

Andy Peterson

St. Louis Park

2018 MVP

Class A

In his own words: Our 2018 championship journey began during the 2017 state tournament. We had a phenomenal ball club that was confident we would win a state title. Our team won the Riverview League, so we were able to have a first round bye in the state tournament. As one of the four #1 seeds, we ended up getting upset in our first game of the state tournament by Rosetown. Even though we were one loss away from elimination, we were confident we would be playing for a state title. We fought our way back to the final two teams of the tournament, where we needed to beat our rivals from Riverview, Minnetonka, two times in order to be champions. We beat them 4-3 in the first game in order to force a winner-take-all game. We jumped up to a massive lead in game number two. Ultimately, Tonka clawed their way back into the game and ended up defeating us 11-9 in the end. Our whole team could not believe we were so close, and could not close it out.

Fast forward to the 2018 season. The entire squad was lights out. Our offense put up massive numbers, our pitchers shut everyone down, and our defense made every play look easy. We knew going into the 2018 state tournament that this was the year we were going to hoist the trophy.

Our dominance continued in the state tournament. In the first 4 games of the state tournament, our team went 4-0 beating Baseball 365 (13-1), St. Paul Capitals (10-6), Stockmen Irish (12-5), and Lyon's Pub (6-3). Andy Davis and myself went 3-0 pitching for us in that stretch. I knew that I was getting the ball on Championship Sunday where the team we would face would have to beat us twice. We weren't going to let that happen.

We found out that we would be playing Lyon's Pub in the championship game. It was a pitchers' and defensive duel throughout the entire game. Both teams were getting a few runners on base, but the pitching and defense were able to shut each other down in the end.

We were the home team, and the score was tied 0-0 heading into the bottom of the 5th inning. The top of the lineup came in clutch driving in two runs for us to take a 2-0 lead. I knew that was all the runs I would need because I was not going to let Lyon's Pub score on me twice. I knew that I needed to shut them down in the sixth to keep our momentum going. They ended up squeezing in a run that half inning to cut the lead down to one. I ended up throwing a total of 7 innings that day and left the game with us leading 2-1. I knew I had given it everything I could for our team to win. George Jensen was able to come in to pitch the final 2 innings of the game for us, and sealed the deal. We beat Lyon's Pub 2-1 and went a perfect 5-0 in the tournament. We were officially state champions.



- Andy Peterson, St. Louis Park, 2018
- Pitcher
- Pitched 13 innings
- Won two games
- Struck out eight
- Posted a tournament ERA of 3.40



The heartbreak loss we had in the championship the year before had fueled everyone to leave it all on the field and win a title for SLP."

