

SPORTS

At Georgetown College

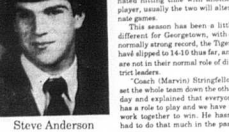
Anderson likes playing much more than the bench

By Hank Bond
OF THE MERCURY STAFF
After four years of playing three sports - football, basketball and baseball, the transition for Steve Anderson hasn't been all that easy.

While a student at Nicholas County High School, Anderson played three sports, which meant he was competing nearly 12 months a year.

Now, as a junior at Georgetown College, Anderson has to spend more time off the field than on the field.

A junior for the Tigers, Anderson has been suffering a little this season with a stiff arm. A few trips to the doctor has given the young buster an ahead, and he may be back on the mound as early as this week.



Steve Anderson

Anderson finished last season with a 7-1 record, as Georgetown advanced in the NCAA to Bluefield West Virginia for the Ams 7 play-off before elimination.

The Tigers finished last season with a 16-1 record.

"The big difference is that in high school I was able to play every day," he explained. "I was at pitching or playing field time here at Georgetown. I have been getting to play a little more time off the field than on the field."

"I think if I had just sat on the bench all the time it would drive me crazy."

At least now he is able to contribute to the team in the designated hitting role.

His first two years at Georgetown Anderson had very little time to play, usually the way alternates.

Anderson has been to play 27 times this season with a .270 batting average. He splits the designated hitting time with alternate player, usually the way alternates.

This season has been a little different for Georgetown, with a currently strong record, the Tigers have split 1-14 in this far, and are not in their normal role of alternates.

"Coach (Marvin) Strouffville told me the whole team down the other day and explained that everyone has a role to play and we have to work together to win. He hasn't had to do that much in the past."

though Georgetown won only one game, the trip provided much experience for the team.

Last season Georgetown's baseball team played several games in Hawaii, a trip Anderson's team never forgot.

"That was the best," he said. "I'd like to be spending for those afternoons on the island. The Tiger guys fill in the thick of things for a shot at post season play."

"If we can beat Cumberland this weekend, we'll have a chance to go to Hawaii again, I sure hope so."

Anderson will finish his playing career next season, but with a trip to Hawaii planned, what a way to finish.

With an amazing 4-0 start for 1986, including a nationally reported 36-35 home from behind win over Wichita State University in Kansas, the Eagles finished the year with a 7-4 mark and came within one game, a 23-16 loss to Eastern Kentucky University of advancing to the school's first ever trip to the Division I AA playoffs.

Morhead had traded Wichita State 35-3 an interception but a miracle only sealed the win.

For 1987 the team's goal is to capture the ever elusive Ohio Valley Conference Championship, and a shot at the NCAA Division I-AA National Championship.

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Football Eagles eye 1987 as championship year

By Hank Bond
OF THE MERCURY STAFF
Football Coach Bill Baldrige has a vision for his team and his school.

After one of the school's best ever seasons in 1986, Baldrige and his coaching staff hope to push the charge playing for Morhead to new heights.

For 1987 the team's goal is to capture the ever elusive Ohio Valley Conference Championship, and a shot at the NCAA Division I-AA National Championship.

Baldrige using pride, new facility for boost

Three consecutive games at Akron, Murray State and Middle Tennessee State.

Phil Simma, a former Morhead standout, came number one draft pick of the New York Giants five weeks ago, has also helped the coaching staff in its recruiting efforts.

"This will help us by writing or talking to our top recruits," Baldrige explained. "He has the best interest of the university at heart and explains to these players they will have an opportunity to play much more at MSU than they might at a big division I school."

"He tells them how playing for Morhead helped prepare him for the professional game, because he had the opportunity to play much more at Morhead than he might have if he had gone to another school."

With the success of last year's team, the program has continued to build momentum.

"Out attendance almost tripled from last year's game," Baldrige said. "We had a good year last season, and we have had a good recruiting year," Baldrige said of the Eagles.

"We had several home basketball games sold out this season, and we have been able to bring in recruits to some of those games and have them introduced."

"Winning and excitement are contagious," the fourth year head coach said.

"Baldrige attributed the team's success to two major investments.

"I feel the program has really begun to move ahead for two reasons, one the overbook and second Phil Simma."

In 1986 Baldrige, the football program takes on a different perspective when come to the regular season.

The teams go on... and the wins go to the kids. I don't want the kids saying things about anything, unless they're ready to state the responsibility for the statements. We don't want any fighting among team members and we want the program to have a positive attitude from the very beginning.

Morhead will open the season the road at Marshall University, September 5. The remainder of the schedule includes: Kentucky State home, September 12, @ James Madison September 19, open dates September 30 @ October 3, @ Austin Peay October 10, home against Tennessee Tech Oct.

At the foot of the MSU practice facility is a sign reading: Construction Area, Building the best OVC Champion.

If Bill Baldrige and his Eagles have their way, the high rise may be complete in 1987 and ready for occupancy.

Fryman top hitter

Nicholas County opened play last week, dropping a 10-3 decision to Bourbon County.

The Jackets opened the first inning with a single run, but the Colonias struck first in the first, four in the second, and two in the bottom of the fifth to account for a 9-1 lead.

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MSU advances

The Morhead State University men's and women's bowling teams have won the right to compete in the National Collegiate Championships.

The men's team, currently ranked eighth in a field of over 500 teams by the Bowling Writers of America, and the women ranked fifth in the nation by the BWA, will compete in Omaha, Nebraska, April 23-26.

There are 12 teams in both the men's and women's division. MSU is the smallest school of the 12 men's teams.

In the women's division home schools such as Penn State, Temple, the University of Illinois and Indiana State are favored. The men's list includes such schools as St. John's and Georgia Tech.

The berth in the national tournament is obtained by either placing first or second place in a sectional tournament. Morhead State's division consists of eight teams and five women's from a 1,000 team.

UK to honor assistant Ham

University of Kentucky dignitaries and three former Wildcat coaches will join in honoring UK assistant athletics director Frank Ham at a dinner session Friday, May 6, in the Patterson Ballroom of the Hyatt Regency Hotel.

The festive honoring Ham, who will retire June 30 after 19 years with the UK Athletics Department, will begin with a social hour at 6:30 p.m., followed by the dinner.

Heading the list of expected guests is Dr. Otis A. Singletary, who will retire as UK president Friday, May 30, athletics director Cliff Hagan and head coaches Jerry Chalmers, football, and Eddie Stoeber, basketball.

Ham came to UK in December 1968 as administrative assistant to John Ray, who coached the football Wildcats from 1969 '72 and who will be on the line with Frank Curti, who succeeded Ray and was UK coach through 1983.

The other former head coach on the program is Joe H. Wain, who succeeded the legendary Adolph Rupp as UK basketball coach after the 1972 season and included a national championship among his many accomplishments before retiring the reins over to Dittus two seasons ago.

Ham has become a success in private business, Curti is athletic director at the University of Tennessee, and Hall is pursuing farming, banking and other varied business interests.

Cawood Ladford, "Voice of the Wildcats" will join the rest of the UK broadcast staff at the dinner. Ladford is general manager of WUKL Radio, which will serve as master of ceremonies. The Reverend David Bissell of Crestwood Christian Church will give the blessing.

Ham, a native of Stratton, Pennsylvania, was reassigned to the athletics director's staff after leaving UK in 1982. He was in private business 12 years before returning to the college scene.

A graduate of Niles (Michigan) High School, Ham completed his undergraduate work at Olivet College.



Frank Ham



Bill Baldrige

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