Collegiate Baseball Research Committee



John Mocek The Univ. of Texas-Arlington Chairman

Summer '95

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Society for American Baseball Research

1995 COLLEGE BASEBALL CHAMPIONS

NCAA-I Cal. State-Fullerton def. Southern California 11-5 (22,027 in attendance)

NCAA-II Florida Southern def. Georgia College 15-0

NCAA-III LaVerne (Calif.) def. Methodist (N.C.) 5-3

NAIA Bellvue (Neb.) def. Cumberland (Tenn.) 8-5

JUNIOR COLLEGE Middle Georgia def. Indian River (Fla.) 11-6

ABCA TO INDUCT FIVE INTO HALL OF FAME

The American Baseball Coaches Association will honor five members with induction into the ABCA Hall of Fame when the organization meets in January at the 51st Annual Convention in Nashville, Tenn. The five people who will be recognized for their contribution to amateur baseball include:

> Chal Port Citadel

Andy Blaylock Univ. of Conn.

Bob Brian South San Francisco High School

Dave Chamberlain Monroe (N.Y.) Community College

> Joe Ferebee Pfeiffer College

COLLEGE PLAYER OF THE YEAR MARK KOTSAY

Mark Kotsay, a sophomore outfleider/pitcher from NCAA champion California State-Fullerton, has been selected by the National Collegiate Baseball Writers Association as the winner of the Bob Smith Award, representing the College Player of the Year.

Offensively, Kotsay pounded out a .425 batting average with 21 home runs and 85 runs batted in. As a pitcher, the College World Series Most Valuable Player won two games, picked up nine saves and sported a 0.38 earned run average.

In the CWS, Kotsay featured a .563 batting average (9 for 16) with 10 RBI and two home runs. He also worked 1 2/3 innings of scoreless relief in the title game.

He now ranks the all-time leading hitter among players who have appeared in two World Series, hitting .517.

TURN BACK THE CLOCK

Jack Barry of Holy Cross finished his 40-year coaching career with a 619-147-6 record, which included a 1952 NCAA championship. His .806 winning percentage tops the alltime NCAA Division I list.

The longest winning streak in the NCAA was set by the University of Texas-Austin in 1977 when the Longforms won 34 consecutive games. Five seasons later, the Horns claimed 33 consecutive wins.

The longest game in NCAA Division I history was played on April 26, 1974 between Colorado and Nebraska, with CU claiming a 2-1 victory in

John McBroom of the Air Force Academy went ninefor-nine on May 10, 1967 against Colorado College.

Henry Rochelle of Campbell College history five home runs in a single game against Radford College on March 30, 1985.

Louisville Slugger Jim LaFountain drove in 14 runs in a game against Western Kentucky on March 24, 1976.

King Lewis stole eight bases for Bethune-Cookman in a game against Savannah State on March 13, 1994.

THE 1995 SEASON

The ABCA celebrated its 50th anniversary last January by hosting the largest convention in history, with more than 3,000 in attendance in Chicago.

Cal. State-Fullerton sent out word early that it would be a force in the NCAA by winning the prestigious Anaheim Hilton and Towers Classic, sweeping Pepperdine, Notre Dame and Texas.

The Univ. of Missouri has quite a link to the Major Leagues with three players on their roster who are sons of ex-big leaguers. Brian Jorgensen (Mike), Jeff Terrell (Jerry) and Torre Tyson (Mike) all wore Tiger Black and Gold in 1995.

Clemson staged one of the most miraculous comebacks in baseball history this season. Trailing 15-4 with one out and the bases empty in the ninth inning against North Carolina, the Tigers erupted for 11 runs to tie the game. Clemson then scored two runs in the 10th inning to post a 17-15 victory.

Washington University's (Mo.) Russ Chambliss (son of ex-Major Leaguer Chris Chambliss) went nine-fornine in a doubleheader and picked up 24 hits in a 10game stretch.

Tommy Stewart of Southern Arkansas set an NAIA record by hitting in 54 consecutive games, just three shy of Robin Ventura's all-time college record.

COACH'S CORNER

Three collegiate coaches celebrated the 1995 season by joining the 1,000 Victory Club, bringing the membership to 20 in the history of college baseball. Our congratulations to:

> Gene Stephenson Wichita State

> > Larry Hays Texas Tech

Larry Cochell Oklahoma

Five coaches in the NCAA-I joined the 500-Win Club this season.

> Jay Bergman Central Florida

> > Fred Hall Rutgers

John Anderson Minnesota

Dewey Kalmer Bradley

Joel Murrie Western Kentucky

32 NCAA Division I programs began the 1995 season with a new head coach--13 of which ended the season with a winning record. Three programs, Alabama (Jim Wells), Pepperdine (Pat Harrison) and Old Dominion (Tony Guzzo) received a bid to the NCAA Tournament.

Ex-Major Leaguer John Sanders recorded his 700th career victory at the University of Nebraska this season. Making the victory even more meaningful to the Sanders' family, son Craig picked up the victory.

Gordie Gillespie, the winningest coach in college baseball history with more than 1,400 wins in 43 seasons, has bid adieu to the College of St. Francis (III.) to become the head coach at Ripon (Wis.). His new boss will be Athletic Director Bob Gillespie (his son) Oklahoma State won its 15th consecutive Big Eight Conference tournament championship the hard way, through the loser's bracket. The Cowboys won three tournament games in the final at-bat.

Four NCAA Division I teams won at least 40 games this season and did not get invited to the NCAA Tournament. McNeese State (second consecutive year), Villanova, Kent and Delaware were left off the NCAA's invitation list.

Since the NCAA Tournament field expanded to 48 teams in 1980, the west coast has never had as few teams in the tournament as this year with seven. Three of the seven, however, advanced to the College World Series--Cal. State-Fullerton, Stanford and USC.

Five of the eight teams that hosted NCAA-I Regional Tournaments advanced to the College World Series:

> Clemson Florida State Miami Tennessee Oklahoma

Four teams earned their second consecutive trip to the College World Series: Cal State-Fullerton Oklahoma Miami Florida State

Cal. State-Fullerton went undefeated in post-season play with 11 consecutive victories (three in Big West Tournament, four in South Regional and four in Omaha at the CWS). Cal. State-Fullerton became the 13th world series champion in 49 years to go undefeated in the tournament. Amazingly, four of the last five champions have accomplished the feat:

> Oklahoma--1994 Pepperdine--1992 LSU--1991

FINAL NEAA **DIVISION I** RANKINGS (Collegiate **Baseball**) Cal. State-Fullerton 57-9 Southern Cal.....49-21 Tennessee.....54-16 Stanford......40-25 Oklahoma......42-16 Oklahoma State.....46-19 Texas A & M.....44-22 Rice.....43-19 Mississippi.....40-22 Fla. International......50-11

Two conferences, the Atlantic Coast and Pac 10, made up half the College World Series field in 1995. 97 players who participated in the College World Series are currently on Major League rosters, with every team featuring at least one world series veteran. The Indians and Twins top the list with seven. Stanford University currently has nine ex-World Series participants playing in "The Show".

For the second consecutive season, the defending NCAA champions made it back to the College World Series only to lose their first two games. Oklahoma returned home after the second round this season after LSU was eliminated after the second game last year. Ohio State was the only other school (1967) to enter the world series as defending champions and lose in two games.

Five NCAA Division I programs made their first trip ever to the NCAA Tournament this season:

Troy State Winthrop Pennsylvania Rice Texas Tech and Texas Tech came within one game of a berth in the College World Series.

As a sign of just how balanced college baseball has become, only 20 of the 48 teams invited to this year's NCAA Tournament were making their second consecutive appearance. Nine teams have participated in each of the NCAA Tournaments throughout the 90's:

Miami Florida State Texas Oklahoma State Georgia Tech Clemson Wichita State Fresno State

FORMER MAJOR LEAGUE PLAYERS WHO EARNED NCAA DIVISION I ALL-AMERICAN HONORS AND LATER COACHED COLLEGE BASEBALL

> Jackie Jensen California

Bob Cerv JFK (Neb.)

Jerry Kindall Arizona

Dick Howser Florida State.

Jake Gibbs Ole Miss

Bill Freehan. Michigan

Ron Nischwitz Wright State

Don Kessinger Ole Miss

Pete Varney-

AROUND THE HORN

A great job of forecasting the 1995 season was turned in by all three of college baseball's major publications, *Collegiate Baseball, Baseball Weekly* and *Baseball America.* The following are preseason polls by the "Big Three":

Baseball Weekly--1-Stanford, 2-Florida State, 3-Oklahoma, 5-Clemson, 6-Miami, 7-USC, 10-Tennessee, 12-Cal. State-Fullerton

 Collegiate Baseball--2--Stanford, 3-Florida State, 4-USC, 5-Clemson, 7-Tennessee, 8-Oklahoma, 16-Cal. State-Fullerton

Baseball America-- 1-Stanford, 2-Florida State, 3-Oklahoma, 4-Clemson, 6-USC, 7-Miami, 12-Tennessee, 15-Cal. State-Fullerton.

Kevin Costner (Crash Davis in Bull Durham) took batting practice with the College World Series champions from Cal. State-Fullerton prior to its opening game in Omaha. Costner, an aium, donated much of the money to build the new ball park at Fullerton in 1992.

Eight of the first 13 players chosen in this year's Major League Draft were collegians. Six players taken in the first round played in the College World Series in Omaha.

Wake Forest's junior Rusty LaRue made Atlantic Coast Conference history by pitching three scoreless innings in relief this season. The right-hander is better known as the quarterback on the WFU football team and shooting guard on the basketball squad. He became the first player in ACC history to participate in all three sports in the same academic year.

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NCAA Division III All-American Tim Jorgensen of Wisconsin-Oshkosh hit four home runs in one game against Wisconsin-Eau Claire. What was even more amazing is that Jorgensen hit for the home run "Cycle", hitting a solo blast, a two-run homer, a three-run shot and a grand slam. Through 36 games, Jorgensen pounded out 11 HR and 37 RBI.

In a six-game stretch, Jason Shanahan of Cal. State-Northridge went 15-for-24 with seven home runs, 20 RBI and a slugging percentage of 1,480.

Southern California coach Mike Gillespie and Clemson mentor Jack Leggett became the fourth and fifth coaches in NCAA-I history to both play and coach a team into the College World Series. Gillespie played on the 1961 USC national champions, while Leggett was a third baseman on the 1976 Maine team. They join Joe Russo (St. John's), Mark Marquess (Stanford) and Jerry Kindall, who was the only man ever to play and coach on a national championship team (Minnesota and Arizona).

THANKS...

We would like to extend our many thanks to the tremendous job *Collegiate Baseball, Baseball America* and USA Today's *Baseball Weekly* did in covering the 1995 season. In addition, our congratulations for the outstanding coverage provided by ESPN and CBS in presenting the College World Series to a national television audience.

A big thank you also goes out to newsletter editor Steve Weller: NCAA representative Jim Wright; *Collegiate Baseball's* Lou Pavlovich: *Baseball Weekly's* Rick Lawes and *Baseball America's* Jim Callis.

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