
UAB Blazers Baseball Dugout Club

1st ANNUAL LEAD-OFF BANQUET

THE CLUB, off of Valley Avenue
atop Red Mountain

TUESDAY, JANUARY 23, 2001
6:00 – 8:30 pm



UAB BLAZERS BASEBALL

A Commitment to Excellence

1st Annual Lead-Off Banquet

KEYNOTE SPEAKER



Coach Ron Polk

Ron Polk is one of only three coaches to have brought teams from three different universities to the College World Series. In 1966 he appeared as an assistant coach with the University of Arizona, as head coach with Georgia Southern in 1973, and then five times with Mississippi State University (1979, 1981, 1985, 1990, and 1997). He served as a head coach for 27 seasons, 22 of these at Mississippi State, where he compiled the most wins of any baseball coach in SEC history. Polk's career win-loss record is 1,075-512 (.677), including 888-422 (.678) at Mississippi State, and 340-228 (.599) against SEC

teams. Polk became the head baseball coach at the University of Georgia in 1999. In his first season there he provided the most impressive season since the early 1990's and achieved an all-time home-game attendance record.

Ron Polk's extensive international experience includes seven coaching tours with the USA National Baseball Team: two as the head coach and five as an assistant coach. He coached the 1988 gold medal Olympic team in Seoul, South Korea and the 1996 bronze medal Olympic team in Atlanta. He was the SEC Coach of the Year four times (1979, 1985, 1987, and 1989) and was inducted into the American Baseball Coaches Hall of Fame in 1995. He has coached 28 All-Americans, 62 All-SEC players, and had 119 of his players sign professional baseball contracts, including 13 who played in the Major Leagues. During his time at Mississippi State, his players earned Academic All-SEC honors 112 times over a period in which the highest total for any other SEC team was 62.

Coach Polk is an expert in assessing the baseball capability of a university and in upgrading a Division 1A baseball program. He will let us know during his keynote address how this can be done at UAB.

PROGRAMME of EVENTS

RECEPTION and SILENT AUCTION

**Bidding to be Performed at Stations Around the Reception Area,
Cash Bar
6:00–7:00 pm**

OPENING REMARKS

by Master of Ceremonies, WJOX's

Matt Coulter

7:00–7:05 pm

DINNER

of Prime Rib

7:05–7:30 pm

KEYNOTE ADDRESS

by Featured Speaker, Coach

Ron Polk

7:30–8:15 pm

OPEN AUCTION and CLOSING REMARKS

Winners of Silent Auction to be Announced

8:15–8:30 pm