



NATIONAL COLLEGIATE BASEBALL WRITERS **NEWSLETTER**

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NCBWA President's Message

By NCBWA President Mike Montoro

Though the holiday and bowl seasons are here upon us, we hope the recently-released preseason NCBWA All-America team will bring some warm thoughts of spring to you.

Our deepest sympathies go to the family and friends of late NCBWA member Matt Smith, who died while on a basketball road trip to Mississippi State on Dec. 3. The South Alabama SID was a frequent contributor and one of the top young SIDs in the nation. His passing at this time of the year strikes home particularly hard to those who knew or worked with Matt.

Don't forget to email any news items to Bo Carter (bo@big12sports.com) for the newsletter, and thanks for staying attuned to some upcoming developments which can affect the NCBWA and college baseball as a whole. There are some exciting possibilities and some possible new awards on the horizon, so be on the watch for nomination forms, releases and other forthcoming information.

In the meantime, here's wishing you the happiest of holiday seasons (and bowls for many of you), safe travels, and good cheer for the end of 2004 and the start of what promises to be an outstanding year in 2005.

Mike Montoro
NCBWA President

NCBWA Member Matt Smith of South Alabama Dies Suddenly

Matt Smith, media relations director for the University of South Alabama, died unexpectedly on Dec. 3, 2004, of an apparent heart attack in Starkville, Miss., while traveling with the USA basketball team. He was 35 years old.

"It is with deep regret I report the loss of Matt," said Joe Gottfried, USA athletic director. "He was a dedicated member of the athletic department team and will be sorely missed. He was committed to the University and had a positive attitude that made working with him a true pleasure."

Smith had been with USA's athletic department for eight years, where he oversaw the publicity for all 15 intercollegiate sports programs. A native of Spanish Fort, AL., Smith graduated from Fairhope High School and attended Faulkner State Community College, where he served as baseball manager and sports reporter. He earned a bachelor's degree in Sports Journalism from Southeastern Louisiana University in 1996.

Smith was an integral part of Mobile's sports community, lending his talent to the LPGA AFLAC Tournament of Champions, the Nike Tour Championship, the Senior Bowl, the Alabama/Mississippi High School All-Star Classic and the GMAC Senior Bowl. He also served as a part-time official scorer for the Mobile Bay Bears.

He was a member of the College Sports Information Directors of America, the Alabama Sports Writers Association and the National Collegiate Baseball Writers of America. He had worked as a correspondent for several newspapers throughout the South, including the Mobile Register, Gulf Coast Newspapers, The Advocate (Baton Rouge, LA.), and the Denham Springs (La.) News.

A wake was held for Matt Smith on Monday, Dec. 6, at Spanish Fort United Methodist Church, located at the intersection of Route 31 and Highway 225. Funeral services for Smith were Dec. 7 at Spanish Fort United Methodist Church, with burial at Wilson Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, the family asks that memorial contributions be made to the American Heart Association.

2005 NCBWA Preseason All-America Team

Led by standout lefthander Ricky Romero (14-4 last season) of defending NCAA champion Cal State Fullerton, the sixth annual National Collegiate Baseball Writers Association preseason 2005 All-America team might be a dream-come-true for any Division I coach.

Romero joins standout starters Cesar Ramos (12-4) of Long Beach State, Aaron Rawl (13-4) of South Carolina and Jeff Lincecum (10-3) of Washington for a combined 2004 mark of 49-15 while relief aces Will Startup of Georgia, Ryan Doherty of Notre Dame and Blair Erickson of UC Irvine with 40 total saves among them on the first team.

Last summer's 2004 NCBWA postseason squad featured several solid seniors and many drafted juniors and had just two returnees for the pre-2005 squad. Nebraska 3B Alex Gordon (.365-18 HR-75 RBI) and William & Mary OF Chris Rahl (.389-20 HR-70 RBI) were first team members of the '04 after-year group.

The '05 entity included student-athletes from 15 different conferences and is dominated by juniors. There were 30 members of this class, 16 seniors and 12 sophomores on the "dream" team. No freshmen made the squad as committee selection was based largely on 2004 season performances.

An almost-all-junior infield (with senior John Mayberry of Stanford representing the fourth-year people) on the first unit includes Mayberry's Stanford teammate Jed Lowrie at second base, Long Beach State shortstop Tony Tulowitzki and catcher Kiel Thibault of Gonzaga. The top unit outfield features sluggers Rahl, Brad Corley (.380-19 HR-55 RBI) of Mississippi State and Ohio State's Steve Carvati (.391-9 HR-52 RBI). The first team included five standouts who either were Players of the Year or Pitchers of the Year for their conferences last spring and summer. Relief man Blair Erickson of UC Irvine led the nation with 17 saves in 30 appearances.

The NCBWA second squad includes 12 youngsters whose teams made the '04 NCAA tournament and Team USA catching stalwart Taylor Teagarden of '04 NCAA runnerup Texas. Seven of the eight pitchers on the second team had earned run averages under 3.50 against aluminum-bat competition while these standouts averaged almost one strikeout per inning pitched.

On the third team nationally-recognized 2B Justin Turner and OF Danny Dorn of Cal State Fullerton, 1B Michael Paulk (17 homers) of Cal State Northridge, '04 freshman sensation SS Shelby Ford of TCU, and OF Craig Cooper of Notre Dame are among a cavalcade of talent. Three of the pitchers among that crew posted double-figure wins while the relief trio combined for 26 saves.

Gonzaga's Thibault leads all hitters selected with a .424 average as a sophomore while nine of the batsmen smashed at least 16 home runs. There are 13 returnees from 2004 NCAA World Series participants CSUF, Texas, Georgia, Arizona, South Carolina, LSU, and Miami (Fla.) on all units. Every team but a balanced 2004 Arkansas squad had representation in the NCBWA advance '05 balloting.

A committee of NCBWA officers and board members chose the 2005 edition after receiving over 300 nominees from 100-plus Division I programs.

2005 Preseason NCBWA All-America Team

Pos. Name, School	Class	<u>First Team</u>					
		BA	AB	R	H	HR	RBI
1B John Mayberry, Stanford	Sr.	.333	216	53	72	16	62
2B Jed Lowrie, Stanford	Jr.	.399	233	72	93	17	68
3B Alex Gordon, Nebraska	Jr.	.365	211	64	77	18	75
SS Tony Tulowitzki, Long Beach St	Jr.	.317	230	40	73	7	44
C Kiel Thibault, Gonzaga	Jr.	.424	205	44	87	3	35
OF Brad Corley, Mississippi State	Jr.	.380	245	60	93	19	55
OF Steve Carvati, Ohio State	Sr.	.391	235	46	92	9	52
OF Chris Rahl, William & Mary	Jr.	.389	229	73	89	20	70
DH/ATH Stephen Head, Ole Miss	Jr.	.348	221	40	77	12	52

Pitching: 6-2, 3.08 ERA, 16 G, 61.1 IP, 62 H, 15 BB, 53 SO, 5 SV

Pos. Name School	Cl.	W-L	ERA	G	IP	H	BB	SO	SV
SP Ricky Romero, Cal State Fullerton	Jr.	14-4	3.37	22	155	146	42	126	0
SP Cesar Ramos, Long Beach State	Jr.	12-4	2.29	19	133.2	108	35	97	0
SP Aaron Rawl, South Carolina	Sr.	13-4	4.28	20	122	135	17	98	0

SP Tim Lincecum, Washington	So.	10-3	3.53	20	112.1	83	82	161	0
RP Will Startup, Georgia	Jr.	7-2	2.22	33	81	55	23	70	12
RP Ryan Doherty, Notre Dame	Jr.	5-1	2.45	29	33	18	11	44	11
RP Blair Erickson, UC Irvine	So.	1-3	4.10	30	37.1	33	21	51	17

Second Team

<u>Pos. Name, School</u>	<u>Class</u>	<u>BA</u>	<u>AB</u>	<u>R</u>	<u>H</u>	<u>HR</u>	<u>RBI</u>
1B Josh Morris, Georgia	So.	.315	203	42	64	16	67
2B Warner Jones, Vanderbilt	Jr.	.414	268	55	111	11	74
(tie) 3B Ryan Zimmerman, Virginia	Jr.	.361	249	49	90	1	45
3B Jim Geldhof, Central Mich.-28 SB	Sr.	.427	227	74	97	9	68
SS Cameron Blair, Texas Tech	Sr.	.371	256	65	95	14	81
C Taylor Teagarden, Texas	Jr.	.273	260	50	71	10	51
OF Trevor Crowe, Arizona-26 SB	Jr.	.350	203	53	71	5	33
OF Travis Buck, Arizona State	Jr.	.373	225	64	84	9	58
OF Byron Barber, Coll. of Charleston	Sr.-25 SB	.410	261	63	107	0	58
DH/ATH Dennis Bigley, Oral Roberts	Jr.	.301	146	30	44	7	29

Pitching: 13-1, 2.91 ERA, 16 G, 117.2 IP, 95 H, 25 BB, 100 SO

<u>Pos. Name School</u>	<u>Cl.</u>	<u>W-L</u>	<u>ERA</u>	<u>G</u>	<u>IP</u>	<u>H</u>	<u>BB</u>	<u>SO</u>	<u>SV</u>
SP Wade LeBlanc, Alabama	So.	8-4	2.01	16	112.2	87	26	97	0
SP Jason Urquidez, Arizona State	Sr.	12-3	3.41	19	97.2	90	47	94	0
SP Cesar Carillo, Miami (Fla.)	Sr.	12-0	2.69	19	113.2	93	43	91	2
SP Ian Kennedy, Southern California	So.	7-2	2.91	16	92.2	86	31	120	1
SP Mark Romanczuk, Stanford	Jr.	11-3	4.31	17	108.2	112	39	94	0
RP Danny Gil, Miami (Fla.)	Jr.	8-0	3.03	27	38.2	23	27	49	5
RP Craig Hansen, St. John's	Jr.	2-2	2.90	31	40.1	17	16	59	10
RP Anthony Rea, Santa Clara	Sr.	5-1	1.68	30	53.2	36	10	53	13

Third Team

<u>Pos. Name, School</u>	<u>Class</u>	<u>BA</u>	<u>AB</u>	<u>R</u>	<u>H</u>	<u>HR</u>	<u>RBI</u>
1B Michael Paulk, Cal State Northridge	Jr.	.356	225	43	80	17	59
2B Justin Turner, Cal State Fullerton	Jr.-14 SB	.304	262	74	84	0	34
2B Jim Negrych, Pittsburgh	So.	.378	201	44	76	7	45
3B Steve Pearce, South Carolina	Sr.	.346	266	60	92	21	70
SS Shelby Ford, TCU	So.	.301	249	66	75	16	56
C Schuyler Williamson, Army	Sr.	.357	199	52	71	12	48
C Jeff Clement, Southern California	Jr.	.293	198	38	58	10	43
OF Danny Dorn, Cal State Fullerton	Jr.	.318	242	50	77	4	59
OF Ryan Patterson, LSU	Sr.	.341	293	70	100	14	67
OF Jon Jay, Miami (Fla.)	Jr.	.368	234	51	86	6	56
OF Craig Cooper, Notre Dame	Jr.	.360	175	42	63	10	48
OF Drew Stubbs, Texas-28 SB	So.	.301	266	51	80	8	47
DH/ATH Brian Bogusevic, Tulane	Jr.	.339	236	51	80	10	68

Pitching: 9-6, 4.19 ERA, 17 G, 111.2 IP, 128 H, 25 BB, 84 SO, 0 SV

<u>Pos. Name School</u>	<u>Cl.</u>	<u>W-L</u>	<u>ERA</u>	<u>G</u>	<u>IP</u>	<u>H</u>	<u>BB</u>	<u>SO</u>	<u>SV</u>
SP Daniel Bard, North Carolina	So.	8-4	3.88	16	95	94	31	68	0
SP Ronald Hill, UNC-Wilmington	Sr.	12-4	3.62	19	104.1	121	22	59	0
SP Clayton Turner, Northwestern State	Sr.	10-3	3.50	16	100.1	87	42	103	0
SP Zach Zuercher, Rhode Island	Jr.	8-3	2.82	17	92.2	56	44	123	1
SP Patrick Ezell, Southern Miss	So.	6-2	3.57	17	90.2	101	14	73	0
SP Jason Meyer, Texas A&M	So.	8-2	2.89	24	106	88	41	111	3
SP Michael Gardner, Texas-Arlington	Jr.	11-3	2.49	16	105	84	33	77	0
SP Ryan Mullins, Vanderbilt	Jr.	9-3	2.58	17	111.2	104	20	98	0
RP Neil Jamison, Long Beach State	Sr.	3-5	4.35	30	31	17	12	31	12
RP J. Brent Cox, Texas	Jr.	6-2	2.21	37	63.2	55	19	63	5
RP Brian Pellegrini, St. Bonaventure	So.	4-3	2.25	25	31.1	32	19	32	9

Miami (Fla.), Oklahoma State Complete Assistant Coaching Staffs

Miami and Oklahoma State have completed their diamond coaching staffs for the 2005 season.

Head coach Jim Morris of UM made an October addition to his coaching staff with the hiring of Joe Mercadante to work with the Hurricanes' catchers. Mercadante, who replaces Greg Lovelady, was an assistant coach at P.K. Yonge High School in Gainesville, Fla., last season. He caught at the University of Florida for the 2002 and 2003 seasons. Lovelady, who was UM's volunteer assistant coach from 2002-2004 accepted an assistant coaching position at Wright State.

"We did an extremely thorough search where I interviewed and talked to a lot of candidates," Morris said. "I felt that Joe was the right piece of the puzzle to come in here and help us. His strength is catching and that is exactly what we need." Mercadante graduated from P.K. Yonge High School in 1999. He was a four-year letterman for coach Bob Hawkins and was named the team MVP as a senior. Out of high school he attended Jefferson Davis Community College in Brewton, Ala., and helped lead the team to a JUCO Regional title and a berth in the Junior College World Series. He then transferred to Delgado Junior College in New Orleans for his sophomore season. Mercadante arrived at Florida in 2002 and hit .471 in a reserve role for the Gators. He missed most of his senior season due to injury before beginning his coaching career.

OSU's Frank Anderson tabbed former North Carolina State assistant Billy Jones and former Bacone College head coach Robin Harriss as new assistant coaches for '05. Jones will be in charge of the hitters and replaces Robbie Wine who was named the head coach at Penn State in August, while Harriss will work with the catchers. He replaces Jason Bell who joined Wine at PSU as the pitching coach.

"I think both Billy and Robin will fit in extremely well here and I am excited to have them here," said head coach Frank Anderson.

Jones spent three seasons at North Carolina State and helped lead the Wolfpack to two NCAA appearances, including a super regional appearance in 2003. He was promoted to assistant head coach last season and was the team's recruiting coordinator while in Raleigh. He also worked with the team's defense and base running and significantly improved the team's fielding percentage during his three-year stay. NC State had a .952 fielding percentage the year before he arrived in 2001, and under his guidance the team had a .958 percentage in 2002, a .966 mark in 2003 and a .976 mark in 2004 that was fourth best in the nation. In the fall of 2003, Jones was one of five finalists for Baseball America's National Assistant Coach of the Year Award.

Harriss, who was a catcher at Texas Tech from 1993-94, joins the OSU staff after one season as the head coach at Bacone College. He led them to regional play and finished ranked 17th in the country with a 46-15 record. This past summer he was the head coach off the Grandbury Generals of the newly formed Texas Collegiate League. Prior to his head coaching stint at Bacone, Harriss was an assistant coach in charge of hitting at the school before leaving to become the volunteer coach at Texas A&M in the fall of 2003. During the 2001 season, Harriss was the Field Manager for the Greenville Bluesmen Professional Baseball Club in Greenville, Miss., and was a marketing associate for the San Angelo Colts Professional Baseball Club the prior season.

Serrano Named ABCA/BASEBALL AMERICA Assistant Coach of Year

Dave Serrano has been named the American Baseball Coaches Association/Baseball America Assistant Coach of the Year for his work at Cal State Fullerton during the 2004 season. It turned out to be quite a year for Serrano, 40. He participated in a College World Series title as Fullerton's pitching coach, and UC Irvine named him its head coach less than a month later.

"It's an honor to be on the list of assistant coaches that have won this award in past years," Serrano said. "It would be wrong for me not to share this award with Rick Vanderhook and Chad Baum and the other (Fullerton) assistant coaches who helped me win this award. "It's wonderful that this was accomplished in the year that the team reached the ultimate goal. Both of these will stay with me for a long time." Titans head coach George Horton received praise for winning his first national title but credited Serrano for the success of the pitching staff. Under Serrano's tutelage, the Titans posted a 1.83 ERA in six games in Omaha and senior righthander Jason Windsor earned CWS Most Outstanding Player thanks to two complete-game victories and a save to cap a 13-4, 1.72 season. "I think it's well deserved," Horton said. "I know I'm a little biased, but if he wasn't the best assistant in the country, he was tied for the best." Serrano joined Horton at Fullerton in 1997. The two had prior history at Cerritos (Calif.) Junior College, where Serrano played for Horton (1984-85) and served as his pitching coach (1988-90). Serrano stayed at

Cerritos after Horton left for Fullerton in 1991 and then served as pitching coach at Tennessee in 1995 and 1996.

PREVIOUS WINNERS

1999--Dean Stotz, Stanford
2000--Tim Corbin, Clemson
2001--Brian O'Connor, Notre Dame
2002--Jim Toman, South Carolina
2003--Jim Lawler, Texas A&M

USA Baseball, Upper Deck Compile 25th Anniversary Card Set

Following two successful fundraising card set releases, Upper Deck and USA Baseball announced they have teamed to compile a 204-card 25th Anniversary USA Baseball Box Set featuring 180 of the organization's most distinguished alumni.

Celebrating USA Baseball's quarter-century existence as the national governing body for amateur baseball, the set will provide collectors with the opportunity to collect authentic signature and game-used jersey cards in addition to the regular issue cards. The signatures, which are inserted at a three-per-boxed set ratio, were signed in black, blue, and red ink. Collectors will find generally the red signatures are the most difficult to find, followed by the blue and then black signatures.

Highlighting the list of autograph signers are Hall of Fame managers Tommy Lasorda and Frank Robinson; 1984 Olympic Silver Medalists Will Clark and Mark McGwire; and current stars Nomar Garciaparra (Chicago Cubs), Mark Prior (Chicago Cubs) and John Smoltz (Atlanta Braves). Prior was 2001 recipient of the Xanthus Howser Trophy, presented by Xanthus, the Greater St. Petersburg Chamber of Commerce and the NCBWA.

"Each autograph included in these sets was donated by our alumni, and it has allowed us to provide a comprehensive set which we believe captures the essence of the organization's first 25 years," said David Perkins, USA Baseball's Director of Marketing and Licensing. "Over the past 12 months, USA Baseball has worked closely with our alumni to secure these autographs and obviously we have received tremendous support from the players."

Two other notable managers who inked cards for the set are Terry Francona (who starred at the University of Arizona), manager of the World Series Champion Boston Red Sox and the 2001 USA Baseball World Cup Team, and legendary Southern California skipper Rod Dedeaux, manager the 1984 Olympic Baseball Team.

The 200-card regular issue set also includes 18 USA Baseball Memorable Moments' cards which capture some of the greatest achievements from all three levels of the group's National Team programs, Youth National Team (16-under), Junior National Team (18-under), and National Team (collegiate).

"We anticipate that as collectors open these sets they will find cards of many players they did not know played for USA Baseball," said Perkins. "This is an opportunity to both raise funds necessary to support our athlete programs and to showcase an alumni-base that represented this country at the highest levels of international baseball competition before going onto Major League Baseball success."

Also included in each box set is one of six collectible pins featuring 25 years of the USA Baseball logos. When assembled, the pin collection forms a picture of the 1995 Gold Medal Winning Junior National Team.

The concept for the set developed following Team USA's loss to Mexico at the 2003 Olympic Qualifying Tournament in Panama. As a result of the defeat, the organization lost approximately twenty-five percent of its 2004 funding. All proceeds from the sale of the sets will be used to offset that shortfall. A limited number of the 25th Anniversary USA Baseball Box Sets can be purchased directly from USA Baseball via the organization's website www.usabaseball.com. Collectors can also purchase sets at hobby stores throughout the United States.

St. Joseph's Hall of Fame Adds Five

Tom McHugh, Jerry Connors, Steve Alemi, Rick Bickhardt and Chuck Malloy are the latest inductees into the Saint Joseph's University Baseball Hall of Fame. Their induction brings the roster to 28 former players and coaches.

McHugh, a 1954 graduate, came to Saint Joseph's from Brooklyn Prep (NY), on a basketball scholarship but wasted no time making his mark on the diamond. During his freshman year, he became the first player in the history of Saint Joseph's to throw a no-hitter, when he led the Hawks to a 3-2 victory over Temple. McHugh allowed only two walks that came around to score on an errant throw.

Connors, an outfielder and a 1965 grad, came to SJU from Washington, D.C. He began his career during the 1963 season but saw limited action during his first two years on Hawk Hill. Things changed during his senior year when he hit .414, 12th best in the nation, with 11 RBI, nine stolen bases, and three doubles, all of which were team highs.

A native of Audubon, N.J. (Audubon High School), Alemi was a four-year starter at shortstop for the Hawks before graduating in 1977. He established himself as a star during his freshman year on Hawk Hill after hitting a team high .314, with 23 runs scored, eight doubles, five home runs and 20 RBI. As tri-captain during his senior year, Alemi hit .306 while leading the Hawks to a 20-10 record and a berth in the East Coast Conference playoffs.

Bickhardt established himself as the ace of the Hawks pitching staff during the late 1980s. Over his four years (1986-89), Bickhardt ranked either first or second on the team in innings pitched, strikeouts and complete games. An Academic All-District choice in 1989, during his junior year his 46 K's were fifth best in the Atlantic 10. The Haverford, Pa. native finished his career ranked among SJU's career leaders with 28 starts (1st), 213.1 innings pitched (2nd), 146 strikeouts (3rd) and 15 complete games. The Texas Rangers selected the Haverford High School product in the 45th Round of the 1989 Amateur Draft.

Malloy, a native of Philadelphia, Pa. and graduate of LaSalle High School, rewrote the Hawks' record book during his four-year career, which spanned from 1991-1994. His 18 wins and eight saves placed him first in SJU history when he graduated, while his 183 strikeouts ranked second. Twice named the Hawks' Pitcher of the Year, Malloy ranked 14th in the nation in strikeouts per nine innings (10.8) and was named Second Team All-Atlantic 10 as a senior.

Monmouth Names Two Assistants

Monmouth University has announced the appointment of Danny McMurtry and Chris Rampone to the Hawks' baseball coaching staff. McMurtry will serve as pitching coach and handle recruiting for the Monmouth Hawks baseball team. He comes to West Long Branch from the University of Louisiana-Lafayette, where he was a three-time All-Academic Sunbelt Conference pitcher. McMurtry also served as a graduate assistant coach during the 2003 and 2004 seasons.

A native of Cheyenne, Wyoming, McMurtry helped lead the Ragin' Cajuns to the NCAA Tournament in 2002 after playing his first two seasons at Howard Community College. While at Howard C.C., McMurtry received the Most Distinguished Student Athlete Award and at Louisiana-Lafayette he won the award for General Studies Graduate of the Year, and was a finalist for graduate of the year.

Rampone comes to West Long Branch as an assistant coach to mentor players in hitting and pitching strategies. Rampone comes to the Hawks from Montclair State University, where he was a coach in 2003 and 2004. Prior to his stint at Montclair State, Rampone coached New Brunswick High School in 2001 and 2002 and guided the Bayley-Ellard High School to the 2000 Conference Championship. He started his championship tradition at Roxbury High School where in his four years at the helm, the team won three county championships in 1996, 1997, and 1998.

College of Charleston Adds to Baseball Wall of Fame

The College of Charleston inducted its inaugural members into the school's baseball Wall of Fame as part of its Fall World Series weekend. Former Cougars Billy Colome, Joey Foxhall, Travis Howell, Monte Lee and Scott Oliver were honored.

Billy Colome was a middle infielder for the Cougars in 1998 and 1999 playing both second base and shortstop. He had a career batting average of .384 over 112 games and finished with 126 runs scored, 10 homers, 32 doubles, seven triples, 80 RBI and 82 stolen bases. Colome earned All-American honors in 1999 by the National Collegiate Baseball Writers Association and his 29-game hitting streak in 1999 is still

the school and Southern Conference record. He earned All-TAAC honors in 1998 and was named to the All-Southern Conference team in 1999.

Joey Foxhall played second base and third base for the Cougars during his career from 1996 to 1999 and was a three-time Academic All-American. Foxhall earned All-TAAC honors in 1998 as a second baseman and All-Southern Conference honors in 1999 as a third baseman. He played in 217 games and hit .313 for his career with 41 doubles, three triples, four homers and 91 RBI. He scored 176 runs, collected 255 hits and stole 43 bases. His two triples in one inning versus Brown on March 13, 1998, is still tied for the most in NCAA history. Foxhall is Charleston's career record holder in games played, at bats, singles and is second in hits and runs scored.

Travis Howell played in 171 games during his career from 1996-99 and sported a .352 batting average. He earned All-Southern Conference honors and Academic All-American honors in 1999. Howell collected 209 hits, scored 162 runs, had 31 doubles, three triples and 27 home runs. He drove in 147 runs, had 102 walks and stole 56 bases during his career. He is tied for first on the school's career home run list and ranks second in RBI and third in runs scored and bases on balls.

Monte Lee played in 206 games batting .333 during his career from 1996 to 1999. He was drafted by the St. Louis Cardinals in 1999, becoming the first position player selected in school history. He earned All-District Academic honors in 1999 and was the first player in school history to belt three homers in a contest when he blasted three home runs at South Carolina in 1999. He had 240 career hits, scored 156 runs, added 50 doubles, six triples, 22 homers, 150 RBI with 88 walks and 66 stolen bases. Lee ranks first on the school's all-time list for RBI, second in doubles and total bases, third in at bats and fourth in runs scored and games played.

Scott Oliver pitched for Charleston from 1996 to 1999 and was drafted in the 8th round by the New York Yankees in 1999. His 24 career wins is the most in school history. He's first on the school's all-time list with 52 games started, complete games with 15, strikeouts with 341 and innings pitched with 341 2/3. All total, he made 62 appearances during his career and sported a 24-19 record with two saves and a 4.72 ERA.

College Baseball Foundation, West Texas Professional Baseball Unveil Museum Plans

The College Baseball Foundation in conjunction with West Texas Professional Baseball, Inc. unveiled its plans for creating a centerpiece exhibit museum in a \$100-million Entertainment and Retail Complex in a press conference held this afternoon in Lubbock on the campus of Texas Tech University. The complex will be located in Wolfforth, at the junction of West 82nd Street and U. S. Highway 62/82. This site was chosen for the immediate access of a major artery and four-lane highway within the growth trend of southwest Lubbock County.

WTPB unveiled the project's phased master plan that includes retail, hotel and professional office developments. The baseball stadium and adjacent College Baseball Hall of Fame building will serve as an anchor to the destination-based development. The project is being designed by 360 Architecture, which was recently formed through the merger of two leading architectural firms - CDFM2 Architecture and Heinlein Schrock Stearns. The firm provides a variety of services on projects ranging from arenas to office buildings to mixed-use entertainment districts. Current projects include: the New York Jets Stadium, University of Missouri Paige Sports Arena, Stockton Events Center and the Kansas City LIVE! Downtown Entertainment District.

Craig Wallace Construction, Inc. of Lubbock will serve as the projects general contractor and oversee the build out of the entire complex, with American State Bank of Lubbock also assisting in financing. The initial plan calls for the stadium, practice diamond, restaurant over-looking the field and administrative offices to be linked with additional commercial office and retail space, restaurant pad sites and two hotels by a "Main Street Boulevard" through the heart of the design.

The Ballpark itself is designed with a main bowl of 5,610 permanent seats, with an additional 1,514 Club Level, Private Suite, Party Suite, Outdoor Terrace Suite and berm seating areas pushing total capacity over 7,100. Located adjacent to the baseball stadium, will be the newly announced College Baseball Hall of Fame. In conjunction with WTPB and the Southwest Collection/Special Collections Library at Texas Tech University as its' central archive, the College Baseball Foundation will develop the first truly comprehensive collegiate Baseball Hall of Fame Museum, featuring historical documentation and memorabilia collected from throughout the sport's 140-plus-years' history.

The Hall of Fame will contain over 15,000 square feet of exhibition and fan interactive space, with a 125-seat theater, pro shop and box office. A picnic and playground area across the concourse along the

Hall of Fame promenade, a 360 degree rotating scoreboard and video screen, plus Wrigley Field style special bleacher seating on the roof of the Hall of Fame building, will make this a focal point of fan activity.

"The visionary leadership at WTPB has made this project become a reality at an accelerated rate," said College Baseball Foundation Trustee and Hall of Fame Executive Director John Askins. Not only will this be a state of the art baseball and entertainment facility, it creates a new national focal point for college baseball. The Hall of Fame will chronicle the games' past and help publicize the growth of college baseball into the future."

Negotiations are ongoing by the WTPB to secure a minor league baseball tenant, as well as making the ballpark the home of the Texas Tech Red Raiders. Talks are also underway to secure additional events including: collegiate, interscholastic and club level events. WTPB is a partnership comprised of 10 different entities or individuals, all local residents of Lubbock, including Craig Wallace, of Craig Wallace Construction Inc., Rick Dykes, former Texas Tech and University of Arizona assistant football coach, and WTPB General Manager Clay Powell.

"The completed development will become a true destination spot for West Texas and Eastern New Mexico, not just a baseball stadium," said Powell. "We will begin construction in late December or early January for an early 2006 opening. The economic impact will be significant for Lubbock and Wolfforth, the new job creation and increase in tax revenue will be a welcome addition to West Texas".

"This is one of the most exciting events to take place in West Texas and it is even more meaningful that it is happening in Wolfforth," said Wolfforth Mayor L.C. Childers. "We look forward to a long and successful relationship between both parties."

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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