

n 2012, for the second straight year—and the third time in the past five seasons—Dallas Baptist Baseball received an at-large bid to the NCAA Division I Baseball Tournament.

Competing as an independent without a conference affiliation, the Patriots were sent to the Waco Regional after posting a 39-17 regular season record and acquiring a Top 25 RPI in the nation. There, the Patriots squared off against UT-Arlington and Oral Roberts before falling to the host Baylor Bears in the championship round of the tournament.

"I'm glad and really fortunate to be in the program that we are in where we get to talk about things more important than baseball," explained DBU Head Coach Dan Heefner after the Waco Regional.

"We've got a perspective of winning that is a little different. I think these guys won in every sense of the word. They won on the field, but what they did off the field and in each other's lives is even more important. Nothing more I can say except they are winners," continued Heefner. "It was a pleasure coaching these guys this season. What they have done for our program, getting us to a regional final two years in a row for a small independent Christian school, is pretty magnificent."

The results of the tournament pushed their season win total to 41, one year after winning 42 games and advancing to the NCAA Super Regional Tournament by way of winning the NCAA Regional Tournament held in Fort Worth.

The Patriots opened the 2012 season with a three-game sweep of Southeast Missouri State at home before losing their next five ballgames, their longest losing streak as a program since 2010.

The team would rally, however, to win 38 of their final 52 games,

incorporating a season sweep of the University of Oklahoma, a win against TCU on the road in Fort Worth, and a three-game sweep of UT-Arlington, including the opening game at the Waco Regional.

Six Patriots were drafted as part of the Major League Baseball First-Year Player Draft, including Joel Hutter (Baltimore Orioles, 10th round); Stuart Pudenz (Oakland Athletics, 13th round); Austin Elkins (Houston Astros, 19th round); Jake Johansen (Pittsburg Pirates, 27th round); Taylor Massey (Oakland Athletics, 29th round); and Kenny Hatcher (Anaheim Angels, 36th round).

Hutter, a senior, and Boomer Collins, a junior, were recognized for their efforts during the season by being named to the National Collegiate Baseball Writers Association All-American Team.

Collins was also named to the ABCA All-American Team and was

joined by Hutter and Austin Elkins on the ABCA All-Midwest Region Team. Several Patriots were also named to the Waco Regional All-Tournament Team as Massey, Ryan Behmanesh, Ronnie Mitchell and Landon Anderson were all voted to the team by media outlets covering the tournament.

The 2013 season will be a season of change for Dallas Baptist as the team will join the Western Athletic Conference in baseball and play for an automatic berth to the NCAA Regional Tournament for the first time in school history.

The Patriots will also open 2013 in a new stadium as Patriot Field is being torn down and will be replaced by the state-of-the-art Dallas Baptist Ballpark, capable of hosting an NCAA Tournament should the opportunity arise.

"We are excited about our new conference and our new stadium," said Heefner, "as each will provide us with a new platform to glorify God through baseball. This past season was another benchmark year for our program and we look forward to the hard work and dedication it will take to continue our growth as a program representing Dallas Baptist University."



Many DBU students, faculty, staff, and alumni made the trip to Waco to support the Patriots while they competed in the Regional Tournament during the beginning of June.



SIX PLAYERS SELECTED IN MLB DRAFT

Senior Joel Hutter - Baltimore Orioles Junior Stuart Pudenz - Oakland Athletics Junior Austin Elkins - Houston Astros Redshirt Sophomore Jake Johansen - Pittsburgh Pirates Senior Taylor Massey - Oakland Athletics Senior Kenny Hatcher - Anaheim Angels

Southeast Missouri State Universit Southeast Missouri State Universit Oklahoma State University Rice University Rice University Rice University University of Texas San Antonio Texas A&M - Corpus Christi University of Texas Houston Baptist University Houston Baptist University University University Of Oklahoma UNC Charlotte	ity W 3-1 L 7-9 L 5-6 L 0-2 L 3-7 L 4-5 W 14-9 W 5-1 W 13-6 L 1-2 W 4-0 (DH) W 12-0, W 11-1 W 7-6 W 3-0	
UNC Charlotte UNC Charlotte University of Texas at Arlington Louisiana Tech University Louisiana Tech University Louisiana Tech University	W 6-4 W 8-3 Postponed L 1-2 W 7-3 W 11-3	
Sam Houston State University Missouri State University Missouri State University Missouri State University TCU	L 3-5 W 6-5 L 4-8 W 10-6 W 4-3	
Prairie View A&M University Prairie View A&M University Texas Tech University Southern Illinois University Southern Illinois University	(DH) W 11-0, W 7-0 W 11-4 L 1-7 W 11-8 W 12-8	
Southern Illinois University Texas Southern University Texas Southern University Indiana State University Indiana State University	W 11-6 W 11-5 W 10-4 W 15-2 L 3-6	
Indiana State University University of Oklahoma Wichita State University Wichita State University Wichita State University	L 5-7 W 8-2 L 3-13 L 7-8 W 4-1	
University of Texas at Arlington University of Texas at Arlington University of Evansville University of Evansville Texas Tech University	W 3-0 W 12-6 W 10-4 (DH) W 14-1, W 5-2 L 0-5	
Creighton University Creighton University Creighton University Oklahoma State University Bradley University	L 1-4 W 5-2 W 8-6 W 7-4 W 5-4	
Bradley University Bradley University University of Texas at Arlington* Oral Roberts University* Baylor University*	L 7-12 W 16-7 W 10-0 W 11-8 L 2-9	
Baylor University*	L 2-8 *denotes Regionals	

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