

2022-2023



**All coaching and
Team records can be
found on the Gopher
Conference website
under the
Team/Coaching
Records tab.**



2022 GOPHER CONFERENCE BOYS CROSS COUNTRY



FOR RELEASE.....

The Gopher Conference is proud to announce the 2022 Boys Cross Country award winners.

Team:

Boys: Maple River Eagles won the Boys Championship by 3 points over the Awesome Blossoms of Blooming Prairie. The Eagles had 4 runners in the top 11 showing their depth. Cole Stencil from Maple River was the individual champion for the 4th year in a row.

Team results: Maple River- 58, Blooming Prairie - 61, NRHEG - 90, WEM/JWP - 96, Hayfield - 98, Medford - 100, USC/AC - INC

All-Conference

Conference Champion	School	Time	Grade
Cole Stencil	Maple River	16:49	12

1 st Team	School	Time	Grade
Cohen Stursa	Medxford	18:31	12
Devon Nelton	NRHEG	18:30	9
Hosea Baker	Blooming Prairie	18:51	12
Jacob Karl	NRHEG	18:57	9
Jesse Cardenas	Blooming Prairie	18:59	12

2 nd Team	School	Time	Grade
Noah Ziegler	Maple River	19:03	12
Steven Gillette	Hayfield	19:25	9
Caisen Hollerich	Maple River	19:27	8
Austin Erickson	Medford	19:30	12
Rylan Hollerich	Maple River	19:31	10
Wyatt Gilberton	Hayfield	19:32	11

Honorable Mention	School	Time	Grade
Cohen O'Connor	Medford	19:42	12
Luke Cahill	WEM/JWP	19:50	10
Tyler Forystek	Blooming Prairie	19:53	11
Will Sunde	Blooming Prairie	19:55	10
Wyatt Jans	WEM/JWP	20:01	8
Samuel Christensen	NRHEG	20:04	12

Sportsmanship Recipients

Samuel Michaud	Blooming Prairie
Dakota Robinson	Hayfield
Noah Ziegler	Maple River
John Hora	Medford
Samuel Christensen	NRHEG
Alex Kleve	WEM/JWP

Sportsmanship winners were a member of the varsity roster during the season or at the end of the regular season, they don't have to be on postseason roster. They are someone who exemplified good sportsmanship qualities.
CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL AWARD WINNERS!!!!



2022 GOPHER CONFERENCE GIRLS CROSS COUNTRY

FOR RELEASE on

The Gopher Conference is proud to announce the 2022 Girls Cross Country award winners.

Team:

Girls: Maple River Eagles won the Girls Cross Country Conference Championship. The Eagles showed their depth as they had 3 runners in the top 6 and all 5 runners finished in the top 13. New comer Makenzie Westphal (WEM/JWP) out lasted defending champion Gloria Hernandez (BP) by 14 seconds to win the 5,000 meter race. Mackenzie is just a seventh grader. Congrats to all.

Team results: Maple River – 39, WEM/JWP – 52, Hayfield – 71, Blooming Prairie – 108, USC/AC – 127, Medford – 132, NRHEG - INC

All-Conference

Conference Champion	School	Time	Grade
Makenzie Westphal	WEM/JWP	20:44	7

1 st Team	School	Time	Grade
Gloria Hernandez	Blooming Prairie	21:53	8
Sophia Stencel	Maple River	21:20	7
Maggie Hansen	Hayfield	22:26	9
Lauren Mutschler	Maple River	22:38	9
Nora Caven	Maple River	22:49	8

2 nd Team	School	Time	Grade
Melody Walker	Hayfield	23:06	10
Madalyn Miller	WEM/JWP	23:28	7
Chloe McCarthy	Blooming Prairie	23:31	12
Kwynn Krause	WEM/JWP	23:38	9
Alexis Guenther	USC/AC	23:49	8
Briyanna Birkhardt	Maple River	24:00	11

Honorable Mention	School	Time	Grade
Dahlia Schneider	Maple River	24:01	12
Natalie Wenner	Maple River	24:02	11
Ashlin Keys	WEM/JWP	24:06	12
Danika Diekmann	USC/AC	24:15	8
Becca Tempel	Hayfield	24:16	9
Annabelle Petsinger	NRHEG	24:19	11
Madison Kunst	WEM/JWP	24:40	12

Sportsmanship Recipients

Anna Haberman	Blooming Prairie
Melody Walker	Hayfield
Izzy Anderson	Maple River
Isabel Miller	Medford
Annabelle Petsinger	NRHEG
Lydia Huelsnitz	WEM/JWP
Alyssa Samudio	USC/AC

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2022 GOPHER CONFERENCE VOLLEYBALL



FOR RELEASE

The Gopher Conference is proud to announce the 2022 Volleyball award winners.

Team:

Standings:

FBA	11-0
Kenyon-Wanamingo	10-1
WEM	9-2
Hayfield	8-3
NRHEG	6-5
BP	5-6
Medford	5-6
Randolph	5-6
Triton	4-7
Maple River:	2-9
JWP	1-10
USC	0-11

Conference Champion:

The Bethlehem Academy Cardinals volleyball team captured their 23rd Gopher Conference championship. The Cardinals finished with an overall record of 20-11 and conference record of 11-0. The Cardinals were ranked 4th in the final coaches association poll.

The Cardinals had 6 seniors on the team: Karlie DeGroot, Lindsay Hanson, Reagan Kangas, Jaden Lang, Josie Rose and Kate Trump. Underclassmen on the team included Brooklyn Becker, Caitlin Bothun, Anna Cohen, Anna DeMars, Sydney Dienst, Olivia Glumack, Anna Tobin, Morgan Wilson and Claire Wisdo. Senior, Kate Trump, was named to the Class A All-State Team and was selected the Gopher Conference Player of the Year.

Managers for the Cardinals were Grace Kelzer and Ava Beske. Statisticians for the Cardinals were Evie Donahue and Sarah Tobin.

Head Coach of the Cardinals was Chris Bothun. Assistant Coaches were Jill Strodtman, Shelby Glenzinski and Elizabeth Klotter.

2022 Player of the Year:

Name	Grade	School
Kate Trump	12	Bethlehem Academy

Kate Trump, senior OH/MB captain from Bethlehem Academy, is the 2022 Gopher Conference Volleyball Player of the Year. Trump reached the career milestone of 1,000 Digs this season. Throughout the 2022 season, Trump earned an 85% serving average with 30 Aces, a 2.41 serve receive average, 287 Kills, 10 Set Assists, 40 Assist Blocks, 36 Solo Blocks and 405 Digs. Kate ended her high school career with 787 Kills and 1,262 Digs.

1st Team All-Conference

Name	Grade	School
Reagan Kangas	12	BA
Reese Bauman	12	Hayfield
Tessa Erlandson	12	KW
Hallie Schultz	11	NRHEG
Anna Olson	12	Randolph
Claire Bohlen	11	WEM



2022 GOPHER CONFERENCE VOLLEYBALL



2nd Team All-Conference

Name	Grade	School
Lindsay Hanson	12	BA
Sierra Larson	12	BP
Haeven Skjervem	12	Hayfield
Josi Quam	12	KW
Andrea Bock	12	Medford
Kyla Smith	12	Triton
Alayna Atherton	11	WEM

3rd Team All-Conference

Name	Grade	School
Sydney Risius	12	Hayfield
Rachel Ryan	11	KW
Annette Kniefel	11	Medford
Bree Ihrke	12	NRHEG
Tessa Banks	12	Randolph
Cameron Vermilyea	12	Triton
Josie Volkmann	11	WEM

Honorable Mention

Name	Grade	School
Jaden Lang	12	BA
Macy Lembke	11	BP
Ava Carney	11	Hayfield
Brielle Bure	10	JWP
Norah Rechtzigel	11	KW
Lexi Thomas	11	MR
Hailey Hemann	10	Medford
Sidney Schultz	12	NRHEG
Paige Ford	12	Randolph
Ari Wennes	12	Triton
Kiera Schultz	11	USC
Jordan Green	12	WEM

Sportsmanship Recipients

Name	Grade	School
Josie Rose	12	BA
Madi Lea	12	BP
Emily Augustin	12	Hayfield
Isabelle Rider	12	JWP
Ashley Rechtzigel	12	KW
Sydney Schull	12	MR
Payton Ristau	12	Medford
Sarah George	12	NRHEG
Claire Hansen	12	Randolph
Mariah Busch	12	Triton
Molly Wegner	12	USC
Tatum Richards	11	WEM

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CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL AWARD WINNERS!!!!

Section 1A Standings - Football

Coaches Vote (FINAL)

Seed	Team	Section	Overall	For	Agst	QRF Value	QRF Rank
1	<u>Fillmore Central</u>	9-0	12-1	35.4	12.1	63.0	2
2	<u>Bethlehem Academy</u>	7-2	8-3	29.9	19.6	49.5	15
3	<u>Rushford-Peterson</u>	5-3	7-3	29.8	17.0	42.0	23
4	<u>Randolph</u>	3-5	5-5	28.0	18.2	32.5	33
5	<u>Kenyon-Wanamingo</u>	2-5	4-5	22.0	15.0	27.6	38
6	<u>Hayfield</u>	2-5	3-6	19.1	29.3	26.3	40
7	<u>Kingsland</u>	0-1	4-5	32.0	28.7	24.0	42
8	<u>Wabasha-Kellogg</u>	0-7	0-9	7.1	42.1	10.2	62

QRF Seeded (FINAL)

Seed	Team	Section	Overall	For	Agst	QRF Value	QRF Rank
1	<u>Lester Prairie</u>	8-0	11-1	30.2	5.2	66.1	1
2	<u>Mayer Lutheran</u>	7-2	8-3	25.4	11.7	51.0	13
3	<u>Gibbon-Fairfax-Winthrop</u>	3-2	7-3	32.2	20.2	44.9	17
4	<u>Alden-Conger/G-E</u>	3-4	5-4	20.2	23.3	33.6	30
5	<u>United South Central</u>	3-4	4-6	16.2	28.2	32.8	31
6	<u>Janesville-Waldorf-Pemberton</u>	1-5	2-7	10.2	23.2	23.7	43
7	<u>New Ulm Cathedral</u>	0-1	2-7	12.8	32.0	17.8	48
8	<u>Cleveland</u>	0-7	1-8	6.8	25.4	15.5	54

Section 1AA Standings - Football

QRF Seeded (FINAL)

Seed	Team	Section	Overall	For	Agst	QRF Value	QRF Rank
1	<u>Chatfield</u>	8-0	12-1	37.1	11.3	91.4	3
2	<u>Caledonia</u>	7-2	8-3	33.9	10.9	54.9	18
3	<u>Triton</u>	3-4	4-5	17.6	23.0	43.8	25
4	<u>Dover-Eyota</u>	3-4	5-4	25.6	15.9	41.4	28
5	<u>Goodhue</u>	4-4	5-5	26.3	22.2	46.2	23
6	<u>St. Charles</u>	2-6	3-7	15.6	33.0	33.5	34
7	<u>Lewiston-Altura</u>	0-7	0-9	6.4	44.0	17.2	48
8	<u>Winona Cotter</u>	0-0	1-7	12.9	44.8	14.7	53

QRF Seeded (FINAL)

Seed	Team	Section	Overall	For	Agst	QRF Value	QRF Rank
1	<u>St. Clair/Loyola</u>	6-1	10-1	35.0	13.0	61.2	15
2	<u>Blue Earth Area</u>	5-0	9-3	40.8	20.8	68.3	12
3	<u>Maple River</u>	2-2	7-3	36.4	17.5	51.1	19
4	<u>Blooming Prairie</u>	4-2	6-4	29.6	22.9	40.4	30
5	<u>Medford</u>	2-3	2-7	16.0	17.9	23.5	42
6	<u>New Richland-H-E-G</u>	1-4	1-8	13.9	34.9	17.1	49
7	<u>LeSueur-Henderson</u>	0-3	1-8	16.4	40.3	18.3	46
8	<u>Waterville-Elysian-Morristown</u>	0-5	1-8	8.2	41.7	15.9	50



2023 GOPHER CONFERENCE BOYS BASKETBALL

FOR RELEASE

The Gopher Conference is proud to announce the 2023 Boys Basketball award winners.

Team:

Standings:

1	Maple River	15-0
2	USC	12-4
3	JWP	7-9
4	WEM	3-12
5	NRHEG	3-13
6	Medford	2-14
EAST		
1	Hayfield	14-2
2	K-W	12-4
3	Randolph	10-6
4	FBA	7-9
5	Triton	6-10
6	Blooming Prairie	4-12

Conference Championship Game:

Maple River 73,

Hayfield 70 – Double OT

Conference Champion: Maple River

The Maple River Boys Basketball team just completed a 30 and 4 season and won their 3rd straight Gopher Conference Crown. The Eagles defeated MVL 75-71 in the Section 2AA Championship game and advanced to the Class AA State Tournament. The Eagles received the #4 seed in the State Tournament, but fell in the first round to Minnehaha Academy 53-48. Maple River would defeat Eden Valley-Watkins 59-32 before falling to Pequot Lakes 50-43 in consolation games. Maple River led all Minnesota AA teams in scoring defense for the 2nd straight season allowing just 44.7 points per game. Maple River won their 23rd conference championship in 34 years as a school. For the Eagles, it was their 5th title in 10 years of competition in the Gopher Conference. Maple River finished the conference season with a perfect 16-0 record and by winning the West Division, they advanced to the Conference Championship game. In the Conference Championship game against Hayfield in Mapleton, the Eagles defeated the Vikings 73-70 in a double overtime thriller. Maple River dominated the conference competition outscoring their opponents 68.1 to 37.0, a whopping 31.1 scoring margin. Despite the domination, Maple River only garnered two all-conference members of the 18 selected by the conference coaches. The Eagles were led by senior captains Mason Schirmer, Hayden Niehuhr and Will Sellers. Maple River was ranked in the top 10 of Class AA throughout the year, ending the year ranked #6 in the state. The 30 wins for the Eagles set a school record for wins in a season surpassing 29, set by 3 different Maple River teams.



2023 GOPHER CONFERENCE BOYS BASKETBALL



2023 Player of the Year: Isaac Matti

Name	Grade	School
Isaac Matti	12	Hayfield

Summary: Isaac led Hayfield to a 14-2 record in the Gopher Conference and the East Division regular season title. The Vikings finished the season 23-7 overall. He led the entire Gopher Conference in points per game at 22.8 during conference games (20.8 overall). He scored a school-record 50 points at home against Blooming Prairie on January 24th. He finished his outstanding prep career with 2170 points (2nd in school history) and 568 assists (most in school history). He was a 5-year starter, never missing a game, during which the Vikings went 124-24 with two Class A state championships. This is his second consecutive year being named Gopher Conference Player of the Year, and third straight year being named 1st Team All-Conference. Isaac is undecided at this time about where he plans on playing in college.

1st Team All-Conference

Name	Grade	School
Mason Schirmer	12	Maple River
Hayden Niebuhr	12	Maple River
Zale Bushlack	12	USC
Ethan Pack	12	Hayfield
Memphis James	11	JWP

2nd Team All-Conference

Name	Grade	School
Daxter Lee	11	NRHEG
Hudson Dillon	11	Bethlehem Academy
Zander Jacobson	11	Hayfield
Quinn Sabila	12	Randolph
Austin Erickson	12	Medford
Alex Lee	12	Kenyon Wanamingo

3rd Team All-Conference

Name	Grade	School
Pierce Petersohn	9	Triton
Jonathan Martinez	11	USC
Tyson Cooreman	12	Randolph
Gabe Hein	11	Blooming Prairie
Nick Bushlack	12	USC
Zach Mason	11	Kenyon Wanamingo



2023 GOPHER CONFERENCE BOYS BASKETBALL



Honorable Mention

Name	Grade	School
Aaron Pawlitschek	11	Maple River
Daulton Bauer	9	JWP
Will Sellers	12	Maple River
AJ Higginbottom	12	Kenyon Wanamingo
Talen Taylor	12	WEM
Gavin Brown	12	WEM
Brady Kittleson	10	Blooming Prairie
Trey Gaytan	12	Bethlehem Academy
Jayce Leonardo	11	Triton

Sportsmanship Recipients

Name	Grade	School
Charlie King	12	Bethlehem Academy
Kolby Vigeland	11	Blooming Prairie
Jaden Gerhart	12	Hayfield
Ethan Born	10	JWP
Jase Graves	12	Kenyon Wanamingo
Aidan Sindelir	12	Maple River
Landon Driscoll	12	Medford
Sawyer Prigge	12	NRHEG
Evan Bennerotte	12	Randolph
Max Oakland	12	Triton
Nathaniel Clore	12	USC
Gabe Androli	12	WEM

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CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL AWARD WINNERS!!!!



2023 GOPHER CONFERENCE GIRLS BASKETBALL

FOR RELEASE

The Gopher Conference is proud to announce the 2022 Girls Basketball award winners.

Team:

School)	Record
Hayfield	14-1
NRHEG	12-2
WEM	10-4
Blooming Prairie	9-6
MR	8-6
Randolph	7-8
Keyon - W.	6-9
Triton	6-9
JWP	4-10
BA	4-12
Medford	1-13
USC	NA

Conference Championship Game:

Hayfield 63, NRHEG 55

Conference - Champion: HAYFIELD

The Hayfield Vikings went 15-1 in Gopher Conference action including a 63-55 victory over NRHEG to claim the Gopher Conference Championship. On the season, Hayfield finished 29-5 including a Section 1A championship and a 4th place finish at the state tournament. This is Hayfield's second straight Gopher Conference Championship and 4th place finish at the state tournament.



2023 GOPHER CONFERENCE GIRLS BASKETBALL



2023 Player of the Year:

Name	Grade	School
Kristen Watson	11	Hayfield

This is the second straight year that Hayfield junior Kristen Watson has been awarded Gopher Conference Player of the Year. Kristen led the Gopher Conference Champion Vikings with 18.7 points per game and was a threat from the 3-point line as she averaged over two 3-pointers per game. To go with her scoring, she was also a menace on defense getting many deflections to go with her team leading 3.8 steals per game. Although she is undersized at 5'4, she was second on the Vikings in rebounding with 5.6 rebounds per game. She helped lead Hayfield to a Section 1A title and a 4th place finish at the state tournament.

Name	Grade	School
Sidney Schultz	12	NRHEG
Paige Ford	12	Randolph
Natalie Beaver	11	Hayfield
Claire McGregor	11	Maple River
Brylee Iverson	12	Triton
Lexi Thomas	11	Maple River
Claire Bohlen	11	WEM
Katie Olson	9	JWP
Erin Jacobson	12	NRHEG
Alayna Atherton	11	WEM
Tessa Erlandson	12	Kenyon-Wanamingo
Anna Pauly	12	Blooming Prairie
Anna Olsen	12	Randolph
Kate Trump	12	Bethlehem Academy
Faith Nielsen	11	NRHEG
Andrea Bock	11	Medford
Chelsea Christopherson	11	Hayfield



2023 GOPHER CONFERENCE GIRLS BASKETBALL



Honorable Mention

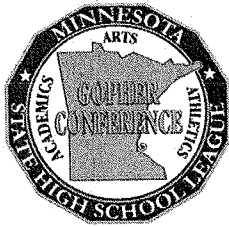
Name	Grade	School
Shawntee Snyder	11	Blooming Prairie
Emily Coonrod	11	Randolph
Lindsay Hanson	12	Bethlehem Academy
Macy Lembke	11	Blooming Prairie
Ivette Mendoza	11	Kenyon-Wanamingo
Addy Taylor	12	WEM
Josanne Tempel	12	Hayfield
Ashlyn Pelant	10	WEM
Reagan Essig	8	Triton

Sportsmanship Recipients

Name	Grade	School
Brooke Johnson	12	Bethlehem Academy
Madelaine Stoen	12	Blooming Prairie
Josanne Tempel	12	Hayfield
Faith Olson	12	JWP
Nevah Greseth	12	Kenyon-Wanamingo
Krystal Ulrich	11	Maple River
Grace Keller	12	Medford
Trinity Smith Vulcan	12	NRHEG
Julia Hines	11	Randolph
Reece Dobbs	12	Triton
Liz Meyer	11	USC
Emma Woratschka	12	WEM

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CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL AWARD WINNERS!!!!



2023 GOPHER CONFERENCE SPEECH

FOR RELEASE on

The Gopher Conference is proud to announce the 2023 Speech award winners.

Gopher Conference Speech Awards 2023

Category	Gopher Conference Winner	School
Creative Expression	Madeline Balfe	W-E-M
Discussion	Maddie Heuss	W-E-M
Dramatic Interpretation	Sophia Culuris	Kenyon Wanamingo
Duo Interpretation	Maksim Krech & Milar Krech	Randolph
Extemporaneous Reading	Kyllo Callister	Blooming Prairie
Extemporaneous Speaking	Auston Holicky	W-E-M
Great Speeches	Claire Elness	W-E-M
Humorous Interpretation	Eric Daschner	JWP
Informative Speaking	Addison Miller	JWP
Original Oratory	Sophia Culuris	Kenyon Wanamingo
Poetry Reading	June Sundin	Kenyon Wanamingo
Prose Reading	Eric Daschner	JWP
Storytelling	Rogue Rubedor	Blooming Prairie

Team Placing

1st - Kenyon Wanamingo

2nd - JWP

3rd - WEM

Craftsmanship winners:

School	Craftsmanship Winner
Blooming Prairie	Dakota Mueller
JWP	James Bleess
Kenyon Wanamingo	Sophia Culuris
Medford	Addison O'Connor
Randolph	Mackenzie Farrington
W-E-M	Grace Bartz

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL AWARD WINNERS!!!!



2023 GOPHER CONFERENCE WRESTLING

FOR RELEASE

The Gopher Conference is proud to announce the 2022 Boys Wrestling award winners.

Team Standings:

Kenyon-W	6-0
Medford	5-1
Maple River/USC	3-3
Westfield	3-3
WEM/JWP	3-3
NRHEG	1-5
Triton	0-6

Conference Champion: Kenyon Wanamingo

Kenyon Wanamingo finished the 2022 season with a conference record of 6-0. 2022-23 marked the first time the K-W wrestling team won the Gopher Conference. Overall Kenyon Wanamingo had a dual record of 26-5, made it to the semi finals in section one and lost against the number two seeded Chatfield, and sent 4 individuals to the class A state tournament. KW's state tournament qualifiers were Ryan LaCanne, Jaedin Johnson (4th place), Gavin Johnson (3rd place), and Will VanEpps (5th place). Kenyon Wanamingo's head coach Nathan Lexvold was assisted by Josh Jacobson, Matt Lexvold, Chad Lexvold, and Wayne Lexvold. The team featured Gopher All Conference Jaedin Johnson, Gavin Johnson, Dillon Bartel, and Reed Sommer. All conference honorable mention Will Van Epps, Trent Foss, and Tate Miller. Gopher conference sportsmanship award Bryan Jacobson.

2023 Gopher Conference Wrestler of the Year: Charlie Elwood-Medord

Name	Grade	School	WT
Charlie Elwood	12	Medofrd	145

Charley Elwood finished with a 21-2 record for the season and a 134-9 record for his career. Charley was a five time state entrant, winning three state championships and finishing runner-up once. He graduates as perhaps the most decorated wrestler in Medford history.

All-Conference

Name	Grade	School
Jaedin Johnson	12	KW
Gavin Johnson	11	KW
Dillon Bartel	11	KW
Reed Sommer	10	KW
Tate Hermes	12	Medford
Garron Hoffman	12	Medford
Jack Meyer	12	Medford
Tommy Elwood	10	Medford
Cooper Ochsendorf	12	Maple River/USC
Makota Misgen	12	NRHEG
Owen Garness	12	Triton
Keegan Kuball	10	WEM/JWP
Brady Murphy	9	WEM/JWP
Carson Petry	10	WEM/JWP
Bo Zwiener	10	Westfield



2022 GOPHER CONFERENCE WRESTLING



Honorable Mention

Name	Grade	School
Will VanEpps	11	KW
Tate Miller	12	KW
Trent Foss	11	KW
Dylan Heiderscheidt	12	Medford
Luis Lopez	11	Medford
Evan Schweisthal	11	Medford
Avery Fall	10	WEM/JWP
Cade Christianson	12	Westfield

Sportsmanship Recipients

Name	Grade	School
Bryan Jacobson	??	KW
Garrett Bollmann	11	Maple River/USC
Dylan Heiderscheidt	12	Medford
Aden Berg	12	NRHEG
Liam Schlichting	12	Triton
Jack Cahill	12	WEM/JWP
Cade Christianson	12	Westfield

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CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL AWARD WINNERS!!!!



2023 GOPHER CONFERENCE BASEBALL



FOR RELEASE on

The Gopher Conference is proud to announce the 2023 Baseball award winners.

Team:

Standings:

United South Central:	8-2
NRHEG:	8-2
Kenyon Wanamingo	7-3
Randolph	7-3
Maple River:	6-4
Hayfield:	5-5
JWP	4-5
Triton	3-6
Blooming Prairie:	3-7
WEM:	2-8
Medford:	2-8

Conference Champion: United South Central Rebels

Summary: USC went 8-2 during conference play en route to a 15-6 overall record. The only conference losses were the first game of the year to Maple River and the last conference game to KW. USC won 13 consecutive games after starting the season 0-2. USC rode strong senior leadership along with a group of first year varsity players that ranged from 7th graders on up.

2023 Player of the Year:

Name	Grade	School
Nick Bushlack	12	United South Central

Summary: Nick wrapped up his stellar career by winning the Conference Player of the Year award for the first time. He was a constant at the top half of the batting order, along with starting at SS for three years. At the plate Nick batted 647 and had an OB of 750%. He smacked out 22 hits which included 7 doubles and 4 triples. He picked up 15 walks and had 18 conference RBI's. He showed his speed by swiping 20 bases, and flashed the leather by having a great fielding percentage of 870%. Nick will be playing baseball at St Johns in Collegetown next Spring.

1st Team All-Conference

Name	Grade	School
Will Van Epps	Jr.	Kenyon Wanamingo
Andrew Phillips	Sr.	NRHEG
Hayden Niebuhr	Sr.	Maple River
Daxter Lee	Jr.	NRHEG
Zale Bushlack	Sr.	USC
Brayden Olsen	So.	Randolph
Aidan Nelson	Jr.	Hayfield
Evan Bennerotte	Sr.	Randolph



2023 GOPHER CONFERENCE BASEBALL



2nd Team All-Conference

Name	Grade	School
Kelton Erler	Sr.	JWP
Ethan Pack	Sr.	Hayfield
Jaedin Johnson	Sr.	Kenyon-Wanamingo
Sam Olson	Jr.	NRHEG
Taybor Conley	Sr.	USC
Tate Hermes	Sr.	Medford
Bronson Freerksen	Sr.	Triton
Landon Fox	Sr.	Maple River
Carsten Ingvalson	Fr.	Blooming Prairie

3rd Team All-Conference

Name	Grade	School
Bryce Pottter	Sr.	Maple River
Jack Thoe	Jr.	Hayfield
Ty Melchior	Jr.	JWP
Josh Bluhm	??	Medford
Kolton Rieck	Jr.	Triton
Alex Lee	Sr.	Kenyon-Wanamingo
Noah Girgen	Fr.	Randolph
Alden Dobberstein	??	NRHEG
Aiden Crabtree	So.	USC

Honorable Mention

Name	Grade	School
Jesse Cardenas	Sr.	Blooming Prairie
Corbin Krueger	Jr.	Hayfield
Chase Gerdts	Fr.	JWP
Colton Steberg	Jr.	Kenyon Wanamingo
Wyatt Birr	So.	Maple River
Weston Janke	Sr.	Medford
Jared Lee	Fr.	NRHEG
Tayven Geiger	Jr	Randolph
Francis Price	Sr.	Triton
Kolt Bullerman	Fr.	United South Central
Tytan Larson	Sr.	WEM



2023 GOPHER CONFERENCE BASEBALL



Sportsmanship Recipients

Name	Grade	School
Lucas Schammel	Sr.	Blooming Prairie
Kayden Jacobson	Sr.	Hayfield
Jaxon Miller	So.	JWP
Alex Lee	Sr.	Kenyon Wanamingo
Aidan Sindelir	Sr.	Maple River
Casey Chambers	Sr.	Medford
Ethan Thompson	Sr.	NRHEG
Ruben Kriesel	Sr.	Randolph
Joiser Ortiz	Jr.	Triton
Nathaniel Clore	Sr.	United South Central
Tytan Larson	Sr.	WEM

Sportsmanship winners were a member of the varsity roster during the season or at the end of the regular season, they did not have to be on postseason roster. They are someone who exemplified good sportsmanship qualities.

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL AWARD WINNERS!!!!

2023 GOPHER CONFERENCE BOYS GOLF

FOR RELEASE.....

The Gopher Conference is proud to announce the 2023 Boys Golf award winners.

Conference Champion: JWP

The JWP boys golf team won the 2023 Gopher Conference Champions. The Bulldogs fired a two-round championship team total of 660 (331, 329). JWP went on to win the Section 2A Championship to qualify for the MSHSL Class A State Tournament, which they ended up taking 7th place overall. The Bulldogs will return their entire team next year as they look to have another impressive season

Golfer of the Year

Logan Thell - JWP

Logan Thell had an impressive junior campaign and repeated as the Gopher Conference Golfer of the Year. In the Conference Championship at Waseca Lakeside, Logan shot a two-day total of 152 (77, 75) to earn medalist honors. He went on to shoot 154 (80, 74) at the section tournament, which earned him a 3rd place finish. In the state tournament at Pebble Creek in Becker, Logan fired a two-day total of 157 to finish in 20th place.

1st Team All-Conference

Name	School
Sam Tucker	Hayfield
Kadyn Neubauer	USC
Riley Freiderich	Triton
Steven Dimmel	JWP
Blake Bullerman	USC
Brennan Olson	USC

Honorable Mention

Name	School
Kaeden Ellingson	Triton
Ayden Horsman	Kenyon Wanamingo
Jude Gosse	Triton
Alex James	JWP
Brady Johnson	Blooming Prairie
Ryan Kronach	JWP

Sportsmanship Recipients

Elijah Skillestad
Sam Tucker
Carter Miller
None
Kyle Sohre
Shan Hansen
Kadyn Mulder
Jorge Martinez

Blooming Prairie
Hayfield
JWP
Kenyon Wanamingo
Maple River
NRHEG
Triton
United South Central

Sportsmanship winners were a member of the varsity roster during the season or at the end of the regular season, they did not have to be on post season roster. They are someone who exemplified good sportsmanship qualities.

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL AWARD WINNERS!!!!

2023 GOPHER CONFERENCE GIRLS GOLF

FOR RELEASE.....

The Gopher Conference is proud to announce the 2023 Girls Golf award winners.

Team:

The Hayfield Vikings won the 2023 Gopher Conference Girls Golf Championship.
Gopher Conference Champions.

Avery Towey, Kristen Watson, and Carly Bronson earned All-Conference
Chelsea Christopherson earned All-Conference Honorable Mention

Avery, Kristen, and Carly also qualified to play in the State Tournament.

Carly Bronson – Hayfield

Carly Bronson earned Gopher Conference Player of the Year. Carly has an incredible desire to improve her golf ability every day. She has a passion for the sport which is complimented by her dedication to increase her level of play. Carly spends countless hours working on her "short game" and focusing on ways to shave off a few strokes at the next meet. The Hayfield coaching staff is always impressed with her continued commitment to the sport and we're very excited to see what the next three years bring for her!

1st Team All-Conference

Name	School
Kristen Watson	Hayfield
Meela Budach	NRHEG
Avery Towey	Hayfield
Emma Heggen	USC
Lydia Flotterud	Kenyon Wannamingo
Rebecca Walters	Maple River
Tessa Tushaus	Triton

Honorable Mention

Name	School
Grace Wilkenson	NRHEG
Hope Dimmel	JWP
Ella Farr	Blooming Prairie
Chelsea Christopherson	Hayfield
Mackenzie Walters	Maple River

Sportsmanship Recipients

Caitlyn Stangl
Chelsea Christopherson
Hope Dimmel
None
MacKenzie Walters
Grace Wilkenson
Talia Kelley
Emma Heggen

Blooming Prairie
Hayfield
JWP
Kenyon Wanamingo
Maple River
NRHEG
Triton
United South Central

Sportsmanship winners were a member of the varsity roster during the season or at the end of the regular season, they did not have to be on post season roster. They are someone who exemplified good sportsmanship qualities.

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL AWARD WINNERS!!!!

Gopher Conference

2023 Visual Art Participants

Lemon Cake

Casper Connor
Triton High School
Clay

Strawberry Cake

Roxana Cardona
Triton High School
Clay

Blood Orange

Tegan Ridenour
Triton High School
Acrylic Paint

Lion

Kaden Garness
Triton High School
Oil Pastel

Cat

Katya Wheeler
Triton High School
Oil Pastel

Serenity

Sophia Williams
NRHEG
Colored Pencil

Windsong

Kinley Adams
NRHEG
Gray Tones Pencil

Seasons

Brooklyn Sommer
NRHEG
Gray Tones Pencil

Historic Inspiration

Alexis Olson
NRHEG
Gray Tones Pencil

Daybreak

Khaiden Madson
NRHEG
Colored Pencil

Hippopotamus

Kyle Ernste

Bethlehem Academy

Wood Intarsia

Socks

Summer Heselton

Bethlehem Academy

Watercolor & Ink on Paper

Self Portrait

Mallorie Pavek

Bethlehem Academy

Graphite on Paper

Sleepy Turtle

Brooklyn Becker

Bethlehem Academy

Ink Relief Print on Paper

Self Portrait

Zachary Velishek

Bethlehem Academy

Graphite on Paper

Garden of Oleander

Athena Annis

Randolph Schools

Mixed Media

Forgotten Window

Katelyn Hare

Randolph Schools

Charcoal

There's a Light

Katelyn Hare

Randolph Schools

Oil Stick

3 Lives, 1 Lifetime

Alivia Thomas

Randolph Schools

Mixed Media

Glacier National Park

Brady Kittelson

Blooming Prairie, Sophomore

Colored Pencil

Self Portrait

Elissa Martinez

Blooming Prairie, Sophomore

Graphite

Big Sad

Mikayla Martinez

Blooming Prairie, Senior

Mixed Media

Fine Line

Mason Simon

Blooming Prairie, Junior

Papier Colle'

Color Burst

Molly Robins

Blooming Prairie, Junior

Graphite and Ink

Sunny Days

Leah Proehl

Maple River

Digital Print

"Untitled"

Piper Queen

Maple River

Acrylic Paint

"Untitled"

Ava Johnson

Maple River

Graphite on Paper

Holodrum

Leah Proehl

Maple River

Acrylic

Untitled

Natalyn U.

Hayfield

Acrylic

Untitled

Daisy T.

Hayfield

Acrylic

Untitled

Karson S.

Hayfield

Mixed Media

Untitled

Emma M.

Hayfield

Graphite On Paper

Untitled

Reese B.

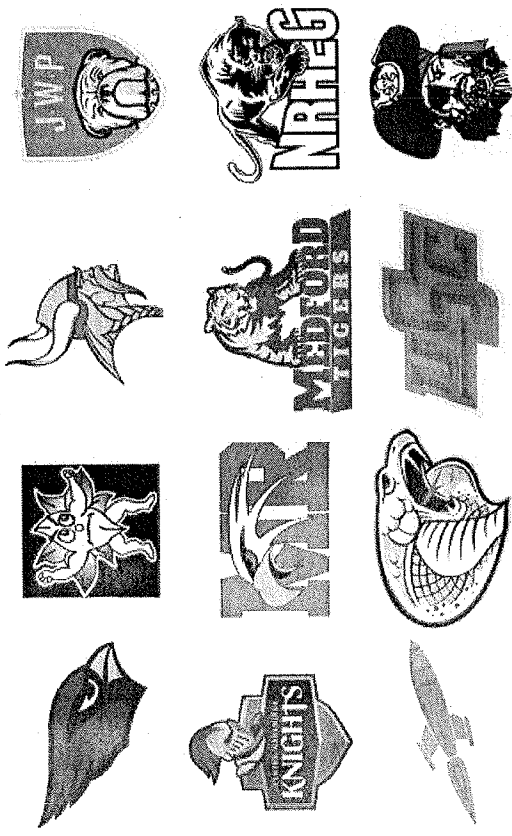
Hayfield

Acrylic

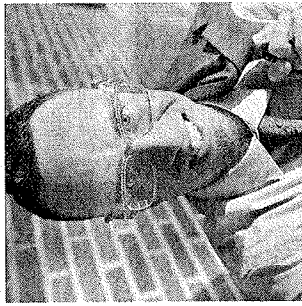
Gopher Conference Honors Concert



Dr. Kingsbury earned both a BA in Music Pre-Teaching (Summa Cum Laude with University Honors in Music Education) and a Master of Arts in Teaching Degree from the University of New Hampshire. He also holds a Master of Music Performance Degree in Conducting from Boston University and a Doctor of Musical Arts Degree in Choral Conducting and Literature from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Additionally, Dr. Kingsbury holds micro-credentials in Culturally Responsive Pedagogy, Trauma-Informed Pedagogy, Inclusive Teaching for Equitable Learning, and Creating an Inclusive and Supportive Learning Environment. He also was a participant in the 2022 Anti-Racism Across the Curriculum (ARPAC) Institute, and was a 2022 SMSU Equity Teaching Fellow.



Mr. Michael Thursby



Mr. Michael Thursby joined the Minnesota State University, Mankato faculty in the fall of 2013 as the Director of Athletic Bands and Percussion. During his tenure at Minnesota State, the 'Maverick Machine' band has grown from a 30-member pep band to serving close to 200 students annually.

Thursby's formal training included undergraduate studies at the University of Iowa where he earned his B.M. in Percussion Performance and Music Education. In 2010, he earned the Master of Music degree from University of Northern Iowa. His primary conducting teachers were Dr. Myron Welch, Dr. Ronald Johnson, and Dr. Rebecca Burkhardt. He is a member of the College Band Directors National Association, National Association for Music Education, Minnesota Band Directors Association, Minnesota Music Educators Association, and the Percussive Arts Society.

*Saturday, February 11
1:30 p.m.*

Maple River Auditorium

*Dr. Stephen Kingsbury, Choir Director
Ms. Kimbra Lau, Accompanist
Mr. Michael Thursby, Band Director*

Honor Choir

Pieces will be performed from the following selections.

Cantate Domino.....	David L. Brunner
The Rose.....	Ola Gjeilo
Sing Gently.....	Eric Whitacre
The Storm Is Passing Over.....	Charles Albert Tindley arr. Barbara W. Baker

Thank you to the following choir directors for nominating your students and supporting their music education!

Emily Cicha, Bethlehem Academy
Kari Bottin, Blooming Prairie
Megan Lynch, Hayfield
Joshua Sorenson, Janesville-Waldorf-Pemberton
Hannah Johnson, Kenyon-Wanamingo
Jessica Jewell Conover, Maple River
Olivia Steffl, Medford
Krista Reeder, NRHEG
Andrew Wotherspoon, Triton
Sheila Rame, United South Central
Megan Kreinbring, Waterville-Elysian-Morristown

Honor Band

Pieces will be performed from the following selections.

Foundry.....	John Mackey
Zoom!.....	Ayatey Shabazz
(not) Alone.....	Randall D. Standridge
Court Jester March.....	Karen Kachelmeier Robertson
Encanto.....	Arr. Paul Murtha

Thank you to the following choir directors for nominating your students and supporting their music education!

Brad Lorence, Bethlehem Academy
Ross Reishus, Blooming Prairie
Katherine Anderson, Hayfield
Megan Lynch, Hayfield
Adam Hille, Janesville-Waldorf-Pemberton
Claire Larson, Kenyon-Wanamingo
Joshua Tonkin, Maple River
Colin Zidlicky, NRHEG
Jackie Sczepanski, Randolph
Bjorn Hagen, United South Central
Elijah Gray, Triton
Jared Larson, Waterville Elysian Morristown

Honor Band

Flute

Aryanna Jorgenson
Mataya Bair
Addison Loken
Abby Smith
Ashley Zimmerman
Josi Quam
Reganne Androli
Lily Roosen
Antoinette Dickson
Angelina Dornquast
Lexi Dahlberg
Jaron Johnson

Alto Saxophone

Reyna Dornquast
Gage Thompson
Dylan Holicky
Erin Peterson
Lauren Hansen
Katherine Ross
Katya Wheeler
Trombone
Jackson Walters
Shelby Krienke
Alex Roemhildt
Alex Lee
Aidan Slowinski
Damarrin Boyesen
Milar Krech

French Horn

Tobias Conover
Kaden Baker
Madeline Heuss
Trombone
Ashley Zimmerman
Josi Quam
Reganne Androli
Lily Roosen
Antoinette Dickson
Angelina Dornquast
Lexi Dahlberg
Jaron Johnson

Flute

Aryanna Jorgenson
Mataya Bair
Addison Loken
Abby Smith
Ashley Zimmerman
Josi Quam
Reganne Androli
Lily Roosen
Antoinette Dickson
Angelina Dornquast
Lexi Dahlberg
Jaron Johnson

Alto Saxophone

Reyna Dornquast
Gage Thompson
Dylan Holicky
Erin Peterson
Lauren Hansen
Katherine Ross
Katya Wheeler
Tenor Saxophone
Nathaniel Clore
Ethan Thompson
Jack Cahill
Kyle Haroldson

French Horn

Tobias Conover
Kaden Baker
Madeline Heuss
Trombone
Jackson Walters
Shelby Krienke
Alex Roemhildt
Alex Lee
Aidan Slowinski
Damarrin Boyesen
Milar Krech

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Kaden Baker
Madeline Heuss
Trombone
Jackson Walters
Shelby Krienke
Alex Roemhildt
Alex Lee
Aidan Slowinski
Damarrin Boyesen
Milar Krech

Oboe

Leah Proehl

Clarinet

Sidney Majerus
Grace Vierling
Alaisha Garcia-Lopez
Kenzie Geerts
Megan Motz
Molly Robins
Emma Phillips
Grace Purrier
Debra Rollins
Lauren White
Cami Thompson
Anne Azelton
Claire Elness
Eric Daschner
Katelyn Hare
Morgan Jacobson
Lanston Richter

Euphonium

Dylan Passmore
Wesley Scanlan
Joaquin Lundt

Baritone Saxophone

Cal Luebke
Jackson Thoe
Liam Schrader
Corey Lilledahl
Myles Kruger
Gavin Stevens

Oboe

Leah Proehl

Clarinet

Sidney Majerus
Grace Vierling
Alaisha Garcia-Lopez
Kenzie Geerts
Megan Motz
Molly Robins
Emma Phillips
Grace Purrier
Debra Rollins
Lauren White
Cami Thompson
Anne Azelton
Claire Elness
Eric Daschner
Katelyn Hare
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Baritone Saxophone

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Jackson Thoe
Liam Schrader
Corey Lilledahl
Myles Kruger
Gavin Stevens

Euphonium

Dylan Passmore
Wesley Scanlan
Joaquin Lundt

Tuba

Dylan Anderson
Logan Tufte
Layne Davis
Ellie Morsching

Tuba

Dylan Anderson
Logan Tufte
Layne Davis
Ellie Morsching

Trumpet

Gavin Halvorson
Dakota Mueller
Grace Niebuhr
Kollin Miller
Jude Gosse
Anton Domeier
Peter McNamara
Grant Magnuson
Jordis Kruger-Diaz
Maya Hansen
Madison Passer
Alex Kleve
Addison Davis

Trumpet

Gavin Halvorson
Dakota Mueller
Grace Niebuhr
Kollin Miller
Jude Gosse
Anton Domeier
Peter McNamara
Grant Magnuson
Jordis Kruger-Diaz
Maya Hansen
Madison Passer
Alex Kleve
Addison Davis

Percussion

Sam Michaud
Ethan Marzolf
Eden Eads
Harbor Cromwell
James McNamara
Mary Cunningham
Colton Steberg
Bailey Leiminger

Percussion

Sam Michaud
Ethan Marzolf
Eden Eads
Harbor Cromwell
James McNamara
Mary Cunningham
Colton Steberg
Bailey Leiminger

Bass Clarinet

Calvin Haun
Ameryn Dostal
Clare Kruse

Bass Clarinet

Calvin Haun
Ameryn Dostal
Clare Kruse

Honor Band

Honor Choir

Soprano

Tiera Anderson (JWP)
Oliva Andrist (Hayfield)
Alayna Atherton (WEM)
Jenessa Baumgarten (WEM)
Catelyn Bartlett (BP)
Morgan Beckman (USC)
Heaven Brewer (K-W)
Kaitlyn Dobberstein (NRHEG)
Carrie Hawker (MR)
Brooklynn Hogan (MR)
Emma Johnson (USC)
Daelyn Judd (WEM)
Grace Keller (Medford)
Ava McNair (JWP)
Kaitlin Meiergerd (Hayfield)
Mari Nelson (Medford)
Julia Patterson (K-W)
Khara Peters (BP)
Litany Peterson (Triton)
Monica Wilder (BA)
Millie Woslager (Hayfield)

Alto

Abbie Berndt (MR)
Jaylee Christopher (NRHEG)
Hope Dimmel (JWP)
Hannah Freese (BP)
Ash Gibbons (Medford)
Jordan Green (WEM)
Elizabeth Hukee (Triton)
Jayden Jones (JWP)
Cora Jorgenson (Hayfield)
Ellie Mork (Hayfield)
Ella Olson (MR)
Ashley Rechtzigel (K-W)
Alyssa Ronning (BP)
Anna Syverson (K-W)
Libby Sutherland (Medford)
Fatima Terronez (BA)
Abigayle Viktora (NRHEG)
Milayna Watzek (WEM)
Alyssa Winkle (USC)

Honor Choir

Soprano

Tiera Anderson (JWP)
Oliva Andrist (Hayfield)
Alayna Atherton (WEM)
Jenessa Baumgarten (WEM)
Catelyn Bartlett (BP)
Morgan Beckman (USC)
Heaven Brewer (K-W)
Kaitlyn Dobberstein (NRHEG)
Carrie Hawker (MR)
Brooklynn Hogan (MR)
Emma Johnson (USC)
Daelyn Judd (WEM)
Grace Keller (Medford)
Ava McNair (JWP)
Kaitlin Meiergerd (Hayfield)
Mari Nelson (Medford)
Julia Patterson (K-W)
Khara Peters (BP)
Litany Peterson (Triton)
Monica Wilder (BA)
Millie Woslager (Hayfield)

Alto

Abbie Berndt (MR)
Jaylee Christopher (NRHEG)
Hope Dimmel (JWP)
Hannah Freese (BP)
Ash Gibbons (Medford)
Jordan Green (WEM)
Elizabeth Hukee (Triton)
Jayden Jones (JWP)
Cora Jorgenson (Hayfield)
Ellie Mork (Hayfield)
Ella Olson (MR)
Ashley Rechtzigel (K-W)
Alyssa Ronning (BP)
Anna Syverson (K-W)
Libby Sutherland (Medford)
Fatima Terronez (BA)
Abigayle Viktora (NRHEG)
Milayna Watzek (WEM)
Alyssa Winkle (USC)

Tenor

Isaiah Berndt (JWP)
Louie Breimhurst (K-W)
Josh Brooks (USC)
Cody Culhane (WEM)
Cree Groehler (WEM)
Derek Gustafson (JWP)
Joel Helland (K-W)
Wyatt Larson (NRHEG)
Jasper Morris (WEM)
Cameron Murphy (WEM)
Gabe Schoephoerster (BA)
Tavan Radke (Triton)
Ryan Soucek (Hayfield)
Temo Vargas (Hayfield)
Eli Wetzal (WEM)

Bass

Ahmad Alladin (WEM)
Brady Bauer (K-W)
Aden Berg (NRHEG)
Cole Gartner (JWP)
Liam Dostal (Triton)
Aaron Hull (MR)
Timmy Jaspersen (WEM)
Keegan Kuball (WEM)
Zach McCabe (BA)
Tristian Obermeyer (USC)
Henry McMartin (Triton)
Brayden Nelsen (Hayfield)
Dakota Robinson (Hayfield)
Flint Stevenson (K-W)
Logan Thell (JWP)
Cayden Thorson (NRHEG)

Tenor

Isaiah Berndt (JWP)
Louie Breimhurst (K-W)
Josh Brooks (USC)
Cody Culhane (WEM)
Cree Groehler (WEM)
Derek Gustafson (JWP)
Joel Helland (K-W)
Wyatt Larson (NRHEG)
Jasper Morris (WEM)
Cameron Murphy (WEM)
Gabe Schoephoerster (BA)
Tavan Radke (Triton)
Ryan Soucek (Hayfield)
Temo Vargas (Hayfield)
Eli Wetzal (WEM)

Bass

Ahmad Alladin (WEM)
Brady Bauer (K-W)
Aden Berg (NRHEG)
Cole Gartner (JWP)
Liam Dostal (Triton)
Aaron Hull (MR)
Timmy Jaspersen (WEM)
Keegan Kuball (WEM)
Zach McCabe (BA)
Tristian Obermeyer (USC)
Henry McMartin (Triton)
Brayden Nelsen (Hayfield)
Dakota Robinson (Hayfield)
Flint Stevenson (K-W)
Logan Thell (JWP)
Cayden Thorson (NRHEG)



2023 Gopher Conference One-Act Play Festival: All Conference

School		
Blooming Prairie	Abigail Thoreson(12)	Madison Thurnau(12)
Kenyon-Wanamingo	Ashley Rechtzigel (12)	Louis Breimhurst (12)
Maple River	Sam Langworthy (12)	Leah Proehl (12)
New Richland-H-E-G	Anton Domeier (12)	Shelby Johnston (12)
Triton	Andrew Edge (11)	Liz Hukee (11)
United South Central	Emily Cassens (12)	Liz Stern (12)
Waterville-Elysian-Morristown	Madeline Heuss (10)	Eddie Crosby (12)

Craftsmanship

Blooming Prairie	Madison Thurnau
Kenyon-Wanamingo	Addison Donkers (10)
Maple River	Abbie Berndt (12)
New Richland-H-E-G	Tatum Smith Vulcan (12)
Triton	Gage Adams (11)
United South Central	Emma Johnson (10)
Waterville-Elysian-Morristown	Claire Elness (10)





2023 GOPHER CONFERENCE SOFTBALL



FOR RELEASE on

The Gopher Conference is proud to announce the 2023 Softball award winners.

Team:

Standings:

Randolph:	11-0
Bethlehem Academy	10-1
United South Central:	8-3
Blooming Prairie:	7-4
NRHEG:	6-5
Kenyon Wanamingo	5-6
WEM :	5-6
Hayfield:	4-7
Medford:	4-7
Maple River	3-8
JWP	2-9
Triton	2-9

Conference Champion: Randolph

Summary: The Randolph Rocket Softball Team made it back-to-back Gopher Conference Championships with a perfect 11-0 record. After finishing third in the 2022 state tournament the Rockets continued their winning ways with the 2023 Gopher conference title, fifth consecutive 4A section title, and a fifth consecutive trip to the state tournament. They finished with an overall record of 24-2 and grabbing the MSHSL State Tournament Consolation Title. The Rockets were led by pitcher Carter Raymond (Sophomore: 1st Team All-State, All-Conference, 4A All-Section, State All-Tournament Team), shortstop Carly Kimmes (Junior: 1st Team All-State, All-Conference, 4A All-Section), outfielder Kylee Carey (Sophomore: Honorable Mention All-State, All-Conference, 4A All-Section), and catcher Allie Gillette (Freshmen: Honorable Mention All-State, All-Conference, 4A All-Section, State All-Tournament Team). Seniors for the 2023 Rocket softball team were, Sportsmanship Award winner Mackenzie Farrington, Anna Olsen, and Tessa Banks. The Rockets were led by Head Coach Dennis Trom (4A Section Coach of the Year), and assisted by Chelsi Marks, Ashleigh Lindow, and Mike Silk.

2023 Player of the Year:

Name	Grade	School
Carter Raymond	10	Randolph

Summary: Carter started as an eighth grader at 3rd base for the 2021 State Championship Team and transitioned to the pitching mound her freshman year and became one of the top pitchers in the state. After leading the team to a 3rd place finish in state last year with outstanding numbers, she has now taken her game to another level this year. Her numbers are outstanding with a 24-2 overall record, 152 IP, ERA of .691, with 257 K's and only 8 BB. Offensively her numbers are just as incredible leading the team with .506 BA, 43 RBI, and second on the team in hits with 44. Carter has worked extremely hard at developing her softball skills and has proven she is one of the top softball players in the state along with being an excellent student and leader both on and off the field.



2023 GOPHER CONFERENCE SOFTBALL



All-Conference

Name	Grade	School
Morgan Wilson	10	Bethlehem Academy
Kate Trump	12	Bethlehem Academy
Anna Tobin	10	Bethlehem Academy
Reagan Kangas	12	Bethlehem Academy
Macy Lembke	11	Blooming Prairie
Shawntee Snyder	11	Blooming Prairie
Haven Carlson	12	Blooming Prairie
Reese Bauman	12	Hayfield
Jo Tempel	12	Hayfield
Brielle Dessner	10	JWP
Josie Flom	11	Kenyon Wanamingo
Sidney Majerus	12	Kenyon Wanamingo
Lexi Thomas	11	Maple River
Josie Witter	12	Medford
Lydia Krenske	12	Medford
Sidney Schultz	12	NRHEG
Faith Nielsen	11	NRHEG
Carly Kimmes	11	Randolph
Kylee Carey	10	Randolph
Allie Gillette	9	Randolph
Kenna Gergen	10	Randolph
Gigi Lundi	10	Triton
Mariah Anderson	9	USC
Olivia Bungum	8	USC
Jordan Green	12	WEM
Hannah Bruns	12	WEM



2023 GOPHER CONFERENCE SOFTBALL



Honorable Mention

Name	Grade	School
Sarah Tobin	8	Bethlehem Academy
Rachel Winzenburg	11	Blooming Prairie
Kenna Selk	10	Hayfield
Alexis Dahlberg	11	JWP
Ivette Mendoza	11	Kenyon Wanamingo
Alli Boening	9	Maple River
Josie Schell	12	Medford
Adalyn Stadheim	9	NRHEG
Ella Banks	10	Randolph
Cameron Vermilyea	12	Triton
Taylor Schroeder	10	United South Central
Jenessa Baumgarten	12	WEM

Sportsmanship Recipients

Name	Grade	School
Lindsay Hanson	12	Bethlehem Academy
Lexi Steckelberg	12	Blooming Prairie
Melody Walker	10	Hayfield
Vanessa TerBeest	12	JWP
Amber Lerfald	10	Kenyon Wanamingo
Abbi Berndt	12	Maple River
Ava Clark	11	Medford
Bree Ihrke	12	NRHEG
Mackenzie Farrington	12	Randolph
Elizabeth Hukee	11	Triton
Molly Wegner	12	United South Central
Emma Ready	11	WEM

Sportsmanship winners were a member of the varsity roster during the season or at the end of the regular season, they did not have to be on postseason roster. They are someone who exemplified good sportsmanship qualities.

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL AWARD WINNERS!!!!

2023 GOPHER CONFERENCE BOYS & GIRLS TRACK & FIELD

FOR RELEASE.....

The Gopher Conference is proud to announce the 2023 Boys & Girls Track & Field award winners.

Team:

JWP won the Girls Championship scoring 108 pts as NRHEG was runner up scoring 106.33 pts. JWP only won 2 events. Their overall depth in all events helped the Bulldogs to the Championship.

Maple River won the Boys Championship in dominating fashion scoring 209 as JWP finished runner up with 107 pts. The Eagle won 9 of the 18 events along with their overall depth in all events helped the Eagles to the Championship.

Track & Field Athlete's of the Year

Mason Schirmer Maple River

Mason is a senior who has regularly taken first place in all of his regular season events (100m Dash, 200m Dash, 4x100m Relay, and the High Jump. Mason now owns the school record for high jump at 6' 6". Mason also competed in and placed in four events at the state tournament, the 4x200 (3rd), 4x100 (6th), 200 (4th), and high jump (9th).

Jackie Cole Medford

Jackie Cole is a junior who was all-conference in four events at the Gopher Conference Track Meet. She won the 100 and 200 meter dash. She also met the conference standard in the 400 and long jump.

Team Scores [Click team scores for complete results on Wayzata Timing](#)

GIRLS

1) Janesville-Waldorf-Pemberton	108
2) New Richland-H-E-G	106.33
3) Kenyo	90
4) Medford	77
5) Triton	69.33
6) Maple River	65
7) Blooming Prairi	63
8) Waterville-Elysian-Morris	42
9) United South Central	39

10) Hayfield	36.33
BOYS	
1) Maple River	209
2) Janesville-Waldorf-Pember	107
3) New Richland-H-E-G	95
4) Medford	93
5) Blooming Prairie	72
6) Waterville-Elysian-Morris	53.5
7) Triton	33.50
8) Hayfield	21
9) Kenyon-Wanamingo-Goodhue*	13
10) United South Central	3

2023 TRACK AND FIELD ATHLETES OF THE YEAR

Jackie Cole – Medford

- 1st place 100 meter dash
- 1st place 200 meter dash
- 2nd place 400 meter dash
- 2nd place Long Jump

Mason Schirmer – Maple River

- 1st place 100 meter dash
- 1st place 200 meter dash
- 1st place High Jump
- 1st place 4x200 meter relay

Girls All-Conference

- 100m Dash - Jackie Cole 11 (Medford) 12.58
- 200m Dash - Jackie Cole 11 (Medford) 26.46
- 400m Dash - Hayley Lentsch 11 (K-W/G) 1:00.64; Jackie Cole 11 (Medford) 1:01.22; Mackenzie Geers 12 (Triton) 1:02.88
- 800m Run - Quinn VanMaldeghem 9 (NRHEG) 2:32.25; Ava Cummings 11 (Triton) 2:32.59
- 1600m Run - Quinn VanMaldeghem 9 (NRHEG) 5:32.82; MaKenzie Westphal 7 (JWP) 5:35.99; Sophia Stencel 7 (MR) 5:36.2
- 3200m Run - MaKenzie Westphal 7 (JWP) 12:19.63; Gloria Hernandez 8 (BP) 12:42.96
- 100m Hurdles - Evelyn Nydegger 11 (NRHEG) 17.20

300m Hurdles - Evelyn Nydegger 11(NRHEG) 49.04
Long Jump - Hayley Lentsch 11 (K-W/G) 16'11"; Jackie Cole 11 (Medford) 16'10"
Triple Jump - Vanessa Schmidt 12 (K-W/G)34'6.5"; Annaka Forsberg 11(BP) 34'4.25"
High Jump - Annaka Forsberg 11(BP) 5'5"
Pole Vault - Lauren Mutschler 9 (MR) 10'2"
Shot Put - Calli Coolidge 12 (Hayfield) 36'6"
Discus - Abby Fitzgerald 12 (Medford)129'0"; Lauren Cowell 11 (NRHEG)113'0"; Calli Coolidge 12 (Hayfield) 108'3"; Isabel Miller 11 (Medford) 105'9".
4x100 - Tessa Erlandson 12, Vanessa Schmidt 12, Avy Agenten 10, Kaelynn Ryan 10 (K-W/G) 53.32
4x200 - Katelyn Olson 9, Lilly Strauss 10, Nevaeh Weimert 9, Raquel Fischer 12 (JWP) 1:51.41; Romina Medina 10, Ava Cummings 11, Olivia Weber 10, Mackenzie Geers 12 (Triton) 1:51.82
4x400 - Keira Lenort 11, Sierra Misgen 10, Chloe Riewer 9, Quinn VanMaldeghem 9 (NRHEG); 4:24.29 Lauryn Nauman 11, Olivia Weber 10, Ameryn Dostal 11, Ava Cummings 11 (Triton) 4:25.21
4x800 - Grace Nystuen 12, Mari O'Conner 8, Kaelynn Ryan 10, Lily Peterson 10 (K-W/G) 10:51.86; Ava Krause 7, Kwynn Krause 9, Faith Olson 12, Lauren White 11 (JWP) 10:56.20

Boys All-Conference

100m Dash - Mason Schirmer 12 (MR) 11.20; Jesse Ortiz 11(Medford)11.36; Amarus Harris 10 (MR) 11.55
200m Dash - Mason Schirmer 12 (MR) 22.57
400m Dash - Cohen Stursa 12 (Medford) 52.8
800m Run - Cohen Stursa 12 (Medford) 2:06.77
1600m Run - Cole Stencil 12 (MR) 4:43.72
3200m Run - Cole Stencil 12(MR) 10:08.0; Jacob Karl 9 (NRHEG) 11:15.04
110m Hurdles - William Tuttle 11 (NRHEG) 16.04
300m Hurdles - William Tuttle 11 (NRHEG) 42.69
Long Jump - Amarus Harris 10 (MR) 19'4"
Triple Jump - Ryan Kronbach 11 (JWP) 41'10.5"
High Jump - Mason Schirmer 12 (MR 6'4"); Ryan Krohnbach 11 (JWP) 6'0"
Pole Vault - Julius Schneider 9 (MR) 11'7"
Shot Put - Karson Steele 12 (Hayfield) 42'2.5"
Discus - Lucas Hanna 12 (NRHEG) 141'1"
4x100 - Tim Buckholtz 12, Mason Schirmer 12, Chad Schull 11, Amarus Harris 10 (MR) 45.04; Sam Smith,12, Derek Kubicek 11, Cade Christianson 12, Micah Donnelly 12 (BP) 45.42

4x200 - Amarus Harris 10, Chad Schull 11, Cale Hansen 11, Tim Buckholtz 12 (MR) 1:35.22; Micah Donnelly 12, Derek Kubicek 11, Sam Smith 12, Cade Christianson 12 (BP) 1:36.06
 4x400 - Jesse Ortiz 11, Cohen O'Conner 12, Riley Babcock 11, Cohen Stursa 12 (Medford) 3:38.18; Tyler Hollerich 11, Cale Hansen 11, Anthony Orduna 8, Matthew Orduna 11 (MR) 3:39.16
 4x800 - Stephen Fennel 12, Breckin Cochlin 11, Will Sunde 10, Tyler Forystekm 11 (BP) 8:59.21; Austin Erickson 12, Cohen O'Conner 12, Riley Babcock 11, Luis Lopez 11 (Medford) 9:03.21; Dylan Holicky 11, Preston Grams 10, Nate Boese 10, Jasper Morris 11 (WEM) 9:09.59

2023 Track and Field All-Conference

School	All-Conference	Honorable Mention	Sportsmanship
Blooming Prairie	Gloria Hernandez, Annaka Forsberg, Sam Smith, Derek Kubicek, Cade Christianson, Micah Donnelly, Stephen Fennel, Breckin Cochlin, Will Sunde, Tyler Forystek.	Chloe McCarthy, Claire Rennie, Chloe Weber, Gabe Hein, Cole Wangen, Kolby Vigeland.	Elizabeth Miner, Mason Simon.
Hayfield	Calli Coolidge, Karson Steele.	Breanna Subbert, Cohen Heins.	Aviana Alexander, Dakota Robinson.
JWP	MaKenzie Westphal, Katelyn Olson, Lilly Strauss, Nevaeh Weimert, Raquel Fischer, Ava Krause, Kwynn Krause, Faith Olson, Lauren White, Ryan Kronbach.	Presley James, Ashlin Keyes, Ava Appel, Alex James, Alex Kleve, Isaiiah Berndt.	Faith Olson, Jack Cahill.

Hayley Lentsch,
Vanessa Schmidt,
Tessa Erlandson,
Vanessa Schmidt,
Avy Agenten,
Kaelynn Ryan, Grace
Nystuen, Mari
O'Conner, Lily
Peterson.

Kenyon-
Wanamingo/G

Noel Hernandez,
Masyn Hanson,
Gage Thompson.

Ryan Lacanne

Sophia Stencil,
Lauren Mutschler,
Mason Schirmer,
Amarus Harris, Cole
Stencil, Julius
Schneider, Tim
Buckholtz, Chad
Schull, Cale Hanson,
Tyler Hollerich,
Anthony Orduna,
Matthew Orduna.

Maple River

Natalie Wenner,
Briyanna Burkhardt,
Zach Trio, Davynn
Nusser.

Izzy Anderson, Noah
Ziegler.

Jackie Cole, Abby
Fitzgerald, Isabel
Miller, Jesse Ortiz,
Cohen Stursa,
Cohen O'Conner,
Riley Babcock,
Austin Erickson, Luis
Lopez.

Medford

Avery Arndt, Olivia
Ward, Lydia
Heiderscheidt, Dylan
Heiderscheidt, Carter
Billitz, Hunter Perdue.

Adalia List, Cain
Johannes.

Quinn
VanMaldeghem,
Evelyn Nydegger,
Lauren Cowell, Keira
Lenort, Sierra
Misgen, Jacob Karl,
William Tuttle, Lucas
Hanna.

NRHEG

Mackenzie Geers,
Ava Cummings,
Romina Medina,
Olivia Weber, Hanna
Strom, Ameryn
Dostal.

Triton

USC/AC

Dylan Holicky,
Preston Grams, Nate
Boese, Jasper
Morris.

WEM

Gabby Schlaak,
Anika Ladlie,
Malonna Wilson,
Levin Kitzer, Sawyer
Prigge, Parker Bunn.

Josie Strom, Conner
Nelson.

Pierce Petersohn,
Craig Knutson.

Lauryn Nauman

Madison Passer,
Hayden Chandler.

Niya Gonzalez, Ezra
Edwards.

Addison Condon,
Josie Volkman,
Ashlyn Pelant, Evan
Lange-Wenker,
Ethan Greenwald,
Aric Williams.

Madeline Heuss,
Preston Grams