



NATIONAL COLLEGIATE BASEBALL WRITERS ASSOCIATION

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NCBWA ANNOUNCES DISTRICT PLAYERS OF THE YEAR

DALLAS – The National Collegiate Baseball Writers of America announced its 2013 District Players of the Year Friday, honoring 10 of the nation's budding stars and marking the 13th-straight year it has bestowed the honor.

The 2013 NCBWA District Players of the Year are District I: OF Casey Roche (Pittsburgh); District II: 2B LJ Mazzilli (Connecticut); District III: 2B Tony Kemp (Vanderbilt) & P Tyler Beede (Vanderbilt); District IV: 3B Colin Moran (North Carolina); District V: Kyle Schwarber (Indiana); District VI: P Jonathan Gray (Oklahoma); District VII: P Aaron Nola (LSU); District VIII: 1B D.J. Peterson (New Mexico); District IX: 3B Kris Bryant (San Diego).

Some of the previous NCBWA District Players of the Year have been Howser Trophy recipients, such as Mark Teixeira of Georgia Tech, Mark Prior of USC, Khalil Greene of Clemson, Rickie Weeks of Southern, Jered Weaver of Long Beach State, Alex Gordon of Nebraska, Brad Lincoln of Houston, David Price of Vanderbilt, Buster Posey of Florida State, Stephen Strasburg of San Diego State, Taylor Jungmann of Texas and Mike Zunino of Florida.

Roche was a first-team All-Big East selection after hitting .339 and leading the league with 63 RBIs. He also smacked nine home runs, second-most in the Big East, scored 53 and posted an OPS of .950 while leading the Panthers to one of the best seasons in program history. Pitt finished the year 42-17 – marking the first 40-win season in program history – 18-6 in the Big East, and played for the regular-season conference championship on the season's final day. The Panthers were an incredible 25-8 at home in addition to a 15-8 road mark. Pitt also was ranked in all five major national polls in the same week for the first time in school history after sweeping Villanova on May 12.

Mazzilli, who was selected by the Minnesota Twins in the ninth round of the 2012 MLB First-Year Player Draft but chose to return for his senior season, was a 2013 second-team Louisville Slugger All-American. The Dick Howser Trophy semifinalist led Connecticut to its third NCAA Regional berth in the last four seasons by hitting a team-best .354 with 16 doubles, six homers, 51 RBIs and 50 runs while stealing 29 of 33 bases. The Huskies won the Big East tournament and Mazzilli was a first-team All-Big East selection.

Vanderbilt teammates Kemp and Beede accomplish the rare feat of being Co-District Players of the Year after leading the Commodores to a berth in an NCAA Super Regional this weekend against Louisville following their Vanderbilt Regional title. Beede was named a finalist for USA Baseball's Golden Spikes Award on Tuesday, while both Beede and Kemp were named finalists for the Dick Howser Trophy. Kemp was a first-team Louisville Slugger All-American, while Beede nabbed second-team honors. Kemp, the SEC Player of the Year, is hitting a blistering .398 with a .976 OPS, 33 RBIs and 64 runs, while stealing 32-of-46 bases. Beede, who was a second-team All-SEC selection, is a nation-leading 14-0 with a 2.20 ERA in 98 1/3 innings. He has allowed 59 hits while striking out 101 and walking 60. Opponents are hitting only .177 against him in 2013.

Moran, who was named a finalist for the 2013 Dick Howser Trophy on Wednesday, leads Division I with 86 RBI and has guided North Carolina to a berth in the NCAA Super Regional against South Carolina. The sixth overall selection of the 2013 MLB First-Year Player Draft by the Miami Marlins, a finalist for the Golden Spikes Award and the ACC Player of the Year, Moran is hitting .351 with 13 home runs. He led the Tar Heels to a 55-9 record to this point and the No. 1 overall seed in the NCAA Tournament after UNC won the ACC regular-season and tournament championships. Moran also ranks fourth in the nation with 69 runs scored while leading the Heels to a school-record 48 wins in the regular season.

Schwarber has led Indiana to the best season in school history, as the Hoosiers are set to face Florida State in an NCAA Super Regional this weekend. The sophomore catcher was named a second-team Louisville Slugger All-American after leading the Big Ten in home runs (17), runs (59), slugging percentage (.665), on-base percentage (.459) and total bases (143). He also ranks third in average (.372), fourth in RBIs (50) and sixth in hits (80) after leading the Hoosiers to a 46-14 and a Bloomington Regional championship, Indiana's first regional title. A first-team All-Big Ten selection, Schwarber ranks fifth nationally in home runs and eighth in slugging.

Gray, who was a second-team All-America selection by Louisville Slugger, is 10-2 with a 1.59 ERA and 138 strikeouts in 119 innings pitched. He ranks second nationally in strikeouts, 15th in hits per nine innings (5.9) and 17th in strikeouts per nine innings (10.44). He has walked only 22 and is allowing opponents to hit just .188. A unanimous first-team All-Big 12 selection, Gray has led the Sooners to an NCAA Super Regional berth against LSU after winning the sweeping through the Blacksburg Regional. A semifinalist for the College Baseball Hall of Fame's National Pitcher of the Year, Gray also was a semifinalist for the Dick Howser Trophy. He led Oklahoma to a Big 12 tournament championship and was a semifinalist for the Golden Spikes Award. A three-time MLB draftee, Gray was selected by the Colorado Rockies with the third overall pick of the 2013 MLB First-Year Player Draft on Thursday.

Nola, the 2013 SEC Pitcher of the Year, led LSU into the NCAA Super Regionals against Oklahoma after winning its 20th NCAA Regional. A first-team Louisville Slugger All-American, Nola is 11-0 with a 1.82 ERA, four complete games and two shutouts this season. He has 111 strikeouts, which ranks 11th in the nation, and has a 0.85 WHIP (walks plus hits divided by innings pitched), which is fifth-best in the country. His 6.53 strikeout-to-walk ratio also ranks 12th in the nation. Nola has allowed only 17 walks while allowing opponents to hit only .195. A semifinalist for the Dick Howser Trophy, Nola also is one of 10 semifinalists for the National Pitcher of the Year Award.

Peterson, the Mountain West Conference Co-Player of the Year, was a first-team Louisville Slugger All-American as one of the nation's top hitters. Selected 12th overall in the 2013 MLB First-Year Player Draft by the Seattle Mariners, he ranks second nationally in runs per game (1.24), RBIs per game (1.31), slugging percentage (.807), on-base percentage (.520) and total bases (176), while ranking third in home runs (18), fourth in average (.408) and fifth in doubles (25). A semifinalist for the Dick Howser Trophy and Golden Spikes Award, Peterson led the Lobos to a remarkable season that ended at the NCAA Fullerton Regional. New Mexico won the Mountain West regular-season title with a 25-5 conference mark, which broke MWC records for most wins, longest winning streak (14) and largest margin by which a school wins the conference (seven games).

Bryant is a finalist for the Dick Howser Trophy and leads the nation in a number of offensive categories: home runs (31), runs (80), slugging percentage (.820), total bases (187) and walks (66). The No. 2 overall selection by the Chicago Cubs in the 2013 MLB First-Year Player Draft, Bryant was the Louisville Slugger Player of the Year and a first-team All-American by Collegiate Baseball newspaper. The West Coast Conference Co-Player of the Year, Bryant led the Toreros to a 37-25 record and a berth in the NCAA UCLA Regional. He set a BBCOR bat era record with his 31 home runs and shattered USD's career home runs record with 54 in only three seasons. Bryant also hit .340 with 13 doubles and three triples during his record-breaking campaign.

The group, divided into areas as follows: District I-Maine, Vermont, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Massachusetts, Pennsylvania; District II: Connecticut, West Virginia, New York, New Jersey, Delaware, District of Columbia; III: Kentucky, Tennessee, Mississippi, Alabama, Florida; IV: Georgia, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Maryland; V: Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Minnesota, Wisconsin; VI: Iowa, Missouri, Kansas, Oklahoma, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota; VII: Texas, Arkansas, Louisiana; VIII: Wyoming, Utah, Idaho, New Mexico, Colorado, Nevada, Montana; District IX: California, Oregon, Washington, Hawai'i, Arizona, Alaska.

Stats through games of June 3, 2013:

Pos.	Name, School	Class	Avg.	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	BB	SO	SB
OF/P	Casey Roche, Pittsburgh	Jr.	.339	58	233	53	79	12	2	9	65	27	41	10-13
2B	LJ Mazzilli, Connecticut	Sr.	.354	63	260	50	92	16	4	6	51	28	26	29-33
2B	Tony Kemp, Vanderbilt	Jr.	.398	64	256	64	102	13	6	0	33	35	31	32-46
3B	Colin Moran, North Carolina	Jr.	.348	64	253	70	88	10	2	13	86	60	22	1-1
C	Kyle Schwarber, Indiana	So.	.372	56	215	59	80	10	1	17	50	38	29	4-7
3B	Kris Bryant, San Diego	Jr.	.340	58	215	78	73	13	3	31	62	62	40	7-11
3B	D.J. Peterson, New Mexico	Jr.	.408	55	218	68	89	25	4	18	72	46	35	5-6

(Roche's pitching stats: 4.39 ERA, 1-0, 6 APP, 5 GS, 26.2 IP, 32 H, 14 R, 13 ER, 4 BB, 6 K)

Pos.	Name, School	Class	ERA	W-L	APP	GS	CG	SHO	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
P	Tyler Beede, Vanderbilt	So.	2.20	14-0	16	16	0	0	98.1	59	30	24	60	101
P	Aaron Nola, LSU	So.	1.82	11-0	15	15	4	2	109.0	76	28	22	17	111
P	Jonathan Gray, Oklahoma	Jr.	1.59	10-2	16	16	4	2	119.0	78	25	21	22	138