

Corey Eckhoff

Minnetonka

2007 MVP

Class A

In his own words: That tournament was at Shakopee which was a unique thing for Class A. That is the one park that I've always hit well at. It was the time where everything that falls in feels like it's a double. Seven of the 13 hits were doubles. It takes luck to have balls drop in the right spots for you all the time. Hitting the ball well, but at the same time, it didn't matter. I was pretty fortunate that we either shifted one way because I hit the gap last at bat, they move and I hit the other gap. So I was pretty fortunate that way for that series of games for sure.

Joe Shallenberger was having a heck of a tournament as well. Tearing the ball up. Hitting behind those guys makes it pretty easy to get RBIs—they are on base all the time. The guys hit over .500 in front of you, you are going to get pitches to hit for sure. I think they might have been pitching to me because our lineup was so good. I don't know if I should take it personal when they are walking players around me. Are they actually coming after me? I was feeling pretty good at the plate and was getting a lot of pitches to hit. It was a good series of games for sure.

Minnetonka was a tough lineup to break. If you didn't hit you didn't get to play. I was the DH the whole tournament. The day Shallenberger came back, I remember I was playing third base and he, Kevin says we got a new guy coming in, Shallenberger, and I said I'll just go play somewhere else I think. DH, wherever you want me. It was fun.

I played my first amateur baseball when I was 12 years old up in Deer Creek, Minnesota. So when I moved to the Cities for work after college, it was finding a good team and my college teammate was Tony Richards, so that's how I got to the Millers. Tony and I stayed in touch and got on the Millers and boy the competitive part was just to get on the field. Kevin put together a good roster always. So it was fun just to compete like that again. You had to take it serious, you know, guys that don't take it serious don't come to the ballpark when they don't play.

My wife appreciated it when I went from A ball to B ball with Victoria. Go from 50 games to 35 or so a year. It was a pretty good deal. We won the B tournament in 2012. It was a lot of fun.



- Corey Eckhoff, Minnetonka, 2007
- Outfielder
- Hit 13 for 19 for a .684 batting average
- Had seven doubles for the tournament
- Drove in 10 RBI



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