

Dave Ditty

Delano

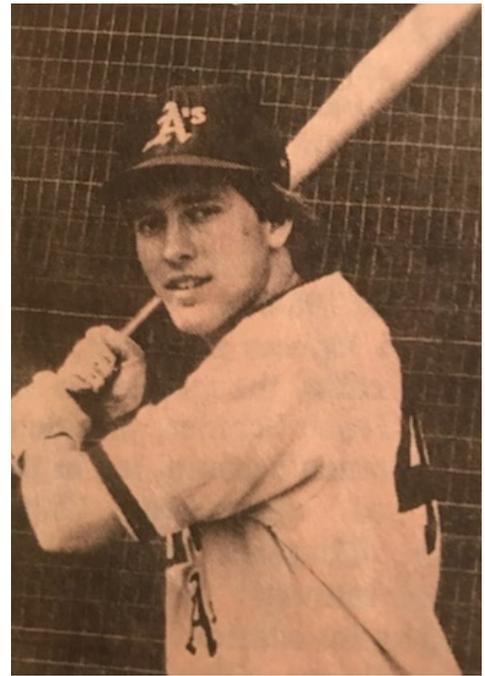
1988 MVP

Class C

In his own words: There are three things I really remember about that tournament. Number one was we had to lawyer up to be able to complete the tournament. There were discussions that we had an illegal player after we beat Granite Falls (Delano 8, Granite Falls 2). They were going to protest the game and that we had to go in front of the state board. We had to get a lawyer which ironically was the Hamel manager, Mike Gallagher. We beat them pretty handily and the player that was in question (Jay Kvasnicka) didn't have a hit and didn't affect the outcome of the game. What I remember was Richter because he was a good dude, he didn't really want to take it to that point. He said you beat us fair and square, but they were kind of pushing to do it. Anyway the player was banned from the rest of the tournament and we were allowed to play on. Getting a Hamel lawyer—nobody really cared for Hamel back then—but we got the Hamel manager who was willing to be our lawyer to help us through that.

Number two is that I just was coming home. I hadn't been playing for Delano. I was just finishing up college at St. Cloud State and I had been playing for Beaudreau's. Then I came home, Tommy Traen was just getting out of the minors and he was coming back to Delano. It was like all the players who came back put it all together. Then you're playing with guys that you grew up with. You know Delano is a small town and we all had played together since we were 10 years old or so. Kind of fun to win it with the group of kids that you grew up with.

Number three was the uniqueness of playing the other team, Maple Plain, that came out of your region in the finals. We ended up playing them even though we had already played them four times during the year. That doesn't happen too often where two teams from the same league end up in the finals. Those were the days that you competed hard on the field and had a great time afterwards.



- Dave Ditty, Delano, 1988
- Played shortstop
- Handled 27 chances without an error
- Went 9 for 23 at the plate
- Had a .391 tournament batting average

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