

Alabama Baseball Coaches Association Hall of Fame



HAL BAIRD Class of 2006

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

Coach Hal Baird is known in Alabama for being Auburn University's all-time winningest coach in any sport. Coach Baird's baseball teams at Auburn were consistently making postseason runs and producing next level players.

Following a successful college playing career at East Carolina University, Baird pitched in the Cleveland Indians and Kansas City Royals organizations from 1971-1976 and earned All-Gulf Coast League, All-Florida Instructional League, and All-Southern League honors. Following his professional playing career, Coach Baird joined the staff at ECU, his alma mater, as an assistant before taking over as head baseball coach in 1979. Baird's Pirate teams made three NCAA tournament appearances and won two ECAC-South championships. His overall record at ECU was 145-66-1.

Baird's success at ECU helped land him the head baseball position at Auburn University where he coached the Tigers to a 643-328 record from 1985-2000. Coach Baird's Auburn teams won three NCAA Regional titles (1994, 1997, 1999), an SEC West Division title (1995), and two SEC Tournament titles (1989 and 1998). Under Baird's leadership, Auburn made nine NCAA Tournament appearances, finished with a top 25 ranking 10 times, and earned two berths in the College World Series (1994 and 1997). Baird retired as Auburn's all-time winningest coach after a career in which his teams averaged over 40 wins per season.

In his tenure, Baird coached 10 All-Americans and 51 players were drafted from Auburn during his time there including: Gregg Olson, Frank Thomas, Tim Hudson, and Bo Jackson. Baird's all-time coaching record between ECU and Auburn is 779-394-1.

Inducted January 20, 2006