

BROOKS WALLACE AWARD WATCH LIST HIGHLIGHTS POWER AS WELL AS FIELDING PROWESS

LUBBOCK, Texas – A group of 101 of the most talented shortstops in Division I college baseball headline the initial 2023 Brooks Wallace Award watch list, the College Baseball Foundation announced Tuesday.

“We are seeing some defensive-minded shortstops this year, with many of the kids without an error or very few errors as we sift through the candidates for this year’s Brooks Wallace Shortstop of the Year Award,” said Larry Wallace, co-chair of the award. “Of course, big offensive numbers are again a part of this class as is evident by the power numbers we are seeing.”

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 Florida junior and three-year starter Josh Rivera, who leads the watch list with 13 home runs and 46 RBIs while hitting .398 and fielding at a .973 clip. His home run total is tied with Bryce Arnold from Campbell, who is hitting .351 with 40 RBIs and a .941 fielding percentage, and his 46 RBIs are tied with Brice Matthews from Nebraska, who is hitting .396 on the year with 10 home runs and has a .894 fielding percentage.

The 2023 watch list features five players who were semifinalists for the award a year ago, including Jacob Wilson, a potential Top 10 pick in the June Major League Baseball pro draft. The Grand Canyon shortstop is hitting .468 with a pair of home runs and 38 RBIs while compiling a .963 fielding percentage.

Others on the list who were semifinalists a year ago are Kevin Dubrule from Army, Pascanel Ferraras from Western Carolina, Jacob Gonzalez from defending national champion Ole Miss and Griff O’Ferrall from Virginia.

Ty Hill from Jackson State is second behind Wilson in batting average at .429 while three players are near perfect in fielding percentage – Trevor Austin from Mercer (.993), Grant Smith from Kentucky (.992) and Kaster Furr from New Orleans (.992).

“With so many options to watch and keep up with NCAA baseball and the players, we’re actually watching some of the best baseball players in many, many years,” said Tom Quigley, Brooks Wallace Award co-chair. “Games are now on ESPN and local TV. Shortstop has been redefined and they are hitting with power and high average. Fielding and defense are extremely strong as well. It’s going to be tough as we narrow the choices the upcoming rounds.”

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

2023 BROOKS WALLACE AWARD WATCH LIST

Name	School	Conference	Class
Wehina Aloy	Sacramento State	American	Freshman
Kohl Abrams	UNC-Ashville	Big South	Junior
Bryce Arnold	Campbell	Big South	Junior
Trevor Austin	Mercer	Southern	RS-Senior
Colton Becker	Morehead State	Ohio Valley	Junior
Joey Berini	East Carolina	American	Junior
Ryan Black	UT- Arlington	American	Freshman
Andy Blake	Columbia	Ivy League	Senior
Chase Bloomer	Siu-Edwardsville	Ohio Valley	Freshman
Alex Bouche	Old Dominion	Sun Belt	Freshman
Kolby Branch	Baylor	Big 12	Freshman

Peter Brookshaw	North Dakota State	Summit	Senior
Marcus Brown	Oklahoma State	Big 12	Junior
Zach Budzig	UNC-Greensboro	Southern	Junior
Ali Camarillo	Cal-State Northridge	Big West	Sophomore
Jordan Carrion	Florida State	ACC	Junior
CJ Castillo	Texas Southern	SWAC	Junior
Cam Clayton	Washington	Pac-12	Sophomore
Nolan Clifford	Creighton	Big East	Junior
Owen Cobb	Stanford	Pac-12	Senior
Drew Cowley	Oregon	Pac-12	Senior
Mario Demera	San Francisco	West Coast	Junior
Austin Denlinger	Monmouth	Colonial	Grad
Randal Diaz	Indiana State	Missouri Valley	Sophomore
Dustin Dickerson	Southern Miss	Sun Belt	Junior
Kevin Dubrule	Army	Patriot	Senior
Jack Dragum	Charlotte	Conference USA	Senior
Blake Evans	Georgia Southern	Sun Belt	Senior
Pascanel Ferraras	Western Carolina	Southern	Junior
Noah Fisher	Northern Kentucky	Horizon	Grad
Cole Foster	Auburn	SEC	Junior
JJ Freeman	Delaware	Colonial	RS-Senior
Kaster Furr	New Orleans	Southland	Junior
Jon Jon Gazdar	Austin Peay	Atlantic Sun	Sophomore
Phillip Glasser	Indiana	Big Ten	Grad
Jacob Gonzalez	Ole Miss	SEC	Junior
Nick Goodwin	Kansas State	Big 12	Junior
Clay Grady	Virginia Tech	ACC	Freshman
Payton Green	North Carolina State	ACC	Sophomore
Hunter Haas	Texas A&M	SEC	Junior
Luke Heefner	Dallas Baptist	Conference USA	Sophomore
Troy Hamilton	USC-Upstate	Big South	RS-Junior
Dakota Harris	Oklahoma	Big 12	Junior
Jay Harry	Penn State	Big Ten	Junior
Luka Hill	Arizona State	Pac-12	Sophomore
Ty Hill	Jackson State	SWAC	Grad
Taylor Hopkins	Eastern Michigan	Mid-American	RS-Junior
Jim Jarvus	Alabama	SEC	Senior
Cody Jefferis	Michigan	Big Ten	Grad
Justin Johnson	Wake Forest	ACC	RS-Junior
Mikey Kane	Oregon State	Pac-12	Sophomore
Matt King	UTSA	Conference USA	Sophomore
Christian Knapczyk	Louisville	ACC	Junior
Josh Kuroda-Grauer	Rutgers	Big Ten	Sophomore
Josh Leslie	McNeese State	Southland	Senior
Alex Lodise	North Florida	Atlantic Sun	Freshman
Tracer Lopez	Texas Tech	Big 12	Freshman
Noah Lucier	Fairfield	Metro Atlantic	Grad
Chase Malloy	Jacksonville	Atlantic Sun	Senior
Brice Matthews	Nebraska	Big Ten	Junior
Jacob McCaskey	Gardner-Webb	Big South	Senior
Mik McClaughry	Arizona	Pac-12	Senior
Mac McCroskey	Oral Roberts	Summit	RS-Senior
Kyler McIntosh	Alabama State	SWAC	Sophomore
Micheal McNamara	Kent State	Mid-American	Junior
Alex Mooney	Duke	ACC	Sophomore
Sam Mongelli	Sacred Heart	Northeast	Senior

Zac Morris	VMI	Southern	Grad
Jake Mummau	Florida Gulf Coast	Atlantic Sun	Sophomore
Paul Myro	UNLV	Mountain West	Junior
Griff O'Ferrall	Virginia	ACC	Sophomore
Bryan Padilla	Connecticut	Big East	RS-Sophomore
Crew Parke	Abilene Christian	American	Junior
John Peck	Pepperdine	West Coast	Junior
Dominic Pitelli	Miami	ACC	Junior
Davis Powell	Texas State	Sun Belt	Junior
Drew Reckart	Western Kentucky	Conference USA	Grad
Sawyer Reeves	The Citadel	Southern	Junior
Jack Renwick	Wofford	Southern	Junior
Jake Rainess	Maine	American East	RS-Junior
Josh Rivera	Florida	SEC	Junior
Nick Rodriguez	Missouri Sate	Missouri Valley	Sophomore
Kaeber Rog	Southern Illinois	Missouri Valley	Senior
Matt Ruiz	Georgia State	Sun Belt	Junior
Simon Scherry	Evansville	Missouri Valley	Junior
Michael Seegers	Iowa	Big Ten	Junior
Matt Shaw	Maryland	Big Ten	Junior
Anthony Silva	TCU	Big 12	Freshman
Grant Smith	Kentucky	SEC	Senior
Eric Snow	South Florida	American	Freshman
John Taylor	Louisiana	Sun Belt	Junior
Adam Tellier	Ball State	Mid-American	Senior
Jordan Thompson	LSU	SEC	Junior
Tevin Tucker	West Virginia	Big 12	RS-Senior
Jonathan Vastine	Vanderbilt	SEC	Sophomore
Max Viera	Seton Hall	Big East	Junior
Jeron Williams	Toledo	Mid-American	Junior
Colby Wilkerson	North Carolina	ACC	Junior
Jacob Wilson	Grand Canyon	WAC	Junior
Braylen Wimmer	South Carolina	SEC	Senior
Kade York	UTRGV	American	Junior