

## Christensen Metro Player of the Year

Written by Metro Sports Report

Saturday, 23 July 2011 22:09 - Last Updated Sunday, 08 April 2012 20:22

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Kennedy senior Austin Christensen, who set numerous school hitting and pitching records for the Cougars this season, was named the Metro Athlete of the Year in voting by the seven Metro baseball coaches.

Christensen also was the Gatorade Player of the Year in Iowa and was named the [Mississippi Division Player of the Year in the Mississippi Valley Conference](#)

. He was 8-0 on the mound and slugged 19 home runs, helping Kennedy to a 31-8 record and berth in the Class 4A state tournament, where the Cougars are the defending champions.

Kennedy had three players on the first team and Jefferson had one. The other five schools had two representatives apiece.

Joining Christensen on the first team from Kennedy are second baseman Terrell Sykes and third baseman Devon Jacobus.

Marion qualified for the Class 3A tournament. The Indians on the first team are second baseman Kasey Semler and shortstop Zach Nielsen.

Prairie's DJ Utley also is a first teamer. He was chosen the MVC Valley Division Player of the Year.

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Coaches of the Year are Xavier's Dave Schemmel and his staff. The Saints finished 26-11.

### 2011 ALL-METRO BASEBALL TEAM

#### FIRST TEAM

DJ Utley, Prairie  
Brayton Carlson, Prairie  
Jordy Brown, Washington  
AJ Puk, Washington  
Austin Christensen, Kennedy  
Terrell Sykes, Kennedy  
Devon Jacobus, Kennedy  
Tanner Unkel, Jefferson  
Nate Even, Xavier  
Blake Helms, Xavier  
Ben Larison, Linn-Mar  
Nate Greve, Linn-Mar  
Kasey Semler, Marion  
Zach Nielsen, Marion

#### SECOND TEAM

Anthony Gagliardi, Prairie  
Sam Kacena, Washington  
Griffin Michael, Kennedy  
David Yancey, Kennedy  
Michael Rooney, Jefferson  
Corbin Woods, Xavier  
Mack Mattke, Xavier  
Ean McNeal, Xavier  
Michael Redmond, Linn-Mar  
Andrew Charipar, Marion

#### METRO COACHES OF THE YEAR

Dave Schemmel Xavier Coaching Staff

#### ATHLETE OF THE YEAR

Austin Christensen, Kennedy

#### HONORABLE MENTION

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C.R. Washington - Cole Rhatigan and Dan White  
C.R. Jefferson - Alex Larson and Bailey Hollingsworth  
C.R. Xavier - Dane Mehring and Colby Brecht  
Linn Mar - Jeremy Danover and Jake Stolley  
C.R. Kennedy - Alex Hayden and Cody Bell  
C.R. Prairie - Chaz Boots and Brennan Hammer  
Marion - Mitch Wagner and Byron Fish