



# LAKEVILLE NORTH PANTHER BASEBALL

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

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MN State Champs 2005 MN State Runner-up 2000

Lake Conference Champs 1999, 2008, 2009

## 2013 PANTHER MEDIA GUIDE

### 2013 SEASON OUTLOOK

While rebuilding projects have been the norm over the last 5 seasons with 10+ seniors graduating each year, the comparatively young 2012 Panthers will return a strong core for 2013. While there are a few unanswered questions around the diamond, the middle infield returns with Sr SS **Erik Rutt** (.292, 33 RBI in 60 varsity/legion games in '12) and Sr 2B **Jake Braun** (.988 fielding in 79 chances) back at their spots. Two talented outfielders also return in Sr CF **Brandon Morgan** (.401, 47 runs in 56 varsity/legion games) and Sr RF **Zach Creighton** (.370, 65 R, 29 SB in 57 varsity/legion games). Experienced hitters will fill the lineup card including 2012's only all-conference sophomore in the South Suburban, Jr LHP/DH **Dalton Lehnen** (.391, 3 HR for varsity), and last year's pinch-hitter extraordinaire Sr IF **Connor Christenson** (.389 for varsity). But the strength of this team is likely the experienced pitching with Sr LHP **Jordan Jacobson** (13-2, 2.21 with varsity/legion in '12), Sr LHP **Sam Petrick** (4-3, 2.71 with varsity/legion in '12) and Jr LHP **Dalton Lehnen** (3-1, 1.21 with varsity) all returning to the rotation. Time will tell which newcomers are going to appear in the lineup or on the mound this season, but contributions are expected from several prospects including Jr C **Ben Jensen**, Jr OF/LHP **A.J. Sayer** and So SS **Angelo Altavilla**. Track the 2013 Panthers season schedule/statistics at [www.ihigh.com/lakevillnorthbaseball/](http://www.ihigh.com/lakevillnorthbaseball/).

### THE SOUTH SUBURBAN CONFERENCE



In 2010-2011, nine former Lake Conference teams created the new South Suburban Conference and added former Missota Conference member Prior Lake. Immediately, it became the state's most competitive baseball conference. In its first two years, the conference has had three different programs qualify for the large-school State Tournament (including the 2011 State Champion Burnsville Blaze and the 2012 State Champion Eastview Lightning), placed 9 players on the All-Tournament Team and had 11 players awarded All-State honors. In 2013, the South Suburban will continue to cement its reputation as the best baseball conference in the state with college and professional prospects competing in every game.

## PANTHERS 2013 STARS & PROSPECTS



#### SR IF/OF ZACH CHREIGHTON

Entering his 3<sup>rd</sup> season of varsity, Zach has put it all together; his quick hands, his discerning eye at the plate, the ability to spray line drives to all fields, & instinctual base running. Zach hit .389 in 38 games of Legion baseball last summer scoring 52 runs and swiping 23 bases. A great corner outfielder with the quickness and arm to play 2B/3B as well.

#### SR LHP JORDAN JACOBSON

Jordan "Floppy" Jacobson has been a big game pitcher in a tough conference and this lefty can dominate a game with a low 80s fastball, a hard breaking slider, a fatal pick-off move & his always-calm demeanor. Simply look at his statistics over his Soph/Junior years of varsity and legion baseball: an 20-2 record with 104 strikeouts and a 2.38 ERA.

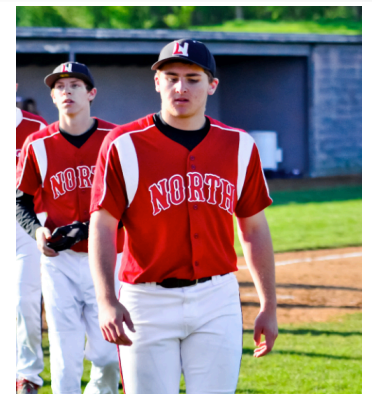


#### SR OF BRANDON MORGAN

Brandon Morgan has plenty of speed- from his legs and his hands- and has used both to become a top-of-the-lineup run producer. In 34 games of Legion baseball in 2012 he hit .495 (46/93) with 8 XBH, 33 runs scored and 16 RBI. He has shown ability as a big-time clutch hitter, as well, with GW RBI in key varsity contests against Jefferson and Burnsville in 2012.

#### JR 1B/LHP DALTON LEHNEN

As a 15 year old, starting every third game on the mound for varsity and hitting cleanup every game could be intimidating. All Dalton did was go 3-1 with a 1.21 ERA and hit .391 with 3 HR (then hit .488 for Legion). His potential on the mound as a hard-throwing lefty is high, but his potential with the stick might be through the roof.



## 2012 SEASON RECAP

Another successful season is in the books for the Panthers and Coach Tony Market, whose seven seasons as head coach at Lakeville North have resulted in a 105-59 career record. The 2012 Panthers (16-7) went 12-5 in the South Suburban Conference- good enough for a third place finish in the 10-team conference, just behind MN state #1 Burnsville HS and eventual MN state champion Eastview HS. The Panthers ranked #10 in the final coaches' poll of the season. Team statistics reflect another successful season both offensively and on the mound, as the team compiled a .298 batting average and a miniscule 2.59 ERA with 5 shutouts. Defense was impressive as well, as the team hit a 6-year high in fielding percentage. For a rebuilding year with few seniors on the roster, expectations were definitely exceeded, but when section playoffs began- the team's expectations had changed. Section play began with a tight 5-4 win over St. Thomas Academy punctuated by a walk-off hit by Jr **Connor Christenson**. What followed was a tight 1-run loss (3-2) to Eastview which put the team's back against the wall in the double elimination tournament- having to now face the defending state champs and #1 ranked team in the state, Burnsville. Jr LHP **Jordan Jacobson** threw a brilliant 2-hit shutout and Jr OF **Brandon Morgan** knocked in the Panthers sole run in the 7<sup>th</sup> to eliminate the Blaze and keep the Panthers' season alive. Unfortunately, the team ran out of gas against Eagan two days later, but the squad showed much progress throughout the year and the individual accolades were many. Sr C **Austin Streit** (.373, 17 RBI) led the team in hits and RBI *again* on his way to being named Team MVP and All-Conference for *the second consecutive year*. He was joined on the All-South Suburban team by Sr RHP **Joel Klinkhammer** (6-3, 2.27) and Soph LHP/DH **Dalton Lehnen** (3-1, 1.21 - .391, 13 RBI). Rounding out the honors, Sr 1B **Adam Alexander** (.308, 1 E in 184 chances), Sr OF **Neil Engler** (.303, led team with 14 runs scored), and Jr LHP **Jordan Jacobson** (5-2, 2.49) were named All-Conference Honorable Mention.

## FORMER PANTHERS PLAYING IN 2013

### PROFESSIONAL

Infielder	Michael Kvasnicka ('07)	Minnesota Twins (A- Fort Myers Miracle)
Pitcher	Bret Mitchell ('07)	New York Mets (A- Savannah Sand Gnats)

### NCAA DIVISION I

Outfielder	Nick Altavilla ('09)	North Dakota State University Bison
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### NCAA DIVISION II

Catcher	Zach Braun ('10)	Bemidji State University Beavers
Pitcher	Tyler Brekke ('11)	Concordia University Golden Bears
Pitcher	John Hayes ('10)	Concordia University Golden Bears
Pitcher	Andy Yetzer ('09)	University of Minnesota-Duluth Bulldogs

### NCAA DIVISION III

Infielder/Pitcher	Dylan Thomas ('09)	University of St. Thomas Tommies
Outfielder	Tim Kuzniar ('10)	University of St. Thomas Tommies
Catcher/Outfielder	Austin Streit ('12)	University of St. Thomas Tommies
Outfielder	Ben Freitag ('09)	North Central University Rams
Infielder	Gordon Kappers ('11)	Augsburg College Auggies
Infielder	T.J. Evanson ('11)	University of Wisconsin-Superior Yellow Jackets
Infielder	Adam Alexander ('12)	St. Olaf College Oles
Infielder	Nick Kulla ('10)	St. Olaf College Oles
Outfielder	Evan Cordell ('11)	Hamline University Pipers
Outfielder	Neil Engler ('12)	Gustavus Adolphus College Gusties

### NJCAA

Pitcher	A.J. Moore ('11)	Iowa Central Community College Tritons
Pitcher	Joel Klinkhammer ('12)	Dakota County Technical College Blue Knights

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