



Black History Month All-Star: Calvin Murray



As an outfielder for the Longhorns, Calvin Murray was an impactful hitter and disruptor on the bases, leading the team to win two Southwest Conference Titles. The Dallas, Texas native and high school graduate from White High School is part of a rooted family in Texas sports. He's the younger brother of former Texas A&M quarterback Kevin Murray and uncle of Heisman Trophy winner and current Arizona Cardinals quarterback Kyler Murray.

He was drafted 10th overall in the 1989 Major League draft but selected to go to college and play baseball at the University of Texas from 1990-92. His first year earned Freshman All American honors and set the Southwest Conference record with 41 steals. Stolen bases would be legacy in college, maintaining the school's record and Southwest Conference for steals at 139. He still holds first, second and third for individual season leaders for Texas. Aside from stealing bases, he had a batting average of .311, scored 197 times 5th all-time in college baseball and had 14 triples. Murray was the first Texas player to make an Olympic team playing during the 1992 Barcelona games, named to the Southwest Conference team, First Team All-American and named NCAA Most Outstanding Player. Then he was chosen seventh overall in the MLB draft by the San Francisco Giants.

Murray never was the elite baseball player in the majors like he was in college. There he only played five years. Most of that was because Murray was in the Giants organization, which consistently held stocked unit in the outfield led by Barry Bonds. By the time he was called up, he was in his late 20s, which is somewhat late for professional growth. He was part of a Major League baseball famous moment. Murray was the batter Randy Johnson was facing during the exploding dove pitch.



Although it didn't work out in the majors, Murray did enjoy some success in the Minor Leagues. His whole career in there, his batting average was .274 with an on-base plus slugging of .757 and a total of 328 steals. His best season was 1999, playing in the Pacific Coast League for the Fresno Grizzlies, where he hit .334 with a .931 OPS and 42 steals.

In 2007, Murray was inducted into the University's Longhorn Hall of Honor. He's also has been influential in his nephew Kyler's life.

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