

Kyle Tidwell was one of four Tigers named all-state by the Texas H.S. Baseball Coaches Association in 1997 after Belton reached the Regional Quarterfinals becoming the 9th of 23 all-state baseball players at Belton during the 23-year coaching tenure of his father, David Tidwell.

Kyle Tidwell was born on Sept. 19, 1978, in Bay City TX to David and Lesa Tidwell. He was the youngest of three children. The Tidwell family moved to Belton in 1986 when Kyle was 6 and has remained in Belton (except for the 1988-89 school year when they were in Spring Hill) since then. Kyle's older brothers, twins Chad and Tyson, were also outstanding Belton athletes as Tyson was co-winner of the Top Male Athlete award in 1992 after leading his team to the district title in three sports, football (where he was the District offensive MVP as a WR), baseball and golf. Chad was Belton's QB in 1991 and was all-district in baseball in 1992.

In football Kyle was a starter (and honorable mention all-district) at WR as a 5'9" 170 lb. soph on the 1994 Tigers who were 6-4 on the year. He was a 2nd team all-district WR as a junior on the 1995 team that was 4-6. He was again 2nd team all-district as a WR as a senior on the 1996 team that was 0-10 (in Belton's first year in 5A). Kyle had 42 catches on the year for 594 yards and 5 TDs. He was given the team's Best Back and Most Conscientious awards and was voted Belton's Outstanding Male Athlete for the 1996-1997 year following in the footsteps of his brother, Tyson, who won the same award five years earlier.

Kyle's baseball career began at the age of 5 in T-ball in Houston and continued in Belton where he played in the Midget League and then on the Athletics who finished 3rd in the state in the Little League when Kyle was 12. At 14 his Belton team, the Raiders, coached by his Dad and John Messer and led by Kyle and Brad Turner, won the 1993 state championship of the Texas Teenage League. At 15 he played for the Centex Mavericks, a "select" team comprised of boys from Temple, Belton and other central Texas towns that included three other (future) Belton Wall of Honor members (Brad Turner, Kyle Tidwell and Pat Bishop). At 16 he played for the Austin Slam and at 17 with Belton's "select" team. In the summer after his senior year (1997), Kyle played shortstop for the Austin Bat who finished 3rd in the national AAU tournament in Orlando FL.

Tidwell's Belton High school career began "at the top" as he was a freshman reserve infielder on Belton's 1994 state championship team coached by his father and started the last five games of the year (including the two state tournament games) at third base. He and soph catcher Brad Turner were the only non-seniors in the starting line-up at the end of the championship year. As a soph in 1995 Kyle was a 2nd team all-district shortstop on the 12-13 Tiger team and hit .338 with 12 RBIs & 1 HR. As a junior in 1996 on the 17-11 Tiger team he hit .396 with 21 RBIs & 1 HR and was named 1st team all-district. As a senior in 1997 on the Tiger team that was 21-13 and reached the regional quarterfinals before losing to Round Rock (the eventual state champions that year), he hit .364 with 28 RBIs and 4 HRs and was named 1st team all-district at shortstop; all-centex by the Waco Tribune-

Herald; and all-state by the Texas H.S. Baseball Coaches Association (with teammates Bry Ewan and Pat Bishop). In the summer of 1997 he and teammate Pat Bishop played for Team Texas in the SunBelt Classic in Shawnee OK against all-star teams from several other states.

Kyle was recruited by several schools and signed with the University of Texas at Arlington where he redshirted in the 1998 season before transferring to McLennan County Community College for the 1999 season. He then played the 2000 season as a soph for UMHB and was the Crusader's starting shortstop hitting .279 with 10 doubles, 2 HRs and 25 RBIs. He also started every game in 2001 and hit .240 with 19 RBIs and as a senior was the team's leading hitter at .362 and was named 1st team all division in the ASC West.

In 2009 Kyle Tidwell, 31, was the baseball coach at Comfort H.S. and he and his wife, Lindsey, lived in Boerne. Kyle graduated from UMHB in 2002 with a degree in computer information. His father, David Tidwell, 58, was Belton's head baseball coach for 22 years (1986-2007) before retiring in 2007. He had 23 all-state players in his 22 years in Belton. Chad Tidwell, 35, was the pitching coach at the U. of New Mexico and Tyson Tidwell, 35, was a golf pro working with Bob May in Belton.