

Wyczawski elected to state amateur Hall of Fame

By Jim Bastian - Journal Sports Writer, The Journal Posted July 13, 2012

NEW ULM - You can call them New Um's "Magnificent Seven" after Carl "Red" Wyczawski was elected to the Minnesota State Amateur Baseball Hall of Fame Thursday.

Wyczawski will be honored on Sept. 15 in St. Cloud.

Wyczawski joins Stan Wilfahrt, Al Mueller, Frank "Count" Tauscheck, Henry Nicklasson, Victor Sondag and Roy Gebhard as New Ulmites elected into the Hall of Fame.

"This is an honor," said Wyczawski, who is also in the New Ulm Amateur Baseball Hall of Fame. "This is not something that you really seek. You are surrounded by people who think that you are a candidate. And you love the game - baseball is and always has been a special part of my life for over 70 years. I am very honored to have been selected. My family is all excited and they are all planning on being there for the induction."

If you look at Wyczawski's baseball resume, it is a long list of accomplishments, honors and dedication.

He chaired the 1958 State Amateur Baseball Tournament here in New Ulm and also chaired the Central Plains American Legion Baseball Tournament. He was a key player in getting lights back at Johnson Park after they were taken down by the city. He served on the New Ulm Amateur Baseball Association for 13 years.

And the list goes on and on.

He was Mayor of New Ulm for 24 years - the longest length of service in community history.

Wyczawski said that when he was first nominated by Herb Schaper of New Ulm, he said he was "surprised."

"I told [Herb] let's give it a go and see what happens," he said. "Herb worked really hard. He put together a committee that was very instrumental."

Wyczawski spent time in his career with the Milwaukee Braves where he did the Public Address. He did the PA when the All-Star game was played in Milwaukee.

He moved to New Ulm in 1954 and said that coming to New Ulm was a move that he has never regretted.

"There has not been a better town that I could have picked than New Ulm," he said. "My wife [Mary] was a native here and I had the opportunity to go into private business. New Ulm was and is truly a great baseball town."

He now has two months to prepare his acceptance speech. Wyczawski, who gave more than 300 speeches when he worked for the Braves, said that it should be an easy task.

"They said to keep it in between 5-7 minutes long," he said. "I can narrow it down."