

## Kodey Shojinaga '22: 从中太平洋学院到十二大联盟共同新秀年度球员的征程

Kodey Shojinaga '22, 作为堪萨斯杰霍克斯队的Big 12联盟共同新秀年度球员, 是大学棒球队中的一颗冉冉升起的明星, 他从中太平洋学院到十二大联盟的旅程, 见证了他的天赋, 坚毅和自信。

他的棒球旅程始于五岁, 高中时便展现出了这方面的才能, 并主要担任接手和内场棒球手。Kodey在七年级时进入中太平洋学院。Kodey和他的家人选择了中太平洋学院, 因为他们相信这是他能够茁壮成长的地方。

“最难忘的两场棒球比赛是在我九年级的时候, 我们第三至第四次击败了伊奥拉尼学校,” Kodey分享道, “另一个高光时刻是在我十二年级, 被选为全州第一队和ILH第一队时。”

当有机会参加大学棒球比赛时, Kodey选择加入堪萨斯杰霍克斯队。他的决定是出于在高水平比赛中与全国最优秀的球员竞争的愿望。然而, 他的大学生涯一开始并不是一帆风顺。Kodey的左手掌骨折, 并且需要在大一开学前康复。尽管遭遇了这一挫折, 他通过康复和严格的训练, 坚韧不拔的意志, 在团队里赢得了自己的位置。他的敬业奉献给堪萨斯队主教练Dan Fitzgerald留下了深刻印象, 亦映证了他在中太平洋学院Dunn教练培养下发展的强烈职业精神。

“对我来说很具挑战性, 因为一开始我没有确保的首发位置,” Kodey说。“但我坚持下来, 勤奋努力, 保持积极的态度, 每天都力争成为最好的队员。”

Kodey的祖母是他最重要的动力之一。她鼓舞人心的话语:“没有什么是不可能的;你必须从“我有可能”这种角度看待一件事”, 塑造了他良好的心态和职业生涯的动力。

2023年5月, 凭借Kodey的决心和毅力, 他在整个国家最佳新秀赛季结束后获得了十二大联盟共同新秀年度球员奖。当Kodey获得这个奖项时, 球队正在进行十二大联盟锦标赛, 因此他的主要关注点是完成比赛。之后他才真正庆祝这一成就。

“获得这个奖项对我来说是一项巨大的荣誉,” Kodey说, “考虑到我们联盟中众多才华横溢的新秀球员, 通过对自己和自己的工艺的奉献和承诺, 我真正意识到了自己可以实现的事情, 这是一种启发。”

Kodey渴望在堪萨斯继续他的旅程, 留下持久的影响。尽管他已经以棒球领域的十二大联盟新秀年度球员的身份镌刻在历史书中, 但他希望以对朋友和队友的积极态度、对自己工作的奉献以及生活中一切都必须努力获得的信仰而被人铭记。

Kodey Shojinaga的旅程不仅仅是关于棒球，它是一个关于坚韧、激情和相信只要努力一切皆有可能的故事。他的精神激励着各个年龄段的学生们：大胆追求梦想，不懈努力，取得卓越成就。

## Kodey Shojinaga '22: A Journey from Mid-Pacific to Big 12 Co-Freshman of the Year

Kodey Shojinaga '22, a rising star in collegiate baseball, is making waves as the Big 12 Co-Freshman of the Year for the Kansas Jayhawks. His journey from Mid-Pacific to the Big 12 is a testament to his talent, the power of perseverance, and self-belief.

His baseball journey began at the age of five, and throughout his high school years he showcased his versatility, primarily playing as a catcher and infielder. Kodey entered Mid-Pacific in the seventh grade. Kodey and his family were drawn to Mid-Pacific because they believed it was the place where he could thrive.

"The two most memorable baseball moments were during my freshman year when we defeated Iolani three or four times," shares Kodey. "Another highlight was during my senior year when I was named to the All-State First Team and the ILH First Team."

When the opportunity to play college baseball presented itself, Kodey chose to join the Kansas Jayhawks. His decision was driven by the desire to compete at a high level and be surrounded by some of the best players in the nation. However, the beginning of his college journey was not without its challenges. Kodey had to recover from a metacarpal fracture in his left hand before the start of his freshman year. Despite this setback, he persevered through rehabilitation and rigorous training to earn a spot on the team. His dedication impressed Kansas Head Coach Dan Fitzgerald, mirroring the strong work ethic he had developed under Coach Dunn at Mid-Pacific. "It was challenging for me because I didn't initially have a guaranteed starting position," says Kodey. "But, I persevered, worked diligently, maintained a positive attitude, and aimed to be the best teammate possible every day."

One of Kodey's most significant sources of motivation has been his grandmother. Her inspiring words, "nothing is impossible; you have to look at it through the perspective that I am possible," have shaped his mindset and drive throughout his career.

Kodey's determination and drive yielded results in May 2023 when he was named Big 12 Co-Freshman of the Year by the conference after ending the season as one of the best hitting freshmen in the entire country. When Kodey received the award, the team was in the midst of the Big 12 tournament, so his primary focus was on finishing the game. Only afterward could he truly celebrate this accomplishment.

"Receiving that award was a huge honor for me," says Kodey. "Considering the abundance of talented freshmen in our conference, it was truly eye-opening to realize what I could achieve through dedication and commitment to both myself and my craft."

Kodey aspires to leave a lasting impact as he continues his journey at Kansas. While he is already etched in the history books as the first Big 12 freshman of the year in baseball, he wants to be remembered for his infectious positivity with his friends and teammates, dedication to his craft, and his belief that everything in life must be earned.

Kodey Shojinaga's journey is not just about baseball; it's a story of resilience, passion, and the belief that with hard work, nothing is impossible. His message resonates with students of all ages: dream big, work hard, and achieve greatness.

