



Missouri Valley Conference Recognizes Baseball's Greatest Student-Athletes

Saint Louis -- In 2006-07, the Missouri Valley Conference celebrates a century of excellence as the nation's second-oldest NCAA Division I conference begins its second centennial as a leader in college athletics. As a part of the Centennial Celebration, The Valley is naming all-centennial teams for each of the Valley's sponsored sports, including baseball

The list of the top players and all-time greatest coach was determined through online fan voting (www.mvc100.org), with input from a centennial committee. More than 500 votes were cast for baseball while all nine of the current league institutions have at least two representatives on the team. Fans voted for players from 1975-present, while a centennial committee recognized players who were in the league prior to 1975 (see page three of release for The Early Years).

Joe Carter of Wichita State was the top vote-getter. The league's Player of the Year award is named after the former Shocker. Gene Stephenson of Wichita State was voted the all-time greatest coach in MVC Baseball history, which includes an historic run to an NCAA National Championship in 1989.

Included in the list are former and current Major League Baseball greats, members of institutional as well as the Valley Hall of Fame and national collegiate players of the year in baseball.

In the league's first 99 seasons, inclusive of all MVC-sponsored sports, 32 members combined for 27 national championships, while 55 Valley student-athletes captured NCAA individual titles. In addition, Valley student-athletes and coaches earned 48 National Player or Coach of the Year honors in their respective sports. And the league had a myriad of student-athletes who collected All-America honors and earned national academic distinction in The Valley's first century.

BASEBALL: Sponsored 1947 to present. While Drake played baseball in the MVC from 1947-1974, the institution currently does not sponsor baseball. Current schools in the league that do sponsor baseball include Bradley, Creighton, Evansville, Illinois State, Indiana State, Missouri State, Northern Iowa, Southern Illinois and Wichita State. Past members include Cincinnati (1957-1970); Detroit (1949-1957); Houston (1951-1960); Louisville (1963-1975); Memphis State (1967-1973); New Mexico State (1971-1983); Oklahoma A&M (1947-1957); Saint Louis (1947-1974); Tulsa (1948-1980); Washington (1947); West Texas State (1971-72).

MISSOURI VALLEY CONFERENCE BASEBALL ALL-CENTENNIAL TEAM

As Selected by Valley Fans

COACH

Gene Stephenson, Wichita State

- 11-time MVC Coach of the Year (1980, 1982, 1985, 1987, 1988, 1989, 1991, 1992, 1994, 1996 & 1998); 1,552-511-3 record prior to 2007; 3-time NCAA Coach of the Year (1982, 1989, 1993); career winning percentage highest among active DI coaches; College World Series Champion (1989); seven CWS appearances (1982, 1988, 1989, 1991, 1992, 1993 & 1996); career wins rank second-best among active DI coaches.

PLAYERS

FIRST BASE

Ryan Howard, Missouri State

1999 Freshman of the Year; MLB NL Rookie of the Year; MLB NL MVP

Phil Stephenson, Wichita State

- 3-time first team all-MVC (1980, 1981, 1982); 1982 Player of the Year; National Player of the Year

Erik Lis, Evansville

- first team all-MVC (2005)

Jason Hart, Missouri State

- first team all-MVC (1998); All-American (1998) Freshman All-American (1996); two-time all-tourney pick

SECOND BASE

Blake Blasi, Wichita State

- 2-time first team all-MVC (2000 & 2001); all-tournament selections same years; 2000 Player of the Year

Mitch Hannahs, Indiana State

- 2-time first team all-MVC (1987 & 1989); all-tournament selection (1987 & 1989)

Kevin Hooper, Wichita State

- 2-time first team all-MVC (1998 & 1999); second team all-MVC (1997); second team All-American by the NCBWA in 1998; first team All-American selection by College Baseball Insider in 1999.

Wallace, Johnson, Indiana State

- first team all-MVC (1979); led the league in batting average and stolen bases same year

Tony Roth, Creighton

- 2-time first team all-MVC (2004 & 2005); all-tournament selection (2005); Freshman of the Year (2002)

CATCHER

Toby Barnett, Southern Illinois

- 2-time first team all-MVC (2002 & 2003); 2002 Newcomer of the Year

Doug Mirabelli, Wichita State

- 2-time first-team all-MVC (1991 & 1992); all-tournament selection same years

Scott Servais, Creighton

- first team all-MVC (1988)

Eric Wedge, Wichita State

- first team all-MVC (1989); all-tournament selection (1987 & 1988); 1989 Player of the Year

THIRD BASE

Casey Blake, Wichita State

- 3-time first team all-MVC (1994, 1995, 1996); 1996 Player of the Year

Zach Daeges, Creighton

- 2-time first team all-MVC (2005 & 2006)

Koyie Hill, Wichita State

- first team all-MVC (2000); all-tournament team selection same year

Jerry Hairston, Southern Illinois

- 1996 Freshman of the Year

SHORTSTOP

Jamey Carroll, Evansville

- first team all-MVC (1996)

Wes Carroll, Evansville

- first team all-MVC (2001); two-time honorable mention all-MVC selection (1999 and 2000), and a freshman All-America pick in 1998

Mike Lansing, Wichita State

- first team all-MVC 1989; all-tournament team selection (1988)

Bill Mueller, Missouri State

- first team all-MVC (1993); 1993 Player of the Year

Zach Sorensen, Wichita State

- 2-time first team all-MVC (1997 & 1998); all-tournament selection (1998)

UTILITY

Jeremy Accardo, Illinois State

- first team all-MVC (2003/shortstop)

Ryan Brunner, Northern Iowa

- 2-time first team all-MVC (2000/first base - 2001/outfield); 2001 Player of the Year; 1998 Freshman of the Year

PJ Finigan, Southern Illinois

- first team all-MVC (2005/shortstop - 2005/starting pitcher); 2005 Player of the Year

Mitch Hannahs, Indiana State

- 3-time first team all-MVC (1987 & 1989/second base - 1988/UT)

Scott Stahoviak, Creighton

- 3-time first team all-MVC (1989 & 1990/first base - 1991/third base); 1991 MVC/National Player of the Year

Damon Sublett, Wichita State

- first team all-MVC (2006/second base); 2006 Player of the Year

Travis Wyckoff, Wichita State

- first team all-MVC (1995/pitcher - 1996/outfield); all-tournament team selection (1996)

DESIGNATED HITTER

Tony Collins, Indiana State

- 2 time first team all-MVC (1984 & 1985)

Darren Dreifort, Wichita State

- first team all-MVC (1992 & 1993); 1993 Pitcher of the Year; National Player of the Year

Oneri Fleita, Creighton

- first team all-MVC (1988); 1988 Player of the Year

Drew Moffitt, Wichita State

- 2-time first team all-MVC (2002/DH - 2004/outfield)

OUTFIELD

Adam Boeve, Northern Iowa

- first team all-MVC (2003); Player of the Year (2003)

Dant'e Brinkley, Missouri State

- 2 time first team all-MVC (2002 & 2003)

Joe Carter, Wichita State

- 2 time first team all-MVC (1980 & 1981); 1980 and 1981 Player of the Year

Steve Finley, Southern Illinois

- 2 time first team all-MVC (1986 & 1987)

Carl Hall, Wichita State

- first team all-MVC (1994); 1994 Player of the Year

Kirby Puckett, Bradley

- first team all-MVC (1981)

Jeff Ryan, Wichita State

- first team all-MVC (1998); 1998 Player of the Year

Dave Schrage, Creighton

- first team all-MVC (1982) after leading the conference with a .400 batting average; only person to gain all-MVC accolades as a player and later earn the league's Coach of the Year honor.

Doug Shields, Southern Illinois

- 2 time first team all-MVC (1989 & 1990); 1990 Player of the Year

STARTING PITCHERS

Brandon Baird, Wichita State

- 2 time first team all-MVC (1994 & 1995)

Alan Benes, Creighton

- 2 time first team all-MVC (1992 & 1993); 1992 Pitcher of the Year

Greg Brummett, Wichita State

- first team all-MVC (1989)

Neal Cotts, Illinois State

- first team all-MVC (2001)

Shane Dennis, Wichita State

- first team all-MVC (1994); 1994 Pitcher of the Year

Mike Drumright, Wichita State

- first team all-MVC (1995); 1995 Pitcher of the Year

Mike Dunne, Bradley

- first team all-MVC (1984); 1984 Player of the Year

David Haas, Wichita State

- 3 time first team all-MVC (1986 & 1987 & 1988)

Don Heinkel, Wichita State

- 3 time first team all-MVC (1980 & 1981 & 1982)

Bryan Oelkers, Wichita State

- first team all-MVC (1982)

Mike Pelfrey, Wichita State

- 3 time first team all-MVC (2003 & 2004 & 2005); 2004 & 2005 Pitcher of the Year

Bryan Rekar, Bradley

- 2 time first team all-MVC (1992 & 1993); 1992 Pitcher of the Year

Dan Smith, Creighton

- 2 time first team all-MVC (1989 & 1990)

Kennie Streenstra, Wichita State

- 2 time first team all-MVC (1990 & 1991); 1991 Pitcher of the Year

Nic Ungs, Northern Iowa

- first team all-MVC (2001); 2001 Pitcher of the Year

Brad Ziegler, Missouri State

- 2 time first team all-MVC (2002 & 2003)

RELIEF PITCHERS**Jaime Bluma, Wichita State**

- 2 time first team all-MVC (1993 & 1994)

Marc Bluma, Wichita State

- 3 time first team all-MVC (1997 & 1998 & 1999); 1998 Pitcher of the Year

Darren Dreifort, Wichita State

- first team all-MVC (1992 & 1993); 1993 Pitcher of the Year

Willie Glen, Evansville

- first team all-MVC (2000)

Steve Grasley, Creighton

- 2 time first team all-MVC (2002 & 2004)

Craig Kozlowski, Indiana State

- 30 pitching appearances ranks seventh in MVC history; 12 saves in a season, ranks sixth in MVC; 89 appearances in career; 25 career saves ranks fifth in MVC history.

Braden Loooper, Wichita State

- 2 time first team all-MVC (1995 & 1996)

Jim Newlin, Wichita State

- Ranks first in conference history in saves in a season (18) and appearances (38); ranks third in career saves (28); ranks sixth in career appearances (96)

The Early Years (pre-1975)

Lynn Alford, Memphis, Second Base

Ronnie Bennett, Oklahoma State, Outfield

Tom Borland, Oklahoma State, Pitcher

Steve Bowling, Tulsa, Outfield

Ted Bruington, Bradley, Outfield

Joe Buck, Oklahoma State, Catcher

Cliff Butcher, Tulsa, Pitcher

Gary Carter, Bradley, Outfield

Wyman Carey, Bradley, Pitcher

Jim Dix, Saint Louis, Outfield

Tom Dix, Saint Louis, Shortstop

Mike Dlugach, Memphis State, Catcher

Dave Diesselhorst, Bradley, Third Base

Larry Elsasser, Cincinnati, Outfield

Bill Faul, Cincinnati, Pitcher

Gary Fischer, Bradley, Pitcher

Joe Gegg, Saint Louis, Catcher

Carl Gentile, Saint Louis, Outfield

Donald Green, Tulsa, Third Base

Carlton "Little Pineapple" Hanta, Houston, Shortstop

Joe Hennessey, Saint Louis, Pitcher

Mike Hershberger, Cincinnati, Outfield

John Jones, Saint Louis, First Base

Frank Kellert, Oklahoma State, First Base

Pat Maginn, Cincinnati, Shortstop

John Marcum, Saint Louis, Pitcher

Mike Marrs, Tulsa, Shortstop

Gene Melchiorre, Bradley, Second Base

John Meyer, Cincinnati, Catcher

Zack Monroe, Bradley, Pitcher

Joe Napoli, Bradley, Third Base

Lee Pelligreen, Saint Louis, Outfield

Danny Porter, Tulsa, Outfield

Steve Rogers, Tulsa, Pitcher

Les Rogers, Tulsa, Third Base

Mike Sember, Tulsa, Shortstop

Jim Stevens, Tulsa, Pitcher

Jerry Storm, Cincinnati, Second Base

Jerry Tabb, Tulsa, First Base

Greg Trammell, New Mexico State, Pitcher

Bill Tuttle, Bradley, Outfield

Lee Utt, Bradley, First Base

JD Williams, Bradley, Outfield

Billy Wolff, Cincinnati, Outfield

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