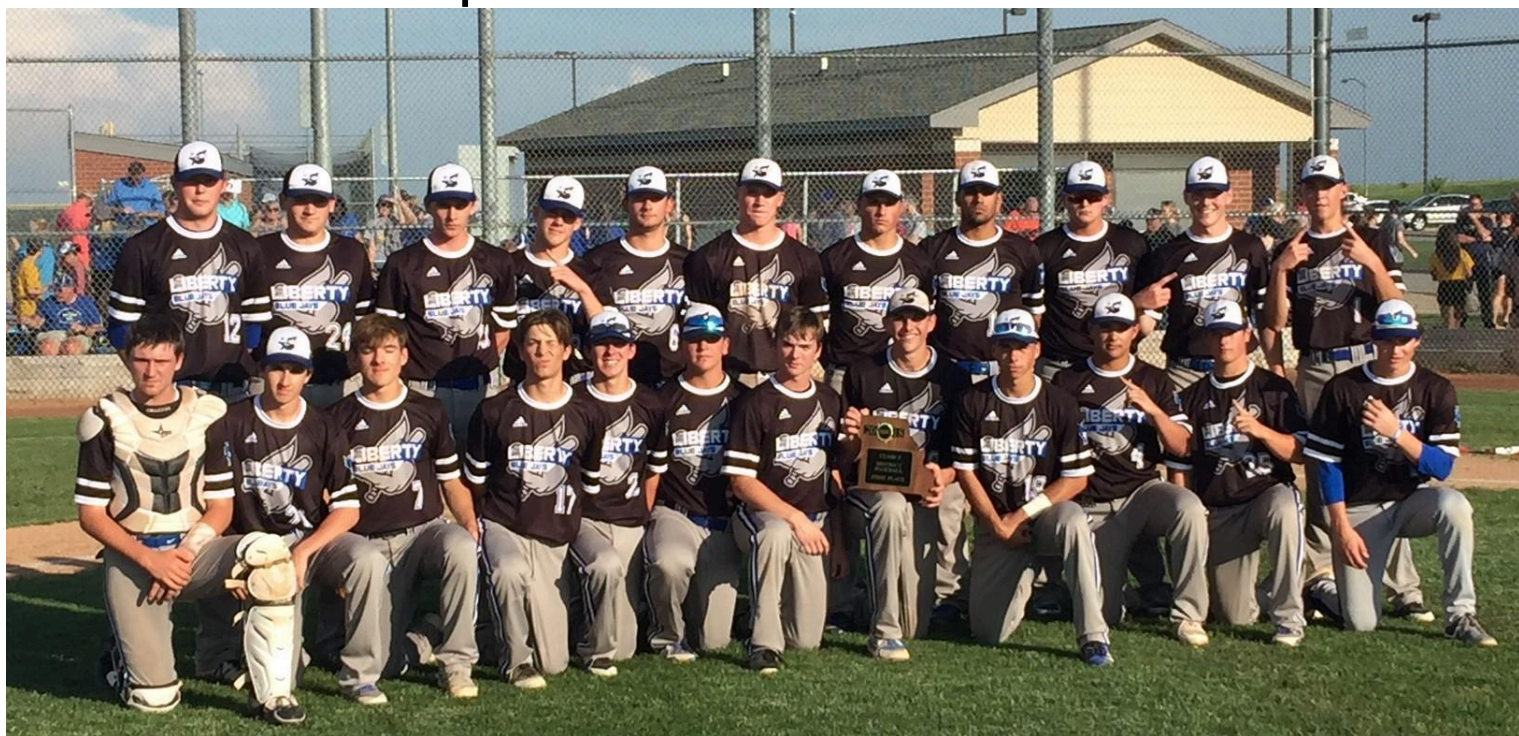


Liberty Blue Jays Baseball 2018

District Champions

27-11

Sectional Winners



Top Row: Thomas Henrichs, Alex Slocum, Max Minette, Gibson Brown, Anthony Mazzeffe, Braxton Bragg, Drew Mackie, Jordan McClellan, Ben Buchinger, Sam Shaffer and Hunter Evans

Bottom Row: Chayton Beck, Sawyer Loomis, Max Roos, Drake Persinger, Brady Littrell, Aiden Watson, Jordan Carlson, Logan Steenstra, Jacob Selock, Nathan Gray, Ben Jones and Ryan Williams





LIBERTY BLUE JAY BASEBALL



VARSITY ROSTER 2018

NO.	GR	LAST	FIRST	HT	WT	B	T	POS
1	SR	EVANS	HUNTER	6'1	160	R	R	SS/P
2	JR	LITRELL	BRADY	5'9	135	R	R	OF/INF
3	SR	BROWN	GIBSON	5'11	160	R	L	P/OF
4	JR	GRAY	NATHAN	5'10	180	R	R	2B
5	FR	WATSON	AIDEN	5'10	160	L	R	C/1B
6	SR	MAZZEFTE	ANTHONY	6'0	180	R	R	P
7	SO	ROOS	MAX	5'10	160	R	R	OF/P
8	JR	CARLSON	JORDAN	5'9	175	L	L	OF/P
10	SR	MCCLELLAN	JORDAN	6'0	180	R	R	OF
11	SR	BUCHINGER	BEN	6'0	210	R	R	C
12	SR	HENRICHS	THOMAS	6'5	200	R	R	P
13	SR	MINETTE	MAX	6'0	160	R	R	P
14	SO	BECK	CHAYTON	6'2	170	R	R	C/INF/P
15	FR	WILLIAMS	RYAN	5'11	160	R	R	INF/P
16	SR	STEENSTRA	LOGAN	6'5	180	R	R	3B/SS/P
17	JR	PERSINGER	DRAKE	5'10	170	R	R	OF
18	SR	SHAFFER	SAM	6'1	180	R	R	P
19	JR	SELOCK	JACOB	5'9	160	R	R	INF/OF
21	SO	LOOMIS	SAWYER	5'10	150	R	R	P/INF
23	JR	MACKIE	DREW	6'0	180	L	R	OF/P
24	SR	SLOCUM	ALEX	6'2	215	R	R	P
25	SO	JONES	BEN	5'9	175	R	R	C/OF/P
27	JR	BRAGG	BRAXTON	6'2	190	R	R	1B/P

HEAD COACH: KIRK BRAGG
 ASSISTANT: VINCE ARMILIO
 ASSISTANT: ZACH PIRRELLO

JV COACH: DOUG CLARK
 C TEAM BLUE: MATT OWEN
 ASSISTANT: MITCH MASKER
 C TEAM WHITE: MATT DYE
 ASSISTANT: MAX BOEHLER

BLUE JAYS COACHING STAFF 2018

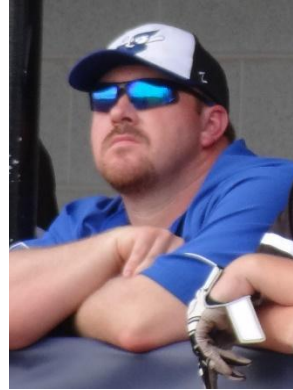
KIRK BRAGG
HEAD VARSITY



VINCE ARMILIO
ASSITANT HEAD VARSITY



MATT OWEN
C BLUE COACH



DOUG CLARK
JV COACH



COACHING STAFF CONTINUED:

ZACH PIRELLO
VARSITY ASSISTANT



MATT DYE
C WHITE COACH



MITCHELL MASKER
C-TEAM ASSISTANT



MAX BOEHLER
C-TEAM ASSISTANT



VARSIY RECAPS

VARSIY SCORES AND SUMMARIES (27-11)

DATE	OPPONENT	TIME	W/L	SCORE	RECORD
	Metro Leadoff Tourney				
	LSN	10am	WIN	5-3	1-0
	Smithville	445pm	WIN	5-3	2-0
	Ray-Pec	515pm	WIN	4-3	3-0
	Blue Springs	515pm	LOSS (12inn.)	4-6	3-1
	Park Hill	515pm	LOSS	6-9	3-2
3/29	@ Liberty North	500pm	WIN	17-2	4-2
3/30	@ Blue Springs	130pm	LOSS	4-7	4-3
	@ Blue Springs	330pm	WIN	5-3	5-3
4/5	Raytown	400pm	WIN	7-2	6-3
4/7	LSN	330pm	WIN (8inn.)	6-5	7-3
	LSN	530pm	WIN	9-0	8-3
4/10	@ Fort Osage	400pm	WIN	5-1	9-3
4/12	PHS	500pm	WIN	14-4	10-3
4/14	@ Oak Park	10am	WIN	12-1	11-3
	OAK PARK	12pm	WIN	9-5	12-3
4/16	GRAIN VALLEY	5pm	LOSS	2-5	12-4
4/17	@ Excelsior Springs	4pm	WIN	4-3	13-4
4/18	@ Platte County	4pm	WIN	8-2	14-4
4/19	@ Park Hill	4pm	LOSS	2-5	14-5
4/23	@ St. Joseph Central	4pm	LOSS	1-2	14-6
4/24	LIBERTY NORTH	7pm	LOSS	0-2	14-7
4/27	@ PHS	4pm	WIN	1-0	15-7
4/28	@ Blue Springs South	10am	WIN	6-1	16-7
	@ Blue Springs South	12pm	LOSS	0-10	16-8
4/30	ROCKHURST	5pm	WIN	13-10	17-8
5/1	ST. JOSEPH CENTRAL	4pm	LOSS	9-10	17-9
5/2	@ Raytown	4pm	WIN	13-5	18-9
5/4	TRUMAN	5pm	WIN	9-0	19-9
5/5	@ Lee's Summit	10am	WIN	4-1	20-9
	@ Lee's Summit	12pm	LOSS	3-7	20-10
5/8	@ Truman	430pm	WIN	11-1	21-10
5/9	@ Ray-Pec	6pm	WIN	5-0	22-10

DATE	OPPONENT	TIME	W/L	SCORE	RECORD
5/10	@ Platte County	330pm	WIN	3-2	23-10
5/12	William Chrisman (Dist)	130pm	WIN	13-3	24-10
5/15	Kearney (Dist)	5pm	WIN	2-1	25-10
5/16	Liberty North (Dist)	5pm	WIN	3-0	26-10
5/22	St. Joseph Central (Sect.)	6pm	WIN	5-3	27-10
5/24	Blue Springs South (QTR)	5pm	LOSS	2-7	27-11

LEE'S SUMMIT NORTH (GAME 1) METRO LEADOFF

TEAM	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	R	H	E
LSN	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	3	5	2
LIBERTY BLUE JAYS	2	0	0	1	2	0	-	5	8	0

WP: Sam Shaffer LP: Tucker Nunnencamp SV: Alex Slocum

Blue Jay Baseball is underway with an opening win against Lee's Summit North to start the season...Jays jumped out to a quick 2-0 lead on a Max Roos 2 RBI single and never looked back. Sam Shaffer pitched really well and Alex Slocum closed the door.

Hitting:

Braxton Bragg 2 for 4 with 2 Runs, Double, Brady Littrell 2 for 3 , Max Roos 2 RBI's

Pitching:

Sam Shaffer 5 1/3 IP, 6 K's 1 BB, 2 hits allowed, Alex Slocum 1 2/3 IP, 2 K's

SMITHVILLE (GAME 2) METRO LEADOFF

TEAM	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	R	H	E
LIBERTY BLUE JAYS	0	1	2	0	1	1	0	0	5	7	0
Smithville	0	0	0	1	2	0	0	-	3	6	2

WP: Gibson Brown, LP: Wyatt Scherer, SV: Jordan Carlson

Game 2 on the season Gibson Brown took the mound against a really good Smithville team Liberty led the whole game and it stayed that way to the end. Drew Mackie led the charge with 3 hits and Gibson Brown pitched well enough to secure his first victory while Junior Jordan Carlson picked up the save.

Hitting:

Drew Mackie 3 for 4 with a Triple and 2 runs, Jordan Carlson double and an RBI

Pitching:

Gibson Brown 4 1/3 IP, 4 K's, 3 hits allowed, Jordan Carlson 2 2/3 IP, 2 K's

RAY-PEC (GAME 3) METRO LEADOFF

TEAM	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	R	H	E
Ray-Pec Panthers	0	0	1	0	0	0	2	3	5	1
LIBERTY BLUE JAYS	0	1	3	0	0	0	-	4	4	1

WP: Braxton Bragg, LP: Jake Beauchamp, SV: Anthony Mazzeffe

Blue Jays (3-0) defeat Ray-Pec 4-3 yesterday. Braxton Bragg K's 7 in 4 IP to pick up the win. Anthony Mazzeffe throws 3 solid innings of relief for the save, 2 K's. Next up today 5:15pm vs Blue Springs (3-0).

BLUE SPRINGS (GAME 4) METRO LEADOFF

TEAM	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	R	H	E
BLUE SPRINGS	0	0	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	6	12	2
LIBERTY BLUE JAYS	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	4	9	2

WP: Nick Brandner, LP: Jordan Carlson,

Hard fought battle tonight Jays fall 6-4 to Blue Springs in 12 innings. Thomas Henrichs K'd 8 in 5 IP. Alex Slocum was nails throwing 6 IP of 0 run relief with 9 K's. Nathan Gray was 4 for 6 with a double at the plate. Next up Park Hill Thu. 5:15pm.

PARK HILL (GAME 5) METRO LEADOFF

TEAM	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	R	H	E
LIBERTY BLUE JAYS	1	1	3	0	1	0	0	6	7	2
PARK HILL	2	6	0	0	0	1	-	9	7	2

WP: Ayden Mertz, LP: Sam Shaffer

Jays fall 9-6 in the Metro finale to Park Hill. Finish 3-2 on the week. Hunter Evans went 2 for 3 with an RBI, Nathan Gray was 2 for 3 with 2 R and a RBI. Braxton Bragg went 2 for 3 with a double and a RBI. Next up St. Joe Central Monday.

TEAM	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	R	H	E
LIBERTY BLUE JAYS	8	0	0	0	0	2	7	17	15	1
Liberty North	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	2	5	6

WP: Gibson Brown, LP: Brett Demeyer

Looking for some payback in this game, the Jays have not played well at Liberty North in the past, but that statement was erased pretty quickly today. Jays just flat out jumped on the Eagles early scoring 8 runs in the first inning on 5 hits, Chayton Beck had a big 2 RBI single to lead the charge. Gibson Brown had his 'A' game on today and was unhittable early, he retired the first 10 batters in the game with 4 strikeouts. Brown was touched for a run early in the 4th, but that did not phase him from his dominant performance. Liberty pounded out 17 runs on 15 hits, Drew Mackie had 3 hits, Logan Steenstra had 3 hits, Nathan Gray, Hunter Evans and Chayton Beck each collected 2. Gibson Brown struck out 8 in the win! Good day to be a Blue Jay in this one!

TEAM	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	R	H	E
LIBERTY BLUE JAYS	0	1	1	0	0	1	1	4	11	4
BLUE SPRINGS	0	0	0	5	2	0	-	7	9	0

WP: Peyton Smith, LP: Thomas Henrichs

TEAM	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	R	H	E
LIBERTY BLUE JAYS	0	0	1	3	1	0	0	5	7	0
BLUE SPRINGS	0	0	0	1	2	0	0	3	3	1

WP: Sam Shaffer, LP: Matt Smith, SP: Alex Slocum

Jays split w/Blue Springs 4-7 & 5-3. Jordan Carlson went 3 for 3 w/ 2 RBI's, Hunter Evans was 2 for 2, Braxton Bragg hammered a solo home run. GM2: Sam Shaffer picks up the win 4 strong innings, Alex Slocum strikes out 5 for the SV. Ian Jacobs & Logan Steenstra had 2 hits each.

TEAM	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	R	H	E
Raytown	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	2	5	0
LIBERTY BLUE JAYS	3	0	0	0	4	0	-	7	7	1

WP: Braxton Bragg, **LP:** Christian Johnson

Jays defeat Raytown 7-2 tonight to move to 6-3 on the season. Ian Jacobs was 2 for 3 with 2 RBI's and a double. Drew Mackie went 2 for 3 with 3 RBI's. 4 pitchers limited Raytown to 2 runs over 7 innings. Next up double header Saturday 3:30pm v. LSN.

TEAM	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	R	H	E
LSN	2	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	5	8	5
LIBERTY BLUE JAYS	0	1	0	2	2	0	0	1	6	10	2

WP: Sam Shaffer, **LP:** T.J. Nichols

GM1: Jays defeat LSN 6-5 in 8 innings. Jordan Carlson went 2 for 3 with an RBI. Drew Mackie also went 2 for 4 on the day. Alex Slocum strikes out 5, Thomas Henrichs throws 2 1/3rd inning of relief, Sam Shaffer finishes the last 2 innings for the win. Jays are 7-3 on the season

TEAM	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	R	H	E
LSN	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0
LIBERTY BLUE JAYS	4	2	1	0	2	0	-	9	11	2

WP: Sam Shaffer, **LP:** Chandler Scuggs

GM2: The bats started off hot in the second game, Liberty jumped out to a quick 4-0 lead and never looked back winning 9-0. Jordan Carlson was 2 for 4. Ben Buchinger doubled and drove in 2. Braxton Bragg had 3 RBI's. Sam Shaffer picks up the win. Jays are 8-3 on the season.

TEAM	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	R	H	E
LIBERTY BLUE JAYS	0	1	1	0	1	1	1	5	7	0
Fort Osage	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	3	0

WP: Thomas Henrichs, **LP:** Zane Barr

Liberty defeats Fort Osage 5-1 today...Thomas Henrichs dealt a CG 3 hitter allowing 1 run to pick up the win. Henrichs struck out 8! Drew Mackie was 2 for 3 with a HR, Jacob Selock blasted a solo shot, Chayton Beck smoked a 3 run HR. Jordan Carlson was 2 for 3. Jays are 9-3

TEAM	1	2	3	4	5	6	R	H	E
Park Hill South	0	0	2	0	2	0	4	3	1
LIBERTY BLUE JAYS	0	0	4	3	1	6	14	14	3

WP: Gibson Brown, **LP:** Sam Beuerlein

Jays defeat PHS 14-4 behind a strong pitching performance from Gibson Brown. CG 9k's allowing 3 hits. Drew Mackie 2 for 3, 3R 2RBI's. Jordan Carlson 3R. Ian Jacobs 3 for 4, 2RBI's. Hunter Evans 2 for 3, 2RBI's. Logan Steenstra 2 hits, Braxton

Bragg 2 hits 2 RBI's. Jays are 10-3

TEAM	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	R	H	E
LIBERTY BLUE JAYS	1	2	3	1	0	0	5	12	16	1
Oak Park	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	4	3

WP: Braxton Bragg, **LP:** Parker Weddle

GM1: Liberty defeats Oak Park 12-1. Braxton Bragg was dominant on the mound throwing 5 IP with 11 K's and 0 BB. Jays pounded out 16 hits. Jordan Carlson and Drew Mackie had 3 hits. Logan Steenstra, Nate Gray & Hunter Evans 2 hits. Liberty is 11-3

TEAM	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	R	H	E
Oak Park	1	0	0	3	1	0	0	5	11	2
LIBERTY BLUE JAYS	2	3	4	0	0	0	-	9	12	1

WP: Anthony Mazzeffe, **LP:** Richie Sanders

GM2: Jays defeat Oak Park 9-5 behind 5 Pitchers. Anthony Mazzeffe picks up the Win. Jordan McClellan was 2 for 3 w/ 2 doubles. Logan Steenstra was 3 for 4. Brady Littrell 2 for 3, 3 RBI's. Drew Mackie 2 for 3, 2 RBI's. Liberty is 12-3 on the season & face Grain Valley Mon. 5pm.

TEAM	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	R	H	E
LIBERTY BLUE JAYS	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	2	6	2
Grain Valley	1	0	4	0	0	0	-	5	7	0

WP: Garrett Morrow, **LP:** Thomas Henrichs

Jays fall to Grain Valley 5-2 in the first game of the Northland Tourney. Alex Slocum throws 3 scoreless innings of relief. Nathan Gray had 2 RBI's, Braxton Bragg went 2 for 3. Liberty is now 12-4 and head to Excelsior Springs Tuesday.

TEAM	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	R	H	E
LIBERTY BLUE JAYS	1	0	0	0	0	2	1	4	7	1
Excelsior Springs	1	0	0	0	0	0	2	3	6	0

WP: Gibson Brown, **LP:** Peyton Soria, **SV:** Sam Shaffer

Jays defeat Ex. Springs 4-3 in dramatic fashion Drew Mackie threw a missile to home Ben Buchinger applied the tag and the game was over. Gibson Brown picks up the win striking out 10! Sam Shaffer closed it down. Drew Mackie 2 for 3, Nathan Gray 2 for 4, 2 RBI's. Jays are 13-4.

TEAM	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	R	H	E
LIBERTY BLUE JAYS	0	3	1	2	1	1	0	8	14	3
Platte County	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	2	6	3

WP: Sam Shaffer, **LP:** Ethan Esdohr, **SP:** Alex Slocum

Jays defeat Platte Co. 8-2, Sam Shaffer picks up the win 3K's, Alex Slocum SV 6K's. Logan Steenstra 3 for 3, 3R. Hunter Evans 3 for 4, 2 RBI's with a long HR. Braxton Bragg 3 for 4 with a solo HR. Jacob Selock and Drew Mackie 2 hits apiece. Liberty is 14-4.

TEAM	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	R	H	E
------	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

PARK HILL	0	0	1	0	4	0	0	5	4	0
LIBERTY BLUE JAYS	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	2	8	1

WP: Ayden Mertz, **LP:** Braxton Bragg

Jays fall to Park Hill 5-2 and move to 14-5 on the season. Hunter Evans went 2 for 4. Braxton Bragg was 2 for 3 with a double and another Home Run in consecutive days, 7 K's on the mound. Liberty will host a final game in the Northland tomorrow 5pm.

TEAM	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	R	H	E
LIBERTY BLUE JAYS	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	5	2
St. Joseph central	0	1	0	0	1	0	-	2	4	1

WP: Noah Cameron , **LP:** Gibson Brown

Jays fall 2-1 @ St. Joe Central today. Gibson Brown was solid on the mound throwing 4 2/3rds innings striking out 4, 4H, OER. Alex Slocum, Sam Shaffer pickup the final innings of relief. Offense was quiet; however, Chayton Beck was 2 for 3. Jays are 14-6 on the year.

TEAM	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	R	H	E
Liberty North	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	2	8	2
LIBERTY BLUE JAYS	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	1

WP: Caden Wilson, **LP:** Thomas Henrichs

Jays fall again 2-0 to North. Thomas Henrichs pitched really well 6 2/3rds innings striking out 2. Braxton Bragg at the plate was 3 for 3.

TEAM	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	R	H	E
LIBERTY BLUE JAYS	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	3	1
Park Hill South	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	1

WP: Logan Steenstra, **LP:** Collin Brougham

Blue Jays get it done tonight! 7th inning Hunter Evans smokes a double to right and Jordan Carlson scores him on a single. Logan Steenstra was the man on the mound tonight, CG shutout scattering 4 hits striking out 6. Liberty is 15-7 & take on #4 ranked Blue Springs South Sat.

TEAM	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	R	H	E
LIBERTY BLUE JAYS	2	0	0	0	2	2	0	6	10	2
Blue Springs South	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	0

WP: Gibson Brown, **LP:** Andrew Simms, **SV:** Sam Shaffer

TEAM	1	2	3	4	5	R	H	E
LIBERTY BLUE JAYS	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2
Blue Springs South	0	0	1	4	5	10	9	0

WP: Will Royster, **LP:** Alex Slocum

Jays defeat Blue Springs South 6-1 in the first game. Hunter Evans was 2 for 4, Jordan Carlson & Drew Mackie drove in 2 runs. Chayton Beck was 2 for 3. Pitching Gibson Brown & Sam Shaffer combined on the 2 hitter. Liberty drops GM2 0-10

Jays are 16-8 on the season.

TEAM	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	R	H	E
ROCKHURST	4	4	0	0	0	2	0	10	13	2
LIBERTY BLUE JAYS	5	4	0	0	3	1	-	13	16	2

WP: Thomas Henrichs, **LP:** Gary Zancanelli

Liberty takes down Rockhurst 13-10. Thomas Henrichs battled for 5 innings getting the win 3K's. Alex Slocum picked up the SV. Braxton Bragg went 4 for 5 with a double. Logan Steenstra 3 for 4, 2B, 4 RBI's. Max Roos, Jacob Selock and Hunter Evans each had 2 hits. Jays are 17-8.

TEAM	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	R	H	E
St. Joseph central	1	2	7	0	0	0	0	10	10	0
LIBERTY BLUE JAYS	3	0	0	0	0	4	2	9	14	3

WP: Noah Cameron , **LP:** Gibson Brown

Jays had a rough 3rd inn. tonight and fall to St. Joe Central 10-9. Offense pounded out 14 hits in the loss. Logan Steenstra was 3 for 3 with 3 RBI's, Jacob Selock went 3 for 4, Braxton Bragg and Hunter Evans each had 2 hits. Max Minette threw 4 scoreless inn. Liberty is 17-9.

TEAM	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	R	H	E
LIBERTY BLUE JAYS	0	0	1	2	0	9	1	13	12	5
Raytown	0	0	0	1	1	3	0	5	6	2

WP: Braxton Bragg, **LP:** Brice Taylor

Jays took a 3-2 lead into the top of 6 and blew up for 9 runs to defeat Raytown 13-5. Braxton Bragg threw 5 innings 10k's, 1BB, OER, W. Logan Steenstra 2-3 triple 2 RBI's, Jordan McClellan 2-3, 2 RBI's. Liberty is now 18-9. Senior night is this Friday 5pm v. Truman.

SENIOR DAY

TEAM	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	R	H	E
Truman	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	2
LIBERTY BLUE JAYS	2	0	3	1	2	1	-	9	12	0

WP: Anthony Mazzeffe, **LP:** Kyler Barnett

Liberty defeats Truman 9-0 on Senior night. Great group of Seniors, thank you for your dedication. Sam Shaffer, Anthony Mazzeffe & Max Minette combine on the shutout. Drew Mackie 3-4, Brady Littrell 2-2, Nathan Gray 2 hits. Thomas Henrichs 1-1, Gibson Brown RBI. Jays are 19-9



TEAM

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

R

H

E

LIBERTY BLUE JAYS	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	4	10	3
Lees Summit	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	5	0

WP: Alex Slocum, **LP:** Kostelnick

TEAM	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	R	H	E
LIBERTY BLUE JAYS	0	0	0	2	1	0	0	3	8	4
Lees Summit	3	2	0	0	2	0	-	7	12	2

WP: Pudenz, **LP:** Thomas Henrichs

Jays split DH today against #6 Lee's Summit. GM1 4-1 victory Gibson Brown 4 scoreless and Alex Slocum picks up the W. Jordan Carlson 3-3, Drew Mackie 2-4, 2B, 3B. Jordan McClellan big 2 out 2B in the sixth to seal the victory. Jays move to 20-9 on the season.

SIGNING CEREMONY 2018

Special day for Blue Jay baseball 7 signed and headed to the next level! Thomas Henrichs, Gibson Brown & Alex Slocum (Northwest Missouri State), Jordan McClellan (Highland C.C.), Sam Shaffer (Crowder C.C.), Ben Buchinger (Friends Univ.), Logan Steenstra (Cowley C.C.)...great group, appreciate everything, awesome families! Go Blue Jays





TEAM	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	R	H	E
LIBERTY BLUE JAYS	1	4	0	2	2	2	0	11	12	1
Truman	0	0	1	0	0	0	-	1	5	3

WP: Braxton Bragg, **LP:** Mason Chance

Jays defeat Truman 11-1. Braxton Bragg 5 solid innings 9K's. Logan Steenstra 3-4, 2 doubles, 2 RBI's. Ben Buchinger 2-3, 2B, Braxton Bragg 2 hits, Nathan Gray, Hunter Evans and Jordan McClellan each 2 RBI's. Liberty is 21-10 finishes 7-3 in conference play.

TEAM	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	R	H	E
LIBERTY BLUE JAYS	0	1	0	0	0	1	3	5	9	1
Ray-Pec Panthers	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	3

WP: Logan Steenstra, **LP:** Derek Beauchamp

Jays take care of Ray-Pec on the road tonight 5-0. Logan Steenstra was dominant throwing a CG 3 hit shutout, 7k's OBB. Jordan McClellan 3-4 with a HR and 2 RBI's, Jacob Selock added 3 hits as well, Hunter Evans drove in 2 runs. Liberty is now 22-10 @ Platte Co. Thurs. 3:30pm

TEAM	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	R	H	E
LIBERTY BLUE JAYS	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	3	8	1
Platte County	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	2	0

WP: Sam Shaffer, **LP:** Blake Minyard

Jays down Platte Co. 3-2, Sam Shaffer, Alex Slocum, Sawyer Loomis & Max Minette combined on the 2 hitter. Braxton Bragg 3-3 with a double, Hunter Evans 2-2, Ben Buchinger 2 RBI's, Aiden Watson 1-2, double. Liberty finishes 23-10 reg. season, next up W. Chrisman Sat. 1:30 @ LN.

DISTRICTS RD 1

TEAM	1	2	3	4	5	R	H	E
William Chrisman	0	1	0	2	0	3	4	2
LIBERTY BLUE JAYS	3	5	5	0	-	13	16	2

WP: Thomas Henrichs **LP:** Seth Gossett

Hit parade was on early today in the first District game v. William Chrisman. Jays jumped out to a 3 run first inning lead and never looked back. 5 runs in the 2nd and 5 again in the 3rd. Liberty pounded out 16 hits winning 13-3 advancing to Monday's semifinals. Thomas Henrichs 3 inn. W, 3K, Anthony Mazzeffe 2 IP...Hunter Evans 3-3 with 2 Triples, 3 RBI's, Logan Steenstra 3-4, 2 Triples, 3 RBI's, Braxton Bragg 3-4, 2 Doubles, 2 RBI's. Drew Mackie 2-2, 3 RBI's. Jacob Selock 2 hits. Jays (24-10) play Kearney Mon. 630pm @ LN!

DISTRICTS SEMI-FINALS

TEAM	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	R	H	E
Kearney	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	5	1
LIBERTY BLUE JAYS	0	0	0	2	0	0	-	2	5	1

WP: Gibson Brown **LP:** Chris Griffin

District semis 0-0 heading into the bottom of 4, Braxton Bragg steps up to the plate and hammers a 2-1 fastball over the LF fence, Jays added another run to take a 2-0 lead. Gibson Brown took the ball in this one & was just in control from start to finish. Lead off single Brown retired the next 10 Kearney batters, Gibson was touched for a run in 6th, but set them down 1-2-3 in the 7th for WIN! Brown K'd 6 BB 0. Logan Steenstra went 2-3, 2 doubles. Liberty is now 25-10 & face LN, Wed. @ LN 5pm (District Finals).



DISTRICT FINALS

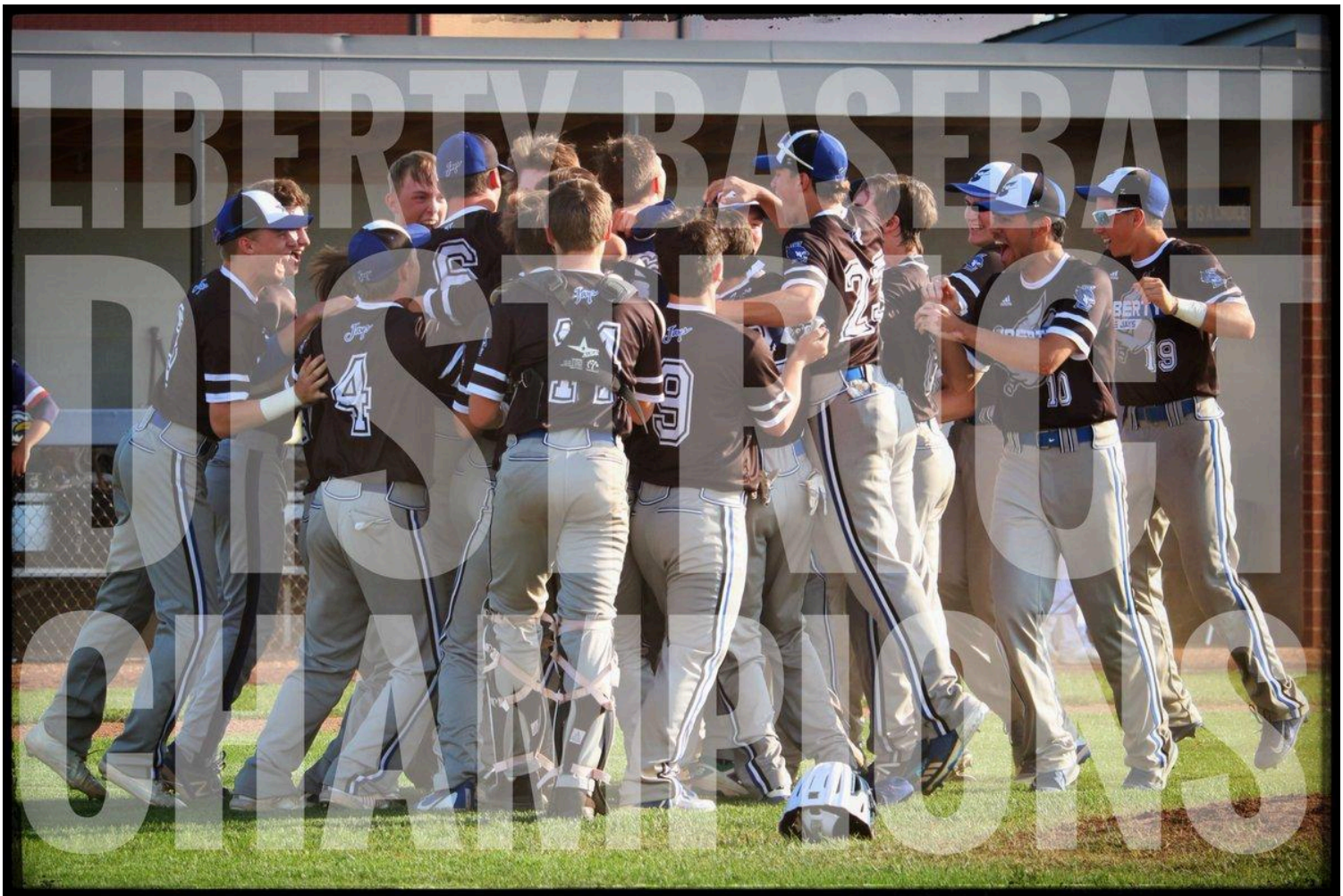
TEAM	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	R	H	E
LIBERTY BLUE JAYS	0	0	0	1	0	0	2	3	4	1
Liberty North	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0

WP: Logan Steenstra, **LP:** Brenner Maloney

Liberty (25-10) vs. Liberty North (23-8) today 5pm @ LN, District Finals. Come out and support Jays baseball!

BOOM!!!!!! Hard work paying off for this group, District 15 Champions! Hats off to Logan Steenstra the Senior just pitched amazing, complete game one hit shutout striking out 11 with no walks...ARE YOU KIDDING ME! GO JAYS! Liberty defeats Liberty North 3-0...Jays move to 26-10

Love coaching these guys! Time to get back to work tomorrow! Great memories thanks Eric Langhorst for some of these pics from yesterday. District Champ photo, Steen dealing, Jordan McClellan big RBI double.





LIBERTY BLUE JAYS				LIBERTY NORTH			
AB	R	H	BI	AB	R	H	BI
Jacob Selock	3	0	0	Nick Fuller	3	0	0
Braxton Bragg	1	1	0	Nate Chester	3	0	1
Logan Steenstra	3	0	1	James Perry	3	0	0
Drew Mackie	3	1	1	Riley Covington	3	0	0
Hunter Evans	3	0	0	Braden Sterveniou	3	0	0
Jordan McClellan	3	1	1	Logan Moran	2	0	0
Brady Littrell	3	0	0	Douglas Wood	2	0	0
Nate Gray	2	0	0	Caden Wilson	2	0	0
Jordan Carlson	1	0	1	Jackson Bodinson	1	0	0
Chayton Beck	3	0	0	Donnie Hanway	1	0	0
TOTALS	25	3	4	TOTALS	23	0	1

LOB--LIBERTY BLUE JAYS 3, LIBERTY NORTH 2. ERR--Braxton Bragg. 2B--Jordan McClellan, Logan Steenstra. SB--Drew Mackie, Chester 2.

LIBERTY BLUE JAYS	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	HR
Logan Steenstra (W)	7.00	1	0	0	0	11	0
LIBERTY NORTH							
Brenner Maloney (L)	6.00	1	1	1	2	4	0
James Perry	1.00	3	2	2	0	1	0

SO--Chayton Beck (2), Drew Mackie (2), Braxton Bragg, James Perry (3), Nate Chester, Caden Wilson, Sterveniou, Logan Moran (2), Covington (2), Bodinson, BB--Braxton Bragg (2).

SECTIONALS

TEAM	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	R	H	E
LIBERTY BLUE JAYS	2	0	2	0	1	0	0	5	7	2
St. Joseph central	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	3	3	3

WP: Logan Steenstra LP: Noah Cameron SV: Gibson Brown

LIBERTY BLUE JAYS	AB	R	H	BI	ST. JOSEPH CENTRAL	AB	R	H	BI
Jacob Selock	3	0	0	0	Hunter Madison	3	1	0	0
Braxton Bragg	3	1	0	0	Jake Mikoresh	2	1	0	0
Logan Steenstra	3	2	2	0	Noah Cameron	4	1	1	2
Hunter Evans	4	1	2	2	Zach Hanlan	3	0	1	1
Jordan McClellan	3	0	0	0	Samson Holcomb	3	0	0	0
Drew Mackie	3	0	1	2	Zach Kanatzar	3	0	0	0
Chayton Beck	2	0	1	0	Alex Caudill	3	0	1	0
Nate Gray	2	0	1	0	Peyton Smith	1	0	0	0
Brady Littrell	3	0	0	0	Graham Hill	2	0	0	0
*Jordan Carlson	0	1	0	0					
TOTALS	26	5	7	4	TOTALS	24	3	3	3

LOB--LIBERTY BLUE JAYS 6, ST. JOSEPH CENTRAL 6. ERR--Jacob Selock, Braxton Bragg, Zach Kanatzar (2), Alex Caudill. 2B--Logan Steenstra. 3B--Drew Mackie, Noah Cameron. HBP--Graham Hill. SACB--Jacob Selock, Jordan McClellan. SB--Nate Gray.

LIBERTY BLUE JAYS	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	HR
Logan Steenstra (W)	6.00	3	3	3	5	7	0
Gibson Brown (S)	1.00	0	0	0	0	2	0
ST. JOSEPH CENTRAL							
Noah Cameron (L)	4.67	7	5	4	3	3	0
Roy Holcomb	0.33	0	0	0	1	0	0
Samson Holcomb	2.00	0	0	0	0	2	0

PB--Chayton Beck. SO--Brady Littrell, Drew Mackie, Jacob Selock, Braxton Bragg, Jordan McClellan, Zach Hanlan, Jake Mikoresh, Hunter Madison (3), Noah Cameron, Zach Kanatzar (2), Alex Caudill. BB--Chayton Beck, Braxton Bragg, Nate Gray, Logan Steenstra, Jake Mikoresh (2), Hunter Madison, Peyton Smith (2).



QUARTERFINALS

TEAM	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	R	H	E
LIBERTY BLUE JAYS	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	2	6	1
Blue Springs South	1	0	2	4	0	0	-	7	9	1

WP: Brady Lightener LP: Gibson Brown

LIBERTY BLUE JAYS	AB	R	H	BI	BLUE SPRINGS SOUTH	AB	R	H	BI
Jacob Selock	3	0	1	0	Dustin Brewer	2	2	1	0
Braxton Bragg	2	0	0	1	Jared Ravencamp	4	1	2	0
Logan Steenstra	3	0	0	0	Allante Hall	3	1	0	2
Hunter Evans	3	0	1	0	John Herrman	3	2	2	0
Drew Mackie	3	0	1	0	Derek Mammen	3	1	2	1
Jordan McClellan	3	0	0	0	Brady Strickert	3	0	1	2
Chayton Beck	3	1	1	0	Will Heller	2	0	0	1
Nate Gray	3	1	1	0	Cale Sackewitz	3	0	0	0
Brady Littrell	3	0	1	0	Grant Geren	3	0	1	0
TOTALS	27	2	6	1	TOTALS	26	7	9	6

LOB--LIBERTY BLUE JAYS 4, BLUE SPRINGS SOUTH 8. ERR--Logan Steenstra, Allante Hall. 2B--Drew Mackie. 3B--Derek Mammen. HBP--Dustin Brewer. SACF--Braxton Bragg, Allante Hall, Will Heller. SB--Dustin Brewer, Jared Ravencamp.

	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	HR
LIBERTY BLUE JAYS							
Gibson Brown (L)	3.33	4	5	3	4	5	0
Sam Shaffer	0.33	3	2	2	0	0	0
Thomas Henrichs	2.33	2	0	0	0	2	0
BLUE SPRINGS SOUTH							
Brady Lightener (W)	7.00	6	2	1	0	3	0

PB--Allante Hall. BALK--Gibson Brown (2), Sam Shaffer. SO--Drew Mackie, Jordan McClellan, Logan Steenstra, Jared Ravencamp, Derek Mammen, Brady Strickert, Cale Sackewitz, Grant Geren (2), Will Heller. BB--Dustin Brewer, John Herrman, Derek Mammen, Brady Strickert.



SEASON HONORS 27-11

*District 15 Champions

*Sectional Winners

*Quarterfinals (Top 8 in State)

Mid 6 (Suburban Red) Second Place

100-34 (Past 4 Seasons)
Ranked 8th in MSHBCA Regular Season

<u>ACADEMIC ALL STATE:</u> Sam Shaffer Alex Slocum Logan Steenstra	<u>TEAM CLASS 5 ACADEMIC ALL STATE:</u> 1. Blue Springs South (4.02) 2. Branson (3.64) 3. Timberland (3.63) 4. Smith-Cotton (3.57) 5. Glendale (3.51) 6. LIBERTY (3.50)
<u>SEASON RECORDS:</u> Varsity (27-11) Junior Varsity (19-6) C Blue (17-6) C White (12-6) All programs went 75-29, .721 winning pct.	

Class 5 1. Vianney 2. Staley 3. Blue Springs South 4. Liberty (KC) 5. CBC 6. Ozark 7. Holt 8. Fort Zumwalt West 9. Marquette 10. Webb City	Class 5 1. Vianney (8-0) 2. Staley (8-1) 3. Blue Springs South (2-0) 4. Holt (6-2) 5. CBC (5-2-1) 6. Ft. Zumwalt West (5-2) 7. Liberty (5-3) 8. Ozark (4-2) 9. Webb City (7-2) 10. Rolla (7-2-1)	Class 5 1. Vianney (16-0) 2. Staley (13-1) 3. Holt (10-2-1) 4. Blue Springs South (7-1) 5. Webb City (14-2) 6. Rolla (10-2-1) 7. Liberty (12-3) 8. Willard (15-3) 9. Lee's Summit (10-2) 10. Hickman (15-3)	Class 5 1. Vianney (26-2) 2. Staley (25-1) 3. Holt (20-2-1) 4. Webb City (20-2) 5. Blue Springs South (13-5) 6. Lee's Summit (18-3) 7. Willard (21-5) 8. Eureka (17-2) 9. Rolla (14-4-1) 10. Liberty North (18-5)
Class 5 1. Vianney (31-2) 2. Staley (31-1) 3. Holt (23-4) 4. Webb City (23-4) 5. Lee's Summit (22-5) 6. Willard (24-6) 7. Eureka (20-3) 8. Liberty North (22-8) 9. Rolla (20-6-1) 10. Poplar Bluff (20-2)			



Liberty Blue Jays Baseball



TEAM AWARDS 2018

1ST TEAM All CONFERENCE

HONORABLE MENTION All CONFERENCE

SR - LOGAN STEENSTRA (3B)

SR - THOMAS HENRICHS (RHP)

SR - GIBSON BROWN (LHP)

SR - ALEX SLOCUM (RHP)

JR - BRAXTON BRAGG (UT)

SR - SAM SHAFFER (RHP)

JR - DREW MACKIE (OF)

SR - JORDAN MCCLELLAN (OF)

2ND TEAM ALL CONFERENCE

SR - LOGAN STEENSTRA (RHP)

SR - HUNTER EVANS (SS)

JR - JORDAN CARLSON (OF)

SO - CHAYTON BECK (C)

ALL METRO

FIRST TEAM

LOGAN STEENSTRA (3B/RHP)

SECOND TEAM

BRAXTON BRAGG (UT)

HONORABLE MENTION

DREW MACKIE (OF)

GIBSON BROWN (LHP)

IMPROVED PLAYERS

All of our players are improving and getting better this list are names of individuals highlighted by the coaching staff

JACOB SELOCK - INFIELD

ALEX SLOCUM - PITCHER

DEFENSIVE PLAYERS OF THE YEAR

LOGAN STEENSTRA (INF)

BRADY LITTRELL (2B/OF)

MOST VALUABLE PLAYER

LOGAN STEENSTRA (INF/RHP)

PITCHER OF THE YEAR

SAM SHAFFER (RHP)



Blue Jays' Steenstra shuts down Eagles for district title

- [By Thom Hanrahan thom.hanrahan@mycouriertribune.com](#) May 24, 2018

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LIBERTY — In the Class 5 District 15 baseball championship game, Logan Steenstra was one pitch away from a no hitter. The Liberty senior pitcher took a perfect game into the seventh inning. Only a leadoff single by Nate Chester broke up the no hitter in a 3-0 win over Liberty North on May 16 at Liberty North High School.

Until that harmless single on a 2-1 count, Steenstra had gone six innings and only allowed a single baserunner on a first-inning error by first baseman Braxton Bragg that allowed Chester to reach base. Other than those two instances, the Eagles couldn't get anything started against Steenstra, who struck out 11 and walked none. "I just went out there wanting to throw strikes and mix up pitches to keep them off balance," Steenstra said. "I'm lucky enough to have a great defense behind me that made some great plays that got me out of key innings." Liberty North pitcher Brenner Maloney also threw an outstanding game in the third meeting of the crosstown rivals in the district title contest in the past four years. Maloney pitched six innings, allowing just one hit and striking out four while walking two hitters. For three innings, the two hurlers kept the other team's lineup at bay. The Blue Jays finally broke through with a run in the top of the fourth that eventually proved to be enough for the win. Bragg coaxed a one-out walk off Maloney to get things rolling. Steenstra helped his own cause with an RBI double to left center before Maloney again shut down the Liberty bats. When Maloney left the game to start the final frame, the Blue Jays used a double bookmarked with a pair of singles to add two more runs for the game's final score. Steenstra said he was aware of the numbers he was putting up when Chester stepped into the batter's box in the last inning and broke up his no-hit bid. "I did that," he said. "So, obviously the only thing to do was hang a curveball over the middle of the plate to give that up." Results of a Tuesday, May 22, game against St. Joseph Central were not available by press time.

LIBERTY BASEBALL

Blue Jays race to win on senior night

[By Thom Hanrahan thom.hanrahan@mycouriertribune.com](#) May 10, 2018

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Thom Hanrahan/Staff Photo



Liberty righthander Sam Shaffer delivers a pitch during a senior night win over Truman on Friday, May 4, at Liberty High School.
Thom Hanrahan/Staff Photo

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LIBERTY — A two-run, first-inning double by Hunter Evans got things rolling and Liberty didn't let up in a 9-0 win over Truman at Senior Night on Friday, May 4, at Liberty High School. A trio of Blue Jays pitchers shared the shutout, allowing just six hits and striking out seven. The Evans two-run, extra-base hit in the opening frame set the stage for the Blue Jays' rout of the Patriots. The inning began innocently enough with two quick outs. Then, Drew Mackie cracked a double to right. The two-out assault on Patriot pitching wasn't over. Three more runs came across for Liberty in the home half of the third that put Truman in an unrecoverable hole. After an inning-opening groundout, Nathan Gray singled to right. Mackie followed with a double to center, putting runners on second and third with one out. A Logan Steenstra double to center brought home both runners and began to put the game out of reach for Truman. The Blue Jays brought home another run in the inning and took a 5-0 lead into the game's fourth frame. Liberty scored runs in each of the next three innings to complete the whitewash of the Patriots. Evans led the Blue Jays with three RBIs, and Steenstra added a pair of his own. Four Liberty players recorded doubles, including a pair from Mackie. After building the early lead, Liberty used three pitchers to scatter six hits, strike out seven and keep the Patriots off the scoreboard.

Liberty 13, Raytown 5

A nine-run sixth inning pretty much settled things as the Blue Jays rolled to a win over Raytown on May 2 at Raytown High School. Steenstra led the way for Liberty with a 2-for-3 outing and a pair of runs batted in. Braxton Bragg did the heavy lifting on the mound, with five innings pitched, allowing two runs and striking out 10.

Liberty 4, Lee's Summit 1

After enduring five scoreless innings in the opener of a Saturday, May 5, doubleheader at Lee's Summit, the Blue Jays busted things open for a win. Liberty erupted for all four of its runs in the top of the sixth, then held off the Tigers for the win in the opener of the twinbill.

Lee's Summit 7, Liberty 3

In the capstone game of a road doubleheader, Lee's Summit grabbed an early lead and held on for a win over Liberty. The Tigers scored five runs in the first two innings, and that proved enough to keep the Blue Jays at bay. Results of a Tuesday, May 8, game against Truman were not available by press time.

LIBERTY BASEBALL

Blue Jays look ready for postseason surge

- [By Thom Hanrahan thom.hanrahan@mycouriertribune.com](mailto:thom.hanrahan@mycouriertribune.com) April 19th

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Liberty junior Braxton Bragg turns loose on a pitch during a Saturday, April 14, game against Oak Park at Liberty High School.
Thom Hanrahan/Staff photo

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LIBERTY — It looks like the Blue Jays are ready to make a push as the postseason nears. Only a 5-2 loss to Grain Valley on Monday, April 16, put a damper on Liberty's week. The Blue Jays closed out wins over Park Hill South, Oak Park — in a doubleheader sweep — and Excelsior Springs to boost their record to 13-4. The win over Excelsior Springs featured some drama. The Blue Jays held on for a 4-3 victory behind a stellar defensive play and an outstanding pitching performance. Holding a 4-3 lead, Liberty needed a play. Drew Mackie delivered. The Junior made a strong throw to the plate for the final out and to deny Excelsior Springs the tying run. Senior Gibson Brown turned in another outstanding performance on the mound, striking out 10 Tigers before yielding to Sam Shaffer to slam the door on Excelsior Springs. Mackie didn't just sport a strong arm, he also had a mean bat. The junior went 2-for-3 in the game, joining Nathan Gray's 2-for-4, 2 RBI performance to lead the Blue Jays' offense.

Grain Valley 5, Liberty 2

In Liberty's lone loss of the week, there were positives to be found. In the Monday, April 16, game in the Northland Tournament, Gray drove in both Blue Jay runs and Braxton Bragg went 2-for-3 on the day. Alex Slocum blanked the Eagles in three innings of relief work.

Liberty 12, Oak Park 1 (Game 1)

If Braxton Bragg could get any more dominant, it would be scary for area hitters. The Liberty junior took the mound in the first game of a Saturday, April 14, doubleheader and put on a pitching clinic. Bragg logged five innings and racked up 11 strikeouts without walking a single batter. The Blue Jays collected 16 hits, with Jordan Carlson and Mackie notching three apiece.

Liberty 9, Oak Park 5 (Game 2)

The Blue Jays didn't give the Northmen any relief in the nightcap. Five Liberty pitchers held Oak Park bats at bay and the solid offense continued. Jordan McClellan was 2-for-3 with a pair of doubles and Logan Steenstra went 3-for-4. They weren't alone. Brady Littrell went 2-for-3, with three RBIs and Mackie was 2-for-3 with a pair of runs batted in.

Liberty 14, Park Hill South 4

Brown just keeps making opposing hitters look silly. The southpaw racked up nine strikeouts, allowed just three hits and got the Blue Jays' week off on the right note in a win over Park Hill South on Thursday, April 12, at Liberty High School. Mackie went 2-for-3 with a pair of RBIs and three runs scored, Carlson crossed the plate three times, Ian Jacobs collected three hits and two RBIs and Hunter Evans went 2-for-3.

LIBERTY BASEBALL

Steenstra walk-off cues doubleheader sweep

- [By Thom Hanrahan thom.hanrahan@mycouriertribune.com](mailto:thom.hanrahan@mycouriertribune.com)
- Apr 12, 2018

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Thom Hanrahan/Staff Photo



Liberty's Braxton Bragg lays down a bunt during the decisive final inning in a win over Lee's Summit North on Saturday, April 7, at Liberty High School.

Thom Hanrahan/Staff Photo

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LIBERTY — Logan Steenstra got the job done. The Blue Jays senior laced an 0-2 pitch to right for an RBI single and gave Liberty a 6-5, extra-innings win over Lee's Summit North on Saturday, April 7, at Liberty High School. When the opening game of a doubleheader sweep over the Broncos got underway, it didn't look like it would go Liberty's way. Lee's Summit North jumped on emergency starter Alex Slocum early for two runs in the top of the first inning. Slocum got the nod on the mound after scheduled starter Gibson Brown sprained his ankle warming up in the bullpen. As the two teams entered the fifth inning, the Broncos seemed to have things in hand. Liberty thought otherwise. In the home half of the frame, the Blue Jays knotted the score at 5-5 courtesy of four singles and a Lee's Summit North error. That is where the game stood through the regulation seven innings. In the eighth, however, the Blue Jays took care of business. Jordan Carlson led off the inning with an infield single and advanced to second on a Braxton Bragg sacrifice. After an intentional walk to Drew Mackie to set up a double play, the Broncos issued an unintentional free pass to Nathan Gray. With the bases full of Blue Jays, Steenstra strode to the plate, got behind in the count and delivered the game winner. In the second game, Liberty didn't leave any room for doubt. The Blue Jays blasted off for a six-run lead after the first two innings and didn't look back in a 9-0 win over the Broncos.

LIBERTY BASEBALL

Blue Jays explode early to rout Eagles

- [By Thom Hanrahan thom.hanrahan@mycouriertribune.com](mailto:thom.hanrahan@mycouriertribune.com)
Apr 5, 2018
Staff photo



Liberty senior Thomas Henrichs delivers a pitch during the opening game of a doubleheader against Blue Springs on Friday, March 30, at Blue Springs High School. Thom Hanrahan/Staff photo

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LIBERTY — When the two Liberty schools tangled for the first time since the 2017 Class 5 District 15 title game, the Blue Jays were looking for some payback. **They got it.** Liberty coasted to a 17-2 win over crosstown rival Liberty North with strong pitching and big innings to start and end the game Wednesday, March 28. The Blue Jays landed a big punch before Liberty North even had a chance to respond. Liberty opened the game with eight runs in the top of the first, and when the Eagles got their turn, they ran into Gibson Brown. The Blue Jays senior southpaw was unhittable through three innings. Brown didn't allow a base runner in that span and fanned three Eagles. In the home half of the fourth inning, however, Liberty North seemed to catch a spark. After a lead-off fly out, the Eagles got three straight singles and a walk. Brown answered the call. The lefty retired the next two batters and only allowed one Eagle across the plate. Liberty North had baserunners in both of the next two innings but couldn't get runs. That ended Brown's pitching day with six innings pitched, one earned run, four hits and eight strikeouts. When the Blue Jays began the final frame, they were in command with a 10-1 lead. They weren't finished, though. They sent seven more Liberty baserunners across the plate to compound the rout. The Eagles managed a run against Braxton Bragg in mop-up duty, but the affair had been long-since decided. For Liberty, junior Drew Mackie and Logan Steenstra led the hit parade with three each, including a double by Mackie and a triple from Steenstra. Five Blue Jays contributed two RBIs. Blue Springs 7, Liberty 4

The Blue Jays got off to a good start with a pair of runs in the first three innings, but the Blue Springs bats then came to life in the first game of a Friday, March 30, doubleheader at Blue Springs High School. The Wildcats put up five runs in the bottom of the fourth and didn't trail the rest of the way. Despite the loss, Liberty collected 10 hits with Hunter Evans and Jordan Carlson each notching two.

Liberty 5, Blue Springs 3

A three-run fourth inning proved enough for the Blue Jays to capture the nightcap of its road twin bill at Blue Springs. In the pivotal fourth frame, Mackie, Ian Jacobs and Nathan Gray all drove in runs. Liberty racked up six hits on the day. Steenstra and Jacobs each collected multiple hits for the Blue Jays.

METRO LEADOFF TOURNAMENT: LIBERTY

Blue Jays find bright spots in season's opening week

- [By Thom Hanrahan thom.hanrahan@mycouriertribune.com](mailto:thom.hanrahan@mycouriertribune.com)
- Mar 29, 2018



Liberty pitcher Max Minette prepares to deliver to the plate during a Thursday, March 22, game against Park Hill in the Metro Leadoff Tournament at Liberty High School.

Thom Hanrahan/Staff Photo

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LIBERTY — Despite dropping a pair of games at the end of last week's Metro Leadoff Tournament, the Blue Jays found a lot of bright spots. In their tournament finale, Liberty fell to Park Hill 9-6 but registered a number of fine individual performances. Hunter Evans went 2-for-3 with an RBI against the Trojans. Nathan Gray notched a 2-for-3 game with a pair of runs scored and an RBI. Braxton Bragg went 2-for-3 with a double and an RBI. The game prior, Liberty again couldn't find a way to get over the top on the scoreboard, falling 6-4 to Blue Springs in 12 innings. Senior pitcher and Northwest Missouri State signee Thomas Henrichs did his usual solid job, striking out eight Wildcats in five innings of work. Senior Alex Slocum built on the Blue Jays' success on the hill. Slocum logged six innings of relief work without allowing a run and topping Henrichs with nine strikeouts. Gray continued to flummox opposing pitchers by registering a 4-for-6 day at the plate, including a double. It's been a good start for the Blue Jays (3-2). Liberty hopes to again compete for a district title after falling to crosstown rival Liberty North two of the last three years in the Class 5 District 15 championship game. A 4-3 win over Raymore-Peculiar on March 20 boosted Liberty to 3-0 to open the 2018 campaign. Again, pitching came through. Junior Braxton Bragg racked up seven strikeouts in just four innings and earned the win. Anthony Mazzeffe threw a trio of relief innings with a pair of strikeouts for the save. The Blue Jays return to action Saturday, March 31, with a doubleheader at Blue Springs High School. Results of a Wednesday, March 28, contest with Liberty North were not available by press time.