



ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY

**For Immediate Release**

**April 27, 2001**

## **CASEY MYERS NAMED SEMIFINALIST FOR DICK HOWSER TROPHY**

*Sun Devil senior catcher is hitting .421 and only three hits from 300 in his career.*

**TEMPE, Ariz.** -- Arizona State senior All-American catcher Casey Myers has been named a semifinalist for the Dick Howser Trophy as the National Collegiate Baseball Writers Association National Player of the Year Award.

Myers is enjoying a banner senior season with a .421 batting average, 54 RBI and six home runs while starting all 43 of ASU's games this year. Leading the Devils to a 28-14-1 record and a consistent Top 20 ranking, Myers is nearing the end of a career that has ranked him as one of the best players to ever wear the Maroon and Gold. With a .389 career batting average he currently ranks fourth in school history and is now just three hits short of becoming only the third Sun Devil in history to reach 300 in a career. With 260 RBI in his illustrious career, he is now just 23 short of matching the school and Pac-10 career records set by former Sun Devil Andrew Beinbrink (1996-1999).

The Case Grande native was the 2000 Academic All-American of the Year in 2000 and is just a week away from receiving his diploma with a near 4.0 GPA in mathematics and accounting. He was the 2000 Pac-10 Player of the Year and is making a run at a repeat of that award with the third best batting average in the league.

Twenty collegiate standouts were named as the semifinalists for the 2001 Dick Howser Trophy. The award is presented by the National Collegiate Baseball Writers Association, in conjunction with the St. Petersburg (Fla.) Chamber of Commerce and goes to the top college baseball player. Voting on the award is done by the more than 200-person membership of the NCBWA. Past winners of the award include current Major Leaguers Todd Helton (1995), Kris Benson (1996), Jason Varitek (1993), Robin Ventura (1988) and J.D. Drew (1997).

### 2001 DICK HOWSER TROPHY SEMIFINALISTS

Jeff Baker, 3B, Clemson  
Brian Baron, OF, UCLA  
Kenny Baugh, P, Rice  
Dewon Brazelton, P, Middle Tennessee  
Jeff Bruksch, P, Stanford  
Chris Burke, SS, Tennessee  
Frank Corr, OF, Stetson  
Nate Fernley, P, Brigham Young  
Jake Gautreau, 3B, Tulane  
John-Ford Griffin, OF, Florida State  
Aaron Heilman, P, Notre Dame  
Dan Johnson, 1B, Nebraska  
Richard Lewis, 2B, Georgia Tech  
Casey Myers, C, Arizona State  
Mark Prior, P, Southern California  
Kirk Saarloos, P, Cal State Fullerton  
Kelly Shoppach, C, Baylor  
Cory Sullivan, OF, Wake Forest  
Daniel Uggl, 2B, Memphis  
John Vanbenschoten, DH/ATH, Kent State

**--Sun Devil Baseball--**

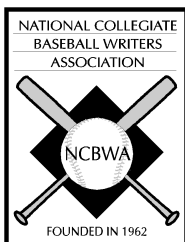


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## **NATIONAL COLLEGIATE BASEBALL WRITERS ASSOCIATION**

April 26, 2001

### ***DICK HOWSER TROPHY SEMIFINALISTS NAMED***

CHICAGO- Twenty collegiate standouts were named as the semifinalists for the 2001 Dick Howser Trophy, it was announced today. The award is presented by the National Collegiate Baseball Writers Association, in conjunction with the St. Petersburg (Fla.) Chamber of Commerce and goes to the top college baseball player. Voting on the award is done by the more than 200-person membership of the NCBWA.

The Dick Howser Trophy, given in memory of the former Florida State University All-America shortstop and major league player and manager who died of brain cancer in 1987, is regarded by many as college baseball's most prestigious award. Criteria for consideration for the trophy include performance on the field, leadership, moral character and courage, qualities that were exemplified by Dick Howser's life.

A Florida native, Howser was twice an All-America shortstop at Florida State University (1957-58), then coached the Seminoles in 1979 after a career as a major league player and coach. After one year in the college ranks, Howser returned to the majors to manage the New York Yankees and Kansas City Royals and won the World Series with the Royals in 1985.

The winner's name is inscribed on the permanent trophy, a bronze bust of Howser permanently displayed at Tropicana Field in St. Petersburg, home of the Tampa Bay Devil Rays and the 1999 NCAA Men's Basketball Final Four. Both the winner and his school receive a special trophy to keep.

The St. Petersburg Area Chamber of Commerce recently celebrated its 100th birthday in 1999. The organization has long been a vital force in the baseball affairs of the city, both in spring training and during the pursuit of a major league baseball franchise for the Tampa Bay area, and continues its solid role in the 21st Century.

The Howser Trophy was created in 1987, shortly after Howser's death. 1987-98 winners were selected by the American Baseball Coaches Association. Previous winners of the Howser Trophy are Mike Fiore, Miami, 1987; Robin Ventura, Oklahoma State, 1988; Scott Bryant, Texas, 1989; Alex Fernandez, Miami-Dade Community College South, 1990; Frank Rodriguez, Howard College (Texas), 1991; Brooks Kieschnick, Texas, 1992 and 1993; Jason Varitek, Georgia Tech, 1994; Todd Helton, Tennessee, 1995; Kris Benson, Clemson, 1996; J. D. Drew, Florida State, 1997; Eddy Furniss, LSU, 1998; Jason Jennings, Baylor, 1999 and Mark Teixera, Georgia Tech.

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