

THE BASEBALL COLLEGIAN

THE COACHES' SOURCE FOR AMATEUR BASEBALL

www.baseballcollegian.com

Issue 13 - July 1, 2026

THE CHAMPIONS ISSUE

Congrats to the 2026 National Champions!

NCAA Division I	Oklahoma
NCAA Division II	Tampa (Fla.)
NCAA Division III	Denison (Ohio)
NAIA	Tennessee Wesleyan
USCAA	Apprentice (Va.)
NCCAA	Southwestern Christian (Okla.)
JUCO DI	Johnson County (Kan.)
JUCO DII	Pearl River (Miss.)
JUCO DIII	SUNY Niagara (N.Y.)
Cal CC	Santa Ana (Calif.)
NW CC	Lower Columbia (Wash.)
Club Baseball D1	Florida Gulf Coast
Club Baseball D2	SUNY Brockport (N.Y.)
Club Baseball D3	John Carroll (Ohio)

Inside! Regionals, Supers, & World Series Results

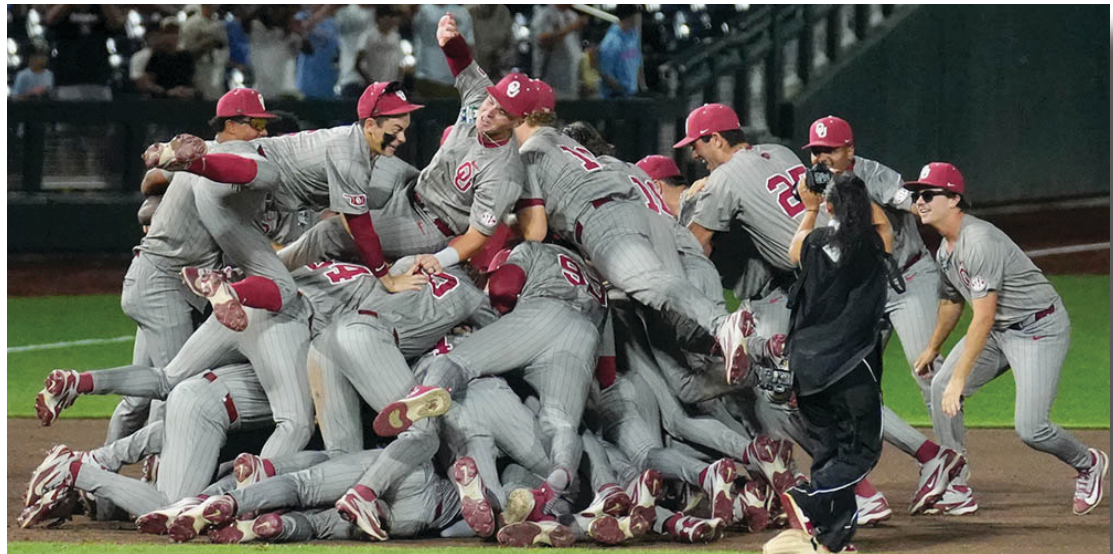


Photo by Eric Sorenson, D1Baseball



Oklahoma, the 2026 National Champions, using the V-Flex system at practice.

See the Ball! Innovation from V-Flex

By MARK WOODWORTH
EDITOR/THE BASEBALL COLLEGIAN

"New paradigms change the game, and maybe the V-Flex training is the next wave of baseball as we get tired of computer data when we have our own computer in our brains." – Martin Rubinoff, Masters of Sport Science

Baseball coaches are chasing all kinds of innovations: technique tips, exit velocity, pitch break, strength training. **CONTINUED ON PAGE 5**

The Press Box

Coaching insights from the source

The first in a series chronicling the great lessons coaches give at press conferences into how they created their championship teams. Featured this month are insights from newly-minted CWS champion coach Skip Johnson from Oklahoma and North Carolina coach Scott Forbes.

Skip Johnson – Oklahoma Head Coach

It's uncommon at every level. I mean, from Little League all the way up. When their kid's not playing, all they hear is the negative energy.

These guys really have been selfless. And that's probably one of the most important things, the message that I've really tried to display about this team is the selflessness that they've had in a world that's really selfish. And we're trying to teach them in our culture to be selfless, to pick each other up - I mean, it's really what life's about.

Man, if you can teach those young men to be selfless in a selfish world, is really big to me. **CONTINUED ON PAGE 3**

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From the Publisher

Between February and June, I saw 92 games live and in person. My travels encompassed college baseball, high school baseball, and college softball; from NAIA schools to Omaha; from Georgia and South Carolina to Ohio and Massachusetts. That doesn't even include a ton of late-night games on ESPN from the west coast, and a million Regional, Super Regional and World Series games in all divisions on TV and the computer.

This **Champions Issue** intends to shine a light on all the baseball happening everywhere at all levels. Indeed, being present in Omaha at the College World Series was amazing and is probably the best and most accessible major sporting event in the country. However, all around the country there is found a love of baseball, love for one's school, and a joy at being part of something bigger than oneself.

As for coaches, there are 1,789 teams and head coaches total across all divisions, yet only 11 win a World Series..

Congrats to those 11 coaches, but an equal congrats to the other 1,778 coaches for their care and commitment and work at making college baseball great.

Noah Darling from *College Baseball Central* sums it up best:
"College Baseball: The People's Sport."

Mark A. Woodworth

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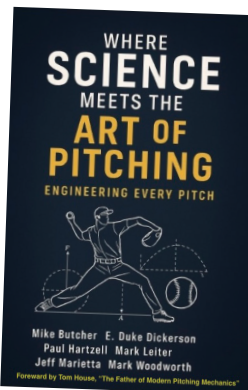
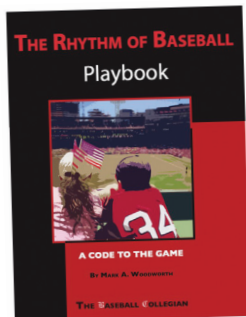
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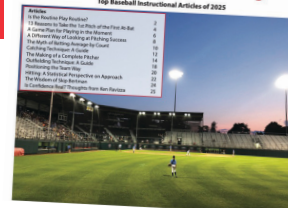
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From the Pages of
The Baseball Collegian
Top Baseball Instructional Articles of 2022



DISPATCHES Omaha, Nebraska



EVERYTHING OMAHA CWS NOTES

BY MARK WOODWORTH - EDITOR/THE BASEBALL COLLEGIAN

Mon. June 22, 2026

National championship Day!... Two freshmen on the mound... **Oklahoma** strikes first with three, **North Carolina** gets one back... Both starting pitchers are out by the fourth, and here comes Caden Glauber for the Tar Heels!... Oh no for UNC: two straight walks to score a run... A Jaxon Willits two-run single for a 6-1 lead for the Sooners... Oklahoma had 48 HR's in their first 47 games, now have 46 HR's in the last 19 games... Oklahoma with a 9-1 lead in the 7th inning of the CWS title game. Having a late, big lead knowing you're most probably going to win a championship is one of the great under-appreciated joys of sport... Kyle Branch's three-run home run gives OU a 13-2 lead in the 8th... West Virginia fans win Rocco's Jello Shot Challenge with 28,221 purchased, contributing to local food banks... And that's it - Jaxon Willits named MVP of the CWS. and the Oklahoma Sooners are **NATIONAL CHAMPS!!!!**

Sun. June 21, 2026

Two runs right away in the first for **Oklahoma** - is today the day to win a CWS title?... Hold, on: UNC has tied it... And now **North Carolina** has taken the lead on a wild pitch... Oh Caden Glauber, he of the freshman who should-be-in high school, is blowing everyone away... Owen Hull, then Cooper Nicholson with home runs... UNC cruises to the 6-2 win... UNC is 29-0 when Glauber appears in a game... **WINNER-TAKE-ALL** on Monday night!!!

Sat. June 20, 2026

Game 1 of the finals... Deitan LaChance - what a joy to watch him play, as he hits a two-run home run in the first inning... And of course, LaChance hits another HR on a pitch at his shoulders in the third... **Oklahoma** LHP freshman Cole Rager struggled with the first four batters, but has settled down... OU is scrappy, up 7-3 after four... Lachance with another crazy hit, bringing rain, as LJ Mercurious closes it out over **North Carolina**... It took the grounds crew 1 minute, 31 seconds to get the tarp on after the final out.

Championship Preview

North Carolina (53-12-1) vs. **Oklahoma** (41-22)

UNC and Coach Forbes have had an incredible season, including an amazing 9th inning comeback to beat USC in the Super Regionals... Oklahoma started out 17-3, then went 16-18, now in the postseason, are 8-1 and knocked out SEC champ Georgia, ACC champ Georgia Tech, and Big 12 champ Kansas.

Wed. June 17, 2026

Georgia has to beat **Oklahoma** twice... The best home run-hitting team, Georgia, is getting beat by home runs... Jason Walk, Trey Gambill, and Dasan

Harris go deep for an early 4-0 lead... Jaxon Willits double in seventh, another Harris homer in the 8th, another Walk homer in the 8th... Nobody (but Oklahoma) saw this coming, but they're in the finals with their 11-4 win.

Big Day: The weather is making everyone happy in Omaha, but lack of pitching depth at this point of the tournament is dampening the mood for **West Virginia**... Well-rested **UNC** jumps out to an 8-1 lead and can feel a berth in the finals... West Virginia never gives up, but this is UNC's time, and win 12-7 for a berth in the finals.

Tue. June 16, 2026

24,824 in attendance for this big elimination game between **Texas** and **Georgia**... Sac bunt by Kolby Branch - only the third sac bunt by Georgia this season... Closer of the Year Sam Cozart having bad luck - a blooper snowcones out of the CF's glove, a shift-beating single, then a pop-up on the foul line where the SS and LF collide and Ryan Black tags and is safe at home by a hair... Justin Byrd was extraordinary in 5 relief innings, two hits and no runs.

Day 5 - Another perfect day of weather for an elimination game... Armani Guzman improves to 42 steals on the season... **West Virginia** relievers shutting down **Troy**... Gavin Kelly has been quiet for WVU, but finally makes his presence know with three hits, four RBI and a big HR as West Virginia ends Troy's dream season with a 12-0 win.

Mon. June 15, 2026

Day 4: Amazing that brothers Kolby Branch from **Georgia** and Kyle Branch from **Oklahoma** get to play against each other. The first time in CWS history... Georgia's Caden Aoki threw the second complete game for Georgia in the CWS... Xander Mercurius (whose brother LJ is on the team too) keeps down the big-hitting Georgia team with 7.1 innings and 9 K's on 104 pitches... Game on the line ends with Daniel Jackson flying-out with the tying run on second for the Oklahoma 4-3 win.

Day 4: Another team will be eliminated... **Texas** has shown up to play today, with a blitz of seven runs in the first two innings... Texas SS Adrian Rodriguez's liner to left-center gets by outfielders, was changed from a single with error, to a triple... That triple just came in handy as Rodriguez completes the cycle... Just the third cycle in CWS history, joining Tennessee's Christian Moore, and legendary college baseball figure Jerry Kindall from Arizona... **Alabama** heads home after the 14-2 loss.

Sun. June 14, 2026

A perfect evening for **North Carolina** vs. **West Virginia** here in Omaha... Tied 2-2 in the fifth in a chess match with each team responding with some outstanding defensive plays... Double play to get out of the inning - oh no, error, then a two-run triple for UNC to take a 4-2 lead in the 7th. Cruel game... Caden Glauber throwing all 97's to close out the 5-2 win over West Virginia... 24,414 attending.

The first elimination game, **Troy** vs. **Ole Miss**... As heard in the hallway underneath the stadium, "Someone has to go home. They all can't stay for two weeks"... The Baseball Village featuring food, music and booths across the street is just packed with people... The ball is flying with six home runs so far, three by Troy and three by Ole Miss.... Troy wows the crowd with 10 runs late for a 12-8 lead and knock out Ole Miss.

Sat. June 13, 2026

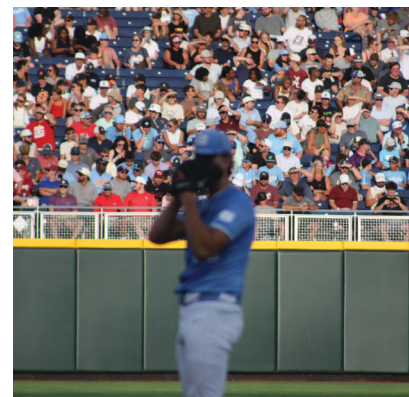
The Saturday night marquee matchup: **Texas** vs. **Georgia**... Thunderstorm rolled in, but the tarp is off, the sun is out and the crowd is bursting... Georgia's Joey Volchko strikes out the side with FB-96, Slider-89, Changeup-87... Chaos for Texas in the first inning, giving up four *Omaha nerves* runs... An all-time Omaha pitching game from Georgia's Joey Volchko: 114 pitch CG, 4 hits, 0 earned runs, 1 walk, and 15 STRIKEOUTS... A 7-1 win for Georgia.

Day 2 of the CWS is here!... **Oklahoma** vs. **Alabama**... Hailstorms in the morning, but field is ready to go... Deiten LaChance twisted his ankle bad at 2B in the first inning, but in the 6th, hits a bomb over the pen and limps/celebrates around the bases... Cord Rager deals: 7 innings, 3 hits, 0 walks, 8 K's, no runs... Stat of the Day: SEC schools hit .308 against non-conference opponents, while only .260 in conference games... Oklahoma wins 9-0.

Fri. June 12, 2026

Game 2: **Ole Miss** vs. **North Carolina**: Perfect weather, packed house... Taylor Rabe blowing 97 on the mound for Ole Miss... UNC's Jason DeCaro is *only* 94... Tight pitcher's duel but the stadium stayed loud thanks to tarps off from youth baseball players from Lubbock, Texas in the left-field bleachers... Colin Hynek makes the UNC fans explode with a three-run bomb in the 8th... UNC freshman Caden Glauber should be graduating from high school this week, but instead was closing out the game for the Tar Heels.

Lots of nervous energy for Game 1 between first-time-ever CWS teams **West Virginia** and **Troy**... The anthem concludes with a flyover from stealth bombers... First run - a thrilling steal of home by West Virginia's Armani Guzman... West Virginia fans are bringing the same energy they had in Morgantown... Only 4 innings in to the 2026 CWS and we've already had a steal of home, a diving play at 3B, a 2-run double, an error, and a sac bunt... and a home run by WVU... A wild hop over the Troy 1B's head, gives West Virginia a 7-5 lead... Aaron Piasecki's HR bid dies at the track... WVU wins the CWS opener.



PRESS BOX: THE COACHES

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

When nobody cares who gets the credit, you can do amazing things. It's pretty amazing. They're pulling for those guys, the first guy on the rope.

A lot of times when you get in these pressure situations, they give you too much effort. They try too hard. When you try hard in this game, you fail. But if they can just be themselves, one pitch at a time, take a breath, throw the ball to the target -- because that's the only thing you can control -- or get your first step, or have the detail of reading what we need to read on the bases or at the plate, two-strike approach, and believe in that process, the process is what matters, more so than anything.

It's really just trying to stay in the process one pitch at a time. It's the only thing you can control. You talk about it. You try to live it. You practice it. You put it in your routines.

I mean, if you sat next to our dugout, you can hear me scream, "Take a breath, take a breath," trying to remind them, take a breath, trying to remind them to stay in the routines.

It's not any different game playing for the national championship. It's just about trying to win pitches; swinging at strikes, not balls; trying to throw the ball to targets. It's not any different. It's just on a different stage. You just gotta look at it that way. I mean, we all think it's different because we write about it and we're in social media, but it's really not any different. The bases are still 90-foot. You've got to run good 90s, and still 60-feet, 6-inches. You've got to just take a breath, back the ball up to the middle, make sure you're ready to make a play, attack the play and give effort.



Scott Forbes – UNC

If you're a transformational coach or trying to be -- it doesn't mean we're perfect -- it seems like they become an even closer family. And that's something that's so important to us at UNC that the players feel that.

We use the word "love" all the time as the backbone of our program. I explain to our guys, there's some tough love in there, but it's the strongest thing on the planet.

We like to think that we try to make practice harder than the game. I think that's important. This time of year, like yesterday, we had the machine cranked up and it was throwing cheese. You've got to be ready to get in there and compete. We always preach to our players, we're going to try to make practice as difficult as possible. Buy into it. Understand how important it is.

But it's that preparation thing. It gets rid of that little birdie doubting yourself, if you've done something really hard over and over and over -- it's like fundamental defense. Our guys know you're going to do it every single day that we practice because that's just what we're going to do. And so understand how important that is.

And this group, credit to them, they've bought into it. And they'll come tomorrow, whatever I have on the practice plan, whether or not it's just a lift, they'll do it and they'll do it at a high level.

Wed. June 10, 2026 (CWS Preview)

No repeat participants from 2025... A record five SEC teams in the 2026 CWS... Five #1 seeds, two #2 seeds, and one #3 seed.

#3 Georgia First World Series since 2008... SEC champs... Coach Wes Johnson won a CWS as pitching coach for LSU in 2023. He played at Ark.-Monticello, and has coached at Central Arkansas, Southern Arkansas, Mississippi St, Arkansas, and was pitching coach for the Minnesota Twins.

#5 North Carolina 13th College World Series... CWS Runner-up in 2006 & 2007... Coach Scott Forbes played for former UNC coach Mike Fox at NC Wesleyan, and was his assistant at UNC for 14 years.

#6 Texas A record 39th World Series appearance (out of 79 all-time CWS) and six titles... Coach Jim Schlossnagle has brought three separate teams to CWS (TCU, Texas A&M, and Texas)... He played at Elon and has also coached at Elon, Clemson, Tulane and UNLV.

#7 Alabama First College World Series since 1999... Coach Rob Vaughn is in his third season after 11 years at Maryland (six as head coach), and

playing at Kansas State and in the Chicago White Sox organization.

#16 West Virginia First CWS appearance... Coach Steve Sabins in first year as head coach after serving under WVU coach Randy Mazey for 9 seasons... Sabins played for Embry-Riddle & coached at Oklahoma State.

Oklahoma Last won the CWS in 1994... Sooners' 12th appearance and second for Coach Skip Johnson... Coach Johnson has coached at Texas, Navarro, and has been head coach at Oklahoma for nine seasons. He played at Texas Pan-American, North Texas and Ranger.

Ole Miss Trying to repeat their CWS magic from 2022... Mike Bianco has been head coach at Ole Miss for 26 years. He arrived after coaching three years at McNeese St. and playing for Skip Bertman at LSU.

Troy The Alabama school from the Sun Belt is the lone mid-major in this year's CWS... Troy's first CWS appearance... Coach Skylar Meade is in 5th year after coaching at Eastern Illinois, Middle Tennessee, Michigan St, & South Carolina. He pitched for Louisville.



NATIONAL CHAMPIONS PAST 5 YEARS

Four-Year Colleges

NCAA Division I

2026	Oklahoma	Skip Johnson
2025	LSU	Jay Johnson
2024	Tennessee	Tony Vitello
2023	LSU	Jay Johnson
2022	Ole Miss	Mike Bianco

NCAA Division II

2026	Tampa	Joe Urso
2025	Tampa	Joe Urso
2024	Tampa	Joe Urso
2023	Angelo State	Kevin Brooks
2022	North Greenville	Landon Powell

NCAA Division III

2026	Denison	Mike Deegan
2025	Wisconsin-Whitewater	John Vodenlich
2024	Misericordia	Pete Egbert
2023	Lynchburg	Lucas Jones
2022	Eastern Conn. St.	Brian Hamm

NAIA

2026	Tennessee Wesleyan	Billy Berry
2025	LSU Shreveport	Brad Neffendorf
2024	Hope International	Larry Mahoney
2023	Westmont	Tyler LaTorre
2022	Southeastern	Adrian Dinkel

USCAA

2026	Apprentice	Ben Jones
2025	Salem University	Kassidy Gaines
2024	Penn State Dubois	Tom Calliari
2023	Penn State Dubois	Tom Calliari
2022	Apprentice School	Ben Jones

NCCAA

2026	Southwestern Christian	Joe Blackwell
2025	Jessup University	Trevor Paine
2024	Southwestern Christian	Joe Blackwell
2023	Mid-America Christian	Brett Stanton
2022	Concordia-Ann Arbor	Zach Johnson

Club Division I

2026	Florida Gulf Coast
2025	Penn State
2024	Penn State
2023	Penn State
2022	Florida State

Club Division II

2026	SUNY-Brockport
2025	Penn State
2024	Penn State
2023	Penn State
2022	Florida State

Club Division III

2026	John Carroll
2025	Craven CC
2024	Wisconsin-River Falls
2023	Milwaukee School of Engineering
2019	Millersville

Junior Colleges

California JC

2026	Santa Ana	Tom Nilles
2025	Mt. San Antonio	John Knott
2024	Saddleback	Sommer McCartney
2023	Santa Ana	Tom Nilles
2022	Riverside City College	Rudy Arguelles

Northwest JC

2026	Lower Columbia	Kurt Lupinski
2025	Linn-Benton	Andy Peterson
2024	Linn-Benton	Andy Peterson
2023	Lower Columbia	Kurt Lupinski
2022	Linn-Benton	Andy Peterson

JC Division I

2026	Johnson County CC	Eric Horner
2025	Salt Lake CC	DG Nelson
2024	Blinn	Dusty Hart
2023	Central Florida	Marty Smith
2022	Central Arizona	Anthony Gillich

JC Division II

2026	Pearl River	Michael Avalon
2025	Pasco-Hernando	Lyndon Coleman
2024	LSU-Eunice	Jeff Willis
2023	Heartland (IL)	Chris Razo
2022	Pearl River	Michael Avalon

JC Division III

2026	SUNY Niagara	Matt Clingersmith
2025	Rowan S.J. Gloucester	Rob Valli
2024	Rowan S.J. Gloucester	Rob Valli
2023	Rowan S.J. Gloucester	Rob Valli
2022	Herkimer	Jason Rathbun





WORLD SERIES – June 12-22 – Omaha, Neb.

- #3 Georgia (2-2)
- #5 North Carolina (4-2)
- #6 Texas (1-2)
- #7 Alabama (0-2)
- #16 West Virginia (2-2)
- Oklahoma** (5-1)
- Ole Miss (0-2)
- Troy (1-2)

NCAA DIVISION I

SUPER REGIONALS – June 5-8

- #3 **Georgia** hosts #14 Mississippi State
- #4 Auburn hosts **Ole Miss**
- #5 **North Carolina** hosts USC
- #6 **Texas** hosts #11 Oregon
- #7 **Alabama** hosts St. John's
- #15 Kansas hosts **Oklahoma**
- #16 **West Virginia** hosts Cal Poly
- Troy** hosts Little Rock

REGIONALS – May 29-June 1

- UCLA Regional – Los Angeles, Calif.** #1 UCLA, Virginia Tech, **Cal Poly**, Saint Mary's
- Georgia Tech Regional – Atlanta, Ga.** #2 Georgia Tech, **Oklahoma**, The Citadel, Illinois-Chicago
- Georgia Regional – Athens, Ga.** #3 **Georgia**, Boston College, Liberty, Long Island
- Auburn Regional – Auburn, Ala.** #4 **Auburn**, Central Florida, NC State, Milwaukee
- North Carolina Regional – Chapel Hill, N.C.** #5 **North Carolina**, Tennessee, East Carolina, VCU
- Texas Regional – Austin, Texas** #6 **Texas**, UC Santa Barbara, Tarleton State, Holy Cross
- Alabama Regional – Tuscaloosa, Ala.** #7 **Alabama**, Oklahoma State, SC Upstate, Alabama State
- Florida Regional – Gainesville, Fla.** #8 Florida, Miami, **Troy**, Rider
- Southern Miss Regional – Hattiesburg, Miss.** #9 Southern Miss, Virginia, Jacksonville St., **Little Rock**
- Florida St. Regional – Tallahassee, Fla.** #10 Florida St., Coastal Carolina, Northern Illinois, **St. John's**
- Oregon Regional – Eugene, Ore.** #11 **Oregon**, Oregon State, Washington St., Yale
- Texas A&M Regional – College Station, Tex.** #12 Texas A&M, **USC**, Texas State, Lamar
- Nebraska Regional – Lincoln, Neb.** #13 Nebraska, **Ole Miss**, Arizona St., South Dakota St.
- Mississippi State Regional – Starkville, Miss.** #14 **Mississippi St.**, Cincinnati, Louisiana, Lipscomb
- Kansas Regional – Lawrence, Kan.** #15 **Kansas**, Arkansas, Missouri State, Northeastern
- West Virginia Regional – Morgantown, W.V.** #16 **West Virginia**, Wake Forest, Kentucky, Binghamton

National Champs! Oklahoma

Oklahoma, coached by Skip Johnson, won the Division I World Series with a 13-2 victory in a winner-take-all final over North Carolina.



Oklahoma Athletics

2026 COLLEGE WORLD SERIES SCHEDULE

Fri. June 12

- Game 1 – #16 **West Virginia** 7, Troy 5
- Game 2 – #5 **North Carolina**, 6, Ole Miss 2

Sat. June 13

- Game 3 – **Oklahoma** 9, #7 Alabama 0
- Game 4 – #3 **Georgia** 7, #6 Texas 0

Sun. June 14

- Game 5 – **Troy** 12, Ole Miss 8 (Ole Miss eliminated)
- Game 6 – #5 **North Carolina** 5, #16 West Virginia 2

Mon. June 15

- Game 7 – #6 **Texas** 12, #7 Alabama 2 (Alabama eliminated)
- Game 8 – **Oklahoma** 4, #3 Georgia 3

Tue. June 16

- Game 9 – #16 **West Virginia** 12, Troy 0 (Troy eliminated)
- Game 10 – #3 **Georgia** 2, #6 Texas 0 (Texas eliminated)

Wed. June 17

- Game 11 – #5 **North Carolina** 12, West Virginia 7 (WVU elim.)
- Game 12 – **Oklahoma** 11, #3 Georgia 4 (Georgia eliminated)

Thur. June 18

Off

Fri. June 19

Off

Sat. June 20

- Finals Game 1 – **Oklahoma** 9, #5 North Carolina 3

Sun. June 21

- Finals Game 2 – #5 **North Carolina** 6, Oklahoma 2

Mon. June 22

- Finals Game 3 **Oklahoma** 13, #5 North Carolina 2

2026 DI CONFERENCE RANKINGS

Rank	Conference	W%	Conf. Tourney Champ	Coach
1	SEC	63%	Georgia	Wes Johnson
2	ACC	61%	Georgia Tech	James Ramsey
3	Big 12	57%	Kansas	Dan Fitzgerald
4	Big Ten	56%	UCLA	John Savage
5	AAC	54%	East Carolina	Cliff Godwin
6	Sun Belt	53%	Southern Miss	Christian Ostrander
7	Southern	57%	Citadel	Russell Triplett
8	C-USA	52%	Jacksonville St.	Steve Bieser
9	WAC	52%	Tarleton	Fuller Smith
10	Mountain West	48%	Washington St.	Nathan Choate
11	Big West	47%	Cal Poly	Larry Lee
12	Southland	49%	Lamar	Sean Allen
13	Ohio Valley	52%	Little Rock	Chris Curry
14	Big East	48%	St. John's	Mike Hampton
15	Big South	49%	SC-Upstate	Kane Sweeney
16	West Coast	45%	Saint Mary's	Eric Valenzuela
17	Coastal	48%	Northeastern	Mike Glavine
18	Atlantic Sun	45%	Lipscomb	Jeff Forehand
19	MAC	47%	Northern Illinois	Ryan Copeland
20	A-10	48%	VCU	Sean Thompson
21	Patriot	46%	Holy Cross	Ed Kahovac
22	Missouri Valley	43%	Illinois-Chicago	Sean McDermott
23	America East	45%	Binghamton	Tim Sinicki
24	Ivy	43%	Yale	Brian Hamm
25	Horizon	38%	Milwaukee	Shaun Wagner
26	MAAC	44%	Rider	Lee Lipinski
27	Summit	38%	South Dakota St.	Rob Bishop
28	SWAC	41%	Alabama St.	Jose Vazquez
29	NEC	39%	Long Island	Dan Pirillo

Note: Win-loss percentage and strength of schedule are key factors.



NCAA Division 1 Baseball Collegian Final Poll (6/22/26)

1	Oklahoma	42-23
2	North Carolina	54-14
3	Georgia	53-14
4	Texas	46-15
5	West Virginia	47-17
6	UCLA	52-8
7	Georgia Tech	50-11
8	Oregon	43-18
9	Mississippi State	43-19
10	USC	48-18
11	Oregon State	45-14
12	Texas A&M	41-16
13	Alabama	42-21
14	Ole Miss	41-23
15	Kansas	45-18
16	Nebraska	43-17
17	Troy	39-32
18	Southern Mississippi	44-17
19	Florida State	40-19
20	Jacksonville State	48-15
21	Florida	41-21
22	Auburn	42-22
23	California Baptist	44-15
24	Mercer	44-15
25	Arkansas	41-22
26	Arizona State	39-21
27	Liberty	43-21
28	Miami	39-20
29	Oklahoma State	39-22
30	Kent State	42-15

Receiving Votes: UC-Santa Barbara, Wake Forest, Cincinnati, Texas-San Antonio, Tennessee, Louisiana-Lafayette, Campbell



WORLD SERIES – May 29-June 6 – Cary, N.C.

Catawba (N.C.) 2-2
 Central Missouri (Mo.) 1-2
 Indianapolis (Ind.) 0-2
 Bentley (Mass.) 0-2
 West Chester (Pa.) 4-2
 Point Loma Nazarene (Calif.) 1-2
 Tampa (Fla.) 6-1
 Texas-Tyler (Texas) 2-2

SUPER REGIONALS – May 22-23

West Chester (Pa.) vs. Millersville (Pa.)
 Central Missouri (Mo.) vs. Augustana (S.D.)
 Bentley (Mass.) vs. Molloy (N.Y.)
 Grand Valley State (Mich.) vs. Indianapolis (Ind.)
 Tampa (Fla.) vs. West Florida (Fla.)
 Colorado Mesa (Colo.) vs. Texas-Tyler (Texas)
 Catawba (N.C.) vs. Francis Marion (S.C.)
 Point Loma Nazarene (Calif.) vs. Northwest Nazarene (Idaho)

REGIONALS – May 14-17

Atlantic #1 – West Chester, Pa West Chester, East Stroudsburg, Bloomsburg
Atlantic #2 – Millersville, Pa Millersville, Seton Hill, Charleston (WV)
Central #1 – Pittsburg, Kan. Pittsburg St., Northwest Missouri, Augustana (SD), Arkansas Tech
Central #2 – Tulsa, Okla. Rogers St., Central Missouri, Minnesota St., Missouri Southern St.
East #1 – Waltham, Mass. Bentley, Wilmington, Goldey-Beacom
East #1 – Rockville Centre, N.Y. Molloy, Southern NH, Felician
Midwest #1 – Allendale., Mich. Grand Valley St., Missouri Science & Tech, Davenport, Kentucky Wesleyan
Midwest #2 – Springfield, Ill. Illinois-Springfield, Wayne St. Indianapolis, Missouri-St. Louis
South #1 – Ferry Pass, Fla. West Florida, Delta St., Lee, Edward Waters
South #2 – Tampa, Fla. Tampa, Rollins, West Alabama, Trevecca Nazarene
South Central #1 – Mesa, Colo. Colorado Mesa, St. Mary's (TX), Lubbock Christian
South Central #2 – Tyler, Tex. Texas-Tyler, Angelo St., Metropolitan St.-Denver
Southeast #1 – Tigerville, S.C. North Greenville, North Georgia, Francis Marion, Lander
Southeast #2 – Salisbury, N.C. Catawba, Belmont Abbey, Wingate, Young Harris
West #1 – Monterey, Calif. Cal. St. Monterey Bay, Cal St. San Marcos, Northwest Nazarene
West #2 – Point Loma, Calif. Cal Poly Pomona, Point Loma Nazarene, Cal St. Bakersfield

NCAA DIVISION II

National Champs! Tampa

The University of Tampa won the Division II World Series over West Chester. It was the third straight championship for Tampa and the eighth for coach Joe Urso.



Tampa Athletics

2026 DII CONFERENCE RANKINGS

Rank	Conference	W%	Conf. Tourney Champ	Coach
1	Sunshine State	55%	Tampa	Joe Urso
2	California Collegiate (CCAA)	52%	Cal St. San Bernadino	Mike Nadeau
3	South Atlantic (SAC)	52%	Wingate	Jeff Gregory
4	Gulf South	51%	West Florida	Mike Jeffcoat
5	Peach Belt	51%	Lander	Nick Popp
6	Lone Star (LSC)	50%	Texas Tyler	Brent Porche
7	Mid-America (MIAA)	52%	Pittsburg State	Brock Buckingham
8	Conference Carolinas	51%	Young Harris	Stephen Waggener
9	Great American (GAC)	51%	Arkansas Tech	Dave Dawson
10	Pennsylvania State (PSAC)	54%	Millersville	Jon Shehan
11	Great Lakes (GLIAC)	52%	Grand Valley St.	Jordan Keur
12	Pacific West	50%	Point Loma Nazarene	Justin James
13	Great Northwest (GNAC)	47%	Northwest Nazarene	Joe Schaefer
14	Rocky Mountain	49%	Colorado Mesa	Chris Hanks
15	Great Lakes Valley (GLVC)	49%	Missouri-St. Louis	Scott Eul
16	Northern Sun	49%	Augustana	Tim Huber
17	East Coast (ECC)	49%	Molloy	Joe Fucarino
18	Northeast-10	48%	Bentley	Mike Hill
19	Great Midwest	47%	Kentucky Wesleyan	Todd Lillpop
20	Central Atlantic (CACC)	47%	Wilmington (Del.)	Brian August
21	Mountain East	45%	Charleston (WV)	Dean Peterson
22	Southern (SIAC)	46%	Edward Waters	Reginald Johnson

Note: Win-loss percentage and strength of schedule are key factors.



NCAA Division II Baseball Collegian Final Poll (6/5/26)

1	Tampa	49-8
2	West Chester	47-10
3	Texas-Tyler	50-14
4	Colorado Mesa	53-7
5	Francis Marion	46-14
6	North Greenville	49-12
7	Catawba	49-14
8	Pittsburg State	45-11
9	Point Loma Nazarene	50-13
10	Indianapolis	39-24
11	Grand Valley State	48-10
12	West Florida	43-16
13	Lenoir-Rhyne	38-13
14	North Georgia	42-16
15	Young Harris	41-18
16	Central Missouri	40-17
17	Rollins	36-16
18	Wingate	40-19
19	Seton Hill	42-11
20	Rogers State	40-15
21	Belmont Abbey	38-16
22	Angelo State	42-19
23	Cal State Monterey Bay	37-18
24	Augustana (SD)	45-16
25	St. Mary's (TX)	39-19
26	SC-Aiken	36-17
27	Bentley	44-17
28	Molloy	42-12
29	Lee	38-19
30	Emporia State	37-16

Receiving votes: West Alabama, Northwest Missouri State, North Carolina-Pembroke, Lander, Cal St. San Marcos, Minnesota St.-Mankato, Millersville, Eckerd, Northwest Nazarene



WORLD SERIES – May 29-June 4 – Eastlake, Ohio

Salisbury (Md.) 0-2
 Rowan (N.J.) 1-2
 Endicott (Mass.) 4-3
 Denison (Ohio) 6-2
 Johns Hopkins (Md.) 0-2
 Adrian (Mich.) 3-2
 Baldwin-Wallace (Ohio) 1-2
 East Texas Baptist (Texas) 2-2

SUPER REGIONALS – May 22-24

Piedmont (Ga.) at Denison (Ohio)
 Claremont (Calif.) at Johns Hopkins (Md.)
 Endicott (Mass.) at Salve Regina (R.I.)
 Randolph-Macon (Va.) at Rowan (N.J.)
 East Texas Baptist (Texas) at Lynchburg (Va.)
 Chicago (Ill.) at Salisbury (Md.)
 Bethany Lutheran (Minn.) at Adrian (Mich.)
 Messiah (Pa.) at Baldwin-Wallace (Ohio)

REGIONALS – May 14-17

Denison Regional – Granville, Ohio Denison, Grinnell, Cortland, Kalamazoo
Centre Regional – Danville, Ky. Washington Univ., Aurora, Piedmont, Centre
Johns Hopkins Regional – Baltimore, Md. Johns Hopkins, Pfeiffer, Pomona-Pitzer, Mary Washington
Tufts Regional – Medford, Mass. Tufts, Mitchell, Kean, Claremont
DeSales Regional – Center Valley, Pa. Salve Regina, Marymount, DeSales, Ramapo
Montclair State Regional – Montclair, N.J. Endicott, Husson, Montclair State, Whitworth
Russell Sage Regional – Schenectady, N.Y. Russell Sage, Penn State Harrisburg, Randolph-Macon, Trinity (Conn.)
Southern Maine Regional – Gorham, Maine Rowan, RIT, Southern Maine, Babson
Lynchburg Regional – Lynchburg, Penn Lynchburg, Penn State Behrend, Maryville (Tenn.), Christopher Newport
East Texas Baptist Regional – Marshall, Texas East Texas Baptist, Concordia-Texas, Belhaven, Rhodes
Washington & Jefferson Regional – Washington, Pa. Bridgewater (Va.), Scranton, Chicago, Washington & Jefferson
Salisbury Regional – Salisbury, Md. Salisbury, Bridgewater State, Mount Union, Hobart
Wisc.-Whitewater Regional – Whitewater, Wisc. UW-Whitewater, Macalester, Bethany Lutheran, Luther
Adrian Regional – Adrian, Mich. Wittenberg, Webster, Adrian, DePauw
Millikin Regional – Decatur, Ill. Baldwin Wallace, Wartburg, Millikin, UW-La Crosse
Shenandoah Regional – Winchester, Va. Shenandoah, Farmingdale State, Transylvania, Messiah

NCAA DIVISION III

National Champs! Denison

Denison, led by coach Mike Deegan, won the Div. III World Series with a 10-inning, 4-3, walk-off win in a winner-take-all final over Endicott. Denison finished with a 51-3 record.



Photos by Amanda Phillips

2026 DII CONFERENCE RANKINGS

Rank	Conference	W%	Conf. Tourney Champ	Coach
1	University (UAA)	57%	Chicago	Kevin Tyrrell
2	North Coast	58%	Denison	Mike Deegan
3	Old Dominion (ODAC)	58%	Shenandoah	Kevin Anderson
4	American Southwest	57%	East Texas Baptist	Jared Hood
5	Conference of the South	55%	Piedmont	Justin Scali
6	Centennial	57%	Johns Hopkins	Nate Mulberg
7	Southern California (SCIAC)	54%	Pomona-Pitzer	Frank Pericolosi
8	Coast to Coast	55%	Mary Washington	Kelly Swiney
9	Wisconsin (WIAC)	54%	Wis-Whitewater	John Vodenlich
10	Southern (SAA)	52%	Centre	Drew Briese
11	NE Small College (NESCAC)	56%	Tufts	Bryan Stark
12	New Jersey (NJAC)	54%	Rowan	Mike Dickson
13	NE Womens & Mens (NEWMAC)	55%	Babson	Matt Noone
14	Michigan (MIAA)	53%	Adrian	Craig Rainey
15	Northwest	47%	Whitworth	CJ Perry
16	Landmark	53%	Scranton	Mike Bartoletti
17	Southern Collegiate (SCAA)	49%	Concordia (TX)	Clint Mokry
18	Ohio (OAC)	49%	Baldwin-Wallace	Brian Harrison
19	Illinois & Wisconsin (CCIW)	52%	Millikin	Brandon Townsend
20	Middle Atlantic	52%	DeSales	Bryan Torresani
21	Liberty	52%	Rochester Inst. of Tech	Rob Grow
22	American Rivers	50%	Wartburg	Casey Klunder
23	Heartland	47%	Transylvania	Zach Getsee
24	State University of NY (SUNY)	50%	Cortland	Joe Brown
25	Minnesota (MIAC)	50%	Macalester	Matt Parrington
26	St. Louis (SLIAC)	49%	Webster	Bill Kurich
27	Conference of NE (CNE)	47%	Endicott	Bryan Haley
28	Little East	46%	Southern Maine	Scott Heath
29	Northern (NACC)	49%	Aurora	Adam Stevens
30	Presidents	50%	Washington & Jefferson	Jeff Mountain
31	Atlantic East	48%	Marywood	Jason Thiel
32	Empire 8	49%	Russell Sage	Matt Marsh
33	Great Northeast (GNAC)	49%	Mitchell	Shawn Gilblair
34	USA South	43%	Pfeiffer	Craig Bolton
35	Upper Midwest	44%	Bethany Lutheran	Ryan Kragh
36	United East	43%	Penn St.-Harrisburg	Ryan Brown
37	Massachusetts State (MASCAC)	45%	Bridgewater St.	Greg Zackrison
38	Allegheny Mountain	44%	Penn St.-Behrend	Paul Benim
39	Skyline	45%	Farmingdale St.	Keith Oski
40	Midwest	42%	Grinnell	Tim Hollibaugh
41	North Atlantic	41%	Husson	Zach Sugar
42	City University of NY (CUNY)	31%	Baruch	Jose Torres

NCAA Division III Baseball Collegian Final Poll (6/4/26)

1	Denison	51-3
2	Endicott	44-14
3	East Texas Baptist	40-13
4	Lynchburg	40-9
5	Salve Regina	40-8
6	Rowan	38-7
7	Salisbury	37-11
8	Johns Hopkins	38-12
9	Shenandoah	37-12
10	Baldwin-Wallace	37-12
11	Adrian	40-14
12	Bethany Lutheran	35-8
13	Wisconsin-Whitewater	43-6
14	Claremont-Mudd-Scripps	35-15
15	Tufts	31-11
16	Montclair State	31-11
17	Russell Sage	37-8
18	Pomona-Pitzer	33-14
19	Chicago	30-15
20	Bridgewater, Virginia	35-15
21	Millikin	35-10
22	Piedmont	33-15
23	Washington, Missouri	30-13
24	Messiah	36-15
25	Kean	32-13
26	Mount Union	32-12
27	DeSales	34-14
28	Wittenberg	31-13
29	Southern Maine	32-12
30	Kalamazoo	33-13

Receiving votes: Wisconsin La Crosse, Bellhaven, SUNY Cortland, Transylvania, Whitworth, DePauw, Penn State-Harrisburg, Bethel

Note: Win-loss percentage and strength of schedule are key factors.

BASEBALL COLLEGIAN POSTSEASON CENTRAL

WORLD SERIES – May 22-30 – Lewiston, Idaho

Indiana Southeast (Ind.) 2-2
Tennessee Wesleyan (Tenn.) 6-1
 Southeastern (Fla.) 2-2
 Georgia Gwinnett (Ga.) 0-2
 Lewis-Clark State (Idaho) 1-2
 Doane (Neb.) 0-2
 Johnson (Tenn.) 0-2
 Mid-America Christian (Okla.) 1-2
 Taylor (Ind.) 4-2
 William Carey (Miss.) 3-2

NAIA

National Champs! Tennessee Wesleyan

Tennessee Wesleyan and coach Billy Berry won the 69th annual NAIA World Series with their 21-3 win over Taylor.



Tennessee Wesleyan Athletics

REGIONALS – May 13-17

Bellevue (Neb.) Regional Bellevue, **Indiana Southeast**, Huntington, Nelson, St. Ambrose
Kingsport (Tenn.) Regional Webber Int., **Tennessee Wesleyan**, LSU Alexandria, Indiana Wesleyan, William Woods
Lakeland (Fla.) Regional **Southeastern** (Fla.), Milligan, British Columbia, Faulkner
Lawrenceville (Ga.) Regional **Georgia Gwinnett**, Louisiana Christian, Marian, Northwestern (Ohio), Talladega
Lewiston (Idaho) Regional **Lewis-Clark St.**, Texas A&M Victoria, Hope International, Keiser
Lincoln (Neb.) Regional **Doane**, Texas Wesleyan, Madonna, Oakland City
Salina (Kan.) Regional **Johnson**, Kansas Wesleyan, Concordia, Our Lady of the Lake
Shreveport (La.) Regional LSU Shreveport, **Mid-America Christian**, Loyola, Oklahoma Wesleyan, Houst.-Tillotson
Upland (Ind.) Regional **Taylor**, Abraham Baldwin, Indiana Tech, Mount Mercy, Shawnee State
Williamsburg (KY) Regional **Cumberlands** (Ky.) Missouri Baptist, **William Carey**, Bryan, Central Baptist

2026 NAIA CONFERENCE RANKINGS

Rank	Conference	W%	Champion	Coach
1	The Sun Conference	56%	Southeastern (Fla.)	Gabe Grinder
2	Southern States	52%	Loyola (La.)	Jeremy Kennedy
3	Frontier	54%	Bellevue (Neb.)	Duane Monlux
4	Appalachian	51%	Tennessee Wesleyan	Billy Berry
5	Crossroads	52%	Taylor (Ind.)	Kyle Gould
6	Cascade Collegiate	51%	Lewis-Clark State (Idaho)	Jeremiah Robbins
7	Sooner	53%	Mid-America Christian (Okla.)	Brett Stanton
8	Mid-South	50%	Cumberlands (Ky.)	Jared Martin
9	Great Plains	51%	Doane (Neb.)	Josh Oltmans
10	River States	52%	Indiana Southeast	Brett Neffendorf
11	Red River	52%	LSU Shreveport (La.)	Brad Neffendorf
12	Kansas Collegiate	51%	Kansas Wesleyan	Bill Neale
13	Great Southwest	47%	Hope International (Calif.)	Larry Mahoney
14	Heart of America	47%	Mount Mercy (Iowa)	Jack Dahm
15	Wolverine-Hoosier	46%	Madonna (Mich.)	Drew Huard
16	Chicagoland Collegiate	47%	St. Ambrose (Iowa)	Tony Huntley
17	American Midwest	45%	Central Baptist (Ark.)	Aaron Brister
18	HBCU	41%	Talladega (Ala.)	Marcos Dominguez

Note: Win-loss percentage and strength of schedule are key factors.

NAIA Baseball Collegian Final Poll (6/1/26)

1	Tennessee Wesleyan	49-15
2	Taylor	49-7
3	Indiana-Southeast	44-16
4	Bellevue	48-6
5	Georgia Gwinnett	49-8
6	Lewis-Clark State	43-9
7	William Carey	41-18
8	Cumberlands KY	43-10
9	Johnson (TN)	38-14
10	Kansas Wesleyan	49-9
11	Doane	44-11
12	Mid-America Christian	35-12
13	Missouri Baptist	40-12
14	Southeastern	42-17
15	Texas Wesleyan	39-12
16	LSU-Shreveport	41-14
17	Milligan	41-15
18	Abraham Baldwin	35-14
19	British Columbia	35-15
20	Huntington	35-14
21	Louisiana Christian	37-14
22	Indiana Tech	43-17
23	Hope International	34-13
24	Concordia NE	36-18
25	Marian	34-18

Receiving Votes: Loyola, Ottawa, LSU-Alexandria, Freed-Hardeman, Oklahoma Wesleyan, Houston-Victoria, Indiana Wesleyan



Small College World Series

May 11-15 – DuBois, Penn.

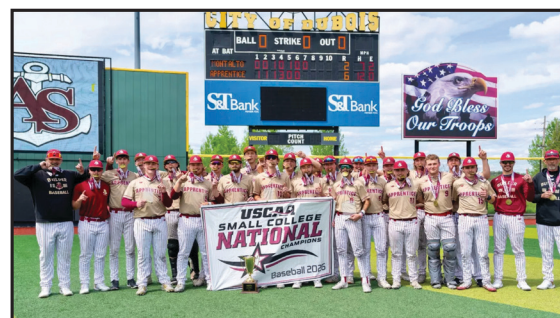
- #1 Salem University
- #2 **Apprentice**
- #3 Penn State-Mt. Alto
- #4 United State Sports University
- #5 Penn State Dubois
- #6 Miami-Hamilton
- #7 Central Maine CC
- #8 UC Clermont
- #9 Florida National
- #10 Central Penn

USCAA

UNITED STATES COLLEGIATE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

National Champs! Apprentice

Apprentice and coach Ben Jones won the USCAA Small College World Series with a 6-2 win over Penn State-Mont Alto.



Apprentice Athletics

World Series

May 16-20

Kansas City Urban Youth Academy (Mo.)

- #1 Fort Lauderdale (Fla.)
- #2 Mission (Calif.)
- #3 Ecclesia (Ark.)
- #4 Judson (Ill.)
- #5 College of the Ozarks (Mo.)
- #6 **Southwestern Christian** (Okla.)
- #7 Toccoa Falls (Ga.)
- #8 Nelson U. American Indian (Ariz.)
- #9 Ohio Christian (Ohio)
- #10 Kansas Christian (Kan.)

NCCAA

NATIONAL CHRISTIAN COLLEGE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

National Champs! Southwestern Christian

Southwestern Christian (Okla.), led by coach Joe Blackwell, won the NCCAA World Series with a 5-3 win over Judson.



Southwestern Christian Athletics

National Christian College NCCAA

Baseball Collegian Final Poll (6/1/26)

1	Southwestern Christian (Okla)	34-26
2	Fort Lauderdale (Fla.)	37-13
3	Judson (Ill.)	37-23
4	Oakland City	40-15
5	Ottawa (Ariz.)	38-13
6	Ecclesia (Ark.)	35-13
7	College of the Ozarks (Mo.)	31-28
8	Nelson (Tex.)	38-19
9	Mission (Calif.)	32-27
10	Nelson-American Indian (Ariz)	27-25



STATE FINALS – (May 23-25) Irvine, Calif.

Santa Ana (4-1)
 Palomar (2-2)
 Feather River (1-2)
 Ohlone (0-2)

REGIONAL FINALS – (May 15-17)

NorCal

West Valley vs. Feather River

Ohlone vs. Santa Rosa

SoCal

Palomar vs. Santa Barbara City

Santa Ana vs. Fullerton

Super Regionals – May 7-9

NorCal

Fresno, West Valley, Hartnell, Feather River, Ohlone, Folsom Lake, Modesto, Santa Rosa

SoCal

Palomar, Saddleback, Allan Hancock, Santa Barbara City, Santa Ana, Citrus, Fullerton, LA Pierce

CALIFORNIA-JC

CALIFORNIA COMMUNITY COLLEGES

California Champs! Santa Ana

Santa Ana and coach Tom Nilles won the California Community College State championship with a 7-4 win over Palomar.



Santa Ana Athletics

California Community College Baseball Collegian Final Poll (6/1/26)

1	Santa Ana	44-7-1
2	Palomar	43-8
3	Feather River	37-16
4	Ohlone	40-10
5	West Valley	33-15-1
6	Santa Rosa	34-15
7	Fresno City	40-5
8	Riverside City	29-13
9	Citrus	33-13
10	Glendale	30-12-1
11	Allan Hancock	34-12
12	Santa Barbara City	29-18
13	Modesto	33-13
14	Folsom Lake	31-15
15	College of the Desert	32-8
16	Cypress	28-16
17	El Camino	33-9
18	San Joaquin Delta	28-13
19	Saddleback	27-19
20	Grossmont	27-17
21	Marin	27-15
22	Fullerton	26-23
23	LA Pierce	26-21
24	Hartnell	26-20
25	Mt. San Antonio	24-19

2026 CONFERENCE CHAMPIONS

California JC

Conference

Bay Valley
 Big 8

Central Valley
 Coast North

Coast South
 Golden Valley
 Inland Empire
 Orange Empire
 Pacific Coast
 South Coast

Western State North
 Western State South

School

Marin
 Modesto
 San Joaquin Delta
 Fresno City
 Chabot
 San Mateo
 Ohlone
 Feather River
 Desert
 Santa Ana
 Palomar
 El Camino
 Mt. San Antonio
 Allan Hancock
 Glendale

Head Coach

Steve Berringer
 Alex Leach
 Harmen Sidhu
 Mitch Karraker
 Bryce Mendonca
 Riley Goulding
 Mike Curran
 Terry Baumgartner
 Sam DiMatteo
 Tom Nilles
 Ben Adams
 Grant Palmer
 John Knott
 Chris Stevens
 Alex Kocol

BASEBALL COLLEGIAN POSTSEASON CENTRAL

World Series—May 21-25—Longview, Wash.

Everett (2-2)

Spokane (0-2)

Lower Columbia (5-1)

Linn-Benton (3-2)

Edmonds (1-2)

Pierce (0-2)

Wenatchee Valley (1-2)

Lane (3-2)

Super Regionals – May 15-16

North Edmonds, Umpqua, Clark

West Pierce, Columbia Basin, Mt. Hood

East Wenatchee Valley, Tacoma, Shoreline

South Lane, Bellevue, Yakima Valley

Automatic World Series Qualifiers

Everett, Spokane,

Lower Columbia, Linn-Benton

NORTHWEST-JC NORTHWEST JUNIOR COLLEGES



Lower Columbia Athletics

Northwest Champs! Lower Columbia

Lower Columbia, coached by Kurt Lupinski, won the Northwest Community College championship with a 12-2 win over Lane.

Northwest Community College NWAC

Baseball Collegian Final Poll (6/1/26)

1	Lower Columbia	44-11
2	Lane	38-17
3	Linn-Benton	38-10
4	Everett	43-10
5	Spokane	38-13
6	Edmonds	39-13
7	Wenatchee Valley	32-20
8	Pierce	28-21
9	Umpqua	26-19
10	Columbia Basin	28-22



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World Series

May 23-30, 2026

Grand Junction, Colo.

JUCO Division I

- #1 Johnson County (Kan.) 5-0
- #2 Blinn (Texas) 4-2
- #3 Midland (Texas) 3-2
- #4 Walters State (Tenn.) 1-2
- #5 LSU-Eunice (La.) 1-2
- #6 Miami Dade (Fla.) 2-2
- #7 Seminole State (Okla.) 0-2
- #8 Wabash Valley (Ill.) 1-2
- #9 Salt Lake (Utah) 0-2
- #10 Harford (Md.) 1-2

DI JC Champs!

Johnson County CC

Johnson County CC and coach Eric Horner won the JUCO DI National Championship with an 8-5 win over Blinn, completing their season with a 67-3 record.



Johnson County Athletics

District Championships – May 8-17, 2026

Appalachian – Floyd County, Ga. Walters State vs. Georgia Highlands

East – Lexington, S.C. Florence-Darlington vs. Harford

Mid-South – Waco, Texas Blinn vs. Northeast Texas

Midwest – Belleville, Ill. Iowa Western, Southwestern Illinois, Wabash Valley, South Suburban

Plains – Wichita, Kan. Johnson County, Cloud County, Kansas City Kansas, Hutchinson, Cowley, Butler, Barton, Seward County

South – Eunice, La. LSU Eunice vs. Shelton State

South Atlantic – Tampa, Fla. Miami Dade, State College of Florida, Chipola, Northwest Florida State

South Central – Seminole, Okla. Seminole St. vs. St. Charles CC

West – Beatrice, Neb. Southeast CC, Central Arizona CC, Salt Lake CC, Northeastern JC

Junior College NJCAA Div. 1

Baseball Collegian Final Poll (6/1/26)

1	Johnson County CC	67-3
2	Cloud County CC	50-7
3	Blinn	48-14
4	Gaston	54-5
5	Miami Dade	39-19
6	Chipola	45-12
7	LSU-Eunice	47-12
8	Wabash Valley	44-22
9	Iowa Western CC	46-11
10	Hartford	55-8
11	Florence-Darlington Tech	50-13
12	Midland	53-12
13	McLennan CC	46-13
14	College of Southern Nevada	37-12
15	Gulf Coast State	32-20
16	Walters State CC	53-13
17	Grayson	36-15
18	Cochise	46-15
19	John A. Logan	46-13
20	Georgia Highlands	45-15
21	Crowder	42-18
22	Shelton State CC	46-16
23	Seminole State	48-13
24	Weatherford	41-20
25	Salt Lake CC	39-18

Receiving Votes: Hutchinson, Northwest Florida State, Odessa



World Series – May 23-30 Enid, Okla.

- #1 Kellogg (Mich.) 1-2
- #2 **Pearl River** (Miss.) 4-0
- #3 Madison (Wis.) 1-2
- #4 Pasco-Hernando St. (Fla.) 2-2
- #5 East Central (Miss.) 2-2
- #6 Jones (Miss.) 1-2
- #7 Iowa Central (Iowa) 3-2
- #8 South Mountain (Ariz.) 6-2
- #9 Parkland (Fla.) 0-2
- #10 Monroe (N.Y.) 1-2
- #11 Frederick (Md.) 1-2
- #12 Wake Tech (N.C.) 0-2

JUCO DIVISION II

DII JC Champs!

Pearl River

Pearl River (Miss.), led by coach Michael Avalon, won the JUCO DII National title with a 4-3 win over South Mountain (Ariz.)



Pearl River Athletics

District Championships – May 8-16

- Central – Normal, Ill.** Illinois Central, Heartland CC, Moberly Area CC, Parkland
- East – Valhalla, N.Y.** Monroe CC, Mercer County CC, Westchester CC, Ulster County CC
- Great Lakes – Jackson, Mich.** Henry Ford, Grand Rapids CC, Cuyahoga CC, Macomb CC, Kellogg CC
- Gulf – Ellisville, Miss.** Northwest Mississippi CC, Jones
- Mid-Atlantic – Frederick, Md.** Baltimore County-Essex, Alleghany-Md., Garrett, Frederick CC
- Midwest – Madison, Wis.** Bryant & Stratton, Madison, Kankakee CC, Rock Valley
- North Plains – Williston, N.D.** Williston State, Iowa Central CC
- South – Palatka, Fla.** Lurleen B Wallace CC, Pasco-Hernando State
- South Atlantic – Kinston, N.C.** Wake Tech CC, Cleveland CC, Brunswick CC, Fayetteville Tech CC, Lenoir CC, Catawba CC, Louisburg, Pitt CC
- West – Enid, Okla.** South Mountain CC, Northern Oklahoma-Enid

Junior College

NJCAA Div. 2

Baseball Collegian Final Poll (6/1/26)

1	Pearl River CC	50-11
2	South Mountain CC	52-18
3	Kellogg CC	49-7
4	East Central CC	48-15
5	Madison	45-12
6	Pasco-Hernando State	38-24
7	Brunswick CC	42-9
8	Parkland	40-17
9	Heartland CC	43-16
10	Jones College	41-18
11	Iowa Central CC	49-12
12	Southeastern CC	45-15
13	Kirkwood CC	45-10
14	Murray State	42-13
15	Lurleen B. Wallace CC	37-11
16	Lake-Sumter State	37-22
17	Northwest Mississippi CC	34-21
18	Frederick CC	37-15
19	Northern Oklahoma-Enid	42-22
20	Western Oklahoma State	42-19
21	South Arkansas	38-17
22	Macomb CC	37-16
23	Rock Valley	36-18
24	Monroe CC	38-10
25	Wake Tech	30-22

Receiving Votes: Cleveland CC



World Series

May 23-28, 2026

Johnson City, Tenn.

- #1 Dallas-Eastfield (Texas) 2-2
- #2 Rowan S. Jersey-Gloucester (N.J.) 4-2
- #3 **SUNY-Niagara** (N.Y.) 4-0
- #4 Alexandria Tech (Minn.) 1-2
- #5 Brookdale (N.J.) 1-2
- #6 Northern Essex (Mass.) 2-2
- #7 Caldwell Tech (N.C.) 0-2
- #8 Oakton (Ill.) 0-2

District Championships – May 7-17, 2026

Great Lakes – Fremont, Ohio **Oakton**, Terra State

Mid-Atlantic – Burlington, N.C. Virginia Peninsula, Surry, Camp, Rockingham, **Caldwell Tech**

North – Auburn, N.Y. Erie, **SUNY-Niagara**, Herkimer, Hudson Valley

North Atlantic – Camden, N.J. Brookdale, Camden County, **Rowan-S. Jersey Gloucester**, Northampton

Northeast – Haverhill, Mass. Monroe-Bronx, **Northern Essex**

North Plains – St. Cloud, Minn. – Rochester, St. Cloud Tech, Century, **Alexandria Tech**

South Central – Mesquite, Tex. –Dallas North Lake, Dallas Cedar Valley, Dallas Richland, Dallas Mountain View, **Dallas Eastfield**, Dallas Brookhaven

JUCO DIVISION III

DIII JC Champs! SUNY-Niagara

SUNY-Niagara and coach Matt Clingersmith won the Junior College Division III national championship with a 12-8 win over Rowan S. Jersey-Gloucester.



SUNY Niagara Athletics

Junior College NJCAA Div. 3 Baseball Collegian Final Poll (6/1/26)

1	SUNY Niagara	50-2
2	Rowan S. Jersey-Gloucester	54-6
3	Dallas Eastfield	40-12
4	Hudson Valley CC	35-4
5	Caldwell CC & Tech	23-17
6	Alexandria Tech & CC	27-15
7	Northern Essex CC	27-7
8	Brookdale CC	41-11
9	Century	46-10
10	Suffolk CC	40-13
11	Surry CC	37-12
12	Herkimer	34-6
13	Terra State CC	24-12
14	Monroe-Bronx	28-16
15	Oakton CC	34-28

Receiving Votes: Harper, Dallas-Richland, Riverland, Rowan S. Jersey-Cumberland

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WHAT SCHOOL ARE YOU FROM?

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Select a state

High School *

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6Tool Puts You in Control

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- Select from over 1,000 questions in the database
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- Filter questions by categories, positions, and difficulty
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BASEBALL COLLEGIAN POSTSEASON CENTRAL

WORLD SERIES

May 22-28
Hopkins Field, Alton, Ill.

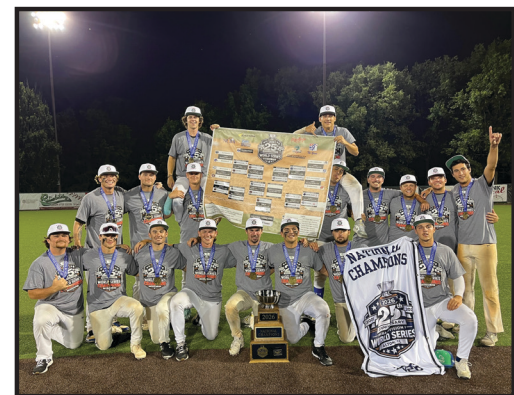
- Wisconsin (0-2)
- Auburn (3-2)
- Creighton (3-2)
- East Carolina (1-2)
- Penn State (1-2)
- Boise State (0-2)
- Florida Gulf Coast** (4-0)
- UC-Davis (2-2)



CLUB DIVISION I

Club Baseball Champs! Florida Gulf Coast

Florida Gulf Coast won the College Club Baseball Division I World Series with a 7-6 win over Auburn.



REGIONALS – May 8-10

- Great Lakes Regional – Fort Wayne, Ind.** Wis.-La Crosse, Pittsburgh, Michigan, **Wisconsin**
- Gulf Coast Regional – Monroe, La.** Texas A&M, **Auburn**, Parker, Baylor
- Mid-America Regional – Lincoln, Neb.** **Creighton**, Colorado, Minn. St.-Mankato, Nebraska
- Mid-Atlantic Regional – Colonial Heights, Va.** Virginia Tech, **East Carolina**, NC State, James Madison
- North Atlantic Regional – Cortland, N.Y.** **Penn State**, Boston College, Northeastern, St. Joe's
- Northern Pacific Regional – La Grande, Ore.** Oregon, Utah State, **Boise State**, Washington
- South Atlantic Regional – Peachtree City, Ga.** Tennessee, Georgia, **Florida Gulf Coast**, Florida St.
- Southern Pacific Regional – Palm Springs, Calif.** Cal Poly, **UC Davis**, Grand Canyon, San Diego St.

Club Baseball Division 1 NCBA Rawlings Final Poll (6/8/26)

- 1 Florida Gulf Coast
- 2 Auburn
- 3 Creighton
- 4 UC Davis
- 5 Penn State
- 6 Tennessee
- 7 East Carolina
- 8 Virginia Tech
- 9 Boise State
- 10 Wisconsin
- 11 Florida State
- 12 Texas A&M
- 13 Cal Poly
- 14 Michigan
- 15 Colorado
- 16 Oregon
- 17 James Madison
- 18 Wis-Lacrosse
- 19 Grand Canyon
- 20 Parker

Receiving Votes:

Georgia, Washington, Utah State, NC State, Minn. St.-Mankato, St. Joe's, Nebraska, San Diego St., Baylor, Pittsburgh, Clemson, Alabama

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World Series

May 15-19

Hopkins Field, Alton, Ill.

- #1 Grand Canyon
- #2 South Carolina
- #3 Grand Valley St.
- #4 Penn State
- #5 **SUNY Brockport**
- #6 Stephen F. Austin
- #7 Stony Brook
- #8 Colorado St.-Pueblo

REGIONALS – May 1-3

Chesapeake Regional – Palmyra, Pa. Millersville, Maryland, **Stony Brook**, Stevenson

Dixie Regional – Augusta, Ga. **South Carolina**, Georgia, Central Florida, Florida

Great American Regional – North Little Rock, Ark. Arkansas, Lone Star, **Stephen F. Austin**, Houston-Downtown

New England Regional – Cortland, N.Y. Bryant, Sacred Heart, **SUNY Brockport**, SUNY-Cortland

New Penn Regional – Charleston, W.V. New River CC, Ohio State, **Penn State**, Penn-West

Northern Plains Regional – West Bend, Wisc. **Grand Valley St.**, Wisconsin, St. Thomas, North Dakota

Pacific Regional – Palm Springs, Calif. **Grand Canyon**, Santa Clara, Southern Utah, Stanford

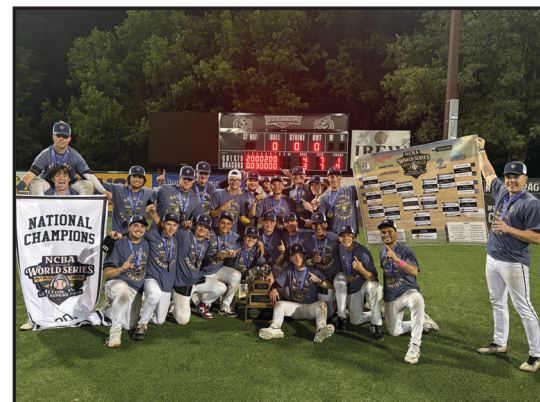
Rocky Mountain Regional – Providence, Utah Colorado School of Mines, Idaho, **Colorado St.-Pueblo**, Washington State



CLUB DIVISION II

DII Club Champs! SUNY Brockport

The SUNY Brockport club baseball team won the Div. II National Club Baseball Association World Series with a 4-3 win over Grand Canyon.



Club Baseball Division 2 NCBA Rawlings Final Poll (5/22/26)

- 1 SUNY Brockport
- 2 Grand Canyon
- 3 South Carolina
- 4 Grand Valley St.
- 5 Penn St.
- 6 Stephen F. Austin
- 7 Santa Clara
- 8 Stony Brook
- 9 Ohio State
- 10 Florida
- 11 Bryant
- 12 Colorado St.-Pueblo
- 13 Maryland
- 14 Wisconsin
- 15 Stanford
- 16 Arkansas
- 17 Penn-West
- 18 Millersville
- 19 New River CC
- 20 Central Florida

Receiving Votes:

SUNY Cortland, Georgia, Washington State, Colorado School of Mines, Sacred Heart, Houston-Downtown



WORLD SERIES

May 15-17 Pullman Park, Butler, Pa.

- #1 Adrian
- #2 VCU
- #3 **John Carroll**
- #4 Lehigh

REGIONALS – May 1-3

District 1 Regional – Berkeley Heights, N.J.

Sacred Heart, Rowan, Hofstra, **Lehigh**

District II Regional – Colonial Heights, Va.

VCU, Navy, East Tennessee St., Catholic

District III Regional – Butler, Pa. York, Robert Morris, **John Carroll**, Mt. St. Mary's

District IV Regional – DeForest, Wisc.

Adrian, Winona State, Drake, Wisconsin-Stevens Point

CLUB DIVISION III

Club Baseball Division 3
NCBA Rawlings Final Poll (5/21/26)

- 1 John Carroll
- 2 Adrian
- 3 Lehigh
- 4 Wake Forest
- 5 VCU
- 6 East Tennessee St.
- 7 Wis.-Stevens Point
- 8 Rowan
- 9 Winona State
- 10 Catholic

Receiving Votes:

Robert Morris, Drake, Sacred Heart



DIII Club Champs! John Carroll

The John Carroll college club baseball team won the Div. III National Club Baseball Association World Series with an 8-3 win over Adrian.

Soul Throwers The Black Hole

By **BROOKS HALL**

SPECIAL CONTRIBUTOR/SOUL THROWERS

A lot of these people that play baseball, it wasn't their true passion. They were pretty good at it, and then they ran with it, and started to love it even more. And then, you might even hate it, and then you start to love it even more.

For me, it's a love-hate relationship. I love it, and I hate it at the same time. So giving back to kids and teaching them the way to get better, is fun for me. They all look at it in this per-

fect lens. And I look at from the lens is that it is like a black hole. Once you get in the black hole, you might never get out.

We got sucked into the black hole, and now we're just in there. I don't know if we're going to make it out, but we're in it. Might as well keep going. Might as well keep teaching, and keep learning, and keep getting better, even at 35 years old.

Seth Blair, my partner in Soul Throwers, says, "If we can throw 95 until we're 42, we'll help a million kids." That's the goal. It's a lot of fun.

Each month at *The Baseball Collegian*, we highlight insights from 14-year pro pitcher Brooks Hall found on his Soul Throwers Instagram page.

"We've helped hundreds of players gain velocity, get rid of anxiety, create confidence they never thought they would have, look at baseball in a different lens, and much, much more. We are trying to help people gain perspective on what they are trying to accomplish. We are just helping shape real humans that want to keep playing baseball." - **SoulThrowers.com**

A HEROIC HS PERFORMANCE TO REMEMBER

BY FRANK LAMONACA
CONTRIBUTOR/THE BASEBALL COLLEGIAN

“It was the most heroic performances I ever saw from a high school athlete,” Coach Bob DeMayo said of his pitcher Dave Mikos, after the 1985 state championship game. The moment offers a lesson that still resonates – championships are won not only by the talent on the field, but by trust, judgment, and the ability to manage adversity when it matters most.”

On a cloudy, damp Saturday in June 1985, North Haven High took the field against Newtown High at Muzzy Field in Bristol, Conn., for the Class L State Championship. For Coach Bob DeMayo, it was his third chance to win the final game of the season, after state titles in 1975 and 1982. By then, in his 26th year as head coach, he knew how difficult it was to even reach that last game, let alone win it.

North Haven had spent years coming close before finally breaking through in 1975. DeMayo had lived through championship heartbreak in several forms: an errant throw in the 17th inning, a rival pitcher who threw the game of his life, even a one-run loss that ended on an unusual triple play with the bases loaded and no outs. He understood that the final game of the season is often decided by the smallest details.

Still, on this day, he felt confident. North Haven had talent, chemistry, and desire. The team was ready. Then, during his final warm-up pitches, starting pitcher Dave Mikos, a senior and future NHHS Sports Hall of Famer, suddenly buckled on his right knee and went down hard. The crowd gasped, and the field fell silent.

DeMayo immediately turned to the bench and called for his ace, Scott Marks, to get loose. If Mikos could not continue, Marks would have to take the ball on three days’ rest. But when DeMayo reached the mound along with catcher John Brandt, Mikos was back on his feet and trying to reset the knee. Everyone knew that knee. Mikos had injured it during football season, ending his chance to finish his career on the gridiron. He had also missed his final basketball season because of the injury. Now, in what might be his last competitive game in uni-

form, he was not ready to give up the baseball.

As Mikos later explained, “There was no way Scott Marks was getting that baseball.” The question was whether he could convince his coach that he could still compete at a high level.

For DeMayo, the decision was not that simple. He had to balance the risk of further injury against what was best for the player and what was best for the team. Could Mikos still get hitters out? Was the knee stable enough? Was this a moment for caution, or a moment to trust a senior competitor who had given everything he had to the program?



A statue of Coach Bob DeMayo looks out on Robert E. DeMayo Field in North Haven, Conn.

Mikos made his case plainly: this was his last game in uniform, and he wanted the chance to finish it. He knew the knee had affected his recruiting prospects, and he knew college baseball was not in his future. If he aggravated the injury, so be it. “Just give me the chance — I want the ball.”

DeMayo then turned to Brandt, his senior catcher and Mikos’s close friend, and asked what he thought. Brandt looked at Mikos and saw the answer in his face. “If Dave says he can go, then I’m with him,” he said. “Let’s start with nothing but fastballs, and let’s see if we can get people out.” From that point on, the game belonged to Mikos.

As they walked off the mound, DeMayo, a former catcher himself, told Brandt to let him

know immediately if Mikos lost velocity.

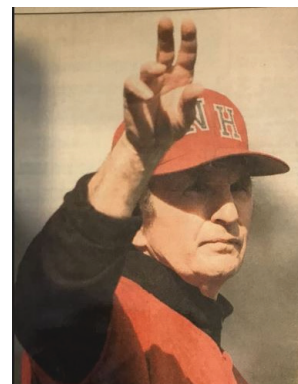
Brandt cautioned Coach that Marks stay ready. Everyone understood the risk. Mikos’s knee was not right. But everyone also understood the competitor in front of them. DeMayo had coached Mikos in football and baseball for three years, and he knew the kind of athlete and person he was. After all the effort, leadership, and loyalty Mikos had given the program, DeMayo felt he owed him the chance to finish the game.

Nine innings later, Mikos had done exactly that. Throwing nothing but fastballs and straight changes, he pitched North Haven to its third state championship, a two-hit 4-0 shutout. The defense, as it so often had after DeMayo’s demanding “live” game situation practices, responded with poise and precision. Mikos put the ball in play, and the defense handled the rest. DeMayo had his third state championship ring.

That result, though, was about more than the final score. It was about trust: a coach trusting a player, an experienced catcher helping manage a difficult moment, and a team that had learned how to support one another when the pressure was highest.

Mikos, Brandt, and Marks remain close friends to this day – and none of them can quite explain how Mikos threw nine innings that afternoon. Mikos’s own best explanation was simple: “I just didn’t want to give the ball to Scott. He was my best friend, but this was my game. The fact that Coach had faith in me and allowed me to pitch, despite all evidence to the contrary, earned him a place in my heart forever.”

Bob DeMayo was the North Haven (Conn.) High School baseball coach for 63 years and recorded 937 wins and five state titles. One of his former players, Frank LaMonaca ’75, continues to spread the teachings he learned.



Courtesy of Bette DeMayo

THE BASEBALL COLLEGIAN

National HS Baseball Poll

Final - July 1, 2026

#	High School	State	Record
1	Tomball	Texas	43-1-1
2	Trinity	Ky.	41-3
2	Venice	Fla.	32-2
4	Barbe	La.	38-3
5	Tampa Jesuit	Fla.	28-6
6	St. John Bosco	Calif.	27-5
7	Orange Lutheran	Calif.	25-6
8	Harvard-Westlake	Calif.	26-6
9	Keller	Texas	40-4-2
10	Pleasant Grove	Texas	39-4
11	Calallen	Texas	38-3
12	Stony Brook School	N.Y.	22-3
13	South Walton	Fla.	30-4
14	First Presbyterian	Ga.	35-2
15	Magnolia Heights	Miss.	36-4-1
16	Fairfield Prep	Conn.	26-2
17	Norco	Calif.	28-5
18	Malvern Prep	Pa.	34-4
19	Center Grove	Ind.	25-1
20	James Island	S.C.	31-4
21	Catholic	La.	37-5
22	Loganville	Ga.	36-5
23	Providence	N.C.	32-2
24	Bishop Gorman	Nev.	33-6
25	Stoneman Douglas	Fla.	28-6
26	Delbarton	N.J.	28-4
27	St. Laurence	Ill.	33-3
28	Badin	Ohio	29-3
29	Lyman Hall	Conn.	27-1
30	Lakewood	Ohio	27-1
31	Dorman	S.C.	30-4
32	Brother Martin	La.	35-7
33	Cleveland	N.M.	27-4
34	Etowah	Ga.	32-7
35	Aledo	Texas	43-5
36	Waxahachie	Texas	37-5
37	Buford	Ga.	29-5-1
38	Pope	Ga.	37-4
39	Omaha Westside	Neb.	32-5
40	Bishop Moore	Fla.	30-3
41	Paul VI	Va.	28-6
42	Bridgeport	W.V.	26-5
43	North Paulding	Ga.	32-7
44	Cathedral Catholic	Calif.	26-6
45	Canterbury School	Fla.	26-5
46	Conley	N.C.	23-3
47	Siegel	Tenn.	39-6
48	Atlee	Va.	23-2
49	Valley View	Ark.	25-6
50	St. Mary's Prep	Mich.	34-5



Tomball Baseball

Red = State Champs

Bold = Season Over

Teams by State:

Florida	6
Georgia	6
Texas	6
California	5
Louisiana	3
Connecticut	2
North Carolina	2
Ohio	2
South Carolina	2
Virginia	2
Arkansas	1
Illinois	1
Indiana	1
Kentucky	1
Michigan	1
Mississippi	1
Nebraska	1
Nevada	1
New Jersey	1
New Mexico	1
New York	1
Pennsylvania	1
Tennessee	1
West Virginia	1

2026 HIGH SCHOOL STATE CHAMPIONS

Div.	Champion	Runner-Up
Alabama		
7A	Hewitt-Trussville	Auburn
6A	Hartselle	Spain Park
5A	Faith Academy	American Christian Academy
4A	Westbrook Christian	Bibb County
3A	Glenwood	Gordo
2A	Ariton	Mars Hill Bible
1A	Hubbertville	Fayetteville
AISA AA	Southern Academy	Clarke Prep
AISA A	Lakeside School	Edgewood Academy
Alaska		
D1	Juneau-Douglas	Service
D2	Homer	Petersburg
Arizona		
6A	Hamilton	Corona del Sol
5A	AZ Compass Prep	Horizon
4A	Saguaro	ALA-Gilbert North
3A	Valley Christian	Yuma Catholic
2A	Scottsdale Christian Academy	Benson
1A	Williams	Mogollon
CAA D1	Holy Family Academy	Trinity Christian
CAA D2	Heritage Academy	Mission Heights Prep
Arkansas		
6A	Har-Ber	Bryant
5A	Valley View	Benton
4A	Pulaski Academy	Brookland
3A	Harmony Grove	Ashdown
2A	Palestine-Wheatley	Woodlawn
1A	Taylor	Mount Ida
California		
Central Section		
D1	Liberty	Bullard
D2	Bakersfield Christian	Arroyo Grande
D3	Central Valley Christian	Justin Garza
D4	Immanuel	Monache
D5	Minarets	Shafter
D6	Roosevelt	Corcoran
Central Coast Section		
D1	Valley Christian	Soquel
D2	Archbishop Mitty	Palma
D3	Menlo School	Wilcox
D4	Santa Cruz	Piedmont Hills
D5	Half Moon Bay	San Mateo
D6	Pacific Grove	El Camino
Sac-Joaquin Section		
D1	St. Mary's	Franklin
D2	Elk Grove	Rodriguez
D3	Rio Americano	El Capitan
D4	Roseville	Central Catholic
D5	Wheatland	Woodland
D6	Amador	Ripon Christian
D7	Turlock Christian	Vacaville Christian
North Coast Section Section		
D1	De La Salle	Granada
D2	Northgate	Alameda
D3	James Logan	Pittsburg.
D4	Livermore	Newark Memorial
D5	Sonoma Valley	Montgomery
D6	College Prep	Urban



Southern Section		
D1	St. John Bosco	Norco
D2	Ganesha	Loyola
D3	Mira Costa	Agoura
D4	Glendora	Laguna Beach
D5	Culver City	Kaiser
D6	Brentwood School	Covina
D7	Torrance North	South El Monte
D8	Schurr	Rancho Alamitos
D9	Webb	Rolling Hills Prep
Oakland Section		
D1	Skyline	Oakland Tech
San Francisco Section		
AAA	Lowell	Lincoln
San Diego Section		
Open	Patrick Henry	Eastlake
D1	Madison	Mt. Carmel
D2	Helix	Christian
D3	Westview	Ramona
D4	Francis Parker	Foothills Christian
D5	Coastal Academy	Canyon Hills
D5AA	Borrego Springs	Calvin Christian
Northern Section		
D2	Chico	Foothill
D3	West Valley	Orland
D4	University Prep	Winters
D5	Los Molinos	Biggs
D6	Maxwell	Redding Christian
Los Angeles City Section		
Open	Birmingham	El Camino Real
D1	Verdugo Hills	Taft
D2	Roosevelt	South East
D3	Fremont	Hamilton
Northern California Tournament		
D1	Valley Christian	Elk Grove
D2	Franklin	Archbishop Mitty
D3	Roseville	Menlo School
D4	Half Moon Bay	Livermore
D5	Minarets	Pacific Grove
Southern California Tournament		
D1	Huntington Beach	Cathedral Catholic
D2	Newport Harbor	Bakersfield Christian
D3	Glendora	Kaiser
D4	Torrance North	Francis Parker
D5	Coastal Academy	Win by forfeit

2026 HIGH SCHOOL STATE CHAMPIONS

Colorado

5A Regis Jesuit
 4A Pueblo County
 3A University
 2A Forge Christian
 1A Flatirons Academy

Connecticut

LL Staples
 L Lyman Hall
 M New Fairfield
 S St. Paul's

Delaware

State Caravel Academy

District of Columbia

DCSAA Jackson-Reed

Florida

7A Stoneman Douglas
 6A St. Thomas Aquinas
 5A Lincoln
 4A Jesuit
 3A South Walton
 2A Trinity Christian Academy
 1A St. Johns Country Day
 Rural Union County

Georgia

AAAAAA Etowah
 AAAAA Loganville
 AAAAA Kell
 AAA Pickens
 AA Morgan County
 A DI Gordon Lee
 A DII Lanier County
 Private Wesleyan
 GIAA AAAA First Presbyterian Day
 GIAA AAA Valwood
 GIAA AA Gatewood
 GIAA A Citizens Christian Academy
 GAPPS AA Creekside Christian Academy
 GAPPS A Praise Academy
 GIT Lafayette Christian

Hawaii

D1 Mililani
 D2 Honoka'a

Idaho

6A Owyhee
 5A Sandpoint
 4A Homedale
 3A Orofino
 2A Potlatch

Illinois

4A Libertyville
 3A St. Rita
 2A St. Joseph-Ogden
 1A Tremont

Indiana

4A Lake Central
 3A Guerin Catholic
 2A Evansville Mater Dei
 1A Kouts

Arvada West
 Falcon
 D'Evelyn
 Monte Vista
 Akron

Trumbull
 Bethel
 Ansonia
 Stonington

Caesar Rodney

St. Albans

Venice
 Buchholz
 Winter Springs
 Bishop Moore
 North Broward Prep
 True North Classical Academy
 Orangewood Christian
 Trenton

North Paulding
 Pope
 North Oconee
 Troup County
 Pierce County
 Vidalia
 Emanuel County Institute
 Holy Innocents Episcopal
 Stratford Academy
 Deerfield-Windsor
 Heritage
 David Emanuel Academy
 Horizon Christian Academy
 Hearts Academy
 Central Georgia Arts

Pac-Five
 Damien

Eagle
 Skyview
 Fruitland
 Malad
 Kendrick

Maine South
 Triad
 Harvest-Westminster
 Putnam County

Bloomington South
 Andean
 Bluffton
 Northeast Dubois

Iowa

Season takes place in summer

Kansas

6A Washburn Rural
 5A Saint Thomas Aquinas
 4A Mulvane
 3A Girard
 2A-1A St. Mary's-Colgan

Kentucky

State Trinity
 KCAA Assumption Academy

Louisiana

Select Div. 1 Catholic
 Select Div. 2 St. Charles Catholic
 Select Div. 3 Newman
 Select Div. 4 Ouachita Christian
 Non-Select Div. 1 Sam Houston
 Non-Select Div. 2 Lutcher
 Non-Select Div. 3 Westlake
 Non-Select Div. 4 Mangham
 Class B Glenmora
 Class C Claiborne Christian

Lawrence Free State
 Shawnee Heights
 Hayden
 Silver Lake
 Thomas More Prep-Marian
 Boyd County
 Academy for Excellence

Brother Martin
 Vanderbilt Catholic
 University Lab
 Covenant Christian Academy
 Dutchtown
 Brusly
 Sterlington
 Welsh
 Pitkin
 Maurepas



Venice Baseball

Maine

A Gorham
 B Fryeburg Academy
 C Monmouth Academy
 D Fort Fairfield

Maryland

4A Urbana
 3A Sherwood
 2A Hereford
 1A Liberty
 MIAA A Archbishop Spalding
 MIAA B St. Paul's
 MIAA C Beth Tfiloh
 WCAC Bishop O'Connell

Massachusetts

D1 Catholic Memorial
 D2 King Philip Regional
 D3 Middleborough
 D4 Seekonk
 D5 Georgetown

Bangor
 Cony
 Washington Academy
 Telstar Regional
 Dulaney
 Decatur
 Kent Island
 Patterson Mill
 Mount St. Joseph
 Park School
 Concordia Prep
 Paul VI

Bishop Feehan
 Milton
 Apponequet
 Hamilton-Wenham
 Boston English

2026 HIGH SCHOOL STATE CHAMPIONS

Michigan

D1 Catholic Central
 D2 St. Mary's Prep
 D3 St. Francis
 D4 Sacred Heart Academy

Minnesota

AAAA Rosemount
 AAA Mahtomedi
 AA St. Cloud Cathedral
 A Madelia

Mississippi

7A Petal
 6A Saltillo
 5A Sumrall
 4A Mooreville
 3A Presbyterian Christian
 2A Mize
 1A West Union
 MAIS 4A Div. III Starkville Academy
 MAIS 4A Div. II Simpson Academy
 MAIS 4A Div. I Magnolia Heights
 MAIS 3A Div. II Amite School Center
 MAIS 3A Div. I Columbia Academy
 MAIS 2A Div. II Carroll Academy
 MAIS 2A Div. I Regents
 MAIS 1A North Tunica Academy
 MAIS 1A South Wilkinson County Christian

Missouri

Class 6 Blue Springs South
 Class 5 Willard
 Class 4 Excelsior Springs
 Class 3 Blair Oaks
 Class 2 Faith Christian Academy
 Class 1 Northland Christian

Montana

AA Sentinel
 A/B Bigfork

Nebraska

A Millard North
 B Skutt Catholic
 C Lincoln Lutheran

Nevada

5A Bishop Gorman
 4A Southeast Career Tech
 3A Elko
 2A Lake Mead Christian Academy
 1A Pahranaagat Valley

New Hampshire

D1 Trinity
 D2 Kingswood
 D3 Belmont
 D4 Newmarket

New Jersey

Group 1 Point Pleasant Beach
 Group 2 Ramsey
 Group 3 Northern Valley - Old Tappan
 Group 4 Ridgewood
 Non-Public A Delbarton
 Non-Public B Gloucester Catholic

Adams
 Kenowa Hills
 Kalamazoo Christian
 Marcellus

Champlin Park
 Totino-Grace
 Glencoe/Silver Lake
 Red Lake County

Oxford
 Pearl River Central
 Pontotoc
 Poplarville
 Booneville
 East Webster
 Taylorsville
 Brookhaven Academy
 Hartfield Academy
 Madison-Ridgeland Academy
 Leake Academy
 Tri-County Academy
 Centreville Academy
 Prairie View Academy
 Desoto County Academy
 Franklin Academy

Christian Brothers
 St. Dominic
 Orchard Farm
 Duchesne
 Portageville
 St. Elizabeth

Gallatin
 Beaverhead County

Lincoln East
 Elkhorn North
 Mount Michael Benedictine

Bishop Manogue
 Silverado
 Boulder City
 Needles
 Smith Valley

Londonderry
 St. Thomas Aquinas
 Derryfield
 Epping

Pompton Lakes
 Governor Livingston
 Brick Memorial
 Kingsway
 St. Augustine Prep
 St. Mary

New Mexico

5A Piedra Vista
 4A Goddard
 3A East Mountain
 2A Mesilla Valley Christian School
 1A Grady

New York

AAA Massapequa
 AA West Genesee
 A Averill Park
 B Chester
 C Saratoga Central Catholic
 D Duanesburg
 PSAL AAA Tottenville
 PSAL AA East Side Community
 PSAL A Riverdale/Kingsbridge Academy
 NYSAIS Long Island Lutheran
 CHSAA AA-1 St. Dominic
 CHSAA AA-1 Xavier
 CHSAA A La Salle Institute

Cleveland
 Artesia
 St. Michael's
 Hozho Academy
 Gateway Christian

Liverpool
 Cornwall Central
 Plainedge
 Medina
 Kendall
 Fillmore
 John Jay
 Port Richmond
 Baruch College
 Horace Mann
 Nichols
 Monsignor McClancy
 Cathedral Prep



Trinity (Ky.) Baseball

North Carolina

8A Providence
 7A Marvin Ridge
 6A Southern Lee
 5A North Lincoln
 4A Bunn
 3A Whiteville
 2A Rosewood
 1A NC Leadership Academy
 NCISAA 4A Charlotte Christian
 NCISAA 3A Grace Christian
 NCISAA 2A Faith Christian
 NCISAA 1A Crossroads Christian
 NCCSA 2A Wilmington Christian Academy
 NCCSA 1A Greater Vision Academy

Corinth Holders
 Holly Springs
 South Caldwell
 Seaforth
 Burns
 East Rutherford
 Cherryville
 Bear Grass Charter
 Metrolina Christian Academy
 High Point Christian Academy
 Burlington Christian Academy
 Lawrence Academy
 Greenville Christian Academy
 Calvary Christian

North Dakota

A Fargo South
 B Park River

Sheyenne
 Kindred

Ohio

D1 St. Xavier
 D2 New Albany
 D3 Badin
 D4 Perkins
 D5 Waynedale
 D6 Lake Center Christian
 D7 St. John's

Archbishop Moeller
 Walsh Jesuit
 Bishop Watterson
 Bishop Fenwick
 Columbus Academy
 Hiland
 Leipsic

2026 HIGH SCHOOL STATE CHAMPIONS

Oklahoma

6A	Mustang	Edmond Santa Fe
5A	Carl Albert	Bishop Kelley
4A	Tuttle	Mount St. Mary
3A	Washington	Marlow
2A II	Preston	Tushka
2A I	Latta	Colbert
1A I	Okarche	Dewar
1A II	Rattan	Canute
B	Calumet	Fort Cobb-Broxton

Oregon

6A	West Linn	Clackamas
5A	Central	Thurston
4A	Marist	Tillamook
3A	South Umpqua	Taft
2A/1A	Kennedy	Crosshill Christian

Pennsylvania

6A	Neshaminy	Butler
5A	Greencastle-Antrim	DuBois
4A	Indiana	Holy Ghost Prep
3A	Bermudian Springs	South Park
2A	Southern Columbia Area	Mercyhurst Prep
1A	Dock Mennonite	Eden Christian Academy
PPL	Central	Abraham Lincoln

Rhode Island

D1	Bishop Hendricken	East Providence
D2	East Greenwich	West Warwick
D3	Woonsocket	Blackstone Valley Prep

South Carolina

5A I	James Island	Dorman
5A II	Chapin	T.L. Hanna
4A	A.C. Flora	Airport
3A	Southside Christian	Oceanside Collegiate Academy
2A	Clinton	Atlantic Collegiate Academy
1A	Latta	McBee
SCISA 4A	Hilton Head Christian Academy	Cardinal Newman
SCISA 3A	Calhoun Academy	Williamsburg Academy
SCISA 2A	Dorchester Academy	Lee Academy
SCISA 1A	King Academy	Marlboro Academy

South Dakota

A	Brandon Valley	Watertown
B	Madison	Clark

Tennessee

AAAA	Farragut	Houston
AAA	Crockett County	Greeneville
AA	Milan	White House-Heritage
A	Richland	Eagleville
D2 AA	Christ Presbyterian Academy	Brentwood Academy
D2 A	Lakeway Christian Academy	St. George's

Texas

6A D1	Keller	Lake Travis
5A D1	Aledo	Lake Creek
4A D1	Pleasant Grove	Calallen
3A D1	Boyd	London
2A D1	New Home	Iola
6A D2	Tomball	Memorial
5A D2	Lovejoy	Sharyland
4A D2	Robinson	Brock
3A D2	Paradise	Franklin
2A D2	Burton	Ropes
1A	Centerville	Gordon



TAPPS D1	Prestonwood Christian	Concordia Lutheran
TAPPS D2	Lutheran South Academy	Fort Worth Christian
TAPPS D3	Covenant Christian	First Baptist Christian
TAPPS D4	Alpha Omega Academy	Covenant Classical
TAPPS D5	First Baptist Academy	Brazosport Christian
SW Prep 4A	Episcopal	Kinkaid
SW Prep 3A	Fort Worth Country Day	Cooper
Utah		
6A	American Fork	Skyridge
5A	Spanish Fork	Maple Mountain
4A	Snow Canyon	Desert Hills
3A	Union	Grantsville
2A	Kanab	San Juan
Vermont		
D1	Essex	Mount Anthony
D2	Mt. Abraham	Lyndon Institute
D3	Thetford Academy	Bellows Falls
D4	Mt. St. Joseph Academy	Blue Mountain
Virginia		
Class 6	Battlefield	Independence
Class 5	Great Bridge	Glen Allen
Class 4	Woodgrove	Atlee
Class 3	New Kent	Turner Ashby
Class 2	Lebanon	Patrick County
Class 1	Patrick Henry	Rappahannock
VISAA D1	Paul VI	St. Anne's-Belfield
VISAA D2	Highland	Greenbrier Christian Academy
VISAA D3	Washington International	Southampton Academy
Washington		
4A	Sumner	Gonzaga Prep
3A	Kentlake	Eastside Catholic
2A	Bainbridge	Tumwater
1A	King's	Montesano
2B	Napavine	Tri-Cities Prep
1B	Dayton	Naselle
West Virginia		
AAAA	George Washington	Morgantown
AAA	St. Albans	Ripley
AA	Frankfort	Logan
A	Sherman	Gilmer County
Wisconsin		
D1	Kaukauna	Madison Memorial
D2	Pewaukee	Kenosha St. Joseph Catholic
D3	Cedar Grove-Belgium	Dodgeville
D4	Columbus Catholic	Potosi/Cassville
Wyoming		
	No high school baseball	

See the Ball! Innovation from V-Flex

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

sleep, nutrition. Lots of ideas and gadgets, and lots of promises out there to save our players from failure. Is there some holy grail technique or mental game philosophy? Maybe, maybe not, but regardless, it is imperative – almost a duty of coaches – to explore the possibility that there is something greater for our players.

We're in a period of a great sorting-out of what really brings value. Lasting innovation comes from seeing possibilities in the future first, and the V-Flex screen system is one of those possibilities.

Why do certain hitters consistently synchronize with elite velocity while others fail despite comparable physical tools? – Martin Rubinoff

You might have seen V-Flex nets here and there, but besides the space age-looking nets, does anyone really know what they're all about?

“Primarily, the objective of V-Flex training is to improve strike recognition for hitters and pitch command for hitters,” says V-Flex creator Tim Nicely. “You're bringing space: the thing that surrounds the objects that make the object appear more dimensional, more vivid, more vibrant. In order to do that, you have to make the space around it stand out.”

We are talking about improving pitch selection and pitch location. But we're really talking about space. But what does this mean? One analogy is to think of the FedEx Logo. If you look at it the right way, you can see the white space between the E and X forms an arrow. It's just white space, but we can see it because of the context of the letters around it.

In baseball, space gives us way more clues than we ever know. Tracking pitches is simply seeing the ball in space. Throwing to a target is really throwing through space. For hitters, they are making distinctions between pitches a little low, a little high, a little out. For pitchers, they are making similar fine distinctions with their release point. Anything to train this is at the source of baseball success.

The V-Flex nets train the context to better make distinctions in space so the body can react better.

“Natural human space is low resolution,” says Nicely. “If you want to see in high resolution, put a V-Flex net in front of you as a picture, and you're uploading high resolution imagery. Focus and attention will automatically go up because the brain's perceptual system is being invited to a space where the probability of a strike appearing is extremely high.”

The Science

All right. Let's get the science out of the way. In physics, there is classical perception (the physical world) and also pre-perception (the brain). The brain clearly has some sort of role, but do we really know how to use it? Is it possible that the study of pre-perception physics can train the neurons in our brain to hit and pitch better?

Nicely: “You've heard a lot of scientists say it's physically impossible to hit a baseball. You should not be able to do it because of the math: three hundred millionths of a second to make a choice and swing a bat. That's just unbelievable.



“This concept aligns with multiple neuroscience theories. Under this framework, hitters do not merely react to pitches. Rather, they use visual information, anticipatory timing, and motor synchronization.

“Because these are attractors, their brain is being pulled to those locations. So over about a two-to-three week period, their complete kinetic chain of physicality changes without any coaching really. That's because the body is adjusting to these electrical constraints that the V-Flex is placing inside their brain, with the electromagnetic field, the imagery that goes to the eyes.

“See, the brain is picking up everything. It has feeds of information. It notices the pitcher's shoulders, the pitcher's hips, the pitcher's legs. It's actually reading the waves that are coming off of the pitcher's body.”

Sensing and the Body

The relationship between sensing (including seeing the ball) and your body, is immense. We make intricate subconscious physical decisions all the time: walking, eating, driving, talking. In baseball, the high-speed actions demand even more.

“You know, what happens upstream will eventually make it downstream, says Nicely. “If you want to affect the muscles firing to generate either a pitch or a swing, you actually have to affect the upstream information. There are a lot of people trying to fix things downstream, by fixing the swing and the mechanical features of the body.

“But we’re trying to provide the brain upstream information – a better interpretation of where it is in space. Where my body is, where my hands are, where my hips are is all related to the feeling of: where am I in space? Making the spatial component of the brain a better processor. Then you’re going to be better at what you do.”

“I mean, yes, we’re going for higher batting averages and things like that. But do they feel their swing, does their swing feel better?

“They feel like they have more time to process the ball, even though that’s not the case. The time is the same, but the brain is doing a better job of basically predicting where the ball is going to be because the information around the ball is better than not having anything at all. We get comments from them that, ‘Hey, it seems like I can wait longer. I see the ball farther.’

“On the pitching side, the same thing holds true. You’ll hear the same thing: ‘I feel more comfortable throwing my pitches now, I feel like I have more control of the zone.’”

The concept is that the information that we are receiving directly informs our actions without even knowing it. You don’t need to have a PhD in physics.

Nicely: “I want for the coaches to see the value in this. They don’t have to understand the physics, but they have to understand they want their players to get better.



“There has to be a new way of looking at the information they’re receiving from Trackman or Synergy. Put a V-Flex out there, you will see strike zone tendencies change within that data set. But if you don’t put a V-Flex there, your zones will never change because you didn’t do anything to change the electromagnetic field, the interpretation within that field of that brain. You do these drills three days a week on your field, then you will see these numbers start to move.”

Coaches

One of the interesting aspects for coaches is that while they are spending all this money on data and pitch communication systems, the game is in the physical world. The V-Flex nets are inexpensive and simple to use – the pitcher or BP pitcher simply throws the ball through the opening in the screen. The training does the work.

“Now the coach is asking himself, how do I use this to help my players?,” says Nicely. “No matter if you’re the pitcher, the hitter, or if you’re the coach, everybody sees this thing in a new light. They know that change has come.”

East Carolina, Maryland, Dallas Baptist are prime adopters of the system, while schools like World Series champion Oklahoma, Georgia, San Diego State and Stanford also have it. In softball, 55 of the



64 NCAA teams use it, including every SEC team. In baseball, 10 of the 64 NCAA teams use it and 17 MLB organizations as well.

Nicely: “You will gain value much faster. That’s what we’ve seen in the data we’ve collected - you gain nearly a complete year on people that do not train on V-Flex, because you’re putting a quarter in your pocket every time you swing, not a penny. And that value shows up on the field really fast, maybe within two weeks. You start to see a true change in behavior. And by the third week, you’ve got a really solid person at the plate and on the mound because they’ve built value faster. Not because they lifted more weights in the weight room, but because their brain was exposed to more spatial information, more visual clues, more firing in the receptive field. And that receptive field becomes faster and quicker and better at processing visual information because you’re not asking it to do it cognitively. You are providing that brain its environment for learning. And that’s why it’s such a paradigm shift. It’s like, ‘Man, is this really happening?’ Yeah it is.”

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THE BASEBALL COLLEGIAN

What are you committed to?

“It’s always the approach I’ve taken. Do everything you need to do during these eight months to be as good as you can be, even when you don’t feel like doing it. That’s something I tell a lot of the young players, even back (to my days) in Oakland: ‘Do the things you don’t feel like doing, because it will pay off.’”

-- Marcus Semien

In his first full year in the big leagues, Marcus Semien made a whopping 35 errors at shortstop.

Thanks to a tremendous work ethic, as well as the help of legendary infield instructor Ron Washington, Semien is now an outstanding defender and he has won a Gold Glove for his effort.



To get better, Semien went through intense defensive drills before every game with Washington -- whether he felt like it or not. It made an impression on his younger teammates like Bo Bichette.

“Huge impact,” Bichette said. “Just the professional that he is. I’ve taken a lot from what I’ve seen from him into my game. Preparation, work ethic, getting out there for every single game no matter what -- I take a lot of that into my game.”

Too often during our day we ask ourselves what we feel like doing. A better question is, “what am I committed to doing?”

It takes consistent daily practice to reach your goals as a spouse, parent, employee, boss, friend, etc. If you rely on “feeling like” doing things, you will end up being very inconsistent because your feelings will come and go throughout a day.

Today, instead of asking yourself what you feel like doing, ask yourself, “What am I committed to doing?”

Win Your Day!
Steve Gilbert

Contact MLB.com writer Steve Gilbert at winyourday@gmail.com to sign up for his daily inspirational emails.

