



THE  
BUD BEST MEMORIAL  
SCHOLARSHIP  
*for*  
Student Athletes  
*in the*  
Sport of Baseball  
*at the*  
University of Northern Colorado

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**W**arren Paul “Bud” Best (2/18/21-2/5/07) was born in Stanton, NE, and graduated from Stanton High School with letters in football, basketball, baseball and track. He painted with his father before attending Wayne State College in Wayne, NE, from 1939-43, where he was the second person in Wayne State history to letter in three sports for all four years.

After serving honorably in the U.S. Navy during World War II, Bud began a successful career with Albion Public Schools from 1946-52, where he taught industrial arts, coached football, basketball and track, and led the Albion football team to an undefeated state championship in 1949. After earning his master’s degree in health, physical education and recreation at Colorado State College (now UNC) in 1950, he taught American government and coached football and track in Norfolk Public Schools from 1952-57. Bud’s long career at UNC began in 1957 when he was hired as the backfield football coach, head swimming coach, assistant baseball coach and health and physical education teacher. He coached pitchers and catchers for Pete Butler’s team that played in the College World Series in 1961. Bud’s coaching strategies and illustrious and successful coaching career, which included All American Honors for several swimmers, earned him the name “Swimming Fox.” Following further course work in school administration, Bud was appointed UNC’s Director of Placement Services in 1967, where he remained until his retirement in 1985. Bud continued to share his talent, skill and passion for sports by serving as a baseball, football and basketball referee.

During Bud’s teaching and university careers, he received many awards in both athletics and university administration, including induction into the Wayne State Hall of Fame in 1980; UNC’s associate professor emeritus of College Student Personnel Administration in 1985; Outstanding Contribution to the Rocky Mountain College Placement Association in 1985; Outstanding Contribution to Officiating and the Game of Basketball (1949-1984) in 1986; CHSBUA award for 40 years of dedicated service to baseball in 1989; CFOA award for 40 years of dedicated services to football in 1991; the Bill Dressor Friends of Baseball Award in 1995; and inaugural inductee to the Albion Downtown Athletic Club Hall of Fame in 2002.

The Bud Best Memorial Baseball Scholarship was established by Bud’s family to remember and honor their father’s long and successful career at UNC and his love for the sport of baseball as a player, coach and umpire.

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The Bud Best Memorial Scholarship is awarded to student athletes in the sport of baseball at the University of Northern Colorado.

The University of Northern Colorado Foundation is pleased to recognize the generosity of Bud’s children—Judy Lynn (Best) and Mike Tormey, Sue Ann (Best) and Les McCarroll and John Ray Best, who provided the gifts, in addition to the memorial contributions, to create this permanent fund for student baseball scholarships at the University of Northern Colorado.

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