

SHAWN RYCHCIK, North Andover, MA



Shawn Rychcik was first introduced to fastball in 1985 in Salamanca NY as a 16-year-old and joined New Martinsville for his ISC debut in 1989. In the ensuing 18 consecutive seasons of ISC competition, Shawn was named ISC All-World 10 times, equally at home patrolling the outfield as well as providing defensive efficiency in the infield. His two-way proficiencies helped lead his teams to five ISC World Championships with titles in Green Bay, Tampa, Decatur and his last two in back-to-back seasons with County Materials in 2005-06. Among Shawn's achievements are 21 career home runs, putting him the top 10 all time.

## SHAWN RYCHCIK

### Salamanca NY – Outfielder/ Infielder (Born December 05, 1968)



Shawn Rychcik grew up on the ball fields in Salamanca NY with his introduction to fastpitch resulting from spending weekends at the ball park watching his dad play in Western NY. In 1985, at age 17, Shawn got his first chance to play and spent the next four years playing softball in local leagues and traveling to tournaments along the east coast and Canada.

In 1989, Shawn played in his first ISC Tournament in Kimberly WI for the New Martinsville WV club. The team won four games year and Shawn had an auspicious debut as co-leader in rbis for the tournament and was named to the All-World Team.

In 1992, Shawn joined the Midland MI Explorers for two seasons - after which an opportunity presented itself that would challenge his softball career... and enhance and dramatically change his life.

Following the 1993 season, Shawn accepted Mark Sorenson's invitation to play with Hutt Valley Cardinals in New Zealand, then returning, along with Mark to Russ Boice's Green Bay WI All-Car Roadrunners. All Car was undefeated in the 1994 ISC Tournament beating the Toronto ON Gators in the final. Shawn enjoyed three more successful seasons in Wisconsin, before heading south.

In 1998, Shawn joined the Tampa Bay Smokers, winning his 2nd ISC World Championship, and then moving on to the Decatur IL Pride. In 2000, the Pride added pitchers Darren Zack and Mike White and Shawn claimed his 3<sup>rd</sup> ISC title.

Shawn returned to Wisconsin for the final five years of his career, joining Marathon WI County Materials. The 2006 season was very special - Shawn and his teammates played in seven tournaments, winning ALL seven including its second straight ISC World Championship, while compiling a 47-3 record. The 2006 version of County Materials has been called one of the greatest teams ever, a claim always to be debated. However, you can't have a conversation about the greatest teams without including the 2006 County Materials squad in the discussion.

In his 18 consecutive seasons of ISC competition Shawn was named ISC All-World ten times, (tied for 4<sup>th</sup> all-time), equally at home patrolling the outfield as well as providing defensive efficiency at infield positions. His two-way proficiencies helped lead his teams to ISC World Titles on five occasions with teams in Green Bay WI, Tampa FL, Decatur IL and his last two in back-to-back seasons with County Materials in 2005-06. Shawn achieved 198 total bases, including 21 home runs, tied for 4<sup>th</sup> in career dingers.

Shawn's overall 23-year career included an eight-year stint on the USA Men's National Team, producing one gold, two silver, and a single bronze medals. He was twice named United States Olympic Committee Athlete of the Year in Men's Softball, and retired with two ASA National Championships with a MVP and eight All-American selections.

Shawn always displayed a flair for the dramatic, with clutching hitting, often in title games as he rallied his team-mates with come-from-behind victories leading to championships and an abundance of memorable moments throughout his career.

Shawn has recently accepted the position of head softball coach at North Carolina State University. He currently resides in North Andover MA with his wife Tricia and their two boys, Ajay and Drew.