



LINE DRIVES

THE NATIONAL COLLEGIATE BASEBALL WRITERS NEWSLETTER

(Volume 45, No. 1, Jan. 24, 2006)

The President's Message **By NCBWA President Todd Lamb**

NCBWA Membership:

The prognosticators have made their preseason picks. The preseason polls have been announced. The preseason All-America teams are out. A majority of the preseason watch lists have been distributed. Every team has high expectations and goals for the season. Now it is time to play ball.

Obviously, the calendar has changed since the last NCBWA newsletter, but now it is finally time to wish followers of college baseball a Happy New Year!

It seems a little soon to be writing that – at least from Columbus, Ohio – but this weekend opens the 2006 college baseball season. Granted, not many schools will be taking to the field, but there are a few; all before Ohio State, and many other schools around the country, begins practice. The Buckeyes take to the indoor practice turf of the Woody Hayes Athletics Center Monday.

Kudos to the NCAA. The organization's board of directors approved a uniform start date for college baseball beginning with the 2008 season. The legislation stipulates the season start the Friday that falls 13 weeks before the selection of the NCAA tournament field, which the last few years has been Memorial Day. That means this season would not begin until Friday, Feb. 24. Coincidentally, that is the same day Ohio State opens its season against Wake Forest in a tournament at the University of Florida.

In 2008, opening day for all of college baseball will be Feb. 20, while it will be Feb. 22 in 2009 and Feb. 26 in 2010. The NCAA also voted to start spring practice Feb. 1. No more will schools like Ohio State take to a real grass field for the first time in its season opener against a team who already has played 10-12 games.

I know this is a sensitive issue. The schools in the South and the West, while mostly in favor of a national start date, think the date should be about two weeks earlier. Regardless of where you fall on this issue, a national start date was needed in college baseball.

I am familiar with both sides of the issue also having worked in sports information offices at both Clemson and Rice. While Wayne Graham's Owls usually toss out the first pitch near the beginning of February, Clemson's Jack Leggett traditionally opens his season later in the month in favor of playing five games each week to help develop a deep pitching staff. More and more schools will find they will have to take the Clemson approach and play five games every week. I concede it will be interesting to see how some schools like Arizona and Arizona State will fill a 56-game schedule since there are not many nearby opponents.

Nonetheless, great job by the NCAA.

Moving forward, 2006 is the second year of the NCBWA Stopper of the Year Award. The preseason watch list will be announced next week, so if you have not already submitted your nomination, please email it to NCBWA First Vice President Dave Fanucchi of USA Baseball at DaveFanucchi@usabaseball.com.

Can Texas make a run at a consecutive College World Series title? Will Florida again challenge for a national championship? Can Oregon State continue its magic from a year ago? Can Rice and Clemson capitalize on their youthful runs from 2005? Will it be another team, perhaps from the North? I cannot wait to find out.

Best of luck this season and here's to seeing you in Omaha!

Sincerely,

Todd Lamb
NCBWA President
The Ohio State University

NCBWA Stopper of the Year Information

The NCBWA Stopper of the Year Award will be celebrating its second season in 2006. The preseason watch list will be announced next week, so if you have not already submitted your nomination, please email it to NCBWA First Vice President Dave Fanucchi of USA Baseball at DaveFanucchi@usabaseball.com.

Important dates for the NCBWA Stopper of the Year Award

April 10 – Midseason Nominations Due
April 17 – Midseason Watch List Announced
May 29 – Stat Update of Midseason Watch List Due
May 31 – Finalists Announced
June 5 – Stat Update of Finalists Due
June 7 – Stopper of the Year Announced

NCBWA Membership Information

As the 2006 season gets ready to start, a reminder to all NCBWA members to please encourage members of your local media that cover your team to join the NCBWA. The organization has a strong number of members in Sports Information offices, but we are always looking for more writers and broadcasters to join the NCBWA to give it a broad-based membership. Information on joining the NCBWA is contained at the end of this newsletter. People who join by mid-February will also be included in the official NCBWA Directory, which is being produced right now.

It's Here - 2006 Baseball Season Stars Friday!

Three games begin weekend series Friday, Jan. 27, 2006, as the road to Omaha begins with Cal State Northridge at Arizona State, Fresno State at Cal Poly, and Texas College at Prairie View A&M. Florida International also goes across town to face Miami in a Saturday-Sunday series. The culmination of the 22-week season is June 25 or 26 in the NCAA World Series finals at Rosenblatt Stadium in Omaha.

Legendary Rod Dedeaux of USC Dies

Legendary USC baseball head coach Raoul "Rod" Dedeaux, who led the Trojans to a record 11 national championships, coached nearly 60 future major leaguers and was an ambassador for baseball's international popularity, died Thursday, Jan. 5, in Glendale, Calif., of complications from a stroke that he suffered Dec. 2. He was 91.

A funeral service was held Monday, Jan. 16, at 9:30 a.m. at the Cathedral of Our Lady of the Angels, 555 W. Temple St., in Los Angeles. A memorial service also was held on campus this spring at Dedeaux Field.

"A giant has passed away," said USC Athletic Director Mike Garrett, who was an outfielder for Dedeaux in 1965. "This is a tremendous loss to USC and the entire baseball community. It leaves a huge void in all of baseball. From Coach Dedeaux, I learned how to win and how important it was to win in any sport. For him, winning was a way of life."

Current USC baseball head coach Mike Gillespie, who was an outfielder on Dedeaux's 1961 national championship squad, said, "Rod not only was college baseball's greatest coach, he was the sport's - and USC's - greatest ambassador. His passing is felt by all Trojans. All of us in the USC baseball program mourn his loss and send our heartfelt feelings and prayers to the Dedeaux family."

USC President Steven B. Sample said, "Rod Dedeaux has been a part of USC for more than 70 years, as an alumnus, as a Trojan parent and as a legendary baseball coach who mentored and inspired generations of young men, both on and off the field. He was beloved by fans, colleagues and other coaches, and he will be greatly missed."

In his 45-year tenure at USC (1942-86), Dedeaux led the Trojans to 11 College World Series crowns and 28 conference titles. He posted an overall collegiate record of 1,332-571-11 for a .699 winning percentage. He retired with more wins than any other college baseball coach (he currently ranks seventh among Division I coaches). After retiring, he served as USC's director of baseball.

His teams won five straight NCAA championships from 1970-74. No other school has won more than two in a row.

In 1999, he was named "Coach of the Century" by both Baseball America and Collegiate Baseball. As part of the 50th anniversary of the College World Series in 1996, Dedeaux was named the head coach of the All-Time CWS team by a panel of former World Series coaches, media and college baseball officials. In 1999, he was presented with keys to the city of Omaha (home to the College World Series).

Dedeaux was named Coach of the Year six times by the American Baseball Coaches Association and was inducted into the organization's Hall of Fame in 1970. He received the ABCA's Lefty Gomez Award in 1980 as "an individual who has distinguished himself among his peers and has contributed significantly to the game of baseball locally, nationally and internationally."

In 1989, he was awarded the U.S. Baseball Federation's W.P. "Dutch" Fehring Award of Merit for outstanding service.

Dedeaux helped develop more than 200 pro players and 59 major leaguers, including such top stars as Tom Seaver, Mark McGwire, Randy Johnson, Fred Lynn, Dave Kingman, Roy Smalley, Don Buford, Ron Fairly, Rich Dauer, Steve Busby, Jim Barr, and Steve Kemp.

Legend has it that the glib, extroverted Dedeaux, who called everyone "Tiger" and wore the now-retired No. 1 jersey, coached at USC for an annual salary of \$1. His teams were known not only for their stellar play on the field, including their penchant for late-inning rallies, but for the fun they had while playing. His Trojans, who were spirited bench jockeys, sang "McNamara's Band" after every victory. Rookies had to take turns wearing a famous red wig on road trips.

In recent years, Dedeaux, who was a sought-after master of ceremonies and devoted much of his time to charitable, religious and community groups, walked with the aid of a cane shaped like a baseball bat; it was signed by numerous baseball Hall of Famers and even some U.S. presidents.

Besides making a mark with the collegiate game, Dedeaux also spearheaded the development of amateur baseball nationally and internationally. He was instrumental in bringing baseball to the 1984 Olympics in Los Angeles as a demonstration sport and coached the silver medal-winning U.S. team. He also coached the U.S. amateur team that played in Tokyo in conjunction with the 1964 Olympics.

Dedeaux founded the USA-Japan Collegiate World Series in 1972. He served as Series Chairman from 1972-84 and then was chairman emeritus. Dedeaux also was honored in May of 1996 by the Japanese government with the Fourth Order of Merit - Cordon of the Rising Sun award.

Hollywood enlisted Dedeaux's expertise as well, inviting him to serve as a technical director and consultant for two highly successful movies: "Field of Dreams" and "A League of Their Own." Dedeaux served as president of Dart Transportation, Inc., a million-dollar trucking firm that specializes in worldwide distribution. He founded the company in the 1930s.

Dedeaux played baseball at USC and was a three-year letterman as the starting shortstop from 1933-35, earning All-Coast honors his last two seasons and serving as team captain as a senior. USC won its first-ever conference title in 1935. He received his bachelor's degree in business in 1935 from USC, where he was president of the Delta Chi fraternity.

He played two games in the majors with the Brooklyn Dodgers in 1935 (going 1-for-4 at bat) before a back injury ended his playing career several years later. He was an All-Mid-Atlantic League shortstop that season with the Dodgers' Dayton farm club, where he batted .360. He played with Hazelton in the New York/Pennsylvania League in 1936, but could not finish that season and sat out 1937 because of the back injury. He then played in 1938 and 1939 with the Pacific Coast League Hollywood Stars, Los Angeles Angels and San Diego Padres.

He was a charter member of the 1994 inaugural class of the USC Athletic Hall of Fame. He was inducted into the World Trade Hall of Fame in 1993, the Nicaraguan Sports Hall of Fame in 1994 and the Baseball Reliquary Shrine of the Eternals in 2005.

USC's baseball field (Dedeaux Field) was named after him when it opened in 1974.

Dedeaux was born Feb. 17, 1914, in New Orleans, then moved to California as a youngster. He earned All-City honors as the starting shortstop for Hollywood High in 1930 and 1931. Dedeaux is survived by his wife, Helen, sons Justin and Terry and daughters Michele and Denise, and nine grandchildren, including USC freshman first baseman/outfielder Adam Dedeaux.

In lieu of flowers, the family has asked that donations be made to the Rod Dedeaux Foundation, which promotes amateur athletics, at 1430 S. Eastman Ave., Los Angeles 90023.

2006 Preseason Polls, Conference Predictions (Votes by Coaches)

COLLEGIATE BASEBALL

<u>Rank</u>	<u>School ('05 Final Record)</u>	<u>Points</u>	<u>Final '05 Rank</u>
1.	Texas (56-16)	496	1
2.	Florida (48-23)	492	2
3.	Oregon State (46-12)	490	7
4.	Nebraska (57-15)	489	6
5.	Rice (45-19)	487	16
6.	Clemson (43-23)	484	13
7.	North Carolina (41-19-1)	482	21
8.	Florida State (53-20)	479	15
9.	Cal State Fullerton (46-18) 476		9
10.	Georgia Tech. (45-19)	475	10
11.	Miami, Fla. (41-19-1)	473	14
12.	Arizona State (42-25)	470	3
13.	Pepperdine (41-23)	469	23
14.	Missouri (40-23)	467	-
15.	LSU (40-22)	466	19
16.	Long Beach State (37-22)	463	18
17.	South Carolina (41-23)	461	26
18.	Florida Atlantic (37-24)	459	-
19.	Tennessee (46-21)	458	8
20.	Mississippi (48-20)	456	11
21.	Southern California (41-22)	455	17
22.	Notre Dame (38-24-1)	453	-
23.	Baylor (46-24)	450	4
24.	Tulane (56-12)	449	5
25.	Stanford (34-25)	447	-
26.	Wichita State (51-24)	444	27
27.	Texas Christian (41-20)	443	29
28.	Winthrop (44-22)	440	-
29.	Oklahoma (35-26)	438	-
30.	Southern Miss (41-21)	435	-
31.	Arizona (39-21)	434	12
32.	Houston (29-30)	430	-
33.	Arkansas (39-22)	428	-
34.	Mississippi State (42-22)	427	-
35.	San Francisco (38-18)	425	-
36.	San Diego (30-27-1)	422	-
37.	Stetson (35-28)	419	-
38.	Washington (33-22)	415	-
39.	Georgia (30-25)	413	-
40.	Fresno State (30-29)	409	-

BASEBALL AMERICA

Rank - School - Final 2005 Rank

1. Texas 56-16 1
2. Clemson 43-23 14
3. Florida 48-23 2
4. Georgia Tech 45-19 11
5. Cal State Fullerton 46-18 9
6. North Carolina 41-19 NR
7. Rice 45-19 13
8. Oregon State 46-12 7

9. Tennessee 46-21 8
10. Missouri 40-23 21
11. Pepperdine 41-23 24
12. Tulane 56-12 3
13. Mississippi State 42-22 22
14. South Carolina 41-23 25
15. Florida State 53-20 16
16. Arizona State 42-25 6
17. Southern California 41-22 17
18. Arkansas 39-22 NR
19. TCU 41-20 NR
20. Louisiana State 40-22 18
21. Fresno State 30-29 NR
22. Long Beach State 37-22 19
23. Mississippi 48-20 10
24. North Carolina State 41-19 NR
25. California 34-23 NR

NCBWA

Rank/School (2005 Record)

1. Texas (56-16)
2. Florida (48-23)
3. Oregon State (46-12)
4. Rice (45-19)
5. Nebraska (57-15)
6. Clemson (43-23)
7. North Carolina (41-19)
8. Cal State Fullerton (46-18)
9. Florida State (53-20)
10. Arizona State (42-25)
11. Georgia Tech (45-19)
12. Pepperdine (41-23)
13. Miami (Fla.) (41-19)
14. Tulane (56-12)
15. LSU (40-22)
16. Missouri (40-23)
17. Long Beach State (37-22)
18. Mississippi State (42-22)
19. Arkansas (39-22)
20. Tennessee (46-21)
21. TCU (41-20)
22. Notre Dame (38-24)
23. Mississippi (48-20)
24. Wichita State (51-24)
25. Southern California (41-22)
26. Winthrop (44-22)
27. North Carolina State (41-19)
28. Oklahoma (35-26)
29. Stanford (34-25)
30. Southern Miss (41-21)

SPORTS WEEKLY/ESPN

Rank, school (first-place votes) Record Points 2005 Rank

1. Texas (34) 56-16 898 1
2. Florida (1) 48-23 813 2
3. Clemson 43-23 756 16
4. Rice 45-19 734 11
5. Cal State-Fullerton 46-18 701 8
6. Oregon State (1) 46-12 677 7
7. Georgia Tech 45-19 662 10
8. North Carolina 41-19-1 661 22
9. Florida State 53-20 493 14
10. Nebraska 57-15 462 6
11. Arizona State 42-25 457 5
12. Tennessee 46-21 390 9
13. Missouri 40-23 387 NR
14. Pepperdine 41-23 361 NR
15. Tulane 56-12 354 3
16. Miami (Fla.) 41-19-1 339 13
17. South Carolina 41-23 319 21
18. Southern California 41-22 302 15
19. LSU 40-22 283 18
20. Long Beach State 37-22 278 20
21. Mississippi State 42-22 237 19
22. Mississippi 48-20 199 12
23. Arkansas 39-22 162 NR
24. TCU 41-20 142 NR
25. Baylor 46-24 114 4

Others receiving votes: Notre Dame 72; North Carolina State 63; Stanford 60; Arizona 49; Wichita State 45; Florida Atlantic 42; Fresno State 37; California 36; Virginia 17; Southern Mississippi 12; Vanderbilt 11; Oklahoma 10; Washington 10; San Diego 9; Alabama 6; Cal Poly 6; Georgia 5; Houston 5; UNC-Wilmington 4; Winthrop 4; Lamar 3; St. John's 3; Charleston 2; Oklahoma State 2; Virginia Commonwealth 2; Coastal Carolina 1; UNLV 1; South Florida 1; Stetson 1.

2006 Conference Preseason Selections

Big East

2006 PREDICTED ORDER OF FINISH

- Place Team (1st Place Votes) Pts. 2005 Record, Finish
1. Notre Dame (9) 117 (38-24-1, 14-9-1, 3rd in BIG EAST)
 2. Pittsburgh (2) 103 (33-22-0, 15-10-0, 4th in BIG EAST)
 3. USF 91 (33-31-0, 15-14-0, T-6th in C-USA)
 4. Louisville 87 (32-24-0, 15-14-0, T-6th in C-USA)
 5. St. John's 82 (39-16-0, 19-4-0, 1st in BIG EAST)
 6. RUTGERS 76 (32-21-0, 12-12-0, 5th in BIG EAST)
 7. Villanova (1) 51 (28-21-2, 8-16-1, 8th in BIG EAST)
 - West Virginia 51 (25-30-0, 10-15-0, 7th in BIG EAST)
 9. Connecticut 48 (34-22-0, 11-12-0, 6th in BIG EAST)
 10. Cincinnati 42 (25-30-0, 10-19-0, 10th in C-USA)
 11. Seton Hall 26 (17-35-0, 8-17-0, 11th in BIG EAST)
 12. Georgetown 18 (25-31-0, 7-18-0, 12th in BIG EAST)

2006 PRESEASON PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Jim Negrych, Jr., 2B, 5-10, 180, Buffalo, N.Y./St. Francis High School

2006 PRESEASON PITCHER OF THE YEAR

Bill Muldowney, Jr., RHP, 6-1, 205, West Chester, Pa./West Chester East High School

Preseason All-BIG EAST Team Key 2005 Statistics (All Games Played)

P - Bill Muldowney, Pittsburgh (7-3, 2.47 ERA, 83.2 IP, 78 H, 23 ER, 19 BB, 89 SO)
P - Jeff Samardzija, Notre Dame (8-1, 3.89 ERA, 78.2 IP, 85 H, 34 ER, 30 BB, 56 SO)
P - Rob Brant, Pittsburgh (7-2, 2.07 ERA, 61.0 IP, 47 H, 14 ER, 23 BB, 68 SO)
P - Tim Norton, Connecticut (4-0, 3.07 ERA, 58.2 IP, 46 H, 20 ER, 26 BB, 49 SO)
P - Casey Hudspeth, USF (8-6, 3.97 ERA, 17 GS, 104.1 IP, 104 H, 34 ER, 35 BB, 95 SO)
P - Dan MacDonald, Seton Hall (5-5, 3.89 ERA, 69.1 IP, 67 H, 30 ER, 32 BB, 51 SO)
IF - Jim Negrych, Pittsburgh* (.349 BA, 14 2B, 16 HR, 59 RBI, .694 slg. pct., 11 SB)
IF - TODD RUTGERS, RUTGERS (.295 BA, 13 2B, 9 HR, 36 RBI, 111 TB, 14 SB)
IF - Brett Lilley, Notre Dame (.355 BA, 76 H, 5 2B 28 RBI, 9 SB, 30 HBP, 33 BB)
IF - Doug Nelms, West Virginia (.349 BA, 11 2B, 1 3B, 3 HR, 28 RBI)
IF - Ryan Craft, Georgetown (.335 BA, 10 2B, 1 3B, 13 HR, 48 RBI)
C - Ryan Carpenter, West Virginia (.282 BA, 38 GP, 8 2B, 1 3B, 3 HR, 18 RBI)
OF - Stan Posluzny, West Virginia (.286 BA, 53 H, 15 2B, 12 HR, 50 RBI)
OF - Matt Bransfield, Notre Dame (.313 BA, 32 GP, 6 2B, 16 RBI)
OF - JEFF GROSE, RUTGERS (.317 BA, 60 H, 10 2B, 2 3B, 21 RBI, 32 BB)
DH - Ed Schultz, St. John's (.301 BA, 38 GP, 8 2B, 4 HR, 26 RBI)

2006 BLACK COLLEGE BASEBALL PRESEASON POLL
RANK, COLLEGE/ UNIVERSITY, CONFERENCE, W/L, PVR

- 1., Southern University, SWAC, 29-18, 1
- 2., Bethune Cookman, MEAC, 22-28, 8
- 3., Prairie View A&M, SWAC, 31-27, 4
- 4., Texas Southern University, SWAC, 22-25, 6
- 5., Savannah State, INDEPENDENT, 22-21, 3
- 6., North Carolina A&T, MEAC, 27-27, 1
- 7., Alcorn State, SWAC, 22-18, 7
- 8., Jackson State, SWAC, 24-22, 5
- 9., Coppin State, MEAC, 21-31, 9
- 10., Mississippi Valley State University, SWAC, 19-30, 1

MEAC Predicted Finish

1. *Bethune Cookman
2. North Carolina A&T
3. Coppin State
4. Florida A&M
5. Delaware State
6. Norfolk State
7. Maryland Eastern Shore

SWAC Predicted Finish

East

1. Alcorn State
2. Jackson State
3. Mississippi Valley State
4. Alabama State
5. Alabama A&M

West

1. *Southern University
2. Prairie View A&M
3. Texas Southern
4. Grambling State
5. Arkansas Pine Bluff

West Coast Conference

(First Place Votes)

1. Pepperdine (6) 48
2. San Diego (2) 42
3. San Francisco 34
4. Loyola Marymount 32
5. Gonzaga 26
6. Santa Clara 18
7. Saint Mary's 16
8. Portland 8

Pacific-10 Conference

School (First Place Votes) Points

- | | |
|---------------------|----|
| 1. Oregon State (7) | 62 |
| 2. USC (1) | 51 |
| 3. Stanford (1) | 46 |
| Arizona State | 46 |
| 5. Arizona | 36 |
| California | 36 |
| 7. Washington | 22 |
| 8. UCLA | 17 |
| 9. Washington State | 8 |

Conference USA (First Place Votes)

1. Rice (9)
2. Tulane
3. Southern Miss
4. Houston
5. UCF
6. East Carolina
7. UAB
8. Memphis
9. Marshall

PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Joe Savery, Rice (Sophomore, Pitcher/Infielder)

PITCHER OF THE YEAR

Tim Bascom, UCF (Junior, Righthander)

ACC (First Place Votes in Paragraph)

1. Clemson (8)..... 139..... 43-23, 21-9 ACC
2. Georgia Tech (2)....128.....45-19, 22-8 ACC
3. North Carolina (2)..126.....41-19-1, 17-10-1 ACC
4. Florida State.....107.....53-20, 19-11 ACC
5. Miami..... 95.....41-19-1, 19-10-1 ACC
6. NC State.....86.....41-19, 17-13 ACC
7. Virginia.....72.....41-20, 14-14 ACC
8. Wake Forest.....59.....28-30, 12-18 ACC
9. Boston College.....41.....37-20, 17-8 Big East
10. Maryland.....38.....25-31, 7-23 ACC
11. Virginia Tech.....30.....23-28, 7-19 ACC
12. Duke.....15.....14-39, 5-25 ACC

Big 12 (First Place Votes) Points

1. Texas (8)	79
2. Nebraska (1)	70
3. Missouri (1)	66
4. Baylor	54
5. Oklahoma	44
6. Oklahoma State	41
7. Texas A&M	36
8. Kansas (tie)	24
8. Texas Tech	24
10. Kansas State	11

Points based on nine for first place, eight for second, etc.)

Winningest All-Time NCAA Division I Baseball Coaches (Top 30)

(Through 2005 Season; Source: NCAA Record Book, Big 12.)

TOP 40 ACTIVE BY VICTORIES

(Minimum five years as a Division I head coach; includes record at four-year colleges only)

Coach, Last Team	Yrs.	Won	Lost	Tied	Pct.
1. Augie Garrido, Texas	37	1,542	717	8	.682
2. Gene Stephenson, Wichita State	28	1,506	489	3	.755
3. Larry Hays, Texas Tech	35	1,425	777	2	.647
3. Chuck Hartman, Virginia Tech	46	1,424	783	8	.645
5. Mike Martin, Florida State	26	1,391	472	4	.746
6. Ron Polk, Mississippi State	32	1,275	624	2	.671
7. Mark Marquess, Stanford	29	1,224	590	5	.674
8. Jay Bergman, UCF	29	1,133	623	3	.645
9. Jim Morris, Miami (Fla.)	24	1,067	441	4	.707
10. Bob Warn, Indiana State	30	1,050	711	10	.596
11. Danny Price, Florida International	26	1,024	544	0	.653
12. Jim Gilligan, Lamar	29	999	624	7	.615
13. Pete Dunn, Stetson	26	964	579	3	.625
14. Dewey Kalmer, Bradley	37	948	834	5	.532
15. Jack Leggett, Clemson	26	932	533	0	.636
16. Steve Kittrell, South Alabama	23	895	505	1	.639
17. John Anderson, Minnesota	24	871	547	3	.614
18. Fred Hill, Rutgers	29	864	529	7	.620
19. Bob Todd, Ohio State	22	850	446	2	.656
20. Andy Lopez, Arizona	23	828	513	7	.617
21. Mike Fox, North Carolina	22	826	286	5	.742
22. Paul Maineri, Notre Dame	23	819	475	2	.633
23. Pat Murphy, Arizona State	21	814	394	4	.673
24. Ray Tanner, South Carolina	18	808	348	3	.698
24. Keith Guttin, Missouri State	23	808	480	0	.627
26. Kevin Cooney, Florida Atlantic	22	788	453	9	.634
27. John Smith, Sacramento State	27	773	742	3	.510
28. Eddie Cardieri, USF	22	767	545	1	.585
28. Jim Brownlee, Illinois State	26	767	699	5	.523
30. Mike Gillespie, Southern California	19	738	438	2	.627
31. Danny Hall, Georgia Tech	18	737	347	0	.680
32. Steve Traylor, Wofford	25	726	600	3	.547
33. Gary Powers, Nevada	23	700	541	4	.564
34. Joe Hudak, Winthrop	22	698	470	5	.597

35. Rick Jones, Tulane	17	697	299	1	700
36. Bill Brown, George Mason	24	676	591	5	533
37. Jim Wells, Alabama	16	670	314	0	681
38. Ron Atkins, Richmond	21	663	479	4	580
39. Tony Robichaux, UL Lafayette.....	19	661	441	0	600
40. Rod Delmonico, Tennessee.....	16	634	347	0	646

TOP 20 ALL-TIME BY VICTORIES

Coach, Last Team	Yrs.	Won	Lost	Tied	Pct.
1. Augie Garrido, Texas	37	1,542	717	8	.682
2. Gene Stephenson, Wichita State.....	28	1,506	489	3	.755
3. Cliff Gustafson, Texas.....	29	1,427	373	2	.792
4. Larry Hays, Texas Tech.....	35	1,425	757	2	.647
4. Chuck Hartman, Virginia Tech.....	46	1,424	783	8	.645
6. Mike Martin, Florida State.....	26	1,391	472	4	.746
7. Rod Dedeaux, Southern California	44	1,342	597	16	.691
8. Larry Cochell, Oklahoma	39	1,330	814	3	.620
9. Bob Bennett, Fresno State.....	34	1,300	757	8	.631
10. Ron Polk, Mississippi State.....	32	1,275	624	2	.671
11. Ron Fraser, Miami (Fla.).....	30	1,267	440	9	.741
12. Jack Stallings, Georgia Southern.....	39	1,257	799	10	.611
13. Richard Jones, Illinois.....	39	1,242	752	6	.623
14. Jim Dietz, San Diego State.....	31	1,230	751	12	.620
15. Mark Marquess, Stanford.....	29	1,224	590	5	.674
16. Al Ogletree, Texas-Pan American.....	39	1,217	711	1	.631
17. Gary Adams, UCLA	35	1,172	892	12	.567
18. Bill Wilhelm, Clemson.....	36	1,161	536	10	.683
18. Norm DeBriyn, Arkansas.....	33	1,161	650	6	.641
20. Jack Coffey, Fordham.....	47	1,160	482	13	.705

TOP 20 WINNINGEST ACTIVE COACHES

(Minimum five years as a Division I head coach; includes record at four-year colleges only)

BY PERCENTAGE

Coach, Last Team	Yrs.	Won	Lost	Tied	Pct.
1. Gene Stephenson, Wichita State.....	28	1,506	489	3	.755
2. Mike Martin, Florida State.....	26	1,391	472	4	.747
3. Mike Fox, North Carolina	22	826	286	4	.743
4. Wayne Graham, Rice.....	14	627	257	0	.709
5. Jim Morris, Miami (Fla.)	24	1,067	441	4	.708
6. George Horton, Cal State Fullerton	9	404	172	1	.701
7. Rick Jones, Tulane	17	697	299	1	.700
8. Ray Tanner, South Carolina	18	808	348	3	.699
9. Steve Owens, LeMoyne.....	14	430	195	1	.688
10. Augie Garrido, Texas.....	37	1,542	717	8	.682
11. Sunny Golloway, Oklahoma.....	9	347	162	0	.681
11. Jim Wells, Alabama	16	670	314	0	.681
13. Danny Hall, Georgia Tech.....	18	737	347	0	.680
14. Dave Van Horn, Arkansas.....	12	490	236	0	.675
15. Mark Marquess, Stanford.....	29	1,224	590	5	.675
16. Pat Murphy, Arizona State.....	21	814	394	4	.673
17. Ron Polk, Mississippi State.....	32	1,275	624	2	.671
18. Pat McMahon, Florida.....	13	527	259	1	.670
19. Gary Gilmore, Coastal Carolina.....	16	629	326	2	.658
20. Bob Todd, Ohio State.....	22	850	446	2	.656

Vanderbilt's Corbin Named 2006 Team USA Mentor

USA Baseball announced Jan. 23 that Tim Corbin of Vanderbilt University will serve as head coach of the 2006 USA Baseball National Team that will represent the United States this summer.

"We couldn't be happier with the opportunity to have Coach Corbin guide our National Team to the 2006 World Championships," said Eric Campbell, USA Baseball General Manager, National Teams. "Tim's experience with our program in the past gives us a solid foundation to build upon, as we look to select the top amateur players in the nation this coming summer."

This will be Corbin's second tour of duty with USA Baseball, but his first as a head coach. Corbin served as an Assistant under Mike Gillespie (USC) on the 2000 USA Baseball National Team that posted an overall record of 27-3-1 and included such players as Mark Teixeira, Mark Prior, Bobby Crosby, Ryan Howard, Xavier Nady, Chris Burke, Dewon Brazelton, and Kirk Saarloos.

"To represent the USA in any capacity is certainly an honor, and to represent this country in baseball is an extreme privilege and one that I am very grateful for," said Corbin. "This is especially so in a year where USA Baseball lost one of its most gracious and best ambassadors in Coach Rod Dedeaux."

In addition, it was also announced that current Vanderbilt Baseball S.I.D. Thomas Samuel will serve as the 2006 USA Baseball National Team Press Officer. The assistant coaching staff and trainer will be announced at a later date.

In June, USA Baseball will invite 36 of the nation's top freshman and sophomore collegiate players to the USA Baseball National Team Trials. After the team is selected, Corbin will direct Team USA in a pair of domestic series - the 35th annual USA vs. Japan Collegiate All-Star Series & a Friendship Series vs Chinese Taipei, before traveling to Cuba for the FISU Championships in August.

With the exact schedule still to be determined, the 2006 USA Baseball National Team will play a total of seven exhibition games at Durham Bulls Athletic Park - their 4th summer of play here in the Triangle.

In three seasons at the helm of Vanderbilt baseball, Corbin has put the Commodore program into the national spotlight and heightened expectations with the team's success on the diamond. Last season, Corbin directed the squad to its second consecutive 30-win season, an achievement that had not been done in over 15 years. Thus far, he has amassed 106-68 record at Vanderbilt, which makes him the winningest coach in school history through three seasons.

USA Baseball is the National Governing Body of amateur baseball in the United States and a member of the United States Olympic Committee. The organization selects and trains the USA Baseball Olympic Team, the USA Baseball National Team (Collegiate), the USA Baseball Junior National Team (18-under), and the USA Baseball Youth National Team (16-under) which participate in various international competitions each year. The USA Baseball headquarters are based in Durham, North Carolina with future training facilities in Cary, N.C.

Annual All-Canadian Team Produced by Bob Elliott of Toronto SUN, Looking for 2006 Collegians

Bob Elliott, of the Toronto Sun is again looking for transfers or any new Canadian baseball players for his web site (<http://slam.canoe.ca/Slam/Baseball/Canada/>). He can be reached via email (bob.elliott@tor.sunpub.com). The 6th annual SLAM! All-Canadian team honouring the 684 Canadians playing south of the border.

Amonite king amongst voters

6th annual SLAM! Canadian all-star team

By BOB ELLIOTT
For SLAM! Sports

The Big A was home to the Anaheim Angels in the 1990s with a giant 'A' towering beyond the outfield fence in left field, with by a yellow halo near the top. The Auburn Tigers had their own Big A in Karl Amonite in 2005. Amonite (senior, Woodslee, Ont.) was the apple of the voters eye, as he hit like a devil to gain the most first-place votes in the sixth annual SLAM! Canadian Baseball All-Canadian College team. The slugging first baseman was the top vote getter, with 55 first-place votes, two more than DH Mike Gosse (freshman, Pitt Meadows, BC), of the New Mexico Thunderbirds. The next top vote getters were first-teamers outfielder Tim Smith (freshman, Toronto, Ont.), of the Midland Chaparrals, who had 43 and lefty Morgan Carlile (freshman, Summerside, PEI), of the Campbellsville Tigers, who had 42.

Amonite was drafted by the by the San Francisco Giants in the 45th round from the Connors State Cowboys in 2001 and the New York Yankees in the 13th round in June of 2005.

Amonite is still under control of the Yankees and underwent a physical this week in Tampa, Fla. He did not sign after the draft last year because he hurt his knee at the regionals and could not have played in the summer of 2005.

The Yanks are planning on having him in spring training and compete for a job in their system as long as his knee allows. Yankee scouts say Amonite is the best power hitter that they drafted last year. He had two hits as 2nd-seeded Auburn beat the 3rd-seeded South Alabama Jaguars 13-5 in the NCAA regional before 2,033 fans at Dick Howser Stadium in Tallahassee, Fla. Amonite tripled as Auburn was edged 4-3 by the 10th-ranked, top-seeded Florida State Seminoles in front of 6,398 fans. Amonite didn't play in a 10-4 elimination loss to Florida State. He led the 34-26 Tigers hitting .365 in 58 games with 25 doubles, a triple, 11 homers and 59 RBIs.

Our voting process for the spring of 2005 included our panel of experts and fans who filled out complete ballots on our web site. We had 62 return ballots from six provinces (representatives from four did not reply) including 11 votes from eight states south of the border.

Our experts came from a vast cross section of coaches (23), scouts (13), current and former players (seven); administrators (five), writers (three), baseball enthusiasts (two), agents (two), one recruiter, Canada's leading baseball historian and our crack staff (four). Our readership survey from our web site totaled 19 ballots from four provinces and one state. Incomplete ballots (readers voting for one or two players but not all 33 players) were not counted. Results of from our usual voters were scored on a 10-5-2 points basis, while readers votes were scored on a 5-3-1 ratio. Our numbers were totaled by bonded Mississauga accounting firms. Amonite has been a regular fixture come All-Canadian time: earning SLAM! Canadian Baseball All-Canadian second team honours in 2002 and third team honours in 2003. He was injured in 2004 and did not play.

Who knows what lies ahead for the members of the sixth annual SLAM! Canadian Baseball All-Canadian College team. But some former all-Canadians have either reached the top of their goal or are a step away: - OF Jason Bay (Trail, BC), of the Gonzaga Stags, was a first team All-Canadian in 2000 and now patrols left field for the Pittsburgh Pirates. - RHP Rich Harden (Victoria, BC), of Central Arizona Vaqueros, earned first team honours in 2001 and now anchors the Oakland A's rotation. - OF Adam Stern (London, Ont.), of the Nebraska Cornhuskers, was named to the 2001 second-team and spent the 2005 season with the Boston Red Sox after the World Series champs made him a Rule V selection from the Atlanta Braves. - LHP Jeff Francis (North Delta, BC), of the highly-successful British Columbia Thunderbirds, proved you can stay near and go far, as he was a first-team All-Canadian selection in 2002, a first-round pick (ninth over-all) in the MLB draft and is now a member of the Colorado Rockies rotation. - RP Jesse Crain (Toronto, Ont.), of the Houston Cougars, earned first-team honours as a closer and was also selected to the second team as a shortstop in 2002. Now, he calls the Minnesota Twins bullpen his home. - C George Kottaras (Markham, Ont.), of the Connors State Cowboys, a second-teamer in 2002, who gained honourable mention in 2003, is on the cusp with the San Diego Padres. - C Russell Martin (Montreal, Que.), of the Chipola Indians, is currently knocking on the door with the Los Angeles Dodgers. Amonite goes into the register with previous top voter getters like: - OF Charlie MacFarlane (Lantzville, BC), of the Cumberland Bulldogs, the top man in 2004. - C Aaron McRae (Delta, BC), of the Louisiana State-Shreveport Pilots in 2003. - OF Ryan Kenning (North Vancouver, BC), of the New Mexico State Aggies and RP Jesse Crain (Toronto, Ont.), of the Houston Cougars, shared top honours in 2002. - LHP Jeff Francis (North Delta, BC) of the British Columbia Thunderbirds in 2001. - OF Ben Emond (Farnham, Que.), of the Texas Longhorns in 2000, our inaugural year.

Our team features five first-team members from Ontario, four from British Columbia, one each from Prince Edward Island, Saskatchewan and Quebec. Our first three teams include 18 players from BC, 15 from Ontario, three from Quebec, as well as two each from PEI and Saskatchewan and one from Alberta.

Altogether, including honourable mentions we have 62 from Ontario, 36 from BC, nine from Alberta and six from Quebec. We had four from Saskatchewan, three from PEI and two from Manitoba, as seven of 10 provinces had representation. And now, ta-da, on with the show:

First Team

Left-handed starter: Morgan Carlile (freshman, Summerside, PEI), of the Campbellsville Tigers. Carlile earned NAIA Honorable-Mention All-American honors, was named Mid-South conference player of the year and also earned first-team, all-conference honours. Carlile was 9-2 in 14 games, including 12 starts, with a 1.85 ERA. In 75 2/3 innings he walked 13 and struck out 69. He held opposing hitters to a .187 average. He had a two-win week pitching a one-hit shutout in a 7-0 Campbellsville win over Cumberland. Carlile walked one and fanned seven. He also picked up the victory in a 12-5 win over Cumberland, coming on in relief and working 1 2/3 scoreless innings. Carlile was a SLAM! Canadian Baseball College Player of the Week in week 7.

Right-handed starter: James Avery (junior, Moose Jaw, Sask.), of the Niagara Purple Eagles. Avery was drafted in the fifth round as the 151st pick -- the third Canadian chosen -- by the Cincinnati Reds. He was a hard-luck loser as Niagara was edged 3-2 in the opener of the Metro Atlantic Conference tourney by the top-seeded Marist Red Foxes in the bottom of the ninth. Avery pitched 8 1/3 innings, allowing four hits and three runs -- two earned -- and he walked three and struck out 10. Avery was pitching in a 2-2 game with one out in the bottom of the ninth and a man on third. The Purple Eagles picked up the Red Foxes' squeeze attempt and he threw inside. The Niagara catcher chased the runner back to third and tossed to third for the out. The call was then reversed by the umpire, who ruled interference and Marist was awarded the game-winning run. Avery led the staff with a 3.42 ERA going 5-5 in 15 games, including 14 starts, as he walked 30 and fanned 80 in 92 games. Opponents hit .264 against Avery. Avery was a SLAM! Canadian Baseball All-Canadian year honourable mention in 2004 and 2003.

Reliever: Rob Nalutka (junior, Langley, BC), of the Armstrong Atlantic Pirates. Nalutka earned All-American honours as voted by the American Baseball Coaches Association (ABCA). He was to the All-South Atlantic Region team. Nalutka fashioned an 0.30 ERA with a 3-0 record and 12 saves in 26 games, walking seven and striking out 46 in 30 innings. Nalutka became the first AASU reliever to earn All-America honors in school history and is the fourth pitcher to earn first-team honors. He set an unofficial PBC and NCAA Division II record with 24 consecutive scoreless appearances to begin the 2005 season. Nalutka gave up just 16 hits in 30 innings and struck out 46 batters in 26 appearances. He held opponents to a measly .155 average. Nalutka was POW in Weeks 10 and 13.

Catcher: Chris Robinson (junior, Dorchester, Ont.), of the Illinois Fighting Illini. Robinson earned All-Big Ten first team honours. Robinson led the Big 10 in pick-offs (seven) and threw out 40.4% of attempted base-stealers. Robinson was drafted in the third round 90th over-all -- as the top Canadian chosen -- by the Detroit Tigers. Robinson also won the Big 10 sportsmanship award. Robinson hit .353 in 50 games with 11 doubles, three triples, eight homers and 37 RBIs. Robinson doubled, hit three homers and drove in nine runs for the Illini in an 8-3 win over the Indiana Hoosiers; had two hits in a 4-3 triumph over Indiana, had two more hits in a 7-5 win against Indiana and was 4-for-4 with seven RBIs in an 18-11 win over the Eastern Illinois Panthers. Robinson earned first-team SLAM! Canadian Baseball All-Canadian team honours in 2004 and POW in Week 12 of 2005.

First base: Karl Amonite (senior, Woodslee, Ont.), of the Auburn Tigers. Amonite hit a run-scoring single in the seventh to break a tie as Auburn beat the 3rd-ranked LSU Fighting Tigers 6-4 before 7,673 fans in Baton Rouge, La. It was Auburn's first series opening win at Auburn since 1995. Amonite was 3-for-5, including a double and knocked in a run in a 5-4 win over the Virginia Military Keydets and went 4-for-5, including a double, and three RBIs in a 12-0 win over VMI. Amonite led the team, hitting .365 in 58 games with 25 doubles, a triple, 11 homers and 59 RBIs. Amonite earned SLAM! Canadian Baseball All-Canadian team second team honours in 2002 and was named to the third team in 2003.

Second base: Dustin Bissonette (junior, Prince George, BC), of the Louisiana State-Shreveport Pilots. Bissonette was named the Golf Coast Conference Player of the Year. He also earned NAIA Honorable-Mention All-American honors and was named to the GCAC All-Conference team. Bissonette hit .444 in 63 games with 16 doubles, three triples and 51 RBIs, while stealing 26 bases. He was also named to the GCAC All-Academic team. Each player has a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher. He hit .500 as the Pilots lost in the final of the CHRISTUS Schumpert Health System/Shreveport-Bossier Convention and Tourist Bureau NAIA Region XIII tournament at Pilots Field in Shreveport. Bissonette was a former SLAM! Canadian Baseball College Player of the Week in Week 16.

Third base: Matthew Bergeron (junior, St. Celestin, Que.), of the Binghampton Bearcats. Bergeron was named the school's baseball athlete of the year. Bergeron has been an RBI machine and currently ranked ninth in the country in slugging percentage, 12th in home runs and 16th in RBIs at the time of his award. Bergeron, who leads the America East in all three categories, has already broken the school record for RBIs in a season and can break the home run record with his next homer. Bergeron had 10 homers, a triple and 55 RBIs. Bergeron was named a SLAM! Canadian Baseball All-Canadian first team honour in 2004 and earned honourable mention in 2003. He was also POTW in Week 6.

Shortstop: Frank Jeney (senior, Windsor, Ont.), of the Wayne State Warriors. Jeney was named the Great Lakes Conference's Player of the Year. He hit .414 in 51 games with 18 doubles, four triples, six homers and 51 RBIs. Jeney set records in hits (77), at-bats (186), total bases (121) and being second in doubles (18) and games played (52) and fourth in RBIs (51). Where this season places Jeney all-time in career marks: first in hits (215), total bases (323), extra-base hits (67) and second in RBIs (134), games played (185), at-bats (591), sacrifice flies (13) and doubles (41). He's third all time in runs scored (122) and triples (11). And he sits fourth in home runs (15). Jeney was a SLAM! Canadian Baseball All-Canadian team honourable mention in 2003 and 2004, as well as being POW in Week 9.

Outfielders: Tim Smith (freshman, Toronto, Ont.), of the Midland Chaparrals; Jonathan Baksh (sophomore, Mississauga, Ont.), of the Florida Tech Panthers and Charlie MacFarlane (senior, Lantzville, BC), of the Cumberland Bulldogs. Smith hit .468 and knocked in 55 runs, with 16 doubles, four triples and eight homers. Smith had a pair of hits as Midland lost 10-8 to the El Paso Tejanos at El Paso, Tx. Smith had a pair of hits in a 10-9 loss to El Paso. Smith was selected in the 17th round by the Milwaukee Brewers, the 11th Canuck selected. Smith was a POW winner in Week 2 of 2005. Baksh was named Sunshine State Conference Player of the Year and earned first team all-conference selection. Baksh hit .422 average to lead the entire conference and broke Florida Tech records for hits, at bats, and average. Baksh also led the team in stolen bases with 23 and owned a .991 fielding mark, committing one error on the season. Baksh started in all 55 games and hit an amazing .495 during 24 conference games. He was named a third-team All American by the National Collegiate Baseball Writers of America. Baksh hit a league and led the team in hits (92), doubles (16), triples (five), stolen bases (23), total bases (121), slugging % (.555), and on-base % (.469). Baksh maintained a 3.6 GPA majoring in accounting. Baksh was a SLAM! Canadian Baseball All-Canadian team honourable mention in 2004 and POW in Week 5. MacFarlane had three hits, including a double, and knocked in three runs as 5th-seeded, Cumberland opened their reign as defending champs at the 49th annual Avista NAIA World Series with an 11-4 win over the 4th-seeded Biola Eagles in Lewiston, Id. He had two hits in a 12-4 win over the top-seeded Embry Riddle Eagles. After a 6-2 loss to the 2nd-seeded Oklahoma City Stars, the 3rd-seeded host Lewis-Clark Warriors

eliminated Cumberland 4-2, despite a three-hit effort by MacFarlane. On the season for the 55-21 Bulldogs he hit .367 in 73 games. MacFarlane had 19 doubles, three triples, 15 homers and 60 RBIs. MacFarlane earned SLAM! Canadian Baseball All-Canadian College first-team honours in 2004 and was an honorable mention in both 2003 and 2002, as well as POTW in Weeks 11 and 12 in 2005.

DH: Mike Gosse (freshman, Pitt Meadows, BC), of the New Mexico Thunderbirds. Gosse earned NJCAA Division I All-American honors. Gosse helped the Thunderbirds to an undefeated run to win the 48th annual Alpine Bank NJCAA Division I World Series in Grand Junction. Gosse singled to ignite a five-run sixth, as New Mexico beat the Hutchinson Blue Dragons before 4,093 fans; had three hits and knocked in a run in a 6-2 win over the Iowa Western Reivers in front of a single-game attendance record of 11,289; doubled and knocked in a run as New Mexico beat the Wallace State-Hanceville Lions to move to 3-0 in front of 9,868; singled twice and drove in a pair of runs as New Mexico eliminated Iowa Western 8-5 before 9,315; homered as the Thunderbirds beat the St. Petersburg Titans 6-2 before 9,565 fans in the final. Gosse hit .381 with a double, a homer and four RBIs, for the T-Birds first national championship. Gosse, who played second base for part of the season, hit .468 in 62 games with 24 doubles, six triples, seven homers and 78 RBIs. Yup, that's right -- 70 RBIs in 62 games, that's big-time power numbers from a guy who stands 5-foot-9 and resembles a back-up infielder. Gosse hit .468 in 62 games with 24 doubles, six triples and seven homers. Gosse was also voted to the all-district southwest district team and was named to the WJCAC All-Conference team. Gosse was two-time SLAM! Canadian Baseball College Player of the Week in Weeks 8 and 17.

Second team

Left-handed starter: Brad Ashman (junior, Trail, BC), of the British Columbia Thunderbirds. Ashman earned NAIA Honorable-Mention All-American honors, was named to the NAIA Region 1 all-star team and picked up his second straight All-Region award. Ashman was 10-3 with a 3.53 ERA in 17 games, 15 of them starts. He walked 29 and struck out 70 in 99 1/3 innings. Opponents hit .267 against Ashman. Ashman was a first team SLAM! Canadian Baseball All-Canadian in 2004.

Right-handed starter (tie): RHP Henry Mabee (sophomore, Victoria, BC), of the Truman State Trojans and Craig Talbot (junior, Victoria, BC), of the Jamestown Jimmies. Mabee was selected to Region XIV first-team all-star team. Mabee pitched in 18 games, starting 11 and pitching eight complete games. Mabee walked 22 and struck out 69 in 85 1/3 innings. Mabee restricted opposing hitters to a .211 average.

Talbot earned NAIA Honorable-Mention All-American status. He gained a 4-3 win over the Mayville State Comets in the second game of the Region III tournament at Jack Brown Stadium in Jamestown, ND. Talbot had a perfect 10-0 with a 2.59 ERA. In 13 games, eight of them starts, as he walked 11 and struck out 32 in 59 innings. Opposing hitters batted .204 against Talbot. Talbot was a SLAM! Canadian Baseball All-Canadian team honourable mention in 2004.

Reliever: Chirs Kissock (freshman, Fruitvale, BC), of the Lewis-Clark State Warriors. Kissock pitched 3 1/3 scoreless innings as the 3rd-seeded Lewis-Clark Warriors were edged 11-10 by the 2nd-seeded Oklahoma City Stars in the second game of the 49th annual Avista NAIA World Series in Lewiston, Id. Kissock allowed one hit and struck out four. Kissock was 6-1 for the 47-9 Warriors with a 1.66 ERA and one save. He walked 10 and struck out 41 in 48 2/3 innings.

Catcher: Jake Elder (senior, Delta, BC) of the Minnesota Golden Gophers. Elder was named the winner of the Siebert Memorial as the Gophers MVP for 2005. Elder finished the season with a .328 average, 13 doubles, five home runs, 43 RBIs and a team-leading .417 on-base percentage. He tied a Big 10 record for the most hits in a Big 10 Tournament with 13 and was named to the 2005 All-Big Ten Tournament team. He finished his career with a .318 average, 30 doubles, 16 home runs and 104 RBIs, while scoring 94 runs. Elder received the second All-Big Ten Tournament honors of their career. Elder batted .481 with one home run and eight RBIs for the tournament. Elder earned SLAM! Canadian Baseball All-Canadian third team honours in 2004.

First base: Jared Schweitzer (junior, Sherwood Park, Alta.) of the Kansas Jayhawks. Schweitzer was selected to the All-Big 12 Second team. He hit .366 -- including a 24-game, consecutive-game hitting streak and he hit safely in 30 of his final 32 games. He had 10 doubles, seven homers and 32 RBIs. Schweitzer was a SLAM! Canadian Baseball All-Canadian team honourable mention in 2004 and POW Week in Week 14 of 2005.

Second base: Kevin Mailloux (freshman, Winsdor Ont.), of the Kellogg Bruins. Mailloux earned first team All-MCCAA team honours and was part of the gold-medal winning Canada Summer Games team. Mailloux had two hits and knocked in three runs in a 6-2 win over Henry Ford. Mailloux each had three hits, including a double a homer, while knocking in two as in a 14-4 win over Manchester. Mailloux hit .429 in 46 games with 17 doubles, three triples 12 homers and 61 RBIs.

Third base (tie): Jesse Robertson (senior, Oakville, Ont.) of the William Jewell Cardinal and Tyler Moe (sophomore, Oakville, Ont.), of the Graceland Yellow Jackets. Robertson earned first team honours in the Heart of America conference as he finished third in the batting race with a .441 average. Robertson hit a three-run homer as the William Jewell beat Graceland 8-7 in Liberty, Mo. to cap a strong series against the Yellow Jackets. Robertson doubled in a 13-7 win, tripled in a run as the Cardinal beat Graceland 22-4 and doubled in a run in an 8-5 loss to Graceland. He had 19 doubles, 12 triples, six homers and 49 RBIs.

Moe earned second team honours in the the Heart of America conference as a utility player. Moe had three hits, including a double, and knocked in two runs in an 8-7 Graceland win over the Truman State Bulldogs in Lamoni, Iowa. Moe homered and doubled in a 3-for-3 day in an 11-1 win over Baker. Moe had eight hits and five RBIs in the week. Moe was fourth in the

conference in the batting race, hitting .418 with 14 doubles, a triple, nine homers and 44 RBIs.

Moe was a SLAM! Canadian Baseball All-Canadian team honourable mention in 2004 and POW in week 7.

Shortstop: Mike Ambrose (junior, St. Thomas, Ont.), of the the Charlotte '49ers. Ambrose was 4-for-5 day in a 9-6 win over the East Carolina Pirates 9-6. Ambrose tripled, singled three times, knocked in two runs and stole two bases. Ambrose had three hits in a 10-4 win over the Wake Forest Demon Deacons in Winston-Salem, NC. Ambrose hit his seventh double and knocked in a run. On the season, Ambrose hit .324 in 54 games with 13 doubles, five triples, six homers and 44 RBIs. Ambrose earned SLAM! Canadian Baseball All-Canadian third team honours in 2004.

Outfielders: Chris Emanuele (junior, Mississauga, Ont.) of the Northeastern Huskies; J.P. LaPointe (freshman, Montreal, Que.) of the Bellevue Bruins and Nicolas Boisvert (sophomore, Laval, Que.) Northeastern Oklahoma A&M Golden Norse. Emanuele hit a lead-off double in a 10-3 win over the Harvard Crimson to set a school consecutive single-game hitting streak record at 18. The double broke the school's old mark held by Preston Carroll, who hit in 17 straight for the 1980 Huskies. They have been playing baseball for 84 years at Northeastern and no one has a longer hitting streak than Emanuele. He stole a team-high 17 bases and scored a team-high 50 runs. Emanuele was named first team All-America East conference. His 71 hits are the most in a single season in NU history and his 50 runs scored are second all-time. Emanuele hit .340 with 11 homers and 40 RBIs, leading the team in each category, while

Emanuele earned SLAM! Canadian Baseball All-Canadian second team honours in 2002. Emanuele was POW in Week 13 in 2005. Lapointe was an ignitor for top-seeded Bellevue as they dropped the opener of the Region IV tournament in Mitchell, SD and didn't lose again until the championship. Bellevue fell 7-4 to the 8th-seeded Saint Mary Spires. Lapointe singled in a run in an 11-0 win over Morningside, singled twice in a 6-4 win over the 5th-seeded Briar Cliff Chargers, singled in the eighth as Bellevue scored three for a 12-11 win over the 3rd-seeded Bethany Swedes in the semi-final and doubled as the Bruins lost the final 11-5 to Briar Cliff. Lapointe led the Bruins with a .444 average in 63 games, with 14 doubles, four homers and 42 RBIs.

Boisvert was selected to the NJCAA All-Region Region 2 Second team. He was named to the NJCAA Region II all-tournament team. Boisvert went 7-for-12 hitting in the No. 2 spot for the Norsemen. Boisvert was 3-for-4 with a double and knocked in three runs in an 11-10 win over the Arkansas-Fort Smith Lions. Boisvert homered and had two hits and knocked in two runs in a 17-9 victory over the the Rogers State Shockers. Boisvert singled and knocked in a pair of runs in a 10-3 loss to the Connors State Cowboys. Boisvert hit .327 in 64 games with nine doubles, three triples, six homers and 70 RBIs. Boisvert earned SLAM! Canadian Baseball All-Canadian team second team honours in 2004.

DH: Charlie Strandlund (junior, Victoria, BC), of the Albertson Coyotes. Albertson was named to the NAIA Region I Player of the Year and was selected an NAIA All-America honorable mention selection. Strandlund went 4-for-5 with three doubles, a triple and an RBI in a 12-6 win over the Eastern Oregon Mountaineers in La Grande, Or. He had two doubles in a 3-2, 10-inning loss to Eastern Oregon. Strandlund pitched Albertson to a 15-0 win, allowing four hits, while striking out a pair. Strandlund went 4-for-5 with three RBIs in a 15-7 win over Eastern Oregon. Strandlund hit .600 (12-for-20) with three doubles, a triple, seven RBIs and pitched six scoreless innings to combine with others on a shutout. He hit .397 on the season with seven homers, 24 doubles, and 49 RBIs, while going 7-2 on the mound.

Third team

Left-hander: Adam Daniels (sophomore, North Vancouver, BC), of the Oklahoma State Cowboys. Daniels was impressive against big-time opposition, going 7-3 with a 4.20 ERA in 17 games, making 13 starts. Daniels pitched a complete game. On the season he walked 26 and struck out 88 in 75 innings. Daniels was a former was a SLAM! Canadian Baseball All-Canadian third-team member in 2004 and he earned honourable mention in 2003.

Right-hander (tie): Doug Grant (sophomore, Vancouver, BC) British Columbia Thunderbirds and Brock Hewitt (sophomore, Toronto, Ont.), of the Trinity Tigers. Grant pitched a 7-4 UBC win over Eastern Oregon with six impressive innings, allowing two hits and two unearned runs while walking three and striking out seven. Grant had the lowest ERA with UBC, a 1.89 mark, with a 5-3 record in 16 games, 14 of them starts. He walked 37 and struck out 56 in 76 1/3 innings. Hewitt was selected Southern Collegiate Conference pitcher of the year. Hewitt tossed a complete-game, two-hit shutout in a 4-0 win over the Hendrix Warriors in Conway, Ark. He walked one and struck out seven. In a 7-2 win over Rhodes, Hewitt pitched five innings allowing four hits and two runs -- one earned. He walked two and struck out six. He was also named to the All-SCAC first team. Hewitt was only the sixth second-year hurler to receive the honor. Hewitt finished the season with a 7-1 record and an ERA of 2.30 -- both second in the SCAC -- in 12 games. He also struck out 54 hitters (sixth in the SCAC) and opponents hit just .215 against him (second in the SCAC).

Reliever (tie): Chris Toneguzzi (junior, Thunder Bay, Ont.) of the Purdue Boilermakers and Scott Richmond (senior, Langley, BC), of the Oklahoma State Cowboys. Toneguzzi picked up the win as 2nd-seeded Purdue edged the 4th-seeded Michigan Wolverines 9-7 to even their record at 1-1 in the Big 10 tournament in Champaign, Ill. Toneguzzi pitched two scoreless, allowing one hit, recording a strikeouts on all six outs he recorded. Toneguzzi pitched 2/3 of an inning, allowing one hit, striking out one in a 6-5 loss to the 5th-seeded Ohio State Buckeyes. Toneguzzi pitched 1 1/3 scoreless innings allowing one hit and walking one in a 9-7 loss to the 6th-seeded Minnesota Golden Gophers. Toneguzzi was 2-2 with a 1.43 ERA and six saves in 30

games. He walked nine and struck out 38 in 37 2/3 innings. Richmond earned Big 12 Honorable Mention. He was a workhorse ... relieving and starting, starting and relieving, sometimes pitching as long as the Cowboy starters. Example: after a lead-off double in the seventh inning in a tie game against the Texas A&M Corpus Christi, Richmond took over. He got the first hitter on an 0-2 comebacker, retired the next on a liner to right and after an intentional walk, walked a man to load the bases. Richmond fanned the next hitter on three pitches. Richmond pitched on into the 15th, facing three hitters in an inning seven times, recording nine strikeouts. The Islanders won in the 15th, as a lead-off bunt single, a fielding error by and a single to load the bases. Richmond retired the first on a liner to shallow right with the runners holding. The next lined to shallow centre and the throw to the plate was cut off and the first baseman threw to second to get a runner at second, where the ball was dropped and the runner from third broke for home. The runner appeared to be out, but the catcher dropped the throw. The home plate ump did not signal the runner safe initially until he came back to touch the base before the Cowboys catcher could tag him. Richmond worked 8 2/3 innings, allowing two hits, throwing 114 pitches.

Richmond was a POW in Week 4 in 2005.

Catcher: Kirk Bacsu (sophomore, Maple Creek, Sask.), of the the Southeastern Black Hawks. Bacsu earned Division II All-Region first-team honours. Bacsu hit .400 with 12 doubles, three triples, seven homers and 37 RBIs.

First base: Kyle Mace (senior, Nelson, BC), of the Louisiana State-Shreveport Pilots.

Mace singled in an 8-6 Pilots win over Mobile in Shreveport, La. He doubled in a run in a 7-3 win, singled and drove in two runs in an 11-1 win over Mobile. Mace singled, knocked in a run and stole a base in a 10-8 loss Houston Baptist. Mace batted .342 with 17 doubles, two triples, seven homers and 55 RBIs, second on the team.

Second base: Mark Capone (sophomore, Etobicoke, Ont.), of the British Columbia Thunderbirds. Capone earned second-team, NAIA All-America honours. Against the Albertson Coyotes, he singled, knocked in two runs and stole a base in a 7-4 loss; doubled and singled, driving in two runs in a 16-12 loss; had a pair of hits in a 9-7 win, was 4-for-6 with a double and drove in four runs in a 14-10 win. Capone had nine hits and eight RBIs on the week. Capone hit .390 in 55 games with 18 doubles, four triples, a homer and 41 RBIs. Capone earned SLAM! Canadian Baseball All-Canadian third team honours in 2004 and was POW in Week 15.

Third base: Andrew MacNiven (junior, St. Catharines, PEI), of the Niagara Purple Eagles. MacNiven was selected to the all-Metro Atlantic Conference first team. MacNiven was named to the conference all-tournament team. MacNiven had three hits, including a double, knocked in two runs and stole a base as Niagara dropped an 8-7, 10-inning decision to the Canisius Golden Griffs in the Big Four Baseball Classic at Dunn Tire Park in Buffalo, NY. MacNiven batted .299 in 51 games with 14 doubles, a triple, six homers and 32 RBIs.

Shortstop (tie): Matt Calcagni (sophomore, Brampton, Ont.), of the Graceland Yellow Jackets and SS Taylor Green (freshman, Courtenay, BC), of the Cypress Chargers. Calcagni earned honourable mention honours in the Heart of America conference. Calcagni doubled, knocked in three runs and stole a base in an 8-7 Graceland win over the Truman State Bulldogs in Lamoni, Iowa. Calcagni doubled in a 3-0 loss to the Baker Tigers in Baldwin City, Kan. Calcagni doubled in a pair of runs in an 11-1 win over Baker. Calcagni hit .350 with 19 doubles, 10 homers and 45 RBIs in 54 games. Green earned Orange Empire Conference first team all-star honors. He had three hits as the Chargers were edged 6-5 in a 10-inning loss to 3rd-seeded Santa Ana in the opener of the Southern California Super Regional playoffs at Wendell Pickens Field in Costa Mesa, Calif. Green hit .400 in 41 games with 19 doubles, two triples, six homers and 31 RBIs.

Outfielders: Brad McElroy (freshman, London Ont.), of the Kellogg Bruins; Adam Campbell (sophomore, Surrey, BC), of UBC and Tom Huntingford (junior, West Vancouver, BC), of the Peru State Bobcats.

McElroy earned first team All-MCCAA honours. McElroy was 4-for-4, with a homer and two RBIs in a 10-5 win against Kalamazoo. McElroy had four hits and two doubles, knocking in two runs in a 21-8 win over St. Clair. McElroy had two hits with a homer and four RBIs in a 22-2 win over Henry Ford. McElroy batted .404 in 50 games with 17 doubles, six homers and 35 RBIs. Campbell earned NAIA Honorable-Mention All-American honors. Campbell singled home the winning run in the bottom of the 13th as the Thunderbirds beat Concordia. Campbell each had a pair of hits in a 7-2 win over Concordia. He was the leading RBI-man with UBC driving in 57 runs, as he hit .317 in 52 games and doubled 12 times.

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