

## SOUTHERN MISS ATHLETICS

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August 1, 2024

To: Mississippi Sports Hall of Fame

It is a great honor to write this recommendation for Billy Earnhart for induction into the Mississippi Sports Hall of Fame.

I have had the pleasure of knowing Billy since I moved to Mississippi 34 years ago. For the majority of this time, he worked as a Major League Professional Baseball Scout for several different Major League organizations. His job was to evaluate young players and determine their ability level for professional baseball. Billy not only was the best at being able to see the persons ability but his desire was to help young players become the best they could be. A Scout, Coach and Teacher defines who he was to so many. His impact in the young people's lives that he came in contact with over the years are too numerous to count.

Prior to his Scouting Profession, Billy was a very successful Coach at both the public and private schools in the Jackson area. His coaching included both baseball and football at these schools. He led Jackson Prep to a State Championship in 1980. He guided several other schools to playoff appearances. Billy was also very involved in the Mississippi Baseball Congress Semi-Pro leagues and was the State Commissioner from 1970 to 1974. Billy is a member of several athletic Hall of Fames that involve his time as a player, coach and scout.

It is my opinion that what Billy has accomplished over his career as a player, coach and scout should warrant his selection into the Mississippi Sports Hall of Fame.

Sincerely,

Scott Berry

Former Head Baseball Coach

The University of Southern Mississippi