

NOTES FROM A COACH'S FILE CABINET

COACH BAYLOCK

LESSONS IN LEADERSHIP



ANDY'S PLACE





DEDICATION

JOHN SALIK #90

Old teammate and good friend

BLEED BLUE

WHY THIS PROJECT

FOREWORD

I had the opportunity to play for Coach Andy Baylock at UConn. I was not the best or the most highly recruited. I was just a kid from Rhode Island who got the chance to play football and basketball for the best college in the great state of Connecticut. When we arrived at UConn as freshmen in a driving rain, we met our Coach B. It has now been more than 55 years, and thankfully, due to Coach's dedication to his players, we are still connected. Can you imagine that? Coach knows the names and hometowns of all 1,000-plus of his players.

The reason for this project is that last year I went up to watch a spring practice. Coach always invites us back. I was there to talk to him about a speaking opportunity for Coach Mora. I also just love to visit the campus (the Dairy Barn). I told Coach that I was teaching Data Science Leadership at the University of New Haven. That was all Coach needed. He took me up to his office in the football facility (Burton Family Football Complex). We sat and talked about leadership, and he went into his file cabinet and pulled several folders of motivational and instructive leadership notes he had accumulated over his time coaching. I loved them and have included many in this project. I have also used them, and continue to use them, in my classes. I am sure many are "Baylock Speak" and others are things he has picked up over time.

I wanted Coach to put these together and put out a book, but Coach doesn't like to have his name out front. He is the most humble guy you would ever meet, but his leadership knowledge needs to be shared. I wrote to his daughter, and the family has also asked him to write a book, but Coach is not interested. So what I am doing is just a small sample. Coach will be upset that I am putting him out front, but he deserves it. I guess I will be running stadiums when he sees this.

I make no claim that each of the things written here is original. This is not a project to make any money, and if people are upset that their writings or pictures are included, I am sorry. This is just something to document Coach. I included some of the accolades people wrote about Coach and several images I have gotten over the internet. I hope you find this enjoyable. It was a fun project.

Drew Bickel

FOR THOSE WHO DO NOT KNOW COACH

ANDY BAYLOCK

Born	June 22, 1938.
Player	Central Connecticut State University. Four-year letterman in football and baseball, and captain of both teams his senior year.
Michigan	Earned a master's degree and served as a graduate assistant coach with the Wolverines baseball team.
UConn assistant	Freshman baseball coach for one season, then a football and baseball assistant for 15 years. Under head coach Larry Panciera, the Huskies appeared in 3 College World Series and 4 additional NCAA tournaments, and won their conference 8 times.
Cape Cod	Skippered the Falmouth Commodores in 1973, 1974 and 1979.
UConn head coach	1980 to 2003. Three NCAA tournament appearances and a pair of Big East tournament titles. UConn's all-time wins leader at his retirement, since eclipsed by his successor Jim Penders.

Source: Wikipedia

556

wins as head coach

24

seasons leading
UConn baseball



Still pitching

Coach pitches batting practice for the Eastern Connecticut baseball team. Due to NCAA rules he cannot pitch batting practice to his beloved UConn team. I am betting he still cranks the fastball up into the 80s.

MOTIVATION

In order to be motivated, you must:

- 1** Determine the quality of an individual.
- 2** Action: what's inside.
- 3** Gain satisfaction through your actions.
- 4** Be self-motivated, through yourself.
- 5** Work so you can accomplish goals.

Personal motivation

- 1** Personal motivation.
- 2** Wishing is different from intense desire.
- 3** Desire can be developed.
- 4** Excel in what you do.
- 5** Develop ability to the fullest.



LEADERSHIP: WHAT IT REQUIRES

INTENSE BURNING DESIRE

- 1 What you want to achieve.
- 2 Do not wish.
- 3 The quality of sacrifice you want to make.
- 4 Desire makes life more meaningful.
- 5 Select your hero and imitate.
- 6 Imagine what you would like to be, the type of person you want to be.
- 7 Continue a solid program.

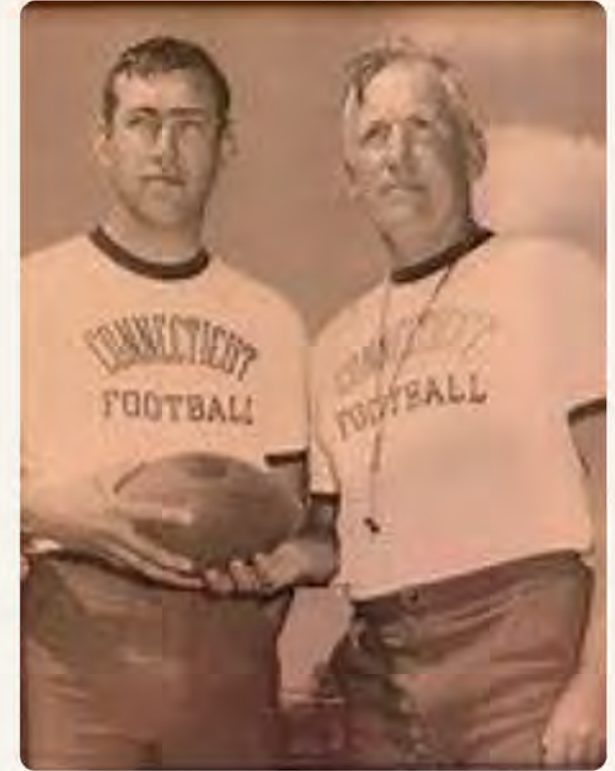


Part of a series of motivational materials from my college freshman football coach. One of many slides I used in class. Drew

MOTIVATION AND POTENTIAL

POTENTIAL

- 1 Each athlete has great potential, and they must believe it and reach for it to accomplish.
- 2 No limitation for potential.
- 3 Visualize yourself as your potential, not what you see now.
- 4 Strong emotion to be full: adrenaline starts to flow, sugar in the blood, positive action, emotionally ready.
- 5 No limitations. The only limit is the limit you put on yourself.



MOTIVATION AND POTENTIAL

YOUR POTENTIAL FOR GREATNESS

Every athlete starts at the same level. The difference is work, desire, growth and the ability to go on. You can accomplish anything if you are willing to pay the price of working hard enough. Psychologists tell us most people never reach past 25% of their potential. You must move past it.



1

A positive approach to greatness.

2

Reach your full potential through belief and work.

3

Fantastic potential inside of everyone.

IN THEIR WORDS

"YOU ARE MR. CONNECTICUT"

Coach B! You are the definition of consistency. The way you find ways to connect with everyone you come in contact with is amazing to see. You've always been supportive and an outstanding ambassador for our entire sports performance department. I have so much respect for you and appreciate all of your support over the years. Our student-athletes and coaches are so fortunate to have you as a resource. Your wisdom and dedication is unmatched in college athletics. Thank you for all you do, Coach Baylock!

Matt King

Thank you for inspiring me and showing me how to be a real Coach/Leader. See you soon! Love you.

Kashif Moore

You are Mr. Connecticut. From the teams you coached, to all the others you supported, you are the enduring face of UConn Athletics. Your love and connection to so many student athletes is something I have always marveled at. You represent the best of all us Huskies and we are so lucky to have you.

Jim Calhoun



IN THEIR WORDS

"A BLESSING TO ALL"

"You can easily judge the character of a man by how he treats those who can do nothing for him." (Johann Wolfgang von Goethe)

"I've learned that people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel." (Maya Angelou)

Congratulations. You've done well. You deserve all the recognition you receive. Bleed Blue.

Joss Tillard-Gates, Football '06

Dear Coach Baylock, thank you for the support and the endless love during my time at UConn. You always knew what to say. Even after my departure you stayed in touch and always made it feel like home when I came back to visit. With appreciation.

Hergy Mayala, 2015-2018

Coach Baylock, thank you for all that you have done and still do for UConn nation. Your commitment to serving the UConn family is admirable, and for me personally, it has changed my life. The career-oriented networking event you organized over 6 years ago opened a door for me to intern with and learn from another UConn alum. That internship provided me with an opportunity when I needed it most, and I will forever be grateful. Your wisdom, good faith, commitment to UConn, and consistent positivity has been a blessing to all who've been fortunate enough to cross paths with you. I commit to paying it forward to the best of my ability. Thank you, Coach. We are all lucky to have you in our lives. Go Huskies!

Bryant Sheriffs, 2015-2017

Dear Coach, greetings from the fastest player to ever wear UConn gear. Andy Baylock, you could possibly be the greatest man to ever walk the earth. You have done so much for the maturation of a lot of us former UConn players, and continue to keep us in the loop after 20 years. You are a great person, friend and a legend!

Jason Williams, '05

TEAM AND ACCOUNTABILITY

PLAYERS' THOUGHTS

Each player makes choices. Are they the right ones?

Nothing less than your best effort is acceptable.

Develop a standard by which you want to be perceived.

You are a team when players show great respect for each other and for the coaches.

Team cohesion is built around players' acceptance of their roles on the team.



TEAM AND ACCOUNTABILITY

LOYALTY: DO NOT PANIC, ADJUST

Do not panic. Adjust.

"I'd like to complain." Adjust.

This is how you react when something goes bad.

"Nice try" does not win. "Nice play" wins.

Accept responsibility. Do not shift blame.
Do not transfer blame.

I worked with Andy for 37 years, and the first thing that comes to my mind is that he has been the "Mentor of Mentors." I didn't ask to talk to Andy when I first came to UConn to coach the Track and Cross Country teams; he basically told me to come to his office the first week I was on the job as a 29-year-old head coach. When I left his office that day, I had a friend for life, a confidant, a cheerleader and an inspirational character who never let me down. A MENTOR. Open and honest, he always shared his thoughts, his coaching techniques and his feelings. Over the years I can't even imagine how many other "Mentors" he has impacted. I just know that this Mentor could never have been the coach that I became without the friendship and guidance provided by the Master of the Mentors, Coach Baylock!!

Greg Roy, Head Coach (retired), UConn Track and Field/XC

TEAM AND ACCOUNTABILITY

EXCELLENCE AND PRIORITIES

Perfection is impossible. However, you can achieve excellence.

You cannot have everything; you must establish priorities.

When you have priorities, conflicts will arise, forcing you to make decisions.

Each person must contribute to the positive morale of the team.

If the player does not have the best interest of the team at heart, then it's time to discipline.



TEAM AND ACCOUNTABILITY

LOSERS PROMISE. WINNERS COMMIT.

Play to your strengths and improve your weaknesses.

Some days you feel great. Some days you feel lousy. It's not how you feel, it's how you play.

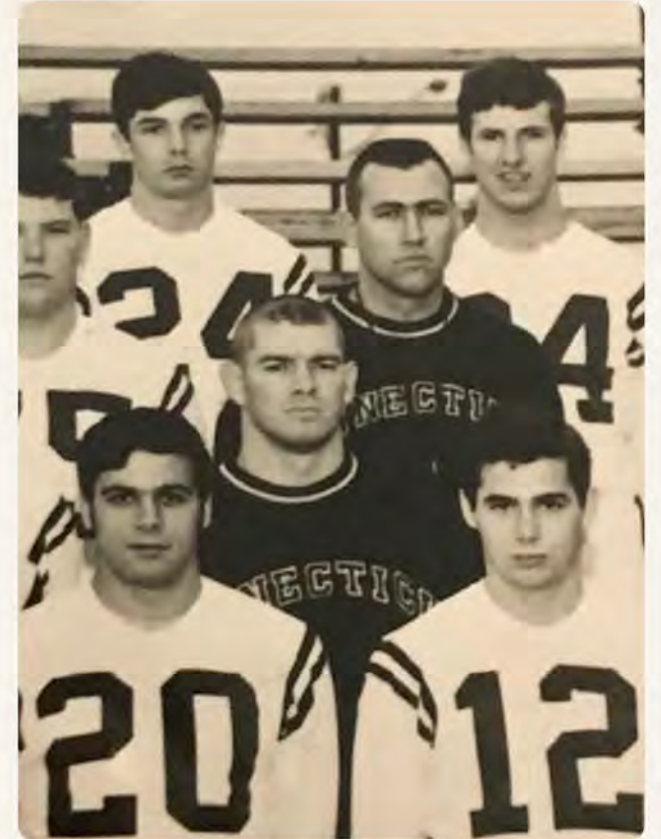
Make talent mistakes, but no character mistakes.

You are fired up when you have confidence, enthusiasm, teamwork.

Teamwork is a mindset of one. Play hard, play intelligently, play together.

Losers promise. Winners commit.

Your loyalty and unselfishness are musts.



TEAM AND ACCOUNTABILITY

TOOLS, TALENT AND COMMITMENT

If you lack some tools, you can still achieve success if you have a good attitude, concentration, dedication, poise and are competitive.

If you have natural talent, you can be really good if you commit to conditioning and skill work.

If you lack natural talent, you can be very good if you commit. Conditioning and skill.



RIP #6

IN THEIR WORDS

"NOBODY BLEEDS BLUE MORE THAN YOU"

Nobody bleeds blue more than you, Coach Baylock. Your constant presence and contributions behind the scenes for the football program did not go unnoticed. Your positive attitude and the ability to make everyone feel welcome are just a few of the qualities that make you special. Every team needs a guy like you, Coach Baylock. We were fortunate to have you.

Randy Edsall

Coach B, over the last 15 years of me working with football, you have always checked in and offered to help. You have helped so many of the guys with internship opportunities and guidance that I know they will look back one day and be grateful. I have always enjoyed our quick chats and appreciate the support you have given to SASP each year with new incoming students and those graduating. UConn is lucky to have you around for all the years with your knowledge and wisdom. Best.

Kelli Kozaryn, SASP Football Counselor

Coach, for the last 24 years I have had the opportunity to watch your commitment and impact on your student athletes, alumni, the athletics staff and the local community. You bleed blue through and through and it's inspiring. I am so thankful for your willingness to stop, say hi and share a story. As a student you spoke in one of my classes and it has left a lasting impression on me for the standards and passion for the coaching profession and always giving back. Thank you for all you have done not only as a coach, but as a great human being. "Not bad for an old guy." With much respect.

Moe Butler '03

When I first got to UConn ten years ago after 18 years at Boston College, there were two people who made my transition seamless: Dee Rowe and Andy Baylock. I will never forget how Andy made me feel welcome and wanted. I've always been impressed with how he's not only committed to seeing me succeed, but every sport be successful at UConn. Thank you Coach for being a great mentor and I'm still waiting to take batting practice off you!

Mike Cavanaugh

MINDSET AND HABITS

DO EVERYTHING YOU CAN TO LEARN

10%

recall if you hear it

85%

recall if you hear it and
see it

90%

recall if you hear it, see
it and do it

Repetition is the mother of all learning. Learning is reviewing what you already know. Repeat, repeat, repeat.

Andy Baylock rules: learn. Ask the players, watch other players, ask the coach, watch TV, watch how-to videos, read books. Do everything you can to learn.



MINDSET AND HABITS

CONTROL HOW YOU REACT

When injuries occur, close ranks and march on.

Avoid getting angry over things you can't control. But do control how you react to things you cannot control.

If you have a stack of coins and bend one, then bend a second, the stack will fall over. Don't be a bent coin.

Acknowledging failure is the first step in dealing with it. Once you feed the monster, it just gets bigger. If you starve it with confrontation, it will die.



MINDSET AND HABITS

ASK YOURSELF

**Each week has 168 hours.
How are you using yours?**

**What's your level of
commitment?**

**What did I do today to
help my team?**

**How do you respond to
victory? To defeat?**



My favorite DB



MINDSET AND HABITS

VISUALIZE.

SEE YOURSELF GETTING
IT DONE.



Memorial Stadium, last goodbye. And Coach didn't make us run the stairs.

MINDSET AND HABITS

RESPECT THE GAME

The best team
doesn't always win.
The team that plays
the best wins.

Understand
coaching is not
personal. It's
to make you
play better.

Failure to hustle is
an embarrassment.
Respect the game.

Attitude is a choice,
your choice.

Don't mistake
activity for
achievement.

Decisions off the
field require mental
guts. Do what
is right.

Play fast.
Practice fast.

Everyone practices. No
sitting at practice. Spread
out. Hustle is going to be a
trademark. Make sure all
players remember: run,
don't walk, back. Hustle
like cancer.

IN THEIR WORDS

"A TRUSTED MENTOR AND FRIEND"

Andy, thanks for everything you have meant to me over the years and everything you have done for UConn during your career. From being your baseball SID back in the 80s and 90s, to your work in football now, you have always been there for me. You are a trusted mentor and friend.

Mike Enright '88

Dear Coach, I am so blessed that you and I once had offices next door to each other. I loved the many talks we used to have. You have impacted so many lives including mine and you always have such a positive outlook and attitude on life! I know you don't like attention brought to you. I am so happy you are going to be honored at the football game. You so deserve it. We are so lucky to have you as part of UConn Athletics. You are truly a LEGEND, Coach. Love you!

Kim Gedney

Coach, I can never thank you for all you have done for me and my family over the years. In August of 1970 I entered into your freshman program along with 120 other players. At that time I had no idea how much you would do for me over the next 50-plus years. You have been a coach, teacher, mentor, colleague, advisor, and most of all a valued friend. You have been an inspiration to so many and helped guide me into the person I am today. There are so many memories and so many values you have given to me. I have been so blessed to have you in my life and my family, and I love you for enriching our lives. Love.

Brian, Kathy, Brian Jr. and Beth Usher

Coach, I can't thank you enough, from the beginning of our freshman FB team, for believing in me, mentoring me to believe in myself, and staying in touch with your continued mentoring throughout my entire life journey. You live the definition of true friendship. Forever grateful.

Al Akowitz

A LETTER TO COACH

"THOSE MOMENTS ARE HUGE"

Dear Coach, while the entirety of sport is amazing and fills life with memories, there are a few special moments that stand out differently from the rest.

Sometime around April of 2007 or so, you pulled me aside after a CPIA awards dinner in the Rome Ballroom after I had the opportunity to present a couple of awards to student-athletes in my cohort. You complimented my messaging and emphasized the importance of showing genuine care for our student-athletes.

That may have been the first time we spoke. I was early in my career, still holding onto my 20s for dear life, and I didn't know much about anything. I knew immediately, however, that your words would stay with me forever.

You didn't have to take time out of your night to do that, and I was genuinely honored... and a little starstruck. We hadn't really interacted before, and you were THE Coach Andy Baylock everyone talked about; the one everyone respected, the one everyone knew cared about them.

Your endless value of people, education, growth, kindness, and sending these young Huskies into the world one day ready to bring good is all that is fundamentally right about college sport.

I am grateful beyond measure that our paths have crossed so many times over the last nearly 17 years. When I see you, I instantly remember what's really important. I know it's about the people, about the kids, about sincerity, about love for what you do and love for the folks around you. I know that it's about family, and honor, and authenticity... and then celebrating the victories along the way isn't so bad either.

Coach, thank you for everything you bring to every seemingly little moment. I promise you, those moments are huge. Love,

Alana Butler

UConn (Field Hockey) '01 and Student Athlete Success Program

A LETTER TO COACH

"I WAS THERE TO BE EDUCATED"

Dear Coach Baylock, having attended an American high school in Germany, I met you first on campus when the freshman team reported in 1969. Aside from your reassuring ways, what I remember most was your no-nonsense approach to academics. You helped me register for the same kinds of classes as all incoming students, implicitly emphasizing that I was there to be educated. Your letter to the parents of incoming players bespoke a commitment to education and the ideals of sport: to develop character through shared sacrifice and self-discipline in order to prepare for life. While my athletic contributions were limited, the discipline I learned by facing adversity and by finishing what I started has helped me greatly in achieving other goals over the years.

Every time I see you, I remind you that I feel like an imposter on alumni rolls because I only played freshman ball and scarcely saw the field, yet you always make me feel a part of the team.

As a college professor for more than four decades at a university that invests heavily in its football program, I have long lamented the absence of those values that you first instilled in us. A letter from a football coach to his players extolling the virtues of reading would simply be unheard of on campuses today. We were lucky to be under your tutelage, Coach. Many thanks for the lessons you taught.

Donald Dickson '73 (freshman team, '69), Ph.D., FRHistS
Professor of English, Texas A&M University

A LETTER TO COACH

BE THE FUN!

Al MacLellan
'73-'75 Co-Captain

It was August 27, 1973, about ten a.m. It was double-session football, first day in pads. It was already 98 degrees on the way to 103. Humidity hung in the air like artillery smoke. We were a bunch of scrubs in the huddle, waiting for instructions.

Whistles and hollering, grunting and the sounds of helmets hitting pads. Sweat and heat like a sauna, we were silent, hot and miserable, just hanging on.

You came to our huddle and asked us, "Who wants to have fun?" "We do!" we replied in one voice, hopeful of some respite or reprieve. "BE THE FUN!" you said with a smile, and left us to ponder that thought.

In that moment I learned a life lesson I never relinquished. Best advice I ever heard in my entire life. Be the fun!

Thanks, Coach, for all the encouragement, dedication and inspiration. You made it fun, and you always had our back. We have been blessed with you in our lives, then and now.

Coach Andy "Bear" Baylock, the best there is.

A LETTER TO COACH

"HI KENNY"

Kenny Demers
1970

Coach: I have been organizing this event for some time. Now it's my time to tell you why. It's not about UConn, football, or baseball, but about feelings. Everyone has feelings that change over the years. Every one of us has had our highs and lows. We have all had challenges, but anyone that has been fortunate enough to have had contact with you has been in receipt of something special: unconditional friendship and love.

The coolest thing about it is, I did not know when it was going to happen. It could have been a dreary Saturday and I went out to my mailbox and there is a hand-written postcard with a "Hi Kenny" at the top. Or maybe it would be mid-morning and I am in my cellar/office working at my computer and my cellphone rings and I glance at it and see "Andy." Or it could be a sunny day and I get the mail. I open an envelope to see a picture of my 18-year-old self in my UConn uniform. Suddenly, I forget my aches and pains and the current issues in the world and remember what a blessed life I've had.

There may be other great people in the world like you, but they haven't crossed my path yet. Thank you for being in my life. Love.

YOUR ROLE AS A PLAYER

ROOKIE

You're new. You have to learn the rules. You can't take on big responsibilities when you lack experience. Play more, make changes so you have fewer mistakes, and then only take on big roles when you're ready.

VETERAN

You're an experienced player. You know how to play; you've done it many times. You can only be a vet by playing a lot. You're able to take on main roles thanks to the knowledge and experience you have gathered. You won't make rookie mistakes. Vets need to be patient with rookies. We need to offer advice and encouragement.

LEADER

You need to play well. You need to inspire teammates to play better. You set good examples of how to be a good teammate. You help, you teach, you encourage and you support your teammates. Always team first, not personal. Players look up to the leaders.

ROLES AND LEADERSHIP

EVERYONE CONTRIBUTES TO A GREAT TEAM

- | Everyone contributes to a great team.
- | Rookies can be leaders, but it's rare.
- | Leaders are in the position of handling the pressure roles of winning and losing.
- | Sometimes players do their assignments just to make the team play better.



Dee Rowe



GAME DAY

CRUNCH TIME

It will be the end of the game.
You have quick decisions. Failure means losing. Take the big shot. You are ready for the big time.

NEVER QUIT

It ain't over till it's over. I play until the end of the game no matter what happens.



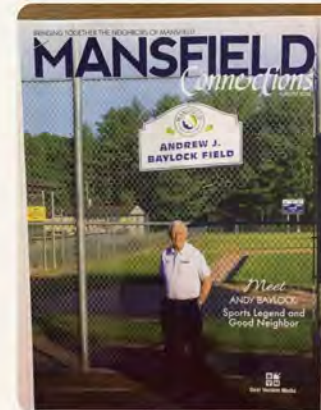
My favorite Husky, Vinnie Clements

TRASH TALK

Pay no mind.

THE 30-SECOND RULE

Complaining about calls, the weather, "it hurts," "not my fault": can't do that. You think about things for 30 seconds and then you let them go.



SHOW CONFIDENCE

You must show confidence on the practice field, during the game, and outside the lines.

We can never sulk or have negative or neutral body language. Accentuate the positive, eliminate the negative. Don't mess with the in-between.

As a coach, you have to show confidence in the boy who goes 4 for 4 or 0 for 4, and in the player who drops the winning touchdown pass, as much as anybody else on the team. Otherwise, they will always remember the negative.



IN THEIR WORDS

"YOU WILL ALWAYS BE COACH"

Dear Coach Andy, still do not feel comfortable calling you Andy; in my mind you will always be "Coach." Sorry I will not be able to make Thursday night as I will be on a family vacation. The event is well deserved and long overdue. Other than my parents, wife, children and brothers, I can't think of any person that has had a more profound positive effect on my life. Eighteen years old, freshman year, my father is dying and then dies; I would not have made it but for you. Throughout my life, I have often reflected on how fortunate I was to have you as a mentor and still attempt to follow the examples you set so many years ago. Congratulations and Godspeed.

Paul Gruner

Coach Baylock, I'd like to say that you are a true trailblazer of a man. True man of your word, you are truly the intricate key piece to the longevity of our brotherhood. Living legend!!! Respectfully.

Justin "Perk" Perkins, 2001-2004

Coach Baylock, you have been a great inspiration to me since I first met you when you recruited me back in 1966. I was called out of class to meet with you and my high school coach/teacher. I'll never forget your enthusiasm for UConn and how you bled blue even then. I was sold. You have led a charmed life and influenced 1000's of kids... and are still able to name them all, along with a little insightful story about them. Amazing! My favorite is Coach Toner buying you the best steak you ever had on your way back to Storrs after you guys came to my house. That was 57 years ago. I can't remember what I did yesterday. I am thankful for you being in my life, have and will continue to cherish our friendship.

Bobby Nichols '67-'70

Dear Coach Baylock, I think of you not just as a coach but as an outstanding friend, individual and representative of the University of Connecticut. While you coached the team you were always concerned with players as individuals. You made it a point to keep in touch with former athletes and have done so with me for more than 55 years. I am proud to know you, Andy Baylock.

Victor Kinon (Class of '68)

IN THEIR WORDS

"THE GLUE THAT HOLDS US TOGETHER"

Dear Coach B, always ready with a smile, you were one of the very first people I met when I started my UConn career in the Football Office back in 2004. You continuously were willing to share your vast knowledge of UConn Athletics, baseball, football, etc., and that helped me more than you know. Listening to your legendary stories made me the happiest and they stick with me still. Your stories are legendary, and so are YOU. Your kindness and generosity extend well beyond UConn. I can only imagine the thousands of lives you've touched. But I want you to know that you ARE UConn Athletics for me. The one constant in my past and present happy thoughts of UConn Football. Love you Coach, keep pitching.

Joanne Fazio

Coach, you have been one of the most inspirational and influential people in my life. I will always cherish our friendship. I can remember the first time I met you in 1964; you were bigger than life itself. You have continued to be a bigger-than-life role model for all those that were fortunate enough to come into contact with you. You have been responsible for many things in my life, from talking me into staying with the program, telling me about my first head coaching job at Plainfield High School when I returned from the Service, to teaching me how to study and live by a simple "To Do" list every day. However, the most important takeaway from you was learning how to treat people with respect, loyalty and a never-ending work ethic. We are all better people because of you, and we thank you for being the glue that holds the Football Alumni together. Tonight is our way of showing our love for you. Love.

Vin Iovino 1968



IN THEIR WORDS

"IS THAT BRIAN HERMES?"

Coach, I have always been astounded how great a coach you have been to so many for so long. No doubt you remember all the baseball and football players you had over the years. Your toughness and kindness know no bounds. You always seemed to get the most out of players by providing encouragement and excellent challenges. I never ever witnessed you belittle any player, anyone, ever. About eight years ago I happened to be at UConn, and I thought of visiting you. I had not seen you in many decades. The building was locked but a person let me in, and I went up to a secretary and asked if Coach Baylock was in. Instantly, down the hall you bellowed: "Is that Brian Hermes?" You jumped out of your room, we hugged, and then you took me on a grand tour of the new facilities. You are the best.

Brian Hermes, 1971

My Guy!!! Coach Baylock, you offered nothing but love to me since I met you for the first time ever at the age of 12 during Goaline, the program you ran that was major in my school and had a positive impact on my peers. Being blessed enough to follow my dreams and play for UConn through the years of 2018-2022, you were there side by side every day pouring nothing but positivity and wisdom on me every time we spoke. You lectured me on life, gave advice on my game and how to continue growing as a young man, and you told me things about East Hartford back in the day that I knew nothing about, which was always funny to hear. I can't thank you enough Coach, you are the epitome of UConn football. I love you and I'm grateful to have you as a resource in my life. Thank you coach, KK.

Kevon Jones, '18-'22



IN THEIR WORDS

"YOU ARE THE LEAD DOG, COACH"

Coach, I remember meeting for the first time and thinking, "Wow, this coach really does care about me. Can't let this guy down." I am confident you've had a direct impact on my success and can guarantee you've enlightened and enriched my life thoroughly in ways you may not realize. Your goal of molding young men on and off the field into men of character and work ethic was a triumph. I draw on lessons you've taught me daily and I still strive to never let you down! We are all Huskies and you are the lead dog, Coach! Thank you for all your time and efforts. I know you don't do anything for thanks but out of love for us as men; you deserve to know we love you too!

Ryan Griffin, '08

Coach Baylock, thank you for the love you have always shown me and all the players. You are one of the most genuine people that I have ever met and everyone you have touched at UConn has benefited so greatly from it. You treat every player like we are one of your sons. Thank you and we love you Coach B! "Nothing in this world is accomplished without passion."

Taber Small

Coach Baylock! The G.O.A.T. There is no UConn football without you. Thank you for all you have done over the years keeping the family connected. I always look forward to your phone calls and newsletters. You are the best! Thank you for everything! Love you, Coach!

Lou Allen III, '08

Coach Baylock, I got a lot of love for you and you are very appreciated. Ever since I stepped foot on this campus you have been nothing but great to me. You are truly our Husky Football Grandfather.

**Arkeel Newsome (ANewsome22),
2014-2017**



A LETTER TO COACH

"HE TRULY IS A STATE TREASURE"

Coach, my first recollection of you was in 1964 when you became a member of the UConn football staff. It was during preseason practice. Andy was working with me as I was learning to play a new position: offensive center. He showed me the correct stance to play center. He indicated that I'd know I was over the ball correctly when the sweat rolled off my nose and landed right in the middle of the football.

When I graduated, Andy played a major role in my future. Andy recommended that East Catholic High School hire me as a physical education instructor and assistant football coach. For that, I am forever grateful.

Over the years, it was impossible to attend a UConn football game, or many men's or women's basketball games, without seeing Andy in attendance.

Recently I was fortunate enough to go out to lunch with Andy in Narragansett, R.I. We reminisced about UConn and East Catholic High School, where Andy started the football program. I had to chuckle as Andy still remembered the words to the school song ("4 years together on the hill where fir trees meet the sky").

I feel blessed that Andy was so instrumental in my life. He truly is a State Treasure.

Cliff Demers 1965

EFFORT AND STANDARDS

HANDLE ADVERSITY

Handle adversity. Adversity isn't forever. Overcome it, grow from it. Without adversity and challenges, life would be empty. Life goes on; endure the tough times.

Relish today, forget the past and look forward to the future.

Constantly review your habits. Make sure you are moving forward, not backwards.

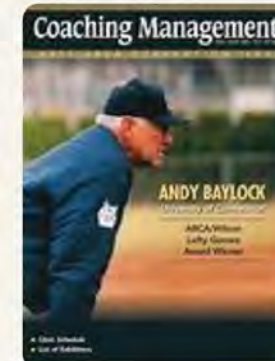
Set and uphold high standards. Do not accept lower performance from yourself.

The more you prepare and practice, the less you have to work on. You never give up. You never give up.

Doing the best you can, and looking back, you know you did your best. Success comes from extra effort.

Coach B, thank you for your ongoing support over the years, including your dedication to maintaining the camaraderie amongst the football alumni. There is no doubt that you are amongst the greatest in UConn athletics based on your achievements and continuous leadership. You deserve all the recognition coming your way!

Dan Cudgma



COACHES AND PLAYERS

FIRM, FAIR AND CONSISTENT

The greatest gift from a coach is a good example. Teach manhood, honesty, dedication, decency. Be a good family man. Sound values: no bending, no breaking the rules. Turn attention to the team.

Coaches must be firm, fair and consistent.

Players must be willing to accept honest criticism and teaching.

Make sure the players understand the decisions made are for the best of the team.

Provide growth through training, guidance, mentorship and teaching.



COACHES AND PLAYERS

BOTTOM LINE IS TRUST

Does the coach trust the player, and does the player trust the coach?

Tasks for a successful program: comment, commitment, concentration, and a big spoon to mix it all together.



Some words that I thought describe Andy. Andy Baylock: one of the finest human beings one is fortunate to come in contact with. He is a man of integrity, passion, humility, generosity, compassion, selflessness, and giving. Those are just some of the words that aptly describe Coach. Not only was Andy our Coach but he is a friend to all of us in every sense of the word. Coach, thanks for being you!

Gene Massa, 1972

WHAT WE EXPECT FROM EACH OTHER

What do players expect from coaches?

Respect, loyalty, discipline. Identifying weaknesses, cutting down on variables, identifying the best motivation to reach a consistent high. Poise, confidence, consistency. Responsibility, leading by example. Be ethical, be patient, be charismatic, be persistent, have perseverance. Sincerity, honesty, intensity, devotion, consistency, and always respect.



What do coaches expect from players?

- Be dependable
- Be accountable. No excuses
- Be ready to produce
- Concentration
- Attitude
- Dedication
- Competitive
- Poise
- Courage
- Know when you are hurt and when you are just tired
- Hustle
- Loyalty to the team
- Confidence in self
- Handle stress

COACHES AND PLAYERS

COACHES' GUIDELINES FOR PRACTICE

- 1 Be organized.** Well organized, detailed practices.
- 2 Have a plan.** Have a core idea of what you want to accomplish, long term and short term.
- 3 Evaluate personnel every practice.** Recap.
- 4 Share player evaluations with players.** Let them know what you think.
- 5 Teach.** Have new ideas each practice, and then add them to the base practice going forward.
- 6 Be fundamental.** Your team needs a solid foundation to work from, and fundamentals provide that. Running, throwing, whatever the role the player needs to do, make sure they're practicing it.
- 7 Give each drill a goal and a timeline.** Do not allow drills to drag on. That develops bad habits.
- 8 Communicate** with players off the field.



IN THEIR WORDS

"YOU'VE BEEN THE ROCK"

Coach Baylock, here I am 40 years old and still calling Coach, Coach. As loving and kind and selfless a person as I have been fortunate to be around. "What do you need? How can I help you? How great is this life? Who has it better than me/us?" Those were the things that always came from Coach Baylock and they always resonated with me because they always brought positivity in any and all situations. The storytelling could change any mood you're in and brought smiles and laughter to rooms always. Appreciate you Coach Baylock, you're a great man and a great UConn Ambassador!

Dan Orlovsky 2004

Coach Baylock, I truly appreciate all that you do for UConn football and keeping us alumni connected to the program. Through the years and program changes, you've been the rock to make UConn feel like home for us. Thank you.

Darbs #68, 2000

Dear Coach Baylock, I want to extend my sincere appreciation for all the memories you have provided all of us over the years. Your tireless efforts to build a UConn football community over the last fifty years are being recognized today in ways that only express the "tip of the iceberg" in emotions we collectively share with you. We all have been blessed to have had you in our life when it counted the most and for that I am eternally grateful. With gratitude.

Jim Sproul

Congratulations, Coach Baylock! Thank you for always supporting me throughout my time at UConn and after. I wish you nothing but the best. Thanks.

James Hargrave III, UConn 2002-2006

IN THEIR WORDS

"ONCE A HUSKY, ALWAYS A HUSKY"

Coach Andrew "Andy" Baylock, my eternal brother! I am honored and blessed to have you in my life! You are always in my prayers and thoughts due to your heavenly works! I remember during my unfortunate life-changing trials and tribulations at UConn you saw me at the Co-Op and said to me, "Christopher, you are and will always be family no matter what; once a Husky, always a Husky." That left an everlasting impression with me and is the main reason why I proudly chose to graduate from UConn in 2013 with my Bachelor of Arts in Communications. Andrew "Andy" Baylock, Jerry Martin, Randy Edsall, Darrell Perkins and the Lowrys (Dan Lowry and Lisa Leary-Lowry) will always be the valuable UConn Family members to me and that will never change! I hope I can make it to see you on August 31st! If not, sometime soon in 2023! I LOVE YOU TO THE MAXIMUM ANDY! GOD BLESS YOU WITH MORE LIFE, STAY BLESSED WITH SUCCESS! UNTIL I SEE YOU AGAIN!
#SUPER #ANGEL #KING #ANYTHINGISPOSSIBLE
#HOLYTRINITYVICTORY #BLEEDBLUE #GOHUSKIES #LOVEYOU

Christopher J. Andrade-Lopes

Coach B, you've been an inspiration to me from the moment I stepped foot on campus back in 2004. The countless meetings over the years just to see how I'm doing helped me make it through being homesick. Speaking to you and finding out the knowledge you had about my hometown blew me away. You've traveled all walks of life with sports. Your welcoming nature and caring attitude left a long-lasting impression on anyone that crossed paths with you. UConn has been blessed to have you a part of their University. You are one of a kind. Thank you for everything, my guy.

Ellis Gaulden, Tallahassee native, UConn Football / Track and Field athlete 2004-2009

A LETTER TO COACH

"EVERYTHING RIGHT WITH COLLEGE SPORTS"

My last season at UConn was in 2006, and many things have changed since then. The one thing that remains the same with UConn Football is Coach Baylock's presence. It's impossible to put into words how valuable he is to the program and adequately thank him for the positive impact he's had on thousands of athletes while at UConn and in their lives after their athletic careers end.

One of many things I admire about Coach Baylock is that he treats the All-American running back with the same level of respect as the walk-on trying to earn a spot on the team. Coach Baylock's memory is second to none. He will remember the high school you went to and will inevitably have a story about that school, town or head football coach.

Periodically Coach Baylock will leave me a voicemail. The most recent one was from January of '22. It is just over 2 minutes long. This message is an update on how things are with the program. The passion, energy and excitement in his voice are incredible. I have the message saved and listen to it periodically.

He embodies everything right with college sports. Coach B, thank you for selflessly giving your time to the program. Keep it up, we need you and appreciate you!

Matt Nuzie

A LETTER TO COACH

"A GENUINE UCONN LEGEND"

Coach Baylock, I wanted to take a moment to express my sincere gratitude and admiration for your remarkable contributions. Your name, Coach Andy Baylock, stands as a beacon of dedication, unwavering belief, and a lasting legacy that extends well beyond the world of sports.

Your unique ability to inspire teamwork, foster strong character, and ignite individual potential has left an indelible mark on all those who have had the privilege of learning from you. Your mentorship has not only impacted athletes on the field but has also resonated deeply with individuals from all walks of life.

Coach Baylock, your guidance and mentorship are truly a privilege. Your wisdom and encouragement continue to resonate in moments of challenge, motivating us to persevere and exceed our own expectations.

As we gather to honor you, it is with the utmost respect that we recognize your ongoing legacy as a genuine UConn Legend. Your unwavering dedication and inspirational leadership continue to shape our collective aspirations.

Coach B, your belief in the potential of every individual, coupled with the principles of teamwork and mentorship you have championed, will undoubtedly leave an indomitable legacy that carries forward, enriching the lives of countless others.

You are the BEST.

MOF (Marc Mofsowitz)

A LETTER TO COACH

"THE QUIET ITALIAN KID FROM NEWTON"

Dear Coach, every student I have taught and every athlete I have coached has a little Andy Baylock in them. You came into my life in 1966 as my freshman football and baseball coach and helped me build a strong foundation of leadership and academic skill. For the next three years on the varsity level, I continued to observe firsthand how well you treated people with respect and love. You have always been a great role model and I wanted, and still want, to be like you.

I will always remember the day you called me into your office and asked me, "Where did the quiet Italian kid from Newton go?" You took great pride in checking up on us all and fixing situations before they went off the rails.

One of the greatest compliments I ever received is when you asked me to babysit your children. I was honored that I had won your trust. In addition, you and Mrs. Baylock provided a Study Hall program that improved our study skills and grades. Also, your reference letter to the University of Michigan helped me secure a Fellowship. Receiving a copy of that letter from you, 53 years later, nearly brought me to tears.

I feel honored to join the many former athletes, families and friends whose lives you have touched and enriched. I take great joy telling "Coach Baylock" stories to the coaching classes I teach, and to the football players and wrestlers I have coached. Above all, I appreciate the outpouring of interest and love you continue to give us all.

Thank you, Coach. I love you.

John R. Passarini #33 (that quiet Italian kid from Newton)

A LETTER TO COACH

"YOU NEVER GAVE UP ON ME"

Coach B, I wanted to send this message to let you know how much of a big influence you were in my life and how much being part of the UConn baseball program helped to shape my life.

First, I wanted to thank you for always believing in me as a person. With my struggles my first two years, coming from a small town to a Division 1 program, it would've been easy to give up on me. However, you never did, and despite thinking my playing days at UConn might be over, you suggested I change my delivery and become the side-arm pitcher, which I embraced, and I ultimately ended up having a successful UConn career. Coach, I credit you for having that belief in me and thinking out of the box, and just wanted to thank you for that opportunity.

Secondly, I also wanted to thank you for instilling the ethics of hard work, being on time, and the importance of education. To this day, I still use some of the techniques that you taught us, including reading techniques involving reading the first and last sentence of a paragraph when reading a book, etc. Your instruction in time management, and your focus on our academic success, really helped me to be able to concurrently manage both playing baseball and successfully completing a physical therapy degree, as well as leading to a successful career in physical therapy after school.

Thanks again for everything and congratulations!

Chris Hayes "Haze-man"

A LETTER TO COACH, MAY 15, 2018

"ONE OF MY GREATEST LIFE EXPERIENCES"

Coach Baylock, I'm turning 68 this year and with it comes the anniversary of my high school graduation 50 years ago, but more importantly, it is the 50-year anniversary of my arrival at UConn.

I was selected to be in the "early arrival" group of freshman Husky Pups. That meant my first exposure to UConn was with 14 freshman teammates from all over the Northeast. I think this was a 2-week program before the rest of the freshman footballers and the rest of the freshman class joined us.

What I would like to express to you is that becoming part of the UConn freshman football team was one of the greatest and most memorable life experiences for me.

Teams normally are remembered for, and celebrate, winning. I was part of a state championship high school baseball team and I cherished that experience. We still have team reunions and celebrate our success. In high school, especially in a small town, everyone has shared and common experiences in growing up together. Most of the guys on our high school team played Little League and Babe Ruth on the same fields. We knew each other.

Getting to UConn to meet and team with 49 guys from different backgrounds, different cities and states was exposure to a new and different dynamic. Very few of us knew one another. Pulling the various personalities and characters together into a cohesive unit was a great credit to the coaching staff. That process got us all to know one another, support each other and find a way to get along with each other. That time and experience was not only memorable but was invaluable in my maturation into adulthood.

Coach, you have dedicated your career to UConn and continue to support the program. What I am trying to say is that, for me, even without lettering or finishing in the program, there are great memories of those times and especially my teammates and coaches.

Thank you for reaching out to me to become a Husky and all the support you gave to me in the program and continue to give, to every Husky, today. Best wishes.

Jim Briggs

Jim previously sent this message to Coach, as many of us have done through the years.

"THE TRUE DEFINITION OF A COACH"

Coach Baylock, throughout your life, you have demonstrated how much you truly love your players. We thank you for your patience and continued support. You've always been available to help us in our time of need. Your former players appreciate your thoughtfulness and are delighted to learn that Governor Lamont will be issuing you a proclamation from the State of Connecticut thanking you for your years of devoted and unselfish service to the students, faculty and administration of the University of Connecticut. What a truly awesome honor and accomplishment!!!

I want to extend my hearty gratitude to you, as my mentor and coach. I appreciate how much you've taught me and how you've helped further my education in Life. You are one of three people who made a profound impact on my life.

When I arrived at UConn during the fall of 1966, I was a young, socially unsophisticated youth from Danielson, Connecticut. Danielson, certainly, was not known as the cradle for the birthing of college football players. All the players who preceded me from Killingly High School, with the exception of Norm Chartier, became academically ineligible and their football careers ended. When I arrived on campus, I was determined to prove that I could become an academically sound and credible football player.

When I met you, Coach Baylock, I learned the true definition of a "Coach." You were an inspiration and a mentor to us as young men. You were the first coach I ever met who wasn't just interested in how each player could contribute to the team's success on the football field. You were interested in our success in becoming honorable, responsible and committed young men. For many of us, you were the first Christian man we met who "walked the talk." You taught us the importance of a college education. Though we had the privilege to play football, we had an even greater opportunity and responsibility to earn an education that would determine our success in life as businessmen, husbands, fathers and grandfathers.

You taught us how to study and properly allocate time during our busy days to prepare for our classroom responsibilities. During our first week, you gave us a mimeographed chart exhibiting all 24 hours in a day. I remember saying to myself, "WOW, there is a lot of time in a day. I can and will find the time I need to succeed in my studies." You also encouraged us to attend all our classes on a regular basis and to sit in the front row so all the professors knew who we were: that we were attentive and in attendance.

"COURAGE, SACRIFICE AND HUMILITY"

I was a freshman player who never made it to the finish line, or should I say "goal line." I was injured during our first freshman game at Boston University. As a result, I was never able to complete my aspirations to become a UConn Husky football player.

Though I did not meet my goals in becoming an accomplished football player during my college career, I used your lessons to become the President of the Class of 1970, President of ARCHONS Leadership Honor Society, President of the Yankee Conference Student Government Council, recipient of the University of Connecticut U.S. Congress Intern Scholarship, and received the honor of being the 1970 Killingly High School Commencement Speaker (the high school I graduated from four years earlier).

I also thank you for submitting a letter of recommendation for me to attend law school after my UConn college career.

I am now retired, but enjoyed a successful business career. The highlight being an expert witness for a U.S. Presidential National Leadership Commission on Health Care. Though I was a player for only a short period of time, I couldn't have come this far without your mentoring and fine example. You emphasized incorporating courage, sacrifice and humility into our character. I attempted to follow your teachings not only during college but throughout my adult life.

You not only positively impacted the lives of thousands of players; I am confident you also positively impacted the lives of many other non-players like me. These are the qualities of a true "COACH."

I thank you, Coach Baylock, for all you have done for me!!! Blessings to you and your family!!! With respect and admiration.

Wally Anderson, Class of 1970

The accolades and pictures were too many to include. I will say that the love that each demonstrated would surely embarrass Coach Baylock. As one of the players inspired by his tenure, I am glad to be able to say to Coach:

WELL DONE, COACH, AND THANK YOU

BLEED BLUE



At one of our alumni events Coach gave me this and said it was a Momma Bear creation. It hangs proudly in my house.