

NCBWA PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE
by Chuck Dunlap

It's hard to believe that we are less than three short weeks away from the start of conference tournament play in college baseball. What an incredibly quick season thus far. I am starting to see more and more 'NCAA Tournament and Regional Projections', so certainly an exciting time of the year is just a mere few weeks away. Considering all the shakeup in our poll, it looks to be one of the most wide-open NCAA Tournament fields in quite some time, which is only fitting to have this kind of excitement heading into Rosenblatt's last stand.

Speaking of the poll, we have received a lot of great feedback from many media, SIDs, etc. regarding the fairness, accuracy and overall consistency of the NCBWA Poll. We very much appreciate all the hard work Jeremy Mills and others put into that project weekly, and urge you to use the poll as often as you can. I feel it is certainly one of the best true polls in college baseball.

The 2010 NCBWA All-American nomination process started this week. Be on the lookout for items related to the electing of those teams in the coming weeks, as various other awards and watch list finalists will be released in the coming weeks as well.

Back to conference tournaments, the SEC will implement a pitch-clock for its tournament on an experimental basis in an attempt to speed up play, namely to be more fan and television friendly and help ensure games are played in under three hours. It will be interesting to see the effects of this, which are estimated to be as much as 15-20 minutes per game, which can add up on a four-game day. If it goes well, I will be curious to see if this option remains permanent, other conferences follow suit or if television networks seek to implement a pitch clock in future NCAA Tournaments.

There was big news on the NCAA front recently regarding the future of media guides. The NCAA will still allow media guides to be produced – they just cannot be given to prospective student-athletes. I've already heard some concerns from many, while some schools and conferences have already decided what guides they will and will not produce in 2010-11. Baseball will obviously be a big question on the minds of most who read this. As a sport that is the No. 2 revenue producer for the NCAA and top three for many NCAA institutions, I and many others look forward to what the future holds for baseball media guides.

Enjoy the final weeks of what will surely be a fantastic finish to the 2010 season and an even greater postseason.



NCAA AND CWS, INC., ANNOUNCE COLLEGE WORLD SERIES LEGENDS TEAM

As part of the commemoration of the final Series in Omaha's Johnny Rosenblatt Stadium, the NCAA and College World Series, Inc., have announced the official College World Series Legends Team.

The 28 members of the Legends Team, pared down from an original list of 95 nominees, were selected after more than 100,000 votes were cast by college baseball fans, college baseball writers and Division I head baseball coaches. The members of the Legends Team are former student-athletes and coaches who had the best CWS performances throughout the 60 years the event has been played at Rosenblatt Stadium.

Voting for the team was based solely on the former student-athletes' performance when they were competing in the NCAA College World Series, and not for any regular season or post-collegiate performances.

FRESHMAN ALL-AMERICAN NOMINATION PROCESS

For the third straight year, the NCBWA will accept nominations and oversee the selection process of the NCBWA Freshman All-America teams.

The NCBWA will name a First and Second Team as well as a National Freshman Hitter and Pitcher of the Year. Each team will consist of four infielders, a catcher, four outfielders, a DH/utility player, four starting pitchers and three relief pitchers.

Nominations are open to any NCAA Division I freshman who is truly deserving of this honor. Nominations will be accepted **beginning May 24** (to include statistics through games of May 23) by emailing candidates to rbomberger@liberty.edu.

THIEL'S CRUSADE SAVES UW-LA CROSSE BASEBALL

Considering that Zach Thiel spearheaded the effort to save baseball at UW-La Crosse, one might expect that he is a past member of the team's roster, or even an alumni of the university. However, the Lakeshore Technical College graduate says that's not the case. "I'm just a huge sports fan and follow everything from bowling to football to baseball,"

However, Zach's cousins, Garrett and Gavin Scray, both do play baseball for the UW-La Crosse Eagles. On June 12th, 2009 Zach received an e-mail from Garrett and Gavin's mother explaining that the university planned to terminate the program unless \$50,000 could be raised in under three months. Zach was shocked.

"I couldn't believe such a longstanding tradition and baseball program would just be taken out of the community," he says. "I was determined not to let this program dissolve like ones at many other colleges."

Zach offered to help and the team gladly accepted, he created a fundraising website, www.saveuwlbaseball.com. "Within a few hours of the site launch we were already getting hits, and the hits increased by the hour," Zach says.

He also began emailing, calling, and meeting potential donors, alumni, baseball players and fans, and people the community. He reached out to newspapers in Wisconsin and surrounding states, local TV stations, and even national networks, which began to pick up the story. "Interview requests came in and articles went out, all relaying the message that the UW-La Crosse baseball program needed monetary help," says Zach.

The summer of 2009 was "absolutely crazy," Zach says. "I would spend easily three to four hours a night, every night of the week, working on spreading the word and trying to drum up support."

By the end of July, the campaign had raised \$40,000. Then, on Zach's birthday in August, he received the best present he could have asked for when UW-La Crosse announced that it would be able to structure the money raised in order to save the baseball program for the 2010 season.

Zach's efforts earned him not only the thanks of players and fans of UW-La Crosse baseball, but also the Distinguished Service Award from the Wisconsin Baseball Coaches Association. Yet Zach is quick to defer credit to others who played a part.

"Without the interest of so many media outlets and individuals showing a willingness to save the program, we wouldn't be getting ready for a 2010 season," he says. While the 2010 season is saved, more work is

COLLEGE WORLD SERIES LEGENDS TEAM

Name	School	Pos.	Year in CWS
Will Clark	Mississippi State	1B	1985
Dustin Ackley	North Carolina	1B	2007-09
Bob Horner	Arizona State	2B	1976-78
Todd Walker	LSU	2B	1993-94
Spike Owen	Texas	SS	1981-82
Nomar Garciaparra	Georgia Tech	SS	1994
*Darwin Barney	Oregon State	SS	2005-07
Sal Bando	Arizona State	3B	1964-65
Robin Ventura	Oklahoma State	3B	1986-87
*Pat Burrell	Miami (Fla.)	3B	1996-98
Fred Lynn	USC	OF	1971-73
Dave Winfield	Minnesota	OF	1973
Terry Francona	Arizona	OF	1979-80
Barry Bonds	Arizona State	OF	1983-84
Mark Kotsay	Cal State Fullerton	OF	1994-95
J.D. Drew	Florida State	OF	1995-96
Steve Arlin	Ohio State	P	1965-66
Burt Hooton	Texas	P	1969-70
*Eddie Bane	Arizona State	P	1972-73
Huston Street	Texas	P	2002-04
Jason Windsor	Cal State Fullerton	P	2003-04
Landon Powell	South Carolina	C	2002-04
Ryan Garko	Stanford	C	2001-03
Pete Incaviglia	Oklahoma State	DH	1983-85
Brooks Kieschnick	Texas	DH	1992-93
Skip Bertman	LSU	Coach	1986-87, 89-91, 93-94, 96-98, 2000
Rod Dedeaux	USC	Coach	1951, 55, 58, 60-61, 63-64, 66, 68, 70-74, 78
Augie Garrido	Cal State Fullerton/Texas	Coach	1975, 79, 82, 84, 92, 94-95 / 2000, 02-05, 09

2010 NCBWA STOPPER OF THE YEAR MIDSEASON WATCH LIST

Pitcher	School	Cl.
James Allen	Kansas State	So.
Kevin Arico	Virginia	Jr.
Billy Barber	Richmond	Jr.
DJ Baxendale	Arkansas	Fr.
Lance Baxter	South Alabama	Sr.
Brett Bochy	Kansas	Jr.
Russell Brewer	Vanderbilt	Jr.
Andrew Burkett	Cincinnati	Sr.
Garret Carruth	Texas State	Sr.
Kevin Chapman	Florida	Jr.
Adam Cimper	Washington	Fr.
Adam Conley	Washington State	So.
Rye Davis	Western Kentucky	So.
Ryan Duke	Oklahoma	Jr.
Austin Fleet	Coastal Carolina	Fr.
Chris Franklin	Southeastern Louisiana	Sr.
Tyler Gebler	Rutgers	Fr.
Dan Gentzler	Maryland	Jr.
David Gutierrez	Miami	Sr.
Matt Hauser	San Diego	Sr.
Tom Heithoff	Evansville	Sr.
Neil Holland	Louisville	Jr.
Jon Ivie	Belmont	Jr.
Josh Janway	Southeastern Louisiana	So.
Chris Kaminski	Jacksonville	Jr.
Dan Klein	UCLA	So.
Ben Rowen	Virginia Tech	Sr.
Patrick Lawson	Charlotte	Sr.
Drew Mahaffey	The Citadel	Jr.
Kevin McKague	Army	Jr.
David McKnight	BYU	Jr.
Kevin Munson	James Madison	Jr.
Kyle Necke	UC Irvine	Sr.
Matty Ott	LSU	So.
Chris Patterson	Appalachian State	Sr.
Brooks Pinckard	Baylor	Jr.
Nick Peptone	Tulane	So.
Ryne Purcell	Eastern Kentucky	Jr.
Chance Ruffin	Texas	Jr.
Gera Sanchez	New Mexico	So.
Chad Sheppard	Northwestern State	So.
Seth Simmons	East Carolina	Jr.
John Soldingier	Manhattan	Fr.
John Stilson	Texas A&M	So.
Jordan Swagerty	Arizona State	So.

Bob Feller, Rickey Henderson, Bruce Sutter, fellow Mobile native Ozzie Smith, and Aaron at the celebration prior to the Apr. 14 home opener for the BayBears against the Birmingham Barons. Also scheduled to participate are Major League Baseball commissioner Bud Selig, Minor League president Pat O'Conner, Southern League president and Aaron/Mays contemporary Don Mincher, and National Baseball Hall of Fame president Jeff Idelson.

2010 COLEMAN COMPANY-JOHNNY BENCH AWARD WATCH LIST

The Greater Wichita Area Sports Commission recently added Brock Benett (Alabama), Trent Garrison (Fresno State) and Chad Noble (Northwestern) to the official watch list for the 2010 Coleman Company-Johnny Bench Award delivered by Papa John's Pizza:

The watch list will be narrowed down to the semifinalists, whom will be announced May 19, 2010. Ballots will be sent to the national voting panel at the end of May for a vote to determine the three finalists. The finalists will be announced June 2, 2010 prior to the NCAA Regionals and Major League Baseball Draft.

A final vote among the national committee will occur during the College World Series. All finalists will be brought to Wichita and the winner will be announced at the 13th Annual Greater Wichita Sports Banquet on July 1, 2010.

2010 Coleman Company-Johnny Bench Award Dates

May 19	Announce semifinalists
June 2	Announce finalists
July 1	Award presentation

needed to keep the program viable. Zach has worked with the team to create a new campaign to ensure the Eagles will take the field for at least the next five years, which will require raising \$175,000. It will again be a daunting challenge, but Zach explains he is willing to commit to the effort because of how important the impact will be.

"To me, baseball is more than just a sport. It promotes teamwork, discipline, builds dedication, and develops character, and all of these qualities are very important in a young person's life," he says. "We need to do everything we can to ensure baseball is in the alive and well for the UW-La Crosse and entire Wisconsin community."

WILLIE MAYS ATTENDS CHILDHOOD HOME/HANK AARON MUSEUM GRAND OPENING

Baseball Hall of Famer and Alabama icon Willie Mays joined an already-impressive list of dignitaries and Hall of Famers attending the grand opening of the Hank Aaron Childhood Home & Museum on Wednesday, April 14, at Hank Aaron Stadium.

Mays, who spend 22 seasons in the Major Leagues and ended up with 660 career home runs, has been considered for decades the greatest centerfielder of all time and shares the distinction with Aaron as the game's greatest living player.

Mays, two-time National League Most Valuable Player, earned 12 Gold Glove Awards and appeared in 24 All-Star Games. His epic moment perhaps is his over-the-shoulder of Vic Wertz's long drive to deep centerfield during the 1954 World Series against Cleveland.

Mays will join fellow Hall of Famers

NCBWA ANNOUNCES 2010 STOPPER OF THE YEAR MIDSEASON WATCH LIST

Forty-five players were named to the midseason watch list for the sixth annual National Collegiate Baseball Writers Association Stopper of the Year Award, given to the top relief pitcher in NCAA Division I baseball, as announced by the association.

Leading the elite field with a nation-best 11 saves is Virginia's Kevin Arico. The junior right-hander owns a 2.37 ERA and had registered 27 strikeouts in 19.0 innings pitched.

Also included on this year's mid-season watch list is 2009 finalist Matty Ott of LSU (0-0, 2.70), who ranks second in the nation with 10 saves. Last year, Ott, the 2009 SEC Freshman of the Year, set a new high for the most single-season saves in LSU history with 16 and carried his team to a national championship. Oklahoma's Ryan Duke (0-1, 1.59) and Appalachian State's Chris Patterson (2-1, 0.77) each hold 10 saves apiece, tying them for second in the country with Ott.

The Big 12 Conference leads the way with six players named to the mid-season watch list. The ACC, Pac-10, SEC and Southland Conference have four pitchers each on this year's watch list, while the Big East Conference is represented by three players. In all, 20 conferences are showcased in this year's mid-season watch list.

At the conclusion of the regular season, the Division I national saves leader and four other relief pitching standouts will be selected as finalists and released Wednesday, June 2, prior to start of NCAA regional tournament competition. The NCBWA's All-America Committee then will select the winner, with this year's recipient to be announced on the opening day of the College World Series on June 19.

REDDIE PITCHERS TOSS 25 INNINGS OF SHUTOUT BALL IN SERIES SWEEP

Shutouts in college baseball are rare, especially with the use of the aluminum bat. But to shutout a conference opponent for an entire three-game series is amazing.

That is exactly what Henderson State did this past weekend blanking Harding 9-0, 4-0 and 6-0 in a key conference series in Arkadelphia, Ark.

Henderson State, members of the NCAA Division II Gulf South Conference, had been struggling to find a solid pitching rotation.

The Reddie pitching staff entered the series with a 10.88 earned run average in Gulf South Conference play with opponents sporting a .374 batting average while averaging 11.3 runs per game.

"The guys did a great job of preparing during the week," Henderson Coach John Harvey said. "We had an opportunity to get back in the playoff race if they stepped up and they did."

2010 COLEMAN COMPANY-JOHNNY BENCH AWARD DELIVERED BY PAPA JOHN'S PIZZA WATCH LIST

Player	Cl.	School
Bryan Altman	Sr.	The Citadel
Jeff Arnold	Sr.	Louisville
Jett Bandy	So.	Arizona
Brock Bennett	Jr.	Alabama
Chris Berset	Sr.	Michigan
Alex Black	Jr.	Coppin State
Ty Boyles	Sr.	Gardner-Webb
Robert Brantly	So.	UC Riverside
Ross Brayton	Sr.	Cal Poly
Tyler Bullock	Sr.	Southern Illinois-Carbondale
Dan Burkhart	Jr.	Ohio State
Tony Caldwell	Jr.	Auburn
Chad Comer	Jr.	UT Arlington
Josh Cryer	Jr.	Southeastern Louisiana
Kevin David	Jr.	Oklahoma State
Aaron Dudley	Sr.	Toledo
Zach Dygert	Sr.	Ball State
Justin Echeverria	Sr.	Stony Brook
Tyler Elkins	Sr.	Bowling Green State
Kyle Enders	Sr.	South Carolina
Erick Fernandez	Jr.	Georgetown
Kevin Flynn	Jr.	Hofstra
Blake Forsythe	Jr.	Tennessee
Dean Forthun	Sr.	Columbia
Trent Garrison	Fr.	Fresno State
Micah Gibbs	Jr.	LSU
Andrew Giobbi	Sr.	Vanderbilt
Victor Gomez	Jr.	Marshall
Yasmani Grandal	Jr.	Miami
Travis Graves	Sr.	Southern Miss
Ben Heath	Jr.	Penn State
Bryan Holaday	Sr.	TCU
Jose Iglesias	Sr.	Coastal Carolina
Jimmy Jacquot	Sr.	Cincinnati
Ed Jayjack	Sr.	UNC Greensboro
Aaron Johnson	Sr.	Illinois
Geoff Klein	Sr.	Santa Clara
Jim Klocke	Sr.	Southeast Missouri State
Kyle Knudson	Sr.	Minnesota
Matt Koch	So.	Loyola Marymount
Brandon LaRosa	Sr.	Bucknell
Francis Larson	Sr.	UC Irvine
Cody Lassley	Sr.	Wichita State
Cole Leonida	Jr.	Georgia Tech
Ryan Lipkin	Sr.	San Francisco
Rafael Lopez	Jr.	Florida State
Myckie Lughbauer	Sr.	Maine
Kyle Mahoney	Jr.	High Point
Jeremy Mayo	Jr.	Texas Tech
James McCann	So.	Arkansas
Cameron McConnell	Jr.	Notre Dame
Aaron Munoz	Jr.	Northwestern State
Mike Murray	Sr.	Wake Forest
Rafael Neda	Jr.	New Mexico
John Nester	Jr.	Clemson
Marcus Nidiffer	Sr.	Kentucky
Chad Noble	Sr.	Northwestern
Peter O'Brien	So.	Bethune-Cookman
Tyler Ogle	So.	Oklahoma
Joe Oliveira	Sr.	Pacific
Dominic Piazza	Jr.	Cal State Northridge
Nick Rickles	So.	Stetson
Cameron Rupp	Jr.	Texas
Carter Sackett	Jr.	Georgia State
Cody Stanley	Jr.	UNC Wilmington
Joey Stevens	Sr.	Eastern Kentucky
Beau Taylor	So.	UCF
Derek Trent	Jr.	East Tennessee State
John Turk	Sr.	Akron
Chris Wallace	Sr.	Houston
Adam Weisenburger	Jr.	Miami
Zane Williams	Sr.	Charlotte
Zach Wright	So.	East Carolina

2010 NCAA POSTSEASON DATES

Division I Regionals

June 4-7, 2010

To be determined (on- and off-campus sites)

Super Regionals

June 11-14, 2010

To be determined (on- and off-campus sites)

College World Series

June 19-29/30, 2010

Omaha's Johnny Rosenblatt Stadium

Omaha, Neb.

Creighton University, host

Division II Regionals

May 13-16, 2010

To be determined (on- and off-campus sites)

Finals

May 22-29, 2010

USA Baseball National Training Complex

Cary, North Carolina

Mount Olive College

and town of Cary, N.C., hosts

Division III Regionals

May 19-23, 2010

To be determined (on- campus sites)

Finals

May 28-June 1, 2010

Fox Cities Stadium

Appleton, Wisconsin

Lawrence University and the Fox Cities of

Wisconsin Convention and Visitors Bureau,

hosts

The series began with Jonathan Dooley taking to the hill in the first game. Dooley pitched a solid seven innings allowing just one hit and striking out a career-best eight batters facing just three above the minimum to pick up the win in game one.

The DeQueen, Ark. native walked three batters in the seventh, but worked out of the jam thanks to some great defensive play by Kendal Norman and Evan Eary on picking off Erin McCarver at second base to end the inning.

Shawn Hall and Gip Hendrix combined to pitch the final two innings allowing just one hit and preserving the win for Dooley who improved to 4-2 on the year.

In game two, Chase Cleveland took control and pitched a complete game shutout, allowing just three hits and striking out 11 batters to pick up the win and improve to 3-2 on the year.

The product of Pine Bluff walked just one batter and never was in trouble only facing five batters in an inning just once.

After the brilliant performances by Dooley and Cleveland on Saturday, it was Anthony Gilliland's turn Sunday.

Gilliland entered the game having only totaled 15.2 innings of work and just four strikeouts. On Sunday, the junior left-hander went the distance fanning eight batters, allowed four hits, and did not allow a walk.

A product of Midland, Texas, Gilliland faced just four batters above the minimum, faced no more than four batters in any one inning, and at one time retired 11 straight batters.

"I knew that Dooley and Cleveland were capable of pitching that well," Harvey added. "Gilliland had mono early in the year and hadn't thrown over 65 pitches in any outing before the weekend. We feel very fortunate that all three guys put it together for our big-

gest weekend of the year."

It is the first time since joining the GSC the Reddies have shutout their conference opponents in three straight games.

In fact, dating back to the early 1970's no Reddie pitching staff has recorded three straight shutouts in a 3-game series. The closest came on April 9-10 in 1994 when the Reddies beat Central Arkansas by scores of 8-1, 5-0, and 9-0.

According to Gulf South Conference records, no team has shutout an opponent in a three-game conference series dating back to at least 1995. Records prior to 1995 are inconclusive.

For the weekend series, the Reddie pitching staff struck out 28 total batters, walked just four, with Harding going 9-for-86 at the plate for a team .105 batting average. The Bisons collected just two extra-base hits, both being doubles.

MAJOR MIKE KAZLAUSKY NAMED AIR FORCE COACH

Maj. Mike Kazlauskis has been named interim head baseball coach at the Air Force Academy for the 2011 season, according to a recent announcement today from Director of Athletics Dr. Hans Mueh. Kazlauskis, who is currently an Air Officer Commanding (AOC) for cadet squadron 12 at the Academy, will assume his duties at the end of the current baseball season.

Kazlauskis will replace Mike Hutcheon, who after seven years at the helm offered his resignation upon completion of the 2010 season. Kazlauskis, otherwise known as "Coach Kaz" is a 1991 Academy graduate and has logged six years as an assistant coach at the Academy.

As one of the most inspirational and emotional players to ever wear the Air Force baseball uniform, Kazlauskis came to USAFA baseball as a walk-on and started all four years. At the time of his graduation, he held eight career records and still ranks among the top six in nine of the 13 offensive categories. A two-time all-Western Athletic Conference (WAC) selection, Kazlauskis led the Falcons in batting in 1989 and 1991.

After a standout baseball career with the Falcons, "Kaz" spent three seasons from 1993 to 1995 as an assistant coach to former Falcon Head Coach Paul Mainieri, now the head skipper at LSU. During this time, the Falcons posted three consecutive winning seasons. The 1994 team led the nation in batting average, slugging percentage and triples. The 1995 team won 29 games,

the second most in school history. After leaving the Academy in the summer of 1995, Kaz spent four years at Charleston Air Force Base, S.C., as a pilot in the C-17 aircraft.

He later returned to the Academy in the fall of 2000 till 2004 as a TG4 and T-41/C-150 evaluator pilot in the 94th Flying Training Squadron. In addition to his flight duties, he also served as the volunteer baseball coach for the Falcons as well as the Preparatory School head baseball coach. During his tenure, the 2002 Falcon team set the school record for most Div. I victories and two Falcon players were drafted into the minor leagues. Kazlauskis then returned back to Charleston Air Force Base in 2004. He spent the next two and a half years as a C-17 pilot actively serving in the War on Terror, before returning to the Academy from 2006-2008 for this third tour as an assistant baseball coach.

In 2007, Kazlauskis was inducted to the Lake County Hall of Fame in Lake County, Ill., for outstanding achievement. In 2008, he was inducted into the 14th Airlift Squadron Hall of Fame in Charleston, S.C. He and his wife, Kris, live in Monument with their daughter, Sammy (10) and son, Mick (7).

MCPHERSON COLLEGE ANNOUNCES ADDITION OF BASEBALL

McPherson College President Michael Schneider announced the school's plan to begin a baseball program with play scheduled to begin in the spring 2011.

"We are excited about the growth opportunities that baseball presents for the athletic department," said McPherson athletic director Jenni Richardson. "As McPherson College grows the athletic department wants to continue to be supportive of the strategic direction of the institution and baseball will allow us the opportunity to support enrollment growth initiatives."

The addition of the baseball program will push the number of intercollegiate sports at McPherson to 15. For the first season, McPherson will play an abbreviated conference only schedule with a full set of games to be played in 2012.

McPherson will join Kansas Wesleyan University, Tabor College, Bethany College, Ottawa University, Sterling College, Friends University and the University of Saint Mary to make eight schools within the KCAC that currently participate in baseball.

BRAVES PITCHER TIM HUDSON GIVES \$200,000 TO CHATTAHOOCHEE VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Atlanta Braves pitcher Tim Hudson returned to the place where his career took off, and what he brought with him, Hudson hopes, will allow many more baseball players to flourish.

Along with his wife, Kim, Hudson donated \$200,000 on Monday to the Chattahoochee Valley Community College baseball program — the single largest donation in the junior college's history. According to Alabama Community College Conference commissioner Al Cox, it is the largest baseball donation ever for the 22-team conference.

In a ceremony at Howard Lake Field on the school's campus, CVCC coach Adam Thomas accepted the large cardboard check and called the event a face-changing moment for the program.

"This means the entire world to us," Thomas said. "In one single moment, he's changed this program. It's an unbelievable gesture."

Approximately 50 people attended, including the Pirates baseball team, which played a role in the ceremony. After Hudson spoke, Thomas and his nationally ranked Pirates unveiled a few gifts of their own. CVCC officially retired Hudson's jersey number, giving him a framed No. 18 jersey. But they weren't done. With blue letters and gold trim, the No. 18 was permanently placed on the left-center field wall with "Tim Hudson" written across the numerals.

"This place was very instrumental in my career," Hudson said. "I'm proud to come back here and be a Pirate. I have a lot of great memories here."

"Hopefully this will be the first of many (numbers retired). This can help upgrade the facility and get this program more on the national scale and recruit kids from all over to come here."

While no immediate plans are in the works for the \$200,000, Thomas' wish list includes a new scoreboard, dugouts and field house. Thomas and CVCC president Laurel Blackwell will meet soon to discuss the plans, and Blackwell said the construction hopefully will begin this summer.

Howard Lake Field was built in 1980, and very few changes have been made since. The infield was redone in 2006, and the Pirates' new black wall, which was privately donated, was put up last summer.

For Thomas, who grew up playing football and baseball with Hudson in Phenix City, the donation was also personal.

"I can't say enough about Timmy the man," Thomas said. "We all know what he does on the field, but it takes on an entirely different meaning for me. We've basically known each other for 30 years. Timmy and Kim's kindness is just unbelievable."

Thomas and Hudson played together at CVCC, where Thomas was Hudson's catcher.

Hudson grew up in Phenix City and graduated from Glenwood in 1993. He was not recruited in high school, but B.R. Johnson, CVCC's coach at the time, signed the outfielder/pitcher to a scholarship. As a freshman, Hudson earned first-team All-American honors, leading the team in batting average (.385), home runs (9), RBIs (42), wins (10) and strikeouts (76).

Hudson set a school record his sophomore year with 117 strikeouts before moving on to Auburn University, where his senior year he was awarded the Rotary Smith Award, which recognizes the best college baseball player in the country. He was drafted by the Oakland Athletics in 1997 and made his major league debut in 1999. He joined the Braves pitching staff in 2005 and holds a lifetime record of 149-78 with a 3.48 ERA in 313 games.

Throughout his professional career, Hudson has received the Roberto Clemente Award (given to a major league baseball player for his philanthropic work) eight times. Tim and Kim founded the Hudson Family Foundation last year.

NCBWA NAMES PRO-LINE ATHLETIC NATIONAL PLAYERS OF THE WEEK

The National Collegiate Baseball Writers Association released the Pro-Line Athletic National Player of the Week awards for the period ending May 2.

Wichita State junior designated Hitter Preston Springer was named National Hitter of the Week, while Oregon senior right-handed pitcher Justin LaTempa was named National Pitcher of the Week. The NCBWA Board reviews candidates from each Division I Conference each week and names winners each Tuesday throughout the season.

Springer led the Shockers to a 4-1 week, including a road series win at first-place Illinois State and midweek wins over Kansas and Oklahoma State. In the five games, the Denton, Texas native went 13-for-23 (.565) with nine runs, five doubles, three home runs and 15 RBI. Against KU on Tuesday, he went 3-for-4 with three runs, five RBI, a home run and a hit by pitch. On Wednesday against OSU, he went 3-for-6 with two runs, five RBI, a double and his first career grand slam.

In the opening game at Illinois State, he went 3-for-5 with two runs, two RBI, two doubles and a home run. In game two, he went 2-for-4 with three RBI and two doubles and in the third game he went 2-for-4 with a run and a walk. He finished the week with multiple hits in all five games and an RBI in four of the five games. This week's honor marked his second MVC Player of the Week accolade this season.

LaTempa was nearly untouchable Saturday night, tossing a complete game one-hit shutout as the No. 15 Ducks defeated Washington State, 6-0. In his first complete game in his collegiate career, the Huntington Beach, Calif., native recorded a career-high 10 strikeouts. The senior right-hander had his no-hitter broken up in the eighth inning when WSU's Matt Argyropoulos led off the inning with a shallow double to right field. LaTempa became the first Oregon pitcher since reinstatement to throw a complete game shutout. In addition, it was the first time Oregon has shutout a Pac-10 opponent since a 3-0 victory at Washington on May 8, 1976.

2010 NCBWA Division I Pro-Line Athletic Players of the Week

Feb. 23 Zack MacPhee, Arizona State (Hitter);
Matt Bywater, Pepperdine (Pitcher)

March 2 Brian Fletcher, Auburn (Hitter);
Jason Mitchell, Texas-Arlington (Pitcher)

March 9 Mark Micowski, Georgia State (Hitter);
Michael Goodnight, Houston (Pitcher)

March 16 Pat Biserta, Rutgers (Hitter);
Billy Barber, Richmond (Pitcher)

March 23 Hunter Morris, Auburn (Hitter);
Teddy Kaufman, USF (Pitcher)

March 30 Mark Castellitto, Gonzaga (Hitter);
Randy Fontanez, USF (Pitcher)

April 6 Austin Wates, Virginia Tech (Hitter);
Andrew Barbosa, USF (Pitcher)

April 13 Steve McQuail, Canisius (Hitter);
Greg Gonzalez, Fresno State (Pitcher)

April 20 Drew Lee, Morehead State (Hitter);
Cole Green, Texas (Pitcher)

April 27 Jake Magner, North Dakota (Hitter);
Kendall Lewis, Eastern Michigan (Pitcher)

May 4 Preston Springer, Wichita State (Hitter);
Justin LaTempa (Pitcher)

NCBWA NAMES DIVISION III NATIONAL PLAYERS OF THE WEEK

Steve Nickel of the State University of New York-Cortland was money-in-the-bank at the plate and Matthew Greene of Castleton State College was red-hot on the mound as the pair earned NCAA Division III National Hitter and Pitcher of the Week honors for the seventh week of 2010, covering games of April 12-18, as voted on by a panel of D-III members of the National Collegiate Baseball Writers Association.

Nickel, a senior third baseman from Lake Ronkonkoma, N.Y., batted .700 (7-for-10) with three home runs, a double, two walks, 12 RBI, seven runs scored, and a 1.700 slugging percentage in a 3-0 week. To start the week, he homered, doubled, and walked before being pulled early in the game in a 26-6 win at Cazenovia. He went 3-for-5 with two homers, five RBI, and four runs scored in a 16-7 win at SUNY-New Paltz in the first game of a doubleheader, followed by a 2-for-3 effort with four RBI in the second game of the twinbill. Nickel, who leads the nationally 15th-ranked Red Dragons with eight homers and 37 RBI, was named the State University of New York Athletic Conference Player of the Week.

Greene, a junior right-hander from Albany, N.Y., was dominant in his only start of the week, earning a complete game shutout at Thomas (Maine), a 1-0 Spartan win in nine innings. He allowed just two hits and walked four while striking out 16 Terriers. He struck out at least one batter in every inning, except during a one-two-three third inning. He struck out the side in the fifth, and had two strikeouts in every other inning. He improved to 4-0 in the season, lowering his ERA to

1.74, and has 35 strikeouts and only 12 walks in 31 innings. Greene was named the North Atlantic Conference East Division Pitcher of the Week.

2010 NCBWA Division III Pro-Line Athletic Players of the Week

March 7 Joseph Villegas, Mary Hardin-Baylor (Hitter);
Ryan McDonough, Lynchburg (Pitcher)

March 14 Justin Franklin, Ferrum;
Jeff Butera, Haverford (Hitter);
James Murrey, Macalester (Pitcher)

March 21 Michael Cassese, Rutgers-Newark (Hitter);
Paul Uhl, Thomas More and Billy Schmitt, Wartburg (Pitcher)

March 28 Jeff Scafidi, Anna Maria (Hitter);
Tim Smith, Nichols (Pitcher)

April 4 Jack Cinoman, Chicago (Hitter);
Tim Kriegel, Hardin-Simmons (Pitcher)

April 11 Todd Keneborous, St. Joseph's (Hitter);
Steve Locke, College at Brockport (Pitcher)

April 18 Steve Nickel, Cortland State (Hitter);
Matthew Greene, Castleton State (Pitcher)

April 25 Jay Slick, Bethel (Minn.) (Hitter);
Dave Filak, N.Y.-Oneonta (Pitcher)

NATIONAL COLLEGIATE BASEBALL WRITERS ASSOCIATION

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For membership, send annual dues (\$20), along with mailing address, phone, fax and e-mail address information to **Russ Anderson**, NCBWA Associate Executive Director, c/o Conference USA, 5201 No. O'Connor Blvd., Suite 300, Irving, TX 75309.

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For more information contact NCBWA Associate Executive Director Russell Anderson (214-774-1351, rdanderson@c-usa.org).

2010 PRESEASON POLLS (as of May 3)

DIVISION I

Rk.	Team	Record	Last Rk.
1.	Texas	38-7	1
2.	Virginia	39-9	2
3.	Arizona State	38-5	3
4.	TCU	34-9	5
5.	Coastal Carolina	39-6	6
6.	Florida	31-11	10
7.	Georgia Tech	36-9	4
8.	Florida State	33-11	8
9.	Louisville	36-7	12
10.	Arkansas	35-10	7
11.	South Carolina	34-9	13
12.	Miami (Fla.)	34-11	14
13.	UCLA	30-10	9
14.	Oklahoma	32-12	15
15.	Mississippi	33-13	17
16.	Cal State Fullerton	27-14	16
17.	LSU	32-13	11
18.	Virginia Tech	32-14	21
19.	Vanderbilt	33-12	18
20.	Arizona	29-13	19
21.	Oregon	30-14	26
22.	Clemson	27-17	23
23.	Connecticut	35-9	20
24.	North Carolina	27-17	25
25.	UC Irvine	27-14	29
26.	Kansas State	30-12	24
27.	Rice	26-16	28
28.	Auburn	30-15	NR
29.	California	26-15	NR
30.	Stanford	21-17	22

Others receiving votes: Alabama (28-17), Appalachian State (31-8-1), Charlotte (31-11), College of Charleston (33-12), East Carolina (27-18), Florida Atlantic (29-15), Florida Gulf Coast (28-15), Indiana State (29-13), James Madison (24-19), Liberty (32-12), Michigan (27-15), NC State (28-18), New Mexico (30-15), New Mexico State (35-12-1), Pittsburgh (31-11), Portland (30-9), San Diego (26-16), Southeastern Louisiana (33-13), Southern Miss (25-17), St. John's (29-13), Stephen F. Austin (30-12), Texas State (28-14), Texas Tech (26-22), Western Kentucky (31-16).

DIVISION II

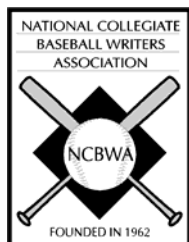
Rk.	Team	Record	Last Rk.
1.	UC San Diego (15)	45-6	2
2.	Tampa, Fla. (1)	42-8	3
3.	Central Missouri	42-7	1
4.	Southern Arkansas	39-6	5
5.	Mount Olive, N.C.	40-9	4
6.	Emporia State, Kans.	39-12	8
7.	New Mexico Highlands	35-10	T6
8.	Francis Marion, S.C.	38-11	13
9.	Abilene Christian, Texas	44-13	T10
10.	Kutztown, Pa.	37-12	14
11.	Florida Southern	35-17	9
12.	Grand Valley State, Mich.	33-12	T10
13.	Southern Connecticut State	34-9	15
14.	Catawba, N.C.	40-11	21
15.	Southern Indiana	39-12	19
16.	Valdosta State, Ga.	37-14	16
17.	Cal State Dominguez Hills	37-16	17
18.	Georgia College & State U.	35-14	12
19.	Minnesota State	36-12	RV
20.	Northern Kentucky	40-13	23
21.	Columbus State, Ga.	39-10	25
22.	West Florida	34-16	24
23.	California, Pa.	32-16	NR
24.	West Chester, Pa.	36-12	T6
25.	Franklin Pierce, N.H.	33-12	RV

Also receiving votes: Chico State, Calif. (34-16); St. Mary's, Texas (39-13); Winona State, Minn. (34-12); Delta State, Miss. (34-14); New Haven, Conn. (30-11); St. Cloud State, Minn. (36-13); North Georgia (33-16); Nebraska-Omaha (32-16); Erskine, S.C. (39-15); Cal State San Bernardino (29-15).

DIVISION III

Rk.	Team	Record	Last Rk.
1.	Johns Hopkins (23)	37-3	1
2.	Wooster (1)	31-7	3
3.	UW-Whitewater (1)	31-4	2
4..	Heidelberg	30-6	4
5.	St. Thomas	25-6	5
6.	Chapman	28-8	6
7.	Birmingham-Southern	34-5	8
8.	Mississippi College	34-7	10
9.	St. Scholastica	32-5	7
10.	Cortland State	30-7-1	12
11.	Trinity (Texas)	32-7	14
12.	Pomona-Pitzer	29-9	9
13.	Shenandoah	34-8	13
14.	Eastern Connecticut	26-9	15
15.	Kean	28-10	17
16.	Wheaton (Mass.)	29-8	18
17.	Linfield	30-10	-
18.	Marietta	25-9	11
19.	Texas-Tyler	32-10	20
20.	Tufts	27-5	-
21.	Washington and Jefferson	27-7	21
22.	North Central (Ill.)	28-5	-
23.	Pacific Lutheran	30-10	16
24.	Salisbury	26-9	23
25.	UW-Stevens Point	24-11	19

Also receiving votes: Texas Lutheran 37, Adrian 27, Rose-Hulman 26, Redlands 20, Keystone 17, Alvernia 16, Webster 15, York (Pa.) 13, Rochester 13, Concordia (Ill.) 13, Southern Maine 9, Western New England 8, Plattsburgh State 8, Mary Washington 5, Trinity (Conn.) 5, Worcester State 4, Rowan 2, Buena Vista 1.



NATIONAL COLLEGIATE BASEBALL WRITERS ASSOCIATION

(www.ncbwa.com)

2010 DICK HOWSER TROPHY AND PRO-LINE ATHLETIC NCBWA ALL-AMERICAN AWARD NOMINATION PROCESS

DALLAS - For the 11th year in succession, the NCBWA is starting the process for nomination and awarding of the 24th annual Dick Howser Trophy and Pro-Line Athletic/NCBWA All-America teams.

Nominations will be accepted beginning on May 3 (to include statistics through games of May 2) by emailing to mike.montoro@mail.wvu.edu.

Timeline

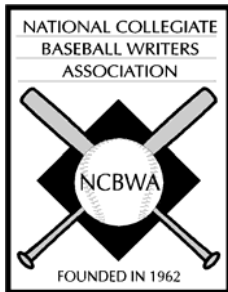
Mon. May 3	First Day of Nominations being Accepted (with stats through games of May 2)
Fri., May 7	Deadline for Initial Set of Nominations
Tue., May 11	First Ballot e-Mailed to Membership
Wed., May 19	Deadline for First Round of Voting
Thu., May 20	Dick Howser Trophy Semifinalists Announced
Wed., June 2	Final Ballot e-Mailed to Membership
Tue., June 8	Deadline for Final Round of Voting
Fri., June 11	Regional Players of the Year Announced
Mon., June 14	Pro-Line Athletic/NCBWA Freshman All-American Teams Announced
Tue., June 15	National Freshman Pitcher/Player of the Year Announced
Wed., June 16	Pro-Line Athletic/NCBWA All-American Teams Announced
Sat., June 19	Dick Howser Trophy Semifinalists Announced
Sat., June 19	National Coach of the Year Announced
Sat., June 19	Stopper of the Year Announced
Fri., July 2	Dick Howser Trophy Winner Announced

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 2008 American League champion, Tampa Bay Rays. Both the winner and his school receive a special trophy to keep.

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. 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; Mark Teixeira, Georgia Tech, 2000; Mark Prior, Southern California, 2001; Khalil Greene, Clemson, 2002; Rickey Weeks, Southern, 2003; Jered Weaver, Long Beach State, 2004; Alex Gordon, Nebraska, 2005; Brad Lincoln, Houston, 2006; David Price, Vanderbilt, 2007; Buster Posey, Florida State, 2008; Stephen Strasburg, San Diego State, 2009.

For further information about the Howser Trophy, please contact: Montoro, Executive Assistant Director, (304) 293-2821 or Russ Anderson, Executive Associate Director, (214) 774-1300.



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