

Ledell Lowe
Men's Slow Pitch Softball

These days, transfers in sports have become common. Around 40 years ago, in the mid-1980s, the city of Memphis softball community picked up quite possibly its most important transfer — Ledell Lowe. It was then that Ledell, a top player on the national circuit of men's slow pitch softball, moved to the Bluff City in 1985 when his job transferred him. And since then, Ledell has made his mark in the softball arena that continues even today.

After a semi-pro baseball stint, Ledell started his career with International Paper out of Atlanta in 1980. At the same time, he began playing Elite Softball, which fed Ledell's competitive fire. He traveled across the nation to play in tournaments weekend after weekend. In his seven seasons prior to Memphis, Ledell hit nearly 1,000 home runs and batted over .650 in each campaign. He helped lead his teams to numerous championships, and Ledell earned his way on several all-tournament teams.

It was his job transfer with International Paper that brought his softball skills to Memphis. He joined the Riverside Softball organization in 1985 and was still swinging the bat for Riverside last year. In his 40-year career with Riverside, Ledell has played in more than 600 games, has hit 800 home runs and posted a .700 batting average. Ledell helped lead Riverside to the pinnacle of the softball world when the 2009 won the BASA National Championship. He was named the tournament MVP and was selected to the all-tournament squad. A year earlier, Riverside was the BASA national runner-up.

In 2002, Ledell joined a second Memphis organization, Monster Softball, and has played with them up to last year. He's appeared in more than 500 games for Monster Softball and hit 600 home runs and batted .700. During his time with Monster Softball, Ledell has been named tournament MVP twice and selected to four all-tournament teams.

Prior to his softball career, Ledell played baseball in high school and college. At Fairhope High School in Alabama, Ledell was a three-year starter at first base and earned conference regional all-star honors. In 2005, Ledell was named to Fairhope's Athletic Hall of Fame. After his prep career, he moved on to the college ranks where he first played at Faulkner State Community College for two years and then at South Alabama. A two-year starter for the Jaguars, he hit 12 home runs while playing at first base. *Each Ed's Strakey*

Following his junior season, Ledell was drafted by the Pittsburgh Pirates, but did not sign as his mother wanted him to earn his degree. After his senior campaign, he signed as a free agent with the Atlanta Braves and played two seasons with their affiliate in Kingsport, Tennessee.

Please welcome to the Hall of Fame, for men's slow pitch softball — Ledell Lowe.