

FROM THE DESK OF
BUTCH THOMPSON



Friday, August 11, 2023

Dear Mississippi Sports Hall of Fame Committee members,

I was given the opportunity of a lifetime when I became Auburn's head Baseball coach in October 2015. As I conclude my 31st year in collegiate baseball, I am reminded of how many extraordinary staffs, mentors, and student athletes I have been influenced by. As a native of Amory, Mississippi, there is nothing I take more pride in than my home state. A state in which has allowed me to grow in, coach in, and raise a family in. Coach Scott Berry has spent much of his collegiate baseball career serving the state of Mississippi. Being able to witness first-hand what Scott Berry has done for the University of Southern Mississippi is something that I will never forget. He is treasured by his community and will be remembered for the legacy he has left in Hattiesburg, Mississippi. I first met Scott Berry on the baseball field in 1990 while playing at Itawamba Community College. Scott was an assistant at Meridian. Our last game took place this past season as we competed against each other in the 2023 Auburn Regional.

It is my honor to nominate Coach Scott Berry for the Mississippi Sports Hall of Fame. His 14 years as the Head Coach for the Golden Eagles has rewarded him as the winningest coach in Southern Miss history with a 528-276-1 record. He has been awarded the Conference USA Coach of the Year 4 times, has appeared in 9 NCAA Tournaments, 2 Super Regionals, and has won 10 Conference titles. Not only does Scott Berry have an array of accolades commemorating his coaching career, but he has left his mark on all those who have encountered him throughout the years.

Coach Berry is held in the highest regard among his peers and has positively impacted the game of baseball. He has enriched the lives of his student athletes and has served Southern Miss Baseball in the most upstanding way. Those coming after him will strive to build upon the legacy he left. A legacy that upholds his program's values with the upmost respect. The impact that Coach Berry had will be felt for generations to come. It is because of this that I recommend Coach Scott Berry for induction into the Mississippi Sports Hall of Fame.

Please do not hesitate to reach out to me for any further remarks. I can be reached by email at butchthompson@auburn.edu or by phone at (334) 750-6133.

Sincerely,
Butch Thompson