



(From left to right): Eric Newman, DBU head baseball coach, Drew Holder, former Patriot Baseball player (2002-2006), and Paul Rogers, president of SABR and professor and former dean of the SMU Dedman School of Law.

Patriot Drew Holder Honored as the 2006 Metroplex College Player of the Year

Drew Holder, a DBU Patriot Baseball player (2002-2006) and DBU graduate (May 2006) was chosen as the 14th recipient of the Society for American Baseball Research (SABR) Hall-Ruggles Chapter Metroplex College Baseball Player of the Year in 2006. Holder was honored at Ameritrust Field in Arlington before the Texas Rangers game on September 14 against the Anaheim Angels.

Holder and his wife, Courtney, also a DBU graduate (May 2006), live in Plano and are active members of First Baptist Church of Irving.

Holder, a native of Austin, joins a long line of college diamond standouts who have gone on to solid careers in professional baseball, coaching, and sports administration. Holder signed with the Houston Astros after being chosen in the 16th round of the 2006 Major League Baseball draft.

Holder was also named to the Louisville Slugger NCAA Division I All-American Baseball Team by the Collegiate Baseball Newspaper, Second Team All-American and First Team Midwest Region by the American Baseball Coaches Association (ABCA), and Third Team All-American by the National Collegiate Baseball Writers Association (NCBWA). Holder had a powerful year at the plate batting .364, pounding out 20 homeruns, and driving in 75 RBI. He finished the 2006 season ranked in the top ten in the nation for several offensive categories including seventh in homeruns and slugging percentage and fifth in RBI and runs scored. The senior helped to lead coach Eric Newman's squad to a 33-23 mark and a near-miss at an at-large NCAA Division I Tournament berth.

Holder received numerous awards for his efforts in 2006 including First Team Louisville Slugger All-American, Player of the Year for NCAA Division I Independent Teams, First Team All-Independent, NCAA Division I Independent All-Academic Team, ESPN the Magazine Academic All-District Second Team, NCAA Division I Independent Player of the Week, NCCAA All-American Team, College Baseball Foundation Honor Roll, and All-Texas Team. Holder also received the President's Award from Dallas Baptist University and was named MVP of the DBU Baseball Team.

Holder joins five other former Patriots to be named the Metroplex College Player of the Year: Jason Parsons ('94), Karl Chatman ('96), Brandon Harper ('97), Cody Sundbeck ('99), and Jon Browder (co-recipient '00).

