

Nunn, Crespo Highlight All-SoCon Honorees

Written by Mike Flynn
Monday, 20 May 2013 15:06

Highlighted by first-team selections Jamie Nunn (Winston-Salem, N.C./Mount Tabor) and Hector Crespo (Miami, Fla./Florida Christian), five Appalachian State University baseball players were recognized on the all-Southern Conference teams that were announced on Monday. In addition to Nunn and Crespo, Will Callaway (Greenville, S.C./Eastside) was a second-team all-conference selection and Jaylin Davis (McLeansville, N.C./Northeast Guilford) and Dillon Dobson (Boonville, N.C./Starmount) were tabbed for the SoCon's all-freshman team. Additionally, Davis was named the SoCon Freshman of the Year by the league's coaches, becoming the first Mountaineer in 20 years to earn the honor.

Nunn led the SoCon with nine regular-season victories and also ranked among the conference leaders with 91.2 innings pitched (third), 71 strikeouts (10th), a .257 opponents' batting average (10th) and a 3.73 ERA (11th). The right-hander recorded quality starts (six or more innings pitched and three or fewer earned runs allowed) in 11 of his 14 outings this season. He is the first Appalachian State pitcher to earn first-team all-conference recognition as a sophomore since Lenny Stratton in 1986.

Crespo hit .336 with 74 hits, 11 doubles, three triples, three home runs, 35 RBI, 43 runs scored and 21 stolen bases in 50 regular-season games. He also leads the Mountaineers with 24 multi-hit games and nine multi-RBI performances. In addition to his prowess as Appalachian's leadoff hitter, he is also one of the nation's top fielding second basemen with a .978 fielding percentage. The senior has committed just six errors in 271 chances on the season. During the course of the campaign, Crespo has also become Appalachian State's all-time leader in stolen bases (100) and games played (221).

Callaway led Appalachian with a .350 batting average (good for 10th in the SoCon) and 37 RBI during the regular season. After a relatively slow start to the season, he has been one of the nation's best players over the second half of the campaign. Since April 2, the senior shortstop has hit safely in 25-straight games and is batting .413 (45-for-109) with 26 RBI and 24 runs scored during that stretch. The 25-game hitting streak is tied for the second-longest in Appalachian State history, just two games shy of the school record of 27. Callaway is one of 14 players on the official watch list for the Brooks Wallace Award, which honors college baseball's top shortstop. In a stellar year for SoCon shortstops, first-team all-conference selection Aaron Attaway of Western Carolina is also on the Wallace Award watch list.

Davis is the first Appalachian State player to be named SoCon Freshman of the Year since Kenny Osborne in 1993 and is just the fourth Mountaineer to ever earn the award. The center fielder hit .271 as a freshman with a team-high-tying 12 doubles, a team-best four triples, four home runs, 33 RBI and 11 stolen bases.

Dobson led Appalachian with six home runs during the regular season and also boasts nine doubles, two triples, 26 RBI and 35 runs scored. On March 10 at Furman, he became the first Mountaineer freshman to hit two home runs in a game since Ben Billingsley accomplished the feat in 2006.

Fifth-seeded Appalachian State (28-22, 13-14 SoCon) opens the Southern Conference Tournament on Wednesday at 10 a.m. versus No. 4-seeded The Citadel (32-24, 18-12 SoCon) at Fluor Field in Greenville, S.C. The matchup pits the SoCon's unanimous first-team all-conference pitchers — Nunn and Pitcher of the Year Austin Pritcher (8-2, 2.45 ERA).

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2013 SoCon Coaches Baseball All-Southern Conference Team

Player of the Year – Ryan Kinsella, Jr., 1B, Elon

Pitcher of the Year – Austin Pritcher, Sr., RHP, The Citadel

Freshman of the Year – Jaylin Davis, OF, Appalachian State

Coach of the Year – Bobby Moranda, Western Carolina

First Team

SP Austin Pritcher, The Citadel

SP Jamie Nunn, Appalachian State

RP Preston Hatcher, Western Carolina

C Joe Jackson, The Citadel

1B Ryan Kinsella, Elon

2B Hector Crespo, Appalachian State

SS Aaron Attaway, Western Carolina

3B Tyler White, Western Carolina

OF Christian Wolfe, UNCG

OF Phillip Ervin, Samford

OF Julian Ridings, Western Carolina

DH C.K. Irby, Samford

Second Team

SP Kyle Webb, Elon

SP Jeremy Null, Western Carolina

RP Skylar Hunter, The Citadel

C Adam Martin, Western Carolina

1B Alex Abrams, Furman

2B Blake Butler, College of Charleston

Mason Davis, The Citadel

SS Will Callaway, Appalachian State

3B Trevor Edwards, UNCG

OF Brandon Murray, College of Charleston

OF Hughston Armstrong, The Citadel

OF Christiaan Durdaller, Samford

DH Bo Thompson, The Citadel

All-Freshman Team

Jaylin Davis, Appalachian State

Dillon Dobson, Appalachian State

Blake Butler, College of Charleston

Nathan Helvey, College of Charleston

Carl Wise, College of Charleston

Skylar Hunter, The Citadel

Sam Foy, Davidson

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Jordan Simpson, Furman
Ryan Clark, UNCG
Benigno Marrero, UNCG
Richard Greene, Samford
Jonathan Waszak, Western Carolina
Will Stillman, Wofford

2013 SoCon Sports Media Association Baseball All-Conference

Player of the Year – Tyler White, Sr., 3B, Western Carolina
Pitcher of the Year – Austin Pritcher, Sr., RHP, The Citadel
Freshman of the Year – Benigno Marrero, 2B, UNCG
Coach of the Year – Bobby Moranda, Western Carolina

First Team

SP Jamie Nunn, Appalachian State

SP Austin Pritcher, The Citadel
RP Preston Hatcher, Western Carolina
C Joe Jackson, The Citadel
1B Ryan Kinsella, Elon

2B Hector Crespo, Appalachian State

SS Aaron Attaway, Western Carolina
3B Tyler White, Western Carolina
OF Christian Wolfe, UNCG
OF Christiaan Durdaller, Samford
OF Phillip Ervin, Samford
OF Julian Ridings, Western Carolina
DH C.K. Irby, Samford

Second Team

SP Kyle Webb, Elon
SP Jeremy Null, Western Carolina
RP Skylar Hunter, The Citadel
C Adam Martin, Western Carolina
1B Calvin Orth, The Citadel
2B Blake Butler, College of Charleston
SS Will Callaway, Appalachian State
3B Chris Ohmstede, Furman
OF Brandon Murray, College of Charleston
OF Hughston Armstrong, The Citadel
OF Sebastian Gomez, Elon
DH Bo Thompson, The Citadel

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Photo Courtesy: Jaylin Davis, ASU Athletics