



#35 • Todd Raleigh

**Head Coach – 4th Year
Western Carolina, 1991
2002 SoCon Coach of the Year**

Todd Raleigh, who returned to his alma mater in 2000, is in his fourth year as Western Carolina head baseball coach and has led a resurgence for the Catamount baseball program which played a key factor in him being named 2002 Southern Conference Coach of the Year.

Western has improved in nearly every statistical category in each of Raleigh's three years. In particular, the Catamount offense appears to be at the level it was when Western was reeling off Southern Conference championships at a feverish pace. Western finished 2002 as the top hitting team in the SoCon for the second consecutive year and ranked 11th nationally with a .334 batting average. The team also paced the SoCon in home runs with 56 while, for the 12th time in 16 seasons, a Catamount led the SoCon in home runs. In addition to finishing among the nation's top hitting teams, Western finished 24th in NCAA rankings last season by hitting 2.32 doubles per game.

After going 15-38 in his first year (2000), Raleigh was runner-up in the 2001 balloting for Southern Conference Coach of the Year, leading the Catamounts to a 30-26 record and finishing third (tied) in the league. Not only were the Cats picked to finish as low as 10th prior to the 2001 season, but he directed the biggest single-season turnaround in SoCon history, improving by 14.5 games over the previous season and doubling the team's win total from 2000 to 2001. Amazingly, the success came without the benefit of a single senior on the squad, playing mostly sophomores and freshmen. Western led the league in team batting average (.311), slugging percentage (.473) and doubles (143), while finishing second in total home runs (56). (The Cats actually led the SoCon in home runs per game.)

Over the past two seasons, Raleigh has made WCU one of the most successful teams in the SoCon. The Catamounts have won 80 percent of their league series and have not been swept in a series over the span. Overall, Western is 38-21 (.644) in SoCon games for the 2001-02 seasons, trailing only The Citadel (42-18, .700) and Georgia Southern (39-20, .661) in success rate.

Under Raleigh's tutelage, Donovan Minero and Alan Beck ranked among the top 10 in the SoCon in batting over the past two seasons, while both earned All-Southern Conference honors twice. Minero, who led the league in home runs twice and ranked 12th nationally in RBI as a junior, was named third team All-American in 2001, while being tabbed Southern Conference Player of the Year in 2002. He was the first Catamount to be an All-American since 1994, the 13th Catamount to be SoCon Player of the Year and the first Catamount to pace the SoCon in home runs since Matt Raleigh in 1991-92. Also making headlines in 2002 was short stop Ryan Schade, who was named first team Academic All-America in addition to first team All-Southern Conference. This past year, Todd Buchanan solidified his place as the best all-around first baseman in the league by earning first team All-SoCon honors, while unheralded freshman Chris Davis developed into a second team all-league pick as a designated hitter.

Raleigh's ties to WCU are extensive. He is a 1991 graduate of the University, was a four-year letterman for the Catamounts and was an assistant coach for two seasons.

Before becoming WCU's ninth head baseball coach since 1969, Raleigh spent the 1999 season as an assistant coach at East Carolina University under former WCU head baseball coach Keith LeClair. At ECU he was the Pirates' hitting instructor and recruiting coordinator, helping ECU to the Colonial Athletic Association (CAA) championship, a number one seed in the NCAA Tournament and a final national ranking of 18th.

As a player and assistant coach at Western Carolina, Raleigh helped the Cats capture four Southern Conference Championships, two as a player and two as a coach, and advance to four NCAA Regionals. As an assistant coach in 1994, Raleigh coached the Cats to a league best .295 team batting average.

Prior to his appointment at East Carolina, Raleigh served as the top assistant at James Madison University for five years, serving as the hitting, outfield, and catching coach each season. He also served as interim head coach for two months during the 1997 season. Raleigh's hitting implemented techniques helped the Dukies lead the CAA in hitting four times. He also served as JMU's recruiting coordinator. Two of the Duke's recruiting classes were ranked among the nation's top 30 during his tenure in

Harrisonburg, Va. James Madison finished in the top three of the CAA three times in Raleigh's four seasons there.

Raleigh's coaching career began at the University of Vermont. Following a two-year stint there, Raleigh returned to WCU in 1993 where he served as an assistant coach for two seasons. He also spent time coaching at Belmont Abbey after WCU.

As a student-athlete at WCU, Raleigh had an outstanding career for the Catamounts. He was a three-time all-conference selection, including a first team choice in 1991. Raleigh held the WCU and Southern Conference single-season record for RBI with 78 until 2000.

Named the Catamounts' Most Valuable Player as a senior, Raleigh signed a professional baseball contract with the Boston Red Sox after graduation, playing in the Florida State League that summer.

Raleigh earned his bachelor's degree from WCU in 1991 and his master's in 1994. He is married to the former Stephanie Deitz of Sylva. The couple has two children: Caleb John "Cal" (6) and Emma Grace (4).

HOW WCU HAS IMPROVED IN EACH OF RALEIGH'S THREE YEARS

— OFFENSE —				— PITCHING —			
	2000	2001	2002		2000	2001	2002
Batting	.285	.311 *	.334 *	ERA	6.74	6.06	4.59 ^
On-Base Pct.	.368	.391 *	.408 ^	Opp. Batting Avg.	.327	.310	.286
Slugging Pct.	.389	.473 *	.493 ^	Walks/Nine	4.22	3.41	2.91 ^
HR Per Game	0.4	1.0 ^	1.0 ^	Strikeouts/Nine	5.79	6.08	6.96
Hits Per Game	9.77	11.18 *	11.92 ^	Hits Allowed/Nine	11.78	11.62	9.86

* - Led SoCon ^ - Second in the SoCon



THE RALEIGH FILE

Born: March 27, 1969

Hometown: Swanton, Vt.

Family: Married to the former Stephanie Deitz of Sylva, N.C. Son: Caleb John "Cal" (6). Daughter: Emma Grace (4).

Education: B.S. in sports management, Western Carolina, 1991; M.S. Ed. in college administration, Western Carolina, 1994.

Playing Experience: Western Carolina, 1988-91; Boston Red Sox Organization, 1991.

Coaching Experience: University of Vermont (assistant coach, 1992); Western Carolina University (assistant coach, 1993-94); Belmont Abbey (assistant coach, 1994); James Madison University (assistant coach, 1994-98); East Carolina University (assistant coach, 1999); Western Carolina University (head coach, 1999-present).

RALEIGH AS HEAD COACH

Year	School	Overall	Conference	Finish
2000	WCU	15-38	8-22	10th
2001 ^	WCU	30-26	18-11	3rd-t
2002 #	WCU	33-23	20-10	2nd
Totals	3 years	78-87	46-43	

^ - Directed the biggest single-season turnaround in SoCon history (+14.5)

- Named SoCon Coach of the Year



#20 • Chris Roberts

**Assistant Coach – 2nd Year
Florida State, 1992**

Chris Roberts joined the Western Carolina staff in the summer of 2001 as the Catamount pitching coach and made an immediate impact.

Under Roberts direction, WCU pitchers showed dramatic improvement. Catamount pitchers ranked seventh in the SoCon with a 6.06 ERA prior to his arrival. With Roberts, WCU hurlers turned in a 4.59

ERA to rank second in the league. Western pitchers also allowed a lower opponent batting average (from .310 in 2001 to .286 in 2002), fewer walks (3.41 per game in 2001 to 2.91 in 2002), more strikeouts (6.08 in 2001 to 6.94 in 2002) and allowed less hits (11.62 in 2001 to 10.30 in 2002).

Nearly each Catamount pitcher lowered his ERA under Roberts. Most notably, Jared Burton went from a 5.01 ERA to a 3.76 ERA, while ranking on the WCU single-season lists for innings pitched and strikeouts. In return, Burton became an eighth round draft pick of the Oakland A's.

Roberts brings a wealth of experience as well as impressive credentials to Cullowhee. Prior to his appointment at Western, Roberts served as an assistant coach at Flagler College in St. Augustine, Fla., from 2000-01.

From 1993-2001, Roberts was a pitcher in professional baseball. He was a first round draft pick of the New York Mets in 1993 and played with the organization from 1993-97. He also played with the Oakland (1998), Colorado (1999) and Milwaukee (2001) minor league teams. In 1996 he played in the Venezuelan Winter League, while playing the 2000 season with Chiba Lotte Marines in the Japanese Major League.

Roberts is one of the highest draft picks to ever attend Florida State and was a three-year starter with the Seminoles as an outfielder and pitcher. He was a 1992 Collegiate Baseball first team All-American, a 1991 Baseball America third team All-American and a 1990 Baseball America Freshman All-American. Prior to FSU joining the ACC, Roberts was named 1991 Metro Conference Player of the Year. For his career, Roberts was 23-8 with 202 strikeouts on the mound, while batting .301 with 32 home runs and 175 RBI. The Seminoles played in an NCAA Regional in each of Roberts' three years in Tallahassee, while making appearances at the College World Series in 1991 and 1992. Ironically in 1992, Roberts was part of the team which defeated Western Carolina in the NCAA Regional final to advance to Omaha.

While being drafted in 1992, his professional career was put on hold for one season as he was the starting leftfielder on the 1992 USA Olympic team in Barcelona. He also played on Team USA in the 1991 Pan American Game in Havana, Cuba.

Roberts and his wife Tracy have two sons: Jackson (4) and Kirgan (1).



#31 • Bergin Tatham

**Assistant Coach – 2nd Year
Western Carolina, 1976**

Bergin Tatham, who works with the Catamount outfielders and mans the first base coaching box, enters his second season on the Western Carolina coaching staff as he returns to his alma mater to pursue a Master's degree. While this is his second season working with the Catamount outfielders, Tatham has been coaching

baseball since graduating from Western Carolina in 1975.

Tatham has been a volunteer assistant at Tuscola High School in Waynesville, while owning his own business. Over the past six years, he has coached players from age 12-18 in the Western North Carolina Mountain Athletic Club summer league program. In the summer of 2001, his 16-18 year old team reached the national region finals, losing to the eventual national champion.

A first baseman for the Catamounts from 1972-75, Tatham has helped 13 of his last 15 seniors move on to play collegiate baseball.

Tatham, a Waynesville native who attended Tuscola, and his wife Karen have two sons: Clay (18) and Clint (16).



#15 • Paul Menhart

Assistant Coach – 1st Year

After 12 years away from Cullowhee, Paul Menhart returns to Western Carolina as an assistant coach while he completes his undergraduate degree.

The Mystic, Conn., native left WCU after being an eighth-round draft pick in 1990 by the Toronto Blue Jays, an organization he stayed with until 1995. He went on to be an All-Star at

Dunedin, Toronto's A affiliate in 1991, and made his major league debut in April of 1995. He was traded to the Seattle Mariners in 1996 and stayed with the team until 1997. He was traded again midway through the '97 season to San Diego and remained with the club through 1998. In 1999, he played with the California Angels, Cleveland Indians and Florida Marlins organizations. In 2000, he played for the Solano Steelheads before being picked up by the Colorado Rockies. After spending the 2001 spring training with the Boston Red Sox, he returned to the Steelheads, a member of the Western Baseball League, to manage the team.

Menhart spent three seasons at Western, compiling a 19-17 overall career record with 214 strikeouts. His 19 wins ranks 10th on the WCU all-time list, while his 214 K's is eighth and his 266.1 innings pitched is sixth. Menhart, who led the Cats in strikeouts in each of his three seasons and innings pitched twice, was tabbed Southern Conference Tournament MVP in 1989 after rossing a five-hitter with 10 K's in the semifinals versus Appalachian State. He additionally earned first team All-SoCon recognition in 1988 thanks to his 8-3 record and 3.55 ERA and finished his career with an 11-6 record in SoCon games.

Menhart is married to the former Elizabeth "Bitsy" Barnes, who is a WCU alum. The couple reside in Atlanta and have three children: Alison (8), Jamie (5) and Michael (3).