



NATIONAL COLLEGIATE BASEBALL WRITERS ASSOCIATION

(April 8, 2018)

NCBWA NAMES NATIONAL PLAYER, PITCHER OF THE MONTH; EKU's HOLDERBACH, GEORGIA TECH'S THOMAS HONORED

ARLINGTON, Texas -- Eastern Kentucky catcher Alex Holderbach has been named National Player of the Month and Georgia Tech starter Connor Thomas has been tabbed National Pitcher of the Month, as the National Collegiate Baseball Writers Association announced its award winners for April.

A native of Fairfield, Ohio, Holderbach had a prolific April at the plate for Eastern Kentucky. Holderbach hit .449 (31-for-69) with 10 homers and 36 RBI in 17 games, owning six doubles and a triple. He finished the month with a 1.542 OPS, drawing 12 walks and striking out just eight times. A utility his first two years, dynamo before shifting to a full-time role behind the plate in 2018, Holderbach has hit .384 (71-for-185) with 10 doubles, two triples, 17 homers and 71 RBI in 2018.

Thomas, a native of Omega, Ga., dominated on the bump for Georgia Tech during April, posting a 1.41 ERA in four starts, with a 2-0 mark. Thomas worked 32 innings, allowing only 22 hits and four walks, striking out 43 while holding opponents to a .195 average. He tossed two complete games in April and fanned 17 in a win over Wake Forrest. A 5-foot-11, 156-pound southpaw, Thomas is 5-3 with a 3.04 ERA in 13 games in 2018. He has a save in 80 innings, allowing just eight walks and striking out 93.

Founded in 1962, the NCBWA is dedicated to the advancement of college baseball. Membership is open to writers, broadcasters and publicists of the sport. For more information about the NCBWA, visit the association's official Web site, www.ncbwa.com. For more information, contact NCBWA Executive Associate Director Mike Montoro (304-293-2821, mike.montoro@mail.wvu.edu).

2018 WINNERS:

Player of the Month – Feb. - N.C. State's Brett Kinneman. March – Clemson's Seth Beer. April – Eastern Kentucky's Alex Holderbach.

Pitcher of the Month – Feb. – Ole Miss' Brady Feigl. March – Auburn's Casey Mize. April – Georgia Tech's Connor Thomas.

Transactions – NCBWA named Eastern Kentucky's Alex Holderbach National Player of the Month and Georgia Tech starter Connor Thomas National Pitcher of the Month.

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