

Bryce Davis, a 2017 graduate of Sparta High School, has made his commitment to continue playing baseball and further his education at The University of Toledo. Davis had interest from many schools around the country, and received offers from various D1 schools and a few D2 schools, but felt that Toledo was the best fit for him. Davis states, "Coach Mee and Coach Bradford were a big part of why I chose Toledo. They were interested in me not only as a baseball player, but as an individual as well. They also feel that I can come in and be an impact player right away." Toledo is a Division 1 school that plays in the MAC against schools like Central, Eastern and Western Michigan.

Davis will be a 4-year starter for his varsity high school team at Sparta this year and has earned all-conference honors in both his sophomore and junior years. He led his team in strikeouts last season, striking out 98 batters in 53 innings with an ERA of 0.792. Davis is currently playing travel ball with Billy Peterson's 18U at Diamonds. "Billy has really helped me take my game to another level. He has taught me more than just the physical part of the game, he has helped me with the mental side as well," says Davis. Peterson has been instrumental in helping get Davis the exposure that he needs. "I have done many showcases and have played in tournaments in Florida and Georgia that scouts have been able to see me and last October I hit 90 mph for the first time, which opened a lot of eyes," says Davis. That is all good, but you also need someone to be a reference and to talk about you as an individual and not just a ball player and Peterson has been that person. Davis also includes Steve Merriman, another Diamonds instructor, as another influential part of why he is at where he is today. "Coach Merriman has helped me become a pitcher and not just a hard thrower. His "Arm Care and Strengthening" program has been huge in my development and I strongly recommend it to any pitcher who wants to go to the next level," Davis adds.

Davis will sign his Letter of Intent with The University of Toledo the 2<sup>nd</sup> week of November and will then begin his last season as three-year starter for Sparta in basketball. He will start up his arm care and strengthening program in December and continue his baseball workouts through basketball season. Davis explains, "I take a few months off to rest my arm, but will get back at it in December. You can't wait to pick up a baseball in March and expect to be ready for the baseball season in April. I train for baseball pretty much year around." Sparta won their Districts last year, the first time in 10 years. Davis is excited about his team's chances in the upcoming season. "We have a great group of seniors coming back this season that have a lot of baseball experience. We feel that we have a great chance to compete for a league title as well as advance further in the playoffs."