

Wade Shelstad

Red Wing

1993 MVP

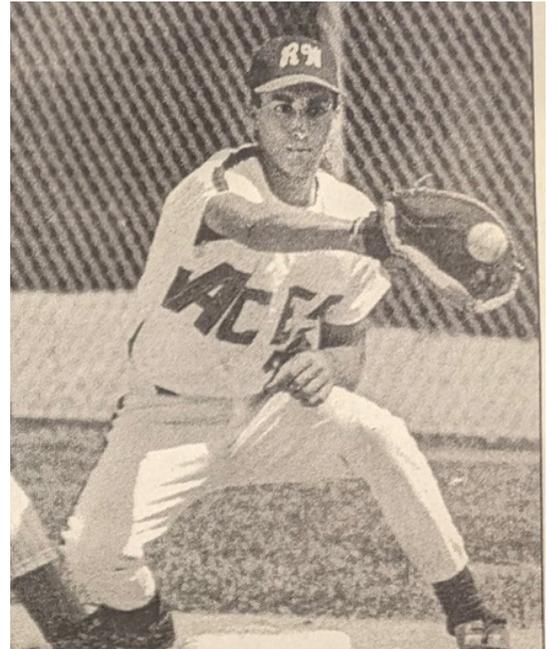
Class B

In his own words: The thing that jumps out the most was that for me it was my first state tournament. Going up there I think I was 20 years old, maybe just turning 21 around that time. Not knowing what you're not supposed to do and so you go do it. There's something to be said for that. I didn't feel a bunch of pressure because it wasn't like we were defending champs or anything like that. Just going up to St. Cloud to have fun, more so than anything.

We had a decent mix of older guys, like Doug Toivonen and some of those guys and then we had some younger kids that were still playing college ball and things like that. We had a nice mix of veterans and young guys that were hungry. I remember starting out that year kind of struggling and by the end of the year we were winning two out of three games. I remember going up and playing Marble that first game and getting that win (Red Wing 13, Marble 3).

I remember having to pitch against St. Cloud Beaudreau's in the semi-finals and having to beat them (Red Wing 7, Beaudreau's 3). Then we had to come back and beat Miesville twice that final day. If you go back to those days, it was Miesville, Dundas and Red Wing every year that were battling to get to the state tournament. Then to have to play them and beat them twice to win. It was very satisfying to win it because they were a rival (Red Wing 10, 5; Miesville 6, 4). I just remember Corey Tauer coming up with the winning hit to beat them 5-4. It was a real exciting game. Kind of a back and forth type of game and I just remember it being a very enjoyable period. It was pretty special. I remember seeing Jay and Jim Bohmbach in the stands. They had come up to watch that final game and for all the years that they had played with the Aces and they had decided to retire just a year or two earlier. Having them up there watching and just having a lot of people up there was very special.

It was a beautiful park. St. Cloud has Dick Putz field. Real nice field and like I said just taking it all in for the first time. Being young and not having played in the state tournament before just trying to soak in what that was all about. The hotel experience and when you're staying overnight with teammates and the fun we had doing that, it was just a real fun, special time. You don't realize until you go through it how hard it is to get back to that final weekend and play in a state tournament or a championship. I don't think I ever played for a state championship after 1993. You appreciate how hard it is to get there, because you have to go through the Miesville's and Dundas and then to have to battle through all these good teams to give yourself a chance and it's a lot harder than what you realize.



- Wade Shelstad, Red Wing, 1993
- First baseman
- Handled 43 chances without an error
- Went 13 for 33 for the tournament
- Batted .394



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