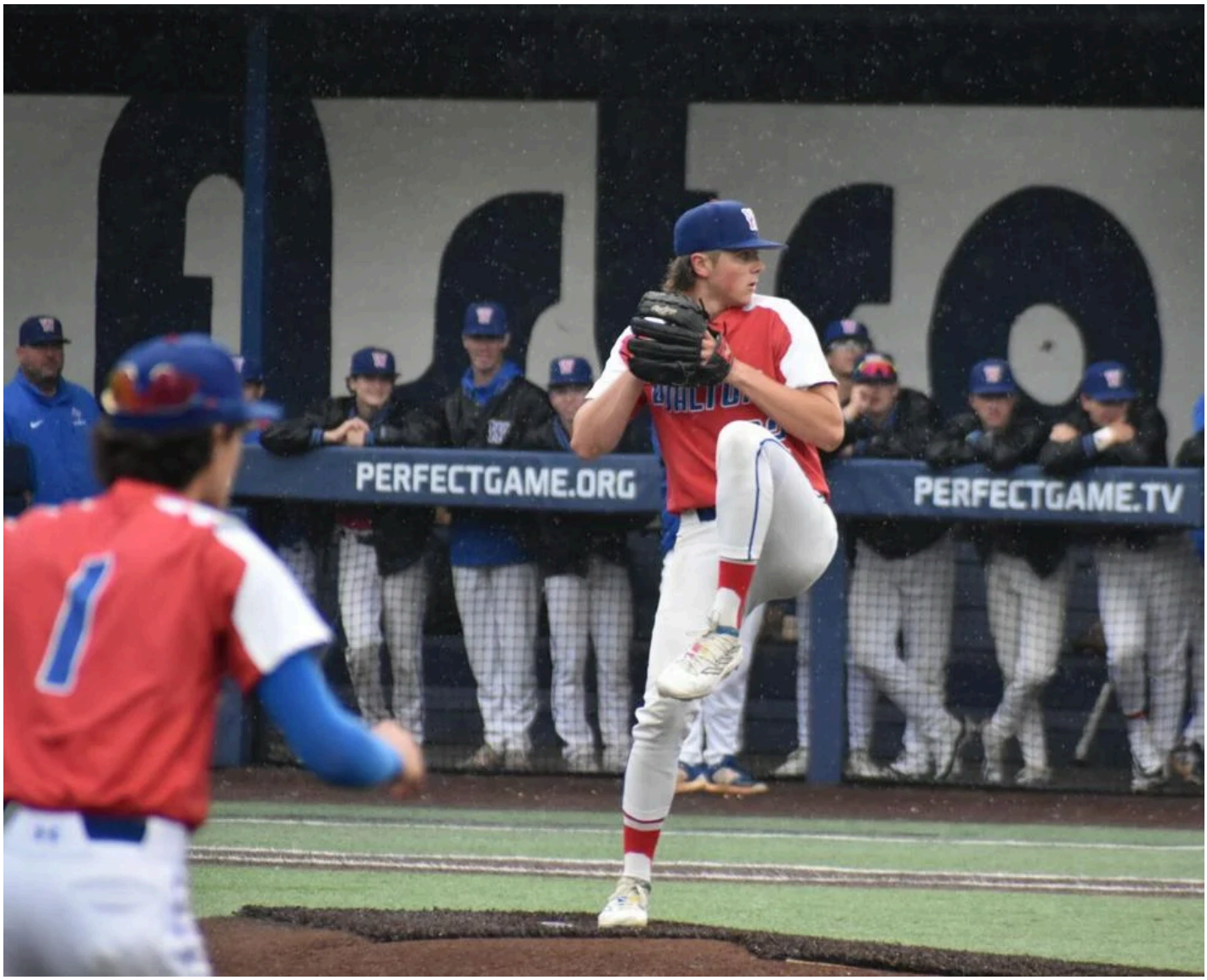
https://www.mdjonline.com/sports/baseball-pitcher-of-the-year-waltons-moehler-masters-mental-game/article_0fbfbb0e-356e-11ef-abd8-d7d574146826.html

Baseball Pitcher of the Year: Walton's Moehler Masters Mental Game

By Liam Dreesen MDJ Sports Writer
Jun 28, 2024

Privacy - Terms



Dane Moehler was Walton's ace on the mound this past season, sporting a 7-3 record with a 1.94 ERA and 88 strikeouts.

Griffin Callaghan, file

Walton ace Dane Moehler said he tries to be a bulldog out on the mound.

Moehler said he attacks the hitter just as much as they are trying to attack him.

"Come-and-get-me mentality," Moehler said. "I'm trying to get you out just as much, just as much as you're trying to get hit off me."

Longtime Walton coach Shane Amos said Moehler was a leader for the Raiders, who had their best record in seven years at 27-9 and reached the Class AAAAAAA state quarterfinals.

“Dane has been a joy to coach.” Amos said. “He’s just one of those kids that works very hard and goes out there and takes care of his business and gets things done. He’s been a four-year starter for us, so It’s been fun watching him progress and get better.”

For the season, Moehler was 7-3 with a 1.94 ERA and 88 strikeouts in 61 1/3 innings, and for his efforts, he was named the Cobb County Baseball Pitcher of the Year by the county coaches.

“It’s a pretty good feeling that they think highly of me,” he said.

Moehler, the son of former major league pitcher Brian Moehler, said he could not have won the award without the help of his team, and that it feels more like a team award than a personal one.

After seeing the progress all four years, Dane Moehler and Amos agreed the biggest improvement came in the mental game. Amos said the biggest thing was composure, and Moehler agreed.

“Being able to roll with the bad times and just know that there are good times ahead,” Moehler said. “And not letting one outing get to me, not letting a good outing get to me either, and just staying flatlined and just cruising.”

Next year, the 6-foot-3, 185-pound right-hander said is planning to play at Clemson after committing to the Tigers in 2022.

“I’m very excited,” Moehler said. “Coach (Erik) Bakich up at Clemson has a great atmosphere and great program brewing, so I’m just excited by making my mark on that program and doing everything I can to win up there.”

While Moehler is expected to go to the perennial Atlantic Coast Conference power, there may be another opportunity to explore. Moehler is ranked No. 166 on MLB.com's draft prospect list and could follow the path of his father's major league career.

Brian Moeheler played 14 seasons predominantly as a starting pitcher for the Detroit Tigers, Cincinnati Reds, Houston Astros and Florida Marlins.

Amos said Dane Moehler's love for the game helped set him apart from other kids in high school.

"I think it's just his joy and love for the game and how hard he worked at it," Amos said. "He pretty much didn't ever have to be told to go do what he needed to do. He would just go do it, so probably more just the way he took care of his business every day."