



NKU alumni return to Bill Aker Baseball Complex



NKU baseball alumni are pictured with former Norse baseball head coach Bill Aker (fifth from the left in the front row) on Saturday afternoon. Aker, who won 806 career games in 29 years, was also recognized with his 1979 team that advanced to the NCAA Division II World Series.

Norse split doubleheader with Missouri S&T on Alumni Day

HIGHLAND HEIGHTS, Ky. - Northern Kentucky University welcomed back and recognized members of its 1979 NCAA Division II World Series baseball team Saturday afternoon at the Bill Aker Baseball Complex at Friendship Field.

With retired head coach Bill Aker and many of his former players watching, NKU split its doubleheader against Missouri S&T. The visiting Miners took the first game by a 7-5 score, while NKU salvaged a split by posting an 8-1 victory in the nightcap.



Kevin Dusold launches a home run on Saturday.

NKU is now 35-19 overall, 19-11 in the Great Lakes Valley Conference. The Norse have clinched a berth in next week's GLVC Tournament with an 18-6 mark in the GLVC East Division.

NKU's Dave Middendorf went the distance in the nightcap and struck out 11 Missouri S&T batters to collect the win. The sophomore left-hander scattered four hits and came within an out of recording a shutout. Missouri S&T's Drew Dav-

enport ended Middendorf's bid for a shutout with a run-scoring double with two outs. Middendorf then struck out Andrew Vance to end the game.

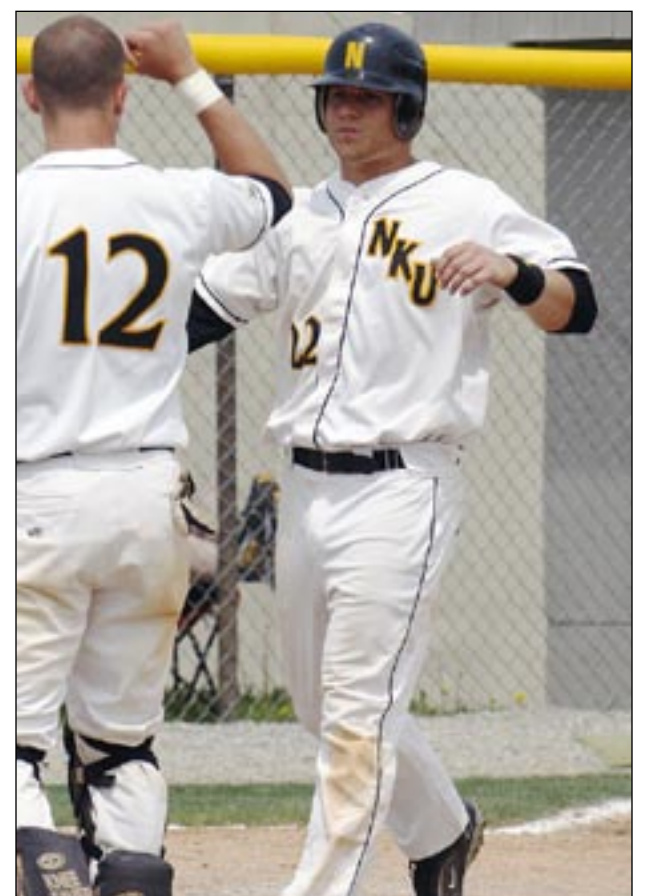
Kevin Dusold, Jack Ambrose and Jeff Bohlen each finished with two runs batted in to lead the NKU offense. Joe Mack was 2-for-3 and scored a pair of runs for the Norse, who built a 5-0 lead after the first three innings.

Dusold's two-run double highlighted NKU's three-run sixth inning.

In the opener, Brandon Cogan was 2-for-4 with four runs

batted in to lead Missouri S&T to the win. Dusold was 2-for-5 with a home run for NKU, which rallied for two runs in the bottom of the ninth and had the bases loaded with two outs. Ambrose then grounded out to short-stop to end the game.

NKU will meet Missouri S&T at noon Sunday in a doubleheader. The Norse will recognize their seniors - Dusold, Ambrose, Matt Winterhalter, Eric Braeckel, Andy Karpowicz, and Sean Munninghoff. NKU begins play at the GLVC Tournament Thursday at Sauget, Ill.



Kevin Dusold (22) is greeted after homering, NKU begins play at the GLVC Tournament Thursday at Sauget, Ill.

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Photos by Tim Downer, NKU Sports Information



NKU pitcher Sean Munninghoff (33) and catcher Brian Erie (left) confer with head coach Todd Asalon during the first game of Saturday's doubleheader against Missouri S&T. On the right, the only baseball head coaches in NKU history - Bill Aker and Todd Asalon - shake hands as the 1979 World Series team is recognized between games.



Members of NKU's 1979 NCAA Division II World Series are recognized Saturday afternoon during the Norse's doubleheader against Missouri S&T. That NKU squad posted a 36-15 overall record and captured the NCAA Division II Great Lakes Regional championship.

