

April 24, 2024

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Contact:

George Watson Chair, College Baseball Foundation Awards georgewatsonaj@gmail.com

## **BROOKS WALLACE AWARD ANNOUNCES 2024 WATCH LIST**

LUBBOCK, Texas – For one of the few times in the history of the Brooks Wallace Award, the field for the 2024 watch list is wide open with no player standing tall above the others.

The top 100 shortstops in the country were announced Wednesday, led by several players putting up tremendous offensive numbers. But because the award is about more than just offense, there are several players putting up solid defensive numbers as well.

"Many of these young men are fielding their position with no errors or very few this far along into the season, which is incredible," said Larry Wallace, co-chair of the Brooks Wallace Award. "With our selections ramping up, this is one of the main skills we look for in shortstop of the year award."

The award honors the nation's top shortstop and will be presented by the College Baseball Foundation later this year. It is named for former Texas Tech shortstop Brooks Wallace, who played for the Red Raiders from 1977 to 1980. Wallace died of leukemia at the age of 27.

The award honors outstanding defensive play as much as it does production at the plate. One player displaying both of those features is Creighton senior Nolan Clifford. Ranked No. 3 in batting average and No. 1 in fielding on the watch list, Clifford is hitting .367 with four home runs and 30 RBIs, and in the field has compiled a perfect 1.000 fielding percentage with no errors in 109 chances.

Hot on his heels, however, is Rutgers junior Josh Kuroda-Grauer. Kuroda-Grauer ranks No. 1 batting average and No. 18 in fielding. He has compiled a .440 batting average with four home runs and 39 RBIs, and he has just four errors in 162 chances.

There are plenty of players on the list who are also expected to be high draft picks this summer and beyond. Arkansas shortstop Wehiwa Aloy has led the front-running Razorbacks for most of the season, hitting .275 with nine home runs and 37 RBIs while committing just four errors in 103 chances. Texas sophomore Jalin Flores is hitting .344 with 14 home runs and 36 RBIs with just five errors in 164 chances. Kansas State junior Kaelen Culpepper is hitting .319 with seven home runs, 33 RBIs and just five errors in 148 chances.

"The Brooks Wallace Award is wide open this season with 27 conferences represented in our initial top 100 watch list," said Tom Quigley, Brooks Wallace Award co-chair. "We have quite a few solid hitters and some heavy hitters as well."

For more information on the Wallace Award or the Night of Champions event, visit collegebaseballhall.org.

2024 BROOKS WALLACE AWARD WATCH LIST		
Name	School	Conference
Wehiwa Aloy	Arkansas	SEC
Dillon Baker	Miami (Ohio)	Mid-American
Romeo Ballesteros	New Mexico State	Conference USA
Finley Bates	San Diego State	Mountain West
Colton Becker	Morehead State	Ohio Valley
Will Bermudez	UC Irvine	Big West
Aiden Brewer	UNC-Greensboro	Southern
Nolan Brown	Stephen F. Austin	WAC
Ali Camarillo	Texas A&M	SEC
Benny Casillas	Loyola Marymount	West Coast
C.J. Ćastillo	Texas Southern	SWAC
Kaelen Culpepper	Kansas State	Big 12
Nolan Clifford	Creighton	Big East
Tremayne Cobb, Jr.	Troy	Sun Belt
Collier Cranford	Kansas	Big 12
Kyle Debarge	Louisiana	Sun Belt
Coby Dejesus	Houston	Big 12
Eduardo Diaz	Navy	Patriot
Devin Dixon	New Mexico	Mountain West
Kanin Dodge	Lamar University	Southland
Jordan Donaghue	Hawaii	Big West
Gavin Donohue	Sacred Heart	Northeast
Carter Dorighi	Butler	Big East
Mason Dunaway	James Madison	Sun Belt
Chris Einemann	Bryant	American East
Brody Fahr	Presbyterian College	Big South
Andrew Fernandez	Tennessee Martin	Ohio Valley
Jalin Flores	Texas	Big 12
Lane Forsythe	Oklahoma State	Big 12
Bradley Frye	Mercer	Southern
Camden Gasser	Purdue	Big Ten
Jon Jon Gazdar	Austin Peay	Atlantic Sun
Gunner Gouldsmith	Sacramento State	WAC
Clay Grady	Virginia Tech	ACC
Elijah Hainline	Oregon State	Pac-12
Michael Hallquist	Ball State	Mid-American
Troy Hamilton	South Carolina Upstate	
Luke Heefner	Dallas Baptist	Conference USA
Cal Hejza	Illinois	Big Ten
Jacob Hinderleider	Clemson	ACC
Garrett Howe	Samford	Southern
Core Jackson	Utah	Pac-12
Kyle Jackson	Kent State	Mid-American
Quentin Jenkins	Alabama State	SWAC
Caleb Johnson	Jacksonville State	Conference USA
Henry Kaczmar	Ohio State	Big Ten
Matt Kinge	UTSA	AAC
Gavin Kilen	Louisville	ACC Southland
Hayden Knotts	Northwestern State	Southland
Brodie Kresser	West Virginia	Big 12
Josh Kuroda-Grauer	Rutgers Cal State Fullerton	Big Ten
Maddox Latta		Big West
Trey Lawrence	Youngstown State	Horizon
Luke Lawrence Matt Leahy	Illinois State Rider	Missouri Valley Metro Atlantic
Trevor Leon	Western Illinois	Ohio Valley
Brando Lereoux	Florida Atlantic	ΔΔC

Florida Atlantic

AAC

Brando Lereoux

Brett Lesher Lucas Loos Maximus Martin Tanner Marsh David Marshall, Jr. Jack Marshall Sam McNulty David Mershon Matt Miceli

P.J. Moutzouridis
Paul Myro
J.R. Nelson
Ben Newton
Luke Nomura
Griff O'Ferrall

Maddox Molony

Josh Paino
Garrett Palladino
Grant Randall
Sawyer Reeves
Jack Renwick
T.J. Rogers
Trevor Roper
Tyler Ross
Jake Schaffner
Colby Shelton
Anthony Silva
Grant Smith

Mike Stellrecht Adam Stuart Noah Sudyka Ty Swaim Chase Swain Paul Tammaro Robert Tate Trent Turner Cooper Weiss Jeron Williams

Malcolm Williams Jonathan Vastine Luke Wood Zane Zielinski Delaware Eastern Illinois Georgia State Liberty

St. Bonaventure Stonehill Boston College Mississippi State Stony Brook Oregon

California Pac-12
UNLV Mountain West
Ohio Mid-American
Fresno State Mountain West
Fairfield Metro Atlantic

Coastal

Sun Belt

Atlantic 10

Northeast

ACC

**SEC** 

Coastal

Pac-12

Ohio Valley

Conference USA

Virginia ACC California Baptist WAC Alcorn State **SWAC** Incarnate Word Southland The Citadel Southern Wofford Southern San Francisco West Coast Houston Christian Southland **Bowling Green** Mid-American North Dakota State Summit Florida SEC TCU Big 12

SEC Kentucky Binghamton American East High Point Big South UC San Diego Big West Southern VMI Manhattan Metro Atlantic Big East Connecticut Jackson State **SWAC** Western Carolina Southern Auburn SEC

Toledo Mid-American Santa Clara West Coast Vanderbilt SEC

College of Charleston Coastal Illinois-Chicago Missouri Valley