



LAKEVILLE NORTH PANTHER BASEBALL

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

Head Coach **Tony Market** Email: tmarket@isd194.k12.mn.us

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MN State Champions 2005 MN State Runner-up 2000 Lake Conference Champions 1999, 2008

2009 PANTHER MEDIA GUIDE

2009 SEASON OUTLOOK

Even after graduating 13 seniors from last year's Lake Conference Champions, Coach Tony Market doesn't see 2009 as a rebuilding year. Good pitching will always keep a team competitive and the Panthers have 2/3 of their starting rotation returning. Seniors Dylan Thomas (6-2, 2.77 ERA, 52 K/53 IP in '08) and Collin Baker (3-2, 3.07, 23 K/27 IP) will take the hill in '09 each in their third year of pitching for the Panthers. The outfield looks to be strong as well returning Thomas and three others who played significant time; Sr Tyler Erstad (20 games in CF in '08), Sr Ben Freitag (coming off a strong '08 legion season of .353, 3 HR, 29 RBI) and Sr Nick Altavilla, who will be playing in his 4th varsity season in the Lake Conference. Graduating the entire starting infield from a year ago will make things tough, but prospects Sr 1B Mike Hartwell (.367, 12 SB for '08 Legion), Jr SS Nick Kulla & Jr 3B Tim Kuzniar will look to plug some of the holes. Several new faces on the pitching staff will compete for innings and the 3rd starting spot including 6'3 Sr LHP Andy Yetzer (2.84 ERA in 32 IP for Legion) and 6'2 Jr RHP David Hanson. One of the most exciting things for the Panthers in '09 will be playing at Lakeville North High School for the first time in several years. The field received a much-needed facelift with full drainage tile, new fences, new benches, and a new scoreboard. Track the Panthers 2009 season schedule and statistics at www.pantherboosters.org/baseball

THE LAKE CONFERENCE

LNHS is a member of the top baseball conference in the state of Minnesota, the Lake. In 2008, the Lake Conference sent 3 teams to the large school state tournament and had a representative in the 3A state championship game for the 5th consecutive year. The eleven Lake teams combined for a 42-6 non-conf record and the conference was so highly regarded that 2 teams were ranked in the top 25 nationally at the end of the season at maxpreps.com. The Panthers were ecstatic to be co-conference champs in 2008 (tied with the Eastview Lightning) and give credit for their #13 national rank at the end of last spring to the depth of talent and coaching skill in the Lake Conference. The Panthers are proud of the recognition players in the Lake are receiving as home to 10 of the 23 members of the 2008 AP All-State team and former host conference to a large number of NCAA Division I players and professional draftees in recent years.

PANTHER '09 STARS



Senior P/OF/3B DYLAN THOMAS

With an 11-2 record and a 2.16 ERA in two years at varsity- Dylan has been a dominating force in the Lake Conference and is only 1 win from the school record for career wins. Dylan uses a mid-80s fastball which he can throw with both sinker and slider action to rack up strikeouts and groundouts (86 K/35 BB in 94 IP). He has 8 career varsity HRs and ripped up American Legion pitching in '08 posting a .438 average with 7 HR, 40 RBI, 20 BB in just 32 games.

Senior OF Ben Freitag

Returning to varsity where, in '08, he was part of a platoon outfield. Ben is an excellent defensive outfielder with a cannon arm and a gifted base runner. When given a chance to play outfield fulltime on Legion in '08- hit .353, 3 HR, 29 RBI in 30 games played.

Senior OF Nick Altavilla

After 2 years of varsity at Lakeville South HS, where he was among team leaders in AVG & RBI as a Sophomore, Nick transferred to LNHS where, as a junior, he was a reliable glove in the outfield and a patient left-handed hitter at the plate, hitting .260 with a .470 on base average. The bat keeps showing improvement- as Nick hit over .300 on Legion and over .400 in the University of Minnesota Fall League.

Senior 1B Mike Hartwell

Mike has the potential to be a difference-maker on varsity this year after the lefty hitter posted .367 AVG/.462 OBA as the every day lead-off hitter for a talented Legion team in 2008.

Senior P/C/DH COLLIN BAKER

Collin has spent the last two seasons on Varsity primarily as a pitcher where he has tallied a 2.98 ERA in 40 IP and maintained 0.77 K/IP. He compliments an 80+ MPH fastball with a split-finger, a reliable curve and a devastating change-up. Appearing in the line-up on a part time basis in his first two years with the club, Collin has maintained a .300 average (with power) and likely will be in the line-up every day as our starting catcher in 2009.



2008 SEASON RECAP

Another successful season went on the books for the Panthers and Coach Tony Market, whose 3-seasons at the helm of the Lakeville North nine have resulted in a 47-27 career record. The 2008 Panthers (19-7) climbed to the top of the state rankings and even briefly rose to #13 *in the country* after defeating Eastview 15-5 in the last game of the season to take a share of the Lake Conference Championship and dismantling their first two section opponents by scores of 15-1 (v. Henry Sibley) and 11-0 (v. Eagan). While the pitchers were tough and the bats were on fire early in section play, the Panthers ran into a hot state-tournament-bound Rosemount squad in a rain-delayed 8-1 loss, followed by a late inning collapse versus section host Burnsville in a disappointing 11-10 loss ending the playoffs. The individual accolades were, once again, many. Team MVP SS Nick Judkins (.420, .561 OBA, 24 RBI, 15 SB) took home All-Conference and All-State honors, appeared in the Lions All-Star Game and was chosen MVP of the East-West Metro All-Star Game. Pitcher Glenn Parker (6-1, 1.47 ERA, 68 K in 57 IP) was also chosen All-Conference, All-State and appeared in both All-Star games. P/2B Pat Arnold (10 app, 2.80 ERA) took a first team All-State Academic award with him on his way to Harvard. First baseman Nick Johnson (.360, 4 HR) set the single season school record for RBI (34) and brought in All-Lake Conference honors. And JR P Dylan Thomas (6-2, 2.77, 52 K), OF Ryan Gothmann (.357, 15 R, 13 RBI), and 3B Thomas Vanasek (.341, 3 HR, 19 RBI) brought home the remaining Lake Conference hardware. The 13 seniors from the 2008 LNHS Panther baseball team will most certainly be missed.

FORMER PANTHERS PLAYING IN COLLEGE IN '09

NCAA DIVISION I

Pitcher	Glenn Parker (LNHS '08)	North Dakota State University Bison
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

Infielder	Andrew Hansen (LHS '05)	University of Nebraska-Omaha Mavericks
Pitcher	Andrew Vlasak (LHS '05)	University of Minnesota-Duluth Bulldogs
Third Baseman	David Olson (LHS '05)	University of Minnesota-Duluth Bulldogs
Outfielder	Ryan Gothmann (LNHS '08)	University of Minnesota-Duluth Bulldogs

NCAA DIVISION III

Infielder/Outfielder	Brian Schmitz (LHS '05)	University of Saint Thomas Tommies
Pitcher	Josh Englund (LNHS '08)	Northwestern College Eagles

NAIA

Pitcher	Justin Englund (LHS '05)	Grand View (Des Moines, IA) College Vikings
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NJCAA DII

Pitcher	Bret Mitchell (LNHS '07)	Iowa Central Community College Tritons
Shortstop	Nick Judkins (LNHS '08)	Iowa Central Community College Tritons
First Baseman	Nick Johnson (LNHS '08)	Iowa Central Community College Tritons

NJCAA DIII

Infielder	Evan Lucius (LNHS '06)	Dakota County Technical College Blue Knights
Catcher	Derek Hahn (LNHS '08)	Riverland Community College Blue Devils

Follow the Panthers at: www.pantherboosters.org/baseball

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