

# Dave Meyer

Austin

2002 MVP

Class B

**In his own words:** I pitched in relief in the first game against Hutchinson (Austin 6, Hutchinson 2) and then I wound up pitching against Waseca (Austin 3, Waseca 1), Apple Valley (Austin 3, Apple Valley 2) and Rochester (Austin 3, Rochester 2). I won all three of those games. In the championship I remember Ryan Hanson hit a grand slam in the first inning against Chaska (Austin 14, Chaska 3). That kind of set the tone.

In 2002, we were kind of a bunch of misfit guys and honestly, we went there and we really didn't even know that we belonged there. We were there just to play ball. It was the first time we had ever beat Rochester (in league play) and some of those other teams. We knew we were good, we just didn't know that we were that good.

I think that was the thing about every guy on that team. We all worked together. We worked at a landscaping company together that was owned by Joe Serratore who was our manager. So we worked all day together, were together every night when we played ball, we practiced together—we were just always together. I think that team was such a close knit team and it was a very special group.

I remember I got out of a pretty big jam against Rochester. They had bases loaded and one out. It was toward the end of the game and Matt Raso came out and said, "Hey, we need this right now. You have to dig deep right now." I said that I was going to get a ground ball to short right here and I wound up doing it and we turned a double play to get out of the inning. I went out for the last inning and made it through and we were in the championship.

We had an unbelievable team. We had Ryan Hanson in center, he was super fast and had a cannon for an arm. Tate Cummins at third, John Frein at short, Tim Kaplin at first with super soft hands and Mitch Mullenbach at second. Our infield and outfield were just incredible. Our line-up, looking back on it now, was really amazing.



- Dave Meyer, Austin, 2002
- Pitcher
- Won three games
- Pitched 16.2 innings, allowing just two runs on 12 hits
- Had a tournament ERA of 1.08
- Walked 5 while striking out 16



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