

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
JUNE 27, 2012
VaSID UNIVERSITY DIVISION
ALL-STATE BASEBALL TEAM

Virginia leads All-State Baseball Team selections

Six Cavaliers are selected and O'Connor named Coach of the Year

BLACKSBURG, Va. — Virginia third baseman Stephen Bruno and his head coach Brian O'Connor captured top honors on the 2012 University Division All-State Baseball team chosen by the Virginia College Sports Information Directors (VaSID) and announced today. Bruno was selected as the Player of the Year, while O'Connor earned his seventh Coach of the Year award. Additionally, junior Eddie Butler of Radford and senior Matt Davenport of William and Mary were named co-Pitchers of the Year and Virginia Tech's freshman Mark Zagunis was voted Rookie of the Year.

Bruno, a redshirt-sophomore from Audubon, N.J., pounded out 88 hits this season, which tied him for the sixth most in UVa. history and led the ACC in hits per game (1.52). He batted .370 for the season with a single-season school-record tying 23 doubles, while driving in 54 runs and scoring 49 times. He was also a seventh-round selection by the Chicago Cubs in the 2012 MLB First Year Player Draft and is the Cavaliers' first Player of the Year honoree since 2005, when Ryan Zimmerman was also chosen as a third baseman.

O'Connor, who just completed his ninth season at Virginia, was named the VaSID University Division Baseball Coach of the Year for the seventh time after guiding the Cavaliers to a 39-19-1 record and the school's ninth straight trip to the NCAA Baseball Championship. The Cavaliers posted an 18-12 record in the ACC and also went 9-2-1 against schools from the state of Virginia.

For the first time since VaSID has been naming a Pitcher of the Year (since 2006), a Virginia pitcher was not selected as Butler and Davenport share the honor, ending the Cavaliers' streak of six straight. Ironically, the co-pitchers both hail from the Chesapeake, Va. area.

Radford's Butler, a junior from Greenbrier Christian High School, was the Big South's co-Pitcher of the Year and was the state's highest MLB draft selection in 2012, chosen with the 46th pick by the Colorado Rockies. He posted a 7-4 record with a 2.20 ERA this season in 14 starts with three complete games and two shutouts, while striking out 95 batters in 98 innings pitched.

William and Mary senior Davenport, from Nansemond-Suffolk Academy, was just as impressive, earning the CAA's Pitcher of the Year honor and was a 34th-round selection in the MLB Draft by the Detroit Tigers. His numbers in 2012 include a 7-5 mark with a 1.73 ERA in 14 starts (17 appearances) with six complete games and two shutouts. He struck out 90 batters in 109.1 innings pitched.

Lastly, Virginia Tech's Zagunis led a tremendous freshman class that included five rookies that made the VaSID All-State team – the most of any year and passing the previous high of three in 2005 – as four of them, including Zagunis, were named 2012 Louisville Slugger Freshman All-Americans and three were NCBWA Freshman All-Americans. The Cinnaminson, N.J., native also earned second team All-ACC honors as a catcher after batting .344 for the season with 34 RBI, 35 runs scored, a .513 slugging percentage and swiping 17 bases.

Only four players named to the 2012 University Division All-State Baseball team are repeat selections with Radford's Matt Hillsinger earning his third selection, as he was a first team outfielder this year following a second team selection last year and a first team DH selection in 2010. Virginia's Branden Kline is named to the second team this season after a first team selection last year, while Richmond's Chris Cowell (catcher-second team) and Davenport (first team) were second teamers in 2010. The 2011 Rookie of the Year, VCU's Bill Cullen earned a spot as a first team outfielder this year.

- CONTINUED -

Virginia led the way with six total players on the all-state team, while Liberty and Radford had three players each named first team. George Mason and William and Mary match the Cavaliers' two first teamers, while Richmond, VCU and Virginia Tech each had one on the first team. Eleven of the 13 state's Division I baseball programs had at least one representative as Virginia led the way with four second team selections. Richmond, VCU and Virginia Tech each had two on the second team, while Longwood, Norfolk State and VMI each had one.

Below is the 2012 University Division All-State Baseball team with supporting statistics on the following pages.

2012 University Division All-State Baseball

	FIRST TEAM	SECOND TEAM
<u>FIRST BASE</u>	Michael Katz, William and Mary, Freshman	Alex Close, Liberty, Freshman
<u>SECOND BASE</u>	Bryan Aanderud, Liberty, Junior	Kevin Nutter, William and Mary, Junior
<u>SHORTSTOP</u>	Jeff Kemp, Radford, R-Junior	Chris Taylor, Virginia, Junior
<u>THIRD BASE</u>	Stephen Bruno, Virginia, R-Sophomore	Joey Cujas, VCU, Sophomore
<u>CATCHER</u>	Mark Zagunis, Virginia Tech, Freshman	Chris Cowell, Richmond, Senior*
<u>OUTFIELD</u>	Bill Cullen, VCU, Sophomore* Matt Hillsinger, Radford, Senior* Ian Parmley, Liberty, Senior	Derek Fisher, Virginia, Freshman Tyler Horan, Virginia Tech, R-Sophomore Robby Newman, Longwood, Senior
<u>DESIGNATED HITTER</u>	Zack Helgeson, George Mason, Senior	George Piccirilli, VMI, Senior
<u>UTILITY</u>	Jacob Mayers, Richmond, Junior	Jake Atwell, Virginia Tech, Senior
<u>STARTING PITCHERS</u>	Eddie Butler, Radford, Junior Matt Davenport, William and Mary, Senior* John Niggli, Liberty, Senior	Chris Horne, NSU, Junior Branden Kline, Virginia, Junior* Zak Sterling, Richmond, Freshman
<u>RELIEF PITCHERS</u>	Chris O'Grady, George Mason, R-Junior Justin Thompson, Virginia, Senior	Shane Halley, Virginia, Senior Blake Hauser, VCU, Junior
<u>PLAYER OF THE YEAR:</u>	Stephen Bruno, Virginia	
<u>CO-PITCHERS OF THE YEAR:</u>	Eddie Butler, Radford and Matt Davenport, William and Mary	
<u>ROOKIE OF THE YEAR:</u>	Mark Zagunis, Virginia Tech	
<u>COACH OF THE YEAR:</u>	Brian O'Connor, Virginia*	

* - 2012 VaSID Notes

Chris Cowell was a 2010 second team catcher

Bill Cullen was the 2011 Rookie of the Year

Matt Hillsinger was a 2011 second team outfielder and 2010 first team designated hitter

Matt Davenport was a 2010 second team pitcher

Branden Kline was a 2011 first team pitcher

Brian O'Conner was the 2004-07, 2009 and 2011 Coach of the Year

- MORE -

- CONTINUED -

FIRST BASE**FIRST TEAM - Michael Katz, William and Mary, Freshman**

AVG	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	SLG%	BB	HBP	SO	OB%	SB-A	FLD%
.316	212	42	67	10	0	10	58	.505	22	5	52	.379	6-9	.986

Notes: Was named to the 2012 Louisville Slugger Freshman All-American team by *Collegiate Baseball* newspaper ... Selected to the 2012 CAA All-Rookie Team ... Named the CAA Rookie of the Week on April 9, after batting .318 for the week to go along with eight RBIs, eight runs scored, seven hits and two home runs ... Led W&M in RBIs and home runs ... Ranked second in the CAA in RBIs and fifth in home runs ... Connected on two grand slams ... Had 19 multi-hit games and a team-high 12 multi-RBI games ... Made 55 starts in 55 appearances.

SECOND TEAM - Alex Close, Liberty, Freshman

AVG	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	SLG%	BB	HBP	SO	OB%	SB-A	FLD%
.304	207	36	63	8	2	14	47	.565	13	2	36	.350	3-4	.993

Notes: 2012 Louisville Slugger Freshman All-American, 2012 NCBWA Freshman All-American, 2012 Big South Freshman of the Year, 2012 Big South All-Tournament team, set Big South & Liberty record for HRs in a season by a freshman, led Big South in home runs, sixth in Big South in RBIs and fifth in total bases (117).

SECOND BASE**FIRST TEAM - Bryan Aanderud, Liberty, Junior**

AVG	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	SLG%	BB	HBP	SO	OB%	SB-A	FLD%
.368	220	42	81	9	2	2	53	.455	32	15	18	.471	5-6	.969

Notes: 2012 Big South All-Conference second team, ranked third in Big South in in batting average, hits, RBIs and on base percentage, also was fifth in the conference in walks.

SECOND TEAM - Kevin Nutter, William and Mary, Junior

AVG	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	SLG%	BB	HBP	SO	OB%	SB-A	FLD%
.321	209	45	67	8	1	0	16	.368	24	19	25	.431	11-14	.980

Notes: Led the College in CAA play with a batting average of .349 ... Ranked second on the team with a season average of .321 ... Ranked fifth in the CAA in hit by pitches (19) and 12th with an on-base percentage of .431 ... Reached base in 31-consecutive games ... Recorded 20 multi-hit games ... Went 3-for-6 with an RBI and a run scored at Hofstra (May 18) ... Tallied three hits and a run scored against UNCW (May 10) ... One of only three Tribe player's to start all 56 contests.

SHORTSTOP**FIRST TEAM - Jeff Kemp, Radford, R-Junior**

AVG	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	SLG%	BB	HBP	SO	OB%	SB-A	FLD%
.328	192	41	63	16	6	4	48	.536	14	9	37	.393	9-9	.956

Notes: First Team All-Big South selection ... 31st round (957) selection of Los Angeles Angels ... 4th in Big South in RBIs, 6th in slugging % ... 48 RBIs in 47 games ... Named Big South Player of the Week on April 24 ... Missed 11 games late in the season with a hand injury ... before injury, ranked among league leaders in most offensive categories, and 13th nationally in RBIs/game ... Shortstop that anchored the Big South's top defensive team ... Radford led the nation in fielding percentage in April when Kemp was playing every day.

SECOND TEAM - Chris Taylor, Virginia, Junior

AVG	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	SLG%	BB	HBP	SO	OB%	SB-A	FLD%
.284	236	57	67	13	5	5	47	.445	35	6	38	.383	12-14	.922

Notes: Fifth-round draft pick of Seattle Mariners (161st overall) ... started and led off all 59 games for Virginia ... fourth in ACC in runs.

THIRD BASE**FIRST TEAM - Stephen Bruno, Virginia, R-Sophomore**

AVG	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	SLG%	BB	HBP	SO	OB%	SB-A	FLD%
.370	238	49	88	23	2	6	54	.559	14	15	27	.424	11-14	.917

Notes: Seventh-round draft pick of Chicago Cubs (224th overall) ... named ACC Player of the Week on May 14 ... reached base safely in 56-of-59 games ... had three hitting streaks of 10 or more games ... tied UVa single-season record with 23 doubles ... finished sixth in UVa history with 88 hits this year ... leads ACC in hits per game (1.52).

SECOND TEAM - Joey Cujas, VCU, Sophomore

AVG	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	SLG%	BB	HBP	SO	OB%	SB-A	FLD%
.390	223	43	87	21	2	3	49	.543	27	13	16	.476	2-4	.963

Notes: Finished the regular season with the 22nd best batting average in the country (.390) and was 21st in doubles (21); one of just four VCU student-athletes to play and start all 59 games.

CATCHER**FIRST TEAM - Mark Zagunis, Virginia Tech, Freshman**

AVG	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	SLG%	BB	HBP	SO	OB%	SB-A	FLD%
.344	189	35	65	13	2	5	34	.513	21	9	25	.430	17-22	.980

Notes: 2012 Louisville Slugger Freshman All-American, 2012 NCBWA Freshman All-American and Second Team All-ACC ... led the team in batting, on-base percentage and stolen bases, second in hits and doubles, third in slugging, total bases, walks, RBI and hit-by-pitch ... Team-high 18 multi-hit games, team-high 13-game hitting streak and a 36-game reaching base streak.

SECOND TEAM - Chris Cowell, Richmond, Senior

AVG	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	SLG%	BB	HBP	SO	OB%	SB-A	FLD%
.271	210	47	57	18	0	20	58	.643	40	4	74	.387	0-2	.990

Notes: First-Team All-Atlantic 10 ... Led A-10 with 20 home runs and a .643 slugging percentage ... 2nd in total bases (124) and third in the conference in RBI (53).

- MORE -

- CONTINUED -

OUTFIELD**FIRST TEAM - Bill Cullen, VCU, Sophomore**

AVG	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	SLG%	BB	HBP	SO	OB%	SB-A	FLD%
.347	259	62	90	25	9	5	40	.571	24	5	47	.412	11-17	.987

Notes: Finished the regular season tied for the lead nationally in triples (nine), fifth in doubles (25), 12th in total bases, 16th in runs scored (62.0) and 21st in hits (90.0); one of just four VCU student-athletes to play and start all 59 games.

FIRST TEAM - Matt Hillsinger, Radford, Senior

AVG	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	SLG%	BB	HBP	SO	OB%	SB-A	FLD%
.321	184	43	59	10	0	8	37	.505	25	9	41	.415	7-10	.988

Notes: Named First Team All-Big South for the third season in a row ... 22nd round (679) selection of Oakland A's ... Career highs in both home runs and RBIs ... Fifth in the Big South in homers ... Limited by a late-season knee injury ... ranked among league leaders in most offensive categories prior to injury ... Named Big South Player of the Week March 26 after going 7-for-16 with two HR, nine RBIs in four game stretch ... Second Team VaSID in 2011.

FIRST TEAM - Ian Parmley, Liberty, Senior

AVG	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	SLG%	BB	HBP	SO	OB%	SB-A	FLD%
.312	250	66	78	10	2	0	26	.368	36	5	30	.405	30-34	.991

Notes: 2012 Big South All-Conference first team, tied for the Big South lead in runs scored and stolen bases, also ranked fifth in hits and second in walks, his 66 runs scored are the second most in a single season by a Liberty player, finished his career with 57 stolen bases to place him sixth on Liberty's all-time stolen base list

SECOND TEAM - Derek Fisher, Virginia, Freshman

AVG	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	SLG%	BB	HBP	SO	OB%	SB-A	FLD%
.288	219	44	63	11	8	7	50	.507	22	10	61	.375	4-9	.939

Notes: 2012 Louisville Slugger Freshman All-American, 2012 NCBWA Freshman All-American ... tied school single-season record with eight triples ... led team with seven home runs.

SECOND TEAM - Tyler Horan, Virginia Tech, R-Sophomore

AVG	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	SLG%	BB	HBP	SO	OB%	SB-A	FLD%
.282	188	45	53	8	2	15	41	.585	27	12	46	.400	7-9	.974

Notes: Led the Hokies in runs scored, RBI, home runs, slugging, hit-by-pitch and multi-RBI games (13) and was second in total bases, walks, on-base percentage and stolen bases ... Also had three outfield assists.

SECOND TEAM - Robby Newman, Longwood, Senior

AVG	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	SLG%	BB	HBP	SO	OB%	SB-A	FLD%
.331	175	41	58	17	1	13	47	.663	25	1	48	.412	7-8	.953

Notes: Led team in games (55), starts (55), slugging percentage, home runs, doubles, RBI, runs, and total bases (116) ... second on team in at bats, hits, walks, steals, and total plate appearances (208) ... third on team in batting average, and on base percentage.

DESIGNATED HITTER**FIRST TEAM - Zack Helgeson, George Mason, Senior**

AVG	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	SLG%	BB	HBP	SO	OB%	SB-A	FLD%
.295	200	38	59	17	0	15	51	.605	38	13	55	.438	1-1	1.000

Notes: Tabbed to the All-CAA Third Team ... also named to the CAA All-Tournament team after belting three home runs and accounting for over half of Masons' runs (8 of 15) in two games of the tourney ... was one of just two Patriots to start all 57 games ... led the team in slugging percentage (.605), on-base percentage (.438), RBI's (51), doubles (17), home runs (15), total bases (121) and walks (38), second in runs scored (38), third in hits (59), and fourth in batting average (.295).

SECOND TEAM - George Piccirilli, VMI, Senior

AVG	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	SLG%	BB	HBP	SO	OB%	SB-A	FLD%
.303	188	30	57	14	0	5	23	.457	21	7	34	.390	3-3	.985

Notes: Tied for the team lead in doubles with 14, ranked 10th in the Big South...hit .342 during 10-game hitting streak that ran from 2/24 until 3/11...went on to hit safely in 13 of his next 14 games after that point, helping his average reach a season-high .352...homed in back to back games for the first time March 24-25...posted season-best three RBI April 6 against Winthrop...had yet another hitting streak, this one six games, April 20-April 27...went 2 for 5 with two RBI in season-ending win at VCU.

UTILITY**FIRST TEAM - Jacob Mayers, Richmond, Junior**

AVG	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	SLG%	BB	HBP	SO	OB%	SB-A	FLD%
.339	186	38	63	16	0	10	48	.586	20	4	28	.408	3-3	.975
ERA	W-L	G/GS	CG	SHO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	B/avg.	WP	HP
4.43	6-3	13/13	1	0/1	0	83.1	70	47	41	32	82	.229	4	8

Notes: First-Team All-Atlantic 10 ... Atlantic 10 All-Tournament Team ... Second in A-10 in slugging ... 5th in RBI, tied for second in home runs, and 10th in batting average ... Friday starter for Spiders, led team with 82 strikeouts in 83.1 innings pitched.

SECOND TEAM - Jake Atwell, Virginia Tech, Senior

AVG	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	SLG%	BB	HBP	SO	OB%	SB-A	FLD%
.414	99	26	41	5	4	4	19	.667	13	2	15	.483	6-7	1.000
ERA	W-L	G/GS	CG	SHO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	B/avg.	WP	HP
2.45	0-1	10/0	0	0/0	1	7.1	9	2	2	4	5	.300	2	0

Notes: Due to broken wrist (throwing hand) was limited on the mound (8 fewer games, 13 fewer IP) and missed 28 games at the plate ... At time of injury was leading the ACC in on-base percentage and second in average ... Returned for final ACC series at UNC collecting six of the team's 14 hits in the series.

- MORE -

- CONTINUED -

STARTING PITCHERS**FIRST TEAM - Eddie Butler, Radford, Junior**

ERA	W-L	G/GS	CG	SHO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	B/avg.	WP	HP
2.20	7-4	14/14	3	2	0	98.0	78	29	24	23	95	.217	10	4

Notes: Named Big South Conference co-Pitcher of the Year ... First Radford player to earn award ... Led Big South in strikeouts and opponent average ... Struck out eight or more batters six times, and had 10 strikeouts in three starts ... Tossed two shutouts in a span of three starts in April, and three complete games in four April starts ... Went five or more innings in every start and worked into the eighth inning or longer in seven starts ... Second among league starters in ERA ... Supplemental 1st Round selection (46th overall) of Colorado Rockies in MLB Draft ... Highest Virginia MLB Draft selection in 2012.

FIRST TEAM - Matt Davenport, William and Mary, Senior

ERA	W-L	G/GS	CG	SHO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	B/avg.	WP	HP
1.73	7-5	17/14	6	2/0	0	109.1	82	32	21	16	90	.210	5	12

Notes: Drafted by the Detroit Tigers in the 34th-round of the 2012 MLB draft ... 2012 CAA Pitcher of the Year ... 2012 All-CAA First-Team Selection ... Finished the year with a record of 7-5 and an ERA of 1.73 ... Was named the CAA Pitcher of the Week twice (March 19 and May 21) ... Pitched six or more innings in 13-of-14 starts ... Earned CAA Co-Pitcher of the Week distinction after striking out a career-high 12 batters in a complete-game five hit shutout victory over Hofstra (May 18) ... Garnered CAA Pitcher of the Week honors after his complete-game, two-hit and eight strikeout performance in the 5-0 victory at James Madison (March 16) ... Ranked first in the CAA in ERA, opposition batting average, innings pitched and strikeouts ... Lowest season ERA by any W&M pitcher.

FIRST TEAM - John Niggli, Liberty, Senior

ERA	W-L	G/GS	CG	SHO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	B/avg.	WP	HP
2.17	9-4	16-15	2	1/3	1	103.2	103	28	25	30	68	.269	9	6

Notes: 2012 Big South All-Conference first team, led the Big South in inning pitched, was second in the conference in wins and fourth in ERA, named Big South Pitcher of the Week three times during the season (2/19, 3/4 & 4/5), his 2.86 career ERA is the lowest in Liberty history by a pitcher with 100 or more IP.

SECOND TEAM - Chris Horne, NSU, Junior

ERA	W-L	G/GS	CG	SHO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	B/avg.	WP	HP
2.75	7-5	18/7	2	0	1	78.2	81	27	24	24	70	.266	3	2

Notes: Ranked 4th in the MEAC in strikeouts and 5th in ERA ... earned the victory in NSU wins over William & Mary and ODU and in the MEAC Tournament vs. North Carolina A&T ... allowed just 1 ER in 7 IP at Maryland.

SECOND TEAM - Branden Kline, Virginia, Junior

ERA	W-L	G/GS	CG	SHO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	B/avg.	WP	HP
3.56	7-3	16/16	1	0	0	93.2	85	51	37	43	94	.241	7	8

Notes: Second-Team All-ACC ... named ACC Pitcher of the Week on March 25 after complete game against Clemson ... second-round draft pick of Baltimore Orioles (65th overall) ... seventh in ACC in innings, fifth in strikeouts.

SECOND TEAM - Zak Sterling, Richmond, Freshman

ERA	W-L	G/GS	CG	SHO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	B/avg.	WP	HP
2.57	7-1	13/11	1	1/2	0	77.0	49	23	22	30	59	.181	12	5

Notes: Atlantic 10 Rookie of the Year ... Atlantic 10 All-Tournament Team ... Atlantic 10 All-Rookie Team selection ... Led the A-10 in batting average against and fewest hits allowed ... Tied for second in runs allowed, seventh in ERA.

RELIEF PITCHERS**FIRST TEAM - Chris O'Grady, George Mason, R-Junior**

ERA	W-L	G/GS	CG	SHO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	B/avg.	WP	HP
1.22	2-0	25/0	0	0	14	37.0	20	6	5	20	51	.163	4	3

Notes: Served as the top closer for the Patriots ... earned First Team All-CAA Honors ... was tabbed to the NCBWA Dick Howser Trophy and Stopper of the Year semifinalist lists ... tied a school single-season record with 14 saves ... threw 37.0 innings of relief over 25 appearances ... led the team with a 1.22 ERA and .163 opposing batting average ... finished second on the team with 51 strikeouts.

FIRST TEAM - Justin Thompson, Virginia, Senior

ERA	W-L	G/GS	CG	SHO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	B/avg.	WP	HP
2.27	4-3	34/0	0	0	12	39.2	34	12	10	14	37	.245	0	2

Notes: Second-Team All-ACC ... named to midseason watch list for Stopper of the Year ... third in ACC with 12 saves, including nine in conference play ... made 34 appearances (second most in program history).

SECOND TEAM - Shane Halley, Virginia, Senior

ERA	W-L	G/GS	CG	SHO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	B/avg.	WP	HP
2.15	9-2	22/3	0	0	0	50.1	32	14	12	19	46	.183	1	3

Notes: 20th round draft pick of Kansas City Royals (613 overall) ... went 6-0 with 1.48 ERA in ACC play.

SECOND TEAM - Blake Hauser, VCU, Junior

ERA	W-L	G/GS	CG	SHO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	B/avg.	WP	HP
3.03	5-2	30/0	0	0/2	10	35.2	17	13	12	28	66	.136	11	3