

Brian Jenneke

Glencoe

1998 MVP

Class C



In his own words: Going back to right before the playoffs started, I got a bad cut on my throwing hand. So the final two weeks of the season, I couldn't pitch, which for me is not normal. I was so well rested coming into the playoffs, I got on a roll and that's probably the best I've ever pitched in my life for a stretch so the timing was great.

For the season, we were just above a .500 team. We hit the playoffs and got on a roll. I mean it was from pitching to defense—we weren't the best hitting ball club, but man did we get timely hits. Guys would get on and somebody would come through and it was different guys every night. It was probably the most fun I've had playing baseball my whole life! I don't know how to explain it, to kind of struggle through the regular season and then that and it was fun. The competition we were playing was top-notch, too.

I pitched against Morris (Glencoe 4, Morris 2), Union Hill (Glencoe 4, Union Hill 2), Jackson (Glencoe 2, Jackson 0) and Springfield (Glencoe 8, Springfield 6). The championship weekend I threw the first game on Friday and I came back and threw my second game of the weekend on Sunday. If we would have ended up losing the first championship game I would have come back and thrown the second championship game.

It was good. Obviously we got a little lucky. We scored in the ninth—I should say they had errors in the ninth. We had a swinging bunt and their pitcher threw it into right field and we scored runs and that was kind of the ballgame. That was against Richmond in the championship (Glencoe 5, Richmond 4). We definitely got some breaks that game for sure. It was a crazy game. With it being in Hamburg, I don't know what the actual attendance was, but it was loud and absolutely nuts in there. Half the town of Glencoe showed up. I would guess there were 1,500 people there, maybe 2,000. I can't give you a number, but it was a good showing for our fans.

For me it was a close-knit team. We hung out away from baseball. Everybody stayed after the games and we would watch together. I truly think that was a big part of why we did what we did. Everybody got along so well and we were such a team—that helped us. And we got hot at the right time. The team that gets hot at the playoffs, may not always be the best team, but if you turn it on at the right time, you can go a long ways.



- Brian Jenneke, Glencoe, 1998
- Pitcher
- Won four games
- Pitched 33.1 innings allowing 10 runs on 24 hits
- Held a 2.70 ERA
- Walked four while striking out 54



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