

Frank Slezak



After an All-Intercity baseball star at Omaha Creighton Prep, Slezak went to Creighton University and started on the Jays' teams that included Hall of Famer Bob Gibson.

In 1955, CU athletic director and baseball coach Due Belford signed Slezak to a contract with the Brooklyn Dodgers. For the next two years, he played third base for the Dodgers' minor league team in Thomasville, Ga.

After returning to Omaha and a business career at Mutual of Omaha, Slezak embarked on a 39-year fast pitch softball career. For 30 years, he started at shortstop or first base for Westside Chapel, one of Omaha's most storied men's fast pitch programs.

Slezak played on 35 league and 10 city championship teams and competed in 23 regional tournaments. He was named most valuable player of his Westside Chapel teams a number of times and, in addition, joined an Omaha All Star team that competed against the famous Clearwater (Fla.) Bombers.