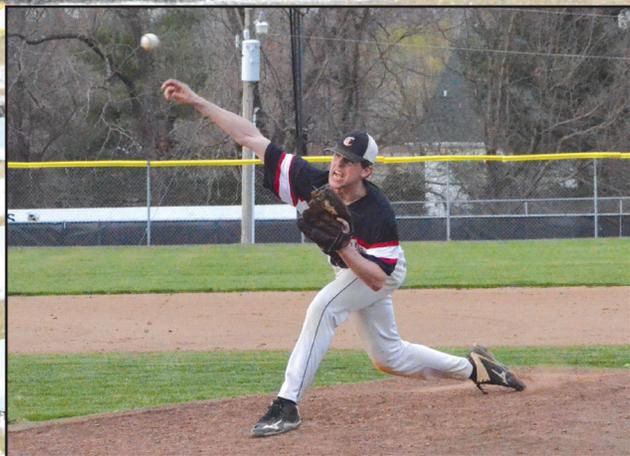
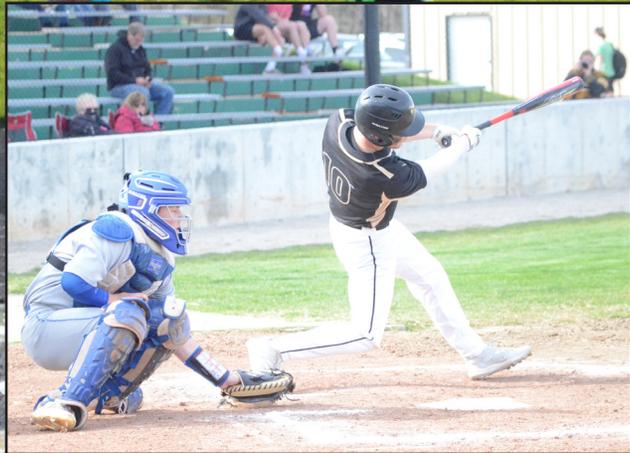


SPRING SPORTS 2021



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Published by
LC RECORD
Spring 2021 Edition

Lebanon baseball ready to be back in action

Alex Boyer - alex@lacederecord.com

The Lebanon High School baseball team had high expectations heading into last year before the season's cancellation occurred. The team was 15-9 in 2019 and hoping to build off success in 2020. Head coach Dustin Young said he thought the group handled it well and didn't complain at all.

"They were a phenomenal group who loved the game and being around each other," he stated. "We laid a lot of the groundwork leading up to the season and were ready to go, and before you know it, everything happens that everyone else went through as well. We heard the rumblings of what could happen, and it came to fruition.

"I feel like MSHSAA did a good job of waiting as long as possible, and we were

preparing to see what it would be like if the season could start back up, and the senior class never said a negative word. They were mature about it and understood the magnitude of the situation."

Young also gave credit to LHS activities director Will Christian for being generous enough to find time during the summer to let the team play a few games and have some closure to their respective careers.

"The summer program that we had was two-fold use," he mentioned. "We used it to develop what we had moving forward and to give our seniors a sense of closure. It wasn't the same as what a season would be, but we did have an opportunity to get them some games, recognition, and able to do some things that gave them a sense of normalcy."

Heading into this season, Young has

tried his best to get back reps that players lost from not getting a season in the spring.

"We have started from the fundamentals and worked up," he said. "We have gotten a lot of hacks in the cage and get them live looks when we are able to. I went into the year knowing we lost a whole year of reps, so we needed to start from the ground up.

"We also worked on the game within the game with different scenarios in practice. We will build upon this foundation and be ready to roll."

Returning this year will be Missouri State commit and No. 1 ranked junior in the state of Missouri, Zack Stewart. As a freshman, he hit .397 with three home runs and 24 RBIs to earn first-team All-Ozark Conference and All-District honors.

According to Young, seniors John Greenwood and Drew McBride will also be relied upon for leadership this spring.

Greenwood had a 2-0 record to go along with an 0.57 ERA as a sophomore, while McBride earned all-conference and all-district honors as a sophomore.

Varsity newcomers include Isaac Ledbetter (OF, SR), Logan Wise (UTIL, SR), Hunter Honey (INF, SR), Drew Truelove (OF/P, JR), Ty O'Neil (P, JR), Brendan Black (P/CI, JR), Max Groce (OF/P, JR), Bennett Schnitzer (CI, JR), Collin Wilson (OF, JR), Andrew Dent (INF, JR), Ian Carr (UTIL, JR), Justin Dameron (UTIL, JR), Keaton Mizer (P, SO) and Evan Fohn (UTL, JR).

Hitting will be a strength for the 'Jackets, but pitching is something that is a big question mark entering the 2021 season.

"We went into the season saying that

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anyone who has thrown in the past will probably see some innings at some point this spring," Young stated. "You have no idea what will happen as far as quarantines, who will be out, so we need all hands on deck.

"I expect to see innings from Evan Fohn, Brendan Black, Ty O'Neil, Keaton Mizer, and others. We want to get them a lot of experience. John (Greenwood) will be one of our main starters along with Zack (Stewart), Drew (McBride), Logan (Wise), and Isaac (Ledbetter)."

As far as injuries are concerned, the team will be relatively healthy heading into the spring beside a couple of players who will be out for the year with injuries that occurred in the fall.

To open the season, Lebanon supports a record of 4-3 with wins over Neosho (two times), Marshfield, and Glendale.

The Jackets will host Rolla on March 31 at 4:30 and will also play host to Kickapoo on Friday, April 2 at 4:30 p.m.



Pictured is the 2021 Lebanon High School JV and varsity baseball team. In the front row, from left, are manager Lance Begley, Parker Wehner, Logan Wise, Drew McBride, Ty O'Neil, Justin Dameron, Andrew Dent, and Peyton Mitchell. In the middle row, from left, are Isaac Ledbetter, Evan Fohn, Ashton Coryell, Hunter Honey, Austin Hendrix, Collin Wilson, Cade Musica, and Drew Truelove. In the back row, from left, are Mason Farris, coach Logan Prock, coach Dustin Young, Brendan Black, Ian Carr, Bennett Schnitzer, Payton Wehner, John Greenwood, Max Groce, Zack Stewart, Keaton Mizer, and coach Brian Decker.

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Lebanon golf hoping to repeat success

Alex Boyer - alex@laclede record.com

The Lebanon boys' golf looks to move forward after missing out on their 2020 season.

They had a solid group that would have led the team in 2020.

"We would have had a solid senior group and had three seniors," head coach Zach Hines said.

The Golf team had a little bit of an advantage during the COVID-10 quarantine period as the golf course the team uses remained open for most of that time frame.

Heading into the start of practice, Hines mentioned that knocking off the rust will be on the agenda

during practice.

"When we got canceled last year, most of them didn't come out as much as I would have hoped," he said. "We have had a lot of progress with Grant (Carr) this year. Houston (Brackett) is coming around, and he should be pretty solid, along with Mason (Bowman) as well."

Lebanon looks to add

to its depth with a couple of freshmen.

are freshmen looking to continue the program's success.

"We have four pretty good freshmen that will be competing for spots on the varsity this year."

Consistency is something Hines is looking for and believes could be a strength of this team.

"We aren't going to have anyone like Tryn and Cooper that go even par," he said. "If we can stay consistent, we should be able to compete this year."

The Yellowjackets will head to Silo Ridge Golf and Country Club for their first tournament of the year on Monday, April 5.

"We have four pretty good freshmen that will be competing for spots on the varsity this year."

- Zach Hines

Make This Season A *Hole In One!*

2020/2021 LHS BOYS' GOLF

Pictured is the 2021 Lebanon High School boys' golf team. In the front row, from left, are Kory Hough, Drew Bowling, Wesley Chaffin, Houston Brackett, Graysen Anthony, and Dylan Krisher. In the back row, from left, are coach Trey Overstreet, Canon Roark, Grant Carr, Jayden Daniels, Mason Bowman, Simon Rogers, Zack Smith, and coach Zach Hines.



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Lebanon soccer excited to return to pitch

Alex Boyer - alex@lacederecord.com

Lebanon soccer returns to the field after high hopes of a great 2020 season were taken away due to the Covid pandemic that caused a cancellation in the 2020 season for the Lady 'Jackets.

Head coach Matt Jernigan stated how tough it was to have a Zoom call with his 2020 seniors and give them the news that their season would be canceled.

"Just knowing that we were not going to get to see that group compete their senior year and try to earn college scholarships was difficult," he said. "They took it really well, though. We were still able to do some scrimmages in the summer and give them their senior night, which was good.

"We've really focused on making

sure the girls are first off enjoying it because who knows when our next game will be. We have always said that, but with what happened last year really put that in perspective for them."

Lebanon will return senior captain Alyson Johnson who missed all of last season with an ACL injury but has been on the Varsity since her freshman year.

"She has had a long recovery and just got cleared not too long ago," Jernigan said. "She has been able to step in and fill a leadership role, and it's almost like she didn't even leave."

Move-in Jordan Denson, who is an Evangel commit, will be relied upon heavily this spring.

"We are trying to piece her in because she had a little bit of an ankle injury she's going to return from," he

said. "She is a solid player, and we are hoping for big things from her."

Amanda De-witt got voted captain and is a four-year player for the program.

The Yellowjackets will have to look to many newcomers and underclassmen to round out the team.

"Jaidyn Collins would have been a starter for us last year as a freshman, and we are excited to see her in her sophomore year," Jernigan mentioned.

Sophomore Jaiden Piercy is another sophomore who LHs will count on to score

"We've really focused on making sure the girls are first off enjoying it because who knows when our next game will be. We have always said that, but with what happened last year really put that in perspective for them."

- Zach Hines

goals for the team this year.

"Jaiden is a speedster who has a knack for the goal," Jernigan said. "She combines speed with the goal-scoring ability, and we are excited to see what she can do up top this year."

Brooke and Kaitlin Frank, who are also move-ins for the Jackets, Brynne York, Chloe Shivers, Paige Taylor, Jewell Shockley, and Taylor Miller, will also factor into the mix for the Lady 'Jackets.

At press time, Lebanon was 2-2 and will travel to Parkview on Tuesday, April 6.

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Photo by Marc Fisher (CreationServices)

Pictured is the 2021 Lebanon High School girls' soccer team. In the front row, from left, are Maddie Jay, Amanda DeWitt, Jayden Piercy, Adali Hendrix, Alexis Perryman, Hannah Lane, and Addy Collins. In the second row, from left, are Kali Williams, Mariah Decker, Destiny Stokes, Vivienne Paterson, Jaidyn Collins, and Celsity Passmore. In the third row, from left, are Sydney Wilson, Kaylyn Rogers, Jordan Denson, Brynne York, Chloe Shivers, Eliana Richards, and Regan Hathaway. In the fourth row, from left, are coach Abbey Johnson, Chloe Shearer, Taylor Miller, Bailey Lowrance, Eliana Henery, Alyson Johnson, and Paige Taylor. In the back row, from left, are coach Matt Jernigan, McKinley Rodden, Brooke Frank, Hannah Henson, Kaitlyn Frank, Macy Offutt, and coach Jacob Woolsey.

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Track team hoping for a big season this spring

Alex Boyer - alex@laclede record.com

The Lebanon High School track and field team has been one of the more consistent programs throughout the past 5-10 years. This season, head coach Shane Rebmann hopes the group can post solid throws and times after a year off.

The 2020 group was slated to be one of the most solid groups under Rebmann, but he says the success they have found in the last year has made him proud.

"The seniors from last year were an amazing group," he mentioned. "Not just as athletes, but as people also. I've kept up with most of them in some way or another, and it's been great hearing from them about their struggles with all of this and the success they have found in the last year. I've seen them travel on hikes and float trips, start businesses, continue to train, move to the mountains, take online

classes, and all of these amazing things over the last year.

"Our kids are very adaptable, and I'm more proud of them for that than anything they could have done on the track last year. It was poised to be a great year for us, and I think it was the best team we had ever had from top to bottom boys and girls. We had the opportunity to run on a brand new track thanks to our school district and community, we were scheduled to compete in Florida, and we had dropped from Class 5 to Class 4.

"It was going to be a great season, but once I got over the disappointment of the cancellation and began to see how the kids grieved and then just moved on, it was very inspiring."

Rebmann admitted it had been a challenge to get back into the groove of things after a year off but still has lots of faith in his leaders.

"The group of seniors that we had last year were great leaders," he stated. "This year's seniors were sophomores during our last full season, so they are still growing into that leadership role. We have had to teach a lot of the basics this year. But again, kids are adaptable and much quicker learners than we give them credit for.

"There are some things that we are having to go slow with, but really the kids have been able to jump right in on our normal workouts, and so far, they are exceeding my expectations. I think a lot of that is just that they are all ready to do something. It's been a long year for some of those kids, so to be back out there is special."

Some strengths of the team will be similar places they always have been. Rebmann expects the throwers, jumpers, mid-distance, and distance crew to be held to high expectations this spring. He also complimented coaches Garret Wade,

Josh Smith, Nathaniel Rogers, and Seth Shockley for developing a lot of the kids into the runners and throwers that they are.

Top returners on the girls' side include Julianne Lopez (1600/3200m), Skyla Sien (400/800/1600m), Myah Hough (400/800/1600), Rory Jenkins (pole vault), Kally Mack (discus), Taylor Beckley (shot), Mariah Mebruer (returning State Qualifier in high jump and 4x400), Destiny Zimdars (Shot/Disc), and Jocce Pettyjohn (returning State Qualifier in the 4x100 and 4x400 hurdles).

On the boys' side, top returners include Derek Tucker (returning State Medalist in Discus), Caleb York (400/800/1600), Cordell Zebel (returning State Qualifier in the 300m hurdles and 4x400 relay), Caleb Falzone (jumps, 400/800m), Kaane Cobleigh (100/200m), Dalton Wagner (school record in the javelin), Logan Ly-

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barger (jumps, 100/200m), Ayden Carr (1600/3200), Tristan Wilson (shot put), and Cole Patten (pole vault).

Rebmann mentioned that, in a way, all of the team is pretty much newcomers this year.

"We really don't know a lot about our freshmen class this year, so it's difficult to speak about them at this point," he stated. "We know that it is a big group with a lot of potential, so we are very excited for the next couple of weeks to start collecting some real data on where they are early in the season. Our sophomores are kind of like "redshirt freshmen" this year, so we know a little more about them even if we haven't seen them in a meet since their 8th-grade year. It's going to be a great opportunity for a lot of young kids to step up this season into a varsity role."

Newcomers include Parker Anthony, Ella Johnson, Lexi Curl, Hannah Christian, Taylor Rodden, Jenna Rosen, Maddie John, Canayaha Overton, Ledasia Alley, Halea Bartel, Bailey Joiner, Mariah Brumley, Alissa Nunn, Trey Alley, Jamar

Rogers, Jacoby Fultz, Jarret Sing, Caden Morris, Nathan Bartel, Kaleb Nail, Preston Ellingson, Davis Joiner, Jermiah Fincher, Dakota Windsor, and Paul Debose.

As far as expectations, Rebmann is hoping that this team works hard and gets the best experience possible.

"My expectations are the same as always," he said. "We are going to work hard at practice, give the kids the best experience possible and always represent our school and community with the pride that it deserves. Even though they are new, our kids have bought into the concept of getting better every day. We know that there will be some obstacles this season, but the kids are already overcoming those issues. Our job as coaches this year is to be teachers, encouragers, and motivators, now more so than any other year."

The team held their home track meet on March 26. The girls' team will go to an Invitational at Parkview High School on April 8, and the boys' will attend an Invitational at Parkview High School on April 9.



LCR photo/Alex Boyer

Pictured is the 2020-2021 LHS Track & Field team.



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Tennis team looks to varsity newcomers

Alex Boyer - alex@lacederecord.com

The Lebanon Yellowjacket boys' tennis team returns to the court in 2021 after an unfortunate postponement of their 2020 season.

They will turn to some newcomers at the top of the lineup this season after losing their No. 1 and 2 players from the 2019 campaign.

Seniors Bryson Crowell and Graham Miller each had great junior years in 2019, which was an unfortunate end to their LHS careers. Crowell is one of the most decorated players in program history.

"Graham Miller, who was an outstanding kid, had a huge win breaking a 4-4 tie to push us into the next round of districts," head coach Ron Crowell stated. "The thing with Bryson is I've

never had a kid so excited about the process of getting better." He is currently on the tennis team at Southwest Baptist University.

The lineup will look very different this season for the Yellowjackets.

Cameron Fisher and Kyle Manor look to head up the lineup for the Yellowjackets this season.

"Cameron has no varsity experience, but I think he will do great things at either number 1 or 2 this season," Crowell said. "Kyle has improved a lot. I

really like the way he has been hitting in practice.

"Those two will be solid for us at the top."

Seniors Evan Rogers and

Austin Barber will be new faces in the varsity lineup, and senior Jake Henson and Easton Cromer are expected to compete for a spot in the varsity lineup, too.

Crowell said that both Rogers and Barber are great athletes and soccer players and that he is excited to see what they can do. We are still trying to figure out our No. 5 and 6.

"Reed Danek and

Michael Jones have chances to claim one of the remaining two spots," according to Crowell. "Those guys work hard and have been practicing to earn some varsity time."

Expectations for Lebanon will be the same as always, per Crowell. Have a winning record at home, beat their rivals, and do well in tournaments.

"This group is inexperienced a little bit, but I am excited to see how they finish this year," he mentioned. "They have been very coachable and are a joy to be around every day. They care about the game and want to get better each time they step on the court."

At press time, Lebanon was 0-1 and is set to host Springfield Central at 4:00 p.m. on Monday, April 5, at the Mary Jean Wampler Tennis Complex.

“They have been very coachable and are a joy to be around every day. They care about the game and want to get better each time they step on the court.”

- Ron Crowell

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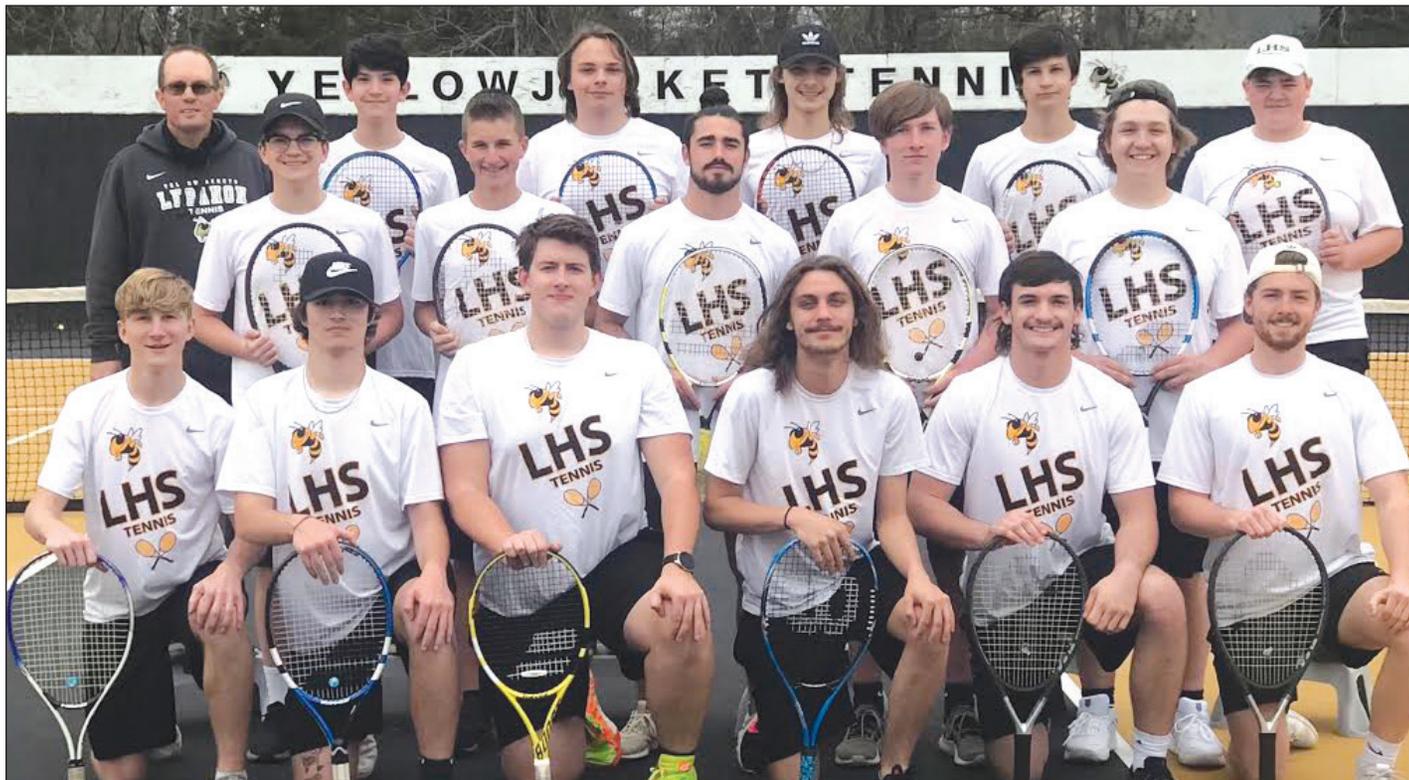


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Pictured is the 2021 Lebanon High School boys' tennis team. In the front row, from left, are Austin Barber, Aiden Buckley, Chance Arthur, Jayce West, Jake Henson, and Cameron Fisher. In the middle row, from left, are Easton Cromer, Hayden Starnes, Evan Rogers, Dathon Durbin, and Kyle Maynor. In the back row, from left, are coach Ron Crowell, Michael Owen, Devin Blackburn, Michael Jones, Reed Danek, and Kameron Woodcock.

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Conway baseball leaning on hitting in spring

Alex Boyer - alex@lacederecord.com

In 2020, the Conway Bears had a solid group slated to return, but COVID-19 forced MSHSAA to cancel spring sports in Missouri.

"I thought we had a good group," head coach Clay Bilyeu said. "We had a real chance to compete and go a long way with them last year. That is a group that you had for four years and then all of a sudden stop, so it is always tough. They are a group that was big into baseball, and they didn't get to play, so you hated to see it."

Things will look different for the Bears' baseball team on the mound this spring, but the team will have plenty of experience returning to the plate to hold their own.

Names to watch for this spring are

Chase Caffey (two-time All-Summit Conference selection), Jake Vestal (three-year starter), Tanner Simpson (three-year starter), and Kason McBride (multiple-year starter). Other seniors expected to see time are Ryan Dame, Trey Earls, and Kory McBride.

"All seven of these guys have some sort of varsity experience since their sophomore years, plus we did get to play in the fall of 2019 and fall of 2020. They have been our biggest offensive producers the last couple of years.

"We will have doubles power throughout our lineup and several guys with speed who can steal a bag or take the extra base."

Caffey batted .414 with 24 hits, six doubles, 12 RBIs, and 15 steals in the 2020 fall season. He has committed to play at College of the Ozarks next year.

Simpson hit .364 with 20 hits, seven doubles, and 19 RBIs in the fall. Ka. McBride had a .318 average while Ko. McBride threw 18 innings in the fall and posted a 1.14 ERA and 28 strikeouts.

Conway's first-time contributors will include sophomore Troy Replogle, who will see time on the mound and in the infield. Freshman Cade Archer will see time in the infield, according to Bilyeu.

Kaleb Doing, Nate Rice, and Alton Mackey are also expected to compete for time.

"We will really lean on those guys outside of our seniors," Bilyeu mentioned. "There were stretches where Replogle was our best hitter, and the case could be made for the same on the mound. Archer is someone who takes great at-bats, can play multiple infield positions, and throw some innings if

need be.

"Rice and Mackey will see a lot of at-bats for us, too."

Heading into the season, Bilyeu mentioned over and over again how much depth this team has.

"We have a lot of depth this year," he stated. "I think we have some pitching depth. We might not have the top couple of arms we were going to have last year, but we have six guys who can step in there and compete and give us a chance."

After the opening jamboree at Lebanon, Bilyeu liked his team's effort but says there are still things that will improve as the year goes on.

"I thought we played well first and foremost," he mentioned. "We were solid defensively with just one error in eight innings. We saw many good things



GO BEARS!



2020/2021 CONWAY BASEBALL
Pictured is the 2021 spring Conway High School baseball team. In the front row, from left, are Kaleb Doing, Isaac Freeman, Josh Jones, Quinton McGuire, and Ryan Dame. In the second row, from left, are Kason McBride, Kory McBride, Nate Rice, Trey Earls, Alton Mackey, and Chase Caffey. In the back row, from left, are Jake Vestal, Caleb Graves, Troy Replogle, Tanner Simpson, and Cade Archer. Not pictured is Blake Shelton.

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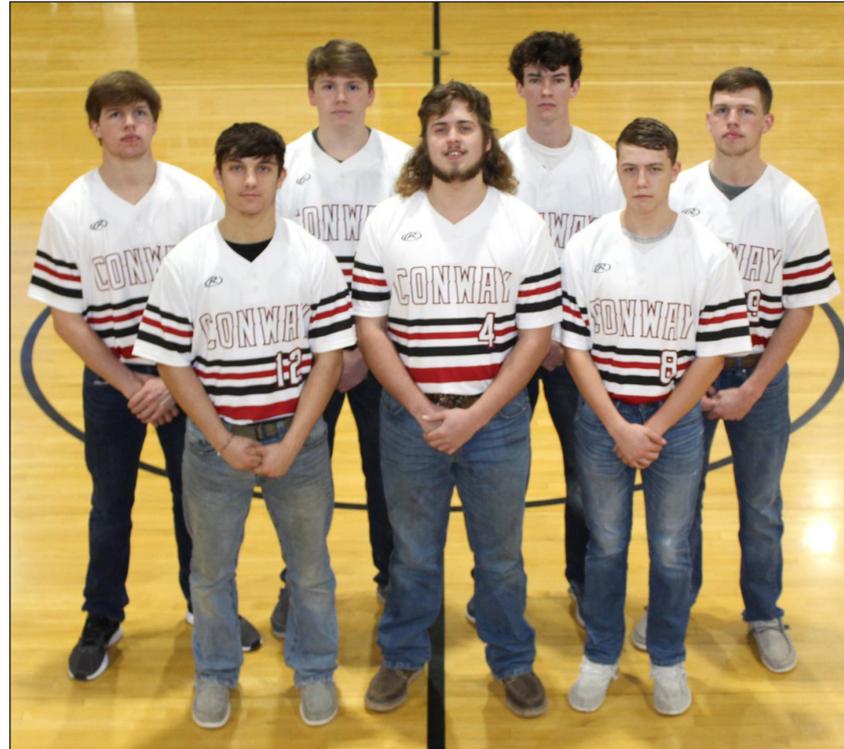
from our pitchers, with them facing larger schools (Marshfield and Lebanon) and only giving up three runs to each group.

"We just need to limit our walks and free passes that we put on, and if we do that, we will be competitive this year. We only put up one run, and timing will come as the season goes on, but we are going to have to swing our bats better in order to compete."

During the fall, Conway went 8-10, but Bilyeu said there was a lot of experimenting going on and expected those results with the time off.

"I was trying to figure out the new group," he said. "I was figuring out what worked and what pitchers were going to work in certain options. I don't think our record speaks for how good we could be this spring, and I think we are better than that record indicates."

Conway won the Cabool Classic with a 3-0 record and defeated Hartville 4-3 in ten innings to kick off the spring. The Bears beat Cabool, Gainesville, and Norwood to capture the title as Ko. McBride had one hit allowed, and nine strikeouts in seven innings pitched.



Submitted photo

Pictured are the 2021 Conway High School baseball seniors. In the front row, from left, are Chase Caffey, Tanner Simpson, and Ryan Dame. In the back row, from left, are Kory McBride, Jake Vestal, Trey Earls, and Kason McBride.

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Stoutland baseball ready for action

Alex Boyer - alex@lacederecord.com

The Stoutland Tigers are excited for another year of baseball under head coach Joe Nicholson.

Nicholson took the baseball and head basketball coaching job last summer after spending time as the baseball coach at Hermitage for five seasons.

"I spent several years coaching baseball in the USSSA world," he said. "I am very happy to be here and love the people that I work with and the athletes that I get to coach."

The Tigers have a plethora of returners this spring, with junior catcher Ryan Gross leading the way.

"Ryan is probably the best defensive catcher in the conference, and he is also our leadoff hitter and team leader," said Nicholson. "Ryan is a great all-around player and the type of player that every coach loves to have on their roster. He works hard all the time and always puts the team first."

On the mound, junior Oliver Eilenshtein will be called upon as the ace of the staff.

"He had a huge fall, threw a no-hitter, and also has a great bat. Oliver hits second in the lineup and led our team in average in the fall," Nicholson mentioned. "Oliver was out last season in the fall with a broken ankle. This fall, he came back strong and was a huge part of our team."

Sophomore Jayden Pendegrass,

junior James Justice, freshman Justin Crabtree, and junior Hunter Hill are other infielders that Stoutland will rely on heavily.

Pendegrass is the team's RBI guy and first baseman, according to Nicholson. Justice will be a utility infielder, while Crabtree is also expected to see time on the bump. Hill's glove is one of the best on the team, too.

Manning the outfield will be sophomore Brad Shaw, junior Abe Stamper, and Charlie Hill.

"Stamper made the conversion from infield to the outfield this fall and has done a great job," said Nicholson. "Brad is a good base runner and solid at the plate. Charlie will see time in the outfield and be our No. 2 pitcher."

Sophomore Isaiah Brent is an outfielder with good speed and base running abilities. Wes Howe will be the DH and relied upon heavily in that spot.

"Wes is a machine at the plate for us," Nicholson said. Wes delivered some huge hits for us this fall and has a decent glove in the infield as well. This spring, Wes will also be part of our pitching staff. He has been working this spring as a pitcher and is looking promising to this point."

Also in the mix for playing time is Landon Dolan, Drew Rogers, Luke Leazott, and Michael Porter.

This spring, Nicholson has spent a lot of time on the fundamentals of hitting and pitching and is hoping for big

things after winning five games during fall ball.

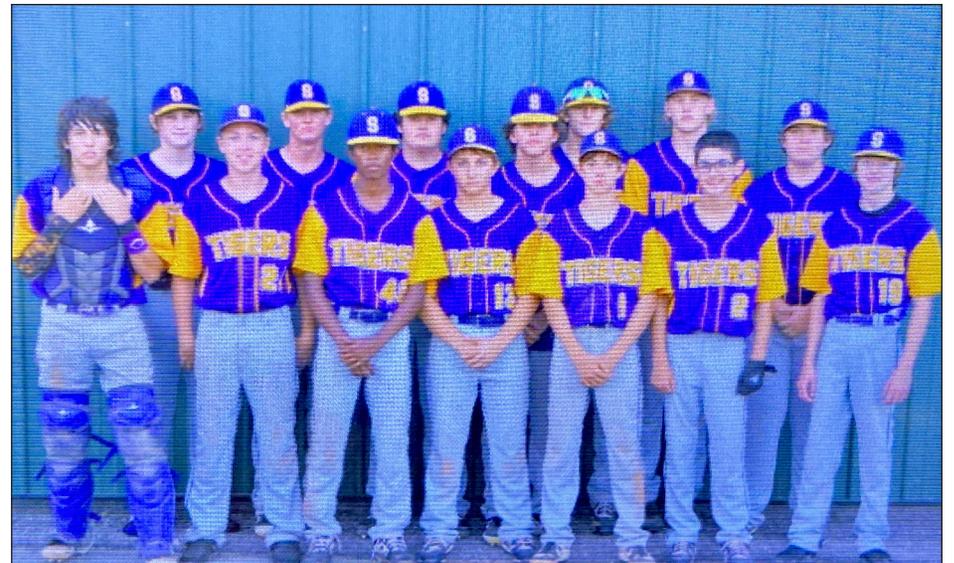
"We have high hopes for this season," he mentioned. "Last year in the fall, we only won two games. This fall, we got that up to 5 games. This spring, we have a goal to be over .500. This is a great group of guys, and they are improving every day, and we only have one senior."

"I think the next few years for Stout-

land Baseball are going to be good ones. There is no place or no other group of guys I would rather spend my time with."

Alex Nicholson will serve as the team's assistant coach after serving as an assistant at Hermitage High School for the past seven seasons.

At press time, the Tigers were 2-2 with wins over Newburg and Plato.



Pictured is the 2021 Lebanon High School JV and varsity baseball team. In the front row, from left, are manager Lance Begley, Parker Wehner, Logan Wise, Drew McBride, Ty O'Neil, Justin Dameron, Andrew Dent, and Peyton Mitchell. In the middle row, from left, are Isaac Ledbetter, Evan Fohn, Ashton Coryell, Hunter Honey, Austin Hendrix, Collin Wilson, Cade Musica, and Drew Truelove. In the back row, from left, are Mason Farris, coach Logan Prock, coach Dustin Young, Brendan Black, Ian Carr, Bennett Schnitzer, Payton Wehner, John Greenwood, Max Groce, Zack Stewart, Keaton Mizer, and coach Brian Decker.

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