

Jerry Wickman

Columbia Heights

1972 MVP

In his own words: I remember pitching the championship game against Gaylord (Columbia Heights 4, Gaylord 1). I also remember pitching against Prior Lake because they had some of my former teammates on the team (Columbia Heights 3, Prior Lake 2). I'm not sure which of the other two games that I pitched, but I think I pitched three of the four or if not started all three I was at least in for relief. I also know that I hit reasonably well too, because I played outfield when I wasn't pitching. It was a long, long time ago and we played in quite a few state tournaments. And it was early in my Dick's Place career—that was only my second year with Dick's Place. It was Wadena and the weather was fairly decent. Got a little chilly later in the evening, but it was a good time.

I remember the awards ceremony, Wendell Anderson was the governor at the time and he donated a trophy for the MVP player and it was like three feet tall! He wasn't there though.

After my mom died, my dad stayed in the house that we grew up in for a while and he got to the point that we got him into an assisted living situation, sold the house, and Wendell Anderson's daughter bought it. Talk about small world! My parents drove all the way up from Northeast Minneapolis to watch all the games. I met my wife about three weeks after the tournament and I'm still married to her. We got married in 1973.

I stopped playing baseball when I turned 40 in 1986. I kept on telling my wife that I would quit playing because we had two sons that were starting to play "kid ball." So we were pretty busy with that and one year I told her okay this is my last year because we made the state tournament. Well we lost in the championship game. So I told her I can't quit, I can't quit on that. So the following year we won it in 1986. I fulfilled my promise and I stopped.



- Jerry Wickman, Columbia Heights, 1972
- Pitcher/ Cenerfielder
- Won three games, pitching 22 innings
- Allowed only three earned runs for a 1.23 ERA
- Allowed only four hits and struck out 41 batters
- Went 7 for 16 for a .438 batting average

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