



OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE MSU BASEBALL CHAMPIONSHIP CLUB

Dugout Chatter

2008-2009 Maverick Baseball

February 2009

Mavericks Open 2009 Season in Bolivar, MO

Dear Alumni and Friends of MSU Baseball,

Since returning from the holiday break January 12, our team has been practicing six days a week in preparation for our first game against Southwest Baptist on February 20th. The last weekend in February we are looking forward to visiting Dave Whiteford and his friends again in Douglasville, GA. For our spring break trip this year we are playing ten games in six days in Winter Haven, FL March 7-13.

For those living in the Twin Cities area, we play a doubleheader in the Metrodome against Bemidji State on March 4th starting at 10:00pm. The first home game is scheduled for March 20th against Northern State, let's keep our fingers crossed that the weather

cooperates and we can get that series in.

I'm excited about the upcoming season as we have 17 letter winners returning along with newcomers that have the potential to contribute right away. Like so many Maverick teams in the past, they have a great passion for the game and desire to get better.

Despite very tough economic times, our fundraising efforts, thanks to you, are on track. Your donations truly enhance our student-athletes experience. With your help we will be able to take the trips to Missouri, Georgia, and Florida early this season.

I hope you are all doing well and following the Mavericks when you can. As always, let us know if there is something we can do to help.

In Baseball,

Matt Magers

Mavericks Picked to Finish 2nd in NSIC

Wayne State was selected by the NSIC Baseball Coaches as the 2009 preseason favorite. The Wildcats amassed 149 points after receiving six first place votes (coaches can't vote for their own team). The Wildcats, the NSIC Regular Season Champions in 2007 & 2008, have now been picked to win the league the last six years in a row.

New league member Minnesota State was picked second in the poll with 142 points (four first place votes) while last year's NSIC Tournament Champions of Concordia-St. Paul, who boasts both NSIC Preseason Players of the Year, came in third with 135 points (three first place votes). The remainder of the teams include: Winona State (4th), Upper Iowa (5th), St. Cloud State (6th), Southwest Minnesota State (7th), Minnesota Duluth (8th), Bemidji State (9th), University of Mary (10th), Augustana (11th), Northern State (12th), and Minnesota-Crookston (13th). Coaches rank each team from 13 to 1 with the top team receiving 13 points, second 12, third 11 etc.



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2009 Minnesota State Season Preview

Maverick Conference Championships



Year Record

1968	21-10
1969	22-14
1970	19-2
1971	22-12
1974	22-13
1976	23-12
1977	22-17
1979	26-11-1
1980	34-21-1
1981	30-10
1982	30-9
1983	29-12
1985	30-20
1986	35-15
1987	32-16
1988	30-17
1989	33-19
1990	34-9-1
1996	36-18
1997	32-14
1999	33-13-1
2000	36-18
2001	32-15
2002	31-16
2006	43-13
2007	45-10

The Minnesota State baseball team went 28-25 last year, finished second in the North Central Conference along with earning a trip to the NCAA Central Regional Tournament. With 17 letter winners returning from the last year and a couple key additions, a conference championship and postseason consideration may again be in the cards this year.

Returning in the infield are senior third baseman **Geno Glynn** (.301, 2 Hr, 13 2b, 24 RBI, *All-NCC First Team*), senior second baseman **Jay Bresnahan** (.297, 1 Hr, 25 RBI, 5 steals, *All-NCC Hon. Ment.*), senior first baseman **Travis Taran** (.245, 7 Hr, 26 RBI), and junior shortstop **Kosuke Hattori** (.310, 6 2b, 16 RBI, 14 steals, *All-NCC Hon. Ment.*).

Sophomores **Aaron Berner** (.297, 7 2b, 22 RBI) and **Steven Helget** (.211, 5 2b) head into the season as the teams catchers.

Sophomore **Danny Miller** (.343, 3 Hr, 27 RBI, *All-NCC Hon. Ment.*), senior **Corey LaPlante** (.279, 5 2b, 16 steals), and junior **Josh Simon** (.275, 4 2b, 13 RBI) return to roam the outfield.

This year's pitching staff appears to have both depth and experience. Returnee junior righty **Chris Odegaard** (7-3, 2.69, 96 Ks, 83.2 IP), a *First Team All-NCC* and a *Second Team All-Region* pick last year, is the leader of the staff. Righthanders **Jim Dale** (5-3, 5.03, 40 SO, 59 IP) and **Patrick Lenton** (5-1, 2.66, 74 SO, 50.2 IP in 2007) enter the season as the #2 and #3 starters. Senior righty **Nathan Kafka** (4-0, 1.82, 39 SO, 34.2 IP, *All-NCC Hon. Ment.*) returns again as the teams closer. Seniors **Casey Kowalski** (1-1, 6.51, 22 SO, 27.2 IP, 19 AP) and **Matt Franke** (0-2, 8.69, 19.2 IP) along with sophomores **Cody Hallahan** (2-2, 5.68, 29 SO, 31.2 IP), **Trent Vedders** (7.82, 0-3, 10 SO 12.2 IP), and **Danny Miller** (3-0, 7.91, 15 SO, 19.1 IP) will provide the needed depth and experience.

Newcomers expected to contribute throughout the season include transfers junior left-handed pitcher **Josh Castanza**, Hillsborough CC, junior right-handed pitcher **Brett Fratzke**, College of the Sequoias and junior outfielder **Mark Moriarty**, Cerro Coso CC. Freshman right-handed pitcher/designated hitter **Ben Kincaid**, Eau Claire Wis., right-handed pitcher **Blake Schwartz**, Rosemount Minn., and second baseman **Lucas Skjefte**, Eden Prairie Minn will be contributing. Also expected to contribute are redshirt freshman first baseman **Matt Odegaard**, redshirt freshman second baseman **Matt Kuchenbecker**, redshirt freshman right-handed pitcher **Tom Kordiak**, and redshirt junior infielder **Mike Kinsel**.

Taran and Odegaard are serving as this year's team captains and the Mavericks enter the year ranked 38th in the national preseason poll.

MSU is scheduled to kick-off the 2009 campaign with four games in Bolivar, MO against Southwest Baptist University February 20 and 21. The first home game is scheduled for Monday, March 21 versus Northern State.



MINNESOTA STATE UNIVERSITY, MANKATO BASEBALL CHAMPIONSHIP CLUB MEMBERS

Thank you to all the members who donated between July 1, 2008 and February 13, 2009

All Rookie (\$10-\$49)

Robert Adkins
Marshal & Anna Cawley
Randy & Alice Conner
Robert & Marcie Galvin
Pat & Sharon Hallahan
Duane & DeAnna Hoechst
Scott Kemp
Roger & Mary Riesgraf
Bob and Karen Spiegler

Veterans (\$50-\$99)

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Tom Bock
Ryan Dutton
Joel & Julie Hayford
Paul & Valerie Holzhueter
Jim & Sally Howard
Tom & Marlo Lepel
Dewey & Jan Marble
Rich & Karen Meier

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Steve & Carrie Pioske
Dave & Pat Ploof
Dave & Karla Ramberg
Tim & Lynn Secott
Robert & Evelyn Taus
Joe Walsh
Dale Welter

All-Conf. (\$100-\$149)

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David & Christe Miller

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Dave & Mary Ann Wolf
Mike & Carol Young

All-Region (\$150-\$249)

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Dave & Peggy Kincaid
Paul Ludacka
Ken & Dianne Ottum

Coaches Club (\$500-\$999)

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Ron Stuedemann
Carl & Marlys Vedders
Jeff & Liz Wickmann

Hall of Fame (\$1000+)

Bob & Doreen Bresnahan
Doug & Rachel Helget
Dr. Daniel & Kerry Kincaid
Jim & Lisa Lenton
Matt & Lora Magers
Jon and Karen Oberle

The Championship Club is the chief fundraising function for the Minnesota State University, Mankato Baseball team. Each year more than 200 loyal and dedicated alumni, fans, and parents donate to the Championship Club. Every dollar raised is used to support and maintain the program. Donor support has played a key role in the Mavericks 26 conference championships in the last 40 years. Contributions to the MSU, Mankato Championship Club are essential for the continued success of the Maverick baseball team. Thank you for the continued support!

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