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Moore repeats as AA Pitcher of the Year

SIoux FALLS – The American Association today announced what has been apparent to many all season long: Sioux Falls Pheasants pitcher Ben Moore is the top ace in the league.

The right-handed starter was named as Pitcher of the Year among the postseason all-stars unveiled by the league on Tuesday. With the Pheasants in 2010, Moore was named the Right-Handed Pitcher of the Year.

This season proved to be Moore's best yet. He finished tied for the league lead with 13 wins (13-4), a career high that matched a team record for single-season victories. His 2.92 ERA is currently tops in the league, and he broke his own franchise and league record with 144 strikeouts in a season.

"For Ben to dominate the way he did is tremendous," Pheasants manager Steve Shirley said. "He's a top pitcher in part because he studies his opponent so well. And given the circumstances with our club this year, his performance is especially remarkable."

While Sioux Falls will finish under .500 in 2011, the Birds went 16-5 in games started by Moore.

From June 24-August 10, Moore won eight straight decisions and was unbeaten in 11 consecutive starts. Moore's season highlights include a three-hit, complete-game victory in Sioux City on June 3 and two-hit, complete-game defeat of Winnipeg on July 23. In three different starts, Moore recorded 10 or more strikeouts, including 14 on August 2 to match a club record for a single game.

Earlier this year, Moore earned Pitcher of the Week honors and was July's Pitcher of the Month. Moore has completed his fourth season with Sioux Falls. He is tied for first in career wins in the American Association (39).



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