



David Price wins battle for 2010 Warren Spahn Award

OKLAHOMA CITY (October 6, 2010) — Warren Spahn Award organizers announced today that David Price of the Tampa Bay Rays is the 2010 Spahn Award winner.

But it wasn't an easy road to being named this year's best left-handed pitcher in Major League Baseball. Price had some stiff competition from Jon Lester of the Boston Red Sox, who was in first place up until his last start, and three-time Spahn Award winner CC Sabathia of the New York Yankees.

Greg Spahn, son of the late Warren Spahn, said it was a battle right down to the very last day of the regular season.

"What a race to the end for the Warren Spahn Award," Spahn said. "Sabathia looked like he was going to finish strong and win another Spahn Award. Then here came Jon Lester and David Price, and it all came down to their last starts."

The Spahn Award is based on a pitcher's strikeouts, wins and ERA. Price emerged as one of the premier pitchers in the game during his first full season in the majors with 19 wins, a 2.72 ERA and 188 strikeouts. His 2010 accomplishments also include being selected as the starting pitcher for the American League All-Star Game. Originally from Nashville, Tenn., Price attended Vanderbilt University and was the first overall draft pick in 2007.

"I am honored to hear I will be receiving the Warren Spahn Award," Price said. "To be included in a group with the past winners - CC Sabathia, Randy Johnson, and others - is very exciting. My teammates with the Rays deserve credit for this award. We've had a fun season so far and look forward to it continuing."

In its 12th year, the Spahn Award is named after Oklahoman and National Baseball Hall of Famer Warren Spahn, who holds the Major League Baseball record of 363 wins as a left-handed pitcher. The Spahn Award is presented at the Warren Spahn Award Gala, hosted by Oklahoma City's Bricktown Rotary Club and Jim Thorpe Association in January at the Oklahoma Sports Hall of Fame & Jim Thorpe Museum.

Spahn Award Chairman Bill Hickman said the award raises Oklahoma City's profile as a big league city and enriches even more the legacy of baseball legend Warren Spahn.

"We're delighted to welcome David Price to Oklahoma City for the award presentation in January," Hickman said. "In his first full season in the majors, David Price has

established himself as an ace pitcher - starting in the AL All-Star Game, winning the AL East Division over the Yankees, and now winning the Warren Spahn Award. It's exciting to see a young lefty accomplish so much this early in his career."

Past Spahn Award winners include: CC Sabathia (2007—2009); Johan Santana (2004, 2006); Dontrelle Willis (2005); Andy Pettitte (2003); and Randy Johnson (1999—2002).