



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: June 24, 2009

Contact: Bradley Young – bradleyyoung@usabaseball.com, (919) 474-8721 x226

USA Baseball Announces 2009 National Team Roster *22 players include one veteran from the 2008 National Team*

(CARY, N.C.) – USA Baseball announced Wednesday night the 22 members of its 2009 National Team (Collegiate). The roster is headlined by shortstop and 2008 National Team member **Christian Colon** (Cal State Fullerton; Capey, Puerto Rico), and consists of five outfielders, six infielders, 10 pitchers, and one utility player. Two additional players will stay with the team to serve as alternates.

The National Team was selected after 10 days of trials that included eight intrasquad games and practices at the USA Baseball National Training Complex in Cary, N.C.

The USA Baseball National Team is comprised of the top non-draft-eligible college players in the United States. In 2009, the National Team will play in two international friendship series in North Carolina against the Canadian National Team and the Guatemalan National Team before heading to Japan for the 37th Annual USA vs. Japan Collegiate All-Star Series and the World Baseball Challenge in Prince George, British Columbia, Canada.

“This is the most productive trials period that I have ever been a part of,” said **Eric Campbell**, General Manager of USA Baseball National Teams. “I would like to congratulate all of the players and the staff for putting together a competitive 10 days in Cary.”

Leading the 2009 National Team is Colon. The sophomore batted .263 in twenty-four games for the 2008 National Team and led the team in hits (T-26) as the club’s starting second baseman. Joining Colon at infielder positions are **Rick Hague** (Rice; Spring, Texas), **Brad Miller** (Clemson; Orlando, Fla.), **Andy Wilkins** (Arkansas; Broken Arrow, Ark.), and utility player **Kolten Wong** (Hawaii; Hilo, Hawaii).

In the outfield is **Bryce Brentz** (Middle Tennessee State; Crossville, Tenn.), **Michael Choice** (UT Arlington; Fort Worth, Texas); **Tyler Holt** (Florida State; Marion, Ind.), **Casey McGrew** (Wright State; Delaware, Ohio), and **Matt Newman** (Arizona State; Phoenix, Ariz.).

The 10-member pitching staff in 2009 will include eight right-handed pitchers and two lefties. The right-handers include **Trevor Bauer** (UCLA; North Hollywood, Calif.); **Chad Bettis** (Texas Tech; Lubbock, Texas); **Gerrit Cole** (UCLA; Santa Ana, Calif.); **Sonny Gray** (Vanderbilt; Nashville, Tenn.), **Nick Pepitone** (Tulane; Houston, Texas); **T.J. Walz** (Kansas; Omaha, Neb.), **Asher Wojciechowski** (The Citadel; Pensacola, Fla.), and **Tony Zych** (Louisville; Hazelcrest, Ill.). **Drew Pomeranz** (Mississippi; Memphis, Tenn.) and **Cody Wheeler** (Coastal Carolina; Fredericksburg, Va.) are the only left-handers on the 2009 pitching staff.

Blake Forsythe (Tennessee; Memphis, Tenn.) and **Yasmani Grandal** (Miami; Havana, Cuba) will catch the Team USA’s pitchers in 2009.

“Making the decision on who to select for the 2009 National Team has been the toughest I have ever had to make as a head coach,” said the club’s skipper **Rick Jones** (Tulane). “I give a lot of credit to my coaching staff. They put together a very organized and productive trials that allowed us to successfully choose the right players for this team.”

Joining Jones are pitching coach Mike Kennedy (Elon), and assistant coaches Rob Cooper (Wright State) and Dan McDonnell (Louisville).

Remaining with the team as alternates are **Rob Segedin** (Tulane; Teaneck, N.J.) and **Jeremy Schaffer** (Tulane; Houston, Texas).

The National Team begins its summer season Thursday, opening a five-game series against the Canadian National Team in Cary, N.C. The first pitch is scheduled for 7:05 PM ET at the National Training Complex, and Pomeranz will take the mound for the U.S.

See below for a complete roster for the 2009 USA Baseball National Team (Collegiate).

#	LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	POS	B-T	HT	WT	BIRTHPLACE	Yr.	SCHOOL
34	Bauer	Trevor	RHP	R/R	6-1	175	North Hollywood, Calif.	Fr.	UCLA
35	Bettis	Chad	RHP	R/R	6-0	193	Lubbock, Texas	So.	Texas Tech
7	Brentz	Bryce	RHP/OF	R/R	6-0	180	Crossville, Tenn.	So.	Middle Tennessee State
14	Choice	Michael	OF	R/R	6-0	215	Fort Worth, Texas	So.	UT-Arlington
29	Cole	Gerrit	RHP	R/R	6-4	215	Santa Ana, Calif.	Fr.	UCLA
4	Colon	Christian	IF	R/R	6-0	185	Capey, Puerto Rico	So.	Cal State Fullerton
27	Forsythe	Blake	C	R/R	6-2	220	Memphis, Tenn.	So.	Tennessee
24	Grandal	Yasmani	C	S/R	6-2	210	Havana, Cuba	So.	Miami
2	Gray	Sonny	RHP	R/R	5-11	180	Nashville, Tenn.	Fr.	Vanderbilt
6	Hague	Rick	IF	R/R	6-2	190	Spring, Texas	So.	Rice
15	Holt	Tyler	OF	R/R	6-0	190	Marion, Ind.	So.	Florida State
17	McGrew	Casey	OF	L/R	6-0	175	Delaware, Ohio	Jr.	Wright State
23	Miller	Brad	IF	R/R	6-0	175	Orlando, Fla.	Fr.	Clemson
11	Newman	Matt	OF/LHP	L/L	5-10	170	Phoenix, Ariz.	So.	Arizona State
19	Pepitone	Nick	RHP	R/R	6-6	230	Houston, Texas	So.	Tulane
40	Pomeranz	Drew	LHP	L/L	6-5	231	Memphis, Tenn.	So.	Mississippi
36	Schaffer*	Jeremy	C	R/R	6-1	205	Houston, Texas	Fr.	Tulane
18	Segedin*	Rob	IF/RHP	R/R	6-3	220	Teaneck, N.J.	So.	Tulane
37	Walz	T.J.	RHP	R/R	6-0	175	Omaha, Neb.	So.	Kansas
5	Wheeler	Cody	LHP	L/L	5-11	160	Fredericksburg, Va.	So.	Coastal Carolina
9	Wilkins	Andy	IF	R/L	6-2	225	Broken Arrow, Okla.	So.	Arkansas
30	Wojciechowski	Asher	RHP	R/R	6-4	205	Pensacola, Fla.	So.	The Citadel
44	Wong	Kolten	OF/C	L/R	5-9	180	Hilo, Hawaii	Fr.	Hawaii
21	Zych	Tony	RHP	R/R	6-3	180	Hazelcrest, Ill.	Fr.	Louisville

* Denote Alternates

About USA Baseball

USA Baseball is the National Governing Body of amateur baseball in the United States and is a member of the United States Olympic Committee (USOC). The organization selects and trains the United States Olympic Baseball Team (and all other USA Baseball Professional Teams); the USA Baseball National Team (Collegiate); the USA Baseball 18U, 16U and 14U National Teams; and the USA Baseball Women’s National Team, all of which participate in various international competitions each year. USA Baseball also presents the Golden Spikes Award annually to top player in college baseball. For more information, please visit www.usabaseball.com and www.goldenspikesaward.com.

###