

# Matt Van Der Bosch

Miesville

2007 MVP

Class B

**In his own words:** The year was kind of weird. We were only about .500. We kind of had more of a local team, some guys that may not have played college baseball, but kind of a scrappy group. I think we had really good pitching. That kind of carried us through the regular season. As we got into the playoffs, we earned a spot and the draft was big back then. So that was a big thing for us that we could add Jimmy Bombach. You know he was young and fresh out of college as a catcher. Then we added some arms that really helped us. We added Andy Gibert from Red Wing and Luke Rasmussen was fresh out of high school (Northfield) going to the University of Minnesota. That really helped us in state. Jimmy hit in the four spot and hit a couple of home runs, too, and that really helped solidify the line up. Then adding Andy and Ras, with Chris Olean, who at that time was really good. We had Andrew Werner, who had a good arm and was our third baseman. It was a good mix of guys at the right time. They just kind of caught fire for us at the right time and really helped.

I don't really remember much of the Burnsville game (Miesville 3, Burnsville 1), but in the Dassel game we scored a bunch early (Miesville 11, Dassel-Cokato 1). The next game, against Rochester, was a little more heated. I remember leading off the game with a bunt and they didn't necessarily like that. They just started jawing at me coming out of pro-ball. And I was just, well that's just how I play. That's what I do and what not. I remember Olean didn't want me to go through the handshake line because he thought something might happen (Miesville 7, Rochester 3). But it was fine.

The Mankato game was probably for the championship. The Mankato team was all Mankato college players and they were really good. That was kind of before the Northwoods League really took over and started taking a lot of the amateur players around here, so Mankato was loaded. Young, good, live arms and fast. We decided to go with the crafty lefty (Gibert). See if they could have a change of approach off of a guy that could spin it and pitch backwards on them and they hated it. They were screaming for fast balls and we ended up squeaking one out. I hit a solo home run off Rupert, I think it was mid-game or so and that held up (Miesville 1, Mankato 0). Gibert threw a complete game and pitched awesome.

I think Austin wasn't necessarily a tough game. We got up early and Olean was in huge control through that (Miesville 11, Austin 3). I had a decent time at the plate, popped a couple out, stole some bases and did what I do. It was a really fun summer, coming off of pro ball and just the political and business aspect of that. Coming back and playing with guys that I knew, my roommates that I lived with when I moved back to Hastings. I had fun all summer and got back to what baseball is like and what it is supposed to be. We got the job done and that was it!

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• Matt Van Der Bosch, Miesville, 2007

• Centerfielder

• Hit .455, going 10 for 22

• Slugged two home runs

• Plated four RBI



Later in the game, we were up by one or two and we had a guy on base and I ended up hitting a home run over the right-center field wall and it felt pretty good. It was a decent shot and as I was rounding third, I got an earful again."

