



NATIONAL COLLEGIATE BASEBALL WRITERS NEWSLETTER

(Volume 42, No. 3, Apr 1, 2003)

NCBWA President's Message By NCBWA President Rob Carolla

Hello again from the President's Desk. As the sports world focuses in on "March Madness", we are back again for a visit during the continuing baseball season. I want to start by passing along congratulations to Salve Regina's Damian Costantino. The standout outfielder broke baseball's all-time consecutive game hitting streak by extending his to 60 straight games earlier this month. When his streak came to an end, it was the first time he had gone hitless since 2001! Best wishes to Damian and his team the remainder of the season.

By now, each of you should have received the new NCBWA Directory. We hope you find this a valuable reference and benefit of your membership. If you have any other ideas on how we can provide more with membership in the NCBWA, please let us know.

One idea that has been suggested is a regular portion of the newsletter clarifying unusual or noteworthy scoring issues that surface during a college baseball game. If any member has had an unusual scoring situation in a game that required a little extra "referencing" of the NCAA Rule Book, please let me know. I will be happy to include the situations (and solutions) in a future newsletter. Hopefully, this "Scoring Spotlight" can help to make the lives of all in your press box a little easier.

One final request to our media members and friends of the organization. If you haven't already done so, please take a moment to head out and see your local college team. There are some great players who work hard and deserve our attention. With the arrival of spring, it's also a great reason to get out from behind that computer! I urge to take the time out, I'm sure you'll enjoy it.

The thoughts and prayers of the NCBWA officers are also with the United States troops in the Middle East. Whatever your feelings may be on the conflict, I'm sure we can all agree that a top priority is to have the troops come home safely!

Once again, thank you for all your support of college baseball. Best wishes and luck for a great spring!

Rob Carolla

NCBWA President

The BIG EAST Conference

NCBWA National Hitters, Pitchers of the Week

Feb. 24—Hitter: C.J. Smith, 1B, Florida; Pitcher: Kyle Sleeth, Wake Forest

Mar. 4—Hitter: Jeff Cook, OF, Southern Mississippi; Pitcher: Alan Johnson, Mississippi State

Mar. 11—Hitter: Ronnie Prettyman, DH, Cal State Fullerton; Pitcher: Jeff Garner, Central Michigan

Mar. 18—Hitter: Anthony Raglani, OF, Washington; Pitcher: Jarrett Gardner, Arkansas

Mar. 25—Hitter: Michael Aubrey, 1B, Tulane; Pitcher: Tom Robbins, Southwest Texas

Apr. 1—Hitter: Ryan Braun, 1B/DH, Miami (Fla.); Pitcher: Matt Luca, UNLV

2003 Dick Howser Award Nomination Process Outlined, Ballot Attached

For the fifth year in succession, NCBWA, the St. Petersburg Area Chamber of Commerce, and BASEBALL AMERICA are starting the process for nomination and awarding of the 17th annual Dick Howser Trophy.

Nominations will be accepted by faxing or emailing candidates to: (214-753-0145; Attn: Bo Carter) or email: bo@big12sports.com.

Deadline for receiving the first set of nominations is Sunday, Apr. 13. Write-in candidates may be submitted at each position on any of the three ballots. The first ballot will be emailed on Thursday, Apr. 17, with deadline for voting on Apr. 26. A second ballot with semifinalists for the Howser Trophy and NCBWA All-America team will be emailed on Thursday, May 8, with a May 16 return deadline. Final balloting will be on Thursday, May 29, with a return deadline of June 5. Please check subsequent NCBWA Newsletters and with various Conference offices or the NCBWA for additional data or deadlines. Presentation of the 17th annual Dick Howser Trophy will be in Omaha on Friday, June 13, with time and location to be determined.

The winner's name is inscribed on the permanent trophy, a bronze bust of Howser permanently displayed at Tropicana Field in St. Petersburg, home of the Tampa Bay Devil Rays and the 1999 NCAA Men's Basketball Final Four. Both the winner and his school receive a special trophy to keep.

The St. Petersburg Area Chamber of Commerce has had over 100 years of community service since its founding in 1899. The organization has long been a vital force in the baseball affairs of the city, both in spring training and during the pursuit of a major league baseball franchise for the Tampa Bay area, and continues its solid role in the 21st Century.

NCBWA membership includes writers, broadcasters and publicists. Designed to promote and publicize college baseball, it is the sport's only college media-related organization, founded in 1962.

The Howser Trophy was created in 1987, shortly after Howser's death. 1987-98 winners were selected by the American Baseball Coaches Association.

Previous winners of the Howser Trophy are Mike Fiore, Miami, 1987; Robin Ventura, Oklahoma State, 1988; Scott Bryant, Texas, 1989; Alex Fernandez, Miami-Dade Community College South, 1990; Frank Rodriguez, Howard College (Texas), 1991; Brooks Kieschnick, Texas, 1992 and 1993; Jason Varitek, Georgia Tech, 1994; Todd Helton, Tennessee, 1995; Kris Benson, Clemson, 1996; J.D. Drew, Florida State, 1997; Eddy Furniss, LSU, 1998; Jason Jennings, Baylor, 1999; and Mark Teixeira, Georgia Tech, 2000; Mark Prior, Southern California, 2001; Khalil Greene, Clemson, 2002.

For further information about the Howser Trophy, please contact: David Feaster, Chair, Dick Howser Trophy Committee, 1717 73rd Circle, NE, St. Petersburg, FL 33702, (727) 388-1000.

2003 Dick Howser Trophy or NCBWA All-America Team Nomination Form

Pos.	Name, School	Class	BA	AB	R	H	HR	RBI

Name, School (L/R)	Class	W-L	ERA	G	IP	H	BB	SO	SV

Please Fax (214-753-0145) or email (bo@big12sports.com) – Attn: Bo Carter if faxing...Thanks!

FSU's Coach Mike Martin Moves into 4th in NCAA DI Victories

No. 2 Florida State (20-2) erased a 5-2 deficit to defeat St. Joseph's (1-7) by a final score of 11-5 as 2,316 fans looked on at Dick Howser Stadium on March 11. With the victory, head coach Mike Martin took sole possession of ninth place on the NCAA Division I all-time coaching victory list. Martin, who is in his 24th season as a head coach (all at FSU), is 1,259-418-3 all-time. He passed former Florida State and Georgia Southern coach Jack Stallings with the win. After starter Mark Sauls gave up five runs (two earned) on six hits in 3.2 innings with some shaky defense behind him, the Seminole bullpen came through with 5.1 perfect innings. Daniel Davidson (2-0) earned the win in relief of Sauls as he tied a career-high with seven strikeouts in 3.1 innings of work. Rhett James and Daniel Hodges worked the eighth and the ninth to secure the win. St. Joseph's scored two early runs in the top of the second inning. Jason Volker doubled off the right field screen and Michael DeLorenzo followed with a homer to right.

Other Coaching Milestones, Etc.

TCU coach Lance Brown recorded his 500th career victory in the Horned Frogs 5-2 win over Houston on March 29. He has won all 500 games as head coach of TCU since 1987...Texas mentor Augie Garrido became just the second Division I baseball coach to win 1,400 career games when his Longhorns defeated Texas Tech, 5-4 on March 28...Florida State mentor Mike Martin reached the 1,250 triumph mark in the middle of his 24th season with the Seminoles...Mississippi State head coach Ron Polk, already possessing the most victories of any coach in any sport overall in Southeastern Conference history, has a shot at the 1,200 standard after starting the year at 1,156 in his 30th season at MSU, Georgia Southern and Georgia. His MSU Bulldogs opened the year at 17-3-1 and were No. 10 nationally in the Mar. 25 NCBWA poll...Indiana mentor Bob Morgan is just two victories away from 1,000 at the start of the week after taking the Hoosiers to a 13-2 start this spring...Indiana State's Bob Warn across the state is closing in on 1,000 with 977 victories after a 13-3 opening with the Sycamores in 2003.

NCBWA Sponsoring Division II Poll

Thanks to the cooperation of several Division II SIDs and the coordination by Slippery Rock publicist Bob McComas, the NCBWA is now sponsoring a weekly poll for Division II schools. The poll can be accessed through the following link: <http://www.sru.edu/pages/5059.asp>

NCBWA Debuts Division III National Players of the Week

Spearheaded by the efforts of John Arenberg of Emory University, the NCBWA has added Division III National Players of the week to its growing schedule of awards. The weekly winners are released on Tuesday afternoons. Here's a look at this season's winners thus far:

Mar. 11—Hitter: Brad Franklin, Guilford; Pitcher: Dustin Jones, Bridgewater

Mar. 18—Hitter: Elliot Strader, Hardin-Simmons; Pitcher: Dennis Reilly, Lebanon Valley

Mar. 25—Hitter: Vince Mancuso, Wisconsin-Oshkosh; Pitcher: A.J. Hutton, Worcester State

2003 USA BASEBALL NATIONAL TEAM TRIALS ROSTER

(8 players announced March 26, 2003)

Trials will be held June 21-27, 2003 in Tucson, AZ
National Team Final Roster will be announced June 27
 (subject to the approval of the USOC)

2003 USA Baseball Selection Shows on [MLB Radio](#)

**[Click here to read about the USA Baseball National Team
Player Selection Procedure](#)**

Player	Pos	Ht	Wt	B/T	Yr	College	Hometown
Humber, Philip*	RHP	6-4	210	R/R	So	Rice	Carthage, Texas
Janish, Paul	IF	6-2	180	R/R	So	Rice	Cypress, Texas
Lumsden, Tyler	LHP	6-4	200	R/L	So	Clemson	Roanoke, VA
Nickeas, Mike	C	6-0	205	R/R	So	Georgia Tech	Westlake Village, CA
Niemann, Jeff	RHP	6-9	260	R/R	So	Rice	Houston, Texas
Street, Huston*	RHP	6-0	179	R/R	So	Texas	Austin, Texas
Verlander, Justin	RHP	6-4	179	R/R	So	Old Dominion	Goochland, VA
Weaver, Jered	RHP	6-6	200	R/R	So	Long Beach State	Simi Valley, CA

* 2002 National Team

Coaching Staff

Tanner, Ray	HC	South Carolina	Columbia, SC
Cooke, Dick		Davidson	Davidson, NC
Scalf, Mark		UNC Wilmington	Cary, NC
Weathers, Mike		Long Beach State	Irvine, CA

Administration

Cohen, Steve	Team Director	Brooklyn Center, MN
Gebeck, Chris	Athletic Trainer	Duluth, MN
Kitick, Andrew	Press Officer	Columbia, SC

2003 USA Baseball National Team [Game Schedule](#)

Once Team USA takes the field this summer, log on to
www.usabaseball.com for LIVE game scoring, player stats,
and other news.

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 has launched a website 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.

NCBWA 2003 OFFICERS

President:

Rob Carolla, BIG EAST Conference 401-453-0660 rcarolla@bigeast.org

Vice-President:

Jeff Hurd, Western Athletic Conference 303-799-9221 jhurd@wac.org

2nd Vice-President:

Mike Montoro, Southern Miss 601-266-5947 michael.montoro@usm.edu

3rd Vice-President:

Todd Lamb, Ohio State 614-292-6861 lamb.8@osu.edu

Executive Director:

Bo Carter, Big 12 Conference 214-753-0102 bo@big12sports.com

Secretary/Treasurer:

Russell Anderson, Conference USA 312-553-0483 rdanderson@c-usa.org

Board of Directors: Kip Carlson, Oregon State, 541-737-3072, kip.carlson@orStateedu; Barry Allen, Alabama, 205-348-6084 (ballen@ia.ua.edu); Ken Krsolovic, State Joseph's U, 610-660-1704 (kkrsolov@sju.edu)

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OFFICE PHONE _____

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MAKE CHECK (\$15) PAYABLE TO:

NCBWA

REMIT TO:

Russell Anderson
NCBWA Treasurer
c/o Conference USA
35 East Wacker Drive, Suite 650
Chicago, IL 60601