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Eastern Michigan University

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Adam Sonabend Named to Johnny Bench Award Watch List

The EMU catcher finds a spot on the list for the second straight season



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YPSILANTI, Mich. (EMUEagles.com) — Eastern Michigan University catcher [Adam Sonabend](#) (**Scottsdale, Ariz.-Desert Mountain (Mesa C.C., Kansas State)**) is one of 72 catchers named to the 2014 Johnny Bench Award Watch List as announced by the Greater Wichita Area Sports Commission Friday, March 7.

One-of-four team captains, Sonabend has been a leader on and off the field for the Green and White through the early portion of the 2014 campaign. The senior Eagle has found a way to get on base, leading the Mid-American Conference in walks with 11. Starting 10 of EMU's 11 games thus far, Sonabend is third on the team in RBI (8) and doubles (4), while also a perfect two-for-two in stolen base attempts. He went 2-for-5, scoring twice and knocking in a season-high three runs to help the Eagles soar past the University of Tennessee at Martin, 17-3, Feb. 21.

The watch list for the Johnny Bench Award will be updated to include other candidates through May 5 and will then be narrowed down to the semifinalists on May 15. Ballots will be sent to the national voting panel at the end of May for a vote to determine the three finalists. The finalists will be announced on June 3. A final vote among the national committee will occur during the College World Series. All finalists will be brought to Wichita and the winner will be announced at the 17th Annual Greater Wichita Sports Banquet on June 26.

Sonabend and the rest of the Eagles have the weekend off as the series against the University of Evansville was cancelled due to inclement weather. The EMU bats are scheduled to return to the field Saturday, March 15, for a doubleheader against Northern Kentucky University in Florence, Ky.

2014 Johnny Bench Award Watch List

Will Allen SR University of Mississippi
Blake Austin SR Auburn University
Brett Austin JR North Carolina State University
Anthony Azar SR Sam Houston State University
Tyler Baker JR Wichita State University
Caleb Barker SR University of Houston
John Bormann JR UT San Antonio
Austin Bossart JR University of Pennsylvania
Garrett Boulware JR Clemson University
John Crummy SR Miami University
Jose Cruz SR Jackson State University
Jared Deacon SR Cal State Fullerton
Blair DeBord SR Kansas State University
Dustin Dhanani JR Alabama A&M University
Nick Dini JR Wagner College
Matt Durst JR University of Southern Mississippi
Ka'iana Eldredge SR University of Kansas
Alex Farkes SR Penn State
Mike Fischer SR Columbia University
Aramis Garcia JR Florida International University
Mitch Ghelfi SO University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee
Kyle Gibson SR University of Louisville
Richard Gonzalez JR Alabama State University
Grayson Greiner JR University of South Carolina
Aaron Gretz JR Ohio State University
Chase Griffin JR Georgia Southern University
Taylor Gushue JR University of Florida
Sean Hagen SR Eastern Kentucky University
Chris Harvey JR Vanderbilt University
Ryan Hissey SO The College of William & Mary
Nate Irving JR University of Virginia
Connor Joe JR University of San Diego
TJ Losby SR Bowling Green State University
Tanner Lubach JR University of Nebraska
Adam Martin SR Western Carolina University
Cole Martin SR University of Michigan
Kevin Martir SO University of Maryland
Ryan Matranga SO University of San Francisco
Greg McCall SR University of Texas-Arlington
Max McDowell SO University of Connecticut
Ryan Messex JR Western Kentucky University
Levi Meyer SR Florida Atlantic University

Taylor Noyer SR New Mexico State University
Brian O'Keefe JR Saint Joseph's University
Brian Olson JR Seattle University
Joseph Olson SO Stephen F. Austin University
Tyler Pearson SR Texas State University
Max Pentecost JR Kennesaw State University
Taylor Peterson SR University of North Dakota
Jordan Procyshen JR Northern Kentucky University
Pat Quinn SR University of Rhode Island
Alex Real JR University of New Mexico
Josh Reavis SR Radford University
Matt Reed FR Marshall University
Jamie Ritchie JR Belmont University
Daniel Rizzie SO Xavier University
Joey Roach SO Georgia State University
Mike Rosenfeld JR Duke University
Kyle Schwarber JR Indiana University
[Adam Sonabend](#) **SR Eastern Michigan University**
Josh Spano JR High Point University
Garrett Stubbs JR University of Southern California
Brett Sunde SO Western Michigan University
Wayne Taylor JR Stanford University
Travis Watkins SO East Carolina University
Luke Weber SR USC Upstate
Carter White JR University of Memphis
Mike Wieland SR University of Arkansas Pine Bluff
Samm Wiggins JR Houston Baptist University
Matt Winn JR Virginia Military Institute
Mark Zagunis JR Virginia Tech
Shane Zeile JR University of California, Los Angeles