

Indiana High School Athletic Association

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Blake Ress, Commissioner

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ANDREAN ROLLS TO FIRST BASEBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

After two years of falling short, Andrean left no doubt in its third consecutive appearance in the state finals as the 59ers rolled to a 10-1 victory over Evansville Memorial in the 3A state championship game at Loeb Stadium in Lafayette.

Coach Dave Pishkur's top-ranked team (33-2) won the last 15 games of its campaign after finishing as the runner-up in 2004 and falling in the Friday semifinals in 2003.

Andrean wasted no time getting on the board busting loose for a state championship game record 10 runs in the first inning. Remarkably, all 10 were unearned and came with two outs. Junior first baseman Joe Mack's three-run double to right center field made it 8-0 and senior shortstop Tommy Finn's two-run homer to left center made it a 10-run advantage. In addition to those plays, Andrean managed two more doubles and three walks in the inning.

Memorial (21-13), coached by Quentin Merkel, picked up its lone run of the game in the top of the second inning. Junior shortstop Ben Griggs reached on a fielder's choice and picked up the RBI when Patrick Stone scored from third. Stone had singled to left to lead off the inning, advanced to second on a fielding error and then went to third on another fielder's choice.

Andrean senior pitcher Steve Augsburger, who collected the victory to finish 8-1 on the mound, also led the team in hitting going 2-for-3 with two RBI and a run scored. Finn also scored twice for his team's cause and knocked in three runs.

Evansville Memorial was playing in the state finals for the 11th time in school history but came up short in its bid for its fourth state championship. Gibbs and Stone both went 2-for-3 at the plate to lead the Tigers.

Andrean's Finn Named Winner of L.V. Phillips Mental Attitude Award

Andrean High School senior shortstop Tommy Finn is the 2005 Class 3A L. V. Phillips Mental Attitude Award winner as selected by members of the IHSAA Executive Committee.

Finn is a two-sport standout who helped Andrean to its first-ever state championships in football and baseball in 2004-05. Finn is an all-state performer in baseball, setting a school record for doubles with 28. Heading into Saturday's championship game, Finn was batting .495 with 53 hits, 43 runs, 31 RBI, and nine doubles.

In football, Finn led the state with 3,380 yards passing in 2004, helping the 59ers knock off previously-unbeaten Heritage Hills in the championship game at the RCA Dome. He played baseball, football, and basketball all four years at Andrean.

Finn graduated with an Honors Degree. He is a National Honor Society student who served as a tutor, a retreat leader, and an Andean Ambassador.

Tommy excels through his efforts both on and off the athletic field, says Andean principal Father Paul E. Quanz. He represents very well the values and goals of the IHSAA as an athlete and a scholar.

Finn will attend Northwestern University on a baseball scholarship, majoring in business. He is the son of William and Sandra Finn.

Indiana Farm Bureau Insurance, the corporate partner of the IHSAA, presented a \$1,000 scholarship to Andean High School in the name of Tommy Finn.