Baseball Press Releases February 2008

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Three Terriers Named To Preseason All-SoCon Baseball Team

SPARTANBURG, SC – Wofford College had three players named to the Preseason All-Southern Conference Baseball announced on Tuesday. In addition, the defending SoCon Tournament Champion Terriers were selected to finish eighth in the Preseason Coaches Poll. The Terriers had three players honored by the conference’s coaches. Named to the first team shortstop was Michael Gilmartin, while pitcher Ben Austin and second baseman Shane Kirkley were named to the second team.

Gilmartin, a sophomore from Moorpark, California, was named All-SoCon second team and All-Tournament Team in 2007. He hit .322 on the season and is the team’s returning leader in runs and hits. In addition, Gilmartin was the ‘Terriers’ top closer, posting eight saves with a 4.11 ERA.

Austin, a senior from Chapel Hill, N.C., posted an 11-6 record last season as a starter for the Terriers. In 107.2 innings pitched, he had a team-high 96 strikeouts and a 4.35 ERA. He held opponents to a .264 batting average. Austin was named to the 2007 Southern Conference All-Tournament Team.

Kirkley, a senior from Lugoff, S.C., is the team’s returning leader in at-bats, home runs, RBIs and total bases. He posted a .323 batting average in 2007 and was third in the conference with 16 home runs. He was second on the team in homers and was third on the team with 80 hits.

College of Charleston, 2007 Southern Conference regular-season co-champion, is the favorite to win the 2008 crown according to a vote of the league’s coaches. The Cougars
picked up five of a possible 10 first place votes and finished with a total of 86 votes. Western Carolina, which tied College of Charleston for the regular-season title last season, gets the nod for second place after earning three first-place votes and 77 total votes. Elon received 68 total votes for fourth place. The Citadel edged Appalachian State, 55-54, for fifth and sixth places, respectively, with UNC Greensboro close behind with 51 votes. Defending tournament champion Wofford is picked for eighth place with 33 votes followed by Furman (27 votes) and Davidson (19 votes). Western Carolina had a total of six players (three first-team and three second-team) named to the preseason All-Southern Conference team. Appalachian State had four players honored (three first-team and one second-team) while The Citadel (one first-team and two second-team), Georgia Southern (one first-team and two second-team) and Wofford (one first-team and two second-team) had three players each earned preseason recognition. College of Charleston (one first-team and one second-team) and Elon (one first-team and one second-team) landed two players apiece on the all-conference team while UNC Greensboro had one player named to the first-team all-league squad. The Terriers will begin the 2008 season on Friday, February 22 when the Terriers host St. Peters in a doubleheader at 4:00 pm. 

**Southern Conference Preseason Coaches Baseball Poll**

1. College of Charleston (5) 86
2. Western Carolina (3) 77
3. Georgia Southern (2) 70
4. Elon 68
5. The Citadel 55
6. Appalachian State 54
7. UNC Greensboro 51
8. Wofford 33
9. Furman 27
10. Davidson 19

First place votes in parenthesis. Coaches were not permitted to vote for their own team. 

**First Team**

Catcher- Blake Murphy (WCU)
First Base- Jeremiah Parker (GSU)
Second Base- Tim Carrier (UNCG)
Shortstop- Michael Gilmartin (WOF)
Third Base- Isaac Harrow (ASU)
Outfield- Michael Harrington (COFC)
Outfield- Chris Swauger (CIT)
Outfield- Barrett Shaft (WCU)
Designated Hitter- Andrew Franco (ASU)
Pitcher- Drew Saberhagen (WCU)
Pitcher- Steven Hensley (Elon)
Relief Pitcher- Garrett Sherrill (ASU)

**Second Team**

Catcher- Richard Jones (CIT)
First Base- Michael Kohn (COFC)
Second Base- Shane Kirkley (WOF)
Shortstop- Jason Altenhof (ASU)
Third Base- Nick Liles (WCU)
Third Base- Nick Liles (WCU)
Outfield- Sonny Meade (CIT)
Outfield- Chris Shehan (GSU)
Outfield- Pat Irvine (Elon)
Designated Hitter- Kyle Blackburn (GSU)
Pitcher- Ben Austin (WOF)
Pitcher- Tyler Sexton (WCU)
Relief Pitcher- Chris Masters (WCU)
The Terriers will host baseball season opener against SPARTANBURG

Friday, February 22, 2008

Baseball Season Opener Postponed

SPARTANBURG, SC – Due to the continuing rain in the forecast for Friday, the Wofford baseball season opener against St. Peters scheduled for 4:00 pm has been postponed.

The Terriers will host St. Peters for a doubleheader on Saturday at 1:00 pm.
Tuesday, February 26, 2008
Wofford Baseball Defeats USC Upstate 10-8

SPARTANBURG, SC – In a battle of cross-town teams, Wofford defeated USC Upstate 10-8 on Tuesday night at T.C. Roberson. The Spartans scored eight runs in the sixth inning to take an 8-5 lead, but the Terriers fought back and scored three runs in the bottom of the eighth to get the win.

Wofford opened the game with three runs in the first inning, then added a solo home run by Shane Kirkley in the third to go up 4-0. In the fifth inning, Michael Gilmartin led off with a single and was driven in by Mo Seay two batters later.

In the sixth inning, the Spartans took advantage of three errors by the Terriers. Phillip Morgan hit a home run to drive in three runs and Kyle Simpson added a three-run blast as USC Upstate sent twelve batters to the plate in the inning.

The Terriers began to cut into the 8-5 lead in the bottom of the sixth when Jake Williams drove in Adam Kearney. In the seventh, Mo Seay hit a solo shot over the centerfield wall. In the bottom of the eighth with two out, Michael Gilmartin singled, which was followed by a double by Shane Kirkley. With two on, Mo Seay hit his second homerun of the night to centerfield to give the Terriers a 10-8 lead. Michael Gilmartin came in at the top of the ninth to close the game for Wofford and faced four batters with one strikeout to get the save.

Wofford started Tom Dolinak, who went 5.1 innings with three strikeouts. Pete Noordsy went 1.2 innings with one strikeout and Drew Sheridan went 1.0 innings and picked up his first career win. Michael Gilmartin allowed one hit for the save.

The Spartans started Phillip Myers, who went 4.0 innings with three strikeouts and four runs on five hits. A.J. Clark played 3.0 innings with three strikeouts, while Dennis McCraney had
the loss allowing two runs in 0.2 innings. Justin Hayes had one strikeout and allowed one hit in 0.1 innings of work.
The Terriers will begin a four-game series with Albany on Friday at 4:00 pm at Russell King Field. The teams will play two games on Saturday beginning at 1:00 pm and will wrap up the series with a single game on Sunday at 1:00 pm.
Friday, February 29, 2008

Wofford Baseball Picks Up 12-5 Win Over Albany

SPARTANBURG, SC – The Wofford College baseball team defeated Albany 12-5 on Friday night at Russell C. King Field. The Terriers scored seven runs in the fifth inning and pitcher Ben Austin recorded nine strikeouts as Wofford improves to 4-0 on the season.

The Great Danes took an early lead when David West was driven in by Mike Konstanty in the top of the first. The Terriers responded in the same inning when Mo Seay hit a two-run sacrifice fly by Jake Williams.

With Wofford at bat in the seventh, Michael Gilmartin flied out to centerfield, scoring Jake Williams. Sterling Dye scored on a double by Shane Kirkley to give the Terriers a 10-4 lead.

In the top of the eighth, Gary Pitcheralle scored from third on a balk for the final run of the game. With Wofford starter Ben Austin improved to 2-0 on the season. He went six innings and posted
nine strikeouts, which tied a single-game high set last season against Davidson. Dawson Smith, Jordan Mickleberry and Chip Hunt each went an inning for the Terriers.

The Great Danes started Casey Welsh, who is 0-2 on the season and struck out four batters. Also seeing time on the mound for Albany were Matthew Herrick, Dave Kubiak, Hunter Moffatt and Aaron Tilley.

For Wofford, Emre Caglayan had three hits, while Jake Williams and Sterling Dye each had three RBIs. Zac Halloran had hits in all three at-bats for Albany and Mike Konstanty had two RBIs.

The Terriers will continue the four-game series with Albany with a doubleheader on Saturday beginning at 1:00 pm. The series will wrap up with a single game on Sunday at 1:00 pm.