

Steve Taylor

Cold Spring

1996 MVP

Class B

In his own words: That was actually my first year with the Springers when we won it that year. I had been with O'Hara Brothers the year before. I had been with the Springers a number of times as a draftee and I finally joined forces with them out there. I came on when Billy Huls stepped down and Dave Henkemeyer took over as manager so I made my way out to Cold Spring.

We just had kind of a good chemistry. It seemed like we had a number of good ballplayers through our lineup and everybody just kind of knew their role. It was a fun team to play on and kind of a quiet confidence. We didn't have too many guys that thought they were too cocky. They knew they were good ballplayers but kind of humble about it. We got on a roll in the state tournament and I know that the Springers had been knocking on the door a couple other years.

It seemed like they were always in the final weekend. I think one year we got beat by Jordan in 10 innings when Schleper was the draftee for Jordan. But we got beat in the final game there. Then we've been knocking on doors for championships and we finally kind of put it together. We had excellent pitching and besides that New Ulm game (Cold Spring 10, New Ulm 0) all the games were low scoring and it kind of came down to that final at bat or two and we were able to win some close games and beat some good pitchers along the way. So it was a fun run that's for sure.

Dave Oehrlen and Todd Steil each won a couple of games that year. For the most part we got all the way through the state tournament without using a draftee. I think we had Robb Mettenburg come in and get the final out against Dundas in the final weekend (Cold Spring 6, Dundas 4). That was the only time we used a draftee in the whole tournament. That was played in Glencoe and Brownston. It seemed like the wind was blowing in every time we played a game there. There weren't a whole lot of runs scored in that whole tournament if I remember right.

I didn't do that much that year, but winning a couple of close games and it was a fun run. It seemed like things kind of fell into place for me that year. But we had an awful good team with Josh Loesch, Butala and Ron Terres. We had a good balanced team that year, no doubt.



- Steve Taylor, Cold Spring, 1996
- Infielder
- Handled 25 chances without an error
- Hit 9 for 17 for a .529 batting average



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