



June 11, 2010

## It's a hit

— More than 4,000 people passed through the turnstiles for the West Virginia Miners' opening home stand at Linda K. Epling Stadium during the past week.

And yes, the wow factor spiked the meter.

The quality of the baseball these young men in the Prospect League play is at a very high level. The quality of the park and the facilities they play in here are, without any question, top of the line.

If you like baseball, you're going to love what's been started here in Beckley.

Miners General Manager Mike Gilligan used the words "fantastic" and "awesome" to describe the turnout of fans for the first four home games (the Miners won three of four).

Opening night last Saturday saw a crowd of better than 2,000. On Tuesday evening, perfect weather for baseball was prevalent and the fans in attendance were treated to fireworks twice during the contest. First when Miners right fielder Jeremy Robinson stroked the host squad's initial home run at the stadium with a towering shot off the scoreboard, and then at the conclusion of the 9-1 victory.

Even though rain dampened things a bit during the other two games, one of the nicer things about this park, and the state-of-the-art field turf which covers the entire surface, is that they can play unless there is a torrential downpour. The drainage system is fantastic, and even after heavy rain, the field is ready for play in just a matter of minutes.

Doug Epling was seen sporting a huge smile many times during the home stand — as he well should. What he and his family have invested their own money in and brought to the region is nothing short of amazing.

You have to see it to believe it.

If you are looking for some good, wholesome entertainment for the entire family — baseball, hot dogs, a Coke, friendly faces — then you need to get out and see the Miners.

There are 24 more games scheduled in Beckley this summer. The regular-season finale is Aug. 5.

For ticket information, call the West Virginia Miners at 304-252-7233 or visit the team website at [wvminersbaseball.com](http://wvminersbaseball.com).

Don't miss out on something that really contributes to our lifestyle and economy.

Go Miners!

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