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# The Stony Brook Admissions Blog

*An inside look at the Stony Brook University undergraduate admissions process and the transition into the first year of college, as seen through the eyes of Chris D'Orso, Assistant Director of Undergraduate Admissions.*

## About Me



**Name:** Chris D'Orso **Location:** Stony Brook, New York, United States

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FRIDAY, AUGUST 22, 2008

## Seawolves in the Pros: Nick Abel, Part II

I realized today that I never finished posting my brief discussion with former Seawolves pitcher Nick Abel. Since May, Nick's been on a bit of a roller coaster, taking some time off with muscle tightness, which he's working back into form down in Port St. Lucie. Here's the rest of our May interview:

**Chris D'Orso:** What has the Mets organization told you about their plans for you? You closed a bit in St. Lucie last year, but now you're sharing a bullpen with a guy who was a top draft pick in Eddie Kunz.

**Nick Abel:** The Mets organization told me in nutshell to keep doing what I have done in the past 1.5 seasons. Being in the same bullpen as Eddie is a great experience, he is a very talented pitcher and you can always learn from a guy like him.

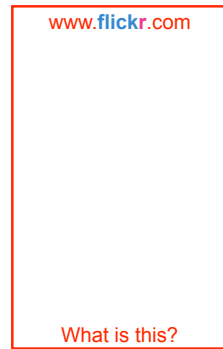
**CD:** What are your future plans, either in or out of baseball?

**NA:** My plans right now until I am out of baseball are to make it to the Major Leagues. Anyone who knows me knows that I am not in this to play minor league baseball; I am doing this to help a Major League team win a championship and make a career for myself in baseball. As a Major League baseball player I would reach out and help other kids reach their goals in baseball, as Rob did for me. If baseball doesn't work out I plan on going back to school for a graduate degree in Kinesiology.

**CD:** What was it like making your professional debut in Brooklyn? Any great memories from your time there?

**NA:** Playing in Brooklyn for the Cyclones was a pleasure and an honor for me. Every kid dreams of playing for their hometown baseball team and the fans in Brooklyn welcomed me there with open arms. Most importantly my

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family and friends could watch me play very often. With the support of my two amazing parents Peter and Jitka, brother Chris and other family and friends I don't think I would be where I am today.

**CD:** You also share a bullpen with Joe Hietpas, a converted catcher trying to make it as a knuckleballer. What have you learned from his experience?

**NA:** Just to set the record straight, Joe Hietpas was a converted catcher to pitcher but not a knuckleballer. The guy you were thinking of was Zac Clements. Anyways Joe is a great guy to have in the bullpen. His being a former Major League catcher/hitter gave me first hand experience from a catchers or hitters point of view sitting next to me in the bullpen.

Hopefully we'll hear more from Nick in the future. Good luck with the rest of the season!

Labels: [nick abel](#)

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