



NATIONAL COLLEGIATE BASEBALL WRITERS ASSOCIATION

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CAL STATE FULLERTON'S ROMERO PACES PRE-2005 NCBWA DIVISION I BASEBALL AMERICA SQUADS

DALLAS—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

First 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 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

<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 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 Jeff 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.	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 Carrillo, 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	Sr.	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