



LAKEVILLE NORTH PANTHER BASEBALL

Lakeville North High School 19600 Ipava Ave. Lakeville, MN 55044

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2005 Class 3A State Champions 2000 Class 3A State Runner-up

2008 PRE-SEASON MEDIA GUIDE

2008 SEASON OUTLOOK

Head Coach Tony Market is excited about the experienced team he will field during the 2008 season. The entire starting infield returns from 2007 with power-hitting 1B Nick Johnson (sr), lead-off hitter SS Nick Judkins (sr), & 3B/P Dylan Thomas (jr) leading the way. The outfield returns only rightfielder Thomas Vanasek (sr), though he will likely be joined in the outfield by Tyler Erstad (jr) who hit .300 with 17 doubles in 140 American Legion at-bats last summer, with the third outfield spot to be determined. 2007's left-handed DH Derek Hahn (sr) returns from a .324 BA-2 HR-13 RBI season and Senior Chris Ernst, lost to injury last year after hitting .556 in the first 4 games, may attempt a comeback after elbow surgery. The pitching staff will also return several key contributors including 2007's #2 starter Dylan Thomas and senior left-hander Glenn Parker, who, while he pitched in 17 of the team's 26 games last season, will likely take over as #1 starter. Other pitchers back with varsity experience include senior lefty Robby Rundquist (2-1, 3.27 ERA), senior Josh Englund (1-0, 4.57) and junior Collin Baker (0-0, 2.76). While duplicating the 2007 performances of all-everything catcher Mike Kvasnicka and staff ace Bret Mitchell won't be easy for any of the likely candidates, the coaching staff is optimistic with so much experience returning on the rest of the diamond. As for our facilities, the baseball field at Lakeville North High School is receiving a much-needed facelift complete with new drainage tile and new fences and won't be available for high school play until the 2009 season. Panther home games for the 2008 season will be played at beautiful Fredrickson Field in Elko, MN. You can track the Panthers 2008 season schedule and statistics at www.pantherboosters.org/baseball

RETURNING STARS FOR 2008



Senior Shortstop Nick Judkins:

3-year starter at the shortstop position. Left-handed batter hit .398 last year in the lead-off spot with 5 stolen bases. Gifted with the glove- great range, strong arm & likes to get dirty. Had a stellar Legion season in '07 hitting .426-4-24, .519 OBA & .682 SLG. A hard worker on the field and in the classroom with a 3.4 GPA.



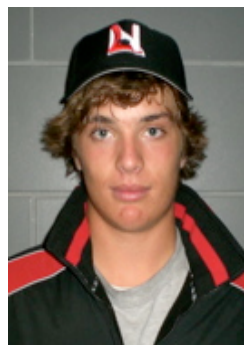
Senior 1st Baseman Nick Johnson:

Led the 2007 Panthers in RBI with 29. Hit .298 with 6 HR (.553 SLG) in first season on varsity. A 6'2 right-handed hitting clean-up type with a lot of pop, Nick just keeps getting better ('07 Legion Stats: .354-5-39 in 37 games). He is a vocal leader who can carry a team on his back, 3 of his 6 HRs gave our team a lead in '06. Nick currently has a 3.1 GPA.



Senior Pitcher Glenn Parker:

3-year varsity left-handed pitcher throws in the mid-to-high eighties with great movement in and away. Struck out 62 hitters (while walking only 13) last year in 40 innings pitched. Over the summer, Glenn held his Legion opponents to a .221 batting average striking out 63 in 60 IP. Glenn currently has a 3.5 GPA.



Junior Pitcher Dylan Thomas:

Exploded onto the scene last year going 5-0 & leading the Lake Conference with a 1.37 ERA. Dylan struck out 34 in 41 IP. As a right-handed sinker/slider pitcher- he consistently threw in the low eighties and batters continually grounded out. Can hit (.248-5-24, HS+Legion '07) and will improve with 2 seasons yet to play. Dylan currently carries a 3.1 GPA.

2007 SEASON RECAP

An extra inning 2-1 loss to Hastings in the Section 1AAA semifinals (complete with 4 hour rain delay) brought the hopes of returning to the state tournament in 2007 to an end for Head Coach Tony Market's Lakeville North High School Panther baseball team. They finished with a record of 17-9 and, along the way, set school records for team home runs (22) and team slugging percentage (.477). The team finished with the 8th most runners reaching base safely and the 11th highest season slugging percentage in Minnesota high school baseball history. The pitching staff had the Lake Conference leader in ERA (Sophomore Dylan Thomas- 1.37 over 41 IP) and collectively led the conference in strikeouts with 196 in 180 innings. The individual honors were many. Senior catcher Mike Kvasnicka was named All-Conference, All-Metro, All-State and chosen as the 2007 Minnesota Gatorade Player of the Year for his .433-7-28 season. His three-year career was capped off by being drafted by the Minnesota Twins. All-Conference senior pitcher Bret Mitchell (6-3, 1.45 56K/53IP) and junior shortstop/lead-off hitter Nick Judkins (.398-2-10) were named All-State honorable mention. Junior 1B Nick Johnson (.298-6-29) and Junior P Glenn Parker (3-3, 4 sv, 3.27 62K/40IP) rounded out the honors by being named All-Lake Conference Honorable Mention. All of this while playing in what is consistently the state's toughest baseball conference with participants in each of the last four Minnesota 3A State Championship Games including 3 winners (2004-Eden Prairie, 2005-Lakeville, 2006-Apple Valley). 2007 was a great success for the Panthers and Coach Market, whose 2-seasons at the helm have yielded a 28-20 career record.

FORMER PANTHERS PLAYING IN COLLEGE

NCAA DIVISION I

Pitcher/Outfielder	Aaron Larson (LHS '03)	University of Minnesota Golden Gophers
Catcher/Outfielder	Michael Kvasnicka (LNHS '07)	University of Minnesota Golden Gophers
Second Baseman	Tony Altavilla (LHS '05)	University of Illinois-Chicago Flames

NCAA DIVISION II

Pitcher/Infielder	Kyle Zweber (LHS '04)	University of Minnesota-Duluth Bulldogs
Pitcher	Andrew Vlasak (LHS '05)	University of Minnesota-Duluth Bulldogs
Third Baseman	David Olson (LHS '05)	University of Minnesota-Duluth Bulldogs

NCAA DIVISION III

Infielder/Outfielder	Brian Schmitz (LHS '05)	University of Saint Thomas Tommies
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NAIA

Pitcher	Justin Englund (LHS '05)	Grand View (Des Moines, IA) College Vikings
Second Baseman	Andrew Hansen (LHS '05)	Union (Jackson, TN) University Bulldogs

NJCAA DII

Pitcher	Bret Mitchell (LNHS '07)	Iowa Central Community College Tritons
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Follow the Panthers at: www.pantherboosters.org/baseball

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