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Son of former Major Leaguer is living his dream in Junior League World Series in Taylor

After playing 12 years in the Major Leagues, including the 2000 World Series with the New York Mets, Pat Mahomes has seen his share of baseball.

But nothing gets him more excited these days than watching his 14-year-old son Patrick II compete with the Tyler, Texas, team in the Junior League World Series in Taylor.

“This is more exciting for me,” Pat said. “When you’re out there playing, you have some control over what’s going on. When you’re in the stands watching your son, you just hope for the best.”

Tyler won the Texas East state championship and then became the USA Southwest regional champion to qualify for the Junior League World Series for the best teams of 13- and 14-year-olds on the planet. They arrived in Taylor with a 15-0 record.

Patrick has had a great start in Taylor, where he has led off, played shortstop and pitched. In his team’s 7-0 win over Jeffersonville, Indiana, he got Tyler’s first hit and knocked in its first run, scored twice, was part of a sparkling double play and struck out five batters during 2 1/3 innings of relief.

In Team Texas’ 7-2 win over Mechanicsville, Virginia, on Tuesday, Patrick led off the bottom of the first inning with a home run, knocked in two runs with a bases-loaded single and pitched 1 1/3 innings of hitless relief.

Watching in the stands are his father, mother Randi, brother Jackson and grandmother Debbie Martin. They were grateful when a fan presented them Patrick’s home run ball.

Pat Mahomes pitched professionally from 1992 to 2003 for Minnesota, Boston, the New York Mets, Texas, the Chicago Cubs and Pittsburgh.

He began his career as a starting pitcher with the Twins and went 9-5 in 1994, a season cut short by the baseball strike. He became a relief pitcher and is remembered fondly by Mets fans during his 8-0 season of 1999, helping the Mets reach the playoffs and the National League Championship Series.

In 2000, he was with the Mets when they played the New York Yankees in the World Series – the famed “Subway Series.” In all, he played pro ball for 21 years.

As a teen-ager at Lindale High School in Texas, Mahomes played baseball, football and basketball. He was being recruited to play college football when he got noticed by baseball scouts while hitting 12-for-13 and three home runs in the American Legion state tournament.

A runner-up for Texas’ Mr. Basketball honor, he wound up accepting a basketball scholarship at the University of Arkansas.

But then he was drafted in the sixth round by the Twins, who wanted him to pitch. Mahomes preferred the outfield, but he had a great fastball. Coincidentally, Mahomes was drafted the same year as Taylor native Steve Avery. He said they still “play golf all the time.”

During Mahomes’ Major League career, young Patrick was often in tow.

“My dad has been a big influence,” Patrick said. “He brought me around the game my whole life. Since I was born, all I remember is baseball. “When I was younger, I always played and practiced with his teammates and the guys he played against. It was amazing. I practiced with A-Rod (Alex Rodriguez) and Derek Jeter. I was always watching games and meeting players. They helped me out and taught me about the game.”

Rodriguez and Jeter, in particular, gave him tips about playing shortstop and about the importance of hitting line drives to opposite fields.

Nearly 20 years later, Patrick II has plenty in common with his dad. He also excels at three sports, is known as a flame thrower in baseball and prefers every-day playing positions to pitching.

Besides baseball, Patrick is a point guard and small forward on his school’s basketball team and quarterback on the football team. A straight-A student, he’ll soon be entering ninth grade at Whitehouse High School.

Patrick said he gets plenty of advice from his father, who was one of his baseball coaches during the undefeated regular season.

“He tells me to try my hardest, even when I’m not doing well,” Patrick said. “He tells me to keep my head up.”

“I try to tell him to stay positive all the time,” Pat Mahomes said. “When I was growing up, it was kind of on me to figure it out on my own. When I see something, I try to help him out. But the big decisions are his. He plays the game and knows what to do. I can only make suggestions.”

After high school, Patrick said he plans to attend college, perhaps in Florida. Pat Mahomes said his son has leadership skills and the potential to become a pro baseball player.

“He roots for the worst guy on his team as much as the best guy,” Mahomes said. “He loves everybody and wants them to be happy. It makes a better environment for everyone to play in.

“I know he’s got a lot of pressure with me being his father, but he handles it well. He’s got a good head on his shoulder.”

Patrick said he and his teammates have their eyes set on winning the Junior League World Series and getting seen on ESPN2 in Saturday’s championship game at 4 p.m.

“This is what I dreamed about my whole life – to get to a world series,” he said. “And now I’m here.”



Texas' Patrick Mahones scores against Indiana.



Former Major Leaguer Pat Mahomes and son Patrick II have had a great time at the World Series.



Patrick Mahones father Pat, mother Randi and grandmother Debbie Martin are in possession of Patrick's home run ball.