

LINE-UP			SCORES		Opponents	
James O'Brien	'48	3b	SJU	4	St. Cloud TC	7
Douglas Gits	'49	of		7	Augsburg	5
Lawrence McNeely	'48	2b		4	Hamline	7
Robert Mayer	'49	c		7	St. Cloud TC	3
John "Bud" Streitz	'48	rf		8	Gustavus	1
Robert Ligday	'50	1b		4	Macalester	3
Charles Forbes	'48	1b		11	St. Olaf	4
Roger Terhaar	'50	1b		8	Carleton	7
Stan Wilfahrt	'49	ss		8	St. Thomas	1
Moses Sowada	'49	c		8	Augsburg	5
LaVerne Soltis	'49	p		3	St. Mary's	2
Richard Eich	'48	p		8	Gustavus	4
Joseph Schleper	'49	p		1	Hamline	2
Otto Schaefer	'47	of				
Michael Dressen	'50	ss				
Thomas Paul	'47	of				
Edward Hasbrouck	'50	of, c				
Coach—Fr. Dunstan Tucker						
Assistant Coach—Welsch						
Captain—McNeely						

RECORD		
Overall:	10 wins	3 losses
Conference:	8 wins	2 losses
Conference—	2nd place	

— 1948 —

The 1948 baseball season was a disappointment to the fans of St. John's athletic teams. The team was one of the classiest fielded in several years, but it ended the season in third place, tied with St. Mary's with six wins and four losses. The first and most damaging accident to the team was an appendectomy suffered by LaVerne Soltis, the ace pitcher and mainstay of the pitching staff. Soltis was sidelined for a full month, from the early beginning of April until the last week in May. The team was subject to batting slumps and pitchers were forced to perform heroic deeds on the mound. Mickey McNeely topped all batters with a .320 average. The *Record* reporter summarized the season as follows:

"St. John's title hopes went a'glimmering in the last week of conference play with two losses, the first to St. Thomas 6-5, in a night game, May 25; the second to Hamline 5-1 on May 26. The Johnnies came back strongly to whip Macalester's fireballer Boller 10-5, May 28.

"A four-game schedule in the last week necessitated by the playing of a rained-out game with Hamline proved too much for the weakened St. John's pitching staff. 'Big Red' Soltis, with only a week of training following an appendectomy, weakened in the sixth inning of the St. Thomas game. Dick Eich, superb St. John's mainstay all spring, tired in the seventh inning to give Hamline its only win of the season, 1-5."

The conference season ended with Augsburg in first place with eight wins and two losses; St. Thomas and St. Olaf tied for second place with seven wins and three losses; St. John's and St. Mary's tied

for third with six wins and four losses. The St. John's overall record was 9-4.

LINE-UP			SCORES		Opponents	
Mickey McNeely	'49	2b	SJU	15	Carleton	2
James O'Brien	'48	3b		14	St. Cloud TC	11
Stan Wilfahrt	'49	ss		3	St. Olaf	14
Robert Mayer	'48	c		7	Augsburg	4
Michael Dressen	'50	lf		(?)	St. Olaf	(?)*
William Osborne	'48	cf		(?)	Augsburg	(?)*
Charles Forbes	'48	of		2	Gustavus	1
Edward Hasbrouck	'50	rf		8	St. Cloud TC	6
Richard Eich	'48	p		(?)	St. Mary's	(?)*
LaVerne Soltis	'49	p		(?)	St. Thomas	(?)*
Joseph Schleper	'49	p		5	St. Thomas	6
John Pollei	'50	p		1	Hamline	5
Robert Obermiller	'51	1b		10	Macalester	5
Richard Fisher	'50	p				
Jerome Terhaar	'48	p				
Robert Ligday	'50	1b				
Richard Wasko	'51	lf				

Coach—Fr. Dunstan Tucker
 Captain—McNeely

RECORD		
Overall:	9 wins,	4 losses
Conference:	6 wins	4 losses
Conference—	3rd place	

* (The 1948 scorebook is missing from our files and the *Record* failed to list the scores of these games.)

— 1949 —

The 1949 baseball season cannot be adequately covered for the reason that the *Record* published the box score for only one game, and the scorebook for this year is missing. Details had to be worked out from the "Tooley Angle" sports column in the *Record*.

Two early setbacks handicapped the team for the rest of the season. One came as the result of a poor pitching assignment with a resultant conflagration of base hits that required three relief pitchers to quench. The second loss came in the form of a ninth inning squeeze play intended to tie a game with St. Olaf but which backfired. The bunt was popped into the air, was caught on the fly and led to a double play that ended the game.

St. John's finished the season in second place with seven wins and four losses. St. Olaf won the title with eight wins, principally through its star pitcher Geske.

The St. John's overall record for the year was ten wins and five losses. Jack Pollei, the outstanding pitcher for the season, achieved an astonishing earned runs average, a record of .069 per game.

LINE-UP			SCORES		Opponents	
Stan Wilfahrt	'49	2b	William Mosso	'52	p	
Thomas Klein	'51	3b	Richard Wasko	'51	3b	
Lawrence McNeely	'49	ss	Richard Fisher	'50	lf	
Michael Dressen	'50	lf	Robert Mayer	'49	c	
Richard Kramer	'51	rf	Louis Cotroneo	'52	3b	
Edward Hasbrouck	'50	cf	John Pollei	'50	p	
Robert Obermiller	'51	1b	Bert McCarthy	'52	p	
Wallace Zallek	'51	c	David Roske	'50	c	
			George Marsnik	'51	rf	

SCORES			RECORD	
SJU	Opponents		Overall:	5 losses
9	St. Cloud TC	5	Conference:	4 losses
1	Carleton	6	Conference—2nd place	
7	Carleton	3	LEADING BATTERS	
4	Macalester	1	Dick Fisher	.409
2	Augsburg	12	Dick Kramer	.403
3	St. Olaf	4	Thomas Klein	.392
9	St. Cloud	3	Mickey McNeely	.344
6	St. Mary's	0	Michael Dressen	.315
4	St. Thomas	6	Coach—Fr. Dunstan Tucker	
4	Macalester	9	Assistant Coach—Welsch	
12	St. Thomas	10	Manager—Rich Rawlings	
12	Gustavus	1		
4	Hamline	3		
(?)	Gustavus	(?)*		
(?)	St. Mary's	(?)*		

* (The *Record* failed to report the scores of the last two games, merely mentioning that they were won.)

— 1950 —

The St. John's 1950 baseball team was perhaps the best and most attractive entry into the conference race of the late 1940s. Nevertheless, the caprice of the weatherman combined with fate to force it to settle for a second place tie with St. Thomas at the end of the season. Late spring snows had held up the schedule until the Jays were forced to play five games in the last week of the school year. In the final game with St. Mary's at Winona the Jays were upset by the cellar-dwelling Redmen by a score of 10-3. The pitching staff was not in its usual form and two of the infield regulars, Dick Wasko and North Cornforth, were unable to accompany the team because of a conflict with final examinations.

One of the ironies of college athletics was the comment that had appeared in the *Record*: "If the John's can sweep both ends of the contest, they will be considered a strong bid for at least a tie for the crown. After the St. Thomas game only a game with weak St. Mary's nine stands in the way." The irony consists in this: that St. John's split the double-header and then lost to the supposedly "weak" St. Mary's team. The Jays should not have read the *Record*!

Stars for the year were pitchers William "Bill" Mosso, John Pollei and George Bodmer. Leading hitters were Dick Wasko, .400; Mike Dressen, .350; Dick Kramer, .350; John Pollei, .333. Bob Obermiller led the team in runs-batted-in.

LINE-UP				
Lou Cotroneo	'52	3b	Richard Kramer	'51 of
Richard Notermann	'54	c	Wallace Zallek	'51 c
Michael Dressen	'50	of, 3b	Thomas Klein	'51 3b
Richard Wasko	'51	2b	Richard Fisher	'50 of
Richard Boys	'55	ss	William Mosso	'52 p
			John Pollei	'50 p

			SCORES		
			SJU	Opponents	
George Bodmer	'55	p	9	Carleton	3
James Loonan	'53	of	5	Gustavus	7
North Cornforth	'50	of	17	Augsburg	8
Peter Herges	'52	of	7	St. Olaf	0
Joseph Cascalenda	'52	c	7	St. Olaf	5
Robert Obermiller	'51	1b	7	St. Mary's	3
Coach—Fr. Dunstan Tucker			3	Gustavus	1
Assistant coach—John Hiller			4	Macalester	0
Captain—Dressen			4	Hamline	5
RECORD			10	St. Olaf	4
Overall: 9 wins			4	St. Thomas	8
Conference: 7 wins			2	St. Thomas	0
Conference—2nd place (tie)			3	St. Mary's	10
	*	*	*		

The year 1950 marks the termination of Fr. Dunstan's baseball coaching career. The tremendous increase in the college enrollment had placed heavy burdens on the English department, of which he was chairman. Moreover, after fourteen seasons of coaching the team and grooming the diamond, it had ceased to be fun or simply a hobby, as it had been in the past. Right at hand was his assistant coach for a year, highly qualified and full of energy. With that he informed Athletic Director George Durenberger that he wished to resign the position as baseball coach.

Fr. Dunstan's record in his fourteen years of coaching was the following: of the 162 games his teams had played, St. John's won 118 and lost 44, for an average of .728. In the conference, of a total of 118 games, St. John's won 85 and lost 34 for an average of .720.

* * *

— 1951 —

John "Buster" Hiller was one of the top baseball coaches in St. John's athletic history. A natural athlete himself, he had starred at Notre Dame University both in baseball and basketball. As baseball coach his three-years experience as catcher served him especially well in handling the problems of coaching the young pitchers. Added to this, his energy and enthusiasm were infectious and easily communicated to his players. A player had to work hard to remain on his squads.

In his first year as head coach (1951), Buster started out with ten lettermen, two top-notch freshman pitchers and a hard-hitting freshman outfielder, Roger Braun, who later starred at Notre Dame after transferring from St. John's at the end of his freshman year. The team took second place in the conference with a record of nine wins and two losses, only a half-game short of St. Thomas, the champion of the year.

The 1951 team was power laden with the best pitching staff in the MIAC. Especially effective was "Big" John O'Donnell, a freshman, and, like George Bodmer, a Cretin High School star. Vedic Himsl, prior to reporting at the St. Paul American Association baseball camp, spent part of March working with the freshman pitchers. The coaching paid off: the four-man pitching staff allowed only 1.37 runs per game in a 16-game schedule. Freshman John O'Donnell pitched four wins with no losses, George Bodmer five wins and one loss, Bill Mosso three wins and one loss, freshman Francis Wall one win and one loss.

Freshman Roger Braun led the team in batting with a .415 average, followed by Captain Robert Obermiller with an average of .334. Obermiller was signed to a baseball contract with the Duluth Dukes of the Northern League at the end of the baseball season. Worthy of special mention was the slick double-play combination of Dick Wasko at second base and Dick "Ditch" Boys at shortstop.

LINE-UP		PITCHERS' RECORDS	
Lou Cotroneo	'52 3b		W L
Richard Notermann	'54 c	John O'Donnell	4 0
James Loonan	'53 cf	George Bodmer	5 1
Wallace Zallek	'52 c	Bill Mosso	3 1
William Mosso	'52 p	Fran Wall	1 1
Francis Wall	'56 p	SCORES	
Robert Boeser	'52 1b	SJU	Opponents
Richard Boys	'55 ss	6 Hamline	3
Richard Kramer	'51 of	14 Albany	3
Peter Herges	'52 of	2 Gustavus	8
Roger Braun	'51 of	17 St. Olaf	0
Robert Obermiller	'51 1b	13 Carleton	1
George Bodmer	'55 p	0 Faribault	1
John O'Donnell	'54 p	9 Augsburg	2
Richard Wasko	'51 2b	4 St. Thomas	3
George Marsnik	'51 of	18 Macalester	2
Thomas Klein	'51 3b	0 St. Thomas	2
		20 Augsburg	6
Coach—Hiller		19 Macalester	0
Assistant coach—O'Brien		5 St. Mary's	2
Manager—William McMahan		7 Albany	2
Captain—Obermiller			
LEADING BATTERS		RECORD	
Roger Braun	.415	Overall:	13 wins 3 losses
Bob Obermiller	.334	Conference:	10 wins 2 losses
		Conference—2nd place	

— 1952 —

Buster Hiller's second year was almost a repetition of the first, except that this year he won the championship with a record of nine wins and one loss. Though he had only eight veteran lettermen to work with, six of them were first-class college stars: namely, the four-pitching staff of 1951, catcher Dick Noterman and the slugging outfielder James "Jiggs" Loonan. There were injury problems. Tom White, third base-

man, and Julian "Curley" Gasperlin, outfielder, had bad knees. Hiller succeeded in filling out the team with an extraordinary group of freshmen, however, among them Tom Krebsbach, "the fabulous freshman" who was lured away from college baseball by the New York Yankees at the end of his freshman year. Other outstanding freshmen were Tom White, Leroy Lilly, and Dwayne Hanson.

The 1952 team was not quite the slugging outfit of 1951, but the superlative pitching of O'Donnell, Captain Bill Mosso, George Bodmer, and Fran Wall carried them over the rough spots, sometimes by coming to the relief of a partner in the late innings. John O'Donnell, the former Cretin High School star, by this time had pitched two college seasons without a loss, at one time striking out 19 Augsburg batters.

Among the top hitters were Dick Noterman, .403; Jiggs Loonan, .344; Julian Gasperlin, .333; Tom Krebsbach, .265 (but batting in 15 runs to lead the team in runs-batted-in).

LINE-UP		SCORES	
James McCord	'55 c	SJU	Opponents
James Loonan	'53 of	1 St. Cloud TC	5
Robert Boeser	'52 1b	7 St. Olaf	2
Phil Wartman	'58 of	5 Gustavus	1
Julian Gasperlin	'58 of	9 Macalester	7
Wm. Holmbeck	'53 2b	11 St. Thomas	4
Thomas Krebsbach	'53 2b	9 Macalester	3
Thomas White	'57 3b	9 St. Cloud Rox	3
Leroy Lilly	'55 of	12 St. Thomas	6
George Bodmer	'55 p	9 Augsburg	4
Wm. Sexton	'55 3b	14 St. Cloud TC	8
Fran Wall	'56 p	8 Cold Spring	5
Dick Notermann	'54 c	6 Augsburg	5
Lou Cotroneo	'52 3b	2 St. Olaf	7
Charles Hyde	'53 p	2 Hamline	1
Dwayne Hanson	'53 3b	RECORD	
Paul Keup	'53 1b	Overall:	12 wins 2 losses
Bill Mosso	'52 p	Conference:	9 wins 1 loss
		Conference—championship	
PITCHERS' RECORDS		CONFERENCE STANDING	
	W L	St. John's	9-1
O'Donnell	3 0	St. Thomas	8-2
Bodmer	3 1	St. Mary's	0-3
Mosso	2 1	Gustavus	5-5
Wall	2 0	Hamline	4-7
		Augsburg	4-7
Coach—Hiller		Macalester	3-8
Managers—Bill Christopherson and Jack Stackpool		St. Olaf	2-9

— 1953 —

The old adage that championships are won on superior pitching proved true in Buster Hiller's third year of coaching. Bill Mosso graduated in 1952 and the two ex-Cretin aces, John O'Donnell and

George Bodmer, were drafted into the military service. Fran "Red" Wall was still with the team, and Hiller still had his superb catcher Dick Noterman to handle his freshman pitchers, Ronald "Bucky" May, Robert Kleinschmidt, and David "Lefty" Perl. The hitting was powerful on occasion and at the end of the season the Jays found themselves in second place, the runnerup spot behind St. Mary's (11-1), with a record of eight wins, one tie, and four losses. (The *Record* furnished no explanation of the tied baseball game with Hamline.)

The surprise of the season was the pitching of Ronald "Bucky" May who, until the final double-header with St. Mary's, had pitched four games without a defeat. The choice game of the year was the defeat of St. Thomas (3-2) by Bob Kleinschmidt in an eleven-inning game without relief. Another freshman pitcher, David "Lefty" Perl, performed several brilliant relief jobs when the righthanders got into trouble.

The sluggers performed their part in the success of the season by piling up a total of 89 runs to 53 by the opposition. Top hitters were again, as in 1952, seniors Dick Noterman and "Jiggs" Loonan. Freshman Donald Carlson, Leroy Lilly and Philibert Wartman proved that they could take over the batting leadership in the following year.

Although hopes of a championship had been low at the beginning of the season, the team went into the final days of the year with the prospect of tying for the title should they be able to sweep a double-header over St. Mary's, the leading team in the conference. To their disappointment they dropped both games by scores of 6-2 and 6-1 and ended the season in second place.

LINE-UP			SCORES	
Dale Hartman	(?)	2b	SJU	Opponents
Duwayne Hanson	'53	3b	15	Macalester 3
James Loonan	'53	cf	5	St. Olaf 8
Richard Notermann	'54	c	1	Gustavus 0
Peter Trebtoske	'58	rf	15	Augsburg 8
James McCord	'53	c	6	Augsburg 5
Leroy Lilly	'55	of	17	Hamline 5
James Schoener	'54	1b	12	St. Thomas 3
Fran Wall	'56	1b, p	3	St. Thomas 2
Robert Kleinschmidt	'56	p	2	Hamline 2 (tie)
Ronald May	'56	p	9	Macalester 1
			2	St. Mary's 6
			2	St. Mary's 6
			1	St. Mary's 6
RECORD				
8 wins	4 losses			
Conference—2nd place				
PITCHERS' RECORDS			CONFERENCE STANDING	
	W	L	St. Mary's	11-1
May	4	1	St. John's	8-4
Kleinschmidt	2	1	Gustavus	7-5
Perl	1	0	St. Thomas	5-6
Coach—Hiller			Hamline	4-5
Assistant—O'Brien			Augsburg	4-8
Captain—Notermann			Macalester	0-11

— 1954 —

William "Bill" Osborne, a St. John's graduate and member of Fr. Dunstan's '43, '47, '48 teams, took over the coaching duties when John "Buster" Hiller resigned in the summer of 1953. From the beginning, Bill was an extraordinarily successful baseball coach, and in six seasons amassed two conference co-championships, one with St. Thomas and one with St. Mary's, and one championship outright.

Buster Hiller had left him with a good team—eight lettermen that included the three top pitchers of 1953: Ronald "Bucky" May, Bob Kleinschmidt, and David Perl, the last a lefthanded specialist. At shortstop he had Dick "Ditch" Boys, a 1951 shortstop who returned to St. John's after a three-year term of military duty. With his pitching staff, a strong infield and a great catcher in the person of Don "Beezer" Carlson, the team was a formidable defensive club. While it was not particularly strong at the plate—with the exception of Carlson who batted for a .418 average—the hitters were good competitors who generally delivered timely hits and runs in emergencies. They made up for some batting deficiencies with an aggressive base running policy that netted them 41 stolen bases, in contrast to the 12 by the opposing teams.

In a seventeen-game schedule, the Jays dropped three conference games for an MIAC record of ten wins and three losses, thereby tying St. Mary's for the co-championship.

The race for top honors in the MIAC baseball season had been close from the beginning and lasted until the end of the sixteenth inning of the final game of the season. The game was tied at 1-1 until the sixteenth inning when finally Bucky May, the St. John's ace pitcher, yielded three runs. The loss dropped St. John's into a tie with St. Mary's for the co-championship with identical records of ten wins and three losses.

The 1954 infield merits special attention. Carlson, the catcher, was the leader of the team. Smart and strong, he made the infield calls with vigor and authority. On first base was Wayne Hergott, affectionately styled "The Old Pro." Mike O'Connor was at second, Thomas Jaeb at third, and Dick Boys at shortstop. Boys was probably the best shortstop in St. John's history in handling double-play situations. Captain Lilly in left field, Marty Rathmanner in center, and Peter Trebtoske in right made up a winning outfield combination.

LINE-UP			PITCHERS' RECORDS		
Richard Boys	So	ss	May	6	2
Donald Carlson	So	c	Kleinschmidt	4	1
Donald Catton	Fr	2b	Perl	2	0
Wayne Hergott	Fr	1b	Castner	0	1
Thomas Jaeb	Fr	3b	Rian	1	0
Leroy Lilly	Sr	lf	SCORES		
James Muchlinski	So	1b	SJU	Opponents	
Michael O'Connor	Fr	2b	1	St. Cloud TC	0
James Pettit	Fr	c, of	9	St. Cloud TC	2
Marty Rathmanner	Fr	cf	4	St. Olaf	1
Cyril Schoener	Sr	1b, of	6	Gustavus	7
William Sexton	Jr	3b	7	St. Mary's	6
Peter Trebtoske	So	rf	9	Macalester	3
Peter Castner	(?)	p	7	Macalester	1
Robert Kleinschmidt	So	p	9	St. Thomas	0
Ronald "Bucky" May	So	p	7	Bemidji	6
David "Lefty" Perl	So	p	7	St. Thomas	3
John Rian	Fr	p	7	Hamline	2
Coach—Osborne			4	St. Cloud	8
Co-captains—Boys and Lilly			3	Gustavus	7
Conference—Co-championship			8	Augsburg	2
(1st place tied with St. Mary's 10-3)			11	Augsburg	7
Overall: 13 wins 4 losses			5	St. Mary's	4
			1		

— 1955 —

The 1955 team continued the winning ways of the Bill Osborne regime. In an 18-game schedule the Jays ended the season with an overall record of 14 wins against four losses. Losses were to the following teams: Carleton (3-7); the University of Minnesota (5-10); St. Thomas (1-6); and Hamline (4-5). St. John's won the conference championship with a record of ten victories versus two defeats.

St. John's again had in Ron "Bucky" May, George Bodmer, Bob Kleinschmidt and David Perl the best pitching staff in the conference and, undoubtedly, the best catcher in the person of Donald "Beezer" Carlson, the sparkplug and leading hitter of the team. He was a veritable fireball with enough power at the plate to be nicknamed "Grand Slam Carlson" by his teammates.

Despite the superiority of the 1955 team over the rest of the conference opponents, the championship was not easily won. Some games were won by the closest of margins; some ran into extra innings. As has happened many times in the history of Hamline-St. John's athletic competition, the more powerful St. John's was waylaid by the fifth place Pipers for this year that sent the over-confident Jays home defeated by a score of 4-5. The box scores indicate a smart handling of the St. John's offensive by timely hits, cleverly placed bunts, fast base running, and generally the obstinate refusal to accept any other game outcome than victory.

LINE-UP			SCORES		
George Bodmer	Sr	p	SJU	Opponents	
Don Carlson	Jr	c	3	St. Cloud TC	6
Peter Castner	Sr	p	2	St. Cloud TC	2 (tie)
Albert Eisele	Fr	p	10	St. Olaf	12
Leo Eisenzimmer	Fr	3b	3	Carleton	7
James Foquette	Fr	of	16	Macalester	2
William Gries	Fr	c	6	Augsburg	2
Robert Hartinger	Fr	2b	3	St. Mary's	2
Wayne Hergott	So	1b	27	Augsburg	8
Bob Kleinschmidt	Jr	p	19	St. Cloud TC	2
James Lehman	Jr	of	5	U. of Minn.	10
Mark Lohmann	Fr	p	12	Macalester	3
Ronald May	Jr	p	5	Gustavus	3
Tom Melchior	Fr	3b	4	Gustavus	3
James Muchlinski	Jr	of	4	Hamline	5
Michael O'Connor	So	2b	1	St. Thomas	6
David Perl	Jr	p	3	St. Thomas	1
Dick Pettit	So	of	13	Hamline	2
Marty Rathmanner	So	3b	6	St. Mary's	4
Russ Reiter	Fr	3b	CONFERENCE STANDINGS		
John Rian	So	p	St. John's	10-2	
Robert Tschida	Fr	ss	St. Mary's	9-3	
Coach—Osborne			St. Thomas	8-4	
Captain—Boys			Augsburg	6-6	
			Hamline	4-8	
			Macalester	3-9	
			Gustavus	2-10	

PITCHERS' RECORDS

	W	L
May	5	3
Bodmer	3	2
Kleinschmidt	2	1
Perl	1	0

— 1956 —

During the 1950's, under the coaching of Max Molock, St. Mary's had become one of the baseball strongholds in the MIAC. The Jays started the 1956 season with three wins against St. Olaf, Carleton, and St. Cloud, but in the fourth game they tested the St. Mary's power and lost their first conference game to the tune of 2-5. The team did not lose hope, however, and bounced back with five straight wins.

All looked rosy again until they met St. Cloud Teachers for a second season loss of 5-7, and it became obvious that they would have to struggle to retain their 1955 championship. Then followed a 6-7 loss to St. Thomas for the second conference defeat. Finally, the Jays lost three games running: to St. Mary's at Winona in a 12-20 slugfest, a loss to the University of Minnesota 4-9, and a 1-2 defeat by St. Thomas, the fourth loss in the conference schedule.

The conference season ended with St. Thomas winning the championship, with St. Mary's the runnerup in second place. St. John's was third with a still creditable record of eight wins and four losses. It is true, St. John's still had its three star pitchers, Bucky May, Bob Kleinschmidt, and David Perl, but it was also true that the conference teams came up with stronger pitching and the St. John's bats were not

as effective as in the previous year. On the other hand, two new pitchers, Al Eisele and Russ Fischer, were gaining experience that made them top performers in the 1957 and 1958 seasons.

At the end of the season catcher Don Carlson was signed to a baseball contract by the Chicago Cubs.

LINE-UP			PITCHERS' RECORDS		
Wm. McGrann	Fr	ss .220		W	L
James Foquette	So	cf .297	Kleinschmidt	2	2
Marty Rathmanner	Jr	2b .190	May	5	2
Donald Carlson	Sr	c .284	Perl	2	0
Dick Matchinsky	Jr	rf .167	Rian	1	1
Wayne Hergott	Jr	1b .348	Eisele	0	1
Tom Melchior	So	lf .218	Fischer	0	0
Russ Reiter	So	3b .263	Harrington	0	1
Ronald May	Sr	p .161			
David Perl	Sr	p .385	SCORES		
Bob Kleinschmidt	Sr	p .400	SJU	Opponents	
John Rian	Jr	p .286	4	St. Olaf	0
Leo Eisenzimmer	So	ss .300	8	Carleton	3
Pat Dolan	Fr	p .000	1	St. Cloud TC	6
Len Kohler	Fr	c .000	2	St. Mary's	5
Russ Fischer	Fr	p .000	3	Moorhead	0
Al Eisele	So	p .000	1	Hamline	0
Jim Muchlinski	Sr	of .000	8	Gustavus	3
Mark Lohmann	So	p .000	5	St. Cloud	7
Coach—Osborne			10	Macalester	2
Conference—3rd place (8-4)			9	Macalester	4
			6	St. Thomas	8
			3	Gustavus	2
			10	Augsburg	9
			7	Augsburg	0
			12	St. Mary's	20
			4	U. of Minn.	9
			1	St. Thomas	2

— 1957 —

The 1957 Jays suffered only two defeats in the entire season. The first loss came on April 24 by a score of 1-3 at the hands of Hamline, the second a loss to St. Mary's (11-0), the only shut-out of the year. The next eight games were won handily, with pitcher Al Eisele winning the next five games, then clinching the MIAC championship in a one-hit performance. The ultimate outcome of the season was that St. John's ended in a tie with St. Mary's, and therefore a co-championship, since both teams had like records, ten conference victories and two defeats.

As is usually the case, a championship team has the advantage of having a star pitching staff that overwhelms the other strong teams in the league. Especially effective in the 1957 year were Al Eisele and Russ Fischer, each belonging among the pitching greats at St. John's. Eisele had a record of five wins and one loss, Fischer four wins and no losses. Eisele won five games straight in the championship drive, in the

last two games limiting Gustavus to three hits and clinching the championship with a one-hit shut-out of Macalester, 7-0.

The *Record* reporter, however, credits each individual of the regulars with contributing his share to the championship—"each regular has his day!" For all-around play, Tom Melchior could be considered a super-star of the offensive as well as of the defensive game. He carried a batting average of .381, hitting two doubles, two triples, and two homeruns. He drove in twelve runs, despite being lead-off man with few men on base when he came up to bat. Close behind him in offensive action was star shortstop Tom "Whizzer" White who hit .297, drove in fourteen runs, and hit two doubles and two homeruns. Bill McGrann at second base committed only one error for the season and batted .326, with three doubles and two homeruns. Russ Reiter, third base, led in runs-batted-in (15), batted .375, with a number of extra base hits: two doubles, three triples, and two homeruns. The team batting average was .311. The number of stolen bases reached 61.

LINE-UP		SCORES	
James Archbold	Leonard Kohler	SJU	Opponents
John Connors	Mark Lohmann	9	Carleton 2
Patrick Dolan	Tom Melchior	9	St. Olaf 0
Albert Eisele	Frank Moran	5	St. Cloud TC 1
Leo Eisenzimmer	M. Rathmanner	1	Hamline 3
Russ Fischer	Russ Reiter	5	St. Thomas 4
John Getchman	John Rian	6	St. Thomas 4
Robert Hartinger	Cyril Schoener	17	Macalester 13
Wayne Hergott	Pete Trebtske	0	St. Mary's 11
Vernon Hruby	Thomas White	8	Hamline 2
Robert Ilg		19	St. Cloud TC 10
Coach—Osborne		7	Augsburg 3
Pitching coach—Fr. Dunstan Tucker		8	Augsburg 0
Co-captains—Rathmanner, Hergott		6	Gustavus 1
		4	Gustavus 3
		7	Macalester 0

PITCHERS' RECORDS

	W	L
Pat Dolan	0	0
Al Eisele	6	1
Russ Fischer	4	0
Robert Ilg	3	1
Mark Lohmann	1	0
Bob Hartinger	0	0
John Rian	0	0

Conference—co-championship
 Conference: 11 wins 2 losses
 Overall: 14 wins 2 losses

— 1958 —

Bill Osborne's 1958 team captured the fourth St. John's championship in five years—an unusual feat in the baseball history of any MIAC college. Naturally, hitting played an important part in the outcome of the season, but the main factor was the pitching of Eisele who won the last two games of the conference race by defeating St. Mary's, one a one-hitter, 4-0, and St. Thomas (3-2) by scattering five hits and limiting the Tommie scoring to two runs. Both of these games were crucial

and the winning of both a dramatic exhibition of college baseball. St. Mary's had one of its best teams, but forfeited one game through the ineligibility of one player, thereby leaving St. John's only one game behind the leader.

The final standings of the three teams found St. John's tied with St. Mary's with nine victories and three losses. St. Thomas took third place.

It would be no more than justice to attribute the 1958 co-championship to the pitching of Eisele and Dolan, but mainly to Eisele's overall contribution to the team effort. The batting average of the team was .208, 100 points below that of 1957. Eisele himself batted for an average of .296 and five runs batted in. Two other batting leaders for 1958 were Russ Reiter, who hit .280 with four homeruns and thirteen runs batted in, and Tom Melchior .237 with five doubles, one homer, and eight runs batted in.

Should ever a St. John's Hall of Fame be drawn up, Al Eisele will be among the top pitchers in SJU baseball history. Shortly after the 1958 season he joined the Minot, North Dakota, professional club in the Northern League and pitched successfully for several years, in the meantime drifting towards a life-time career in journalism. Later, as Washington correspondent for the St. Paul *Dispatch and Pioneer Press*, the Duluth *Herald*, and other Ridder newspapers, he followed closely the careers of Eugene McCarthy and Hubert Humphrey in the struggle for the Democratic nomination in the 1968 presidential campaign. Out of it came his outstanding book, *Almost to the Presidency*, the best and most readable report on the political struggle between these products of two Minnesota private colleges, St. John's University and Macalester College.

LINE-UP		SCORES		Opponents	
Al Eisele	Sr p	.296	SJU		
L. Eisenzimmer	Sr rf	.219	7	St. Olaf	2
Patrick Dolan	Jr p	.200	6	Carleton	2
John Getchman	So 2b	.143	2	Gustavus	1
Bob Hartinger	Sr ss	.260	5	Augsburg	4
Verne Hrubby	So 2b	.182	4	Augsburg	5
Len Kohler	Jr c	.219	6	St. Cloud TC	7
Robert Ilg	Jr p	.100	3	St. Thomas	2
Patrick Leamy	Fr ss	.200	0	St. Mary's	8
Wm. McGrann	Jr lf	.182	8	Hamline	4
Tom Melchior	Sr cf	.237	8	Hamline	3
Frank Moran	So p	.000	0	U. of Minn.	2
John Nett	So 2b	.178	4	Gustavus	0
Russ Reiter	Sr 3b	.280	2	Macalester	0
Richard Sabers	So 1b	.205	0	Macalester	3
Cyril Schoener	So 1b, c	.151	4	St. Mary's	0
Peter Trebtoske	Sr rf	.050	4	St. Thomas	2
Coach—Osborne					

PITCHERS' RECORDS

	W	L
Eisele	8	1
Dolan	2	1
Ilg	1	3
Lohmann	0	0

Overall:	11 wins	5 losses
Conference:	9 wins	3 losses

CONFERENCE STANDING

St. John's	9-3
St. Mary's	9-3
St. Thomas	8-4
Hamline	6-6
Gustavus	5-7
Augsburg	3-9
Macalester	2-10

— 1959 —

The inevitable always happens—star pitchers graduate eventually! Bill Osborne lost Al Eisele through graduation and in 1959 had only Co-captain Pat Dolan and John Ozbun, a freshman, to carry on the winning tradition. Co-captain Bob Ilg had been disappointed with his 1958 pitching record and withdrew from mound duty to play at his favorite position in centerfield. He starred at center and batted a .310 average with six homeruns and 21 runs batted in. But Dolan's pitching and Ilg's batting were insufficient to win the 1959 championship. The team won eight games of its sixteen-game schedule and ended in fourth place in the MIAC with a record of six wins and six losses. The power teams of 1959 (St. Thomas, St. Mary's and Augsburg) ended the season in a three-way tie of nine games won and three lost.

The great event of 1959 was the St. John's 9-7 defeat of Dick Siebert's University of Minnesota Big Ten champion in a surprise upset on the Rox field in St. Cloud. Pat Dolan in a super effort held the Big Ten champions to eleven hits and seven runs. He struck out seven batters and issued five bases on balls. The victory not only redeemed the reputation of the team as a winner but raised it up equal in fame with the 1937 team that defeated Minnesota by a score of 5-3.

While 1959 was not one of Bill Osborne's best years, the large number of freshman candidates at his disposal to fill in the gaps left by graduating veterans from 1958 was a handicap, since most of them were approximately of the same ability. Pat Dolan was a proved veteran who pitched brilliantly at times, but he lacked the backing of a strong offensive team. Freshman John Ozbun, an all-state high school hurler from Grand Rapids, had a good record with two wins and three losses. Dick Johnson, also a promising pitcher, had a record of one victory and two losses. Lyle Christie, who was used only sparingly on the mound, turned out to be a strikeout artist in 1960. In fact, the pitching records of 1959 were good, considering that the young Jays were competing against three of the best hitting clubs in the MIAC for several years.

This was Bill Osborne's last year at St. John's. He resigned to go into business in Billings, Montana, leaving behind at St. John's a rec-

ord of 61 victories against only 21 losses, for a coaching average of .734 and four baseball championships in his six years of coaching. St. John's lost a fine coach and gentleman!

LINE-UP			SCORES		Opponents	
Don Anderson	Fr	lf	.234	SJU		
James Boyd	Fr	c	.143	2	St. Olaf	1
Lyle Christie	Fr	p	—	13	Macalester	18
Pat Dolan	Sr	p	.179	3	Carleton	6
Jerry Foltmer	Fr	c, of	.286	7	Gustavus	0
Henry Gallagher	Fr	of	.143	2	Gustavus	0
John Getchman	Sr	2b	—	16	Hamline	2
David Halstrom	Fr	c	.179	5	St. Cloud State	8
Robert Ilg	Sr	cf	.310	3	St. Mary's	6
Dennis Leahy	So	ss	.242	2	St. Mary's	8
William McGrann	Sr	2b	.322	12	Macalester	1
Frank Moran	Sr	p	—	0	Augsburg	10
John Ozbun	Fr	p	.200	8	St. Thomas	4
John Nett	So	2b	—	1	St. Thomas	4
Richard Sabers	Jr	1b	.286	9	U. of Minn.	7
Coach—Osborne				12	Augsburg	7
Co-captains—Ilg, Dolan				3	Hamline	4

PITCHERS' RECORDS

	W	L
Dolan	5	3
Ozbun	2	3
Johnson	1	2
Christie	0	0
Moran	0	0
Heurung	0	0

RECORD

Overall: 8 wins	8 losses
Conference: 6 wins	6 losses
Conference—4th place	

— 1960 —

The new baseball coach, Dr. Ross Horning, was introduced to the St. John's student body with a *Record* article (March 17, 1960), "Meet Colorful, Versatile, 'Doc' Horning." Ross Horning was indeed a versatile coach for the college baseball team—a former professional baseball player, World War II Air Force pilot, specialist in Russian history and international law. He was a member of the St. John's history department.

Dr. Horning's qualifications for baseball coaching were impressive. As a player in the St. Louis Cardinal and Chicago Cub systems, he made the tour of the Nebraska and Western Association Coast leagues, even the Northern League, and once played second base in a Northern League all-star game in St. Cloud. He had coaching experience as player-manager of the Pierre, South Dakota, team in the Basin League.

The 1960 Jays made a fast start by winning the first five games of the schedule before losing the first tilt. But about the time when all looked bright for winning the championship, they dropped a doubleheader to St. Thomas by scores of 1-5 and 1-3. Then came further reverses. Following the St. Thomas fiasco they dropped a game each to

St. Mary's, North Dakota State, and Gustavus. They wound up the season with a rousing victory over Concordia by a score of 10-5.

To account for the sudden drop in victories is generally to assume that something happened to the team, some fault that should have been corrected. Actually, it was simply a matter of meeting the strong conference teams with well-developed pitching staffs. St. Thomas and Gustavus were MIAC co-champions in 1960. The Jays ended the season with a record of six wins and five losses and third place in the conference.

Outstanding players for the season were pitchers John Ozbun, Lyle Christie, and catcher Dave Halstrom. Lyle Christie, practically obscured by Pat Dolan and Ozbun in 1959, turned out to be the top pitcher and reliever in 1960. In 36 innings of pitching he allowed only ten hits and struck out 41 batters. His earned run average was 1.48.

Unfortunately, the *Record* omitted all box scores of the 1960 team and hence the best that can be done is to enumerate ten or eleven of the players with their playing positions.

LINE-UP		SCORES	
Lyle Christie	p	4	Macalester 3
John Getchman	of	9	St. Olaf 1
Henry Gallagher	of	3	Augsburg 2
David Halstrom	c	4	Augsburg 2
Vernon Hruby	3b	8	Hamline 3
Richard Johnson	p	5	St. Thomas 6
Dennis Leahy	ss	1	St. Thomas 3
John Ozbun	p	1	St. Mary's 3
Dick Sabers	1b	3	N. Dak. State 5
Tony Schreiner	of	2	Gustavus 4
Richard Thiel	2b	10	Concordia 5
Coach—Dr. Ross Horning			

— 1961 —

Dr. Ross Horning coached baseball for only one season and was replaced by Edward Hasbrouck, a former member of the 1942, '46, '47, and '48 teams, who was appointed head basketball and baseball coach. An imposing number of baseball players met the new coach, among them several members of the 1960 team: Dave Halstrom, catcher, and two proved pitchers, John Ozbun and Lyle Christie, the latter a fastball pitcher with a good strikeout record. The entire infield had graduated or transferred, however, leaving the new coach with the problem of finding the best men to fill the vacancies.

After an opening loss to St. Olaf the Jays won four straight games, then dropped one to Macalester, defeated Concordia easily, and seemed to be in line for a run at the championship of the MIAC. A "heart rending" defeat by St. Thomas (3-6), followed by a defeat administered

by Augsburg, mainly because of pitcher wildness, dimmed the team's hopes. The *Record* reporter concluded his account of the season as follows: "A marathon victory over St. Mary's, a walk-filled loss to league champion Augsburg, a narrow win over Gustavus, and the walloping of St. Cloud completed the season." The Jays completed the conference play with a record of five wins and three losses for third place in the MIAC.

Leading hitter and all-around star was third baseman John Christopherson, an ex-St. Thomas Academy stand-out, with an average of .381. Jim Boyd, an outfielder, led the team in runs batted in with a batting average of .314. John Ozbun had a 3-2 pitching record. While Lyle Christie had a good season, the find of the year was Mark Sieve with two wins and no losses, and 26 strikeouts in 24 innings of play. Marvin Kaisersatt, shortstop, led in homeruns (two) and hit for a .282 average. Ray Cipriano hit a grand slam homer in a 16-2 rout of Hamline.

Regulars for the year were the following: Dave Halstrom, catcher; Tony Schreiner, first base; Bernie Beckman and Terry Schmid, second base; John Christopherson, third base; outfielders Henry Gallagher, Ray Cipriano, Dennis Lynch, and James Boyd.

LINE-UP	Tony Schreiner
Bernie Beckman	Ronald Stueber
Bill Beaupre	Mark Sieve
James Boyd	Coach—Hasbrouck
Lyle Christie	
John Christopherson	
Ray Cipriano	
Henry Gallagher	
Michael Gerbich	
Paul Grengs	
Dick Grommach	
Dave Halstrom	
Donald Hazlewood	
Dave Hinkemeyer	
Wally Hinz	
Dick Johnson	
Marvin Kaisersatt	
Dennis Lynch	
John McCormick	
John Myler	
John Ozbun	

SCORES	Opponents
SJU	
3	St. Olaf 5
1	Valley City 0
7	Valley City 4
5	St. Cloud State 4
15	Carleton 5
0	Macalester 5
5	Macalester 7
8	Concordia 6
16	Hamline 2
3	St. Thomas 6
14	St. Mary's 13
4	Augsburg 12
6	Gustavus 5
18	St. Cloud State 3

— 1962 —

Prospects for 1962 had not looked bright from the beginning of the baseball season. Missing particularly was John Christopherson, the batting sparkplug and fielding star of 1961 at third base. Gone also were eight regulars of 1960. Coach Hasbrouck was aware of the situation and made the most of it, devoting his energies to the creation of a comparatively new team.

The team hovered around .500 for the first part of the season by defeating two non-conference opponents, Moorhead State and Carleton. But following a split double-header with Hamline the Jays lost five of the following six games and ended the season with a conference record of two victories and five losses. The overall record was four wins and eight losses. Rains made it necessary to cancel the last two games on the conference schedule.

John Ozbun, pitcher, in five game appearances had two wins and two losses with an earned-run average of 2.67. Close behind him was young freshman Tom Durenberger, ex-St. John's Prep School pitcher, with one win and one loss in six game starts. He had a very creditable earned run average of 1.29, the lowest percentage of the pitching staff. Mark Sieve, however, was the hard luck pitcher of the year. Although he was the high point hurler in the number of strikeouts (33 in 28 frames) and had the highest batting percentage, he failed to win a game.

LINE-UP	SCORES	Opponents
Robert Backes 3b, ss	.216	SJU
Bernie Beckman cf	.179	4 Carleton
Wm. Beaupre p	.000	5 Moorhead
James Boyd lf	.189	0 Moorhead
Dennis Dolan 2b, 3b	.159	1 St. Cloud
David Hinkemeyer 1b	.212	6 Hamline
James Hopkins rf, 1b	.100	4 Hamline
Robert Johnson p	.182	3 St. Olaf
Marv Kaisersatt ss, 2b	.233	1 Concordia
John Kearney c	.100	3 Macalester
Dennis Lynch c	.202	4 Augsburg
John McCormick lf	.091	3 St. Thomas
John Ozbun p	.000	2 St. Mary's
Mark Sieve p	.333	(Games with Gustavus and St. Cloud were rained out)
Thomas Durenberger p	.000	
William Beaupre p	.500	
(2 at bats)		
Robert Johnson p	.182	
Coach—Hasbrouck		

RECORD	Overall	4 wins	8 losses
Conference	2 wins		5 losses

PITCHERS' RECORDS	W	L	ERA
Ozbun	2	2	2.67
Sieve	0	4	—
Durenberger	1	1	1.29
Beaupre	1	1	1.86
Staff ERA—2.91			

— 1963 —

Baseball, 1963, was a year of disaster. The Jays ended the season in the MIAC cellar with a record of ten losses and only one victory. Unfortunately, it is impossible to render an account of the games, the line-ups, the pitchers' records, the team batting, etc., for the reason that the 1963 scorebook has been lost and the *Record* reports cover only seven games.

Apparently only eleven of the fifteen games scheduled were played. According to the reports of the season, the poor record was due to fielding errors and the lack of consistent hitting. In one instance Mark Sieve struck out ten batters in a seven-inning game and yet lost because of ten fielding errors. In another game a triple was nullified because the batter failed to touch the bag when rounding first base.

St. John's first and only win for the season, over Gustavus 3-0, had Sieve pitching. Bob Johnson lost the second game of the double-header 0-10, largely on fielding errors and weak hitting.

Augsburg won over St. John's 3-4, April 25, Tom Durenberger pitching.

St. Thomas beat St. John's in a double-header 1-7, Bob Johnson pitching, and 3-7, Mark Sieve pitching.

Hamline took St. John's 0-7, Durenberger pitching. The scheduled double-header was shortened by rain, resulting in only one of the games being played.

In the Concordia game, Mark Sieve, behind 5-0, was shelled from the mound in the second inning and was relieved by "little" Leonard Tomsich from the Iron Range who allowed only one earned run in seven and two-thirds innings.

Members of the team were the following: Robert Backes, short-stop; James Belisle, outfield; Thomas Brazell, outfield; Bernie Beckman, centerfield; Jeff Dunn, catcher; Thomas Durenberger, pitcher; Randy Halstrom, catcher; James Hopkins; Bob Johnson, pitcher; John Kearney, outfield; Robert Kren, first base; John McCormick, outfield; Rick Neameyer, second base; Mark Sieve, pitcher; Leonard Tomsich, pitcher; Edward Vogt, outfield.

Scores of the games of which records are available are the following:

SJU		Opponents
3	Gustavus	0
0	Gustavus	10
3	Augsburg	4
1	St. Thomas	7
3	St. Thomas	7
0	Hamline	7
0	Concordia	8

— 1964 —

Despite the disappointments of 1963, Coach Hasbrouck was optimistic regarding the coming season of 1964. It was a well-substantiated optimism because, from a cellar position in the MIAC with only one win and ten losses, the team jumped to fourth place in the conference with seven wins over against eight losses. Nine of his 1963 lettermen were listed on the 1964 roster and, with the return of John Christoph-

erson after an absence of two seasons, he was looking forward to his best year. He was satisfied with his pitching prospects: Mark Sieve, a three-year veteran who had never had the good luck he deserved, and Tom Durenberger, a junior, who had found himself as a pitcher in his sophomore year and was now a mainstay on the pitching staff. August Stuhldreher, a lefthanded freshman, was highly regarded by Coach Hasbrouck and was expected to fill the vacancy caused by the loss of Bob Johnson who on graduation had signed with the Red Sox organization.

Evidence of improvement was soon forthcoming. After splitting a double-header with North Dakota University 1-3 (won) and 1-0 (lost), the team dropped the first game with Gustavus but won the second on Tom Durenberger's three-hit, six strikeouts performance. In the next outing the Jays lost to Augsburg 3-15, then swept a double-header over St. Thomas: 8-4, with Durenberger pitching, and 4-3, with Tomsich and Rademacher on the mound.

The situation deteriorated with an 0-5 defeat by Macalester and the loss of a double-header to St. Mary's, 2-4 and 0-2—evidence sufficient to prove that the Jays had not yet regained their batting power. In the first St. Mary's game, lost 2-4, the effective pitching of Tom Durenberger was nullified by six fielding errors.

The team apparently came into its own again in the latter part of the season. The Jays defeated Augsburg 6-5 and Macalester 5-2. The last three games of the schedule were not reported in the *Record*, however. It was only in the preview to the 1965 season a year later that the final outcome of the season was reported—a record of seven wins and eight losses and fourth place in the MIAC standings.

1964 was Ed Hasbrouck's last year as coach of basketball and baseball at St. John's. He was succeeded by Elmer Kohorst.

— 1965 —

Elmer Kohorst, the new baseball coach, first came to St. John's as Director of Athletics in the St. John's Prep School and coach of basketball and baseball. He had an impressive background for the position. A 1957 graduate from the University of Notre Dame, he had the added distinction of being Notre Dame's first All-American for two years as a baseball catcher. Following his graduation he joined the Los Angeles Dodger organization and played with Dodger farm clubs in Green Bay, Pueblo, Colorado, and St. Paul, but decided that he preferred coaching in a school over a career in professional baseball.

When Ed Hasbrouck resigned coaching at St. John's to go into business, Elmer was "loaned" by the Prep School to the college to take

over the university baseball team. He was well qualified for the higher position for he had coached the Class A baseball team in Rapid City, South Dakota, and the Minnesota Travelers League in Little Falls.

It is practically impossible to sketch a complete history of Elmer's first year as coach of the college team. The 1965 scorebook is lacking and the *Record* accounts of the season are so meager that it is difficult to make out either the team personnel or the outcome of the games. The main information to be gleaned is that the Jays, after winning the first three games in a row at the beginning of the season, dropped two double-headers (four games), 4-6 and 0-3 to St. Thomas—2-3 and 2-8 to St. Mary's. Subsequently they lost single games to Augsburg and Concordia. The record at this juncture was five games won and eight lost. Since this was the last issue of the *Record*, the outcome of two games with Hamline was not recorded.

— 1966 —

One of the most spectacular reversals in St. John's baseball history took place in 1966. After a slow start, the Jays found themselves by the middle of the season in the last place in the conference race. The situation looked bad. Then suddenly the team caught fire and won the final six games on the schedule without a loss for a third position in the MIAC with a total of seven wins and four losses. The overall record was nine wins versus four losses. One writer styled the 1966 Jays the Cinderella team of the year.

One of the early problems in 1966 was weak hitting, for the pitching was sufficiently strong to warrant hopes for a winning season. The success of the second half of the schedule was due largely to the brilliant pitching of Jim Trachsel, an outstanding St. John's all-around athlete of this period. Trachsel's pitching was backed up by an enthusiastic group of players who made the team a strong combination of defensive skill and batting power. Mark Plantenberg built up a batting average of .416. Trachsel's batting average was .333. His pitching record overall was seven wins versus two losses. In the conference he was the winning pitcher in six contests, with two losses.

LINE-UP		Sidney Outten	Fr.	c
John Balestri	Fr.	Mark Plantenberg		2b
Paul Bernabei	Fr. of	Terry Schmid	Fr.	p
Dennis Coleman	Fr. p	Michael Shea	Fr.	ss
Gerry Grochowski	Fr. of	James Shiely	Sr.	cf
Randy Halstrom	Sr. c	August Stuhldreher	Jr.	p
Lawrence Hergott	Jr. 1b	Richard Taafe	Sr.	3b
Thomas Klein	Fr. ss	James Trachsel	Sr.	p
Robert Kren	Sr. of	John Wolter	Sr.	p
James Mohs	Fr. ss			
John O'Connell	Jr. of, 1b	Coach—Kohorst		

LEADING BATTERS		SCORES		
Plantenberg	.416	SJU	Opponents	
Trachsel	.333	5	Morris	0
O'Connell	.284	8	Morris	0
Taafe	.282	4	Macalester	3
Shiely	.277	2	Macalester	8
		2	St. Thomas	11
RECORD		1	Augsburg	6
Overall: 9 wins	4 losses	1	Augsburg	4
Conference: 7 wins	4 losses	6	Hamline	0
Conference—3rd place		5	Gustavus	1
PITCHING RECORD		4	St. Mary's	3
Trachsel:		3	St. Mary's	2
Overall: 7 wins	2 losses	9	St. Thomas	4
Conference: 6 wins	2 losses	8	Gustavus	1

— 1967 —

The 1967 Jays, though they were a young team, were potential favorites for the MIAC championship. By one of those strange turns of the Wheel of Fortune so characteristic of all competitive sports, but especially of baseball, they dropped the last two games on the schedule, and instead of ending with an 8-4 record and in second or third place, they had a record of six wins against six losses and fifth place in the conference.

It was an interesting season with many dramatic moments, however. Jay Simons, a freshman, guaranteed a win over Augsburg by hitting a grand slam homerun for a 7-3 victory. Mike Shea sparked the Jays to a winning rally by a three-run homer at a moment when Macalester was leading 6-0. In the eleventh inning of a tie game with St. Thomas, Terry Schmitz tired and Dennis Coleman came on for relief and struck out the next five Tommies to save the game. Outten's winning run in the thirteenth was driven in by Suppalla's double.

Baseball-wise, the stars of the season were pitchers Dennis Coleman with a 4-3 record and Terry Schmitz with two wins and one loss. Co-captain Gus Stuhldreher had an unlucky year and ended with two wins and three losses. Tom Klein, outfielder, led the batters with a .397 average, followed by John O'Connell .302 (son of third base star John O'Connell of 1942 fame).

LINE-UP		Jerome Simons	Fr.	cf
John Balestri	So. 1b, of	Gus Stuhldreher	Sr.	p
Dennis Coleman	So. p	William Supalla	Fr.	2b
Michael Donovan	Fr. of	PITCHERS' RECORDS		
Scott Froelich	Fr. ss, p		W	L
Gerry Grochowski	So. of	Coleman	4	3
David Haskins	So. of	Schmitz	2	1
Thomas Klein	So. 1b	Stuhldreher	2	3
James Mohs	Jr. ss	RECORD		
John O'Connell	Sr. 1b	Overall: 8 wins	7 losses	
Sidney Outten	So. c	Conference: 6 wins	6 losses	
Terrence Schmitz	So. p	Conference—5th place		
Michael Shea	So. 3b			