

Rhodes College Digital Archives - DLynx

Athletic Hall of Fame Citation 2006

Item Type	Other
Publisher	Memphis, Tenn. : Rhodes College
Rights	Rhodes College owns the rights to the archival digital images in this repository. Images are made available for educational use only and may not be used for any non-educational or commercial purpose. Approved educational uses include private research and scholarship, teaching, and student projects. For additional information please contact archives@rhodes.edu .
Download date	2026-03-08 03:45:14
Link to Item	http://hdl.handle.net/10267/13002



Rhodes College

—1848—

1947 MILE RELAY TEAM FLETCHER SCOTT, FREEMAN MARR, FRANK BOSWELL, EVIN PERDUE

When World War II ended, thousands of men returned home and resumed their education with the GI Bill. Fletcher Scott, Freeman Marr, Frank Boswell and Evin Perdue chose Southwestern At Memphis to further their education and pursue their dreams as college athletes. Southwestern knew they were getting a few good men, but no one knew how fast these men could run. My, how the quartet of Scott, Marr, Boswell, Perdue could run. In 1947 they set a mile relay record which would last for 25 years.

Dr. John Osman coached the Southwestern track team in 1947. A track star in his own right, he was an Olympic trials finalist in the 440 yard dash. Dr. Osman not only coached the track team, but he was an outstanding instructor in the Man course and headed the Adult Education Department. Upon leaving Southwestern he went to the Brookings Institution.

Everyone who has watched, run or coached the mile relay knows the race is a combination of speed, strength and tactics. The 1947 team had it all. Fletcher Scott ran the lead leg. He had strength and speed. Fletcher, who played end in football, was the Tennessee Intercollegiate Champ in the 440. Hall of Famer Freeman Marr ran the second leg where he utilized his athleticism and phenomenal ability to analyze a race in progress. Frank Boswell, who ran the third leg, was the speed demon of the group. The great Evin Perdue ran anchor. Undefeated as a collegian in the 880, Evin Perdue was the school record holder in the 880.

The 1947 Lynx mile relay team won championships at the Purdue, Kansas and Texas Relays. As the TIAC champs, the team posted the seventh-best time in the nation. For the national recognition they brought to their college and the inspiration they provide today, we are proud to induct the 1947 mile relay team of Fletcher Scott, Freeman Marr, Frank Boswell and Evin Perdue into the Rhodes Athletic Hall of Fame this 20th day of October, 2006.





Rhodes College

— 1848 —

1961 BASEBALL TEAM NCAA COLLEGIATE NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

The memorable 1961 baseball season started with 14 consecutive victories and ended with a NCAA Collegiate National Championship. Southwestern defeated Ball State 5-3 on June 7, 1961, in Greencastle, IN, to claim the title and a place in the record books. Larry Thomas pitched a complete game, giving up two earned runs, raising his record to 5-1 on the season. The big hit in the game came in the sixth inning with the Lynx leading 3-1 in a tight-fought game. David Miles singled with a man on second and third, driving in both runs and giving the Lynx a 5-1 lead going into the seventh inning. The Lynx completed their season with a 19-5 record.

The 1961 roster, led by head coach Woody Johnson and assistant coach Grover Bowers, included: Tommy Johnson (CF), David Miles (1B), Buddy McAfee (SS), Billy Landers (2B), Robert Echols (3B), Lou Johnson (LF), Bob Moseley (P), Pat Burke (RF), Jerry Manley (C), Mark Hartzog (P), David White (OF, 3B), Larry Thomas (P), Ronnie Splann (P, OF), Charlie Killinger (OF), George McCormick (OF), Billy Guy (IF, OF), Cyril Hollingsworth (Util), Bill Holmes (Util), William Homes (C) and Bill Burge.

The 1961 team was a classic mix of experienced veterans and hungry youth. The Lynx were led by Billy Landers and Bob Moseley. An article written in *The Commercial Appeal* said they were regarded as the best position player and pitcher going into the tournament. Landers led the Lynx in hitting with a .476 average, which still stands as the highest single-season average by a Lynx player. He was also named the Most Valuable Player of the team. Moseley led the team with 10 victories and a 1.45 earned run average. Two Lynx players went on to play professional baseball. Landers signed a pro contract with the Houston Colt 45's and Buddy McAfee with the St. Louis Cardinals.

The 1961 Lynx were known for their scrappy, result-driven attitude. This type of play was evident in the victory against Ball State to capture the championship. Woody Johnson believed in small ball and stressed the importance of never giving up. Charles Killinger was quoted as saying, "I never played for a coach who could manufacture runs like Woody Johnson" As the season progressed, the Lynx had a reputation for winning in the dying moments. They won more than half their games after late-inning rallies. Johnson described the winning Southwestern formula in an article in *The Commercial Appeal* as "the kind of enthusiasm that never lets the players relax."

The 1961 baseball team could relax after that sunny, warm day in June as the players captured the NCAA Collegiate National Championship. For the national recognition they brought their alma mater, Rhodes is honored to induct the members of the 1961 baseball team to the Rhodes Athletic Hall of Fame this 20th day of October, 2006.

