

# Baseball A to Z

## .400-100 CLUB

Only 11 players during ASU's baseball history have hit over .400 and recorded over 100 hits in a season. Dustin Pedroia was the latest to join the elite club, finishing the 2003 season with 120 hits (fourth most in school history) and hitting .404. Current Florida Marlins catcher Paul Lo Duca holds both school records with a .446 batting average and 129 hits in 1993. All-American Kevin Romine is the only Sun Devil to record back-to-back .400 seasons and one of two players to have back-to-back 100-hit seasons.

## .914

The NCAA record for winning percentage in a season that the 1972 Arizona State Baseball team still holds, with a 64-6 record. The '72 squad earned runner-up honors in the College World Series under first-year head coach Jim Brock and featured All-Americans Eddie Bane, Alan Bannister and Craig Swan.

## #24

The jersey No. 24 is one that is significant to the history and tradition of Arizona State Baseball. Former ASU greats Reggie Jackson, Barry Bonds and Mike Kelly have all worn the number during their days in the Maroon and Gold. Jackson was the 1966 *Sporting News* Player of the Year and went on to have a Hall of Fame career in the major leagues. Bonds (1983-85) is a six-time winner of the National League MVP award and is currently fourth on the all-time home run list behind Hank Aaron, Babe Ruth and Willie Mays. Kelly won the 1991 Golden Spikes Award and was the No. 2 overall selection in the 1991 MLB Draft by the Atlanta Braves.

## 34

The number of doubles Dustin Pedroia hit in 2003 to establish a new ASU and Pac-10 single-season record. Pedroia also led the NCAA with 0.50 doubles per game. In his three seasons at ASU, Pedroia hit 71 doubles to rank third in ASU history.

## 70-70 CLUB

Alvin Davis and Jeff Larish are the only two players in Sun Devil history to have at least 70 RBI and 70 walks in the same season. Larish, a Sun Devil from 2002 to 2005, joined the exclusive club in 2003 when he recorded 95 RBI (fifth most in ASU history) and led the NCAA with 78 walks. Davis, who played for ASU from 1979-82, had 91 RBI and an ASU record 87 walks during his senior year in 1982. He went on to become the 1984 American League Rookie of the Year with the Seattle Mariners and played nine seasons in the major leagues. Davis and Larish are ranked one and two, respectively, on the ASU all-time walks list.

## 100

The number of consecutive national polls that ASU was ranked in from the start of the 2000 season until last season. The Devils have been mainstays in the national rankings throughout the history of the program, including earning final Top 12 rankings in five of the last nine seasons. ASU finished last season ranked as high as No. 3 in the polls.

## ADDRESS

Any mail directed to the sports information office should be sent to: Arizona State University, Carson Student-Athlete Center; Tempe, AZ 85287-2505. The Carson Student-Athlete Center is the home of all Sun Devil sports. The Baseball Offices are located on the third floor. Murphy also has a spacious office on the second floor of the new clubhouse at Packard Stadium at Brock Ballpark.

## ALUMNI GAME

A favorite tradition of Sun Devil baseball fans is the annual alumni game. This year one game will be played, on Saturday, Jan. 21, at Packard Stadium at Brock Ballpark at 1 p.m. The current Sun Devils will play a team of former Arizona State players. Autographs, photos and on-field shenanigans are the norm. By the way, the current Sun Devils usually win. In past years current and former professional players Willie Bloomquist, Mitch Jones, Mike Collins, Ken Phelps, Doug Henry, Mike Kelly, Casey Myers and Andrew Beinbrink all competed in the game.



Jim Brock

## AYER, FRED

The first official head coach at Arizona State, leading the Tempe Normal Bulldogs to a 7-2 record in 1907. Ayer coached from 1907-11, posting an all-time 37-22-1 record.

## BANE, EDDIE

The author of the only perfect game in Arizona State history, the little lefthander did it on March 2, 1973, against Cal State Northridge. The Sun Devils won, 9-0, as Bane struck out 19. It stands as one of eight no-hitters by ASU pitchers. In recognition of his outstanding accomplishments, ASU had Eddie Bane's number (21) retired. The Devils celebrated the 30th anniversary of this great accomplishment in 2003 against Penn State as Bane joined the club to throw out the ceremonial first pitch. He is currently the Director of Scouting for the Los Angeles Angels of Anaheim.

## BASEBALL CAMPS

Each year the Sun Devil Baseball program hosts several baseball camps as part of Pat Murphy's All-Nine Baseball Academy. The camps are broken into youth academies (6-12) and senior camps (13-18) with several sessions held throughout the year. For more information on Sun Devil Baseball camps, please visit [www.collegebaseballcamps.com/sundevils](http://www.collegebaseballcamps.com/sundevils).

## BONDS, BARRY

Former Sun Devil Barry Bonds (1983-85), who had an outstanding collegiate career from 1983-85, made major league history in 2001 by hitting 73 home runs. A career .300 hitter, Bonds has belted 708 career home runs to rank third in major league record books. He earned his record seventh National League MVP award in 2004, an unprecedented fourth straight year he won the award. Bonds was originally drafted by the San Francisco Giants in the second round of the '82 draft, but elected to come to Arizona State.

## BROCK, JIM

The winningest baseball coach in ASU varsity history. Brock, who passed away in June 1994, accumulated 1,100 victories in his 23 seasons as head coach, against just 440 losses (.714). Brock was named National Coach of the Year four times, and his teams won two College World Series titles during his tenure from 1972 to '94. He also coached 15 first-round draft picks.

## COLLEGE WORLD SERIES

Just in case you were wondering, Arizona State ranks third all time in College World Series wins with 58, and fourth in CWS appearances with 19. ASU is second in NCAA baseball titles with five, and has finished as the runner-up on five different occasions. ASU has a 58-32 (.644) record at the CWS (fourth best all time). The Devils are third in CWS games played with 90. Sun Devil Stan Holmes (1979-81) holds the CWS record

continued

# SUN DEVIL BASEBALL 2006

NCAA CHAMPIONS: 1965, 1967, 1969, 1977, 1981

## Baseball A to Z continued

for RBI with 17 in six games in 1981, and Barry Bonds had seven consecutive hits in the CWS back in 1983-84.

### THE COMEBACK

ESPN's Jim Kaat called it "probably the greatest comeback in College World Series history." Few would argue. It happened June 8, 1988. In an elimination game, ASU trailed Wichita State, 3-1, with two outs in the top of the ninth. But consecutive hits by Ricky Candelari, Mike Burrola and Pat Listach tied the game. Ironically, those three ranked first, second and third on the team in strikeouts. What's more, Candelari and Listach hit two-strike pitches. Listach had already fanned three times that night. Thanks to brilliant relief pitching by Brian Dodd and Gordy Farmer, along with breathtaking defense by John Finn, ASU escaped with a 4-3 win in 10 innings. Martin Peralta drove home the winning run.

### DRAFT

A total of 339 Arizona State players have been selected in the annual major league draft, which began in 1965. No other school comes close to that number. A Sun Devil, Rick Monday, was the first player ever to be drafted. ASU has more overall selections, more first-round choices (22) and more No. 1 picks (3) than any other school. ASU's latest first-round draft pick came last season, as outfielder Jeff Larish went to the Oakland Athletics with the 36th overall pick. While the 1976 team holds the record with 13 players selected in the draft, the 2003 squad set the modern mark with 12 draft picks. The 12 selections were the most by any college and featured second-round pick Andre Ethier (Oakland Athletics) and third-rounder Beau Vaughan (Boston Red Sox). ASU leads all colleges with 85 draft picks over the last 11 seasons.

### EGER, BOB

A longtime friend of the ASU baseball program, Eger serves as the color commentator for ASU baseball. He is also the historian for Arizona State athletics and recently wrote a book titled *The Maroon and Gold: A History of Arizona State Athletics*. Eger also worked as a journalist in the Phoenix area for more than 30 years and began covering ASU baseball for the State Press back



Reggie Jackson

5-TIME NCAA CHAMPIONS

in the late 1950s. For more information on how to order the book, please contact Eger at bob.eger@cox.net.

### EXHIBITION GAMES

Arizona State often plays exhibition games against major league teams whose Spring Training headquarters are in the Valley of the Sun. The Sun Devils haven't exactly fared well against the big-leaguers but, after all, it's the experience that counts. In 28 games against the Cubs, Angels, Athletics, Mariners and Brewers, ASU has an all-time record of 6-22.

### GOLDEN SPIKES AWARD

An award given annually to the top amateur baseball player in America which has been won by three Sun Devils. Bob Horner (1978), Oddibe McDowell (1984) and Mike Kelly (1991) all carried home the prestigious award while representing ASU. ASU ties Florida State and Cal State Fullerton for the school with the most Golden Spikes winners. A total of seven players have been named finalists for the award, including Dustin Pedroia in 2004.

### GREEN MONSTER

The 30-foot batting eye in center field at Packard Stadium at Brock Ballpark. It stands 400 feet away from home plate, and only 18 players have been able to launch one over the Monster in Packard Stadium at Brock Ballpark history. Brooks Conrad is the last ASU player to accomplish the feat. He did it in 2000 against Florida Atlantic. For a listing of the home runs hit over the Monster, see the Packard Stadium at Brock Ballpark section of the media guide (page 24).

### GRIFFEN, HORACE

The first Arizona State player ever to sign a professional contract. He signed with the Chicago White Sox in 1914, when baseball was still a club sport at ASU-and would be for another 44 years. Interestingly, Griffen ran for governor of the state of Arizona in 1956 but was defeated.

### HOME RUN LEADERS

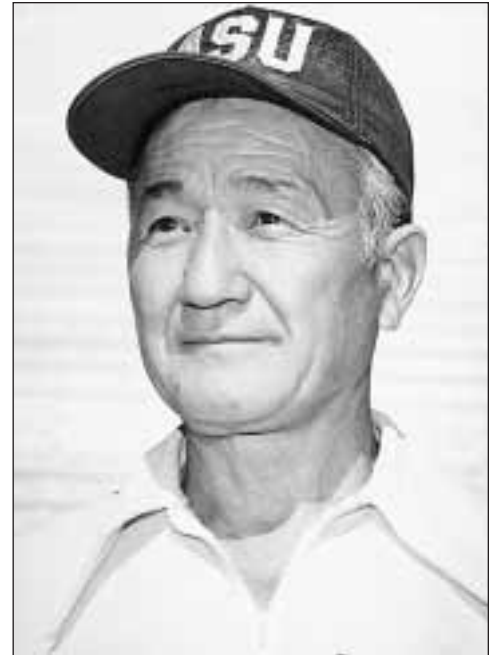
Former Sun Devil baseball players Barry Bonds and Reggie Jackson rank third and eighth, respectively, in the MLB career home run record book. Bonds and Jackson, who are also distant cousins, have combined to hit 1,271 career home runs. In ASU's 46 years of varsity baseball, the Sun Devils have connected on 2,909 home runs.

### CAREER MLB HOME RUN LEADERS

1.	.....Hank Aaron.....	755
2.	.....Babe Ruth.....	714
3.	..... <b>Barry Bonds</b> .....	<b>708</b>
4.	.....Willie Mays.....	660
5.	.....Frank Robinson.....	586
6.	.....Mark McGwire.....	583
7.	.....Harmon Killebrew.....	573
8.	..... <b>Reggie Jackson</b> .....	<b>563</b>
9.	.....Mike Schmidt.....	548
10.	.....Mickey Mantle.....	536

### INNINGS

The longest game in ASU history in terms of innings came 14 seasons ago against UCLA. It was an 18-inning affair on Feb. 23, 1990. Arizona State won, 6-5, and the game lasted a record five hours and 36 minutes. Eleven different pitchers took the hill for both teams. The Devils have played 17 extra inning



Bill Kajikawa

games dating back to the 2000 season, winning 12 of those games.

### JACKSON, REGGIE

Mr. October himself, and the most famous letterman in ASU baseball history. Jackson played just one season, in 1966, batting .327 with 15 homers and 65 RBI. The Sun Devils went 41-11 that year. Jackson, who played defensive back for the Sun Devil football team, played 20 years in the majors, hitting 548 home runs and winning five World Championship rings. He was a 1993 inductee into the Baseball Hall of Fame in his first year of eligibility.

### JONES, MITCH

Mitch Jones spent only two years in a Sun Devil uniform but made history during that time. Jones belted 27 home runs during the 2000 season to set an ASU single-season record, breaking the previous mark of 25 set by Bob Horner in 1978. Jones hit 38 home runs in his two years to rank seventh in the ASU career record books. He is currently an outfield prospect in the New York Yankees farm system and led the Eastern League in 2004 with 39 home runs for the Double-A Trenton Thunder.

### KAJIKAWA, BILL

Mr. Sun Devil himself, Bill Kajikawa was an athlete and a player at Arizona State, and today is one of the biggest supporters of the athletics program. Kajikawa played baseball and football at ASU, and coached over the course of five decades at ASU. Former ASU head football coach Frank Kush says Kajikawa "epitomizes what Sun Devil athletics is all about." Kajikawa recently celebrated his 94th birthday.

### LO DUCA, PAUL

In 1993, Paul Lo Duca set college baseball ablaze with his hitting heroics. *The Sporting News* Player of the Year broke the Sun Devil record for hits in a season (129) and hitting average (.446). The 5-10 catcher also owned a 37-game hitting streak, the longest in the nation in 1993 and the second longest in ASU history. Lo Duca made his second All-Star Game appearance in 2004 in Houston and was traded from the Los Angeles Dodgers to the



**Casey Myers**

Florida Marlins. In parts of eight major league seasons, Lo Duca is a career .285 hitter with 156 doubles and 66 home runs.

**MVP**

An honor bestowed upon two former Sun Devils at the major league level. Oakland's Reggie Jackson was American League MVP in 1973 and World Series MVP in 1977, while Barry Bonds has earned the accolade an unprecedented seven times: twice with Pittsburgh in 1990 and 1992, and in 1993, 2001, 2002, 2003 and 2004 with the San Francisco Giants.

**MYERS, CASEY**

One of ASU's most decorated players in history, Casey Myers starred at ASU from 1998-2001. A three-time All-American on the field and in the classroom, he showed that they don't come much classier than Casey Myers. A career .384 hitter—ranking third with 313 hits, second with 275 RBI, sixth with 39 home runs and fourth with 64 doubles—Myers has moved on to professional baseball, where he was a Northwest League All-Star for the Vancouver Canadians. He spent last summer playing for the Midland RockHounds in the Texas League.

**NCAA**

The Sun Devils are always a mainstay in the end-of-year NCAA statistical rankings. In fact, ASU was the only team in the NCAA in 2003 (among 283 teams) to rank in the Top 10 in the four major statistical categories (scoring, batting, pitching and fielding). ASU ranked second in batting (.347), second in scoring (10.03 runs per game), eighth in pitching (3.32 ERA) and ninth in fielding (.973 FLD%). ASU also set the single-season NCAA record with 14 grand slams. Arizona State also owns the consecutive games scoring streak record at 506 games.

**NO HITTERS**

There have been eight no-hitters in ASU history, the last one in 1993 by Kevin Rawitzer. Of the seven pitchers who hurled them, only Eddie Bane reached the big leagues.

**ODDIBE**

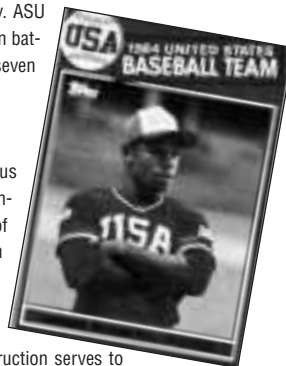
The first name of one of ASU's best players in the storied history of the program. Oddibe McDowell played for the Sun Devils in 1983-84, hitting a combined .380 with 30 home runs and 31 doubles in his two years. His 1984 season, in which he hit .405 with 23 home runs and 117 hits, remains one of the best offensive performances in school history and earned him a spot on the Team USA Olympic team. He also received the Golden Spikes Award.

**OMAHA ZOO**

The site where Oddibe McDowell's legendary home run in the 1984 College World Series landed—or so the story goes. The zoo is located well beyond the right-field fence at Rosenblatt Stadium. Against Oklahoma State on June 5, McDowell took a John Duval pitch and launched a mammoth blast deep and far into the Omaha night. Of course, no mere mortal could actually reach the zoo. Then again, no one ever saw the ball land, either. ASU won, 23-12.

**PAC-10**

The Conference of Champions has been home to ASU baseball since the 1979 season. Posting a combined 442-323 record in Pac-10 play, the Sun Devils have brought home six Pac-10 championships, most recently in 2000. ASU has had 104 players named to the All-Pac-10 team and six Pac-10 Coach of the Year selections. The Pac-10 used to be split up into the North and South Divisions, but combined in 1999 as Washington, Washington State and Oregon State joined with the Six Pac. Since the two divisions combined, ASU has won four of the seven Pac-10 Player of the Year awards and combined for a 102-66 record in league play. ASU has also led the league in batting in five of the last seven seasons.



**PALM WALK**

Arizona State's campus landmark. It's a path running through the heart of campus that's lined with majestic palm trees on both sides. There were 92 trees along the walk at last count, but construction serves to change that number frequently.

**RETIRED JERSEYS**

Despite a plethora of stars who have played at Arizona State University, only 14 numbers have been retired: Bobby Winkles, No. 1; Reggie Jackson, No. 44 (the number he made famous as a pro; he wore 24 at ASU); Oddibe McDowell, No. 0; Barry Bonds, No. 24; Sal Bando, No. 6; Bob Horner, No. 5; Dr. Jim Brock, No. 33; Floyd Bannister, No. 19; Rick Monday, No. 27; Larry Gura, No. 14; Alan Bannister, No. 7; Eddie Bane, No. 21; Hubie Brooks, No. 14; and most recently, Paul Lo Duca, No. 16. With 69 players that have earned All-America honors and 82 Major Leaguers, Arizona State must be conservative with its jersey retirement policy. All 14 have their numbers on Packard Stadium at Brock Ballpark's right- or left-field walls.

**RIVALRY**

Year in and year out, the Arizona State-Arizona rivalry has proven to be one of the best in all of college baseball. While the series extends all the way back to the start of baseball at ASU in 1907, ASU has dominated the series since officially adopting varsity baseball in 1959. Since 1959 when Bobby Winkles took over ASU, the Sun Devils lead the series 166-107. Current ASU head coach Pat Murphy has dominated the series against the Wildcats, going 35-20 (.636) in his 11 seasons. This year, the Sun Devils and Wildcats will play a non-conference game in Chase Field, home of the Arizona Diamondbacks.

**SCHMUCK, ROGER**

Former head coach at Mesa Community College and Sun Devil star of the early 1970s. Schmuck's claim to fame is his 45-game hitting streak in 1971. It stood for 10 years as an NCAA record, and currently ranks as the third-longest streak in history. Schmuck hit safely in every game from March 8 to May 14. During the streak, the senior first baseman hit .477 with 10 homers and 66 RBI. His slugging percentage was an astronomical .829. Amazingly, when Schmuck arrived at the park on March 8, he was hitting a woeful .167. Little did he know what the next two months held in store. The streak ended when Schmuck went 0-4 against UTEP pitcher Marc Bombard. The big left-hander hit .434 for the year, which stands second in the ASU record book.

**SCHMUCK'S STREAK**

Dates: .....March 8 to May 8, 1971  
 Games: .....45 .....Average: .....477  
 At-Bats: .....170 .....HR: .....10  
 Hits: .....81 .....RBI: .....66  
 Slugging Pct: .....829  
 Streak Extended in Last At-Bat: 6 times  
 Then: Longest streak in NCAA history  
 Now: Third longest in NCAA history



**Hubie Brooks**

continued

NCAA CHAMPIONS: 1965, 1967, 1969, 1977, 1981

## Baseball A to Z continued

### SLAUGHTER, STERLING

An All-America pitcher in 1963 who arrived in the major leagues with the Chicago Cubs in 1964. What's so noteworthy about that, you ask? Slaughter pulled a memorable double-first: He was the first of Arizona State's numerous All-Americans and also the first of the school's eventual 80 major-leaguers.

### SPARKY

The official mascot of Arizona State athletics. It was designed in 1946 by Bert Anthony, who was a cartoonist for Walt Disney, which means that Sparky, Mickey Mouse and Goofy are first cousins. ASU was formerly known as the Bulldogs until the mascot switch in 1946.

### SPORTS ILLUSTRATED

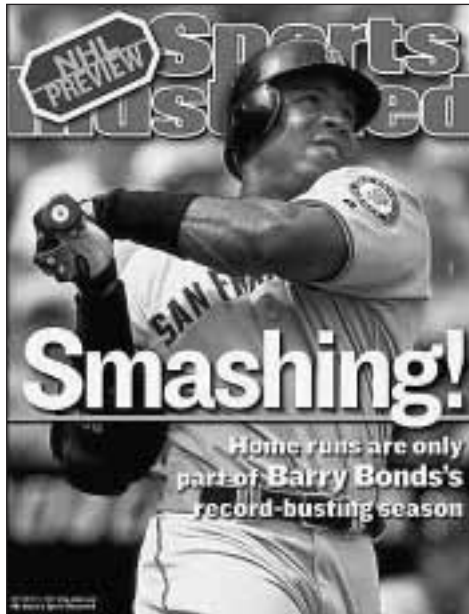
Arizona State baseball alumni have appeared on SI covers a total of 15 times. OK, so Reggie is on 10 of them. The other cover boys? Texas Rangers rookie Bump Wills in 1977 and Barry Bonds in 1993, 2001, 2002 and 2004.

### SPRING TRAINING FACILITIES

Arizona State is blessed to be surrounded by some of the finest spring training facilities in the nation. The Sun Devils are also fortunate to have a working relationship with several of the facilities. ASU played nearly its entire home schedule and the NCAA Regionals at Hohokam Park (spring training home of the Chicago Cubs) in Mesa in 2002. ASU also hosted 2003 NCAA Regional at Tempe Diablo Stadium and will play in a tournament for the fourth straight year at Surprise Stadium in Surprise, Ariz, spring training home of the Texas Rangers and Kansas City Royals.



Roger Schmuck



### STREAK

Arizona State holds the NCAA record having scored in 506 consecutive games. The streak ran from April 8, 1995 to Feb. 15, 2004. The Devils were 338-167-1 during the streak. The next closest streak was 349 games set by Coastal Carolina.

### TEAM USA

Arizona State ranks eighth for producing player for the USA Baseball National Team. ASU has had at least one player on the national team in nine different years dating back to 1984 and a total of 10 Sun Devils have worn the Red, White and Blue of Team USA. ASU has also sent a player to play for Team USA in six of the last eight years. Travis Buck is the latest to join this elite class, helping Team USA to a gold medal performance in the 2004 FISU World University Baseball Championships.

### TEMPE

The home of Arizona State University, founded in 1872 by Charles Trumbell Hayden, when he established the Hayden Milling and Farming Ditch Company. (The Hayden Flour Mill, by the way, still stands on Mill Avenue near the south bank of the Salt River.) Tempe, which was incorporated in 1894, has a population of 158,625 and averages 325 days of sunshine per year. The town presently encompasses 39.5 square miles. The average daily high temperature is 85 degrees.

### TICKETS

Call the Arizona State ticket office at 480-727-0000 for season and individual game ticket prices, as well as information on special discount rates for juniors, seniors, faculty, staff and students.

### VICTORIES

Arizona State has 2,400 of them, dating back to the first year of baseball at Tempe Normal School in 1907. During ASU's modern history since 1959, the Sun Devils are 2,067-834-1. ASU's 2,400 all-time wins are the seventh most of all NCAA Division I baseball programs. ASU went 42-25 in 2005, marking the 27th time in program history to surpass the 40-win mark in a season.

### WHITE, DANNY

Better known as the former quarterback of the Dallas Cowboys, Danny White also earned two letters on the diamond at ASU. He wasn't bad, either. In 40 games during the 1972 season, he hit .325 with five homers and 16 RBI. An infielder, he slumped to .200 in limited action in 1973, and probably made the right career choice by pursuing football.

### WINKLES, BOBBY

The first varsity baseball coach at ASU, Winkles guided the Sun Devils to a 524-173 mark from 1959 to '71. He captured three National Championships—in 1965, '67 and '69—and was named to the American Baseball Coaches Hall of Fame for his accomplishments as a college and professional baseball coach. Winkles was honored for his numerous coaching milestones at ASU when the field at Packard Stadium was dedicated as Bobby Winkles Field in 2001.



Bobby Winkles

### WWW.THESUNDEVILS.COM

ASU's official website, complete with information on all of ASU's 22 varsity sports. All of ASU's games can be viewed on [www.TheSunDevils.com](http://www.TheSunDevils.com) via Live Stats, along with selected games heard via an audio webcast. Statistics, game stories and press releases are also updated daily.

### ZBIKOWSKI, FRAN

One of only three players to ever letter in baseball at ASU whose last name begins with "Z." Zbikowski lettered in 1970-71, while Stuart Zink lettered from 1955-56. Junior pitcher and designated hitter Zechry Zinicola is just the third player to letter with a last name starting with Z.

## ARIZONA STATE SUN DEVIL BASEBALL 2006 Schedule

DAY	DATE	OPPONENT	SITE	TIME
Saturday	Jan. 21	Alumni Game (Exhibition)	Tempe, Ariz. • Packard Stadium at Brock Ballpark	1 p.m.
Friday	Jan. 27	CS Northridge	Tempe, Ariz. • Packard Stadium at Brock Ballpark	7 p.m.
Saturday	Jan. 28	CS Northridge	Tempe, Ariz. • Packard Stadium at Brock Ballpark	1 p.m.
Sunday	Jan. 29	CS Northridge	Tempe, Ariz. • Packard Stadium at Brock Ballpark	1 p.m.
Friday	Feb. 3	Northern Illinois	Tempe, Ariz. • Packard Stadium at Brock Ballpark	7 p.m.
Saturday	Feb. 4	Northern Illinois	Tempe, Ariz. • Packard Stadium at Brock Ballpark	1 p.m.
Sunday	Feb. 5	Northern Illinois	Tempe, Ariz. • Packard Stadium at Brock Ballpark	1 p.m.
Friday	Feb. 10	Gonzaga \$	Surprise, Ariz. • Surprise Stadium	7 p.m.
Saturday	Feb. 11	Oregon State \$	Surprise, Ariz. • Surprise Stadium	3 p.m.
Sunday	Feb. 12	Nevada \$	Surprise, Ariz. • Surprise Stadium	3 p.m.
Friday	Feb. 17	Houston	Tempe, Ariz. • Packard Stadium at Brock Ballpark	7 p.m.
Saturday	Feb. 18	Houston	Tempe, Ariz. • Packard Stadium at Brock Ballpark	1 p.m.
Sunday	Feb. 19	Houston	Tempe, Ariz. • Packard Stadium at Brock Ballpark	1 p.m.
Friday	Feb. 24	at Baylor	Waco, Texas • Baylor Ballpark	6 p.m.
Saturday	Feb. 25	at Baylor	Waco, Texas • Baylor Ballpark	3 p.m.
Sunday	Feb. 26	at Baylor	Waco, Texas • Baylor Ballpark	1 p.m.
Tuesday	Feb. 28	Texas Tech	Tempe, Ariz. • Packard Stadium at Brock Ballpark	7 p.m.
Friday	Mar. 3	Auburn	Tempe, Ariz. • Packard Stadium at Brock Ballpark	7 p.m.
Saturday	Mar. 4	Auburn	Tempe, Ariz. • Packard Stadium at Brock Ballpark	1 p.m.
Sunday	Mar. 5	Auburn	Tempe, Ariz. • Packard Stadium at Brock Ballpark	12 p.m.
Friday	Mar. 10	Texas A&M Corpus Christi #	Corpus Christi, Texas • Whataburger Field	6:30 p.m.
Saturday	Mar. 11	Rice #	Corpus Christi, Texas • Whataburger Field	5:30 p.m.
Sunday	Mar. 12	TCU #	Corpus Christi, Texas • Whataburger Field	11:30 a.m.
Tuesday	Mar. 14	at Texas	Austin, Texas • Disch-Falk Field	6:15 p.m.
Friday	Mar. 17	Oklahoma	Tempe, Ariz. • Packard Stadium at Brock Ballpark	7 p.m.
Saturday	Mar. 18	Oklahoma	Tempe, Ariz. • Packard Stadium at Brock Ballpark	6 p.m.
Sunday	Mar. 19	Oklahoma	Tempe, Ariz. • Packard Stadium at Brock Ballpark	1 p.m.
Friday	Mar. 24	Penn State	Tempe, Ariz. • Packard Stadium at Brock Ballpark	7 p.m.
Saturday	Mar. 25	Penn State	Tempe, Ariz. • Packard Stadium at Brock Ballpark	6 p.m.
Sunday	Mar. 26	Penn State	Tempe, Ariz. • Packard Stadium at Brock Ballpark	12 p.m.
Thursday	Mar. 30	at Washington State *	Pullman, Wash. • Bailey-Brayton Field	6 p.m.
Friday	Mar. 31	at Washington State *	Pullman, Wash. • Bailey-Brayton Field	6 p.m.
Saturday	Apr. 1	at Washington State *	Pullman, Wash. • Bailey-Brayton Field	1 p.m.
Sunday	Apr. 2	Arizona	Phoenix, Ariz. • Chase Field	5 p.m.
Friday	Apr. 7	Washington *	Tempe, Ariz. • Packard Stadium at Brock Ballpark	7 p.m.
Saturday	Apr. 8	Washington *	Tempe, Ariz. • Packard Stadium at Brock Ballpark	6 p.m.
Sunday	Apr. 9	Washington *	Tempe, Ariz. • Packard Stadium at Brock Ballpark	1 p.m.
Thursday	Apr. 13	USC *	Tempe, Ariz. • Packard Stadium at Brock Ballpark	7 p.m.
Friday	Apr. 14	USC *	Tempe, Ariz. • Packard Stadium at Brock Ballpark	7 p.m.
Saturday	Apr. 15	USC *	Tempe, Ariz. • Packard Stadium at Brock Ballpark	1 p.m.
Monday	Apr. 17	at Texas Tech	Lubbock, Texas • Dan Law Field	6:30 p.m.
Friday	Apr. 21	at UCLA *	Los Angeles, Calif. • Jackie Robinson Stadium	6 p.m.
Saturday	Apr. 22	at UCLA *	Los Angeles, Calif. • Jackie Robinson Stadium	2 p.m.
Sunday	Apr. 23	at UCLA *	Los Angeles, Calif. • Jackie Robinson Stadium	1 p.m.
Friday	Apr. 28	at Stanford *	Stanford, Calif. • Sunken Diamond	6 p.m.
Saturday	Apr. 29	at Stanford *	Stanford, Calif. • Sunken Diamond	1 p.m.
Sunday	Apr. 30	at Stanford *	Stanford, Calif. • Sunken Diamond	1 p.m.
Tuesday	May 2	Arizona	Tempe, Ariz. • Packard Stadium at Brock Ballpark	7 p.m.
Friday	May 12	Oregon State *	Tempe, Ariz. • Packard Stadium at Brock Ballpark	7 p.m.
Saturday	May 13	Oregon State *	Tempe, Ariz. • Packard Stadium at Brock Ballpark	6 p.m.
Sunday	May 14	Oregon State *	Tempe, Ariz. • Packard Stadium at Brock Ballpark	1 p.m.
Friday	May 19	at Arizona *	Tucson, Ariz. • Kindall Field at Sancet Stadium	7 p.m.
Saturday	May 20	at Arizona *	Tucson, Ariz. • Kindall Field at Sancet Stadium	6 p.m.
Sunday	May 21	at Arizona *	Tucson, Ariz. • Kindall Field at Sancet Stadium	12 p.m.
Friday	May 26	California *	Tempe, Ariz. • Packard Stadium at Brock Ballpark	7 p.m.
Saturday	May 27	California *	Tempe, Ariz. • Packard Stadium at Brock Ballpark	6 p.m.
Sunday	May 28	California *	Tempe, Ariz. • Packard Stadium at Brock Ballpark	1 p.m.
Fri-Mon	June 2-5	NCAA Regionals	16 sites/4 teams each	
Fri-Mon	June 9-12	Super Regionals	8 sites/2 teams each	
Fri-Mon	June 16-26	College World Series	Omaha, Neb. (Rosenblatt Stadium)	

\* - Pac-10 Conference Game \$ - 4th Annual Coca-Cola Spring Training Classic - Surprise Stadium (ASU, Oregon State, Gonzaga, Nevada)

# - 1st Annual Corpus Christi Baseball Classic (ASU, Rice, TCU, Texas A&M Corpus Christi)

## 2006 Roster



No.	PITCHERS	POS.	B/T	HT.	WT.	YR./EXP.	Hometown (High School/Last School)
25	Urlaub, Jeff	LHP	L/L	6-0	160	Fr./HS	Scottsdale, Ariz. (Horizon)
30	Bowman, Drew	LHP	B/L	6-4	180	Fr./RS*	Morrison, Colo. (Dakota Ridge)
31	Dryanski, Kevin	RHP	R/R	6-1	225	Sr./1V	Phoenix, Ariz. (Mtn. Pointe/Hutchinson CC)
32	Barnette, Tony	RHP	R/R	6-2	190	Sr./1V	Federal Way, Wash. (Thomas Jefferson/CAC)
37	Zinicola, Zechry	RHP/1B	R/R	6-1	220	Jr./2V	San Bernardino, Calif. (Arlington)
39	Davis, Ike	LHP/OF	L/L	6-5	200	Fr./HS	Scottsdale, Ariz. (Chaparral)
40	Bresnehan, Pat	RHP	R/R	6-2	215	Jr./2V	Sherborn, Mass. (Dover Sherborn)
41	Satow, Josh	LHP	L/L	5-9	160	So./1V	Scottsdale, Ariz. (Desert Mountain)
43	Arreola, Daryl	RHP	R/R	6-0	175	Sr./TR*	Gilbert, Ariz. (Mesa/Chandler-Gilbert CC)
45	Martinez, Brady	RHP	R/R	5-10	195	Jr./TR	Price, Utah (Carbon/Utah)
47	Bruneel, Brett	RHP	R/R	6-2	190	Jr./TR*	Stockton, Calif. (Bear Creek/Delta College)
49	Bordes, Brett	LHP	L/L	6-0	180	Sr./3V	Mesa, Ariz. (Dobson)
51	Borup, Jake	RHP	R/R	6-4	175	Fr./HS	Mesa, Ariz. (Mountain View)
62	Trink, Matt	RHP	R/R	6-1	160	Jr./TR	Scottsdale, Ariz. (Horizon/Yavapai CC)

No.	CATCHERS	POS.	B/T	HT.	WT.	YR./EXP.	Hometown (High School/Last School)
11	Paramore, Preston	C	B/R	6-2	195	Fr./HS	Allen, Texas (Allen)
13	Stockfisch, Austin	C	B/R	6-1	165	So./1V	Scottsdale, Ariz. (Desert Mountain)
18	Bordes, Greg	C	R/R	5-8	155	So./1V	Mesa, Ariz. (Dobson)

No.	INFIELDBERS	POS.	B/T	HT.	WT.	YR./EXP.	Hometown (High School/Last School)
3	Landry, Jeff	INF	R/R	5-8	170	So./1V*	Walnut Creek, Calif. (Clayton Valley)
4	Retherford, CJ	3B/RHP	R/R	5-9	185	Jr./TR	Chandler, Ariz. (Hamilton/South Mountain CC)
6	Dhaenens, Seth	INF	L/R	6-2	190	Jr./2V*	Chandler, Ariz. (Mountain Pointe)
12	Romine, Andrew	SS	B/R	6-2	180	So./1V	Lake Forest, Calif. (Trabuco Hills)
15	Persichina, Joe	2B	L/R	6-0	190	Jr./2V	Rolling Hills Estates, Calif. (Peninsula)
17	Wells, Todd	INF	R/R	5-11	200	Fr./TR*	Claremont, Calif. (Claremont/Chaffey College)
20	Hall, Matt	3B/SS	R/R	6-2	180	Fr./HS	Scottsdale, Ariz. (Horizon)
22	Bando, Ben	1B/C	R/R	6-1	195	Jr./TR	Solon, Ohio (Lakeland/The Master's)
23	Wallace, Brett	1B	L/R	6-2	260	Fr./HS	Sonoma, Calif. (Justin-Siena)
28	Sogard, Eric	3B	L/R	5-9	170	So./1V	Phoenix, Ariz. (Thunderbird)
29	Mesa, Frank	INF/RHP	L/R	6-1	195	Sr./1V*	Yuma, Ariz. (Kofa/Arizona Western)

No.	OUTFIELDERS	POS.	B/T	HT.	WT.	YR./EXP.	Hometown (High School/Last School)
2	Sferra, J.J.	OF	L/L	5-11	160	So./1V	Phoenix, Ariz. (Mountain Pointe)
5	Sontag, Ryan	OF/LHP	L/L	5-10	175	So./TR	Monroe, Mich. (Jefferson/Michigan State)
9	Curtis, Colin	OF	L/L	6-2	200	Jr./2V	Issaquah, Wash. (Issaquah)
26	Laguna, Rocky	OF/RHP	L/R	5-10	170	So./1V*	Yuma, Ariz. (Kofa)
36	Butler, DJ	OF	L/R	6-1	210	So./1V	Benicia, Calif. (Benicia)

\* Has utilized redshirt year

### NUMERICAL ROSTER

2	.....J.J. Sferra, OF
3	.....Jeff Laundry, INF
4	.....CJ Retherford, 3B/RHP
5	.....Ryan Sontag, OF/LH
6	.....Seth Dhaenens, INF
8	.....Willy Fox, OF
9	.....Colin Curtis, OF
10	.....Tim Esmay (Asst. Coach)
11	.....Preston Paramore, C
12	.....Andrew Romine, SS
13	.....Austin Stockfisch, C
15	.....Joe Persichina, INF
17	.....Todd Wells, INF
18	.....Greg Bordes, C
20	.....Matt Hall, 3B/SS
22	.....Ben Bando, 1B/C
23	.....Brett Wallace, 1B
25	.....Jeff Urlaub, LHP
26	.....Rocky Laguna, OF/RHP
28	.....Eric Sogard, INF
29	.....Frank Mesa, INF/RHP
30	.....Drew Bowman, LHP
31	.....Kevin Dryanski, RHP
36	.....DJ Butler, OF
37	.....Zechry Zinicola, RHP/INF
38	.....Jeff Mousser (Asst. Coach)
39	.....Ike Davis, LHP/OF
40	.....Pat Bresnehan, RHP
41	.....Josh Satow, LHP
42	.....Pat Murphy (Head Coach)
43	.....Daryl Arreola, RHP
45	.....Brady Martinez, RHP
47	.....Brett Bruneel, RHP
49	.....Brett Bordes, LHP
51	.....Jake Borup, RHP
55	.....Jay J. Sferra (Asst. Coach)
62	.....Matt Trink, RHP

### BY POSITION

Catchers	.....5
Pitchers	.....18
Infielders	.....10
Outfielders	.....7
Utility	.....2

\*players with multi-positions included

### COACHING/SUPPORT:

**Head Coach:** 42 - Pat Murphy (12th year)

#### Assistant Coaches:

55 - Jay J. Sferra (11th year) - Outfielders/Recruiting

10 - Tim Esmay (2nd year/6th year overall at ASU) - Infielders/Hitting

38 - Jeff Mousser (1st year/2nd year overall at ASU) - Pitching/Camps

#### Director of Player Development and Baseball Operations:

Graham Rossini (7th year)

**Operations, Video and Equipment:** Steve Kirkman (8th year)

**Graduate Manager:** Billy Paganetti (1st year),

Joel Bocchi (1st year)

**Managers:** Brady Stern (1st year), Justin Molinaro (1st year)

**Office Assistant:** Sammie Nakama (4th year)/Keli Murphy (1st year)

**Sports Medicine/Rehab/Travel:** Kenny McCarty (9th year)

**Strength and Conditioning:** Jim Mancuso (11th year)

**Head Groundskeeper:** Mike Procops (3rd year)

### PRONUNCIATION GUIDE:

Bocchi	.....Bock-ee
Bordes	.....Bored-es
Dhaenens	.....Don-enns
Dryanski	.....Dry-ann-ski
Persichina	.....Purse-ih-keena
Satow	.....Sat-oh
Sferra	.....Suh-Fer-uh
Zechry	.....Zeck-ery

### BY CLASS:

<b>Freshmen:</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Sophomores:</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>Juniors:</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Seniors:</b>	<b>5</b>

# SUN DEVIL BASEBALL 2006

CWS APPEARANCES: 1964, 1965, 1967, 1969, 1972, 1973, 1975, 1976, 1977, 1978, 1981, 1983, 1984, 1987, 1988, 1993, 1994, 1998, 2005

NCAA CHAMPIONS: 1965, 1967, 1969, 1977, 1981

## 2006 Roster TV/RADIO



2 J.J. Sferra, OF



3 Jeff Landry, UTL



4 CJ Retherford, 3B/P



5 Ryan Sontag, OF/P



6 Seth Dhaenens, UTL



8 Willy Fox, OF



9 Colin Curtis, OF



11 Preston Paramore, C



12 Andrew Romine, SS



13 Austin Stockfisch, C



15 Joe Persichina, 2B



17 Todd Wells, INF



18 Greg Bordes, C



20 Matt Hall, 3B/SS



22 Ben Bando, 1B/C



23 Brett Wallace, 1B



25 Jeff Urlaub, LHP



26 Rocky Laguna, OF/P



28 Eric Sogard, 3B



29 Frank Mesa, INF/P



30 Drew Bowman, LHP



31 Kevin Dryanski, RHP



32 Tony Barnette, RHP



36 DJ Butler, OF



37 Zechry Zinicola, RHP/IB



39 Ike Davis, LHP/OF



40 Pat Bresnehan, RHP



41 Josh Satow, LHP



43 Daryl Arreola, RHP



45 Brady Martinez, RHP



47 Brett Bruneel, RHP



49 Brett Bordes, LHP



51 Jake Borup, RHP



62 Matt Trink, RHP

### Coaches



Pat Murphy, Head Coach



Jay Sferra, Asst. Coach



Tim Esmay, Asst. Coach



Jeff Mouser, Asst. Coach



Joel Bocchi, Grad. Manager



Graham Rossini, Dir of Ops.

## Winkles Field-Packard Stadium At Brock Ballpark

**W**inkles Field-Packard Stadium at Brock Ballpark, the home of Arizona State baseball since 1974, is one of the nation's most beautiful ballparks—and it is about to get that much better. The 30-year-old stadium has undergone a \$1 million renovation as part of phase one of the Packard Stadium renovation project and plans to continue to improve the facility are on the drawing board. The actual field at Packard Stadium did not carry a name until 2001, when it was dedicated as Bobby Winkles Field. Winkles, ASU's first varsity baseball coach (from 1959-71), won ASU's first three national championships. Brock Ballpark was added to the baseball facilities name in 2006, to honor the late Dr. Jim Brock, who won two National Championships with the Sun Devils.

The outfield wall at Packard Stadium is lined with palm trees, and just beyond the right-field fence is the award-winning Karsten Golf Course. In left field, sparkling Tempe Town Lake is visible. In the distance, the Superstition Mountains offer a picturesque backdrop.

But for every bit of beauty that envelops the facility, there is an equal dose of tradition.

The stadium is the home of two national championship teams and 14 NCAA regional tournaments. Arizona State's all-time record at Packard is 868-251-1, for a winning percentage of .775. Last season, ASU

was 25-7 at Packard Stadium and over the last five seasons ASU has won nearly 80% of its games at Packard Stadium (135-42-1).

Dimensions of Packard are 339 feet down the lines, 370 feet in the power alleys and 395 to straightaway center. The fence is 10 feet high. Located five feet beyond the center-field wall is the "Green Monster," a 30-foot-high batting eye. Only 18 players have ever hit a home run over the Monster.

With a capacity of around 4,000, Packard has more than 3,000 permanent seats in the main grandstand, which are backed for spectator comfort. Field-level box seats are also available behind home plate. The remaining seats, which run down the first-base line, also provide outstanding views of the game. A berm was added down the third-base line to provide fans with a different way to watch and enjoy the game.

Over the years Packard

has received numerous upgrades, including a new scoreboard, valued at \$240,000, that was installed in left-center field. A product of Daktronics, Inc., in South Dakota, the scoreboard is fully equipped for graphics, animation and messages on its color matrix board.

A new players facility opened in August, 2004 that includes a clubhouse and a state-of-the-art sports medicine facility. Head Coach Pat Murphy also had an office constructed that is located on the terrace level of the new clubhouse.

The Packard Stadium press box, situated atop the grandstand directly behind home plate, includes booths for television and radio coverage, as well as ample space for print media. Improvements were made to the press facility over the last four years, when statistic monitors were added to



Two of ASU's three varsity head coaches, Bobby Winkles and Pat Murphy, share a moment on Bobby Winkles Day in 2001.

### MONSTER HOME RUNS

The following players are the only 18 in the history of Packard Stadium to hit a home run over the "Green Monster" in center field.

Dennis Haines, Arizona, 1974
Kevin Romine, Arizona State, 1981
Barry Bonds, Arizona State, 1983
Luis Medina, Arizona State, 1984
Romy Cucjen, Arizona State, 1984
Tony Mattia, Arizona State, 1987
Steve Willis, Arizona State, 1988
Tim Griffin, Stanford, 1989
Anthony Manahan, Arizona State, 1990
Todd Stevenson, Arizona State, 1990
Mike Kelly, Arizona State, 1990
Doug Newstrom, Arizona State, 1993
Antone Williamson, Arizona State, 1993
Tim DeCinces, UCLA, 1996
Matt Meyer, Nebraska, 1996
Dion Ruecker, Texas Tech, 1996
Mitch Jones, Arizona State, 1999
Brooks Conrad, Arizona State, 2000

the radio booths and live stats were produced over the Internet from the press box. The facility is also in the beginning planning stages of undergoing renovation.

Just about every year, improvements are made to this already magnificent baseball facility. A separate building containing batting tunnels and a conditioning area was built in the fall of 1997 and is located on the third-base side of Packard. The batting cage area doubles as the press room/interview room during NCAA Tournament play. The Sun Devils' bullpen area was also remodeled and upgraded to include three pitching mounds. A brand new playing surface and drainage system was installed during the 2002 season, as well as a new entrance to the stadium.

In addition, a new public-address system was added, replacing the sound system that had been in place since Packard Stadium opened in 1974.

Packard has 160 metal halide lights, which is the same amount used in Double-A lighting for night games. The playing surface consists of tiff green grass in the infield and Bermuda grass in the outfield. The dirt portion of the infield is crushed red brick, which can be found at many major league stadiums.

Packard's existence was made possible through a gift to Arizona State from Guthrie and Peter Packard. Both are alumni of ASU, and the stadium is a tribute to their late father, William Guthrie Packard, a prominent member of the publishing industry for many years. Mr. Packard served the Shepard Company for 51 years, rising from sales representative to president to chairman of the board. He was also active in various community and church affairs in Colorado and Arizona.

#### PACKARD STADIUM FIRSTS

**Game:** April 7, 1974 (USC 6, ASU 4)

**Crowd:** 4,637

**ASU Pitcher:** Dale Hrovat

**Hit:** Rich Dauer of USC in first inning

**Home Run:** ASU's Clay Westlake vs. LaVerne, April 9, 1974

#### PACKARD'S PLACARDS:

Packard Stadium's outfield wall is enhanced with placards that capture the rich tradition of Arizona State baseball. Fourteen (14) jersey numbers are on display. They belong to Bobby Winkles (#1), Dr. Jim Brock (#33), Oddibe McDowell (#0), Reggie Jackson (#44), Barry Bonds (#24), Sal Bando (#6), Bob Horner (#5), Floyd Bannister (#19), Rick Monday (#27), Larry Gura (#14), Hubie Brooks (#7), Eddie Bane (#21), Alan Bannister (#7) and Paul Lo Duca (#16). Jackson wore #24 at ASU, but became synonymous with #44 during his years with the New York Yankees.

# 2006 Outlook

## ARIZONA SUN DEVIL BASEBALL



To get so close to your goal only to come up short would devastate some people. But for Arizona State University baseball, it only serves as motivation to go out and accomplish what you set out to do.

What the Sun Devils have set out to do is bring a sixth National Championship home to Tempe. 2005 brought ASU their 19th College World Series appearance, and their 3rd place finish cemented the program's place on the national scene. But the goals for 12th-year head coach Pat Murphy go beyond an impressive showing in Omaha—they are to win the ultimate prize in college baseball, a College World Series Championship.

"Getting back to the College World Series was a great experience and a wonderful accomplishment for this program," said Murphy. "But our goal is not just to get to Omaha, our goal is to win the National Championship. Every year, we set out with the objective to win that championship ring, to bring that trophy back to Tempe. Those are high expectations, but I think they are reasonable for the type of program that we have."

ASU enters 2006 with experienced talent returning; 20 letter winners from last season's CWS squad will be back. The team will also receive an influx of gifted newcomers ready to make their mark on Sun Devil baseball. They all have their sights set on one common goal, a return trip to Omaha and the College World Series.

"The guys we have back have now gotten a taste, and I know they are going to want to return to finish the job," said Murphy. "If the veterans can instill some of that 'unfinished business' mentality into our youngsters, we could have a very successful season."

Arizona State will begin this season like every other year, ranked highly in the polls and expected to compete for a conference title. The Sun Devils begin the season ranked #12 by *Collegiate Baseball* and #16 by *Baseball America*.

As is to be expected when you are a top-flight program, you have to reload for the talent you have lost. The Sun Devils lost nine letter winners from last year's team, including six starters. ASU continued their trend of sending players to the pros, as seven Sun Devils were drafted in the 2005 MLB draft, led by First Rounder Travis Buck (Oakland A's).

**The 2005  
College World  
Series was  
certainly a  
memorable  
affair for  
anyone who  
is a fan of  
the Maroon  
and Gold.**



Joe Persichina

continued

# SUN DEVIL BASEBALL 2006

NCAA CHAMPIONS: 1965, 1967, 1969, 1977, 1981

## 2006 Outlook continued

Colin Curtis



However, five Sun Devil recruits who were drafted in the 2005 draft opted to attend school, putting ASU in the position of being loaded with young talent.

"Any time you have the type of success we have had as a program, you are going to lose some players to the pros," said Murphy. "With that being said, we have a great combination of returners and youngsters who are ready to go out and represent Arizona State University to the absolute best of their abilities. Our goals are the same this year as they have been in the past: compete for the Pac-10 title and win the national championship."

To go with the 19 returning letter winners, Murphy and his staff have added the second-ranked recruiting class in the nation. Several impact players will make their Sun Devil debuts in 2006, and the man who has led ASU to the postseason in eight of the last nine years couldn't be more excited about the possibilities.

"Coach Sferra has once again done an exceptional job of bringing top-flight talent to ASU. There are some freshmen coming in who could potentially be major contributors very early on in the season," added Murphy. "The talented group of newcomers we have assembled for 2006 will experience growing pains, just like all young players, but I think the experience they will gain by playing in January and February will really help us come May and hopefully on into June."

The 2006 Sun Devils feature a 34-man roster, with five seniors, ten juniors, eleven sophomores and eight freshmen. The Sun Devils will be led by the combination of junior outfielder Colin Curtis, junior Zechry Zinicola, junior righty Pat Bresnehan and senior lefty Brett Bordes. The incoming class of players features both high school players and transfers who can have an immediate impact. The group includes six high school players,

Austin Stockfisch



four junior college transfers, an NAIA transfer and two Division I transfers.

"We are fortunate to have guys like Colin Curtis, Pat Bresnehan and Zech Zinicola back for us this season," said Murphy. "The leadership they can bring to our team will be an invaluable asset. They have two seasons with the program under their belts, and they are familiar with the Sun Devil way. Hopefully their leadership and experience will rub off on some of our new guys."

The 2006 team will once again be indicative of a Pat Murphy coached team: hit for average, play solid defense and approach every game with a playoff mentality.

"We have a very clear-cut goal, and that is to be the best team in the nation," said the 1998 *Baseball America* Coach of the Year and 2000 Pac-10 Coach of the Year. "We have a lot of youth blended with experience, but we also have a singular focus. There are ups and downs in every season. Our goal is to weather whatever storms may come our way and accomplish the goal that we set each and every year."

### A LOOK BACK

The 2005 season was certainly a memorable one, as the Sun Devils returned to Omaha and the College World Series for the first time since 1998. ASU finished the season with a 42-25 record and ended the year ranked as high as third in the national polls.

Travis Buck earned All-American accolades thanks to his .382 batting average, on the way to being drafted in the first round by the Oakland Athletics. Buck also earned First Team All-Pac-10 honors, where he was joined by Jeff Larish, who belted 23 homers and hit .324 for the season. Larish was a fifth round pick of the Detroit Tigers. Nine other Sun Devils earned All-Pac-10 Honorable Mentions. Larish and Buck also earned All-CWS Team honors, along with Colin Curtis and Joey Hooft.

On the mound, ASU was led by lefty Erik Averill, who went 11-4 with a 3.39 ERA. Jason Urquidez was equally as impressive, posting a 10-4 record. Averill was drafted by the Tigers, while Urquidez was selected by the Arizona Diamondbacks.

The 2005 postseason was certainly one for the books. The Sun Devils hosted a regional at Packard Stadium, welcoming in East Carolina, UNLV and #24 Coastal Carolina. ASU rolled through the regional, knocking off ECU 9-6, then beating Coastal Carolina twice, 11-3 and 9-5, to advance to the Super Regional. Waiting for Arizona State in the Super Regional was their long-time nemesis and defending National Champion Cal-State Fullerton. The Titans eliminated the Sun Devils in 2004 at Goodwin Field in Fullerton on their way to the national title, and now Arizona State was looking for revenge. The Titans hosted the Super Regional as the #6 seed in the country, and took the opening game of the series on a controversial balk in the ninth inning that allowed the winning run to score. Arizona State would not be denied, as they came storming back to take the next two games, earning their 19th trip to Omaha with a 9-8 victory.

The 2005 College World Series was certainly a memorable affair for anyone who is a fan of the Maroon and Gold, as the Sun Devils took home a third place finish. After falling to Nebraska in the opening game of the CWS, ASU would face Tennessee in a loser out battle. The Sun Devils trailed, 2-1, entering the eighth inning, but after RBI hits by Travis Buck and Joey Hooft pulled the Sun Devils even. Seth Dhaenens gave ASU their first lead of the game with his RBI double to put the Sun Devils up 3-2. ASU would add an insurance run to lead 4-2 heading into the bottom of the eighth. A two run lead was all Pat Bresnehan would need, as the righty shut down the Volunteers to lead ASU to a 4-2 victory. Bresnehan threw 3.1 scoreless innings to earn his fifth win of the season and help ASU advance.

Waiting for the Sun Devils was Nebraska, who knocked off

Rocky Laguna



**“We work every day to make our dream of another national title come true.”**

—Head Coach Pat Murphy

some of the top teams in the nation, and we wouldn't want it any other way.”

Of ASU's 56 games, 27 will be against teams that advanced to the NCAA Tournament last season, and eight will be against College World Series participants. The Sun Devils will face 11 teams ranked in the preseason Top 40 rankings, including five ranked Pac-10 teams. Annually one of the toughest conferences in the nation, the Pac-10 will once again feature some talented schools.

“It's no secret that the Pac-10 is one of the strongest conferences in the country. Oregon State was in Omaha last

year, Stanford and USC are perennial powers and you can't overlook Washington, Cal or Arizona either,” said Murphy. “ Those teams are vying for the postseason every year, and Washington State and UCLA will be much improved also. There are no free passes in the Pac-10, you have to be ready to play day in and day out. Every game will be a dogfight.”

Zechry Zinicola



**WHO RETURNS**

The 2006 Sun Devils will feature 20 players who have suited up for the Maroon and Gold before. Headlining these returners is junior outfielder Colin Curtis. Curtis, a preseason First-Team All-American selection, had a stellar season in 2005. He hit .342, including .400 during the NCAA Tournament, en route to being named to the All-Tempe Regional Team and the All-College World Series Team. Curtis was named to the Wallace Award Watch list for the upcoming season.

“Colin has a chance to have a very special year,” said Murphy. “He has a lot of talent, but more than that, he is a great competitor. Colin

Arizona State 5-3 in the CWS opener. The Sun Devils would jump out to an early 1-0 lead on a Jeff Larish solo homer, and then extended it to 2-0 after another Larish blast. The Huskers would answer back, scoring three in the fourth to pull ahead 3-2. ASU would add three more runs to take a 5-3 lead heading into the ninth. Nebraska's Andy Gerch would quickly erase that deficit, blasting a three-run shot to give the Cornhuskers the lead. All told, they would score four runs in the ninth to take a 7-5 lead into the bottom of the inning. ASU cut it to 7-6, but were down to their final out when Jeff Larish once again stepped to the plate. Larish would sock the first pitch thrown to him over the wall for his CWS and ASU record-tying third home run of the day, sending the game into extra innings. In the eleventh inning, freshman outfielder J.J. Sferra etched his name into Sun Devil lore as his bloop single scored Joey Hooft to send the Sun Devils to an epic 11-inning victory. After the game, ESPN would deem the game an “instant classic.”

After eliminating the Huskers, ASU would face Florida in yet another elimination game for the Sun Devils. With their backs to the wall, Erik Averill threw a complete game gem, allowing only five hits in a 6-1 victory over the Gators. The Sun Devils magical Omaha ride would end the next day however, as Florida would erase an early 3-0 deficit and eliminate the Sun Devils, 6-3.

“It was a heck of a run, and I couldn't be more proud of this group of guys,” said Murphy. “I think it is a testament to the kind of season we had when you look at the seven guys we had drafted, including a first rounder.”

**THE SCHEDULE**

With six straight NCAA tournament berths, eight straight Top 10 recruiting classes and once again one of the toughest schedules in the entire country, there is no doubt that the Sun Devils have one of the most elite baseball programs in the nation. To remain in the upper echelon of college baseball, ASU has scheduled one of the most difficult non-conference schedules in the country for 2006. The Sun Devils will travel to Texas for a total of eight games, including match-ups with defending champion Texas and meetings with Rice and TCU.

“We want to be a road tested team, and our match-ups in Texas will help us become one,” commented Murphy. “We play

will lead us this year.”

Zechry Zinicola comes into 2006 hoping to build off his 2005 campaign that saw him win four games and save four games on the mound as well as hit .276 with 15 RBI. Righty Pat Bresnehan looks to continue his success on the mound, after striking out 79 batters in 88.1 innings and winning five games. Brett Bordes returns for his senior season after being drafted by the Detroit Tigers in last year's MLB Draft.

“Our pitching staff is going to lean heavily on the experience of Zinicola, Bresnehan and Bordes,” offered Murphy. “Those guys have gone through tough regular season schedules and now a deep postseason run, and they know what it takes to be

## 2006 Outlook continued

successful at this level."

Infielders Seth Dhaenens, Jeff Landry, Joe Persichina and Eric Sogard all return as well for the Sun Devils. Dhaenens hit .312, knocked in 31 RBIs and stole 11 bases for ASU in 2005, and will look to be a major contributor to the 2006 team. Catchers Greg Bordes and Austin Stickfisch also return for 2006.

Playing in the outfield along side Curtis will be J.J. Sferra, who had an impressive debut season a year ago. Sferra hit .311 last season and ad the unforgettable game-winning single in the 11th inning of the CWS match-up with Nebraska. Sferra will be joined by returning outfielders Willy Fox, Rocky Laguna and D.J. Butler.

The pitching staff will see a lot of familiar faces, but will also feature some untested arms. Frank Mesa, Kevin Dryanski, Tony Barnette and Josh Satow round out the returning arms for the Sun Devils.

### THE NEWCOMERS

Being the #2 ranked recruiting class in the nation brings with it a level of expectations. Sun Devil fans hope that the incoming crop of 14 student-athletes will be able to live up to the hype.

Lefthander Ike Davis, a freshman from Scottsdale's Chaparral High School, will compete immediately for a spot in the weekend rotation and should find himself getting plenty of at-bats when not on the mound. Davis had an outstanding high school career, helping lead the Firebirds to three straight Arizona 4A titles, losing only 8 games during his sophomore through senior seasons.

"Ike has a chance to come in and contribute immediately," said Murphy. "He was an outstanding high school player locally, and hopefully his impact will be felt here."

Another highly touted newcomer is Matt Hall, a shortstop from Scottsdale's Horizon High School. Hall is one of four freshmen projected to be in the starting lineup on opening night, joining Davis, Preston Paramore and Brett Wallace.

Perhaps no new Sun Devils has credentials like Ryan Sontag, a transfer from Michigan State. Sontag was the Big Ten's Freshman of the Year in 2005, and was also named a Freshman All-American by *Baseball America* and Second Team All-Big Ten. Sontag is projected to be the starting leftfielder for 2006.

Another transfer who could see significant playing time is C.J. Retherford, the local product who came to ASU from South Mountain Community College. Retherford will see time at third base as well as out of the bullpen.

Todd Wells, Ben Bando, Daryl Arreola, Brady Martinez, Brett Bruneel and Matt Trink join the program as JC transfers, while Brett Wallace, Jeff Urlaub, Drew Bowman, and Jake Borup make up the freshmen newcomers.

### TEAM EXPECTATIONS

With the type of schedule the Sun Devils have in 2006, coach Murphy expects to see some growing pains from his relatively young squad. But when the dust settles, the 12th year head coach also expects the Sun Devils to once again be in Omaha competing for the national title.

"I expect a trip to Omaha every season, and I will be disappointed if it doesn't happen," said Murphy. "As a program, we make it our goal to contend for the national championship every

season. Our goals also include developing people to understand team and academic importance and to respect the game of baseball and your opponent."

"We work every day to make our dream of another national title come true, and I know everyone in our program from top to bottom badly wants that sixth championship ring."

Murphy knows the kind of pressure that is being put on himself and the student-athletes, but he also knows that's what it takes to build an elite program.

"Some people may think that having our goal be the national title every year is unrealistic, but that's what we do," said Murphy. "I know that every single player on our roster is entering this season expecting to go to Omaha and will be upset if that doesn't happen. That's the kind of attitude we like on a baseball team. We have a group of student-athletes that represent Arizona State University with pride and class, and I know they want to be on that field at Rosenblatt Stadium celebrating come the end of June."



J.J. Sferra



# Coaching Staff

## #42 PAT MURPHY

ASU head coach Pat Murphy has a 443-221-1 record in 11 years at the helm of the Sun Devils. He was the 2000 Pac-10 Coach of the Year and the 1998 *Baseball America* Coach of the Year.



PAT MURPHY



JAY J. SFERRA



TIM ESMAY



JEFF MOUSSER



# SUN DEVIL BASEBALL 2006

NCAA CHAMPIONS: 1965, 1967, 1969, 1977, 1981

# Pat Murphy

## HEAD COACH



**P**at Murphy became only the third head coach in Arizona State's modern baseball history when he was hired in August of 1994. Following in the footsteps of legendary head coaches Bobby Winkles and Jim Brock, Murphy's 11-year tenure at the helm of the ASU program has been marked with great success. Since inheriting the Sun Devil program, Murphy has carefully nurtured the tradition of excellence in Tempe, at the same time establishing himself as one of the top collegiate head coaches in the nation. He has guided Arizona State to top-12 national rankings in five of the last nine years, including last season's third place finish at the College World series. Murphy's ASU squads are always present in the national top 25, including a streak of 100 consecutive weeks in the polls that lasted from 2000 until the middle of last year.

In 11 seasons at the helm of the Sun Devil program, Murphy is 443-221-1 and has led the Devils to the NCAA Tournament in six straight years and eight of the last nine. He owns an all-time 37-25 record in NCAA Tournament action as a head coach and is 28-17 in postseason play at ASU. His coaching

accomplishments include becoming the youngest collegiate coach to reach 500 career victories (with 75 percent of the wins at the Division I level).

In 21 years of coaching at the collegiate level, Murphy owns a career 816-392-4 record. At the Division I level alone, Murphy has recorded 761 wins in 18 years, averaging over 42 wins a year. With 20 more years of coaching, Murphy is on pace to break the all-time NCAA victories record by the age of 65. Before arriving in Tempe, Murphy took a virtually unknown Notre Dame baseball program from a non-fully funded sport into the national spotlight. His Notre Dame teams averaged over 45 wins a season during his seven years in South Bend, and made three consecutive NCAA Sweet 16 appearances.

### DEVILS RETURN TO OMAHA IN 2005

The 2005 season was a memorable one for Murphy and the Sun Devils, as ASU made their 19th trip to the College World Series in Omaha, Neb. The Sun Devils finished the year with a 42-25 record, the fifth 40 win season under Murphy. Earning their sixth straight postseason berth, ASU rolled through the Regionals held at Packard Stadium, setting up a match-up with defending national champion Cal-State Fullerton, who eliminated ASU in 2004. The Sun Devils got their revenge, defeating the Titans in three games to earn a spot in the 2005 College World Series. Arizona State would finish third in the World Series, their fifth third place finish in school history. They finished the season with a Top Six ranking in all four of the college baseball national polls, including two #3 rankings. 11 Sun Devils earned All-Pac-10 honors, led by Travis Buck and Jeff Larish, who earned First Team distinctions. Larish led the Pac-10 with his 23 home runs, while Larish led the conference with his 110



hits. Seven Sun Devils were selected in the Major League Baseball Draft, with Travis Buck going in the First Round to the Oakland Athletics.

### DOMINATING ARIZONA

In the rivalry series against the University of Arizona, Murphy has guided ASU to a 35-19 record (.648) in his 11 seasons in Tempe and won 10 of 11 seasons series from the Wildcats.

## PAT MURPHY'S YEAR-BY-YEAR RECORD

YEAR	SCHOOL	OVERALL	NOTES
1983	Maryville (Tenn.)	10-21-1	School's most wins in 10 years.
1986	Claremont-Mudd Scripps	24-16	Southern California Intercollegiate Champions.
1987	Claremont-Mudd Scripps	21-18-1	
1988	Notre Dame	39-22	MCC Eastern Division Champs.
1989	Notre Dame	48-19-1	Program's first NCAA appearance since 1970.
1990	Notre Dame	46-12	.793 winning percentage - fourth-best in Division I.
1991	Notre Dame	45-16	Second MCC Championship.
1992	Notre Dame	48-15	Third MCC Championship / NCAA Regional Final.
1993	Notre Dame	46-16	Fourth MCC Championship / NCAA Regional Final.
1994	Notre Dame	46-16	Third straight MCC Championship and NCAA Regional.
1995	Arizona State	34-21	Recorded nine wins over top 10 ranked teams.
1996	Arizona State	35-21	Finished ranked 25th in nation, but no NCAA Tournament.
1997	Arizona State	39-22	Murphy's Devils one out away from trip to College World Series.
1998	Arizona State	41-23	Named <i>Baseball America</i> Coach of the Year; Devils 2nd in CWS.
1999	Arizona State	39-21	Devils lead NCAA in hitting (.356) and scoring (11.32 runs/game).
2000	Arizona State	44-15	ASU wins Pac-10 title, Murphy wins Pac-10 Coach of the Year.
2001	Arizona State	37-20-1	Guides ASU to NCAA Tourney for fourth time in last five years.
2002	Arizona State	37-21	Devils advance to NCAA Tournament for third straight year. Ranked wire to wire.
2003	Arizona State	54-14	ASU records 54 wins and ranks in Top 10 in all four major NCAA statistical categories.
2004	Arizona State	41-18	ASU notches fourth 40-win season under Murphy and earns national No. 1 seed.
2005	Arizona State	42-25	ASU finishes 3rd in CWS; Sixth straight postseason trip.

Overall Record at ASU: 443-221-1 (11) Overall Division I Record: 761-337-2 (18)  
Career Coaching Record: 816-392-4 (21)



**THE STREAK**

One of the NCAA's most impressive statistical streaks came to an end in 2004 when the Sun Devils were shut out for the first time in 506 games. With a 6-0 loss to NCAA Tournament participant Oklahoma on Feb. 15, 2004 at Surprise Stadium in Surprise, Ariz., ASU endured its first shutout since April 7, 1995 (at USC). The Sun Devils combined to go 338-167-1 during the nine-year streak and averaged 9.4 runs per game. ASU broke the NCAA record (previously 349 set by Coastal Carolina) on April 7, 2001, exactly six years to the day when the Devils last endured an offensive shutout. In 665 games during the Murphy era, ASU has only been shutout three times, and dating back to 1990 the program has only suffered five shutouts. Notable pitchers the Devils faced during the streak include Mark Prior (USC), Barry Zito (USC), Jeremy Guthrie (Stanford), Kirk Saarloos (CS Fullerton), Jason Young (Stanford), Ben Diggins (Arizona), Adam Johnson (CS Fullerton), Ryan Drese (Cal), Jeff Weaver (Fresno State), Jered Weaver (Long Beach State), Jeff Niemann (Rice), Chad Hutchinson (Stanford), Abe Alvarez (Long Beach State) and Adam Pettyjohn (Fresno State).

**THE INTERNATIONAL STORY**

Throughout his illustrious career, Murphy has earned accolades in the international ranks as well. In the 2000 Olympics, Murphy returned to the international baseball scene, helping lead the Dutch National team to their best showing in international competition with a 3-4 record in the Sydney games. The Netherlands placed fifth with wins over Australia, Cuba and their rival Italy. The Dutch's 4-2 victory over Cuba was the first loss in Olympic play at the time for the international power, a span that covered 21 games. The win by Murphy's squad was noted by nbcolympics.com as one of the top four upsets in Olympic team competition. In a pre-Olympic tournament, Murphy beat Team USA and their famous manager Tommy Lasorda. No stranger to international baseball, his ties to the Dutch team stretch back more than a decade. In the summer of 1987, Murphy led Holland to the European Championship, a victory that qualified the squad for the 1988 Seoul Olympics. He was asked to coach Holland in the Seoul Olympics, but declined so he could return to the University of Notre Dame, where he had recently been named head coach.

**THE TRADITION**

Murphy has helped to keep a tradition alive that has seen ASU record 44 straight seasons with at least 30 wins. Murphy's Sun Devil squads have averaged 40 wins per season and have advanced to the NCAA tournament in eight of the last nine seasons. Following suit to his coaching days at Notre Dame, Murphy is also overseeing the renovation of the program's facility. Packard Stadium has been under an ongoing multimillion-dollar renovation that has improved player facilities with a new clubhouse and playing surface. A

new stadium entrance was also completed in 2003 and there are plans in the works for chair-back seats and a new press facility.

**MURPHY IN POSTSEASON PLAY**

Posting a career 37-25 record (.598) in postseason play, Murphy's NCAA playoff repertoire also includes a niche for carrying out the upset victory. On five separate occasions his teams have defeated the regional host team (including last season at Cal-State Fullerton), while six of the last ten Murphy-coached squads to make the playoffs have reached the

playoffs have reached the "Sweet 16" or better. These accomplishments have come despite the fact that his teams have been sent to play the No. 1-ranked team six times in regional play (1992 at Miami, 1993 at Florida State, 1994 at Clemson, 1997 at Miami, 1998 at Wichita State and 2001 at Cal State Fullerton). The 2005 season marked the sixth straight year ASU advanced to the Tournament and the eighth out of the last nine.

**ACADEMIC SUCCESS**

Murphy's squads continue to demonstrate excellence in the classroom as well, as ASU boasted more First-Team Academic All-American selections (three) in 1999 than any other program in the nation. It was the most selections by an Arizona State baseball team in the history of the school. Former Devil Casey Myers (1998-2001) was a three-time selection to the Academic All-American team and twice the Academic All-American of the Year. In all, ASU has had five selections to the Academic All-American team since 1999, and 43 Devils have earned All-Pac-10 academic acclaim under Murphy's guidance since 1995. During Murphy's tenure, the baseball squad has an overall 2.60 GPA. It has steadily risen since he arrived in 1995, improving the 2.31 GPA from 1991-95. ASU ranks third with four first-team Academic. In addition, in his 20 years as a head coach, he has never had a player declared academically ineligible.

**AN OFFENSIVE POWERHOUSE**

The 2003 Arizona State Baseball team dominated the final release of the NCAA statistics as the only team in the nation (283 Division I teams) to rank in the top 10 in the four major statistical categories. ASU, who finished the season ranked No. 7 in the nation (Baseball America) with a 54-14 record, placed second in batting average (.347), second in scoring (10.03 runs per game), eighth in pitching (3.32 ERA) and ninth in fielding (.973 FLD%). In addition, the Sun Devils also ranked fourth in win-loss percentage (.794), fifth in slugging percentage (.529) and 28th in home runs per game (1.18). ASU also broke the NCAA record with 14 grand slams. Individually the Sun Devils also had several players rank nationally. Dustin Pedroia led the nation with 34 doubles (0.50 per game) and was also 31st with a .404 batting average and fourth in toughest to strikeout. Sophomore first baseman Jeff Larish led the nation in walks (1.20 per game), was sixth with 1.46 RBI per game (95 total) and 18th in runs scored per game (1.23). The 2004 season also saw ASU's offense lead the Pac-10 with a .325 batting average and averaging 7.89 runs per game. ASU also led the nation in hitting in 1999 while tying a school record with a .356 batting average. Murphy's 2002 squad nearly repeated as the NCAA leader in 2000, but finished

second with a .346 average. The ASU offense has been potent under Murphy's watchful eye, combining to hit .331 and averaging 9.11 runs per game. The Devils have led the Pac-10 in hitting in five of the last seven years.

**MAJOR LEAGUE PIPELINE**

Grooming players for the major league amateur draft has become Murphy's forte. In fact, in 20 seasons as a head coach, only three players have been drafted lower after playing for Murphy than he was out of high school or junior college — and those circumstances are widely injury related. Since 1995, 89 players under Murphy's guidance have gone on to sign professional baseball contracts. During the Murphy era, 85 players have been selected in the annual MLB Draft, leading all NCAA schools. The 2003 draft had a record 12 Devils selected, with three more signing free agent contracts. Several of Murphy's former players have appeared in the major leagues, including Craig Counsell (Milwaukee Brewers), Willie Bloomquist (Seattle Mariners), Jeff Duncan (New York Mets), Jon Switzer (Tampa Bay Devil Rays), Chris Duffy (Pittsburgh Pirates) and Mike Esposito (Colorado Rockies). Other former Devils who have emerged as top future prospects include Brooks Conrad (Houston Astros), Dustin Pedroia (Boston Red Sox), Andre Ethier (Los Angeles Dodgers) and Travis Buck (Oakland A's).

**DID YOU KNOW?**

Pat Murphy's first managerial win in professional baseball (Tri-Cities Triplets) was won by him. Down, 10-1, in the ninth inning with two outs and no one on base, the Triplets came all the way back to tie the game and eventually win, 14-10, in 11 innings. Murphy pitched 4.1 innings out of the bullpen to defeat the Spokane Indians. Murphy was the player-coach for the Triplets (Northwest League) for two seasons.

**COMMUNITY SERVICE**

Community outreach has been a signature of Murphy's teams, who are taught to give back to their communities and be positive role models. In 1995, he founded the Guadalupe Project, which provides baseball instruction and life skills lessons to underprivileged youth from Guadalupe, Ariz., a small town within the metro Phoenix area. The program provides year-round mentoring for kids aged 7-12 by Arizona State assistant coach Jay Sferra and student-athletes, the primary goal to build leadership skills, self-esteem, encourage academic success and explore career opportunities. With help from the Tempe Diablos, Murphy also instituted the annual Diablo Free Youth Clinics, held at ASU's Packard Stadium each November and December for kids aged 7-12. More than 250 kids took part in 1999. In January 2000, Murphy and ASU baseball sponsored the first 5K Fun Run to Beat Lou Gehrig's Disease along with the ALS Arizona Chapter. Murphy also takes part in a charity boxing match with Father Joe to raise funds for his Guadalupe Project. For his constant community service and giving back to the greater Phoenix area, Murphy was awarded the 2001 March of Dimes Leadership Award.

**ALWAYS A TOP RECRUITING CLASS**

The 47-year-old Syracuse, N.Y., native and his coaching staff have assembled some of the finest recruiting classes in the nation during each of the past 10 years. His 1995 class was ranked No. 1 in the nation, with names such as Phill Lowery, Andrew Beinbrink and Ryan Mills. Year after year, Murphy gets commitments from several of the nation's top prep players to become Sun Devils. ASU's last five recruiting classes have been ranked in the national top 10. The freshman class of 2006 is again no exception, as Murphy will lead a class of 14 newcomers onto the field as Sun Devils for the first time. Despite a current trend that sees many teams reload with just top prospects, Murphy also brings players in to mold into a scrappy and hustling player. As *Baseball America* proclaimed in its annual recruiting class review in reference to Murphy's and ASU's unique and successful style of recruiting, "if you don't understand it, then you're not a Sun Devil."

continued

# SUN DEVIL BASEBALL 2006

NCAA CHAMPIONS: 1965, 1967, 1969, 1977, 1981

## Pat Murphy continued

### THE SUN DEVIL YEARS

The 2004 campaign marked yet another successful season for Sun Devil Baseball. ASU recorded a 41-18 record, marking the fourth 40-win season under Murphy. Compiling a 28-7 record against the top-ranked non-conference schedule in the nation, the Sun Devils earned the national No. 7 seed while advancing to the NCAA Tournament for the fifth straight year. Despite suffering a disappointing exit from the NCAA Tournament at the hands of eventual National Champion Cal State Fullerton, ASU earned a final ranking of No. 20 in the nation (*Sports Weekly*/ESPN) and spent the entire season ranked in the national polls. Fourteen Sun Devils earned All-Pac-10 honors, including first-team selections for Travis Buck, Dustin Pedroia and Jason Urquidez. Pedroia led ASU hitting .393 (96-for-244) and earned first-team All-America honors. Urquidez led the Pac-10 with 12 victories, marking the most by a Sun Devil starter since 1993. Buck earned a spot on the USA Baseball National Team after hitting .373 with nine home runs and a team-leading 58 RBI. ASU once again led the Pac-10 in hitting with a .325 team batting average and averaged nearly eight runs per game.

In addition to finishing in the top 10 in the NCAA in the four major statistical categories (scoring, batting, pitching, fielding), the 2003 season also brought about a number of entries into the ASU single-season record books. Murphy's squad ranked second in fielding percentage (.973), third in runs scored (682), sixth in hits (858), fifth in doubles (160), second in RBI (630), third in walks (406), tied for third in batting average (.347), fifth in pitching shutouts (10) and third in ERA during the aluminum bat era (3.32). The 54 wins are the most by a Sun Devil squad since the 1988 team finished with 60 victories. ASU also set an NCAA record with 14 grand slams. Individually, several Sun Devils also had record-breaking seasons. Shortstop Dustin Pedroia became only the 22nd player with 100 hits and the 16th player to hit .400. He set an ASU and Pac-10 record with 34 doubles. Sophomore first baseman Jeff Larish had a breakout season entering his name into the record books in several categories, including ranking fifth with 95 RBI and second with 78 walks. He broke the school record with four grand slams and tied the single-game records with nine RBI and four doubles.

Murphy led the 2002 Sun Devils to a 37-21 record overall, placing third in the Pac-10 with a 15-9 record. ASU hosted the NCAA Mesa Regional at Hohokam Park, going 2-2 before losing to No. 1 seed Houston. Dustin Pedroia, Andre Ethier and Jeremy West all earned first-team All-Pac-10 honors, while Pedroia became ASU's seventh player to compete for Team USA. The pitching staff posted a 4.40 ERA, ranking second in the Pac-10 and the lowest during the Murphy head coaching era.

The 2001 Sun Devils posted a 37-20-1 record en route to yet another NCAA Tournament bid. Led by All-Americans Casey

Myers and Andy Torres and a crop of seven freshmen All-Americans, the Devils placed third in the Pac-10 and finished ranked 22nd in the nation. Myers repeated as the Academic All-American of the Year and became only the third player in Pac-10 history to repeat as the Pac-10 Player of the Year. Since the Pac-10 joined the North and Six-Pac in 1999, ASU has won three of the four Pac-10 Player of the Year awards.

The 2000 edition of Arizona State baseball finished with a 44-15 record, and made its third postseason appearance in four years. Finishing within the Top 12 in the nation, the Sun Devils also captured their first Pac-10 Championship since 1993 with a 17-7 conference record, earning the league's automatic bid by virtue of tiebreakers against both Stanford and UCLA. Murphy's 2000 Devils once again made a dent on the NCAA record books, leading the nation in scoring (10.97 runs/game), second in batting average (.346), fifth in fielding (.971), seventh in home runs (1.46 HR/game), second in slugging percentage (.561) and first in triples (0.63 per game). Senior outfielder Mitch Jones, who Murphy lured to ASU just one year earlier as a junior college transfer, set the ASU record for home runs with 27.

Despite bowing out to Texas in the 2000 regional championship game, the Sun Devils led the nation in scoring and finished near the top in batting average for the second straight season, averaging just under 11 runs per game and hitting .346. ASU, playing "old school" college baseball, avoided being swept by an opponent in 2000. The Sun Devils also led the Pac-10 in attendance, averaging more than 2,600 fans at each home game. Mitch Jones, Casey Myers and Jon Switzer earned All-America honors. Adding to his credentials, Murphy was voted the 2000 Pac-10 Coach of the Year by his peers.

During the 1999 season, Murphy assembled one of the most prolific offensive teams in ASU history. Concluding the year with a 39-21 overall record, the 1999 Sun Devils led the nation in batting average (.356) and scoring (11.32 runs per game). Their .356 team average tied the top single-season mark in ASU history, set by the 1981 National Championship Team. The Devils had the remarkable offensive season despite playing the first 17 games of the season with wood bats. In addition, the Sun Devils led the conference in virtually every offensive category. Arizona State had more players drafted in the 1999 Major League Amateur Draft (10) than any other school in the Pac-10 Conference. The 1999 season also produced a Sun Devil Pac-10 Player of the Year and current Seattle Mariners utility player Willie Bloomquist.

Murphy and his coaching staff led the 1998 Sun Devils to the pinnacle of collegiate baseball—the College World Series in Omaha, Neb. It was Murphy's first trip to the big show, and it would be a memorable one. Earning an at-large bid into the NCAA Tournament, Murphy's squad was once again tested by being sent to play the No. 1 team in the nation. Traveling to Wichita, Kansas, the Devils started a journey that would eventually land them in college baseball's premier show-

## SUN DEVIL HITTING UNDER COACH MURPHY

Year	G	AB	R	H	HR	BA
1995	55	1939	395	595	35	.307
1996	56	2075	552	702	73	.338
1997	61	2252	540	735	56	.326
1998	64	2277	557	723	57	.318
1999	60	2199	679	782	67	.356
2000	59	2134	647	738	86	.346
2001	58	2049	479	669	33	.327
2002	58	1994	450	618	38	.310
2003	68	2471	682	858	80	.347
2004	59	2062	465	670	50	.325
2005	67	2360	481	731	50	.310
Totals	665	23,902	5,927	7,821	625	.327

case, becoming ASU's 18th team to play in the annual College World Series, and only the second to play for the national championship without having hosted a regional tournament. The Devils finished regional play 4-1, notching wins over nationally ranked Georgia Tech, Oklahoma State and Wichita State along the way to advance to Omaha. Advancing through the CWS bracket without a loss, ASU faced Pac-10 foe USC in the championship game. In a record-breaking game, ASU came up short, falling to the Trojans 21-14. ASU finished second in the nation with a 41-23 overall record and a third-place finish in conference play (18-11). After storming through the postseason, falling just one win short of a national championship, the Sun Devils

### DID YOU KNOW?

- Over the last five years (2001-05), 36 Sun Devils have been selected in the annual MLB Draft. ASU leads all NCAA schools with 85 draft picks over the last 11 years.
- During his Division 1 head coaching career, Murphy's teams have averaged 42 wins per season. During his seven years at Notre Dame, Murphy led the Irish to an average of 45 wins a season for seven years. He has carried the Sun Devils to five 40-win seasons and postseason appearances in eight of the last nine seasons.
- Murphy's Sun Devil teams have been one of the most potent offensive teams in the NCAA each year. In fact, since 1995, Murphy's teams have combined to hit .327 with an average of over 9 runs scored per game. ASU led the nation in runs scored and batting average in 1999-2000 and set a school record in 1999 with a team .356 batting average. ASU has led the Pac-10 in hitting in five of the last seven seasons.
- During his 21 years as a head coach in collegiate baseball, he has never had one of his players declared academically ineligible. ASU has carried a combined 2.6 GPA during the Murphy era, improving from a 2.31 team GPA from 1991-95.
- Murphy was named the 2000 Pac-10 Coach of the Year by his peers and the 1998 Baseball America National Coach of the Year. ASU has been ranked in 97 straight national polls dating back to the start of the 2000 season.
- Attendance at Packard Stadium during Murphy's tenure has constantly improved and has led the Pac-10 in each of his 11 years as head coach.
- Over the last nine years, ASU has an average end of the year national ranking of 15th in the nation.
- Murphy was the first head coach at Notre Dame to leave for another college head coaching job.
- While in South Bend, Murphy helped found the Team One Showcase that stands today as one of the premier amateur baseball showcases in the nation.



### MURPHY BY THE NUMBERS

- 648** Winning % against Arizona (35-19).
- 8** Team USA selections.
- 11** Academic All-Americans.
- 29** Freshman All-Americans.
- 31** All-America selections.
- 42.2** Average wins per season (DI).
- 109** Draft picks in 17 seasons.
- 443** Wins in 11 seasons at ASU.
- 816** Career coaching victories.
- 1212** Career games coached in 21 Seasons.

concluded the season with a consensus No. 2-ranking and a total of six players earned All-America status. In addition, 10 Sun Devils were taken in the 1998 MLB Amateur Draft, including Ryan Mills, the sixth pick overall by the Minnesota Twins. In just his fourth season at ASU, Murphy became the second-fastest Pac-10 coach to reach the CWS championship game, behind only former Sun Devil Coach Jim Brock. For his efforts, he was named the *Baseball America* National Coach of the Year.

Only two years into his ASU coaching career, Murphy took the program back to where it belonged, in postseason play. Murphy guided the Devils to their 16th regional appearance, taking his team across the country to face No. 1 seed Miami in Coral Gables. The '97 Sun Devils came within one out of making an 18th trip to Omaha, bowing out in the championship game of the Atlantic Regional to host Miami in dramatic fashion. After defeating the No. 1 Hurricanes 10-3, ASU dropped a pair of one-run games to Miami to fall short of a trip to Omaha. ASU finished with a No. 11 ranking by *Baseball America* and a 39-22 overall record.

The Sun Devils again fell short of the NCAA Tournament in 1996, despite finishing the year ranked 25th by *Baseball America* and posting 35 Division I wins, with eight of those coming against top 25 teams. The 1996 squad posted the fourth-best team batting average (.338) in ASU history, and led the Pac-10 Southern Division in seven offensive categories including batting average, runs and hits. The Devils recorded a 35-21 record, despite being without pitching aces Phill Lowery, Kaipo Spenser and Ryan Mills for most of the year. Murphy graduated 11 players from the 1996 team to the Major League Baseball Amateur Draft.

Inheriting an average team in 1995—at a school where average is unacceptable—with only two returning starters and without the benefit of his own recruiting class, Murphy's first ASU squad posted 34 wins in 1995. Always a flare for the big game, nine of those victories came over Top 10 foes such as College World Series participants USC, Stanford and Florida State. During one stretch of games in mid March, Murphy led the Devils to six consecutive wins over eventual CWS participants Oklahoma, USC and Stanford. Despite being ranked in the top 25

all season and the numerous big wins, the Devils fell short of a trip to the NCAA Tournament, but the foundation was laid for the Devils to remain as one of the powers in college baseball.

**THE NOTRE DAME YEARS:**

Prior to arriving at Arizona State, Murphy spent the previous seven seasons as head coach at the University of Notre Dame, where he guided the Irish to a consistent level of success unmatched in the history of the program. Building the program from the ground up with the support of only four full scholarships, Murphy guided the Irish to a 318-116-1 (.732) record in South Bend, including consecutive trips to NCAA regional finals in 1992, 1993 and 1994, a streak matched only by Texas. He built Irish Baseball into a Top 25 program, laying a strong foundation that still exists today. Under Murphy's guidance, the Irish averaged more than 46 wins per season and rejuvenated the pride in the program to the point where a new 3,000-seat stadium was built on the campus in the fall of 1993. Murphy's 1994 Notre Dame squad finished 46-16 and came within one win of a trip to the College World Series. The Midwestern Collegiate Conference Champions advanced to the finals of the NCAA East Regional in Clemson, S.C., knocking off the host and No. 1-ranked Tigers along the way. Notre Dame finished the season ranked 18th by *Collegiate Baseball* and 20th by *Baseball America*. Current Arizona Diamondback Craig Counsell and Texas Rangers pitcher Chris Michalak are just two of Murphy's products from ND who have excelled at the Major League level.

Murphy began his Notre Dame tenure in 1988, taking over a team that posted a combined 65-80 record in the three previous seasons. With a nucleus of players who finished 15-29 in 1987, and had never enjoyed a winning season at Notre Dame, Murphy began revamping the program and promptly led the Irish to a 39-22 mark. The following six campaigns saw the Irish garner national rankings, conference titles, NCAA tournament appearances, 45-win seasons and more.

Murphy's efforts were rewarded in just two years, as in 1989 the Irish posted a school-record 48 wins and logged their first NCAA tournament appearance in 19 years. Murphy guided the program to its first national ranking as the Irish were rated that year as high as 16th in *The Sporting News*, 23rd in *Baseball America*, and 24th in the *Collegiate Baseball* polls. Later, the Irish would earn

**THE LUCK OF THE IRISH**

During his seven-year head coaching stint at Notre Dame, Murphy led the Irish to a 318-116-1 record. Taking the non-fully funded program from a virtual unknown into a national power, he led the Fighting Irish to the NCAA Tournament in only his second year (1989), ending an 18-year stretch with Notre Dame not advancing to the NCAA Tournament. The Irish averaged just over 45 wins a season under Murphy and advanced to the NCAA regional finals three different times.

their first MCC title by winning the final four games of the conference tournament in a span of 23 hours as Murphy snared his first MCC Coach-of-the-Year honor. That season was followed by two more 45-win seasons. The 1990 Irish squad put together a 46-12 record, which ranked fourth in the nation. Over the last 29 games of the season, Notre Dame achieved a 25-4 mark to bring Murphy another MCC Coach-of-the-Year award.

In 1991, Notre Dame overcame a schedule that saw the Irish play their first 27 games on the road to post a 45-16 record. Included were wins away from home over national powers Texas and

Miami as well as eventual national champion LSU and a midseason 18-game win streak. In 1990, Murphy began a baseball tournament hosted by Notre Dame that was held in Seattle's Kingdome. The 1992, 1993, and 1994 seasons added emphasis to Murphy's status as one of the nation's top coaches, as his Irish teams grabbed MCC titles and in each year beat regional hosts to come within one game of a trip to Omaha for the College World Series. It's no wonder why the Irish were labeled in 1992 by *Baseball America* as "the nation's fastest rising program." In fact, Murphy shunned the University of Miami's attempts to lure him away from Notre Dame and accept the Hurricanes' head job in 1992. When he left Notre Dame for ASU in 1995, he became the first Irish head coach of any sport to leave South Bend for another job.

**WHERE IT ALL STARTED:**

In addition to his head coaching and international coaching experience, Murphy has spent numerous years in the collegiate ranks as both a player and assistant coach. He gained his collegiate experience as a pitcher at Florida Atlantic University, where he received his bachelor's and master's degrees. Murphy played catcher, infield and pitched for FAU, and was recently honored on FAU's 20th Anniversary All-Star team as a pitcher and utility player. After college, Murphy signed a professional baseball contract with the San Francisco Giants in 1982. His four-year professional career included stints in the Giants and San Diego Padres organization, along with two independent clubs.

Murphy began his collegiate head coaching career at Maryville (Tenn.) College, leading the Division III Fighting Scots to their best record in 10 years during his first and only season in 1983. He was also an assistant football coach while at Maryville. He then returned to Florida Atlantic to serve as an assistant coach and administrative assistant to the athletic director. During his two-year stay, FAU compiled an 84-30 record and was consistently ranked among the Top 10 Division II teams in the nation.

During the summer of 1984, Murphy embarked on his first international experience, helping develop baseball in Australia as a state manager in New South Wales. He was in charge of running baseball clinics and promoting the sport to the public. Following his stint in Australia, Murphy was named player-coach of the Tri-Cities (Wash.) Triplets of the Single-A Northwest League, making him the youngest manager in professional baseball.

A return to the college ranks came in 1986, as Murphy signed on as head coach at California's Claremont-Mudd-Scripps Colleges. In his first year as head coach, Murphy piloted Claremont to a 24-16 record, earning the program its first Southern California Intercollegiate Athletic Conference championship in 11 years. Murphy was named the West Region's Division III Coach of the Year as the Stags finished the year ranked 10th in the nation.



**THE YOUNG LEFTY**

Kai Joseph Murphy was born Aug. 26, 2000 and is quickly becoming one of the favorite future Sun Devils to watch. Always present rounding the bases after a game at Packard Stadium; Kai is a five-year-old future big leaguer who loves playing baseball and hanging out on his own sandlot at the Murphy house in Tempe. His favorite players include Ichiro and former Devils Travis Buck, Dustin Pedroia, Garrett Schoenberger and Benny "The Jet" Rodriguez from his favorite movie, *The Sandlot*. Coach Murphy also has a daughter, Keli, 20, who is an assistant in the Arizona State baseball office.

# What They Are Saying

## ABOUT ASU BASEBALL

### Coach Pat Murphy

Craig Counsell

Former Murphy player at Notre Dame and current Arizona Diamondback

"Excluding my parents, no one has had a greater impact on my career as a baseball player and as developing as a person than Coach Murphy."

Willie Bloomquist

Former Sun Devil and current Seattle Mariner

"Coach Murphy is a very intense baseball coach, and that is what makes him so special, because he gets the most out of his players. He is great at teaching his players not only on the field, but off the field as well. He is a great all-around individual."

Joe Garagiola Jr.

Senior vice president of baseball operations for Major League Baseball

"Any player who plays for Coach Murphy can count on two things: He will make them a better player and a better person."

Dan Evans

Longtime Los Angeles Dodgers general manager

"I've known Pat for over 15 years. He has a passion for baseball and teaching the game that very few people match in intensity. He is a winner!"

Bob Welch

Former Cy Young Award winner

"Coach Murphy is someone that stays your friend for life. If my son had the opportunity to play at ASU, I would feel very comfortable with what Coach Murphy does and how he runs his program. He is like a brother to me and has always been a great help for me. He is the guy that can pick you up when you are down. I am thankful to have a friend like Coach Murphy."

Ron Coomer

Former big league player

"Pat Murphy has been a truly great friend for a very long time, and is what competitive baseball is all about: a will to win and having the plan to make it happen."

Barry Alvarez

University of Wisconsin director of athletics

"I had the pleasure of working with Coach Murphy for three years at Notre Dame. He is intense, knowledgeable—a player's coach. He coaches baseball with a football mentality."

Ron Scheuler

Former MLB general manager

"I've known Pat for a number of years, and he is an outstand-

ing coach and person. He is dedicated and I believe he will bring a together a championship team. He has put together a great staff, and I know the program will have a lot of success under Pat."

Phill Lowery

Former Arizona State pitcher and current California highway patrol officer

"He is one of the most dynamic people I have ever met. It goes without saying that he is an outstanding coach. He taught me a lot about baseball and life. He goes above and beyond the call of duty with everything he does for his players."

Harvey Dorfman

Sports psychologist

"What I admire is his intensity, which is often misunderstood by people who don't know him. My admiration is based on the fact that when he addresses whatever task is in front of him, he does it with such strong focus that many who are incapable of doing it, either misunderstand it or are envious. His intensity includes competition and doing the best for his players as athletes, students and young people."

Mike Gallagher

ASU Alumni

"Pat is one of the best coaches I've ever observed regardless of the sport."

Lou Holtz

College Football Coaching Legend

"Pat is one of the best coaches I've ever observed regardless of the sport. He is enthusiastic, intelligent and an excellent communicator and motivator. I learned a great deal by observing him coach his Notre Dame teams."

Paul V. Seiler

USA Baseball Executive Director/CEO

"Coach Murphy is one of the most outstanding college coaches in the nation. We are certainly aware of the many quality baseball players that he has coached at Arizona State. We are sure that he will continue the tradition of competition that has defined Sun Devil Baseball for so many years."

Brian Cleary

Former Murphy assistant and current head coach at the University of Cincinnati

"Not many would have left Notre Dame, especially to follow a legend [ASU coach Jim Brock] who had recently passed away. He had his dream job with Notre Dame baseball, and he developed it from nothing to a big-time program. It was his program. He did it without scholarships or funding. He just loves challenges, and that is a statement of who he is."

John Pawlowski

Former Murphy assistant and current head coach at College of Charleston

"With all of the parity and changes in college baseball, all big-time programs have had to make significant changes. These changes affect Arizona State as much as anyone else, and Murphy has done a tremendous job of quietly leading them to the World Series in '98 and having them in the hunt for the national title every year. It's tougher at ASU than ever before, and the draft especially impacts ASU more than other programs, but Murphy manages to do well regardless."

Eddie Bane

Former Arizona State pitcher and current director of scouting for the Los Angeles Angels of Anaheim

"Murph is doing a great job of following in the footsteps of two legends in Bobby Winkles and Jim Brock. Tough shoes to walk in, but Pat is handling it very well. He is doing all that it takes to keep ASU as one of the elites in college baseball. Murph gets the most out of his players and does the right thing by his players when it comes to college or professional baseball. I consider Murph a friend and a true baseball man that I would not hesitate to ask to evaluate a player."

### Asst. Coach Jay J. Sferra

Joe Garagiola Sr.

Former major-leaguer and current VP for the Arizona Diamondbacks

"For me, he is a perfect coach. He works hard at helping the athlete develop as both a player and a man. Coach Murphy and Coach Sferra are a great combination."

R.J. Harrison

Scouting director for the Tampa Bay Devil Rays

"He is a hard-working, very honest man of integrity. He gives his best effort trying to find the best players. He does a good job working for Murphy, and I see him everywhere always working his tail off."

Mike Esposito

Former ASU All-American and current Colorado Rockies player

"Coach Sferra's hard work and dedication exemplify what Arizona State baseball is about."

### Asst. Coach Tim Esmay

Mike Benjamin

Former major leaguer and Sun Devil infielder

"Tim pours his heart and soul into this program and into coaching. I played beside him for two years and he was one of the most competitive people I've ever met and that characteristic rubs off on people. It is nice to see him back in the Maroon and Gold and to have him back in the Valley."

### The Arizona State Way

Tim Huff

Toronto Blue Jays, National Crosschecker

"My main observation of the players that come out of Arizona State is the toughness they display on the field. They are grinders and they are gamers. They take the toughness they learned at ASU and apply it into a 142-game minor league schedule, which is not an easy thing to do. They show up ready to play every day and that is a real tribute to the program and the coaching they came from."

Keith Boeck

Texas Rangers, Professional Scout

"I see a bunch of former Sun Devils throughout the summer and I was really impressed with their work ethic. They get the most out of their ability and play the game the right way. They put their bodies on the line and get the job done every day. They are the gritty type of players that get the most out of their ability and are great to have as part of your organization. They know how to play winning baseball."



## Jay J. Sferra

Assistant Coach/Recruiting Coordinator • 11th Year



Jay J. Sferra begins his 11th year as an assistant baseball coach at Arizona State University. In addition to his duties as the recruiting coordinator, Sferra oversees coaching of the outfielders and also coaches first base. He is the father of ASU sophomore outfielder J.J. Sferra.

"Jay has been an integral part of Sun Devil baseball and no one works harder," said head coach Pat Murphy. "He has the pulse of high school baseball and continues to be instrumental in our recruiting efforts. As recruiter, his focus is not only on bringing talent into the program, but also kids with great character."

As the recruiting coordinator, Sferra has established himself as one of the nation's best. Baseball America and Collegiate Baseball ranked this year's recruiting class that makes up newcomers for 2006 as the No. 2 class in the nation. Year in and year out, ASU's recruiting classes, built by Sferra and the Sun Devil coaching staff, are among the nations elite. The 2002 MLB draft saw eight Sun Devil signees drafted in the first five rounds, including three of the first seven draft picks in the first round.

Sferra tutored one of the best defensive outfields in the nation in 2003 that helped lead the Devils' to a 54-14 record. Junior Andre Ethier repeated as an All-Pac-10 performer hitting

.377 with 10 home runs and was ASU's highest draft pick after being selected in the second round of the 2003 draft by the Oakland A's. Sferra also helped freshman All-American Travis Buck make the transition from a high school shortstop into one of the best corner outfielders in the Pac-10.

In 2004 Sferra also oversaw the regular outfield trio of Jeff Larish (LF), Colin Curtis (CF) and Travis Buck (RF). The three combined to make only two errors the entire season and together formed one of the best offensive outfields in the nation. Sferra helped Larish make the transition to left field after playing nearly his entire prep and collegiate career in the infield.

Sferra also coached the ASU pitching staff in 2001 and 2002. The 2002 squad ranked second in the Pac-10 behind Stanford with a 4.40 team ERA, marking the second lowest staff ERA during Murphy's nine years at ASU. The pitching staff also led the league in strikeouts (417), second in opponent batting average (.263) and second in games won (37).

Returning to coaching the outfielders, Sferra will once again be working where he helped coach some of ASU's best recent outfielders. He mentored Jeff Duncan and Willie Bloomquist, who have played in the major leagues. Former Devils Mitch Jones, Jay Sitzman and Dustin Delucchi also trained under the watchful eye of Sferra during at least one part of their successful ASU careers.

Sferra has also served as the director of instruction for Murphy's All Nine Baseball Academy and presently is the Executive Director of Coach Murphy's Programs for Youth,

"the Guadalupe Project."

The program provides baseball instruction and life-skills lessons to the youth of Guadalupe and is a favorite among the Sun Devil players. "This program is all about personal development for our players and the kids in Guadalupe," said Sferra.

Sferra gained his collegiate experience at the University of Colorado as four-year letterwinner in baseball and three-year letterwinner in basketball. An All-Big-Eight selection and honorable mention All-American in 1976 and '77, he ranks at the top of several all-time Buff categories. He trails former major-leaguer John Stearns by one in lifetime hits and is third on the career list in runs scored. He holds the all-time record in Colorado history with 621 at bats. He holds the NCAA record for most at bats in a single game with 10, in a 22-inning game vs. Nebraska. As a basketball player, Sferra was the starting point guard for CU and lettered three years for the Buffalos. While playing summer ball for the Boulder Collegians in 1977, he played with Arizona State notables Bob Horner and Hubie Brooks.

Sferra was named 1972-73 basketball and baseball Player of the Year in high school at Christian Brothers Academy in Syracuse, N.Y. He earned his bachelor's degree in Community Recreation from the University of Colorado in 1977.

He signed professionally with the Philadelphia Phillies organization in 1978 and played in the New York-Penn League.

Born and raised in Syracuse, N.Y., Sferra and his wife, Gerrie, have two children, Carrie (24) and J.J. (21).

## Tim Esmay

Assistant Coach • 2nd Year/6th overall at Arizona State



Former Sun Devil player and assistant coach Tim Esmay returns to the Arizona State Baseball program for his second season in 2006. Prior to his return to Tempe, Esmay served as the baseball head coach at the University of Utah for eight seasons.

Esmay's main duties include coaching third base, instruction of the infielders and hitters and he will also help with recruiting. Esmay also creates a dynamic link to former Sun Devil players and will help organize fundraising efforts and the annual alumni golf tournament and baseball game.

Esmay, a Scottsdale native, was a high-energy infielder (1986-87) and assistant coach (1988-90, 94) for the Sun Devils under legendary head coach Jim Brock.

He was a two-year starter for the Sun Devils following an All-American career at Scottsdale Community College. The infielder hit .305 (121-for-397) during his two years in Tempe with 23 doubles and five home runs. He was a member of ASU's 1987 College World Series team and was named to the All-West Region team that season. Esmay teamed with former big leaguer and one of his best friends, Mike Benjamin, for one of the best double-play combinations in school history.

A graduate of Horizon High School, Esmay returns to ASU after posting a 213-235-1 record at Utah. He also coached at Brophy College Prep in Phoenix for two years (1992-93) and was an assistant at Grand Canyon University (1995) and Utah (1996) before taking over the head job in Salt Lake City in 1997.

In eight seasons at Utah he compiled a 213-235-1, including winning the 1997 WAC Conference Championship. Esmay had 18 of his players go on to play professional baseball, including three from his last team in 2004. He also had 27 players earn

all-conference honors during his tenure. Esmay's eight-year career at Utah also saw his team's completely rewrite the Ute record books.

In his first season directing the Utah baseball program, Esmay did what no Ute coach had done in 32 years when he led Utah to a WAC division title and a 36-21-1 record in 1997. The Utes posted a 22-8 record in the Northern Division that year. They also set nine school records as Esmay was named the 1997 Louisville Slugger WAC Coach of the Year.

In 2002, Esmay guided Utah to a 33-26 overall and 16-14 conference record. The 33 wins is the second most in school history since 1963, and the second-place league finish is the Utes best since joining the MWC in '99. Senior pitcher Mitch Maio garnered 2002 MWC Co-Player of the Year honors.

Esmay earned a bachelor's degree in physical education from Arizona State in '88. The 40-year-old Esmay and his wife, Joell, are the parents of two sons, Tucker and Cooper.

## Jeff Mousser Pitching Coach • 1st Year/2nd year overall with ASU



Jeff Mousser enters his first year as the pitching coach for the Sun Devil Baseball team and will also assist with the All 9 baseball camps.

Mousser spent last season as an undergraduate assistant for the baseball program.

Mousser started his collegiate baseball career at BYU, where he spent three seasons. His freshman season with the Cougars saw him go 3-0, and earn a MWC Pitcher of the Week honor. During his sophomore campaign, Mousser was 9-4 with a 4.88 ERA for the Mountain West Conference Champs. He

earned Second Team All-MWC honors. He went 5-7 during his third season in Provo and decided to transfer to Arizona State for his senior season. Mousser went 6-4 with a 3.94 ERA during his only season in Tempe, earning an All-Pac-10 Honorable Mention. He was selected in the 35th round of the 2004 MLB Draft by the Minnesota Twins and went 2-0 with a 4.63 ERA for the Elizabethton Twins.

The Tempe, Ariz., native was a prep standout at Marcos de Niza High School. Jeff earned team MVP honors twice at Marcos, and was named First Team All-State his senior season. He graduated from Brigham Young University in 2005. Jeff married his wife, Autumn, in July 2004, and they are expecting their first child in August, 2006.



## Joel Bocchi Graduate Manager • 1st Year

Joel Bocchi begins his first season as a graduate manager after spending four years in the program as a catcher. Bocchi appeared in 92 games over his Sun Devil career, hitting .288 and finishing with a career fielding percentage of .973. Bocchi missed his senior season due to injury, but

during his junior season he saw action in 32 games as ASU's top pinch-hitter. In his sophomore season (2003), Bocchi started 22 games behind the plate and hit .318.

Bocchi graduated with a degree in sociology, and his father Don is the Associate Athletic Director for Sports Administration at ASU.

## Graham Rossini

Director of Player Development and Baseball Operations • 7th Year



Graham Rossini, Director of Player Development/Baseball Operations, enters his seventh season with the Sun Devil Baseball program in 2006. With 11 years of experience working in college and professional baseball, Rossini brings solid credentials to the program and is responsible for the off-the-field operation of the baseball office. He oversees the baseball budget, game operations, official recruiting visits, team travel, baseball camps and all other business aspects of the baseball office.

Rossini is baseball's liaison with ASU's media relations office, the Pac-10 Conference and the NCAA. Rossini also works closely with the large contingent of Major League Baseball scouts and executives that work in the Valley. Along with ASU Head Coach Pat Murphy, Diamondbacks General Partner Jeff Moorad and Senior VP of Marketing & Communications Derrick Hall, Rossini is a member of a committee that will bring the first annual "Challenge at Chase" to Phoenix's Chase Field in 2006. The non-conference matchup with in-state rival University of Arizona will be played April 2 of this year with proceeds benefiting the "Diamonds Back" Field Building Program.

In an effort to increase ASU Baseball awareness nationally and improve upon ASU's already impressive status as the top attendance team on the West Coast, Rossini is working with other members of ASU's Athletic Department to identify innovative ways to promote Sun Devil Baseball. In 2006, EA Sports will launch the first ever college baseball video game and feature Packard Stadium at Brock Ballpark as only one of 19 ballparks included in the game. Rossini has also worked closely with Wilson Sporting Goods and Nike to include ASU in various corporate promotions.

In addition to the business components of the program, Rossini is involved in the planning and execution of various team events throughout the year. Working with the On

Deck Circle, Sun Angel Foundation and Baseball Alumni Association, Rossini coordinates the annual Alumni Golf Tournament, Team Awards Banquet and Meet the Team events. He was very active in the Bobby Winkles Field dedication that took place during the 2001 season, has been heavily involved in the planning and preparation of the Jim Brock Ballpark dedication in 2006 and has served on the tournament committee for the NCAA Regionals hosted by ASU in 2000, 2002, 2003 and 2005.

Over the past five years, Rossini has been instrumental in the planning and design efforts of the ongoing renovations at Packard Stadium at Brock Ballpark. Prior to the 2003 season, a brand new playing field was installed as well as minor cosmetic improvements on the concourse of the facility. In the fall of 2004, a brand new players' clubhouse facility was completed and now boasts one of college baseball's finest locker rooms. Each of the forty lockers installed for player use were paid for by a Baseball Alumni Locker Sponsorship program. In the spring of 2005, the original players' lounge was renovated and now includes a video room, press conference room, umpire locker room and coaches locker room. Plans are now being developed to include chair back seating, a press box expansion, stadium covering and tribute areas throughout the concourse.

Following three years with the San Diego Padres' Class AA affiliate in Mobile, Ala., Rossini joined Sun Devil Baseball prior to the 2000 Pac-10 Championship season as a Baseball Operations Intern. Shortly before the 2002 season, he was named Director of Baseball Administration, a position he held until the summer of 2003 when he was promoted to Director of Baseball Operations. In the summer of 2005, Rossini inherited new responsibilities and was named to his current post as Director of Player Development/Baseball Operations.

Rossini was born in Red Bank, N.J., grew up in Mobile, Ala. where he attended Baker High School before graduating Cum Laude from ASU's nationally renowned W.P. Carey School of Business.

# Support Staff

BEHIND THE SCENES

## Kenny McCarty

### SPORTS MEDICINE, NINTH YEAR

**K**enny McCarty begins his ninth year as the head trainer of the Arizona State baseball program.

An invaluable part of the program with his extensive knowledge of baseball-related injuries, McCarty has successfully rehabbed two pitchers from Tommy John surgery, including former Sun Devil All-American pitcher Mike Esposito, who made his Major League debut in 2005 for the Colorado Rockies.

"Kenny is an invaluable part of our program," said head coach Pat Murphy. "What he has done rehabbing our pitchers and some of our other players, getting them healthy and mentally tough is truly amazing."

McCarty came to ASU in 1996 after graduating from Purdue University with a degree in athletic training.

A native of Fremont, Ind., McCarty is very active in the National Association of Athletic Training (NATA) and also teaches an athletic training class at Arizona State. He is a huge NASCAR fan.



## Steve Kirkman

### OPERATIONS AND RECRUITING

#### ASSISTANT, EIGHTH YEAR

**S**teve Kirkman begins his eighth year in the Arizona State Baseball program and his second as an operations and recruiting assistant.

Kirkman's duties extend both on and off the field. Off the field, he is responsible for managing the equipment inventory, maintaining the recruiting database, and executing other various projects for the coaching staff. On the field, his daily duties include field setup and assisting coaches during practice. He also helps with various baseball projects around the office.

Kirkman came to ASU in the Fall of 1998 and graduated from the College of Business in 3 1/2 years, with a BS in Accountancy.

A native of Spring Valley, Calif. (San Diego area), Kirkman was a distinguished graduate and baseball manager at Monte Vista High School.



## Randy Policar

### MEDIA RELATIONS, FIRST YEAR

**R**andy Policar begins his first season as the sports information director for Arizona State baseball.

Policar graduated from ASU in 2002 with a degree in broadcasting from the Walter Cronkite School of Journalism and Mass Communication. As an undergrad, he spent four years in the Sports Information office as a student assistant. Prior to returning to ASU, Policar spent three seasons with the Arizona Rattlers of the Arena Football League, going to two ArenaBowls. He interned for the Arizona Diamondbacks during their 2001 World Series Championship season, and has also worked for the Phoenix Suns and various radio and television stations around Phoenix. He was also the Public Address

Announcer for both the WNBA's Phoenix Mercury and the Arizona Rattlers.

A native of Seattle, Washington, Policar graduated from Issaquah High School, the same high school as current Sun Devil Colin Curtis, who played baseball at IHS with Randy's brother Nate.



**Jim Mancuso**  
Strength & Conditioning



**Sammie Nakama**  
Office Assistant



**Keli Murphy**  
Office Assistant



**John Bieber**  
Equipment Manager



**Billy Paganetti**  
Graduate Manager



**Mike Procops**  
Facility Manager



**Justin Molinaro**  
Manager



**Brian Richardson**  
Academics



**Jody Smith**  
Compliance



**Chad Ludkey**  
Event Coordinator



**Jason Bunger**  
Ticket Manager



**Steve Hank**  
Marketing



**Brady Stern**  
Manager

## ASU BASEBALL Q & A

**Q:** What is the philosophy behind playing what will again be one of the toughest schedules in the nation in 2006?

**A:** We feel that the Pac-10 is the toughest conference in the nation, and that is evidenced by the two College World Series participants last season. Therefore, our schedule has to match that difficulty for proper preparation for our conference and, hopefully, postseason schedule. We will play 27 games this year vs. teams that participated in the NCAA tourney in 2005, and eight games against CWS teams. In order to be your best, you have to play the best. Last year we had one of the toughest rated non-conference schedules in the nation, and this year is no exception as we will play eight games in Texas against some top flight baseball programs.

**Q:** How have former Sun Devils made an impact in professional baseball?

**A:** The seasons that Barry Bonds had in the last few years, winning the MVP awards, speak for themselves. Our entire program is tremendously proud of his accomplishments. Overall, we had eight former Sun Devils play in the major leagues in 2005 and another 40 in minor league baseball, and the great number of these players speaks volumes for the program and the level of player who is attracted to ASU. Mike Esposito and Chris Duffy made their MLB debuts in 2005, bringing the total number of former Devils to play in the pros to 81, and there are a few more ready to make the jump to the next level.

**Q:** How is recruiting affected by professional baseball?

**A:** Almost all of our recruits will be drafted each spring, and that makes it very difficult to maintain a strong recruiting class. As the signing bonuses in baseball continue to escalate, this will not get easier. However, we will continue to recruit the very best student-athletes in the nation, and we always anticipate that about half of these players will choose signing a professional baseball contract over playing college baseball. Therefore, after the draft has hit, our typical recruiting class of 20 players will then be reduced to 10 players who will actually matriculate at ASU. While this can be disappointing, we are always happy for these players as they chase their dream of playing major league baseball. Players like Jimmy Rollins, Dontrelle Willis, Prince Fielder, Ben Petrick and Andrew Good are prime examples of guys who committed to ASU for baseball but then signed professionally and are already in the big leagues. We are not only excited for their successes but also proud that they once chose ASU over other college baseball programs.

**Q:** What are the keys to recruiting quality student-athletes to the Sun Devil baseball program?

**A:** One of these keys is that our great tradition enables us to recruit the entire country and, for example, we were able to land players from five different states. Also, we are very interested in our recruits having outstanding personal character in addition to exceptional baseball talent. Thus, the kids in our program our first-class people, and they will always attract excellent student-athletes to our program. Our current players sell our program, and it is no surprise that our last three recruiting classes have been ranked amongst the

highest in the nation.

**Q:** How does attendance at ASU baseball games compare to the rest of college baseball?

**A:** Out of the 283 schools playing baseball in 2005, attendance at Sun Devil baseball ranked No. 20 in the entire country and was first on the West Coast. Last year we averaged over 2,600 fans per game and had several games with over 3,000 fans. We consistently lead the Pac-10 and over the past five years have led the entire West Coast. Our baseball atmosphere here at ASU is outstanding, and our entire team really appreciates it and enjoys it.

**Q:** What are the unique graduation challenges for the Sun Devil baseball player?

**A:** Our players are eligible for the baseball draft after their junior year, and over the last 10 years, over 65 of our juniors have in fact been drafted. Since the year following a player's junior season is his best opportunity for bargaining leverage in the draft, this is the ideal time for these players to sign a professional contract. Thus, 85 percent of these juniors have signed professionally. Once a student-athlete enters minor league baseball, the logistics involved with taking classes and eventually graduating are quite challenging. We believe the key here is to stay on track to graduation in the student-athlete's first three years at ASU. Despite these inherent difficulties, we are extremely proud of the fact that 54 of our players have graduated in the last nine years. Also, ASU is among the leaders in all of college baseball in our number of first-team Academic All-Americans over the last six years.

**Q:** What have been the effects of the recent changes in college baseball?

**A:** The parity in college baseball is greater than it has ever been. Whereas 20 years ago, many of the top programs had 30 full scholarships to award, the current NCAA limit is 11.7 full scholarships for the entire program of 30-40 players. This has helped level the playing field in some ways, while at the same time increasing the importance of both financial aid that can be awarded at private institutions and individual state scholarship programs, as seen in such states as Louisiana and Georgia. Unfortunately, we at ASU are unable to take advantage of either of these opportunities, and this puts great stress on our limited scholarship dollars. In addition, the college baseball season has been pushed back by two weeks over the last five years, and this is helping cold-weather programs to even the gap with the warmer-climate programs, which are the traditional powers.

**Q:** What are the effects of the recent changes in the NCAA regional format?

**A:** Since the tourney has followed a trend of being regionalized, it will make it very difficult for West Coast teams. This is because the strength of college baseball is in the West, but there are far fewer teams there than in the East. So quality teams from the West will be matched up very early in the tournament. The key, then, to getting a quality draw in the tourney becomes hosting a regional. This has also been proved over time as the Sun Devils have only three trips to Omaha that occurred when not hosting a regional, compared



to 16 trips to Omaha in years in which we did host a regional. Besides having a great season, the other key to being awarded a host regional site is having an outstanding facility. We are fortunate that Winkles Field-Packard Stadium at Brock Ballpark is one of the finest baseball facilities in the entire nation.

**Q:** What have been the keys to the Sun Devils' recent offensive successes?

**A:** We are very proud of the fact that we have led the nation in both batting average and runs scored in recent years. Those statistics, combined the NCAA record of 506 consecutive games without being shut out, are great indicators that our hitters are on the right track. The key to this type of offensive production is the concept of team offense. Our hitters have been very unselfish, and put the team goals ahead of their own. We feel this is why our offense has been so successful, because of a tremendous team attitude.

**Q:** What have been some of the accomplishments of some of ASU's players in the various summer leagues?

**A:** We feel that outstanding summer competition is critical to player development in our program. We typically send players to many different leagues across the nation, including the Cape Cod League and also the Alaskan Summer League. However, the highlight of our summer program has been the overwhelming number of our recent players who have been selected to play for the USA Baseball National Team. Travis Buck, Dustin Pedroia, Jeff Larish, Mike Esposito, Jon Switzer, Casey Myers and Willie Bloomquist have all played for Team USA in the last eight years. Buck helped Team USA win a gold medal in 2004 in the World University Baseball Games.

**Q:** What are some of the national and Pac-10 awards ASU players have won?

**A:** Arizona State is a constant among the national college baseball powers when it comes to awards and recognition. We are tied for first when it comes to winning the Golden Spikes Award, with Bob Horner, Oddibe McDowell and Mike Kelly winning the prestigious award. Since the Pac-10 joined the Northern and Southern Divisions in 1999, we have won four of the six Pac-10 Player of the Year Awards. Willie Bloomquist (1999), Casey Myers (2000, 2001) and Dustin Pedroia (2003) have all earned the top conference honor. Each year we also have a number of players earn All-America honors.

**Q:** What kind of media coverage does Sun Devil Baseball get?

**A:** Each year between 5-10 baseball games are televised locally in the Phoenix area, along with a nationally televised game on Fox Sports. 35-40 games are also scheduled to be on the radio and over the internet. With several beat writers, is one of the leaders in college baseball when it comes to daily media coverage.