



NATIONAL COLLEGIATE BASEBALL WRITERS NEWSLETTER

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Barry on Baseball

NCBWA President's Message by Barry Allen

In the next week, baseball will crown another World Series champion and the NCBWA will once again be the first organization to name its 2002 Preseason Division I All-America teams. The NCBWA Board of Directors will meet next week to select the preseason All-America teams. The teams will be announced in early November and thus the 2002 college baseball season will be officially underway. Most schools are in the middle of fall practice or have already completed their preseason work. Now, the preseason accolades begin to roll in from all across our land before pitchers and catchers finally report in January and the season begins as February approaches.

The fall classic is shaping up to be one of the best in recent memory. The New York Yankees, winners of three straight and four of the last five, meets the Arizona Diamondbacks in the best-of-seven series which begins in Phoenix. The Yankees have won 38 American League pennants, while the Diamondbacks are making their first trip to the series in their brief-but-exciting four-year existence.

While not everyone roots for the Yankees or Diamondbacks, we as college baseball fans, can be happy for the fact that 27 of the 50 players in this year's World Series also played college baseball. That is 54 percent of the rosters. Arizona has 17 former collegians on its roster including Brian Anderson (Wright State), Rod Barajas (Cerritos JC), Greg Colbrunn (signed with Stanford but did not attend), David Dellucci (Ole Miss), Erubiel Durazo (Pima CC), Steve Finley (Southern Illinois-Carbondale), Luis Gonzalez (South Alabama), Mark Grace (Saddleback CC and San Diego State), Randy Johnson (USC), Damien Miller (Viterbo College), Curt Schilling (Yavapai CC), Greg Swindell (Texas), Matt Williams (UNLV), Bobby Witt (Oklahoma) and Tony Womack (Guilford College).

The Yankees have 11 collegians on its post-season rosters, including Scott Brosius (Linfield College), Roger Clemens (San Jacinto and Texas), Todd Greene (Georgia Southern), David Justice (Thomas More College), Chuck Knoblauch (Texas A&M), Tino Martinez (Tampa), Mike Mussina (Stanford), Andy Pettitte (San Jacinto), Jorge Posada (Calhoun CC and signed with Alabama but did not attend) and Jay Witasick (Brevard CC and Maryland-Baltimore County).

Of the 27 former college players, four have now appeared in the College World Series (and likely eaten at Zesto's once or twice) and the MLB World Series. That list includes Roger Clemens (Texas, 1983), Randy Johnson (USC, 1984), Todd Greene (Georgia Southern, 1991) and Mike Mussina (Stanford, 1988). Mussina helped Stanford to its second straight CWS title in 1988, while Clemens helped the Longhorns to the CWS title in 1983.

I am excited about the future of college baseball and the upcoming 2002 season. Pay close attention to the NCBWA Preseason All-America Team released in the next few weeks, one or two of those guys just might be in the MLB World Series soon.

Until pitchers and catchers report....

Barry Allen
NCBWA President, 2001-02
Assistant Media Relations Director
The University of Alabama

College World Series format could change (From NCAA NEWS)

The NCAA championships/competition cabinet is discussing with ESPN the possibility of adjusting the format for the College World Series, effective with the 2003 championship. The new format would provide for the eight teams to compete in two four-team double-elimination brackets with the winners advancing to a best-of-three series. It was agreed that the cabinet could approve, at its February meeting, a recommendation from the committee to alter the format. The initial discussions at the cabinet level took place on Oct. 23-24, 2001, at NCAA executive committee meetings in Indianapolis.

UNO's Maestri Honored With Re-Naming of Field

The University of New Orleans athletics department in conjunction with the University executive administration have announced that a fund-raising dinner and baseball tournament will honor the 29 years of service from former baseball coach and athletics director Ron Maestri. The university also plans to rename the baseball field to Ron Maestri Field at Privateer Park. An "Evening with Mase" will be a fund-raising event which will be held on Friday, February 1, 2002 at Lakefront Arena. Guest speakers include former Los Angeles Dodgers manager Tommy Lasorda, former major leaguer Sal Bando and LSU athletics director Skip Bertman.

The inaugural Ron Maestri Classic will be held February 22-24, 2002, with Missouri, Notre Dame and Southern Illinois joining the Privateers. The official ceremony to rename the field will take place on Feb. 23 prior to the Notre Dame-UNO game. The four teams featured have former Privateers as head coaches; Missouri coached by Tim Jamieson; Notre Dame coached by Paul Manieri; Southern Illinois coached by Dan Callahan, and UNO's Randy Bush.

Coach Maestri built the Privateers into a national power, and this includes seven NCAA Tournament berths in their first 10 Division I seasons. The Privateers won 518 games and never had a losing season during his 14-year tenure, and in 1984 the Privateers became the first Louisiana school to reach the Division I College World Series. Coach Maestri had 43 players reach the professional ranks and five made the major leagues (Eric Rasmussen, Roger Erickson, Randy Bush, Mark Higgins, and Wally Whitehurst). Maestri stepped down in 1985 as head baseball coach but continued on as athletics director until his retirement in March, 2000. On June 24, 1995, he became the first Privateer to be enshrined in the Louisiana Sports Hall of Fame at Natchitoches.

COLLEGIATE BASEBALL's 2002 Top Division I Recruiting Classes

1. Southern California
2. LSU
3. Notre Dame
4. Miami (Fla.)
5. Stanford
6. Mississippi
7. Clemson
8. Arizona State
9. Florida State
10. South Carolina
11. Oklahoma
12. Texas
13. Cal State-Fullerton
14. Georgia Tech
15. Oklahoma State
16. Texas Tech
17. San Jose State
18. Mississippi State
19. Vanderbilt
20. Cal. State Northridge
21. Tennessee
22. Arkansas
23. Alabama
24. Rice
25. Baylor
26. UCLA
27. Wichita State
28. California
29. Long Beach State
30. Texas A&M

Clemson's Leggett Named to Western Carolina Hall of Fame

Clemson head baseball coach Jack Leggett, the winningest baseball coach at Western Carolina with 302 victories in nine seasons, was inducted into the Western Carolina Athletic Hall of Fame on Oct. 12 in Cullowhee, N.C. Leggett led the Catamounts to an unprecedented five consecutive Southern Conference Championships and five straight NCAA tournament bids from 1985-89. Two of his teams, 1985 and 1987, finished the season ranked among the nation's top 30. The 1987 squad reached the NCAA Midwest Regional championship game. Western averaged 33 wins per season during Leggett's tenure and played in the SoCon Championship game in eight of his nine seasons. In addition to his success on the field 100 percent of the players who completed their eligibility with the Catamounts, received a degree from WCU. Three players earned Academic All-America honors.

Leggett has coached Clemson to 380 wins in just eight years - an average of 47.5 wins per year - and has 757 career wins in his 22 years as a Division I head coach. The Tiger skipper has coached Clemson to the NCAA Tournament every year he has been at Clemson, and this includes three berths in the College World Series (1995, 1996 and 2000). In 2001, Clemson won at least 40 games for the 16th consecutive year and made it to the NCAA Tournament for the 15th straight year. The Tigers swept through the Clemson Regional to qualify for their third straight Super Regional, one of just six schools to do so, before falling to Miami (Fla.), the eventual national champion.

Calling All College Players to Belgium, the Netherlands

The Warriors Baseball Club is looking for qualified collegiate players for its 2002 tour of Belgium and Holland. The Warriors Baseball Club, founded in 1988 to foster goodwill and international understanding through baseball, is looking for collegiate players to fill their roster for a tour of Belgium and Holland in July, 2002. Players must be currently enrolled or NCAA, NAIA or Junior College students of good character, solid academic background and well grounded fundamental baseball skills. The Warriors will take only 18 qualified players on the tour which departs Los Angeles on July 1, 2002, returning July 15th. During the tour, the Warriors will compete in the Belgium Open Tournament in Antwerp, Belgium. This tournament annually draws National Teams from such nations as France, Germany, Russia, and Holland. In addition, select teams from Australia and USA have taken part each of the past four years. The tournament is played July 3-7, 2002. Following the Belgium Open, the Warriors travel to Apeldoorn, Holland, where they will play in the Apeldoorn Baseball Series. Again, playing against a mixture of European and American competition, the Warriors will enjoy a week of quality baseball and social events hosted by the local club, Robur '58. This tournament is played July 9-14, 2002.

Any player interested in participating with the Warriors must, in order to protect his amateur status and collegiate eligibility, raise his share of the team's travel expenses (approximately \$2600 per player in 2002). This can be done through personal funds or through sponsorships. Players should contact the Warriors for details. Please forward by return email the names of any players in your program you feel meet the requirements for the Warriors squad. In your reply, please provide your name, school/club program name, mailing address, telephone and return email address along with the names of the players you are recommending. Players and coaches should contact World-Sport at: (800) 496-8687, (310) 314 8872, fax

Wrldsport@aol.com, or visit the World-Sport website at: www.worldsport-tours.com.

TCU Breaks Ground on New Stadium

The TCU baseball program moved a step closer to national prominence Thursday, October 18, as the University officially broke ground on the Charles and Marie Lupton Baseball Stadium.

The \$7.0 million ballpark will be located between the Bayard H. Friedman Tennis Center on the north, the Lowdon Track on the west and the Garvey-Rosenthal Soccer Stadium on the east. Lupton Stadium, with approximately 2,200 permanent seats, will give TCU baseball one of the nicest facilities in the nation after playing more than 40 seasons at the TCU Diamond.

Project Quick Facts:

- * A cantilevered roof system will cover part of the stadium grandstand, protecting fans from the sun or rain.
- * Lupton Stadium will feature locker rooms for TCU and visiting teams, as well as a dressing areas for the umpires. The 1,000 square-foot home locker room will feature 35 custom-built lockers. Located underneath the main grandstand, the locker room will provide direct access to the third-base dugout. The home locker room will also have day offices and dressing areas for the coaching staff.

- * In addition to the locker rooms, the complex will include laundry facilities, sports medicine/training room, and an equipment room.
- * Indoor hitting cages for the TCU baseball team will be available for year-round use.
- * Players will use big-league style, heated dugouts, complete with bat and helmet racks.
- * The baseball stadium will have three skybox suites, giving a luxurious view for baseball during TCU games.
- * Fans outside will also have a fantastic view and will be able to watch baseball games in any part of the stadium, including upper-deck club seats, bleacher seating or even grass-bermed seating. A patio area will also be available for TCU fans along the first-base line.
- * The main concession areas and restrooms will be located on the concourse just inside the main gate.
- * Media representatives will cover games from one of the top press facilities in college baseball. The press box will have 12 seats for working media, plus booths for both home and visiting radio outlets.
- * A 350-square foot room on the west side of the stadium will be used as a team meeting room and also for post-game press conferences.
- * The baseball stadium's playing field will feature the latest technology in field maintenance, featuring a Bermuda TIFF 419 surface.

Latest All-Time Division I Baseball Rankings by Victories

The current NCAA Division I baseball Top 100 by victories as researched by NCBWA, the Big 12 Conference and the University of Minnesota Media Relations Office. The Nos. 1-6 positions remained the same, and recent research of earlier seasons by Arizona State helped the Sun Devils climb from ninth to seventh on the all-time list. Southern California also has inched within 26 wins of No. 2 Texas while baseball-famous Fordham continues to hold a 400-plus advantage over the current national team runnerup. The NCBWA will be sending a list in coming weeks of missing data for several schools, most notably Columbia, which had a scrapbook and notebook possibly lifted by a archives-happy entrepreneur or curious student from the Columbia Sports Media Relations Office. Thankfully, a special archive and files of Lou Gehrig photos were left intact in the storage area.

A breakdown of the Top 25 teams by conferences includes Pacific-10 5, Big 12 4, Big Ten 4, Ivy League 3, Atlantic Coast 3, Southeastern 2, Conference USA 1, ECAC 1, and Western Athletic 1.

All-Time NCAA Division I Baseball Records

(Through 2001; Ranked by Victories; Research: University of Minnesota, Big 12 Conference)

School	Seasons	Overall	Pct.	All	
				Conference Games	Pct.
1. Fordham	142	3,132-1,480-39	.679	27-37	.422
2. Texas	105	2,653-832-26	.761	1,151-389	.747
3. Southern California	107	2,627-1,331-44	.664	938-527	.640
4. Michigan	134	2,325-1,273-37	.646	864-486	.640
5. Stanford	109	2,279-1,447-32	.612	813-701	.537
6. Washington State	106	2,261-1,276-17	.639	918-581	.612
7. Arizona State	71	2,227-1,094-1	.671	578-321	.643
8. Arizona	97	2,207-1,132-21	.659	602-368	.621
9. Harvard	133	2,193-1,355-32	.618	510-334	.604
10. Clemson	104	2,134-1,194-29	.641	530-250	.679
11. Illinois	122	2,106-1,249-34	.628	901-615	.594
12. California	120	2,088-1,512-13	.580	803-829	.492
13. Florida State	54	2,076-773-8	.729	238-77	.756
14. Minnesota	110	2,069-1,206-26	.631	828-536	.607
15. Yale	136	2,068-1,762-42	.540	455-445	.506
16. North Carolina	111	2,066-1,233-36	.626	467-333	.583
17. Mississippi State	111	2,029-1,136-26	.641	704-544	.613
18. Alabama	108	2,022-1,149-23	.638	717-554	.564
19. Fresno State	57	2,020-1,108-2	.646	348-181	.658
20. Texas A&M	99	2,014-1,142-34	.638	872-572	.604
21. Ohio State	118	1,994-1,296-40	.606	724-562	.563
22. Oklahoma State	89	1,986-956-4	.676	608-291	.676
23. Louisville	92	1,975-1,909-10	.509	68-86	.442
24. Princeton	117	1,962-1,580-46	.553	481-443	.521

25. Oklahoma	97	1,948-1,102-10	.639	785-450	.636
26. San Diego State	63	1,924-1,150-37	.626	775-481	.617
27. Notre Dame	109	1,923-1,169	.622	101-33	.754
28. UCLA	82	1,914-1,603-24	.544	702-850	.452
29. Santa Clara	111	1,909-1,498-28	.560	544-378	.584
30. Miami (Fla.)	56	1,901-727-15	.723	-----	.---
31. Michigan State	117	1,846-1,469-28	.557	447-477	.484
31. South Carolina	110	1,846-1,204-17	.605	153-127	.546
33. Florida	87	1,826-1,202-23	.604	709-451	.611
34. LSU	106	1,818-1,244-10	.594	659-577	.545
35. Georgia Tech	104	1,781-1,201-26	.597	434-418	.509
36. Missouri	105	1,774-1,137-18	.605	700-509	.579
37. Indiana	106	1,741-1,361-21	.561	552-755	.416
38. Georgia	115	1,725-1,279-21	.574	579-649	.471
39. Iowa	111	1,705-1,359-27	.556	615-672	.478
40. North Carolina State	96	1,699-1,055-27	.617	441-346	.560
40. Baylor	100	1,699-1,246-7	.577	764-693	.524
42. Oregon State	92	1,694-1,165-15	.593	760-546	.582
43. Virginia Tech	108	1,691-1,092-26	.608	180-105	.632
44. Seton Hall	116	1,668- 930-22	.642	226-128	.638
45. West Virginia	105	1,662-1,115-18	.598	193-115	.627
46. Central Michigan	95	1,636-939-16	.635	452-264	.631
47. Penn State	113	1,624-948-21	.631	132-136	.493
48. Ohio	120	1,619-1,077-8	.601	566-395	.589
49. Duke	108	1,617-1,265-3	.561	260-499	.352
50. Delaware	111	1,610-935-28	.633	193-57	.772
51. Virginia	107	1,601-1,437-38	.529	383-467	.451
52. Pennsylvania	126	1,597-1,354-42	.541	94-86	.522
53. Vanderbilt	103	1,591-1,385-32	.537	383-694	.356
54. Wichita State	67	1,588-714-8	.690	392-192	.671
55. Elon	103	1,571-1,126-1	.582	23-19	.548
56. Nebraska	101	1,570-1,211-17	.565	599-605	.498
57. Wake Forest	93	1,569-1,078-21	.593	363-423	.462
58. Pepperdine	62	1,567-1,078-22	.590	590-266	.689
59. Georgia Southern	58	1,565-988-0	.611	205-115	.641
60. Lafayette	136	1,551-1,339-32	.537	15-43	.259
61. Tennessee	93	1,537-1,211-16	.565	542-576	.485
62. TCU	104	1,534-1,335-25	.535	597-782	.433
63. Arkansas	79	1,518-1,022-6	.598	373-318	.540
64. Purdue	112	1,516-1,504-37	.504	539-807	.400
65. Grambling	75	1,512-535-0	.739	57-33	.633
66. Tulane	94	1,511-1,035-12	.593	231-229	.502
67. Indiana State	106	1,502-1,038-19	.591	238-254	.484
67. Bradley	101	1,502-1,139-12	.569	275-300	.478
69. Auburn	67	1,494-943-7	.613	680-543	.556
69. Stetson	86	1,494-1,126-11	.570	50-34	.595
71. Navy	106	1,492-913-29	.620	43-17	.717
72. Villanova	123	1,485-1,010-24	.595	183-167	.523
73. Brigham Young	65	1,484-801-10	.649	590-230	.719
74. Holy Cross	113	1,477-937-26	.612	28-32	.467
74. Maine	119	1,477-1,191-15	.554	159-107	.598
76. San Jose State	77	1,473-1,300-7	.531	444-451	.496
76. Northwestern	130	1,473-1,595-30	.480	501-918	.353
78. Cornell	132	1,451-1,529-31	.487	414-477	.465
79. Hawai'i	71	1,447-970-17	.599	344-235	.615
80. Miami (Ohio)	86	1,423-1,081-9	.568	492-486	.503
80. Washington	99	1,423-1,234-16	.536	655-735	.471
82. California Poly	96	1,414-1,313-13	.519	54-79	.406
83. Sam Houston State	52	1,413-880-4	.616	166-157	.514
83. Mississippi	76	1,413-1,155-14	.550	556-639	.465
85. Southern Illinois	55	1,401-891-11	.611	197-263	.428
86. Wisconsin	114	1,391-1,164-27	.544	542-541-6	.501
87. Kansas	112	1,383-1,354-16	.505	522-796	.396
88. Illinois State	100	1,370-1,241-20	.524	195-261	.428

89. Rutgers	131	1,366-1,158	.541	100-41	.709
89. Kentucky	91	1,366-1,187-23	.537	475-636	.428
91. St. John's (N.Y.)	123	1,357-651-13	.672	206-144	.589
92. Iowa State	109	1,346-1,412-17	.488	479-694	.408
93. Texas-Pan American	46	1,341-857-2	.610	-----	.---
94. Louisiana Tech	99	1,332-1,034-2	.563	546-402	.563
95. Richmond	86	1,327-926-11	.589	198-143	.581
96. Rice	85	1,323-1,272-3	.510	547-831	.397
97. Vermont	104	1,320-1,138-33	.537	133-130	.506
98. Kansas State	100	1,317-1,372-7	.490	448-810	.356
99. Western Carolina	74	1,306-922-7	.586	326-154	.679
100. Memphis	52	1,305-882-13	.597	66-87	.431

NATIONAL COLLEGIATE BASEBALL WRITERS ASSOCIATION

Founded in 1962, the NCBWA is dedicated to the advancement of college baseball. Membership is open to writers, broadcasters and publicists of the sport. Members receive a membership card, directory, newsletter updates and official votes in the Howser Award Player of the Year, Regional Player of the Year and NCBWA All-America voting. The NCBWA also sponsors preseason All-American awards, publication and writing contests. Additionally, the organization will be launching a website this spring at www.ncbwa.com. For membership, send annual dues (\$15.00), along with mailing address, phone, fax and e-mail address information to Russell Anderson, NCBWA Treasurer, c/o Conference USA, 35 East Wacker Drive, Suite 650, Chicago, IL 60601.

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