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OHIO HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL



Upper Arlington High School 1987 Class AAA Champions

High School Conference Summaries
Coaches Pick Top Teams And Players



NW Ohio Athletic League

That big sigh you heard awhile back came from Northwest Ohio Athletic League coaches, who had just heard that Bryan's Joe Roebuck had graduated.

Roebuck, a phenomenal baseball player, made the NWOAL his own the last few years. Consider that last year he led Bryan (8-0, 21-2) to the league championship and a berth in the district finals. There the Bears lost to AA state champion Coldwater, 6-2, despite seven-hit, 15-strikeout performance by Roebuck.

Roebuck also set school records with a .590 batting average .590 11 home runs and 49 RBI.

Bryan does return all-league infielder Jamie Stewart, along with senior catcher Matt McClure and junior outfielder Jason Grant, but no one can replace Roebuck.

MONTPELIER (6-2, 18-8) reached the regional semifinals last year before falling to Lima Perry. With Jeff Bell back for his senior year, the Locomotives could be successful again.

Bell, a senior outfielder, batted .535 last year with seven home runs and 38 RBI. Head coach Herbert 'Butch' Stantz, who notched his 100th career

win last season, also returns first baseman Tony Stoops (.326) and outfielder Doug Willibey (.321), but he must replace two all-league pitchers (Brian Geren and Mike Lyon) and the middle of his defense.

PATRICK HENRY will be led by seniors Eric Bostleman, a three-year letterman behind the plate, along with Chris Joy, Paul Martinez, Matt Nye and Todd Haase.

Joy will be one of the mainstays of the pitching staff, along with juniors John Jackman and Jerry Brown.

SWANTON, which shared second place in the NWOAL last year, has a good arm back on the mound in Eric Schmitz and an all-league outfielder in Todd Dixon.

ARCHBOLD, always a competitive school, will be counting on three tested veterans in infielder Joe Rodriguez, outfielder Doug Leu, and infielder-pitcher Stu Rex.

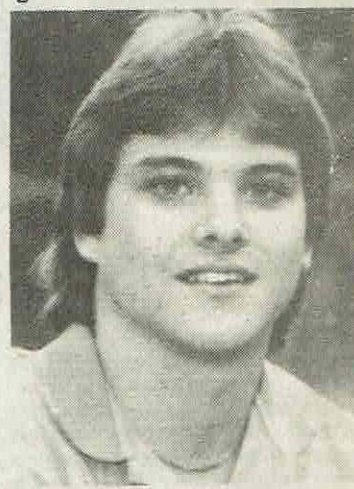
WAUSEON will be led by senior infielder Hugo Barajas and outfielder Scott Lovins.

EVERGREEN returns senior outfielder Scott Miller and senior second baseman John Smallman.

LIBERTY CENTER, having a

good year in sport, returns an most of its infield in catcher Scott Barrett, shortstop Jeff Gyurasics, third baseman Matt Vollmar and second baseman Shannon Wymmer, along with junior pitcher Tim Spieth.

And **EVERGREEN** returns a solid pitcher in Ty Hammon and an all-league outfielder in Mike Zenk.



Jeff Bell, Montpelier

Great Lakes League

Talk about your strong leagues.

Last year, the Great Lakes League sent three teams to the football playoffs, one to the state basketball tournament, and had three teams bucking for regional baseball honors.

If one of those teams was **TOLEDO WHITMER** it shouldn't be surprising. The school is the biggest in Northwest Ohio, but that not the reason the school is doing so well in athletics. It's talent, and veteran head coach Rob Rose appears to have the makings of another great year.

Rose, who has guided Whitmer to three GLL titles since joining the league five years ago and taken the Panthers to state twice (1980, '85), owns a 214-61 career record including a 205-54 mark at Whitmer.

He'll miss his top two pitchers from a 22-7 GLL championship team — Ken Sellers (6-0, 2.77 ERA) and Brett Haupright (6-2, 4.26 ERA), but seniors Tim Estrel (4-1, 3.50 ERA) and Rick Rightnowar (2-0, 3.86 ERA) should step in well.

Sellers (.441), Haupright (.406) and Steve Rick (.405) graduated, but there's still offensive punch in the lineup in all-league third baseman

Tony Gucciardo (.419), all-league second baseman Toby Schroyer (.377), Rich Vozel (.379) and Lee Durham (.275).

OREGON CLAY (22-5) was a close second to Whitmer in the GLL race, but the Eagles may have been hit by graduation harder than the Panthers.

Richard J. Kandik, who boasts a 260-95 career record, five GLL titles, and a 1979 state championship, graduated 17 of his 22 wins in the forms of Mike Caldwell (10-1), Ken Cormany (3-0) and David Krook (4-3). Caldwell lost only two games in the last two years, both in the finals of the district tournament.

Terry Rugg, a senior who was 5-1 with a 1.78 ERA last year, is the main returning starter on the mound.

If the pitching falters a bit, Kandik will ask for more offensive production from the bats of five senior veterans — catcher Jeff Ladd (.388), second baseman Don Walendzak (.374), shortstop David Karrick (.343), and outfielders Doug Aman (.330) and Bill Burson (.327).

SYLVANIA NORTHVIEW also

was stripped by the graduation glut of outstanding pitcher. All-leaguers Andy Overholser (8-2, 1.83 ERA) and Dave Emch (5-1, 2.88 ERA) took with them 13 of the teams' 21 wins. Three other all-GLL infielders — John Schantz (.360), Todd Spang (.310) and Bob Ruedisill (.335) also graduated.

Seniors Sam Sayed (5-3, 2.90 ERA, 72 strikeouts) and Tory Jaconsen (1-2, 2.75 ERA) will handle the pitching.

AS for offense, head coach Jack Koch does return all-league outfielder Jeff Koch (.340), as well as shortstop Rob Knicely (.295) and third baseman Rusty Hanna (.275).

NAPOLEON, which dipped to 9-13 last season, will be counting on all-GLL shortstop Jeff Corey (.481) and catcher Rick Rettig (.234) to turn things around.

FOSTORIA returns pitchers Matt Reinhard and Tony Martin, catcher Roger Snyder, third baseman Jamie Nye and shortstop Tom Sayer, but the Redmen will miss the power and talent of Rodney Hampton, who was signed by the Philadelphia Phillies last summer.

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