

Al Stigman

Perham

1966 MVP



In his own words: The only thing I remember is from the region to when we won the State Tournament, I struck out 56 guys. I had to miss one game, Perham played Bluffton and they were behind. If we had lost to Bluffton in the region that would have been the end of it. But they come back and beat them 11-12. I had to work that Sunday in the milk plant. I pitched three games and hit three home runs I think. I got drafted by a lot of teams through the years, Verndale, Fergus Falls, Deer Creek and if we didn't win, I got drafted.

The tournament that year was in Belle Plaine. I played until I was 66 years old in the old-farts league. My arm is sure shot now, I tell you that. My brother Dave just passed away and he was 82 and he pitched for us too. Dave and I did a lot together, picked wild rice and a lot of other things. The final game Jerry Vandermay was a hell of a pitcher and he has a record in the state of striking out the most guys at one time—15 in a row. He pitched the final for us against Brownston. He was young, he was quite a bit younger than me but he had a curve ball that nobody could really hit.

In the ninth inning Gerry Hochsprung, their best hitter came up and they brought me in. I had pitched the afternoon game. I had a blister on my finger from throwing the curveball, and I suppose he—left-handed batter and I was a left-handed pitcher—I suppose he thought he was going to get a curveball from me and I threw him a fastball and it tailed in on his hands. He swung and I can still hear him go, “ow, ow, ow.” He hit a ground ball to Buck Burgau, he was the coach at Concordia, then he threw it to his dad for the final out. That was the ballgame. We won the State Tournament!



- Al Stigman, Perham, 1966
- Pitcher
- Won two games and saved two games
- Pitched 20.2 innings
- Allowed only two runs on nine hits
- Struck out 32
- Had a tournament ERA of 0,.87



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