

# RailCats Sweep 2008 Northern League Player of the Year Honors Townsend Named Top Player and Plexico Voted Top Pitcher

The Northern League announced that Gary SouthShore RailCats third baseman Tanner Townsend was voted the Northern League Player of the Year, and that RailCats pitcher Jeremy Plexico was named the Pitcher of the Year as voted on by the league's managers, pitching coaches, general managers, radio announcers, and local media (2).



Townsend, who is a four-year veteran of the RailCats, established career highs in average (.371), home runs (14), RBI (84), and slugging percentage (.623) in 2008. Playing in 79 games for the 'Cats, he was second in the league in batting, tied for first in RBI, and led the league in slugging percentage.

Over the last four seasons Townsend has played in 354 of a possible 385 games with Gary SouthShore, posting a .282 career average. He is the franchise's leader in home runs, games played, runs scored, and at bats. This season, he received the Rawlings N.L. Player of the Month award in August and was also named Player of the Week on August 3<sup>rd</sup>.

The 6-1, 200-pounder was originally acquired by the RailCats on March 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2005 from Ohio Valley of the Frontier League. He had played for current RailCats manager Greg Tagert in both 2003 and 2004 in the Frontier League.

### Northern League Players of the Year

Year	Player	Team
2008	Tanner Townsend	Gary SouthShore RailCats
2007	Darryl Brinkley	Calgary Vipers
2006	Joe Mathis	Fargo-Moorhead RedHawks
2005	Bryan Warner	Lincoln Saltdogs
2004	Mario Delgado	Schaumburg Flyers
2003	Eddie Pearson	Kansas City T-Bones
2002	Bryan Warner	Lincoln Saltdogs
2001	Clay Eason	Lincoln Saltdogs
2000	Anthony Lewis	Duluth-Superior Dukes

### Tanner Townsend – Gary SouthShore RailCats

AVG	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	BB	SO	SB	CS	SLG	OBP
.371	79	302	64	112	26	4	14	84	43	50	11	0	.623	.446

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Plexico, who tied for the league lead in wins, went 10-3 with a 2.79 ERA on his way to being named the 2008 Northern League Pitcher of the Year. It marked the second straight year a RailCats pitcher received the honor and the first time in league history a franchise had both the Player and Pitcher of the Year in the same season.

The left-hander finished the year third in the Northern League in ERA (2.79) while leading the league in innings pitched (135.1). Plexico was honored as the Rawlings N.L. Pitcher of the Month in June and was also named Player of the Week three separate times during the 2008 season on June 15<sup>th</sup>, July 13<sup>th</sup>, and August 25<sup>th</sup>.

Plexico, a native of Chapin, SC, was the winning pitcher at the 2008 Northern League All-Star Game played in Winnipeg, MB on July 8<sup>th</sup>. He was also recently named to the Northern League Post-Season All-Star Team (Left-Handed Pitcher).

### Northern League Pitchers of the Year

Year	Player	Team
2008	Jeremy Plexico	Gary SouthShore RailCats
2007	Willie Glen	Gary SouthShore RailCats
2006	Jonathan Krysa	Kansas City T-Bones
2005	Brandon Culp	Fargo-Moorhead RedHawks
2004	Rich Hyde	Joliet JackHammers
2003	Rafael Gross	Winnipeg Goldeyes

### Jeremy Plexico – Gary SouthShore RailCats

W-L	S	ERA	G	GS	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	OPP.	AVG
10-3	0	2.79	21	21	135.1	127	49	42	32	68		.250



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