

2019 WYO HALL OF FAME

Bobby Ingram

My baseball umpiring career began in 1978 in Walker County, AL. I have been a high school and American Legion baseball umpire in Alabama, Texas and Wyoming and have umpired State and Regional Tournaments in each of these states. I served as the Assignor for the Gillette Baseball Umpires Group from 2003 – 2012. I have been a high school football official in Texas and Wyoming since the late 1990's and was the crew referee for the past two 4A WY State High School football championship games. I officiated high school basketball from 1978 through 2011 in Alabama, Texas and Wyoming and also officiated NAIA and Junior College basketball in South Dakota and Wyoming for 10 years. What I enjoy most about officiating is the interaction with players, coaches and fellow officials.

Duane Monlux

Duane Monlux grew up in Gillette, WY, and played American Legion baseball for the Roughriders from 1991-93. He went to Dickinson State University in North Dakota and played football, basketball, and baseball for the Blue Hawks. He was a two-time NAIA All-American in football and two-time all-conference baseball selection. Named Dickinson State Male Athlete of the Year for the 1997-98 school year. Member of the Dickinson State University Athletic Hall of Fame. Also a member of the Gillette Riders baseball Hall of Fame. Played four years of professional football in the NIFL (two years for the Wyoming Calvary and two years for the Bismarck Roughriders). Been a collegiate head baseball coach for the past 18 years. Also, coached college football for 12 years.

- Collegiate baseball coaching record of 625-314-5 (.665) in 18 years (nine years at Bellevue University and nine years at Dickinson State Univ.)
- 4-time regional coach of the year
- 7-time conference coach of the year
- Teams have won 8 regular season conference titles
- Teams have won 8 conference tournament titles

- Teams have advanced to the national tournament 14 times in 18 seasons
- Two teams have advanced to the NAIA World Series (2016 and 2019)
 - o 2016 team placed 3rd at NAIA World Series
 - o 2019 team placed 5th at NAIA World Series
- Teams have won more games the past nine years and any other college team in the state of Nebraska (393 for an average of 44 per season)

Married to beautiful wife Roxi. Have two children, Easton and Emree. Currently living in Bellevue, Nebraska.

EVERETT DESMARTEAU

Everett Andrew Desmarteau (Ev)
March 2, 1948 to July 5, 2015

Everett played 4 years of American Legion baseball as a catcher. He was a starting lineman all 4 years of high school football. He was the starting tackle on the 1964 undefeated Campbell County High School team. He was all-state his senior year. He received a football scholarship to Northern Colorado College.

Everett was the starting center on the Campbell County High School 1966 basketball state championship team. He also was selected to all-state.

Everett joined the U.S. Navy, served 4 years and achieved the rank of RM2. Everett later worked in the oilfield as a contract pumper and later started his own roustabout company. Everett was elected twice to Commander of American Legion Post 42 from 1986 to 1988.

Everett was the Manager of the American Legion baseball team for more than a decade. He was instrumental in the building of the Legion baseball field and serving as a liaison between the Post and American Legion Baseball program.

Here to accept Everett's award is friend Charley Sneed.

GARLAND MARSO

Garland was involved in youth and legion baseball for over 22 years in Gillette, WY as a coach and board member. He coached 3 State Championships in youth baseball leagues. He was the organizational board member and president of Campbell County Baseball Association (CCBA). The mission of CCBA was to

acquire land and build a state of the art legion baseball complex in Gillette. The CCBA was responsible for raising funds and soliciting free labor to accomplish the goal. With the help of board members, parents, volunteers, and the entire community, the mission was accomplished. Since CCBA, the community has continued to be engaged in the Leigon Field and has created on the best complexes of any Legion Program. Fund raising implemented by CCBA included the \$10,000 CCBA raffle which I believe was the first in Gillette to sell \$100 raffle tickets. The CCBA raffle was very successful and well attended by the community. We also established games of chance, bingo nights, men's nights, and various other fund raisers. Many board members, volunteers, and community members have worked countless hours for the mission of CCBA.

Finally, my heart still resides in Gillette and American Legion Post 42. There is no community or American Legion Post that would ever measure up in my humble opinion.

JAMES HLADKY

Wyoming American Legion Baseball is better because of James Hladky. As a coach, he taught his players a great work-ethic. Anyone who played for James knew that they worked harder and practiced more than any other team. His motto as a coach and everyday life was "outwork everyone". On October 1, 2011 James had a fatal crash in a helicopter. Wyoming baseball lost a great supporter. James did not stop supporting Wyoming baseball when his sons Pat and Paul finished their baseball careers. He continued supporting and financing baseball so all could enjoy. Nor did his death end his relentless support. In 2014, Gillette's ballpark was named Hladky Stadium largely in honor of James. Hladky Stadium today is the finest ballpark in Wyoming, largely due to the contributions and support of Mr. James Hladky and his family. Because of his wife Susan and sons Pat and Paul continue the generous support of baseball carrying on the legacy of James Hladky.

KIRBY DRUBE

Kirby Drube is the son of Richard and Frances Drube and was raised in Gillette, Wyoming. Kirby and his fiancé Kelleen have a family including five wonderful children: Gabby, Maddy, Mason, Alexis and Brecken.

Kirby was a four sport athlete and graduated from Campbell County High School in 1994. From 1989 to 1994 he played Rough Rider Baseball. He was drafted as the number 1084 player taken overall in the thirty-ninth round of the 1994 MLB Draft by the Los Angeles Dodgers. During the time of the draft he was listed as a 6'6", 210 lb Outfield/pitcher. Kirby was drafted into the Major League Baseball draft from Campbell County (Gillette, WY). Kirby was a dual sport athlete at the University of Wyoming. From 1995 to 1996 he played baseball as a pitcher. Also from 1995 to 1999 he played football for UW as a tight end. He earned his Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Wyoming in 1999.

Kirby has given back to the community through coaching multiple youth sports. One of his greatest accomplishments as a coach was helping the Gillette Little League All Star team make their way to San Bernardino, California through winning the Wyoming state championship.

He now enjoys watching his children develop into fine student athletes and spending time with his family. Kirby's son Mason is in the Jr. Rider program.

NATE PERLEBERG

In 14 seasons at the helm, Coach Nate Perleberg has turned the Gillette Riders into a premier program in the country. With Perleberg at the helm, the Riders have won over 700 games in 14 seasons. He has a career record of 717-362, a .664 winning percentage. Perleberg led the Riders to their first ever State Championship in 2008 and then repeated the task again in 2014. He was named Wyoming Coach of the Year in 2014. The Riders have finished State Runner-up 6 times during his time. He has guided the Riders to 3 NW Regional Appearances, including a NW Regional Runner Up finish in 2015.

In 2006, Perleberg started the first Riders Fall Baseball program to provide more opportunities for his players and teams. In 2011, a 3rd team, the Gillette Prep was added and in 2012, a 4th team, the Gillette JR Riders. These feeder teams have ensured that the program consistently develops its players and teams at an early age. In 2015, the Riders Baseball Academy was started to give players of all ages the opportunity to receive instruction throughout the winter months.

During his 14 seasons, 51 Riders have went on to play College Baseball, including have 2 professionally drafted. Perleberg's teams year in and year out have been known for producing fine young men both on and off the field.

Under Perleberg's direction, the facilities at Hladky Stadium have been upgraded to some of the best in the country. The Turf Infield, Indoor Facility, Players Clubhouse are a few of the additions over the last 10 years. These facilities are a big reason that Gillette has won the bid to host the 2020 NW Regional Tournament.

During his tenure, Perleberg has served on many State Level Legion Baseball Boards, including currently as a State AA coaches Representative. He is also the Wyoming AA All-State Coordinator. He has been a constant positive voice and ambassador for Wyoming Legion Baseball.

I've been very blessed to be able to build the type of program that I always envisioned and to have the continuous positive support from my family, our players, parents, coaches, board members, and community to make it happen. First of all I would like to thank all my past and present players. I truly believe that I get to coach the best kids in the country day in and day out. Next, I'd like to thank my coaching staff. I've had so many great coaches over the years such as Ryan Iliff, Allen Hemeyer, Chris Hodges, Sam Stearns, Garrett Schultz, Jake Samuelson, and Doug Evans. I would like to also thank my Legion Board presidents over the years; Randy Langdon, Dallis Cowen, Leo Hinkel and currently Steve Laakso for their unwavering support of not only me, but most importantly our baseball program. Finally, I would like to thank my wife Shaely, my kids, and my family for allowing me to pursue what I love to do. You all are the real reason why its always a great day to be a Rider!

RYAN HUTCHISON

Ryan was born and raised in Gillette and graduated from Campbell County High School. He started tee-ball at age three and chosen for all-star teams in both Little League and Babe Ruth before serving three years as starting centerfielder for the Gillette Roughriders. He was a multi-sport athlete through high school and won several state championships in tennis, basketball and baseball.

As a member of the 2008 Roughriders, he was proud to have been part of the first-ever Gillette American Legion team to win a state championship in its 62-year history. In addition to coming in as relief to become the winning pitcher in the semi-finals game, he was a key contributor to the state championship game, going 4-5, with 6 rbi and 2 home runs and was named the State of Wyoming MVP. The team was inducted into the Roughriders Hall of Fame in 2017.

Ryan then went to Iowa Western Community College to play for the Reivers. He was a two-year starter in centerfield before the team won the JUCO D1 World Series, becoming national champions for the first time in school history. Ryan went 2-4 with a double and triple in championship game and was named Honorable Mention All-American and First Team All-Region. The team was inducted into the Reivers Hall of Fame in 2018.

Between his sophomore and junior years of college, Ryan played for the Edmonton Prospects in the Wood Bat Western Major Baseball League in Canada and was named MVP of the team.

He was then recruited by Western Kentucky University and earned a starting position in right field his first year. He was drafted by the San Diego Padres the summer following his junior year and decided to return to school. He hit .305 in conference play his senior season and led the team in home runs, rbi's and slugging, while starting all 58 games in right field. He was also named Sun Belt Conference Player of the Week.

Ryan was picked up by the Lake Erie Crushers, in Cleveland, Ohio, and played one season of independent ball, which ended with a .297 batting average and led to him getting signed by the Arizona Diamondbacks, where he played for the Kane County Cougars in Chicago and the Rawhide in Visalia, California.

Since leaving baseball, Ryan now lives in Sacramento, California, and works as a sales pro at BSN Sports. He recently became engaged to Chelsey Tenge and they are planning to be married next year. He is thankful for the many great coaches he had throughout the years and the lifelong friends he has throughout the country because of the opportunities that came with playing baseball.

Ryan Iliff

Ryan played for the Riders from 2005-2008. He was an All-State member in 2006-2008. He was named Gillette Pitcher of Year in 2005 and Team MVP in 2006. He pitched a complete game shutout in Gillette's 1st ever State Championship vs. Cheyenne in 2008.

Ryan is the current Riders Single Season Record holder in many pitching categories including Wins (12), ERA (2.56), Innings Pitched (95 2/3) and Complete Games (6). He also holds many Riders All-Time Season Records including Wins (33), Innings Pitched (296 2/3), and Complete Games (17).

After high school, Ryan attending Jamestown College from 2008-2011 where he was a 4 year Varsity Player. He was a member of the 2008 World Series Team and is in the single season record book for wins (7). Ryan is also in the career record books for Appearances (43), Games Started (22), Complete games (5), Shutouts (2) and Innings Pitched (148 1/3).

Ryan was a Head Assistant Coach for the Riders from 2010-2013 and 2015-2016. During this time the Riders went 297-168, won 4 conference championships, and finished State Runner Up 3 times. In 2015, the Riders finished 2nd in the NW Regional Tournament.

Currently Ryan is the Head Assistant Coach for the University of Jamestown. During his 5 seasons, the Jimmies are 188-76, have won 3 conference championships and have 4 National Tournament Appearances.

I would like to thank everyone that is here supporting not only Roughrider baseball but all of Wyoming legion baseball, playing legion baseball was one of the greatest times of my life. I want to thank everyone that has supported me over the years in my career as a player. I want to thank my parents who spent a lot of time and money to let me play a game that I love and supported me all the way into college, I wouldn't be standing here if it wasn't for them.

I want to thank Coach Perleberg, he has always been a great friend and even better mentor over the years. As a coach he found ways to push me to be the best player that I could be, even if it meant us butting heads from time to time but we always had the same goal which was to win every game and never give them back. I wouldn't be the coach or person I am today without him.

Special thanks to Coach Hager and the entire Jamestown College baseball staff for giving me an opportunity to play college baseball when most coaches thought I wasn't good enough and didn't throw hard enough to pitch at that level.

I need to thank all of my teammates over the years, I definitely wouldn't be standing here if it wasn't for them making me look good. Guys like Ryan Hutchinson who would run down every ball that got scorched in a gap off of me. My ERA would have been way higher if I didn't have Nate Kolata throwing out every runner from the outfield that tried to score from 2nd off a hit. Seth Means knows why it's called the hot corner at 3rd. Everything was hit hard his way and he wasn't afraid to put his body in front of the ball. Finally, all my catchers over the years, guys like Sawley Wilde, Drew Baier, and Garrett Jackson who had to put up with all my antics and my personality on the mound.

I am truly honored to be standing here with these great people. It's a great day to be a Rider!

Steve Laakso

Rider from 1993-1995

University of Mary 1995-1997

Roughrider Board Member since 2008 and current President

Currently Broker/Owner of Signature Real Estate Group

Current Coach of 11U Bulldogs Baseball Program

Married to Angie Laakso with 2 kids Jackson and Lauren

Favorite Memories of program: Helping build the current field, Great friendships that were made and being a part of a program allowed me the opportunity to play college baseball.

It has been an honor to be able to work alongside the board members and Coach Perleberg to create a topnotch program and facility here in Gillette.

Greatest Baseball Accomplishments: Winning the Little League State Title as a player in 1989 and as a coach in 2005. As well as the opportunity to play college baseball at the University of Mary.

I would like to thank my coaches: my Dad Jack Laakso, Ron McGrath, Garland Marso, Brian Marso and Jerry Matejka for making me the player I was and the man I am today.