

ALL-AREA SOFTBALL

ONLINE

By Aram Tolegian

@ARAMTOLEGIAN ON TWITTER

COACH OF THE YEAR

Chuck Gunter, La Canada

FIRST TEAM

PITCHERS

Holly Stoner, La Canada, Jr.

Brianna Sanchez, Alverno, So.

Brennah Bonk, Pasadena Poly, So.

CATCHER

Cate Ziegler, Flintridge Sacred Heart, Fr.

INFIELDERS

Emily Tinkham, La Canada, So.

Alyanna Granados, Maranatha, So.

Aliyah Hernandez, Alhambra, Sr.

Chelle Encinas, La Salle, Sr.

Amanda Ramirez, Flintridge Sacred Heart, So.

OUTFIELDERS

Juliette Marini, Temple City, Sr.

Amesie Noll, Flintridge Sacred Heart, So.

Deja Westbrook, Arcadia, So.

UTILITY

Jannelle Ha, Arcadia, Sr.

SECOND TEAM

Pitcher: Therese Oshiro, Flintridge Prep, Sr.**Pitcher:** Britney Lopez, Monrovia, Sr.**Catcher:** Jaclyn Silva, Alhambra, So.**Infield:** Miranda Lopez, Maranatha, So.**Infield:** Gillian Arnold, La Canada, Sr.**Infield:** Susan Harrison, Arcadia, Jr.**Infield:** Samantha Diaz, Monrovia, Jr.**Outfield:** Samantha Edmonds, San Marino, Jr.**Outfield:** Julia Watson, Mayfield, So.**Outfield:** Deajah Bradley, Westridge, So.

There's a youth movement underway on the local high softball scene and the future couldn't be brighter.

There are 16 underclassmen who made the Star-News All-Area first or second teams. Maybe that's why the local contingent struggled so badly during the postseason. But that figures to change in the years ahead.

Given all the fresh new talent it was only fitting for a freshman to take the area by storm. And Maranatha's Devyn Netz did just that this spring. The 15-year-old from Sierra Madre put on full display why several colleges are already hot after her services.

Netz the pitcher was one of the area leaders in ERA with a 1.41. Netz the hitter was equally deadly, posting a hefty .537 batting average. Nobody could change a game more drastically and for those reasons, Netz is the Star-News Player of the Year.

"I'm honored and blown away," Netz said. "I didn't think I'd be here at my age. For where I am with my age, I didn't think I would achieve this much."

Scary. Netz is quite simply a phenom. She worked 129 innings and struck out 205 hitters. Opponents hit just .125 against her. At the plate, she stroked seven home runs and nine doubles.

Because of Netz, Maranatha was able to win 15 games. The Minutemen finished tied for third place in league but missed out on the playoffs due to a tiebreaker. But you can expect Maranatha's postseason fortunes to change in the future with Netz around the next three years and two other girls who made the first or second team also back.

What's causing all this? Netz credit her private pitching coach Jale Beliveau and her older brothers Dawson, who also attends Maranatha and won two postseason

games as a pitcher for the baseball team, and Daniel who plays at Pasadena City College.

Netz is joined on the All-Area first team by sophomore Alyanna Granados, who also made last year's team and hit .493 with seven home runs this season.

La Canada won 17 games this season and swept the Rio Hondo League. Like everyone else, the Spartans were bitterly disappointed with how the postseason went, but their regular season body of work was good enough to finish No. 1 in the area and land Chuck Gunter Coach of the Year honors for the second consecutive season.

And once again, the Spartans are heavily represented on the first team. Ace pitcher Holly Stoner makes the team for a second consecutive season after posting a scant 0.11 ERA and winning 12 games. Also back on the team is Emily Tinkham, who led

La Canada in RBIs with 16 and home runs with four.

Flintridge Sacred Heart played in the ridiculously tough Mission League, but still won 16 games and was pound-for-pound one of the top teams in the area. Sophomore Amanda Ramirez makes the All-Area Team for the second consecutive season after hitting .393 with a whopping 35 runs. Fellow sophomore Amesie Noll led the Tologs in RBIs with 34 and also hit .400. And then there was frosh phenom Cate Ziegler, who burst on the scene with a .462 batting average, 34 RBIs and 27 runs.

Arcadia got a strong all-around season from Jannelle Ha. The senior won 16 games in the circle and hit .507 with 30 RBIs and six home runs. Deja Westbrook was another huge contributor for the 17-win Apaches. The sophomore standout hit .553 with 31 runs.

Pasadena Poly's Brennah

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