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[GI's Klock in extra innings](#)

By Nate Beutel Niagara Gazette

The clock is ticking on Matt Klock's baseball career. The St. John Fisher senior just hopes it's got a few more days worth of chimes left in it.

"Last week we weren't even sure we were going to get a bid (to the NCAA Tournament), but once we did it was awesome because I knew my career would go on for at least another week," the former Grand Island standout said by phone from the Marietta (Ohio) Regional. "And if we move on it would be even better."

This postseason run culminates a solid four-year career for Klock, who developed into one of the Cardinals' steadiest players over the past two seasons. This after a sophomore campaign where Klock's playing time dwindled as he struggled at the plate. It was after that season that he decided to make some changes at the dish.

"I changed my approach," Klock explained. "I tried taking the ball to the right side more. My batting average jumped nearly 80 points the next year just by doing a job and taking what a pitcher gives you."

Potter, who took over prior to Klock's sophomore season, added: "The last two years or so he's really done a nice job with his swing. He's staying closed with his upper half and really staying through the ball."

Klock, who has played right field for the most part the past two years after spending time in left and center as a freshman and sophomore, is hitting .325 with 40 hits and 30 RBIs from the No. 6 spot in the order.

He's also taken his academics seriously at Fisher, earning a nod as a CoSIDA/Capital One Academic All-District selection. Just a few weeks ago, Klock earned his bachelor's degree in biology. He plans to attend D'Youville College and enter its physical therapy program in the fall.

"That's a big award that I'm really proud of," Klock said. "I was kind of blown away, especially since we were one of only two teams in the country with three players on the list."

Potter said that award just solidifies what he's always known about Klock.

"You can't say enough good things about him," the coach said. "He's a good kid, a good student, a good player and a good teammate. He works hard in the classroom, in the

weight room and on the field. He always does everything we ask of him. He's a pleasure to have on the team."

Klock and his fellow seniors aren't quite ready for this ride to be over either. Sure, they're the winningest class in school history, they have a pair of 30-win seasons, two NCAA Tournament appearances and two Empire 8 Conference crowns to their credit. But they want more.

"I really want to win this regional," Klock said. "That was probably one of our biggest goals from the beginning. I've had individual success and the team has won a lot of games, but we all really want to win a regional. My sophomore year we finished second to Cortland. This year it would be something really special if we were able to win this thing."