

Andrean Baseball Hall of Fame

On September 9, 2007 Andrean Baseball inducted 10 former players into the Andrean Baseball Hall of Fame. The following individuals represent the first set of players to be honored into the Hall of Fame. Here is a list and a biography of the first set of inductees.

Dave Pishkur – 1971 Graduate

Biography: Dave Pishkur was a member of Andrean's first baseball team in 1970. He played 2B and SS under Coach Nick Crnkovich. He played collegiate baseball at Purdue Calumet. In 1980 he took over as head coach of the Andrean Fifty Niners. He has coached 28 years at Andrean compiling a record of 659-226. Currently he has the second most victories of all active coaches in Indiana. In 2006 he was inducted into the Indiana High School Baseball Coaches Association Hall of Fame. During his reign as head coach his teams have won 18 sectionals, 7 regionals, 3 state finalists, 1 state runner up and 1 state championship in 2005.

Highlight: Selected as Indiana High School Coach of the Year in 2005.

Joe Plesac: 1979 Graduate

Biography: Joe was a three year letterman at Andrean High School. He played collegiate baseball at North Carolina State and was MVP in his freshman year. Joe was all ACC first team as a freshman and sophomore. After completing his junior year, Joe was the 28th player selected in the 1982 baseball draft by the San Diego Padres. Injuries shortened his opportunity to play professionally in the major leagues.

Highlight: Joe was the ace of Team USA prior to baseball being added as an Olympic sport.

Coach Pishkur on Joe Plesac: "Joe was a true student of the game with outstanding athletic ability and a great work ethic. Had he been injury free, Joe would have been an ace of some major league team.

Dan Plesac: 1980 Graduate

Biography: Dan was a two year letterman at Andrean High School. He followed his older brother Joe to North Carolina State University where he played for three years before being the 26th pick by the Milwaukee Brewers in 1983. Dan played 18 years in MLB with the Milwaukee Brewers, Chicago Cubs, Pittsburgh Pirates, Toronto Blue Jays, Arizona Diamondbacks and the Philadelphia Phillies. He is the Brewers career leader in ERA, games, saves and when he left 2nd in WHIP. He appeared in 1,064 games, ranking 4th in all-time appearances in baseball for pitchers. Dan is the analyst for the Chicago Cubs on Comcast Sports.

Highlight: Dan played in 3 MLB All-Star games while a member of the Milwaukee Brewers.

Coach Pishkur on Dan Plesac: "I watched Dan pitch his senior year in a sectional game and opposing players were excited about fouling off a pitch or putting the ball in play. Scoring a run was not an option. He had a tremendous career in Major League Baseball and has a bright future in broadcasting. He is always entertaining and insightful on Comcast Sports."

Dan Dakich – 1981 Graduate

Biography: Dan Dakich lettered two years at Andean while playing shortstop and pitching. His senior year hit .513 and was errorless at shortstop. He was a two-time MVP, two-time captain and won 14 games as a pitcher in 2 years. He held the career batting average at Andean for 25 years at .457. He went on to play collegiate basketball at Indiana University under the legendary Bob Knight. He was able to play his senior year on the Indiana baseball team.

Highlight: Held Michael Jordan to less than 10 points in his last game at North Carolina helping the Indiana Hoosiers advance in the NCAA tournament in 1984 by a stunning victory over the #1 rated Tar Heels.

Coach Pishkur on Dan Dakich: “Dan was the ultimate competitor no matter what sport he participated in. He was at his best when the game was on the line. He truly is one of the greatest players I ever coached as well as a close friend.”

Bill Mueller – 1981 Graduate

Biography: Bill was a 3 year letterman, a team captain and a force as a catcher while at Andean. After graduating he went on the star at Indiana University lettering all four years. Bill was an all-Big Ten selection and held the Indiana University record in home runs and doubles in a season and career after graduating. He signed with the St. Louis Cardinals and played one year of professional ball before going back to Indiana as a graduate assistant. He was the head coach at The University of the Ozarks in Arkansas from 1996 -2000.

Highlight: Bill won the coveted L.G. Balfour award in the 1983-84 season for bringing honor and distinction to Indiana University in Baseball.

Coach Pishkur on Bill Mueller: “Bill was a throwback to how the game was supposed to be played. He was a hard nosed player to say the least. He was an outstanding catcher with a good arm and power. He was a pleasure to coach.”

Tom Richter: 1985 Graduate

Biography: Tom was a four year letterman at Andean High School becoming the 1st freshman pitcher under coach Pishkur. Tom holds the distinction of being Andean’s first North/South All-Star participant. Tom was a team captain, the best pitcher in 1985 and is the record holder in starts in a career, strikeouts in a career and appearances in a season. Tom went on the pitch and letter all four years at Purdue University.

Highlight: Tom defeated #4 ranked in the country St. Rita 2-1 in high school then defeated #4 ranked in the country, University of Michigan 5-2 while at Purdue.

Coach Pishkur on Tom Richter: “Tom got better and better each and every year while at Andean. His senior year he turned into a classic power pitcher with a great slider. When he was on the mound during his senior year the opposition was going to have a difficult time beating us.”

Kevin Wolf: 1986 Graduate

Biography: After a very mediocre sophomore year Kevin burst on the scene his junior year by hitting a record 10 home runs in a season. The 10 home runs still stands as an Andean record 23 years later. Kevin was a three year letterman and served as a team

captain. Kevin participated in the North/South All-Star game his senior year at Highland Park in Kokomo. Kevin's name appears in the Andean record book a total of 9 times. Highlight: Kevin hit three home runs in one game against Griffith in 1985 in route to an 8-2 victory over the Panthers at Andean High School

Coach Pishkur on Kevin Wolf: "Kevin was a tremendous all around ball player. Kevin was an outstanding center fielder, had a good arm, ran well and hit for power. On top of all of that he was the ultimate team player. Kevin made the people around him and the team better."

Shawn Lemmons: 1991 Graduate

Biography: Shawn Lemmons was a 4 year letterman for the Andean baseball team. He holds the single season batting average when in 1990, his junior year he hit an unbelievable .604. He also is the single season and career walk leader. Shawn was the team MVP his junior year and was the team captain for two years. He was able to land himself on the Indiana All-State team as well. He went on to be a 3 year starter at Valparaiso University where he was a captain and earned all-conference accolades.

Highlight: Shawn became the first Andean baseball player to earn a scholarship to play in the prestigious Big 8 conference when the University of Missouri gave him the opportunity to play baseball for the Missouri Tigers.

Coach Pishkur on Shawn Lemmons: "Shawn was one tough son of a gun on the baseball diamond. In his junior year his brother Rob and he collided in the 1st inning of the championship game in the Fort Wayne Invitational. Rob had punctured his lung and was sent to the hospital. Meanwhile Shawn playing with a slight concussion and blurred vision went on to go 5-5 helping Andean win the tournament."

Brian Houdek: 1997 Graduate

Biography: Truly one of the elite ball players not only at Andean but in history of Northwest Indiana. Brian was The Times Player of the Year, a North/South All-Star, 1st Team All-State, Team MVP and Best Pitcher. He has several pitching records; starts in a season, complete games in a season, innings pitched in a season, strikeouts in a season and wins in a season. He holds such offensive records as sacrifices in a season and career and game winning RBI in a season and career. Remarkably, Brian did not strike out one time in over 100 at bats in his senior year. He was a 4 year starter at Western Kentucky as a pitcher/infielder and played professionally for the Gary Railcats, Fargo Redhawks and Cook County Cheetahs. He was the starting pitcher in the all-star game when a member of the Cook County Cheetahs.

Highlight: Brian struck out the first 14 batters he faced in the opening game against St. Lawrence his senior year. Brian defeated #1 LaPorte and 1st round pitcher Chris Bootcheck 4-1 in the 1997 semi-state game at Loeb Stadium.

Coach Pishkur on Brian Houdek: "The most dominating pitcher in the history of Andean baseball. Brian was a superb ball player, very confident and a tremendous competitor."

Luke DeBold: 1998 Graduate

Biography: Luke not only was a very good baseball player but happened to be the class valedictorian as well. Luke was the Most Valuable Pitcher for the Niners in 1998. Luke threw a no-hitter against F.W. Concordia, only an error prevented him from a perfect

game. He is the All-Time Slugging Percentage Leader at Andean. Luke went on to play for perennial power Miami of Florida Hurricanes after graduating from Andean. During his four years as a reliever, Miami won two National Championships. Luke had one stretch his senior year where he pitched in 13 consecutive games for the Canes.

Highlight: Luke is the all-time career appearance leader as a pitcher for the Miami Hurricanes.

Coach Pishkur on Luke DeBold: "As great as student Luke was and with many of Ivy League schools that coveted him, Luke was a ball player and wanted to play at the highest level. When talking to Coach Morris from Miami at The National Convention I was told that Luke would some day play in the major leagues. Unfortunately, Luke had to undergo Tommy John surgery and his career was cut short. Luke is now going to med school and will be very successful some day."

Andean's exciting 2008 Baseball Schedule

Many new things begin in the 2008 Andean High School baseball season. First of all Andean enters a new conference with the arrival of the Northwest Crossroads Conference replacing the old Lake Athletic Conference.

The NCC has seven teams: Andean, Griffith, Highland, Hobart, Kankakee Valley, Lowell and Munster. Every team will play a double round robin home and away schedule.

The old conference called for 14 regular season games and 4 conference tourney games totaling 18 games. The new and improved format has a total of 12 games. The additional 6 games has now allowed Andean the freedom to expand from Northwest Indiana to across Indiana.

In 2008 Andean will travel to Indianapolis on April 25 and 26 to play in the Brebeuf Jesuit Preparatory Classic. Teams include host Brebeuf and 2007 undefeated state champion Norwell Knights. The following weekend the niners travel to Fort Wayne for the Elmhurst Tourney with a field of Leo, Elwood and Elmhurst. The 2009 schedule has Andean playing in the prestigious Carmel Invitational as well. With many of the Andean baseball player's desire to continuing their careers at the collegiate levels this exposure certainly enhances their opportunities to be seen throughout the state of Indiana.

Andean's non conference opponents outside Northwest Indiana include Marian Catholic and Lemont from Illinois, Penn, Northwood and South Bend Clay from Indiana. There are plans in the making to play the Northwood game at Coveleski Stadium in South Bend

and Lemont at Jackhammers Stadium in Joliet. Playing quality opponents outside the region is always exciting for the players and fans alike.

Indianapolis Cathedral and Andean have been talking to attempt to play each other on a regular basis. Victory Field in Indianapolis and St. Joseph College in Rensselaer have been two venues discussed in possible sites in alternate years.

Saturday	March 29	Gavit	H	11:00 a.m.
Tuesday	April 1	Hammond Clark	H	4:30 p.m.
Saturday	April 5	Penn	A	11:00 a.m.
Tuesday	April 8	LOWELL	A	4:30 p.m.
Thursday	April 10	GRIFFITH	A	4:30 p.m.
Saturday	April 12	Chesterton	A	11:00 a.m.
Monday	April 14	KANKAKEE VALLEY	H	4:30 p.m.
Tuesday	April 15	Marian Catholic	A	4:30 p.m.
Wednesday	April 16	Bishop Noll	H	4:30 p.m.
Friday	April 18	HIGHLAND	H	4:30 p.m.
Tuesday	April 22	MUNSTER	A	4:30 p.m.
Thursday	April 24	HOBART	H	4:30 p.m.
Friday	April 25	Brebeuf Classic	A	TBA
Saturday	April 26	Brebeuf Classic	A	TBA
Monday	April 28	LOWELL	H	4:30 p.m.
Wednesday	April 30	GRIFFITH	H	4:30 p.m.
Friday	May 2	KANKAKEE VALLEY	A	4:30 p.m.
Saturday	May 3	F. W. Elmhurst Tourney	A	TBA
Tuesday	May 6	Hanover Central	H	4:30 p.m.
Wednesday	May 7	Lemont	H	4:30 p.m.
Thursday	May 8	HIGHLAND	A	4:30 p.m.
Monday	May 12	MUNSTER	H	4:30 p.m.
Wednesday	May 14	HOBART	A	4:30 p.m.
Friday	May 16	Portage	H	4:30 p.m.
Tuesday	May 20	Merrillville	A	7:00 p.m.
Thursday	May 22	Northwood	A	4:30 p.m.
Friday	May 23	S. B. Clay	H	5:00 p.m.
Monday	May 26	SECTIONALS		TBA
Tuesday	June 3	REGIONALS		TBA
Saturday	June 7	SEMI-STATE		TBA
Saturday	June 14	STATE		TBA

BOLD TEAMS ARE CONFERENCE GAMES

Andrean vs. Griffith top rated Regional Game in the state in 2007.

The IHSAA shared its recent summary from the 2007 State Tourney Series. The total profit from the 2007 series was \$353,360.55 which was up more than \$138,000.00 from 2006. The best Regional was at Andrean with 1,162 attending netting a profit of \$4,979.00. The game was a classic with Andrean defeating Griffith by the score of 7-3.

2007 baseball summary

Vs. Gavit	W 10-0
Vs. Clark	W 7-0
Vs. Highland	W 4-2
Vs. Marian Catholic	W 9-2
Vs. Bishop Noll	W 16-5
Vs. Lowell	W 7-0
Vs. Chesterton	W 9-2
Vs. Munster	W 9-6
Vs. Griffith	L 6-7
Vs. Kankakee Valley	W 10-3
Vs. Kokomo	W 7-4
Vs. Hobart	W 17-5
Vs. Highland	W 4-0
Vs. Bishop Noll	L 2-3
Vs. Brebeuf Jesuit	W 7-1
Vs. Anderson	L 2-5
Vs. Norwell	L 2-9
Vs. Lowell	W 12-1
Vs. Munster	L 1-2
Vs. Griffith	L 2-4
Vs. Kankakee Valley	L 7-10
Vs. Hobart	W 11-5
LAC TOURNEY	
Vs. Calumet	W 18-0
Vs. Morton	W 8-4
Vs. Munster	L 3-5
Vs. Kankakee Valley	L 7-14
Vs. Merrillville	W 13-2
Vs. South Bend Clay	W 11-2
Vs. Penn	W 3-1
Sectionals	
Vs. Lew Wallace	W 17-0
Vs. Kankakee Valley	W 6-4
Vs. Roosevelt	W 17-0
Regionals	

Vs. Griffith W 7-3
Semi-State
Western W 5-0
Norwell L 1-4

Post Season Awards

Team Captains

2008 – Jeff Strbjak, Adam Norton

Team Indiana

2007 – Adam Norton

MVP

2006 – Joe Mack

2007 – Mike Arvin

All- State

2007 – Mike Arvin

Best Pitcher

2006 – Kellen Mackin

2007 – Carl Chambers, Chris DeGuilio

Collegiate Players

Pitchers

2007 Carl Chambers – John Logan College

2007 Chris DeGuilio – Valparaiso University

All-Time Roster

Arvin, Michael '07

Cera, Joe '07

Chambers, Carl '07

DeGuilio, Chris '07

Mackin, Kellen '07

Reardon, Eddie '07