



NATIONAL COLLEGIATE BASEBALL WRITERS ASSOCIATION

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NCBWA ANNOUNCES 18th ANNUAL 2018 NCAA DIVISION I PRESEASON ALL-AMERICA TEAMS

DALLAS – With numerous returnees from the 2017 NCBWA postseason All-America teams, the 18th annual National Collegiate Baseball Writers preseason All-America squad offers an inside glance at the top NCAA Division I players scheduled to star in the 160th season of intercollegiate baseball.

There are nine returning first team members, including five pitchers from the June 2017 NCBWA dream team, while the total of 19 returnees from the 2017 postseason squad indicates the depth of star power back for the 2018 campaign. In fact, the composite first team 2018 preseason All-American pitching staff sports a combined record of 58-10 and an impressive overall number of 78 saves by five relief standouts.

Defending NCAA champ Florida has solid representation with first team 2017 All-America relief ace Michael Byrne (1.67 earned run average, 4-5 record, 19 saves in 2017) joining teammates starting pitcher Jackson Kowar (third team, 12-1 last season), second unit starting pitcher Brady Singer (9-5, Southeastern Conference-topping 129 strikeouts) and third team catcher JJ Schwarz (12 home runs, 56 RBI) for head coach Kevin O'Sullivan's Gators.

Twenty-two different conferences are represented, along with 11 conference championships teams, 25 NCAA Regional squads, and 13 individuals who were their conference players or pitchers of the year in '17.

One of the key returnees and household names is two-time All-America choice and 2016 Dick Howser Trophy recipient Seth Beer of Clemson. The '16 Atlantic Coast Conference Player of the Year followed up a strong freshman season with 16 homers and 53 RBI for the NCAA-competing Tigers.

On the pre-2018 first unit, power hitting 3B Johnny Aiello of Wake Forest brings back a .328 average, 20 homers and 53 RBI. Also complimenting Aiello on the top squad are Southern Miss outfielder OF Matt Wallner (2017 NCBWA Freshman Hitter of the Year) with 19 dingers, 63 RBI and a .336 batting average. Talented utility player Braden Zarbnisky of West Virginia was a .336 hitter with 12 consecutive stolen bases and a 6-2 relief pitcher with a 2.75 ERA and six saves in 23 appearances for the Mountaineers.

The 2018 NCBWA first team pitching staff is loaded with talented starters and bullpen stalwarts. Besides UF's relief ace Byrne, starting hurlers Miguel Ausua (11-3) of Oral Roberts, Logan Gilbert (10-0) of Stetson, Steven Gingery (10-1) of Texas Tech, Sean Mooney (8-2) of St. John's, Jared Janczak (9-2) of TCU and the NCAA World Series' third place squad in '17, and Trey Cumbie (10-2) of Houston form a formidable challenge to opposing batsmen. TCU's Durbin Feltman (17 saves) and Oregon's Kenyon Yovan (15 saves) bolster a standout corps of first team relief men.

Middle infielders 2B Nick Madrigal of Oregon State with a .380 batting average and 2017 Southeastern Conference Freshman of the Year SS Braden Shewmake of Texas A&M with a .328 average, 11 homers and 69 RBI in 64 games form a duo with ample offensive output and defensive savvy.

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Defending NCAA runnerup LSU, affected hard by 2017 graduation losses and professional signings, still features three third teamers in starting pitcher Zach Hess (7-1, 3.12 ERA) along with OF Antoine Duplantis (.316, 61 RBI, 19-of-23 stolen bases) and OF Zach Watson (.317, nine homers, 37 RBI). The Tigers have rated as high as No. 2 in several 2018 preseason publication surveys.

Previous NCBWA All-America teams from 1996-2017 also have featured the likes of 3B Kris Bryant of San Diego, P Stephen Strasburg of San Diego State, 1B Mark Teixeira of Georgia Tech, RHP Mark Prior of USC, SS-2B Rickie Weeks of Southern U., 3B Alex Gordon of Nebraska, P David Price of Vanderbilt, C Buster Posey of Florida State, catcher Mike Zunino of Florida, P-1B A.J. Reed of Kentucky; OF Andrew Benintendi of Arkansas, and 1B-P Brendan McKay (2017 Dick Howser Trophy winner) among others.

Founded in 1962, the NCBWA is dedicated to the advancement of college baseball. Membership is open to writers, broadcasters and publicists of the sport. For more information about the NCBWA, visit the association's official Web site, www.ncbwa.com.

2018 NCBWA Division I Preseason All-America Team

FIRST TEAM (2017 Statistics)

Pos.	Name, School, Class	Avg.	G	AB	R	H	2B-3B-HR	RBIs	BB	SO	SB/SBA
C	JT Thomas, Mercer, Sr.	.357	55	210	49	75	20-0-12	62	23	45	2/4
1B	Alfonso Rivas, Arizona, Jr.	.371	58	213	54	79	13-0-7	63	39	36	3/7
2B	Nick Madrigal, Oregon State, Jr.	.380	60	237	53	90	20-2-4	40	27	16	16/20
SS	Braden Shewmake, Texas A&M, So.	.328	64	274	47	90	18-2-11	69	15	31	11/16
3B	Johnny Aiello, Wake Forest, Jr.	.328	63	244	57	80	17-0-20	53	25	76	4/5
OF	Travis Swaggerty, South Alabama, Jr.	.356	58	219	55	78	12-1-11	60	49	45	19/25
OF	Tristan Pompey, Kentucky, Jr.	.361	66	266	70	96	18-0-10	45	46	56	9/13
OF	Jake McCarthy, Virginia, Jr.	.338	59	237	57	80	11-7-5	36	26	35	27/29
OF	Matt Wallner, Southern Miss, So.	.336	66	235	56	79	14-2-19	63	45	50	4/6
DH	Logan McRae, College of Charleston, r-Jr.	.310	58	216	47	67	12-0-17	63	36	46	0/0
UT	Braden Zarnitsky, West Virginia, Jr.	.336	46	125	32	42	3-0-1	12	17	25	12/12

6-2, 2.75ERA, 23APP, 0GS, 0CG, 6SV, 39.1IP, 35H, 14R, 12ER, 21BB, 46K

Pos.	Name School	W-L	ERA	APP	GS	CG	SHO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	OPP BA
SP	Miguel Ausua, Oral Roberts, Sr.	11-3	1.65	16	15	1	1	0	92.2	80	22	17	30	85	.235
SP	Logan Gilbert, Stetson, Jr.	10-0	2.02	15	12	2	1/2	0	89.0	65	23	20	26	107	.202
SP	Steven Gingery, Texas Tech, Jr.	10-1	1.58	15	15	0	0/1	0	91.1	60	21	16	29	107	.186
SP	Sean Mooney, St. John's, So.	8-2	1.71	16	13	1	1/1	0	100.0	70	23	19	16	89	.196
SP	Jared Janczak, TCU, Jr.	9-2	2.31	15	15	0	0/2	0	93.1	60	28	24	24	102	.181
SP	Trey Cumbie, Houston, Jr.	10-2	2.04	15	4	4	2/1	0	101.1	91	30	23	15	82	.238
RP	Michael Byrne, Florida, Jr.	4-5	1.67	38	3	0	0/4	19	75.2	64	20	14	15	93	.229
RP	Durbin Feltman, TCU, Jr.	2-2	3.64	29	0	0	0/3	17	29.2	23	18	12	15	37	.215
RP	Josh Hiatt, North Carolina, Jr.	4-2	1.90	32	0	0	0/1	13	52.0	31	13	11	20	64	.168
RP	Kenyon Yovan, Oregon, So.	1-1	1.97	22	0	0	0/5	15	32.0	26	9	7	6	36	.213
RP	Nick Sandlin, Southern Miss, Jr.	10-2	2.38	29	0	0	0/3	8	56.2	41	17	15	29	80	.201

SECOND TEAM

Pos.	Name, School, Class	Avg.	G	AB	R	H	2B-3B-HR	RBIs	BB	SO	SB/SBA
C	Joey Bart, Georgia Tech, Jr.	.296	44	186	36	55	13-0-13	43	16	50	4/4
1B	Seth Beer, Clemson, Jr.	.298	63	218	51	65	17-1-16	53	64	35	2/3
1B	Andrew Vaughn, California, So.	.349	54	218	36	76	7-1-12	50	19	24	1/3
2B	Wade Bailey, Georgia Tech, Sr.	.347	55	236	63	82	21-3-6	38	27	30	6/9
SS	Jeremy Eierman, Missouri State, Jr.	.313	63	243	67	76	15-2-23	68	41	61	17/19
3B	Taylor Schwaner, SE Louisiana, Sr.	.332	59	211	56	70	15-4-16	72	43	56	17/20
OF	D.J. Artis, Liberty, Jr.	.359	52	181	58	65	13-2-6	45	62	30	23/26
OF	Noah Cummings, Oral Roberts, Jr.	.321	59	240	47	77	14-0-15	70	22	51	4/5
OF	Jake Mangum, Mississippi State, Jr.	.324	65	278	51	90	15-1-0	26	9	35	14/21
OF	Brandon Gutzler, Murray State, Sr.	.353	58	238	57	84	17-0-16	71	32	51	5/7
DH	Kevin Milam, St. Mary's, So.	.313	57	214	45	67	14-0-12	55	23	39	0/1
UT	Matt Lloyd, Indiana, Jr.	.301	55	193	36	58	16-0-11	46	28	60	1/4

3-2, 2.23ERA, 20APP, 0GS, 0CG, 9SV, 32.1IP, 28H, 10R, 8ER, 6BB, 20K

Pos.	Name School	W-L	ERA	APP	GS	CG	SHO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	B/Avg.
SP	Tyler Holton, Florida State, Jr.	10-3	2.34	18	18	2	1/1	0	119.1	77	43	31	31	144	.178
SP	Sean Hjelle, Kentucky, Jr.	11-4	3.89	18	17	1	1/0	0	108.2	99	51	47	33	102	.243
SP	Casey Mize, Auburn, Jr.	8-2	2.04	13	12	2	0/2	0	83.2	66	26	19	9	109	.210
SP	Patrick Raby, Vanderbilt, Jr.	10-4	2.73	16	16	1	0/1	0	105.1	89	38	32	30	87	.231
SP	Brady Singer, Florida, Jr.	9-5	3.21	20	19	3	0/2	0	126.0	120	49	45	32	129	.249
SP	Konnor Pilkington, Mississippi State, Jr.	8-5	3.08	17	17	1	0/2	0	108.0	76	42	37	47	111	.199
SP	Nick Sprengel, San Diego, Jr.	9-1	3.29	15	14	0	0	0	82.0	77	35	30	33	86	.244
RP	Ross Learnard, Purdue, Sr.	6-0	0.58	27	0	0	0	4	46.1	30	3	3	10	37	.196
RP	Sam Bordner, Louisville, Jr.	2-0	0.41	23	0	0	0/3	3	43.2	16	2	2	10	39	.112
RP	Jake Mulholland, Oregon State, So.	7-1	1.20	28	0	0	0/5	6	52.1	34	8	7	12	44	.183
RP	Beau Ridgeway, Texas, Jr.	2-2	1.89	37	0	0	0/3	12	52.1	35	12	11	14	40	.186
RP	Brett Conine, Cal State Fullerton, Jr.	0-1	1.39	31	7	0	0	15	45.1	35	10	7	6	43	.208

THIRD TEAM

Pos.	Name, School, Class	Avg.	G	AB	R	H	2B-3B-HR	RBIs	BB	SO	SB/SB
C	JJ Schwarz, Florida, Sr.	.259	69	259	43	67	12-0-12	56	36	60	6/7
C	Shea Langeliers, Baylor, So.	.313	55	211	43	66	14-2-10	38	24	37	1/4
1B	Luken Baker, TCU, Jr.	.317	47	161	39	51	8-1-8	41	40	36	2/2
2B	Brennon Anderson, BYU, Sr.	.346	59	260	71	90	23-1-6	40	32	54	9/10
2B	Ako Thomas, Michigan, Jr.	.354	47	164	41	58	7-0-0	21	28	19	23/28
SS	Tyler Frank, Florida Atlantic, Jr.	.336	57	235	54	79	15-0-11	43	41	29	6/10
3B	Sam Fragale, Virginia Tech, r-Sr.	.310	55	213	43	66	14-3-15	63	21	50	0/0
OF	Antoine Duplantis, LSU, Jr.	.316	71	285	50	90	14-2-2	61	16	31	19/23
OF	Niko Hulsizer, Morehead State, Jr.	.349	59	249	69	87	21-2-27	82	27	74	3/4
OF	Jackson Lueck, Florida State, Jr.	.318	56	211	41	67	11-1-9	54	27	51	6/8
OF	Zach Watson, LSU, So.	.317	64	221	42	70	9-3-9	37	17	42	12/17
OF	Steele Walker, Oklahoma, Jr.	.333	59	222	49	74	16-3-8	51	25	39	2/5
DH	Aaron Aucker, Middle Tennessee, Sr.	.359	41	156	38	56	10-2-10	41	23	34	0/0
UT	Luis Alvarado, Nebraska, Sr.	.283	57	226	39	64	12-2-2	25	12	38	5/5

0-0, 1.72ERA, 16APP, 0GS, 0CG, 10SV, 15.2IP, 10H, 3R, 3ER, 7BB, 15K

Pos.	Name School	W-L	ERA	APP	GS	CG	SHO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	B/Avg.
SP	Kris Bubic, Stanford, Jr.	7-6	2.79	15	15	0	0/1	0	90.1	79	34	28	31	96	.236
SP	Matt Canterino, Rice, So.	5-2	4.12	17	17	0	0/1	0	96.0	67	54	44	49	111	.194
SP	Zach Hess, LSU, So.	7-1	3.12	30	6	0	0/2	4	60.2	39	23	21	30	83	.182
SP	Nolan Kingham, Texas, Jr.	10-4	2.84	16	13	2	1/1	0	92.0	80	31	29	24	67	.240
SP	Jackson Kowar, Florida, Jr.	12-1	4.08	20	19	0	0	1	108.0	116	59	48	44	84	.278
SP	Jon Olson, UCLA, Jr.	7-1	2.86	16	15	0	0/2	0	85.0	61	30	27	31	80	.201
RP	Naithen Dewsnap, CSU Bakersfield, Sr.	3-1	2.40	31	0	0	0	14	48.2	39	15	13	7	60	.219
RP	Troy Montemayor, Baylor, Sr.	3-1	2.10	25	0	0	0	12	25.2	18	7	6	9	29	.189
RP	Alex Padilla, UIC, r-Jr.	2-1	0.45	28	0	0	0/5	10	39.2	27	4	2	12	35	.196
RP	Dallas Woolfolk, Ole Miss, Jr.	3-2	2.15	26	0	0	0/2	12	37.2	27	10	9	5	41	.200
RP	Chris Rivera, Long Beach State, Jr.	1-2	2.60	26	0	0	0/4	13	34.2	21	11	10	14	47	.172