

FIRST TEAM

ROBERT FORTENBERRY P, WAKELAND, SR.

Fortenberry was one of the chief reasons why the Wolverines won a tightly contested 9-5A and advanced all the way to the Class 5A Region 2 championship series. Fortenberry, a first-team all-district selection, posted a 7-1 record with a miniscule 0.79 ERA. In 53 innings of work, he struck out 90 batters compared with only 20 walks and allowed only six earned runs and just 20 hits in that time.



DEVIN REYNA P, THE COLONY, SR.

Reyna and Scott proved to be one of the best one-two pitching duos in the area and their success on the mound helped catapult the Cougars to their first-ever district championship and appearance in the regional semifinals. Reyna did his best work in the postseason, allowing a total of two runs while striking out 20 in tossing three complete games. For the season, the 10-5A pitcher of the year went 8-1 with a 0.93 ERA and 86 strikeouts against just 15 walks.



BRADLEY CASTILLO C, COPPELL, JR.

On a team filled with several upper-classmen, Castillo provided a solid two-way presence for the Cowboys. In his first season on the varsity level, Castillo was named the 6-6A defensive player of the year after he committed just five errors in 256 total chances for a .980 fielding percentage. Offensively, he posted a .382 batting average with 26 RBIs and was amongst the team's best hitters with two outs.



CHAYTON KRAUSS IF, COPPELL, SR.

The MVP of 6-6A, Krauss took his game to the next level this season against the toughest competition while helping Coppel to go four rounds deep in the playoffs for the first time in five years. Krauss led the Cowboys in several offensive categories, including batting average (.383), RBIs (32), home runs (eight) and doubles (16). He also led a pitching rotation that was amongst the area's deepest, finishing with a record of 10-2, a 2.77 ERA, 61 strikeouts and allowed 26 earned runs in 65.2 innings.



TYLER COLLINS IF, MCKINNEY BOYD, SR.

A staple for the Broncos since he was a freshman, Collins led his team to a district championship and earned an all-district superlative for the third time in four years on varsity (the outlier coming during the pandemic-shortened 2020 season). Named 5-6A offensive player of the year, Collins hit .372 with a .482 on-base percentage — good for 35 hits (17 for extra bases), 13 RBIs and 25 runs scored. The Oklahoma State commit added 10 stolen bases.



CONNOR MCGINNIS IF, HEBRON, SR.

The Hawks caught fire down the stretch to qualify for the playoffs for the second consecutive post-season. McGinnis had plenty of say in Hebron's latest playoff-bound campaign, submitting one of the top years of any batter in a loaded 6-6A district. The Grayson County College commit hit .443 on the season, tallying 10 doubles, four home runs, 20 RBIs and 31 runs scored.



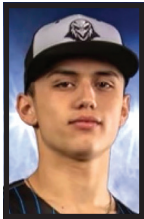
CADE MCGARRH IF, LIBERTY, JR.

McGarrh earned first-team all-district honors in 9-5A for his work at shortstop for the Redhawks, who finished second in the standings to return to the playoffs. McGarrh set the table from the leadoff spot, posting a .407 batting average with 22 hits in 54 at-bats during the district slate. He also had five doubles and one triple and ranked among the district leaders with 15 runs scored and 18 stolen bases.



BRENNER COX OF, ROCK HILL, JR.

An all-district first-team pick in the outfield, Cox impressed at the plate, in the field and on the mound during his junior campaign. Committed to Texas, Cox hit .355 on the year and totaled seven doubles, seven home runs, 30 RBIs, 35 runs and a whopping 20 stolen bases to help the Blue Hawks reach the regional quarterfinal round of the playoffs. Cox's pitching numbers included nine saves, a 0.91 ERA and 42 strikeouts.



JAKE DUER OF, MARCUS, JR.

The Marauders didn't lack for quality bats throughout a balanced lineup, and Duer's was as consistent as any during the team's district championship campaign. In 6-6A play alone, Duer hit .384 at the plate, scored 20 runs, knocked in 20 others, posted seven doubles and stole eight bases. Named 6-6A offensive player of the year, the outfielder and TCU commit was instrumental in Marcus' push to the regional semifinals.



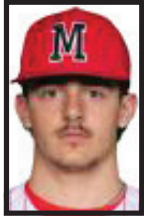
TRENT RUCKER OF, LOVEJOY, JR.

A multi-sport star for the Leopards, Rucker shined on the diamond plenty during a year where he earned all-district second-team honors in 10-5A. Rucker hit .383 at the plate and had a .429 on-base percentage, adding 46 hits, eight doubles one home run, 13 RBIs and 31 runs scored. Rucker was also a weapon on the base paths for the regional semifinalist Leopards with 18 stolen bases.



TYLER SCHOTT UTIL, MARCUS, SR.

Schott was named 6-6A pitcher of the year after helping steer the Marauders to a district championship and a spot in the regional semifinals. On the hill, the Dallas Baptist commit posted a 2.16 ERA in district play and the postseason — a mark that dipped to 1.31 against district opponents — to go along with 84 strikeouts and just 17 walks. At the plate, Schott set the table atop the Marcus batting order with a .355 average, 14 runs, 12 RBIs, six doubles and one triple over that same stretch.



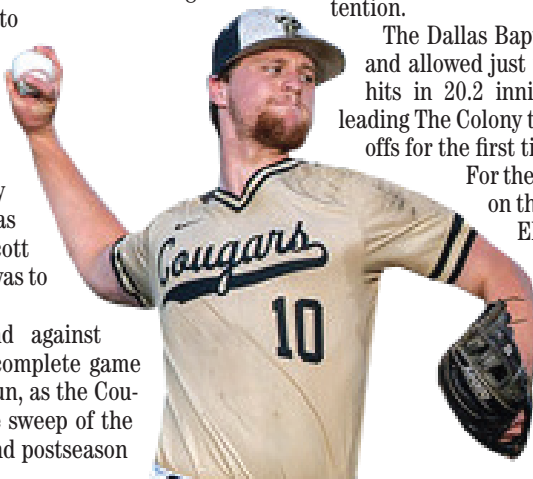
MOST VALUABLE PLAYER

RYAN SCOTT The Colony, Sr.

The Colony baseball team reached new heights in 2021 and Scott had a lot to do with it.

The District 10-5A co-MVP excelled in every role to pave the way for the first district championship in program history for the Cougars, but it was during the playoffs when Scott showed how invaluable he was to his team.

In the bi-district round against Lone Star, Scott tossed a complete game and hit a three-run home run, as the Cougars completed a two-game sweep of the Rangers for just their second postseason



series victory in program history.

Scott again brought a hot bat for The Colony in the area round, adding another three-run shot to his resume.

However, it was his pitching that got everyone's attention.

The Dallas Baptist signee had 30 strikeouts and allowed just three earned runs and eight hits in 20.2 innings in three playoff starts, leading The Colony to the third round of the playoffs for the first time in program history.

For the year, Scott went a perfect 4-0 on the mound with a dazzling 0.96 ERA and struck out 69 batters in 51 innings. Offensively, he finished with a .364 batting average, hit eight home runs, had 36 RBIs, stole 10 bases and scored 45 runs. Defensively, Scott didn't commit an error in 60 total chances.

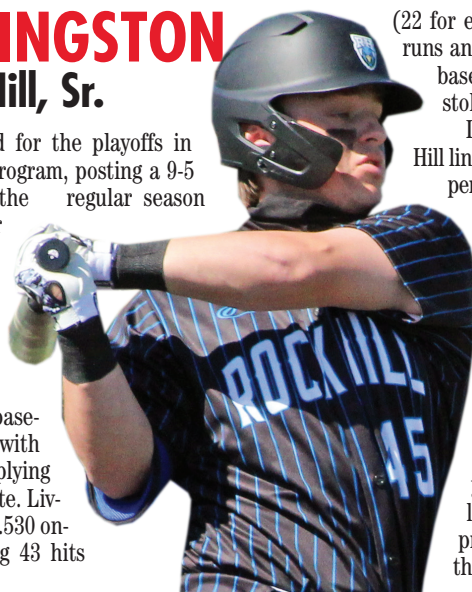


HITTER OF THE YEAR

JOSH LIVINGSTON Rock Hill, Sr.

The Blue Hawks qualified for the playoffs in their first year as a varsity program, posting a 9-5 record in 10-5A after closing the regular season strong by winning five of their final six games. One of the constants in Rock Hill's lineup resided in the No. 2 spot where Livingston set a torrid pace as one of the top hitters in the area.

The Blue Hawks' third baseman split 10-5A MVP honors with The Colony's Ryan Scott, supplying plenty of firepower at the plate. Livingston hit .441 and posted a .530 on-base percentage, also adding 43 hits



(22 for extra bases), 10 doubles, eight home runs and 33 RBIs. He was also active on the base paths with 38 runs scored and 10 stolen bases.

Livingston's production served the Rock Hill lineup well, as the team averaged 5.5 runs per game in district play.

It was enough to notch a third-place finish in the conference for the upstart program, and Livingston didn't take his foot off the gas once the postseason hit. In five playoff games, Livingston hit .467, drove in seven runs and scored three others.

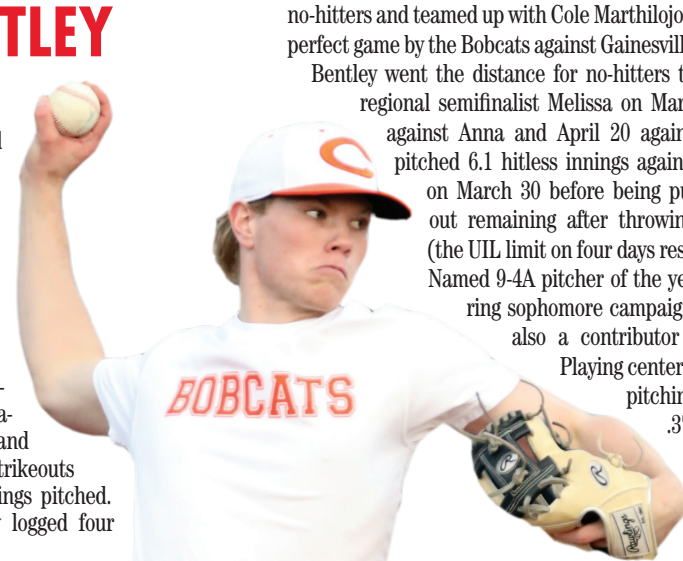
In total, Rock Hill advanced to the regional quarterfinals — a rarity for a program playing its first year of varsity ball. Having seniors like Livingston helped accelerate that process while laying groundwork for the next wave of Blue Hawks.

PITCHER OF THE YEAR

NOAH BENTLEY Celina, Soph.

Already verbally committed to Oklahoma, Bentley gave the Bobcats hope anytime he took the bump in 2021. One of two sophomore aces for Celina — RJ Ruais being the other — Bentley submitted one of the top pitching years in program history.

At the surface, the second-year hurler posted season-long tallies of a 1.19 ERA and a 0.866 WHIP, as well as 115 strikeouts and 28 walks across 64.2 innings pitched. Within those figures, Bentley logged four



no-hitters and teamed up with Cole Marthiljohni as part of a perfect game by the Bobcats against Gainesville on March 23.

Bentley went the distance for no-hitters thrown against regional semifinalist Melissa on March 16, April 5 against Anna and April 20 against Sanger. He pitched 6.1 hitless innings against Van Alstyne on March 30 before being pulled with one out remaining after throwing 108 pitches (the UIL limit on four days rest is 110).

Named 9-4A pitcher of the year after a stirring sophomore campaign, Bentley was also a contributor at the plate.

Playing center field when not pitching, Bentley hit .379 on the year for 36 hits, 32 RBIs and 21 runs.

NEWCOMER OF THE YEAR

BRETT FOSS Rock Hill, Jr.

Whereas the 2021 season marked new grounds for plenty within Rock Hill's lineup, the first-year program qualified for the playoffs and advanced three rounds deep.

The play of upstart performers like Foss were a large reason why.

Foss played first base and pitched for the Blue Hawks, making significant contributions in both areas. At the plate, he hit .350 as one of numerous potent bats in the Rock Hill lineup. Foss struck out just 13 times all season,



posting a .441 on-base percentage to go along with nine doubles, one home run and 27 RBIs. He stayed hot in the postseason with a .417 batting average.

On the bump, the right-hander amassed a 9-2 record and a 1.30 ERA, pitching 77.1 innings and tallying 52 strikeouts and just a 0.204 opposing batting average.

As Foss helped the Blue Hawks lay an impressive foundation for their first varsity campaign, the postseason accolades have come in droves.

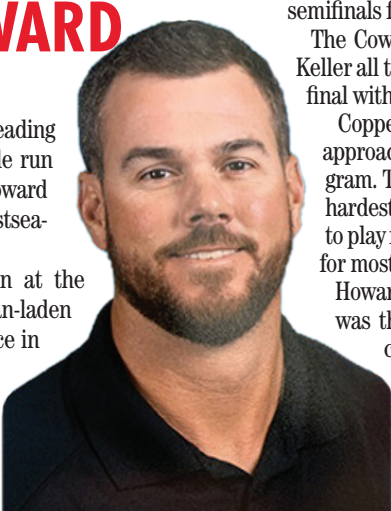
Foss was voted 10-5A newcomer of the year, named to the Texas High School Baseball Coaches Association all-state third team and picked as a Collegiate Baseball 2021 High School All-American second-teamer.

COACH OF THE YEAR

RYAN HOWARD Coppell

Two years removed from leading Lake Dallas to an improbable run to the regional semifinals, Howard brought that same type of postseason magic to Coppell.

In just his second season at the helm, Howard led a veteran-laden Cowboy squad to second place in the 6-6A standings and two-game sweeps of Denton Guyer, Jesuit and Prosper in the playoffs to advance Coppell into the regional



semifinals for the first time since 2016.

The Cowboys gave eventual Class 6A state runner-up Keller all that it could handle during a Region 1-6A semifinal with the series going the full three games.

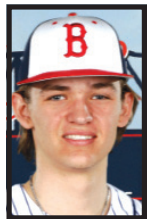
Coppell's rise can be attributed to the blue-collar approach that Howard has instilled within the program. The approach called for the Cowboys to be the hardest-working team on the field and for the players to play for one another. It paid off with a state ranking for most of the season and a final record of 31-9-1.

Howard said a big reason behind Coppell's success was the work of its pitching staff, which posted a combined ERA of 2.48 on the season with seniors Will Rodman (1.48), Chayton Krauss (2.77), Tim Malone (2.35) and junior Will Boylan (2.57) leading the charge. The Cowboys also played great defense, with the team posting a .965 fielding percentage.

SECOND TEAM

BEN ABELDT P, MCKINNEY BOYD, JR.

A breakout star during the abbreviated 2020 season, Abeldt fleshed that potential out over a full campaign and earned 5-6A MVP honors for his efforts. Abeldt staked his claim as one of the top pitchers in the area behind a 7-1 record, a 0.81 ERA, 83 strikeouts, 23 walks and a 0.87 WHIP. The Boyd ace added 14 hits, including three doubles, as well as nine RBIs and 10 runs for the district champion Broncos.



LUCAS DAVENPORT P, PROSPER, JR.

Opposing offense came at a premium against Prosper's pitching staff, as Davenport teamed with Josh Barnhouse to form an imposing one-two punch on the mound. Davenport, named all-district first team, posted a 0.72 ERA for the Eagles, striking out 75 batters and walking 26. He held opposing hitters to a collective .160 batting average to help Prosper book a return to the regional quarterfinals.



EASTON CARMICHAEL C, PROSPER, JR.

The other half of the Eagles' battery, Carmichael was an offensive machine for the 5-6A runners-up. The catcher amassed a .377 batting average for 43 hits, six home runs, 34 RBIs and 33 runs scored as part of a regional quarterfinal campaign for the Eagles. For his efforts, Carmichael was named to the all-district first team and to the Texas High School Baseball Coaches Association all-state second team.



CHASE PENDLEY IF, PROSPER, SR.

Pendley anchored the Prosper defense at shortstop while providing punch at the top of the batting order during his final high school campaign. Set to continue his career at Baylor, Pendley departs Prosper on a strong note — batting .381 as a senior and totaling 45 hits (11 for extra bases), three home runs, 24 RBIs and 36 runs. Pendley was name all-district first team and to the THSBCA elite team.



CARSON BRAUN IF, CREEKVIEW, SR.

Creekview notched its first playoff appearance since 2015 and Braun's bat was a big reason why. The Mustang middle infielder hit .407 from the plate and totaled 37 hits as a senior. Seven of those resulted in doubles, as Braun logged nine RBIs and scored 28 runs to help Creekview reach the second round of the playoffs for the first time since 2006.



CADE IRWIN IF, THE COLONY, SR.

Irwin provided a big bat in what was a balanced offensive attack for the 10-5A champion Cougars. A first team all-district selection at first base, Irwin led The Colony in batting average (.365), drove in 24 runs and scored 31 runs. He had five hits and drove in three runs to key the Cougars' sweep of Woodrow Wilson in the area round of the 5A playoffs. Irwin also saw time on the mound and tossed 24.2 innings, allowing just 13 earned runs.



KOLBY BRANCH IF, LOVEJOY, JR.

If Trent Rucker didn't reside atop the Leopards' batting order, Branch was a good bet to fortify that spot in the lineup. In either case, Lovejoy got production. Branch, a shortstop, stuffed the stat sheet with a .355 batting average, as well as 43 hits (20 for extra bases), two home runs, 22 RBIs and 31 runs to pace the Leopards to their first regional semifinal appearance since 2010.



JACOB DEVENNY OF, PROSPER, JR.

The state-ranked Eagles had an abundance of riches in their lineup, including Devenny. Like his other all-area counterparts, the outfielder hit over .300 on the season with a .330 average to go along with 38 hits (10 for extra bases), 22 RBIs and 23 runs scored. Devenny was named to the all-district first team out of 5-6A.



ELIJAH HOWARD OF, LAKE DALLAS, SR.

Named to the all-district first team at outfielder, Howard was the driving force behind a Lake Dallas team that finished in third place in the district standings and took Azle to three games in the bi-district round of the playoffs. He led the Falcons in batting average (.397) while collecting 32 hits, 12 RBIs and 13 runs scored. Howard has signed with Sterling College, where he will continue his baseball career.



CHANDLER BENSON OF, LIBERTY, SR.

In a district full of quality arms, Benson was voted as the 9-5A pitcher of the year. The senior posted a 5-1 record district play, with a 1.40 ERA and 53 strikeouts compared with only eight walks. Benson also made an impact when he was not on the mound, manning the outfield and posting a .325 batting average with two doubles, two triples, 12 runs batted in and six stolen bases.



LUKE ROBERTSON UTIL, WAKELAND, SR.

The versatile Robertson was selected as the 9-5A co-utility player of the year. Along with Fortenberry, he was part of one of the best one-two pitching punches in the state, recording a 10-1 record. In 57.2 innings of work, Robertson posted a 1.82 ERA and had 74 strikeouts and only 22 walks. At the plate, Robertson hit .312 with four doubles, one home run, nine RBIs and 14 runs scored.

