

JAYHAWKS AS MANAGERS IN MLB



ROB THOMSON

2022-Present

C • Sarnia, Ontario, Canada
Philadelphia Phillies

Playing/Coaching History

1982 – St. Clair County Community College (Mich.)
1983-85 – University of Kansas
1985-88 – Detroit Tigers (player)
1988-89 – Detroit Tigers (coach)
1990-2017 – New York Yankees
2018-Present – Philadelphia Phillies

KANSAS CAREER (1983-85)

- Played three seasons as a catcher at Kansas
- Highest single-season batting average in program history in 1984 (.443)
- Career .369 hitter (fifth-highest career batting average in program history)
- Career .570 slugging percentage (sixth-highest career slugging percentage in program history)
- Career .448 on-base percentage (ninth-highest career on-base percentage in program history)
- Led the team and Big Eight Conference in hits (70), doubles (18) and batting average (.443) in 1984
- Led the team in hits (58), doubles (16), batting average (.389), runs (41), home runs (9), RBI (43), slugging percentage (.678) in 1985
- Awarded the Gib Francis MVP Award in 1984 and 1985 as voted on by his teammates
- Honorable All-Big Eight Mention in 1984, missing the first team by one vote
- Played one year as St. Clair County Community College (Mich.) in 1982 before transferring to Kansas

COACHING/MANAGING CAREER (1988-Present)

- Led the Phillies to the 2022 World Series; National League Champions
- Interim tag removed from his title on October 10, 2022; given a two-year contract extension
- Named the interim manager for the Phillies on June 3, 2022 following the dismissal of Joe Girardi
- Named Phillies bench coach on December 5, 2017; also in charge of coordinating spring training
- Spent 28 years as member of the New York Yankees organization (1990-2017), including 10 on the major league coaching staff as the bench coach (2008, 2015-17) and 3rd base coach (2009-14)
- Stood in as manager for Girardi for three games in 2008, and was believed to be the first Canadian to manage or stand in to manage a major league game since 1934 (Pittsburgh's George "Mooney" Gibson)
- Went 1-2 in those games as manager, although the totals counted toward Girardi's managerial record
- Served as New York's major league field coordinator in 2007 after spending three seasons (2004-06) as a special assignment instructor
- Was named New York's director of player development in 2000, holding the position until his promotion to vice president of minor league development prior to 2003
- Moved into New York's front office as a field coordinator in 1998 after spending two seasons (1996-97) as 3rd base coach for Columbus (AAA)
- Spent the 1995 season as manager of Oneonta (A) in the New York-Penn League after spending five years (1990-94) as a coach in New York's minor league system
- Joined the New York Yankees organization in 1990 as a 3rd base coach for Fort Lauderdale (A)
- Represented Detroit at an MLB clinic in 1989
- Coached briefly in Detroit's minor league system during the 1988 season



MLB PLAYING CAREER (1985-88)

- Selected by Detroit in the 32nd round of the June 1985 draft
- Played four minor league seasons in Detroit's farm system from 1985-88
- Made it as high as Class A in the Tigers minor league system
- Played in 136 games as a catcher, 55 at 3rd base, four at 1st base and one each at 2nd base and pitcher

CANADA PLAYING CAREER

- Member of the 1984 Canadian Olympic team in Los Angeles
- Played for the Canadian National team in the 1981 World Friendship Series
- All-Canadian selection in 1980 and 1981



KANSAS

YEAR	SCHOOL	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	SB	AVG
1983	Kansas	29	91	9	19	1	0	0	7	1	.209
1984	Kansas	46	158	27	70	18	0	6	40	2	.443
1985	Kansas	50	149	41	58	16	0	9	43	2	.389
	CAREER	125	398	77	147	35	0	15	90	5	.369

MLB (DETROIT TIGERS)

YEAR	CLUB	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	SB	AVG
1985	Bristol	2	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000
	Gastonia	39	123	7	23	5	0	1	10	0	.187
1986	Gastonia	94	298	42	75	11	1	4	38	1	.252
	Lakeland	8	22	2	4	1	0	1	4	0	.182
1987	Lakeland	71	206	21	47	12	0	1	22	2	.228
1988	Lakeland	2	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000
	CAREER	216	661	72	149	29	1	7	74	3	.225