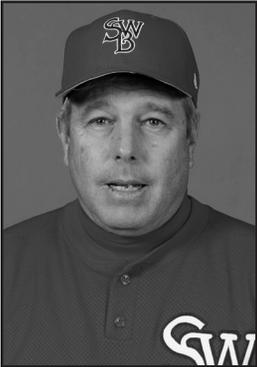


INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE HALL OF FAME

CLASS OF
2015

Marc Bombard



- MANAGER -
Scranton/WB 1997-2004
Charlotte 2007-08

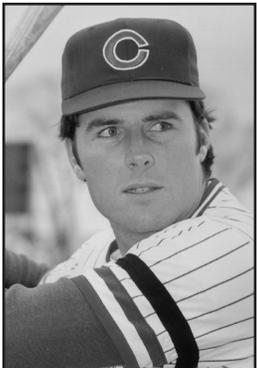
- * 2002 IL Manager of the Year
- * IL All-Star Team Manager 2000 & 2003
- * 700 Wins, 4 Playoff Appearances

Marc Bombard began his career in professional baseball as a pitcher in the Cincinnati farm system, where he played from 1971-76. Working as both a starter and reliever, he won 39 games in the minors and even tossed a perfect game in 1975, but he never reached the majors as a player. He moved into the coaching ranks as a minor league instructor beginning in 1977. He assumed his first managerial position in 1982 with Billings, and just one year later he claimed the Pioneer League Championship. "Bomby" also won a Midwest League title in 1988 with Cedar Rapids. He moved on to manage in the Milwaukee and Pittsburgh organizations before returning to the Reds in 1993.

Bombard's Triple-A managerial days began in the American Association, winning three division titles and three AA Manager of the Year Awards in four years as the skipper of Buffalo (1992) and Indianapolis (1993-95). His 1994 Indians club won the AA Championship. In 1997 Bombard joined the Philadelphia organization and began an eight-year run as the manager of the Scranton/Wilkes-Barre Red Barons. Prior to his arrival in 1997, the franchise had made just one playoff appearance. During his tenure, the Red Barons reached the post-season four times and advanced to the Governors' Cup Finals in both 2000 and 2001. His 2002 club set an all-time franchise mark of 91 wins, helping him earn honors as the IL Manager of the Year and the USA Today Sports Weekly Minor League Manager of the Year. The 91 wins were the second most in the IL since 1963, and since Bombard's departure no other IL manager has guided a team to 90 wins in a single season.

After departing in 2005 to become first base coach for the Phillies, he owned the franchise's all-time record for managerial victories (574) until surpassed by IL Hall of Famer Dave Miley in 2014. Bombard later returned to the IL as manager of the Charlotte Knights for two seasons, before moving on to Round Rock of the Pacific Coast League in 2009-10.

Marshall Brant



- FIRST BASEMAN -
Tidewater 1978-79
Columbus 1980-83

- * 1980 IL Most Valuable Player
- * 1980 & 1982 IL Postseason All-Star
- * Played for 1980 & 1982 Gov. Cup Champs

California-native Marshall Brant starred collegiately for Sonoma State University before being selected by the Mets in the 4th round of the 1975 draft. The slugger powered his way through the Mets farm system in the late 1970's, enjoying two solid seasons in Tidewater upon reaching the Triple-A level.

In 1980 his contract was purchased by the Yankees. Brant joined the Columbus Clippers, and that season he hit .289 and led the League with 23 home runs, 92 RBI, and a .993 fielding percentage on his way to the Most Valuable Player Award. The following season he finished 2nd in the IL in both homers and RBI (to teammate and fellow IL Hall of Famer Steve Balboni) and once again led the Clippers to the Governors' Cup championship. In 1982 he earned honors as an IL Postseason All-Star for the second time, thanks in part to a career-best 31 long balls and 96 RBI in what proved to be his final full season in the circuit.

With other first base prospects like Don Mattingly and Steve Balboni keeping Brant from an opportunity with the Yankees, he was dealt to Oakland in 1983. He appeared in five games for the A's, recording his first MLB hits and RBI, but was released in the off-season. He prolonged his career by signing with the Nippan Ham Fighters in Japan, which was owned by the Nippan Meat Company. He played for the Fighters for two seasons before retiring from professional baseball.

Brant is the only player in Clippers history to have his uniform number retired. He remains the franchise's all-time leader in RBI (302), and is also among the leaders in home runs (86), total bases (733), runs (256), walks (196), and hits (395). He is a member of the Columbus Baseball Hall of Fame, the Sonoma State University Athletics Hall of Fame, the Santa Rosa Junior College Athletics Hall of Fame, and the Rancho Cotate High School Athletics Hall of Fame.

Don Labbruzzo



General Manager, Buffalo
1958-60, 1970
General Manager, Syracuse
1961-69
General Manager, Rochester
1977-78

- * 1959 MacPhail Promotional Trophy
- * 1972 Triple-A Executive of the Year
- * Buffalo Baseball Hall of Famer

Don Labbruzzo was a graduate of the Ohio State University and a World War II veteran who then entered a career in professional baseball that lasted for 32 years. He was the Public Relations Director for the Syracuse Chiefs in 1954 before returning to Ohio to become the Assistant General Manager of the Columbus Jets for a three-year stint beginning in 1955.

Then in 1958 Labbruzzo was hired as General Manager in Buffalo. Labbruzzo enjoyed three successful years with the Bisons, highlighted by the team being honored as the 1959 Larry MacPhail Promotional Trophy winners for excellence in the area of promotions. After guiding the Bisons to an attendance of over 1 million in three seasons (something never before done by a Triple-A club), he was let go by team President John Stiglmeier, with whom he had constantly been at odds. He then returned to Syracuse as general manager, asked by the League to help revive the franchise that had failed several times. Labbruzzo remained in Syracuse through 1969.

In 1970 Labbruzzo returned to Buffalo to try and save a failing franchise. That year Minor League President Phil Piton called him "The best front office and promotion man in the minors over the past ten years", but even Labbruzzo couldn't save baseball in Buffalo. After taxpayers voted down a new ballpark, the League forfeited the franchise and it was moved to Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada. Labbruzzo, who had used his own money and borrowed on his life insurance to pay the bills, took heavy personal losses.

He would later serve as Executive Vice President of the Louisville Redbirds of the American Association, where he helped the team set attendance records in 1982 and 1983.

Labbruzzo returned to his hometown upon retiring, where he performed volunteer work for the Youngstown State University Athletic Department. He passed away in 1999 at the age of 81.