

## District 3



**Doug Loudon, athletic director (retired), Forest Park**

Doug Loudon completed 21 years as athletic director at Forest Park High School in June 2023, where he was highly regarded for his leadership and organization skills. At Forest Park, he oversaw a 19-sport program that captured four state championships during his tenure – two in Class 2A boys' basketball (2005 and 2006) and two more in Class 2A girls' basketball (2022 and 2023).

The school's lone individual state champion during his time was Rachel Mehringer, a three-time blue-ribbon winner in the girls' track 100-meter hurdles. The Rangers also produced five Mental Attitude Award winners during Loudon's time in charge – Mehringer in girls' track (2023) as well as Tim James in boys' basketball (2006), Collin Hochgesang in boys' basketball (2018), Grace Fleck in girls' basketball (2022) and Amber Tretter in girls' basketball (2023) – as well as three Indiana All-Stars in basketball in Brandon Hopf (2006), Clint Hopf (2007) and Tretter (2023).

Loudon, a 1987 graduate of Fort Wayne Elmhurst High School, was an outstanding athlete himself. He was recognized as the 1987 Indiana/Gatorade Player of the Year in baseball and was selected by the Milwaukee Brewers in the 31st round (798th overall) in the '87 Major League Baseball Draft.

That came after he helped the Trojans to four sectional titles (1984, 1985, 1986 and 1987) and two regional crowns (1985, 1987) as a right-handed pitcher. He went 8-2 with three saves for a 25-7 squad as a senior, striking out 102 batters and walking just 17. He also played three seasons of basketball in addition to the four seasons of baseball.

He turned down professional baseball and went to Indiana State University. There, he went 3-2 with two saves and 41 strikeouts in 61.1 innings over two seasons before suffering a career-ending shoulder injury in the latter part of his sophomore season. Still, he went on to earn a bachelor's degree in physical education from ISU in 1992.

After college, Loudon worked in sales from 1993-96 and at a distribution warehouse from 1996-2001. He then entered education-based athletics as the athletic director at Forest Park beginning in the 2002-03 academic year.

Loudon and his wife, Yvonne, are parents to two adult children – Shelby and Emma.