

Ron Beckman

Jordan 1986 MVP Class C



In his own words: I've been a Jordan Brewer fan as far back as I can remember. Brewer baseball meant even more when my father managed the Brewers in the late 60s and I was batboy. I remember attending state amateur tournaments as early as 1966. And when I put on a Brewer uniform for the first time in 1978, the Jordan Brewers hadn't participated in a state tournament in my lifetime.

That changed in 1982. We were a young team and the Brewers qualified for their first state tourney in 28 years. That felt like a big deal. Though we ended up losing in the championship game 5-3 and a couple of follow-up trips resulted in one-run losses, we felt we could compete with the state's best teams and our time would come.

In our 1986 state championship season, we went to state with a 31-10 record, an offense that was hitting over .350 with eight starters hitting over .300 and scoring almost ten runs per game. We won our first four games of the tournament handily scoring over 15 runs per game and averaging ten-run margins of victory.

The championship game versus Sleepy Eye was a different story. It seems like there are some critical plays/efforts in those big games and I recall some good ones: John McFarland's 2nd inning catch turned a would-be bases loaded double into a sacrifice fly. A relay from my cousin Jon Beckman at the fence in right field, to me, to drafted catcher Jeff Miller ended the top of the 8th with the score tied 3-3. Brad Heitkamp, coming in to pitch for us in the 3rd inning, down 3-1, getting us out of a mess and racking up 6 additional shutout innings for the win. And, of course, Jon Beckman's lead off double and John McFarland's RBI single for the 9th inning walk-off win.

I have some personal memories of that championship season. The baseball looked the size of a softball at the plate that summer. I was proud of striking out just three times in over 215 plate appearances and setting several single season offensive records, some that still hold today. Jordan had great fan support the whole season and the estimated 800-900 fans trekking to Cold Spring made this final game feel even more special. Most important are the lifelong bonds and memories that remain to this day with those teammates that battled together all year long.



- Ron Beckman, Jordan, 1986
- Second baseman
- Handled 23 chances without an error
- Hit 12 for 19 at the plate, for a .632 batting average
- Drove in 13 runs



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