

ARKANSAS TECH UNIVERSITY

ATHLETICS

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CASEY HAMMONS WINS GSC WEST DIVISION PITCHER OF THE WEEK AWARD FOR FOURTH TIME THIS SEASON

BIRMINGHAM, Alabama – During a week in which she threw a no-hitter and pitched the Golden Suns to their second consecutive GSC West Division Title, Arkansas Tech junior **Casey Hammons** (Carthage, Texas) has also been named the recipient of the Gulf South Conference West Division Softball Pitcher of the Week award.

Hammons has now won GSC West Division Pitcher of the Week honors four times this season and seven times in her three-year Golden Suns career.

Hammons' no-hitter came last Thursday in the first game of a doubleheader against Central Baptist. It was the second career no-hitter for the right-hander and eighth in school history. Hammons struck out 10 and walked three in the complete game no-hitter, leading Tech to a 5-0 victory on Senior Day at the Chartwells Women's Sports Complex.

This past Saturday, Hammons tossed a three-hit shutout against Arkansas-Monticello as Tech defeated the Cotton Blossoms 2-0 in game one of a doubleheader, and then pitched 5.2 innings of hitless relief in game two as Tech clinched its second consecutive GSC West Division Title. Hammons would also pitch a scoreless eighth to pick up her fourth save of the season in Tech's 2-1 victory in the first game of Sunday's doubleheader.

For the week, Hammons went 3-0 with one save and did not allow a run in 20.2 innings pitched. She allowed just three hits in four appearances, walking seven and striking out 13.

On the season, Hammons has a record of 19-6 with a team-best 1.09 ERA and has collected four saves. She also has struck out 181 batters in 186.1 innings of work and has thrown 17 complete games and single-season school record seven shutouts.

In addition to Hammons, Arkansas-Monticello freshman first baseman Kayla Jackson was named the GSC West Division Player of the Week, while Alabama-Huntsville junior outfielder Kristina Prater and Valdosta State hurler Brianna Collins were named East Division Player and Pitcher of the Week respectively.

Next up for Hammons and the Golden Suns (40-20, 19-9 GSC) is the GSC Conference Tournament which will take place in Southaven, Miss., this coming weekend, May 1-3. As the No. 1 seed from the West Division, Tech will open the tournament against West Alabama (42-16, 12-14 GSC), the No 4 seed from the East Division, on Friday, May 1 at 9:30 a.m. at the Greenbrook Softball Complex.

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