

# Alabama Baseball Coaches Association Hall of Fame



## **EDDIE STANKY** **Class of 2005**

*"In Recognition of a Lifetime of Outstanding Achievement in the game of Baseball.  
The State of Alabama will forever be in your debt."*

Eddie Stanky took over a South Alabama baseball program in 1969 that was still in an infancy stage after former head coach and athletic director Mel Lucas started the program in 1965. Stanky, a four-time Major League Baseball All-Star, participated in the MLB World Series with the Dodgers, the Braves, and the Giants. He was named the Major League Manager of the Year by *The Sporting News* in 1952 as skipper of the St. Louis Cardinals.

Stanky made an immediate impact at South Alabama, first by leading the program to its highest win total (19) in a single season. In his fourth year at the helm, Stanky led the Jaguars to their first-ever NCAA Regional appearance where USA won three games at the District 3 Regional in Gastonia, NC. He led the Jags to a second consecutive appearance in 1973, adding two additional NCAA Regional banners later in the decade in '75 and '77. The 1975 team set a still-standing school record with 52 wins. Stanky led the program to a No. 1 national ranking twice (1972, 1975) during his 15-year career.

Stanky was awarded the 1983 Sun Belt Conference (SBC) Coach of the Year. He impressively led South Alabama to five NCAA Regional appearances and two Sun Belt Conference championships while producing three first-team All Americans and two first-round draft picks in the MLB Draft. Coach Stanky led USA to a school-record 52 wins in 1975 and helped the Jaguars reach No. 1 in the national polls twice. He is the second-winningest coach in Jaguar history and was inducted into the USA Athletic Hall of Fame in 1989.

**Inducted January 21, 2005**