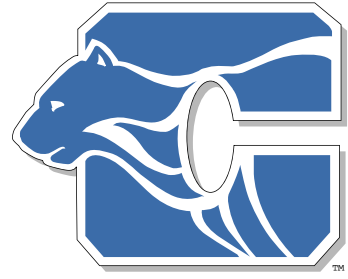


Local sports

Season preview | Rochester, Austin baseball



CENTURY

Head coach: J.D. Bickle, rookie.
Assistant coaches: Scott Hayungs, Brad Yetzer, Mike Valentin, Dave Haines, Ed Miller and Jeff Brown.
Last season's record: 9-13 overall, 8-8 in Big Nine Conference.
Postseason results: Went 1-2, eliminated by Northfield in Section 1AAA pool play.
Who's gone: Matt Sturchio, Mitch Gade and Kainoa Gathje.
Top returners: Jordan Jasik, Riese Zmolek, Darryl Martin, Nick Smith, Erik Thorvilson and Ross Luinenburg.

Other returning letter-winners: Josh Bakken, Ryan Goll, Josh Newman, Tyler Gathman, Brandon Knapp and Nick Pearson.

Newcomers expected to make an impact: Many new players competing for playing time.

Strengths: Lots of returning experience, team speed, competitiveness.
Weaknesses: Still young, unproven pitching depth.

Where they fit in conference/section race: Despite youth, should compete for top spot in Big Nine and a spot in the 1AAA Final Four.

Keys to success: Improved defense and developing pitching depth.

Coach Bickle's thoughts: "We have many returning starters who are eager to improve upon last season. We must improve defensively and in our pitching depth if we are to compete in a very challenging Big Nine Conference and Section 1AAA."



Zmolek



Martin

1B/OF/P Sam Moen (versatile, can hit), P Jackson Miller (worked hard on pitching in offseason), Brady Boysen and Logan Saltou (versatile, may help at several positions).

Strengths: Good defense, pitchers who throw strikes.

Weaknesses: Need better defense from the outfield.

Where they fit in conference/section race: Can compete with all the top teams. Must improve across the board from last year to return to Final Four.

Keys to success: Throwing strikes and playing defense.

Coach Heiderscheit's thoughts: "We have a bunch of guys that really like baseball. They work hard, and they played well last summer and got to the Legion state tournament and played competitive baseball against good teams. We have lost some good guys from the team last spring, so we will see how they step into new roles this season. We have some good young players that will compete for spots. The conference and region look improved this year, so we will have to be ready to go as soon as things dry up outside."

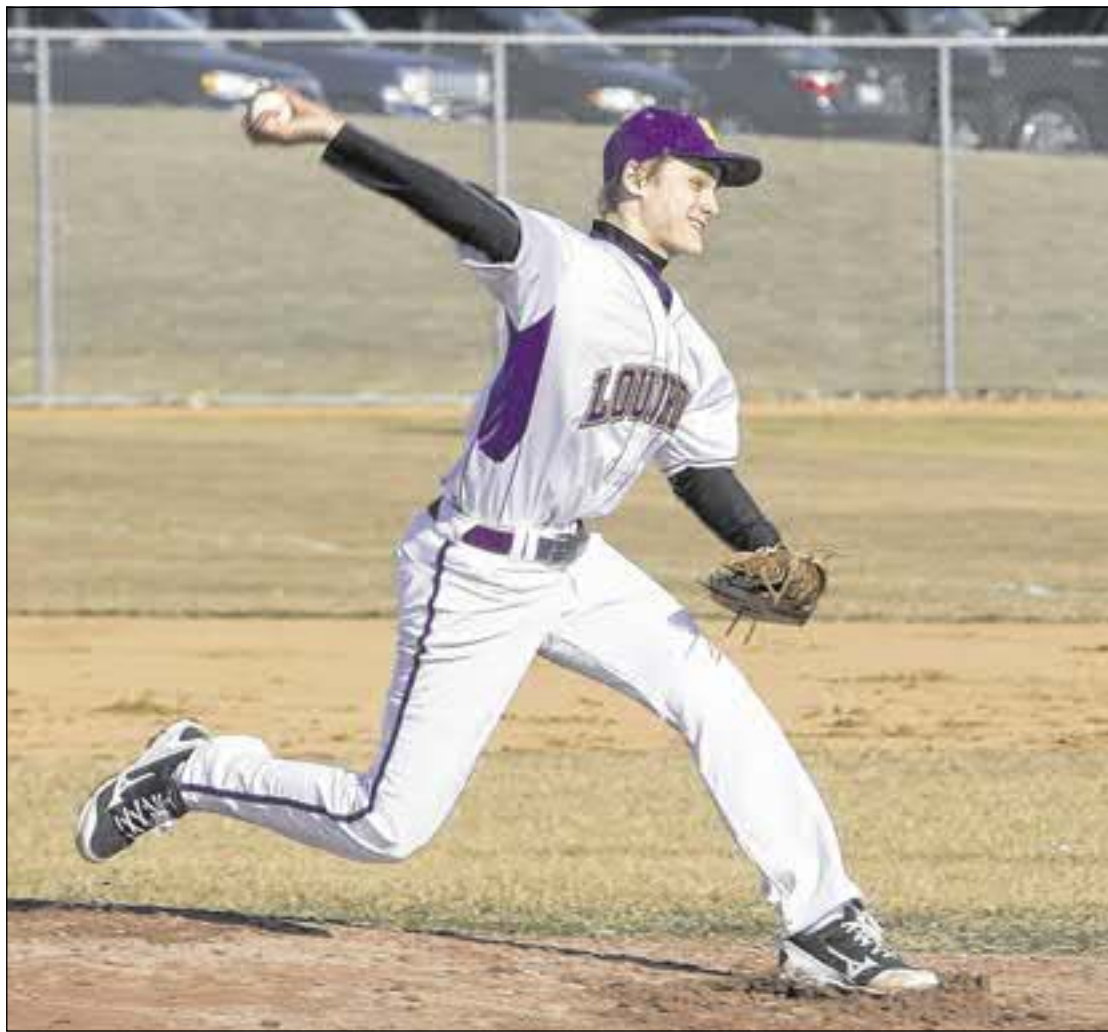
ROSTER

Seniors — Patric Sadecki, Zach Schweiters, Logan Taylor, Kaeleb Stangler, Jason Reike and Sam Broman. **Juniors** — Dakota Maker, Jake Halverson, Jake Dravis, Paul Cyr, Jon Boehm, Grant Heller, Jackson Miller, Taylor Tynsky, Sam Moen, Sam Steiff, Brady Boysen and Curran Hansen. **Sophomores** — Logan Saltou and Alex Welder.

SCHEDULE

(Home games at John Adams Middle School unless noted.)

- April 8 — MAYO, 5 p.m.
- April 10 — FARIBAULT, 5 p.m.
- April 11 — DULUTH EAST, 5 p.m.
- April 15 — at Albert Lea, 5 p.m.
- April 17 — MANKATO WEST, 5 p.m.
- April 19 — at Century, 11 a.m.
- April 22 — MANKATO EAST, 5 p.m.
- April 24 — at Winona, 5 p.m.
- April 25 — at Holmen, Wis., 4:30 p.m.
- April 29 — OWATONNA (2), 4 p.m.
- May 1 — at Faribault, 5 p.m.
- May 3 — at Mayo, 4 p.m.
- May 6 — ALBERT LEA, 5 p.m.
- May 8 — at Mankato West, 5 p.m.
- May 10 — CENTURY, 11 a.m.
- May 13 — at Mankato East, 5 p.m.
- May 15 — WINONA, 5 p.m.
- May 17 — at Austin (2), 4 p.m.
- May 22 — 1AAA tournament begins, TBD



Scott Jacobson / sjacobson@postbulletin.com

Lourdes senior Michael Brandt was one of the top pitchers in the Hiawatha Valley League last season when the Eagles won 19 games and lost in the Section 1AA finals to Kasson-Mantorville. Brandt's return is one reason Lourdes is a favorite again in the HVL and section.

be better this year and will play better defense throughout the year. Tommy Hanson is coming off a wrist injury and has not been able to throw and work out yet this spring. He is one of our key guys on the hill. He had an excellent summer. John Lundquist and Jay Alston have great potential to be top-level high school pitchers, and their development also will be a huge key for our success. I just expect Jackson and Brad to have great senior seasons; they are all-state caliber players and will need to be our leaders. Bailey Kazeck, Michael Michalak, Zach Robertson and David Brust anchored the middle part of our order, and we need them to be run producers for us this year. The kids have been great at practice and focused on getting better every day. They know that last season's great run at the end of the year means nothing this year. We have tried to use last year's stinging loss to Minnetonka in the state quarterfinals as motivation to stay focused, relaxed and to understand that baseball is a unique game that ain't over till it's over! They are improving constantly and are becoming very good baseball players. Our goal again this year will be simple: to figure things out as the season progresses, to continually improve, and to be playing our best baseball at the end of the year."

ROSTER

Seniors — Jerry Brownell, Jackson Douglas, Sam Gunnarson, Tommy Hanson, Ethan Kaese, Bailey Kazeck, Jordan Korte, John Lundquist, Brad Mathiowetz, Alex Riles and Evan Thielen. **Juniors** — Jay Alston, Tyler Bigalk, David Brust, Alex Engbrecht, Michael Michalak, Zach Robertson and Brady Schliem. **Sophomores** — Jared Campbell and Michael Stubbs

SCHEDULE

(Home games at Mayo Field unless noted.)

- April 8 — at John Marshall, 5 p.m.
- April 10 — MANKATO EAST, 5 p.m.
- April 12 — DULUTH EAST, noon
- April 15 — WINONA, 5 p.m.
- April 19 — AUSTIN, 1 p.m.
- April 21 — at Mankato West, 5 p.m.
- April 24 — OWATONNA, 5 p.m.
- April 26 — at Century, 11 a.m.
- April 29 — FARIBAULT (2), 4 p.m.
- May 1 — at Mankato East, 5 p.m.
- May 3 — JOHN MARSHALL (at Mayo High School), 4 p.m.
- May 6 — at Winona, 5 p.m.
- May 8 — at Albert Lea (2), 4 p.m.
- May 10 — at Austin, 11 a.m.

- May 13 — MANKATO WEST, 5 p.m.
- May 15 — at Owatonna, 5 p.m.
- May 17 — CENTURY (at Mayo High School), 11 a.m.
- May 22 — 1AAA tournament begins, TBD



LOURDES

Head coach: Dan Herold, sixth season.

Assistant coaches: Al Heimer, Scott Walston, Dave Jenson, Matt Herold and Nate Levold.

Last season's record: 19-5 overall, 15-3 in HVL.

Postseason results: Lost to eventual state champion Kasson-Mantorville in the 1AA finals.

Who's gone: John Bigler, Jason Samuelson, Andrew Ellingson, Thomas Elwell, Ryan Fallon, Mark Rowekamp, Daniel Freiburger and Joe Jennings.

Top returners: SS/P Michael Brandt (all-conference, all-section, .400), 1B Chris Wasz (all-conference, .360), 2B Zach Hillman, P/SS Nick Hanson, 3B/P Daniel Burris, C/P Adam Ellingson and C Henry Wittren.

Other key returners: Andrew Stanek and Alex Boeve.

Newcomers expected to make an impact: Paul Schroeder, James Ustby and Ben Walston (can play all nine positions).

Strengths: Pitching, depth and quality. Brandt and Hanson are strong starters who can also close. Lots of depth at the position. Good speed in the outfield, fundamentally

sound at the plate.

Weaknesses: Only two returning seniors, lots of youth in the field.

Where they fit in conference/section race: Can contend for conference and section titles.

Keys to success: Staying healthy. Have the pitching but will need to provide run support to win.

Coach Herold's thoughts: "I think we'll have a competitive team. Michael Brandt and Nick Hanson are considered top pitchers in our section. We have some depth there as well. Our defense needs to repeat from last season, and we need to continue to grow offensively. Our seniors need to be our leaders. Michael and Chris are our returning all-conference seniors, and we will need to lean on them for experience. As stated, we're young but experienced. We will be starting seven juniors; however, six have seen a huge amount of starting varsity time, including a long run in the section tournament last season."

ROSTER

Seniors — Alex Boeve, Andrew Stanek, Chris Wasz and Michael Brandt. **Juniors** — Adam Ellingson, Anthony Becker, Ben Walston, Carter Jones, Chris Greve, Connor Belda, Daniel Burris, Henry Wittren, James Ustby, Mitch Brandhagen, Nick Hanson, Paul Schroeder, Ryan Saltness and Zach Hillman.

SCHEDULE

(Home games at Mayo Field unless noted.)

- April 10 — at Pine Island, 5 p.m.
- April 14 — ZUMBROTA-MAZEPPA, 5 p.m.
- April 15 — at Kenyon-Wanamingo, 5 p.m.
- April 17 — at Hayfield, 5 p.m.
- April 21 — at Plainview-E-M, 5 p.m.
- April 22 — at Triton, 5 p.m.
- April 24 — CANNON FALLS (at Hudson Field), 7 p.m.
- April 26 — LA CRESCENT (2), 11 a.m.
- April 28 — DOVER-EYOTA, 5 p.m.
- April 29 — at Goodhue, 5 p.m.
- May 1 — at Kasson-Mantorville, 5 p.m.
- May 2 — STEWARTVILLE (2), 3:45 p.m.
- May 6 — at Byron (2), 3:45 p.m.
- May 9 — LAKE CITY, 5 p.m.
- May 10 — at Winona Cotter, 11 a.m.
- May 12 — HAYFIELD, 5 p.m.
- May 15 — KASSON-MANTORVILLE, 5 p.m.



AUSTIN

Head coach: Chris Gogolewski, rookie.

Assistant coaches: Tim Owen, Andy Swank, Joe Kroc and Erick Hoberg.

Last season's record: 8-13.

Postseason results: Eliminated by Century in first round of 1AAA tournament.

Who's gone: Not provided. New coach Gogolewski said: "I am not going to look back to see where our problems were. We are starting with a new core value system, and I don't want the boys thinking about last season. We are going to move forward and do everything we can to be the most successful team we can be, not what could have been."

Top returners: Not provided, see above.

Newcomers expected to make an impact: Not provided. Coach Gogolewski said: "I am the newcomer to the team this year as head coach. I am expecting these boys to not play the game of baseball but to compete against other teams in the Big Nine Conference. I'm not looking back at last year and not expecting anything less than what I have already mentioned."

Strengths: Hard workers, fundamentally teachable and willingness to do what it takes to help this team be successful.

Weaknesses: Not provided.

Where they fit in conference/section race: Not provided.

Keys to success: Keeping innings to only three outs, "executing our offensive plays when given the opportunity."

Coach Gogolewski's thoughts: "We have a new coaching staff this year, new coaching philosophy and a new coaching style. We hold intense, fast-paced practices that help us to practice the fundamentals at a high rate, so we can be prepared for our competitors. We practice baseball fundamentals every day to eliminate reasons for losing. Our goal this year is to be fully prepared mentally and physically for each and every team we play, whether it is for a single game or a doubleheader. Spring sports are a short season, so we need to make the most out of every opportunity we get. Offensive runs are difficult to come by, and there isn't a lot of time to make up for lost opportunities."

ROSTER

Seniors — Ethan Horstmann, Mike Gaines, Jacob Kempen and Steve Klennon. **Juniors** — Nik Gasner, Isaac Schumacher, Brady McDermott, Hunter Lewis and Shane Johannsen. **Sophomores** — Nathan Connor and Dylan Gasner.

SCHEDULE

(Home games at Riverland Community College unless noted.)

- April 8 — ALBERT LEA, 5 p.m.
- April 10 — at Mankato West, 5 p.m.
- April 15 — at Mankato East, 6:30 p.m.
- April 17 — WINONA, 5 p.m.
- April 19 — at Mayo, 1 p.m.
- April 22 — at Owatonna, 5 p.m.
- April 24 — CENTURY (2), 4 p.m.
- April 29 — at Albert Lea, 5 p.m.
- May 1 — MANKATO WEST, 5 p.m.
- May 6 — MANKATO EAST, 5 p.m.
- May 8 — at Winona, 5 p.m.
- May 10 — MAYO, 11 a.m.
- May 13 — OWATONNA, 5 p.m.
- May 15 — at Faribault (2), 4 p.m.
- May 17 — JOHN MARSHALL (2), 4 p.m.
- May 19 — at Northfield, 5 p.m.
- May 22 — 1AAA tournament begins, TBD

— Ben Pherson

ROSTER

Seniors — Brandon Ritz, Jordan Jasik, Joshua Bakken, Joshua Newman, Marvin Breuer and Ryan Goll. **Juniors** — Aaron Eberhart, Brandon Knapp, Darryl Martin, Erik Thorvilson, Jacob Fletcher, Matthew Novotny, Nicholas Pearson, Nicholas Smith, Patrick Bower, Riese Zmolek and Tyler Gathman. **Sophomore** — Ross Luinenburg.

SCHEDULE

(Home games at Century High School unless noted.)

- April 8 — at Mankato East, 5 p.m.
- April 10 — WINONA, 5 p.m.
- April 12 — LA CROSSE LOGAN, 11 a.m.
- April 17 — at Faribault, 5 p.m.
- April 22 — at Albert Lea, 5 p.m.
- April 24 — at Austin (2), 4 p.m.
- April 26 — MAYO, 11 a.m.
- April 29 — MANKATO EAST, 5 p.m.
- May 1 — at Winona, 5 p.m.
- May 6 — at Owatonna (2), 4 p.m.
- May 10 — at John Marshall, 11 a.m.
- May 13 — ALBERT LEA, 5 p.m.
- May 15 — MANKATO WEST (2), 4 p.m.
- May 17 — at Mayo, 11 a.m.
- May 19 — at New Prague, 4:30 p.m.
- May 22 — 1AAA tournament begins, TBD



MAYO

Head coach: Dan Hoefs, ninth season.

Assistant coaches: Tom Senne, Joe Serratore, Josh Nickel and Jeff Anderson.

Last season's record: 14-13 overall, 8-10 in Big Nine.

Postseason results: Beat Northfield to advance to Class AAA state tournament; suffered 3-2 loss in 11 innings against Minnetonka in state quarterfinals. Eliminated by Lakeville North in consolation bracket.

Who's gone: Christian Rosenow, Sam Hirsch, Ryan Martin, Luke Dozier, Jase Crowley and Tate Deach.

Top returners: P Jackson Douglas (6-3 record, 2.46 ERA); C Brad Mathiowetz (.318, 27 RBIs); 1B Bailey Kazeck (.289, 22 RBIs); SS Michael Michalak (.359, 22 RBIs); 3B David Brust (.333, 11 RBIs); LF Zach Robertson (.273, 10 RBIs).

Other key returners: Jordan Korte (P, C, IF), Tommy Hanson (P, OF), John Lundquist (P, 3B, 1B), Jerry Brownell (2B, SS), Sam Gunnarson (CF) and Alex Riles (P).

Newcomers expected to make an impact: Jay Alston (P, OF), Ethan Kaese (2B) and Evan Thielen (P, 1B).

Strengths: Deep pitching staff with great potential; motivated team, wanting to build on last year's success.

Weaknesses: Overall team speed and power, inexperienced outfielders.

Where they fit in conference/section race: Top portion of the conference and contending for the 1AAA title again.

Keys to success: Making sure pitchers after top starter Jackson Douglas reach their potential. Must find a table-setter and fill a few holes to truly solidify their lineup.

Coach Hoefs' thoughts: "We struggled terribly last year with committing too many errors. Our regular season record of 9-10 was a direct reflection of that. In our eight section and state tournament games, we only committed three errors, and that is why we accomplished what we did at the end of the year. I believe we will



Michalak



Brust



JOHN MARSHALL

Head coach: Dutch Heiderscheit, 13th season.

Assistant coaches: Darren Thompson, Greg Winter and Brent Lichty.

Last season's record: 12-10 overall, 9-7 in Big Nine.

Postseason results: Eliminated by Northfield in 1AAA Final Four.

Who's gone: Alex Brady, Aaron Grad, Jack Kall, Janek Walker, Ryan Santee and Thomas Mulvey.

Top returners: 1B Sammy Broman (.358 BA), SS Jake Halverson (.297), P Zach Schweiters (3-1, 2.00 ERA), OF Kaeleb Stangler (powerful hitter), 3B/C Jake Dravis, RF Jason Rieke and C/OF Pat Sadecki.

Newcomers expected to make an impact: Paul Cyr (had a good summer with the Legion team),



Broman



Schweiters

S.O.S.

Annual Sale On Service Event

Mon-Fri 8:30AM-6PM
Sat 8AM-3PM

457 16th Ave NW • Rochester, MN
(next to Famous Dave's BBQ)

507-282-5200 • www.AutomotiveProcure.com

We honor competitors' coupons!

Spring Tire Special

Purchase 2 or more tires and receive an

All Wheel Alignment for only \$39!

Most vehicles. Shop supplies and environmental fee extra. Not valid with any other offers. Expires 4/30/13

Save On Everything!

15% off

Your Next Service
(maximum savings of \$100)

- Oil Changes • Fluid Flushes
- Alignments • Engine Work
- And More!

Most vehicles. Shop supplies and environmental fee extra. Not valid with any other offers. Expires 4/30/13