

WHAT A JOURNEY ... Reflections from Scott Berry

I started this journey in the fall of 1973. After a lot of deliberation, I made the decision to attend Mayville State College to pursue a degree in the social sciences and to play baseball for the Comets. I decided to redshirt my first year and play ball from 1975 to 1978. We won a few championships. We advanced to the national tournament in my senior year, and I was awarded all-conference honors my junior and senior years. Most importantly, I got my degree and I developed a love for Mayville State and the Comets baseball program.

After graduation I taught and coached at Central Cass Public Schools for two years. In 1980 I began working at MSU in the residence halls and with the Comets baseball program. After one season as an assistant to my coach and mentor Al Meyer, I was named as his replacement in the summer of 1981. At the age of 25, I had a lot to figure out, so I rolled up my sleeves and got to it.

First off, I knew I needed a coaching philosophy. Although philosophies evolve, the fundamental foundation of Comets Baseball would revolve around the following points:

1. Opportunity - shoot for the stars and make your own way;
2. No excuses for our program, our play, our location, or the weather;
3. We would emphasize diversity in style and approach to the game as well as the importance of team/family;
4. Mental and physical toughness;
5. Discipline;
6. Education - get your degree;
7. Success (family, classroom, socially, on the field);
8. Believe in high standards and make a positive contribution somewhere;
9. Be a great leader or a great follower;
10. Trust in the system - play the game;
11. Be honest, love, forgive, encourage, and work hard.

With a philosophy in place, we wanted student-athletes who would buy into it and be held to a higher standard. Pursuing high standards for young men who were 18 to 23 years of age would cause challenges along the way, but we worked to respond to these challenges in a positive way. A whole lot of "tough love" ensued, but a whole lot of growth occurred for me and for the young men.

I'm extremely proud of the young men this program has helped to develop, and my true reward comes from knowing the positive impact they are having on their families, their employers, and their communities. Winning games and championships is wonderful, but the true reward is helping to develop winning people.

For me personally, I have been rewarded and awarded in so many incomprehensible ways. Being provided with leadership positions or honors at MSU and with the state of North Dakota, the various athletic conferences, North Dakota Amateur Baseball, the NAIA, the ABCA, USA Baseball, the Fellowship of Christian Athletes, and others is truly gratifying. Most gratifying, though, are the relationships developed within these organizations and with the Mayville-Portland and Mayville State University communities. To say I'm thankful, grateful, and blessed is an understatement.

God blessed me with my dream job. Thank you, Lord, for being my guide ... and for blessing me with earthly heroes, the Comets Baseball players.



“It’s time!”

Mayville State University

Head Baseball Coach

Scott Berry

1981-2023

43 Years of Dedication and Commitment

“For the passion, the game, and the Comets!”



Coach Berry Stats

Coaching History

- Mayville State University Head Baseball Coach (1982-2023)
- Mayville State University Assistant Baseball Coach (1980-1981)
- Mayville State Golf Coach & Assistant Football Coach (2 years)
- Central Cass Public School (1978-1980)

Athletic Experience

- ND State Class B American Legion Champions (1971, LaMoure)
- Mayville State University Baseball - Player
 - 4-year Letter Winner (1975 - 1978)
 - 2-time All-Conference Player (1977, 1978)
- Mayville Red Caps Amateur Baseball - Player/Coach
 - 1969-1987, 2002
 - 2 State Championships
 - 4 State Runners-Up



Halls of Fame

- Mayville State University Athletic Hall of Fame (1996)
- NAIA Hall of Fame (2002)
- North Dakota Amateur Baseball Hall of Fame (2003)
- CHRISTian Sports Commission Hall of Fame (2009)
- Central Cass High School Athletic Hall of Fame (2014)
- American Baseball Coaches Association Hall of Fame (2017)
- North Dakota Sports Hall of Fame (2018)

Accomplishments

- American Baseball Coaches Association Officer (2010-2015)
- American Baseball Coaches Association President (2014)
- American Baseball Coaches Association Board of Directors (2013-present)
- American Baseball Coaches Association Dave Keilitz "Ethics in Coaching" Award (2017)
- North Dakota Amateur Baseball Association Past President
- Coached 80+ NAIA Scholar Athletes
- Coached 28 NAIA All-Americans
- Coached 27 players who have signed professional baseball contracts
- Coached one player currently in MLB
- Co-founder of ND Baseball Coaches Association
- Outstanding Young Men of America recipient (1986)
- FCA Jerry Kindall Character in Coaching Award (2011)
- NAIA District 12 Chair (4 years)
- NAIA Area 3 Chair (2 years)
- NAIA Baseball Coaches Association President (8-year officer)
- NAIA World Series Games Committee (11 years)
- NAIA's 2nd Winningest Active Coach
- ND College Athletic Conference Baseball Chair
- NDAPSSA "Special Achievement Award" (1998)
- President of NAIA - Baseball Coaches Association (1999-2000)
- NAIA Award of Merit (2000)
- Robert E. "Ish" Smith Achievement Award (2010)
- USA Baseball - ND State Delegate (1986-2000)
- USA Task Force Member (1992, Boise, ID National Junior Baseball Championships)
- USA Baseball 16U Coaching Staff (2018, Cary, NC)
- 3 NAIA Regional Titles
- 4-time Coach of the Year: NAIA Region
- 12-time Coach of the Year: District 12
- 24 Regular Season Conference Championships (17 in a row from 1986 to 2002)
- 25 Conference Tournament Championships
- 30 NAIA National Playoff Appearances
- 24-Time Coach of the Year: NDCAC / DAC-10 / DAC / North Star Athletic Association
- Mayville State Career Coaching Record: 1,196 wins, 698 losses, 4 ties
- 2002 Plains Super Regional Title
- 2002 NAIA World Series - 5th place
- Produced professional baseball videos (Coaches Choice)
- Scott Berry Field Dedication (2010)