

# Wildcat baseball earns 10 spots on all-league team



***Louisburg seniors Luke Schultz, Meade Rutherford, Jayce Toms and sophomore Max Amren all earned All-Frontier League first team honors.***

The Louisburg baseball team put together another strong season and one that ended just one victory away from another state tournament berth.

Coaches from around the Frontier League took notice as several Wildcats were honored with postseason awards.

Louisburg earned 10 spots on the All-Frontier League team, including four first-team selections. Luke Schultz (infield), Meade Rutherford (pitcher), Jayce Toms (DH/Utility) and Max Amren (outfield) were all named to the first team.

"We had a really solid team this year," Louisburg coach Kade Larson said. "I feel like we were represented really well. This league is really tough and felt the coaches agreed we had some great players on our team."

It started with Schultz, who earned first team honors after

leading the Wildcats in several offensive categories. He was first on the team with a .453 average on the year and a 1.249 OPS.

Schultz, a senior, also recorded team-highs in hits (39), runs (31), RBIs (28) and doubles (14). He was second on the team with three home runs.

“Luke was great for us this season,” Larson said. “He was one of the most feared bats in the league and did a great job for us all season. He had some key hits down the stretch, especially in the regional games.”

Rutherford served as the Wildcats’ top arm this past season. He started nine games and posted a 4-2 record.

The Louisburg senior gave up just 13 earned runs in the nine starts with an earned run average of 2.53. He also struck out 46 batters on the year.

Rutherford was also named as an honorable mention outfielder as he was the team’s starting centerfielder. He posted a .333 average with a 1.045 OPS, three home runs and 18 RBIs.

“Meade was really good on the mound for us this year,” Larson said. “He threw a ton of strikes and let his defense work.”

Toms, another senior, was also another big bat in the Wildcat lineup as he served most of the season as the team’s designated hitter. He had a .356 average and a 1.048 OPS with 21 hits and 19 RBIs.

“Jayce was a great bat in our lineup all season,” Larson said. “He had some really clutch hits for us to keep us rolling.”

Amren, a sophomore, started the season on the bench, but quickly became one of the Wildcats’ top hitters and outfielder. He eventually batted leadoff for most of the season.

He finished the year with a .403 average and a 1.052 OPS. Amren also had 29 hits, four doubles, two triples and scored 24 runs.

“Max stepped up in a big way for us,” Larson said. “He was a great leadoff and did well getting on base and hitting the ball hard all season.”



Juniors Danny Napier (catcher) and Bristol Barbour (infield) earned second team all-league honors, while seniors Rylan Carty (infield), Alex Saad (pitcher) and junior Christian Owens (pitcher) were honorable mention selections.

Napier had to miss part of the season due to a hand injury, but had a good season up until that point. He finished with a .367 average in 16 games, a 1.029 OPS, 18 hits, two home runs and 12 RBIs.

“Danny was a great catcher for us this season,” Larson said. “He also hit the ball really well and found a way on base for us.”

As for Barbour, he was also strong bat in the middle of the order for Louisburg. He had a .442 average to go along with a

1.210 OPS.

Barbour also recorded a team-high four home runs to go along with 34 hits, seven doubles and 27 RBIs.

“Bristol was consistent in the field and at the plate for us,” Larson said. “He did a great job of making plays for us and also finding a way on base for us. He had some really clutch hits this season especially the one that kept us alive in the regional.”

Saad and Owens were two of the team’s top pitchers in strikeouts this season. Owens led the team with 53 strikeouts on the year and gave up just 15 hits and four earned runs in 29 innings of work to go along with a 4-0 record.

As for Saad, he pitched 37 innings and ended the year with 46 strikeouts and had a 3.56 earned run average in eight starts.

“Christian and Alex were great for us on the bump this season,” Larson said. “Both had great seasons and did really well giving our offense a chance to go win.”

Carty, the team’s starting shortstop, had his best season as a Wildcat with a .371 average and a 1.105 OPS. He also had 26 hits, 10 doubles, two home runs and 16 RBIs.

“Rylan did well finding the barrel a ton this season,” Larson said. “He was consistent in the field and did whatever the team needed him to do at the plate.”

## **ALL-FRONTIER LEAGUE BASEBALL**

### **FIRST TEAM**

CATCHER: Hunter Hall, Spring Hill, junior

PITCHER: David Mercer, Paola, senior; Merek Davenport, Tonganoxie, junior; Meade Rutherford, Louisburg, senior

INFIELD: Luke Schultz, Louisburg, senior; Carter Hepner, Ottawa, senior; JD Troutman, Paola, senior; Keaton Neal, Spring Hill, junior

OUTFIELD: Colton Scott, Spring Hill, junior; Blake Costlow, Paola, sophomore; Max Amren, Louisburg, sophomore

DH/UTILITY: Jayce Toms, Louisburg, senior

## **SECOND TEAM**

CATCHER: Danny Napier, Louisburg, junior

PITCHER: Hunter Loethen, Paola, senior; Brayden Decker, Eudora, sophomore; Jordan Miller, Spring Hill, junior

INFIELD: Eden Myers, Bonner Springs, senior; Bristol Barbour, Louisburg, junior; Brock Gibbs, Tonganoxie, senior; Brett Davidson, Baldwin, senior

OUTFIELD: Kaiser Namizato, Baldwin, senior; Xander Meinig, Paola, senior; Bodee Maslak, Tonganoxie, freshman

DH/UTILITY: Xavier Raygoza, Bonner Springs, senior

## **HONORABLE MENTION**

CATCHER: Jagger Day, Baldwin, senior; Braeden Vandonge, Eudora, senior; Gavin Seaton, Ottawa, sophomore; Roman Barnes, Paola, senior; Baron Dohm, Tonganoxie, junior

PITCHER: Will Altic, Ottawa, junior; Kaiser Namizato, Baldwin, senior; Khristian Sanchez, Bonner Springs, junior; Christian Owens, Louisburg, junior; Caleb Hepner, Ottawa, senior; Ramey Krokstrom, Spring Hill, senior; Alex Saad, Louisburg, senior

INFIELD: Caden Stedry, Eudora, senior; Rylan Carty, Louisburg, senior; Hunter Loethen, Paola, senior; Jace Kerley, Paola, senior; Benny Ragan, Spring Hill, junior; Ryder Nigh, Baldwin, senior; Brock Fish, Bonner Springs, senior; Jasper Logan, Paola, senior

OUTFIELD: Boston Bloomer, Ottawa, senior; Jacob Morenz, Tonganoxie, junior; Cole McGrath, Ottawa, senior; Jordan Miller, Spring Hill, junior; Meade Rutherford, Louisburg, senior

DH/UTILITY: Ashton McCurdy, Ottawa, senior; Sam Harris, Spring Hill, sophomore