



LAKEVILLE NORTH PANTHER BASEBALL

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

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MN State Champs 2005 State Runner-up 2000, 2015 State 3rd Place 2014 State Consolation 2013
Section Champs 2000, 2005, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016 Conference Champs 1999, 2008, 2009, 2013, 2014, 2016

2017 PANTHER MEDIA GUIDE

2017 SEASON OUTLOOK

The outlook each year for Panther baseball is filled with questions due to graduation and 2017 is no different. Last year's MN State 4th Place finishers have lost ten players to matriculation, but while line-up mainstays like Joey Larson and Drew Stewart have moved on to play collegiately and #1-starter Billy Riach has graduated, many of the secrets to 2016's success will return. The Panthers were a pitching-dominant team in 2016 and in 200 innings compiled a 1.79 ERA with an opponent's batting average of .221. The young men that threw 131 of those innings return including All-Conference Sr RHP **Ross Bastyr** (6-0, 0.98 ERA in '16 & committed to Concordia-St Paul), Jr RHP **Collin Denk** (2-2, 19K in 25IP), Jr RHP/OF **Nick Spitt** (2-2, 1.66 ERA), and All-State-Tournament Sr LHP **Luke Degrammont** (1-0, 5 Sv, 0.00 ERA in 16IP & committed to Concordia-St Paul). Key gloves and valuable bats return to the lineup in switch-hitting two-time All-Conference Jr Catcher **Nick Juaire** (.365/.476/.518 & committed to Texas Christian), All-State Tournament Sr OF **Michael Dooney** (.297, 5 2B), and Sr 3B **Tyler Fietek** (.256, 5 2B, 1 HR & committed to Iowa Central CC). Seniors 2B **Ryan Bastyr** (committed to Concordia-St. Paul), LHP **Nathaniel Peterson** & RHP **Sean Flaherty** all will be bringing varsity experience to Spring Training and talented prospects will be competing for remaining spots including Sr OF **Brandon Keeley**, Sr C **Peter Grassl**, Soph SS **Gavin Baker** & Soph LHP **Ryan Sleeper**.

THE SOUTH SUBURBAN CONFERENCE



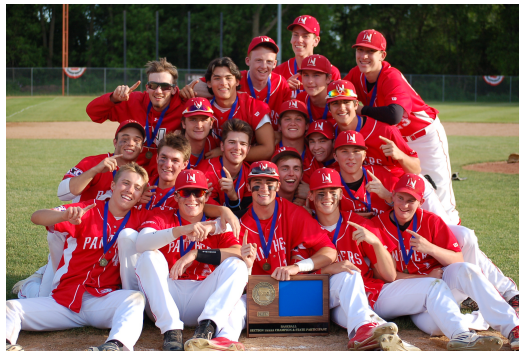
In 2010-2011, 9 former Lake Conference teams joined Prior Lake HS to create the new South Suburban Conference. Immediately it became the state's most competitive baseball conference. In just **six years**, the conference has had five of its ten programs qualify for the large-school State Tournament, has produced two state champions, placed 18 players on the All-State Tournament Team and 37 players have earned All-State honors from the state coaches' association. With alumni playing for NCAA D1 programs including Nebraska, Oklahoma, Memphis & Minnesota, six alums in professional baseball, and current players having committed to national programs including Florida and Texas Christian, the LNHS Panthers and their SSC partner schools are looking to cement its reputation as the best baseball conference in the state in 2017 with legitimate college & professional prospects competing in every game.

PANTHERS 2017 STARS & PROSPECTS

Jr C Nick Juaire (R/S)

Texas Christian University

It's hard to believe that Juaire is only a junior and still has two seasons remaining behind the dish for the Panthers. The switch-hitting backstop with quick feet and a cannon arm committed early to continue his academic and athletic career collegiately at TCU. Having already hit in the heart of the Panther line up for two All-SSC seasons, Juaire is on pace to set school records for games played, hits, doubles and walks. In 2017, he'll look to better his sophomore stat line of .365, 8 2B 16 RBI.



Sr LHP Luke Degrammont

Concordia University- St. Paul

Degrammont started the 2016 season on the junior varsity, but once he was called up to varsity to come out of the bullpen for a week- he never returned. Degrammont tied a school record with 5 saves in 2017, struck out 19 in 15 innings pitched and *didn't give up a run all season*. Luke's dominance continued in the MN State Tournament where the hard-throwing lefty threw 5 1/3 scoreless innings to earn the win in a 13-inning thriller versus Maple Grove.

Sr 3B Tyler Fietek (R/R)

Iowa Central Community College

Fietek's first two varsity at-bats as a sophomore were RBI warning-track sacrifice flies. His first varsity hit was in CHS Field during the 2015 state tournament and his first extra-base hit was a double to the Target Field wall in the state championship. The third baseman has a knack for clutch hitting as he led the 2016 Panthers with 22 RBI and had a great 2016 Legion summer where he hit 3 HRs with 18 RBI in only 18 games played. His fearlessness at 3B with a big arm makes him as valuable in the field as he is at the plate.



Sr RHP Ross Bastyr

Concordia University- St. Paul

Ross Bastyr is a bulldog. While this 4.0 student is quiet in the classroom and at baseball practice, a different approach comes out when the 6'3 righty takes the hill. His heavy 86 mph fastball is coupled with a devastating 68-70 mph change-up that drops as if rolled off a table. Bastyr's varsity stats last season were remarkable and key to the team's success as he posted a 6-0 record with a 1.98 ERA. Ross struck out 54 hitters in 57 IP and only walked 11, demonstrating his laser-like focus on the strike zone.

2016 SEASON RECAP

Entering the 2016 season coming off three consecutive state tournament appearances, expectations were high for the Lakeville North Panthers and Coach **Tony Market**. Coach Market, whose eleven seasons as head coach at Lakeville North have yielded 189 wins, five conference championships and four state tournament appearances, felt the pressure of a #2 AP-pre-season ranking and the move to a new section (1AAAA). Playing in a conference with pitchers signed to big-time baseball schools like Kentucky and Florida, one should never be too confident and when the Panthers fell to a 1-2 start with losses to Eastview and Prior Lake, the team had a lot to figure out with two new starting pitchers in the rotation, a completely new bullpen and only four players returning from 2015's starting lineup. Unfortunately, the bats never truly woke up- as the Panthers finished the season with a historically low .259 batting average- but the arms and gloves were among the best in Lakeville North history and an ability to limit opponent scoring opportunities translated to 21 wins- with 15 of those wins by 2 runs or less.

The Panthers went on a 15-2 run to finish the regular season tied atop the conference standings, and entered into Section 1AAAA play as the #1 seed. The attempt at a fourth straight state tournament appearance began with a 2-0 rain-soaked shutout of Farmington behind the right arm of **Sr P Billy Riach**. The Panthers next dispatched of Rochester Mayo 5-1 as **Sr OF Drew Stewart** delivered three hits, **Sr 2B Mitch Frederick** provided a 2-run double and **Jr RHP Ross Bastyr** pitched brilliantly. Two victories over Owatonna by scores of 4-2 and 2-0, with the wins keyed off the arms of Riach and Bastyr, and LNHS would return to the MN AAAA State Tournament. Game one at the state tourney was a *classic*. After falling behind a talented Maple Grove team 1-0 in the 2nd inning, P Billy Riach refused to give them another scoring chance. **Soph C Nick Juaire** hit the first state tournament home run in CHS Field history in the 6th inning to tie it up and the game went to extra innings. **Jr LHP Luke Degrammont** threw a flawless 5 1/3 innings of relief (striking out 9) and **Soph OF Nick Spitt**'s 2-out, 2-strike RBI single won the game in the 13th inning. Wayzata was next up in the semi-finals and Bastyr picked up where Degrammont left off by throwing 5+ shutout innings. This second game was bound for extra innings, too, but this time it was the Panther's opponent who came away with the win after an 8th inning walk-off two-run homer. Wayzata went on to win the state championship while the Panthers loss to Woodbury in the third place game.

Sr Billy Riach finished his LNHS career with a 15-3 varsity pitching record and was named All-Conference, All-Section and All-State. **Soph Nick Juaire** was voted Team MVP and was selected All-Conference for the 2nd time in his young career- where he was joined by Jr **Ross Bastyr** and Sr **Joey Larson** (who was also named to the All-State Academic Team). Jr **Luke Degrammont** and Jr **Michael Dooney** were named to the All-State Tournament Team. In 2016, for the fourth consecutive year, Coach Market's squad brought hardware home from the MN State Tournament. In recognition of this rare achievement, he was selected as Minnesota's AAAA Coach of the Year. And for the fourth consecutive year our student-athletes registered a team GPA over 3.4, earning the team *All-State Gold* recognition for academics.

FORMER PANTHERS PLAYING IN COLLEGE 2017

Pitcher	Dalton Lehnen ('14)	Augustana University Vikings
Pitcher	Joel Klinkhammer ('12)	Arizona Christian University Firestorm
Infielder	Joey Larson ('16)	Augustana University Vikings
Catcher	Ben Jensen ('14)	Grand View University Vikings
Infielder	Jake Braun ('13)	Bemidji State University Beavers
Pitcher	Nick Dorfman ('14)	University of Minnesota-Duluth Bulldogs
Pitcher	Brett Herber ('15)	Winona State University Warriors
Outfielder	A.J. Sayer ('14)	University of St. Thomas Tommies
Pitcher	Grant Gunderson ('15)	University of St. Thomas Tommies
Infielder	Connor Christenson ('13)	St. Mary's University Cardinals
Pitcher	Sam Petrick ('13)	Hamline University Pipers
Pitcher	Wes Ahlers ('15)	Iowa Central Community College Tritons
Infielder	Angelo Altavilla ('15)	University of Nebraska Cornhuskers
Infielder	Mitch Frederick ('16)	Minnesota State University Mavericks
Outfielder	Drew Stewart ('16)	University of Minnesota-Duluth Bulldogs

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