



News Release

For Immediate Release

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MEAC ANNOUNCES 2012 BASEBALL PRESEASON PREDICTIONS

Bethune-Cookman Picked to Win MEAC Title

NORFOLK, Va., February 17, 2012 – The defending Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference (MEAC) tournament champion Bethune-Cookman Wildcats were predicted to win the 2012 MEAC Baseball title, as voted on by the conference's head baseball coaches and sports information directors. Delaware State was chosen to finish atop the Northern division, while the Wildcats were picked to win the Southern divisional crown.

Delaware State's Scott Davis was named Preseason Player of the Year, while Bethune-Cookman's Gabriel Hernandez earned Preseason Pitcher of the Year accolades.

Davis, the 2011 MEAC Player of the Year, led the MEAC and ranked seventh in the nation with a .418 average (74-for-177) and .516 on-base percentage. He was third in the MEAC in hits (74) and tied for fourth in doubles (17) last year. In addition to MEAC Preseason honors, Davis earned an honorable mention nod on the 2012 CollegeBaseballInsider.com Division I All-America Team.

Hernandez was third in wins in the MEAC with a 7-0 record in 12 appearances. He tallied an ERA of 3.91 in 50.2 innings of play. The junior struck out 46 batters and recorded an opposing batting average of .280. In conference play, Hernandez pitched 33.0 innings and retired 32 batters.

Bethune-Cookman (36-25) won its sixth consecutive MEAC crown and recorded an unblemished 18-0 mark in MEAC play last season. The Wildcats led the MEAC in several categories including slugging percentage (.455), hits (575), runs scored (399), RBI (369) and home runs (58). In addition to Hernandez, the Wildcats return 2011 MEAC Rookie and Pitcher of the Year Scott Garner.

North Carolina A&T was picked to finish second in the southern division followed by Savannah State and Florida A&M. North Carolina Central completes the southern division predictions.

Delaware State concluded the 2011 season with a 26-29 mark and was 11-7 in conference play. The Hornets were third in the MEAC a year ago with a .288 batting average and second in the conference in on-base percentage (.386).

In the northern division, Norfolk State was selected to finish in second followed by Maryland Eastern Shore in third and Coppin State.

Joining Davis, Hernandez and Garner on the Preseason Team is Ryan VanAssche (NSU), Jordan Dailey (B-CU), Cameron Cecil (DSU), Ryan Haas (DSU), Cory Franklin (FAMU), Luke Tendler (NCAT), Jarryd Reid (FAMU), Tre-von Johnson (UMES), Joseph McCrary (SSU) and Peter Poole (SSU).

The 2012 MEAC Baseball Championship tournament is scheduled for May 17-20, at the Marty L. Miller Field at Norfolk State University (Va.).

For more information on MEAC Baseball, log onto www.MEACsports.com.



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2012 MEAC Preseason Baseball Predictions

As voted on by the conference's Head Coaches and Sports Information Directors
(First Place Votes in Parenthesis)

MEAC Northern Division

SchoolPoints

1. Delaware State (10).....192
2. Norfolk State (8)184
3. Maryland Eastern Shore.....143
4. Coppin State.....129

MEAC Southern Division

SchoolPoints

1. Bethune-Cookman (12)193
2. North Carolina A&T (3)163
3. Savannah State (2)142
4. Florida A&M (1).....126
5. North Carolina Central117

2012 Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference

Baseball Preseason All-Conference Awards

As voted on by the conference's Head Coaches and Sports Information Directors

Preseason Player of the Year: Scott Davis, Delaware State
Bethune-Cookman

Preseason Pitcher of the Year: Gabriel Hernandez,

Pos	Name	School	Cl.	Ht.	Wt.	Hometown
P	Scott Garner	Bethune-Cookman	So.	6-2	200	Port Orange, Fla
*P	Gabriel Hernandez	Bethune-Cookman	So.	6-0	195	Levitwon, Puerto Rico
*P	Ryan VanAssche	Norfolk State	So.	6-1	205	Chesapeake, Va.
RP	Jordan Dailey	Bethune-Cookman	Jr.	6-0	215	Orlando, Fla.
C	Cameron Cecil	Delaware State	So.	5-9	180	Gloucester, Va.
1B	Ryan Haas	Delaware State	Jr.	6-0	200	Bear, Del.
2B	Scott Davis	Delaware State	Sr.	5-10	180	Lake Lehman, Pa.
3B	Cory Franklin	Florida A&M	Sr.	5-11	210	Jacksonville, Fla.
SS	Luke Tendler	North Carolina A&T	So.	5-11	180	Wilmington, N.C.
OF	Jarryd Reid	Florida A&M	Sr.	5-11	198	Tampa, Fla.
OF	Tre-von Johnson	Maryland E. Shore	Jr.	5-10	215	East New Market, Md.
OF	Joseph McCrary	Savannah State	So.	6-1	175	Stone Mountain, Ga.
DH	Peter Poole	Savannah State	So.	5-10	205	Duluth, Ga.

*Indicates a tie

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