

Jeremy Schmidt

Maple Lake

2012 MVP

Class C

In his own words: I don't know much about that New Ulm game, but I know I pitched it (Maple Lake 6, New Ulm 1). I pitched that Stewartville-Racine game which was a weird one. And then Blue Earth, I pitched that (Maple Lake 4, Blue Earth 2). Mitch Worm pitched Sobieski (Maple Lake 3, Sobieski 1). We had kind of a hodgepodge group of guys throw against Fergus (Maple Lake 4, Fergus Falls 3). I think Chad Raiche started against Fairmont in the final (Maple Lake 6, Fairmont 4).

Graham Brown was my catcher from high school and at Maple Lake. He and I had this agreement that on the first pitch I was just going to absolutely sail one on the first pitch of the game probably 20 feet over the batter's head and all the way up the backstop. That's what we did in high school my senior year and we agreed to do that again. So I just launched one up and nobody knew we were doing it.

The Stewartville-Racine game I remember pretty well. We had one inning where the wheels fell off. I don't remember how many errors we had but that was definitely my worst outing (Maple Lake 14, Stewartville 7) that I can remember in any state tournament. We ended up going extra innings and Graham Brown hit a three-run home run and Chad Raiche hit a grand slam all in that tenth inning. That kind of set the tone for the rest of the tournament.

I remember always hearing about Blue Earth. That was the first time I ever pitched against them. It was under the lights. We won 4-2, a solid game all the way through. I remember the Sobieski game because I had some guys that I was playing college ball with at Southwest, SMSU. There were two brothers, the Jendro brothers, so that was a big game for me because you like to have bragging rights over those guys. But Mitch finally got to pitch that game and did a great job 3-1.

Against Fergus Falls I knew I wasn't going to pitch, but I was in the dugout with a nervous stomach. Our starter was kind of laboring and Jordan Danielson, a draftee from Dassel-Cokato came in and just shut the door. He really set the tone for that game. He did a great job for us that tournament and I really don't think we would have won it without him.

In the state championship, the whole way through we had massive crowds. It seemed like the entire town of Maple Lake was there, Willie included! So I came in, I think it was the last two innings of the game and all I could see in the grandstand was Willie just going nuts. I'm sure it was after a couple of Busch Lites. We were up 6-4 at that point. I didn't really have a ton but I had enough to locate some pitches and I was able to locate some pitches, it wasn't like it had a ton of zip on it. I remember the last out very well. It was a deep fly ball to left center. I think it was Jason Ellis, a player that I played College ball with, and then shoe beers all around!

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- Jeremy Schmidt, Maple Lake, 2012
- Pitcher
- Won three games
- Pitched 25.3 innings
- Allowed nine runs on 17 hits
- Struck out 23
- Had a tournament ERA of 2.46

“So that tournament was pretty sweet because it was at St. Cloud at Dick Putz Field. My group of guys that I played high school baseball with in Annandale, we grew up playing on that field. When you got to play on it, it felt really special to a bunch of young guys.”

