

**Society for American Baseball Research
Collegiate Baseball Committee Newsletter
June 2007 (07-1)**

Opinions expressed by contributors do not necessarily reflect the position or official policy of SABR or its Collegiate Baseball Committee

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SABR 37

The 2007 SABR Convention will be held July 26-29 in Saint Louis, Missouri. The Collegiate Committee will be meeting at 8:30 a.m. on Friday morning. I hope that each of you that are members of the Committee, or have just a passing interest in the Committee, will attend the meeting.

COLLEGIATE COMMITTEE VOLUNTEERS

The Collegiate Committee is seeking a volunteer with expertise in web design and maintenance. If you would like to assist in the design of our website and show me how to use and update it, please contact Rick Benner.

AMATEUR DRAFT

For the first time in history, the amateur draft will be televised. ESPN2 will broadcast the draft live starting at 2 p.m. on Thursday, June 7th. Among the collegiate players expected to be picked early are LHP David Price (Vanderbilt), C Matt Wieters (Georgia Tech), RHP Andrew Brackman (North Carolina State), and 1B Matt LaPorta (Florida).

Four college players from the 2006 draft have already made their major league debuts—Andrew Miller with Detroit (North Carolina), Brandon Morrow with Seattle (California), Joe Smith with the New York Mets (Wright State) and Tim Lincecum with San Francisco (Washington). Lincecum was the 2006 Golden Spikes winner representing the Player of the Year in college baseball.

MAJOR LEAGUE DEBUTS

The following collegiate players made their major league debut this season, through May 31st.

- 4/1 Joe Smith, NYM, Wright State
- 4/2 Don Kelly, PIT, Point Park
Alex Gordon, KC, Nebraska
Travis Buck, OAK, Arizona State
Jay Marshall, OAK, Jefferson (MO) JC
Levale Speigner, WAS, Auburn
- 4/3 Kory Casto, WAS, Portland
Brian Bearden, ARI, Oregon State
Brandon Morrow, SEA, California
- 4/4 Jared Burton, CIN, Western Carolina
Matt Chico, WAS, Southern California
Sean White, SEA, Washington
Matt Lindstrom, FLA, Ricks (ID) JC (now Brigham Young-Idaho)
- 4/5 Kevin Cameron, SD, Georgia Tech
Joe Bisenius, PHI, Iowa Western CC & Oklahoma City
- 4/6 Micah Owings, ARI, Tulane & Georgia Tech
- 4/7 Jon Coutlangus, CIN, Indian River (FL) CC & South Carolina
- 4/16 Zach McClellan, COL, Indiana
- 4/20 Michael Schultz, ARI, Loyola Marymount
- 4/22 Jamie Vermilyea, TOR, New Mexico
- 4/23 Rocky Cherry, CHI N, Oklahoma
Danny Putnam, OAK, Stanford
- 4/24 Dallas Braden, OAK, American River (CA) JC & Texas Tech
- 4/28 Hunter Pence, HOU, Texarkana (TX) JC & Texas-Arlington
- 4/30 Dennis Dove, STL, Georgia Southern
- 5/1 Brad Salmon, CIN, Jefferson Davis (AL) CC
Ben Francisco, CLE, Cypress (CA) JC & UCLA
- 5/6 Tim Lincecum, SF, Washington
- 5/7 Matt DeSalvo, NYY, Marietta
- 5/13 Virgil Vazquez, DET, UC Santa Barbara
- 5/15 Jesse Litsch, TOR, South Florida CC
- 5/16 Mark Reynolds, ARI, Virginia
Kevin Mahar, TEX, Lincoln Trail (IL) CC & Indiana

A.J. Murray, TEX, Salt Lake (UT) CC
 5/17 Connor Robertson, OAK, Birmingham Southern
 5/18 Darren Clarke, COL, South Florida CC
 5/19 Travis Metcalf, TEX, Kansas
 5/24 Mark McLemore, HOU, Oregon State
 5/25 Ryan Braun, MIL, Miami (FL)
 Mike Zagurski, PHI, Hutchinson (KS) CC & Kansas
 5/27 Troy Cate, STL, Ricks (ID) JC (now Brigham Young-Idaho)
 5/28 Dewon Day, CHI A, Southern

NOTES:

There are 42 collegians among the 74 players to make their major league debut in 2007 through May 31st;

Oakland added five to the total;

Connor Robertson is considered by Birmingham Southern to be their first major leaguer, however research indicates that Hal Finney (DB 1931) played on their freshman team in 1926;

Matt Chico is an interesting case. He played as a freshman at USC, then transferred to Palomar (CA) JC, where he was drafted and signed. He did not play baseball at Palomar. He is also the 100th major leaguer to have also played for the USC Trojans. They are the first college to have 100 of their players in the big leagues.

CONFERENCE CHAMPIONS

Congratulations to the following Division I conference champions for 2007.

	<u>Regular Season</u>	<u>Tournament</u>
AMERICA EAST	Binghamton	Albany
ATLANTIC 10	Charlotte	Charlotte
ATLANTIC COAST	Florida State/North Carolina	North Carolina
ATLANTIC SUN	Stetson	Jacksonville
BIG EAST	St. John's/Rutgers	Rutgers
BIG SOUTH	Coastal Carolina	Coastal Carolina
BIG TEN	Michigan	Ohio State
BIG XII	Texas	Texas A&M
BIG WEST	UC Riverside	NONE
COLONIAL	ODU/VCU/Delaware/UNCW	VCU
CONFERENCE USA	Rice	Rice
HORIZON	Illinois-Chicago	Illinois-Chicago
IVY	Brown/Penn	Brown
METRO ATLANTIC	LeMoyne	LeMoyne

MID AMERICAN	Kent State/Eastern Michigan	Kent State
MID CONTINENT	Oral Roberts	Oral Roberts
MID-EASTERN	Bethune-Cookman	Bethune-Cookman
MISSOURI VALLEY	Wichita State	Creighton
MOUNTAIN WEST	Texas Christian	Texas Christian
NORTHEAST	Quinnipiac/Mount St. Mary's	Monmouth
OHIO VALLEY	Austin Peay	Austin Peay
PACIFIC 10	Arizona State	NONE
PATRIOT	Lafayette	Lafayette
SOUTHERN	Western Carolina/Coll Charleston	Wofford
SOUTHEASTERN	Vanderbilt/Arkansas	Vanderbilt
SOUTHLAND	Lamar/Texas-San Antonio	Sam Houston State
SWAC	Jackson State/Prairie View A&M	Prairie View A&M
SUN BELT	Louisiana-Lafayette	New Orleans
WEST COAST	San Diego	San Diego
WAC	Fresno State	Fresno State

DIVISION I SUPER REGIONAL PLAY

With one game still to play, the field has been set for the Super Regionals. Each Super Regional winner will advance to the College World Series in Omaha, NE and is determined by winning two of three games.

Michigan vs. Oregon State
 UCLA vs. Cal State Fullerton
 Arizona State (national 5th seed) vs. Mississippi
 Wichita State vs. UC Irvine
 Rice (national 2nd seed) vs. Texas A&M
 Louisville vs. Oklahoma State
 Mississippi State vs. Clemson
 South Carolina vs. North Carolina (national 3rd seed)

The 2007 National Championship is notable in that many of the traditional baseball powerhouses have either been eliminated or did not make the playoffs this season. National seeds #1 (Vanderbilt), #4 (Texas), #6 (Florida State), #7 (Arkansas) and #8 (San Diego) were all eliminated in regional play, as were Miami (Florida) and Long Beach State. Louisiana State, Southern California and Tulane failed to make the playoffs.

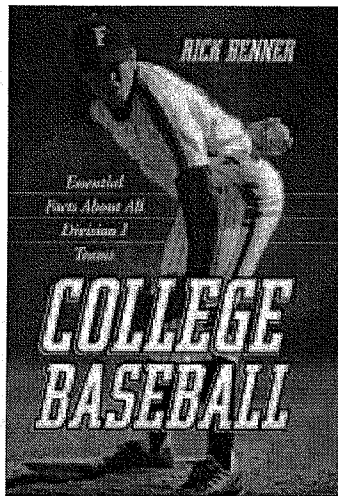
The University of Louisville and University of California at Irvine have never participated in the Division I College World Series. Irvine last played in the Division II World Series in 1974.

COLLEGE BASEBALL BOOK

My book, *College Baseball: Essential Facts...* has been released by McFarland Publishing Co. The book can be ordered through McFarland (www.mcfarlandpub.com) or other internet book sites. McFarland will be represented at the SABR Convention and will have copies of the book for sale. Thank you all for purchasing the book.

MARK KIGER

2B Mark Kiger (University of Florida) made his major league debut for the Oakland A's during last year's ALCS, appearing as a defensive replacement on October 13th. He was added to the playoff roster replacing the injured Mark Ellis. He is the first player since 1903 to make his major league debut in the postseason. After the season, Kiger was removed from the A's roster and signed a minor league deal with the Binghamton Mets (AA).



College Baseball

Essential Facts About All Division I Teams

Rick Benner

[464]pp. \$65 hardcover (7 x 10) 2006
Appendix, index ISBN 0-7864-2479-6

"Rick Benner and the College Baseball Encyclopedia are a marriage made in heaven. There may be no better baseball researcher in the United States (or the world, for that matter) than Rick, and it is tremendous to see the many fruits of his labor come to fruition."—Bo Carter, Sports Information Director/Historian, Big 12 Conference. "Rick Benner has rendered a great service to collegiate baseball with this outstanding, thoroughly researched catalog. *The College Baseball Register* provides yearly team records as well as facts

about players who later performed in the major leagues. I recommend this book to anyone who is seeking historical information about baseball in our colleges and universities."—Dave Baldwin. "*The College Baseball Register* is a detailed report on the history of college baseball through the records of the individual universities. Baseball is a great college sport and this book is a must read for those interested in the history of collegiate baseball."—Al Ogletree.

College baseball officially began on July 1, 1859, in a game between Williams and Amherst in western Massachusetts. In a high-scoring contest, Amherst defeated Williams, 66–32. Within 10 years, the University of North Carolina, Villanova, Fordham and Dartmouth, among others, had formed varsity baseball teams and featured intercollegiate contests, some of them lopsided victories against much weaker teams and tough losses to professional clubs. But with the advent of NCAA championship play, schools were assigned division status, bringing greater parity at all levels of collegiate baseball.

This work is the first to account for the complete history of each of the country's major, or Division I, baseball programs. Arranged alphabetically by school, entries include the team nickname and athletic logo; year-by-year listing of win-loss records and coaches; conference affiliations; major league alumni, complete with their birthplace, major league debut date and years played in college; other notables, such as major leaguers who attended the college or the program's players who achieved fame outside of baseball; and championships and other team and individual highlights.

Paralegal Rick Benner lives in Duluth, Georgia.

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