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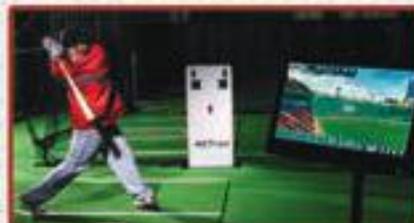
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ABOUT THE COVER

A maximum of 10 players are chosen for the Georgia Dugout Preview Magazine cover each year. Generally, one player from each of the seven classifications in the Georgia High School Association (if possible) are chosen. Three more additional players are chosen. In 2018, we began producing three covers -- a metro Atlanta cover, a North Georgia and a South Georgia cover. Players selected are generally regarded as one of the top players in the classification. Coaches may nominate players each year and email them to georgiabaseball2006@yahoo.com

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Dear Readers,

It's going to be hard to forget the 2018 season. The 2018 class was loaded with talent that no doubt, will be starring for major colleges and playing professionally soon. We saw the best teams win state titles. And we saw rain wreak havoc on several state championship series, forcing one (Class 7A) to be played at a home site. The 2018 season was a good one, one that we'll look back on and remember for quite a while.

I don't care how die-hard of a high school baseball fan you are, and I mean this with total respect to the Jefferson High School program, but nobody saw the Dragons sweeping top-ranked Blessed Trinity in the Class 4A state semifinals. I'm sorry, nobody saw that coming. Nobody saw Pope, a team that lost the bulk of its pitching rotation the previous season, win a second straight state title in Class 6A. And nobody certainly saw a freshman named Carter Holton just about put Benedictine on his back and carry the Cadets to the Class 2A state title. I know one player doesn't make a team, but Holton made that big of a difference for Benedictine last season.

The 2019 season will be an interesting one. We have three Georgia Dugout Club Hall of Famers returning to the diamond after short layoffs. The state's all-time winningest coach, Bobby Howard, will try to resurrect Saint-Anne-Pacelli. Donnie Branch, who took LaGrange High to a state title in 2004, returns to lead the Grangers. And former Heritage-Conyers coach Danny Blue, who also coached the now defunct Georgia Perimeter College baseball program, is taking over at Social Circle.

This season will have its own storylines. Can Howard become the first coach in state history to top 1,000 career coaching wins? Will Pope make it three consecutive state titles? If so, the Greyhounds would be the first program to do that since Columbus High did from 2010-12. And in the Class 1A Public division, will Gordon Lee win another title and join Charlton County and Schley County as the only programs to win two titles each since the division was created in 2013?

It's fun to speculate and hopefully this magazine will help you do just that. I thank my family (Stacy and Olivia) for their help in this task and ultimately, I thank my wonderful Lord & Saviour Jesus Christ for guidance and wisdom. With him all things are possible. Thanks for taking time to read this publication. We hope it's the most comprehensive guide to high school baseball in Georgia you can find.

Sincerely,

Tim Morse
Publisher

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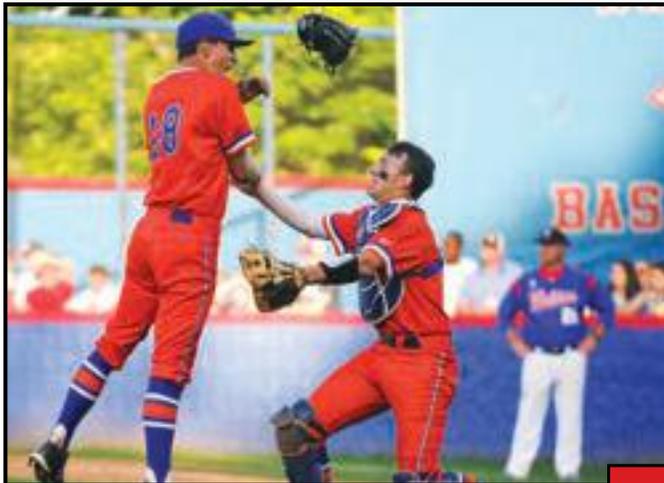
On our North Georgia cover is **Front Row** (l-r), Elbert County's Daniel Lavender, Cartersville's Mason Barnett, South Forsyth's Landon Sims and North Cobb Christian's Ryan Suppa. **Middle Row** (l-r), North Paulding's Zach Maxwell, Buford's Ramsey David and Franklin County's Blake Wehunt. **Back Row** (l-r), Woodstock's Spencer Keefe, River Ridge's Ethan Anderson and Ringgold's Andre Tarver.



On our Metro Atlanta cover is **Front Row** (l-r), Collins Hill's Nasim Nunez and Pope's Buddy Floyd. **Middle Row** (l-r), Redan's Tyler Williams, Holy Innocents' Guillermo Granier and Pace Academy's Andrew Jenkins. **Back Row** (l-r), Walton's Jacob Baldino, Westlake's Myles Austin, Blessed Trinity's CJ Abrams, Mountain View's Gavin Collyer and Parkview's Jonathan French.



On our South Georgia cover is **Front Row** (l-r), Pike County's Coleman Crow and Valdosta's Colby Thomas. **Middle Row** (l-r), Savannah Christian's Jarrett Brown, Troup's Colby Williams and Wayne County's Gant Starling. **Back Row** (l-r), Lowndes' Dalton Smith, Lakeside-Evans' Will Childers, Greenbrier's Bryce Melear, Callaway's Braelin Mitchell and Camden County's Aaron Wainright.



Georgia's Top All-Time High School Baseball Dynasties begins on page 7.

7



Landon Sims headlines the All-Classification Team that begins on page 11.

11

2019 BASEBALL PREVIEW

GHSA Class 7A	13	All-Classification Team	11
GHSA Class 6A	29	The Big 10	78
GHSA Class 5A	47	Statistics	141
GHSA Class 4A	62	Coaches Records	143
GHSA Class 3A	85	School Index	144
GHSA Class 2A	101		
GHSA Class 1A	115		



Our Big 10 section presented by Perfect Game begins on page 78.

78



Team by team previews begin on page 14.

14

Georgia's Top High School Dynasties

Editors note: To be considered, programs must have won four state titles in a 10-year span regardless of classification. Information was obtained from archives from the Georgia High School Association.



Cartersville players celebrate after beating Stephens County in 2008 (File Photo)

AMERICUS (1961-1970)

Americus had already established itself as a state baseball power by winning three consecutive Class A state titles from 1953-1955. But after missing the playoffs for five straight seasons, the Panthers re-established themselves on the diamond starting in 1961.

Under the direction of Georgia Dugout Club Hall of Fame coach Melvin Kinslow, Americus won state titles in 1961, 1964, 1965, 1966 and 1969 before Kinslow stepped aside. The Panthers won another state championship in 1970 under coach Loveard McMichael.

From 1961-1970, Americus High won six state titles and finished as the state runner-up twice (1962 and 1963). The school made the playoffs every year, a remarkable accomplishment considering only four teams from each classification made the state playoffs back then.

CARTERSVILLE (2001-2010)

There wasn't a program that dominated the early part of the 2000s like Cartersville. From 2001-2003, the Purple Hurricanes won three consecutive state titles and during that run, Cartersville never lost a postseason game. The program added back-to-back titles in 2008-09.

From 2001-2010, the Hurricanes won five state titles, finished as the state runner-up to LaGrange in 2004 and lost in the state quarterfinals three times. When Blessed Trinity eliminated the Hurricanes in the

second round in 2007, it was the only time during the run that Cartersville's season ended before the quarterfinal round.

The Hurricanes won eight region titles and won 286 games during their dominant run. Cartersville had a 57-game winning streak in region play from 2006-08.

CLINCH COUNTY (1985-1992)

Clinch County dominated Class A under longtime coach Cecil Barber. When Barber restarted the baseball program from the ground up in 1983, it took him a few years to get things going. He guided the Panthers to the state semifinals in 1985 where they lost to eventual state champion Calhoun County. But over the next seven seasons, Clinch County was on top of the Class A baseball world. The Panthers won back-to-back state titles in 1986 and '87. Then after losing in the first round in 1988, Clinch County won three more state titles in the next four seasons (1989, 1991, 1992). Sandwiched in the run was a state runner-up finish in 1990 when the Panthers lost to Bremen in the championship series.

The Panthers' run ended in 1993 when they failed to make the state playoffs. Barber would lead Clinch County to one more state championship in 2003 before stepping aside after winning more than 400 games in 25 seasons.

Georgia's Top High School Dynasties

Clinch County's 1989 team was a special one as it helped the school complete the Triple Crown. The Panthers' athletic program won state titles in football, boys basketball and baseball in the same academic year, becoming the only program in Georgia High School Association history to complete the mark.

COLUMBUS (1991-1996)

Since 1984, the Columbus High School baseball program has captured 12 state baseball championships, one shy of Marist who holds the state record for most titles. But there was no greater time of baseball prosperity than from 1991-1996 when the Blue Devils won five state titles in six seasons. The lone exception was in 1993 when Lakeside-Evans swept the Blue Devils in the state semifinals.

From 1994-96 when the program won three straight titles, Columbus High did it in dominating fashion, sweeping 11 of its 12 postseason series. The GHSA state playoffs consisted of just four playoff rounds before it was later expanded to five rounds and 32 teams per classification during the 1997 season. After the team's championship in 1996, Hall of Fame coach Bobby Howard took a one-year hiatus from high school baseball and coached at Middle Georgia College in Cochran before returning to Columbus High in the same capacity in 1998.

COLUMBUS (2003-2012)

The Blue Devils won five state titles in a 10-year span from 2003-2012, but it could have been so many more. In addition to its five state titles, Columbus High played in the state championship series nine of the 10 seasons during that span. The Blue Devils finished as state runner-ups in 2003, 2006, 2007 and 2009. The only time the program didn't play in the state championship series was when eventual state champion Cartersville ousted Columbus in three games in the quarterfinals in 2008.

From 2010-2012, Columbus High rolled to three consecutive state championships, the second time it won three consecutive state titles in its history. The Blue Devils were led by 2006 Little League World Series champion heroes Kyle Carter and JT Phillips in those three championships.

EVANS (1988-1996)

Hall of Fame coach Terry Holder developed the pin-stripe Knights into a high school version of the New York Yankees. Evans was one of the most-feared programs and dominated Georgia's highest



Evans High celebrates after beating Dunwoody in 1990.

classification. The Knights won three consecutive state titles from 1988-1990, destroying just about every team in their path. They swept Statesboro, Tift County and Newnan to claim the state title in 1988. Then in 1989, the Knights swept Newnan, Columbus and Stone Mountain to win another title.

Sandwiched in the three straight state titles, Evans had a state record 61-game winning streak that was broken by cross-county rival Harlem in the spring of 1990. However, that mark still stands as a state record today. After not making the state playoffs in 1991 and 1992, Evans returned to the top of the prep baseball world in Georgia with back-to-back titles in 1993 and 1994.

In 1995 and 1996, the Knights finished as the state runner-up.

GAINESVILLE (1994-2002)

When Gainesville High lost in the state semifinals in back-to-back seasons (1994 and 1995), it was the start of a major dynasty in Northeast Georgia. The Red Elephants won three consecutive state titles from 1996-98, and the '97 and '98 squads didn't lose a game in the postseason. Gainesville was swept by Harlem in the 1999 state semifinals and in 2000, they were swept by Westminster in the first round. The 2000 season was the only time in the Elephants' nine-year run of dominance that they suffered a first-round loss.

But the team returned with a vengeance in 2001. Putting together perhaps the best two seasons of baseball in school history, the Red Elephants steam rolled the competition and captured back-to-back state titles in 2001 and 2002. Neither team lost a playoff series. Future Major Leaguer Micah Owings and John Carroll helped the 2001 team finish 34-1 and they outscored Eastside, Pepperell, Screven County, Westminster and Swainsboro by a combined 111-16 in the playoffs. The Elephants, in 2002, did it again with much of the same team. They demolished Riverwood, Madison County, Westside-Augusta, Westminster and Loganville by a combined 105-16 in the playoffs and finished the season with a 33-3 record.

GREENBRIER (1997-2007)

The school opened its doors in the fall of 1996 and in its first year of existence, the Wolfpack made state history when it became the first team to win a state baseball championship in its first year of existence. Greenbrier finished with a 34-3 record and defeated nationally-ranked Hardaway in three games to win the Class 3A state championship. Class 3A was then the state's second largest classification. The Wolfpack proceeded to win two more consecutive state championships when they swept Madison County in 1998, then Greenbrier won its third straight crown in 1999 by besting Marist in three games. The school's first three titles were won under legendary coach Terry Holder, a member of the Georgia Dugout Club Hall of Fame.

Holder retired after the 1999 campaign and Greenbrier continued its winning ways. The top-ranked Wolfpack were stunned in the second round of the Class 3A state playoffs by Lee County in 2000, but the Wolfpack made back-to-back trips to the state semifinals in 2001 and 2002 as well as in 2004. The only year the Wolfpack didn't make the state playoffs in their first 10 seasons was in 2005. However, under Holder's son Rodney, the Wolfpack rebounded and won back-to-back titles in 2006 and 2007.

Georgia's Top High School Dynasties

HARLEM (1974-1983)

Playing in baseball-rich Columbia County, Harlem's baseball program became as famous around the state as the Hollywood comedy duo of Laurel & Hardy. Tommy Price guided the Bulldogs to their first state title in 1974 when Harlem swept Irwin County and finished with a 21-1 record. Price led Harlem to a state runner-up finish in 1975, then the state semifinals in 1977 and a second state championship in 1978. Price stepped down to become the school's principal after the season, opening the door for a young coach named Jimmie Lewis to take over.

Lewis guided Harlem to a state championship in his first season in 1979. The Bulldogs swept East Rome and finished the year with a 20-7 record, ending the season on a 14-game winning streak. Then after missing the playoffs in 1980, Harlem rebounded to win three consecutive state titles from 1981-83. The Bulldogs swept Cedar Grove in back-to-back years to win titles in 1981-82, then they bested Briarcliff in three games in 1983. In Harlem's back-to-back-to-back title runs, they went a combined 73-20-1. Harlem did add another state title to its resume in 1986.



Harlem coach Jimmie Lewis guided the Bulldogs to four state titles from 1979-1983.

THE LOVETT SCHOOL (1990-1999)

Lovett's dynasty in the 1990s established a winning culture at the school many years before the school's present run. In fact, it may have helped trigger it. The Lions won state titles in 1990, 1993, 1994 and 1999. Lovett could have had a few more had it not been for Gainesville, who had its own dynasty. Gainesville topped the Lions in 1996 and 1997 in the state championship series.

THE LOVETT SCHOOL (2006-present)

Quietly, the metro Atlanta private school has churned out five state titles (2006, 2009, 2013, 2016, 2018), a state runner-up finish (2008) and made three trips each to the semifinals and quarterfinals. In the Lions' 13 years of domination, they have made the state playoffs every season and with the exception of 2007, Lovett has advanced to the quarterfinal round or beyond. The 2007 squad lost in the first round to eventual state runner-up Calhoun.

Since 2006, Lovett boasts a combined record of 317-141-1. The Lions have won state championships when they didn't win their region. And just once during the program's run have they won 30 games. The 2006 squad finished 30-7, while the 2013 championship team won 29 games.

MARIST (1977-1985)

Under legendary coach Jerry Queen, the War Eagles were one of the state's top programs, winning championships in 1977, 1981, 1983, 1984 and 1985. They also finished as the state runner-up in 1978 to Gainesville, and they lost in the state semifinals to Coffee in 1980. After winning the state title in 1981 by taking two of three from Ringgold, the War Eagles missed the playoffs in 1982, the only time they missed the postseason from 1977-1985.

However, Marist returned with three consecutive state titles from 1983-85. In 1985, the War Eagles compiled perhaps their most dominant team. They easily swept Winder-Barrow, Carrollton and Troup. It was the last title for the school until 1990. The War Eagles did finish as the state runner-up in 1988.

MARIST (2000-2013)

Marist maintained its claim as one of the top baseball programs in the history of the Georgia High School Association by winning state titles in 2002, 2003, 2010 and 2011. They also finished as the state runner-up in 2000, 2006 and 2013. Marist also made two trips to the semifinals and four trips to the quarterfinals. The War Eagles made the postseason every year from 2000-2013 and they never lost before the second round.

Only twice was Marist beaten in the second round – in 2008 when they were swept by Sequoyah and in 2013 when the War Eagles were stunned by Alexander in three games.

Even though it was outside their dominant run, Marist added a state title in 2017 to give the school 13 state titles, the most in the GHSA history.

MOUNT DE SALES (1966-1980)

The once all-girls school (until 1959) didn't field a varsity baseball team until 1964. Two years later, the Cavaliers captured the first of eight state baseball titles over a 15-year span. Mount de Sales won state championships in 1966, 1968, 1969, 1971, 1972, 1976, 1978 and 1980. The program also had state runner-up finishes in 1967, 1977 and 1979. Just two times between 1966-1980 did the Cavaliers not make the postseason.

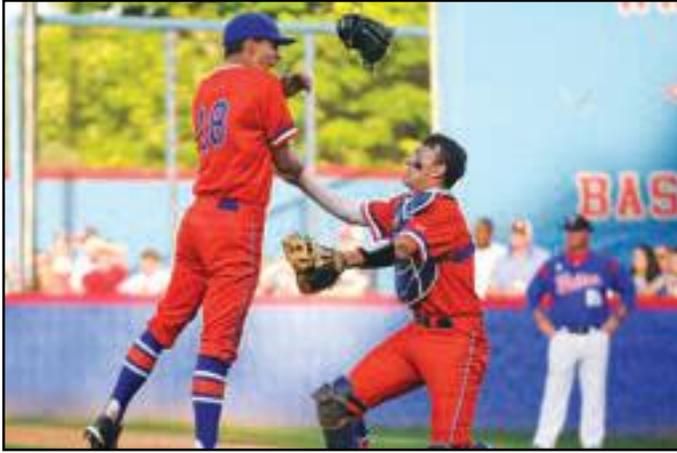
Five coaches – Donnie Veal, Sam Humphries, Charles Stewart, Billy Henderson and Chester Pierce – directed the Cavalier program during their dynasty. Pierce, who took over in 1973 and coached for 29 seasons, had perhaps the school's greatest run from 1976-1980 when he had Mount de Sales in the state championship series each season.

PARKVIEW (2010-present)

The Panthers were known as a baseball power under Hall of Fame coach Hugh Buchanan, who guided the program to three state titles in a seven-year span from 1996-2002. However, Parkview has taken its dominance to a new level this decade. The Panthers have claimed state titles in 2011, 2012, 2015 and 2018. The 2015 squad was declared national champions by five major media outlets. The 2012 and 2018 teams were voted national champions by Baseball America.

In Parkview's present run, the Panthers have four state titles, two trips to the semifinals and one trip to the quarterfinals while playing in Georgia's highest classification. The program has an impressive

Georgia's Top High School Dynasties



Parkview players celebrate after beating Walton in 2015. (File photo)

258-61 combined record since 2010 and notched eight region titles. Parkview has won 30 or more games four times in its current run, including a school-record 35 victories in 2018. The Panthers have never dropped more than 10 games in a season.

The 2015 squad may have been the program's most-dominant. They lost just two games and finished the season on a 26-game winning streak. They swept Mill Creek, Lowndes, Etowah, Pope and Walton to win the championship. Meanwhile, the 2018 squad needed three games to oust Woodstock in the semifinals before sweeping county rival Mill Creek in the championship series.

PEPPERELL (1952-1960)

Had it not been for larger programs such as Richmond Academy and Americus in 1950s, Pepperell would be the program everyone remembered for its dominance in Georgia prep baseball. The mill town of Lindale produced some of the state's best high school teams from 1952-1960. The Dragons won three straight GHSA Class B championships from 1952-1954. Then after a rebuilding season in 1955 in which Pepperell missed the state playoffs, they rebounded with a state runner-up finish in 1956, followed by back-to-back state championships in 1957 and 1958.

Pepperell ended the decade by finishing as the state runner-up in 1960.

POPE (2009-present)

The Greyhounds captured the school's first state baseball title in 2009 when they swept South Forsyth in Class 5A, then the largest classification in the state. Little did anybody know that it would be the beginning of a dynasty for the Cobb County power. Pope made the playoffs every year from 2009-18 and captured another state title in 2013 when they swept Greenbrier in Class 5A in 2013. Then as a member of Class 6A, the Greyhounds went back-to-back in 2017 and 2018. In 2017, they swept Lee County and finished fifth nationally by Perfect Game. In 2018, labeled by many as a rebuilding year, the Greyhounds had a 22-game winning streak before they lost to Cambridge in their final game of the regular season. They then finished 10-3 in the postseason, defeating Allatoona in three games in the state finals.

Pope went to the quarterfinals twice, the semifinals once (2015) and finished as the state runner-up in 2016 to neighborhood rival Walton in the state's highest classification. During the Greyhounds' 10-year run of dominance, they boasted an overall record of 260-90, including a combined 96-22 record from 2016-18.

RICHMOND ACADEMY (1949-1958)

Perhaps a record that will never be broken, Richmond Academy won seven straight championships and was one of the most-feared baseball teams in the Southeast under legendary coach AL Williams. After taking over the baseball program in March of 1949, the Musketeers established themselves as the state's top program. From 1951-1957, Williams and Richmond Academy compiled a record of 147-13 and the program won seven straight titles. During that span, Richmond won a trio of Southern Regional Baseball Tournaments (which featured state champions from the Southeast).

TATTNALL SQUARE (2000-present)

No team dominated the Georgia Independent Schools Association like Tattnall Square. The Trojans won eight state titles (2000, 2001, 2005, 2008, 2009, 2012, 2013, 2014), finished as the state runner-up once (2010) and had its season end in the state semifinals six times. Since Joey Hiller took over the program in 1999, only two of his teams had their season end before the semifinal round.

Tattnall moved to the GHSA after the 2014 season. In four seasons in the Class 1A Private classification, the Trojans have two state titles (2016, 2018), a state runner-up finish (2017) and a trip to the state semifinals (2015). Between the two organizations (GISA, GHSA), Tattnall Square teams have combined to win more than 500 games.

In 2018, MaxPreps ranked Tattnall 25th nationally in its Top 25 high school baseball dynasties since 2009, the only school ranked from Georgia.

WESLEYAN (2007-2016)

Two coaches – Mike Shaheen and Brian Krehmeyer – helped turned the Norcross private school into a state power. In 10 seasons, the Wolves lost before the quarterfinals just twice – in 2011 they lost to Darlington in the second round, then they lost to Mount Paran Christian in the first round in 2012.

After making the semifinals in 2007, Wesleyan won three straight from 2008-2010 while boasting such players as Grayson Garvin, James Ramsey, Connor Winn, Conor Welton, Devin Stanton and Kevin O'Leary. Krehmeyer took over in 2011. The Wolves made the quarterfinals in 2013, the semifinals in 2014 and captured the state crown in 2015, sweeping their opponents in all five rounds of the postseason.

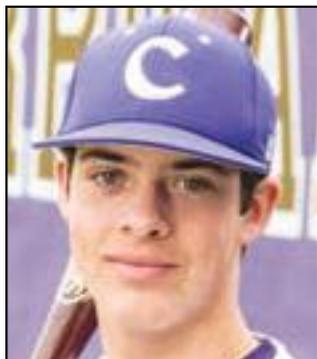
The Wolves finished as the state runner-up in 2016.



Coach Brian Krehmeyer is doused with Gatorade after winning the state title in 2015. (File photo)

ALL-CLASSIFICATION TEAM

The all-classification team is the best players regardless of classification.



Mason Barnett, Sr.
Pitcher – Cartersville



Will Childers, Sr.
Pitcher – Lakeside-Evans



Ramsey David, Sr.
Pitcher – Buford



Landon Sims, Sr.
Pitcher – South Forsyth



Jake Smith, Sr.
Pitcher – Blessed Trinity



Jonathan French, Sr.
Catcher – Parkview



Luke Boynton, Sr.
First-Baseman – Walton



Michael Borah, Sr.
Second-Baseman – North Gwinnett



Graham Pauley, Sr.
Third Baseman – Milton



CJ Abrams, Sr.
Shortstop – Blessed Trinity



Ethan Anderson, Sr.
Outfielder – River Ridge



Steele Chambers, Sr.
Outfielder – Blessed Trinity



Ryan Davis, Sr.
Outfielder – Blessed Trinity



Andre Tarver, Sr.
Outfielder – Ringgold



Andrew Jenkins, Sr.
Designated Hitter – Pace Academy



Alek Boychuk, Jr.
Utility – Mill Creek

Putting It All Together

Parkview wins program's seventh state title

By Tim Morse

Chan Brown said it's unfair to compare championship teams. While the Parkview baseball coach won't rate his 2018 squad to others that captured titles, one might get the feeling last season's club may be one of his most-satisfying.

After a season of adversity, the Panthers rolled to the program's seventh baseball title, capturing the Georgia High School Association Class 7A championship. It was the program's second in four seasons and third in seven years.

The preseason No. 1 had the talent, but Brown said the road to get to the championship wasn't an easy one.

"This year tested them and the coaches a little bit," Brown told The Gwinnett Daily Post after sweeping Mill Creek in the state championship series.

"We had a lot of pressure on us being No. 2 in the nation, and we didn't handle it very well. Through trying times this group formed some chemistry and love and a bond that, honestly, by the end was really hard to beat."

But the early part of the season was rough.

Parkview (35-6) started the season with a loss to Gwinnett County rival North Gwinnett in its opener, then lost to Mill Creek a week later to start the season 3-2. The Panthers didn't exactly play badly, but it wasn't up to par with how Brown wanted things.

The coach sensed there was some friction between the coaches and the players, and he said some players were feeling the pressure from scouts concerning the upcoming baseball draft. He had a meeting to clear things up.

"It just wasn't fun anymore," said standout Logan Cerny. "After that meeting, we had fun the second half of the season."

After a loss to Blessed Trinity in the Perfect Game Showdown, the Panthers lost just two more regular-season games. But Brown said a spring break trip to Florida where Parkview defeated national powers Venice, Sarasota and Tampa Jesuit helped the team grow and mature.

"We went through a lot of adversity, which kind of built our chemistry and camaraderie," Brown said. "There is a lot of love in our program and after that trip, we were all on the same page."

After defeating arch-rival Brookwood to close the season and capture the Region 7-7A title, the Panthers rolled into the semifinals after sweeping Rockdale County, Mountain View and Etowah. They earned a rematch with Woodstock in the semifinals after Woodstock eliminated the Panthers from the postseason in 2017.

After falling by a run in the first game, the Panthers won the next two, then swept Mill Creek in the championship series.

Denying any sort of superstition, Parkview won every playoff series while wearing its all-orange uniforms.

"We kind of adopted the motto, 'Unfinished Business,' from last year," infielder Allan del Castillo said. "When we put those orange uniforms on, we felt like nobody could beat us. It was time to go."

Parkview won another title on the strength of a lethal pitching rotation led by left-handed starters Robert Bennett and Braden Hays, who both went 12-1 on the mound. Miles Garrett was the team's third starter, while middle relievers Jarrett Embry and Brad Stanley were strong. Cerny established himself as the team's closer.

On offense, Cerny, Michael Bryant, Bennett, Jonathan French, Isaiah Byars and Ben Markiewicz led a talented offense. Cerny hit seven homers in the postseason alone, including a two-run shot in the eighth inning that helped Parkview to a 3-1 victory in Game 1 of the championship series. The defense made just one error in the postseason.

After not handling the pressure of high national rankings by various media outlets during the season, the Panthers were named the eventual national champions by Baseball America.

Which gave Brown a reason to smile.



Parkview players celebrate after winning the GHS Class 7A state championship.

Photo by Parkview High School



Parkview players pose with the trophy after winning the GHS Class 7A state championship.

Photo by Parkview High School



Members of the Parkview baseball team are **Front Row** (l-r), Daniel Harman, Stephen Hrustich, Max Pate, Koby Ayala, Allan Del Castillo, Jonathan Ponder, Will Parker, Bryce Ridley, Noah Brown, LeRoy Jackson. **Middle Row** (l-r), Head Coach Chan Brown, Coach Justin Bishop, Coach Zach Cone, Coach Mike Cooper, Miles Garrett, James Whitmer, Brad Stanley, Drew DeMasi, Jarrett Embry, Brian Ketelsen, Coach Dustin Kline, Coach Mark Lowery, Coach Ellis Appling, Coach David Reynolds. **Back Row** (l-r), Jonathan French, Ben Markiewicz, Isaiah Byars, Michael Bryant, Logan Cerny, Braden Hays, Robert Bennett, Chris Jernigan, Chase Mesh, Makenzie Pate. **Not Pictured:** Austin Branson, Blake Sagarese, Xander Stephens.

Photo by Parkview High School

CLASS 7A Top 15

1 PARKVIEW

Parkview won't trot out two shutdown pitchers this spring like they did last year when Braden Hays and Robert Bennett helped propel the Panthers to the Class 7A title. But the Panthers do have enough leftover talent to make another deep playoff run. And a wealth of younger players are hungry to keep Parkview's baseball tradition alive.

The pitching staff won't be as deep but as the staff matures, it could be just as lethal. Senior right-hander Miles Garrett, the team's No. 3 starter last year, returns as well as ace reliever Brad Stanley.

In addition, right-hander Xander Stephens and Blake Sagarese will receive plenty of innings. Parkview doesn't want to use him much on the mound, but All-American catcher Jonathan French could pitch if needed. French can play so many different places, but it will be hard for the senior to play many other positions except catcher.

Senior Stephen Hrustich came on late last year, and the first baseman will utilize his skills at first and behind the plate. He as well as Allan Del Castillo return on the infield.

Makenzie Pate is the lone returner in the outfield.

2 NORTH GWINNETT

If you like offense on the baseball diamond, you should be able to see plenty of it at North Gwinnett this spring. The Bulldogs return all-state performers Michael Borah and Josh Shuler as well as a host others. The biggest concern for North Gwinnett is a young and unproven pitching staff. If the offense can perform well and give their young pitchers time to mature, the Bulldogs will be tough to beat come postseason time.

3 WALTON

The Raiders underachieved last season in a year in which they were loaded with talent, and they lost in the first round of the state playoffs. Look for Walton to bounce back this spring, especially with an offense that is capable of putting up big numbers. Luke Boynton, Pierce Gallo and John Giesler each had big seasons in 2018, and the trio returns. The biggest strength appears to be a lethal pitching rotation led by senior Jacob Baldino.

4 SOUTH FORSYTH

To put it mildly, this is the year South Forsyth has been building for many years. And the War Eagles do have the talent to make a deep postseason run. While it starts with All-American pitcher Landon Sims on the mound, South Forsyth has enough proven arms (Tyler Cowan, Steven Thompson, Peyton Presley and Peyton Rawlins) to shut down the opposition. If the War Eagles can muster the offense, this team can go as far as it wants.

5 NORTH PAULDING

There may not be a team with more talent in Class 7A than North Paulding. The Wolfpack have three Division I-caliber arms in right-handers Chandler Wood, Zach Maxwell and Mikade Johnson. And they have the offense returning as well with Cole Dunn and Mickey Maguire.

6 MOUNTAIN VIEW

The Bears won't be sneaking up on anybody this spring. Mountain View is loaded and could have their best team since 2015 when they made the state quarterfinals. Most of the optimism is because of a strong senior class led by pitchers Gavin Collyer and Cole Johnston. With as many as eight starters back, the Bears will be dangerous.

7 WOODSTOCK

The Wolverines are coming off perhaps their best two-year baseball run in school history. There is enough returning talent for Woodstock to make another deep postseason run. All-state pitcher Josiah Siegel returns after winning 11 games last year on the mound, while the Wolverines return two of the state's best on the right side of the infield in Brennan Milone and Spencer Keefe.

8 MILL CREEK

After a run to state championship series in 2018, Mill Creek has some big holes to fill. They lost their top two pitchers in Davis Sharpe and Brandon Blume, and a good chunk of their offense. Never bet against Mill Creek coach Doug Jones. There is a lot of returning talent, it just needs time to mature. Catcher Alek Boychuk and shortstop Brendan York are as good as there is.

9 GRAYSON

Grayson got hot late last year, won the Region 8 title, then stunned North Gwinnett in the second round to make the state quarterfinals. The Rams look to ride that momentum into 2019. They have enough talent to make another run. Pitcher Riley Bishop is solid, and all-state performers Bradley Blalock and John Anderson return on offense.

10 BROOKWOOD

The Broncos will be in the hunt, but they graduated the bulk of their offense. All-state pitcher Alex Flood leads a solid pitching rotation. He will need to keep the Broncos together until the offense matures. There is a strong corps of seniors waiting for their turn to shine.

11 HILLGROVE

The Hawks won Region 3 last year for the third straight time, then had their momentum halted when they lost to Etowah in the first round. Hillgrove will be back again with a talented lineup that features offensive leaders Wade Richardson, Ethan Wright, Justin Tew and Reid Brown. Pitchers Max DeJong and Alex McKay also return.

12 MILTON

The Eagles finished third in Region 5 last year. They lost some arms on the mound, but right-handers Cole Stupp and Dylan Matela are more than enough to help Milton chase the playoffs again. It will be hard to pitch around third baseman Graham Pauley who is good enough to carry the offensive load.

13 LOWNDES

It's been a while since there has been this much optimism at Lowndes for baseball. The Vikings will have their best season in coach Rusty Beale's five years at the school. A large part of it is because of a strong senior class that features Dalton Smith, CJ Rose, Cameron Carter and Tyler Alonso.

14 LASSITER

The Trojans lost a lot of offense from last year, but they have enough pitching to be a factor this spring. All-state pitcher Ryan Getz and Mason Kearney give Lassiter a chance to win each time they are on the hill.

15 NEWNAN

Don't sleep on the Cougars who won 25 last year. Newnan could have its best team in coach Marc Gilmore's short tenure at the school. And the biggest reason is because of an experienced group of pitchers led by senior left-hander Jaxon O'Neal.

Others to watch: (Alphabetical Order) Camden County, Etowah, Kennesaw Mountain, Lambert, North Forsyth, Peachtree Ridge

CLASS 7A PRESEASON ALL STATE

First Team

Name	Position	Grade	School	Comment
Jacob Baldino	Pitcher	Senior	Walton	He's tough on hitters
Gavin Collyer	Pitcher	Senior	Mountain View	A tough pitcher to beat
Alex Flood	Pitcher	Senior	Brookwood	He just gets people out
Miles Garrett	Pitcher	Junior	Parkview	You'll only hear more about him
Zach Maxwell	Pitcher	Senior	North Paulding	He can make hitters look bad
Josiah Siegel	Pitcher	Senior	Woodstock	Won 11 games on mound last year
Landon Sims	Pitcher	Senior	South Forsyth	He's lights out when pitching
Alek Boychuk	Catcher	Senior	Mill Creek	He's as good as there is, period
Jonathan French	Catcher	Senior	Parkview	Can play a variety of places
Michael Borah	Infielder	Senior	North Gwinnett	3-year starter only gets better
Luke Boynton	Infielder	Senior	Walton	Provides good offense and defense at 1B
Spencer Keefe	Infielder	Senior	Woodstock	Provides spark in whatever he does
Brennan Milone	Infielder	Senior	Woodstock	Makes the offense go
Nasim Nunez	Infielder	Senior	Collins Hill	This guy can do so many things
Graham Pauley	Infielder	Senior	Milton	Batted .430 last year for good team
Bradley Blaylock	Outfielder	Senior	Grayson	He can play anywhere
Jarrett Guest	Outfielder	Senior	Kennesaw Mountain	Also a standout pitcher
Mickey Maguire	Outfielder	Senior	North Paulding	A solid, versatile guy
Josh Shuler	Outfielder	Junior	North Gwinnett	Flashy player gets job done
Dalton Smith	Outfielder	Senior	Lowndes	Quietly does his job very well
Pierce Gallo	Designated Hitter	Senior	Walton	Gets it done at the plate
Myles Austin	Utility	Senior	Westlake	He's an exciting player to watch

Second Team

Pitchers – Riley Bishop, Sr., Grayson; Max DeJong, Jr., Hillgrove; Cole Dunn, Sr., North Paulding; Ryan Getz, Sr., Lassiter; Mason Kearney, Sr., Lassiter; Jaxon O'Neal, Sr., Newnan; Garrett Spikes, Jr., Mountain View; **Catchers** – Corey Collins, Jr., North Gwinnett; Ryan Dyal, Sr., East Coweta; **Infielders** – John Anderson, Jr., Grayson; Tyler Andrews, Jr., Lowndes; Ryland Goede, Sr., Kennesaw Mountain; Sam Marques, Sr., Lassiter; Wade Richardson, Sr., Hillgrove; Brendan York, Jr., Mill Creek; **Outfielders** – John Giesler, Sr., Walton; Victor Scott, Sr., McEachern; Aaron Wainright, Sr., Camden County; Woody Waters, Sr., Newnan; Ethan Wright, Sr., Hillgrove; **Designated Hitter** – CJ Rose, Sr., Lowndes; **Utility** – Allan del Castillo, Sr., Parkview

REGION 1-7A

Region Favorite: Lowndes

Keep an eye on: Camden County – New coach, but the Wildcats will be solid.

Players to Watch

OF – Tyler Alonso, Sr., Lowndes; **INF/RHP** – Tyler Andrews, Jr., Lowndes; **INF** – Mason Avant, Jr., Tift County; **OF/LHP** – Trey Barfield, Sr., Tift County; **OF** – Alex Bledsoe, Sr., Colquitt County; **INF/RHP** – Cameron Carter, Sr., Lowndes; **1B** – Corey Dowdell, Jr., Camden County; **1B** – Jaycee Harden, Jr., Colquitt County; **OF** – Tucker Hathcock, Sr., Colquitt County; **INF** – Owen Manning, Jr., Tift County; **LHP/1B** – Chris Mobley, Jr., Camden County; **INF** – CJ Rose, Sr., Lowndes; **LHP** – Turner Sircy, Sr., Colquitt County; **OF/LHP** – Dalton Smith, Sr., Lowndes; **RHP** – Aaron Wainright, Sr., Camden County; **INF** – Will Weeks, Jr., Tift County

CAMDEN COUNTY WILDCATS

Head Coach: Brian English (new)

Assistant Coach (s): Joe Allen, Zach Lance, Carlton Smith, Brian Benton

2018 Record: 12-21

Returning Starters: RHP Aaron Wainright (Sr., 6-2, 215, R/R); SS Tim Parker (Sr., 6-0, 175, R/R); LHP/1B Chris Mobley (Jr., 5-11, 205, L/L); 1B Corey Dowdell (Jr., 6-2, 260, R/R); INF Carson Bonner (Jr., 6-0, 150, R/R); OF Zach Hayes (Jr., 5-9, 150, L/L); OF Cody Metzger (Jr., 6-2, 170, R/R); C Jackson Boeckel (Jr., 6-0, 190, R/R)

Other Returning Players: INF Colten Thrift (Sr., 5-8, 160, R/R); INF Kevin Luna (Jr., 6-0, 170, R/R); INF Luke Parker (So., 5-8, 165, R/R); OF Ian McBee (So., 6-1, 170, R/R); C Devon Sapp (Jr., 6-0, 175, R/R)

Top Newcomers: RHP Luke Barlow (Fr., 6-1, 180, R/R); OF Jamie Felix (Fr., 6-0, 165, R/R)

Season Outlook: New coach Brian English takes over and inherits a wealth of talent as the Wildcats should improve upon last season's finish. The senior class is small, but seven starters are back. One of those is pitcher Aaron Wainright, who gives Camden a chance to win each time he's on the mound.

COLQUITT COUNTY PACKERS

Head Coach: Tony Kirkland

Assistant Coach (s):

Will Stuckey, Taylor Barber, Colin Kirkland, Lee Caquelard

2018 Record: 22-12

Returning Starters:

OF Tucker Hathcock (Sr., R/R); C Callon Kubiak (Jr., R/R); 1B Jaycee Harden (Jr., L/R); OF Alex Bledsoe (Sr., L/L); LHP Turner Sircy

(Sr., L/L); RHP Trace Eakins (Sr., R/R); DH/3B JT Whatley (Jr., R/R)

Other Returning Players: LHP Eli Faison (Sr., R/R); 2B Reece Bledsoe (Sr., R/R); OF/RHP MacKenzie Powell (Sr., R/R); DH Chance Sealy (Sr., L/R); OF/LHP Henry Daniels (Jr., L/L); 1B Nate Creech (Jr., L/R); RHP Jacob Walden (Jr., R/R); INF Owen Taylor (Jr., R/R); OF Lucas Tostenson (Jr., R/R)

Season Outlook: After winning 22 games last year, the Packers may be in for a little rebuilding this spring. The cupboard, however, isn't bare. Seven starters are back, including outfielder Tucker Hathcock (.330 avg., 2 3B). The lack of experienced pitching is a concern, but left-hander Turner Sircy and right-hander Trace Eakins are solid.



Alex Bledsoe
Colquitt County



Tucker Hathcock
Colquitt County

LOWNDES VIKINGS

Head Coach: Rusty Beale

Assistant Coach (s): Matt Crews, Taylor Wilkins, Jim Henry, Sean Alligood

2018 Record: 22-12

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Returning Starters: INF CJ Rose (Sr., L/R); OF/LHP Dalton Smith (Sr., R/L); INF/RHP Cameron Carter (Sr., R/R); INF/RHP Tyler Andrews (Jr., R/R); OF Tyler Alonso (Sr., R/R)

Other Returning

Players: OF/LHP

Andrew Clark (Sr., R/L); INF/C Dylan Shea (Jr., R/R); OF Jake Hamlin (Jr., R/R); INF Seth Weeks (Sr., R/R); INF Easton Willis (Sr., L/R); OF/RHP John Mark Dawson (Sr., R/R); INF/C Kolby Bussey (Sr., R/R); INF/RHP Austin Bennett (Sr., L/R)

Top Newcomers: OF/RHP Trayson Hughes

(So., L/R); INF/RHP McCage Pruitt (So., R/R)

Season Outlook: This could be Lowndes' best team this decade as a wealth of talent returns. All-state performers CJ Rose and Tyler Andrews return at first and second base respectively. And outfielder/pitcher Dalton Smith is back as well as seniors Cameron Carter and Tyler Alonso.



Tyler Alonso
Lowndes



Tyler Andrews
Lowndes



Cameron Carter
Lowndes



CJ Rose
Lowndes

TIFT COUNTY BLUE DEVILS

Head Coach: Kyle Kirk

Assistant Coach (s): Jean Guzman, Phil Salter, Xavier Holmes, Hunter McAllister

2018 Record: 10-20

Returning Starters: RHP Joseph Pittman (Sr., R/R); INF Owen Manning (Jr., R/R); INF Will Weeks (Jr., R/R); INF Mason Avant (Jr., R/R); INF Ben Brock (Jr., L/L); C Thad Weldon (Sr., R/R); OF Jake Pettis (Sr., R/R); OF/LHP Trey Barfield (Sr., R/L)

Other Returning Players: OF Gauge Domingue (Jr., L/R); OF Reece Watson (Jr., L/L)

Top Newcomers: INF Bryce Stephens (So., B/R)

Season Outlook: Tift will be looking to rebound from a disappointing finish in 2018. The team is still young, but they should have a chance to improve. The senior class is small, but a pair of pitchers – right-hander Joseph Pittman and left-hander Trey Barfield – return to led the way. Keep an eye on a solid group of juniors.



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REGION 2-7A

Region Favorite: Newnan

Keep an eye on: East Coweta – After a rebuild in 2018, look for the Indians to be back.

Players to Watch

SS/RHP – Myles Austin, Sr., Westlake; **RHP/SS** – Michael Braswell, Sr., Campbell; **RHP** – Austin Bunn, Jr., East Coweta; **INF** – Thomas Collins, Jr., Newnan; **C** – Ryan Dyal, Sr., East Coweta; **LHP** – Logan Hudson, Sr., Newnan; **OF** – William Kelley, Sr., East Coweta; **SS** – Illdyla Maddox, Jr., Pebblebrook; **RHP** – Jake Martin, Sr., Newnan; **OF** – Mike Musser, Sr., Wheeler; **P/2B** – Jeff Norman, Sr., Wheeler; **LHP** – Jalen Nowlin, Sr., Westlake; **LHP** – Jaxon O'Neal, Sr., Newnan; **2B** – Tony Player, Sr., East Coweta; **OF/U** – El Rico Riley, Sr., Westlake; **C/OF** – Asher Spivey, Sr., Westlake; **OF** – Woody Waters, Sr., Newnan; **3B** – Noah Welkis, Sr., Wheeler

CAMPBELL SPARTANS

Head Coach: Jeff Searcy

Assistant Coach (s): Jackson Cargle, Chris Law

2018 Record: 6-17

Returning Starters: 2B/SS Ethan Mack (Jr., 5-10, 150, L/R); C/3B Dominic Rutigliano (Jr., 5-10, 175, R/R); 1B/RHP/3B Xavier Williams (Jr., 6-1, 215, R/R); OF/INF Hassan Goggins (Jr., 6-1, 175, L/R); OF/2B Andrew Whitcher (Jr., 5-10, 150, R/R); RHP/SS Michael Braswell (So., 6-1, 170, R/R); LHP/1B Andrew Herrmann (So., 6-2, 170, R/L); 3B/2B/LF Michael Herrmann (So., 6-2, 165, R/R); CF/SS Owen Wright (So., 5-10, 145, R/R)

Other Returning Players: 3B/2B George Lester (Jr., 5-8, 180, R/R); C/3B Trey Anagnostis (Jr., 5-8, 205, R/R); 2B/RHP Kyle Brubacher (Jr., 5-10, 155, R/R); CF/LF Aldan Daly (So., 5-10, 160, L/L); OF/2B Brendan Kraus (So., 5-7, 145, R/R)

Season Outlook: Campbell showed a lot of progress in coach Jeff Searcy's first season at the school last year. Look for them to continue this spring. A wealth of talent returns, including sophomore pitcher/shortstop Michael Braswell. An excellent group of younger players will also be expected to contribute.

EAST COWETA INDIANS

Head Coach: Franklin DeLoach

Assistant Coach (s): Brandon Blair, Mark Bowles, Tyler Ridgeway, Roc Coleman, Kyle Bowman, Lee Heaberlin, Matt Wilson

2018 Record: 18-13

Returning Starters: C Ryan Dyal (Sr., 6-0, 185, R/R); RHP Austin Bunn (Jr., 6-3, 185, R/R); RHP J.J. Freed (Jr., 6-2, 175, R/R); RHP/1B Jeff Sangster (Sr., 6-2, 185, R/R); 1B/LHP Keegan Rich (Jr., 6-2, 200, L/L); 2B Tony Player (Sr., 5-10, 165, R/R); SS Caleb Cashion (Jr., 5-10, 170, R/R); OF William Kelley (Sr., 6-3, 195, R/R)

Other Returning Players: U Landon Underhill (So., 5-10, 170, L/R); RHP Peyton Ramey (Sr., 6-0, 165, R/R); RHP Bryan Crow (Sr., 6-0, 175, R/R); RHP/INF Daniel Smith (Jr., 6-2, 175, R/R); C Jordan Kenty (Jr., 6-0, 175, R/R); 2B Trevor Crowdis (Sr., 5-8, 165, R/R); RHP Jacob Howell



Ryan Dyal
East Coweta

(Jr., 6-4, 190, R/R); OF Jonathan Williams (Jr., 5-11, 175, R/R); OF Brayden Carey (Sr., 6-1, 185, R/R)

Season Outlook: After a rebuilding season in 2018, look for East Coweta to be back and contend for the region title. A wealth of talent returns, including catcher Ryan Dyal and outfielder William Kelley. Junior right-hander Austin Bunn leads a solid pitching rotation.

NEWMAN COUGARS

Head Coach: Marc Gilmore

Assistant Coach (s):

Braden Griner, T.C. Boyd, Mitch Williams, Zander Ogletree, Brian Hagen, Robert Lewis, Richard Warner

2018 Record: 25-11

Returning Starters: LHP

Jaxon O'Neal (Sr., L/L); RHP Jake Martin (Sr., R/R); LHP Logan Hudson



Jaxon O'Neal
Newman



Woody Waters
Newman

(Sr., L/L); C/1B Max Wilson (Sr., R/R); OF Woody Waters (Sr., L/L); 2B Mason McKibbin (Sr., R/R); RHP Lyle Johnston (Sr., R/R); U Johnny Cash (Sr., R/R); INF Everett Davis (Sr., R/R); INF Thomas Collins (Jr., L/R); INF/RHP Michael Maginnis (Jr., R/R); RHP Anthony Darrow (Sr., R/R)

Other Returning Players: C Cole Merry (Sr.); 1B Nicholas Crossing (Sr.); 1B Tucker Barnett (Sr.); 2B Seth Bruce (Jr.)

Top Newcomers: OF Jeff Lovett (So.); C Aubrey Carter (So.); OF James Thorpe (Fr.)

Season Outlook: The Cougars return the bulk of their pitching staff that led them to the region title last season. A big senior class is back to lead the team. Left-handers Jaxon O'Neal (7-1, 1.46 ERA) and Logan Hudson (4-2, 2.25 ERA) and right-hander Jake Martin (5-5, 2.75 ERA) lead a strong pitching staff. The offense must be consistent.

PEBBLEBROOK FALCONS

Head Coach: Johnathan Brown

Assistant Coach (s): Jason Ryals

2018 Record: 2-21

Returning Starters: 1B Micheal Figgins (Sr., L/L); SS Ildyla Maddox (Jr., R/R); 3B Kyle Brown (Jr., R/R); 3B Donald Figgs (Jr., R/R)

Season Outlook: A young team returns as Pebblebrook seeks to improve upon last season's finish. Four starters are back. Shortstop Ildyla Maddox and first baseman Micheal Figgins are two players to keep an eye on.

WESTLAKE LIONS

Head Coach: Kelcey White

Assistant Coach (s): Chris Atwell, Theo Lee, Gerald Martin

2018 Record: 11-16

Returning Starters: SS/RHP Myles Austin (Sr., 6-3, 180, R/R); OF/U El Rico Riley (Sr., 5-11, 190, R/R); C/OF Asher Spivey (Sr., 5-11, 215, R/R); 3B Noah Williams (Sr., 6-1, 175, R/R); LHP Jalen Nowlin (Sr., 6-0, 165, L/L); LHP Damien Whitfield (Jr., 5-11, 160, L/L); OF Dominique Brown (Sr., 5-10, 180, R/R)

Other Returning Players: OF/LHP Char Reeves (Sr., 5-9, 150, L/L); 2B/OF Andrew Hutcherson (Jr., 5-8, 145, R/R); 1B Jaden Hardin (Sr., 5-10, 230, R/R); 1B/DH Jabari Whitehead (Sr., 5-10, 185, R/R); OF/U Kyle Douglas (Jr., 5-9, 155, R/R); C Troy Easterling (So., 5-9, 190, R/R); OF Jordan Sims (So., 5-10, 150, R/R)

Top Newcomers: OF Adam Henry (So., 5-7, 140, R/R); INF/OF Kodi Austin (So., 5-10, 155, R/R); SS/2B/RHP Kelcey White, Jr. (Fr., 5-6, 130, B/R); OF Brian Hardaway (Fr., 5-7, 140, R/R); INF/C Jaylon Lucky (Fr., 5-7, 135, R/R)

Season Outlook: A solid senior class will lead the way for Westlake this season, and the Lions will be expected to make the playoffs. In that senior class is one of the nation's top prospects in shortstop/pitcher Myles Austin. Versatile El Rico Riley also returns. The concern is pitching depth.

WHEELER WILDCATS

Head Coach: Mark Collins

Assistant Coach (s): Hector Villalobos, Keith Fitzgerald

2018 Record: 18-13

Returning Starters: P/2B Jeff Norman (Sr.); OF Mike Musser (Sr.); 3B Noah Welkis (Sr.); SS Brian Yapkovitz (Sr.); P Leo Gianonni (Jr.); P Ashton Lansdell (Sr.)

Other Returning Players: LHP Arya Mevada (Sr.); LHP Jeremy Payne (Jr.); C/2B Will Mahoney (So.); OF Kylen Davis (Jr.); OF Michael Porter (So.)

Season Outlook: The Wildcats made the state playoffs last season and should be back in contention this spring. A trio of all-region performers return to lead the way – pitcher/second baseman Jeff Norman, outfielder Mike Musser and third baseman Noah Welkis. Shortstop Brian Yapkovitz also returns after a solid season in 2018.

REGION 3-7A

Region Favorite: North Paulding

Keep an eye on: Kennesaw Mountain – The Mustangs have the talent to go a long way.

Players to Watch

DH/1B – Reid Brown, Sr., Hillgrove; **RHP** – Max DeJong, Jr., Hillgrove; **3B** – Cole Dunn, Sr., North Paulding; **C** – Harry Ford, So., North Cobb; **1B** – Ryland Goede, Sr., Kennesaw Mountain; **RHP** – Jarrett Guest, Sr., Kennesaw Mountain; **OF/RHP** – Mikade Johnson, Sr., North Paulding; **INF/LHP** – George Krivsky, Sr., Marietta; **2B/OF** – Mickey Maguire, Sr., North Paulding; **RHP** – Zach Maxwell, Sr., North Paulding; **SS/3B** – Will McCrumb, Sr., Kennesaw Mountain; **OF/RHP** – Alex McKay, Sr., Hillgrove; **SS** – Wade Richardson, Sr., Hillgrove; **OF** – Victor Scott, Sr., McEachern; **OF** – Justin Tew, Sr., Hillgrove; **INF/RHP** – William Underwood, Sr., Marietta; **RHP** – Chandler Wood, Sr., North Paulding; **OF/LHP** – Ethan Wright, Sr., Hillgrove

HILLGROVE HAWKS

Head Coach: David Richardson

Assistant Coach (s): Wes Ellis, Andrew Alverson, Craig Steedley, Ryan Raper, Jacob Farmer

2018 Record: 23-9

Returning Starters: DH/1B Reid Brown (Sr., 6-0, 210, R/R); 1B Mason Curtis (Sr., 6-0, 185, L/L); 2B Cameron Fiveash (Sr., 5-11, 165, R/R); SS Wade Richardson (Sr., 5-10, 160, L/R); C Zach Stewart (Sr., 5-11, 200, R/R); OF Justin Tew (Sr., 6-2, 185, R/R); RHP/OF Deion Walker (Sr., 6-4, 180, R/R); OF Ethan Wright (Sr., 5-9, 160, L/L); RHP Max DeJong (Jr., 6-1, 175, R/R); INF Jack Gilsenan (Jr., 5-10, 155, R/R)

Other Returning

Players: RHP Austin Heard (Sr., 6-1, 180, R/R); RHP Brennan Richardson (Sr., 5-10, 150, R/R); OF/RHP Alex McKay (Sr., 6-0, 150, R/R); INF/RHP Jacob Sietel (Sr., 6-0, 160, R/R); LHP/OF Fred Wilson (Sr., 5-10, 150, L/L); INF/RHP Trace Cate (Jr., 5-10, 155, R/R)

Top Newcomers: 1B/C Owen Helgesen (Jr., 6-2, 180, R/R); INF Michael Meireles (Jr., 5-7, 150, R/R); RHP/1B Chase McQuagge (Jr., 6-2, 160, R/R); RHP Chandler Abrams (Jr., 6-3, 170, R/R); RHP David Kinsbrunner (Jr., 6-1, 170, R/R); OF Lance Beaudry (So., 5-9, 170, R/R); C Cameron Powser (So., 6-1, 190, R/R); OF Jason Hayden (So., 5-9, 165, R/R)

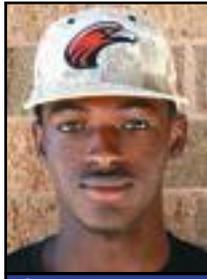
Season Outlook: A strong group of seniors return and should help Hillgrove contend for the region title. Pitchers Max DeJong and Alex McKay lead a talented rotation, while shortstop Wade Richardson, outfielders Ethan Wright and Justin Tew and first baseman Reid Brown lead an offense that can score plenty of runs.



Reid Brown
Hillgrove



Max DeJong
Hillgrove



Alex McKay
Hillgrove



Wade Richardson
Hillgrove



Justin Tew
Hillgrove



Ethan Wright
Hillgrove

KENNESAW MOUNTAIN MUSTANGS

Head Coach: George Hansen

Assistant Coach (s): Rich Oria, Matt Graeff, Phillip Nasworthy, Doug Golden, Kefla Hare, Chris Walker

2018 Record: 19-11

Returning Starters:

SS/2B Justin Barnes (Sr., 5-11, 175, R/R); RHP Luke Darwiche (Sr., 6-0, 170, R/R); RHP Eric DeJesus (Sr., 6-1, 190, R/R); 1B/3B Ryland Goede (Sr., 6-7, 225, R/R); RHP/OF Jarrett Guest (Sr., 6-4, 190, R/R); RHP/3B Taylor Lumpkin (Sr., 6-3, 200, R/R); OF/RHP Grant Moody (Sr., 6-3, 190, R/R); OF/LHP Gavin Scaggs (Sr., 6-2, 185, L/L); RHP Bryce Tincher (Sr., 6-2, 170, R/R); LHP Dylan Williams (Sr., 6-1, 170, L/L); SS/3B Will McCrumb (Sr., 6-3, 185, R/R); 1B/RHP CJ Whaley (So., 6-3, 210, R/R); RHP Ryne Oria (Jr., 5-11, 160, R/R); C Reece Schwickerath (Jr., 6-0, 175, R/R); RHP/OF Brady Schwickerath (Jr., 6-0, 165, R/R); 3B/RHP Sammy Sparks (Jr., 6-0, 180, R/R)

Top Newcomers: C/RHP John Armstrong (Jr., 6-0, 170, R/R); INF Logan Jackson (Jr., 5-11, 150, R/R); 1B/RHP Luke Staggs (Jr., 6-3, 190, R/R); 1B/



Jarrett Guest
Kennesaw Mountain



Ryland Goede
Kennesaw Mountain

RHP Tyler Sylvester (Jr., 6-0, 170, R/R)

Season Outlook: Kennesaw Mountain should contend for the region crown as a wealth of talent returns. Infielder Ryland Goede returns to lead the offense, but the pitching rotation will be solid. Right-hander Jarrett Guest leads a strong group that will keep the Mustangs in the postseason chase.

MARIETTA BLUE DEVILS

Head Coach: Phillip Rogers

Assistant Coach (s): Kyle Fleming, Neal Sammons, Frank Bernazard, Cameron Wilson

2018 Record: 11-19

Returning Starters: INF/RHP William Underwood (Jr., R/R); INF/OF Peter Warrick (Jr., R/R); INF/RHP Schuylar Willis (Sr., R/R); OF/RHP Jalen Parker (Sr., R/R); INF/LHP George Krivsky (Sr., L/L); C Bowen Mayfield (Jr., R/R); RHP/OF Carlson Reed (Jr., R/R)

Other Returning Players: C Nicolas Mosgovoy (So., L/R); RHP Hunter Williamson (Sr., R/R); RHP/INF CJ Gordon (So., R/R); INF/RHP Ben Edwards (Jr., R/R); OF Cooper Kipp (Jr., R/R); INF Blake Frierson (Sr., R/R); RHP Anthonie Rodriguez (So., R/R)

Top Newcomers: INF Wesley Rodriguez (Fr., R/R); INF Maston Corn (Fr., L/R)

Season Outlook: The Blue Devils have an excellent group of returning players. Seven starters are back, including William Underwood and Peter Warrick, who showed promise last year as sophomores. If some pitchers mature, the Blue Devils should improve upon last season's finish.

MCEACHERN INDIANS

Head Coach: Karlton Schilling

Assistant Coach (s): Zach Sparks, Zack Desmarais, Corey Holmes, Shaun Nguyen, Jake Burgdorf

2018 Record: 9-20

Returning Starters: CF/LHP Victor Scott (Sr., 6-0, 170, L/L); 3B/2B Devin Dorin (Sr., 5-8, 140, R/R); SS/2B Juilyen Mohammed (Sr., 5-10, 145, R/R); 2B/SS Dwight Banks (Jr., 5-11, 135, R/R)

Other Returning Players: OF/RHP Rashad Smith (Sr., 5-7, 150, R/R); OF/INF Donovan Felton (Sr., 5-8, 140, R/R); OF Isaiah Lee (Jr., 5-9, 150, R/R); LHP/OF Kaleb King (Jr., 5-8, 140, L/L); RHP/OF Darion Whitman (Jr., 5-11, 160, R/R); RHP/OF Brandon Jessie (Jr., 5-9, 150, R/R); OF/C Jacob Hall (So., 5-7, 140, R/R); 1B/3B Daniel Brown (Sr., 5-11, 160, R/R); C/1B/3B/RHP Cody Jordan (Jr., 5-11, 200, R/R); INF Javier Dominguez (Jr., 5-9, 145, R/R); C/1B/3B/RHP Jaylen Dickey (Jr., 5-9, 185, R/R); RHP/1B/3B Alyiah Richardson (So., 5-11, 160, R/R); RHP/INF Saivion Mohammed (So., 5-7, 125, R/R); OF/RHP Quentin Carter (Sr., 5-9, 185, R/R)

Top Newcomers: 3B/1B Zion Clonts (Jr., 5-7, 180, R/R); INF Kyle Jordan (Jr., 5-8, 155, R/R); OF Kolby King (Jr., 5-9, 145, R/R); LHP/1B/3B Larry Bennett (So., 6-1, 155, R/L)

Season Outlook: A strong group of returning players are back at McEachern. And look for the Indians to be much better in coach Karlton Schilling's second season. Outfielder/pitcher Victor Scott (.372 avg.) is a player to keep an eye on. Look for some talented underclassmen to contribute.



Victor Scott
McEachern

NORTH COBB WARRIORS

Head Coach: Tom Callahan

Assistant Coach (s): Mike Turchan, Tom Clark, Mike Young, Evan Hester

2018 Record: 13-19

Returning Starters: 2B/C Andrew Prather (Sr., 5-11, 170, R/R); SS

Thomas Chandler (Sr., 5-10, 165, R/R); OF Joshua Dixon (Jr., 5-9, 155, R/R); OF Trevor Lovett (So., 6-0, 175, R/R); C Harry Ford (So., 5-10, 165); INF/DH Jake Mantooth (Jr., 5-11, 170)

Other Returning Players: LHP/OF Garrett May (Sr., 5-7, 140, L/L); RHP/1B Matthew Evans (Sr., 6-0, 215, R/R); RHP/OF Ethan Fry (Jr., 5-10, 165, R/R); RHP/INF Andrew Martinez (Jr., 5-11, 155, R/R); RHP/INF Cole Wright (Jr., 5-11, 165, R/R); RHP/INF Nathan Williams (Jr., 6-2, 215, R/R)

Season Outlook: North Cobb made the playoffs last year and should have a chance to contend again this season. Six starters are back, including a talented group of seniors. Second/baseman catcher Andrew Prather and shortstop Thomas Chandler are two returning seniors, but keep an eye on sophomore catcher Harry Ford.

NORTH PAULDING WOLFPACK

Head Coach: Dennis Jordan

Assistant Coach (s):

Patrick Stevens, Chad Jordan, Matt Smith, Matt Mixon

2018 Record: 22-14

Returning Starters: 3B

Cole Dunn (Sr., 6-4, 200, R/R); DH/OF Greyson Elkins (Sr., 6-0, 180, R/R); 2B Mickey Maguire (Sr., 6-0, 180, R/R); RHP Zach

Maxwell (Sr., 6-5, 240, R/R); OF/RHP Mikade Johnson (Sr., 6-5, 190, R/R); RHP Chandler Wood (Sr., 6-2, 200, R/R); OF/1B Peyton Moseley (Sr., 6-0, 200, R/R)

Other Returning Players: OF Drew Sullins (Sr., 6-0, 185, R/R); LHP Josh Paul (Sr., 6-1, 200, L/L); RHP Josh Carney (Sr., 6-0, 175, R/R); RHP Tyler Roon (Jr., 6-0, 175, R/R); C TJ Worley (Jr., 5-9, 175, R/R); LHP Wes Roy (Jr., 5-9, 165, L/L)

Top Newcomers: 1B Marco Colina (Jr., 6-1, 175, R/R); LHP Dylan Rhadans (So., 6-2, 175, L/L); OF/SS Mitchell Heer (So., 6-0, 175, R/R); C Ethan Lecca (So., 5-11, 175, R/R)

Season Outlook: North Paulding returns a solid nucleus, including two of the region's top pitchers in right-handers Zach Maxwell (2-4, 3.85 ERA) and Chandler Wood (4-3, 3.57 ERA). Offensively, Mickey Maguire (.397 avg., 31 RBIs) and Cole Dunn (.362 avg., 32 RBIs) return to lead the way. The senior class is strong.



Cole Dunn
North Paulding



Mickey Maguire
North Paulding



REGION 4-7A

Region Favorite: Walton

Keep an eye on: Woodstock – The Wolverines lost some key players, but they will be back in the chase.

Players to Watch

LHP – Jacob Baldino, Sr., Walton; **C/RHP** – Jacob Berger, Sr., Cherokee; **INF** – Nick Block, Sr., Etowah; **C** – Connor Bowen, Sr., Etowah; **1B** – Luke Boynton, Sr., Walton; **3B** – David Burke, Sr., Roswell; **RHP** – Andrew Corbin, Sr., Lassiter; **C** – Riley Decann, Sr., Roswell; **SS** – Pierce Gallo, Sr., Walton; **1B/RHP** – Ryan Getz, Sr., Lassiter; **3B/OF** – John Giesler, Sr., Walton; **SS/2B** – Tanner Griffith, Sr., Cherokee; **1B** – Mason Kearney, Sr., Lassiter; **INF** – Spencer Keefe, Sr., Woodstock; **OF/LHP** – Bryant Madden, Sr., Etowah; **3B/SS** – Sam Marques, Sr., Lassiter; **SS** – Brennan Milone, Sr., Woodstock; **LHP/OF** – Luke Osthoff, Jr., Roswell; **LHP** – Josiah Siegel, Sr., Woodstock; **RHP/OF** – Bobby Spencer, Sr., Walton

CHEROKEE WARRIORS

Head Coach: Ben Sosebee

Assistant Coach (s): Matt Debes, David Blaylock, Josh Thomas, Richie Brown, Zack Lemons, Zach Brigham

2018 Record: 6-23

Returning Starters: SS Tanner Griffith (Sr., 5-8, 170, R/R); C/RHP Jacob Berger (Sr., 5-7, 185, R/R); C/OF Lucas Campbell (Sr., 6-0, 170, R/R); RHP Zach Courtwright (Sr., 5-7, 150, R/R); RHP/1B Cameron Stroup (Jr., 6-2, 175, R/R); INF Carson Mynatt (So., 6-0, 165, R/R); INF/OF Joe Fisher (So., 6-0, 175, R/R)

Other Returning Players: INF Colton Krupica (Sr., 5-7, 150, R/R); RHP Matthew Silka (Sr., 5-7, 155, R/R); RHP Alexander Ericson (Sr., 6-2, 230, R/R); OF Noah Crawford (Sr., 5-9, 175, R/R); LHP/OF Landon Ergle (Jr., 5-11, 175, L/L); RHP Greyson Freeman (Jr., 6-2, 160, R/R); INF Adam Dorn (Jr., 5-8, 155, R/R)

Top Newcomers: C Cody Montgomery (So., 6-1, 175, R/R); OF/RHP Austin Cole (So., 6-1, 165, R/R)

Season Outlook: Cherokee welcomes back seven returning starters, including a strong senior class, and should have a chance to improve upon last season's record. Infielder Tanner Griffith and catcher/pitcher Jacob Berger return to lead the way. Keep an eye on infielder Carson Mynatt, who was solid as a freshman last year.

ETOWAH EAGLES

Head Coach: Greg Robinson

Assistant Coach (s): Mike Foley, Zach Waters, Taylor Beckham, Nick Singleton, Colton Roberts

2018 Record: 20-17

Returning Starters: INF Nick Block (Sr., 6-3, 200, R/R); OF Tyler Freas (Sr., 5-10, 170, R/R); INF/RHP Ryan Lobus (Sr., 6-0, 170, R/R); RHP Parker Moore (Sr., 5-9, 155, R/R); C Connor Bowen (Sr., 5-10, 180, R/R); OF/LHP Bryant Madden (Sr., 6-4, 195, L/L); OF Jake Lefevers (Jr., 5-10, 175, R/R)

Other Returning Players: OF Tayden Devargas (Jr., 6-0, 175, L/L); INF Will Hockman (Jr., 5-9, 160, R/R)

Top Newcomers: INF/LHP Michael Sharman (Jr., 6-0, 175, L/L); OF Brooks Mooney (Jr., 6-0, 185, R/R)

Season Outlook: In what was supposed to be a rebuilding season in 2018, Etowah made the state quarterfinals and won 20 games. Seven starters are back as the Eagles should be in playoff contention again. Catcher Connor Bowen and infielder Nick Block return to lead the offense, while Bryant Madden leads a solid group of pitchers.

LASSITER TROJANS

Head Coach: Kyle Rustay

Assistant Coach (s):

Kurt Rinehimer, Michael Fraker, Brac Barton, Dave Zinnershine, Ray Anderson

2018 Record: 22-15

Returning Starters: RHP

Andrew Corbin (Sr., 5-10, 160, R/R); LHP Camden Eck (Sr., 6-2, 185, L/L); 3B/SS Sam Marques (Sr., 6-1,

180, R/R); 1B/RHP Mason Kearney (Sr., 6-0, 200, L/R); 1B/RHP Ryan Getz (Sr., 6-3, 185, R/R)

Other Returning Players: SS/RHP Ian Mayes (Jr., 5-10, 150, R/R); OF Kyle Lavender (Sr., 5-8, 150, L/L); OF JD Rinehimer (Sr., 6-3, 165, R/R); INF Griffin Bennink (Sr., 6-2, 170, R/R); RHP/OF Adam Love (Jr., 6-2, 175, R/R); C/1B Max Beckerman (Jr., 6-2, 195, R/R); 3B Carson Bennink (Jr., 6-1, 160, R/R); C/3B Carson Strovinskas (Sr., 6-0, 190, R/R)

Top Newcomers: OF Max Beck-Berendsen (So., 5-10, 160, R/R); OF Justin Wilford (Jr., 6-0, 155, L/L); INF/RHP Bradley Frye (So., 5-11, 150, R/R); 3B/RHP David Bishop (So., 6-2, 160, R/R); RHP Geoffrey Watkins (Jr., 6-5, 200, R/R)

Season Outlook: The Trojans lost some firepower from last season, but the cupboard is far from bare. Lassiter should be in postseason contention as usual. Five starters are back, including a strong pitching rotation led by right-handers Mason Kearney and Ryan Getz. Infielder Sam Marques returns to lead the offense.



Ryan Getz
Lassiter



Mason Kearney
Lassiter



Sam Marques
Lassiter

ROSWELL HORNETS

Head Coach: Ben Sutter

Assistant Coach (s): Danny MacDonald, Matt Meeder, Ben Raimondi, Charlie Wood

2018 Record: 16-15

Returning Starters: 3B David Burke (Sr., 6-0, 180, R/R); C Riley Decann (Sr., 5-10, 200, R/R); INF Jerry Backus (Sr., 5-10, 175, R/R); INF/LHP Mike Convery (Sr., 6-1, 200, R/L); RHP/INF Matthew Nay (Sr., 6-1, 195, R/R); INF/RHP Aaron Wright (Sr., 6-1, 185, R/R); OF Jacob Jarrett (Jr., 6-2, 200, R/L); LHP/OF Luke Osthoff (Jr., 6-2, 190, L/L); INF Kyle D'Amour (Jr., 5-9, 165, R/R); OF Caden Long (So., 5-9, 175, L/L)

Other Returning Players: OF/RHP Trevor Gasgarth (Sr., 6-2, 195, R/R); RHP/INF Alex Gruver (Sr., 5-10, 185, R/R); RHP/INF Christian Orr (Sr., 6-0, 185, R/R); RHP Foster Wells (Sr., 5-11, 185, R/R); C/INF Will Troutman (Jr., 6-3, 200, R/R)

Top Newcomers: LHP/INF Carson Koporc (Jr., 6-3, 215, R/L); INF/OF Tony Kouloukas (So., 5-10, 180, R/L)

Season Outlook: Roswell made the state playoffs last season after receiving the Class 7A at-large bid. The Hornets look to build off that momentum this spring. A total of 10 starters are back, including third baseman David Burke and catcher Riley Decann. Left-handed pitcher Luke Osthoff leads what could be a strong pitching rotation.

WALTON RAIDERS

Head Coach: Shane Amos

Assistant Coach (s):

John Miller, Kevin Johnson, Matt Kelterborn, Jake Hill

2018 Record: 19-13

Returning Starters: SS

Pierce Gallo (Sr., 6-2, 185, R/R); 1B Luke Boynton (Sr., 6-6, 230, R/R); 3B/OF John Giesler (Sr., 6-2, 195, R/R); LHP/OF Brandon Nikitaides (Sr., 6-0, 180, L/L); C Justin Carr (Sr., 6-2, 185, R/R); RHP/OF Bobby Spencer (Sr., 6-2, 190, R/R); RHP/OF Seth McBrayer (Sr., 6-2, 170, R/R); INF Ben Anderson (Jr., 5-10, 160, R/R); LHP Jacob Baldino (Sr., 6-3, 175, L/L)

Other Returning

Players: INF Alex Bennett

(Sr., 5-10, 150, R/R); OF Mac Williams (Jr., 5-7, 150, L/L); RHP/1B Nick Hill (Sr., 6-6, 195, L/L); C William Marconi (Sr., 6-1, 170, R/R); RHP/INF David Sickles (Jr., 5-8, 155, R/R)

Top Newcomers: RHP Scott Strickland (Sr., 6-3, 175, R/R); RHP A.J. Montijo (Jr., 6-2, 170, R/R); OF/RHP Cole Barber (Jr., 5-10, 160, R/R); RHP/1B Oliver Wood (So., 6-0, 155, R/R)

Season Outlook: A strong senior class returns to lead the way for Walton, who will once again be expected to be in the thick of the region chase. Leading hitters Luke Boynton (.358 avg., 27 RBIs) and Pierce Gallo (.404 avg., 11 2B) return to lead the offense, while Jacob Baldino (6-3, 4.74 ERA) leads a talented group of pitchers.



Luke Boynton
Walton



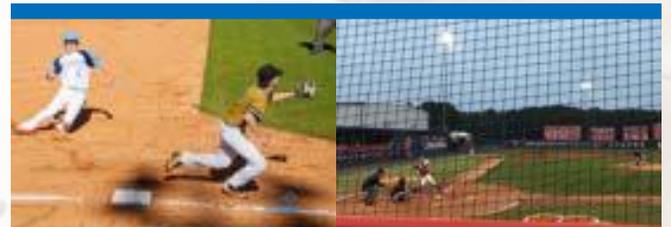
Pierce Gallo
Walton



John Giesler
Walton



Bobby Spencer
Walton



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WOODSTOCK WOLVERINES

Head Coach: Jeff Brown

Assistant Coach (s):

Ben Abner, John Duran,
Brandon Marcus,
Reed Nixon, Chas Pardue

2018 Record: 32-7

Returning Starters: SS

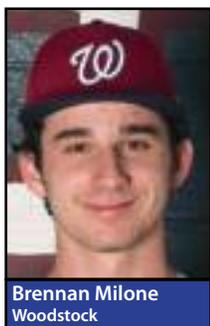
Brennan Milone (Sr., 6-0,
180, R/R); INF Spencer
Keefe (Sr., 6-2, 210, R/R);
LHP Josiah Siegel (Sr.,
6-0, 190, L/L); OF Preston

Suter (Sr., 5-8, 140, R/R); 1B Logan McMunn (Sr., 6-2, 175, L/R); C/INF David Smigelski (Jr., 5-9, 190, R/R)

Other Returning Players: INF Carter Maczko (Sr., 6-0, 175, R/R); RHP Cason Rich (Jr., 6-1, 170, R/R); LHP Will Koch (Jr., 6-0, 215, L/L)

Top Newcomers: U Preston Gunnell (So., 5-11, 160, R/R); C/OF Christian Preiser (So., 5-9, 160, R/R); OF/RHP DJ Fevola (Jr., 5-9, 165, R/R); OF Brodie Marcinkowski (Jr., 6-0, 160, L/R)

Season Outlook: The Wolverines have combined to win 57 games over the past two seasons. This team won't disappoint. Six starters are back, including pitcher Josiah Siegel (11-1, 1.55 ERA) and leading hitters Brennan Milone (.380 avg., 33 RBIs) and Spencer Keefe (.361 avg., 7 HR). Look for some talented underclassmen to also contribute.



Brennan Milone
Woodstock



Josiah Siegel
Woodstock

REGION 5-7A

Region Favorite: South Forsyth

Keep an eye on: Lambert – A strong group of seniors should help Lambert rebound from a disappointing finish in 2018.

Players to Watch

3B/P – Jonathan Bergmoser, Sr., Forsyth Central; **RHP/1B** – Tyler Cowan, Sr., South Forsyth; **LHP/OF** – Wyatt Crowell, Jr., West Forsyth; **LHP** – Mitchell Gross, Sr., Forsyth Central; **INF** – Miles Hartsfield, Jr., North Forsyth; **RHP/INF** – Jonathan Hemings, Sr., Lambert; **C** – Garrett Hollenbeck, Jr., Lambert; **CF** – Mitch Landon, Sr., Milton; **OF** – Carter Mullikin, Sr., North Forsyth; **3B** – Graham Pauley, Sr., Milton; **RHP** – Peyton Presley, Sr., South Forsyth; **RHP** – Jacob Ryan, Sr., Forsyth Central; **RHP/OF** – Landon Sims, Sr., South Forsyth; **RHP** – Cole Stupp, Sr., Milton; **RHP** – Steven Thompson, Sr., South Forsyth; **OF** – Caleb Vercek, Sr., North Forsyth; **RHP** – Brody Westbrook, Sr., North Forsyth

FORSYTH CENTRAL BULLDOGS

Head Coach: Kevin McCollum

Assistant Coach (s): Brian Bull, Dustin Canon

2018 Record: 12-21

Returning Starters: LHP Mitchell Gross (Sr.); RHP Jacob Ryan (Sr.); 2B Greg Tasos (Sr.); 3B/P Jonathan Bergmoser (Sr.); OF Chase Hillenbrand (Sr.)

Other Returning Players: C Mason Sheffield (Sr.); C Will Miller (Jr.); 1B/OF Tristen Rose (Sr.); SS A.J. Fiechter (So.); P Will Meisner (Sr.); LHP Will Robbins (So.)

Season Outlook: Injuries hurt Forsyth Central last year and the Bulldogs struggled to a 12-21 finish. Five senior starters return this season, including left-handed pitcher Mitchell Gross and right-hander Jacob Ryan. The senior class is solid, but the Bulldogs will need some underclassmen to step forward.

LAMBERT LONGHORNS

Head Coach: Rick Howard

Assistant Coach (s): Lee Fisher, Will Azbell, Billy Kieninger, Michael Bailey, Kyle Smith, Scott Carlson, Drew Candela

2018 Record: 12-18

Returning Starters: INF Nate Gabbert (Sr., 6-0, 155, R/R); INF Ben Asher (Sr., 5-11, 175, R/R); RHP/INF Sam Carlson (Sr., 6-0, 180, R/R); OF John Thompson (Sr., 5-9, 150, R/R); INF/RHP Jonathan Hemings (Sr., 6-2, 225, L/R); C Garrett Hollenbeck (Jr., 5-10, 170, R/R)

Other Returning Players: RHP Matthew Esz (Sr., 6-2, 150, R/R); LHP/OF Jake Rising (Sr., 6-0, 180, R/L); OF Blake Nichols (Sr., 6-0, 165, R/R); LHP JJ DiBenedetto (Sr., 6-5, 180, L/L); INF Chase Mangum (Sr., 5-7, 165, R/R); RHP/OF Nick Sheetz (Sr., 5-9, 155, R/R); INF/OF Chris Taylor (Sr., 6-1, 215, R/R); RHP David Mapes (Sr., 5-10, 170, R/R); RHP Asher McAllister (Sr., 6-3, 160, R/R)

Top Newcomers: LHP/OF Daniel Fischer (Jr., 5-11, 140, L/L); OF/RHP Will Hensley (Jr., 5-11, 175, L/R); RHP Payton Rich (Jr., 6-0, 170, R/R)

Season Outlook: Lambert struggled to a 12-18 finish last year. The Longhorns look to rebound in 2019. A senior-oriented team returns as Lambert should contend for a playoff berth. The pitching rotation must

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mature quickly, and the offense must be more consistent. Leading hitter Jonathan Hemings (.404 avg., 20 RBIs) returns on offense.

MILTON EAGLES

Head Coach: Jeff Heusing

Assistant Coach (s): Ed Black, Dustin Rennspies, Terry Cole, Mitch King, Jason Novak, Matt Phillips

2018 Record: 16-15

Returning Starters: 3B Graham Pauley (Sr., L/R); CF Mitch Landon (Sr., R/R); C Ryan Murphy (Sr., L/R); RHP Cole Stupp (Sr., R/R); RHP Dylan Matela (Sr., R/R); SS Christian Campbell (So., R/R)

Other Returning Players: 2B Curt McDonnell (Sr., R/R); C/OF Stephen Michaels (Jr., R/R); OF Jack Rhodes (Jr., R/R); RHP Sam Ellis (Sr., R/R); RHP Kyle Babcock (Sr., R/R); RHP Brandon Concevitch (Sr., R/R); RHP Ben Allen (Sr., R/R); RHP Michael Allegri (Sr., R/R)

Top Newcomers: INF/RHP Logan Jones (Jr., R/R); INF/RHP Tyler McLoughlin (Jr., R/R); OF/RHP Chase Daniels (Jr., R/R)

Season Outlook: Six starters are back for the Eagles who will be expected to contend for the postseason. Third baseman Graham Pauley (.430 avg., 32 RBIs) returns to lead the offense. Right-handers Cole Stupp and Dylan Matela lead a pitching rotation that could be tough.



Graham Pauley
Milton

NORTH FORSYTH RAIDERS

Head Coach: Jim Cahill

Assistant Coach (s): Kyle Counts, Chris Brown, Johnny Hernandez, Taylor McGilvray, Will Foster

2018 Record: 20-12

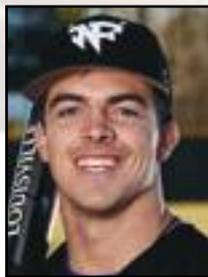
Returning Starters: RHP Brody Westbrooks (Sr., 6-2, 190, R/R); LHP Anthony DiMola (Jr., 5-11, 165, L/L); OF Carter Mullikin (Sr., 5-11, 185, R/R); OF Caleb Vercek (Sr., 6-1, 170, L/L); INF Garrett Staton (Jr., 6-1, 170, R/R); INF Miles Hartsfield (Jr., 5-10, 170, L/R); C/DH Nicky Dalmolin (Jr., 6-4, 200, R/R)

Other Returning Players: OF Charlie Aiken (Sr., 6-1, 185, R/R); INF Adam Duckwall (Sr., 6-0, 160, R/R); LHP Noah Gilbert (Jr., 6-0, 175, L/L); LHP Garrett Sagro (Jr., 5-8, 165, L/L); OF Preston Hedelius (Sr., 6-1, 165, R/R); RHP Sean Beckstrom (Sr., 6-0, 160, R/R); C Justin Loedding (Sr., 5-9, 185, R/R); INF Sammy Gore (Jr., 6-2, 160, R/R); INF Bennett Helms (Jr., 6-1, 160, R/R); RHP/INF Ty Morrison (Jr., 6-0, 175, R/R)

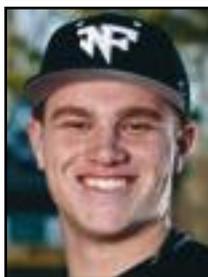
Season Outlook: North Forsyth has the talent to make a run at the postseason this spring. Seven starters are back, including right-hander Brody Westbrooks and left-hander Anthony DiMola. Outfielders Caleb Vercek and Carter Mullikin return to lead the offense. A strong senior class will provide leadership to a talented group of underclassmen.



Anthony DiMola
North Forsyth



Carter Mullikin
North Forsyth



Brody Westbrooks
North Forsyth



Caleb Vercek
North Forsyth

SOUTH FORSYTH WAR EAGLES

Head Coach: Russ Bayer

Assistant Coach (s): Adam Baldwin, Mike Power, Aaron Pileggi

2018 Record: 27-8

Returning Starters: RHP/OF Landon Sims (Sr., 6-2, 200, R/R); RHP/1B Tyler Cowan (Sr., 6-5, 245, R/R); RHP Steven Thompson (Sr., 6-5, 215, R/R); RHP Peyton Presley (Sr., 6-0, 160, R/R); 3B/1B Cole Kliphouse (Sr., 6-3, 190, R/R); C/OF Colby Wheeler (Sr., 6-1, 180, R/R); OF/LHP Peyton Rawlins (Jr., 5-10, 175, R/L)

Other Returning Players: LHP Matthew Tesvich (Sr., 6-1, 170, L/L); INF Josh Green (Jr., 6-2, 185, L/R); INF Gehrig Frei (So., 5-10, 165, B/R)

Top Newcomers: 1B/3B Jack D'Amico (So., 6-2, 190, L/R); U Max Henry (So., 5-10, 170, R/R); LHP/OF Cameron Fox (Sr.); U Dylan Mazzei (Sr.)

Season Outlook: South Forsyth welcomes a strong senior class after winning 27 games last year. Pitching will be strong, led by All-American Landon Sims, Tyler Cowan, Steven Thompson and Peyton Presley. Meanwhile, catcher/outfielder Colby Wheeler returns to lead the offense. There is enough talent on this team to make a strong postseason run.



Tyler Cowan
South Forsyth



Peyton Presley
South Forsyth



Peyton Rawlins
South Forsyth



Colby Wheeler
South Forsyth



Steven Thompson - South Forsyth
Photo by Tim Morse

WEST FORSYTH WOLVERINES

Head Coach: Mike Pruitt

Assistant Coach (s): Jim Ernst, Steve Bohn, Will Skidmore, Jacob Rickett

2018 Record: 12-18

Returning Starters: 1B Mark Ellenburg (Sr., 5-10, 170); 2B James Spota (Sr., 5-10, 170); 2B/P Bryce Hawkins (Jr., 5-10, 160); SS/P Drew Southern (So., 5-10, 170); 3B/P Barrett Roland (Jr., 5-10, 170); 3B/P Chance Burns (Sr., 5-11, 170); C Parker Boldt (Sr., 6-1, 180); OF Matthew Strzelecki (Sr., 5-11, 180); OF/P Wyatt Crowell (Jr., 5-11, 180)

Other Returning Players: SS/OF/RHP Blake Whitfield (Jr., 6-1, 175); C Kyle Peterson (So., 5-11, 205, R/R)

Season Outlook: The Wolverines welcome back nine starters and should have a chance to be much better this spring. Keep an eye on an excellent group of underclassmen. Juniors Wyatt Crowell, Bryce Hawkins and sophomore Drew Southern showed a lot of promise last year.

REGION 6-7A

Region Favorite: North Gwinnett

Keep an eye on: Mountain View – The Bears have the talent to help them contend.

Players to Watch

2B – Michael Borah, Sr., North Gwinnett; **C** – Alek Boychuk, Jr., Mill Creek; **OF/LHP** – Travis Burnette, Jr., Collins Hill; **C** – Corey Collins, Jr., North Gwinnett; **RHP** – Gavin Collyer, Sr., Mountain View; **C/OF** – Matthew Helmstetter, Sr., Duluth; **OF/RHP** – Cole Johnston, Sr., Mountain View; **SS** – Nasim Nunez, Sr., Collins Hill; **RHP/INF/OF** – Kaito Ono, Jr., Duluth; **RHP** – Brandt Pancer, Jr., North Gwinnett; **1B/RHP** – Jayden Perrine, Sr., North Gwinnett; **RHP/SS** – Jack Rasmussen, Sr., Peachtree Ridge; **OF** – Josh Shuler, Jr., North Gwinnett; **RHP/SS** – Garrett Spikes, Jr., Mountain View; **SS** – Brendan York, Jr., Mill Creek

COLLINS HILL EAGLES

Head Coach: Zach Black (new)

Assistant Coach (s): Ross Book, Lance Sparrow, Drew Swick, Nathan Koerner, Todd Webster

2018 Record: 10-20

Returning Starters: SS Nasim Nunez (Sr., B/R); LHP Miles Wilkins (Sr., L/L); C Kody Slate (Sr., R/R); OF Greg Lake (Sr., R/R); U Trey Estes (Jr., R/R); OF/LHP Josh Merritt (Jr., L/L); OF/LHP Travis Burnette (Jr., L/L)

Other Returning Players: INF/RHP Jackson Cate (Sr., R/R); OF/1B Kodai Takano (Jr., L/L); OF Johnny Blake (Jr., R/R); INF Christian Sutton (So., R/R); INF/RHP Trevor Wall (So., R/R)

Season Outlook: First-year coach Zach Black takes over and seeks to help Collins Hill improve upon last season's finish. An excellent group of players are back, including All-American shortstop Nasim Nunez. Miles Watkins, Josh Merritt and Travis Burnette will anchor what could be a talented pitching staff.

DISCOVERY TITANS

Head Coach: Mark Deroux (new)

Assistant Coach (s): Michael Waugh

2018 Record: 3-25

Returning Starters: 1B Javarius Barfield (Jr., R/R); LF Andy Almonte (Sr., R/R); CF/C Tashaun Cook (Sr., R/R); SS/RHP Tyrique Leathers-Stone (Sr., R/R); 1B/LHP Mark McGuire (Sr., L/L); CF/RHP Quavelin Walton (Sr., R/R); LF/RF Jordan Brown (Sr., R/R); 1B/RF Zakar McCullough (Jr., R/R); 3B/RHP Brandon Pinales (Sr., R/R); C Luis Suarez (Jr., R/R)

Other Returning Players: 2B Jordan Clayton (Jr., R/R); OF Ariel Gonzalez (Jr., R/R); 2B/RHP Aaron Harrison (Jr., R/R); OF Derek Little (Jr., R/R); RF Andrew Ruark (Jr., R/R)

Top Newcomers: 1B Luis Rivera (Jr., R/R); INF Aaron Oesterle (Fr., R/R)

Season Outlook: Former South Cobb coach Mark Deroux takes over at Discovery. He inherits 10 returners from last season. The Titans seek to improve in the school's fourth season. The good news is that a solid senior class will lead the team.

DULUTH WILDCATS

Head Coach: Ryan Turner

Assistant Coach (s): Orlando Alvarez

2018 Record: 7-19

Returning Starters: RHP/1B James Sattler (Sr., R/R); C/OF Matthew Helmstetter (Sr., R/R); OF/3B Blaine Galbreath (Sr., R/R); RHP/INF/OF Kaito Ono (Jr., R/R); OF Ryan Shaw (Jr., R/R); RHP/INF/OF Jose Jennings (Jr., R/R); RHP/INF Deshaun Richardson (So., R/R)

Other Returning Players: 2B Aaron Chan (Sr., R/R); 1B/RHP Jess Cogan (Jr., R/R); C/3B Matthew Giobetti (Jr., R/R); RHP/3B Gustavo Perez (So., R/R)

Season Outlook: The Wildcats made progress last year in coach Ryan Turner's first season. Duluth looks to take it farther this spring. Seven starters are back, including a trio of seniors in James Sattler, Matthew Helmstetter and Blaine Galbreath. A solid corps of underclassmen will be expected to step up and contribute.

MILL CREEK HAWKS

Head Coach: Doug Jones

Assistant Coach (s):

Bill Petty, Paul Pierce, Reggie Black

2018 Record: 34-8

Returning Starters: C

Alek Boychuk (Jr., 6-0, 215, R/R); SS Brendan York (Jr., 5-10, 150, R/R); OF Nick Kross (Sr., 5-9, 165, L/L); OF Caden Cullins (Sr., 6-0, 195, R/R);

INF Drew Cadena (Sr., 6-1, 170, R/R)

Other Returning Players: C/1B Blaze McCauley (Sr., 5-11, 190, R/R); INF Diego Rodriguez (Sr., 5-9, 160, R/R); INF Carson Renz (Sr., 5-10, 160, L/R); LHP Kyle Sterwerf (Sr., 5-11, 165, L/L); RHP Jacob Brown (Sr., 5-9, 170, R/R); LHP/OF Zach Green (Jr., 5-10, 170, R/L); INF Tim Simay (So., 5-10, 150, R/R)

Season Outlook: The defending state runner-ups have some holes to fill to approach last year's success. Most of the team's pitching graduated, but if the staff matures quickly, Mill Creek could approach last year's success. The offense should be solid as catcher Alek Boychuk and shortstop Brendan York are back to lead the offense.



Alek Boychuk
Mill Creek



Brendan York
Mill Creek

MOUNTAIN VIEW BEARS

Head Coach: Jason Johnson

Assistant Coach (s):

Cameron Crawford, Cameron Blinn, Jamie Suggs, Kyle Johnson, Daniel Boykin, Bailey Mixon, Garry Gwaltney

2018 Record: 23-11

Returning Starters: RHP

Gavin Collyer (Sr., 6-2, 160, R/R); 2B/SS Jubriel Felix (Sr., 6-0, 170, L/R);

OF/1B Jimmie Heishman (Sr., 6-1, 180, R/R); C/1B Nick Hong (So., 5-9, 180, R/R); RHP/OF Cole Johnston (Sr., 5-10, 150, R/R); 1B/C Evan Kimbel (Sr., 6-1, 210, R/R); LHP/OF Kenny Mallory (So., 6-3, 165, L/L); RHP/SS Garrett Spikes (Jr., 6-3, 180, L/R)

Other Returning Players: LHP/OF Jonathan Daniel (Sr., 5-8, 150, L/L); LHP/1B



Jubriel Felix
Mountain View



Cole Johnston
Mountain View

Spencer Hancock (Jr., 6-2, 180, L/L); OF/INF Dylan Sadler (Sr., 5-7, 145, R/R)

Top Newcomers: OF Hunter Blackstone (Jr., 5-11, 155, R/R); RHP/INF Conner Claymore (Jr., 5-5, 135, R/R); RHP/3B Max Gault (So., 5-9, 190, R/R); RHP/3B Justin Manus (Jr., 6-4, 175, R/R); RHP/INF Vance Tullis (Jr., 5-8, 135, R/R)

Season Outlook: Mountain View welcomes back a solid group of returners and will chase a postseason berth again. Eight starters are back, including standout pitchers Gavin Collyer, Garrett Spikes and Cole Johnston. If the offense develops, the Bears could approach last year's success.



Kenny Mallory
Mountain View



Garrett Spikes
Mountain View

NORTH GWINNETT BULLDOGS

Head Coach: Ryan Moity
Assistant Coach (s): Tait Poitevint, Gary McBryar, Greg Singleton, Joe Molony, Nick Dunn, Spencer Sorrells, Eric Draper

2018 Record: 25-10
Returning Starters: C Corey Collins (Jr., 6-2, 215, L/R); 1B/RHP Jayden

Perrine (Sr., 6-3, 190, R/R); 2B Michael Borah (Sr., 5-9, 170, R/R); SS Chase McCulloch (Sr., 5-9, 160, R/R); 3B Will Bennett (Sr., 5-10, 170, R/R); RF Josh Shuler (Jr., 6-3, 200, L/R); RHP Brandt Pancer (Jr., 6-2, 180, R/R)

Other Returning Players: U Parker Waggoner (Sr., 5-8, 170, R/R); OF Brian Leimkuehler (Sr., 5-10, 150, L/L); RHP Colin Smith (Sr., 6-2, 185, R/R); U Jarrett Burney (Jr., 5-10, 165, R/R)

Top Newcomers: RHP/OF Coulson Buchanan (So., 5-10, 160, R/R); RHP/OF Cameron Speicher (Jr., 5-10, 160, R/R)

Season Outlook: The lack of experienced pitching will be a concern, but North Gwinnett has the offensive stars to play with anybody. All-state infielder Michael Borah returns for his senior season and will lead the way on offense, but juniors Corey Collins and Josh Shuler return to help out. Right-hander Brandt Pancer gives the Bulldogs a solid pitcher to build around.



Michael Borah
North Gwinnett



Corey Collins
North Gwinnett



Josh Shuler
North Gwinnett

PEACHTREE RIDGE LIONS

Head Coach: Nick Hogan
Assistant Coach (s): Tyler Collins, Tyler Chaney
2018 Record: 21-11

Returning Starters: RHP/SS Jack Rasmussen (Sr., 6-5, 160, R/R); OF Julian Galassi (Sr., 5-11, 165, L/L); 2B Dominick McIntyre (Jr., 5-11, 170, R/R); 3B Matthew Gill (Jr., 6-1, 165, R/R); LHP Thomas LeMaster (Jr., 6-3, 170, R/L)

Other Returning Players: RHP Ryan Nauert (Sr., 6-1, 175, R/R); C Grayson Sunwoo (Jr., 5-10, 155, R/R); OF John LeMaster (Sr., 5-8, 135, L/R); RHP Eric Wilson (Sr., 5-11, 155, R/R); RHP Parker Bridwell (Sr., 6-5,

160, R/R); RHP Aiden Gardner (Jr., 6-5, 155, R/R)

Top Newcomers: RHP Jacob Brown (So., 6-0, 145, R/R); LHP Adam Jones (So., 5-10, 140, L/L); OF Ryan Sonnier (Jr., 6-2, 155, R/R)

Season Outlook: Peachtree Ridge made the state playoffs last season and should contend this spring. Five starters are back, including right-hander Jack Rasmussen (5-2, 1.85 ERA). Senior Parker Bridwell will also be part of a solid rotation. If the Lions can find consistency on offense, they could duplicate last year's success.

REGION 7-7A

Region Favorite: Parkview

Keep an eye on: Brookwood – The Broncos have some holes to fill, but the talent is still top notch.

Players to Watch

SS – Levi Cloud, Jr., Lakeside-DeKalb; **INF** – Allan Del Castillo, Sr., Parkview; **RHP** – Alex Flood, Sr., Brookwood; **SS/RHP** – Wesley Franklin, Jr., Brookwood; **C** – Jonathan French, Sr., Parkview; **RHP** – Miles Garrett, Jr., Parkview; **1B/C** – Stephen Hrustich, Sr., Parkview; **CF/RHP** – Freddie Matheus-Parra, Sr., Central Gwinnett; **SS/3B** – Will Mize, Sr., Brookwood; **OF** – Makenzie Pate, Sr., Parkview; **OF** – Bryant Rhooms, Sr., Norcross; **INF** – Nolan Scourtis, Sr., Norcross; **RHP** – Brad Stanley, Sr., Parkview; **SS/C/RHP** – JT Tate, Jr., Central Gwinnett; **C/INF/RHP** – Pierce Thomas, Sr., Norcross; **OF/3B** – Guy Young, Sr., Lakeside-DeKalb

BERKMAR PATRIOTS

Head Coach: Jose Fernandez
Survey not returned

BROOKWOOD BRONCOS

Head Coach: Titus Martin
Assistant Coach (s): Roger Parham, Zach Shelnut, Chris Paul, Bret Carithers, Casey Parham, Curtis Burke, Cameron Hall, Dale Moore

2018 Record: 29-12

Returning Starters: RHP Alex Flood (Sr., 6-3, 180, R/R); SS/3B Will Mize (Sr., 6-3, 175, R/R); SS/RHP Wesley Franklin (Jr., 6-0, 170, R/R)

Other Returning Players: OF Aaron Ashburn (Sr., 5-7, 155, R/R); 1B Billy Kosmala (Sr., 6-3, 200, R/R); LHP Blake Jennings (Sr., 6-1, 160, L/L); OF Gary Garrett (Sr., 6-0, 165, L/L); 1B Jack Flood (Sr., 6-0, 170, R/R); RHP/OF Tate Norman (Sr., 5-10, 155, R/R); OF Trey Marshall (Sr., 5-10, 170, R/R); C Tyler McCarty (Sr., 5-11, 155, L/R); RHP/3B/1B Carter Bailey (So., 6-0, 175, R/R)

Season Outlook: Brookwood lost a lot of offense to graduation, but the Broncos return enough to contend for the region title. All-state pitcher Alex Flood (10-1, 1.86 ERA) returns. Infielder Will Mize (.324 avg., 31 RBIs) is back to lead the offense. Keep an eye on a talented senior class.



Alex Flood
Brookwood



Will Mize
Brookwood

CENTRAL GWINNETT BLACK KNIGHTS

Head Coach: Eli Autry (new)

Assistant Coach (s): Blake Butcher, Chandler Cross

2018 Record: 8-21

Returning Starters: SS/C/RHP JT Tate (Jr., 5-11, 185, R/R); CF/RHP Freddie Matheus-Parra (Sr., 6-1, 215, R/R); 2B/RHP Joaquin Bueno (Jr., 6-0, 185, R/R)

Top Newcomers: 3B/RHP Cameron Wood (Jr., 6-1, 225, R/R); OF/RHP James Ayo (Jr., 6-1, 185, R/R)

Season Outlook: First-year coach Eli Autry takes over a Central Gwinnett program that has struggled recently. Autry inherits a handful of starters. The senior class is small, and juniors will carry the bulk of the load. Outfielder/pitcher Freddie Matheus-Parra returns to give the Knights a solid nucleus to build around.

LAKESIDE-DEKALB VIKINGS

Head Coach: Donald Hayes

Assistant Coach (s): Chris Hicks, Rafel Skeete

2018 Record: 15-14

Returning Starters: OF/3B Gus Young (Sr., R/R); SS Levi Cloud (Jr., R/R); OF Deatric Alexander (Jr., R/R); 1B Thomas Steele (Jr., R/R); RHP Daniel Harrison (Sr., R/R)

Other Returning Players: OF Blake Miccichi (Jr., R/R); INF Joseph Garcia (So., R/R); C Matt Hamaty (Sr., R/R); OF Matt Powell (Sr., R/R)

Season Outlook: Lakeside lost some key players from last season, but the slate is not bare. Five returning starters are back, including senior Gus Young and shortstop Levi Cloud. Look for some underclassmen to step forward and help the Vikings contend for a playoff berth.

MEADOWCREEK MUSTANGS

Head Coach: Rex Robertson (new)

Survey not returned

NORCROSS BLUE DEVILS

Head Coach: Aaron Wilkens

Assistant Coach (s): Nate Tarps, Todd Dyleski, Sylvester Lake, Matt O'Neill, Tanner Maloof, Nick Drescher

2018 Record: 18-14

Returning Starters: C/INF/RHP Pierce Thomas (Sr., 6-0, 175, L/R); OF Elijah Hawkins (Sr., 6-3, 195, R/R); OF Bryant Rhooms (Sr., 6-1, 160, L/L); INF Nolan Scourtis (Sr., 6-0, 220, R/R); C/RHP/OF Daniel Haab (Jr., 6-1, 160, R/R); INF/RHP Garrett Murray (Sr., 6-3, 185, R/R)

Other Returning Players: OF Sam Howard (Sr., 5-10, 165, R/R); RHP Camp Stewart (Sr., 6-1, 175, R/R); OF/RHP Teddy Gassert (Sr., 6-1, 170, R/R); INF/RHP Christian Harmon (So., 5-10, 155, R/R); INF/RHP Harris Celata (So., 6-1, 185, R/R)

Season Outlook: Norcross will be in the postseason chase again as six starters return. The Blue Devils, however, must have some pitching step forward. On offense, infielder Nolan Scourtis (.367 avg., 12 RBIs) and versatile Pierce Thomas return to lead the way.

PARKVIEW PANTHERS

Head Coach: Chan Brown

Assistant Coach (s): David Reynolds, Justin Bishop, Dustin Kline, Mark Lowery, Mike Cooper, Ellis Appling, Zach Cone, Jordan McCoy

2018 Record: 35-6

Returning Starters: C/RHP Jonathan French (Sr., 6-1, 215, R/R); OF

Makenzie Pate (Sr., 6-2, 190, R/R); 1B/C Stephen Hrustich (Sr., 6-0, 200, B/R); RHP Brad Stanley (Sr., 6-2, 180, R/R); INF Allan Del Castillo (Sr., 5-9, 160, R/R); RHP/OF Miles Garrett (Sr., 6-0, 165, R/R)

Other Returning

Players: INF Koby Ayala (Sr., 5-8, 150, R/R); INF Noah Brown (Sr., 5-11, 150, R/R); 1B/DH Drew DeMasi (Sr., 5-11, 200, R/R); RHP/1B Will Parker (Sr., 5-11, 200, R/R); OF Maxwell Pate (Sr., 5-9, 150, R/R); INF/OF James Whitmer (Sr., 5-11, 185, R/R); OF Jonathan Ponder (Jr., 5-11, 170, R/R); RHP/1B Xander Stephens (Jr., 6-2, 175, R/R); RHP Blake Sagarese (Jr., 6-3, 220, R/R)

Top Newcomers: C/1B/DH Jack Davis (Jr., 6-2, 180, R/R); INF/OF Gabe Howard (Jr., 5-9, 165, R/R); LHP Graham Yntema (Jr., 6-3, 200, L/L); OF Quinton Cochran (Sr., 5-9, 155, B/R); LHP Cameron Orr (Sr., 6-3, 165, L/L)

Season Outlook: The defending state champs have some holes to fill, but there is plenty of talent returning. Graduation took a big hit on the pitching rotation, but right-handers Miles Garrett and Brad Stanley return. All-American Jonathan French, Makenzie Pate, Stephen Hrustich and Allan Del Castillo return to lead the offense.



Allan Del Castillo
Parkview



Miles Garrett
Parkview



Stephen Hrustich
Parkview



Makenzie Pate
Parkview



Brad Stanley
Parkview



Xander Stephens
Parkview

REGION 8-7A

Region Favorite: Grayson

Keep an eye on: Archer – A solid senior class will help the Tigers contend.

Players to Watch

INF/RHP – John Anderson, Jr., Grayson; **LHP** – Riley Bishop, Sr., Grayson; **INF/RHP/OF** – Bradley Blalock, Sr., Grayson; **OF/LHP** – Blake Bortak, Jr., Archer; **OF** – Mike Donnelly, Sr., Archer; **C** – Andreaus Lewis, So., South Gwinnett; **RHP/U** – Andrew Lewis, Sr., South Gwinnett; **INF** – Corey Lee, Jr., South Gwinnett; **SS** – Jordan Nathaniel, Sr., Archer; **1B/3B** – Corbin Shaw, Jr., Rockdale County; **INF/RHP** – Josh Stinson, Sr., Grayson; **SS/RHP** – Greg Thornton, Sr., Shiloh; **OF/C** – Christian West, Sr., Rockdale County; **OF** – Khalil Wilcox, Sr., Newton

ARCHER TIGERS

Head Coach: Danny Daigle (new)

Assistant Coach (s): Joel Bridges, Stephen Vaughn

2018 Record: 15-16

Returning Starters: SS Jordan Nathaniel (Sr., 6-0, 180, R/R); OF Mike Donnelly (Sr., 5-10, 200, R/R); OF/LHP Blake Bortak (Jr., 6-0, 170, R/L); OF/LHP Trey Messer (Jr., 5-10, 180, L/L); INF Major Hairston (Sr., 6-1, 180, R/R); OF/RHP Kendall Johnson (Sr., 6-1, 170, R/R); INF Ja'mir Brooks (Sr., 5-8, 160, R/R); C Spencer Shaw (Sr., 5-10, 205, R/R); RHP Luke Davis (Sr., 6-3, 190, R/R)

Other Returning Players: INF Andrew Dyer (So., 5-10, 165, R/R)

Top Newcomers: C Jake Bridges (Fr., 5-10, 170, R/R)

Season Outlook: Former Walnut Grove coach Danny Daigle takes over and inherits a wealth of returning starters. A solid senior class led by shortstop Jordan Nathaniel and outfielder Mike Donnelly will lead the way. A talented group of juniors will also be expected to contribute.

GRAYSON RAMS

Head Coach: Jed Hixson

Assistant Coach (s):

Bryan Tolbert, Jake Bova, Rudy Smith, Brian Albury, Ben Bone

2018 Record: 23-14

Returning Starters: INF/

RHP Josh Stinson (Sr.,

6-0, 180, R/R); INF/RHP/

OF Bradley Blalock (Sr.,

6-2, 190, R/R); LHP Riley

Bishop (Sr., 6-3, 165, L/L); INF/RHP Dylan Pines

(Sr., 5-11, 205, R/R); OF/INF Josh Carriere (Sr., 6-2,

185, R/R); INF/RHP Ben Scartz (Sr., 5-10, 135, R/R);

LHP/OF Nicholas Brown (Sr., 5-10, 160, L/L); C/

INF/OF Jeremiah Smith (Sr., 6-1, 180, R/R); INF/

RHP Kendall Wesson (Sr., 6-1, 165, R/R); INF/

RHP John Anderson (Jr., 5-11, 185, R/R); C Henry

Hunter (So., 5-11, 185, L/R)

Other Returning Players: LHP/OF Justin

Bogard (So., 6-2, 180, L/L); LHP/INF/OF Bodie

Eilertson (So., 5-8, 160, L/L)

Season Outlook: An excellent group of returning starters should help Grayson contend for the region title this spring. A strong senior class will lead the way. Left-hander Riley Bishop (7-5, 3.05 ERA) leads a solid pitching rotation, while versatile Bradley Blalock (.406 avg., 25 RBIs) returns to lead the offense.



John Anderson
Grayson



Riley Bishop
Grayson



Bradley Blalock
Grayson

NEWTON RAMS

Head Coach: Andre Byrd

Assistant Coach (s): James Jackson, Irving Reese

2018 Record: 13-14-1

Returning Starters: OF Khalil Wilcox (Sr., 6-1, 180, R/R); INF Israel Dixon (Jr., 5-6, 130, R/R)

Season Outlook: Newton will be a young team this spring, and the Rams will be looking for some younger players to step up and make their mark. The good news is that senior outfielder Khalil Wilcox and junior infielder Israel Dixon return after solid seasons last year.

ROCKDALE COUNTY BULLDOGS

Head Coach: Kevin Dawkins

Assistant Coach (s): Ricky Bailey, Hanson Boyd, Aaron Barfield

2018 Record: 15-17

Returning Starters: OF/C Christien West (Sr., R/R); INF Darius Williams (Sr., R/R); OF Jordan Rome (Sr., R/R); 1B/3B Corbin Shaw (Jr., R/R); RHP Ian Alonzo (Jr., R/R); OF Jabari Simmons (Jr., R/R); OF/C Bryce King (Sr., R/R)

Other Returning Players: RHP/INF Jaylon Teague (Sr., L/R); RHP/OF Nicolas Osorio (Sr., R/R); OF Kyrin Hawkins (Sr., R/R)

Top Newcomers: INF Evan Everett (Fr., R/R); INF Kenneth Raggs (Fr., R/R); C Kellen Walker (Fr., R/R)

Season Outlook: Look for Rockdale County to contend for the postseason this spring. The Bulldogs will have leadership and talent. Seven starters are back, including outfielder/catcher Christien West (.379 avg., 27 RBIs). Keep an eye on juniors Corbin Shaw and Ian Alonzo, who had good seasons in 2018.

SHILOH GENERALS

Head Coach: Reggie Ingram

Assistant Coach (s): Chris Polk, Matt Nesbit

2018 Record: 4-20

Returning Starters: SS/RHP Greg Thornton (Sr., 5-9, 175, R/R); RHP Sean Anderson (Jr., 5-9, 190, R/R); OF James Little (Jr., 6-2, 185, R/R); U Bhakari Hankins (Jr., 6-0, 170, R/R); OF Anthony Canada (Jr., 6-0, 170, R/R); INF/OF A.J. Rodgers (Jr., 5-8, 205, R/R)

Other Returning Players: OF/LHP Kole Edwards (Jr., 5-10, 150, L/L); 1B/C Zack Sheats (Jr., 6-0, 180, R/R); RHP Parker Allen (So., 5-10, 160, R/R)

Top Newcomers: INF/OF/RHP/C Brandon Fears (Fr., 5-10, 150, R/R); INF/OF/RHP Jaden Lattimore (Fr., 5-9, 150, R/R)

Season Outlook: Look for Shiloh to be much better this spring. The Generals will still be relatively young, but the good news is that six starters are back. One of the returners is senior shortstop Greg Thornton. The lack of experienced pitching is a concern.

SOUTH GWINNETT COMETS

Head Coach: Eric Jones (new)

Assistant Coach (s): David Fleming

2018 Record: 23-12

Returning Starters: INF Corey Lee (Jr., 5-10, 170, R/R); C Andreaus Lewis (So., 5-9, 185, L/R); RHP/U Andrew Lewis (So., 6-0, 180, R/R)

Other Returning Players: RHP/U Cole Thompkins (Sr., 6-0, 165, R/R); INF/OF Derrick Billings (Jr., 6-3, 200, R/R); RHP/INF Jaquavius Graham (Jr., 6-1, 185, R/R); RHP/U TJ Craven (Jr., 5-11, 155, R/R)

Season Outlook: First-year coach Eric Jones takes over and has some key positions to fill, but there is talent. Three starters are back, including infielder Corey Lee. Catcher Andreaus Lewis and pitcher/utility Andrew Lewis also return, but keep an eye on a solid group of younger players who will compete for playing time.



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Carrying the Torch

Pope continues recent baseball dominance with 6A title

By Tim Morse

Max Pralgo didn't enter the 2018 season with a chip on his shoulder, but he did feel like his Pope High School baseball team was a little disrespected after the Greyhounds won the Georgia High School Association Class 6A state title in 2017.

Pope didn't have shutdown pitchers Ryan Webb and Chase Smith, two key ingredients the Greyhounds rode to the title the year before, but Pralgo believed the 2018 edition had enough talent to chase another championship.

And he was right.

Pope went back-to-back, defeating Allatoona in three games for its second straight title and fourth in 10 seasons.

"We felt like some people doubted us," Pralgo said. "That made us want to work hard and win it with the team we had."

It took a few games for the Greyhounds (34-8) to figure things out. Pope started the season 3-3 but found its identity and won 29 of 33 to make it back to the state championship round for the third consecutive season. The Greyhounds finished as the state runner-up in 2016 in the state's highest classification.

They have compiled an impressive 96-22 record during the past three seasons, but coach Jeff Rowland doesn't want any talk about his program becoming a dynasty.

"Going into the season, we weren't sure what we were going to have," Rowland said. "Every year is different, and every team has its own dynamics. It took a little while for this team to figure things out, but they put all the pieces of the puzzle together. It was awesome. I can't say enough good things about them."

Pralgo led a strong pitching rotation that consisted of Scotty Lesieur and Reid Robertson. But the bullpen of Andrew Herlitz, Harris East and Nate Shipley was especially strong, giving the Greyhounds a chance to win in every game.

On offense, shortstop Buddy Floyd, Caden Smith, Pralgo and Antonio Jareno anchored an offense that put up solid numbers.

"We had a lot of new guys who were playing at the varsity level for the first time," Floyd said. "It started out slowly, but after those first few games, everything fell into place after that."

Pope won 22 in a row before Cambridge halted the Greyhounds' momentum with a one-run victory in the final game of the regular season.

But Pope swept Dacula in the first round of the state playoffs, then needed three games each to defeat Harrison and Houston County in the next two rounds.

The Greyhounds played perhaps their best round of the postseason in the semifinals when they swept a pair of games from nationally-ranked River Ridge to advance to the finals. River Ridge was the preseason No. 1 in Class 6A.

Pope then ousted Allatoona in three games to win the state title.

Rowland said he did talk to his team about keeping Pope's recent dominance going.

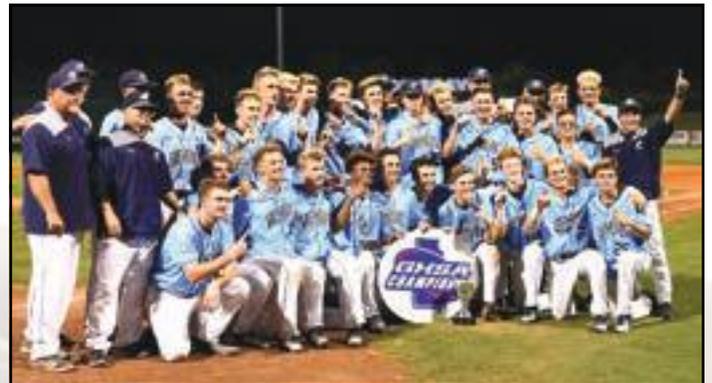
"We talked about passing the torch," he said. "We lost several one-run games early that we had a chance to win. These guys figured out how to win those games, and they took it upon themselves to keep carrying the torch. They got better every day."

Enough to win a second consecutive state baseball championship.



Pope players storm the field after the field out to win the state championship.

Photo by Brandon Orr



Members of the Pope baseball team are, **Front Row** (l-r), Jordan Butler, Cooper Krause, Sammy Cohen, Reid Robertson, Blake Redman, Scotty LeSieur, Luke Schnurr, Peyton Cariaco, Noah Estroff, Antonio Jareno, Jackson Hvizdak. **Back Row** (l-r), Coach Jeff Rowland, Coach Kenny Lotz, Coach Chris Turco, Andrew Bowman, Connor Frost, Andrew Feld, Will Lantis, Nate Shipley, Ethan Rezendes, Harris East, Ian Hancock, Max Pralgo, Coach Nick Montgomery, Andrew Herlitz, Jackson Brown, Tommy Hutchins, Coach Ryan Khan, Grayson Caldwell, Coach Matt Liedberg, James Tibbs, Buddy Floyd Caden Smith, Coach Al Savransky.

Photo by Brandon Orr



Pope players hoist the state championship trophy after winning their second straight title.

Photo by Brandon Orr

Class 6A Top 15

1 POPE

The Greyhounds have turned themselves into a dynasty and could make it three straight state titles, especially considering what Pope has returning this spring. The Greyhounds were not the best team last year at times, however, they peaked at the right time and captured their fourth state title in the past 10 seasons. Many believed last year was a rebuilding year.

This year won't be anywhere near rebuilding Pitching could be lethal with all-state performers Max Praigo and Andrew Herlitz returning. Reid Robertson also returns after a strong season in 2018. The trio plus seniors Tommy Hutching, Andrew Bowman and Gage Vailes will make the rotation even stronger.

Don't forget the offense. All-state shortstop Buddy Floyd returns as well as versatile Caden Smith. Outfielders Andrew Feld, Ian Hancock and Will Lantis also will provide a spark.

2 WINDER-BARROW

The Bulldogs have a load of young talent and got richer in the offseason when former Prince Avenue Christian standouts Cain Tatum and Shelby Davis transferred to Winder-Barrow. Pitching could be the biggest strength as Zack Smith, Brady House, Austin Lockridge and Tatum lead a lethal rotation. Offense won't be too shabby either as all-state performer Hunter Marsh, Sam Darling, Blake Friend, Lance Sikes, Trace Jeffers and Trevor Maddox return.

3 RIVER RIDGE

Coach Scott Bradley and his staff will continue to keep River Ridge among the state's elite programs. The Knights have enough leftovers to make another deep run. There is enough returning pitching with Brandon Smith, Jack O'Donnell and Aaron Osada. Offensively, Ethan Anderson is as good as it gets. Colin Grant and Kobe Braddock also return to spark what should be an explosive offense.

4 ALLATOONA

After the best season in school history and the Bucs' first trip to the state championship series last year, Allatoona will be hungry for a return. The offense will need some time to develop, but the pitching rotation could be just as good as last year with Kyle Reichert and Hunter Paulsen leading the way. This team will be dangerous again.

5 HOUSTON COUNTY

After two rebuilding seasons, Houston County will be back among the state's elite this season. Houston showed promise last season, and the bulk of last year's team returns. All-state standouts Cameron Jones, Chandler Dawson and Corbet Luna are as good as advertised.

6 ALPHARETTA

The Raiders peaked at the right time last year and made a run to the state semifinals. They came within a game of making their first appearance in the state finals. Now, Alpharetta wants to experience that feeling again. They have the talent to do it again, especially with a strong pitching rotation of Charlie Goldstein, Cole Hamel and Sam Stratton that will keep them in the chase.

7 VALDOSTA

The Wildcats made the state quarterfinals last year, and the majority of that team returns. The pitching rotation will be the biggest strength as seniors Avery Stephens, Jude Ard and Cory McCann return. Stephens and Ard combined to win 16 of the team's 23 games last year.

8 HERITAGE-CONYERS

The Patriots rolled to the Region 3-6A title last season. This will be coach Shane Ramsey's best team at the school. And the biggest reason for the optimism is because of a strong pitching rotation consisting of Griffin Holcombe, Nick Watson-Garcia and Nolan Woodward.

9 CAMBRIDGE

The Bears return most of their talent that made the state playoffs last season in coach Evan Tiele's first season. Cambridge will be a team to look out for. The senior class is strong and will carry the load.

10 LEE COUNTY

As long as baseball is being played in Leesburg, the Trojans will always contend for region titles and playoff berths. Enough young talent will help Lee County be a contender this spring. More depth must be found on the mound, but the offense has the ability to score plenty of runs.

11 HARRISON

Never bet against the Hoyas who finished as the No. 3 seed from Region 6 last year, then gave eventual state champion Pope all they could handle before Harrison fell in the second round in three games. Harrison has a good senior class, but the Hoyas will need time to mature.

12 LAKESIDE-EVANS

The Panthers peaked late in the season last year and made the second round of the state playoffs. Lakeside will not only have the pitching with All-American Will Childers returning, but they will have the offense too.

13 EFFINGHAM COUNTY

The Rebels surprised many last season when they won the Region 2-6A title. Most of that talent is back for another run. Pitcher Ethan Johnson returns as well as Jerid Stokes. A strong middle infield combination which consists of shortstop Christian Campbell and second baseman Jordan Rahn is also back.

14 GREENBRIER

The Wolfpack lost a bunch from last year's squad that made the state quarterfinals. Greenbrier does boast one of the state's top pitchers in Bryce Melear who will keep the team in the chase. There are some key positions to fill, but Greenbrier will be tough as usual.

15 GROVETOWN

The Warriors made their biggest run in school history last year when they struggled to make the playoffs as a No. 4 seed, then proceeded to knock off Mundy's Mill and Effingham County before falling to Allatoona in three games in the quarterfinals. Much of that team returns, including all-state pitcher Malik Germany.

Others to watch: (Alphabetical Order) Alexander, Creekview, Dacula, Gainesville, Richmond Hill, Stephenson, Tucker

CLASS 6A PRESEASON ALL STATE

First Team

Name	Position	Grade	School	Comment
Will Childers	Pitcher	Senior	Lakeside-Evans	Can take over the game
Charlie Goldstein	Pitcher	Senior	Alpharetta	RHP will be tough in 2019
Andrew Herlitz	Pitcher	Senior	Pope	Shuts down the opposition
Bryce Melear	Pitcher	Senior	Greenbrier	Has continued to get better and better
Max Pralgo	Pitcher	Senior	Pope	Versatile player does so much
Davis Rokose	Pitcher	Senior	Chattahoochee	Tough to beat and tough to hit
Ga'von Wray	Pitcher	Senior	Stephenson	Quietly gets the job done
Calabria Atkins	Catcher	Senior	Heritage-Conyers	Versatile leader also plays 1B
Caden Smith	Catcher	Senior	Pope	Catcher also plays 1B; brings a lot to team
Buddy Floyd	Infielder	Senior	Pope	SS is great hitter, better defender
Brady House	Infielder	Sophomore	Winder-Barrow	Youngster is fun to watch
Hunter Marsh	Infielder	Junior	Winder-Barrow	3B is only going to get better
Tyler Messick	Infielder	Senior	Allatoona	Strong player is also a good pitcher
Brandon Smith	Infielder	Senior	River Ridge	This guy can hit and pitch well
Colby Thomas	Infielder	Senior	Valdosta	2B can hit for contact or power
Ethan Anderson	Outfielder	Senior	River Ridge	Contact hitter had 62 RBIs in 2018
Chandler Dawson	Outfielder	Senior	Houston County	Solid hitter, standout pitcher
Andrew Feld	Outfielder	Senior	Pope	Leads by example
Corbet Luna	Outfielder	Senior	Houston County	Luna makes things happen
Austin Slate	Outfielder	Junior	Alexander	OF was offensive spark plug last year
Marcerio Allen	Designated Hitter	Senior	Dacula	Athlete good at everything he does
Cameron Jones	Utility	Senior	Houston County	Does so many things well

Second Team

Pitchers – Jonathan Cannon, Sr., Centennial; Jackson Finley, Sr., Richmond Hill; Malik Germany, Sr., Grovetown; Griffin Holcombe, Sr., Heritage-Conyers; Ethan Johnson, Sr., Effingham County; Kyle Reichert, Sr., Allatoona; Reid Robertson, Jr., Pope; **Catchers** – Mitch Fleming, Sr., Cambridge; Seth Nelson, Sr., Lee County; **Infielders** – Blake Friend, Jr., Winder-Barrow; Rhett Hammontree, Jr., Dalton; Jady Jackson, Sr., Lanier; Jarrett Jenkins, Jr., Dacula; Griffin Potts, Sr., Creekview; Avery Stephens, Sr., Valdosta; **Outfielders** – Myles Bowens, Sr., Tucker; Spencer Hanson, Sr., Lee County; Hunter Paulsen, So., Allatoona; Lance Sikes, Sr., Winder-Barrow; Conner Todaro, Sr., Harrison; **Designated Hitter** – Joey Gill, Sr., Creekview; **Utility** – Zack Smith, Sr., Winder-Barrow

REGION 1-6A

Region Favorite: Houston County

Keep an eye on: Valdosta – The Wildcats have the offense and the pitching to go a long way.

Players to Watch

OF/RHP – Jude Ard, Sr., Valdosta; **RHP/OF** – Matt Cooper, Sr., Lee County; **INF/RHP** – Hill Corley, Jr., Lee County; **OF** – Brady Courson, Sr., Coffee; **RHP/OF** – Chandler Dawson, Sr., Houston County; **RHP/OF** – Logan Goff, Sr., Lee County; **INF/OF** – Spencer Hanson, Sr., Lee County; **LHP/1B/OF** – Cameron Jones, Sr., Houston County; **INF/RHP** – Wes Lott, Jr., Coffee; **1B/DH/OF** – Corbet Luna, Sr., Houston County; **SS/RHP** – Cory McCann, Sr., Valdosta; **C/OF** – Seth Nelson, Jr., Lee County; **INF** – Garrett Overstreet, Sr., Coffee; **C/1B/RHP** – Hunter Price, Sr., Northside-Warner Robins; **INF** – Jacob Profit, Jr., Houston County; **OF** – Clayton Rockett, Sr., Coffee; **2B** – Javi Rodriguez, Sr., Northside-Warner Robins; **3B/RHP** – Avery Stephens, Sr., Valdosta; **OF/2B** – Colby Thomas, Sr., Valdosta

COFFEE TROJANS

Head Coach: Sy Jones

Assistant Coach (s): Bob Jones, Hill Thomas, Sam Hoff, Ladonnis Bryant, Ken Pack

2018 Record: 10-18

Returning Starters: OF Brady Courson (Sr., R/R); INF Trevor Gruszka (So., L/R); RHP Tanner Hampton (Jr., R/R); INF Garrett Overstreet (Sr., R/R); OF Clayton Rockett (Sr., R/R); RHP Devin Spivey (Sr., R/R); INF/RHP Wes Lott (Jr., R/R)

Other Returning Players: 1B Brayden Amerson (Sr., R/R); C Lake Ables (Jr., R/R); C Landon Freeman (Sr., R/R); U Marshall Harper (Sr., R/R)



Brady Courson
Coffee



Wes Lott
Coffee



Garrett Overstreet
Coffee



Clayton Rockett
Coffee

Top Newcomers: INF Brady Skipper (Fr., R/R); RHP Justin Swords (Fr., R/R); RHP/OF Logan Dale (Fr., R/R)

Season Outlook: Look for Coffee to be much better in coach Sy Jones' second season. Seven starters are back, including a solid senior class. Outfielder Brady Courson returns to lead the way. Outfielder Clayton Rockett, infielder Garrett Overstreet and infielder/pitcher Wes Lott are back after strong seasons in 2018.

HOUSTON COUNTY BEARS

Head Coach: Matt Hopkins (new)

Assistant Coach (s):

Chris Harrelson, Jared Allen, Randy Jones, Steven Layfield, Ethan Broome

2018 Record: 27-10

Returning Starters:

LHP/1B/OF Cameron Jones (Sr., 6-1, 170, R/L); RHP/OF Chandler Dawson (Sr., 6-1, 175, R/R); 1B/DH/OF Corbet Luna (Sr., 6-1, 220, L/R); OF/RHP Dylan Tabor (Sr., 5-9, 170, R/R); INF Jacob Profit (Jr., 5-7, 160, R/R)

Other Returning Players: 3B/RHP Blake King (Sr., 5-11, 200, R/R); INF/RHP Bryant Rowell (Sr., 5-10, 175, R/R); OF/LHP Jaden Woods (Jr., 6-2, 180, L/L); C/INF Jeremy White (Jr., 5-10, 185, R/R); OF/C Russell Simmons (Sr., 6-0, 180, R/R)

Top Newcomers: RHP/INF Mason Morris (Jr., 6-2, 185, R/R); RHP/INF Trent Ringer (So., 5-11, 165, R/R); RHP/1B Coleman Willis (So., 6-5, 180, R/R)

Season Outlook: The Bears could be the team to beat in region play after winning 27 games last season. A good bit of that talent returns, including seniors Cameron Jones (.405 avg.; 11-3, 1.59 ERA), Chandler Dawson (4-2, 1.68 ERA) and Corbet Luna (.358 avg.). Junior infielder Jacob Profit returns. A solid corps of underclassmen should also contribute.



Chandler Dawson
Houston County



Cameron Jones
Houston County



Corbet Luna
Houston County

LEE COUNTY TROJANS

Head Coach: Brian Trivette (new)

Assistant Coach (s):

Eric Watson, Kyle Keen

2018 Record: 24-9

Returning Starters:

RHP/OF Matt Cooper (Sr., 6-6, 200, R/R); RHP/OF Brian Myler (Sr., 6-2, 180, R/R); RHP/OF/INF Logan Goff (Sr., 6-0, 170, R/R); INF/OF Spencer Hanson (Sr., 5-11, 170, R/R); INF/RHP Hill Corley (Jr., 6-1, 180, R/R); C/OF Seth Nelson (Jr., 5-9, 175, R/R); 1B/LHP Jacob Barwick (Sr., 6-2, 225, L/L)

Other Returning Players: OF Hunter Howell (Sr., 6-0, 160, R/R); LHP CJ Bozeman (Sr., 5-10, 200, L/L); OF Bryce Coarson (Sr., 5-11, 165, R/R); 1B/RHP Kyle Cloud (Jr., 6-1, 195, R/R); OF Chase Somers (Jr., 5-11, 155, L/R); C/INF/RHP Flint Davis (So., 5-10, 150, R/R); INF/RHP Hunter Gill (So., 5-9, 150, R/R); OF Andrew Willis (So., 5-8, 155, R/R)



Matt Cooper
Lee County



Hill Corley
Lee County

Season Outlook:

Longtime assistant Brian Trivette takes over and inherits seven starters, including pitchers Matt Cooper, Logan Goff and Brian Myler. On offense, Spencer Hanson, Seth Nelson and Hill Corley lead an offense that could put up some impressive numbers. Look for the Trojans to be solid as usual.



Logan Goff
Lee County



Spencer Hanson
Lee County



Brian Myler
Lee County



Seth Nelson
Lee County

NORTHSIDE-WARNER ROBINS EAGLES

Head Coach: Mark Estes

Assistant Coach (s): Tyler Kinsler, Dyron Adams, Zack Coatney

2018 Record: 4-21

Returning Starters: C/1B/RHP Hunter Price (Sr., 6-0, 210, R/R); 2B Javi Rodriguez (Sr., 5-8, 160, R/R); 3B/1B/RHP Tyler Wilson (Jr., 6-1, 155, R/R); C Mitchell Upshaw (Jr., 5-9, 185, R/R); SS/RHP Cameron Staten (So., 5-10, 200, R/R)

Other Returning Players: RHP Ryan Raffield (Sr., 6-0, 170, R/R); 1B/DH Seth Watson (Sr., 6-2, 230, R/R); OF Tyler Smith (Jr., 6-0, 160, R/R); 1B Deontae' Lowe (Jr., 5-9, 185, R/R); 2B/RHP Jacob Catey (Jr., 5-8, 150, R/R)

Top Newcomers: OF/SS/RHP Levi Walker (So., 5-4, 145, R/R); RHP Andrew Heinisch (So., 5-7, 135, R/R)

Season Outlook: Northside hopes to bounce back after a disappointing finish last season. The good news is that five starters are back, including senior standouts Hunter Price and Javi Rodriguez. The pitching rotation must be more consistent.

VALDOSTA WILDCATS

Head Coach: Brad Porter

Assistant Coach (s):

Jonathan Oliver, Keith McConnehead, Joe Wilson, Tyler Ward, Hayden Jones

2018 Record: 23-12

Returning Starters: OF/RHP Jude Ard (Sr., 6-4, 220, R/R); 2B/RHP Briggs Bennett (Jr., 5-10, 190, R/R); C/1B Trevor Green

(Sr., 5-10, 200, R/R); SS/RHP Cory McCann (Sr., 5-9, 180, R/R); OF/RHP Justin Rome (Jr., 6-2, 175, R/R); 3B/RHP Avery Stephens (Sr., 6-3, 230, R/R); OF/2B Colby Thomas (Sr., 6-1, 180, R/R)

Other Returning Players: SS/RHP Ethan Bush (Jr., 5-11, 170, R/R); C/1B/RHP Lamonte Lindon (So., 6-2, 185, R/R); U/RHP Reed Reagin (Jr., 6-1, 175, R/R); C/RHP/2B Cooper Samples (So., 5-7, 150, R/R); RHP/



Jude Ard
Valdosta



Cory McCann
Valdosta



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SS Chris Scarborough (Sr., 5-10, 160, R/R); OF Jackson McMillan (Jr., 6-0, 185)

Season Outlook: The Wildcats will be expected to contend for the region title as seven starters are back. All-state performers Colby Thomas (.407 avg., 14 HR) and third-baseman/pitcher Avery Stephens (9-5, 2.23 ERA; .380 avg., 9 HR) return. Outfielder/pitcher Jude Ard (7-3, 2.00 ERA; .306 avg.) and shortstop Cory McCann (.350 avg.) had solid seasons in 2018.



Avery Stephens
Valdosta

BRADWELL INSTITUTE TIGERS

Head Coach: Rhett Hellgren (new)

Survey not returned

BRUNSWICK PIRATES

Head Coach: Brian Crawford

Assistant Coach (s): Drew Culpepper, Tony Yeomans, Grayson Yeomans, Denny Billbe

2018 Record: 18-13

Returning Starters: RHP Marshall Cox (Sr., R/R); RHP Jones Jobe (Sr., 6-3, 165, R/R); 3B/RHP Hunter Goff (Jr., R/R); 2B/3B Kason Buie (Jr., R/R); SS/2B Devonte Gadson (So., R/R); RHP/OF Aaron Rath (Jr., R/R); RHP/INF Bryson Wilson (Jr., R/R); LHP/OF Isaiah Wellman (So., R/L); OF Connor Moore (Jr., R/R)

Other Returning Players: RHP/C Skyles Tawney (So., R/R); OF Kyle Patterson (Jr., R/R); 1B/OF Mitchell Richburg (Jr., R/R)

Top Newcomers: OF Nick Goff (Fr., R/R); RHP/INF Chamberlain Dent (Fr., R/R)

Season Outlook: After winning 18 games in coach Brian Crawford's first season last year, the Pirates will be doing a little rebuilding this spring. But just because the team is young doesn't mean they aren't talented. Pitchers Marshall Cox and Jones Jobe are back, as well as third baseman/pitcher Hunter Goff.

EFFINGHAM COUNTY REBELS

Head Coach: Chris Johnson (new)

Assistant Coach (s):

Aaron Hall, Matthew Alligood, Trevor Wilson, Chuck Smith

2018 Record: 24-11

REGION 2-6A

Region Favorite: Effingham County

Keep an eye on: Richmond Hill – The Wildcats have as many quality pitching arms as some small college programs.

Players to Watch

RHP/U – Brandon Becker, Sr., Richmond Hill; **SS/RHP** – Christian Campbell, Sr., Effingham County; **RHP** – Marshall Cox, Sr., Brunswick; **OF/RHP** – Jackson Finley, Sr., Richmond Hill; **3B/RHP** – Hunter Goff, Jr., Brunswick; **RHP/C** – Paul Hegeman, Jr., Glynn Academy; **OF** – Chase Howze, Sr., Effingham County; **3B** – Henry Jamieson, Sr., Glynn Academy; **RHP** – Jones Jobe, Sr., Brunswick; **RHP** – Ethan Johnson, Sr., Effingham County; **RHP/INF** – Nick McCullum, Sr., Richmond Hill; **2B** – Jordan Rahn, Sr., Effingham County; **1B/RHP** – Jerid Stokes, Sr., Effingham County



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Returning Starters:

1B/RHP Jerid Stokes (Sr., 6-0, 195, R/R); 2B Jordan Rahn (Sr., 5-10, 175, R/R); SS/RHP Christian Campbell (Sr., 5-11, 160, R/R); OF Chase Howze (Sr., 5-10, 175, R/R); C Chandler Hinely (Sr., 6-1, 230, R/R); OF JR Lonon (Sr., 5-10, 170, B/R); RHP Ethan Johnson (Sr., 6-1, 185, R/R); RHP Avery Elenbaas (Sr., 6-0, 170, R/R)

Other Returning

Players: 3B/RHP Ryan Harley (Sr., 5-9, 160, R/R); 3B/RHP Chrys Hawkins (Jr., 5-9, 170, L/R); OF Holden Fields (Sr., 5-7, 155, L/L)

Top Newcomers: RHP

Garrett Miller (Jr., 5-11, 190, R/R); C Dustin Johnson (Jr., 6-0, 210, R/R); P/ INF Merritt Evans (Jr., 5-10, 155, L/R)

Season Outlook: Chris Johnson inherits an Effingham program that won the region title last season. The Rebels have eight returning starters, including top pitchers Ethan Johnson (9-1, 0.73 ERA) and Ryan Harley (5-1). Leading hitters Christian Campbell (.389 avg.) and Jerid Stokes (.361 avg., 9 2B) return to lead the offense.



Christian Campbell
Effingham County



Ethan Johnson
Effingham County



Jordan Rahn
Effingham County



Jerid Stokes
Effingham County

GLYNN ACADEMY RED TERRORS

Head Coach: Trent Mongero

Assistant Coach (s):

Curtis Whaley, Jason Smith, Jon Ricketts, Bob Black

2018 Record: 24-7

Returning Starters: 3B

Henry Jamieson (Sr., 6-2, 200, R/R); RHP/C Paul Hegeman (Jr., 6-2, 215, L/R); SS/2B Caden Hutchinson (So., 5-7, 175, R/R)

Other Returning Players: INF Kolby Avedisian (Sr., 5-11, 165, R/R);

INF Quinn Collier (Sr., 5-11, 160, R/R); OF Jordan McClinton (Sr., 5-9, 185, R/R); OF/RHP Jace O'Neil (Sr., 5-9, 155, R/R); OF/C Caleb Tucker (Sr., 6-1, 165, R/R)

Top Newcomers: RHP/SS Nate Hannum (Jr., 6-0, 155, R/R); INF/OF Jacob Luke (Jr., 5-11, 165, L/R); RHP/INF Noah Strande (Jr., 5-9, 155, R/R); OF Kade Burkovich (Jr., 6-2, 150, R/R); RHP Josh Myers (Jr., 6-1, 170, R/R)

Season Outlook: Graduation bit Glynn Academy pretty hard last season. Only three starters are back, but one of those is junior pitcher/catcher Paul Hegeman. The good news is that a wealth of talented underclassmen are waiting for their opportunity to shine. They will get that chance this spring.



Paul Hegeman
Glynn Academy



Henry Jamieson
Glynn Academy

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RICHMOND HILL WILDCATS

Head Coach: Stacy Bennett

Assistant Coach (s): Scott Strickland, Chad Blanton, Josh Davis, Matt Klebe

2018 Record: 19-11

Returning Starters: RHP/OF Jackson Finley (Sr., 6-2, 205, R/R); RHP/INF Nick McCollum (Sr., 5-9, 170, R/R); RHP/U Brandon Becker (Sr., 6-1, 175, R/R); RHP/U Cameron Gilkey (Sr., 6-1, 180, R/R); C Brandon Schwier (Sr., 5-10, 190, R/R); 3B Buckley Bayens (Jr., 5-10, 185, R/R); U Blake Bell (Jr., 5-10, 175, R/R)

Other Returning Players: U Chase Brown (Sr., 6-1, 165, L/R); C Payton Taylor (So., 5-8, 145, R/R); OF Timmy Fortson (Jr., 5-10, 180, R/R)

Top Newcomers: SS Leighton Finley (Fr., 6-3, 180, R/R)

Season Outlook: Richmond Hill returns just about all of its pitching from last year and will be a major player in the region chase. Right-handers Jackson Finley, Brandon Becker and Nick McCollum all boasted earned run averages less than two runs per game. The Wildcats just need to manufacture some offense.



Jackson Finley
Richmond Hill

REGION 3-6A

Region Favorite: Heritage-Conyers

Keep an eye on: Lakeside-Evans – This will be the best Panther team since the school finished as state runner-up in 2010.

Players to Watch

1B/C – Calabria Atkins, Sr., Heritage-Conyers; **RHP/3B** – Darryl Buggs, Jr., Heritage-Conyers; **RHP** – Will Childers, Sr., Lakeside-Evans; **RHP/INF** – Davis Cook, Sr., Lakeside-Evans; **2B/SS** – John D'Amelio, Sr., Lakeside-Evans; **LHP/CF** – Christian Davis, Jr., Heritage-Conyers; **RHP** – Chase Dollander, Jr., Greenbrier; **1B** – Camrin Dunbar, Jr., Grovetown; **SS/RHP** – James Eckert, Jr., Grovetown; **RHP/SS** – Nick Watson-Garcia, Sr., Heritage-Conyers; **RHP** – Malik Germany, Sr., Grovetown; **RHP** – Griffin Holcombe, Sr., Heritage-Conyers; **C/1B/LF** – Ray Joseph, Sr., Heritage-Conyers; **RHP/3B** – Joshua Lanham, Sr., Evans; **C/RHP** – Alex Matthews, Sr., Lakeside-Evans; **RHP** – Bryce Melear, Sr., Greenbrier; **U** – Richie Rodriguez, Jr., Lakeside-Evans; **OF** – Cole Simmons, Sr., Greenbrier; **INF/RHP** – Cole Smith, Jr., Heritage-Conyers; **SS** – Ryan Spikes, So., Alcovy; **INF** – Zach Thurman, Sr., Greenbrier; **INF** – Kyle Wilkinson, Sr., Evans; **LHP/LF** – Nolan Woodward, Sr., Heritage-Conyers



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ALCOVY TIGERS

Head Coach: Jimmy Hughes (new)

Assistant Coach (s):

Blake Ashe, Jimmy Bruno, Altoine Wilson, Cameron Gibson

2018 Record: 5-22

Returning Starters: C/

OF Chandler Hicks (Jr., 6-0, 170, R/R); RHP/SS Ryan Spikes (So., 5-11, 165, R/R); LHP/OF/1B Caleb Griffeth (Sr., 5-11, 170, L/L); OF Mahlon Phelps (Sr., 5-8, 150, R/R); 2B/3B Raquis Holmes (Jr., 5-11, 175, R/R); OF Amari Satcher (So., 5-10, 165, R/R)

Other Returning Players: OF/2B Riley Thompson (Sr., 5-7, 150, R/R); LHP/OF/1B Hunter Owensby (Jr., 5-11, 175, L/L)

Top Newcomers: 1B/3B/RHP Jacob Golden (Jr., 6-1, 165, R/R); C/3B/RHP Andrew Mills (Jr., 5-11, 225, R/R); C/RHP/INF Chris Burney (Jr., 5-11, 180, R/R); RHP/SS Elisha Graves (Jr., 5-10, 170, R/R)

Season Outlook: New coach Jimmy Hughes takes over and inherits a program that has struggled. But the good news is that the Tigers are loaded with younger players. Six starters are back, including a pair of standouts in Chandler Hicks and Ryan Spikes. The Tigers could be a sleeper.



Chandler Hicks
Alcovy



Ryan Spikes
Alcovy

EVANS KNIGHTS

Head Coach: Ricky Beale

Assistant Coach (s):

Trey Lariscy, Eric Leiden

2018 Record: 13-15

Returning Starters:

RHP/3B Joshua Lanham (Sr., R/R); INF Kyle Wilkinson (Sr., R/R); OF/RHP Nolan Short (Jr., R/R); 1B Bryan Mitchell (Sr., R/R); RHP/OF Davis Young (Sr., R/R); OF Cody Moomey (Sr., R/R); INF Rashaad Ross (Sr., R/R)

Other Returning Players: C/INF/RHP JT Williams (Jr., R/R); INF

Evan Lambert (Jr., R/R); INF Calvin Norsworthy (Sr., R/R); OF Jayden Simpkins (Sr., R/R); OF/RHP Ryan Pedroza (Sr., R/R)

Top Newcomers: OF/LHP Lleyton Lackey (Fr., B/L); C/RHP Reid Akins (Fr., R/R); LHP/OF Riley Akins (Fr., R/L)

Season Outlook: Evans hopes to get things turned around and headed in the right direction after missing the state playoffs last spring. Seven starters are back, including pitcher/third baseman Joshua Lanham (.351 avg., 17 RBIs; 2-2, 1.81 ERA) and infielder Kyle Wilkinson (.341 avg., 14 RBIs). The Knights should be back in the postseason hunt.



Joshua Lanham
Evans



Kyle Wilkinson
Evans

GREENBRIER WOLFPACK

Head Coach: David Barnes (new)

Assistant Coach (s): Mark Turner, Alex Sickman, Aaron McCorkle, Garth Thomas

2018 Record: 25-9

Returning Starters: RHP Bryce Melear (Sr., 6-2, 160, R/R); RHP Chase Dollander (Jr., 6-1, 175, R/R); INF Zach Thurman (Sr., 6-1, 165, R/R); OF Cole Simmons (Sr., 5-11, 175, L/R)

Other Returning

Players: 1B Matthew Syfrett (Sr., 6-3, 190, R/R); OF Justin Stevens (Sr., 6-3, 180, R/R); LHP Avery Boyd (Jr., 5-10, 140, L/L); U Sam Roebuck (Jr., 5-10, 165, R/R)

Top Newcomers: OF

Dylan Carter (Jr., 5-8, 150, L/R)

Season Outlook: Former assistant David Barnes takes over and inherits four returning starters. One of those is pitching prospect Bryce Melear, who will give the Wolfpack a chance to win each time he's on the mound. Junior pitcher Chase Dollander also returns. Zach Thurman and Cole Simmons return to lead the offense.



Chase Dollander
Greenbrier



Cole Simmons
Greenbrier



Zach Thurman
Greenbrier

GROVETOWN WARRIORS

Head Coach: Nick Wandless

Assistant Coach (s): Wes Harrell, Travis Lee

2018 Record: 16-16

Returning Starters: RHP Malik Germany (Sr.,

6-0, 175, R/R); OF/RHP Blake Tucker (Sr., 6-1, 180, R/R); SS/RHP James Eckert (Jr., 5-10, 160, R/R); C Cade Combs (Jr., 5-9, 170, R/R); 2B Braden McKee (Sr., 5-7, 155, R/R); 3B/OF Isaiah Rainge (So., 5-9, 165, R/R); 1B Camrin Dunbar (Jr., 6-3, 190, R/R)

Other Returning Players: INF/RHP

Darius Dunn (Jr., R/R); 1B/LHP Lawrence Gallo (Jr., L/L); OF Noah Hallingquest (Jr., R/R)

Season Outlook: The Warriors made a late run to the state quarterfinals and look to capitalize on that momentum. Seven starters are back from that team, including all-state pitcher Malik Germany. If Grovetown can find some pitching depth, they could have a chance to duplicate last year's success.



Malik Germany
Grovetown

HERITAGE-CONYERS PATRIOTS

Head Coach: Shane Ramsey

Assistant Coach (s): Mike Twordos, Nick Woodward, Casey Shubert

2018 Record: 23-11

Returning Starters: RHP/SS Nick Watson-Garcia (Sr., 6-1, 180, R/R); C/1B/LF Ray Joseph (Sr., 6-4, 185, L/R); RHP Griffin Holcombe (Sr., 6-2,



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170, R/R); 1B/C Calabria Atkins (Sr., 6-0, 190, R/R); LHP/OF Nolan Woodward (Sr., 6-2, 165, L/L); 2B/SS/RHP Cole Smith (Jr., 5-9, 165, R/R); RHP/3B Darryl Buggs (Jr., 6-2, 185, R/R); OF/RHP Zekiah Gibbs (Jr., 5-10, 165, R/R)



Calabria Atkins
Heritage-Conyers



Griffin Holcombe
Heritage-Conyers

Top Newcomers: OF/LHP Jemel Foster (Fr., 5-11, 195, L/L); 3B/SS/LF Christian Callaway (Fr., 6-1, 160, R/R); LHP Josh Smith (Fr., 5-10, 165, L/L); LHP/CF Christian Davis (Jr., 5-11, 175, L/L)
Season Outlook: The defending region champions have enough talent to contend again. Eight starters return, including a solid pitching rotation that will be led by Nick Watson-Garcia, Nolan Woodward and Griffin Holcombe. Calabria Atkins and Ray Joseph return to lead the offense. Keep an eye on an excellent group of younger players.

LAKESIDE-EVANS PANTHERS

Head Coach: T.J. Davis

Assistant Coach (s): Jon Johnson, Dan Sneeringer, Kim Chambers, Greg Aplin

2018 Record: 15-15

Returning Starters: RHP Will Childers (Sr., 6-4, 200, L/R); 2B/SS John D'Amelio (Sr., 5-9, 170, R/R); C/RHP Alex Matthews (Sr., 6-0, 185, R/R); RHP/INF Davis Cook (Sr., 5-6, 165, R/R); U Richie Rodriguez (Jr., 5-8, 155, R/R); 1B Kohl Chambers (Jr., 6-0, 175, R/L)

Other Returning Players: OF Jonathan Boggs (Jr., 5-10, 175, R/R); OF Jackson Boggs (Jr., 5-10, 155, R/R); OF/RHP Garson Hedrick (Sr., 5-11, 165, R/R); OF Isaiah Borel (Sr., 5-9, 150, R/R); RHP Trevor Creagan (Jr., 6-3, 200, L/R); 2B/SS/RHP Tyler Reynolds (So., 6-0, 145, R/R); INF/C/RHP Jake Cook (Jr., 5-10, 180, R/R); OF/C Ian Williams (So., R/R)

Top Newcomers: C Hayden Walkotten (Jr., 5-10, 165, R/R)

Season Outlook: The Panthers should contend for the region title this spring. Six starters are back, including All-American pitcher Will Childers (5-2, 2.07 ERA) and Davis Cook (6-3, 3.58 ERA). Catcher Alex Matthews (.377 avg., 20 RBIs) and John D'Amelio (.327 avg.) return to lead the offense.

REGION 4-6A

Region Favorite: Stephenson

Keep an eye on: Tucker – The Tigers have enough athleticism to contend again.

Players to Watch

P – Lamont Barner, Jr., Martin Luther King; **OF/RHP** – Jalen Bowen, Sr., Drew; **OF** – Miles Bowens, Sr., Tucker; **OF/LHP** – Talib McDaniel-Burdeaux, Sr., Stephenson; **OF** – Jeremy Cain, Jr., Martin Luther King; **SS/RHP/2B** – Shane Daley, Jr., Stephenson; **RHP/INF** – Kyndell Dolphin, Sr., Drew; **LHP/1B** – Joseph Jackson, So., Stephenson; **LHP/C/OF** – Ethan Phan, Jr., Drew; **OF** – Tyrek Presley, Sr., Drew; **P** – Ramir Vaughn, Sr., Mount Zion-Jonesboro; **INF/OF** – DeAndre Wade, Sr., Morrow; **SS/2B** – Jordan West, Sr., Tucker; **RHP/OF/3B** – Ga'von Wray, Sr., Stephenson; **OF** – Julius Wynn, Sr., Mount Zion-Jonesboro

DREW TITANS

Head Coach: Brandon White

Assistant Coach (s): TBA

2018 Record: 12-12

Returning Starters: 2B Thomas Williams (Sr., 5-6, 175, R/R); LHP/C/OF Ethan Phan (Jr., 5-11, 180, R/L); 1B MacAustin Genes (Sr., 6-0, 260, R/R); OF/RHP Jalen Bowen (Sr., 6-1, 180, R/R); RHP/INF/C Kendall Dolphin (Sr., 5-10, 175, R/R); 1B/LHP/OF Zach McMullian (Sr., 6-3, 180, L/L); OF Tyrek Presley (Sr., 6-2, 190, L/L)

Other Returning Players: RHP/1B Xavier Tutt (Jr., 6-0, 220, R/R); 1B Scott Batten (Jr., 6-3, 290, R/R)

Season Outlook: Former assistant coach Brandon White takes over and inherits a strong senior class. If the Titans can find some consistent pitching, they should be in postseason contention. Leading hitters Jalen Bowen (.333 avg., 20 RBIs) and Kendall Dolphin (.371 avg., 12 RBIs) are back to lead the team.

FOREST PARK PANTHERS

Head Coach: Joshua Froneberger (new)

Survey not returned

LOVEJOY WILDCATS

Head Coach: Ivan Carroll

Survey not returned

MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. LIONS

Head Coach: Lamont Barner (new)

Survey not returned

MORROW MUSTANGS

Head Coach: Kareem Hayes (new)

Assistant Coach (s): Travis Edwards

2018 Record: 7-15

Returning Starters: INF/OF DeAndre Wade (Sr.); C/P/OF Devin Guillory (Jr.); OF/INF/C Jonathan Dupree (So.)

Other Returning Players: 2B/OF/P Bryce Cavazos (So.); 1B/OF Bryant Cunningham (So.); OF Jonathan Hillie (So.); INF Craig



Randolph (So.); 3B/P Jaylin Glass (So.); OF Demarcus Sanders (So.); INF/P Jordan Carmichael (So.)

Top Newcomers: C/U Torran Bunkley (Fr.); INF/P Donovan King (Sr.); INF Markel Wade (Sr.); OF Jeff Brown (So.); INF Kawan James (Fr.)

Season Outlook: New coach Kareem Hayes takes over at Morrow and has a lot of talent but little returning experience. Only three starters are back. One of those is senior DeAndre Wade who can play just about anywhere. The Mustangs will be looking for some underclassmen to mature quickly.

MOUNT ZION-JONESBORO BULLDOGS

Head Coach: Richard Robinson

Survey not returned

MUNDY'S MILL TIGERS

Head Coach: Eddie Pratt (new)

Assistant Coach (s): Mickey Williams, Darryl Wheeler

2018 Record: 17-11

Returning Starters: OF/3B Kedar Daniel (Sr., 5-10, 205, R/R); OF/2B Andrew Lawrence (Jr., 6-0, 200, R/R); 1B/3B De'Cedric Lindsey (Jr., 5-10, 185, R/R); OF/C Javin Jackson (Sr., 5-8, 185, R/R); RHP Isaiah Thomas (Sr., 5-11, 190, R/R); RHP Christian Paredes (Sr., 5-10, 170, R/R); OF/C Darrius McGowan (Sr., 6-1, 185, R/R)

Other Returning Players: C/OF Trevor Gathers (So., 5-11, 175, R/R); OF/C Jacori Hicks (Jr., 6-1, 190, R/R); 3B Dyontay Rodgers (Sr., 5-10, 175, R/R)

Top Newcomers: OF/1B Mason Jefferson (Fr., 6-1, 175, R/R); SS/OF Javan Reader (Fr., 5-9, 180, R/R); RHP/INF/OF Nicholas Pratt (Fr., 5-9, 115, R/R); 3B/OF Jamarie Brooks (Fr., 6-0, 150, R/R); U Khalil Hill (Fr., 5-9, 150, R/R)

Season Outlook: Mundy's Mill has a wealth of talent for new coach Eddie Pratt. The Tigers made the state playoffs last year and should contend for a postseason berth again. Seniors Javin Jackson and Kedar Daniel lead a team that should be capable of scoring a lot of runs.

STEPHENSON JAGUARS

Head Coach: Tim Jones (new)

Assistant Coach (s):

Tre Randolph

2018 Record: 15-13-1

Returning Starters:

RHP/OF/3B Ga'von Wray (Sr., 6-3, 195, R/R); OF/LHP Talib McDaniel-Burdeaux (Sr., 5-7, 165, L/L); SS/RHP/2B Shane Daley (Jr., 5-9, 150, R/R); RHP/1B/3B Vincent

Latimer (Jr., 5-9, 170, R/R); 2B/OF Myles Brooks (Sr., 5-9, 145, R/R); C Raymond Henderson (Sr., 5-8, 165, R/R); OF Ryan Ingram (Jr., 5-8, 165, R/R); LHP/1B Joseph Jackson (So., 5-9, 150, L/L); 2B/3B Corrian Peoples (Sr., 5-9, 150, R/R)

Other Returning Players: LHP/1B Francis Thorne (So., 6-2, 155, L/L); OF/RHP Nakai Briggs (Sr., 5-5, 140, R/R)

Season Outlook: First-year coach Tim Jones inherits nine returning starters including all-state pitcher Ga'von Wray as well as a talented group of seniors. Look for the Jaguars to contend for the region title. Senior Talib McDaniel-Burdeaux and Shane Daley also return after strong seasons in 2018.



Talib McDaniel-Burdeaux
Stephenson



Ga'von Wray
Stephenson

TUCKER TIGERS

Head Coach: Matt Masce

Assistant Coach (s): Demarcus Taylor, Alfred Turner, Brandon Carter

2018 Record: 17-13

Returning Starters: SS/2B Jordan West (Sr., 5-8, 170, R/R); OF Miles Bowens (Sr., 6-4, 190, R/R); RHP/INF Keino Robinson (Sr., 6-1, 180, R/R); OF Donny Harris (Sr., 5-11, 180, R/R); INF Idris Abdur-Rahim (Sr., 5-11, 180, R/R)

Other Returning Players: C/1B Reginald Meredith (Sr., 6-2, 190, R/R); OF Caleb Hodge (Sr., 6-0, 180, R/R); INF Mason Panik (Sr., 5-10, 170, R/R)

Top Newcomers: OF/RHP Josh Waller (So., 5-11, 160, R/R)

Season Outlook: If the Tigers can find some pitching depth, they could have a chance to match last year's success. Five senior starters are back, including outfielder Miles Bowens (.373 avg., 8 HR, 25 RBIs) and infielder Jordan West (.330 avg., 20 RBIs). A senior-oriented team will help Tucker contend for the region title.



Miles Bowens
Tucker

REGION 5-6A

Region Favorite: Alexander

Keep an eye on: Northgate – The Vikings return enough offensive leaders to contend.

Players to Watch

C – Bret Adkins, Sr., South Paulding; **INF/LHP** – Parker Ball, Sr., Douglas County; **RHP/1B/OF** – Dalton Brooks, Sr., Northgate; **OF/LHP** – Reid Brown, Sr., Alexander; **LHP/1B** – Tyler Clayton, Sr., South Paulding; **RHP/INF** – Reid Fagerstrom, Jr., Northgate; **3B** – Payton Grant, Sr., Alexander; **OF/INF** – David Hart, Jr., Douglas County; **INF/RHP** – Arthur Leger, Jr., Douglas County; **INF** – Chris Longazel, Sr., South Paulding; **C/INF/OF** – Conner Mask, Sr., Northgate; **CF** – Savion McIntyre, Sr., Mays; **RHP/OF** – Austin Slate, Jr., Alexander; **RHP/INF** – Robert Smith, Sr., Northgate; **U** – Cederio Starks, Jr., Hughes; **3B/P** – Warren Taylor, Sr., New Manchester; **OF** – Donovan Troy, Jr., Creekside; **OF** – James Walton, Sr., Creekside; **INF** – Justin Walton, Sr., Creekside; **SS** – Zac Warren, Jr., Alexander; **RHP/OF** – Ryder Willard, Jr., Northgate

ALEXANDER COUGARS

Head Coach: Zach Romain

Assistant Coach (s): Matt Pierce, Wayne Allen, Layne Grantham

2018 Record: 23-11

Returning Starters: 3B Payton Grant (Sr., 5-10, 190, R/R); C/OF Jesse Decker (Sr., 6-0, 185, R/R); RHP/OF Austin Slate (Jr., 6-0, 170, R/R); 3B/1B Josh McKown (Sr., 6-0, 185, R/R); C/2B/RHP Luke Townsend (Sr., 5-10, 185, R/R); SS Zac Warren (Jr., 5-10, 175, B/R); OF/LHP Reid Brown (Sr., 5-11, 175, R/L)

Other Returning Players: RHP Brady Spence (Sr., 6-7, 215, R/R); RHP/



Austin Slate
Alexander

OF/1B Cole Curtis (Jr., 6-2, 180, R/R); C/OF Connor Holmes (Sr., 5-10, 185, R/R); 2B Zeke Gilbert (Jr., 5-10, 175, R/R); C Tyler White (Jr., 6-0, 180, R/R); OF Taylor Watson (Jr., 5-10, 175, R/R)

Season Outlook: Alexander should contend for the region title again as a solid nucleus of returning players are back. Seven starters are back, including all-state performer Austin Slate (.407 avg., 31 RBIs), who returns to lead the offense. If Alexander can find consistent pitching, they could approach last year's success.

CREEKSIDE SEMINOLES

Head Coach: Martin Seay

Survey not returned

DOUGLAS COUNTY TIGERS

Head Coach: John Farmer

Assistant Coach (s): Derek Brutcher, Brad Kluttz, Eric Bryant, David Tillison

2018 Record: 14-11

Returning Starters: LHP/1B Parker Ball (Sr., 6-3, 260, L/L); RHP/U JJ Richards (Sr., 6-1, 180, R/R); RHP/OF James Benedict (Sr., 6-0, 160, R/R); 1B/OF David Hart (Jr., 5-10, 200, L/L); RHP/U Arthur Leger (Jr., 6-2, 170, R/R); 3B Corey Caldwell (Sr., 5-11, 165, R/R); INF Josh Slay (Sr., 6-1, 215, R/R)

Other Returning Players: U Robert Frazier (Jr., 5-6, 150, R/R); LHP/C Keegan Abley (Jr., 6-1, 160, L/L); C Kenny Rodriguez (Sr., 6-0, 220, R/R)

Top Newcomers: RHP/C Haidyn Abley (So., 6-1, 215, R/R); LHP/OF Gage Sanders (Jr., 6-0, 170, L/L)

Season Outlook: A strong senior class returns to help Douglas County contend for a postseason berth again. The Tigers welcome back seven returning starters. Senior pitcher Parker Ball leads a solid rotation, while juniors David Hart and Arthur Leger also return.

HUGHES PANTHERS

Head Coach: Charles Foster

Survey not returned

MAYS RAIDERS

Head Coach: Reginald Austin

Assistant Coach (s): Michael Jennings, Kyle Poag

2018 Record: 9-13-1

Returning Starters: CF/LHP Savion McIntyre (Sr., 5-11, 170, L/L); INF/C Tervelle Johnson (Jr., 5-9, 160, R/R); 2B/OF Omari Drake (Jr., 5-11, 145, R/R); 1B/OF/LHP Avantae Lupoe (Jr., 5-11, 145, L/L); 2B/SS/RHP Julian Greer (Jr., 5-7, 160, R/R)

Other Returning Players: 1B/OF Cedric Davenport (So., 6-1, 170, R/R); OF/RHP Jeremiah Newman (So., 5-11, 160, R/R)

Top Newcomers: INF/OF Termarr Austin (Fr., 5-7, 160, L/R)

Season Outlook: Mays was hit hard by graduation, but there is a lot of young talent that just needs time to mature. Five starters are back. One of them is senior Savion McIntyre, but look out for junior Avantae Lupoe who was promising as a sophomore last year.

NEW MANCHESTER JAGUARS

Head Coach: Ian Chisolm

Assistant Coach (s): Marsalis Holloway, Ben Ford

2018 Record: 6-17

Returning Starters: SS/RHP Josh Johnson (Sr., 6-0, 165, R/R); 3B/RHP Warren Taylor (Sr., 5-10, 180, R/R); SS/RHP/OF Trevor Blair (Sr.,

5-10, 150, R/R); OF Solomon Staten (Sr., 6-2, 155, R/R); 2B/C Stephen Johnson (Sr., 5-5, 140, R/R); 1B/DH Mark Blossomgame (Sr., 6-1, 250, R/R); C/1B Ezekiel Burgos (Jr., 6-0, 150, R/R)

Other Returning Players: OF Justin Walker (Sr., 5-10, 170, R/R); OF/SS/RHP Tre' Dean (Jr., 5-10, 165, R/R); 3B/RHP Warren Stewart (Sr., 6-1, 205, R/R); OF Antonio DuBose (Sr., 5-11, 170, R/R); C Giovanni Whatley (So., 5-5, 150, R/R); OF Jalen Ford (Jr., 5-11, 180, R/R); 2B/SS Mekhiyah Glasgow (Sr., 5-5, 135, R/R)

Top Newcomers: OF/LHP Jaylen Holmes (Sr., 5-10, 190, L/L); 1B/3B/RHP Jordan Holmes (So., 5-11, 235, R/R); OF/LHP/1B Devin Aikens (Jr., 5-10, 170, L/L)

Season Outlook: Look for the Jaguars to be improved after struggling last season. The senior class is solid. Seven starters are back, including leading hitters Josh Johnson and Warren Taylor.

NORTHGATE VIKINGS

Head Coach: Todd Herrington

Assistant Coach (s): Justin Crews, Tim Lowery, Lee McDermott, Matt Ross

2018 Record: 23-9

Returning Starters: RHP/1B/OF Dalton Brooks (Sr., 6-2, 175, R/R); 2B/RHP Eric Henderson (Sr., 6-0, 155, R/R); 1B/C Matthew Henderson (Sr., 6-1, 180, R/R); OF Sam Jennings (Sr., 5-10, 200, R/R); C/INF/OF Conner Mask (Sr., 5-11, 145, R/R); INF Shawn Ragan (Sr., 5-10, 175, R/R); RHP/INF Robert Smith (Sr., 5-11, 175, R/R); INF Christian Dyer (Jr., 5-8, 165, R/R); RHP/INF Reid Fagerstrom (Jr., 6-1, 200, R/R); C Andrew Baldwin (Jr., 5-9, 170, R/R); RHP/OF Ryder Willard (Jr., 6-2, 175, L/R)

Other Returning Players: INF/RHP Elliott Vickery (Jr., 5-10, 155, R/R); RHP/1B Jacob Reiter (Jr., 6-3, 180, R/R)

Season Outlook: The Vikings have a good nucleus of returning players and will once again be expected to contend for a postseason berth. If Northgate can find some pitching depth, they will be in good shape. Offensive leaders Conner Mask (.439 avg., 13 RBIs), Shawn Ragan (.386 avg., 12 RBIs) and Robert Smith (.316 avg.) all return.

SOUTH PAULDING SPARTANS

Head Coach: Jay Sneddon

Assistant Coach (s): Cody Neal, Chris Adair, Kevin Nix

2018 Record: 22-10

Returning Starters: LHP/1B Tyler Clayton (Sr., 6-2, 180, L/L); INF Chris Longazel (Sr., 5-10, 170, R/R); OF Cody Rymer (Sr., 5-10, 165, R/R); C Bret Adkins (Sr., 6-0, 180, R/R)

Other Returning Players: INF Parker Wooten (Sr., 5-9, 170, R/R); RHP/OF Landon Powell (Sr., 6-0, 180, R/R); RHP Jonathan Watkins (Sr., 6-4, 200, R/R); OF Mitchell Brown (Jr., 5-9, 170, L/L); RHP Devin Callihan (Jr., 6-0, 165, R/R)

Top Newcomers: INF/RHP Will Antunez (Jr., 5-8, 150, R/R); INF/RHP Cole Hutchinson (Jr., 5-10, 160, R/R); OF AJ Carruth (Jr., 5-10, 160, R/R); C/1B Peyton Thorpe (Jr., 5-11, 180, R/R); C/OF Will Siewart (So., 5-9, 160, R/R)

Season Outlook: Look for South Paulding to be in the chase for the region title. Four senior starters return, and a solid group of juniors will step up and contribute. Left-handed pitcher/first baseman Tyler Clayton and catcher Bret Adkins give the Spartans two solid players to build around.

TRI-CITIES BULLDOGS

Head Coach: Larry Thomas (new)

Survey not returned

REGION 6-6A

Region Favorite: River Ridge

Keep an eye on: Creekview – The Grizzlies could potentially have their best team ever.

Players to Watch

OF/C/RHP – Ethan Anderson, Sr., River Ridge; **C/U** – Brett Blomquist, So., Allatoona; **SS/2B** – Kobe Braddock, Jr., River Ridge; **SS/RHP** – Micah Davis, Sr., Harrison; **1B** – Zach Elmy, Sr., Harrison; **LHP/1B/OF** – Joey Gill, Sr., Creekview; **OF/P** – Garrison Green, Sr., South Cobb; **RHP/SS** – Rhett Hammontree, Jr., Dalton; **OF/RHP** – Hunter Holcomb, Sr., Sequoyah; **RHP** – Justin Ketchem, Sr., Dalton; **RHP/3B** – Colin Koprowski, Jr., Sequoyah; **2B/3B** – Nate Marletta, Sr., Sprayberry; **RHP** – Jacob McClure, Sr., Sprayberry; **3B** – Tyler Messick, Sr., Allatoona; **LHP/OF** – Hunter Paulsen, So., Allatoona; **2B** – Grant Potts, Sr., Creekview; **LHP/1B/OF** – Griffin Potts, Sr., Creekview; **LHP** – Kyle Reichert, Sr., Allatoona; **OF/RHP** – Tyler Shultz, Sr., Allatoona; **1B/RHP** – Brandon Smith, Sr., River Ridge; **OF** – Conner Todaro, Sr., Harrison; **LHP/OF** – Cameron Wilson, Sr., Sprayberry

ALLATOONA BUCCANEERS

Head Coach: Keith Hansen

Assistant Coach

(s): David Eeles, Brad Strickland, Zach Cook, Casey Linch, Mike Linch

2018 Record: 34-8

Returning Starters:

3B/RHP Tyler Messick (Sr., 6-0, 195, R/R); OF/RHP Tyler Shultz (Sr., 5-10, 165, R/R); DH/1B Sam Worthan (Sr., 5-11, 190, R/R); LHP/1B Kyle Reichert (Sr., 6-2, 185, L/L); C/U Brett Blomquist (So., 6-0, 155, R/R); LHP/OF Fisher Paulsen (So., 5-11, 155, R/L); LHP/OF Hunter Paulsen (So., 5-11, 160, R/L)

Other Returning

Players: 1B Bryce

Thompson (Sr., 5-10, 210, R/R); LHP Zach Popilek (Sr., 5-10, 175, R/L); OF Stephen Scott (Sr., 5-11, 170, R/R); RHP/U Logan McGuire (So., 6-1, 160, R/R); RHP Evan O'Brien (Sr., 5-11, 140, R/R); RHP Tristen Carroll (Sr., 5-7, 115, R/R); OF Simon Aluko (Jr., 5-10, 155, L/L); LHP Noah Mahr (Sr., 6-1, 145, L/L); RHP/INF Payton Bradley (Sr., 5-10, 155, R/R); RHP Sloan Burt (Sr., 5-11, 160, R/R)

Top Newcomers: INF/RHP Carter Stumpf (Jr., 6-0, 160, R/R); C/U Hayden Soley (So., 5-9, 155, R/R)

Season Outlook: The defending state runner-ups have some holes to fill after the 2018 squad set a school record for single-season victories. But there is enough talent for the Bucs to contend for the



Tyler Messick
Allatoona



Hunter Paulsen
Allatoona



Kyle Reichert
Allatoona



Sam Worthan
Allatoona

region title. Pitchers Kyle Reichert and Hunter Paulsen lead a strong rotation, while senior Hunter Messick is back to lead the offense.

CREEKVIEW GRIZZLIES

Head Coach: Mike Nayman

Assistant Coach (s):

Chris Jeffreys, Ben Greene, Justin Wheeler, Shane Dunn

2018 Record: 14-15

Returning Starters:

LHP/1B/OF Joey Gill (Sr., 6-2, 200, L/L); LHP/1B/OF Griffin Potts (Sr., 6-0, 180, L/L); 2B Grant Potts (Sr., 6-0, 180, R/R); SS Gavin Grubbs (Sr., 6-0, 180, R/R); OF Alex Godfrey (Sr., 6-1, 220, R/R); 3B Josh Wood (Jr., 6-1, 190, L/R); C Grant Anderson (So., 5-10, 175, R/R)

Other Returning

Players: RHP/OF Calvin

Haynes (Sr., 6-1, 200, R/R); 2B/OF Ryan Tencza

(Sr., 5-9, 170, R/R); OF Mason Gentry (Jr., 5-10, 175, L/L); RHP Jacob Schwarzman (Sr., 6-1, 175, R/R); OF Andy Davis (Sr., 6-1, 195, R/R)

Top Newcomers: 2B Kyle Johnson (Jr., 5-10, 170, R/R); LHP Coy Martin (Jr., 6-1, 175, L/L); RHP Luke Motter (Jr., 6-3, 200, R/R); SS Luke Irwin (Jr., 6-1, 180, R/R)

Season Outlook: After a youth movement at Creekview, the Grizzlies should be postseason contenders this spring. A strong crop of seniors will lead the way. Offensive leader Joey Gill (.387 avg., 32 RBIs) returns as well as the Potts brothers – Griffin and Grant. Shortstop Gavin Grubbs and outfielder Alex Godfrey are two more players to watch.



Joey Gill
Creekview



Gavin Grubbs
Creekview



Grant Potts
Creekview



Griffin Potts
Creekview

DALTON CATAMOUNTS

Head Coach:

Rhett Parrott

Assistant Coach (s):

Brian Harrison, Jamie Johnson, Curtis Carson

2018 Record: 16-11

Returning Starters:

RHP Justin Ketchem (Sr., R/R); OF/RHP Jack Ridley (Sr., R/R); OF James Rogers (Sr., R/R); RHP/SS Rhett Hammontree (Jr., R/R); RHP/C/OF Bryce Houghton (Jr., R/R); 1B/OF Kaleb Valdez (So., L/L)

Other Returning

Players: LHP/1B Ben Bramblett (Jr., L/L); OF Tyson Swope (Jr., R/R); INF Lane Cox (Jr., R/R)



Rhett Hammontree
Dalton



Justin Ketchem
Dalton



Jack Ridley
Dalton



Kaleb Valdez
Dalton

Season Outlook: The Catamounts welcome the return of six starters and should be in the postseason chase once again. Pitching should be solid as right-hander Rhett Hammontree is back after a strong sophomore campaign. Senior pitcher Justin Ketchem and first baseman/outfielder Kaleb Valdez also return.

HARRISON HOYAS

Head Coach: Mark Elkins

Assistant Coach (s):

Jake Storey, Jason Evans, Chris Widing

2018 Record: 20-13

Returning Starters:

OF Conner Todaro (Sr., 5-11, 165, R/R); RHP/OF Camden McNearney (Sr., 5-7, 145, R/R); C Evan Dory (Sr., 5-10, 150, R/R); SS/RHP Micah Davis (Sr., 5-10, 175, R/R); 1B Zach Elmy (Sr., 6-0, 195, R/R); LHP Collin Caldwell (Jr., 5-9, 170, L/L)

Other Returning Players: C Cody Garrison (Sr., 6-0, 165, R/R); RHP/3B Nick Goetz (Sr., 5-9, 160, R/R); 2B/SS Andrew Scott (Sr., 5-5, 120, R/R); RHP/2B Dylan Hughes (Sr., 5-10, 150, R/R); INF/OF D.P. Gernatt (Sr., 6-1, 165, R/R); LHP Baylor Akin (Sr., 6-2, 165, L/L); C/1B Charlie Tull (Jr., 6-3, 195, R/R); OF Nick Brunswick (Jr., 5-9, 155, R/R); RHP Cole Storey (Jr., 6-1, 240, R/R); INF Mitchell Walker (Jr., 5-10, 185, R/R); OF Cooper Guilotte (Jr., 5-11, 165, R/R)

Season Outlook: A solid group of seniors return and should help Harrison contend for a postseason berth again. Six starters are back, including outfielder Conner Todaro, shortstop/pitcher Micah Davis and first baseman Zach Elmy. The Hoyas won't be lacking in talent.



Micah Davis
Harrison



Zach Elmy
Harrison



Conner Todaro
Harrison

5-10, 175, R/R); DH Colin Grant (Sr., 5-10, 205, R/R); RHP Aaron Osada (Jr., 6-6, 195, R/R); LHP Jack O'Donnell (Sr., 5-10, 180, L/L)

Other Returning

Players: OF Justin Snoddgrass (Sr., 5-9, 170, R/R); 3B Diego Perez (Sr., 5-11, 185, R/R); RHP Bailey Batten (Sr., 5-11, 180, R/R); SS/2B Carson Bell (Jr., 5-9, 170, R/R); SS/2B Andrew Neubert (So., 5-9, 170, R/R); 1B/RHP Lane Tengzelius (Sr., 5-10, 190, R/R)

Season Outlook: River Ridge won 30 games last season and has made back-to-back trips to the state semifinals. The Knights look to take it a step farther this spring. Versatile Ethan Anderson (.395 avg., 62 RBIs) returns as well as standout pitcher Brandon Smith (5-1, 2.57 ERA). River Ridge could make a deep postseason run again.



Kobe Braddock
River Ridge



Aaron Osada
River Ridge



Brandon Smith
River Ridge



Lane Tengzelius
River Ridge

SEQUOYAH CHIEFS

Head Coach: Lane Whitley

Assistant Coach (s): Bo Carruth, Jake Hester, Justin Hall

2018 Record: 12-20

Returning Starters: RHP/3B Colin Koprowski (Jr., 5-10, 190, R/R); RHP Brett Wissell (Sr., 6-0, 175, R/R); OF Austin Tienda (Jr., 6-1, 175, L/L); RHP Mason Savely (Sr., 5-9, 160, R/R); INF Aaron Hupp (Jr., 5-9, 150, R/R); C Hunter Long (So., 5-9, 155, R/R); OF/RHP Hunter Holcomb (Sr., 6-0, 165, R/R)

Other Returning Players: 1B/RHP Nick Fagerburg (Sr., 5-9, 190, R/R); 1B/LHP TJ Murphy (So., 5-10, 165, R/L); INF/RHP Austin Mahar (Sr., 5-10, 170, R/R)

Top Newcomers: RHP Cole Noehler (Jr., 5-6, 170, R/R); LHP Rhett Downey (Jr., 6-4, 190, L/L); C/INF Brandon Van Trueren (Jr., 5-10, 175, R/R)

Season Outlook: After losing several top players to graduation, the Chiefs have a solid group of returning players and should have a chance to improve in coach Lane Whitley's second season at the school. Seven starters are back, including pitcher/third baseman Colin Koprowski.

SOUTH COBB EAGLES

Head Coach: Patrick Wright (new)

Survey not returned

SPRAYBERRY YELLOW JACKETS

Head Coach: Taylor Hightower

Assistant Coach (s): Rick Elder, Clay Ardeeser

2018 Record: 12-16

Returning Starters: OF/LHP Cameron Wilson (Sr., 6-0, 170, L/L); 2B/3B Nate Marletta (Sr., 5-6, 180, R/R); OF Tracy Adams (Sr., 6-1, 170, R/R); OF Darnell Mundin (Jr., 5-9, 165, R/R); OF Ben Power (Jr., 6-2, 190, R/R); 2B/RHP Bryce Koshko (Jr., 6-6, 180, R/R)

OSBORNE CARDINALS

Head Coach: Brad Bond

Assistant Coach (s): TBA

2018 Record: 0-23

Returning Starters: U Jonathan Skibba (So., 5-10, 165, R/R); U Juan Vasquez (Jr., 5-6, 155, R/R); 1B Cole Lane (Jr., 6-1, 240, R/R); INF Nick Lusignolo (Jr., 5-11, 180, R/R)

Other Returning Players: U William Potts (So., 5-10, 170, R/R); U Joseph Radman (Sr., 5-9, 160, R/R); U Daniel Alvarado (Jr., 6-0, 215, R/R); U Diego Baeza (So., 5-8, 170, R/R); OF Lexia Underwood (Sr., 5-7, 155, R/R); U Andrew Silpe (Sr., 5-11, 210, R/R); OF Charles Hubbard (Jr., 6-1, 175, R/R)

Season Outlook: The Cardinals look to make positive strides after struggling in 2018. Osborne will field a young team. The senior class is small, but the good news is that four starters are back, giving the Cardinals a positive nucleus to build around.

RIVER RIDGE KNIGHTS

Head Coach: Scott Bradley

Assistant Coach (s): Jeff Runion, Mark Lewis, Andrew Marinelli, Lantz Cleveland, Eric Britt

2018 Record: 30-7

Returning Starters: OF/C/RHP Ethan Anderson (Sr., 6-3, 185, R/R); 1B/RHP Brandon Smith (Sr., 6-2, 185, R/R); SS/2B Kobe Braddock (Jr.,

Other Returning Players: RHP Austin Hansell (Sr., 6-0, 170, R/R); RHP Jacob McClure (Sr., 6-1, 175, R/R); OF Austin Wright (So., 6-1, 170, L/L); RHP/INF Cade Caldwell (Sr., 6-2, 170, R/R); INF/RHP Josh Zagame (Jr., 5-9, 150, R/R); INF/RHP Colin Hunt (Jr., 5-9, 150, R/R); C/INF Ryan Cross (So., 6-0, 165, R/R)

Top Newcomers: INF/RHP Trey Griffin (Fr., R/R); INF/RHP Josh Varner (So., R/R)

Season Outlook: Sprayberry will look to get things turned around after a disappointing finish in 2018. A good nucleus of talent returns, including pitchers Cameron Wilson and Jacob McClure. Infielder Nate Marletta returns to lead the offense. A solid corps of underclassmen will also be expected to contribute.

REGION 7-6A

Region Favorite: Pope

Keep an eye on: Cambridge – The Bears have a lot back from a team that was very dangerous in 2018.

Players to Watch

RHP/3B – Jack Caiaccio, Sr., Dunwoody; **RHP/3B** – Jonathan Cannon, Sr., Centennial; **OF** – Andrew Feld, Sr., Pope; **1B/C** – Mitch Fleming, Sr., Cambridge; **SS** – Buddy Floyd, Sr., Pope; **C** – Ross Friedrick, Sr., Cambridge; **LHP** – Charlie Goldstein, Sr., Alpharetta; **RHP** – Cole Hamel, Sr., Alpharetta; **OF** – Ian Hancock, Sr., Pope; **RHP** – Andrew Herlitz, Sr., Pope; **SS** – David Julian, Jr., Dunwoody; **RHP/OF** – Camren Landry, Sr., Centennial; **OF** – Will Lantis, Sr., Pope; **INF** – Michael Margarite, Sr., Johns Creek; **RHP** – Mark McLaughlin, Sr., Northview; **RHP** – Michael Polk, Sr., Cambridge; **3B/RHP** – Max Pralgo, Sr., Pope; **RHP** – Blake Renner, Sr., Cambridge; **SS** – Brett Roberts, Sr., North Atlanta; **LHP/OF** – Davis Rokose, Sr., Chattahoochee; **1B/C** – Caden Smith, Sr., Pope; **LHP** – Sam Stratton, Jr., Alpharetta; **LHP/1B** – Tyler Watson, Jr., Johns Creek

ALPHARETTA RAIDERS

Head Coach: Marc Lassiat

Assistant Coach (s): Allen Strohecker

2018 Record: 23-17

Returning Starters: LHP Charlie Goldstein (Sr., L/L); RHP Cole Hamel (Sr., R/R); OF Josh Maicon (Sr., R/R); C Bradley Rawlinson (Sr., R/R); LHP Sam Stratton (Jr., L/L)

Other Returning Players: 1B/RHP Jacob Lassiat (Jr., R/R); 2B Bradley Christian (Jr., R/R); 3B Ryan Schipf (Sr., R/R); C/RHP Chris Burgett (Sr., R/R); OF/3B Jack Barone (So., R/R); INF Bryce Troutt (Jr., L/R)

Top Newcomers: LHP Keyton Hughes (So., B/L); INF/RHP Ajinkya Gundarai (So., R/R); RHP Andrew Ford (Jr., R/R)

Season Outlook: After a run to the state semifinals last season, Alpharetta should be back in the postseason mix. Five starters are back, including a strong pitching rotation of left-handers Charlie Goldstein and Sam Stratton and right-hander Cole Hamel. If the offense matures, Alpharetta could be very dangerous.



Charlie Goldstein
Alpharetta

CAMBRIDGE BEARS

Head Coach: Evan Tieleles

Assistant Coach (s): Justin Zier, Cam West, Henry Rowling, Chris Davis, Will Glenn

2018 Record: 15-16

Returning Starters: 1B Mitch Fleming (Sr., 6-2, 210, R/R); C Ross Friedrick (Sr., 6-3, 205, R/L); 3B Chase Durham (Sr., 6-0, 195, R/R); 2B Cody Rech (Jr., 5-10, 175, R/R); OF Ryan Todd (Jr., 6-1, 185, R/R); RHP Michael Polk (Sr., 6-3, 175, R/R); RHP Blake Renner (Sr., 6-0, 190, R/R)

Other Returning

Players: RHP Evan Pollifrone (Sr., 5-10, 165, R/R); RHP Casey Young

(Jr., 6-1, 180, R/R); LHP/OF Johnny Eneberg (Jr., 5-9, 150, L/L); RHP/OF Jared Spears (Jr., 6-1, 170, R/R); INF/OF Danny DeSousa (Sr., 6-0, 175, R/L)

Top Newcomers: INF/RHP Matt Faby (Jr., 6-3, 165, R/R); INF/RHP Tommy Fester (Jr., 6-1, 160, B/L)

Season Outlook: Look for Cambridge to be much better in coach Evan Tieleles' second season. The Bears welcome back seven starters, including senior right-handers Michael Polk (5-1, 2.14 ERA) and Blake Renner (4-3, 2.63 ERA). First baseman/catcher Mitch Fleming (.361 avg., 4 HR, 22 RBIs) is back to lead the offense.



Mitch Fleming
Cambridge



Ross Friedrick
Cambridge



Michael Polk
Cambridge



Blake Renner
Cambridge

CENTENNIAL KNIGHTS

Head Coach: Matt McCarthy

Assistant Coach (s): David Kelly, Chris Carroll, Dylan Kelly, Chad Grube, Jason Winchell

2018 Record: 13-17

Returning Starters: RHP/3B Jonathan Cannon (Sr., R/R); RHP/OF Camren Landry (Sr., R/R); C/RHP Sam Janis (Sr., R/R); C/OF Will

Haberstock (Jr., R/R); 1B/C Max Able (Jr., R/R); OF Cain Johnson (Sr., R/R); OF David Morgan (Sr., R/R); INF Tahj Willis (Sr., R/R)

Other Returning Players: 2B Parker Sperier (Jr., R/R); SS Peyton Sperier (So., R/R); RHP/OF Aidan McConnell (So., R/R); RHP/3B Wesley Hall (Jr., R/R); RHP/1B Evan Venable (So., R/R)

Season Outlook: Centennial should have a chance to improve in coach Matt McCarthy's second season, and the Knights should contend for the postseason with a wealth of returning talent. The pitching rotation is solid as right-handers Jonathan Cannon and Camren Landry lead the way.



Jonathan Cannon
Centennial



Camren Landry
Centennial

CHATTAHOOCHEE COUGARS

Head Coach: Tim Lemons

Assistant Coach (s): TJ Lemons, Matt Cerione, Tim Jones, Ridge Hillhouse, Fred Crider

2018 Record: 13-17

Returning Starters: OF/C Eric Kim (Sr., 5-9, 160, R/R); OF/RHP Justin Simes (Sr., 5-11, 165, L/R); SS/OF Jeremy Vaccaro (Sr., 5-9, 140, L/R); LHP/OF Davis Rokose (Sr., 5-11, 175, L/L); C/OF Brock Marsho (Sr., 5-11, 175, R/R); 2B/OF Nathan Kraselsky (Jr., 5-7, 135, R/R); C/1B Artie Neubauer (So., 6-2, 190, R/R); OF/C Scott Mudler (So., 5-8, 145, L/R)

Other Returning Players: RHP Andrew Rutledge (Sr., 6-0, 220, R/R); RHP/OF Sean Kelly (Sr., 5-10, 160, R/R); 3B/RHP Rhett Agans (Jr., 5-11, 150, R/R); 2B/RHP Tyler McVay (Jr., 5-9, 140, R/R); 2B/SS Matt Small (Jr., 5-8, 125, R/R); OF Micah Bettis (Jr., 5-7, 145, R/R)

Top Newcomers: OF Andrew Schmirkofer (Jr., 6-0, 140, R/R); OF Dean Carper (Jr., 5-7, 135, R/R); RHP/3B Josh House (Jr., 5-9, 175, R/R); SS/C Matthew Galante (So., 5-9, 120, R/R)

Season Outlook: This could potentially be one of Chattahoochee's best teams since the school won a state title in 2005. Eight starters are back, including standout pitcher Davis Rokose (5-1, 0.81 ERA). Catcher/outfielder Brock Marsho (.277 avg., 2 3B) and outfielder Justin Simes (.275 avg., 3 2B) return to spark the offense.



Davis Rokose
Chattahoochee

RHP Hayden McIlwaine (Sr., 6-0, 165, R/R); LHP/1B Tyler Watson (Jr., 6-2, 175, L/L)

Other Returning

Players: C Nate Wilmot (Sr., 5-11, 170, R/R); LHP Ryan Samples (Sr., 5-10, 155, L/L); RHP Nicholas Konishi (Sr., 6-1, 170, R/R)

Top Newcomers: OF

Dalton Pearson (Jr., 5-10, 170, R/R)

Season Outlook: Johns Creek will look to get back on track after a disappointing finish in 2018. A solid senior class returns. Six starters, five of them seniors, will lead the way. Senior right-hander Hayden McIlwaine leads a solid pitching staff, while offensive leaders Blake Decker, Jack Ferguson and Michael Margarite return.



Tyler Watson
Johns Creek



Jared White
Johns Creek

NORTH ATLANTA WARRIORS

Head Coach: Ricky Plante

Assistant Coach (s): TBA

2018 Record: 10-17

Returning Starters: SS Brett Roberts (Sr., 6-0, 165, R/R); 3B Marc Church (Sr., 6-1, 180, R/R); LHP Narada Monge (Sr., 6-3, 150, L/L); OF Angelo Ramirez (Jr., 5-7, 155, L/L); RHP/INF Wiley Hartley (Jr., 6-2, 180, R/R); 1B/3B Nick Gaitan (Sr., 6-2, 225, L/L)

Other Returning Players: RHP Claude O'Meara (Sr., 5-8, 160, R/R); RHP Nicholas Tranakas (Sr., 5-10, 150, R/R); 3B Patrick Hannan (Sr., 6-1, 145, R/R); OF EJ Weathers (Sr., 5-7, 130, R/R)

Top Newcomers: C Willem Carter (Jr., 6-4, 200, R/R); 1B/LHP Brandon Parks (Jr., 6-0, 180, L/L); U Parker French (Jr., 5-7, 140, R/R); OF Jack Kiefer (Jr., 6-1, 160, L/R)

Season Outlook: The Warriors should be improved in coach Ricky Plante's second season. A solid group of returning players are back, including shortstop Brett Roberts (.430 avg., 5 HR) and third baseman Marc Church (.308 avg., 11 RBIs). Left-hander Narada Monge (2-4, 3.54 ERA) leads a solid group of pitchers.

DUNWOODY WILDCATS

Head Coach: Chan English

Assistant Coach (s): Max Gertz, Jon Peters, DeMarcus England

2018 Record: 14-17

Returning Starters: OF Robby Hardin (Jr., 5-8, 155, R/R); SS David Julian (Jr., 5-10, 170, R/R); 2B/SS Sean O'Grady (Sr., 6-1, 155, L/R); OF Thomas Harrison (Sr., 5-10, 175, R/R); C Henry Gies (Jr., 6-2, 210, R/R); RHP/3B Jack Caiaccio (Sr., 6-2, 180, R/R)

Other Returning Players: 2B Joe Carter (Sr., 5-11, 155, R/R); C Will Lavin (Sr., R/R); OF/LHP Will Forth (Sr., 5-10, 170, L/L); OF Tyler Eith (Jr., 6-3, 185); RHP Ian Burnstine (Sr., 5-9, 155, R/R); OF Alex Gavlak (Sr., 5-10, 155, R/R)

Season Outlook: Six starters, including a trio of seniors, return to lead the way for Dunwoody. Senior Jack Caiaccio leads a solid group of pitchers, while shortstop David Julian and catcher Henry Gies return to lead the offense. The Wildcats should have a chance to improve upon last season's finish.

JOHNS CREEK GLADIATORS

Head Coach: Billy Nicholson

Assistant Coach (s):

Evan Deis, Ted Fithian, Keenan Temple, David Burton, Chris Baites, Ron Loula

2018 Record: 10-19

Returning Starters:

OF/3B Blake Decker (Sr., 6-0, 175, R/R); OF/LHP Jack Ferguson (Sr., 5-11, 170, L/L); INF Michael Margarite (Sr., 5-9, 165, L/R); OF/C Jared White (Sr., 5-11, 170, L/R);



Blake Decker
Johns Creek



Michael Margarite
Johns Creek

NORTHVIEW TITANS

Head Coach: Tom Kratowicz

Assistant Coach (s): TBA

2018 Record: 10-17

Returning Starters: RHP/INF Ryan Blake (Sr., 6-2, 170, L/R); RHP/1B Sam Clayman (Sr., 6-4, 205, R/R); OF Jaysen Dower (Sr., 6-1, 180, R/R); RHP Mark McLaughlin (Sr., 6-3, 210, R/R); RHP/INF Beau Lark (Jr., 6-0, 165, R/R); OF/RHP Cal Hendricks (Jr., 5-9, 150, R/R); INF Parker Poteet (Jr., 5-9, 155, B/R); OF/LHP Anish Yennam (Jr., 6-0, 165, L/L)

Other Returning Players: INF/OF Jackson Baylor (Sr., 5-11, 160, R/R); RHP/INF David Braynard (Sr., 5-7, 125, R/R); C/INF Michael Izzi (Jr., 5-10, 165, R/R)

Top Newcomers: C/INF Evan Rooks-Smith (So., 6-3, 170, R/R)

Season Outlook: Northview should be much better this spring as seven of the team's nine starters return from last season. The Titans return a good mixture of seniors and juniors and should contend for a postseason berth. Senior pitcher Mark McLaughlin is a player to keep an eye on.

POPE GREYHOUNDS

Head Coach: Jeff Rowland

Assistant Coach (s):

Chris Turco, Al Savransky, Nick Montgomery, Matt Liedberg, Ryan Khan, Kenny Lotz

2018 Record: 34-8

Returning Starters:

1B/C Caden Smith (Sr., 6-5, 175, L/R); SS Buddy Floyd (Sr., 5-9, 175, B/R); 3B/RHP Max Pralgo (Sr., 6-2, 175, R/R); OF Andrew Feld (Sr., 5-11, 180, R/L); OF Ian Hancock (Sr., 6-0, 175, L/R); OF Will Lantis (Sr., 5-10, 165, R/R); 3B/RHP Tommy Hutchins (Sr., 6-0, 180, R/R); RHP Andrew Herlitz (Sr., 6-1, 175, R/R); LHP/OF Reid Robertson (Jr., 5-11, 165, L/L); C Jackson Brown (Jr., 6-2, 165, R/R); OF/1B James Tibbs (So., 6-0, 175, L/L)

Other Returning Players: 2B Blake Redman (Jr., 6-1, 160, R/R); RHP/OF Nate Shipley (Jr., 6-1, 150, R/R); LHP/1B Andrew Cariaco (So., 6-0, 150, L/L); LHP Andrew Bowman (Sr., 6-1, 175, L/L); RHP Ethan Rezendes (Sr., 6-3, 170, R/R); OF Sammy Cohen (Sr., 6-2, 185, L/L)



Andrew Feld
Pope



Andrew Herlitz
Pope



Will Lantis
Pope



Reid Robertson
Pope



Max Pralgo - Pope
Photo by Brandon Orr Photography



Caden Smith - Pope
Photo by Brandon Orr Photography

Top Newcomers: RHP Gage Vailes (Sr., 6-2, 175, R/R); RHP Ben Medley (Jr., 6-3, 175, R/R); RHP/1B Brady Meeks (Jr., 6-0, 180, R/R)

Season Outlook: After winning back-to-back state titles, it doesn't appear Pope will be slowing down anytime soon. A wealth of talent returns, including pitching standouts Max Pralgo, Andrew Herlitz and Reid Robertson. Meanwhile, offensive leaders Buddy Floyd, Caden Smith, Ian Hancock, Andrew Feld and Will Lantis return. The Greyhounds have the talent to make it three straight.





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REGION 8-6A

Region Favorite: Winder-Barrow

Keep an eye on: Lanier – The Longhorns return enough talent to contend for the region title.

Players to Watch

SS/RHP – Marcerio Allen, Sr., Dacula; **3B** – Alex Boodram, Sr., Lanier; **1B/RHP** – Cale Conley, Sr., Gainesville; **RHP/3B** – Alex Cook, Sr., Apalachee; **RHP** – Gage Felton, Sr., Dacula; **U** – Blake Friend, Jr., Winder-Barrow; **RHP** – Will Hausknecht, Sr., Lanier; **SS/RHP** – Brady House, So., Winder-Barrow; **INF/RHP** – Peyton Irvin, Sr., Habersham Central; **SS** – Jady Jackson, Sr., Lanier; **INF/RHP** – Jarrett Jenkins, Jr., Dacula; **SS** – Dalton Kyle, Sr., Gainesville; **LHP** – Austin Lockridge, Sr., Winder-Barrow; **INF** – Jojo Lopez, Sr., Dacula; **INF/RHP** – Hunter Marsh, Jr., Winder-Barrow; **1B** – Zach Marvel, Sr., Lanier; **RHP** – Zachary Murray, Jr., Lanier; **RHP/INF** – Hunter Parks, Jr., Apalachee; **U** – Lance Sikes, Sr., Winder-Barrow; **3B/RHP** – Zack Smith, Sr., Winder-Barrow; **RHP** – Cain Tatum, Sr., Winder-Barrow

APALACHEE WILDCATS

Head Coach: Allan Bailey

Assistant Coach (s): Russ Hodsdon, Chris Wheaton, Kyle Bailey, Casey Innis, Chad Herrin, Cody Arrington, Thurmond Munn, Shannon Greason, Josh Greer

2018 Record: 15-13

Returning Starters: RHP/3B Alex Cook (Sr., 6-1, 220, R/R); RHP/INF Hunter Parks (Jr., 5-10, 155, R/R); RHP/1B Nate Hodnett (Jr., 6-4, 265, R/R); CF AJ Forbing (Jr., 5-11, 165, R/R); C/RHP Jake Hopkins (Sr., 5-11, 225, R/R); LHP/RF Alecsi Lopez (Sr., 5-10, 175, R/L); LF Austin Holbrook (Sr., 5-11, 160, R/R)

Other Returning Players: RHP/INF Jacob Maddox (Sr., 6-2, 220, R/R); RHP/OF Will Griffin (Sr., 6-1, 185, R/R); RHP/INF Chris Miller (Jr., 6-2, 150, R/R); INF Luke Woodall (Jr., 5-11, 175, R/R)

Top Newcomers: RHP/1B Manning West (Fr., 6-3, 175); INF Colby Sikes (Fr., 5-8, 150); P/OF Jesse Greenway (Fr., 5-9, 160); 1B Logan Daye (Fr., 5-11, 200)

Season Outlook: The Wildcats return an excellent group of players and should contend for a postseason berth. Seven starters are back. Pitcher/third baseman Alex Cook leads a solid senior class that should provide plenty of leadership to a young but talented group of underclassmen. A solid group of juniors will contribute.

DACULA FALCONS

Head Coach: Scott Gaffney

Assistant Coach (s):

Steve Crumley, Matt Ludewig, Blake Watkins, Gant Davis, Matt Huffman, Russ Parrish, Tyler Crumley, Jason Adams

2018 Record: 16-16

Returning Starters: SS/RHP Marcerio Allen (Sr., 6-0, 185, B/R); INF/RHP Jarrett Jenkins (Jr., 5-11, 175, R/R); INF Jojo Lopez (Sr., 6-1, 205, R/R); OF/LHP Jackson Smith (Sr., 6-3, 180, L/L); C/DH Henry Helfrich (Sr., 6-2, 205, R/R); RHP Gage Felton (Sr., 6-0, 160, R/R)

Other Returning

Players: OF/C Graham Josephson (Sr., 5-7, 140, R/R); RHP Dylan Noce (So., 6-2, 170, R/R); OF/RHP Zach Devries (Jr., 5-9, 160, R/R); INF/RHP Russell Rednour (Sr., 5-11, 175, R/R); RHP Jon Merchant (Sr., 6-2, 155, R/R)

Top Newcomers: U Glen Brown (Jr., 5-10, 185, L/L); RHP Noah Wilson (Sr., 5-10, 180, R/R); U CJ Carrithurs (Jr., 6-1, 175, R/R); OF/RHP Blaine Jenkins (So., 6-2, 170, R/R)

Season Outlook: Dacula made the state playoffs again last year, the first time the program has made back-to-back postseason appearances since 1992. The Falcons should be in contention again as six returning starters are back. Two of those are standouts Marcerio Allen and Jarrett Jenkins.

GAINESVILLE RED ELEPHANTS

Head Coach: Adam Miller (new)

Assistant Coach (s): Steven Cornett, Kirklan Moore, Stephen Gronsbell, Derrick Jones

2018 Record: 22-11

Returning Starters: 1B/RHP Cale Conley (Sr., 6-3, 220, R/R); SS



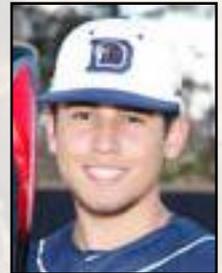
Marcerio Allen
Dacula



Henry Helfrich
Dacula



Jarrett Jenkins
Dacula



Jojo Lopez
Dacula

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Dalton Kyle (Sr., 5-10, 170, R/R); OF Corbin Lindsey (Sr., 5-10, 165, R/R)
Other Returning Players: OF Shawn Gregg (Sr., 5-11, 180, R/R); INF Riley White (Sr., 5-9, 160, R/R); INF Seth White (Sr., 5-9, 160, R/R); LHP/OF Grady Vardeman (Jr., 5-10, 165, R/L); RHP/INF Zach Valentine (Jr., 5-10, 155, R/R); RHP/OF Harris Bell (Jr., 5-11, 170, R/R); C Ben Still (Sr., 5-10, 175, R/R)
Season Outlook: Former assistant Adam Miller takes over and inherits a young team that returns just three starters. But the Red Elephants are not short on talent. First baseman/pitcher Cale Conley (.315 avg., 12 2B) and shortstop Dalton Kyle (.301 avg., 16 RBIs) are two players to keep an eye on.

HABERSHAM CENTRAL RAIDERS

Head Coach: Chris Akridge

Assistant Coach (s): Wesley Satterfield, Dan Keef, Patrick Mayfield

2018 Record: 13-13

Returning Starters: INF/RHP Colby Jones (Sr., 6-1, 175, R/R); INF/RHP Peyton Irvin (Sr., 5-11, 170, R/R); INF Hogan Pitts (Sr., 6-0, 160, R/R); C Christian King (Jr., 5-10, 160, R/R); OF Ryte Woodruff (Jr., 6-1, 165, R/R)

Other Returning Players: INF/RHP Rhett Addis (So., 5-8, 145, R/R); C Joey Gonzalez (Sr., 5-11, 220, R/R); INF/RHP Peyton Lewallen (Jr., 5-10, 175, R/R); OF Jess Wilbanks (Sr., 5-11, 185, R/R)

Top Newcomers: RHP/OF Alex McFarlane (Sr., 6-4, 170, R/R)

Season Outlook: Habersham won 13 games last season and could approach last season's success again. Pitching should be a strength as right-handers Peyton Irvin and Colby Jones as well as newcomer Alex McFarlane head up a solid rotation. The Raiders need consistency on offense.

LANIER LONGHORNS

Head Coach: Jonathan Wyman

Assistant Coach (s): Kiley Coursey, Jovanni Cruz, Josh Link, Trevor Juneau

2018 Record: 17-15

Returning Starters: SS Jady Jackson (Sr., 5-11, 185, R/R); RHP Zachary Murray (Jr., 6-0, 160, R/R); C Chase Coursey (Jr., 5-10, 165, R/R); DH Jake Ludwig (Sr., 6-2, 260, L/R); 1B Zach Marvel (Sr., 6-3, 180, R/R); 3B Alex Boodram (Sr., 5-5, 155, R/R); OF Ben Saxon (Jr., 5-10, 155, R/R); OF Cole Kilgore (Sr., 5-11, 165, R/R); RHP Will Hausknecht (Sr., 5-10, 140, R/R)

Other Returning Players: OF Bryce Bulls (Sr., 5-10, 155, B/R); LHP Cam Lyle (Jr., 6-3, 160, L/L); OF/C JJ Jessee (Jr., 5-7, 150, R/R); 1B/RHP Dylan Leahy (Sr., 5-9, 160, L/R); 1B/RHP Jose Santiago (Jr., 6-0, 210, R/R); 1B Ritchie Pechin (Sr., 6-2, 250, R/R)

Top Newcomers: 2B/RHP Mikey Kass (So., 5-11, 140, R/R); INF Sean Murphy (So., 5-10, 140, B/R); 3B/RHP Craig Mitchell (Jr., 5-10, 145, R/R); RHP Jake Hoffman (Jr., 6-4, 200, R/R)

Season Outlook: Lanier welcomes back a wealth of talent and should be in the postseason chase again as the bulk of last season's team returns. Nine starters are back, including shortstop Jady Jackson and pitcher Zachary Murray. Keep an eye on this program.



Jady Jackson
Lanier

WINDER-BARROW BULLDOGGS

Head Coach: Brian Smith

Assistant Coach (s): John Scoville

2018 Record: 24-9

Returning Starters: 3B/RHP Zack Smith (Sr., 6-3, 205, L/R); SS/RHP Brady House (So., 6-4, 210, R/R); INF/RHP Hunter Marsh (Jr., 6-2, 200,

R/R); OF/LHP Trace Jeffers (Sr., 6-2, 200, L/L); LHP Austin Lockridge (Sr., 6-0, 225, L/L); U Lance Sikes (Sr., 6-0, 230, R/R); 2B Trevor Maddox (Jr., 5-10, 170, R/R); OF Sam Darling (Sr., 5-10, 175, R/R); U Blake Friend (Jr., 5-9, 170, R/R)

Other Returning

Players: RHP CJ Harrison (Jr., 6-0, 175, R/R); LHP Noah Higgins (Sr., 6-1, 220, L/L); OF Nick Redd (Jr., 5-9, 170, R/R); U Jhaydon Sullivan (Jr., 5-10, 210, R/R)

Top Newcomers: RHP Cain Tatum (Sr., 6-8, 200, R/R); OF Shelby Davis (Sr., 5-9, 180, R/R)

Season Outlook: The Bulldogs are loaded with some of the nation's top talent and should also benefit from the transfer of former Prince Avenue Christian standouts Cain Tatum and Shelby Davis. All-state performers

Hunter Marsh and Brady House return as well as seniors Zack Smith, Sam Darling, Trace Jeffers, Austin Lockridge and Lance Sikes.



Blake Friend
Winder-Barrow



Austin Lockridge
Winder-Barrow



Hunter Marsh
Winder-Barrow



Lance Sikes
Winder-Barrow



Zack Smith
Winder-Barrow



Cain Tatum
Winder-Barrow



Brady House - Winder-Barrow
Photo by Scott Thompson



Playing for each other

Loganville goes back-to-back, wins fourth title in 11 seasons

By Tim Morse

When a reporter asked Loganville coach Jeff Segars to compare the 2018 version to past state baseball champions at the school, he hesitated at first, then went on with his response.

"They were right up there (with some of the best)," Segars said, almost as if he hoped nobody heard him. "With the pressure that was put on them, they handled it well."

The defending Class 5A champions went back-to-back and captured their fourth state title in the past 11 seasons. The Red Devils (34-6) ended the season on a 21-game winning streak and didn't lose a game in April or May.

While the pitching rotation which consisted of Joseph Brandon, Bay Witcher and Seth Clark as well as Connor Bruce and Bryant Pietri drew most of the headlines, the Red Devils mixed in enough offense to set a school record for most wins in a season.

Clark said he knew Loganville was going to get everyone's best shot, but it was important for the team to stay focused and feed off its unshakeable chemistry.

"We said this a lot, 'We had a good day today, but come back and have a better one tomorrow,'" he said. "Nobody was selfish on this team. We always played together no matter what."

The team bonded well during offseason workouts. While they knew they had a chance to make another deep run in 2018, they stayed focused and kept working. Pietri said coaches constantly told the team they could not dwell on being the defending state champions.

"They often told us that nobody was going to care that we won the state championship last year (in 2017)," he said. "It was a new year and we had to work hard if we hoped to do it again."

The Red Devils were tested early in the season. They lost their fourth game of the season – a 6-0 setback to eventual Class 7A state runner-up Mill Creek, then dropped two more games to Blessed Trinity and Lambert in the prestigious Georgia Peach Invitational. They lost just three more times in a brutal nonregion slate before rolling into April with a 14-7 record. The Red Devils won their remaining 11 regular-season games, then swept East Paulding, North Springs, Locust Grove and Starr's Mill before meeting region rival Buford for the Class 5A state championship series.

Loganville had beaten Buford 4-2 and 8-1 in their two previous regular-season meetings, but Segars said he knew his team would likely see the Wolves again.

"The games against them were a lot closer than the scores showed," he said. "They got better, but we also worked hard to get better."

Loganville won the first game of the series 13-3, then edged the Wolves 3-2 for the sweep. Clark said Loganville's chemistry was special.

"We loved playing for each other," he said. "And we all had each other's back."

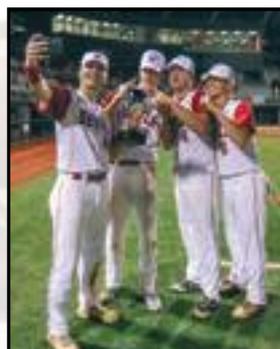
The fourth state title in 11 seasons put the Loganville program in elite company. But Segars refused to speculate which of his four state championship teams was the best.

That discussion, if ever, will be another topic for another day.



Loganville players celebrate after defeating Buford to win the GHSA Class 5A state championship.

Photo by Brett Fowler/Walton Tribune



Loganville players take a selfie after winning the GHSA Class 5A state championship last year at Foley Field in Athens.

Photo by Brett Fowler/Walton Tribune



Loganville's Seth Clark holds the state championship trophy.

Photo by Brett Fowler/Walton Tribune



Front Row (l-r), Tucker Segars, Dawson Hammonds, Dylan Strickland, Cody Powell, Blake Stowe, Jacob Boyd, Ian King, Jake Daniel, Jackson Howell, Cameron Wright, Brock Way, Jackson Daniel, Daniel Braswell. **Back Row** (l-r), Coach Chad McGaughey, Coach Jeff Segars, Coach Bran Mills, Coach Mike Ryan, Blaine Marchman, Connor Bruce, Caleb Garner, Bryant Pietri, Joseph Brandon, Max Smith, Seth Clark, Bay Witcher, Lance Spooner, Tanner Green, Joshua Haynes, Michael Northcutt, Gage Williams, Matthew Popp, Blake Stowe, Notah Knight, Gabe Knight, Coach Brandon Anglin, Coach Matthew Milligan, Myles Belmont, Coach Andy Sargent, Team Trainer Kevin Piland, Isaiah Laverdiere, Coach Jeff Hewatt

Photo by Brett Fowler/Walton Tribune

Class 5A Top 15

1 BUFORD

There won't be many teams in the state that will have a better 1-2 pitching punch this season than Buford. Right-hander Ramsey David and left-hander Sean Adams were a key reason for the Wolves' run to the Class 5A state championship series last year. The duo combined to win 15 of the team's 28 games. Throw in closer CJ Couch, who finished the season with seven saves, and this rotation is going to be tough to beat. If that isn't enough, Buford has four more senior pitchers waiting their turn in the spotlight.

Defensively, most of the team is back. All-state performer Reece McIntyre is back at first base, while Brandon Jolliff is back at third base. Meanwhile, Austin Turner and Christian Griffin return in the outfield. All-state standout Evan Place returns and will play a variety of positions. Turner and Place both batted better than .400 last season.

The 2015 Buford squad that won the state title and the 2016 team that finished as the state runner-up were good. This Buford team could potentially be better.

2 LOGANVILLE

It would be easy to write off the two-time defending state champions after graduation took a bite out of their lineup. But the truth is, there is a lot of talent remaining. The younger players just need time to mature. The Red Devils will miss all-state pitchers Bay Witcher, Joseph Brandon and Seth Clark, but the state will get a good look this year at right-handed pitcher Connor Bruce who won't disappoint. Offensively, Loganville has a lot of players like Dylan Strickland, Jacob Boyd, Ian King and Blaine Marchman who have played in big games and know the Loganville way.

3 OLA

This could potentially be Ola's best team in school history. A strong group of pitchers will keep the Mustangs in the postseason chase – Evan Boyle, Tyler Richardson, Patrick Holloman and Dalton Thomas. After making the quarterfinals of the state playoffs last spring, look for Ola to do even bigger things in 2019.

4 CARROLLTON

The Trojans won 29 games last year and went to the state quarterfinals. The biggest concern is the lack of pitching. If Carrollton can find enough quality arms, they could contend for a state championship. There probably isn't a better hitting team in the state than the Trojans. Five players in the lineup who return batted .382 or better last year.

5 LOCUST GROVE

The Wildcats would have started the season ranked higher had All-state pitcher Nolan Crisp not graduated early and enrolled at Florida for the spring. Even without Crisp, Locust Grove is still going to be among the state's best. Pitchers Joe Roden and Cole English return, but it may be the offense led by Luke Welborn, Josh Newton and Owen Marchant that will carry this team.

6 WAYNE COUNTY

After making the Class 5A state championship series in 2017, the Yellow Jackets somewhat took a step back last year when they lost in the second round of the state playoffs. Look for Wayne to be back this spring, especially behind pitchers Gant Starling and Brice Miller.

7 WHITEWATER

The Wildcats haven't fielded a team with this much talent since they finished as back-to-back state runner-ups in 2014 and 2015. Whitewater has enough arms and offense to go a long way. The biggest strength will be a lethal pitching rotation. The Wildcats appear to be back.

8 HARRIS COUNTY

This will be Harris County's best team since the Tigers went to the state quarterfinals in 2012 in Class 4A. The pitching depth is a concern, but the Tigers have enough weapons on offense to score plenty of runs until some pitching matures.

9 VILLA RICA

The Wildcats got a taste of the state playoffs last year and they want nothing more than a return. Villa Rica has an excellent group of returners who can put the ball in play and score plenty of runs. But like their region foe Carrollton, the Wildcats have some concerns with their pitching depth.

10 STARR'S MILL

The Panthers need to grow and mature after making back-to-back trips to the Class 5A state semifinals. It would seem obvious that Starr's Mill doesn't have the experience to make another deep run. However, don't count out a young group of players who got plenty of playing time last year.

11 VETERANS

Perhaps for the first time since the school opened in 2010-11, the Warhawks won't be favored to win their region. There are some gaping holes to fill, but Veterans will have some talented players to step up and fill those voids. The Warhawks will be young, but by the end of the season, Veterans should be in the postseason chase.

12 RIVERWOOD

Injuries hurt coach Trey Henson in his first season at Riverwood last year. With the majority of the team back plus a lot of younger players who received playing time last year, look for Riverwood to have its best season since 2013. Avoiding injuries will be key, but the senior class is strong and pitcher Brett Thomas will carry the load on the mound.

13 CHAMBLEE

The Bulldogs took Region 7-5A champion Carrollton to a decisive third game last year in the second round of the state playoffs before falling. The bulk of that team returns, and Chamblee seeks to capitalize off that momentum.

14 SOUTH EFFINGHAM

The Mustangs have been relatively quiet since they made it to the Class 5A state semifinals in 2016. Longtime veteran coach Todd Eubanks becomes the third South Effingham coach in four years. The Mustangs won 16 games in 2018.

15 JONES COUNTY

There aren't many programs in the state who can boast of the kind of winning consistency Jones County can over the past decade. The Greyhounds don't have a lot of players who put up flashy numbers last year, but Jones County will be a tough team to beat in 2019. The senior class is strong.

Others to watch: (Alphabetical Order) Arabia Mountain, Bainbridge, Decatur, East Paulding, McIntosh, Rome, Thomas County Central, Walnut Grove, Woodland-Bartow

CLASS 5A PRESEASON ALL STATE

First Team

Name	Position	Grade	School	Comment
Sean Adams	Pitcher	Senior	Buford	Lefty is tough on hitters
Evan Boyle	Pitcher	Senior	Ola	Won 8 games for Ola last year
Connor Bruce	Pitcher	Senior	Loganville	He's a tough pitcher to beat
Ramsey David	Pitcher	Senior	Buford	As good as there is
Jackson Phipps	Pitcher	Junior	East Paulding	He's only going to get better
Joe Roden	Pitcher	Senior	Locust Grove	He can be lights out on mound
Chase Townsend	Pitcher	Senior	Whitewater	He makes the Wildcats go
Connor Bullard	Catcher	Senior	Rome	Defensive specialist can also hit well
Patrick Walker	Catcher	Senior	Buford	Makes pitchers look good
Timmy Brooks	Infielder	Senior	Harris County	Just does his job very well
Chris Gaiter	Infielder	Senior	Carrollton	Contact hitter makes play at 1B
Reece McIntyre	Infielder	Senior	Buford	Puts the ball in play
Brian Port	Infielder	Senior	Starr's Mill	Smooth shortstop also top-notch hitter
Brandon Prince	Infielder	Senior	Carrollton	Speedster makes things happen
Dylan Strickland	Infielder	Junior	Loganville	Two-year starter is the real deal
Michael Harris	Outfielder	Senior	Stockbridge	An exciting player to watch
Charlie Lanier	Outfielder	Senior	Carrollton	Tough guy to get out
Jacob Pierce	Outfielder	Senior	Veterans	Plays the game the right way
Dalton Thomas	Outfielder	Senior	Ola	Versatile athlete also a strong pitcher
Austin Turner	Outfielder	Senior	Buford	You don't want to face this guy too much
Evan Place	Designated Hitter	Senior	Buford	You'll hear a lot about him
Noah Best	Utility	Senior	Villa Rica	There's not much he can't do

Second Team

Pitchers – Jacob Atha, Sr., Whitewater; Nick Barber, Sr., Bainbridge; Patrick Holloman, Jr., Ola; Tyler Richardson, Sr., Ola; Gant Starling, Sr., Wayne County; Brett Thomas, Sr., Riverwood; Jakob Valleroy, Sr., South Effingham; **Catchers** – Jared Aldridge, Sr., Carrollton; Ben Olson, Sr., Kell; **Infielders** – Sevie Andrews, Sr., Rome; Cooper Martin, Sr., Wayne County; Ryan O'Steen, Jr., Harris County; Jordan Walker, Jr., Decatur; Dylan Wallace, Sr., South Effingham; Matthew Welsh, Sr., Chamblee; **Outfielders** – Asa Awbrey, Sr., Carrollton; Brandon Haston, Sr., East Paulding; Nick Herndon, Sr., Thomas County Central; Maddox Mueller, Jr., Whitewater; Luke Welborn, Sr., Locust Grove; **Designated Hitter** – Josh Newton, Sr., Locust Grove; **Utility** – Micah Sanders, Sr., Arabia Mountain

REGION 1-5A

Region Favorite: Harris County

Keep an eye on: Bainbridge – With a player like Nick Barber on the mound, the Bearcats could be dangerous.

Players to Watch

LHP -- Nick Barber, Sr., Bainbridge; **2B** – Timmy Brooks, Sr., Harris County; **OF** – Michael Conder, So., Bainbridge; **C/INF/**
RHP – Blake Ethridge, So., Warner Robins; **INF** – Zach Fletcher, Sr., Thomas County Central; **SS** – Quayde Hawkins, So., Bainbridge;
OF – Nick Herndon, Sr., Thomas County Central; **RHP** – Cole Hooks, Sr., Veterans; **C/INF** – Will Howard, Sr., Harris County; **CF** – Xavier McIntyre, Jr., Warner Robins; **DH** – Matthew Nunez, Sr., Veterans; **SS** – Ryan O'Steen, Jr., Harris County; **OF** – Jacob Pierce, Sr., Veterans; **RHP** – Cayden Sconyers, Sr., Bainbridge; **C** – Cole Stanford, Jr., Harris County; **INF** – Shane Stephenson, Jr., Thomas County Central; **INF/C** – Slade Taylor, Jr., Thomas County Central

BAINBRIDGE BEARCATS

Head Coach: Brian McCorkle

Assistant Coach (s):
 Donnie Lee Coxwell,
 Blake Cecil, Christopher
 Bryant, Rex Wade

2018 Record: 18-13

Returning Starters:
 OF Michael Conder
 (So., 5-11, 155, R/R); SS
 Quayde Hawkins (So.,
 5-11, 160, R/R); RHP
 Cayden Sconyers (Sr.,
 6-0, 165, R/R); LHP Nick
 Barber (Sr., 6-2, 250, R/L);
 DH Ivan Velasquez (So.,
 5-10, 200, R/R)

**Other Returning
 Players:** OF Randy
 Fillingame (Sr., 5-8, 185,
 R/R); OF Nolan Barr (So.,
 5-11, 175, R/R); C Will



Nick Barber
Bainbridge



Michael Conder
Bainbridge



Quayde Hawkins
Bainbridge



Kaleb Varnum
Bainbridge

Beckham (So., 5-9, 160, R/R); C Colton Harrell (So., 5-11, 170, R/R); INF Kaleb Varnum (Jr., 6-4, 160, R/R); OF Wyatt Wilson (Jr., 5-8, 140, R/R)

Top Newcomers: OF Braxton Johnson (Fr., L/L); OF Jaheim Jenkins (Fr., R/R)

Season Outlook: The Bearcats lost a lot of talent to graduation, but the good news is that five starters are back. One of those is top pitcher Nick Barber (7-5, 1.05 ERA). If Bainbridge can get some younger players to mature, they should compete for the playoffs again.

HARRIS COUNTY TIGERS

Head Coach: Steve Westmoreland

Assistant Coach (s):

Tracy Powell, Zach Moss, Sammie Mathis

2018 Record: 19-15

Returning Starters: 2B

Timmy Brooks (Sr., 5-8, 160, R/R); 1B/RHP Daniel Miller (Sr., 6-4, 225, R/R); C/INF Will Howard (Sr., 5-10, 180, R/R); SS Ryan O'Steen (Jr., 5-10, 180,

L/R); C Cole Stanford (Jr., 5-11, 185, R/R); RHP/INF Cole Mathis (So., 6-1, 185, R/R)

Other Returning Players: OF John Moxley (Sr., 6-1, 170, L/R); RHP Kaleb Watson (Sr., 6-1, 185, R/R); INF Kaden Killingsworth (Jr., 6-1, 175, R/R); 1B/C Austin Walker (Jr., 5-10, 195, R/R)

Top Newcomers: RHP Jake Osteen (Jr., 5-11, 185, R/R); RHP Ashton Reeves (Jr., 5-10, 170, R/R); INF/RHP Hunter Cantrell (Jr., 6-0, 200, R/R); OF/LHP Cayden Frost (So., 5-8, 165, L/L)

Season Outlook: If the Tigers can find consistent pitching, they could approach last year's success. Leading hitter and all-state performer Timmy Brooks (.459 avg., 10 RBIs) returns at second base, while Ryan O'Steen returns after a promising sophomore season. Catcher Cole Stanford returns behind the plate.

THOMAS COUNTY CENTRAL YELLOW JACKETS

Head Coach: Ryan Strickland

Assistant Coach (s): Travis Barrett, Trey Harrell, Houston Massey, Trent Miller, Blake Summers

2018 Record: 15-20

Returning Starters: OF Nick Herndon (Sr., 6-0, 160, L/R); INF Zach Fletcher (Sr., 5-9, 165, R/R); RHP/1B Luke Benton (Sr., 6-1, 165, R/R); RHP/U Pace Mercer (Sr., 6-0, 160, R/R); RHP/OF RJ Delaney (Sr., 6-2, 160, R/R); OF Carson Odom (Sr., 5-8, 150, R/R); C Tyler Carter (Sr., 5-10, 175, R/R); INF/C Slade Taylor (Jr., 5-11, 170, R/R); INF Shane Stephenson (Jr., 5-9, 150, R/R)

Other Returning Players: 1B/OF Garrett Henderson (Jr., 6-1, 210, R/R); OF Mack McDowell (Jr., 5-8, 165, R/R); U Jarrod Johnson (Jr., 5-5, 140, R/R); 1B/OF Jaylon Robinson (So., 5-11, 210, L/L)

Season Outlook: There is enough returning talent for the Jackets to chase the region crown. Pitching could be the biggest strength as right-handers RJ Delaney (4-6, 2.36 ERA), reliever Luke Benton and Pace Mercer (who returns from an injury) are back. Outfielder Nick Herndon (.404 avg., 3 3B), Zach Fletcher and Slade Taylor return to lead the offense.



Timmy Brooks
Harris County



Ryan O'Steen
Harris County



Nick Herndon
Thomas County Central

VETERANS WARHAWKS

Head Coach: David Coffey

Assistant Coach (s): Cody Reese, Matt Hvizdzak, Buddy Deal

2018 Record: 27-11

Returning Starters: RHP Cole Hooks (Sr., 6-2, 180, R/R); OF Jacob Pierce (Sr., 6-1, 185, R/R); RHP/1B Jackson Williams (Sr., 6-4, 185, R/R); DH Matthew Nunez (Sr., 6-1, 255, R/R)

Other Returning Players: LHP Austin Miranda (Sr., 6-2, 165, R/L); OF Clifford Pless (So., 5-7, 140, B/R); 3B Zach Mathis (Sr., 5-11, 165, R/R); RHP/3B Brent Robinson (So., 6-4, 160, L/R); OF Mark Lauritsen (So., 5-10, 150, L/L); OF Kedrick Smith (So., 5-11, 210, R/R)

Top Newcomers: LHP Al Lorenzo (So., 5-8, 140, L/L); C AJ Simpson (Jr., 5-8, 170, R/R)

Season Outlook: Graduation hit the Warhawks pretty hard, but Veterans should still be one of the teams to beat in region play. Four starters are back, including all-state outfielder Jacob Pierce (.413 avg., 13 2B). Pitcher Cole Hooks (4-1, 2.01 ERA) also returns after a solid 2018 season.



Jacob Pierce
Veterans

WARNER ROBINS DEMONS

Head Coach: Jeremy Avery (new)

Survey not returned



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REGION 2-5A

Region Favorite: Wayne County

Keep an eye on: South Effingham – Mustangs have a new coach and a lot of talent returns.

Players to Watch

INF – Griffin Boykin, Sr., Wayne County; **RHP/CF** – Orlando Carter, Sr., New Hampstead; **2B** – DeMarco Gibson, Sr., Ware County; **RHP** – Bradley Gronfeld, Sr., Statesboro; **RHP** – Jakob Gross, Sr., South Effingham; **2B** – Armond Jackson, Sr., New Hampstead; **C** – JD Kaiser, So., Statesboro; **INF** – Cooper Martin, Sr., Wayne County; **RHP/INF** – Mikal Mascarello, Jr., Statesboro; **RHP** – Brice Miller, Sr., Wayne County; **C** – David Moseley, Sr., Wayne County; **OF** – Jackson Proctor, Jr., Statesboro; **RHP/OF** – Gant Starling, Sr., Wayne County; **C/1B** – Devon Stefanski, Sr., South Effingham; **U** – Caleb Stewart, So., Ware County; **3B/RHP** – Jakob Valleroy, Sr., South Effingham; **SS/RHP** – Dylan Wallace, Sr., South Effingham; **U** – Bryson Wheeler, Jr., Ware County

NEW HAMPSTEAD PHOENIX

Head Coach: Trey Lanier

Assistant Coach (s): Peter McDowell

2018 Record: 13-17

Returning Starters: RHP/CF Orlando Carter (Sr., 5-9, 145, R/R); 2B Armond Jackson (Sr., 5-5, 135, R/R); SS Mason Bidnick (Sr., 5-8, 160, R/R); C/RHP Jacob Gilky (Sr., 5-10, 180, R/R); 3B/C Anthony Delgado (Sr., 5-9, 170, R/R); 1B/LHP Chris Smart (Jr., L/L)

Other Returning Players: 2B/RHP Joey Marshall (So., 5-9, 150, R/R); 3B Carson Miller (So., 5-9, 160, R/R); 1B Robert Bovee (Jr., 5-7, 155, L/L); OF Justin Glover (Jr., 5-7, 140, R/R)

Season Outlook: New Hampstead continues to show improvement and this season could potentially be the school's best. Six starters are back, including five seniors. The Phoenix have a good group of returning pitchers including Orlando Carter, Jacob Gilky and Chris Smart.

SOUTH EFFINGHAM MUSTANGS

Head Coach: Todd Eubanks (new)

Assistant Coach (s):

Mitchell Curry, Cory Klassen, Kevin Peacock, Jesse Osborne, Jason Shiell

2018 Record: 16-14

Returning Starters: 3B/RHP Josh Berg (Sr., 6-0, 205, R/R); RHP Jakob Gross (Sr., 5-11, 185, R/R); OF Caleb Radcliffe

(Sr., 5-10, 180, R/R); C/1B Devin Stefanski (Sr., 5-11, 205, R/R); 3B/RHP Jakob Valleroy (Sr., 6-0, 185, R/R); OF/RHP Chase Warren (Sr., 6-2, 190, R/R); SS/RHP Dylan Wallace (Sr., 5-10, 170, R/R); 2B Bryce Ogle (Jr., 5-9, 180, R/R)

Other Returning Players: 2B/RHP Grayson Spendiff (Sr., 6-1, 180, R/R); OF Jayce Warren (Sr., 6-2, 185, R/R); OF/C Dillon Jordan (Jr., 5-9, 170, R/R);



Devin Stefanski
South Effingham



Jakob Valleroy
South Effingham

OF/RHP Hunter Morgan (Jr., 5-9, 170, R/R)

Top Newcomers: 1B Gabe Radcliffe (Jr., 5-9, 190, R/R); OF Joshua Patrick (Jr., 5-9, 190, R/R); C/OF Shane Chapman (So., 5-8, 175, R/R); 1B/RHP Nick Milbrandt (Fr., 6-0, 220, R/R); C/RHP Johnny Stacy (Fr., 6-0, 180, R/R)

Season Outlook: South Effingham welcomes former Bowdon coach Todd Eubanks. After finishing as the region runner-up the past three seasons, the Mustangs will look to contend for the region title. Pitchers Jakob Valleroy and Jakob Gross lead a solid rotation, while shortstop Dylan Wallace returns to lead the offense.



Dylan Wallace
South Effingham

STATESBORO BLUE DEVILS

Head Coach: Jim Simmons

Assistant Coach (s): TBA

2018 Record: 7-20

Returning Starters:

RHP Bradley Gronfeld (Sr., 5-11, 160, L/R); RHP/INF Mikal Mascarello (Jr., 5-10, 190, R/R); OF Jackson Proctor (Jr., 6-3, 170, R/R); RHP/INF Drake Horton (Jr., 5-10, 160, R/R); INF Austin Arendes

(Jr., 5-9, 200, R/R); C JD Kaiser (So., 5-11, 190, L/R); INF Ames Rackleff (So., 5-10, 165, R/R); RHP Eddie Mitchell (Sr., 6-0, 160, R/R)

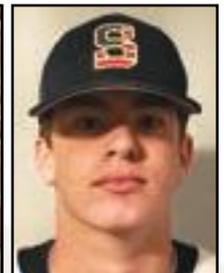
Other Returning Players: RHP Bryce Westerfield (Sr., 5-9, 160, R/R); OF Harrison Hughes (Sr., 5-9, 160, R/R); RHP Andrew Williamson (Sr., 5-11, 165, R/R); OF Ryan Lindsey (Sr., 5-11, 155, R/L)

Top Newcomers: RHP Hunter Saussy (So., 5-8, 160, R/R); OF Will Yawn (So., 5-6, 140, R/R)

Season Outlook: Look for Statesboro to be much better in 2019 as eight starters are back. Pitcher Bradley Gronfeld (3-3, 1.01 ERA) leads a solid rotation, while catcher JD Kaiser returns after a promising freshman campaign. If Statesboro can get some early-season confidence, they could be a team to watch.



Bradley Gronfeld
Statesboro



JD Kaiser
Statesboro

WARE COUNTY GATORS

Head Coach: Jamie Ammons

Assistant Coach (s):

Jason Smith, Bryce Johnson, Larry Kesler, Ty Hobbs

2018 Record: 14-17

Returning Starters:

OF Jeremiah O'Hara (Sr., R/R); 2B DeMarco Gibson (Sr., R/R); 1B Drew Johnson (Sr., R/R); C Colton Tyre (Sr., R/R); U

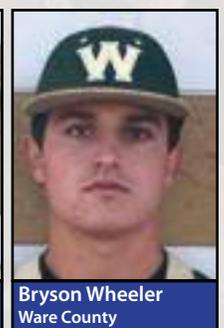
Bryson Wheeler (Jr., R/R); U Caleb Stewart (So., B/R)

Other Returning Players: RHP Clayton Bennett (Sr., R/R); OF/C Sergey Steedley (Sr., R/R); U Trent Thomas (Jr., R/R); OF Jett Justice (So., R/R)

Season Outlook: Ware County welcomes back six returning starters and should be much better in coach Jamie Ammons' second year



Caleb Stewart
Ware County



Bryson Wheeler
Ware County

at the school. A solid senior class returns, led by second baseman DeMarco Gibson, Keep an eye on switch-hitting utility player Caleb Stewart and junior Bryson Wheeler. Both showed promise last year.

WAYNE COUNTY YELLOW JACKETS

Head Coach: Justin McDonald

Assistant Coach

(s): Jordan Mullis, Colt Brockington, Mike Roberts, Barret Browning, Buddy Starling

2018 Record: 29-7

Returning Starters: INF

Cooper Martin (Sr., 5-11, 155, L/R); RHP/OF Gant Starling (Sr., 6-1, 185,

R/R); RHP Brice Miller (Sr., 6-2, 150, R/R); INF Griffin Boykin (Sr., 5-10, 175, R/R); OF Kalijah Hartzog (Jr., 5-7, 140, R/R); C David Moseley (Sr., 5-11, 155, R/R)

Other Returning Players: OF Hagen Harter (Sr., 5-11, 155, R/R); RHP/U Jasper Stanfield (Jr., 5-11, 165, R/R); LHP/1B Ty Anderson (Sr., 6-1, 195, L/L); C Jacob Brewer (So., 5-8, 215, R/R); OF Hamp Perkins (Sr., 5-9, 145, R/R); RHP/1B Tyler Denison (So., 6-2, 215, R/R); INF Blake Brockington (So., 5-9, 155, R/R); RHP/1B Ray Townsend (So., 6-1, 220, R/R); RHP/INF Zach Thomas (So., 6-2, 190, R/R)

Top Newcomers: LHP/OF Blake Wood (So., 5-9, 150, R/L); OF J.C. Williams (Jr., 5-9, 175, L/L); RHP/U Shawn Steverson (Jr., 6-2, 155, R/R)

Season Outlook: Wayne County should contend for the region crown again as the Jackets return a strong pitching rotation consisting of Gant Starling, Brice Miller and left-hander Ty Anderson. If Wayne can find consistency on offense, they should pick up from where they left off last year. Shortstop Cooper Martin returns to lead the offense.



Griffin Boykin
Wayne County

Cooper Martin
Wayne County

REGION 3-5A

Region Favorite: Whitewater

Keep an eye on: McIntosh – The Chiefs have enough talent to be a dangerous team.

Players to Watch

RHP – Jacob Atha, Sr., Whitewater; **P/OF** – Burke Berry, So., McIntosh; **INF** – Jack Bukowski, Jr., McIntosh; **RHP/3B** – Landon Busby, Sr., Whitewater; **LHP** – Ty Butler, Sr., McIntosh; **U/P** – Darien Chapman, Jr., Griffin; **INF/RHP** – Tucker Dorrity, Sr., Fayette County; **INF** – Thad Ector, So., Starr's Mill; **2B/C** – Brandon Garner, Jr., Jonesboro; **1B/P** – Devin Keene, Sr., Griffin; **SS** – Dane Kinnamon, Sr., McIntosh; **RHP/SS/OF** – Seth Leonard, Jr., Jonesboro; **OF** – Thomas McKenzie, Sr., Whitewater; **RHP/INF** – Dylan Morris, Sr., Whitewater; **OF/INF** – Maddox Mueller, Jr., Whitewater; **RHP/3B** – Brycen Myrick, Jr., Jonesboro; **CF** – Andrew Pinckney, Sr., McIntosh; **SS** – Brian Port, Sr., Starr's Mill; **1B/LHP** – Zach Scott, Sr., Fayette County; **RHP/C** – Chase Townsend, Sr., Whitewater

FAYETTE COUNTY TIGERS

Head Coach: Matthew Coldiron

Assistant Coach (s): Shane Dorrity, Rick Miller, Greg Stonewall

2018 Record: 7-22

Returning Starters: 1B/LHP Zach Scott (Sr., R/L); INF/RHP Tucker Dorrity (Sr., R/R)

Other Returning Players: OF/INF Jamal Cook (Sr.); OF Ty're Dixon (Sr.); OF/P Tyler Patrick (Jr.); 2B Marvin Pearson (Jr.); C/3B/OF/RHP Jevious Reynolds (So.); SS/2B Kylin Stonewall (Jr.); INF/P Jonathan Thompson (So.)

Season Outlook: Look for the Tigers to be much better this spring. Seniors Zach Scott and Tucker Dorrity return to lead the way, but a solid group of underclassmen will step forward and contribute. Fayette County should have enough talent to contend for a playoff berth.

GRIFFIN BEARS

Head Coach: Andrew Calhoun

Survey not returned

JONESBORO CARDINALS

Head Coach: Brian Paige

Assistant Coach (s): Corey Washington, Theo Thomas, Joel Smith, Matt Garner, Randy Marshall, Jake Acree

2018 Record: 13-9

Returning Starters: RHP/3B Brycen Myrick (Jr., 5-8, 175, R/R); RHP/SS/OF Seth Leonard (Jr., 5-3, 130, R/R); 2B/C Brandon Garner (Jr., 5-9, 160, R/R); RHP/1B Logan Richardson (Jr., 5-6, 250, R/R); RHP/LF/3B Louis Manuel (Sr., 6-1, 215, R/R)

Other Returning Players: C/1B Tremir Alexis (Jr., 5-10, 180, R/R); 3B Alex Hudson (Sr., 5-5, 180, R/R); 1B Alan Reid (Jr., 5-10, 305, R/R); CF RaSheed Singleton (Jr., 5-8, 130, R/R); RHP/CF Marquiez Lewis (So., 5-10, 135, R/R); RHP/SS Xavier Jackson (So., 5-9, 130, R/R); RHP/2B Jaylan Williams (Jr., 5-7, 120, R/R)

Top Newcomers: RHP/3B/LF Marques Dunn (Fr., 6-2, 160, R/R); RHP/OF Kaden Bryant (Fr., 6-0, 145, R/R)

Season Outlook: The senior class is small, but Jonesboro has a solid group of juniors who should help the Cardinals approach last year's success. Versatile Seth Leonard is a player to keep an eye on, while Brycen Myrick and Brandon Garner both had strong seasons as sophomores last year.

MCINTOSH CHIEFS

Head Coach: Tom Kelley (new)

Assistant Coach (s): Allen Beall, Keith Roberts, Tom Rosa, Keith Chabot

2018 Record: 20-12

Returning Starters: OF Andrew Pinckney (Sr.); INF Dane Kinnamon (Sr.); P/OF Ty Butler (Sr.); C Ryan Sanders (Sr.); P/OF Burke Berry (So.); INF Jack Bukowski (Jr.); P/OF Nate Smith (So.)

Season Outlook: Former Luella coach Tom Kelley takes over at McIntosh and inherits a good nucleus of returners. The Chiefs should be in postseason contention. Seven starters are back, including outfielder Andrew Pinckney and infielder Dane Kinnamon. Pitchers Ty Butler and Burke Berry lead a young but talented pitching rotation.

RIVERDALE RAIDERS

Head Coach: Hunter Edmundson

Survey not returned

STARR'S MILL PANTHERS

Head Coach: Brent Moseley

Assistant Coach (s): David Cooper, Bryan Harris, Jeff Klein, Zack Mann, Walt Ellison, Greg Woodward, Taylor Sweeney

2018 Record: 26-12

Returning Starters: SS Brian Port (Sr., 6-0, 175, L/R); 2B Chay Yeager (So., 5-9, 155, B/R); C Hunter Lawson (Jr., 5-10, 170, R/R); C/INF Sean White (So., 6-1, 180, R/R); INF Thadeus Ector (So., 6-1, 185, B/R); OF Nate Kearns (So., 5-10, 175, R/R); OF/LHP Daniel Courtney (So., 5-9, 150, R/L)

Other Returning Players: INF Matt Norton (Jr., 5-10, 160, R/R); INF Beau Gardner (Jr., 5-10, 160, R/R)

Season Outlook: After back-to-back appearances in the state semifinals, the Panthers may be in for a little rebuilding this year. Starr's Mill is young but talented. Senior shortstop Brian Port (.355 avg., 6 HR) returns, but the bulk of the talent is either a junior or a sophomore. But the Panthers could be tough by playoff time.



Brian Port
Starr's Mill

WHITEWATER WILDCATS

Head Coach: Rusty Bennett

Assistant Coach (s):

Tim Trammell, Evan Bryant, Robert Townsend

2018 Record: 22-13

Returning Starters:

RHP/C Chase Townsend (Sr.); RHP Jacob Atha (Sr.); RHP/INF Dylan Morris (Sr.); OF Brett McPeters (Sr.); RHP/3B Landon Busby (Sr.); OF Thomas McKenzie (Sr.); OF/INF Maddox Mueller (Jr.)

Other Returning

Players: C Chris Buchanan (So.); 1B Zach Betsill (Sr.); OF Jackson Van Meter (Sr.); INF Zach Leischner (Jr.)

Top Newcomers: RHP

Jake Garner (So.); C

Connor Faulkner (So.); RHP Kaden Lewis (Jr.); RHP Chandler Tillman (Jr.); INF Clay Wilson (Jr.); INF Jacob Jones (Jr.); OF Carson Combs (Jr.); 1B Carter Ruff (Jr.)

Season Outlook: Whitewater got things headed on the right track last year when the Wildcats won 22 games and made the state playoffs. The team looks to build off that momentum. Seven starters are back. Pitcher/catcher Chase Townsend, pitcher Jacob Atha and outfielder Maddox Mueller are three players to keep an eye on.



Jacob Atha
Whitewater



Landon Busby
Whitewater



Maddox Mueller
Whitewater



Chase Townsend
Whitewater

REGION 4-5A

Region Favorite: Ola

Keep an eye on: Locust Grove – Even with the unexpected loss of Nolan Crisp, the Wildcats will still be strong.

Players to Watch

OF/RHP – Dawson Barnes, Sr., Jones County; **LHP** – Evan Boyle, Sr., Ola; **INF/RHP** – KJ Brooks, Jr., Stockbridge; **SS/RHP** – Cyree Broughton, Sr., Eagles Landing; **RHP** – Cole English, Jr., Locust Grove; **RHP/SS** – Colby Gordon, Sr., Jones County; **LHP/OF** – Michael Harris, Sr., Stockbridge; **OF/INF** – Khalil Hasaan, Sr., Woodland-Henry; **OF** – Wallace Herring, So., Dutchtown; **LHP/OF/DH** – Patrick Holloman, Jr., Ola; **SS** – Ty Kaufman, Jr., Union Grove; **C/RHP** – Joshua Lymon, Jr., Dutchtown; **C** – Owen Marchant, Sr., Locust Grove; **OF/INF** – Davion Newsome, So., Stockbridge; **INF** – Josh Newton, Sr., Locust Grove; **OF/RHP** – Joey Pourron, Jr., Union Grove; **RHP** – Joe Roden, Sr., Locust Grove; **RHP** – Tyler Richardson, Sr., Ola; **RHP/OF** – Dalton Thomas, Sr., Ola; **LHP/OF** – Luke Welborn, Sr., Locust Grove; **OF** – Jack Witmer, Jr., Ola

DUTCHTOWN BULLDOGS

Head Coach: PJ Millet

Assistant Coach (s): Dana King, Shell Dorsey, Chase Rudkin

2018 Record: 9-18

Returning Starters: OF Wallace Herring (So., 5-9, 180, L/R); C/RHP Joshua Lymon (Jr., 5-11, 180, R/R); RHP/3B/2B Michael Corrales (Sr., 5-10, 185, R/R); 2B Samari Glickman (Jr., 5-9, 180, R/R); OF/3B William Oliver (Sr., 5-10, 170, R/R)

Other Returning Players: RHP/INF Caden Rudkin (Jr., 5-10, 185, R/R); LHP/1B Jalen Jarvis (Sr., 6-3, 215, L/L); LHP/OF/1B Jaden Oden (Jr., 6-0, 175, L/L); INF/OF Ja'len Elliot (So., 5-10, 180, R/R); OF Terry Lawrence (Sr., 5-8, 155, R/R)

Top Newcomers: INF/RHP Christian Jackson (Fr., 5-9, 160, R/R); C/3B/RHP Mikhai Grant (Fr., 5-10, 175, R/R); OF Nate McCollum (Jr., 5-10, 180, R/R)

Season Outlook: The Bulldogs begin their second season under coach Patrick Millet. Five starters are back, including outfielder Wallace Herring and catcher/pitcher Joshua Lymon. The lack of pitching depth is a concern heading into the season.

EAGLES LANDING EAGLES

Head Coach: Ronney Daniels

Assistant Coach (s): Chris Chow, Austin Hyde

2018 Record: 9-13

Returning Starters: OF Wayne Wilkerson (So., 5-11, 160, R/R); SS/RHP Cyree Broughton (Sr., 5-11, 175, R/R); LHP/OF Larry Blackwell (So., 5-9, 170, L/L); OF/RHP Francisco Arrant (Jr., 6-0, 155, R/R)

Other Returning Players: C Tommy Dunn (Jr., 5-10, 170, R/R); RHP/INF Jalani Evans (So., 6-0, 185, R/R)

Season Outlook: Coach Ronney Daniels begins his second season at Eagles Landing and his team should have a chance to improve. Four starters are back. One of those is shortstop/pitcher Cyree Broughton. Look out for a talented group of juniors and sophomores.

JONES COUNTY GREYHOUNDS

Head Coach: Jason Page

Assistant Coach (s): Jay Jones, Mike Paulk, Ryan Belshan, Dylan Dupree

2018 Record: 19-11

Returning Starters: OF/RHP Dawson Barnes (Sr., 6-1, 190, B/R); C/RHP Seth Daniels (Sr., 6-2, 210, R/R); 3B/RHP Brandin Johnson (Sr., 5-11, 195, R/R); SS/RHP Colby Gordon (Sr., 5-10, 170, R/R); OF/LHP Chandler Wooten (Sr., 5-11, 190, L/L); OF/RHP Chase Wright (Sr., 5-9, 170, R/R); 1B Chase Green (Sr., 5-10, 195, R/R); OF Dalton Chapman (Sr., 6-0, 190, R/R)

Other Returning Players: 2B/RHP Logan McCoy (Jr., 5-9, 160, L/R); 1B/LHP C.J. Whitehead (Jr., 5-11, 200, R/L); 3B/RHP Jacob Thompson (So., 5-11, 190, R/R); 2B/OF Dominic Bass (Jr., 5-9, 160, R/R)

Season Outlook: Look for Jones County to be in the hunt for the region crown and contend for a postseason berth. Eight starters, all of them seniors, will lead the way. Pitching should be a team strength as Colby Gordon, Dawson Barnes and Brandin Johnson, all right-handers, anchor what could be a dominating unit.

LOCUST GROVE WILDCATS

Head Coach: Stephen Phillips

Assistant Coach

(s): Josh Heath, John Welborn, Chad Crawford, Dalton Kuhn

2018 Record: 23-12

Returning Starters:

RHP Joe Roden (Sr., 6-0, 185, R/R); LHP/OF Luke Welborn (Sr., 6-0, 185, L/L); INF Josh Newton (Sr., 5-11, 165, R/R); C

Owen Marchant (Sr., 5-11, 190, R/R); RHP Cole English (Jr., 6-3, 180, R/R); 3B/C Dalton Laney (Jr., 6-1, 205, R/R); OF Kyle Elston (Sr., 5-8, 150, L/R); 1B Tommy Lamneck (Sr., 6-4, 195, L/L); INF Tyler Maddox (Jr., 6-0, 170, R/R)

Other Returning Players: OF Cade Powell (Jr., R/R); OF Tanner Epperson (Jr., R/R); INF Walker Smith (Jr., R/R)

Top Newcomers: LHP Gabe Dyar (Jr., L/L)

Season Outlook: Even with the loss of some key players, Locust Grove will still have enough to contend for the region crown. The Wildcats return a solid pitching rotation that will consist of Joe Roden and Cole English. Offensive leaders Luke Welborn (.392 avg., 31 RBIs), Josh Newton (.412 avg., 39 RBIs) and Owen Marchant (.368 avg.) all return.



Josh Newton
Locust Grove



Luke Welborn
Locust Grove



Joe Roden - Locust Grove
Photo by Ben Ennis - Henry Herald

OLA MUSTANGS

Head Coach: Beau Edwards

Assistant Coach (s): Kyle McCreary, Austin Smith, Chopper Clark, Jason Grammer

2018 Record: 27-10

Returning Starters: OF/RHP Dalton Thomas (Sr., 5-10, 175, R/R); INF Chaz Salter (Sr., 5-11, 180, R/R); LHP Evan Boyle (Sr., 6-4, 185, R/L); RHP Tyler Richardson (Sr., 6-0, 190, R/R); OF Jack Witmer (Jr., 5-10, 185, R/R); LHP/OF/

DH Patrick Holloman (Jr., 6-1, 190, L/L)

Other Returning

Players: C Cason Barnett (Sr., 6-0, 180, R/R); C Korey Carroll (Sr., 6-0, 195, R/R); INF Tatum Sullivan (Sr., 5-10, 185, R/R); 1B/DH Baylen Sanders (Jr., 6-0, 205, L/L)

Top Newcomers: INF Cade Chamlee (Jr., 5-11, 170, R/R); INF Hunter Garrett (So., 5-10, 165, B/R)

Season Outlook: Ola has enough returning talent to contend for the region title. The team strength will be a solid pitching rotation consisting of Evan Boyle, Tyler Richardson and Patrick Holloman.

Outfielder Dalton Thomas is back to lead the offense and can also pitch. Look for the Mustangs to pick up from where they left off last season.



Evan Boyle
Ola



Patrick Holloman
Ola



Tyler Richardson
Ola



Jack Witmer
Ola



Dalton Thomas - Ola
Photo by Ben Ennis - Henry Herald

STOCKBRIDGE TIGERS

Head Coach: Daniel Greene

Assistant Coach (s): Karl Brooks, Nathan Greene

2018 Record: 12-15

Returning Starters: OF/LHP

Michael Harris (Sr., 6-1, 190, B/L); U/RHP Ukari Roberts (Sr., 5-9, 160, R/R); INF/RHP Darius Radford (Sr., 5-9, 180, R/R); OF Kenneth Peyton (Sr., 5-7, 160, R/R); U/RHP T.J. Carter (Jr., 5-8, 165, R/R); OF/INF Davion Newsome (So., 6-3, 195, R/R); INF/RHP KJ Brooks (Jr., 5-10, 175, L/R); INF/OF/RHP Jaylen Jackson (So., 6-0, 170, R/R)

Top Newcomers: C/INF/RHP Jon Stephens (Fr., 5-8, 170, R/R); INF/RHP Devin Chandler (Fr., 5-8, 160, R/R)

Season Outlook: The Tigers return eight starters including one of the region's more-exciting players in senior Michael Harris (.506 avg., 10 2B). The senior class is solid, but keep an eye on a pair of underclassmen who had solid seasons in 2018 - Davion Newsome and KJ Brooks.



Michael Harris - Stockbridge
Photo by Ben Ennis - Henry Herald

UNION GROVE WOLVERINES

Head Coach: Allen Franklin

Assistant Coach (s): Will Harrison, Michael Hock, Trent Lee, Zane Hoover

2018 Record: 18-11

Returning Starters: SS Ty Kaufman (Jr., 5-7, 150, R/R); 2B/3B Beau Brand (Sr., 5-8, 150, R/L); OF/RHP Joey Pourron (Jr., 6-3, 175, R/R); OF/RHP Chase Gammage (Jr., 5-11, 175, R/R)

Other Returning Players: OF/RHP Caleb Grant (Sr., 6-1, 180, R/R); OF Tyler Henry (Sr., 6-0, 160, R/R); C Dylan Czecholinski (Sr., 5-10, 180, R/R); OF/RHP Trevor Dowdy (Sr., 5-11, 150, R/R); 1B/LHP Peyton Sower (Jr., 6-3, 205, L/L); OF/LHP Chance Johnson (Sr., 5-11, 160, R/L); INF/RHP Andrew Smith (Sr., 6-0, 160, R/R); RHP Carson Huber (So., 5-11, 165, R/R)

Top Newcomers: C Hunter Martin (Jr., 5-9, 150, R/R); C/RHP Ben Norton (So., 5-10, 150, R/R)

Season Outlook: The Wolverines have some key positions to fill, but there is enough talent to make a run at the playoffs. Four starters are back, but a nice-sized senior class will lead the way and be expected to contribute. Shortstop Ty Kaufman and outfielder/pitcher Joey Pourron are two players to keep an eye on.

WOODLAND-HENRY WOLFPACK

Head Coach: Quinton King

Assistant Coach (s): Peter Fraley

2018 Record: 2-15

Returning Starters: OF/INF/RHP Khalil Hasaan (Sr., R/R); C Julio Illedge (Sr., R/R); INF/RHP Michael Bray (Jr., R/R); RHP Trevor Akin (Jr., R/R); INF/RHP Jerek Wiggins (Sr., R/R); OF Jaden Skipwith (Sr., R/R); OF Malik Gaither (Jr., R/R)

Other Returning Players: OF Elijah Parrish (So., R/R); INF Kenneth Moody (Jr., R/R)

Season Outlook: An excellent group of returning players are back for Woodland, who should have a chance to improve upon last season's record. Seven starters are back. One of those is versatile Khalil Hasaan (.349 avg.). Catcher Julio Illedge also returns.

REGION 5-5A

Region Favorite: Chamblee

Keep an eye on: Arabia Mountain – The Rams lost a lot of talent, but they will still be tough.

Players to Watch

OF/INF/RHP – Chauncey Adams, Sr., Southwest DeKalb; **CF/INF** – Narvin Booker, So., Lithonia; **RHP/OF/2B** – Theo Bryant, Sr., Southwest DeKalb; **OF/RHP** – Zachi Clark, Sr., Columbia; **2B/SS** – Jordan Dennis, Jr., Columbia; **OF/RHP** – Travis Hammond, Sr., Chamblee; **1B/C** – Dominique Humes, Sr., Columbia; **RF/P/1B** – Juston Jordan, Sr., Arabia Mountain; **C/2B/SS** – Kwali Mickle, Sr., Clarkston; **C/3B/RHP** – Theodore Riddick, Jr., Lithonia; **C/2B/OF** – Micah Sanders, Sr., Arabia Mountain; **INF** – Kendrick Scott, Sr., Southwest DeKalb; **3B/1B/P** – Tyson Scott, Sr., Arabia Mountain; **RHP/3B** – Max Stephens, Sr., Chamblee; **SS** – Matthew Welsh, Sr., Chamblee; **RF** – Jaylen Williams, Sr., Lithonia

ARABIA MOUNTAIN RAMS

Head Coach: Eric Hoxie

Survey not returned



Micah Sanders
Arabia Mountain

CHAMBLEE BULLDOGS

Head Coach: Brian Ely

Assistant Coach (s): Mike Padgett, Jonathan Rosen, Alan Loper

2018 Record: 25-10

Returning Starters: OF/RHP Travis Hammond (Sr., 6-1, 160, R/R); SS Matthew Welsh (Sr., 6-0, 170, R/R); INF/RHP Davis Jenkins (Sr., 6-1, 200, R/R); RHP/3B Max Stephens (Sr., 6-0, 160, R/R); C Hunter Flowers (Jr., 5-10, 205, L/R); OF Brandon Lambert (Sr., 6-5, 180, R/R); INF/RHP Daniel Sedacca (Sr., 5-11, 160, L/R); 1B Tony Fenner (Sr., 6-0, 165, L/L)

Other Returning Players: 1B John Principe (Sr., 6-3, 185, R/R); C/2B Isaac Harkins (So., 5-5, 120, R/R); OF/RHP Ryan Bray (So., 5-11, 160, R/R); OF Darius Williams (Jr., 6-2, 195, R/R); RHP/OF Lawrence Kimbrough (Sr., 5-10, 160, R/R); RHP Michael Sarzen (Jr., 5-11, 160, L/R); C/OF Leon Schmidt (Jr., 5-11, 150, R/R)

Top Newcomers: INF/RHP Taylor Flowers (Fr., 5-10, 160, R/R)

Season Outlook: The Bulldogs return most of last year's talent that finished as the region runner-up. Chamblee should be the favorite in 2019. The Bulldogs return leading hitter Matthew Welsh (.443 avg., 24 RBIs) and standout pitcher Max Stephens (8-2, 3.76 ERA).



Matthew Welsh
Chamblee

CLARKSTON ANGORAS

Head Coach: Nick Angelo

Survey not returned

COLUMBIA EAGLES

Head Coach: Greg Barnett

Assistant Coach (s): Charlie Johnson, Thomas Gordon

2018 Record: 16-18

Returning Starters: OF Zachi Clark (Sr., 5-9, 155, R/R); C/1B Dominique Humes (Sr., 6-2, 200, R/R); SS/2B Travis Calloway (So., 5-6, 150, R/R); SS/C William Hemsley (Jr., 5-10, 180, R/R); 2B/SS/RHP Markel Lloyd (Jr., 6-0, 170, R/R); LHP/1B Kenneth Hardaway (So., 6-0, 160, L/L)

Other Returning Players: 2B/SS Kenneth Seaborn (Sr.); OF Abein Flores (Jr.); 3B Anthony Dennis (Jr.)

Top Newcomers: 2B/SS Jordan Dennis (Jr.); C Anthony Osby (Fr.); 3B Calvin Davis (Fr.); OF Mack Butler (Fr.)

Season Outlook: Columbia will be expected to return to the playoffs this spring as a wealth of players return. Six starters, including seniors Zachi Clark and Dominique Humes lead a young but talented group of underclassmen. Infielder Anthony Dennis is a player to keep an eye on.

CROSS KEYS INDIANS

Head Coach: Mark Adams
Survey not returned

LITHONIA BULLDOGS

Head Coach: Samuel Marion
Assistant Coach (s): Quincy Scott, Leonard Simmons
2018 Record: 14-12
Returning Starters: CF/INF Narvin Booker (So., L/R); 3B/C Marcellus Allen (So., R/R); C/3B/RHP Theodore Riddick (Jr., R/R); OF/RHP Jaylen Williams (Sr., R/R)
Other Returning Players: INF Jevon Walton (Sr., R/R); INF Charles McClendon (Sr., R/R)
Top Newcomers: INF/RHP Osirus Corker (Jr., R/R); INF/RHP Bryson Suber (So., R/R)
Season Outlook: Lithonia will be expected to be much better and contend for a postseason berth this season. Four starters are back, but the lack of experienced pitching is a concern. Sophomore Narvin Booker is a player to keep an eye on.

MILLER GROVE WOLVERINES

Head Coach: Terrence Canty
Survey not returned

SOUTHWEST DEKALB PANTHERS

Head Coach: Tyrus Taylor
Assistant Coach (s): Cedric Horton, Jerald Hatchett, Marcus Benton, Kenny Gram, Jamarcus George
2018 Record: 16-10
Returning Starters: RHP/OF/2B Theo Bryant (Sr., 6-2, 165, R/R); 2B/OF/RHP Eason Bing (Sr., 5-11, 155, R/R); OF/INF/RHP Chauncey Adams (Sr., 5-11, 145, R/R); INF Kendrick Scott (Sr., 5-8, 160, R/R); 1B/3B Ernest Spikes, Jr. (Sr., 6-0, 175, R/R); LHP/OF/1B Calvin Simms (Sr., 5-10, 150, R/L); 3B/SS Daunte Alexander (Jr., R/R); 3B/C Keiun Neal (Jr., R/R)
Other Returning Players: INF/RHP/OF Kyle Rice (So., R/R); 1B Marquis Heard (Sr., R/R)
Top Newcomers: U Sadir Ryan (Fr., 5-11, 175, R/R)
Season Outlook: An excellent group of returning players should help Southwest DeKalb contend for a postseason berth this spring. Eight starters are back, including a solid senior class that will provide solid leadership. Keep an eye on versatile pitcher/outfielder/infielder Theo Bryant.



REGION 6-5A

Region Favorite: Riverwood

Keep an eye on: Decatur – The Bulldogs may be rebuilding, but they will be dangerous.

Players to Watch

SS/OF – Deundra Anderson, Sr., Banneker; **U** – Harris Beckley, Sr., Riverwood; **OF/RHP** – Hayden Flinn, Sr., Decatur; **RHP** – Eddie Galatas, Sr., Decatur; **OF/LHP** – Allen Grier, Sr., Riverwood; **OF** – Chris Hall, Sr., Riverwood; **INF** – Kobe Harris, So., Banneker; **RHP/1B** – Jackson Hills, Sr., Decatur; **OF/RHP** – Brandon Ingram, Jr., Maynard Jackson; **LHP/1B** – Sam Katz, Sr., Maynard Jackson; **3B/OF/RHP** – Kameron Lee, Sr., Banneker; **C/3B** – Ben Lepik, Sr., Grady; **1B/RHP** – Caleb Maloof, Sr., Grady; **RHP** – Jake Muse, Jr., Riverwood; **OF/LHP** – Buck Olson, So., North Springs; **INF/RHP** – Jaylen Paden, Sr., Decatur; **RHP/SS** – Brody Perna, Sr., Lithia Springs; **SS** – Ross Reynolds, So., North Springs; **1B** – Labrauns Stinson, Sr., Riverwood; **RHP** – Brett Thomas, Sr., Riverwood; **RHP/INF** – Jordan Walker, Sr., Decatur

BANNEKER TROJANS

Head Coach: Eddie Smith
Assistant Coach (s): Eric Fleming, Anthony Bazzell, Jerald Burkes, Ken Anderson
2018 Record: 9-10
Returning Starters: SS/OF Deundra Anderson (Sr., 6-3, 170, R/R); 3B/OF/RHP Kameron Lee (Sr., 6-0, 170, R/R); 2B/OF/RHP Kobe Harris (So., 5-7, 150, R/R); OF Jaylin Williams (Sr., 5-10, 180, R/R); 1B/RHP Troy James (Sr., 6-1, 210, R/R)
Other Returning Players: OF Octavious Taylor (Sr., 5-10, 140, L/L); INF/OF Evan Golden (Jr., 6-0, 180, R/R); 1B Chris Hatcher (Sr., 5-10, 220, R/R); OF/C/RHP Cameron Burch (Sr., 5-10, 160, R/R)
Season Outlook: Banneker welcomes the return of five starters, and the Trojans should be better in their second season under coach Eddie Smith. Seniors Deundra Anderson and Kameron Lee will lead the team, but keep an eye on sophomore Kobe Harris, who showed a lot of promise as a freshman in 2018.

CARVER-ATLANTA PANTHERS

Head Coach: TBA
Survey not returned

DECATUR BULLDOGS

Head Coach: Robby Gilbert
Assistant Coach (s): Phillip Byrd, Bill Newsome, Jon Paden
2018 Record: 26-7
Returning Starters: OF/RHP Hayden Flinn (Sr., 6-5, 175, R/R); INF/RHP Robbie Huey (Sr., 5-11, 165, R/R); INF/RHP Jordan Walker (Jr., 6-5, 185, R/R); SS/RHP Jaylen Paden (Jr., 5-9, 150, R/R); RHP/1B Jackson Hills (Jr., 6-1, 205, R/R); RHP Eddie Galatas (Jr., 5-10, 145, R/R)
Other Returning Players: OF/RHP Tucker Jones (Sr., 6-0, 175, L/R); C/INF John Griffin Stanford (Sr., 6-1, 175,



Jordan Walker
Decatur

R/R); INF Quinton Rothman (Sr., 5-7, 135, R/R); OF Travon Frazier (Sr., 5-7, 125, R/R); C Luke Clark (Jr., 6-0, 205, R/R); OF/1B Ben Smith (Jr., 5-11, 160, R/R); OF/LHP Jaxson Sprull (Jr., 5-9, 175, L/L); INF/RHP Drew Jordan (Jr., 5-8, 155, R/R)

Top Newcomers: C/INF/OF Marshall Toole (So., L/R); INF/RHP Alden Wright (So., R/R)

Season Outlook: Graduation hit Decatur hard last season, but there is enough talent for the Bulldogs to contend for the region title again. Six starters are back, including versatile Jordan Walker (.415 avg., 39 RBIs) and Jaylen Paden (.333 avg., 26 RBIs). Pitcher Jackson Hills (5-2, 3.05 ERA) returns to lead a young but talented rotation.

GRADY KNIGHTS

Head Coach: Darryl Farley

Assistant Coach (s): De'Marko Farley, Ronaldo Killingsworth, Joc Butler, Ben Rogers

2018 Record: 11-16

Returning Starters: SS/2B Chase Stokes (So., R/R); 3B/C Will McFarland (Jr., R/R); OF Ethan Damiani (Sr., R/R); 1B/RHP Caleb Maloof (Sr., R/R); C/3B Ben Lepik (Sr., B/R); OF Harris Clements (Sr., R/R)

Other Returning Players: RHP/2B Oliver Kosar (So., R/R); 2B Jalen Gilstrap (Jr., R/R); LHP Javien Woods (Jr., L/L); 1B Juan Givens (Jr., R/R); OF Jeffrey Riddle (Sr., R/R); OF Preston Stanberry (So., R/R); C Lleyton Weaver (So., R/R)

Top Newcomers: LHP/CF Charlie Payne (Fr., 5-6, 120, L/L); SS/2B/RHP RJ Austin (Fr., 5-9, 150, R/R); OF/1B Drew Gossett (Fr., 5-8, 175, L/L); 3B Thomas Mayer (Fr., 5-9, 130, R/R); OF Christian Smith (So., 6-1, 160, L/L)

Season Outlook: Six starters are back for Grady, who should have a chance to be better this spring. Four of the team's starters are seniors, including catcher/third baseman Ben Lepik (.433 avg., 20 RBIs) and first baseman/pitcher Caleb Maloof (.390 avg., 3 HR). The Knights just need some pitching to develop.

MAYNARD JACKSON JAGUARS

Head Coach: Antonio Coger

Assistant Coach (s): Kaml Butler

2018 Record: 16-11

Returning Starters: LHP/1B Sam Katz (Sr., 5-10, 180, L/L); OF/RHP Brandon Ingram (Jr., 5-11, 185, R/R); INF/LHP Tyler Williams (Jr., 5-8, 165, R/L); OF Miles Knight (Jr., 5-9, 200, R/R); RHP/INF DeAngelo Nowell (Jr., 6-2, 200, R/R); RHP/OF Brice Johnson (Jr., 6-1, 175, R/R); INF Julian Lipscomb (Jr., 5-8, 165, R/R)

Other Returning Players: RHP/OF Will Dorn (Sr., 6-0, 170, R/R); RHP/INF Joe Vatalaro (Jr., 5-10, 160, R/R); RHP/INF Jacob Suever (Jr., 5-7, 150, R/R); RHP/C Sam Davis (So., 6-3, 170, R/R)

Top Newcomers: RHP/C Rhett Burley (Fr., 6-2, 205, R/R); SS DeMarcus Dickey (So., 6-0, 165, R/R); OF Jimmy Fields (Jr., 5-9, 180, R/R); RHP Dallas Davis (Jr., 5-9, 150, R/R); OF Jaquavious Hines (Jr., 5-10, 190, R/R)

Season Outlook: Maynard Jackson will be in the postseason race and should contend for the region crown as seven starters are back. Senior pitcher Sam Katz (4-1, 3.37 ERA) leads a team full of juniors. If that talent matures quickly, the Jaguars could be solid by the end of the season.

LITHIA SPRINGS LIONS

Head Coach: Chris Sheperd

Assistant Coach (s): Tim Hendrix

2018 Record: 6-17

Returning Starters: RHP/SS Brody Perna (Sr., R/R); 2B/C Nikolas Shupe (Sr., R/R); OF/LHP Trevor Smith (Jr., L/L)

Other Returning Players: 3B/RHP JJ O'Neal (So., R/R); 2B/C Austin Samples (Sr., R/R); OF/LHP Nehemiah Scott (Sr., L/L); C/3B Kenny Tillery (Jr., R/R); SS/2B Kyle Gibson (So., R/R)

Season Outlook: Chris Sheperd begins his second season at Lithia Springs, and the Lions should have a chance to improve. Three starters are back, including a pair of seniors in pitcher/shortstop Brody Perna and second baseman/catcher Nikolas Shupe. Lithia Springs will be looking for some pitchers to step forward.

NORTH SPRINGS SPARTANS

Head Coach: Matt Gershon

Assistant Coach (s): Beau Foster, Josh Shailer

2018 Record: 17-16

Returning Starters:

OF/LHP Buck Olson (So., 5-10, 160, L/L); SS Ross Reynolds (So., 5-7, 135, R/R); C Drew Wyatt (Jr., 5-10, 160, R/R)

Other Returning

Players: U Simon Gersten (So., 5-8, 165, R/R); U Mitchell Cohen

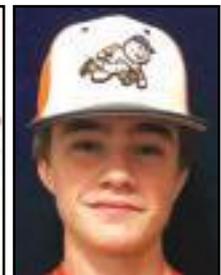
(So., 5-10, 130, R/R); RHP/C Tristan Costley (Jr., 5-11, 150, R/R); RHP/OF/1B Ryan Grayson (So., 6-2, 160, R/R); LHP/1B Zack Leaf (Jr., 6-2, 225, L/L); RHP/C Harrison Ruddy (Jr., 5-7, 135, R/R)

Top Newcomers: RHP Andrew Frank (So., 5-8, 135, R/R); RHP/U Cole Gabbai (Jr., 5-11, 155, R/R); RHP/3B Micah Kornblum (Jr., 5-11, 145, R/R)

Season Outlook: The Spartans made the state playoffs again last season and look to build off that momentum. North Springs doesn't have a senior, but the good news is that a talented group of sophomores and freshmen received playing time last year and many of them are ready. Outfielder/pitcher Buck Olson and shortstop Ross Reynolds are two players to keep an eye on.



Buck Olson
North Springs



Ross Reynolds
North Springs

RIVERWOOD RAIDERS

Head Coach: Trey Henson

Assistant Coach (s):

Greg Brown, Tom Nohstadt, Jarrett Smith

2018 Record: 13-16

Returning Starters:

RHP Brett Thomas (Sr., 6-5, 240, R/R); OF/LHP Allen Grier (Sr., 5-10, 175, R/L); U Harris Beckley (Sr., 5-10, 165, L/R); 1B LaBrauns Stinson (Sr., 5-7, 205, R/R); OF Chris Hall (Sr., 5-10, 165, L/L); C Matthew Lerner (Sr., 5-11, 165, R/R); OF/RHP Syd Pargman (Sr., 5-11, 175, R/R); INF Jason Miller (Jr., 5-9, 165, R/R); INF Chase Engelhard (Jr., 5-11, 170, R/R); RHP Jake Muse (Jr., 6-0, 175, R/R); C/INF/RHP Josh Katz (So.,



Harris Beckley
Riverwood



Allen Grier
Riverwood



Chris Hall
Riverwood



Brett Thomas
Riverwood

5-10, 160, R/R); C/INF Matthew Lindler (So., 6-2, 170, L/R)

Other Returning Players: C Edwin Acevedo (Jr., 5-10, 175, R/R); RHP Josh Peljovich (Jr., 5-9, 170, R/R); INF Gabe Bryant (Jr., 5-8, 160, L/R); OF Jaylyn McKie (Jr., 5-9, 180, R/R)

Top Newcomers: OF Khalil Anderson (So., 5-10, 170, R/R); LHP Jake Surdykowski (Jr., 6-5, 185, L/L); LHP Ben Fox (So., 5-9, 160, L/L)

Season Outlook: Injuries hurt Riverwood last season, but look for the Raiders to make a comeback this spring. A wealth of talent returns, including standout pitcher Brett Thomas and utility player Harris Beckley. The senior class is strong, but look out for a talented group of younger players who will be looking for their turn in the spotlight.

REGION 7-5A

Region Favorite: Carrollton

Keep an eye on: East Paulding – The Raiders have some of the region's top talent.

Players to Watch

C – Jared Aldridge, Sr., Carrollton; **U** – Tristen Allen, Jr., Villa Rica; **INF** – Sevie Andrews, Sr., Rome; **OF** – Asa Awbrey, Sr., Carrollton; **SS/C** – Noah Best, Sr., Villa Rica; **INF** – Sam Blancato, Sr., Kell; **C** – Connor Bullard, Sr., Rome; **OF** – Xavier Roberts-Donaldson, Sr., Rome; **1B** – Chris Gaiter, Sr., Carrollton; **INF/RHP** – Marco Haro, Sr., Woodland-Bartow; **OF/LHP** – Brandon Haston, Sr., East Paulding; **RHP/C/INF** – Josh Hunton, Sr., Paulding County; **OF** – Charlie Lanier, Sr., Carrollton; **INF/OF** – Clay Means, Sr., Cass; **RHP/INF** – Joe O'Connor, Sr., Paulding County; **C** – Ben Olson, Sr., Kell; **C/INF** – Andrew Pendleton, Jr., East Paulding; **OF/LHP** – Jackson Phipps, Jr., East Paulding; **RHP/INF** – Chandler Postlewait, Sr., Paulding County; **SS** – Brandon Prince, Sr., Carrollton; **RHP/SS** – Dalton Skinner, Sr., Hiram; **OF** – Logan Smith, Sr., Kell; **RHP/INF** – Koby Stansell, Sr., Woodland-Bartow; **LHP** – Jacob Turner, Jr., Villa Rica

CARROLLTON TROJANS

Head Coach: Scott Johnson (new)

Assistant Coach (s):

Jamie Sexton, Scott Edwards, Adam Bright

2018 Record: 29-10

Returning Starters:

C Jared Aldridge (Sr., 5-11, 175, R/R); 1B Chris Gaiter (Sr., 6-5, 190, R/R); 2B Grayson Udombon (Sr., 5-8, 175, R/R); SS Brandon Prince (Sr., 6-1, 185, R/R); U/RHP Ryan Anderson (Sr., 6-2, 180, R/R); 3B Ty Murray (Sr., 6-3, 300, L/R); OF Asa Awbrey (Sr., 5-11, 170, L/L); OF Charlie Lanier (Sr., 6-0, 170, L/R)

Other Returning Players: OF Jacob Cotton (Sr., 5-11, 190, R/R); RHP Zeke McDonald (Sr., 6-2, 185, R/R); RHP Zack Broome (Sr., 6-0, 175, R/R); RHP Kannan Christian (Sr., 6-4, 185, R/R); C Trey Pope (Sr., 5-9, 175, R/R); U Mitchell Cole (Jr., 6-0, 175, R/R); U Nick Tuggle (Jr., 5-10, 175, L/R); U Josh Lee (Jr., 5-11, 180, R/R); OF/LHP Eli Runyan (So., 5-10, 170, L/L); LHP/OF Colton Cosper (So., 5-11, 170, L/L); C Garrett Madliak (So., 5-10, 180, R/R)



Jared Aldridge
Carrollton



Asa Awbrey
Carrollton

Top Newcomers: 2B Kyle Aldridge (Jr., 5-7, 160, R/R); OF/RHP Bishop Woods (Jr., 6-3, 190, R/R); 1B Austin Aldridge (Jr., 6-1, 185, R/R)

Season Outlook: If Carrollton can find some consistent pitching, they could go a long way this season. The Trojans have the offense to play with anybody. Region Player of the Year Brandon Prince (.464 avg., 42 RBIs) and all-state first baseman Chris Gaiter (.407 avg., 45 RBIs) return. Catcher Jared Aldridge (.391 avg.) and outfielders Charlie Lanier (.438 avg., 28 RBIs) and Asa Awbrey (.324 avg.) also return.



Chris Gaiter
Carrollton



Charlier Lanier
Carrollton



Brandon Prince
Carrollton



Grayson Udombon
Carrollton

CASS COLONELS

Head Coach: Tim Ayers

Assistant Coach (s): Matt Thompson

2018 Record: 12-17

Returning Starters: INF Matt Shook (So., 5-9, 165, B/R); C Logan Nelson (Jr., 6-0, 180, R/R); INF Blaine Ingram (Jr., 6-1, 165, R/R); OF/RHP Thomas Botts (So., 6-2, 205, R/R); OF Bryson Markley (Sr., 6-1, 170, R/R); INF Clay Means (Sr., 5-11, 170, R/R)

Other Returning Players: C Sam Melton (So., 5-11, 165, R/R); RHP Nic Wallin (So., 5-10, 170, R/R); OF Ajami Harmon (Jr., 5-11, 180, R/R)

Top Newcomers: RHP Trey Scott (So., 6-3, 190, R/R); OF Kyle Miller (So., 5-10, 160, R/R); LHP Jaden Smith (So., 5-11, 165, L/L)

Season Outlook: Cass will look to get things turned around after a disappointing finish in 2018. The Colonels welcome back six returning starters. One of those is versatile Clay Means (.365 avg., 26 RBIs) and outfielder Bryson Markley. Cass is full of sophomores and juniors waiting for their opportunity.

EAST PAULDING RAIDERS

Head Coach: Tony Boyd

Assistant Coach (s):

Jordan Edwards, Andrew Deaton, Zach Kilday, Austin Driskell

2018 Record: 13-18

Returning Starters: OF/LHP Brandon Haston (Sr., 6-1, 175, L/L); OF Tyrell Robinson (Sr., 5-10, 165, R/R); OF/LHP Jackson Phipps (Jr., 6-4, 200, L/L); C/INF Eli Studdard (Jr., 5-11, 155, R/R); C/INF Andrew Pendleton (Jr., 5-11, 150, L/R); SS Clarke Poss (Jr., 5-10, 145, R/R); 3B/2B Trace Nicholson (Jr., 5-10, 150, R/R)

Other Returning Players: 1B/LHP Seth Granon (Jr., 5-10, 140, L/L); OF Wyatt Williams (Jr., 5-10, 150, R/R); RHP/OF Ben Sosebee (Jr., 6-0,



Brandon Haston
East Paulding



Jackson Phipps
East Paulding

150, R/R); C/INF Connor Vaughn (So., 6-0, 180, R/R); SS/RHP Trent Reddick (So., 5-10, 140, R/R); LHP/1B/OF Cole McDaniel (So., 6-1, 155, L/L); RHP/OF Cal Tatroe (Jr., 5-10, 150, R/R)

Top Newcomers: LHP/OF Nick Call (Jr., 5-9, 145, L/L); OF Colby Fondas (Jr., 5-10, 155, R/R)

Season Outlook: After a disappointing finish in 2018, look for East Paulding to be much better this spring. Seven starters are back, including outfielder Brandon Haston and pitcher Jackson Phipps. The Raiders will still be a relatively young team. The senior class is small, but a solid corps of juniors and sophomores will contribute.

HIRAM HORNETS

Head Coach: Tim Burgess

Assistant Coach (s): Taylor Butler, Max Huntoon, Bobby Foster, Avery Ragsdale

2018 Record: 6-20

Returning Starters: RHP/SS Dalton Skinner (Sr., 6-1, 185, R/R); RHP/OF Zach Ragsdale (Sr., 6-0, 175, R/R); INF Kyle Foley (Jr., 6-2, 235, R/R); INF Cody Rowland (Jr., 5-10, 150, R/R); OF Caleb Brewster (Jr., 5-10, 190, R/R); INF Cole Turner (Jr., 6-1, 170, R/R)

Other Returning Players: INF Ty Foley (So., 6-0, 200, R/R); C Qweston Steagall (So., 5-10, 190, R/R); RHP/INF Caleb Knight (So., 5-10, 150, R/R); RHP Brady Nolan (Sr., 6-0, 190, R/R)

Top Newcomers: INF Ryan Landman (So., 5-8, 160, R/R); INF Tanner Cochran (Fr., 5-10, 160, R/R)

Season Outlook: The Hornets seek to turn things around after a disappointing finish in 2018. Hiram welcomes back six starters, including a pair of seniors in Dalton Skinner and Zach Ragsdale. The Hornets will look for some talented younger players to step forward.

KELL LONGHORNS

Head Coach: Todd Harris

Assistant Coach (s): Josh Burrus, Rick Mang

2018 Record: 15-14

Returning Starters: C Ben Olson (Sr., 6-0, 180, R/R); INF Luke Hughes (Sr., 5-11, 185, R/R); INF Sam Blancato (Sr., 5-10, 180, B/R); INF/RHP Noah Dawkins (Sr., 6-0, 190, R/R); LHP Hal Stelljes (Sr., 6-3, 185, R/L); OF Logan Smith (Sr., 5-10, 175, R/R); RHP Colby Arthur (Sr., 5-9, 165, R/R)

Other Returning Players: INF Rylie O'Brien (Sr., 6-3, 200, R/R); OF Mason Hunter (Sr., 6-0, 185, R/R); INF/RHP Jay Inglis (Sr., 6-1, 185, R/R); RHP Jack Gilmartin (Sr., 6-0, 170, R/R); RHP Matt Collins (Sr., 5-11, 175, R/R); RHP Will Colclasure (Sr., 5-11, 185, R/R); C Nate Olterman (Sr., 5-9, 175, R/R)

Top Newcomers: C/U Tyler Harris (Jr., 5-10, 200, R/R); INF Jaiden Lan (Jr., 5-9, 175, R/R); U/RHP Evan Hendrix (So., 5-10, 170, R/R)

Season Outlook: This could be Kell's best team in recent memory as a strong senior class returns to lead the way. Seven starters, all of them seniors, are back. Catcher Ben Olson and infielders Luke Hughes and Sam Blancato are three players to keep an eye on.



Ben Olson
Kell

PAULDING COUNTY PATRIOTS

Head Coach: Brandon Smith (new)

Assistant Coach (s): Dave Devey, Greg Harper, TJ Rich, Brad Wood

2018 Record: 10-20

Returning Starters: RHP/INF Chandler Postlewait (Sr., R/R); LHP/OF Dakota Reeves (Sr., L/L); RHP/C/INF Josh Hunton (Sr., R/R); RHP/INF Joe O'Connor (Sr., R/R); RHP/INF Karson Cofer (Sr., R/R); C Jacob

Harper (Jr., R/R); RHP/INF Brandon Gorski (Sr., R/R); RHP/INF Mason Tanner (Jr., R/R)

Other Returning Players: RHP/INF Hunter Gullede (So., R/R); LHP/OF Hayden Waddell (Sr., L/L); RHP/INF Cleve Jordan (Sr., R/R)

Season Outlook: First-year coach Brandon Smith inherits eight returning starters and a solid senior class. All-region performers Joe O'Connor, Chandler Postlewait and Josh Hunton are back. Catcher Jacob Harper returns after a solid sophomore season. Some younger players will be expected to step forward.

ROME WOLVES

Head Coach: Jim Tejcek

Assistant Coach (s): Johnathan Cook, Jason King, Cody Amos

2018 Record: 15-14

Returning Starters:

C Connor Bullard (Sr., 6-0, 230, R/R); OF Xavier Roberts-Donaldson (Sr., 5-9, 180, L/R); RHP/INF Alden Astin (Sr., 6-1, 170, R/R); INF

Sevie Andrews (Sr., 5-8, 155, R/R); OF Garrett Howell (Sr., 5-9, 165, R/R)

Other Returning Players: RHP/OF Tristian Tillery (Sr., 6-1, 175, R/R); INF Grant Grodeman (Sr., 6-3, 245, R/R); OF John Dickens (Sr., 5-10, 140, R/R); RHP/INF Hayden Filletti (So., 6-3, 170, R/R); C/RHP Andrew Harrell (So., 6-0, 150, R/R)

Top Newcomers: INF/C/RHP Johnathan Vigoa (Fr., R/R); INF Brayer Cowan (So., 5-8, 150, R/R)

Season Outlook: The Wolves made the playoffs in coach Jim Tejcek's first season at the school last year. Rome should be back in the hunt again this spring. Five starters are back, including catcher Connor Bullard (.360 avg., 23 RBIs) and infielder Sevie Andrews (.384 avg., 20 RBIs). Pitching depth is a concern.



Sevie Andrews
Rome



Connor Bullard
Rome

VILLA RICA WILDCATS

Head Coach: Neal Hannah

Assistant Coach (s): Mike Best, John Kegley, Jojo Underwood

2018 Record: 19-13

Returning Starters: SS Noah Best (Sr., 6-1, 190, R/R); U Tristen Allen (Jr., 6-0, 180, R/R); OF Johnny Bravy (Jr., 5-10, 170, L/L); 2B Aubrey Gaines (Sr., 5-9, 160, R/R); 3B Alex Ferro (Sr., 5-10, 185, R/R); LHP Jacob Turner (Jr., 5-10, 180, L/L)

Other Returning Players: 1B Dalton Clark (Sr., 6-0, 200, R/R); LHP Matthew Herndon (Jr., 6-2, 170, L/L)

Top Newcomers: OF Kyle Hill (So., 5-10, 180, L/R)

Season Outlook: After making the state playoffs last year, Villa Rica is looking to take things farther this spring. Six starters are back, including leading hitter Noah Best (.404 avg., 8 2B). After a promising sophomore campaign, pitcher Jacob Turner returns to lead a solid rotation.



Noah Best
Villa Rica

WOODLAND-BARTOW WILDCATS

Head Coach: Colby Coursey

Assistant Coach (s): Matt Montgomery, Michael Adcock, Nick Shields, Jackson Grant

2018 Record: 16-14

Returning Starters: RHP/INF Koby Stansel (Sr., 5-11, 185, R/R); OF/

RHP Toby Queen (Sr., 6-2, 175, R/R); INF/RHP Marco Haro (Sr., 6-2, 200, R/R); C/RHP Bailey Ward (Sr., 5-10, 175, R/R); RHP/INF Ben Ammons (Sr., 5-9, 175, R/R); OF/RHP Titus Jones (Sr., 5-11, 175, R/R); RHP/OF Peyton Posey (So., 5-9, 170, R/R)

Other Returning Players: INF/P Scotty Smith (So.); INF/P Nick Bailey (So.); INF/P Zach Wilson (Jr.); OF Fisher Davis (Jr.); P Jakob Foss (So.); C/OF Carter Heath (So.); INF/P Phoenix Cramer (Jr.)

Top Newcomers: INF/OF Jackson Rutledge (Fr.)

Season Outlook: After just missing out on the postseason last year, keep an eye on the Wildcats in 2019. Seven starters return, six of them seniors. All-region selections Marco Haro and Koby Stansel lead a solid team that will be expected to contend for the postseason as well as the region crown.

REGION 8-5A

Region Favorite: Buford

Keep an eye on: Loganville – It will take some time, but look for the Red Devils to be in the chase by postseason time.

Players to Watch

LHP – Sean Adams, Sr., Buford; **RHP/OF** – Nathan Boyce, Sr., Walnut Grove; **OF/INF** – Jacob Boyd, Sr., Loganville; **RF** – Daniel Braswell, So., Loganville; **RHP** – Connor Bruce, Sr., Loganville; **RHP** – CJ Couch, Sr., Buford; **RHP** – Ramsey David, Sr., Buford; **OF** – Christian Griffin, Sr., Buford; **3B** – Brandon Jolliff, Sr., Buford; **C/3B** – Ian King, Jr., Loganville; **3B** – Jake Love, Sr., Walnut Grove; **C/OF** – Blaine Marchman, Sr., Loganville; **1B** – Reece McIntyre, Sr., Buford; **LHP/1B** – Eli McMullen, Sr., Walnut Grove; **OF/INF** – Evan Place, Sr., Buford; **OF** – Joc Pledger, Sr., Walnut Grove; **SS/RHP** – Dylan Strickland, Jr., Loganville; **OF** – Austin Turner, Sr., Buford; **C** – Patrick Walker, Sr., Buford

BUFORD WOLVES

Head Coach: Stuart Chester

Assistant Coach (s):

Trent Adams, Casey Laws, Jake Burnett, Bryan Rogers

2018 Record: 28-13

Returning Starters:

C Patrick Walker (Sr., 5-9, 175, R/R); 1B Reece McIntyre (Sr., 6-6, 295, R/R); 3B Brandon Jolliff (Sr., 6-2, 215, R/R); OF Austin Turner (Sr., 5-10, 170, L/L); OF Christian Griffin (Sr., 5-11, 180, L/L); OF/INF Evan Place (Sr., 6-1, 200, L/R); RHP Ramsey David (Sr., 6-3, 190, R/R); LHP Sean Adams (Sr., 6-1, 180, L/L); RHP CJ Couch (Sr., 5-10, 175, R/R)

Other Returning Players: INF Caleb Elder (Sr., 6-2, 190, R/R); OF Bryce Morin (Sr., 5-10, 175, R/R); INF Eli Ledford (Jr., 5-10, 170, L/R);



Sean Adams
Buford



CJ Couch
Buford



Reece McIntyre
Buford



Evan Place
Buford

LHP Dylan McKinnis (Sr., 5-10, 190, L/L); LHP Grant Thornoff (Sr., 5-9, 170, L/L); RHP Chase Rhodes (Sr., 6-5, 210, R/R); RHP Tucker Champeau (Sr., 6-4, 225, R/R)

Top Newcomers:

C Joseph Salvo (Jr., 5-11, 180, R/R); C Greg Johnson (Jr., 6-3, 210, R/R); LHP Jarvis Evans (So., 6-4, 210, L/L); OF Ayden Digiaco (So., 6-1, 200, R/R); RHP Riley Stanford (Fr., 6-3, 180, R/R)

Season Outlook: After finishing as the Class 5A state runner-up last year, Buford has the talent to make a run at the state championship series again. Top pitchers Ramsey David (8-3, 1.98 ERA) and Sean Adams (7-3, 1.88 ERA) return as well as closer CJ Couch (7 saves). Austin Turner (.413 avg.) and Evan Place (.405 avg.) return to lead the offense.



Austin Turner
Buford



Patrick Walker
Buford

CEDAR SHOALS JAGUARS

Head Coach: TBA

Survey not returned

CLARKE CENTRAL GLADIATORS

Head Coach: Adam Osborne

Survey not returned

JOHNSON-GAINESVILLE KNIGHTS

Head Coach: Mike Holland (new)

Survey not returned

LOGANVILLE RED DEVILS

Head Coach: Jeff Segars

Assistant Coach (s):

Mike Ryan, Brandon Anglin, Bran Mills, Andy Sargent, Chad McGaughey, Matt Milligan, Jeff Hewatt

2018 Record: 34-6

Returning Starters:

RHP Connor Bruce (Sr., 6-6, 200); U Jacob Boyd (Sr., 6-0, 170); CF Jackson Howell (Sr., 6-1, 180); RF Daniel Braswell (So., 6-3, 195); C/3B Ian King (Jr., 5-10, 175); SS/RHP Dylan Strickland (Jr., 6-1, 175); C/OF Blaine Marchman (Sr., 6-0, 190)

Other Returning

Players: RHP/1B/OF

Caleb Garner (Jr., 6-5,

190); RHP/1B Dawson Hammonds (Jr., 6-2, 205); RHP Matthew Popp (Sr., 6-2, 165); INF/OF/RHP Brocker Way (So., 5-10, 170); C Cody Powell (Sr., 6-0, 200); 1B Max Smith (Sr., 6-3, 260); OF Josh Haynes (Sr., 5-10, 170); P/U Blake Stowe (Sr., 6-0, 170); P/INF Notah Knight (Sr., 6-2, 175); INF Cameron Wright (Sr., 5-10, 170); OF/INF Jackson Daniel (So., 5-10, 175)



Jacob Boyd
Loganville



Connor Bruce
Loganville



Jackson Howell
Loganville



Ian King
Loganville

Season Outlook:

After back-to-back state championship seasons, Loganville will be rebuilding some this season. But plenty of talent returns, it just needs time to mature. Two-year starter Dylan Strickland, Blaine Marchman and Jacob Boyd return to lead the offense, while right-handed pitcher Connor Bruce leads a young but talented pitching staff.



Blaine Marchman
Loganville



Dylan Strickland
Loganville

WALNUT GROVE WARRIORS

Head Coach: Carl Allen (new)

Assistant Coach (s): Cliff Guthrie, Brandon Gaubert, John Cartledge, Josh Watson

2018 Record: 15-15

Returning Starters: 3B Jake Love (Sr., 6-1, 215, R/R); 1B/LHP Eli McMullen (Sr., 6-5, 155, L/L); OF/RHP Nathan Boyce (Sr., 6-3, 150, R/R); OF Joc Pledger (Sr., 5-10, 175, R/R); RHP Austin Little (Jr., 5-8, 130, R/R); OF/RHP Chandler Head (Sr., 5-8, 175, R/R); INF Brayden Brooks (Jr., 5-8, 160, R/R); INF Cole Tudor (Sr., 5-9, 180, R/R); OF/RHP Blake Hyde (Jr., 6-2, 190, R/R); OF/RHP Cade Milner (Jr., 6-3, 165, R/R)

Other Returning Players: C Reed Tarleton (Sr., 5-7, 210, R/R)

Top Newcomers: INF/RHP Tyler Williams (Fr., 5-7, 155, R/R)

Season Outlook: New coach Carl Allen takes over a program that will be expected to contend for a postseason berth again. The Warriors return two of their top pitchers in Eli McMullen and Nathan Boyce. Leading hitters Jake Love (.356 avg., 4 HR) and Joc Pledger (.341 avg.) are back to lead the offense.

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Why not us

Jefferson claws way to first state baseball title

By Tim Morse

It was the perfect ending for a season that could have been scripted perfectly by Hollywood. But there was no way film-makers would have scripted Jefferson High School's 2018 state baseball championship season any better than it actually happened.

"It was perfect for a Hollywood movie," infielder/pitcher Lane Watkins said. "Nobody expected us to do anything like that."

Which is why the Dragons' Class 4A title, the first Georgia High School Association state baseball title in school history, will be remembered in Jefferson for a long time.

Consider these facts:

Not many expected them to make the playoffs from the rugged Region 8. Stephens County, Madison County and North Oconee had more returning talent and experience.

Jefferson didn't have a single injury all season. They had one player miss a practice with a bruised heel. No injury kept a player from missing any games.

The Dragons needed a walk-off hit to beat Chestatee in Game 3 of the first round of the playoffs. They also needed a walk-off to beat Woodward Academy in the first game of the quarterfinal series.

Jefferson stunned the nation when they swept nationally-ranked Blessed Trinity in the semifinals, then beat tradition-rich Cartersville in three games in the state championship series.

"The Lord blessed us over the season, no doubt," coach Tommy Knight said. "But with this group of kids, it didn't matter what anybody said. They played for each other."

The Dragons (28-12) returned nine starters, but the preseason attention focused on Stephens County and Madison County, who both made deep postseason runs in 2017. In addition, North Oconee had one of the nation's top players in Kumar Rocker and a lineup that could score plenty of runs. It was somewhat of a surprise when the Dragons won the region crown and played host to upstart Chestatee in the first round.

The two teams split a doubleheader to force a Game 3. That set the stage for Kade McNally, the No. 9 hitter in the lineup, whose walk-off homer in the bottom of the seventh sent the Dragons to a 6-4 victory to take the best-of-three series.

Jefferson swept Northwest Whitfield in the second round before needing another walk-off hit to beat Woodward Academy in Game 1 of the quarterfinal series. The Dragons scored three runs in the bottom of the seventh, highlighted by freshman Mason Cooper's RBI single that scored Billy Finch for the winning run in a 5-4 victory. Jefferson lost Game 2, then took the series with a 10-5 victory in Game 3, setting up a mammoth series at Blessed Trinity.

Knight had a message for his players the next day at practice after eliminating Woodward Academy.

"Coach came out and said, 'Why not us,'" said senior pitcher Patrick Hickox. "He asked why we couldn't be one of the teams to beat them."

The Dragons won the first game 10-7, then Watkins hurled a five-hit shutout in a 2-0 victory in Game 2 to sweep the series.

The momentum carried over into the state championship series where Jefferson topped Cartersville in three games for the state title. Knight said it was because of a group of players who weren't intimidated, didn't care about personal stats and played for each other. The phrase "Why not us" became the team's motto and ended up on Jefferson's state championship rings.

Knight told a story about Hickox, who earned the Game 1 win and the save in Game 3 in the state championship series. He said when one of his teammates made an error, Hickox took time off the mound and went and had a conversation with the player.

"Patrick was the leader," Watkins said. "I made an error at third base and he came over to me, put his arm around me and told me he had this and to just shake it off. We all started doing that for each other."



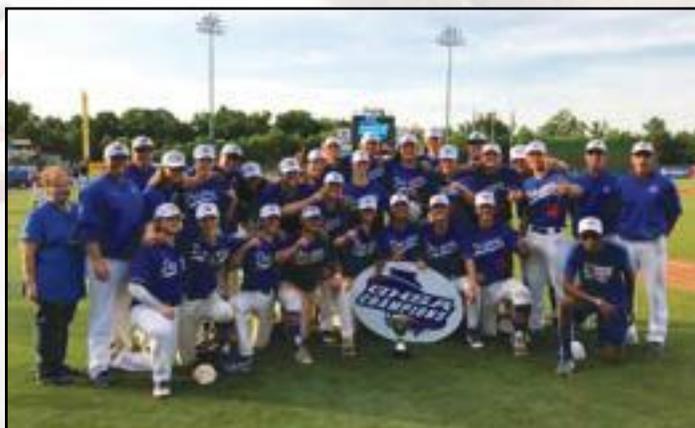
Jefferson infielder Lane Watkins celebrates after the Dragons defeated Cartersville to win the state baseball championship.

Photo by Ben Munro



Jefferson players celebrate after defeating Cartersville to win the GHSA Class 4A state title.

Photo by Ben Munro



Members of the Jefferson baseball team are, **Front Row (l-r)**, Kade McNally, Rem Maxwell, Cole Watkins, Clayton Jones, Billy Finch, Garrett Catanach, Sammy Elegreet, Mason Cooper, Manager Javon Cunningham. **Standing (l-r)**, Scorekeeper Lawanna Laird, Coach Chris Wheaton, Coach Shawn McNally, Zac Corbin, Brycen Jewell, Coach Jon Veldhuis, Patrick Hickox, Lane Watkins, JJ Rapp, Ryan Godfrey, Jasper Adamek, Hart Blackstock, Vinny Farley, Drew Everett, Derek Vaughn, Colby Clark, Coach Jordan Perdue, Justin Cole, Trey McEver, Will Wood, Coach Andy Fowler, Coach Tommy Knight.

Photo by Jefferson High School

Class 4A Top 15

1 BLESSED TRINITY

The Titans have either played for the state championship or won a title in three of the last four seasons. And perhaps no team in the state has been as consistent as Blessed Trinity has this decade. That won't change this spring. The Titans have enough talent to make another deep playoff run.

After winning 34 games last season, the Titans were stunned by Jefferson in the semifinals. A good bit of that talent returns including one of the nation's more-exciting players in shortstop CJ Abrams. The senior makes everything look easy and he has the talent and tools to help Blessed Trinity be successful again. And no program in Class 4A boasts a better outfield than the Titans as Steele Chambers, three-year starter Ryan Davis and Trey Baker return. Also on offense, first baseman DJ Radtke is back after bursting onto the scene as a freshman last year.

There are some question marks with the pitching rotation, but senior Jake Smith will be tough to beat. And Radtke showed he is dependable on the mound. With the Titans' track record for developing pitchers, Blessed Trinity will be fine. What they lack in pitching depth can be overcome with offense for the first part of the season, at least until the pitching staff matures.

2 FLOWERY BRANCH

In Joey Ray's first season at Flowery Branch, the Falcons peaked late in the year and made it to the state semifinals in Class 5A. Flowery Branch drops to Class 4A and will be an instant competitor. If the cards fall right, they could be the team to beat. The biggest reason for Flowery Branch's optimism is because of a pair of junior left-handed pitchers in Zander Sechrist and Andrew Armstrong. But there is more to the Falcons than just those two.

3 WOODWARD ACADEMY

This should be the best Woodward Academy team since the War Eagles went to the state semifinals in 2011. Woodward has talent at every position and after making a trip to the state quarterfinals last year, the War Eagles will be back. The biggest strength is a lethal pitching rotation that consists of Christian Wylder, Will Sanders, Mason Carnes and Wesley Maxey.

4 CARTERSVILLE

Cartersville lost a bunch of talent from last season's squad that finished as the Class 4A state runner-up. But good programs continue to reload. The offense will put up some good numbers, while the pitching staff led by Mason Barnett, Cohen Willbanks and Gage Morris will be good enough to shut down the opposition.

5 TROUP

The Tigers may have the state's best 1-2 pitching combo in Colby Williams and Garrett Casey, as well as one of the state's top catchers in Cooper Doughman. If the Tigers can generate some offense, this team will be very dangerous.

6 MARIST

The War Eagles do the same thing every year. They load their nonregion schedule with Georgia baseball powers to prepare them for the postseason, then Marist gets hot in the playoffs. The War Eagles need that nonregion slate this spring to help them mature for a brutal Region 7-4A schedule. There is plenty of talent, but it will need to mature quickly.

7 NORTHWEST WHITFIELD

This should be the Bruins' best team in at least a decade as a good mixture of seniors and underclassmen return. Northwest Whitfield just has to be consistent. They have the pitching to be successful as junior right-hander Hank Bearden and senior left-hander Ty Fisher anchor what should be the team's backbone.

8 STEPHENS COUNTY

The Indians boast the best set of pitchers in Region 8-4A in Davis Swenson, Dawson Sorrells and Gabe White. The trio combined to win 14 of the team's 21 games last season. The Indians will be strong again, but they must find some offense.

9 NORTHSIDE-COLUMBUS

The Patriots won the Region 1-4A title last spring, then got ambushed by Spalding in the first round of the state playoffs to cut short the season. All but two players from that team return, and a year older and a more mature team will help Northside go a long way.

10 COLUMBUS

The Blue Devils have some of the classification's best players in catcher Ben Schorr and outfielder Robbie Tillman, but they need some pitching depth. Columbus will always be Columbus and put a good team on the field. Don't sleep on them.

11 NORTH OCONEE

Vanderbilt signee Kumar Rocker is gone, but the Titans could be just as good as last season. There are enough leftovers for North Oconee to contend for a postseason berth. The Titans won't be lacking top-notch players. Junior Will Pearson and outfielder Dom Hughes are fun to watch.

12 WEST LAURENS

The Raiders lost all-everything pitcher Nolan Daniel to graduation and it would seem West Laurens would be starting over. But if a strong corps of underclassmen mature and develop, the Raiders could be a sleeper.

13 MADISON COUNTY

In what was supposed to be a rebuilding campaign last spring, Madison County won 16 games and made the state playoffs. The bulk of that talent returns. Look for the Red Raiders to challenge for a playoff spot again.

14 LAGRANGE

The Grangers struggled at times last season, but a bunch of younger players received playing time that will pay off this spring.

15 OCONEE COUNTY

Early-season injuries hurt the Warriors, and Oconee County stumbled last year. All of the team's pitching returns. If the Warriors can avoid the injury-bug, they have the potential to do something special this spring.

Others to watch: (Alphabetical Order) Burke County, Cairo, Cross Creek, Eastside, Spalding, St. Pius X, Upson-Lee

CLASS 4A PRESEASON ALL STATE

First Team

Name	Position	Grade	School	Comment
Andrew Armstrong	Pitcher	Junior	Flowery Branch	He's only going to get better
Garrett Casey	Pitcher	Senior	Troup	Quietly does his job well
Colton Joyner	Pitcher	Senior	Northside-Columbus	Won 9 games last year on the hill
Zander Sechrist	Pitcher	Junior	Flowery Branch	Lefty is good as advertised
Jake Smith	Pitcher	Senior	Blessed Trinity	Plays his best in tough situations
Davis Swenson	Pitcher	Senior	Stephens County	Big righty can be lights out
Seb Thomas	Pitcher	Senior	Marist	RHP makes hitters look bad
Cooper Doughman	Catcher	Senior	Troup	Excellent defender with good bat
Ben Schorr	Catcher	Junior	Columbus	Good defender and excellent hitter
CJ Abrams	Infielder	Senior	Blessed Trinity	He makes everything look easy
Hank Bearden	Infielder	Junior	NW Whitfield	Dominant pitcher also a strong first baseman
Josh Davis	Infielder	Senior	Cartersville	Power hitter gets it done
Will Pearson	Infielder	Junior	North Oconee	Junior excels at everything he does
Dawson Sorrells	Infielder	Senior	Stephens County	There's not much he can't do
Colby Williams	Infielder	Senior	Troup	He can hit, pitch and play defense well
DA Allen	Outfielder	Junior	Woodward Academy	Contact hitter makes offense go
Steele Chambers	Outfielder	Senior	Blessed Trinity	He can put up big-time numbers
Spencer Chandler	Outfielder	Senior	Northside-Columbus	Explosive hitter can play
Ryan Davis	Outfielder	Senior	Blessed Trinity	3-year starter can do it all
Robbie Tillman	Outfielder	Senior	Columbus	Makes things happen
Mason Barnett	Designated Hitter	Senior	Cartersville	Leader is also shutdown pitcher
Christian Wylder	Utility	Senior	Woodward Academy	He can hit and pitch well

Second Team

Pitchers – Alex Blount, Sr., Upson-Lee; Luke Dickens, Sr., Oconee County; Hunter Duke, Sr., Hardaway; Ty Fisher, Sr., Northwest Whitfield; Wesley Hancock, Jr., Spalding; Gage Morris, Sr., Cartersville; Will Sanders, Jr., Woodward Academy; **Catchers** – Trent Bailey, Sr., LaGrange; Tanner Hill, Sr., Ridgeland; **Infielders** – Jake Bearden, Sr., Northwest Whitfield; Noah Cook, Jr., Eastside; Riley Harrison, Sr., Ridgeland; Wesley Maxey, Sr., Woodward Academy; Chandler Simpson, Sr., St. Pius X; Jordan Wilkie, Sr., Cartersville; **Outfielders** – Colby Baker, Sr., Burke County; Garrett Gainous, Jr., Cairo; EJ Holmes, Sr., West Laurens; Dom Hughes, Sr., North Oconee; Christopher Patterson, Sr., Cross Creek; **Designated Hitter** – Keanu Legaspi, Sr., Oconee County; **Utility** – Omar Chavarria, Sr., Southeast Whitfield

REGION 1-4A

Region Favorite: Northside-Columbus

Keep an eye on: Cairo – Nine starters return on a very good team.

Players to Watch

SS/RHP – Colby Brabston, Sr., Columbus; **OF/C** – La'Borris Buchanan, Jr., Westover; **OF** – Spencer Chandler, Sr., Northside-Columbus; **3B** – DJ Collins, Sr., Cairo; **RHP/C/OF** – Kedarris Cunningham, Sr., Westover; **LHP/OF** – Tristan Driver, Sr., Hardaway; **RHP/SS** – Hunter Duke, Sr., Hardaway; **RHP/CF** – Garrett Gainous, Sr., Cairo; **RHP/DH** – Colton Joyner, Sr., Northside-Columbus; **OF** – Jordan Parker, Sr., Hardaway; **OF** – Hunter Poe, Jr., Northside-Columbus; **1B** – Benji Prince, Sr., Cairo; **2B** – Tray Richburg, Jr., Northside-Columbus; **C** – Ben Schorr, Jr., Columbus; **CF** – Robbie Tillman, Sr., Columbus; **OF** – Mack Williams, Jr., Northside-Columbus

AMERICUS-SUMTER PANTHERS

Head Coach: Brandon Mitchell (new)

Survey not returned

CAIRO SYRUPMAKERS

Head Coach: Chad Parkerson

Assistant Coach (s):

Gary Smith, Rick Brimm

2018 Record: 15-13

Returning Starters:

3B DJ Collins (Sr., R/R); 1B Benji Prince (Sr., R/R); DH/C Christian McDugle (Sr., R/R); RHP/CF Garrett Gainous (Jr., R/R); RHP/SS Hayes Stills (Jr., R/R); C JT Andrews (Jr., R/R); LHP/OF Blake Touchton (Jr.,

L/L); RHP/INF Ethan Godwin (So., R/R); 2B Dawson Humphries (Jr., R/R)

Other Returning Players: OF Cameron Cooper (Jr., L/R); INF Charlie Bedingfield (Jr., R/R); RHP Ben Crosby (So., R/R); LHP Carson Faircloth (So., R/L); 1B Griffin Stalvey (Jr., R/R); C/OF Chris Harrison (So., R/R); INF Ethan Daughtry (So., R/R)



DJ Collins
Cairo



Garrett Gainous
Cairo

Season Outlook: Look for Cairo to be much better as coach Chad Parkerson begins his second season at the school. Nine starters are back, including third baseman DJ Collins and pitcher/outfielder Garrett Gainous. The Syrupmakers may still be a year away from reaching their full potential.

CARVER-COLUMBUS TIGERS

Head Coach: Donald Ouzts (new)
Survey not returned

COLUMBUS BLUE DEVILS

Head Coach: Chad Mathis

Assistant Coach

(s): Robbie Morgan, John Randall Lasseter, McLendon Hill, Matt Rossi

2018 Record: 29-7

Returning Starters: C Ben Schorr (Jr., 6-0, 185, R/R); CF Robbie Tillman (Sr., 6-2, 180, R/R); RHP Timbo Trawick (Sr., 6-4,



Ben Schorr
Columbus



Robbie Tillman
Columbus

200, R/R); RHP/3B Austin Hicks (Sr., 5-9, 175, L/R)

Other Returning Players: SS Lewis Ashe (Sr., 6-0, 160, R/R); SS/RHP Colby Brabston (Sr., 6-1, 170, L/R); RHP/3B Devan Cail (Jr., 5-10, 190, R/R); 1B Brent Epps (Sr., 5-10, 310, R/R); OF Davis Livingston (Jr., 5-10, 150, R/R); INF Jack Hartford (Jr., 5-8, 165, R/R)

Top Newcomers: LHP Scott Wood (So., 6-1, 170, R/L); 1B Hamp Mitchell (So., 6-0, 185, R/R); OF Sean Derosier (So., 5-7, 150, R/R); INF Grey Voltz (So., 5-10, 145, L/R)

Season Outlook: The Blue Devils will be back in contention for the region title again this spring. Four starters are back, including senior pitcher Colby Brabston, outfielder Robbie Tillman and junior catcher Ben Schorr. Pitchers Timbo Trawick and Austin Hicks return and bring experience on the mound.

DOUGHERTY TROJANS

Head Coach: Joe Stone (new)
Survey not returned

HARDAWAY HAWKS

Head Coach: Eric Anthony (new)

Assistant Coach (s): Mike Getkin, Drew Freeman, Mike Smith, Brandon Bynam, Chad Davidson

2018 Record: 13-19

Returning Starters: RHP/SS Hunter Duke (Sr., 6-0, 180, R/R); LHP/CF Tristan Driver (Sr., 6-0, 170, L/L); 2B/RHP Ken Butler (Sr., 5-10, 165, R/R); RF Jordan Parker (Sr., 6-2, 190, R/R); 1B Joe Crowell (Sr., R/R); C Jaden Clark (So., R/R)

Other Returning Players: LF/RHP Bailey Moss (Jr., R/R)

Season Outlook: New coach Eric Anthony takes over at Hardaway and will look to keep the Hawks among the region leaders. Six starters are back, including all-state pitcher/shortstop Hunter Duke, who gives Hardaway a solid player to build around. Pitchers Tristan Driver, Ken Butler and outfielder Jordan Parker also return.



Hunter Duke
Hardaway

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NORTHSIDE-COLUMBUS PATRIOTS

Head Coach: Dee Miller

Assistant Coach (s):

Steve Sparks, Derek Branch, David Buchanan, Greg Stotser, Blake Cooper, Taylor Harper, Chase Slocumb

2018 Record: 21-10

Returning Starters:

RHP/DH Colton Joyner (Sr., 6-3, 225, R/R); OF Spencer Chandler (Sr., 6-0, 170, R/R); SS Clayton Weaver (Sr., 5-11, 170, L/R); 2B Tray Richburg (Jr., 6-0, 170, R/R); OF Mack Williams (Jr., 6-0, 175, R/R); OF Hunter Poe (Jr., 5-9, 170, L/L); C Conner O'Neal (So., 6-0, 170, L/R)

Other Returning Players: RHP Will Graydon (Jr., 6-3, 170, R/R); INF Walt McConnell (So., 6-2, 170, R/R); OF Trey Anthony (Sr., 6-1, 180, R/R); INF Charles Stephenson (Sr., 6-0, 175, R/R)

Season Outlook: Northside lost just two players from last season's squad that captured the region title. The Patriots welcome back outfielder Spencer Chandler and pitcher Colton Joyner. Keep an eye on outfielder Hunter Poe and second baseman Tray Richburg, two players who had strong sophomore seasons last year.



Spencer Chandler
Northside-Columbus

Colton Joyner
Northside-Columbus

SHAW RAIDERS

Head Coach: Patrick McGregor

Survey not returned

WESTOVER PATRIOTS

Head Coach: Jordan Cambron

Assistant Coach (s): Ronnye Nelson

2018 Record: 7-15

Returning Starters: RHP/C/OF Kedarrus Cunningham (Sr., 5-8, 170, R/R); 3B Jordan Walton (Sr., 6-1, 235, R/R); OF/C La'Borris Buchanan (Jr., 5-5, 150, R/R); SS/3B Cameron Hopkins (Jr., 5-10, 160, L/R); 2B Rodney Bullard, Jr. (So., 5-7, 130, R/R); OF Antonio James (So., 5-6, 130, R/R)

Other Returning Players: 1B Jimmie Sims (Sr., 5-10, 230, R/R); OF/LHP/1B Christen Tolver (Jr., 5-10, 200, R/L); RHP Malcolm Mathis (Jr., 5-10, 160, L/R); OF Cameron Jackson (Sr., 5-10, 150, R/R); U Anthony White (So., 5-2, 120, R/R) U Jacobe Weaver (Sr., 5-6, 140, R/R)

Top Newcomers: INF Alex Ingram (Fr., 6-1, 150, R/R); 1B/RHP Cameron Cromer (Fr., 6-1, 200, R/R); OF/RHP Kemarion Buchanan (Fr., 6-0, 140, R/R); C Kellen Walker (Fr., 5-8, 160, R/R); INF Daymon Polite (Fr., 5-6, 130, R/R); C Dalen Frazier (Fr., 5-8, 180, R/R)

Season Outlook: The Patriots seek to rebound from a disappointing season in 2018. There is a solid group of players to help the Patriots do just that. Keep an eye on senior pitcher Kedarrus Cunningham who was solid last year. Junior outfielder La'Borris Buchanan is back to lead the offense. Look for some solid underclassmen to contribute.

REGION 2-4A

Region Favorite: West Laurens

Keep an eye on: Spalding – The Jaguars made the quarters last year, and they have the talent to do it again.

Players to Watch

RHP/1B – Collin Blackwell, Sr., Howard; **RHP/3B** – Alex Blount, Sr., Upson-Lee; **OF/RHP** – Beau Bryant, Sr., Perry; **INF** – Jon Fletcher, Sr., Spalding; **OF** – Chance Gamble, So., Upson-Lee; **C/DH** – Brooks Gully, So., Upson-Lee; **LHP/1B/OF** – Wesley Hancock, Jr., Spalding; **RHP/3B/OF** – Dreylin Holmes, Jr., Spalding; **OF** – E.J. Holmes, Sr., West Laurens; **INF** – Paul Kellam, Jr., West Laurens; **1B/RHP** – Cam Mashburn, Sr., Perry; **SS/3B** – Austin Mock, Sr., Mary Persons; **CF/SS/RHP** – Trippe Moore, Jr., Mary Persons; **OF/U** – Andrew Newhouse, Sr., Perry; **SS/RHP** – Jackson Nipper, Jr., Perry; **OF** – Sam Riner, Jr., West Laurens; **C/1B** – Brody Slaughter, Jr., West Laurens; **OF/RHP** – Conner Watson, Jr., Mary Persons; **C/RHP** – Bradley Wilson, So., West Laurens

HOWARD HUSKIES

Head Coach: Danny Slaughter

Assistant Coach (s): Daryll Johnson, Brandon Durden, David Clark, Jim Markert

2018 Record: 8-21

Returning Starters: RHP/1B Collin Blackwell (Sr., 6-1, 210, L/R); 2B/RHP Bradley Smith (Sr., 6-2, 155, R/R); OF Lance White (Sr., 5-10, 165, R/R); RHP Trent Brown (Sr., 5-11, 160, R/R); SS Spencer Moon (Sr., 6-1, 165, R/R); OF Scott Campbell (Jr., 5-9, 145, R/R)

Other Returning Players: RHP/U Jaylon Clark (So., 6-2, 155, R/R); C Kamron Taylor (Sr., 5-10, 180, R/R); OF Caden Hodge (Jr., 5-11, 175, R/R); LHP/1B Chris Andrews (Jr., 6-0, 235, L/L); OF Jordan Gray (Jr., 5-11, 170, R/R); 2B Justin Smith (Jr., 5-9, 145, R/R)

Top Newcomers: RHP/3B Andrew Garnette (Fr., 5-11, 165, R/R)

Season Outlook: The Huskies welcome back six starters, five of them seniors. Howard will look to improve upon last season's finish. Pitcher/first baseman Collin Blackwell and outfielder Scott Campbell return. Sophomore Jaylon Clark returns after a promising freshman campaign.

MARY PERSONS BULLDOGS

Head Coach: Clae Mathis

Assistant Coach (s): Josh Ward, Delvin Jordan, Austin Lord, Landon Sparks

2018 Record: 18-12

Returning Starters: C/RHP Alex Kite (Sr., 6-1, 180, R/R); SS/3B Austin Mock (Sr., 5-9, 160, R/R); RHP/INF Camden Claxton (Sr., 5-10, 170, B/R); CF/SS/RHP Trippe Moore (Jr., 6-0, 180, R/R); OF/RHP Conner Watson (Jr., 6-0, 170, R/R); INF/OF Jeremiah Andrews (Jr., 5-10, 200, R/R)

Other Returning Players: OF/P Wyatt Currie (Jr.); INF/OF Xavier Soule (Jr.); INF/OF Keller Smith (Sr.); P Garrett James (Sr.); P Hunter Powell (Sr.)

Top Newcomers: Nate Howard (Jr.); Eric Snow (Fr.); Andrew Lackley (So.); Jaden Bankston (So.); Thomas Willingham, Thorn Anderson, Caden Swancey, Aric Mock

Season Outlook: The Bulldogs just narrowly missed the state playoffs last season. Mary Persons should be in the postseason chase again. A solid senior class returns, but keep an eye on versatile Trippe Moore who had a strong sophomore season last year. Mary Persons should continue to make progress.

PERRY PANTHERS

Head Coach: Tim Hutchens

Assistant Coach (s): Matt Weaver, Tanner Smith

2018 Record: 16-13

Returning Starters: OF/RHP Beau Bryant (Sr., 5-11, 155, R/R); 1B/RHP Cam Mashburn (Sr., 6-2, 230, R/R); OF/U Andrew Newhouse (Sr., 5-11, 160, L/R); SS/RHP Jackson Nipper (Jr., 5-11, 150, B/R); C/OF Lane Rucker (So., 6-0, 170, R/R)

Other Returning Players: 2B/OF Ian Cornelius (Sr., 5-6, 140, R/R); 2B/RHP Wade Gordon (Jr., 5-10, 135, L/R)

Top Newcomers: C/RHP/U Jayden Chance (Sr., 5-7, 160, R/R);

Season Outlook: Perry lost some key players from the 2018 squad that made the state playoffs. But five starters are back, including leading hitters Beau Bryant (.321 avg., 5 2B) and Andrew Newhouse (.297 avg., 11 RBIs). Cam Mashburn leads a young but talented pitching rotation.

SPALDING JAGUARS

Head Coach: Seth Harris

Assistant Coach (s):

Mike Banks, Dennis English, Hunter Hadley, Matt Ellis

2018 Record: 17-18

Returning Starters:

LHP/1B/OF Wesley Hancock (Jr., L/L); OF/INF Matt Fisher (Sr., R/R); INF Jon Fletcher (Sr., R/R); 1B/DH Blake Pillsbury (Sr., R/R); RHP/3B/OF Dreylin Holmes (Jr., R/R); RHP/INF Grant Adams (Sr., R/R); LHP/1B/OF Ben Steward (Jr., R/L)

Other Returning Players: OF Pierce Purmort (Sr., R/R); INF/RHP Tristen Tidwell (Jr., R/R); C/1B Ty Lewis (Jr., R/R); LHP/1B Jacob Jones (Sr., L/L); C/OF Kolby Phillips (Sr., R/R); RHP/OF John Luke Huckaby (Sr., R/R); RHP/INF Austin Conaway (Jr., R/R)

Season Outlook: Spalding made a late run to the state quarterfinals last year, and the team hopes to capitalize on that momentum. Seven starters are back, including Wesley Hancock and Dreylin Holmes who were promising as sophomores last year. The senior class is solid. The Jaguars should contend for the region title this spring.

UPSON-LEE KNIGHTS

Head Coach: Jonathan Thompson

Assistant Coach (s): Eddie Peyton, Michael Kirby

2018 Record: 14-15

Returning Starters: RHP/3B Alex Blount (Sr.); 3B/OF Gabe Pollard (Sr.); OF Chance Gamble (So.); C Josh Keeter (Sr.); 1B/P Logan Spivey (So.); SS Turner Maddox (Jr.); C/DH Brooks Gulley (So.)



Alex Blount
Upson-Lee

Other Returning Players: P/1B Ty Rechterovic (Jr.); OF Trent Walls (Jr.); C/1B Ben McDaniel (Jr.); P Lawson Rucker (Sr.); INF Austin Hendricks (So.)

Season Outlook: Upson-Lee welcomes back seven starters and should be in the playoff chase. Pitcher Alex Blount will give the Knights a chance to win each time he takes the hill. Shortstop Turner Maddox and outfielder Chance Gamble are back to lead a talented offense.

WEST LAURENS RAIDERS

Head Coach: Brian Brown

Assistant Coach (s): Jody Pollock, Josh Carter, Kagan McClain

2018 Record: 23-11

Returning Starters: OF EJ Holmes (Sr., 6-0, 190, R/R); RHP Wade Brantley (Jr., 6-3, 180, R/R); C/RHP Bradley Wilson (So., 6-2, 190, R/R); C/1B Brody Slaughter (Jr., 5-10, 185, L/R); OF/LHP A.J. Mathis (Jr., 6-1, 180, L/L); INF Paul Kellam (Jr., 6-0, 170, R/R); OF Sam Riner (Jr., 5-9, 160, R/R); OF Parker Woods (Jr., 5-11, 170, R/R)

Other Returning Players: DH Jalen Baker (Sr., 5-10, 240, R/R); OF McKinley Kemp (Sr., 6-0, 170, R/R); OF Ivey Phillips (Sr., 5-8, 145, R/R); INF Zach Thoms (Jr., 5-9, 150, R/R); OF Logan Slaughter (So., 5-9, 135, R/R); 1B Keaton Brown (So., 5-10, 160, R/R); INF Carson Estep (So., 5-11, 165, R/R); RHP Jerrett Stewart (So., 5-11, 165, R/R); RHP Gavin White (So., 6-0, 170, R/R); LHP Matthew O'Neal (So., 5-10, 155, R/L); LHP/OF Tyler Franks (So., 6-4, 180, L/L); INF/RHP Colton Scott (So., 5-10, 160, R/R); OF/RHP Greyson Clark (So., 5-10, 150, R/R); OF Josh Phillips (So., 5-8, 155, R/R); OF/RHP Evan Carter (So., 5-8, 140, R/R); INF Trace Woodard (So., 5-9, 195, R/R)

Season Outlook: West Laurens lost a good bit to graduation, but the Raiders have a wealth of returning players. Eight starters are back after West Laurens won the region title again last season. Outfielder EJ Holmes returns to lead the offense. The pitching rotation will be young but talented.



EJ Holmes
West Laurens

REGION 3-4A

Region Favorite: Burke County

Keep an eye on: Cross Creek – The Razorbacks return perhaps the region's most exciting player in Christopher Patterson.

Players to Watch

2B/SS/RHP – Lectavius Austin, Sr., Baldwin; **RHP/CF** – Colby Baker, Sr., Burke County; **OF/RHP** – Chase Chance, Sr., Thomson; **RHP/INF** – Logan Howell, Sr., Cross Creek; **OF** – CJ Hurst, Sr., Baldwin; **P** – Walter Kelley, Sr., Richmond Academy; **C** – Devin McNair, Sr., Thomson; **INF/C/P** – Bryce Neely, Sr., Cross Creek; **OF** – Christopher Patterson, Sr., Cross Creek; **RHP/SS/C** – Preston Price, Jr., Burke County; **C/3B** – Evan Richardson, So., Burke County; **OF** – Dylan Sallad, Sr., Baldwin; **2B/3B** – Kameron Skinner, Jr., Burke County; **RHP/3B** – Chase Smith, Sr., Thomson; **OF** – Dougie Springer, Sr., Burke County

BALDWIN BRAVES

Head Coach: Brandan Thomas (new)

Assistant Coach (s): Deion Stanley, Joshua Fields, Joe Blankenship

2018 Record: 10-14

Returning Starters: 2B/SS/RHP Lectavius Austin (Sr., R/R); OF CJ Hurst (Sr., R/R); C Erron Bolston (Sr., R/R); OF Dylan Sallad (Sr., R/R); 2B/RF Anquez Thomas (Sr., R/R); INF Mike Jones (So., R/R)

Other Returning Players: OF Lamarcus Harris (Jr., R/R); 2B/SS/RHP Quez Ingram (So., R/R); OF/RHP Ke'shawn Kinslow (Jr., R/R); 2B/3B/RHP Christopher Williams (Sr., R/R)

Top Newcomers: C/3B Bryce Hargrove (Fr., R/R); 3B/RHP Derrick Lewis (Fr., R/R); OF/LHP Gerald Kilgore (Fr., 5-9, 170, L/L)

Season Outlook: The Braves return six starters and should have a chance to improve upon last season's record. A talented senior class led by athletic Lectavius Austin (.394 avg., 13 RBIs) will be depended on. Outfielders Dylan Sallad (.360 avg., 15 RBIs) and C.J. Hurst also return.

BURKE COUNTY BEARS

Head Coach: Billy Marchman

Assistant Coach (s):

Knox Marchman, Cole Pittman

2018 Record: 20-5

Returning Starters: RHP/CF/SS Colby Baker (Sr., 5-9, 160, R/R); OF

Dougie Springer (Sr., 6-0, 165, R/R); RHP/SS/C Preston Price (Jr., 5-8, 185, R/R); 2B/3B Kameron Skinner (Jr., 5-10, 230, B/R); C/3B Evan Richardson (So., 5-10, 190, R/R)

Other Returning Players: OF Jalin Simon (Sr., 5-7, 150, L/L); OF Nisaiah Carter (Sr., 5-10, 160, R/R); 2B/3B/RHP Justin Griffin (Jr., 5-8, 155, R/R); OF Chris Buxton (So., 6-2, 145, R/R); 1B/OF Tripp Cibak (So., 6-2, 200, R/R)

Top Newcomers: LHP/1B Evan Sebold (Jr., 5-10, 215, R/L); LHP/3B/OF Ethan Rabun (Fr., 5-11, 140, R/L)

Season Outlook: Burke County lost a wealth of talent but should still challenge for the region title. Five starters are back, including versatile Colby Baker (.400 avg., 26 RBIs). Senior Dougie Springer also returns. Keep an eye on Preston Price, Kameron Skinner and Evan Richardson who had strong seasons last year.

CROSS CREEK RAZORBACKS

Head Coach: Tavis Cummings

Assistant Coach (s): Benny Howell, Trey Fulcher

2018 Record: 17-10

Returning Starters: CF Christopher Patterson (Sr., 5-10, 180, R/R); RHP Logan Howell (Sr., 5-8, 150, R/R); 3B Bryce Neely (Sr., 6-2, 185, R/R); 2B



Christopher Patterson
Cross Creek

Matthew Sumpter (Sr., 5-4, 125, R/R); 1B Ian Flores (Jr., 6-2, 185, L/L); C Austin Armstrong (Jr., 5-9, 180, R/R); SS Ryan Alley (Jr., 5-8, 170, L/R)

Other Returning Players: OF Cory Floyd (Jr., 5-9, 215, L/L); OF Garrett Teal (Sr., 5-8, 160, R/R); 1B Alandai Lendor (Sr., 6-3, 245, R/R); SS Caleb Turner (So., 5-11, 160, R/R)

Season Outlook: The Razorbacks have enough returning talent to contend for the region title. Outfielder Christopher Patterson (.488 avg., 26 RBIs) is a player to keep an eye on. Pitcher Logan Howell (6-3, 2.33 ERA) leads a young pitching staff.

RICHMOND ACADEMY MUSKETEERS

Head Coach: Steven Leathers

Survey not returned

THOMSON BULLDOGS

Head Coach: Brad Smith

Assistant Coach (s):

Brett Chalker, Nick Rau

2018 Record: 7-14

Returning Starters: RHP/3B Chase Smith (Sr., 6-0, 205, L/R); C Devin McNair (Sr., 5-9, 160, R/R); OF/RHP Chase Chance (Sr., 5-8, 150, R/R)

Other Returning Players: SS/RHP Jackson Purvis (Jr., 5-9, 155, R/R); RHP/OF Ricardo Dena (Sr., 5-10, 150, R/R); OF Jamon Fanning (Jr., 5-10, 150, R/R); 1B/RHP Kobe Walker (Sr., 6-0, 280, R/R); OF Damekas Taylor (Sr., 5-11, 150, R/R)

Top Newcomers: RHP/1B Tyler Sewell (Fr., 6-0, 235, R/R); C/RHP Ashton Perry (Fr., 5-9, 140, R/R)

Season Outlook: The Bulldogs will field a very young team in 2019. Thomson will be looking for some younger players to step forward and contribute. The good news is that a trio of seniors – pitcher/third baseman Chase Smith, catcher Devin McNair and outfielder/pitcher Chase Chance – return to lead the way.



Chase Chance
Thomson

Devin McNair
Thomson



Jackson Purvis
Thomson

Chase Smith
Thomson



REGION 4-4A

Region Favorite: Woodward Academy

Keep an eye on: Eastside – The Eagles have enough returning to duplicate last year’s success.

Players to Watch

OF – DA Allen, Jr., Woodward Academy; **SS/2B** – Noah Cook, Jr., Eastside; **RHP/OF** – Aaron Cox, Sr., Eastside; **2B** – Ali Desrochers, Sr., Druid Hills; **C/RHP/OF** – Dylan Johnson, Sr., Henry County; **OF** – Parker Kahlert, Sr., Woodward Academy; **INF/LHP** – Wesley Maxey, Sr., Woodward Academy; **INF/P** – Will Sanders, Jr., Woodward Academy; **LHP/OF** – Logan Seehafer, Sr., Hampton; **OF/3B** – Colby Shivers, Jr., Eastside; **INF/RHP** – Michael Sorrow, Sr., Woodward Academy; **C/RHP/INF** – Tucker Tatham, Jr., Hampton; **INF/RHP** – Allen Thompson, Sr., Woodward Academy; **RHP/OF** – Christian Wylder, Sr., Woodward Academy; **RHP/INF** – Jacob Yarbrough, Sr., Luella

DRUID HILLS RED DEVILS

Head Coach: Pete Bartlewski
Survey not returned

EASTSIDE EAGLES

Head Coach: Brandon Crumbley
Assistant Coach (s): Trey Camps, Ashley Senn, Brandon Bales, Jared Jones, Shane Griffin
2018 Record: 26-6

Returning Starters: RHP/OF Aaron Cox (Sr., 6-2, 205, R/R); 1B/RHP/C John Robert McGowan (Sr., 6-1, 215, L/R); RHP/OF Lawson Beshears (Sr., 6-0, 180, R/R); SS/2B Noah Cook (Jr., 6-0, 160, R/R); OF/3B Colby Shivers (Jr., 6-0, 170, R/R); C Ethan Booth (So., 5-11, 170, R/R); 1B/3B Sambo Button (So., 6-0, 190, L/R); 2B/RHP Jackson Watts (Jr., 5-8, 165, R/R)

Other Returning Players: OF Dawson Schwartz (Jr., 5-8, 160, R/R); LHP/OF Parker Daniel (Jr., 5-7, 160, R/L); LHP/1B Cade Mitchell (So., 6-3, 180, L/L); OF Justin Daffison (Sr., 5-11, 165, R/R); C Tanner Middlebrooks (So., 5-9, 155, L/R); RHP Jackson Feeny (Jr., 6-0, 165, R/R)

Top Newcomers: OF/RHP Dayton Green (So., 5-9, 150, R/R); 2B/OF Kyle Shivers (Fr., 5-9, 160, R/R); RHP/1B Cole Shannon (Fr., 6-0, 180, R/R); C/3B Josh Johnson (Fr., 5-10, 160, R/R); LHP/OF Slade Holloway (Fr., 5-10, 150, L/L)

Season Outlook: Much of Eastside’s talent returns after the Eagles won 26 games last year. Offensive leaders Aaron Cox (.332 avg., 11 RBIs), John Robert McGowan and Lawson Beshears return. Keep an eye on infielder Noah Cook who was promising as a sophomore last year.



Noah Cook
Eastside

HAMPTON HORNETS

Head Coach: Chris Huffman
Assistant Coach (s): Charlie Buck, Mack Majors
2018 Record: 10-15

Returning Starters: LHP/OF Logan Seehafer (Sr., 5-8, 160, L/L); C/RHP/INF Tucker Tatham (Jr., 6-1, 175, R/R)

Other Returning Players: OF Greg Wynn (Sr., 5-11, 160, R/R); OF Brett

Campbell (Jr., 6-0, 170, R/R); INF Darius Hammond (Sr., 5-9, 170, R/R)
Top Newcomers: INF Amiel Hill (Jr., 5-8, 160, R/R); RHP/INF Justin Long (Jr., 5-8, 165, R/R); RHP/INF Hunter Watson (So., 6-3, 170, R/R)
Season Outlook: The Hornets drop down in classification and should have a chance to be much better this spring. Senior pitcher/outfielder Logan Seehafer returns, giving the Hornets a solid player to build around. Junior Tucker Tatham also returns after a strong sophomore season last year.

HENRY COUNTY WARHAWKS

Head Coach: Doug Lee
Survey not returned

LUELLA LIONS

Head Coach: Ashley Sims (new)
Assistant Coach (s): Eric Oldfield
2018 Record: 15-17

Returning Starters: RHP/INF Jacob Yarbrough (Sr., 6-0, 180, R/R); OF/INF Jarred Adams (Sr., 6-0, 185, R/R); RHP/3B Mason Johnson (Sr., 5-9, 175, R/R); INF Jaylen Stegall (So., 5-8, 150, R/R); 1B Nick Sapp (So., 5-11, 165, R/R); OF/1B Jahon Meyers (Jr., 6-2, 190, R/R)

Top Newcomers: LHP/OF Tyrus Cobb (Fr., 5-8, 155, R/L)

Season Outlook: Ashley Sims takes over and inherits six returning starters as the Lions should contend for a postseason berth again. A trio of seniors – Jacob Yarbrough, Jarred Adams and Mason Johnson – return to lead the way. Yarbrough had a strong season as a junior last year.

NORTH CLAYTON EAGLES

Head Coach: Richard Flowers
Survey not returned

SALEM SEMINOLES

Head Coach: Michael Phiel
Survey not returned

WOODWARD ACADEMY WAR EAGLES

Head Coach: Jose Fernandez (new)
Assistant Coach (s):

Kenny Hopkins,
John Hurston

2018 Record: 27-6

Returning Starters: INF/RHP Mason Carnes (Sr., 5-11, 175, R/R); INF/LHP Wesley Maxey (Sr., 6-1, 200, L/L); INF/RHP Michael Sorrow (Sr., 5-10, 170, R/R); INF/RHP Allen Thompson (Sr., 5-10, 170, R/R); RHP/OF Christian Wylder (Sr., 6-0, 190, R/R); OF Parker Kahlert (Sr., 6-0, 190); P David Green (Sr., 6-0, 195); OF DA Allen (Jr., 6-0, 185); INF/P Will Sanders (Jr., 6-5, 180)

Other Returning Players: C Alex Vaughn



DA Allen
Woodward Academy



Wesley Maxey
Woodward Academy



Will Sanders
Woodward Academy



Christian Wylder
Woodward Academy

(Sr., 5-10, 175); P/INF Zion Walker (Jr., 6-0, 180); C Mark Gallups (So., 6-1, 185); OF/P Tyler Neely (So., 5-11, 185)

Season Outlook: The War Eagles welcome back nine starters and should challenge for the region title. Leading hitters Christian Wylder (.469 avg., 15 RBIs) and DA Allen (.400 avg., 29 RBIs) return, while Wylder (8-0, 0.70 ERA), Will Sanders (7-1, 1.52 ERA), Mason Carnes (3-1, 2.47 ERA), Wesley Maxey (2-1, 2.69) and Allen Thompson (1-0, 0.88 ERA) make up a stout pitching rotation.

REGION 5-4A

Region Favorite: Cartersville

Keep an eye on: Central-Carrollton – The Lions tasted the postseason last year. They have the talent to return.

Players to Watch

OF/INF – Will Alford, So., LaGrange; **C** – Trent Bailey, Sr., LaGrange; **RHP/DH** – Mason Barnett, Sr., Cartersville; **RHP/C** – Dalton Bowman, Sr., Cedartown; **LHP/OF** – Garrett Casey, Sr., Troup; **INF/RHP** – Charles Crawford, Jr., LaGrange; **OF/INF/RHP** – Corbin Cuzzort, So., Cedartown; **2B** – Josh Davis, Jr., Cartersville; **C** – Cooper Doughman, Sr., Troup; **OF** – Cade Garner, Jr., Troup; **P/OF** – Connor Housley, Sr., Sandy Creek; **RHP** – Gage Morris, Sr., Cartersville; **SS/2B** – Easton Oxenrider, Jr., Cedartown; **DH/C/1B** – Noah Taylor, Sr., Central-Carrollton; **RHP** – Logan Velez, Sr., Central-Carrollton; **RHP/C** – Cohen Wilbanks, Sr., Cartersville; **SS** – Jordan Wilkie, Sr., Cartersville; **RHP/3B** – Colby Williams, Sr., Troup

CARTERSVILLE PURPLE HURRICANES

Head Coach: Kyle Tucker

Assistant Coach (s):

Brian Adams,
Brandon Patch

2018 Record: 32-10

Returning Starters:

RHP/DH Mason Barnett (Sr., 6-0, 190, R/R); 2B Josh Davis (Jr., 5-10, 175, R/R); SS Jordan Wilkie (Sr., 6-1, 180, R/R); OF Ian Inaba (Sr., 5-10, 170, L/L);

OF Preston Welchel (Sr., 5-11, 180, L/L); OF/C J.P. Martin (Sr., 5-11, 185, R/R); RHP/C Cohen Wilbanks (Sr., 6-1, 180, R/R)

Other Returning Players: RHP Gage Morris (Sr., 6-0, 195, R/R); RHP/OF Kolby Adams (Sr., 5-11, 175, R/R); 1B/DH Chandler Tromza (Jr., 6-0, 190, R/R); C/OF Alan Thacker (Jr., 5-10, 185, R/R); INF Brant Smith (Sr., 6-2, 200, R/R); LHP Reece Thompson (Sr., 5-11, 175, L/L); INF Noah Davis (Sr., 5-10, 180, R/R)

Top Newcomers: RHP/3B Mason McBee (So., 6-2, 180, R/R); INF Davis Williams (So., 5-10, 165, R/R); U Jackson Norris (So., 6-1, 185, L/R)

Season Outlook: The defending state runner-ups have enough



Josh Davis
Cartersville



Gage Morris
Cartersville



Jordan Wilkie
Cartersville

talent to make another deep playoff run. Seven starters are back, including ace pitcher Mason Barnett, Cohen Wilbanks and Gage Morris. Second baseman Josh Davis and shortstop Jordan Wilkie are back to lead the offense. The senior class is strong.

CEDARTOWN BULLDOGS

Head Coach: Gevin Johnson (new)

Assistant Coach (s): Dustin Little, Eddie Gambrell, Jeff Dingler, Courtney Hammock

2018 Record: 12-14

Returning Starters: RHP/C Dalton Bowman (Sr., 6-2, 195, R/R); 1B Brycen Cheatwood (Sr., 6-2, 210, R/R); RHP/C/1B Tyler Gosdin (Sr., 5-10, 185, R/R); 1B Brycen Quarles (Sr., 6-1, 210, R/R); SS/2B Easton Oxenrider (Jr., 5-8, 165, R/R); 2B/RHP Cade Dingler (So., 5-10, 170, R/R); OF Griffin Elder (Jr., 5-9, 155, R/R); OF/INF/RHP Corbin Cuzzort (So., 5-10, 175, R/R)

Other Returning Players: OF Carson Shelton (Jr., 5-9, 155, R/R); OF Jerry Simmons (Jr., 5-9, 155, R/R); INF/OF Jacob Bradshaw (Jr., 5-10, 165, R/R); RHP/INF Davis Wagner (Jr., 5-10, 170, R/R); RHP/INF MJ Holiday (Fr., 5-8, 160, R/R)

Season Outlook: Former assistant Gevin Johnson takes over and inherits eight returning starters. The Bulldogs should have a chance to improve upon last season's finish. The team is still relatively young, but keep an eye on pitcher/catcher Dalton Bowman and infielder Easton Oxenrider.

CENTRAL-CARROLLTON LIONS

Head Coach: Wes Shiver

Assistant Coach (s): Nathan Urquhart, Reed Murphy, Stephen Kegley, Ken Minick

2018 Record: 16-16

Returning Starters: RHP Logan Velez (Sr., 6-3, 165, R/R); OF Reid Lovvorn (Sr., 6-3, 170, L/R); DH/C/1B Noah Taylor (Sr., 6-1, 280, R/R); 2B Austin Helton (Sr., 5-4, 165, R/R); 3B Andrew Allums (Sr., 5-10, 165, R/R); C Carson Carroll (Jr., 6-0, 175, R/R); OF Davis Leblanc (Sr., 5-10, 150, R/R); RHP Casey Casseen (Jr., 6-0, 180, L/R)

Other Returning Players: C/DH Bryston Phillips (Jr., 5-10, 160, R/R); RHP/3B Bradley Queen (Sr., 6-1, 170, R/R); INF Dylan Musick (Sr., 5-10, 190, R/R); OF Kyler Huff (Sr., 5-5, 140, R/R); LHP/OF Brad Gabriel (Jr., 5-11, 180, R/L)

Top Newcomers: LHP/OF Hayden Hall (Jr., 6-1, 155, R/L); INF Wendell Perry (So., 5-11, 160, R/R); INF/OF Matthew Bass (So., 5-11, 165, R/R); RHP/INF Josh Heredia (So., 5-11, 210, R/R); RHP/OF Jayden Traylor (So., 5-9, 155, R/R)

Season Outlook: Central-Carrollton has an excellent group of returning players and will be expected to contend for a playoff berth. Eight starters are back, including a good mixture of seniors and juniors. Right-handed pitcher Logan Velez leads a solid pitching rotation, while offensive leader Noah Taylor returns.

CHAPEL HILL PANTHERS

Head Coach: Alan Adair

Survey not returned

LAGRANGE GRANGERS

Head Coach: Donnie Branch (new)

Assistant Coach (s): Chad Grant, Drew Eady, Price Peters

2018 Record: 12-21

Returning Starters: C Trent Bailey (Sr., 5-11, 185, R/R); INF/RHP Walt Lanier (Jr., 5-9, 160, R/R); INF/RHP Mason Green (Jr., 6-0, 145, L/R); OF/INF Will Alford (So., 6-0, 215, R/R); INF/RHP Charles Crawford (Jr., 6-1, 180, L/R); OF/LHP Brant Williams (Jr., 5-11, 165, L/L)

Other Returning Players: OF

Christian Alford (Sr., 5-11, 150, L/L); OF/LHP Darren Leonard (Sr., 5-10, 155, R/L); OF/RHP Wesley Kuhn (Sr., 6-5, 200, R/R); 1B/LHP Cole Sanders (Sr., 5-11, 180, L/L); 1B/DH Will Flowers (Jr., 6-0, 250, R/R); INF/RHP Matthew Morgan (So., 6-0, 175, R/R); INF/RHP Jake Cardwell (Jr., 5-9, 160, R/R); OF Pate Williams (Sr., 5-11, 165, R/R); OF/C Cole Crawford (Jr., 5-11, 160, R/R); INF Ethan Hadaway (Jr., 6-0, 200, R/R); INF/RHP Sam Yates (Jr., 5-11, 155, R/R); OF Logan Karcher (Jr., 6-0, 160, R/R)

Season Outlook: Former coach Donnie Branch returns to LaGrange and takes back over the baseball program. The Hall of Fame coach inherits six returning starters, including catcher Trent Bailey and underclassmen Will Alford and Charles Crawford who were promising last season. Look for the Grangers to be solid.



Trent Bailey- LaGrange
Photo by Tim Morse

SANDY CREEK PATRIOTS

Head Coach: Nick Pou (new)

Assistant Coach (s): TBA

2018 Record: 9-16

Returning Starters: P/3B Tyler Peavy (Sr.); 1B Brian Siefert (Jr.); OF John Marant (Jr.); OF/P Logan Byerly (Jr.); P/OF Connor Housley (Sr.)

Other Returning Players: OF Aden Hand (Sr.); U Dylan Rice (Sr.); U Kanoti McDaniel (Sr.)

Top Newcomers: INF/P Jonathan Little (Fr.); OF Jordan Thomas (Fr.)

Season Outlook: Former Islands coach Nick Pou takes over and inherits five returning starters. The team is young, but the good news is that a solid corps of seniors return to lead the way. One of them is pitcher/outfielder Connor Housley. Keep an eye a good group of junior players.

TROUP TIGERS

Head Coach: Craig Garner

Assistant Coach (s):

Richie Barber, Blake Barber, Brock Barber, Mason Brackett, Josh King

2018 Record: 25-9

Returning Starters:

RHP/3B Colby Williams (Sr., 5-11, 200, R/R); LHP/OF Garrett Casey (Sr., 5-11, 195, R/L); C Cooper

Doughman (Sr., 6-2, 235, R/R); 1B Caleb McCurry (Jr., 5-9, 185, R/R); OF Cade Garner (Jr., 5-9, 150, R/R); OF Luke Purnell (Jr., 6-1, 200, R/R); 2B Ethan Morton (So., 5-8, 135, R/R); RHP/3B Colton Webb (So., 6-0, 190, R/R)



Garrett Casey
Troup



Cooper Doughman
Troup

Other Returning

Players: INF Ryan Key (Jr., 5-5, 150, R/R); INF Trace Meadows (Sr., 5-10, 160, R/R); RHP Jackson Knox (Sr., 6-1, 160, R/R); INF/RHP Trey Hartley (So., 5-9, 155, R/R); OF Tre Mosley (So., 5-9, 160, R/R); U Hunter Kitchens (So., 5-9, 145, R/R)

Top Newcomers: INF/RHP Carson Garner (Fr., 5-7, 125, R/R); OF/RHP Brett Haynes (Fr., 6-1, 190, R/R); INF/RHP Daniel Martin (Fr., 5-8, 135, R/R)

Season Outlook: The Tigers return one of the state's top 1-2 pitching combos in right-hander Colby Williams and left-hander Garrett Casey. Their favorite target Cooper Doughman returns behind the plate. If Troup can find consistency on offense, they should contend for the region title. Eight starters are back to lead the way.



Cade Garner
Troup



Caleb McCurry
Troup

REGION 6-4A

Region Favorite: Northwest Whitfield

Keep an eye on: Southeast Whitfield – The Raiders have the talent to show significant improvement.

Players to Watch

OF – DJ Ball, Sr., Ridgeland; **RHP/1B** – Hank Bearden, Jr., Northwest Whitfield; **RHP/3B** – Jake Bearden, Sr., Northwest Whitfield; **C/RHP** – Hunter Bowyer, Sr., Gilmer; **3B** – Brody Campbell, Sr., Heritage-Catoosa; **3B/RHP/C** – Omar Chavarria, Sr., Southeast Whitfield; **1B** – Tyler Crawford, Sr., Ridgeland; **OF** – Brody Crossen, Sr., Northwest Whitfield; **OF/RHP** – Austin Daman, Sr., Gilmer; **RHP/SS** – Javier Favela, Sr., Southeast Whitfield; **LHP** – Ty Fisher, Sr., Northwest Whitfield; **OF/RHP/INF** – Murphy Flood, Sr., Southeast Whitfield; **SS/RHP** – Evan Frady, Sr., Gilmer; **SS/RHP** – Riley Harrison, Sr., Ridgeland; **RHP/C/U** – Tanner Hill, Sr., Ridgeland; **INF/RHP** – Nolan Letzgus, Sr., Heritage-Catoosa; **INF** – Bryson Lofton, So., Southeast Whitfield; **LHP/1B** – David Ramirez, Sr., Northwest Whitfield; **SS** – Matt Redmond, So., Northwest Whitfield; **RHP** – Caswell Smith, Sr., Pickens

GILMER BOBCATS

Head Coach: Jeff Thurman

Assistant Coach (s): Justin Clutter, Todd Gibson, Clay McClure

2018 Record: 8-22

Returning Starters: C Hunter Bowyer (Sr., 5-10, 160, R/R); OF/RHP Austin Daman (Sr., 5-10, 180, R/R); SS/RHP Evan Frady (Sr., 5-10, 165, R/R); 2B/RHP Avery Bertolini (Sr., 5-11, 170, R/R); 1B Tyler Woody (Sr., 6-0, 225, L/L)

Other Returning Players: OF Jonas Griggs (Sr., 6-1, 180, R/R)

Top Newcomers: C Gabe Wolfson (So., 6-1, 170, R/R); OF/LHP Tyler Wright (Jr., 6-0, 165, L/L)

Season Outlook: Gilmer should have a chance to be better this spring as five starters are back. Catcher Hunter Bowyer and Evan Frady return to lead the offense, while right-hander Austin Daman

leads a solid pitching rotation. A solid group of seniors will be heavily depended upon.

HERITAGE-CATOOSA GENERALS

Head Coach: Eric Beagles

Assistant Coach (s):

Jake Ledbetter

2018 Record: 29-8

Returning Starters:

3B Brody Campbell (Sr., 6-0, 185, L/R); INF/RHP Nolan Letzgus (Sr., 6-0, 170, R/R)

Other Returning

Players: INF/RHP Walker

Spruiell (Sr., 6-0, 175, R/R); OF Aaron Colquitt (Sr., 6-0, 165, R/R); 1B/C Pete Padgett (Jr., 5-11, 195, R/R); OF/LHP Caden Kiniry (So., 5-9, 135, L/L); 1B/RHP Nick Hanson (So., 6-1, 190, R/R)

Top Newcomers: OF Dylan Bryan (So., 5-7, 140, R/R); C Alex Mixon (So., 5-10, 185, R/R); INF Caden Snyder (So., 5-8, 130, R/R); INF/RHP Preston Etter (So., 5-10, 160, R/R)

Season Outlook: After a run to the state semifinals, the Generals could be in for a little rebuilding this spring. Only two starters - third baseman Brody Campbell and infielder/pitcher Nolan Letzgus - are back, but a wealth of underclassmen will be expected to contribute. Keep an eye on a solid corps of young players.



Brody Campbell
Heritage-Catoosa

Nolan Letzgus
Heritage-Catoosa

LAFAYETTE RAMBLERS

Head Coach: Chris Base

Survey not returned

NORTHWEST WHITFIELD BRUINS

Head Coach: Todd Middleton

Assistant Coach (s):

Brad Dunn, David Redmond, Tony Crossen

2018 Record: 17-17

Returning Starters: LHP

Ty Fisher (Sr.); RHP/3B Jake Bearden (Sr.); SS Matt Redmond (So.); OF Brody Crossen (Sr.); RHP/1B Hank Bearden (Jr.); C Reed McClain (Sr.); LHP/1B/OF David Ramirez (Sr.)

Other Returning

Players: 2B Eli Nance (Jr.); INF Hayden Pack (Jr.); OF Noah Newman (Jr.)

Season Outlook: The Bruins could be the team to beat in Region 6 this year as seven starters return. Northwest will be led by all-state pitcher Hank Bearden, but seniors Ty Fisher and Jake Bearden will also be strong on the mound. Shortstop Matt Redmond, who had a strong freshman campaign, will lead an offense that could put up big numbers.



Hank Bearden
Northwest Whitfield

Jake Bearden
Northwest Whitfield



Ty Fisher
Northwest Whitfield

Matthew Redmond
Northwest Whitfield

PICKENS DRAGONS

Head Coach: Adam Williams

Assistant Coach (s): Gil Suarez, James Plouffe, Zach Martin

2018 Record: 14-17

Returning Starters: RHP Caswell Smith (Sr., 6-1, 205, R/R); LHP Will Lawrence (Sr., 6-0, 180, L/L); SS Brady Moore (Jr., 5-11, 190, R/R); 3B/RHP Colby James (Jr., 5-10, 175, R/R); 1B Chad Pacas (Jr., 6-0, 205, R/R)

Season Outlook: If Pickens can find a little more depth, they should be in postseason contention this spring. A pair of solid pitchers return in right-hander Caswell Smith and left-hander Will Lawrence. Shortstop Brady Moore is back after a strong sophomore season.

RIDGELAND PANTHERS

Head Coach: Scott Harden

Assistant Coach (s):

Kip Klein, Forest Hunter, Shawn Crawford, Trevor Long

2018 Record: 15-9

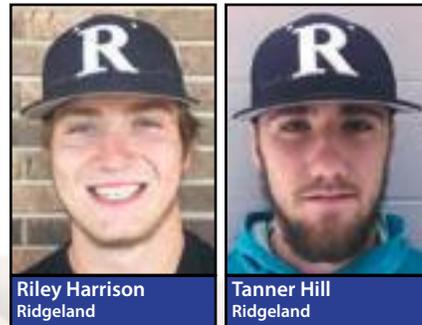
Returning Starters:

RHP/C/U Tanner Hill (Sr., 6-2, 200, R/R); OF DJ Ball (Sr., 5-11, 170, R/R); 1B Tyler Crawford (Sr., 6-7, 285, L/R); OF Shawn Wilson (Sr., 5-10, 170, R/R); SS/P Riley Harrison (Sr.); C Gabe Ashley (Sr.); OF Terrance Roberts (Jr.)

Other Returning Players: OF Lane Johnson (Jr., 6-1, 170, L/R); RHP Seth Pitts (Sr., 5-10, 155, L/R); C/3B Dylan Fowler (Jr., 5-10, 165, R/R); OF Ryan Frost (Sr., 5-11, 160, R/R); 3B/RHP Austin McDaniel (Sr., 6-3, 200, R/R); RHP Timmy Hollister (Sr., 6-1, 200, R/R); C Ethan Hunt (Sr., 6-0, 225, R/R)

Top Newcomers: OF Bradon Long (Jr.); INF Damon Goines (Jr.); U Nate Davis (So.); P/U Aiden Raymer (So.); P/INF Drew Meade (Jr.)

Season Outlook: The Panthers finished in a tie for second-place last year in the Region 6-4A standings. Look for Ridgeland to contend for the region crown this season. A strong senior class returns, including shortstop/pitcher Riley Harrison, pitcher/catcher/utility Tanner Hill and outfielder DJ Ball.



Riley Harrison
Ridgeland

Tanner Hill
Ridgeland

SOUTHEAST WHITFIELD RAIDERS

Head Coach: Brad Lofton

Assistant Coach (s):

Austin Fowler, Chad Ickerd, Allen Coley

2018 Record: 11-19

Returning Starters:

RHP/SS Javier Favela (Sr., 6-2, 180, R/R); OF/RHP/INF Murphy Flood (Sr., 6-2, 180, R/R); 3B/RHP/C Omar Chavarria (Sr., 6-0, 190, R/R); RHP/OF Adam Sowder (Jr., 5-11, 175, R/R); RHP/OF/1B Marc Mirales (Jr., 5-8, 190, R/R); 1B/2B/3B Bryson Lofton (So., 5-10, 200, L/R); OF/RHP Ethan Hill (So., 5-10, 140, R/R); 2B/RHP Cobey Patterson (So., 5-11, 140, R/R)

Season Outlook: A solid nucleus of returning players should help Southeast Whitfield contend for a postseason berth. Eight starters



Omar Chavarria
Southeast Whitfield

Javier Favela
Southeast Whitfield

are back, including standout pitcher Javier Favela (5-4, 2.38 ERA) and leading hitters Omar Chavarria (.419 avg., 28 RBIs) and Murphy Flood (.354 avg., 23 RBIs). A solid junior class will also help out.



Murphy Flood
Southeast Whitfield



Bryson Lofton
Southeast Whitfield

REGION 7-4A

Region Favorite: Blessed Trinity

Keep an eye on: Denmark – The Danes are young, but there is a lot of talent on that team.

Players to Watch

SS – CJ Abrams, Sr., Blessed Trinity; **1B/OF** – Gabe Allison, Sr., West Hall; **LHP/1B** – Andrew Armstrong, Sr., Flowery Branch; **OF** – Trey Baker, Jr., Blessed Trinity; **INF/RHP** – Will Cantrell, Sr., Chestatee; **OF** – Steele Chambers, Sr., Blessed Trinity; **OF** – Ryan Davis, Sr., Blessed Trinity; **OF** – Canaan Koger, Jr., West Hall; **OF/LHP** – Grant Lackey, Jr., Flowery Branch; **C** – James McCallum, Sr., Marist; **1B/RHP** – DJ Radtke, So., Blessed Trinity; **LHP/1B** – Zander Sechrist, Sr., Flowery Branch; **INF/RHP** – Jake Smith, Sr., Blessed Trinity; **RHP** – Seb Thomas, Sr., Marist

BLESSED TRINITY TITANS

Head Coach: Andy Harlin

Assistant Coach (s):

Jamie Wagner,
Brandon Harwell

2018 Record: 34-5

Returning Starters: 1B/RHP DJ Radtke (So., 6-3, 180, R/R); 2B/RHP Jake Smith (Sr., 6-1, 200, R/R); SS CJ Abrams (Sr., 6-1, 180, L/R); OF Trey Baker (Jr., 6-4, 190, L/R); OF Ryan Davis (Sr., 5-9, 175, R/R); OF Steele Chambers (Sr., 6-2, 220, R/R)

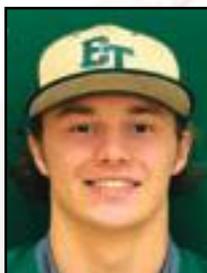
Other Returning

Players: OF Bret Buursema (Jr., 5-10, 175, R/R); LHP Conner Green (Sr., 5-11, 180, L/L); INF/RHP Ben Hamacher (So., 5-9, 165, R/R); INF/OF

Carson Harof (So., 5-10, 180, R/R); LHP Nick Karavite (Sr., 6-1, 180, L/L) RHP Will Macolino (Sr., 5-11, 185, R/R); RHP Dominick Morcoccio (Jr., 6-4, 230, R/R); INF/RHP Michael Mitchler (So., 6-3, 190, L/R); LHP Eric Moore



Steele Chambers
Blessed Trinity



Ryan Davis
Blessed Trinity



DJ Radtke
Blessed Trinity



Jake Smith
Blessed Trinity

(Sr., 6-2, 210, L/L); C Nick Tarantino (Jr., 6-0, 180, B/R); C Hayden Grier (So., 5-10, 175, R/R)

Season Outlook: Perhaps no program has been as consistent as Blessed Trinity the past decade. Look for the Titans to be strong again. All-American shortstop CJ Abrams returns as well as all-state standouts Ryan Davis and Steele Chambers. Senior Jake Smith returns to lead what could be a dominating pitching rotation.

CHESTATEE WAR EAGLES

Head Coach: Jon Brewer

Assistant Coach (s): Wes Dunn, Luke Crumley, Scott Degraff

2018 Record: 17-16

Returning Starters: INF/RHP Will Cantrell (Sr., 6-0, 205, R/R); C Phillip LeMay (Jr., 5-10, 165, R/R); INF/RHP Benson Miller (Jr., 5-8, 185, R/R); INF/RHP Clay Tyas (So., 5-11, 170, R/R); OF/INF Caleb Carter (Jr., 5-6, 155, R/R)

Other Returning Players: 1B Robbie James (Jr., 6-2, 190, R/R); INF/OF Christian Charles (So., 6-2, 175, R/R); OF Matthew Jarrard (Jr., 5-10, 170, R/R)

Top Newcomers: INF/RHP Nolan Turner (Fr., 5-7, 160, R/R); INF/RHP Asa Smith (Fr., 6-2, 175, R/R)

Season Outlook: Chestatee showed serious improvement last year and made the state playoffs for the second straight season. The War Eagles seek to continue that positive momentum this spring. Chestatee will be a little younger this season. Five starters are back, including infielder/pitcher Will Cantrell.

DENMARK DANES

Head Coach: David Smart (new)

Assistant Coach (s): Chad Pigg, Tyler Riddle

2018 Record: 0-0

Top Newcomers: RHP Dalton Hansard (Jr., 6-0, 185, R/R); INF Jack Kream (Jr., 6-0, 170, L/R); C Carson Russell (Jr., 6-0, 160, R/R); INF Jack Whitlock (Jr., 6-3, 210, L/R); RHP Ben Whitlock (Jr., 6-3, 200, R/R); INF JJ Corr (So., R/R); OF Teddy Davenport (So., L/L)

Season Outlook: Former LaGrange High coach David Smart takes over Forsyth County's newest school and will look to turn the Danes into consistent winners. Denmark has a solid group of juniors to build around. When the team gets some experience, they could be solid.

FLOWERY BRANCH FALCONS

Head Coach: Joey Ray

Assistant Coach (s):

Dusty Black, Robby Boudreau, Austin Brown

2018 Record: 22-18

Returning Starters: DH/1B TJ Armstrong (Sr., 6-2, 230, R/R); RHP Zack Wagner (Sr., 5-10, 180, R/R); LHP/1B Andrew Armstrong (Jr., 6-2, 145, L/L); OF/LHP Grant

Lackey (Jr., 5-11, 165, L/L); LHP/1B Zander Sechrist (Jr., 6-2, 160, R/L); INF Connor Larson (So., 5-8, 150, R/R); C Kaleb Freeman (So., 5-6, 145, B/R); C/RHP Anthony Woeltje (So., 5-10, 145, R/R)

Other Returning Players: RHP Luke Houston (Sr., 6-3, 200, R/R); 3B/RHP Cody Gibson (Sr., 5-9, 180, R/R); 1B/3B Connor Reynolds (Sr., 5-10, 190, R/R); OF Bailey Carpenter (Sr., 5-10, 145, R/R)



Andrew Armstrong
Flowery Branch



Zander Sechrist
Flowery Branch

Top Newcomers: INF JB Bell (So., 5-8, 140, R/R); OF/RHP Austin Hatcher (So., 6-1, 180, R/R)

Season Outlook: After a deep playoff run in Class 5A last year, Flowery Branch drops to Class 4A and will be a team to watch. The Falcons return their top two pitchers – all-state lefties Andrew Armstrong and Zander Sechrist. Right-hander Zack Wagner and Luke Houston also return. Senior TJ Armstrong is back to lead the offense.

MARIST WAR EAGLES

Head Coach: Mike Strickland

Assistant Coach (s): Cory Tibbs

2018 Record: 15-18

Returning Starters: RHP Seb Thomas (Sr., 6-3, 215, R/R); C James McCallum (Sr., 6-0, 195, R/R); INF William Stephens (Jr., 6-0, 185, R/R); RHP/INF Dean Colton (Sr., 6-3, 225, L/R); INF Matthew McDermond (Sr., 5-11, 170, B/R); INF John Flor (Sr., 5-11, 155, R/R); OF Patrick Comerford (Sr., 6-0, 180, L/L)

Other Returning Players: RHP Chase Otten (Sr., 5-10, 170, R/R); OF Tyler Hare (So., 6-0, 185, L/R); OF/C Grey Taylor (So., 6-1, 175, R/R); INF Thomas Rollauer (So., 5-9, 150, R/R); 1B Ryan Mannelly (Sr., 6-2, 195, R/R); LHP/1B Liam Sullivan (Jr., 6-4, 220, L/L)

Season Outlook: As usual, look for Marist to challenge for the region title and make a run at the playoffs. Seven starters are back, including pitcher Seb Thomas, who will give Marist a chance to win each time he takes the mound. Catcher James McCallum is back behind the plate. A solid senior class will lead the team.



Seb Thomas
Marist

WEST HALL SPARTANS

Head Coach: Chad Sage

Assistant Coach (s): Brannon Humphries, Jon Mark Owings, Jeff Jenkins

2018 Record: 16-12

Returning Starters: 1B/OF Gabe Allison (Sr., 6-1, 210, R/R); OF Canaan Koger (Jr., 6-1, 175, R/R); INF/RHP Kyle Murphy (So., 5-11, 170, R/R); INF/RHP Clayton Jenkins (So., 6-0, 155, R/R); INF/RHP Braden Simms (So., 5-10, 160, R/R); OF Hunter Samples (Jr., 5-9, 170, R/R)

Other Returning Players: C/OF Tyler Maynard (So., 5-10, 165, R/R); 1B Avery Milligan (Jr., 6-2, 205, R/R)

Top Newcomers: 3B/RHP Nick Sturm (Fr., 6-1, 190, R/R); OF/LHP Matthew Griffin (Fr., 5-7, 140, L/L); U Michael Gaddy (Fr., 5-9, 160, R/R)

Season Outlook: West Hall made the state playoffs last season and should be in the mix again. Six starters are back. Senior first baseman/outfielder Gabe Allison is one of the few seniors on the team, and he will be expected to lead the way. But don't sleep on a talented group of underclassmen who will compete for playing time.

WHITE COUNTY WARRIORS

Head Coach: Jim Waites

Survey not returned



REGION 8-4A

Region Favorite: Stephens County

Keep an eye on: Oconee County – After an injury-riddled 2018 season, look for the Warriors to be back.

Players to Watch

C – Brooks Blizzard, Sr., Oconee County; **LHP/OF** – Luke Dickens, Sr., Oconee County; **1B/LHP/OF** – Justin Doychak, Sr., St. Pius X; **OF** – Dom Hughes, Sr., North Oconee; **INF/OF/RHP** – Rylan Laird, Sr., North Oconee; **3B** – Keanu Legaspi, Sr., Oconee County; **1B** – Joe Lukas, Sr., Madison County; **C** – Mason McFarlin, Sr., Madison County; **LHP/OF** – Noah McFarlin, Sr., Madison County; **OF/RHP** – Jacob Pajer, Jr., St. Pius X; **SS/RHP** – Will Pearson, Jr., North Oconee; **OF** – Kyle Sherrer, Sr., North Oconee; **SS/2B** – Chandler Simpson, Sr., St. Pius X; **RHP/3B** – Dawson Sorrells, Sr., Stephens County; **RHP** – Davis Swenson, Sr., Stephens County; **RHP** – Daniel Teran, Sr., St. Pius X; **LHP** – Gabe White, Sr., Stephens County

MADISON COUNTY RED RAIDERS

Head Coach: Chad Gillespie

Assistant Coach (s): Jeff Davis, Casey Bates, Jack May, Alex Jordan, Bo Hardman, Ethan Seagraves, Bobby Howard

2018 Record: 16-14

Returning Starters: LHP/OF Noah McFarlin (Sr., 5-10, 160, L/L); C Mason McFarlin (Sr., 5-10, 165, R/R); 1B Joe Lukas (Sr., 6-1, 165, R/R); RHP Austin Baddely (Jr., 5-8, 130, R/R); INF Tristen Turner (Sr., 6-0, 140, R/R); C Walker Hawks (Sr., 6-1, 155, R/R); OF Jacob Bray (Sr., 5-8, 135, R/R); INF Adam Echols (Jr., 5-9, 140, R/R); OF/RHP Colby Smith (Jr., 5-9, 140, R/R); RHP Garrett Powell (Jr., 6-3, 160, R/R)

Other Returning Players: LHP Seth Peck (Sr., 6-0, 155, L/L); RHP Jarred Bolton (Sr., 5-9, 150, R/R); C/INF Will Whitehead (Jr., 6-0, 150, R/R); OF Jared Carter (Sr., 6-0, 160, R/R); OF Dylan Hipp (Sr., 6-1, 160, R/R)

Top Newcomers: INF Drew Porterfield (So., 5-11, 130, R/R); RHP/INF Russ Bray (Jr., 6-1, 150, R/R); INF/RHP Jarrett Moore (Jr., 5-8, 135, R/R)

Season Outlook: Look for Madison County to contend for the region crown and a postseason berth again this season. The Raiders have seven returning starters. Keep an eye on pitcher/outfielder Noah McFarlin and catcher Mason McFarlin. First baseman Joe Lukas also returns, highlighting a solid senior class.

NORTH OCONEE TITANS

Head Coach: Jay Lasley

Assistant Coach

(s): Matt Kelley, Tom Dimitroff, Eric Bounds, Tyler Pittman, Rusty Watson, Brandon Gaubert

2018 Record: 22-9

Returning Starters: INF/OF/RHP Rylan Laird (Sr., 6-0, 180, L/R); OF Kyle

Sherrer (Sr., 6-1, 185, R/R); OF Dom Hughes (Sr., 5-9, 190, L/R); SS/RHP Will Pearson (Jr., 6-1, 165, R/R); 3B Tyler Hess (Sr., 5-8, 185, R/R); 1B



Dom Hughes
North Oconee



Will Pearson
North Oconee

Garrett Paxson (Sr., 6-1, 195, R/R); SS/RHP Bubba Chandler (So., 6-2, 180, B/R); RHP Dylan Wilhelm (Jr., 6-2, 180, R/R); OF Woody Barks (Jr., 5-8, 215, R/R)

Other Returning Players: RHP Austin Odom (Sr., 5-11, 170, R/R); RHP Troy Harris (Sr., 5-11, 155, R/R); OF Davis Johnson (Sr., 6-4, 200, L/L); INF Andrew Henry (Sr., 6-4, 200, R/R)

Top Newcomers: C Bennett Ford (Jr., 6-0, 185, R/R); INF/RHP Chandler White (Jr., 6-0, 205, R/R); OF Gianni Lombardo (Jr., 5-9, 160, L/R); INF Tanner Dempsey (So., 5-9, 140, R/R); OF/RHP Tanner Evilsizor (So., 5-10, 160, R/R)

Season Outlook: The potential is there this spring for North Oconee to be even better than it was last year. Nine starters are back, including first team all-region selections Will Pearson (.338 avg.) and Dom Hughes (.303 avg., 6 HR). If the Titans can find some more pitching depth, they should challenge for the region crown.

OCONEE COUNTY WARRIORS

Head Coach: Tom Gooch

Assistant Coach (s):

Blake Mooney, Tommy Fountain, Phillip Faulkner

2018 Record: 6-22

Returning Starters: C

Brooks Blizzard (Sr., 6-0, 175, L/R); 3B/DH Keanu Legaspi (Sr., 6-0, 155, R/R); SS/RHP Jeff Thurmond (Sr., 5-11, 160, R/R); 1B/OF/RHP Jackson Manders (Sr., 6-1, 190, R/R); OF Evan Kesler (Sr., 5-11, 155, R/R); OF/LHP Luke Dickens (Sr., 6-0, 160, L/L)

Other Returning

Players: OF Caden Kopaniasz (Jr., 5-10, 155, L/L); 1B/LHP Joe Waddell (So., 6-2, 165, L/L); 3B/RHP

Sean Hogg (Sr., 5-11, 170, R/R); 1B/LHP Will Gunter (Jr., 5-10, 170, L/L); 1B/LHP Kole Page (Jr., 6-0, 225, L/L); OF Chad Anderson (Sr., 5-10, 165, L/L)

Top Newcomers: SS/2B Will Griffith (Jr., 6-2, 150, R/R); SS/2B Riley Christie (Jr., 5-9, 140, R/R)

Season Outlook: Injuries hurt Oconee County last season, but the Warriors will bounce back in 2018. Six senior starters are back, including catcher Brooks Blizzard and leading hitter Keanu Legaspi. Pitching should be a strength as three-year starter Luke Dickens leads a talented rotation.



Brooks Blizzard
Oconee County



Luke Dickens
Oconee County



Keanu Legaspi
Oconee County



Jeff Thurmond
Oconee County

SAINT PIUS X GOLDEN LIONS

Head Coach: Chad Garrison

Assistant Coach (s):

Andrew Mabini, Michael Lancaster, Gary Leiner, Bobby Tippett, Trey Broussard, Paul Standard III, Kevin Ksionzyk, Brian Ogle

2018 Record: 17-13

Returning Starters:

SS/2B Chandler Simpson (Sr., 6-0, 160, L/R); 1B/LHP/OF Justin Doychak (Sr., 6-3, 175, L/L); 1B/OF Nick Kosek (Sr., 6-0, 185, L/R); OF/RHP Zach Siebert (Sr., 6-1, 170, L/R); 3B/OF Michael Spear (Sr., 5-11, 175, L/R); RHP Daniel Teran (Sr., 5-10, 180, R/R); OF/RHP Jacob Pajer (Jr., 6-0, 180, R/R); RHP/SS/2B Agyei Quinichett (Jr., 5-11, 180, R/R); C/RHP Matthew Turner (Sr., 5-11, 175, R/R)

Other Returning Players:

2B/3B Will Briones (Sr., 5-7, 160, R/R); RHP Anthony Ficco (Sr., 5-11, 165, L/R)

Season Outlook: The Lions just missed out on the state playoffs last season. St. Pius X welcomes back nine starters and should be in the postseason chase this spring. A strong group of seniors led by infielder Chandler Simpson and pitcher Justin Doychak will lead the way.



Justin Doychak
St. Pius X



Jacob Pajer
St. Pius X



Zach Siebert
St. Pius X



Michael Spear
St. Pius X



Chandler Simpson - St. Pius X
Photo by St. Pius X High School

STEPHENS COUNTY INDIANS

Head Coach: Greg McCall

Assistant Coach (s): Michael Thomas, Rocky Fulbright, Dave Poffenberger

2018 Record: 21-11

Returning Starters:

RHP Davis Swenson (Sr., 6-3, 195, R/R); RHP/3B Dawson Sorrells (Sr., 6-0, 175, R/R); LHP Gabe White (Sr., 6-3, 180, R/L)

Other Returning

Players: OF Isaiah Martin (Jr., R/R); OF Ben Hobbs (Sr., R/R); SS Eli Wenger (Jr., R/R); 2B Cole Snyder (Jr., R/R); LHP Aaron Chappellear (Sr., L/L); INF Carson Brock (Sr., R/R); RHP/OF Jordan Page (Jr., R/R); RHP/1B Jackson Dean (Jr., R/R)

Season Outlook: The Indians have some key positions to fill, but if they can find some offense to step forward, they could approach the success of the last two seasons. Pitching will be strong as all-state performers Davis Swenson (6-4, 2.78 ERA) and Dawson Sorrells (5-2, 3.40 ERA) return. Left-hander Gabe White (3-2, 2.10 ERA) also returns.



Dawson Sorrells
Stephens County



Davis Swenson
Stephens County





PERFECT GAME HIGH SCHOOL
SHOWDOWN
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BLESSED TRINITY
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2014

SARASOTA HIGH SCHOOL (FL)

2015

PARKVIEW HIGH SCHOOL (GA)

2016

SPARKMAN HIGH SCHOOL (AL)

2017

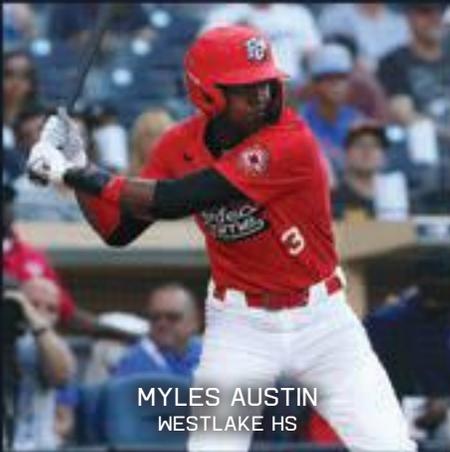
PROVIDENCE HIGH SCHOOL (FL)

2018

MONTVERDE ACADEMY (FL)
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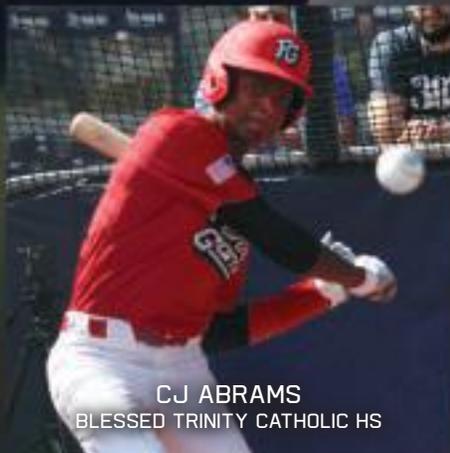
MYLES AUSTIN
WESTLAKE HS



NASIM NUNEZ
COLLINS HILL HS



LANDON SIMS
SOUTH FORSYTH HS



CJ ABRAMS
BLESSSED TRINITY CATHOLIC HS

DANIEL ESPINO
GEORGIA PREMIER ACADEMY

PERFECT GAME WOULD LIKE TO CONGRATULATE
THE FIVE PLAYERS FROM GEORGIA SELECTED
TO PARTICIPATE IN THE 2018 PERFECT GAME
ALL-AMERICAN CLASSIC



Metro Atlanta BIG 10



Name: CJ Abrams

School: Blessed Trinity

Position: Shortstop

Height/Weight: 6-1/180

Q: If money was no object and you could do anything in this world, what would you do?

A: I'd visit as many places as I could.



Name: Jacob Baldino

School: Walton

Position: Pitcher

Height/Weight: 6-3/175

Q: If money was no object and you could do anything in this world, what would you do?

A: I'd visit as many places as I could.



Name: Myles Austin

School: Westlake

Position: Shortstop/Pitcher

Height/Weight: 6-3/180

Q: Name something people will be surprised to learn about you:

A: I have 12 fingers.



Name: Gavin Collyer

School: Mountain View

Position: Pitcher

Height/Weight: 6-2/160

Q: Name something people will be surprised to learn about you:

A: I started pitching like two years ago.



Name: Buddy Floyd

School: Pope

Position: Shortstop

Height/Weight: 5-6/175

Q: Name something people will be surprised to learn about you:

A: I enjoy cutting grass.



WHERE PROSPECTS PLAY





Metro Atlanta BIG 10



Name: Jonathan French

School: Parkview

Position: Catcher/Pitcher

Height/Weight: 6-1/215

Q: If money was no object and you could do anything in this world, what would you do?

A: I'd travel the world.



Name: Andrew Jenkins

School: Pace Academy

Position: Catcher/Third Baseman /Pitcher

Height/Weight: 6-0/210

Q: Name something people will be surprised to learn about you:

A: I play water polo.



Name: Guillermo Grainer

School: Holy Innocents'

Position: Pitcher/Third Baseman

Height/Weight: 6-0/175

Q: Name something people will be surprised to learn about you:

A: I am from Caracas, Venezuela, and I moved to the United States when I was seven.



Name: Nasim Nunez

School: Collins Hill

Position: Shortstop

Height/Weight: 5-9/155

Q: If money was no object and you could do anything in this world, what would you do?

A: I'd like to get a big program going to help the baseball youth who can't afford to be in the big showcases.



Name: Tyler Williams

School: Redan

Position: Outfielder/Pitcher

Height/Weight: 6-2/180

Q: Name something people will be surprised to learn about you:

A: I just started playing seriously.



PERFECT GAME



North Georgia BIG 10



Name: Ethan Anderson

School: River Ridge

Position: Outfielder/Catcher
/Pitcher

Height/Weight: 6-3/185

Q: If money was no object and you could do anything in this world, what would you do?

A: I would explore the Seven Wonders of the World.



Name: Ramsey David

School: Buford

Position: Pitcher

Height/Weight: 6-3/190

Q: Name something people will be surprised to learn about you:

A: I am a Type I diabetic.



Name: Mason Barnett

School: Cartersville

Position: Pitcher/Designated
Hitter

Height/Weight: 6-0/190

Q: What are your plans after high school?

A: Attend Auburn University to continue my education and baseball career.



Name: Spencer Keefe

School: Woodstock

Position: Infielder

Height/Weight: 6-2/210

Q: Name something people will be surprised to learn about you:

A: I'm a lockdown 3-point specialist.



Name: Daniel Lavender

School: Elbert County

Position: Pitcher/First Baseman

Height/Weight: 6-4/210

Q: If money was no object and you could do anything in this world, what would you do?

A: I'd get my grandmother a new house.



WHERE PROSPECTS PLAY





North Georgia BIG 10



Name: Zach Maxwell
School: North Paulding
Position: Pitcher
Height/Weight: 6-5/240

Q: If money was no object and you could do anything in this world, what would you do?

A: I'd visit all 30 Major League Baseball stadiums.



Name: Ryan Suppa
School: North Cobb Christian
Position: Pitcher
Height/Weight: 6-2/190

Q: What are your plans after high school?

A: To play baseball at the University of Georgia and major in exercise science.



Name: Landon Sims
School: South Forsyth
Position: Pitcher/Outfielder
Height/Weight: 6-2/200

Q: Name something people will be surprised to learn about you:

A: I don't like sushi.



Name: Andre Traver
School: Ringgold
Position: Outfielder
Height/Weight: 6-2/210

Q: What are your plans after high school?

A: Play baseball at Mississippi State.



Name: Blake Wehunt
School: Franklin County
Position: Pitcher/First Baseman
Height/Weight: 6-4/225

Q: If money was no object and you could do anything in this world, what would you do?

A: I would try to find a cure for all the major diseases, and then I would probably travel.



PERFECT GAME



South Georgia BIG 10



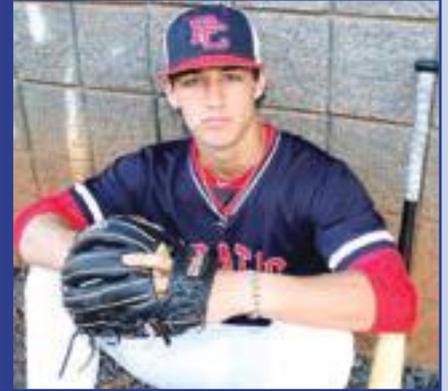
Name: Jarrett Brown
School: Savannah Christian
Position: Shortstop/Pitcher
Height/Weight: 6-1/160

Q: What are your plans after high school?
A: Go play baseball at Georgia Southern and major in exercise science.



Name: Coleman Crow
School: Pike County
Position: Pitcher/Infielder
Height/Weight: 5-7/160

Q: Name something people will be surprised to learn about you:
A: I don't break my Kit Kats apart, I bite right through them.



Name: Will Childers
School: Lakeside-Evans
Position: Pitcher
Height/Weight: 6-4/200

Q: Name something people will be surprised to learn about you:
A: My father Matt Childers and uncle Jason Childers both played in the Major Leagues. My uncle Terry Childers, played on Georgia's national championship baseball team.



Name: Bryce Melear
School: Greenbrier
Position: Pitcher
Height/Weight: 6-2/160

Q: Name something people will be surprised to learn about you:
A: I'm terrible at basketball.



Name: Braelin Mitchell
School: Callaway
Position: First Baseman
Height/Weight: 6-4/220

Q: If money was no object and you could do anything in this world, what would you do?
A: I'd start my own baseball academy and become a mentor to many young players of the game.



WHERE PROSPECTS PLAY





South Georgia BIG 10



Name: Dalton Smith

School: Lowndes

Position: Outfielder/Pitcher

Height/Weight: 6-1/190

Q: If money was no object and you could do anything in this world, what would you do?

A: Play baseball for the rest of my life as I travel the world.



Name: Colby Thomas

School: Valdosta

Position: Outfielder/Second Baseman

Height/Weight: 6-1/180

Q: Name something people will be surprised to learn about you:

A: I went from a private school hitting one homer to a 6A public school and hit 14.



Name: Grant Starling

School: Wayne County

Position: Pitcher/Outfielder

Height/Weight: 6-1/185

Q: If money was no object and you could do anything in this world, what would you do?

A: I'd play professional baseball and be a professional body builder.



Name: Aaron Wainright

School: Camden County

Position: Pitcher

Height/Weight: 6-2/215

Q: Name something people will be surprised to learn about you:

A: I'm not related to (MLB Pitcher) Adam Wainright.



Name: Colby Williams

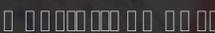
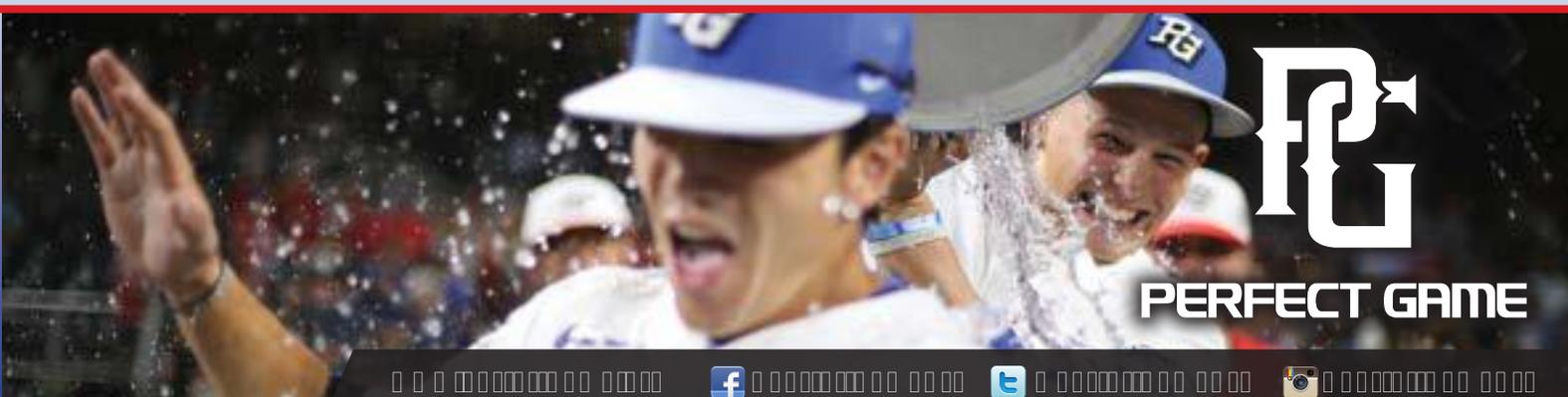
School: Troup

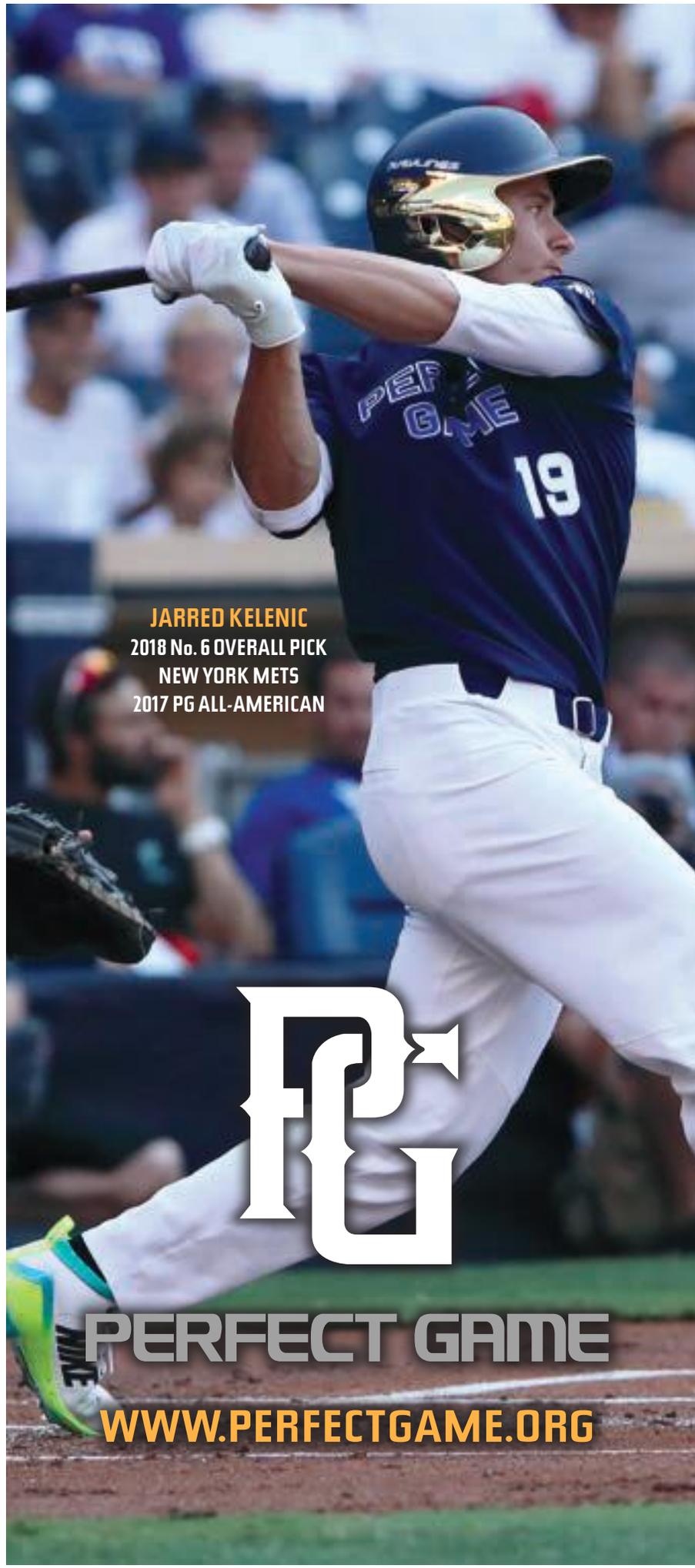
Position: Pitcher/Third Baseman

Height/Weight: 5-11/200

Q: What are your plans after high school?

A: Attend Kennesaw State University and study to become a lawyer, and hopefully play professional baseball.





JARROD KELENIC
2018 No. 6 OVERALL PICK
NEW YORK METS
2017 PG ALL-AMERICAN



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PERFECT GAME MLB DRAFT FACTS

All 43 of the 43 first and supplemental first-round picks of the 2018 MLB Draft had previously attended a Perfect Game event, including the No. 1 overall pick, Casey Mize.

77 of the 78 players selected on the first day (top two rounds) of the 2018 MLB Draft had previously attended a Perfect Game event.

37 of the 78 players selected on the first day of the 2018 MLB Draft had previously attended a Perfect Game National Showcase (27 of which did so in 2017).

27 Perfect Game All-Americans were selected on the first day of the 2018 MLB Draft, 24 of which played in the 2017 Classic.

Since the game's inception in 2003, nine Perfect Game All-Americans have been selected with the first overall pick, including Royce Lewis (2017), Mickey Moniak (2016), Carlos Correa (2012), Gerrit Cole (2011), Bryce Harper (2010) and Justin Upton (2005).

Building on the foundation

Lovett wins second title in three years, fifth since 2005

By Tim Morse

Since Lance Oubs took over the Lovett School baseball program in 2005, he annually challenges his senior class to continue the program's tradition.

And his strategy has worked, for the most part, to perfection.

In 14 seasons, Oubs has guided Lovett to five state titles (2006, '09, '13, '16 and '18). The Lions won their second title in three seasons in 2018, topping region rival Westminster to win the Georgia High School Association Class 3A championship. It was the program's ninth championship overall.

"I don't want to say I was surprised," Oubs said of winning the title. "But it came down to the team's resiliency and their mentality. A large part of their success was put in place by the senior class who won the state title in 2016."

That squad, Oubs said, helped prepare the 2018 edition. It's part of a culture Oubs and his staff has tried to build. Since 2005, no team competing in the GHSA has won more titles than Lovett.

And the Lion coaching staff hopes this year's senior class established a foundation for future Lovett squads.

"A large part of (our success) comes down to the culture of the program," Oubs said. "One thing we try to stress to seniors is that it's their job to perpetuate the tradition of the Lovett baseball program."

It wasn't easy for the Lions in 2018 though. Lovett finished second in a brutal Region 5-3A and had to top powerful Calhoun in the first round. They then drew defending state champion North Hall in the second round and needed three games to top the Trojans, including an extra-inning victory in the final game to clinch the series.

Standout pitcher Ben O'Meara earned the victory in Game 1, then he had 28 pitches he could throw in a decisive Game 3. He ended up throwing three innings in the nine-inning victory, never exceeding his pitch count.

The Lions needed three games to eliminate Southeast Bulloch in the quarterfinals before sweeping past Morgan County in the semifinals to earn a rematch in the finals with rival Westminster, who won the Region 5 title. The two teams split their games during the regular season.

After Westminster won the first game of the state championship series, Lovett rallied back to take the second game on Charles Gibson's sacrifice fly for a 7-6 victory.

After rain forced the final game of the series to Rome's State Mutual Stadium, Dhruv Patel helped pitch Lovett to a 2-0 victory in the finale to capture the championship.

While Lovett defeated most of its opponents by playing small-ball on offense, Oubs said a deep pitching rotation was the team's strength. While O'Meara was the leader, they got quality performances from Patel, Lance Beck, Grayson Nix, Wyatt Nelson, Charles Gibson and left-hander David Underwood throughout the season.

"I'm super proud and happy for my guys," Oubs told the Marietta Daily Journal. "It was a goal of our senior class to get back to the state championship. They experienced what it was like as sophomores two years ago and knew what it took to return. They led the younger guys, and I couldn't be more happy for them and the rest of the team. It was a great moment."



Lovett players hoist the championship trophy after winning the GHSA Class 3A state title.

Photo by The Lovett School



Lovett players celebrate after winning the GHSA Class 3A state championship trophy.

Photo by The Lovett School



Front Row (l-r), Owen McMurtrie, Trent Beavor, Peyton Ringer, William Marino, Ellis Prigge, Drayton Foster. **Middle Row** (l-r), Ryan Pratt, Robson Harber, Dhruv Patel, Ben O'Meara, Wyatt Nelson, Evan McKown, David Underwood, Grayson Nix, Lance Beck. **Back Row** (l-r), Coach Vince Nasca, Coach Bentley Heyman, Coach Dave McDonald, Thomas Smith, Robert Poidexter, Will Seiler, Charles Gibson, Coach Jamie Palmer, Head Coach Lance Oubs, Manager J.D. Lindauer. **Not pictured:** Schaefer Jackson.

Photo by The Lovett School

Class 3A Top 15

1 JEFFERSON

The defending Class 4A champions have enough leftovers to make another deep playoff run and contend for a second straight state championship. But the Dragons will surely miss all-everything pitcher Patrick Hickox who graduated. Even without Hickox, the pitching staff will still be very strong as Lane Watkins, Derek Vaughn and Vinny Farley all return. Vaughn and Farley quietly aided Jefferson's run to the state championship last year with gutsy performances when the Dragons needed them the most.

On offense, Watkins leads the team after batting .363 last year. He and shortstop Zac Corbin combine to give the Dragons one of the state's top infield duos on the right side of the diamond. First baseman Ryan Godfrey and outfielders Sammy Elegreet and Kade McNally return. Elegreet and McNally also played their best in the postseason last year. And Mason Cooper, perhaps one of the state's top catchers for the Class of 2021, returns after a promising freshman season.

2 WESTMINSTER

The Wildcats made it to the Class 3A state championship series in 2018 before falling to region foe Lovett. Westminster, who won Region 5-3A last year, has the talent and experience to chase another title. The Wildcats have three-year starter Ben Forte and slugger Parks Harber returning. And pitchers Luke Jannetta and Jonathan Morgan also return.

3 LOVETT

The defending Class 3A state champions have the talent to make another deep run. They will miss ace pitcher Ben O'Meara, but there is more than enough pitching with Dhruv Patel, Lance Beck and David Underwood returning. The roster is loaded with talent and experience and the Lions will be tough to beat again.

4 MORGAN COUNTY

The Bulldogs have been building for this season for quite some time. And if all the cards fall into place, Morgan County could be better than last season's squad that made the state semifinals. Three-year starters Hunter Lane, Jaron Ferguson and Ethan Stamps are all back.

5 REDAN

When you have depth like the Raiders do, you just reload. After falling in the first round to Ringgold last year, look for Redan to be back with a wealth of solid players waiting for their chance to shine. If the pitching develops, this team will be dangerous. Offensively, Tyler Williams, Kameron Guidry and Christian Webb are back.

6 NORTH HALL

In what many thought was going to be a rebuilding year in 2018, the Spartans won 24 games and the Region 7-3A title. They lost in three games in the second round of the playoffs to eventual state champion Lovett. The bulk of that team is back, especially on offense as Caleb Clark and Caleb Wiley return.

7 PIKE COUNTY

After making the Class 3A state quarterfinals last year, the Pirates are hungry for a return. And they have the ingredients to do just that. Pitching will be Pike's biggest strength as Coleman Crow, Noah Windhorst and Dylan Garner all return.

8 RINGGOLD

Many believed last year was the Tigers' best shot at a state championship. Ringgold fell in the state semifinals. The Tigers lost some key players, but there are enough leftovers for Ringgold to take another shot at a deep playoff run. They boast one of the state's more-exciting players in Andre Tarver as well as catcher Daulton Schley and pitchers Holden Tucker and Wyatt Tennant.

9 CALHOUN

It was an uncharacteristic season for Calhoun in 2018. The Yellow Jackets struggled to make the playoffs, got in, then got swept by Lovett in the first round. Calhoun may have Region 6-3A's most-talented group of players and they shouldn't disappoint. Pitching will be the backbone as Ben King and Davis Allen return.

10 PACE ACADEMY

The Knights could hit the baseball as good as anybody in Class 3A last year. And that should continue this spring. Graduation took several of the Knights' top players, but there are plenty more returning. Pace does welcome back the return of one of the state's top hitters in Andrew Jenkins.

11 BENEDICTINE

After winning the Class 2A state title last year, the Cadets suffered some heavy losses. But don't count out Benedictine. They return one of the state's top sophomore players in Carter Holton as well as senior leader Ryan Pickard behind the plate.

12 SOUTHEAST BULLOCH

The Jackets were the state's surprise last year in postseason play when they took eventual state champion Lovett to a third game in the quarterfinals before falling. SEB won't be sneaking up on anybody this year. They have a talented team that will pick up from where they left off.

13 GREATER ATLANTA CHRISTIAN

After a bad start in region play, GAC rebounded and finished as the No. 2 seed in Region 7-3A last year. They made the second round of the postseason. A good bit of that talent is back, especially pitching as ace Jake Johnson and Bryceton Payne are back. The pair combined for 10 of GAC's 21 wins last year.

14 FRANKLIN COUNTY

Frank Vashaw's program continues to show signs of progress, and this should be his best team in Carnesville. There are six starters back, including pitcher Blake Wehunt who will keep the Lions in the hunt. If Franklin can find some offense, look out.

15 APPLING COUNTY

Graduation hit the Pirates hard, but never sleep on an Appling County team coached by Jeremy Smith. The team is young and needs some experience. When the playoffs come around, look for the Pirates to be trouble.

Others to watch: (Alphabetical Order) Adairsville, Coahulla Creek, Cook, Fannin County, Jackson, Pierce County, Rutland

CLASS 3A PRESEASON ALL STATE

First Team

Name	Position	Grade	School	Comment
Dylan Garner	Pitcher	Junior	Pike County	You will hear a lot more about him
Carter Holton	Pitcher	Sophomore	Benedictine	It's scary how good this guy can be
Luke Jannetta	Pitcher	Senior	Westminster	Lights out pitcher on very good team
Jake Johnson	Pitcher	Junior	Greater Atlanta Christian	Lefty won 7 games last yr.
Ben King	Pitcher	Senior	Calhoun	He's tough on the opposition
Holden Tucker	Pitcher	Senior	Ringgold	Lethal pitcher can also hit well
Blake Wehunt	Pitcher	Senior	Franklin County	He will keep Franklin Co. in the chase
Ryan Pickard	Catcher	Senior	Benedictine	Excellent defender, solid bat
Daulton Schley	Catcher	Senior	Ringgold	As good as there is behind the plate
Zac Corbin	Infielder	Senior	Jefferson	Makes things happen
Coleman Crow	Infielder	Senior	Pike County	Versatile standout does his job well
Parks Harber	Infielder	Junior	Westminster	A hard guy to get out
Hunter Lane	Infielder	Senior	Morgan County	Gets the job done
Dylan Raurks	Infielder	Senior	Southeast Bulloch	He's kind of player you want
Ethan Stamps	Infielder	Senior	Morgan County	Senior does so many things for Morgan Co.
Caleb Clark	Outfielder	Senior	North Hall	Excels on mound and in OF
Jaron Ferguson	Outfielder	Senior	Morgan County	Three-year starter is tough
Robert Poindexter	Outfielder	Senior	Lovett	Provides major offensive spark
Andre Tarver	Outfielder	Senior	Ringgold	Pure athlete is exciting to watch
Tyler Williams	Outfielder	Senior	Redan	Only going to get better
Andrew Jenkins	Designated Hitter	Senior	Pace Academy	Batted .516 last year
Lane Watkins	Utility	Senior	Jefferson	Senior does little bit of everything

Second Team

Pitchers – Davis Allen, Sr., Calhoun; Lance Beck, Sr., Lovett; Shawn Brown, Jr., Appling County; Dhruv Patel, Sr., Lovett; Brock Revels, Sr., Cook; Eli Turso, Sr., Coahulla Creek; Noah Windhorst, Sr., Pike County; **Catchers** – Mason Cooper, So., Jefferson; Christian Webb, Sr., Redan; **Infielders** – Ben Forte, Sr., Westminster; Kameron Guidry, Sr., Redan; Chandler Kendall, Sr., Fannin County; Shane Lussier, Sr., Greater Atlanta Christian; KJ Manning, Jr., Cook; Caleb Wiley, Sr., North Hall; **Outfielders** – Chandler Byron, Sr., Monroe Area; Kevin Kilpatrick, Sr., Redan; Matthew Poblete, Jr., Appling County; Hudson Sapp, Jr., Dawson County; Wyatt Tennant, Sr., Ringgold; **Designated Hitter** – Damon Collins, Sr., Cook; **Utility** – Tyler Deloach, Sr., Southeast Bulloch

REGION 1-3A

Region Favorite: Cook

Keep an eye on: Crisp County – The Cougars should have their best team since 2014.

Players to Watch

INF – Kareen Ageel, Sr., Monroe; **INF/LHP** – Bailey Barfield, Sr., Crisp County; **OF** – Jordan Buchanan, So., Monroe; **3B** – Damon Collins, Sr., Cook; **RHP/OF** – Jack Fletcher, Jr., Worth County; **RHP/OF** – Gabe Goff, Sr., Worth County; **RHP** – Jordan Grinnell, Sr., Crisp County; **RF** – Garrett Kelly, Sr., Worth County; **OF** – Cason King, Jr., Worth County; **SS** – KJ Manning, Jr., Cook; **C/INF** – Jackson Napier, So., Crisp County; **RHP/INF** – Jeremiah Reddell, Jr., Worth County; **RHP** – Brock Revels, Sr., Cook; **INF/RHP** – Connor Richmond, Jr., Crisp County; **INF/RHP** – Noah Walters, So., Crisp County; **3B** – Kodi Way, Jr., Cook

COOK HORNETS

Head Coach: Greg Williams

Assistant Coach (s):

Zack Folsom, Mike Sneed, Boone Webster

2018 Record: 28-8

Returning Starters:

3B Damon Collins (Sr., 5-10, 160, R/R); 1B Ethan Folsom (Sr., 6-1, 180, L/L); RHP Brock Revels (Sr., 6-0, 210, R/R); SS KJ Manning (Jr., 5-6, 140, L/R); OF Hart Griffin (Jr., 5-10, 170, L/L)

Other Returning Players: RHP Dylan Turner (Sr., 5-10, 165, R/R); OF Walter Eady (Sr., 5-5, 130, R/R); OF Keyshawn Lucy (Jr., 6-2, 200, R/R); C Jake Dobson (Jr., 5-10, 150, R/R); 3B Kodi Way (Jr., 6-1, 185, R/R); 1B Landon Rentz (So., 5-8, 190, L/L); OF Salem Brannon (So., 6-0, 160, L/L); OF Omar Pickett (So., 5-10, 150, R/R)

Top Newcomers: LHP Hunter Dixon (So., 5-11, 160, B/L)



Damon Collins
Cook



KJ Manning
Cook



Brock Revels
Cook

Season Outlook: Graduation took a lot of offense and pitching from Cook's squad that made the state quarterfinals last year. But the Hornets return five starters, including offensive leader Damon Collins (.409 avg.) and right-handed pitcher Brock Revels (6-3, 2.10 ERA). Shortstop KJ Manning returns after a strong sophomore campaign.

CRISP COUNTY COUGARS

Head Coach: David Lamberth (new)

Assistant Coach (s): Scott Williams, Scooter Houston, Zach Houston, Myles Gay

2018 Record: 14-16

Returning Starters: RHP Jordan Grinnell (Sr., 5-11, 165, R/R); INF/LHP Bailey Barfield (Sr., 6-6, 220, R/L); INF/RHP Connor Richmond (Jr., 5-11, 165, R/R); INF/RHP Noah Walters (So., 6-1, 175, R/R); C/INF Jackson Napier (So., 6-0, 165, R/R); OF Dallas Phiel (Jr., 5-10, 175, R/R); OF Toby Stripling (Jr., 5-7, 140, L/L); INF/OF Cole Lancaster (Sr., 5-10, 155, R/R)

Other Returning Players: OF Cade Jolly (Jr., 5-10, 160, R/R); 1B Brant Drinnon (Sr., 5-11, 230, R/R); INF Tanner Massey (Sr., 6-2, 215, R/R); OF Alex Kelly (Sr., 5-10, 155, R/R)

Top Newcomers: C/INF Jack Carter (Fr., 6-0, 155, R/L); INF Ethan Pollack (Fr., 6-1, 165, R/R)

Season Outlook: Former assistant David Lamberth takes over and inherits eight returning starters. The Cougars will be young, but there is talent. Pitcher Noah Walters and catcher/infielder Jackson Napier had strong seasons as freshmen last year. The senior class is small but will be expected to lead a solid corps of underclassmen.

MONROE TORNADES

Head Coach: TBA

Survey not returned

WORTH COUNTY RAMS

Head Coach: Will Smith

Assistant Coach (s):

Kaleb Hathcock

2018 Record: 21-10

Returning Starters:

RHP/OF Gabe Goff (Sr.); RF Garrett Kelly (Sr.); INF Parker Castleberry (Sr.); CF Cason King (Jr.); RHP/INF Jeremiah Reddell (Jr.); RHP/OF Jack Fletcher (Jr.); OF Bailey Coker (Jr.); INF Bryce Graddy (Jr.); P/1B Gabe Burger (Jr.); C Worth Smith (So.); P/INF Jacob Perrin (So.); P/INF Griffin Melton (So.)

Season Outlook:

Worth County lost some firepower from last season, but enough talent returns for the Rams to challenge for the region title. Senior Gabe Goff, Jeremiah Reddell, Jack Fletcher and Gabe Burger lead what could potentially be a strong pitching rotation. First team all-region selection Cason King (.384 avg.) returns to lead the offense.



Jack Fletcher
Worth County



Gabe Goff
Worth County



Garrett Kelly
Worth County



Cason King
Worth County



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REGION 2-3A

Region Favorite: Appling County

Keep an eye on: Pierce County – The Bears have a roster loaded with underclassmen.

Players to Watch

OF/C – Tay Black, Jr., Tattnall County; **INF/RHP** – Shawn Brown, Jr., Appling County; **INF** – Kory Clark, Sr., Brantley County; **C/RHP** – Rex Johnson, Sr., Long County; **OF** – James Jones, Sr., Appling County; **C** – Brody Kicklighter, Sr., Tattnall County; **INF/P** – Gage Phippen, So., Pierce County; **OF/RHP** – Matthew Poblete, Jr., Appling County; **SS** – Matt Reed, So., Liberty County; **INF/C** – Drew Starling, So., Pierce County; **OF** – Johnny Waters, Sr., Pierce County; **2B/RHP** – Luke Wells, Jr., Long County; **INF/RHP** – Parker White, Sr., Brantley County; **SS/RHP** – Ethan Williams, Jr., Long County; **RHP/INF** – Tyler Yancey, Sr., Tattnall County

APPLING COUNTY PIRATES

Head Coach: Jeremy Smith

Assistant Coach (s):

Tyler Cason, Zack Griffis, Landry Tillman, Jay Powers

2018 Record: 27-9

Returning Starters:

OF James Jones (Sr., R/R); INF/RHP Shawn Brown (Jr., R/R); OF/RHP Matthew Poblete (Jr., L/R)

Other Returning

Players: INF John David Black (Sr., R/R); INF/RHP Holton Simmons (Sr., R/R); INF/RHP Mikel Barlow (Sr., R/R); OF Bailey Nail (Sr., R/R); INF Hunter O'Berry (Sr., R/R); RHP Cameron Mock (Sr., R/R); OF/LHP Jake Carter (Sr., L/L); C Drew Jacobs (Jr., R/R); INF Brantley Carter (So., R/R); INF Luke Hutchinson (Jr., R/R)

Top Newcomers: INF/OF/RHP Grant White (Jr., R/R); OF/RHP Cason Kirksey (Jr., R/R); OF/RHP Ben Griffis (Jr., R/R); INF Parker Eason (Jr., R/R); OF Trent Head (Jr., R/R); INF/RHP Thomas Higgins (So., R/R); INF/RHP Jason Larson (So., R/R); OF/LHP Michael Bass (So., L/L); OF/RHP Harrison Simmons (Fr., R/R); INF/RHP Jordan Norris (Fr., R/R); OF/1B/LHP Logan Atkins (Fr., L/L); INF Beau Grayson Peacock (Fr., R/R); INF/RHP Aiden Livingston (Fr., R/R); OF Rylan Smiley (Fr., R/R); OF/LHP Malachi Mullis (Fr., L/L)

Season Outlook: The Pirates lost a lot of talent from last season's squad that made the state quarterfinals, but the cupboard isn't bare. The talent is young and will need to mature. The good news is that three starters are back, including juniors Shawn Brown and Matthew Poblete. Senior outfielder James Jones returns to lead the offense.

BRANTLEY COUNTY HERONS

Head Coach: Paul Able

Assistant Coach (s): Mike McNeil

2018 Record: 11-19

Returning Starters: INF Kory Clark (Sr., 6-0, 165, R/R); INF/RHP Parker

White (Sr., 6-1, 230, R/R); RHP/INF/OF Trace Martin (Jr., 6-1, 155, L/R); C/INF/DH Kyce McLeod (Jr., 5-8, 160, R/R); RHP/OF/INF Dawson Thomas (Jr., 5-7, 140, R/R); OF/INF/RHP Jesse Trent (Jr., 5-7, 140, R/R)

Other Returning Players: RHP/OF Aden Crosby (Jr., 5-9, 160, R/R); RHP/INF Cager Flowers (So., 5-9, 150, R/R); RHP/INF Gabe Thrift (So., 5-7, 140, R/R); C/INF Walker Gill (So., 5-6, 150, R/R); INF/RHP/OF Zach Mosley (So., 5-10, 175, R/R); RHP/INF Bryson Lee (So., 5-9, 170, R/R)

Season Outlook: The Herons have made three consecutive trips to the playoffs, and they should make it four in a row this spring. Brantley County will field a young but talented team. Six starters are back. Two of them are seniors – infielder Kory Clark and infielder/pitcher Parker White.

LIBERTY COUNTY PANTHERS

Head Coach: Brandon Whitmore

Assistant Coach (s): Chris Johnson, Joseph Fincham

2018 Record: 4-20

Returning Starters: OF Patrick Underwood (Sr., R/R); C Trent Gerber (Sr., R/R); OF Austin Estes (Jr., R/R); 2B Dakota Lance (Jr., R/R)

Other Returning Players: 3B Mason Stromquist (Sr., R/R); 2B Keaton Eason (Sr., R/R); OF Garrett Sikes (So., R/R); RHP Collin Lairamore (Sr., R/R); OF Liam Lyle (Sr., R/R)

Top Newcomers: SS Matt Reed (So., R/R); LHP Jacob Struble (Fr., L/L); OF Seth Struble (Fr., R/R); OF Jaleel Andrews (Fr., R/R)

Season Outlook: Brandon Whitmore begins his second season at Liberty County and the Panthers should have a chance to keep improving. Four starters and a solid senior class should help Liberty improve. A good group of underclassmen led by sophomore Matt Reed will compete for playing time.

LONG COUNTY BLUE TIDE

Head Coach: James Hobbs

Assistant Coach (s): Tyler Chambless, Trevor Bryant, Matt Brown

2018 Record: 11-14

Returning Starters: C/RHP Rex Johnson (Sr., 5-9, 155, R/R); SS/RHP Ethan Williams (Jr., 5-11, 165, R/R); 2B/RHP Luke Wells (Jr., 5-10, 170, R/R); CF/LHP TJ Criswell (Jr., 5-10, 170, R/L); 3B/RHP Ethan Wells (So., 5-11, 150, R/R); 1B/3B Carlos Cruz (Jr., 5-10, 205, R/R); RF/RHP Allen Crystal (Jr., 5-11, 160, L/R)

Other Returning Players: 3B Trevor Ray (So., 5-10, 170, R/R)

Top Newcomers: LF Dwayne Rowe (Fr., 5-8, 155, R/R); SS Cole Moss (Fr., 5-7, 140, R/R); C/RHP Joseph Camack (Fr., 5-9, 165, R/R); 3B/RHP Daniel Edwards (Fr., 5-8, 200, R/R)

Season Outlook: Long County showed major progress last season in coach James Hobbs' first season. Look for the Blue Tide to continue this spring. The team is still relatively young, but keep an eye on shortstop/pitcher Ethan Williams. Senior Rex Johnson and sophomore Luke Wells also return after solid seasons in 2018.

PIERCE COUNTY BEARS

Head Coach: Andrew Evans

Assistant Coach (s): Jacob Evors, Tyler Rogers, Greg Gay

2018 Record: 14-16

Returning Starters: OF Johnny Waters (Sr.); INF/P Gage Phippen (So.); INF/C Drew Starling (So.)

Other Returning Players: OF/P Andrew Walsh (Jr.); OF/P Luke Echols (Jr.); INF/P Jack Echols (Jr.); INF/P Jayden Crews (So.); INF Austin Hudges (So.); OF/P JReid Phillips (So.); INF/P Spencer Hughes (Jr.); INF

Asher Harris (So.); OF Mickey Dixon (Jr.); OF Spencer Woodcock (So.)
Top Newcomers: P/INF Knox Bennett (Fr.); C/P/INF Hoke Skipper (Fr.); P/OF Brandon Pittman (Fr.); P/OF Allen Boatright (Fr.); P/OF Wesley Nelson (So.); INF Dawson Yarbrough (So.); C/INF Ty Holloway (Fr.); P/OF Brett Tuten (Fr.); OF Payton Walker (Fr.); OF Christopher Riggins (So.); OF Brent Johnson (Fr.); C Zach Murphy (Fr.); OF Elijah Crump (Fr.); OF Collin Jarrell (Fr.)

Season Outlook: Pierce County has a good nucleus of talent back, but the Bears may be building for the future this season. The senior class is small, and Pierce is looking for some underclassmen to step forward. Keep an eye on infielder/pitcher Gage Pippen, who was promising last year as a sophomore. If some younger players mature, the Bears could be trouble later this spring.

TATTNALL COUNTY WARRIORS

Head Coach: Ben Collins

Assistant Coach (s): Matthew Swain, Jordan Huerta, Jarrett Greene, Kyle Andre

2018 Record: 12-14

Returning Starters: OF Tay Black (Jr., L/R); C Brody Kicklighter (Sr., R/R); RHP/INF Tyler Yancey (Sr., R/R); INF Fox Collins (Sr., R/R); DH/INF Nick McCall (Jr., R/R); INF/RHP Ethan Deloach (Jr., R/R)

Other Returning Players: INF Parker Tatum (Jr., R/R); RHP/INF Dawson Harrelson (So., R/R); RHP/OF Kaleb Kennedy (So., R/R); C Aidan Willis (So., R/R)

Top Newcomers: LHP/1B Connor Durrence (Fr., L/L)

Season Outlook: Tattnall County just missed the postseason last year. Look for the Warriors to be back in the chase this spring. Six starters are back, including right-handed pitcher Tyler Yancey (6-4, 2.23 ERA) and catcher Brody Kicklighter (.415 avg.).

REGION 3-3A

Region Favorite: Benedictine

Keep an eye on: Southeast Bulloch – This could be the best year ever for the Yellow Jackets.

Players to Watch

RHP/1B/3B – Gus Bachman, Sr., Islands; **SS/RHP** – Tyler Bailey, Sr., SE Bulloch; **OF** – Trent Broadnax, So., Benedictine; **C/1B** – Lucas Crecy, Sr., Islands; **1B/RHP** – Tyler Deloach, Sr., SE Bulloch; **OF/U** – Craig Fredrick, Jr., Groves; **C** – Jessie Harrelson, Jr., Jenkins-Savannah; **LHP/OF/INF** – Carter Holton, So., Benedictine; **P/SS** – Jakob Jackson, Sr., Groves; **INF/OF/RHP** – Josh Kindred, Sr., Benedictine; **SS/3B/P** – Mikey Largis, Jr., Islands; **3B/RHP** – Carson Mason, Jr., Jenkins-Savannah; **RHP/U** – Blaize Minick, Sr., SE Bulloch; **C** – Ryan Pickard, Sr., Benedictine; **1B** – Dylan Raurks, Sr., SE Bulloch; **2B/RHP** – Michael Rigdon, Sr., SE Bulloch; **RHP/1B** – Luke Whetstone, Sr., Benedictine; **OF** – Toby Williams, Sr., SE Bulloch

BEACH BULLDOGS

Head Coach: Ulysses Hawthorne
Survey not returned

BENEDICTINE CADETS

Head Coach: Kevin Farmer

Assistant Coach (s): Kyle Farmer, Jack Holland, Seth Gaspin, Steve Suhr, Drew Schwalbe

2018 Record: 31-7

Returning Starters: RHP/1B Luke Whetstone (Sr., R/R); C Ryan Pickard (Sr., R/R); INF/OF/RHP Josh Kindred (Sr., R/R); LHP/OF/INF Carter Holton (So., L/L); OF Trent Broadnax (So., R/R); INF Rome Dean (Jr., R/R); RHP/INF Clayton Greene (Jr., R/R)

Other Returning

Players: C Trent Warren (So., R/R); OF/INF/C Cody Cowan (So., R/R); INF/OF George Mullen (So., R/R); OF Chase Kennedy (Jr., R/R); RHP Joseph Schwalbe (Jr., R/R); C Jackson Barger (So., R/R); RHP Evan Sexton (Jr., R/R); DH/1B/RHP Jaden Hardy (Jr., R/R)

Top Newcomers: INF/RHP Kameron Edge (Fr., R/R); OF/RHP Justin Thomas (Fr., R/R); INF/RHP Noah Hollis (Fr., R/R)

Season Outlook: The defending Class 2A state champions move up a class.

The Cadets will be young, but there is enough talent to challenge for the region title. Class 2A Player of the Year Carter Holton returns after a stellar freshman campaign. The senior class is small but talented. Catcher Ryan Pickard and Josh Kindred will lead the offense, while right-hander Luke Whetstone returns on the mound.



Trent Broadnax
Benedictine



Josh Kindred
Benedictine



Ryan Pickard
Benedictine



Luke Whetstone
Benedictine



Carter Holton - Benedictine
Photo by Spicer Lyons

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GROVES REBELS

Head Coach: Mike Martin
Survey not returned

ISLANDS SHARKS

Head Coach: Brandon Collins (new)
Assistant Coach (s): Jacob Baxter, Marty Collins, Herb Hutson
2018 Record: 14-18
Returning Starters: C/1B Lucas Crecy (Sr.); P/3B Gus Bachman (Sr.); P/OF Koel Strong (Sr.); 3B Bryce Hinson (Sr.); SS/3B/P Mikey Largis (Jr.); OF Matthew Stamper (Sr.)
Other Returning Players: 2B Ryan Arnold (Sr.); P/SS Pax Raub (Jr.); P/C/OF Cole Gambino (Sr.); C Justin Harris (Sr.); 1B/P Cameron Tomlin (Sr.); OF Chase Kersey (Sr.)
Top Newcomers: OF Dalton Singletary (Jr.); OF/SS Langston Lewis (Fr.); P/OF Thomas Weininger (Jr.)
Season Outlook: New coach Brandon Collins takes over and inherits a talented team that will be expected to contend for a postseason berth. Catcher/first baseman Lucas Crecy returns to lead the offense, while Gus Bachman, Cole Gambino and Koel Strong will lead what should be a solid pitching rotation.

JENKINS WARRIORS

Head Coach: Nick Tracy (new)
Survey not returned

JOHNSON-SAVANNAH ATOM SMASHERS

Head Coach: TBA
Survey not returned

SAVANNAH BLUE JACKETS

Head Coach: TBA
Survey not returned

SOUTHEAST BULLOCH YELLOW JACKETS

Head Coach: Brandon Peterson

Assistant Coach (s):
Rob Alford, Dan Czech,
Daniel Overstreet

2018 Record: 22-10

Returning Starters: 1B/
RHP Tyler Deloach (Sr.,
6-3, 230, R/R); 1B Dylan
Raurks (Sr., 6-0, 210, R/L);
2B/RHP Michael Rigdon
(Sr., 5-9, 160, R/R); SS/
RHP Tyler Bailey (Sr., 6-3,
190, R/R); OF Toby Williams (Sr., 6-1, 180, R/R); RHP/U Blaize Minick (Sr., 6-3, 180, R/R)

Other Returning Players: 3B/RHP Peyton Carr (Jr., 6-1, 185, R/R); U Colby Marsh (Sr., 5-9, 165, R/R); U Tucker Czech (Jr., 6-1, 180, L/R)

Top Newcomers: OF/RHP Will Hitchens (So., 6-0, 160, R/R); 3B/RHP Jacob Gay (So., 5-9, 165, R/R)

Season Outlook: The Jackets made a run to the quarterfinals last year and took eventual state champion Lovett to three games before

falling. SEB will capitalize on that momentum this spring. A strong senior class will lead the way. Six starters are back, including all-state performers Tyler Deloach and Dylan Raurks.

WINDSOR FOREST KNIGHTS

Head Coach: Gustavo Tovar (new)
Survey not returned

REGION 4-3A

Region Favorite: Pike County

Keep an eye on: Rutland – The Hurricanes return eight starters after making state playoffs last year.

Players to Watch

LHP/INF – Coleman Boynton, Jr., Pike County; **C/INF** – Brent Burford, Jr., Jackson; **RHP/INF** – Marsh Burford, Sr., Pike County; **RHP/INF** – Dakota Copeland, Jr., Jackson; **RHP/INF** – Coleman Crow, Sr., Pike County; **OF/RHP** – Aubrey Evans, Sr., Central-Macon; **RHP/INF** – Dylan Garner, Jr., Pike County; **INF/RHP** – Simon Grant, Sr., Peach County; **OF/LHP** – Payton Hyson, Sr., Jackson; **RHP/INF** – Charles Jackson, Sr., Central-Macon; **OF** – Eric Johnson, Sr., Peach County; **RHP/3B** – Riley Jones, Sr., Rutland; **RHP/SS** – Wesley Key, Sr., Rutland; **RHP/2B** – Peyton McKinney, Sr., Rutland; **RHP/LF** – Aubrey Merritt, Sr., Rutland; **3B/OF** – Logan Moss, Sr., Rutland; **OF/INF** – Bo Mosteller, Jr., Jackson; **INF/RHP** – Keith Taylor, Sr., Jackson; **RHP/INF** – Noah Windhorst, Sr., Pike County; **RHP/INF** – Davis York, Sr., Pike County

CENTRAL-MACON CHARGERS

Head Coach: Rico Gibson
Assistant Coach (s): Jake Dyer, Jonovan Williams
2018 Record: 10-14

Returning Starters: RHP/INF Charles Jackson (Sr., R/R); OF/RHP Aubrey Evans (Sr., L/R); OF Keenan Gibson (Sr., L/L); RHP/INF Malik Barnhill (Sr., R/R); C Xavier Darden (Sr., R/R); INF Jatavion Williams (Sr., R/R); RHP/INF Cole Shelton (Jr., R/R); RHP/INF/OF Jalik Thomas (So., R/R); RHP/INF Gerald Tate (Jr., R/R)

Other Returning Players: OF Marquez Harris (Jr., R/R); INF Edward Walker (Jr., R/R)

Season Outlook: The Chargers will be looking to improve upon last season's finish. Central has a solid nucleus of returning players and should have a chance to improve. Six senior starters will be depended upon heavily to lead the way.

JACKSON RED DEVILS

Head Coach: Mickey Moody
Assistant Coach (s): Thomas Briscoe, Matt Fountain, Paul Sorrow, Charlie Biles
2018 Record: 26-6

Returning Starters: INF/RHP Keith Taylor (Sr., 6-0, 170, R/R); OF/LHP Payton Hyson (Sr., 5-11, 170, L/L); C/INF Brent Burford (Jr., 5-9, 165, R/R); RHP/INF Dakota Copeland (Jr., 6-1, 175, R/R); OF/INF Bo Mosteller (Jr., 6-0, 150, R/R)

Other Returning Players: RHP Jared McCollough (Sr., 6-0, 165, R/R); C Dalton Smith (So., 5-10, 160, R/R)

Season Outlook: Jackson lost a handful of playmakers from last season, but the good news is that five starters are back. Two of those are infielder/pitcher Keith Taylor and catcher/infielder Brent Burford. The Red Devils will need some younger players to step forward.

KENDRICK CHEROKEES

Head Coach: Michael Peek

Survey not returned

PEACH COUNTY TROJANS

Head Coach: Jeff Bailey

Assistant Coach (s): Craig Johnson, Keith Barker

2018 Record: 9-17

Returning Starters: OF/RHP Eric Johnson (Sr., 5-11, 150, R/R); INF/RHP Simon Grant (Sr., 5-8, 150, R/R); INF Cameron Rucker (Jr., 6-0, 190, R/R); INF/RHP Landon Davis (Sr., 5-11, 135, R/R)

Other Returning Players: C Kyle Walters (Jr., R/R); OF Daelan Smith (Jr., R/R); INF Marium Harris (Sr., R/R)

Top Newcomers: INF/RHP AJ Lee (So., R/R)

Season Outlook: Peach County will be expected to contend for a playoff berth again. Four starters are back, including versatile Eric Johnson and Simon Grant. The Trojans have a solid group of seniors, but they will need some younger players to contribute.

PIKE COUNTY PIRATES

Head Coach: Don Hanson

Assistant Coach (s): Blake Parrott

2018 Record: 27-8

Returning Starters:

RHP/INF Coleman Crow (Sr., 5-7, 160, R/R); RHP/INF Noah Windhorst (Sr., 5-11, 175, R/R); RHP/INF Marsh Burford (Sr., 5-9, 180, R/R); RHP/INF Davis York (Sr., 5-9, 185, R/R); RHP/INF Dylan Garner (Jr., 6-1, 180, R/R); LHP/INF Coleman Boynton (Jr., 5-9, 165, L/L)



Dylan Garner
Pike County



Noah Windhorst
Pike County

Other Returning Players: OF Luke Alpough (Sr., R/R); OF/INF Wyatt Lee (Sr., R/R); C Coleton Wells (Sr., R/R); OF Aiden Whitley (Sr., R/R); OF Jordan Rogers (Sr., R/R); LHP/INF Jacob Reeves (Jr., R/L); LHP Andrew Dennis (Sr., L/L)

Season Outlook: Pike County won the region title in 2018 and made the quarterfinals of the state playoffs. The Pirates have the talent to make another strong run as the team's top three pitchers from last year – right-handers Coleman Crow, Noah Windhorst and Dylan Garner – return. Pike just needs to manufacture some offense.

RUTLAND HURRICANES

Head Coach: Steven Gunn

Assistant Coach (s): Joey Harnist, Wally Pritchard

2018 Record: 17-8

Returning Starters: RHP/3B Riley Jones (Sr., 6-0, 180, R/R); RHP/LF Aubrey Merritt (Sr., 5-9, 160, R/R); 3B/OF Logan Moss (Sr., 5-10, 230, R/R); RHP/CF/SS Jonathan Harnist (Sr., 5-10, 160, R/R); RHP/SS Wesley Key (Sr.,

6-0, 190, R/R); RHP/RF Bryce Martin (Sr., 6-4, 155, R/R); RHP/2B Peyton McKinney (Sr., 6-1, 185, R/R); C Triston Thompson (Jr., 5-10, 155, L/R)

Other Returning Players: SS Chase Hunt (Jr., R/R); RF Holden Hallman (Jr., L/L); CF JaMarco Hughes (Jr., R/R); 2B Cory Smith (So., R/R); C Dalton Rowell (Sr., R/R)

Top Newcomers: 1B Parker Leslie (Sr., 6-0, 250, R/R)

Season Outlook: Rutland showed significant progress in coach Steven Gunn's first season at the school last year. Look for the Hurricanes to be even better this spring. Eight starters are back, including a strong senior class. Riley Jones and Aubrey Merritt return to lead the team.

WESTSIDE-MACON SEMINOLES

Head Coach: Kevin Magilligan (new)

Survey not returned

REGION 5-3A

Region Favorite: Westminster

Keep an eye on: Redan – The Raiders lost a lot, but they return a lot too.

Players to Watch

3B/RHP – Lance Beck, Sr., Lovett; **RHP/3B** – Donye Evans, Jr., Redan; **INF** – Ben Forte, Sr., Westminster; **SS** – Kameron Guidry, Sr., Redan; **INF** – Parks Harber, Jr., Westminster; **C/INF/RHP** – Tremaine Hill, Sr., Cedar Grove; **1B** – Darian Howard, Sr., Pace Academy; **LHP/OF** – Luke Jannetta, Sr., Westminster; **C/3B/RHP** – Andrew Jenkins, Sr., Pace Academy; **OF/RHP** – Kevin Kilpatrick, Sr., Redan; **P/INF/OF** – Jacorrie Knolton, Sr., Stone Mountain; **3B** – Charles Logan, Sr., Towers; **LHP** – Jonathan Morgan, Jr., Westminster; **C/2B/RHP** – Mitchell O'Berry, Sr., Pace Academy; **3B/RHP** – Dhruv Patel, Sr., Lovett; **OF** – Robert Poindexter, Sr., Lovett; **1B** – Will Seiler, Sr., Lovett; **RHP/OF** – Koby Taylor, Jr., Cedar Grove; **1B/LHP** – David Underwood, Jr., Lovett; **C/INF** – Christian Webb, Sr., Redan; **OF/RHP** – Tyler Williams, Sr., Redan

CEDAR GROVE SAINTS

Head Coach: Lavato Byrd

Assistant Coach (s): Timothy Lott

2018 Record: 5-17

Returning Starters: C/INF/RHP Tremaine Hill (Sr., 6-3, 180); RHP/INF Koby Taylor (Jr., 6-1, 175); INF/RHP D'Corrie Kimble (Jr., 5-4, 140); RHP/INF Jemel Johnson (So., 5-10, 160); 1B/LHP Demond Dollison (So., 6-2, 200); INF/RHP Kelan Hardnett (So., 5-8, 180)

Other Returning Players: C Jamarcus Stroud (Jr., 5-9, 200); RHP Jarius Fanning (Jr., 5-10, 165); OF Travis Williams (Sr., 6-1, 200)

Top Newcomers: OF/RHP/1B Rickey Dawson (Jr., 6-4, 185); C/OF Montre Aimes (So., 5-8, 170); C/OF William Flounary (So., 5-10, 200)

Season Outlook: The Saints will be a young team in 2019. However, don't sleep on Cedar Grove as they should be much better. Six starters are back as well as a solid corps of younger players. Senior Tremaine Hill and junior Koby Taylor are two players to watch out for.

LOVETT LIONS

Head Coach: Lance Oubs

Assistant Coach (s):

Jamie Palmer, Vince Nasca, David McDonald, Bentley Heyman

2018 Record: 28-11

Returning Starters: 3B/RHP Lance Beck (Sr., 6-3, 185, R/R); 3B/RHP Dhruv Patel (Sr., 6-0, 170, R/R); OF Robert Poindexter (Sr., 6-4, 215, R/R); 1B Will Seiler (Sr., 6-4, 240, R/R); 1B/LHP David Underwood (Jr., 6-0, 150, R/L)

Other Returning

Players: OF Schaefer Jackson (Sr., 5-9, 160, R/R); OF William Marino (Sr., 5-10, 150, L/R); OF Ryan Pratt (Sr., 6-2, 190, L/L); 1B/C Thomas Smith (Sr., 6-2, 175, R/R); C Robson Harber (Jr., 6-1, 165, R/R); SS/2B Ellis Prigge (Jr., 5-11, 165, R/R); RHP Owen McMurtrie (So., 6-0, 200, R/R)

Top Newcomers: SS/2B Nick Kemether (Jr., 5-10, 145, R/R); OF Ethan Tai (Jr., 5-8, 150, R/R); C Mike Valls (Jr., 5-7, 180, R/R); LHP Ralston Goldfarb (Jr., 5-5, 140, R/L); 3B/RHP Michael Hollingsworth (So., 5-10, 160, R/R); SS/2B Kai Cunningham (Fr., 5-7, 130, L/R)

Season Outlook: The defending state champions have enough talent to make another deep postseason run. Pitchers Dhruv Patel, Lance Beck and David Underwood lead a talented rotation, while outfielder Robert Poindexter and first baseman Will Seiler return to lead the offense.



Lance Beck
Lovett



Dhruv Patel
Lovett



Robert Poindexter
Lovett



Will Seiler
Lovett

REDAN RAIDERS

Head Coach: Alexander Wyche

Assistant Coach (s):

Christopher Hardnett, Marcus Mays, Jonathan Jones, Derwin Pruitt

2018 Record: 22-9

Returning Starters:

OF/RHP Tyler Williams (Sr., 6-2, 180, R/R); SS Kameron Guidry (Sr., 6-0, 170, R/R); OF/RHP Kevin Kilpatrick (Sr., 6-0, 175, R/R); OF Javel Watson (Sr., 6-0, 160, R/R); C/INF Christian Webb (Sr., 5-10, 170, R/R); OF Dorian Branch (Sr., 6-1, 180, R/R); RHP Emmanuel Martinez (Sr., 6-0, 180, R/R); LHP Jordan Whitening (Sr., 6-0, 170, L/L); RHP/3B Donye Evans (Jr., 6-4, 170, R/R); 2B/RHP Ryan Pruitt (Jr., 5-10, 160, R/R); RHP/U Branden Lamback (Jr., 6-0, 170, R/R)

Other Returning Players: INF TC Rushin (Jr., 6-0, 170, R/R); 1B/3B Miles Collins (Jr., 6-0, 200, R/R); C/RHP Keiron Dowell (Jr., 6-0, 170, R/R)

Top Newcomers: OF/RHP Jason Avila (Fr., 5-8, 165, L/R)

Season Outlook: The Raiders lost a wealth of talent from last season, but the good news is that a lot of talent returns. Shortstop Kameron Guidry, outfielders Tyler Williams and Kevin Kilpatrick and catcher Christian Webb return on offense. Pitchers Donye Evans and Jordan Whitening lead a solid pitching rotation. This team will be tough.



Donye Evans
Redan



Kameron Guidry
Redan



Kevin Kilpatrick
Redan



Christian Webb
Redan

PACE ACADEMY KNIGHTS

Head Coach: Seth LaFera

Assistant Coach

(s): Jase Wrigley, Shane McGill, Donice Bloodworth

2018 Record: 23-10

Returning Starters:

C/3B/RHP Andrew Jenkins (Sr., 6-0, 210, R/R); C/2B/RHP Mitchell O'Berry (Sr., 5-8, 170, R/R); 1B Darian Howard

(Sr., 6-0, 220, R/R); OF/RHP Brian Zeldin (Sr., 5-8, 170, R/R); LHP TJ Rafeedie (Sr., 6-0, 170, L/L); OF Jayden Thomas (So., 6-3, 200, R/R); OF Ben Tolliday (Jr., 6-0, 180, R/R); OF Ross Oglesby (Sr., 5-10, 170, R/R)

Other Returning Players: 1B Bennett Treadway (Sr., 6-1, 220, R/R); SS/2B/C Zachary Howard (Jr., 5-8, 150, R/R)

Season Outlook: Look for the Knights to be very tough again this season. If Pace Academy can find a few more pitching arms, they could be very dangerous. Leading hitter Andrew Jenkins (.516 avg., 47 RBIs), Darian Howard (.321 avg., 31 RBIs) and Jayden Thomas return to lead what should be an explosive offense.



Darian Howard
Pace Academy



Jayden Thomas
Pace Academy

STONE MOUNTAIN PIRATES

Head Coach: Willie Howard

Survey not returned

TOWERS TITANS

Head Coach: TBA

Survey not returned

WESTMINSTER WILDCATS

Head Coach: Chad Laney

Assistant Coach (s):

Doug Boomer, Brent McGuire, Adam Pullen, Joe Sturniolo

2018 Record: 25-13

Returning Starters: INF

Ben Forte (Sr., 5-10, 185, R/R); INF Parks Harber (Jr., 6-2, 190, R/R); LHP Luke Jannetta (Sr., 6-0, 185, L/L); LHP Jonathan

Morgan (Jr., 5-10, 180, L/L); RHP Junta Yasuda (Sr., 5-10, 180, R/R); C/1B Davis Wilson (Sr., 5-10, 185, R/R); INF/OF Will Hallmark (Jr., 5-10, 185, R/R); OF Grant Matzigkit (Sr., 6-0, 200, R/R); INF Matthew Amerson (Sr.,



Ben Forte
Westminster



Parks Harber
Westminster

5-10, 190, R/R); LHP/OF Edward Shores (Sr., 6-4, 190, R/L)

Other Returning

Players: RHP/1B William LeMaster (Sr., 6-0, 200, R/R); RHP/1B Banks Platford (Sr., 6-3, 200, R/R); INF Alykahn Painter (Sr., 5-10, 185, L/R); INF/LHP Badger Warner (Sr., 6-0, 210, R/L); RHP/OF Phillip Metzheiser (Jr., 6-2, 215, R/R); LHP/1B/OF Drew Berg (Jr., 6-3, 190, L/L); LHP Charlie Wickliffe (Jr., 5-10, 190, R/L)

Top Newcomers: LHP Grant Barron (Sr., 6-0, 185, L/L); OF Mason Poje (Sr., 6-0, 205, R/R); C/1B/OF Will Lybrook (Jr., 6-3, 200, R/R); RHP/OF/1B Cameron Foster (Jr., 6-4, 210, R/R)

Season Outlook: Don't expect a drop-off from the defending Class 3A state runner-ups this season. In fact, the Wildcats could be better. Nine starters are back, including top pitchers Luke Jannetta and Jonathan Morgan. On offense, three-year starter Ben Forte and Parks Harber (.431 avg., 46 RBIs) return to lead the team. There is enough talent to make another deep run.



Luke Jannetta
Westminster



Jonathan Morgan
Westminster

REGION 6-3A

Region Favorite: Ringgold

Keep an eye on: Calhoun – The Jackets return their top two pitchers in Davis Allen and Ben King.

Players to Watch

LHP/1B – Davis Allen, Sr., Calhoun; **SS/RHP** – Wyatt Castoe, Jr., Sonoraville; **1B/P** – Zach Coots, Jr., Lakeview-Fort Oglethorpe; **INF/RHP** – Chase Horn, Sr., Adairsville; **RHP/DH** – Ben King, Sr., Calhoun; **RHP** – Landan Malone, Sr., Haralson County; **3B** – Parker McPherson, So., Calhoun; **2B** – Payton Morrow, Sr., Calhoun; **P/INF** – Riley Mosier, Jr., Lakeview-Fort Oglethorpe; **U/RHP** – Logan Palmer, Jr., Murray County; **1B** – Tucker Parrish, So., Haralson County; **OF** – Preston Poag, Sr., North Murray; **OF/LHP** – BJ Roper, Sr., Adairsville; **C/3B** – Daulton Schley, Sr., Ringgold; **OF** – Andre Tarver, Sr., Ringgold; **LHP/OF** – Wyatt Tennant, Sr., Ringgold; **OF/LHP** – Holden Tucker, Sr., Ringgold; **RHP** – Eli Turso, Sr., Coahulla Creek

ADAIRSVILLE TIGERS

Head Coach: Billy Roper

Assistant Coach (s): Chris Hardin, Logan Tant, Matt Taylor, Sebastian Eason

2018 Record: 20-8

Returning Starters: OF BJ Roper (Sr., 5-8, 140, L/L); C Landon Ayers (Sr., 5-9, 165, R/R); 1B Trace Still (Sr., 5-10, 175, R/R); INF Chase Horn (Sr., 5-10, 160, R/R); INF Levi Blackwell (Sr., 5-7, 160, R/R); OF/C Michael Cook (Sr., 5-11, 165, R/R)

Other Returning Players: OF/RHP Noah Nation (Sr., 6-2, 170, R/R); INF Peyton DeBerry (Sr., 5-9, 185, R/R); INF/RHP Gavin Crunkleton (Jr., 5-8, 160, R/R); 3B/RHP Elijah Padgett (So., 5-9, 165, R/R); C/OF/RHP Wade Conduff (Jr., 6-0, 165, R/R)

Top Newcomers: OF Connor Crunkleton (So., 5-8, 155, R/R); C/2B Logan Hunt (So., 5-8, 160, R/R); 1B Evan Henry (Jr., 5-9, 170, L/R); OF Tyler Sheriff (Jr., 5-7, 160, R/R)

Season Outlook: A good nucleus of talent returns for Adairsville as the Tigers should contend for the postseason again. Six senior starters return. Outfielder BJ Roper returns to lead the offense, while right-handers Chase Horn and Levi Blackwell anchor a young pitching rotation. The Tigers will be looking for some younger players to step forward.

CALHOUN YELLOW JACKETS

Head Coach: Chip Henderson

Assistant Coach (s):

David Hall, Donnie Robertson, Josh Wiggins

2018 Record: 21-11

Returning Starters:

RHP/DH Ben King (Sr., 6-3, 215, R/R); LHP/1B Davis Allen (Sr., 6-6, 230, L/L); 2B Payton Morrow (Sr., 5-9, 145, R/R); OF John Andrew Cash (So., 6-1, 205, R/R); C/RHP Matthew Williams (Jr., 5-10, 190, R/R); 3B Parker McPherson (So., 5-11, 175, R/R); SS Parker Lester (So., 6-0, 170, L/R); LHP/OF Ethan Crump (Jr., 5-11, 165, L/L); LHP/OF Jeremy Register (Sr., 5-9, 170, L/L); RHP/INF Brady Drummond (Jr., R/R)

Other Returning Players: C/INF Julian Ipac (Jr., 5-10, 190, R/R); OF Tripp Hoblitzell (Sr., 5-9, 160, R/R); INF Bryson Trammell (Jr., 5-10, 145, R/R); OF Joshua Tolson (Jr., 5-10, 160, R/R)

Season Outlook: Calhoun will be in the postseason mix again as 10 starters are back, including two of the team's top pitchers from last year in right-hander Ben King (8-1, 1.23 ERA) and left-hander Davis Allen (3-4, 1.67 ERA). The Jackets will be looking for consistency on offense. Look for a talented group of underclassmen to step forward.



Davis Allen
Calhoun



Ben King
Calhoun

COAHULLA CREEK COLTS

Head Coach: Michael Bolen

Assistant Coach (s):

Justin Dover, Brady Renner

2018 Record: 11-16

Returning Starters: RHP

Eli Turso (Sr., 6-0, 215, R/R); RHP Grant Ogle (Sr., 6-3, 235, R/R); 3B/2B Donovan Sims (Sr., 5-8, 175, R/R); 1B/3B Drew Sage (Sr., 5-10, 185, L/R); OF/LHP Michael King (Sr., 5-10, 185, L/L); OF Mason Padgett (Sr., 5-10, 175, R/R); SS Irvin Hernandez (So., 5-9, 165, B/R)

Other Returning

Players: OF Kevin Castaneda (So., 5-9, 165, R/R); RHP James Reece (Jr., 5-10, 215, R/R); LHP



Irvin Hernandez
Coahulla Creek



Michael King
Coahulla Creek



Donovan Sims
Coahulla Creek



Eli Turso
Coahulla Creek

Gianny Valenzuela (Sr., 5-10, 165, L/L); 1B Eli Chumley (Sr., 5-9, 185, R/R); C Jeremiah Harper (Jr., 5-8, 255, L/R); C Matthew Jenkins (Sr., 5-9, 185, R/R)

Season Outlook: Coahulla Creek took a step backward last season after making the state semifinals in 2017. But look for the Colts to be back this spring. Seven starters are back, including pitchers Eli Turso and Grant Ogle. Infielders Donovan Sims and Drew Sage return to lead the offense.

HARALSON COUNTY REBELS

Head Coach: Patrick Syer (new)

Assistant Coach (s): Frank Rivers, Joe Cash, Triston Cash, Brian Warren

2018 Record: 16-14

Returning Starters: RHP Landan Malone (Sr., R/R); OF Phillip Haldeman (Sr., R/R); OF Treyton Sheppard (Sr., R/R); C Kaegen Williams (Jr., R/R); 1B Tucker Parrish (So., L/R)

Other Returning Players: OF Stephen Southern (Sr., R/R); RHP CJ Tassin (Sr., R/R); INF Bryson King (Sr., R/R); INF/RHP Lane King (So., R/R); OF/C Colson Locklear (So., R/R); OF Richard Hyatt (So., R/R); INF Grant Ellis (So., R/R)

Season Outlook: New coach Patrick Syer takes over a Haralson County program that made the state playoffs last year. Five starters return from that team, including pitcher Landan Malone and first baseman Tucker Parrish. If the Rebels can find some pitching depth, they could approach last year's success.

LAKEVIEW-FORT OGLETHORPE WARRIORS

Head Coach: Matt Holden (new)

Survey not returned

MURRAY COUNTY INDIANS

Head Coach: Matt Harris (new)

Assistant Coach (s): Mike Marra, Josh Hensley

2018 Record: 3-26

Returning Starters: C Grayson Pierce (Sr., 5-8, 150, R/R); INF Justin Goswick (Sr., 5-9, 170, R/R); INF Logan Palmer (Jr., 5-7, 150, R/R)

Other Returning Players: C/1B Brock Dunn (So., 6-0, 205, R/R); 1B Brannon Nuckolls (So., 6-0, 185, L/R); INF Jordan Harrison (So., 5-8, 160, R/R); OF Davis Redwine (So., 5-7, 150, R/R)

Season Outlook: First-year coach Matt Harris takes over a Murray County program that struggled last season. The Indians will be young this spring, but there is talent. Seniors Grayson Pierce and Justin Goswick return, giving the team a solid nucleus to build around. The lack of pitching is a big concern.

NORTH MURRAY MOUNTAINEERS

Head Coach: Preston Poag

Survey not returned



RINGGOLD TIGERS

Head Coach: Brent Tucker

Assistant Coach (s): Drew Walker, Jesse Crews, Colton Cross

2018 Record: 32-7

Returning Starters: OF/LHP Holden Tucker (Sr., 6-4, 175, L/L); OF Andre Tarver (Sr., 6-2, 210, L/L); LHP/OF Wyatt Tennant (Sr., 5-10, 170, R/L); SS Brayden Brown (Jr., 6-2, 170, R/L); 1B Johnny Camillucci (Sr., 6-1, 170, R/L); C/3B Daulton Schley (Sr., 5-11, 190, L/R)

Other Returning Players: LHP/1B Casey Pate (Sr., 6-1, 185, R/L); OF Dylan Wright (Jr., 5-10, 175, L/L)

Top Newcomers: INF/RHP Colin Mountjoy (So.); INF/RHP McCain Mangum (So.); INF/LHP Austin McMahan (So.)

Season Outlook: The Tigers lost a wealth of talent after making it to the state semifinals last year. The good news is that top pitchers Holden Tucker and Wyatt Tennant return on the mound. Meanwhile, All-American outfielder Andre Tarver and catcher Daulton Schley return to lead the offense.

Ringgold will be looking for some underclassmen to step forward.



Wyatt Tennant
Ringgold



Daulton Schley - Ringgold
Photo by Tim Morse



Holden Tucker - Ringgold
Photo by Courtney Couey

SONORAVILLE PHOENIX

Head Coach: Daniel McArthur

Assistant Coach (s): Chad Hayes, Jeff Davis, Justin Patterson, Danny Hartline

2018 Record: 9-16

Returning Starters: U Beau Bullard (Sr., 5-8, 150, R/R); OF/1B/RHP Grant Hegwood (Sr., 5-10, 170, L/L); SS/RHP Wyatt Castoe (Jr., 6-0, 170, R/R); C/2B Cole Godfrey (So., 5-9, 140, R/R)

Other Returning Players: C/1B/RHP Trent Walker (Jr., 6-2, 215, R/R); RHP/INF Jacob Cornette (Jr., 5-11, 170, R/R); LHP/OF Devin Hackney (So., 5-8, 140, L/L); INF Micah Vincent (Jr., 5-11, 160, R/R); OF Blade Bryant (Jr., 5-8, 160, L/L); 1B/OF Colton Richards (Jr., 5-11, 215, R/R)

Top Newcomers: U Cole Gross (Fr., 5-10, 160, L/R); U/RHP Trevor Childers (Fr., 5-10, 170, R/R); RHP/U Matthew Parrott (Fr., 5-10, 130, R/R)

Season Outlook: The Phoenix have some key positions to fill, but the good news is that Sonoraville should be much better in coach Daniel McArthur's second season. Four starters are back, including seniors Beau Bullard and Grant Hegwood. Look for a solid group of juniors and sophomores to help out this spring.

REGION 7-3A

Region Favorite: North Hall

Keep an eye on: Cherokee Bluff – The Bears are young, but they are loaded with young talent.

Players to Watch

OF – Perrin Brechbuhl, Sr., Greater Atlanta Christian; **OF/LHP** – Caleb Clark, Sr., North Hall; **INF/LHP** – Jackson Dyer, Jr., North Hall; **RHP/INF** – Matt Grizzle, Sr., Lumpkin County; **LHP** – Jake Johnson, Sr., Greater Atlanta Christian; **OF/RHP** – Kristian Kelley, Jr., Dawson County; **C/OF** – Jackson Kemp, Jr., Cherokee Bluff; **INF/RHP** – Chandler Kendall, Sr., Fannin County; **SS** – Shane Lussier, Sr., Greater Atlanta Christian; **OF** – Zac Mixon, Sr., Greater Atlanta Christian; **OF/LHP** – Hudson Sapp, Jr., Dawson County; **OF** – David Seavey, Sr., North Hall; **INF/RHP** – Matthew Shirah, Jr., Fannin County; **2B** – TJ Smith, So., East Hall; **LHP/OF** – Dalton Stephens, Sr., Lumpkin County; **INF** – Caleb Wiley, Sr., North Hall

CHEROKEE BLUFF BEARS

Head Coach: Jeremy Kemp (new)

Assistant Coach (s): Daniel Warzon, Miles Martin, Chris Griffin, Trey Weed, Breck Davidson

2018 Record: 0-0

Top Newcomers: SS/2B/RHP Parker Shope (Sr., 5-9, 155, R/R); 2B/SS Caleb Hatcher (Sr., 5-11, 165, R/R); RHP Carsen Plumadore (Jr., 6-2, 165, R/R); C/OF/1B Jackson Kemp (Jr., 6-3, 220, R/R); OF/2B Tino Mukuno (Jr., 5-11, 165, R/R); OF/RHP Ashton Balizet (Jr., 5-11, 165, R/R); 1B/OF/LHP Dylan Kautz (So., 5-10, 155, L/L); OF Tyler Zawacki (So., 5-11, 160, L/R)

Season Outlook: Former Gainesville High coach Jeremy Kemp leads Hall County's newest school in its inaugural season this spring. The talent is young and must mature quickly, but the good news is that it is promising. Catcher/outfielder Jackson Kemp, pitcher Carson Plumadore and pitcher/shortstop Parker Shope are players to keep an eye on.



Jackson Kemp
Cherokee Bluff

DAWSON COUNTY TIGERS

Head Coach: Dwayne Sapp

Assistant Coach (s): Tyler Baker, Kevin Grigsby, Gary Wilson

2018 Record: 11-16

Returning Starters: OF/LHP Hudson Sapp (Jr., 5-11, 190, L/L); INF TJ Allen (Jr., 6-0, 165, R/R); C Bo Lewis (Jr., 5-11, 180, R/R); OF/RHP Hunter Barron (Jr., 6-4, 185, R/R); OF/RHP Kristian Kelley (Jr., 6-0, 175, R/R); RHP Cameron Moore (Sr., 5-10, 175, R/R)

Other Returning Players: 1B Jason Browning (Sr., 6-0, 220, R/R); C Kinkade Weaver (So., 6-0, 185, R/R)

Top Newcomers: INF Carter Turkett (So., 6-0, 160, R/R); RHP Andrew Burt (Fr., 5-9, 150, R/R); OF Tyler Rucker (Fr., 5-10, 160, R/R); RHP Gabe Gutierrez (Jr., 5-9, 160, R/R); RHP Max Hodgson (Jr., 6-3, 170, R/R)



Hudson Sapp
Dawson County

Season Outlook: The senior class is small, and the Tigers will be looking for some leaders to step forward. The good news is that six starters are back, including junior outfielder/pitcher Hudson Sapp. Dawson may be young, but if a solid junior class steps up, this team could be trouble later this spring.

EAST HALL VIKINGS

Head Coach: Eric Fowler

Assistant Coach (s): Austin Thompson, Jimmy Byers, Josh Joiner

2018 Record: 13-16

Returning Starters: C Mike Matuska (Sr., 5-10, 200, R/R); OF Matt Lacey (Sr., 5-10, 170, R/R); 3B Luke Holtzclaw (Sr., 5-11, 180, R/R); 2B TJ Smith (Jr., 5-10, 150, R/R); U Taylor Smith (Jr., 5-10, 150, R/R)

Other Returning Players: 1B Alex Brock (So., 5-10, 170, R/R); OF/2B Mikey Parker (So., 5-8, 140, R/R); U Luke England (So., 5-11, 175, R/R); OF Ross Brock (So., 6-0, 175, R/R); OF Jacob Poole (So., 5-9, 150, R/R)

Season Outlook: After making the state playoffs last season, East Hall will look to build on its momentum. The Vikings welcome back five returning starters, including a trio of seniors in catcher Mike Matuska, outfielder Matt Lacey and third baseman Luke Holtzclaw. The lack of experienced pitching is a concern.

FANNIN COUNTY REBELS

Head Coach: Travis Stone (new)

Assistant Coach (s): Cline Bowers, Jeff Kuna, TBA

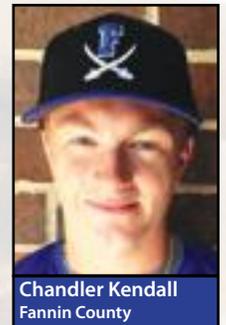
2018 Record: 18-13

Returning Starters: 2B/RHP Tyler Norton (Sr., 5-9, 165, R/R); SS/RHP Chandler Kendall (Sr., 6-0, 185, R/R); OF/RHP Blake Rogers (Jr., 6-4, 210, R/R); INF/RHP Matthew Shirah (Jr., 6-4, 190, R/R); OF/LHP Carson Beavers (Jr., 6-1, 165, R/L); INF/RHP Gabe Buchanan (Jr., 6-2, 175, L/R); 1B/DH Miles Johnson (Jr., 6-6, 290, R/R); OF/RHP Bryson Pack (Sr., 6-0, 145, R/R)

Other Returning Players: INF/RHP Hunter Gray (Sr., 6-1, 230, R/R); C/INF Jerritt Holloway (Jr., 5-8, 170, R/R); U/RHP Brady Martin (So., 6-1, 180, R/R); C Dawson Heaton (Sr., 5-11, 165, R/R)

Top Newcomers: INF/RHP Wyatt Rogers (So., 5-6, 125, R/R)

Season Outlook: Eight starters are back for Fannin County, who should contend for the postseason again. Pitching should be solid as Tyler Norton, Blake Rogers, Matthew Shirah, Carson Beavers, Gabe Buchanan and Bryson Pack return. Leading hitter Chandler Kendall (.360 avg., 9 HR) is back to spark the offense



Chandler Kendall
Fannin County

GREATER ATLANTA CHRISTIAN SPARTANS

Head Coach: Robbie Wilson

Assistant Coach (s): Josh Lee

2018 Record: 21-11

Returning Starters: SS Shane Lussier (Sr., 6-0, 170, L/R); OF Sam Collins (Sr., 5-9, 170, L/R); OF Perrin Brechbuhl (Jr., 6-2, 190, R/R); OF Zac Mixon (Jr., 6-0, 185, R/R); LHP Jake Johnson (Jr., 6-1, 175, L/L); LHP Bryceton Payne (Jr., 5-11, 170, R/L)



Jake Johnson
Greater Atlanta Christian



Shane Lussier
Greater Atlanta Christian

Other Returning Players: 1B Harrison Stogner (Sr., 6-0, 195, L/R); RHP/3B Dawson Hamilton (Jr., 6-3, 200, R/R); LHP Presley Field (Sr., 6-4, 180, L/L); INF Brooks Miller (So., 5-8, 150, R/R); OF Williams Bowling (Jr., 5-11, 170, R/L)

Season Outlook: GAC will be expected to contend for the region title as six starters are back, including standout pitchers Jake Johnson (7-1, 2.32 ERA) and Bryceton Payne (3-0, 3.46 ERA). Leading hitters Shane Lussier (.348 avg., 25 RBIs), Perrin Brechbuhl (.349 avg., 24 RBIs) and Zac Mixon (.305 avg., 10 2B) also return.

LUMPKN COUNTY INDIANS

Head Coach: Jonathan Gastley (new)

Assistant Coach (s): Joseph Jones, Bud Henderson, Greg Bicknell, Ron Swistek, Bob Herman

2018 Record: 13-15

Returning Starters: OF Connor Pierce (Sr.); LHP/OF Dalton Stephens (Sr.); RHP/SS Matt Grizzle (Sr.); LHP/OF Tucker Kirk (Jr.); C Logan Choflet (Sr.); INF Nic Turner (Jr.); U Braelin Chastain (Sr.); INF Dalton Caldwell (Jr.)

Other Returning Players: 1B Harris Taylor (Jr.); INF Eli Wingo (Sr.)

Season Outlook: Former Jackson County coach Jonathan Gastley takes over at Lumpkin County and inherits eight returning starters. The Indians have a good nucleus of pitchers, including left-hander Dalton Stephens and right-hander Matt Grizzle. Lumpkin should have a chance to improve.

NORTH HALL TROJANS

Head Coach: Trevor Flow

Assistant Coach (s):

Wesley Crow, Trey Pinson, Preston Lowther, Dacen Cash

2018 Record: 24-7

Returning Starters:

LHP/OF Caleb Clark (Sr., 6-0, 180, L/L); INF Caleb Wiley (Sr., 6-0, 165, R/R); OF David Seavey (Sr., 6-0, 185, L/R); OF Dylan Wiley (Sr., 6-0, 165, R/R); INF/LHP Jackson Dyer (Jr., 6-1, 160, L/L); INF/RHP Kolton Kieschnick (Jr., 6-4, 170, R/R); INF/RHP Tyler Brooks (Jr., 6-1, 175, R/R); C/RHP Caden Bales (Jr., 5-11, 180, L/R)

Other Returning Players: OF Brock

Cooper (Jr., 5-9, 150, R/R); OF Jay Johnson (So., 5-10, 155, R/R); INF/RHP Reese Chambers (So., 5-10, 160, R/R); OF/RHP Wes Tadman (Jr., 5-11, 150, L/R); INF Zach Warwick (Jr., 5-10, 155, R/R); INF/RHP Jack Wiley (Jr., 6-1, 150, R/R)

Season Outlook: North Hall will pick up from where they left off last season. The Trojans return top pitcher Caleb Clark as well as offensive leaders Caleb Wiley, Jackson Dyer and David Seavey. In addition, some talented underclassmen will be awaiting their chance at the spotlight. The talent is there to make a deep postseason run.



Caleb Clark
North Hall



Jackson Dyer
North Hall



David Seavey
North Hall



Caleb Wiley
North Hall

REGION 8-3A

Region Favorite: Jefferson

Keep an eye on: Morgan County – The Bulldogs have perhaps the region's best pitching rotation.

Players to Watch

RF/RHP – Jacob Anderson, Sr., Morgan County; **OF** – Chandler Byron, Sr., Monroe Area; **SS** – Zac Corbin, Sr., Jefferson; **OF** – Joey Corso, Sr., Jackson County; **INF/RHP** – Tanner Crump, Sr., Jackson County; **INF** – Chase Dalton, Jr., Hart County; **SS/OF** – Jacob Davis, Sr., Franklin County; **CF/INF/RHP** – Jaron Ferguson, Sr., Morgan County; **INF/RHP** – Walker Fryer, Sr., Jackson County; **1B** – Ryan Godfrey, Sr., Jefferson; **SS/RHP** – Halton Hardy, Jr., East Jackson; **3B/RHP** – Hunter Lane, Sr., Morgan County; **C** – Luke Lee, Jr., Hart County; **C** – Grant Olson, Sr., Monroe Area; **CF/RHP** – Cole Sealey, Jr., East Jackson; **C/RHP/INF** – Ethan Stamps, Jr., Morgan County; **RHP/C/OF** – Lane Watkins, Sr., Jefferson; **RHP/1B** – Blake Wehunt, Sr., Franklin County

EAST JACKSON EAGLES

Head Coach: Tedd Sims

Assistant Coach (s): Scott Myers, Caleb Hardy

2018 Record: 12-18

Returning Starters: CF/RHP Cole Sealey (Jr., 5-10, 160, R/R); INF/C/RHP Caleb Adair (Jr., 5-9, 175, R/R); OF/RHP Josiah Stansell (Jr., 5-10, 155, R/R); OF/RHP Josh Compton (Jr., 5-11, 165, L/R); C/OF Jake Varner (Jr., 6-0, 180, R/R); SS/RHP Halton Hardy (Jr., 5-11, 170, R/R); 1B/RHP Dylan Varner (So., 5-9, 185, R/R)

Other Returning Players: OF/C Gavin Beck (So., 6-0, 160, R/R); INF/OF Sawyer Irwin (Jr., 5-10, 165, R/R)

Season Outlook: East Jackson continues to improve and the Eagles should have a chance to improve upon last season's record. Seven starters return to lead the way. The bulk of the team are juniors. Keep an eye on shortstop/pitcher Halton Hardy and outfielder/pitcher Cole Sealey, who had solid sophomore seasons last year.

FRANKLIN COUNTY LIONS

Head Coach: Frank Vashaw

Assistant Coach (s): Demond Rivers, Ryan Phillips, Michael Ritcey, Elliott Beard

2018 Record: 19-16

Returning Starters: RHP/1B Blake Wehunt (Sr., 6-4, 225, R/R); SS/OF Jacob Davis (Sr., 6-0, 170, R/R); C Lucas Emmons (Sr., 5-10, 165, R/R); RHP/DH Mike Miller (Jr., 5-10, 180, R/R); RHP Eli Roach (Jr., 6-0, 200, R/R); OF/RHP Hunter Carson (Sr., 5-11, 165, R/R)

Other Returning Players: INF Hunter Quarles (Jr., 5-10, 160, R/R); INF/OF Bo Morgan (Sr., 5-9, 155, R/R); OF Sean Bowers (Jr., 5-10, 150, R/R); RHP Seth Holcomb (Jr., 5-11, 165, R/R); OF Ryan Garner (Jr., 5-10, 165, R/R); RHP/1B JD Ginn (So., 5-10, 220, R/R); OF Evan Herring (So., 5-11, 155, R/R); LHP Wyatt Lutz (Jr., 5-7, 150, L/L)

Season Outlook: Franklin County should contend for the region crown as six starters are back. Pitching should be a strength as right-handers Blake Wehunt (4-1, 0.70 ERA), Mike Miller (3-1, 0.98 ERA) and Eli Roach (3-3) return. Shortstop/outfielder Jacob Davis returns to lead the offense.

HART COUNTY BULLDOGS

Head Coach: Josh Osborne

Assistant Coach (s): Robbie Wilson, Hunter Barton, Don McCord

2018 Record: 12-20

Returning Starters: C Luke Lee (Jr., 6-0, 170, R/R); U Chase Dalton (Jr., 5-9, 180, R/R); 3B/RHP Will Dean (So., 6-1, 190, B/R); 2B/RHP Casey Tallent (So., 6-0, 170, R/R); CF/RHP Malachi Thomas (So., 6-1, 170, R/R); LF Cane Berrong (So., 6-3, 190, R/R); RF/LHP Eli Jones (Sr., 5-9, 160, L/L); SS/RHP Ethan Jones (Sr., 5-9, 160, R/R); RHP Johnathon (JB) Milford (Sr., 6-1, 170, R/R)

Other Returning Players: U Wade Cheek (Sr., 6-0, 150, R/R); INF Gage Skelton (So., 5-8, 160, R/R); OF Rafe Maxwell (So., 6-0, 160, R/R); OF/LHP JP White (So., 6-0, 150, R/L); 1B Brayden Dorsey (Jr., 6-0, 150, L/L); 1B Caden Hart (Jr., 6-3, 205, R/R)

Top Newcomers: 1B/LHP Peyton Powell (Fr., 6-1, 180, L/L); OF/1B/LHP Jake Dombrowsky (Fr., 6-0, 150, R/L); OF Tanner Ayers (Fr., 6-0, 150, L/L); U Nate Bennett (So., 5-9, 150, R/R)

Season Outlook: Hart County should be much better this spring as nine starters are back. The senior class is small, but the Bulldogs have an excellent group of sophomores and juniors. Catcher Luke Lee and utility player Chase Dalton return after strong sophomore seasons. Twins Eli and Ethan Jones highlight a solid senior class.

JACKSON COUNTY PANTHERS

Head Coach: Matt Bolt (new)

Assistant Coach (s): Chad Brannon, Joseph Laird, Jase Latty

2018 Record: 13-18

Returning Starters: OF Joey Corso (Sr., 6-0, 185, R/R); INF/RHP Tanner Crump (Sr., 6-3, 185, R/R); OF/RHP Reed Drake (Sr., 5-8, 165, R/R); INF/RHP Walker Fryer (Sr., 6-1, 185, L/R); OF/LHP Evan Giroux (Sr., 5-11, 170, L/L); INF/RHP Grant Hardegree (Jr., 5-8, 160, R/R); C/U Zac Saine (Sr., 5-11, 180, R/R); C/U Logan Stockton (Sr., 5-9, 185, R/R)

Other Returning Players: INF/RHP Jared Adams (Sr., 6-6, 225, R/R); INF/RHP J.T. Cremeens (Sr., 6-1, 180, R/R); INF/RHP Chase Daniel (Sr., 6-6, 180, R/R); INF/OF Trevor Murphy (Sr., 5-6, 180, R/R); OF Jonathan Steeb (Jr., 6-0, 180, R/R)

Top Newcomers: OF/RHP Aiden Griswold (So., 5-8, 145, R/R); INF Bryce Spindola (Jr., 5-11, 190, R/R); INF/RHP Jesse Whiting (So., 6-0, 195, R/R); OF/RHP Ben Wiley (Jr., 5-10, 160, R/R); OF/RHP Tyler Zipfel (Jr., 6-0, 155, R/R)

Season Outlook: Former assistant Matt Bolt takes over and inherits a senior-oriented squad that should contend for a postseason berth. Eight starters are back, including pitcher Tanner Crump (4-2, 3.17 ERA) and leading hitters Joey Corso (.333 avg.) and Walker Fryer (.333 avg.). The Panthers could be a dangerous team.

JEFFERSON DRAGONS

Head Coach: Tommy Knight

Assistant Coach (s):

Jon Veldhuis, Andy Fowler, Kyle Hardy, Jordan Perdue, Shawn McNally

2018 Record: 28-12

Returning Starters: RHP/C/OF Lane Watkins (Sr., 6-1, 205, L/R); SS Zac Corbin (Sr., 5-11, 175, B/R); 1B Ryan Godfrey (Sr., 6-1, 230, L/R); OF Sammy Elegreet (Sr., 6-0, 180, R/R); C Mason Cooper (So., 5-8, 185, R/R); OF Kade McNally (Jr., 5-11, 210, R/R); RHP/1B Vinny Farley (Sr.,



Mason Cooper
Jefferson



Zac Corbin
Jefferson

6-3, 200, R/R); RHP Derek Vaughn (So., 6-2, 195, R/R)

Other Returning

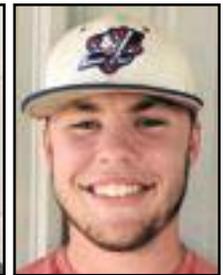
Players: 3B Trey McEver (Jr., 5-10, 175, R/R); RHP/C Brycen Jewell (Jr., 5-10, 175, R/R); OF Garrett Catanach (Sr., 5-10, 180, R/R)

Top Newcomers: 2B/SS Cole Watkins (So., 5-8, 155, R/R); 2B/SS JJ Rapp (So., 5-9, 150, L/R); RHP/OF Rem Maxwell (So., 6-0, 160, R/R); 1B Drew Everett (Jr., 6-2, 210, R/R)

Season Outlook: A year after winning the Class 4A state title, the Dragons drop a class and could be the team to beat again. Eight starters are back, including all-state performers Lane Watkins and Zac Corbin. Watkins, Derek Vaughn and Vinny Farley lead a talented pitching rotation. The talent is there to win another championship.



Ryan Godfrey
Jefferson



Lane Watkins
Jefferson

MONROE AREA HURRICANES

Head Coach: Chad Kitchens

Assistant Coach (s): Josh Stephens, Blake McCullers, Rob Blair, Michael Young, Taylor Burgess

2018 Record: 10-19

Returning Starters: C Grant Olson (Sr., 5-11, 170, L/R); 1B Caleb Young (Sr., 5-10, 190, R/R); SS/RHP Brannon Jones (Sr., 6-3, 160, R/R); 3B/RHP Alec Houston (Sr., 5-11, 170, R/R); OF/RHP Trevor Rouse (Sr., 5-10, 200, R/R); OF Chandler Byron (Sr., 6-1, 190, R/R); OF Avery Pittman (Sr., 6-3, 190, L/L)

Other Returning Players: 2B Collin Bailey (Sr., 5-10, 140, R/R); OF Chase Brown (Sr., 6-1, 170, L/L); OF Dustin Humphrey (Sr., 5-10, 140, R/R); OF Cody Wright (Sr., 5-9, 140, R/R); RHP Sam Jackson (Sr., 6-4, 190, R/R)

Top Newcomers: LHP/OF Bryant Olson (So., 6-0, 150, L/L); RHP/SS Hunter Redden (Fr., 6-0, 150, R/R); LHP/1B Walker Bell (Jr., 5-10, 160, L/L); LHP/1B Cody Cook (Jr., 6-5, 210, L/L); RHP/OF Garrett Dove (Jr., 6-1, 200, R/R); RHP/2B Ethan Phillips (Jr., 6-0, 190, R/R)

Season Outlook: A large senior class should help Monroe Area contend for a postseason berth. Seven starters are back, including outfielder Chandler Byron (.411 avg., 7 2B) and catcher Grant Olson (.376 avg., 18 RBIs). Brannon Jones, Alec Houston and Trevor Rouse lead a solid pitching rotation.



Chandler Byron
Monroe Area

MORGAN COUNTY BULLDOGS

Head Coach: Merritt Ainslie

Assistant Coach (s): Crandall Stamps, Wade Woodall, Jeff Snipes

2018 Record: 26-13

Returning Starters: C Blake Silvey (Sr., 6-0, 215, R/R); C/RHP/INF Ethan Stamps (Jr., 5-11, 210, B/R); C/INF Dominic Arienzo (Jr., 5-10, 165, R/R); 3B/RHP Hunter Lane (Sr., 6-0, 195, L/R); CF/INF/RHP Jaron Ferguson (Sr., 6-2, 205, R/R); RF/RHP Jacob Anderson (Sr., 6-3, 185, R/R)

Other Returning Players: OF/1B Brandon Batchelor (Jr., 6-1, 215, R/R); OF Trent Mizell (Jr.,



Jaron Ferguson
Morgan County

5-10, 175, R/R)

Top Newcomers: OF Kierrion Farley (Jr., 5-7, 165, R/R); OF Seth Robertson (Jr., 5-10, 185, R/R); C/3B Will Harper (So., 5-9, 220, R/R); OF Tristan Stapp (So., 5-9, 150, R/R)

Season Outlook: The Bulldogs made a deep postseason run last year, and they have the ingredients to do so again. Five starters are back, including pitching standouts Ethan Stamps (9-2, 0.10 ERA), Jacob Anderson (7-3, 1.09 ERA) and Hunter Lane (7-4, 3.24 ERA). Lane is back to lead the offense after batting .402 last year.



Hunter Lane
Morgan County



Ethan Stamps
Morgan County



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CLASS 3A

Forgetting the past

Benedictine coach motivates Cadets to win second title in five years

By Tim Morse

Before the start of the 2018 season, Benedictine baseball coach Kevin Farmer took down the state championship banners from 1961 and 2014 off the outfield fence at Brian Parker Field.

His reason?

"I told the players that we were not going to talk about the past, and we were not going to make the kids live up to the expectations of past teams," he said. "I told them we were going to go out, play and have fun."

The Cadets did just that, rolling to their second state baseball title in five seasons. Benedictine captured the Georgia High School Association Class 2A title with a 31-7 record, using strong pitching, timely hitting and solid defense.

But Farmer's idea of taking down the banners before the season certainly got the team's attention.

"It was kind of shocking and we were like, 'What is he doing,'" Ryan Pickard said. "It let us know that he cared about our team. We weren't going to be looking in the past."

The Cadets returned a solid senior class, but a brutal early-season schedule that featured larger schools like Richmond Hill, North Oconee, Madison County, Brunswick and East Paulding had Benedictine starting the season with a 3-4 mark.

It wasn't until freshman Carter Holton hurled a perfect game on the mound in a 10-0 victory over Statesboro on Feb. 26 that things began to click.

"Sweeping Statesboro helped bring a little brotherhood to the team," Farmer said.

After sweeping a pair of games with Statesboro to improve to 5-4, they won 10 straight before hitting a small patch of adversity. After a one-run victory over Colleton (S.C.) County, the Cadets dropped their only two region games of the season when they were swept by Bacon County.

It was a wakeup call.

"After we got swept by Bacon, we came back and beat Vidalia and Jeff Davis, the two best teams in the region," Holton said. "I thought that maybe we had a chance."

After losing to Bacon County, Benedictine closed the regular season with six straight wins and captured the Region 2-2A title.

"We told ourselves that we were not losing another game, and we were not losing a series like we did against Bacon County again," Pickard said. "So we gave it all we had the rest of the year."

After needing a late rally to beat Early County in Game 1 of the first round of the state playoffs, the Cadets swept the Bobcats, Screven County and Social Circle before needing three games to oust Callaway in the semifinals.

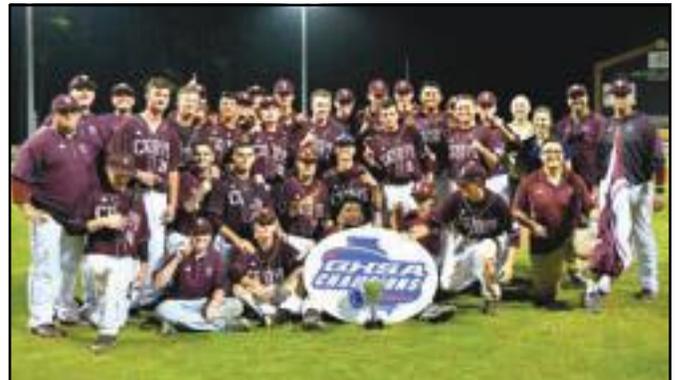
After dropping the first game 13-5 at Callaway, Benedictine rallied for a pair of shutout victories to advance.

Then they continued their stellar play in the postseason by sweeping Berrien in the championship series at Savannah's Grayson Stadium.

Garrison Gunby, Holton and Walker Barlow led a stingy pitching rotation, while Holton and Johnny Richardson led a dangerous lineup that produced strong offensive numbers.

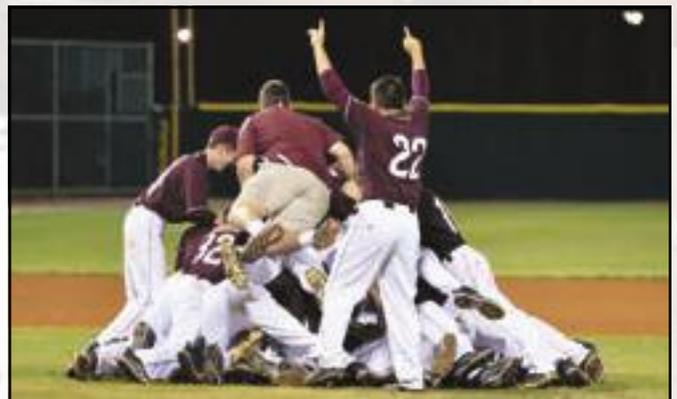
"Going back to taking down the banners, that showed us that Coach Farmer had faith in us to go out and perform," Pickard said. "We thought to ourselves, 'What can we do to leave our mark?'"

Winning the school's third baseball championship left a mark that won't be erased.



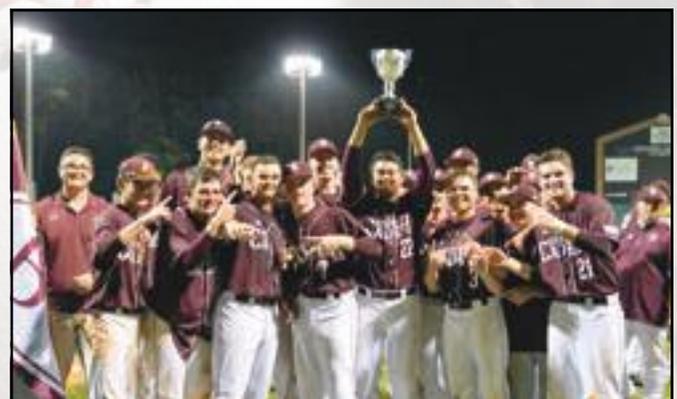
Sitting (l-r): Brian Guidera, Rome Dean, Trent Broadnax, Jake Aimar; **Kneeling** (l-r): Carter Holton, Johnny Richardson, Nick Lannone, Garrett Floyd, Jacob Markiton, Josh Kindred, Ahmed Awad; **First Row Standing** (l-r): Coach Kyle Farmer, Walker Barlow, Garrison Gunby, Andrew Ebberwein, Evan Sexton, Kyle Jackson, Ryan Pickard, Harrison Peebles, Caroline Brif, Coach Kevin Farmer; **Back Row** (l-r): Coach LTC Steve Suhr, Coach Jack Holland, Coach Kevin Aimar, Henderson Hughes, Cody Cowan, Trent Warren, John Thorpe, Clayton Greene, Joseph Schwalbe, Jackson Barger, George Mullen, Brian Tuten, Coach Drew Schwalbe .

Photo by Spicer Lyons



Benedictine players celebrate after defeating Berrien to win the GHSA Class 2A state championship.

Photo by Spicer Lyons



Benedictine players hold up the state championship trophy after defeating Berrien last season to win the state championship

Photo by Spicer Lyons

Class 2A Top 15

1 BREMEN

The Blue Devils are dropping to Class 2A after having success in Class 3A the past two years. And this should be Bremen's best team since the school won a Class 1A state title in 1990.

Bremen will have pitching to match up with anybody. Junior right-hander Griffin Crook returns as the team's ace, and the Blue Devils could also throw senior Carson Cook and stocky Jimbo Brown into the mix. Both are more suited as position players. Cook is a talented shortstop who made just one error in 2018, while Brown can do just about anything. Senior right-hander Jack Allen will also be a pitcher the team will depend on.

The offense should be in good shape. Third baseman Brody Parkerson, who had to sit out last year per transfer rules, will lead an offense that is capable of putting up some big numbers. Brown batted .367 last season and leads the offense along with outfielder Cooper Cartwright. Versatile Brooks Hardie was solid as a freshman last year and could play either catcher or in the outfield.

Bremen won 17 games last year and just missed making the state playoffs as a member of Region 6-3A. 2019 looks to be a special year for the Blue Devils.

2 CALLAWAY

The Cavaliers took eventual state champion Benedictine to three games in the state semifinals last year before falling. Look for Callaway to make another deep run this spring. If the Cavaliers can find pitching to replace the graduated Chandler Lott, this team will be very dangerous. Wesley Marchman leads a staff that will consist of Walt Stewart and Austin Barber. The offense should be in good hands as Braelin Mitchell, Drake Wade, Marchman and Trent Sheppard all return.

3 ELBERT COUNTY

The Blue Devils have had one of their best two-year runs in the school's baseball history. They made the quarterfinals last year after playing for the Class 2A state title in 2017. Elbert County will build on its recent success this season.

4 HEARD COUNTY

Last season, Heard County loaded up its nonregion schedule and struggled. But by the time the playoffs began, the Braves had used their rugged schedule to mature, and then made a run to the state quarterfinals. Look for Heard to do much of the same in 2019.

5 ROCKMART

There may not be a team in Class 2A that features more talent than Rockmart. But the Yellow Jackets have to stay healthy and have good chemistry. Rockmart started hot in 2018 but stumbled toward the finish line at the end of the season and lost in the first round of the postseason. Will they rebound in 2019? This team certainly has the talent to contend for the state championship.

6 HARLEM

Harlem started slowly last year, then by playoff time, the Bulldogs were playing as well as anybody. Look for Harlem to pick up from where they left off. This should definitely be of Harlem's best teams since the Bulldogs played for the state baseball championship in 1999.

7 THOMASVILLE

The Bulldogs made it to the state quarterfinals last season even though they struggled offensively. Graduation took a chunk out of the team, but there is plenty of talent returning in 2019. Pitching will be the strength again as all-state performers Hurston Waldrep and Jacob Bradshaw lead a talented rotation.

8 WESTSIDE-AUGUSTA

Will Westside coach Gerald Barnes make one more run at a state championship before he retires? The legendary coach is four wins shy of 900 and his 2019 Patriots will be tough. This might be his last chance. The Patriots have the talent to make a strong run, but the lack of depth is a concern. Keep an eye on Westside.

9 BACON COUNTY

The Raiders were young in 2018 and lost some games they shouldn't have, but they were good enough to sweep a pair of games from eventual state champion Benedictine during the regular season. Bacon is a year older and wiser. If they can perform consistently this spring, they will be a tough team to beat.

10 SOCIAL CIRCLE

Former coach Matt Huffman left a wealth of talent for Georgia Dugout Club Hall of Fame coach Danny Blue who took over in the offseason. The Redskins have as much talent as they did last year when they won 22 games and made the state quarterfinals. Blue will have a strong senior class to lead the team. Chandler Ball, Davis Smith and David House are three to look out for.

11 JEFF DAVIS

After a state championship in 2017 and a trip to the semifinals last year, Jeff Davis has some rebuilding to do this year. That doesn't mean the Yellow Jackets won't be a dangerous team. The senior class is small, but keep an eye on some talented underclassmen.

12 FITZGERALD

The Purple Hurricanes lost several one-run games last year. If they can figure out how to finish strong, they could be a sleeper. Coach Jason McDonald has been building for this year for quite a while. A handful of three-year starters return.

13 DODGE COUNTY

Graduation took a bite out of Dodge County's roster last year. But the Indians shouldn't be taken lightly. There are enough leftovers for the team to be strong. The Indians just need time to mature.

14 BLECKLEY COUNTY

The Royals suffered injury after injury last year to derail a promising season. The good news is that those players who received playing time are a year older and more mature. The Royals quietly finished strong last year after getting off to a bad start.

15 BERRIEN

The Rebels lost just about all of their starting lineup after making it to state championship series last year. Berrien will struggle early as its young team matures. However, by the end of the regular season, the Rebels could be dangerous.

Others to watch: (Alphabetical Order) Banks County, Bryan County, Dade County, Rabun County, Toombs County, Vidalia

CLASS 2A PRESEASON ALL STATE

First Team

Name	Position	Grade	School	Comment
Brison Creech	Pitcher	Senior	Westside-Augusta	He can hit and pitch well
Griffin Crook	Pitcher	Junior	Bremen	RHP makes opposition look bad
Dawson Dye	Pitcher	Senior	Elbert County	RHP is tough on hitters
Ty Floyd	Pitcher	Junior	Rockmart	He makes the Jackets go
Daniel Lavender	Pitcher	Senior	Elbert County	Big righty won 8 games last year
Wesley Marchman	Pitcher	Junior	Callaway	Tough, gritty and does his job
Hurston Waldrep	Pitcher	Junior	Thomasville	Lights out pitcher nearly unhittable
Dylan Bailey	Catcher	Senior	Rockmart	Power-hitting catcher is real deal
Will Hammett	Catcher	Senior	Heard County	As good as there is behind plate
Peyton Adams	Infielder	Junior	Elbert County	He can play anywhere in the field
Chandler Ball	Infielder	Senior	Social Circle	He does so many things well
Jimbo Brown	Infielder	Junior	Bremen	He's a big man who goes hard
Tray Owens	Infielder	Junior	Heard County	This guy continues to get better
Brody Parkerson	Infielder	Senior	Bremen	You'll hear more about him
Drake Wade	Infielder	Senior	Callaway	Athletic shortstop is a tough out
Noah Bone	Outfielder	Senior	Dade County	Playmaker gets the runners home
Cooper Cartwright	Outfielder	Junior	Bremen	Makes plenty of plays in OF
Tanner Collins	Outfielder	Senior	Heard County	Solid hitter, excellent defender
Jordan McCladdie	Outfielder	Junior	Harlem	An exciting player to watch
Braelin Mitchell	Outfielder	Senior	Callaway	Also excellent at 1B
T.J. Wright	Designated Hitter	Senior	Westside-Augusta	An explosive hitter
Mason Spivey	Utility	Senior	Harlem	This guy does it all

Second Team

Pitchers – Jacob Bradshaw, Jr., Thomasville; Luke Jester, Sr., Early County; Britt Metts, Jr., Jeff Davis; Bubba Newell, Sr., Fitzgerald; Tripp Purser, Sr., Bleckley County; Davis Smith, Sr., Social Circle; Harley Walker, Sr., Dade County; **Catchers** – Riley Powers, Sr., Vidalia; Nathan Smith, So., Thomasville; **Infielders** – Kadin Burse, Sr., Dodge County; Carson Cook, Sr., Bremen; Parker Dixon, Jr., Dodge County; David House, Sr., Social Circle; Caleb Houston, Jr., Bacon County; Cody Parramore, Jr., Rockmart; **Outfielders** – Jimmy Cipriani, Sr., Thomasville; Caden Cotton, Jr., Banks County; Brooks Hardie, So., Bremen; Lane Kitchens, Sr., Bleckley County; Kody Krause, Sr., Fitzgerald; **Designated Hitter** – Harrison Stewart, Jr., Thomasville; **Utility** – Adam Newberry, Sr., Bacon County

REGION 1-2A

Region Favorite: Thomasville

Keep an eye on: Fitzgerald – The Purple Hurricanes have one of the region's top pitching rotations and will be tough.

Players to Watch

RHP/OF – Tanner Adams, Sr., Berrien; **INF** – Jacob Bennett, Sr., Berrien; **INF/RHP** – Jacob Bradshaw, Jr., Thomasville; **OF** – Jimmy Cipriani, Sr., Thomasville; **RHP/OF** – Mason Clements, Sr., Fitzgerald; **SS/OF** – Jacquez Jackson, Sr., Brooks County; **RHP** – Luke Jester, Sr., Early County; **RHP/CF** – Kody Krause, Sr., Fitzgerald; **RHP/3B** – Alex Munoz, Jr., Brooks County; **RHP/3B** – Bubba Newell, Sr., Fitzgerald; **INF/OF** – Griffin Rowe, Jr., Berrien; **U** – Nathan Smith, So., Thomasville; **U** – Harrison Stewart, Jr., Thomasville; **INF** – Michael Tucker, So., Berrien; **OF/RHP** – Hurston Waldrep, Jr., Thomasville; **U** – Asher White, Jr., Early County

BERRIEN REBELS

Head Coach: Doug Nix

Assistant Coach (s): Caden Ray, Rusty Harris, Adam Haire

2018 Record: 27-15

Returning Starters: RHP/OF Tanner Adams (Sr., 6-2, 180, R/R); INF Jacob Bennett (Sr., 5-10, 160, R/R); INF/OF Griffin Rowe (Jr., 5-8, 150, R/R)

Other Returning Players: OF Hunter McKinnon (Sr., 5-9, 170, R/R); C Conner Sinclair (Jr., 5-10, 185, R/R); INF Michael Tucker (So., 5-11, 170, R/R); RHP/INF Clay Griffin (So., 6-0, 170, R/R); C Kayden Everett (So., 5-10, 175, R/R)

Season Outlook: After a run to the Class 2A state championship series last year, the Rebels are in for some rebuilding this spring. Three starters are back, including seniors Tanner Adams and Jacob Bennett. Keep an eye on a talented group of underclassmen who will need to step forward.



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BROOKS COUNTY TROJANS

Head Coach: Josh Price

Assistant Coach (s):

Troy Gay, Daniel Storey,
David DeSantiago

2018 Record: 7-19

Returning Starters: SS/
OF Jacquez Jackson (Sr.,
R/R); RHP/OF Randall
Smith (Sr., R/R); 2B
TJ Bivins (Sr., R/R); 1B
Donnie Sloan (Sr., R/R);
OF Omar Blankumsee

(Sr., R/R); RHP/3B Alex Munoz (Jr., B/R); OF/LHP Tiger Reynolds (Jr.,
R/L); RHP/OF Dylan Marshall (So., R/R)

Other Returning Players: 1B Trent Williford (Sr., R/R); OF Jaylin
Chappell (Sr., R/R); RHP Bryce Hutchinson (Jr., R/R); OF Will Player (Jr., R/R)

Top Newcomers: RHP/3B/C Devin Sims (Fr., R/R); RHP/1B Jack Perry
(Fr., R/R); RHP/2B Reese Rhodes (Fr., R/R); OF/RHP Tremaine Demps
(Fr., R/R); OF Wisdom Harris (Fr., R/R)

Season Outlook: The Trojans return some talented players and
should have a chance to improve upon last season's finish. Eight
starters are back, including Jacquez Jackson (.441 avg., 13 RBIs) and
pitcher/third baseman Alex Munoz. Second baseman TJ Bivins (.377
avg., 10 RBIs) also returns.



Jacquez Jackson
Brooks County



Alex Munoz
Brooks County

EARLY COUNTY BOBCATS

Head Coach: Shawn Gilmer (new)

Assistant Coach (s): Craig Dempsey,
Cecil Brown, Ed Norman

2018 Record: 6-21

Returning Starters: RHP/1B Luke Jester (Sr.,
6-4, 215, R/R); OF Ryan Kennedy (Sr., 5-10, 170,
R/R); INF Collins McClendon (Jr., 5-10, 180, R/R);
U Asher White (Jr., 5-10, 175, R/R)

Other Returning Players: INF Wade Glass (Sr.,
5-9, 170, R/R); RHP/1B Shaun Felch (Jr., 6-1, 200,
R/R); 3B Christian Mincey (So., 5-10, 190, R/R);
OF Perry Lee (Sr., 5-9, 195, R/R)

Top Newcomers: C/INF Carter Rowland (Sr., 5-11, 190, R/R)

Season Outlook: Former assistant Shawn Gilmer takes over and
inherits four returning starters. One of the team's returners is pitcher
Luke Jester, a standout pitcher who can be lethal on the mound. Utility
player Asher White returns to lead the offense. If the Bobcats can develop
some more pitching, they should contend for a postseason berth again.



Luke Jester
Early County

FITZGERALD PURPLE HURRICANES

Head Coach: Jason McDonald

Assistant Coach (s):

Will Oliver, Luke Rinear,
Harvey Taylor

2018 Record: 15-15

Returning Starters:
RHP/3B Ashton "Bubba"
Newell (Sr., 6-4, 215, R/R);
RHP/CF Kody Krause
(Sr., 6-0, 190, L/R); RHP/
OF Mason Clements (Sr.,



Kody Krause
Fitzgerald



Bubba Newell
Fitzgerald

5-10, 180, R/R); 3B Kyler Boggus (Sr., 6-1, 175, R/R); RHP/OF Marcus
Anderson (So., 5-11, 175, R/R); C Dequavion Harper (So., 5-10, 230,
R/R); 2B Chandler Young (So., 5-8, 165, R/R)

Other Returning Players: RHP/1B Austin Luke (Sr., 6-2, 220, L/R);
1B JR Plummer (Sr., 6-1, 210, L/L); OF Spain Kelly (Sr., 5-9, 170, R/R);
RHP/3B Austin Yarbrough (Jr., 5-10, 180, R/R); RHP/OF Riley Evans
(So., 5-9, 175, R/R); RHP/OF Jacob Dunn (So., 5-8, 160, L/R); RHP/SS
Pressley Paulk (So., 5-9, 170, R/R); OF Tyler Brown (So., 5-9, 165, R/R)

Top Newcomers: 2B Connor Clemons (Fr., 5-8, 150, R/R); 1B/3B Avery
Newell (Fr., 5-10, 175, R/R)

Season Outlook: Fitzgerald will have a say in the outcome of the
Region 1-2A region chase this season. Seven starters are back as well as
a strong group of seniors. Pitching should be the team's biggest strength
as Bubba Newell, Kody Krause and Mason Clements are all back.

THOMASVILLE BULLDOGS

Head Coach: Erik McDougald

Assistant Coach (s):

Brice Warner, Daniel
Young, Nate Espy,
Kyle Fiveash

2018 Record: 30-7

Returning Starters:

OF Jimmy Cipriani (Sr.,
5-7, 140, R/R); INF/RHP
Dalton Dollar (Sr., 6-1,
170, R/R); U Harrison
Stewart (Jr., 5-11,

185, R/R); INF Maylon
Cochran (Jr., 5-11, 145,
L/R); INF/RHP Jacob

Bradshaw (Jr., 6-0, 175,
L/R); OF/RHP Hurston
Waldrep (Jr., 6-0, 175,
R/R); OF/RHP Zeb

Maxwell (Jr., 5-10, 170,
R/R); U Nathan Smith
(So., 6-0, 195, R/R)

**Other Returning
Players:** INF/C/RHP
Seth Kipper (Sr., 6-1,
195, R/R); RHP Harrison
Vance (Sr., 5-10, 170,
R/R); INF Levi Knop (Sr.,
6-1, 185, R/R); U Miles
Green (Jr., 5-10, 170,
R/R)

Top Newcomers: U/
LHP Gabe Duncan (Fr.,
5-9, 155, L/L); INF/C

Witt Wetherington (Fr., 5-11, 170, R/R)

Season Outlook: Graduation hit the Bulldogs hard last year,
but there is enough talent for Thomasville to be in the region
title chase again. Eight starters return, including a solid pitching
rotation consisting of Hurston Waldrep, Jacob Bradshaw, Dalton
Dollar and Zeb Maxwell. Outfielder Jimmy Cipriani, catcher
Nathan Smith and two-year starter Harrison Stewart return to
lead the offense.



Jacob Bradshaw
Thomasville



Jimmy Cipriani
Thomasville



Nathan Smith
Thomasville



Harrison Stewart
Thomasville



Hurston Waldrep - Thomasville
Photo by Tim Morse

REGION 2-2A

Region Favorite: Bacon County

Keep an eye on: Vidalia – The Indians are young and talented and could surprise many.

Players to Watch

C – Colin Brown, Sr., Bryan County; **OF/RHP** – Cooper Brown, Sr., Bacon County; **SS/RHP** – Nathan Copeland, Jr., Swainsboro; **INF/RHP** – Bryce Deloach, Sr., Toombs County; **OF** – Garrett Gillis, Sr., Vidalia; **INF/RHP** – Brock Harrison, Sr., Toombs County; **1B/C** – Caleb Houston, Jr., Bacon County; **OF/RHP** – Deandre Jackson, Sr., Swainsboro; **LHP/OF** – Caleb Leggett, Jr., Jeff Davis; **OF/LHP** – Wes Livingston, Sr., Bacon County; **RHP/SS** – Landry Mead, So., Vidalia; **SS/RHP** – Britt Metts, Jr., Jeff Davis; **U** – Adam Newberry, Sr., Bacon County; **C** – RJ Phillips, Sr., Swainsboro; **RHP/C/INF** – Riley Powers, Sr., Vidalia; **U** – Lane Young, Jr., Metter

BACON COUNTY RED RAIDERS

Head Coach: Noble Coley (new)

Assistant Coach (s):

Stephen Tyre, Patrick McDonald

2018 Record: 14-17

Returning Starters:

OF/LHP Wes Livingston (Sr., L/L); U Adam Newberry (Sr., R/R); U Jake Elrod (Sr., R/R); INF/RHP Jacob Smith (Sr., R/R); OF/RHP Cooper Brown (Sr., R/R); 1B/C Caleb Houston (Jr., R/R); C/RHP Bennett Arney (Jr., L/R); INF/OF Chase Kirkland (Jr., R/R); INF/RHP Trey Thomas (So., R/R); INF/RHP Mason Mikell (So., B/R)

Other Returning

Players: INF/RHP Drew

Elrod (So., R/R); OF Drake Miles (Jr., L/R); C Dustin Andrews (So., R/R); OF Zavious Bell (Sr., R/R); OF Trent Steedly (Jr., R/R); OF Dalton Bowers (Jr., R/R); OF/RHP Skyler Ivey (Jr., R/R)

Top Newcomers: INF/RHP Jackson Conner (Fr., R/R)

Season Outlook: Former assistant Noble Coley takes over and inherits a wealth of talent. Offensive leaders Wes Livingston, Adam Newberry, Cooper Brown and Caleb Houston are back to lead the way. Livingston leads a solid pitching rotation built for the grind of competing in Region 2-2A.



Cooper Brown
Bacon County



Caleb Houston
Bacon County



Wes Livingston
Bacon County



Adam Newberry
Bacon County

BRYAN COUNTY REDSKINS

Head Coach: Jason Roundtree

Assistant Coach (s): Justin Covington, Tony Leggett

2018 Record: 20-10

Returning Starters: C Colin Brown (Sr., R/R); LHP/1B John Dowd (Sr., L/L); 1B Landon Thompson (Sr., R/R); LHP/OF Tucker Dyson (So., L/L); C/OF Cam Smith (Sr., R/R)

Top Newcomers: INF/RHP Brent Leggett (Jr., R/R)

Season Outlook: The Redskins won 20 games last year and just missed the playoffs. Look for Bryan to contend again this season. Five starters are back, including four seniors. Catcher Colin Brown returns behind the plate, while pitcher/first baseman John Dowd and Cam Smith return after strong seasons in 2018.

JEFF DAVIS YELLOW JACKETS

Head Coach: Paul Glass

Assistant Coach (s):

Steven Wilcox, Roger Metts, Jeff McGowan, Richard Stone

2018 Record: 24-14

Returning Starters:

C Colby Marchant (Jr., 5-11, 170); 1B Caleb Chaney (Jr., 6-0, 185); 2B/RHP Garrison Miles (Jr., 5-9, 180); SS/RHP Britt Metts (Jr., 6-0, 180); OF/RHP Jashawn Kirby (Jr., 6-0, 190); OF/RHP Cade Walters (So., 5-9, 170)

Other Returning

Players: OF/C Kaden Lewis (Sr., 5-9, 160); LHP/OF Caleb Leggett (Jr., 6-0, 170); 3B/DH Hamp Hayes (So., 6-1, 220); RHP/OF

Braydon Creech (So., 6-0, 175); RHP/OF Caleb Parlor (Jr., 6-0, 170)

Top Newcomers: RHP Hayden Weems (So., 5-9, 160); RHP Cole Baucom (So., 5-11, 170)

Season Outlook: After deep postseason runs the past two seasons, 2018 will be a new look for Jeff Davis. The talent is there, it just needs time to mature. The senior class is small, but look for a solid group of juniors and sophomores to step forward. The pitching staff, led by junior Britt Metts, is young but solid.



Kaden Lewis
Jeff Davis



Colby Marchant
Jeff Davis



Britt Metts
Jeff Davis



Garrison Miles
Jeff Davis

METTER TIGERS

Head Coach: Zach Rackett (new)

Assistant Coach (s): John Mark Sweat, Riley Kingery, Taylor Dollar

2018 Record: 8-13

Returning Starters: U Lane Young (Jr., R/R); U Ahmod Collins (Jr., R/R); 1B Tucker Attebury (Jr., R/R); INF/RHP Randan Rigdon (So., R/R); INF Brendan Wood (So., R/R)

Other Returning Players: OF Turner Wallace (Jr., R/R); U Antoine Deloach (So., R/R); OF/LHP Walker Dollar (Jr., L/L); OF/RHP Brian Crooms (So., R/R); OF Hogan Lanier (So., R/R); U Tyler Kirkland (So., R/R); 1B Aiden Hoeger (So., R/R)

Season Outlook: Former assistant Zach Rackett takes over and inherits a young but talented team. Five starters are back. The bulk of the team will be comprised of juniors and sophomores. Utility player Lane Young is a player to keep an eye on. Once this team matures, they could be tough later this spring.

SWAINSBORO TIGERS

Head Coach: Ashley Hooks

Assistant Coach (s): Corey Chalker

2018 Record: 14-14

Returning Starters: C RJ Phillips (Sr., 6-2, 190, R/R); OF/RHP Deandre Jackson (Sr., 5-10, 175, R/R); SS/RHP Nathan Copeland (Jr., 5-10, 180, R/R); 2B Davis Lamb (Sr., 5-10, 170, R/R); OF Tyler Brinson (Jr., 5-11, 180, R/R); 3B Kade Youmans (Jr., 6-1, 180, R/R)

Other Returning Players: 1B Gannon Thompson (Sr., R/R); 1B King Screws (Jr., R/R); OF/LHP Kytte Phillips (Jr., R/L); SS/RHP Elijah Loyd (So., R/R)

Season Outlook: The Tigers welcome back six returning starters and should compete for a postseason berth this spring. A trio of seniors will lead the way – catcher RJ Phillips, outfielder/pitcher Deandre Jackson and second baseman Davis Lamb. Keep an eye on junior shortstop/pitcher Nathan Copeland.

TOOMBS COUNTY BULLDOGS

Head Coach: Derek James (new)

Assistant Coach (s): Pat Craft, Don Mimbs, Wesley Bratton

2018 Record: 12-16

Returning Starters: C/RHP Cole Graham (Sr., R/R); INF/RHP Brock Harrison (Sr., R/R); INF/RHP Bryce Deloach (Sr., R/R); INF/RHP Dalton Lynn (Sr., R/R); OF/LHP Trey Cloud (Jr., L/L); OF/RHP Chandler Lynn (So., R/R); INF Chase Mussleman (So., R/R)

Other Returning Players: INF/RHP Alex Gordy (So., R/R)

Season Outlook: Former Bacon County coach Derek James takes over a Toombs program that struggled last season. The good news is that James inherits seven returning starters, four of them seniors. If some younger players step up and mature, the Bulldogs will challenge for a postseason berth this spring.

VIDALIA INDIANS

Head Coach: Brent Korn

Assistant Coach (s):

Rhett Carter,
Stuart McKie

2018 Record: 14-15

Returning Starters:

RHP/SS Landrey Mead (So., R/R); 3B/OF Dawson Ricks (Jr., R/R); RHP/C/INF Riley Powers (Sr., R/R); OF Garrett Gillis (Sr., R/R)

Other Returning

Players: INF Mason Torranco (Jr., R/R); RHP/1B Grey Stephens (So., R/R); U Michael Blount (So., R/R); OF Matt Moye (Sr., R/R); OF/RHP Carson McClellan (Sr., R/R); C Evan Stephens (Jr., R/R); OF Anthony Walker (Jr., R/R)

Top Newcomers: RHP/1B Ty Dalley (Fr., L/R); RHP/SS/OF Bryson Whited (Fr., R/R); LHP/1B/OF Jordan Walden (Fr., R/L); RHP/OF Bryce Davis (Fr., R/R); RHP/SS Caden Spivey (Fr., R/R); C Hughes Graham (Fr., R/R)

Season Outlook: Vidalia made the playoffs in Brent Korn's first season as coach last year. The Indians look to take things farther this spring. The good news is that four starters are back, including seniors Riley Powers and Garrett Gillis. The Indians have a wealth of young talent waiting for their turn in the spotlight. Keep an eye on this young team.



Landrey Mead
Vidalia



Riley Powers
Vidalia

REGION 3-2A

Region Favorite: Dodge County

Keep an eye on: Bleckley County – After an injury-riddled 2018 season, the Royals will be back.

Players to Watch

INF – Kadin Burse, Sr., Dodge County; **OF** – DJ Bursh, Sr., Dodge County; **RHP/INF** – Parker Dixon, Jr., Dodge County; **SS** – Jack Fernandez, Jr., Bleckley County; **RHP** – Parker Gay, Sr., Dodge County; **CF** – Carson Hart, Sr., Washington County; **OF** – Lane Kitchens, Sr., Bleckley County; **3B/RHP** – Steven Knighton, Jr., Bleckley County; **C** – Brody Little, So., Bleckley County; **OF/SS/RHP** – Ryan Mimbs, So., East Laurens; **OF/SS/RHP** – Alex Muns, Jr., East Laurens; **RHP/INF** – Tripp Purser, Sr., Bleckley County; **2B** – Kendall Wade, So., Dublin; **SS/RHP** – Carson Waters, Jr., Bleckley County

BLECKLEY COUNTY ROYALS

Head Coach: Brad Davis

Assistant Coach (s):

William Barham, Jacob Byram, Tyler Sellars, Chase Raffield

2018 Record: 16-16

Returning Starters: OF

Lane Kitchens (Sr., 5-10, 170, R/R); RHP/INF Tripp Purser (Sr., 6-0, 170, R/R); 2B Andrew Thompson (Sr., 6-0, 175, R/R); OF

Joseph Spires (Sr., 5-8, 165, R/R); SS Jack Fernandez (Jr., 6-0, 190, R/R); 3B/RHP Steven Knighton (Jr., 5-11, 180, R/R); SS/RHP Carson Waters (Jr., 5-8, 160, R/R); C Brody Little (So., 5-9, 180, R/R)

Top Newcomers: 1B Ethan Halsey (So., 6-1, 195, R/R)

Season Outlook: Injuries hurt Bleckley last season, and the Royals suffered a first-round playoff exit. If Bleckley can avoid the injury-bug, they should challenge for the region crown. Eight starters are back, including offensive leaders Lane Kitchens, Carson Waters and Brody Little. Right-hander Tripp Purser returns to lead the pitching rotation.



Lane Kitchens
Bleckley County



Tripp Purser
Bleckley County

DODGE COUNTY INDIANS

Head Coach: Matt Herring

Assistant Coach (s):

Will McCranie

2018 Record: 25-6

Returning Starters: INF

Kadin Burse (Sr., 5-10, 175, R/R); OF DJ Bursh (Sr., 5-11, 175, R/R); RHP Parker Gay (Sr., 6-1, 180, R/R); RHP/OF Andrew Lowery (Jr., 5-10, 170, R/R); RHP/INF Parker Dixon (Jr., 5-11, 200, R/R)

Other Returning Players: INF Noah Mincey (Jr., 5-10, 170, R/R); INF



Kadin Burse
Dodge County



Parker Dixon
Dodge County

Brodie Woodard (Jr., 5-11, 165, R/R); C Parker Hardin (Jr., 5-9, 170, R/R); OF Timmy Johnson (Jr., 5-10, 175, R/R); RHP/1B Peyton Smith (So., 6-1, 205, R/R); LHP/OF Landin Crummey (So., 5-8, 150, L/L); RHP/INF Brandon O'Connor (So., 5-9, 155, R/R); OF Seth Gossett (So., 5-11, 175, R/R)

Season Outlook: After winning the region title last season, Dodge County has some holes to fill to approach last year's success. Five starters are back, including seniors Kadin Burse, DJ Bursh and Parker Gay. Look for a strong group of juniors and sophomores to step forward.

DUBLIN FIGHTING IRISH

Head Coach: Jonathan Morris (new)

Survey not returned

EAST LAURENS FALCONS

Head Coach: Tyler Green (new)

Assistant Coach (s): Gene Mulkey, Scott McCarty, Mitch Edge

2018 Record: 15-13

Returning Starters: OF/SS/RHP Ryan Mimbs (So., 6-3, 180, R/R); OF/SS/RHP Alex Muns (Jr., 6-3, 180, R/R); 1B/OF Chaise Donaldson (So., 6-0, 175, R/R); OF/LHP Jhiquez Lovett (Sr., 5-9, 180, L/L); C/3B/2B Cam Oliver (Sr., 5-9, 185, R/R); C/3B/RHP Lync Pope (So., 5-11, 175, R/R)

Other Returning Players: 2B/RHP J.D. Webb (Sr., 5-7, 150, R/R); 1B/3B Chandler Green (Jr., 6-1, 205, R/R); 1B/OF Jaylon McWilliams (Sr., 6-3, 195, R/R); 2B/RHP Cody Allen (Jr., 6-0, 170, R/R); OF J'Terry Jones (Jr., 5-11, 170, L/R)

Top Newcomers: 3B Kelton Mullis (Fr., 5-11, 170, R/R); 2B/OF Trey Barwick (Fr., 5-4, 140, R/R); 1B/RHP Hunter Clay (Fr., 6-0, 170, R/R)

Season Outlook: East Laurens made the playoffs last season and should contend again. The Falcons will have a relatively young team. The good news is that six starters are back, including sophomore Ryan Mimbs and Alex Muns, who were promising last year. A solid corps of underclassmen will also contribute.

NORTHEAST-MACON RAIDERS

Head Coach: Darryl Silas

Survey not returned

SOUTHWEST-MACON PATRIOTS

Head Coach: Robert Cummings

Survey not returned

WASHINGTON COUNTY GOLDEN HAWKS

Head Coach: Timothy May

Assistant Coach (s): Jay Smith, Robert Blocker, Joel Griffin

2018 Record: 17-13

Returning Starters: RHP CH Wright (Sr., 6-2, 185, R/R); CF Carson Hart (Sr., 5-10, 155, R/R); 1B/RHP Dalton Smith (Jr., 6-2, 185, R/R); INF/RHP Jackson Lanthrip (So., 5-8, 150, R/R); LF/LHP Aidan Cobb (So., 5-8, 145, L/L); RHP Peyton Poole (So., 6-2, 200, R/R); OF Elliott Price (Sr., 5-11, 180, R/R)

Other Returning Players: OF/LHP Olamide Dixon (Jr., 6-2, 190, L/L); OF Robert Ivey (Jr., 6-0, 175, R/R); 3B Bryan McAfee (Sr., 5-10, 220, R/R)

Top Newcomers: C/SS/RHP Keagan Baxter (Fr., 6-0, 190, R/R); 3B/RHP Cameron Peavy (Fr., 6-0, 200, R/R)

Season Outlook: Look for Washington County to have a say in outcome of the Region 3-2A race this season. Seven starters are

back, including a trio of seniors in pitcher CH Wright and outfielders Carson Hart and Elliott Price. A good nucleus returns, but the Hawks will still need some younger players to help out.

REGION 4-2A

Region Favorite: Harlem

Keep an eye on: Westside – The Patriots will have one of the best hitting teams in the region.

Players to Watch

OF – Ricky Cole, Sr., Westside-Augusta; **RHP/SS** – Brison Creech, Sr., Westside-Augusta; **INF/OF** – Ross Crews, Sr., Screven County; **3B** – Kevin Jones, Sr., Harlem; **C** – Kolby Joyner, Jr., Westside-Augusta; **C** – Jackson Lonergan, Sr., Harlem; **OF/RHP** – Jarod Martin, Sr., Harlem; **RHP/SS** – Colby Masters, Jr., Westside-Augusta; **OF/LHP** – Jordan McCladdie, Jr., Harlem; **U** – Skyler Parker, Sr., Laney; **RHP/1B** – Owen Powell, Jr., Westside-Augusta; **2B** – Keller Rosier, Jr., Westside-Augusta; **LHP/1B** – Mason Spivey, Sr., Harlem; **OF/RHP** – Chase Wren, Sr., Jefferson County; **OF** – T.J. Wright, Sr., Westside-Augusta

BUTLER BULLDOGS

Head Coach: Joseph Nero

Survey not returned

GLENN HILLS SPARTANS

Head Coach: TBA

Survey not returned

HARLEM BULLDOGS

Head Coach: Jimmie Lewis

Assistant Coach (s): Chris Waters, Rusty James, Bob Hatcher, Lonnie Morris

2018 Record: 23-12

Returning Starters: 1B/LHP Mason Spivey (Sr., L/L); 3B Kevin Jones (Sr., R/R); C Jackson Lonergan (Sr., R/R); OF/LHP Jordan McCladdie (Jr., L/L); SS Colton Lopez (Jr., R/R); OF/RHP Jarod Martin (Sr., L/R); OF/RHP Carson Quattlebaum (Sr., R/R); DH/LHP Malik Frails (Sr., L/L)

Other Returning Players: 2B Chase Flick (Sr., R/R); RHP Payton Hullum (So., R/R); RHP Dylan Smith (Jr., R/R); OF/INF Cedric Cullars (So., R/R)

Season Outlook: A young Harlem team made the second round of the state playoffs in 2018. If the Bulldogs' pitching rotation matures, they could be the team to beat in region play. Harlem does return all-state performers Mason Spivey and Jordan McCladdie to lead the offense.



Mason Spivey
Harlem



Jordan McCladdie - Harlem
Photo by Tim Morse

HEPHZIBAH REBELS

Head Coach: Sean Kennedy (new)
Survey not returned

JEFFERSON COUNTY WARRIORS

Head Coach: Tarry Stokes
Assistant Coach (s): Scott Wheeler, Wes Melton
2018 Record: 11-17
Returning Starters: 3B/RHP Harley Irby (Jr., 5-10, 225, R/R); 2B/1B Hayden Stokes (Jr., 5-11, 190, R/R); C/RHP Tyson Knight (So., 5-10, 175, R/R); OF/RHP Chase Wren (Sr., 6-3, 180, R/R); OF/RHP Wyatt Bailey (Sr., 5-8, 155, R/R)
Other Returning Players: SS/RHP Hayden Howard (So., 5-6, 130, R/R); CF/RHP Shaun Clark (So., 5-8, 150, R/R); C/SS Kyle McMillan (So., 5-6, 135, R/R); 1B/OF Austin Long (So., 6-1, 195, R/R); 3B/2B Kaden Crego (So., 5-6, 155, R/R); 1B/RHP Logan Bazemore (So., 6-0, 165, R/R); OF/RHP Cayden Arrington (So., 5-5, 130, R/R); OF/RHP Aquavious Hunter (So., 5-8, 160, R/R); 2B/OF Bryan Stewart (So., 5-9, 145, R/R)
Top Newcomers: SS/3B/RHP Evan Walden (So., 5-9, 160, R/R)
Season Outlook: An excellent group of returning players should help Jefferson County contend for a playoff berth. The Warriors welcome back five starters, including senior offensive leader Chase Wren. Look for a solid group of sophomores to push for playing time this spring.

JOSEY EAGLES

Head Coach: James Draine
Survey not returned

LANEY WILDCATS

Head Coach: Jerry Hunter
Assistant Coach (s): Shiloh Robinson, Tracy Mims
2018 Record: 9-9
Returning Starters: INF Joseph Gaines (Sr., 5-6, 150, R/R); OF Skyler Parker (Sr. 5-10, 175, R/R); OF Edward Harris (Sr., 5-6, 150, R/R); OF Sylvester Fountain (Jr., 5-5, 140, L/L); INF Lattise Reid (Jr., 6-0, 170, R/R)
Other Returning Players: C Jaden Canty (Sr., 5-6, 200, R/R)
Top Newcomers: U Marquize Parker (Fr., R/R)
Season Outlook: After making the state playoffs in 2017, Laney slid to a .500 finish last year. The Wildcats look to be better as five starters are back. Infielder Joseph Gaines and outfielder Skyler Parker are two players expected to lead the offense. Laney must develop some pitching in order to contend.

SCREVEN COUNTY GAMECOCKS

Head Coach: J.R. Doyle
Survey not returned



WESTSIDE-AUGUSTA PATRIOTS

Head Coach: Gerald Barnes
Assistant Coach (s): Wayne Jackson

2018 Record: 26-6

Returning Starters: RHP/SS Brison Creech (Sr., 6-0, 175, R/R); OF T.J. Wright (Sr., 6-2, 185, R/R); OF Ricky Cole (Sr., 5-9, 165, R/R); RHP/SS Colby Masters (Jr., 6-1, 185, R/R); RHP/1B Owen



Ricky Cole
Westside-Augusta



Colby Masters
Westside-Augusta

Powell (Jr., 6-2, 180, R/R); 2B Keller Rosier (Jr., 5-10, 170, R/R); LHP/OF Cameron McFalls (So., 6-0, 165, L/L); C Kolby Joyner (Jr., 5-11, 165, R/R)
Other Returning Players: LHP/1B Matthew Flannagan (Jr., 6-5, 165, L/L); RHP/3B Matthew Schlein (Jr., 5-11, 205, R/R); C Daniel Brown (So., 5-9, 160, R/R); 1B Chandler Mitchell (So., 6-2, 240, R/R)

Top Newcomers: INF Keenan Smith (Jr., 5-10, 165, R/R); C Jack Wise (Fr., 5-11, 165, R/R); 2B Christian Booze (Fr., 5-7, 155, R/R)

Season Outlook: The Patriots return their top pitcher in Brison Creech and their top hitter in T.J. Wright. If some younger players step forward, Westside could approach last year's success. Eight starters are back. The offense is in good hands with Ricky Cole (.319 avg.), Wright (.526 avg., 28 RBIs) and Creech (.467 avg., 20 RBIs) returning.



T.J. Wright
Westside-Augusta



Brison Creech - Westside-Augusta
Photo by Westside High School

REGION 5-2A

Region Favorite: Bremen

Keep an eye on: Heard County – After a slow start last year, Heard finished strong. A good bit of that team is back.

Players to Watch

1B/RHP – Jimbo Brown, Sr., Bremen; **OF** – Cooper Cartwright, Sr., Bremen; **INF/RHP** – Andrew Cash, So., Temple; **OF/RHP** – Tanner Collins, Sr., Heard County; **SS/RHP** – Carson Cook, Sr., Bremen; **RHP** – Griffin Crook, Sr., Bremen; **C** – Will Hammett, Sr., Heard County; **C/OF** – Brooks Hardie, So., Bremen; **RHP/3B** – Bryce Long, Sr., Jordan; **3B/RHP** – Wesley Marchman, Jr., Callaway; **1B** – Braelin Mitchell, Sr., Callaway; **3B/RHP** – Tray Owens, Jr., Heard County; **3B** – Brody Parkerson, Sr., Bremen; **2B/RHP** – Caden Raines, Jr., Heard County; **LHP** – Logan Sharpton, Sr., Lamar County; **OF** – Trent Sheppard, Sr., Callaway; **C/CF/RHP** – Darius Stokes, Sr., Jordan; **LHP** – Drew Stout, Jr., Lamar County; **C/INF** – Jonah Stout, Sr., Lamar County; **SS/RHP** – Dale Thornhill, Jr., Heard County; **SS** – Drake Wade, Sr., Callaway; **CF** – Billy Ward, Sr., Temple

BREMEN BLUE DEVILS

Head Coach: Chris Brown

Assistant Coach (s):

Doc Fowlkes, Mick Harper, Billy Pollard, Brad Matthews

2018 Record: 17-11

Returning Starters:

SS/RHP Carson Cook (Sr., 5-10, 170, R/R); 1B/RHP Jimbo Brown (Sr., 6-3, 210, R/R); RHP Griffin Cook (Sr., 6-1, 170, R/R); OF Cooper Cartwright (Sr., 5-10, 170, L/R); RHP Jack Allen (Sr., 6-0, 175, R/R); C/OF Brooks Hardie (So., 5-10, 170, R/R); 2B/3B Matthew Bilbo (So., 5-8, 160, R/R); OF/C Brant Ivey (Sr., 6-0, 215, R/R)

Top Newcomers: 3B

Brody Parkerson (Sr., 6-2, 180, R/R)

Season Outlook: After a successful stint in Class 3A, the Blue Devils drop down a class and have the talent to make a deep run. Eight starters are back, including offensive catalyst Jimbo Brown (.367 avg., 28 RBIs) and pitcher Griffin Cook (4-2, 3.15 ERA). The Blue Devils will be a team to keep an eye on.



Jimbo Brown
Bremen



Cooper Cartwright
Bremen



Carson Cook
Bremen



Griffin Cook
Bremen



Brooks Hardie
Bremen



Brody Parkerson
Bremen

CALLAWAY CAVALIERS

Head Coach: Dusty Hubbard

Assistant Coach (s):

Tim Freeman, Lee Phelps

2018 Record: 27-12

Returning Starters: 1B

Braelin Mitchell (Sr., 6-3, 220, R/R); SS Drake Wade (Sr., 5-9, 150, R/R); 3B/RHP Wesley Marchman (Jr., 6-1, 170, R/R); OF Trent Sheppard (Sr., 5-10, 165, R/R); U Bryce Kurian (Sr., 5-10, 155, R/R); 2B Brooks Bledsoe (Sr., 6-0, 150, R/R); DH/OF Jabari Smith (Jr., 5-10, 230, R/R)

Other Returning Players: RHP/OF Walt Stewart (Sr., 6-5, 170, R/R); LHP Austin Barber (Sr., 5-9, 175, L/L); RHP/SS Dawson Wright (Jr., 5-10, 150, R/R); 1B/3B Destin Patrick (Sr., 5-11, 225, R/R); INF Austin Cardwell (Sr., 5-7, 155, R/R)

Top Newcomers: C/OF Luke Swann (Jr., 6-0, 175, R/R); OF Eli Freeman (So., 5-9, 150, R/R); 1B Caden Rogers (So., 5-11, 160, R/R); OF Will Cavendar (So., 5-7, 135, R/R)

Season Outlook: After making a run to the state semifinals,



Wesley Marchman
Callaway



Drake Wade
Callaway

Callaway could pick up from where they left off. The Cavaliers return leading hitters Braelin Mitchell (.336 avg., 31 RBIs) and Drake Wade (.327 avg., 18 SB). Standout pitcher Wesley Marchman returns as well as Walt Stewart, Austin Barber and Dawson Wright.

HEARD COUNTY BRAVES

Head Coach: Trent Bianco

Assistant Coach (s):

James Arp, Gavin Porter, Matt Hornsby, Tyler Spradlin, Ryan Duffey

2018 Record: 17-16

Returning Starters:

OF/RHP Tanner Collins (Sr., 5-10, 175, R/R); C/RHP Will Hammett (Sr., 6-2, 185, R/R); OF Collin Wright (Sr., 5-9, 175, R/R); 3B/RHP Tray Owens (Jr., 6-2, 220, R/R); SS/RHP Dale Thornhill (Jr., 5-11, 170, R/R); 2B/RHP Caden Raines (Jr., 5-9, 160, R/R); OF/RHP Leroy Marsh (So., 5-7, 155, R/R)

Other Returning

Players: OF/RHP Jake Harrod (Jr., 6-1, 165, R/R);

1B/RHP Drew Cornelius (So., 6-4, 220, R/R); INF/RHP Hayden McCosh (So., 5-11, 175, R/R); INF Mason Rollings (Jr., 5-11, 210, R/R)

Top Newcomers: RHP Nathaniel Kiser (So., 6-3, 180, R/R); INF Chance Brown (Fr., 6-1, 160, R/R); OF/RHP Isaiah O'Neal (Fr., 5-11, 160, R/R); OF/LHP Kellon Rollings (Fr., 5-9, 150, L/L); C Colton Meacham (Fr., 5-9, 155, R/R)

Season Outlook: Look for Heard County to be in the thick of the region chase. Seven starters are back, including outfielder/pitcher Tanner Collins (.379 avg., 26 RBIs) and junior third baseman/pitcher Tray Owens. Senior Will Hammett returns behind the plate. A strong corps of underclassmen will also contribute.



Tanner Collins
Heard County



Will Hammett
Heard County



Tray Owens
Heard County



Caden Raines
Heard County

JORDAN RED JACKETS

Head Coach: Tony Dimitri

Assistant Coach (s): Brandon Masters, David Lane, Mike McCraine, Bill Batten

2018 Record: 16-18

Returning Starters: CF Ty Bradley (Sr., 5-9, 165, R/R); RHP/3B Bryce Long (Sr., 6-0, 185, R/R); 2B/RHP/SS Hunter Jackson (Sr., 5-11, 160, R/R); C/RHP/OF Darius Stokes (Sr., 6-0, 175, R/R); LHP/LF Colby Dehart (Jr., 5-8, 165, L/L); SS/RHP Holden Novell (Jr., 5-8, 165, R/R); RF Dylan Carter (Sr., 5-10, 165, R/R)

Other Returning Players: OF Wyatt Garver (Jr., 6-2, 160, R/R)

Top Newcomers: INF Jace Young (Fr., 5-10, 160, R/R)

Season Outlook: Graduation took a toll on the Red Jackets, but the slate isn't empty. Seven starters are back, including standout Bryce Long (.347 avg., 20 RBIs). Catcher/pitcher Darius Stokes also returns after an excellent junior season. Jordan does need some consistent pitchers to step forward.



Bryce Long
Jordan

LAMAR COUNTY TROJANS

Head Coach: Mike Oberg

Assistant Coach (s): Ron Fletcher, Tim Jones, Joe Wilson, Bradley Tucker

2018 Record: 16-12

Returning Starters: C/INF Jonah Stout (Sr., 6-1, 180, R/R); INF Caleb Thompson (Sr., 5-10, 160, R/R); C/RHP Collin Thompson (Sr., 5-11, 170, R/R); LHP Drew Stout (Jr., 5-9, 155, L/L); INF Adderius Barron (Jr., 6-1, 205, R/R); LHP Logan Sharpton (Sr., 6-1, 170, L/L)

Other Returning Players: OF Devin Cato (Sr., 5-8, 175, R/R); OF Adolphus Foster (Jr., 6-0, 170, R/R)

Top Newcomers: OF Nathaniel Tidwell (Fr., 5-10, 165, R/R); INF Tanner Patterson (Fr., 5-9, 145, R/R)

Season Outlook: Lamar County should contend for a postseason berth as six starters return. Pitching should be solid as left-handers Drew Stout and Logan Sharpton return on the mound, while catcher Jonah Stout returns to lead the offense. A solid group of juniors will also contribute.

SPENCER GREENWAVES

Head Coach: Dave Kovalik

Survey not returned

TEMPLE TIGERS

Head Coach: David White

Assistant Coach (s): Caleb Hannah, Brian Welak

2018 Record: 9-14

Returning Starters: CF/RHP Billy Ward (Sr., 6-0, 175, R/R); OF/LHP Max Corkill (Sr., 5-10, 170, L/L); OF Stone Briscoe (Sr., 5-9, 165, R/R)

Other Returning Players: INF/RHP Corey Mayfield (So., 6-2, 150, R/R); INF/RHP Andrew Cash (So., 6-0, 190, R/R); RHP Bailey Kittrel (Jr., 6-1, 170, R/R); RHP/INF Elijah Dixon (Sr., 6-4, 185, R/R); RHP/INF Trey Harrison (Sr., 6-0, 155, R/R)

Season Outlook: Temple returns a scrappy team that should have a chance to improve upon last season's finish. Three senior starters are back, including standout hitters Billy Ward (.364 avg., 23 SB) and Max Corkill (.338 avg., 18 SB). Outfielder Stone Briscoe also returns. Keep an eye on an excellent group of juniors and sophomores.

REGION 6-2A

Region Favorite: South Atlanta

Keep an eye on: KIPP – The Warriors are young and exciting.

Players to Watch

P – Kalum Banks, Jr., South Atlanta; **2B/P** – Leo Blackburn, So., KIPP Collegiate; **P** – Jahzir Brown, Sr., Therrell; **C** – Titus Carter, Sr., Douglass; **1B** – Cameron Crisp, So., KIPP Collegiate; **U** – Christopher Dumas, Sr., KIPP Collegiate; **SS** – Jacorry Gist, Jr., South Atlanta; **OF** – Kenderious Gist, Jr., South Atlanta; **OF** – Cortez Hardy, Sr., Therrell; **2B** – Kahlil Hemphill, So., KIPP Collegiate; **OF/C** – Andre Paris, Sr., South Atlanta; **OF** – Khyler Powell, So., South Atlanta; **1B** – Tyrese Thomas, Jr., South Atlanta

BEST ACADEMY EAGLES

Head Coach: Bakari Moore

Survey not returned

DOUGLASS ASTROS

Head Coach: TBA

Survey not returned

HAPEVILLE HORNETS

Head Coach: TBA

Survey not returned

KIPP WARRIORS

Head Coach: Kevin Hayles

Survey not returned

MCNAIR MUSTANGS

Head Coach: Marcus Salter

Survey not returned

SOUTH ATLANTA HORNETS

Head Coach: Jason Anderson

Assistant Coach (s): Kalum Banks, Jr., Darrell Ransom

2018 Record: 11-8

Returning Starters: OF/C Andre Paris (Sr., R/R); 3B/1B/RHP Kalum Banks, Jr. (Jr., R/R); 1B Tyrese Thomas (Jr., L/L); OF/RHP Khyler Powell (So., R/R); RHP/3B Kendarius McCommons (Jr., R/R)

Other Returning Players: LHP/OF Jonovan White, Jr. (Jr., L/L); OF/RHP Javonte Hull (Jr., R/R); OF Jaylen Wade (So., R/R); 3B/RHP Devonte Landrum (Jr., R/R); OF Jaqueveous Holt (Jr., R/R); OF/INF Anthony Anderson (So., R/R)

Top Newcomers: C/INF John Lawton (Fr.); SS/2B Jeremy Wellmaker (Fr.)

Season Outlook: The Hornets won the region title last year, and they should be the team to beat again. Keep an eye on Kalum Banks and outfielder Andre Paris, who both had strong seasons in 2018. Five starters are back.

THERRELL PANTHERS

Head Coach: Wendel Stephens

Survey not returned

WASHINGTON BULLDOGS

Head Coach: Quinterus Vancant

Survey not returned



REGION 7-2A

Region Favorite: Rockmart

Keep an eye on: Armuchee – The Indians keep getting better. This could be the year their hard work pays off.

Players to Watch

C/3B – Dylan Bailey, Sr., Rockmart; **OF/1B** – Noah Bone, Sr., Dade County; **C/RHP** – Dexter Brown, Sr., Chattooga; **SS/OF** – Gauge Burkett, Jr., Armuchee; **C/RHP** – Brayden Cole, Jr., Rockmart; **OF/INF** – CJ Culver, Jr., Rockmart; **3B/RHP** – Brantson Duck, Jr., Armuchee; **SS/RHP** – Ty Floyd, Jr., Rockmart; **INF** – Bryson Fowler, Jr., Gordon Central; **OF/RHP** – Carter Glenn, Jr., Dade County; **2B** – Ethan Nixon, Sr., Armuchee; **3B** – Cody Parramore, Jr., Rockmart; **SS** – Brody Pearson, Jr., Model; **INF/OF** – Logan Pledger, Sr., Coosa; **CF** – Devin Price, Sr., Chattooga; **RHP** – Luke Queen, Sr., Rockmart; **RHP** – Logan Shelton, Sr., Rockmart; **OF/RHP** – Jacob Stanley, Sr., Armuchee; **INF/RHP** – Jonathan Suppes, Sr., Rockmart; **1B** – Caleb Veitch, Sr., Chattooga; **SS** – Wesley Wade, Sr., Pepperell; **INF/RHP** – Harley Walker, Sr., Dade County; **SS/RHP** – Brennon Whitlock, Sr., Chattooga

ARMUCHEE INDIANS

Head Coach: Andy Henderson

Assistant Coach (s): Marcus Holloway, Austin Miller, Levi Austin

2018 Record: 13-14

Returning Starters: SS/OF Gauge Burkett (Jr., 5-8, 150, R/R); 3B/RHP Brantson Duck (Jr., 6-0, 155, R/R); 2B Ethan Nixon (Sr., 5-9, 150, R/R); 1B Brayden Perry (Sr., 6-0, 150, R/R); OF/RHP Jacob Stanley (Sr., 6-0, 175, R/R); C/RHP Bleu Swanson (Sr., 5-10, 195, R/R); DH/C Randon Carter (Sr., 6-0, 210, R/R)

Other Returning Players: OF Luke Mayhall (Jr., 5-9, 150, R/R); OF/RHP Alexander Stevens (Jr., 5-10, 130, R/R)

Top Newcomers: INF Dylan Hooper (Fr., 5-7, 135, B/R)

Season Outlook: The Indians continue to make positive strides and should have a chance to contend for a postseason berth this spring. Seven starters are back, including a solid corps of seniors. Infielders Gauge Burkett and Brantson Duck are two players to keep an eye on.

CHATTOOGA INDIANS

Head Coach: Mike Shank (new)

Assistant Coach (s): Chris Davis, Wade Lanier, Dee Arnold, Jason Lee, Boone Wheeler

2018 Record: 11-14

Returning Starters: CF Devin Price (Sr., 6-1, 170, R/R); SS/RHP Brennon Whitlock (Sr., 5-9, 165, R/R); C/RHP Dexter Brown (Sr., 5-9, 155, R/R); 1B Caleb Veitch (Sr., 6-0, 175, L/R); 3B/RHP Clayton Johnson (Sr., 6-3, 185, R/R); 2B/RHP Bayln Stephens (Jr., 5-10, 160, R/R)

Other Returning Players: OF/RHP Dylan Woody (Jr., 6-2, 190, R/R); OF Devin Wandell (Jr., 5-7, 150, L/L); 1B/RHP Zack Tucker (Jr., 6-2, 210, R/R); 2B/RHP Griffin Jarrett (Jr., 5-9, 130, R/R); RHP Roger Chandler (Jr., 6-1, 185, R/R)

Season Outlook: Mike Shank returns to the baseball diamond and takes over at Chattooga. He inherits an excellent group of talent. Six

starters are back, including outfielder Devin Price (.357 avg., 13 RBIs). Catcher Dexter Brown and pitcher Brennon Whitlock also return.

COOSA EAGLES

Head Coach: Will Wiggins

Assistant Coach (s): Michael Dougherty

2018 Record: 14-14

Returning Starters: INF/OF/RHP Logan Pledger (Sr., 5-11, 170, R/R); INF/RHP Seth Crowe (Jr., 5-10, 160, R/R); C Elijah Smith (Jr., 6-0, 150, R/R); INF Dastyn Trapp (So., 5-6, 125, R/R)

Other Returning Players: OF/RHP Ethan Harris (Sr., 5-11, 160, R/R); OF Andrew Stephens (Sr., 6-0, 155, R/R)

Top Newcomers: INF/OF/RHP Jaxon Thomas (So., 5-8, 145, R/R); INF/RHP Cody King (Fr., 5-10, 145, R/R)

Season Outlook: The Eagles will field a young team in 2019. Only four starters return and the senior class is small. However, Coosa could make some noise by the end of the season when the team matures. Senior Logan Pledger gives the Eagles a solid player to build around.

DADE COUNTY WOLVERINES

Head Coach: Aaron Simmons

Assistant Coach (s):

Chris Brown,
David Swader

2018 Record: 20-8

Returning Starters: 1B/OF/RHP Noah Bone (Sr., 6-3, 180, R/R); INF/RHP Alex Hill (Jr., 5-10, 160, R/R); INF/RHP Harley Walker (Sr., 6-2, 175, R/R); OF/RHP Haven Howard

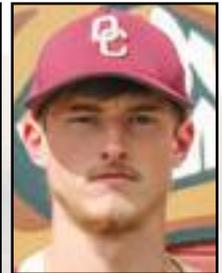
(Sr., 5-9, 170, R/R); OF/RHP Carter Glenn (Jr., 6-3, 170, L/R)

Other Returning Players: OF/RHP Austin Holcomb (Jr., 5-9, 150, R/R); LHP Aiden Bradford (Jr., 6-1, 140, R/L); OF/RHP Colton Emmett (So., 5-9, 145, R/R); INF/RHP Brett Michael Key (So., 5-9, 150, R/R)

Season Outlook: Dade County captured the region title last season, but they have some key positions to fill in order to duplicate last year's success. The good news is that pitcher Harley Walker (7-2, 3.00 ERA) and all-state performer Noah Bone (.390 avg., 32 RBIs) are back to lead the team. Outfielder/pitcher Carter Glenn was promising as a sophomore last year.



Noah Bone
Dade County



Harley Walker
Dade County

GORDON CENTRAL WARRIORS

Head Coach: Jeremy Sewell

Survey not returned

MODEL BLUE DEVILS

Head Coach: Josh Mitchell (new)

Assistant Coach (s): TBA

2018 Record: 2-21

Returning Starters: SS/P Brody Pearson (Jr.); 1B/P Daulton Waddell (Jr.); C/3B/P Hunter Wessell (Jr.); 3B/2B/P Connor Yarbrough (Jr.); 2B/P Rett Edwards (So.); OF Dawson Whitefield (Sr.); OF Brody Pace (Sr.)

Other Returning Players: 2B/SS Davis Chastain (Fr.); 3B Jake Ashley (Fr.)

Season Outlook: Former Chattooga High coach Josh Mitchell takes over a Model program that struggled last year. The Blue Devils have seven returning starters, including shortstop Brody Pearson and pitcher Rett Edwards. Model needs some younger players to step forward.

PEPPERELL DRAGONS

Head Coach: Britt Chandler

Assistant Coach (s): Justin Bishop

2018 Record: 12-13

Returning Starters: SS/RHP Wesley Wade (Sr., R/R); 1B/OF Jake Chandler (Jr., L/L); OF Cayden Head (Jr., R/R); 3B/RHP Mateo Garcia (Jr., R/R); 2B Chase Gresham (So., R/R); C/RHP Mason Fincher (Jr., R/R); 1B Zac Garrett (Sr., R/R)

Other Returning Players: LHP Bruce Anderson (Sr., L/L); LHP/OF Gage Moses (So., L/L); RHP Hunter Young (Jr., R/R); INF/RHP Hunter Henderson (So., R/R)

Season Outlook: Pepperell welcomes back seven returning starters, including shortstop/pitcher Wesley Wade. There aren't many seniors, so the Dragons will need some juniors and sophomores to contribute. Wade, Mateo Garcia and Mason Fincher bring experience to the pitching staff.



Wesley Wade
Pepperell

ROCKMART YELLOW JACKETS

Head Coach: Kenny Yanzetich

Assistant Coach (s):

Jeff Lewis, Heath Phillips, Geoff Sharpe, Scott Jackson, Taylor Simons

2018 Record: 20-10

Returning Starters:

C/3B Dylan Bailey (Sr., 6-1, 185, R/R); INF/RHP Jonathan Suppes (Sr., 5-9, 145, R/R); LHP Griffin Pace (Sr., 6-2, 185, L/L);

RHP Luke Queen (Sr., 6-0, 175, R/R); RHP Logan Shelton (Sr., 5-11, 140, R/R); SS/RHP Ty Floyd (Jr., 6-2, 185, R/R); 3B Cody Parramore (Jr., 6-2, 185, L/R); C/RHP Brayden Cole (Jr., 6-4, 180, R/R); OF/INF CJ Culver (Jr., 5-9, 165, R/R); 1B/LHP Evan Ratcliff (Jr., 5-9, 175, L/L); DH/OF Reed Couch (Jr., 6-3, 215, R/R); OF Sam Sanders (Sr., 5-8, 150, R/R)

Other Returning Players: OF Noah Hughes (Sr., 5-9, 155, R/R)

Top Newcomers: 1B Mason Watson (Jr., 6-2, 245, R/R)

Season Outlook: Injuries last year forced a lot of younger players into the lineup. That should pay off this season as a wealth of talent returns. Catcher Dylan Bailey returns as well as juniors Ty Floyd and third baseman Cody Parramore. There is enough pitching for this team to make a run at the region title.



Dylan Bailey
Rockmart



Ty Floyd
Rockmart



Cody Parramore
Rockmart

REGION 8-2A

Region Favorite: Elbert County

Keep an eye on: Banks County – The Leopards are ready to take their game up a notch.

Players to Watch

SS – Peyton Adams, Jr., Elbert County; **DH** – Mason Anderson, Sr., Elbert County; **RHP/INF** – Chandler Ball, Sr., Social Circle; **OF/LHP** – Ben Beasley, Jr., Oglethorpe County; **P/INF** – Ty Burchett, So., Banks County; **OF** – Caden Cotton, Jr., Banks County; **1B/RHP** – Coleson Daniel, Sr., Union County; **LHP/OF** – Ty Davis, Sr., Banks County; **RHP/2B** – Dawson Dye, Jr., Elbert County; **OF** – Braden Eavenson, Jr., Elbert County; **OF/LHP** – Ean Harkins, Sr., Union County; **SS/RHP** – David House, Sr., Social Circle; **INF** – Brody Jarrard, So., Rabun County; **RHP/1B** – Daniel Lavender, Sr., Elbert County; **C** – Cullen Lee, Jr., Putnam County; **INF/RHP** – Eli Mattox, Jr., Oglethorpe County; **OF** – Kyle Moon, Jr., Elbert County; **INF/C** – Alec Scott, Sr., Union County; **U** – Braxton Simpson, Jr., Banks County; **RHP/OF** – Davis Smith, Sr., Social Circle; **3B** – Paris Umble, Sr., Elbert County; **C** – Tyler Wages, Jr., Monticello; **U** – Justin Whitehead, Jr., Banks County; **C/1B** – Brady Wilson, So., Rabun County

BANKS COUNTY LEOPARDS

Head Coach: Peyton Hart

Assistant Coach (s): Derrick Davis, Dylan Charles, Cayman Brooks

2018 Record: 13-17

Returning Starters: OF Caden Cotton (Jr.); U Braxton Simpson (Jr.); P/OF Cody Lewallen (Sr.); P/INF Ty Burchett (So.); P/INF Nolan Hill (So.); INF Jonathon Moon (So.); INF/P Dylan Greenway (Jr.); C Parker Hobson (Jr.)

Other Returning Players: U Clay Angel (So.); U Wyatt Whitfield (So.)

Top Newcomers: LHP/OF Ty Davis (Sr.); U Justin Whitehead (Jr.); U Tripp Williams (Fr.); U Bowen Roberts (Fr.); C/OF Cade Herrin (Fr.); U Roman Haynes (Fr.)

Season Outlook: Banks County should be much-improved this year in coach Peyton Hart's second season. Eight starters are back, including all-region performer Caden Cotton (.341 avg., 9 2B). Utility player Braxton Simpson (.355 avg., 9 2B) also returns. If Banks can find some consistent pitching, they should be in postseason contention.



Caden Cotton
Banks County

ELBERT COUNTY BLUE DEVILS

Head Coach: Lance Ingram

Assistant Coach (s): Brett Padgett, Reuben Haynes, Mark Crook, Marcus Bondi

2018 Record: 23-12

Returning Starters: SS Peyton Adams (Jr., 6-1, 170, R/R); RHP/2B Dawson Dye (Sr., 6-1, 160, R/R); C Carson Pullen (Jr., 5-10, 165, R/R); RHP/1B Daniel Lavender (Sr., 6-4, 210, R/R); 3B Paris Umble (Sr., 5-9, 200, L/R); OF Stone Crook (Sr., 5-9, 155, L/L); OF Brayden Eavenson (Jr., 5-8, 155, R/R); DH Mason Anderson (Sr., 5-10, 200, R/R); OF Kyle Moon (Jr., 5-11, 165, R/R)



Other Returning

Players: OF Corbin Mattox (Jr., 5-10, 195, R/R); INF/OF Trey Duck (Sr., 5-9, 165, R/R); INF Chris Martin (Sr., 5-10, 200, R/R); 1B Jordan Mills (So., 5-8, 150, L/R); OF Nate Lavender (So., 6-3, 170, R/R); DH/OF Carter Dye (So., 6-3, 185, L/R); RHP Storm Mills (So., 5-10, 180, L/R)



Peyton Adams
Elbert County



Dawson Dye
Elbert County

Top Newcomers: INF/OF Carson Adams (Fr., 5-8, 150, R/R); C Cole Hudson (Fr., 5-8, 165, R/R)

Season Outlook: Elbert County captured the Region 8-2A title last year in what was supposed to be a rebuilding year. The Blue Devils have nine returning starters and should challenge for the region title again. All-state performers Peyton Adams and Daniel Lavender lead a talented team capable of making a deep postseason run.

MONTICELLO HURRICANES

Head Coach: Chris Jenkins

Assistant Coach (s): Brady McMichael, Ethan Huff

2018 Record: 8-18

Returning Starters: RHP/OF Hunter Duke (Sr., R/R); RHP/INF Matt Cain (Jr., R/R); INF Mack Barton (So., R/L); INF Baylor Edge (So., R/L); OF Cole Hayes (So., L/L); OF Tristan Humphreys (So., R/R); C Tyler Wages (Jr., R/R)

Other Returning Players: INF Ben Lynch (Jr., R/R); OF Graeme Williams (So., R/R)

Season Outlook: A solid group of returning players should help Monticello improve upon last season's finish. The Hurricanes will be a very young team with a small senior class. Seven starters are back including pitcher/outfielder Hunter Duke. Keep an eye on a strong group of younger players.

OGLETHORPE COUNTY PATRIOTS

Head Coach: Jason Bramlett

Assistant Coach (s): Matt Allen

2018 Record: 14-15

Returning Starters: OF/LHP Ben Beasley (Jr., 6-0, 175, L/L); INF/RHP Eli Mattox (Jr., 5-9, 190, R/R); INF/RHP Hayden Utley (Jr., 5-10, 180, R/R); U Kolbe Hubbard (Jr., 5-8, 150, R/R); U Dante Marnell (So., 6-3, 180, R/R); U Lane Gomes (So., 5-5, 130, R/R)

Other Returning Players: C/1B Nick Orlowsky (Jr., 6-1, 200, R/R); RHP/U Tyler Hogan (Jr., 5-8, 110, R/R); OF/RHP Caleb Smith (So., 6-0, 155, R/R); LHP/OF/1B Tate Jones (Jr., 6-0, 165, L/L); RHP/U Jake Bowman (So., 5-10, 165, R/R); C/U Jacob Booth (So., 5-10, 125, R/R)

Season Outlook: A young but talented group of players return at Oglethorpe County. Six starters are back, including a good mixture of juniors and sophomores. Keep an eye on a pair of junior standouts in outfielder/pitcher Ben Beasley and infielder/pitcher Eli Mattox.

PUTNAM COUNTY WAR EAGLES

Head Coach: Ben Skinner (new)

Assistant Coach (s): Jarrett Leverett

2018 Record: 2-22

Returning Starters: LHP/CF Ethan Crouch (Sr., 5-10, 165, L/L); C Cullen Lee (Jr., 5-8, 170, R/R); RF/RHP Raymond Lee (Sr., 6-0, 170, R/R);

1B Kaden Corbitt (So., 6-0, 190, R/R); U John Lindsay (Jr., 5-10, 160, R/R); 2B Jase Wilson (Jr., 5-8, 170, R/R); 3B/RHP Brett Pettit (So., 5-11, 160, R/R); LF James Mead (Jr., 5-11, 160, R/R)

Other Returning Players: U Jeremy Humphries (Jr., 5-11, 150, R/R); SS Waylon Wooten (So., 5-9, 165, R/R); C/RF Austin Hadaway (So., 5-10, 170, R/R); CF Jacob Little (So., 5-10, 165, R/R)

Season Outlook: New coach Ben Skinner takes over a Putnam County program that has struggled recently. The good news is that eight returning starters are back as the War Eagles should have a chance to be much better. The team is still very young. Pitcher/outfielder Ethan Crouch and outfielder/pitcher Raymond Lee are two of the team's few returning seniors. Catcher Cullen Lee also returns.

RABUN COUNTY WILDCATS

Head Coach: Kevin McConnell (new)

Assistant Coach (s): Preston Pitts, Tyler Harris

2018 Record: 12-18

Returning Starters: OF Aaron Bryson (Sr., 5-10, 145, R/R); OF Cameron Lovell (Sr., 6-4, 180, R/R); INF Jon Sego (Jr., 5-8, 150, R/R); INF Brody Jarrard (So., 5-10, 180, R/R); C/1B Brady Wilson (So., 5-10, 180, L/R)

Other Returning Players: RHP/1B Keaton Beavers (Sr., 6-4, 180, R/R); OF/RHP Sean Thompson (Sr., 6-1, 150, R/R); RHP/INF Clint Green (Jr., 5-11, 160, R/R); RHP/1B Linkin Wright (So., 6-3, 180, R/R)

Top Newcomers: RHP/INF Gunner Stockton (Fr., 6-1, 175, R/R); 3B/RHP Garrett Horton (Fr., 5-8, 165, R/R); C/INF/RHP Connor Horton (Fr., 5-7, 155, R/R); RHP/INF Grayson Carver (Fr., 5-9, 130, R/R)

Season Outlook: Rabun County came on strong late last year, and the Wildcats seek to pick up from where they left off. A good group of players return for first-year coach Kevin McConnell. Keep an eye on infielder Brody Jarrard and catcher/first baseman Brady Wilson who showed strong promise as freshmen last season.

SOCIAL CIRCLE REDSKINS

Head Coach: Danny Blue (new)

Assistant Coach (s):

Caleb Reeves,
Gary House

2018 Record: 22-12

Returning Starters: RHP/INF Chandler Ball (Sr., 5-11, 190, R/R); RHP/OF Davis Smith (Sr., 6-6, 185, R/R); SS/RHP David House (Sr., 6-0, 160, R/R); C/RHP Tate Peters (Sr.,



Chandler Ball
Social Circle



David House
Social Circle

6-2, 190, R/R); OF/C Conner Bailey (Sr., 6-0, 155, R/R); 1B/OF Dylan Hawley (Jr., 6-1, 190, R/R); OF/INF Brady Head (Jr., 6-2, 160, R/R)

Other Returning Players: INF/OF Sean Poe (So., 5-10, 155, R/R); INF/RHP John Paul Duncan (So., 5-11, 155, R/R); INF/OF Jacob Bergman (So., 5-10, 155, R/R)

Top Newcomers: INF/OF Sean Bergman (So., 5-10, 155, R/R)

Season Outlook: Hall of Fame coach Danny Blue takes over at Social Circle after the Redskins won 22 games last year. Blue inherits seven returning starters, including a trio of senior standouts in Chandler Ball, Davis Smith and David House. The Redskins should challenge for a postseason berth again.



Davis Smith
Social Circle

UNION COUNTY PANTHERS

Head Coach: Zach Odom (new)

Assistant Coach (s): Wade Hodges, Brock Gordon

2018 Record: 10-19

Returning Starters: OF/LHP Ean Harkins (Sr., 6-1, 180, L/L); INF/C Alec Scott (Sr., 6-0, 180, L/R); 1B/RHP Coleson Daniel (Sr., 6-1, 215, R/R); RHP/1B Cayden Rich (Jr., 6-2, 200, R/R); OF Hunter Kelley (Sr., 5-10, 190, L/L)

Other Returning Players: OF/RHP Jonathan Everett (Sr., 6-0, 180, R/R); C Alec Youngblood (Jr., 5-9, 175, R/R); OF/INF John Mancuso (Jr., 5-8, 160, R/R); OF Matthew Kelley (Jr., 5-9, 150, L/R); INF Austin Garrison (So., 5-10, 180, R/R)

Top Newcomers: INF/RHP Isaak Mullinack (So., 6-0, 170, R/R); 1B/RHP Cayden Rich (Jr., 6-2, 200, R/R); LHP Zeke Schwartz (So., So., 5-10, 150, R/L)

Season Outlook: Former assistant Zach Odom takes over at Union and inherits five returning starters. Outfielder/pitcher Ean Harkins returns to lead a team that should have a chance to improve after dropping from Class 3A. Look for some younger players to step up and contribute.



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Ding-ding

Gordon Lee provides knockout punch in Class 1A Public, wins title

By Tim Morse

It was late in the regular season and Mike Dunfee had a message for his Gordon Lee baseball team.

"I asked the guys on the team a question," he said. "I said in a boxing match when you have two guys in a corner and they come out, what happens next? One kid said something stupid, then another kid said 'ding-ding.'"

"I told them the regular season was over and 'ding-ding,' now the fun was beginning."

The "ding-ding" Dunfee referred to was the sound the bell makes, signaling the beginning and ending of a boxing match.

Little did Dunfee know his facetious question became a rallying point for the Trojans. After finishing as the state runner-up in 2017, Gordon Lee swept all four of its opponents in the postseason and rolled to the Georgia High School Association Class 1A Public state championship. The Trojans, who had three state runner-up finishes in a five-year span, were determined to win their first title since 1984.

"We knew we did not want to come back with another state runner-up trophy," said catcher Dylan Minghini, who was named the Georgia Dugout Preview Magazine Class 1A Public Player of the Year as a senior.

Gordon Lee (28-8) was tested by an early season nonregion schedule that consisted of Vidalia, West Laurens, Ringgold, Heritage-Catoosa, Northwest Whitfield and Rockmart, as well as a brutal Region 6-1A schedule. And during the year, the Trojans learned a lot about themselves.

They returned a strong pitching rotation of Austin Thompson, Caleb Hopkins and Mason Pettigrew, who were joined by underclassmen Jake Poindexter, Jake Wright, Logan Streetman, Will Sizemore and Hunter Hodson. The rotation hurled five shutouts in eight postseason games and lived up to expectations.

But the strength of the team may have been the offense, which outscored Clinch County, Charlton County, Bowdon and Telfair County by a combined 63-5 in the postseason. Minghini, Thompson, JD Day, Hodson and Sizemore provided most of the firepower.

"One day coach went on this offensive tirade mainly aimed at me," Hopkins said. "He said we were not a home run team, and we would need to depend on our defense and pitching, and we were more of a scrap team. He said we'd just have to play defense and gut it out. I think that was something everybody needed to hear. The next day against Darlington, we hit three home runs in the game."

Dunfee tried all sorts of motivational tactics, but one thing he tried to steer away from was talking about the 2017 squad that came up short. That was where "ding-ding" was born.

"Every team is different," Dunfee said. "The kids didn't want to hear about last year. Half of them were not here. But they ran with that 'ding-ding.' There was one time in the pregame, I didn't even say anything. I just walked up to them and said, 'ding-ding.' They took it from there."

Hopkins said the team ran with it and used the term as motivation.

"We peaked at the right time," Minghini said. "We gelled and it helped us perform better. It had been 30-plus years since the school won a state baseball championship. So we felt like it was our duty to bring back home a state championship trophy."

After Dunfee said what seemed like an endless drive to Savannah's Grayson Stadium to meet Telfair County for the state championship series, Gordon Lee hoisted the championship trophy after providing the knockout punch.

And "ding-ding," the state championship trophy made its way to Chickamauga.



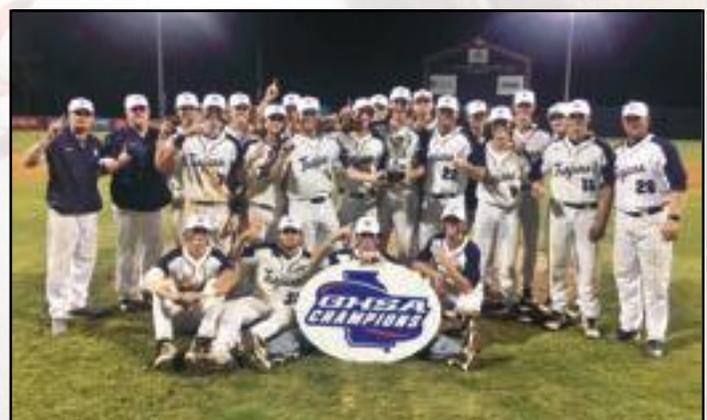
Gordon Lee players celebrate after defeating Telfair County to win the state title.

Photo by Sandra Patterson



Gordon Lee players hoist the state championship trophy.

Photo by Sandra Patterson



Front Row (l-r), Hunter Hodson, Austin Crowley, Chris Potter, Braxton Ledford. **Middle Row** (l-r), JD Day, Will Sizemore, Caleb Hopkins, Mason Pettigrew, Austin Thompson, Dylan Minghini, Jake Wright, Brody Cobb, Coach Mike Dunfee. **Back Row** (l-r), Coach Zack Cobb., Coach Derek McDaniel, Cody Thomas, Weeton Beagles, Cade Peterson, Griff Collins, Logan Streetman, Coach Zach Barnes, Justin Wooden, Jake Poindexter.

Photo by Gordon Lee High School

Class 1A Public Top 15

1 GORDON LEE

Not since Charlton County won back-to-back state championships in 2013-14 has a Georgia High School Association Class 1A Public School team won consecutive state titles. Gordon Lee has a good chance of doing that this spring after the Trojans rolled to their first state championship since 1984. After three times of finishing as the state runner-up in six seasons, Gordon Lee was nearly invincible when postseason play began in 2018.

The Trojans will miss standouts Dylan Minghini, Caleb Hopkins, Mason Pettigrew and Austin Thompson, but Gordon Lee has a wealth of pitching returning. Logan Streetman, Hunter Hodson, Jake Wright, Will Sizemore, Jake Poindexter, Weston Beagles, Brody Cobb, Cade Peterson and Cody Thomas can all pitch. The Trojans have as many arms as many Class 7A schools.

The offense will also be in good shape. Chris Potter, who started many games last year behind the plate at catcher while Minghini was hurt, returns as well as Hodson and Streetman at third base and first base respectively. JD Day returns in the middle infield after a strong sophomore season, while Justin Wooden and Braxton Ledford are back in the outfield.

2 BOWDON

The Red Devils got hot at the end of the regular season and the only team to stop them was eventual state champion Gordon Lee, who beat them in the semifinals of the GHSA Class 1A Public School state playoffs. New coach Brian Vance inherits a team good enough to contend for a state title. But the Red Devils will have to topple mighty Gordon Lee, who also competes in the same region, to do it. Bowdon has two of the best arms in the state in Trent Estes and Luke Rainwater. And Cy Horton and Braden Bowen lead what could be an explosive offense.

3 IRWIN COUNTY

The Indians have enough returning pitching to cause headaches for the opposition in Class 1A. Sophomore Brodie Chestnutt, a Florida State commit, Will Hudson and Zach Smith form a three-headed pitching rotation that is going to be hard to beat. The offense has the ability to score plenty of runs.

4 SCHLEY COUNTY

In a rebuilding season last year, the Wildcats still won the Region 4-1A title, won 24 games and made the state quarterfinals. It's a proven fact that Schley County reloads. The Wildcats have just about everyone back this season, including a strong pitching rotation that will consist of Lorne Barineau, Ashton Goodin, Dylan Windham, Trent Bivins and Garrett Peavy.

5 JOHNSON COUNTY

Coach Chuck Beale has quietly built Johnson County into a solid program that is tough to beat. The Trojans lost a good bit of talent to graduation, but the majority of the team's major contributors are back. Third baseman Dra Darrisaw and catcher Brett Caneega return to spark the offense, while dominant two-year starting pitcher Adam Hooks won 11 games last year.

6 ECI

Don't ever discount ECI, who always seems to find a way into the postseason picture. The Bulldogs have good talent returning as well as a shutdown pitcher in Tyler Flakes. The senior right-hander will help take the Bulldogs as far as they want to go.

7 TELFAIR COUNTY

Replacing all-everything players Ryan Dopson and Ian Blankenship will be tough, but the Trojans have enough playmakers on offense to contend again. The Trojans do have concerns about their unproven pitching rotation, but the offense should be able to score plenty of runs to help out the pitchers until they mature.

8 TRION

After finishing as the Class 1A Public School state runner-up in 2016, the Bulldogs have lost in the second round of the playoffs the past two seasons. Trion could change that this season and make a deep run. Left-hander Blaine Woody will give the team a chance to win each time he takes the mound.

9 CLINCH COUNTY

This will be Clinch County's best team under coach Lee Douglas and perhaps their best team since the school won its last state baseball title in 2003. The optimism in Homerville is due to a talented group of pitchers led by three-year starter Duncan Lutz and left-hander Warren Stovall.

10 CHARLTON COUNTY

It's not a misprint that the usual Top 5 Indians are ranked this low to start the season. There isn't a team in the Class 1A Public School division that has enjoyed as much success as Charlton has since 2012. The Indians are rebuilding this spring, but seniors Tyler Chesser and Trevor Knowles are two players to rebuild a program around.

11 COMMERCE

Graduation and player transfers took a bite out of Commerce's lineup. But the Tigers have been very consistent under coach Steve Cotrell, and they will continue their winning ways this spring.

12 BACONTON CHARTER

The Blazers will be the team to beat again in Region 1-1A. Three-year starter Spencer Culp returns along with a talented group of experienced players that will help the Blazers contend for the playoffs.

13 LANIER COUNTY

New coach Shawn Sharp is no stranger to building programs. In one season at Pelham, he made the Hornets playoff contenders, and they won their first round series in the postseason. Lanier won 15 games last year and could have won more.

14 SEMINOLE COUNTY

Seminole County was rebuilding in 2018 and most of its team returns. The Indians have seniors Aubrey Johnson and Chase Smith returning to lead the way. Seminole looks to build on back-to-back playoff appearances the past two seasons.

15 PELHAM

The 2018 season was a special one in Pelham as the Hornets made the state playoffs and won their first-round game. The bulk of that team returns, including leading hitter Doug Curles and top pitchers Cale Whigham and Gunner Wisham.

Others to watch: (Alphabetical Order) Hawkinsville, Jenkins County, Miller County, Wilcox County

Something to prove

After sour ending in 2017, Tattnall rolls to another title

By Tim Morse

Since joining the Georgia High School Association five years ago, Tattnall Square's baseball program has been a dominant force in the Class 1A private classification.

So when the Trojans were swept in the state championship series by Savannah Christian at the end of the 2017 season, Tattnall Square felt like it had something to prove in 2018.

The Trojans did just that last spring, rolling to a 34-4 finish and capturing the school's 10th state baseball title. In four years as a GHSA member, the baseball program has finished as a state semifinalist, state runner-up and captured two titles (2016 and 2018). But after a sour ending in 2017, Tattnall made its mission in 2018 to return to the top.

"We had something to prove," said utility player Miles Morris. "If we went out with nothing to prove, then we wouldn't come out with the same intensity."

Tattnall opened the season with three wins, including two over Class 5A schools Ola and Hampton. But the Trojans went 1-2 in a tournament at Athens Christian that included eventual Class 4A champion Jefferson, Oconee County and Aquinas. They lost to Jefferson and Aquinas, two games Tattnall coach Joey Hiller believed they could have won.

It was a wake-up call.

"We weren't used to losing much," said pitcher Luke Laskey, who was named the Georgia Dugout Preview Magazine's Class 1A Private Player of the Year as a senior last year.

"After that, we set the tone."

After that trip during the second week of the regular season, Tattnall defeated powerful Holy Innocents and Class 3A Redan, as well as run-ruling defending Class 1A state champion Savannah Christian. They also earned a pair of wins over Class 5A Locust Grove and lost just once, a 3-1 setback to region rival Stratford.

While the team played well, it wasn't until a spring break trip to Saint Simons Island where the team took things up a notch. The Trojans defeated Class 7A Camden County as well as Darlington and host Frederica.

"I think that's when things started to click," Hiller said. "The seniors started to bond more with the younger guys."

Tattnall split a doubleheader with Strong Rock Christian just before the Region 7-1A Tournament, prompting a stern speech from Hiller, who reminded his team that they could have easily won every game they lost.

"From that point on, we felt like they needed a constant reminder – what are we proving today?" Hiller said.

The Trojans didn't lose again. When they hit the postseason, they rolled past Brookstone, Wesleyan and First Presbyterian Day by a combined 61-13. Then they swept Prince Avenue Christian for the state championship.

Laskey and Brooks Gorman were the main cogs on a lethal pitching staff, while BJ Spears, Austin Marchman, Trey Ham, Logan Fink, Laskey, Dawson Brown and All-American Kendall Logan Simmons provided the offensive spark.

"The main thing for us as seniors was we wanted to leave a legacy," Laskey said. "But we also had something to prove."

And they proved it by hoisting another state championship trophy.



Tattnall Square shortstop Kendall Logan Simmons turns a double play in the state championship series against Prince Avenue Christian.

Photo by Tattnall Square



Pitcher Luke Laskey was one of the team's top pitchers in 2018.

Photo by Tattnall Square



Tattnall Square players celebrate after beating Prince Avenue Christian for the school's 10th state baseball title.

Photo by Tattnall Square



Front Row (l-r), Kaden Toth, Brett McHugh, Gray Talton, Elmo Daniels, Konner Toth, Dawson Brown, BJ Spears. **Middle Row** (l-r), Brooks Gorman, Hunter Alexander, Carter Fink, Bo Hatcher, Miles Morris, Keith Hartness, Christian Arnett. **Back Row** (l-r), William Stubbs, Gavin Whitfield, Luke Laskey, Logan Fink, Logan Simmons, Trey Ham, Austin Marchman.

Photo by Tattnall Square

Class 1A Private Top 15

1 TATTNALL SQUARE

Since coming over from the Georgia Independent Schools Association, Tattnall Square has dominated the Class 1A Private division. The Trojans have two state titles, a state runner-up finish and a trip to the state semifinals in four seasons, and they have combined for a 117-20 record. The Trojans will dominate again this season behind a wealth of returning talent and could make it four straight trips to the state championship series.

The pitching rotation will be just as lethal as last year. The Trojans will miss ace Luke Laskey, but last year's No. 2 starter Brooks Gorman dominated as a sophomore. The right-hander was virtually unhittable and will pick up from where he left off. Junior right-hander Dawson Brown will likely move into the No. 2 role after showing a load of promise as a sophomore last year.

Offensively, catcher Trey Ham returns as well as outfielder Beau Spears. And versatile Miles Morris also is back.

2 SAVANNAH CHRISTIAN

As long as the Raiders have two of the classification's top players in Jarrett Brown and Kyle Hilton, Savannah Christian will be expected to go deep. The duo are lethal on the mound, and they can spark the offense. The pair have an excellent supporting cast including Cameron Crosby and Garrett Bradley.

3 HOLY INNOCENTS'

The Bears have been as good as advertised the past three seasons, but they are still searching for their first state championship since 2007. Holy Innocents' returns one of the classification's top pitchers in three-year starter Guillermo Granier, who will keep the Bears in the hunt. Offensively, Holy Innocents' returns two offensive leaders in Harrison Padgett and Caleb Ketchup.

4 WESLEYAN

This could potentially be the best Wesleyan team since the Wolves last won a state championship as a member of Class 2A in 2015. After a disappointing season in 2017, the Wolves returned last year and made it to the state quarterfinals. Wesleyan has the offense and the pitching.

5 FELLOWSHIP CHRISTIAN

In two seasons, coach Shawn Oliver has helped build Fellowship Christian into a playoff contender. The Paladins reached the second round last year and will build off that run. Fellowship Christian should compete for the rugged Region 6-1A title with a wealth of talent that includes Cameron Gill, junior Preston Joye and three-year starter Isaac Bouton.

6 PROVIDENCE CHRISTIAN

The Storm peaked at the right time last year and made the quarterfinals of the playoffs. Providence Christian will continue to build off that positive momentum. They have a three-headed pitching rotation of Cole Tillotson, Simon Graf and Ben Johnson that is as good as anybody.

7 KINGS RIDGE CHRISTIAN

The Tigers have been one of the Class 1A Private division's more-consistent programs since 2014. Look for Kings Ridge Christian to be in the hunt again. The Tigers have a solid corps of returning pitchers who will keep the team in games until their offense matures.

8 FIRST PRESBYTERIAN DAY

After a run to the state semifinals last year, the Vikings have a young but talented team that is anxious for a return. First Presbyterian lost the bulk of its pitching rotation to graduation, but don't sleep on this program.

9 GEORGE WALTON

After winning 17 games last year, the Bulldogs return the bulk of their talent and should make a solid run. The team is loaded with seniors, including one of the classification's top athletes in Omar Daniels and pitcher Noah Coleman.

10 HEBRON CHRISTIAN

The Lions started late last season, rebounded and won the rugged Region 8-1A title. With as many as 15 players returning from that team, look for Hebron Christian to be in the hunt once again. The team will be talented, but they will need some time to mature.

11 SAVANNAH COUNTRY DAY

This will be the best Savannah Country Day team in coach Dan Garofano's tenure. The Hornets have the pitching, defense and the offense to contend. They made the state playoffs last season before losing in three games in the first round. SCD should be back with a roster loaded with seniors.

12 TRINITY CHRISTIAN

Since Tattnall Square left the GISA after the 2014 season, Trinity Christian has dominated the GISA and won a state title last year in the organization's highest classification. It remains to be seen how the Lions will fare in their first season in the GHSA. Trinity definitely has the talent to succeed.

13 PINECREST ACADEMY

The Paladins have established themselves as a contender after making the postseason last year, then coming within a game of making the state semifinals. Pinecrest Academy returns its top two pitchers who will lead the team in right-handers Patrick O'Rourke and Caleb Bohn.

14 STRONG ROCK CHRISTIAN

The Patriots have had an excellent two-year run, making the second round of the state playoffs last year. Strong Rock Christian has the talent and the tools to be a dangerous team this spring.

15 SAINT FRANCIS

The Knights were the last team to make the Class 1A Private playoffs last year, then Saint Francis promptly swept Aquinas in the first round. The Knights return a wealth of talent who will continue to build off the momentum they established last year.

Others to watch: (Alphabetical Order) Aquinas, Athens Academy, Athens Christian, Brookstone, Calvary Day, Mount de Sales, Mount Paran Christian, Mount Vernon Presbyterian, North Cobb Christian, Prince Avenue Christian, Stratford, Walker

CLASS 1A PUBLIC PRESEASON ALL STATE

First Team

Name	Position	Grade	School	Comment
Brodie Chestnutt	Pitcher	Sophomore	Irwin County	RHP is the real deal
Trent Estes	Pitcher	Senior	Bowdon	He's a tough pitcher to hit
Adam Hooks	Pitcher	Junior	Johnson County	Won 11 games on mound last year
Jake Poindexter	Pitcher	Sophomore	Gordon Lee	He's tough on the opposition
Luke Rainwater	Pitcher	Sophomore	Bowdon	Back after a strong freshman season
Blaine Woody	Pitcher	Senior	Trion	He's a tough one to beat
Jake Wright	Pitcher	Junior	Gordon Lee	Makes hitters look bad
Trevor Knowles	Catcher	Senior	Charlton County	As good as there is behind plate
Chris Potter	Catcher	Senior	Gordon Lee	Defensive specialist also good hitter
Tyler Chesser	Infielder	Senior	Charlton County	Good at everything he does
Spencer Culp	Infielder	Senior	Baconton Charter	3-year starter does it all
Dra Darrisaw	Infielder	Junior	Johnson County	Versatile athlete as good as advertised
JD Day	Infielder	Junior	Gordon Lee	Provides solid offensive spark
Will Hudson	Infielder	Senior	Irwin County	He can hit, play defense and pitch well
Dylan Taylor	Infielder	Sophomore	Schley County	He's only going to get better
Trey Bess	Outfielder	Junior	Telfair County	Two-year standout gets better each year
Cameo Blankenship	Outfielder	Junior	Telfair County	He makes things happen
Ashton Goodin	Outfielder	Senior	Schley County	Standout on mound and in the outfield
Cy Horton	Outfielder	Senior	Bowdon	He does so much for the team
Justin Wooden	Outfielder	Senior	Gordon Lee	Provides the offense and defense
Hunter Hodson	Designated Hitter	Senior	Gordon Lee	He makes the team go
Braden Bowen	Utility	Junior	Bowdon	There's not many places he can't play

Second Team

Pitchers – Lorne Barineau, Sr., Schley County; Tyler Flakes, Sr., ECI; Hagan Jenkins, Sr., Jenkins County; Dylan Johnson, Sr., Miller County; Duncan Lutz, Sr., Clinch County; Zach Smith, Jr., Irwin County; Cale Whigham, Sr., Pelham; **Catchers** – Brett Caneega, Jr., Johnson County; Doug Curles, Jr., Pelham; **Infielders** – Chandler Martin, Sr., Commerce; Colby Rogers, Jr., Commerce; Chase Smith, Sr., Seminole County; Ethan Stokes, Sr., Wheeler County; Cam Vickers, Sr., Irwin County; Hagen Willingham, Sr., Trion; **Outfielders** – Trent Bivins, So., Schley County; Aubrey Johnson, Sr., Seminole County; Thomas Lankford, Sr., Clinch County; Garrett Peavy, So., Schley County; Warren Stovall, Sr., Clinch County; **Designated Hitter** – Jarrett Dopson, Jr., Telfair County; **Utility** – Jacob Coody, Sr., Hawkinsville

CLASS 1A PRIVATE PRESEASON ALL STATE

First Team

Name	Position	Grade	School	Comment
Brooks Gorman	Pitcher	Junior	Tattnall Square	He was nearly unhittable last season
Guillermo Granier	Pitcher	Senior	Holy Innocents'	Three-year starter only getting better
Kyle Hilton	Pitcher	Junior	Savannah Christian	A pitcher you don't want to face
Jack Little	Pitcher	Senior	Brookstone	RHP can be lights out
Patrick O'Rourke	Pitcher	Senior	Pinecrest Academy	Versatile athlete is the real deal
Thomas Ross	Pitcher	Senior	Prince Avenue Christian	A guy you want on your team
Cole Tillotson	Pitcher	Senior	Providence Christian	Lefty is tough to hit
Trey Ham	Catcher	Senior	Tattnall Square	As good as there is behind plate
Charlie Taylor	Catcher	Junior	Wesleyan	He will only improve
Kyle Bork	Infielder	Senior	Saint Francis	Special player does his job well
Isaac Bouton	Infielder	Senior	Fellowship Christian	He does so many things well
Jarrett Brown	Infielder	Senior	Savannah Christian	This guy can do it all
Don Daniel	Infielder	Senior	Wesleyan	Offensive catalyst gets things done
Landon Parks	Infielder	Senior	Wesleyan	Batted .431 last year to lead Wolves
Chris Pendleton	Infielder	Senior	Savannah Country Day	Put up ridiculous numbers in 2018
Andrew Bennett	Outfielder	Junior	Mount Paran Christian	He can hit for contact or power
Harrison Padgett	Outfielder	Senior	Holy Innocents'	Makes the offense go
Kyle Riesselmann	Outfielder	Senior	Trinity Christian	Slugger gets runners home
Cal Smith	Outfielder	Senior	Trinity Christian	He's hard to get out
Beau Spears	Outfielder	Senior	Tattnall Square	An exciting player to watch
Tres Gonzalez	Designated Hitter	Senior	Mount Vernon	Makes things happen
CJ Nugara	Utility	Senior	Savannah Country Day	Can hit and pitch very well

Second Team

Pitchers – Noah Coleman, Sr., George Walton; Ryan Higginbotham, Sr., Kings Ridge Christian; Jarrett Karnibad, Sr., Savannah Country Day; Kenny Mills, Sr., Strong Rock Christian; Ryan Suppa, Sr., North Cobb Christian; Jack Thomas, Sr., Athens Academy; Jack Ward, Jr., Kings Ridge Christian; **Catchers** – Cameron Gill, Sr., Fellowship Christian; Nick Hassan, Sr., Strong Rock Christian; **Infielders** – Cameron Crosby, Sr., Savannah Christian; Omar Daniels, Sr., George Walton; Ladd Fortson, Sr., Athens Christian; Win Johns, Sr., Savannah Country Day; Preston Joye, Jr., Fellowship Christian; Caleb Ketchup, Jr., Holy Innocents'; **Outfielders** – Dawson Brown, Jr., Tattnall Square; Brooks Mitchell, Sr., Saint Francis; Miles Morris, Sr., Tattnall Square; Keegan Tranam, Sr., Providence Christian; Jay Wetherington, Jr., Calvary Day; **Designated Hitter** – Lance Longgear, Sr., Calvary Day; **Utility** – Brayden Eidson, Sr., Strong Rock Christian

REGION 1-1A

Region Favorite: Baconton Charter

Keep an eye on: Pelham – The Hornets return most of last year's talent that made the state playoffs.

Players to Watch

C – Kyle Alexander, Jr., Miller County; **SS** – Gage Cleveland, Jr., Pataula Charter; **1B/LHP** – Will Cook, Jr., Miller County; **SS/RHP** – Spencer Culp, Sr., Baconton Charter; **C** – Doug Curles, Jr., Pelham; **SS/RHP** – Rasheed Jenkins, Jr., Webster County; **OF/LHP** – Aubrey Johnson, Sr., Seminole County; **RHP/INF** – Dylan Johnson, Sr., Miller County; **C/3B** – Gage Jones, Sr., Seminole County; **1B/RHP** – Tanner Matthews, Sr., Webster County; **RHP/INF/C/OF** – Javarious McDaniel, Sr., Terrell County; **3B/RHP** – Dakota McEntyre, Jr., Pelham; **RHP/C/INF** – Brandon Melton, Jr., Terrell County; **SS** – Logan Phillips, Jr., Miller County; **SS/RHP** – Smith Pinson, So., Baconton Charter; **C/RHP** – Stone Pinson, Sr., Baconton Charter; **3B/C** – Richard Sims, Sr., Chattahoochee County; **C/3B/RHP** – Chase Smith, Sr., Seminole County; **1B** – Grant Smithwick, Sr., Baconton Charter; **OF/LHP** – Garrett Taylor, Jr., Seminole County; **3B/RHP** – Cale Whigham, Sr., Pelham; **CF/LHP** – Jordan Wiley, Jr., Pataula Charter; **OF/RHP** – Gunner Wisham, Sr., Pelham

BACONTON CHARTER BLAZERS

Head Coach: Bubber Birdsong

Assistant Coach (s): John Pinson, Devyn Newberry

2018 Record: 20-7

Returning Starters: SS/3B/RHP Spencer Culp (Sr.); C/RHP Stone Pinson (Sr.); 1B Grant Smithwick (Sr.); SS/P Smith Pinson (So.); DH Jacob Smith (Jr.); OF Lawson Creech (Jr.); 2B Jackson Bostick (Jr.); OF Haden High (So.)

Other Returning Players: OF Caleb Jones (Jr.); OF Zavian Freeman (Jr.); C Christian Garcia (So.); OF Hayden Hatcher (So.); P Bo Schwarm (Sr.); 3B Brady Ragan (Jr.)

Season Outlook: Baconton Charter made it to the state quarterfinals last season after winning the region title. The Blazers could be the team to beat again as eight starters are back. All-state performer Spencer Culp returns to lead the way, while first baseman Grant Smithwick and catcher Stone Pinson also return.



Spencer Culp
Baconton Charter

BAKER COUNTY BEARS

Head Coach: Collins Tensley

Survey not returned

CALHOUN COUNTY COUGARS

Head Coach: John Taylor

Survey not returned

CHATTAHOOCHEE COUNTY PANTHERS

Head Coach: Caleb Horvath

Survey not returned

MILLER COUNTY PIRATES

Head Coach: Eddie Whitaker

Assistant Coach (s): Scott Warren

2018 Record: 14-12

Returning Starters: RHP Dylan Johnson (Sr., 6-0, 210); 1B/P Isaiah Roland (Sr.); 1B/LHP Will Cook (Jr., 6-2, 210); SS Logan Phillips (Jr., 5-9, 165); 3B Adam Bunch (Jr., 5-10, 200); CF Roland Godfrey (Jr., 5-10, 180); C Kyle Alexander (Jr., 5-9, 180); 2B Ben Roland (Jr., 5-6, 155)

Season Outlook: An excellent group of returning players should help Miller County contend for the region crown. Eight starters are back, including pitcher Dylan Johnson (5-4, 1.82 ERA). Juniors Will Cook, Logan Phillips and Kyle Alexander were promising as sophomores last year. They will help Miller contend.



Dylan Johnson
Miller County

MITCHELL COUNTY EAGLES

Head Coach: John Williford

Survey not returned

PATAULA CHARTER PANTHERS

Head Coach: Zach Mauldin (new)

Assistant Coach (s): David Kirkland

2018 Record: 5-13

Returning Starters: U/RHP Hunter Bantz (Sr., 5-8, 160, R/R); OF/LHP Colby Fellows (Sr., 5-10, 190, L/L); 1B/RHP Dustin Fincher (Sr., 6-1, 190, R/R); CF/LHP Jordan Wiley (Jr., 6-1, 185, L/L); SS Gage Cleveland (Jr., 5-11, 160, R/R); 3B Jack Mote (Jr., 5-10, 175, R/R); C Hunter Preston (So., 5-8, 155, L/R)

Other Returning Players: 2B David Bush (Sr., 5-9, 180, R/R); 3B/OF Luke Bruner (So., 5-8, 180, R/R); OF/RHP Brock Lamphier (So., 5-9, 155, R/R)

Top Newcomers: 2B Tyler Tabb (Fr., 5-6, 135, R/R); U/RHP Kolby Radney (Fr., 6-1, 170, R/R); 3B/RHP Andrew Hartsfield (Fr., 5-9, 170, R/R); INF/C Justin Brown (Fr., 5-7, 175, R/R); OF/RHP Adam Caldwell (Fr., 5-8, 160, R/R)

Season Outlook: New coach Zach Mauldin welcomes back seven returning starters as the Panthers should be better this spring. Juniors Jordan Wiley and Gage Cleveland showed promise last season as sophomores. The senior class is small, but Hunter Bantz, Colby Fellows and Dustin Fincher will be expected to lead the way.

PELHAM HORNETS

Head Coach: Ron Best (new)

Assistant Coach

(s): Jonathan Moore, Marcus Singletary

2018 Record: 16-10

Returning Starters: SS/RHP Cale Whigham (Sr., 5-10, 175, R/R); OF Gunner Wisham (Sr., 5-8, 170, R/R)

Season Outlook: Pelham welcomes former



Doug Curles
Pelham



Dakota McEntyre
Pelham

Cairo High coach Ron Best after the Hornets had their best season in recent memory in 2018. Pelham made the state playoffs and won its first round series. A bunch of that talent returns, including senior pitcher Cale Whigham and outfielder Gunner Wisham.



Cale Whigham
Pelham



Gunner Wisham
Pelham

QUITMAN COUNTY HORNETS

Head Coach: TBA
Survey not returned

RANDOLPH-CLAY RED DEVILS

Head Coach: Jeff Thornton
Survey not returned

SEMINOLE COUNTY INDIANS

Head Coach: Truette Johnson
Survey not returned



Aubrey Johnson
Seminole County



Chase Smith
Seminole County

STEWART COUNTY KNIGHTS

Head Coach: TBA
Survey not returned

TERRELL COUNTY GREENWAVE

Head Coach: Pat Cuff
Assistant Coach (s): Wallace Price
2018 Record: 10-10

Returning Starters: RHP/C/INF Javarious McDaniel (Sr., 6-1, 175, R/R); RHP/C/INF Brandon Melton (Jr., 5-10, 170, R/R); INF/OF/RHP Kentavion Carter (Sr., 5-8, 175, R/R); INF/RHP/OF Jalen Allen (Sr., 5-7, 165, R/R); INF/OF/RHP Jamrakeis Allen (So., 5-8, 180, L/R); OF Vernon Perkins (Sr., 5-9, 170, R/R); INF/OF Markelle Ross (Sr., 5-9, 180, R/R)
Other Returning Players: C/INF/OF David Hilyard (Jr., 5-7, 170, R/R); OF/RHP Jamari Jones (So., 6-1, 190, R/R); OF Jeremiah Dennard (So., 5-8, 180, R/R)

Top Newcomers: INF/RHP Jadarious Robinson (Fr., 6-0, 190, R/R)
Season Outlook: The Greenwave were young last season but still managed to finish at .500. With seven returning starters and a solid group of seniors, Terrell County could contend for the postseason this spring. Versatile Javarious McDaniel returns to lead the way.

WEBSTER COUNTY BOBCATS

Head Coach: James McCullough
Survey not returned

REGION 2-1A

Region Favorite: Irwin County
Keep an eye on: Clinch County – The Panthers return eight starters and a solid pitching rotation.

Players to Watch

OF – Trey Bess, Jr., Telfair County; **RHP/OF** – Cameo Blankenship, Jr., Telfair County; **2B/RHP** – Brence Cason, Sr., Clinch County; **SS/RHP** – Tyler Chesser, Sr., Charlton County; **INF/OF/RHP** – Brodie Chestnutt, So., Irwin County; **OF/RHP** – Byron Connell, Sr., Lanier County; **3B/RHP** – Cuyler Cox, Jr., Echols County; **3B/RHP** – Evan Culpepper, Sr., Lanier County; **C/2B/RHP** – Rhett Davis, So., Wilcox County; **RHP/INF** – Jarrett Dopson, Jr., Telfair County; **C/DH/OF** – Kyle Hendricks, Jr., Clinch County; **C/OF** – Laneston Hendricks, Sr., Clinch County; **INF/RHP** – Will Hudson, Sr., Irwin County; **C** – Trevor Knowles, Sr., Charlton County; **OF/2B** – Thomas Lankford, Sr., Clinch County; **RHP/1B** – Duncan Lutz, Sr., Clinch County; **OF** – Chad Miller, Jr., Irwin County; **INF/RHP** – Cam Patterson, Jr., Wilcox County; **SS/RHP** – Jacob Shiver, Sr., Turner County; **RHP** – Zach Smith, Jr., Irwin County; **INF** – Kodie Spires, Jr., Irwin County; **LHP/1B/OF** – Warren Stovall, Sr., Clinch County; **INF/RHP** – Cam Vickers, Sr., Irwin County; **RHP/SS** – Tra’Vonte Williams, So., Atkinson County

ATKINSON COUNTY REBELS

Head Coach: Tommy Adcock
Assistant Coach (s): Keenan Thomas
2018 Record: 11-14

Returning Starters: C Willis Mancil (So., 5-11, 150, R/R); LF Cole Lott (Sr., 6-1, 200, R/R); LHP Bryan Taft (So., 6-1, 185, B/L); RHP Markel Jordan (Jr., 5-9, 155, R/R); RHP/OF Kelvin Ramirez (Jr., 6-1, 185, R/R); RHP/INF Ethan Batten (Jr., 6-2, 155, R/R); RHP/SS Tra’Vonte Williams (So., 6-2, 160, R/R)

Other Returning Players: RF Javier Martinez (So., 5-9, 140, R/R); CF Eli Meeks (So., 6-2, 185, R/R); 3B Caleb Hulett (So., 5-10, 190, R/R); RF/1B Maxwell White (Sr., 6-1, 210, R/R); RHP Carson Mercer (So., 5-8, 160, R/R); 1B Cobi Rodriguez (Jr., 6-5, 245, L/R); OF Tayshon Northcutt (Sr., 5-9, 215, R/R)

Top Newcomers: OF/1B Brannon Squires (Fr., 5-8, 120, R/R); OF/2B Will Davis (Fr., 5-7, 130, R/R); OF/C Logan Heath (Fr., 5-5, 115, R/R)

Season Outlook: Look for Atkinson County to be much better in coach Tommy Adcock’s second season in Pearson. The Rebels return seven starters, including pitcher/shortstop Tra’Vonte Williams. Keep an eye on a solid group of underclassmen who will continue to improve this year.

CHARLTON COUNTY INDIANS

Head Coach: Thad Marchman
Assistant Coach (s):

Stephen Jackson, Jarod Cisco, Eric Taylor

2018 Record: 23-10

Returning Starters: C Trevor Knowles (Sr., 6-0, 175, R/R); SS/RHP Tyler Chesser (Sr., 5-10, 190, R/R); RHP/INF Connor Nelson (So., 6-0, 165, R/R)



Tyler Chesser
Charlton County



Trevor Knowles
Charlton County

Other Returning Players: SS/RHP Trent Gray (So., 5-8, 155, R/R); OF Lance Horne (Sr., 5-8, 150, R/R); LHP/1B Shacario Bailey (So., 5-11, 200, L/L); OF/RHP Trey Cribb (Jr., 5-9, 175, R/R); RHP/U Beau Nazworth (So., 5-10, 160, R/R)

Top Newcomers: U Sean Russell (Fr., 5-11, 190, R/R); OF/LHP Wade Rodefer (Fr., 5-10, 165, L/R)

Season Outlook: Charlton County lost 10 seniors to graduation, seven of them starters. The Indians will be rebuilding this season, but don't count them out. Catcher Trevor Knowles (.400 avg., 11 2B) is as good as advertised, while shortstop/pitcher Tyler Chesser brings a lot to the table. Keep an eye on a young but talented group of underclassmen.

CLINCH COUNTY PANTHERS

Head Coach: Lee Douglas

Assistant Coach (s):

Sean Mercer, Jeremy Edwards, Michael Harper

2018 Record: 20-13

Returning Starters:

RHP/1B Duncan Lutz (Sr., 6-4, 180, R/R); C/OF Laneston Hendricks (Sr., 5-11, 195, R/R); RHP/SS Landon Howling (Sr., 5-7, 150, R/R); 2B/RHP Brencé Cason (Sr., 5-10, 165, R/R); LHP/1B/OF Warren Stovall (Sr., 5-11, 165, R/L); OF/2B Thomas Lankford (Sr., 5-8, 175, R/R); OF Darius Dorsey (Jr., 6-0, 210, R/R); C/DH/OF Kyle Hendricks (Jr., 5-11, 175, R/R)

Other Returning

Players: 3B/RHP Josh Griffis (Jr., 5-11, 180, R/R); RHP/INF Josh Peagler (Jr., 5-9, 160, R/R); RHP/OF KV Nixon (Sr., 6-2, 165, R/R); DH/OF Mitchell Prescott (Sr., 6-2, 240, R/R)

Top Newcomers: INF Landon Allen (So., 5-8, 160, R/R); RHP/OF Gabriel Morris (Jr., 6-0, 170, R/R); RHP Lane Palmer (Fr., 5-10, 175, R/R)

Season Outlook: The Panthers return a senior-laden team and should be in the hunt for the region title this spring. Eight starters are back, including two of the region's top pitchers in right-hander Duncan Lutz and left-hander Warren Stovall. Outfielder/infielder Thomas Lankford also returns after a solid campaign in 2018.

ECHOLS COUNTY WILDCATS

Head Coach: James Hamlett

Assistant Coach (s): Chad McLeod, Ryan Richardson

2018 Record: 4-21

Returning Starters: 2B Hunter Morey (Sr., R/R); OF Colby Tucker (Sr., R/R); 1B/RHP Weston Roberts (Sr., R/R); OF Colby George (Jr., R/R); 3B/RHP Cuyler Cox (Jr., R/R); SS/C Jacob Rogers (Jr., R/R); SS/C Landon Jones (So., R/R); SS/C Weston McLeod (So., R/R)

Other Returning Players: OF Austin Webb (Sr., R/R); OF Brent Mashburn (So., R/R)

Top Newcomers: 1B/OF Ken Blanton (Fr., L/L); 2B Eli Pafford (Fr., R/R); OF Austin Tanner (Fr., R/R)

Season Outlook: Echols County will look to rebound after a disappointing finish last season. The Wildcats have eight starters back and should have a chance to be much better. Second baseman Hunter Morey and third baseman Cuyler Cox are back to lead the offense, while pitcher Weston Roberts leads a young rotation.

IRWIN COUNTY INDIANS

Head Coach: Drew Tankersley

Assistant Coach (s):

Jared Luke, Nathan Martin, Casey Soliday

2018 Record: 25-6

Returning Starters:

INF/RHP Will Hudson (Sr., 5-9, 160, R/R); INF/RHP Cam Vickers (Sr., 6-1, 215, L/R); OF Chad Miller (Jr., 6-1, 175, R/R); INF/RHP Keegan Folker (Jr., 5-8, 145, R/R); RHP Zach Smith (Jr., 5-10, 160, R/R); INF Tucker Paulk (Jr., 5-7, 140, R/R); INF/OF/RHP Brodie Chestnutt (So., 6-3, 200, R/R); INF Kodie Spires (Jr., 5-9, 205, R/R)

Season Outlook: Irwin County should contend

for the region crown as a wealth of talent returns, including pitcher Brodie Chestnutt and infielder/pitcher Will Hudson. The senior class is talented, but keep an eye on a strong group of juniors and sophomores who will contribute.



Brodie Chestnutt
Irwin County



Will Hudson
Irwin County



Zach Smith
Irwin County



Cam Vickers
Irwin County



Brencé Cason
Clinch County



Thomas Lankford
Clinch County



Duncan Lutz
Clinch County



Warren Stovall
Clinch County

LANIER COUNTY BULLDOGS

Head Coach: Shawn Sharp (new)

Assistant Coach

(s): Cam Cain, Philip Swindell

2018 Record: 15-10

Returning Starters: 3B/RHP Evan Culpepper (Sr., 5-10, 210, R/R); OF/RHP Byron Connell (Sr., 6-0, 140, R/R); SS/RHP Cam Courson (Sr., 5-8, 130, R/R); OF/RHP Rashod Brockington (So., 5-10, 160, R/R)

Other Returning Players: 1B/3B/RHP Will Berryhill (So., 6-4, 230, R/R); C Kam Throneberry (So., 5-10, 150, R/R); 2B/SS Jaxson Cook (So., 5-10, 150, R/R)

Top Newcomers: 1B/3B Nate Wrye (Fr., 6-0, 160, R/R); 3B/RHP Jacob Faircloth (Fr., 5-8, 150, R/R); OF/RHP Jaquon Pope (Fr., 6-0, 150, R/R); RHP Grant Spikes (Fr., 6-0, 140, R/R)

Season Outlook: After taking Pelham to the state playoffs last spring, coach Shawn Sharp takes over at Lanier County. The new coach has four returning starters to build around, including seniors Evan Culpepper and Byron Connell. Lanier has a strong group of freshmen and sophomores who should compete for playing time.



Byron Connell
Lanier County



Evan Culpepper
Lanier County

TELFAIR COUNTY TROJANS

Head Coach: Hart Mizell (new)

Assistant Coach (s):

Benny Livingston, Justin Macella, Jody Stone

2018 Record: 24-10

Returning Starters: OF

Trey Bess (Jr.); RHP/OF Cameo Blankenship (Jr.); RHP/INF Jarrett Dopson (Jr.); 1B/LHP Noah Harrelson (Jr.); C/DH Tre Blankenship (So.); C/INF Ramsey Hancock (So.)

Other Returning Players: INF/RHP Jacob Mullis (Sr.); RHP/OF Jude King (Jr.); INF Jailen Clemons (So.); INF Jonathan Rodgers (So.)

Top Newcomers: RHP Landon Connell (Fr.); RHP Russ Ray (Fr.); RHP Peyton Smith (Fr.); 1B Riley Ray (Fr.); C Graham Spires (Fr.)

Season Outlook: Assistant coach Hart Mizell takes over after the Trojans finished as the state runner-up last year. The senior class is small, but the good news is that six starters are back, including outfielder Trey Bess and pitcher/outfielder Cameo Blankenship. The pair played key roles on last year's team. Juniors Jarrett Dopson and Noah Harrelson also return.



Trey Bess
Telfair County



Cameo Blankenship
Telfair County



Jarrett Dopson
Telfair County

TURNER COUNTY REBELS

Head Coach: Seth Gorman (new)

Assistant Coach (s): Tanner Crawford

2018 Record: 7-21

Returning Starters: SS/RHP Jacob Shiver (Sr., 5-11, 170, R/R); 3B/RHP Sunny Patel (Sr., 5-11, 180, R/R); 1B/DH Tyler Dorminey (Jr., 6-0, 200, R/R); OF/RHP Kunal Patel (Sr., 5-10, 170, R/R); C/1B Colby Hancock (Jr., 6-1, 170, R/R)

Other Returning Players: OF Dru Patel (Jr., 5-10, 160, R/R); OF Jace Wynn (So., 5-9, 160, R/R); 3B Zeimere Holloman (So., 5-7, 160, R/R)

Season Outlook: New coach Seth Gorman takes over at Turner County and has five returning starters to work with. The Rebels could have a chance to improve on last year's finish. The senior class is solid as Jacob Shiver, Sunny Patel and Kunal Patel return. Gorman will need some younger players to step forward.

WILCOX COUNTY PATRIOTS

Head Coach: Stephen McDuffie

Survey not returned



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REGION 3-1A

Region Favorite: Savannah Christian

Keep an eye on: Savannah Country Day – After making the playoffs last year, the Hornets have nine returners back and will be dangerous.

Players to Watch

INF – Kaden Blankenship, Sr., Calvary Day; **C** – Garrett Bradley, Sr., Savannah Christian; **RHP/SS** – Jarrett Brown, Sr., Savannah Christian; **SS/RHP** – Ty Butler, Sr., Wheeler County; **C/RHP** – Brett Caneega, Jr., Johnson County; **1B/OF** – Cameron Crosby, Sr., Savannah Christian; **3B** – Dra Darrisaw, Jr., Johnson County; **RHP** – Tyler Flakes, Sr., ECI; **RHP/3B** – Joseph Handley, Sr., McIntosh County Academy; **INF/RHP** – Kyle Hilton, Sr., Savannah Christian; **RHP/SS** – Adam Hooks, Jr., Johnson County; **RHP/SS** – Hagan Jenkins, Sr., Jenkins County; **SS/RHP** – Win Johns, Sr., Savannah Country Day; **3B/RHP** – Dylan Joyner, Sr., Claxton; **RHP/OF** – Jarrett Karnibad, Sr., Savannah Country Day; **RHP/C/1B** – Lance Longgear, Sr., Calvary Day; **3B/RHP/C** – CJ Nugara, Sr., Savannah Country Day; **1B** – Chris Pendleton, Sr., Savannah Country Day; **CF** – Braden Sorge, Jr., Savannah Country Day; **C/INF** – Ethan Stokes, Sr., Wheeler County; **RHP/1B** – Grant Thomas, Sr., Calvary Day; **LHP/OF** – Jay Wetherington, Jr., Calvary Day

CALVARY DAY CAVALIERS

Head Coach: Phillip Lee

Assistant Coach (s): John Carr, Derward Poole, Austin Masters, Gary Allen, Ross Howard

2018 Record: 20-8

Returning Starters:

RHP/C/1B Lance Longgear (Sr., 5-11, 180, R/R); RHP/1B Grant Thomas (Sr., 5-11, 170, R/R); INF Zach Clay (Sr., 5-10, 160, L/R); INF Caden Thomas (Sr., 5-9, 160, R/R); INF Thomas Carver (Jr., 5-10, 175, R/R); INF Kaden Blankenship (Sr., 6-1, 180, R/R); OF Davis Gaylord (Sr., 5-10, 170, R/R); LHP/OF Jay Wetherington (Jr., 5-9, 165, L/L); RHP/OF Jacob Phillips (Sr., 5-10, 175, R/R)

Other Returning Players: C Hayden Clark (Jr., 5-7, 160, R/R); RHP Joseph Townsend (Sr., 5-10, 170, R/R); U Cameron Godbee (Jr., 5-10, 170, R/R); RHP/OF Kaleb Park (Jr., 6-0, 180, R/R)

Season Outlook: Calvary Day will compete for the region title with a strong senior class and a talented group of underclassmen returning. Pitching could be the biggest strength as Lance Longgear, Grant Thomas, Jay Wetherington and Jacob Phillips all return. Infielders Kaden Blankenship and Thomas Carver return to lead the offense.



Kaden Blankenship
Calvary Day



Lance Longgear
Calvary Day



Jay Wetherington
Calvary Day

CLAXTON TIGERS

Head Coach: Andy Yanzetich

Assistant Coach (s): Shannon Sapp, Jason Lane, Kevin Hendrix, Tony Welch

2018 Record: 7-16

Returning Starters: 3B/RHP Dylan Joyner (Sr., 6-0, 185, R/R); C/RHP Hunter Boyett (Sr., 6-0, 190, R/R); CF/RHP Myles Freeman (Sr., 5-11, 170, R/R); RF/RHP Chase Cameron (Sr., 6-0, 175, R/R); 1B/3B/RHP Deoveon Hayward (Jr., 5-10, 230, R/R); 2B/SS/RHP Karon Taylor (So., 5-9, 165, R/R); OF/1B Landon Hendrix (So., 5-9, 155, L/L)

Other Returning Players: 2B/SS Isaiah Henry (Jr., 5-10, 160, R/R); OF Hunter Mitchell (So., 5-10, 160, L/L); OF Noah Gutierrez (Sr., 6-1, 170, R/R); OF Aaron Blocker (Jr., 5-11, 165, R/R)

Top Newcomers: SS/2B Robbie Lane (Fr., 5-7, 155, B/R); 3B/RHP Hayden Morris (Fr., 5-10, 165, R/R); C/RHP Eli Sapp (Fr., 5-9, 165, R/R)

Season Outlook: The Tigers should be much better this spring. Seven starters are back, including offensive leaders Karon Taylor and Myles Freeman. Senior Dylan Joyner and Deoveon Hayward lead a young pitching rotation. Claxton must find consistency in all phases of the game.

ECI BULLDOGS

Head Coach: Brooks Collins

Assistant Coach (s): Chad Harper, Adam Robertson

2018 Record: 17-12

Returning Starters: RHP/SS Tyler Flakes (Sr., 5-9, 165, R/R); C Chandler Shockley (Sr., 5-11, 205, R/R); RHP/1B Hunter Henry (Sr., 5-10, 200, R/R); LHP/1B Zane Taylor (Jr., 5-10, 200, L/L); OF Rhett Harper (Jr., 5-8, 170, L/R); OF Evan Durden (Jr., 6-0, 190, L/R); RHP Reid Jones (Jr., 6-2, 210, R/R); OF/SS Chase Whitehead (So., 5-9, 180, R/R)

Other Returning Players: C C.J. Mincey (Jr., 5-8, 165, R/R); RHP/INF Trey Hughes (So., 5-8, 150, R/R); 1B Perry Fann (Jr., 6-2, 230, R/R); RHP/2B Jeremy Jones (So., 5-10, 170, R/R); RHP/OF John Joiner (Jr., 6-0, 180, R/R)

Top Newcomers: OF Colton Daniels (Fr., 5-10, 175, R/R)

Season Outlook: Look for ECI to be much better in coach Brooks Collins' second season this spring. Eight starters are back, including top pitcher Tyler Flakes (8-2, 1.26 ERA). The senior class is relatively small, but a wealth of players got a chance to play last season, which should pay dividends this season.



Tyler Flakes
ECI

JENKINS COUNTY EAGLES

Head Coach: Zac Clark

Assistant Coach (s): Caleb Pressey, Wendell Clark

2018 Record: 13-12

Returning Starters: RHP/SS Hagan Jenkins (Sr., 6-2, 180, R/R); 3B/C Colby Broxton (Sr., 6-0, 220, R/R); CF/2B JC Williams (Sr., 5-11, 160, R/R); OF Anthony Wilson (Jr., 5-9, 150, R/R); OF Novel Wilson (Jr., 5-8, 150, R/R); RHP/INF Justin Gray (So., 5-8, 170, R/R)

Season Outlook: Jenkins County made the state playoffs last year, and the Eagles should be in the running again. A good group of returning players are back. Pitcher/shortstop



Hagan Jenkins
Jenkins County

Hagan Jenkins will give the Eagles a chance to win each time he is on the mound.

JOHNSON COUNTY TROJANS

Head Coach: Chuck Beale

Assistant Coach (s):

Billy Sutton, Zac Dollar

2018 Record: 24-7

Returning Starters: C/

RHP Brett Caneega (Jr.,

R/R); 1B Rhett Wombles

(Jr., R/R); RHP/SS Adam

Hooks (Jr., R/R); 3B Dra

Darrisaw (Jr., R/R); CF

Jax Scott (So., L/L); C/

INF Christian McAfee

(Jr., R/R)

Other Returning Players: OF Trey Cherry

(Sr., R/R); INF Mackey Giddens (So., R/R); C/1B

Landry Thompson (So., R/R); OF Tucker Loyd

(So., R/R); RHP/OF Sam Jackson (So., R/R)

Top Newcomers: OF William Taylor (Fr., R/R);

INF Deon Rawlings (Fr., R/R); OF/INF Terrance

Poole (Fr., L/L); INF Chaz Moore (Fr., R/R); OF

Hunter Martin (Sr., R/R)

Season Outlook: The senior class is small

but Johnson County returns six starters

which should help them pick up from where they left off last year.

Ace pitcher Adam Hooks is back as well as offensive leaders Brett

Caneega and Dra Darrisaw. If Johnson can find another arm to

compliment Hooks, the Trojans could go a long way.



Brett Caneega
Johnson County



Dra Darrisaw
Johnson County



Adam Hooks
Johnson County

MCINTOSH COUNTY ACADEMY BUCCANEERS

Head Coach: Jesse Barfield

Assistant Coach (s): Sam Ellis

2018 Record: 5-19

Returning Starters: RHP/3B Joseph Handley (Sr., 6-0, 185, R/R);

OF Donathan Fabie (So., 5-11, 165, R/R); OF Azavion Lawton (So.,

6-2, 250, R/R); RHP/1B Eric Lewis (So., 6-5, 200, R/R); C/3B Dalton

McClellan (So., 5-11, 175, R/R); SS/2B Miles Wood (So., 5-9, 170, R/R)

Season Outlook: The Buccaneers should be much better in coach

Jesse Barfield's second season at the school. McIntosh County

continues to build for the future with a team comprised of just about

all underclassmen. Senior Joseph Handley (.317 avg., 4 2B) returns to

lead the way.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY EAGLES

Head Coach: Chase Young

Assistant Coach (s): Eric Burns

2018 Record: 7-19

Returning Starters: 2B Zachary Barrow (Sr., 5-7, 130, R/R); OF Jordan

Glisson (Sr., 5-7, 215, R/R); RHP/C Darrin Truett (So., 6-1, 160, R/R); SS/RHP

Gavin Fennell (So., 5-7, 135, R/R); C/RHP Wesley Hutcheson (So., 5-6, 145, R/R);

OF Kelvin Williams (So., 5-7, 130, R/R); 3B Cameron Rollins (So., 5-6, 130, R/R)

Other Returning Players: OF Calvin Williams (So., 5-6, 130, R/R);

OF/1B Colby Weeks (So., 5-7, 120, R/R); 3B Caden Woods (So., 5-8, 135,

R/R); 1B Kevin DeLeon (Jr., 5-9, 180, R/R); 1B/RHP Noah Bargeron (Jr.,

5-11, 215, R/R); OF Andrew Weeks (So., 5-10, 135, R/R)

Top Newcomers: OF Chase Cardell (Fr., 5-6, 120, R/R); RHP/1B Bo

Davidson (Fr., 5-8, 180, R/R)

Season Outlook: The Eagles seek to improve after winning seven

games last season. Seven starters are back. The senior class – led by

second baseman Zachary Barrow and Jordan Glisson – is small, but a

solid group of sophomores and juniors will be expected to help out.

PORTAL PANTHERS

Head Coach: David Hodges (new)

Assistant Coach (s): Lynwood McNure

2018 Record: 9-19

Returning Starters: SS/RHP Cody Clark (Sr., R/R); C/RHP Dustin

Upton (Sr., R/R); INF/RHP/OF Blake Hendrix (Jr., R/R); CF/RHP Blaise

Murphy (Jr., R/R); 1B/RHP Brennan Smith (Jr., R/R)

Top Newcomers: 2B/SS Reid Thompson (So.); OF Brady Mallard (Fr.)

Season Outlook: Former assistant David Hodges takes over and

inherits five returning starters as the Panthers seek to improve upon

last season's finish. A pair of seniors in shortstop/pitcher Cody Clark

and catcher/pitcher Dustin Upton return to lead the way.

SAVANNAH CHRISTIAN RAIDERS

Head Coach: Carl Carter

Assistant Coach (s):

Matt Oglesby, Alan

Brannen, Wes Garcia

2018 Record: 26-4

Returning Starters: 1B/

OF Cameron Crosby (Sr.,

5-11, 160, R/R); INF/RHP

Kyle Hilton (Jr., 5-10,

185, R/R); SS/RHP Jarrett

Brown (Sr., 6-1, 160,

R/R); C Garrett Bradley

(Sr., 5-11, 150, L/R); INF/RHP Joey White (So., 5-9, 140, R/R); INF Mark

Langston (Sr., 5-11, 190, R/R); INF Jonathan Forbes (Jr., 6-0, 155, R/R)

Other Returning Players: C Jackson Williams (Jr., 5-3, 160, R/R); OF

TJ Cowart (Jr., 6-0, 170, R/R); OF Colby O'Brien (Jr., 5-10, 165, R/R); OF

James Portzer (Sr., 6-0, 175, R/R)

Top Newcomers: OF Owen Kieffer (Fr., 5-9, 150, R/R)

Season Outlook: The Raiders should once again be the team to beat

in Region 3-1A. Savannah Christian welcomes back seven returning

starters, including pitchers Jarrett Brown and Kyle Hilton. Senior first

baseman/outfielder Cameron Crosby, catcher Garrett Bradley and

infielder Mark Langston return to lead a talented senior class.



Cam Crosby
Savannah Christian



Kyle Hilton
Savannah Christian

SAVANNAH COUNTRY DAY HORNETS

Head Coach: Dan Garofano

Assistant Coach (s):

Nate Ward

2018 Record: 19-9

Returning Starters: CF

Braden Sorge (Jr., 5-11,

180, R/R); SS/RHP Win

Johns (Sr., 6-2, 180, R/R);

3B/C/RHP CJ Nugara (Sr.,

6-0, 200, L/R); 1B Chris

Pendleton (Sr., 6-3, 230,



Win Johns
Savannah Country Day



Jarrett Karnibad
Savannah Country Day

R/R); RHP/OF Jarrett Karnibad (Sr., 6-2, 160, R/R); C/RHP Matthew Osterman (Jr., 6-0, 180, R/R); OF/2B/RHP Ash Pinckney (Sr., 5-10, 190, R/R); 2B/3B/OF Cole Meyer (So., 5-8, 170, R/R); OF Jack Ryan (Sr., 5-10, 175, R/R)



CJ Nugara
Savannah Country Day



Christopher Pendleton
Savannah Country Day

Other Returning

Players: INF/RHP Ethan Myers (So., 6-0, 170, R/R); OF/LHP Daniel Sims (So., 5-9, 170, L/L)

Top Newcomers: SS/RHP Barry Klienpeter (Fr., 5-10, 165, R/R); INF/RHP Cade Garola (Fr., 5-9, 170, R/R)

Season Outlook: Savannah Country Day made the state playoffs last year, and the Hornets should do so again. Nine starters are back, including ace pitcher Jarrett Karnibad (10-1, 0.96 ERA) and top hitters Win Johns (.402 avg., 24 RBIs), CJ Nugara (.385 avg., 22 RBIs) and Chris Pendleton (.450 avg., 5 HR). Look for SCD to challenge for the region crown.

TREUTLEN VIKINGS

Head Coach: Brad Collins

Assistant Coach (s): TBA

2018 Record: 8-17

Returning Starters: RHP/1B Colby Mimbs (Sr., R/R); RHP/C Trevor Byrd (Sr., R/R); OF/RHP Haden Youmans (Sr., R/R); OF Carson Richardson (Jr., R/R); 1B/LHP Chris Lovett (Jr., L/L); 3B/RHP Logan Hughes (So., R/R)

Other Returning Players: OF Joseph Moore (Sr., R/R); 1B Ben Foskey (So., R/R)

Top Newcomers: OF/SS Collin Beall (Fr., R/R); OF Harrison Rutherford (Fr., R/R); 2B Matthew Corbett (Fr., R/R); OF Timothy Blair (Fr., R/R); LHP/1B Adam Watts (Fr., L/L); SS Quen Jordan (Fr., R/R); OF Ryan Rogers (Fr., R/R)

Season Outlook: It was a tough season in 2018 for the Vikings, but look for them to be much better this spring. A talented corps of seniors - pitcher/first baseman Colby Mimbs, pitcher/catcher Trevor Byrd and outfielder/pitcher Haden Youmans - will lead the way. A solid corps of underclassmen as well as some talented freshman will also contribute.

WHEELER COUNTY BULLDOGS

Head Coach: Chris Carr (new)

Assistant Coach (s): Justin Kilpatrick, Donnie Horton, Todd Vann

2018 Record: 12-14

Returning Starters: SS/RHP Ty Butler (Sr., R/R); C/INF Ethan Stokes (Sr., R/R); OF Zach Horton (Sr., R/R); OF/RHP Ty Vann (Sr., L/R); RHP/U Zebulon Floyd (Jr., L/R); INF/RHP Dakota Connell (Jr., R/R); LHP/1B Noah Mitchell (So., L/L)

Other Returning Players: INF Kaden Bell (So., L/R); OF Adam Cravey (So., R/R); RHP/INF Cooper Hartley (So., R/R); U Landon Bell (So., R/R); RHP/INF Cody McClellan (Jr., R/R)

Top Newcomers: INF Romie Grimm (Fr., R/R); LHP/1B Jet Hoffman (Fr., L/L); INF Eli McClellan (Fr., R/R); INF Jaquez Kincy (Fr.); LHP/1B/OF Mason Ford (Fr., L/L)



Ethan Stokes
Wheeler County

Season Outlook: Wheeler County had one of its best seasons in recent memory last year, and first-year coach Chris Carr looks to keep the momentum going. Seven starters are back. Shortstop/pitcher Ty Butler, outfielder/pitcher Ty Vann and pitcher Noah Mitchell are three players to look out for this season.

REGION 4-1A

Region Favorite: Schley County

Keep an eye on: St. Anne-Pacelli – With the state’s all-time winningest coach in command, look for the Vikings to be significantly improved.

Players to Watch

2B – Carter Albritton, Sr., Taylor County; **RHP** – Lorne Barineau, Sr., Schley County; **OF/LHP** – Trent Bivins, Jr., Schley County; **CF** – Jeremiah Burgess, Sr., Brookstone; **C/RHP** – Jacob Coody, Sr., Hawkinsville; **RHP/OF** – Ashton Goodin, Sr., Schley County; **SS** – Cody Guidry, Sr., Crawford County; **INF/RHP** – Jack Little, Sr., Brookstone; **RHP** – Peyton McClemore, Sr., Saint Anne-Pacelli; **INF/RHP** – Tyler Meeks, So., Hawkinsville; **INF/RHP** – Jackson Milliner, Sr., Brookstone; **OF** – Bryce Murkerson, Jr., Hawkinsville; **OF/SS/RHP** – Garrett Peavy, Jr., Schley County; **3B/RHP** – Hunter Prince, Sr., Hawkinsville; **C/SS/RHP** – Brandon Redd, Sr., Manchester; **INF/RHP** – Trey Sanders, So., Brookstone; **OF/RHP** – Ben Sloan, Sr., Brookstone; **RHP/INF** – Tyler Stevenson, Jr., Greenville; **RHP/SS** – Dylan Taylor, So., Schley County; **C** – Conner Tharpe, Sr., Taylor County; **OF/RHP** – James Welch, Sr., Marion County; **LHP/1B** – Dylan Windham, Sr., Schley County

BROOKSTONE COUGARS

Head Coach: Vince Massey

Assistant Coach (s):

Greg Mathis, Don McClintock, Dylan Tomlin

2018 Record: 26-7

Returning Starters:

CF Jeremiah Burgess (Sr., 6-1, 185, R/R); INF/RHP Jack Little (Sr., 6-2, 165, R/R); INF/RHP Jackson Milliner (Sr., 6-2, 215, R/R); INF/RHP Trey Sanders (So., 6-0, 170, R/R); OF/RHP Ben Sloan (Sr., 6-0, 165, R/R)

Other Returning

Players: INF Andrew Albright (So., 6-1, 165, L/R); C Dell Davis (So., 5-7, 140, R/R); INF/RHP Matthew DeNamur (So., 5-8, 145, R/R); INF/RHP



Jeremiah Burgess
Brookstone



Jack Little
Brookstone



Trey Sanders
Brookstone



Ben Sloan
Brookstone

Mitchell Harp (Jr., 5-9, 160, R/R); OF/RHP Sam Kilgore (So., 5-9, 155, R/R); INF/RHP Connor King (Jr., 5-9, 150, R/R); C/INF Hap Perkins (Jr., 6-2, 175, R/R)

Top Newcomers: INF/RHP Adam Lowery (So., 6-1, 165, R/R)

Season Outlook: The Cougars have a good nucleus of returning talent and should contend for the region title. All-state infielder/pitcher Jack Little returns as well as outfielder Jeremiah Burgess and infielder/pitcher Trey Sanders. Look for a talented group of juniors and sophomores to contribute.

CRAWFORD COUNTY EAGLES

Head Coach: Craig Puckett

Assistant Coach (s): Trevor Moncrief

2018 Record: 11-15

Returning Starters: 3B David Goodman (Sr., 6-2, 185, R/R); SS Cody Guidry (Sr., 6-0, 170, R/R); 2B Austin Darley (Sr., 5-8, 150, R/R); 1B Donovan Hudson (Jr., 6-2, 200, L/L); C Tyler Peckinpaugh (Jr., 6-4, 235, R/R); OF Caleb Gregory (So., 5-11, 170, R/R)

Other Returning Players: DH Ethan Crosby (Jr., 5-10, 215, R/L); LHP Nick Peavy (Sr., 5-7, 160, L/L); 3B/RHP Levi Hammock (So., 5-10, 180, R/R); OF Kyler Walton (So., 5-10, 170, R/R); 1B Mikel Barton (So., 5-10, 190, R/R); RHP Addison Kemp (Sr., 5-9, 175, R/R)

Top Newcomers: C Caleb Carr (Fr., 5-9, 170, R/R); OF Michael Taylor (Fr., 5-10, 170, R/R); SS Brennen Hudson (Fr., 6-0, 150, R/R)

Season Outlook: Crawford County should have a chance to improve upon last season's finish as six starters are back, including a trio of seniors in third baseman David Goodman, shortstop Cody Guidry and second baseman Austin Darley. The lack of pitching depth is a concern.

DOOLY COUNTY BOBCATS

Head Coach: Quinnen Peavy

Assistant Coach (s): Shaun Brown

2018 Record: 5-14

Returning Starters: RHP/INF Reggie Smith (Sr., 5-7, 145, R/R); C/INF Jaboris Hicks (Sr., 5-7, 135, R/R); 3B Rick Hill (Jr., 6-1, 230, R/R); 1B Rashad Lucas (Jr., 6-3, 190, L/L); RHP/C Edgerrin Almond (So., 5-7, 190, R/R)

Other Returning Players: INF Christian Murphy (So., 5-8, 140, L/R); INF/OF Zakeevius Davis (So., 6-2, 170, R/R)

Top Newcomers: INF Fred Perry (Fr.); P/INF Eric Ivory (Fr.)

Season Outlook: Dooly County looks to get things turned around. The good news is that five starters are back, including a pair of seniors in Reggie Smith and Jaboris Hicks. The Bobcats will need some younger players to step forward.

FURLOW CHARTER FALCONS

Head Coach: Jay Umpleby

Survey not returned

GREENVILLE PATRIOTS

Head Coach: Ryan Daniel

Survey not returned

HAWKINSVILLE RED DEVILS

Head Coach: Chris Lamb (new)

Assistant Coach (s):

Dylan Gay, John Roberts, Josh Cooley

2018 Record: 13-12

Returning Starters:

C/RHP Jacob Coody (Sr., 6-1, 175, R/R); 3B/RHP Hunter Prince (Sr., 5-10, 210, R/R); OF/RHP Jonathan Whisonant

(Sr., 6-0, 160, R/R); INF/RHP Tyler Meeks (So., 5-9, 150, R/R); 2B Sam Simmons (Sr., 5-7, 175, L/R); 1B/LHP Jay Bentley (Sr., 6-2, 160, L/L); OF Tristen Laidler (Sr., 6-2, 195, R/R); OF Bryce Murkerson (Jr., 5-8, 150, R/R)

Other Returning Players: OF Dylan O'Quinn (Sr., 5-6, 140, R/R); C Jake Cross (Jr., 6-2, 220, R/R); INF Carl Burch (So., 5-9, 150, R/R); OF Evan Roberts (So., 5-8, 150, R/R); INF Josh Brown (Jr., 6-1, 180, R/R)

Top Newcomers: INF Xavier Harrell (Fr., 5-5, 170, R/R); OF Casson Clark (Fr., 6-0, 160, R/R); LHP Tristan Holland (Fr., 6-0, 150, L/L); INF/RHP Randall Holder (Fr., 5-7, 145, R/R); C/INF Braden Simmons (Fr., 6-0, 175, R/R)

Season Outlook: Former Early County coach Chris Lamb takes over a Hawkinsville program that has struggled recently. Lamb inherits eight returning starters, including a solid corps of seniors. If the Red Devils can get some early-season confidence, they could be a team to look out for in region play.



Jacob Coody
Hawkinsville



Hunter Prince
Hawkinsville



Sam Simmons
Taylor County

MACON COUNTY BULLDOGS

Head Coach: Clayton McClendon (new)

Survey not returned

MANCHESTER BLUE DEVILS

Head Coach: Bari Brown

Survey not returned

MARION COUNTY EAGLES

Head Coach: Trey Reeves

Assistant Coach (s): Monty Howard, Scott Colter, John Dimitri

2018 Record: 10-16

Returning Starters: 2B Davis Wiggins (Sr., 6-0, 170, R/R); OF Jake Janovsky (Sr., 5-11, 160, R/R); 3B/RHP Austin Duffey (So., 6-3, 240, R/R); OF/RHP James Welch (Sr., 5-10, 140, R/R); SS/RHP Garrett Sheffield (Jr., 6-0, 145, R/R); INF Brock Hortman (Sr., 6-1, 190, R/R); OF Dylan Holbrook (Sr., 5-10, 150, R/R)

Other Returning Players: OF Alexio Garcia (Sr., 5-7, 130, R/R); OF Anthony Garcia (Jr., 5-5, 180, R/R)

Top Newcomers: OF/RHP Devan Briggs (Jr., 6-2, 185, R/R)

Season Outlook: Marion County has a good nucleus of players returning and should have a chance to improve upon last season's record. Seven starters are back, including a solid senior class. The Eagles will also be looking for a good group of juniors and sophomores to step forward.

SAINT ANNE-PACELLI VIKINGS

Head Coach: Bobby Howard (new)

Assistant Coach (s): John Metasavage, Chase Weems

2018 Record: 5-16

Other Returning Players: RHP Peyton McClemore (Sr., 6-1, 195, R/R); 3B/RHP/U Ashton Faulk (Jr., 5-11, 170, R/R); OF Carson Jones (Jr., 5-11, 150, R/R); SS/RHP Dawson Stamm (Jr., 6-1, 160, R/R); OF Jay Menefee (Jr., 5-10, 165, R/R); RHP/2B Austin Floyd (So., 6-0, 160, R/R); 2B/RHP/U Gavin Shaw (So., 5-7, 140, R/R); 1B/3B/RHP Will Vinyard (So., 5-11, 180, R/R); RHP/OF Jake Hall (So., 5-11, 160, R/R)

Top Newcomers: 1B/3B/RHP Blake Dugan (Jr., 6-1, 200, R/R); 1B/RHP Will Clickner (So., 6-4, 220, R/R); C/INF Hunter Walker (So., 5-10, 170, R/R); OF/LHP Cason Emerson (So., 6-0, 160, L/L); INF Gage Brown (Fr., 5-10, 160, R/R); OF Caleb Perry (Fr., 5-11, 150, R/R); RHP/INF Austin Stephenson (Fr., 5-11, 150, R/R)

Season Outlook: The state's all-time winningest coach takes over a Saint Anne-Pacelli program that has struggled recently. Howard seeks to resurrect a team that won just five games last season. The senior class is small, and some talented underclassmen will have to play key roles. Keep an eye on this team.

SCHLEY COUNTY WILDCATS

Head Coach: Chuck Cheek

Assistant Coach (s):

William Rooks,
Jody Sellars

2018 Record: 24-4

Returning Starters:

RHP Lorne Barineau (Sr., 5-11, 190, R/R); LHP/1B Dylan Windham (Sr., 5-10, 215, L/L); RHP/OF Ashton Goodin (Sr., 6-5, 190, R/R); OF/SS/RHP Garrett Peavy (Jr., 5-11, 170, R/R); OF/LHP Trent Bivins (Jr., 6-0, 160, R/L); RHP/SS Dylan Taylor (So., 6-0, 170, L/R)

Other Returning

Players: RHP/3B

Michael Wainwright (Sr., 6-2, 205, R/R); RHP/INF Logan Wurtz (Jr., 5-10, 175, R/R); OF Dakota

Albritton (Sr., 5-10, 160, R/R); OF/C William Hardin (Sr., 6-0, 175, R/R)

Top Newcomers: 1B/P/OF Trypp Lumpkin (Fr., 5-10, 160); 1B/3B/P Tyler Cheek (So., 6-3, 205); C Ricky White (So., 5-10, 160); OF/P/1B Ridge James (Fr., 5-8, 165); OF Luke Renfro (So., 5-7, 160); P Luke Pawlowski (So., 6-2, 160); P/3B Athon Hines (So., 5-10, 160); 2B Andrew James (So., 5-6, 150); OF Tucker Welch (So., 5-11, 175)

Season Outlook: In what was labeled a rebuilding season last year, Schley County won the region



Lorne Barineau
Schley County



Trent Bivins
Schley County



Ashton Goodin
Schley County



Garrett Peavy
Schley County



Dylan Taylor - Schley County
Photo by Schley County High School

title and made it to the state quarterfinals. The Wildcats bring back six starters and just about all of their pitching. Seniors Lorne Barineau, Dylan Windham and Ashton Goodin will lead the way, but keep an eye on a trio of young players who had strong freshmen seasons – Dylan Taylor, Garrett Peavy and Trent Bivins.

TAYLOR COUNTY VIKINGS

Head Coach: Mark Wilson

Survey not returned

REGION 5-1A

Region Favorite: Holy Innocents'

Keep an eye on: Trinity Christian – The Lions have dominated the GISA recently and much of last season's team returns for their inaugural GHSA season.

Players to Watch

OF/LHP – Nate Anderson, Jr., Mount Vernon Presbyterian; **OF/LHP** – Tiger Borom, Jr., Strong Rock Christian; **RHP/3B** – Sam Boswell, Sr., Paideia; **LHP/OF** – Jack Buckley, Sr., Eagles Landing Christian; **RHP/1B** – Wyatt Copeland, Jr., Wesleyan; **RHP/OF** – Thomas Cordier, Sr., Trinity Christian; **SS** – Don Daniel, Sr., Wesleyan; **LHP/1B/OF** – Brayden Eidson, Sr., Strong Rock Christian; **OF/LHP** – Tres Gonzalez, Sr., Mount Vernon Presbyterian; **RHP/3B** – Guillermo Granier, Sr., Holy Innocents'; **C/RHP** – Nick Hassan, Sr., Strong Rock Christian; **SS/RHP** – Caleb Ketchup, Jr., Holy Innocents'; **RHP** – Chase Metcalf, Sr., Trinity Christian; **RHP/INF/OF** – Kenny Mills, Sr., Strong Rock Christian; **RHP** – Jack Mullin, Sr., Mount Vernon Presbyterian; **OF/3B** – Harrison Padgett, Sr., Holy Innocents'; **CF/INF** – Landon Parks, Sr., Wesleyan; **3B/RHP** – Jack Richards, Sr., Landmark Christian; **OF** – Kyle Riesselmann, Sr., Trinity Christian; **3B/1B** – Adam Smith, Jr., Galloway; **OF** – Cal Smith, Sr., Trinity Christian; **C/OF** – Charlie Taylor, Jr., Wesleyan; **RHP/OF/1B** – Alex Thomas, Jr., Mount Vernon Presbyterian; **2B** – Mark Tucker, Jr., Wesleyan; **C/2B** – Alex VanLandingham, Jr., Mount Vernon Presbyterian; **SS** – Jon Paul Wheeler, Sr., Eagles Landing Christian; **RHP/1B** – Holden Wilder, Sr., Wesleyan; **3B** – Johnathan Youngblood, Sr., Eagles Landing Christian

DREW CHARTER EAGLES

Head Coach: Chuck Johnson

Survey not returned

EAGLES LANDING CHRISTIAN CHARGERS

Head Coach: Seth Graham

Assistant Coach (s): Douglas Campbell, Jr., Scott King, Bo Rush, Sean Payne, Mike Roby, Robert Klakis

2018 Record: 12-15

Returning Starters: 3B Johnathan Youngblood (Sr., R/R); SS Jon Paul Wheeler (Sr., R/R); 2B Mitchell Tingle (Sr., R/R); 1B Chris Johnson (Sr., R/R); LF/LHP Jack Buckley (Sr., L/L); CF Brayden Rush (Sr., R/R); RF Cole

Campbell (Jr., R/R)

Other Returning Players: OF Brennan Russell (Jr., R/R); OF Dawson Magee (Jr., R/R); C Isaiah Capp (Sr., R/R)

Top Newcomers: INF Christian White (Fr., R/R); INF Dallas Durden (Fr., R/R)

Season Outlook: After a disappointing finish in 2018, Eagles Landing Christian looks to get back on track. A good nucleus of returning players are back, including a talented senior class. Third baseman Johnathan Youngblood, shortstop Jon Paul Wheeler and left-handed pitcher Jack Buckley are three players to keep an eye on.

FULTON LEADERSHIP GRYPHONS

Head Coach: TBA

Survey not returned

GALLOWAY SCOTS

Head Coach: John Griffith

Survey not returned

HOLY INNOCENTS' GOLDEN BEARS

Head Coach: DC Aiken

Assistant Coach (s):

Dan Healy, Chuck Lusted, Ben DeSantis

2018 Record: 24-11

Returning Starters:

P/3B Guillermo Granier (Sr., 6-0, 175, R/R); OF/3B Harrison Padgett (Sr., 6-0, 180, R/R); RHP/1B Brett Adams (Sr., 6-2, 195, R/R); 1B Dylan Jones (Sr., 6-1, 235, R/R); 2B Will Rautenstrauch (Sr., 5-11, 155, R/R); OF/RHP Sam Aiken (Jr., 5-10, 175, R/R); RHP/1B Freddie Reams (Jr., 6-2, 225, R/R); SS/RHP Caleb Ketchup (Jr., 5-11, 170, R/R)

Other Returning

Players: OF Matt Davis

(Jr., 5-11, 175, R/R); INF Shane Newsome (So., 5-10, 170, R/R); INF Michael Zarrillo (So., 5-7, 155, B/R); C Ronnie Williams (Jr., 5-11, 200, R/R); INF/RHP Jake Godwin (So., 5-7, 150, R/R); C Griffin McKinnis (Jr., 6-0, 215, R/R)

Season Outlook: The Bears return enough talent to approach last year's success and will be in the thick of the Region 5-1A standings. All-state pitcher Guillermo Granier returns as well as Harrison Padgett. Shortstop Caleb Ketchup is back after a strong sophomore season. Look for some underclassmen to step up and contribute.

LANDMARK CHRISTIAN WAR EAGLES

Head Coach: Jared Williams (new)

Survey not returned

MOUNT VERNON PRESBYTERIAN MUSTANGS

Head Coach: Jeremy Beckham (new)

Survey not returned



Tres Gonzalez
Mount Vernon Presbyterian

PAIDEIA PYTHONS

Head Coach: Jonathan Petrash

Assistant Coach (s): Wes Hollins, Rodney Henderson, Rob Friedman

2018 Record: 6-12

Returning Starters: C John Bruce (Sr., 6-2, 190, L/R); RHP/3B Sam Boswell (Sr., 6-5, 220, R/R); SS/2B Jack Colton (Sr., 5-9, 145, R/R); SS/2B Alex Asher (So., 5-11, 150, R/R); RHP/3B Hayes Edmond (Jr., 6-2, 165, R/R); RF Nathan Moore (Jr., 6-0, 160, R/R); 1B/OF Johnny Klein (Sr., 5-10, 160, L/L)

Other Returning Players: OF Will Hutchinson (Jr., 6-1, 180, R/R); OF Keith Adams (So., 5-8, 140, R/R); OF Will Bruce (So., 5-11, 160, R/R); RHP Sam Ahman Lloyd (So., 5-9, 140, R/R)

Top Newcomers: INF Bruno Damlani (Fr.); C/INF Cal Forde (Fr.); U Gabe Kelly (Fr.); U Jack Tope (Fr.)

Season Outlook: The Pythons begin their second season under coach Jonathan Petrash and should be much better. Seven starters are back, including pitcher/third baseman Sam Boswell. Keep an eye on a solid group of underclassmen.

STRONG ROCK CHRISTIAN PATRIOTS

Head Coach: Toby Evans

Assistant Coach (s):

Tripp Lawrence, Adam Fine

2018 Record: 23-10

Returning Starters: C/RHP Nick Hassan (Sr., 6-0, 185, R/R); LHP/1B/OF Brayden Eidson (Sr., 6-2, 165, L/L); SS/RHP Andrew Gord (Sr., 6-1, 165, R/R); RHP/INF/OF Kenny Mills (Sr., 5-10, 170, R/R); OF/LHP Tiger Borom (Jr., 5-8, 170, L/L); C/OF Hunner Lawrence (So., 6-0, 185, R/R); RHP/OF Joseph Eichelberger (Jr., 5-10, 185, R/R)

Other Returning

Players: RHP/INF

Spencer Wilkins (So., 6-0, 185, R/R); RHP/INF Daniel Chenoweth (Jr., 6-1, 190, R/R); INF Connor Mendiola (Sr., 5-8, 150, R/R); RHP Caleb Boutwell (So., 6-1, 160, R/R); INF Alan Fluellen (Jr., 5-9, 170, B/R); INF Ethan Roberts (Jr., 5-8, 150, R/R)

Season Outlook: The past two seasons have been very good for Strong Rock. Look for the Patriots to take things up a notch in 2019. Seven starters are back, including senior leaders Nick Hassan, Brayden Eidson, Andrew Gord and Kenny Mills. All four can also pitch. Also look out for Tiger Borom, who had a strong sophomore season last year.



Dylan Jones
Holy Innocents'



Caleb Ketchup
Holy Innocents'



Harrison Padgett
Holy Innocents'



Freddie Reams
Holy Innocents'



Tiger Borom
Strong Rock Christian



Brayden Eidson
Strong Rock Christian



Nick Hassan
Strong Rock Christian



Kenny Mills
Strong Rock Christian

TRINITY CHRISTIAN LIONS

Head Coach: Blake Austin

Assistant Coach (s):

Kevin Elrod, Bobby Totten, Brooks Austin

2018 Record: 26-2-1

Returning Starters:

OF Kyle Riesselmann (Sr., 6-2, 190, R/L); OF Cal Smith (Sr., 5-10, 190, L/L); RHP/OF Thomas Cordier (Sr., 6-2, 175, R/R); SS Maury Weaver (Sr., 5-11, 155, R/R); INF Brennan Burks (Sr., 5-11, 190, R/R); RHP Chase Metcalf (Sr., 6-2, 160, R/R); 3B/RHP Shep Hancock (Jr., 6-3, 220, L/R); 1B/LHP Stephen Spurgeon (Sr., 6-2, 160, R/L)

Other Returning

Players: C Clay

Stephenson (Jr., 5-8, 160, R/R); INF Austin Whitaker (Jr., 5-8, 150, R/R); INF Mason Rich (Sr., 5-10, 160, R/R); OF Tyler Roberts (Sr., 5-10, 160, L/R); OF Chaz Crawford (So., 5-10, 160, R/R)

Top Newcomers: U Jayce Blalock (Fr., 5-10, 160, R/R); SS/OF Bryce Wilcox (Fr., 5-9, 150, R/R); 1B/LHP Alex Gordon (Fr., 5-10, 165, L/L); C Connor Boswell (Fr., 6-1, 160, R/R); 3B/1B Carson Beach (Fr., 6-1, 170, R/R)

Season Outlook: After winning a state title in the GISA last season, Trinity Christian moves to the GHSA. The Lions have eight returning starters back for their inaugural season. Outfielders Kyle Riesselmann (.534 avg., 13 HR) and Cal Smith (.540 avg., 45 RBIs) return as well as pitchers Thomas Cordier and Chase Metcalf. Keep an eye on this program.



Thomas Cordier
Trinity Christian



Chase Metcalf
Trinity Christian



Kyle Riesselmann
Trinity Christian



Cal Smith
Trinity Christian

WEBER RAMS

Head Coach: Scott Seagraves

Survey not returned

WESLEYAN WOLVES

Head Coach: Brian Krehmeyer

Assistant Coach (s):

Michael Mann, Kevin O'Leary, Matt Plate

2018 Record: 24-6

Returning Starters:

SS Don Daniel (Sr., 6-1, 170, L/R); CF/INF Landon Parks (Sr., 6-1, 175, R/R); RHP/1B John Smith (Sr., 6-3, 195, R/R); RHP/1B Wyatt Copeland (Jr., 6-2, 215, R/R); C/OF Charlie Taylor (Jr., 5-11, 185, R/R); 2B Mark Tucker (Jr., 5-8, 165, B/R); RHP/1B Holden Wilder (Jr., 6-3, 210, R/R)

Other Returning Players: RHP/OF Cameron Binney (Sr., 6-1, 165, R/R); INF Will Bryson (Sr., 6-1, 160, R/R); RHP Griffen Massey (Sr., 5-11, 175, R/R); C/3B/OF Luke Carroll (So., 6-0, 170, R/R); C/1B/OF Joe Chatham (So., 5-11, 185, R/R); OF/RHP Jalen Fulwood (So., 6-2, 165, R/R)



Wyatt Copeland
Wesleyan



Don Daniel
Wesleyan

Top Newcomers:

RHP/1B Ryan Anderson (Jr., 6-3, 170, R/R); RHP/OF Trent Bartlett (Jr., 6-1, 170, R/R); INF Hunter Haran (Jr., 5-11, 175, R/R); RHP John Kiersznowski (Jr., 6-2, 165, R/R); INF/RHP Jamie LaFramboise (Jr., 6-0, 175, R/R); RHP/OF Josh Morris (Jr., 5-11, 175, R/R)



Landon Parks
Wesleyan



Charlie Taylor
Wesleyan

Season Outlook: Wesleyan will contend for the region title as seven starters return. A strong senior class will lead the way. Leading hitters Don Daniel (.402 avg., 17 RBIs), Landon Parks (.431 avg., 16 RBIs) and all-state catcher Charlie Taylor return. The lack of experience on the mound is a concern.

REGION 6-1A

Region Favorite: Gordon Lee

Keep an eye on: Fellowship Christian – The Paladins turned the corner last year and will keep improving in 2019.

Players to Watch

RHP/INF – James Addaman, Sr., Mount Pisgah Christian; **OF** – Russell Bell, Sr., Whitefield Academy; **INF/RHP** – Andrew Bennett, Jr., Mount Paran Christian; **RHP/3B** – Caleb Bohn, Jr., Pinecrest Academy; **1B** – Kyle Bork, Sr., Saint Francis; **INF/RHP** – Isaac Bouton, Sr., Fellowship Christian; **U/C/RHP** – Braden Bowen, Jr., Bowdon; **U** – Zuker Campbell, Sr., Darlington; **OF/LHP** – Will Clark, Sr., Saint Francis; **INF** – JD Day, Jr., Gordon Lee; **RHP/3B** – Trent Estes, Sr., Bowdon; **OF** – Zach Gentry, Sr., Christian Heritage; **3B/RHP** – Jack Gerber, Jr., Saint Francis; **C** – Cameron Gill, Sr., Fellowship Christian; **INF** – Gino Groover, Jr., Walker; **OF** – Carter Guarino, Sr., North Cobb Christian; **OF** – Garrett Hauenstein, So., Fellowship Christian; **INF/RHP** – Ryan Higginbotham, Sr., Kings Ridge Christian; **3B/RHP** – Hunter Hodson, Sr., Gordon Lee; **U/RHP** – Cy Horton, Sr., Bowdon; **RHP** – Reid Jones, So., Mount Paran Christian; **SS/RHP** – Preston Joye, Jr., Fellowship Christian; **INF** – Ian Kennedy, Jr., Whitefield Academy; **3B** – Bryce Lawrence, Sr., North Cobb Christian; **C** – Bret Madren, Sr., Saint Francis; **2B** – Drew Miller, Sr., Walker; **OF** – Brooks Mitchell, Sr., Saint Francis; **RHP/OF** – Patrick O'Rourke, Sr., Pinecrest Academy; **U/P** – Jake Poindexter, So., Gordon Lee; **C** – Chris Potter, Sr., Gordon Lee; **OF/LHP** – Luke Rainwater, So., Bowdon; **INF/RHP** – Eric Rodriguez, So., Mount Zion-Carrollton; **2B** – Noah Rymut, Sr., Mount Paran Christian; **OF** – Patrick Sullivan, Sr., Pinecrest Academy; **RHP** – Ryan Suppa, Sr., North Cobb Christian; **OF** – Colt Trammell, Jr., Trion; **RHP** – Jack Ward, Jr., Kings Ridge Christian; **OF/RHP** – Cam Watson, Sr., Darlington; **2B** – Hagen Willingham, Sr., Trion; **OF** – Justin Wooden, Sr., Trion; **LHP** – Blaine Woody, Sr., Trion; **INF/P** – Jake Wright, Jr., Gordon Lee

BOWDON RED DEVILS

Head Coach: Brian Vance (new)

Assistant Coach (s):

Chad Brown, Josh Grooms, Reid Barron, Zach Barron, Mark Huggins, Mitch Johnson, Aaron Bradley

2018 Record: 25-10

Returning Starters:

3B/RHP Trent Estes (Sr., 6-0, 185, R/R); U/RHP Cy Horton (Sr., 6-1, 160, R/R); U/C/RHP Braden Bowen (Jr., 6-2, 185, R/R); OF Ben Fortson (Jr., 5-10, 165, R/R); U Kiler Cole (So., 5-8, 160, R/R); SS/RHP Andrew Messer (So., 5-7, 130, R/R); OF/LHP Luke Rainwater (So., 5-8, 155, L/L)

Other Returning

Players: OF Elijah Williams (Sr., 6-1, 175, R/R); OF Wesley Scales (Sr., 5-11, 135, R/R); INF/RHP Carson Cummings (Jr., 5-10, 165, R/R); RHP Mo Raymond (Jr., 6-2, 170, R/R); 1B/RHP Brandon Sheets (Jr., 6-1, 230, R/R); C/INF/RHP Carter Powell (So., 5-10, 165, R/R)

Top Newcomers: INF/RHP Wyatt Karlovich (Sr., 5-11, 210, R/R); OF/RHP Carson Robinson (Fr., 5-10, 145, R/R)

Season Outlook: New coach Brian Vance inherits a talented team that made the state semifinals last year. Pitching will be strong as Trent Estes (9-4, 3.22 ERA), Cy Horton, Luke Rainwater and Braden Bowen all return. Estes and Horton will lead an offense that is capable of putting up big numbers.



Braden Bowen
Bowden



Trent Estes
Bowden



Cy Horton
Bowden



Luke Rainwater
Bowden

CHRISTIAN HERITAGE LIONS

Head Coach: Jamey Middleton

Assistant Coach (s): Doug Davis, Bryan Doran, Jim Gilmore

2018 Record: 4-23

Returning Starters: 1B Nathan Davis (Jr., 5-10, 205, L/L); OF Drew Clements (Jr., 5-11, 170, L/R); OF Will Brumlow (Jr., 6-0, 175, R/R); INF/RHP Nash Bingham (So., 6-2, 205, L/R); INF/RHP Luke Owen (So., 5-9, 150, L/R); C/RHP Navy Gazaway (Jr., 6-1, 185, R/R); OF Bryce Farmer (So., 6-0, 165, R/R); OF Zach Gentry (Sr., 5-8, 160, R/R); INF/RHP Syd Reece (Sr., 5-9, 175, R/R)

Other Returning Players: OF Landon Harris (Jr., 5-8, 160, R/L)

Top Newcomers: SS/RHP Josiah Chiesa (Fr., 6-0, 165, R/R); C Gage Leonard (Fr., 5-8, 165, R/R); INF Elian Bautista (Fr., 5-7, 125, B/R); INF/RHP Brennen Richards (Fr., 5-10, 150, R/R)

Season Outlook: The bad news is that the senior class is small, but the good news is that nine returning starters are back to help Christian Heritage improve upon last season's finish. Seniors Zach Gentry and Syd Reece will lead a talented team full of sophomores and juniors. Look for the Lions to be much better this spring.

DARLINGTON TIGERS

Head Coach: Matt Larry

Assistant Coach (s): Brice Baker

2018 Record: 10-17

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Returning Starters: U Zuker Campbell (Sr., 5-9, 175, R/R); OF/RHP Cam Watson (Sr., 6-3, 210, R/R); OF/RHP Adam Himes (Sr., 6-0, 175, R/R); RHP/INF Lawson Brown (So., 6-1, 180, R/R); INF/C Lawson Goodwin (So., 5-8, 175, R/R); U Aiden Cloud (So., 5-8, 165, R/R)

Other Returning Players: C/RHP Bailey Atkins (Sr., 6-0, 210, R/R); INF/RHP/C Jackson Brewster (So., 5-7, 165, R/R); 3B/RHP Conor Hughes (Jr., 5-11, 220, R/R); OF Kobe Nadu (Jr., 6-1, 200, L/R); OF Luke Overbay (So., 5-10, 170, R/R); OF Thomas Speed (So., 5-11, 170, R/R); U Trystin Wright (Jr., 6-1, 185, R/R)

Top Newcomers: Blake Robinson (So.); Davis Watson (So.); Patrick Shelley (Fr.); Charlie Bell (Fr.); Caleb Butler (Fr.)

Season Outlook: Darlington looks to get back on track after struggling for most of the 2018 season. The Tigers welcome back six starters, including senior utility player Zuker Campbell, outfielder/pitcher Cam Watson and pitcher/infielder Lawson Brown. A solid group of underclassmen will also be expected to step forward and help out.

FELLOWSHIP CHRISTIAN PALADINS

Head Coach: Shawn Oliver

Assistant Coach

(s): Mike McClain, Lane Perrins, Archie Wannamaker

2018 Record: 21-11

Returning Starters: C Cameron Gill (Sr., 6-0, 210, R/R); SS/RHP Isaac Bouton (Sr., 5-10, 180, R/R); OF Cody Tapley (Sr., 6-0, 170, R/R); SS/RHP Preston Joye (Jr., 5-10, 180, B/R); OF Finn Wagner (So., 5-9, 160, B/R); OF Garrett Hauenstein (So., 5-10, 160, R/R); 1B/3B/DH Andrew Davidson (So., 6-0, 190, L/R)

Other Returning

Players: RHP/OF George Moratiatkis (Jr., 5-5, 140, L/R); OF Adam Rozeboom (Jr., 6-0, 160, R/R); 2B Marshall Powell (Sr., 5-8, 135, R/R); INF/RHP Matson Grose (So., 6-0, 185, R/R); 1B/DH Nate Nardone (So., 6-0, 200, R/R); 2B Luke Schmidt (So., 5-8, 130, R/R); RHP Ethan Bell (Jr., 6-3, 140, R/R)

Season Outlook: The Paladins have established themselves as a major player in Region 6. Fellowship Christian will be in the postseason hunt again. Catcher Cameron Gill and shortstop/pitcher Isaac Bouton lead a talented group of returning players. Shortstop/pitcher Preston Joye returns after a strong sophomore campaign last spring.



Isaac Bouton
Fellowship Christian



Cameron Gill
Fellowship Christian



Preston Joye
Fellowship Christian



Cody Tapley
Fellowship Christian

GORDON LEE TROJANS

Head Coach: Mike Dunfee

Assistant Coach (s): Derek McDaniel, Zach Barnes, Zack Cobb, Thomas Gray

2018 Record: 28-8

Returning Starters: 3B/RHP Hunter Hodson (Sr., R/R); C Chris Potter (Sr., R/R); OF Justin Wooden (Sr., R/R); 1B/RHP Logan Streetman (Sr., R/R); OF Braxton Ledford (Sr., R/R); INF/P Jake Wright (Jr.); INF/P Will Sizemore (Jr.); INF JD Day (Jr.); INF/P Weston Beagles (Jr.); U/P Jake

Poindexter (So.); U/P Brody Cobb (So.); OF/P Cade Peterson (So.); 1B/P Cody Thomas (So.)

Other Returning

Players: OF/P Griff Collins (So.); INF/P Jackson Moore (So.); OF/P Riley King (So.)

Top Newcomers: OF/P Garren Ramey (Fr.)

Season Outlook: The defending Class 1A public state champions return a wealth of talent and should be the favorite to win another state title. A strong corps of seniors led by Hunter Hodson and Chris Potter return, but keep an eye on a talented group of juniors such as Jake Wright, Will Sizemore and JD Day. The Trojans will be dangerous again.



JD Day
Gordon Lee



Hunter Hodson
Gordon Lee



Jake Poindexter
Gordon Lee



Chris Potter
Gordon Lee



Justin Wooden
Gordon Lee



Jake Wright
Gordon Lee

KINGS RIDGE CHRISTIAN TIGERS

Head Coach: Richard Dombrowsky (new)

Assistant Coach (s):

Eric Swegman, Danny Bayless, Devon Schmitt, Ian Carbone

2018 Record: 20-11

Returning Starters:

C Colin Gorman (Sr., 6-0, 185, R/R); INF/RHP Ryan Higginbotham (Sr., 5-10, 160, L/R); OF Kaleb Harris (Sr., 6-3, 185, R/R); RHP



Ryan Higginbotham
Kings Ridge Christian



Jack Ward
Kings Ridge Christian

Jack Ward (Jr., 6-0, 180, R/R); RHP Alex Armstrong (Jr., 6-0, 175, R/R); RHP/1B Davis Mortland (Jr., 6-4, 220, L/R); RHP Blake Smith (Sr., 6-0, 165, R/R)

Other Returning Players: INF Cade Beal (Jr., 5-10, 160, L/R); OF/LHP Trey Larkin (Jr., 5-9, 165, L/L); OF/LHP Jake Roth (Jr., 5-11, 170, L/L)

Top Newcomers: OF/RHP John Bowling (So., 5-9, 170, R/R); RHP/3B Julian Clements (So., 5-11, 165, R/R); OF/RHP Ryan Coleman (So., 5-10, 160, R/R); INF/RHP Luke Gorman (So., 5-8, 160, R/R); RHP/INF Nick Wallace (So., 5-11, 165, R/R)

Season Outlook: New coach Richard Dombrowsky takes over a Kings Ridge program that could be dangerous in 2019. The Tigers have a wealth of returning players, including infielder/pitcher Ryan Higginbotham. Pitching should be strong as Jack Ward, Alex Armstrong, Davis Mortland and Blake Smith return. Colin Gorman and Kaleb Harris are back to spark the offense.

MOUNT BETHEL CHRISTIAN EAGLES

Head Coach: Sean McConnell

Survey not returned

MOUNT PARAN CHRISTIAN EAGLES

Head Coach: Kyle Reese

Assistant Coach (s): Kevin Cunane, Mike Hostetler

2018 Record: 24-5

Returning Starters: RHP Trevor Cumberland (Sr., 6-2, 200, R/R); INF/RHP J.R. Wingler (Jr., 6-0, 165, R/R); INF/RHP Andrew Bennett (Jr., 6-3, 200, R/R); 2B Noah Rymut (Sr., 5-8, 175, R/R)

Other Returning Players: C Matthew Foster (Jr., 5-10, 190, R/R); OF/RHP Davis Akins (Sr., 6-2, 210, R/R); OF/RHP Ben Parker (Sr., 6-2, 190, R/R); RHP Reid Jones (So., 5-10, 155, R/R); OF/INF Jake Williams (Jr., 5-10, 155, R/R); U Colby Schwan (Jr., 6-1, 170, B/R); RHP/1B Landon Schwan (Jr., 6-2, 175, R/R); RHP/INF Cole Matthaides (Jr., 5-11, 160, R/R)



Andrew Bennett
Mount Paran Christian

Top Newcomers: OF David Garcia (Jr., 6-1, 160, R/R); INF/RHP Josalia Fitzpatrick (Fr., 5-8, 140, R/R); INF/RHP Colton Mazur (Fr., 5-9, 140, R/R); C/INF Alex Adams (Fr., 5-7, 140, R/R)

Season Outlook: Mount Paran lost a lot of talent to graduation, but there is a solid corps of players waiting to make their mark in the baseball program. Four starters are back, including infielder/pitcher Andrew Bennett and second baseman Noah Rymut. The team may not have as much returning experience as in past years, but the cupboard is not bare.

MOUNT PISGAH CHRISTIAN PATRIOTS

Head Coach: Jamey Woods (new)

Assistant Coach (s): John O'Connor, Travis Rutkiewicz, Bill Willingham, Jimmy Roach

2018 Record: 3-19

Returning Starters: OF Connor Norwood (Sr., 6-2, 185, R/R); RHP/INF Jack Godsey (So., 5-10, 160, R/R); OF Mike Nardella (Sr., 5-7, 170, L/R); RHP Reed Rothermel (Jr., 6-2, 155, R/R); C Sam Love (So., 5-7, 140, R/R)

Other Returning Players: C/RHP Justin Bartlett (Jr., 5-11, 170, R/R); RHP/1B Tripp Shadburn (Sr., 6-0, 205, R/R)

Top Newcomers: OF/1B/LHP Jaden Anderson (Fr., R/L); RHP/OF Benjy Tucker (Fr., R/R); RHP/INF Davis Thomason (Jr., R/R)

Season Outlook: Former Mount Vernon Presbyterian coach Jamey Woods takes over and will try to resurrect a Mount Pisgah program that struggled last season. Woods has some talent to work with, it just may need some time to mature. Pitcher/infielder James Addaman and Jack Godsey are two players to keep an eye on.

MOUNT ZION-CARROLLTON EAGLES

Head Coach: Randall Wright

Survey not returned

NORTH COBB CHRISTIAN EAGLES

Head Coach: Jimmy Keane

Assistant Coach (s): Gil Navarro, Edgar Mercado, Jake Watkins

2018 Record: 19-11

Returning Starters: RHP Ryan Suppa (Sr., 6-2, 200, R/R); RHP Zach Turner (Sr., 6-2, 175, R/R); RHP Ryan Whitener (Sr., 6-2, 200, R/R); OF

Carter Guarino (Sr., 5-10, 155, B/R); RHP Blane Belisario (Sr., 6-1, 155, R/R); 3B Bryce Lawrence (Sr., 5-11, 180, L/R); OF Ryan Pruitt (Jr., R/R); SS Colin Innes (Jr., B/R)

Top Newcomers: C Caleb Reis (Sr., 6-2, 190, R/R); RHP/OF Carson Weir (Sr., 6-0, 170, L/R); 1B/RHP Colt Taylor (Sr., 6-2, 200, R/R)

Season Outlook: North Cobb Christian will be a dangerous team this season especially with pitchers Ryan Suppa, Zach Turner, Ryan Whitener and Blane Belisario returning. If the Eagles can find some consistency at the plate, they could be one of the teams to beat in Region 6-1A.

PINECREST ACADEMY PALADINS

Head Coach: Heath Kennedy (new)

Assistant Coach (s): Ariel Polanco, Chad Etmueller

2018 Record: 22-19

Returning Starters: RHP/OF Patrick O'Rourke (Sr., 6-0, 170, R/R); CF Patrick Sullivan (Sr., 5-9, 170, R/R); RHP/3B Caleb Bohn (Jr., 6-3, 175, R/R); 2B/SS Jay Sorohan (Jr., 5-10, 170, R/R); RHP Mason Carter (Jr., 5-10, 170, R/R); OF Colby Mangan (Sr., 5-11, 170, R/R)

Other Returning Players: P Matthew

Savage (Sr.); OF Brenden Ehle (Sr.); P Jimmy Dinsmore (Sr.); P Sawyer Huffstettler (Jr.)

Top Newcomers: Ethan Massey, Joey Kierman, Andrew Reid, Connor Atimin, Aiden Whitlock, Nate Roche, Tyler Murawski, Ty Mangan, Nick Wilkinson, Connor Ensmann

Season Outlook: New coach Heath Kennedy takes over and inherits a team with enough returning talent to contend for a postseason berth again. Pitcher Patrick O'Rourke, Caleb Bohn and Mason Carter lead a strong pitching rotation. Meanwhile, outfielder Patrick Sullivan, infielder Jay Sorohan and outfielder Colby Mangan return to lead the offense.



Patrick O'Rourke
Pinecrest Academy

SAINT FRANCIS KNIGHTS

Head Coach: Brandon Bates

Assistant Coach (s): Steve Johnson, Brett Shealy

2018 Record: 16-18

Returning Starters: OF Griffin Leadbetter (Jr., 5-9, 160, R/R); SS Brian Orkin (Jr., 5-11, 180, R/R); 3B/RHP Jack Gerber (Jr., 6-1, 170, R/R); 2B Griffin Weaver (Sr., 5-6, 140, R/R); 1B/OF Kyle Bork (Sr., 6-5, 190, R/R); OF Brooks Mitchell (Sr., 5-11, 160, L/R); C/3B Bret Madren (Sr., 6-3, 210, R/R); OF/LHP Will Clark (Sr., 6-0, 180, L/L)

Other Returning

Players: INF/RHP Josh Silverman (Sr., 5-11, 150, R/R); C Jack Gruskin (Sr., 6-0, 205, R/R); 3B/RHP Harry Cain IV (So., 6-4,



Kyle Bork
Saint Francis



Jack Gerber
Saint Francis



Bret Madren
Saint Francis



Brooks Mitchell
Saint Francis

170, R/R); OF Bennett Drake (Jr., 5-10, 155, R/R); OF Alex Belin (Jr., 5-10, 165, R/R)

Top Newcomers: OF/RHP Mason Fuller (Fr., 5-8, 150, R/R); 3B/RHP Evan Fuerst (Sr., 5-11, 165, R/R)

Season Outlook: If the Knights can find more pitching depth to compliment senior Will Clark (6-5, 3.30 ERA), they could go a long way. St. Francis definitely has the offense with first baseman Kyle Bork (.441 avg., 42 RBIs), outfielder Brooks Mitchell (.352 avg., 10 2B) and catcher Bret Madren returning. Keep an eye on this team.

TRION BULLDOGS

Head Coach: Trent Stamey (new)

Assistant Coach (s): Chandler Pettyjohn, Joe McCoy

2018 Record: 13-12

Returning Starters:

LHP Blaine Woody (Sr.); RHP Logan Bicknell (Sr.); 2B Hagen Willingham (Sr.); SS Andy Allen (Jr.); OF Colt Trammell (Jr.); C Brier Ingle (Sr.); 1B Tucker McCoy (Sr.); P/OF Isaiah Parker (Jr.); OF Lincoln Maddux (Jr.)



Hagen Willingham
Trion



Blaine Woody
Trion

Other Returning Players: P JD Helms (Sr.); 1B Andrew Venn (Sr.); INF Dawson Brown (So.); INF Will Wyatt (Jr.)

Top Newcomers: C Brantley Willbanks (Fr.); INF Brandon Dover (Fr.)

Season Outlook: Former assistant Trent Stamey takes over as head coach and inherits a team ready to make a statement in the rugged Region 6-1A. The Bulldogs have a pair of strong arms in seniors Blaine Woody and Logan Bicknell. Senior second baseman Hagen Willingham returns and will be expected to lead the offense.

WALKER WOLVERINES

Head Coach: Mike Brady

Assistant Coach (s): Ray Boyer, Rick Holifield, Jeff Barnett

2018 Record: 12-16

Returning Starters: INF Charlie Condon (So., 6-1, 180, R/R); INF Drew Miller (Sr., 6-0, 175, L/R); INF Gino Groover (Jr., 6-2, 185, R/R); 3B/C Stewart Palladino (Sr., 6-0, 195, R/R); C/DH Andrew Crowers (Sr., 6-1, 185, R/R); LHP Burke Chebuhar (Jr., 6-4, 200, L/L); RHP/OF Jackson Sadler (So., 6-0, 180, R/R)

Other Returning Players: P/OF Andrew Waibel (Sr.); P/INF Matthew Larson (Jr.); P Cole Vanbrunisse (Sr.)

Top Newcomers: INF/OF Miles Scott (Sr.); C/DH Edward Vitulli (Sr.); C/DH Garrett Prantil (Jr.); P/OF Jake Tasman (Jr.); P/INF/OF Chandler Baker (Jr.)

Season Outlook: Walker welcomes back the return of seven starters. Senior infielder Drew Miller and junior Gino Groover return after strong seasons in 2018. The lack of experienced pitching is a concern, but the Wolverines have enough returning talent to contend for a postseason berth.

WHITEFIELD ACADEMY WOLFPACK

Head Coach: Mike Shaheen (new)

Assistant Coach (s): Conrad Quiros, Tim Turner

2018 Record: 13-12

Returning Starters: OF Russell Bell (Sr., 5-11, 175, R/R); OF Carson

Sanders (Sr., 5-9, 165, R/R); INF Davis Eaton (Jr., 5-11, 175, R/R); INF Ian Kennedy (Jr., 6-3, 230, R/R); C Braedan Swilley (Jr., 5-11, 210, R/R); INF Justin Tinch (Jr., 5-11, 190, R/R); INF Jackson Lewis (Jr., 5-9, 170, R/R)

Other Returning

Players: OF MJ McCurdy (Jr., 6-0, 180, R/R); OF Jacquez Dew (Jr., 6-0, 200, R/R); INF Chase Watson (So., 5-11, 165, R/R); INF Connor Ladd (So., 5-10, 180, R/R); OF Charlie Perdue (Jr., 5-11, 185, R/R)

Top Newcomers: INF Kaleb Stewart (Jr., 5-10, 165, R/R); RHP Charlie Baxter (Fr., 6-1, 185, R/R); RHP Cooper Craig (Fr., 5-11, 170, R/R); INF Cole Peterson (Fr., 5-11, 170, R/R)

Season Outlook: Former Mount Pisgah Christian coach Mike Shaheen takes over at Whitefield Academy and seeks to get the Wolfpack into the postseason. Seven starters are back, including a pair of senior starters in outfielders Russell Bell and Carson Sanders. But the bulk of the team are juniors and sophomores. Keep an eye on this program.



Russell Bell
Whitefield County



Ian Kennedy
Whitefield County



Carson Sanders
Whitefield County



Braedan Swilley
Whitefield County

REGION 7-1A

Region Favorite: Tattnall Square

Keep an eye on: Stratford – The Eagles put themselves back in the chase last year and will build off their 2018 momentum.

Players to Watch

3B/RHP – Justin Alford, Jr., GMC; **OF/RHP** – Harrison Aulds, Jr., First Presbyterian Day; **RHP/U** – Barrett Barkley, So., First Presbyterian Day; **INF/RHP** – Kam Brinson, Sr., Aquinas; **RHP/OF/INF** – Dawson Brown, Jr., Tattnall Square; **RHP/INF** – Hall Buice, Jr., Stratford; **OF/LHP** – Sam Clark, Sr., Stratford; **C/1B** – Rossman Diaz, Jr., Mount de Sales; **OF** – Carson Dorsey, Sr., Stratford; **3B/RHP** – Charlie Giles, Sr., Stratford; **RHP/INF** – Brooks Gorman, Jr., Tattnall Square; **C/1B** – Trey Ham, Sr., Tattnall Square; **OF** – Micah Hattaway, Sr., Mount de Sales; **RHP/3B** – Jalen Jenkins, Sr., Glascock County; **C/RHP** – Zane Johnson, So., ACE Charter; **INF** – Alex Lamar, Jr., Washington-Wilkes; **1B/RHP** – Jacob Marshal, Sr., GMC; **C** – Jackson McCart, Sr., First Presbyterian Day; **SS/RHP** – Hudson Mimbs, So., First Presbyterian Day; **INF/OF** – Miles Morris, Sr., Tattnall Square; **C** – John Parrish, Sr., Aquinas; **2B** – Walker Schofield, Sr., Mount de Sales; **OF** – Beau Spears, Sr., Tattnall Square; **RHP/SS/OF** – Fisher Timms, So., ACE Charter; **SS** – Zach Tolleson, Jr., Lake Oconee Academy; **U** – Kentavious Veal, Sr., Wilkinson County

ACE CHARTER GRYPHONS

Head Coach: Josh McLendon
Assistant Coach (s): Kevin Balkcom, Nathan Poff
2018 Record: 12-6

Returning Starters: C/RHP Zane Johnson (So., 5-9, 145, R/R); RHP/SS/OF Fisher Timms (So., 5-9, 140, R/R); SS/RHP Chandler Mitchell (So., 5-10, 155, R/R); 2B/RHP Lem Thompson (So., 5-7, 130, R/R); OF Chasen Lewis (Jr., 5-10, 145, R/R); 1B/RHP Connor Gardiner (Jr., 6-1, 150, R/R); 3B/RHP CJ Seymour (Jr., 6-0, 140, R/R); OF/1B/C Blake Smith (So., 6-0, 165, R/R)

Other Returning Players: CF Hunter Stone (Sr., 5-10, 195, R/R); OF Alex Gazafy (Jr., 5-10, 150, R/R); 3B/OF Ethan Palmer (Jr., 5-9, 195, R/R); OF DJ Scott (So., 5-10, 165, R/R)

Top Newcomers: OF/LHP JD Lewis (Fr., 5-5, 140, L/L); SS/2B/C Trevor Derrick (Fr., 5-5, 115, R/R); 3B/C Tate Brown (Fr., 5-9, 125, R/R)

Season Outlook: The Gryphons have a wealth of talent that should come in handy as they play their first season in the Georgia High School Association. The senior class is small, but keep an eye on a strong group of juniors and sophomores. Zane Johnson and Fisher Timms are two players to keep an eye on.

AQUINAS FIGHTING IRISH

Head Coach: Andy Woodard
Assistant Coach (s): Andrew Foushee, Gordon Scott, Tyler Beale
2018 Record: 22-4

Other Returning Players: INF/RHP Kam Brinson (Sr., 6-0, 180, R/R); C John Parrish (Sr., 5-9, 185, R/R); INF/RHP Mick Doupe (Sr., 6-0, 160, R/R); OF/RHP Patrick Cordaro (Jr., 6-0, 150, R/R); OF Joseph Welch (So., 6-1, 180, R/R); OF Roger Hagler (Sr., 5-10, 160, R/R); INF/OF/RHP Dawson Alexander (Jr., 6-1, 175, R/R); OF/RHP Ward Tyre (Jr., 6-2, 180, R/R); OF/INF/RHP Bobby Scott (So., 5-9, 140, R/R); C Adam Kitchens (So., 5-9, 175, R/R); OF/RHP Jude Walker (So., 5-11, 150, R/R); INF/RHP Aaron McMonigle (So., 5-9, 140, R/R); INF/RHP Montgomery Ward (Jr., 5-11, 155, R/R); OF Barrett Hagler (So., 6-0, 140, R/R); INF/RHP James McBride (Fr., 5-8, 140, R/R); INF/RHP Jack Ratley (Fr., 6-2, 185, R/R); OF/RHP Joseph Wilson (Fr., 5-8, 140, R/R); INF/RHP Mac Sellers (Fr., 5-8, 165, R/R)

Season Outlook: A wealth of talent returns for the Fighting Irish, who will be expected to contend for the postseason again. Keep an eye on two of the team's leading hitters in infielder/pitcher Kam Brinson (.545 avg.) and catcher John Parrish (.373 avg.). The Irish will be looking for some pitchers to mature.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN DAY VIKINGS

Head Coach: Denny Bryant
Assistant Coach (s): Jason Godbee, Michael Mimbs, Wayne Hotchkiss
2018 Record: 26-8

Returning Starters: C Jackson McCart (Sr., 5-10, 175, R/R); RHP/2B Chet Thompson (Sr., 5-8, 160, R/R); OF/RHP Rob Cunningham (Sr., 6-0, 190, R/R); RHP/OF Harrison Aulds (Jr., 5-11, 185, R/R); SS/RHP Hudson Mimbs (So., 5-10, 170, R/R); RHP/U Barrett Barkley (So., 6-2, 200, R/R); U/RHP Parker Ingram (So., 5-9, 165, R/R)

Other Returning Players: OF Tate Skipper (Jr., 6-0, 170); RHP/1B Dylan Cox (Jr., 6-1, 205); C/U Malone Hudson (So., 5-9, 150)

Top Newcomers: LHP Austin Eminer (Jr., 6-2, 190, L/L); LHP Andrew Cohen (Jr., 5-11, 170, L/L); INF Carson Bryant (Fr., 5-9, 155, R/R); RHP



Hudson Mimbs
First Presbyterian Day

Coleman Cauley (Fr., 6-0, 185, R/R) C Dylan Butler (Fr., 5-8, B/R)
Season Outlook: After a deep postseason run in 2018, the Vikings may be in for a little rebuilding this spring. However, there is still plenty of talent on this team. Shortstop Hudson Mimbs is back after a standout freshman season. Right-hander Barrett Barkley and catcher Jackson McCart are two players to keep an eye on.

GEORGIA MILITARY COLLEGE BULLDOGS

Head Coach: Rusty Courson
Assistant Coach (s): Brian Humphries
2018 Record: 16-14

Returning Starters: RF Cody Beckham (So., 6-0, 175, R/R); 2B Carson Knowles (So., 5-10, 140, R/R); SS Grayson Hopkins (So., 5-8, 155, R/R); C Mason Seymour (So., 5-11, 180, R/R); CF/LHP Ryan Barsby (Jr., 5-11, 155, L/L); 3B/RHP Justin Alford (Jr., 5-10, 165, R/R); 1B/RHP Jacob Marshal (Sr., 6-1, 175, R/R)

Other Returning Players: 1B Michael Maldonado (So., 5-10, 180, R/R); 3B/RHP Jontavious Byner (Sr., 5-11, 205, R/R); RF Dylan Andrews (Sr., 5-10, 170, R/R)

Top Newcomers: C Trey Woods (Fr., 5-10, 185, R/R); SS Caleb Haines (Fr., 5-8, 150, R/R)

Season Outlook: The senior class is small, but the good news for GMC is that seven starters are back. Look for a solid group of sophomores and juniors to continue developing. Senior pitcher/first baseman Jacob Marshal and infielder/pitcher Justin Alford are two players to keep an eye on.

GLASCOCK COUNTY PANTHERS

Head Coach: Johnny Cantrell
Assistant Coach (s): Stanley Phillips, Bobby Videon, Blake Moore
2018 Record: 9-15

Returning Starters: CF/RHP Matt Gordy (Sr., 6-3, 180, R/R); RF Will Gowen (Sr., 6-0, 170, R/R); SS/RHP Chandler Haywood (Sr., 6-0, 160, R/R); RHP/3B Jalen Jenkins (Sr., 6-1, 200, R/R); 2B Gage Kitchens (Sr., 6-2, 160, R/R); 1B Garrett Borton (Jr., 6-1, 225, R/R); 3B/RHP Will Chalker (Jr., 6-0, 175, R/R); C Bradley Broxton (So., 6-0, 160, R/R)

Other Returning Players: RF Justin Coleman (Sr., 5-11, 200, R/R); RF Dalton Loyal (Jr., 5-10, 155, R/R); U Evan Danforth (Sr., 5-8, 145, R/R); OF/RHP Mitchell Dye (So., 5-10, 190, R/R); OF/RHP Noah Dye (So., 5-10, 190, R/R); U Colby Mitchell (So., 5-9, 150, R/R); 2B Murphy Waller (So., 5-7, 140, R/R); OF William McNair (So., 5-10, 150, L/R)

Season Outlook: This could be Glascock's best team in many years. Eight starters are back, including senior pitcher/third baseman Jalen Jenkins. A solid senior class will lead the way, but some talented juniors and sophomores will also contribute.

GREENE COUNTY TIGERS

Head Coach: Joe Smith
Survey not returned

HANCOCK CENTRAL BULLDOGS

Head Coach: TBA
Survey not returned

LAKE OCONEE ACADEMY TITANS

Head Coach: Jeremy Donaldson
Assistant Coach (s): Tommy McDonald, Dave Herring, Scott Greer

2018 Record: 4-16

Returning Starters: SS Zach Tolleson (Jr., 6-0, 160, R/R); RF Harrison Toomey (Jr., 5-10, 150, R/L); LF Jeilen Jones (Jr., 6-1, 170, R/R); 2B Blake Mills (Sr., 5-10, 175, R/R); CF Christian Greer (So., 5-11, 160, R/R)

Other Returning Players: C Mac McCommons (Fr., 5-10, 150, R/R)

Season Outlook: The Titans look to rebound from last season's finish. Lake Oconee welcomes back five starters, but the bulk of the team are underclassmen. Second baseman Blake Mills returns as the team's only senior starter. Keep an eye on shortstop Zach Tolleson, who flashed potential last year as a sophomore.

LINCOLN COUNTY RED DEVILS

Head Coach: Kevin Jones (new)
Survey not returned

MOUNT DE SALES CAVALIERS

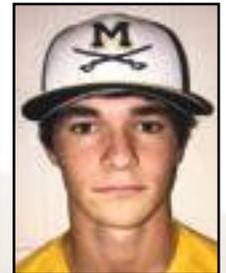
Head Coach: Bubba Pool

Assistant Coach (s): Todd Freeman, Jeff Nebel, Taylor LeVieux
2018 Record: 10-15

Returning Starters: C/1B Rossman Diaz (Jr., 6-0, 200, R/R); RHP/SS Jackson Taylor (Jr., 5-10, 140, R/R); RHP/3B Jackson Nebel (Jr., 5-11, 180, R/R); 2B Walker Schofield (Sr.,



Rossman Diaz
Mount de Sales



Walker Schofield
Mount de Sales

5-8, 140, R/R); OF Steele Bruce (Sr., 6-0, 150, L/R); OF Micah Hattaway (Sr., 6-0, 170, R/R); OF Landon Jernigan (Jr., 6-1, 185, R/R); OF Andrew Craddock (Sr., 5-11, 190, R/R); RHP/C Clay Murphy (Sr., R/R)

Other Returning Players: RHP/C/3B Kobe Butts (Jr., R/R); RHP/INF Cade West (Jr., L/R); INF/OF Gordon Smith (Sr., R/R); OF Max Gilchrist (Sr., R/R)

Season Outlook: After a rebuilding season in 2018, Mount de Sales will be much better this spring. A wealth of talent returns, including catcher Rossman Diaz and second baseman Walker Schofield. The senior class is solid. Look for some talented juniors to compete for playing time.

STRATFORD EAGLES

Head Coach: Tyler Brown
Assistant Coach (s): Bill Meeks, Jeff Treadway
2018 Record: 20-9

Returning Starters: 3B/RHP Charlie Giles (Sr., 5-11, 215, R/R); OF Carson Dorsey (Sr., 5-11, 185, R/L); OF/LHP Sam Clark (Sr., 5-8, 150, L/L); OF John Manley (Sr., 5-9, 160, L/R); C John Thomas Carter (Jr., 6-0, 180, R/R); 1B/RHP Trey Bumgardner (Sr., 6-2, 250, R/R)

Other Returning Players: 3B/2B/RHP Grant Bailey (Sr., 5-10, 165, R/R); LHP Harrison Bailey (Sr., 5-10, 165, R/L); RHP/INF Hall Buice (Jr., 6-1, 160, R/R); OF Jamie Oquinn (Sr., 6-2, 185, R/R); INF/RHP Waldon Davis (So., 5-8, 140, L/R); OF/LHP Stetson Hatcher (So., 6-0, 170, L/L); C Jase Smith (So., 6-0, 160, R/R)

Season Outlook: The Eagles showed significant improvement last season and made the state playoffs. Stratford seeks to keep its positive momentum going. Six starters are back, including third baseman/pitcher Charlie Giles and outfielder Carson Dorsey.

TATTNALL SQUARE TROJANS

Head Coach: Joey Hiller

Assistant Coach (s):

Tom Gorman, Jordan Brooks, Kevin Brown, Bryan Kemp

2018 Record: 34-4

Returning Starters:

C/1B Trey Ham (Sr., 6-2, 220, R/R); INF/OF Miles Morris (Sr., 6-2, 185, R/R); OF Beau Spears (Sr., 5-10, 175, R/R); RHP/INF Brooks Gorman (Jr., 6-1, 175, L/R); RHP/OF/INF Dawson Brown (Jr., 6-1, 165, R/R)

Other Returning

Players: C/INF Hunter Alexander (So., 6-2, 180, R/R); OF Gray Talton (So., 5-8, 165, L/R); RHP/INF Bo Hatcher (So., 5-11, 160, R/R); RHP/1B Carter Fink (So., 6-1, 165, R/R); OF Elmo Daniels (Jr., 5-7, 190, R/R); OF Kaden Toth (Jr., 6-0, 165, R/R); OF Konner Toth (Jr., 6-1, 175, L/R); RHP Keith Hartness (Sr., 6-0, 190, R/R); RHP Gavin Whitfield (Sr., 6-3, 230, R/R); INF/OF William Stubbs (Sr., 6-1, 185, R/R); INF Kyle Johnson (Jr., 5-7, 155, R/R)

Top Newcomers: RHP/INF DJ Willis (Fr., 6-0, 165, R/R); RHP/INF Russ Miller (Fr., 5-9, 165, R/R); RHP/INF Brant Gibson (Fr., 6-2, 190, L/R)

Season Outlook: The defending Class 1A Private champions lost some key players, but the Trojans should reload in 2019. Pitcher Brooks Gorman returns after a stellar sophomore campaign. Meanwhile, offensive leaders Trey Ham (.356 avg., 31 RBIs), Miles Morris (.330 avg., 32 RBIs) and Beau Spears (.337 avg., 10 2B) are back to spark the offense. Versatile Dawson Brown also returns.



Dawson Brown
Tattnall Square



Trey Ham
Tattnall Square



Miles Morris
Tattnall Square



Beau Spears
Tattnall Square



Brooks Gorman - Tattnall Square
Photo by Tattnall Square Academy

TWIGGS COUNTY COBRAS

Head Coach: TBA

Survey not returned

WASHINGTON-WILKES TIGERS

Head Coach: Drew Wilson

Assistant Coach (s): Ty McGill

2018 Record: 15-14

Returning Starters: CF D'Mytri Wiggs (Sr., 5-10, 190, R/R); 1B/DH Dez Anderson (Sr., 6-0, 260, R/R); U Tad McAvoy (Sr., 5-9, 140, R/R); INF Alex Lamar (Jr., 5-10, 225, R/R); OF Eli Holton (Jr., 5-2, 130, R/R)

Other Returning Players: U Evan Harper (So., 5-10, 140, R/R); 3B Ryan Hucke (So., 6-1, 165, R/R)

Top Newcomers: OF/LHP Nathan Durham (Fr.); U Dhani Mitchell (Fr.);

U/RHP Dalen Cobb (Fr.); U/RHP Hunter Price (Fr.)

Season Outlook: The Tigers have five returning starters and if they can find some pitching depth, they could contend for a postseason position. Seniors D'Mytri Wiggs and Dez Anderson lead a team full of underclassmen. Keep a watch on infielder Alex Lamar who had an excellent sophomore season in 2018.

WILKINSON COUNTY WARRIORS

Head Coach: Keldrick Burke

Survey not returned

REGION 8-1A

Region Favorite: Providence Christian

Keep an eye on: Athens Christian – After a rebuilding season in 2018, the Eagles are ready to soar this spring.

Players to Watch

OF – Max Bennett, Sr., Hebron Christian; **INF/RHP** – Jackson Boyd, Jr., Hebron Christian; **INF** – Palmer Bush, So., Athens Academy; **LHP/OF** – James Cabaniss, Sr., Athens Christian; **LHP/RF** – Noah Coleman, Sr., George Walton; **OF/RHP** – Holden Cooper, Jr., Lakeview Academy; **SS/RHP** – Omar Daniels, Sr., George Walton; **RHP** – Koby Dunn, Jr., George Walton; **SS/RHP** – Andrew Estes, Jr., Lakeview Academy; **SS/RHP** – Ladd Fortson, Sr., Athens Christian; **C** – Andrew Griffin, Sr., Towns County; **U** – Crawford Hansard, Jr., Providence Christian; **INF** – Charlie Kahlstorf, Jr., Athens Academy; **SS/RHP** – Chandler Martin, Sr., Commerce; **OF** – Ayden Middlebrooks, Sr., George Walton; **OF** – Thomas Olander, Sr., Riverside Military; **OF/RHP** – Nate Ray, Jr., Commerce; **2B/SS** – Colby Rogers, Jr., Commerce; **INF/RHP** – Thomas Ross, Sr., Prince Avenue Christian; **C/INF/RHP** – Sam Stewart, Jr., Lakeview Academy; **RHP/INF** – Jack Thomas, Sr., Athens Academy; **LHP** – Cole Tillotson, Sr., Providence Christian; **OF** – Keegan Trantum, Sr., Providence Christian; **RHP/3B** – Gage Webb, Sr., Tallulah Falls; **LF/RHP** – Will Wolf, Sr., George Walton

ATHENS ACADEMY SPARTANS

Head Coach: Casey Kane

Assistant Coach (s):

Don Chuboff,
Marvin Barton

2018 Record: 18-8

Returning Starters:

RHP/INF Jack Thomas (Sr., 5-11, 185, R/R); RHP/1B Wyatt England (Jr., 6-2, 190, R/R); INF Charlie Kahlstorf (Jr., 5-9, 150, R/R); INF Palmer Bush (So., 5-11, 170, R/R)

Other Returning Players: C Franklin Burns (Sr., 5-10, 165, R/R); INF Wesley Williamson (Sr., 5-10, 155, R/R); INF Trent Muir (Jr., 5-9, 150, R/R); INF Turner Trapnell (Jr., 5-9, 155, R/R); C Ethan Connolly



Charlie Kahlstorf
Athens Academy



Jack Thomas
Athens Academy

(So., 5-11, 180, R/R); OF Charlie Hynes (So., 6-0, 160, R/R); C/1B John Ferguson (So., 6-3, 200, R/L); INF Will Thomas (So., 5-10, 220, R/R)

Top Newcomers: INF Henry Smith (Fr., 5-8, 140, R/R)

Season Outlook: Four starters are back from last season's squad that won 18 games. Standout pitcher Jack Thomas (7-3, 2.13 ERA) as well as pitcher Wyatt England return. Infielders Charlie Kahlstorf and Palmer Bush return to lead the offense. A solid group of younger players will need to step forward and help out.

ATHENS CHRISTIAN EAGLES

Head Coach: Allen Osborne

Assistant Coach (s): Jeff Griffith,

Jake Westbrook

2018 Record: 16-14

Returning Starters: SS/RHP Ladd Fortson (Sr., 6-1, 175, R/R); LHP/OF James Cabaniss (Sr., 6-3, 180, L/L); INF/RHP Blayne Haddock (Jr., 5-11, 160, R/R); 1B/LHP Maddux Seagraves (Jr., 5-11, 170, L/L); SS/OF Ben Pethel (So., 5-11, 165, R/R); C Blake Taylor (Sr., 5-10, 170, R/R); INF Seaver King (So., 5-8, 140, R/R)

Other Returning Players: INF/RHP Eli Smith (Jr., 5-11, 175, R/R); C Corbin Gabriel (So., 6-2, 190, R/R)

Top Newcomers: INF/OF Caleb Williams (Fr., 5-10, 160, R/R); OF/INF Jake Pintar (Fr., 5-11, 165, R/R); C Russ Smith (Fr., 5-11, 165, L/R); 1B Bennett England (Fr., 6-0, 160, R/R)

Season Outlook: Look for the Eagles to be improved this spring. Seven starters are back, including leading hitter Ladd Fortson (.412 avg., 7 2B) and pitcher James Cabaniss (5-2, 2.61 ERA). Athens Christian has an excellent group of younger players who will be expected to step forward.



Ladd Fortson
Athens Christian

COMMERCE TIGERS

Head Coach: Steve Cotrell

Assistant Coach (s):

Dustin Allen, Nick Ladd

2018 Record: 20-13

Returning Starters:

SS/RHP Chandler Martin (Sr., 5-11, 170, R/R); 2B/SS Colby Rogers (Jr., 5-10, 145, R/R); 1B/LHP Jacob Welch (Sr., 6-2, 185, R/L); C/3B/RHP Chase Bridges (Sr., 6-3, 170, R/R); OF/RHP Gray Holbrook (So., 5-11, 165, R/R); OF/RHP Will Slater (So., 5-10, 170, R/R); C Jace Veal (Jr., 5-11, 165, R/R); 1B/OF/RHP Evan Davis (So., 5-10, 165, L/R); OF/RHP Nate Ray (Jr., 5-10, 170, R/R)

Other Returning

Players: RHP/OF Tucker

Maloch (Sr., 6-1, 185, R/R); INF/RHP Sam Roach (Jr., 5-8, 190, R/R); OF/RHP TJ Trudnak (Jr., 6-1, 165, R/R); OF/LHP Kody Mintz (Jr., 5-10, 160, L/L)

Top Newcomers: INF Kane Goldman (So., 5-10, 145, R/R); INF/RHP Matthew Martin (So., 5-9, 140, R/R)

Season Outlook: A wealth of talent returns for Commerce who should contend for a postseason berth again. The Tigers have nine returning starters, including senior shortstop Chandler Martin (.314 avg., 29 RBIs). If Commerce can find consistency on the mound, they could be a tough team to beat this season.



Chase Bridges
Commerce



Chandler Martin
Commerce



Colby Rogers
Commerce



Jacob Welch
Commerce

BBCOR
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AVAILABLE

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DIRTY SOUTH
KAMOI

BBCOR CERTIFIED .50

KRYPTEK AMERICAN MADE

GEORGE WALTON BULLDOGS

Head Coach: Todd Shelnett

Assistant Coach (s):

Dan Redovain, Jeff Buice, Tate Gaines, Robert Testa

2018 Record: 17-14

Returning Starters:

SS/RHP Omar Daniels (Sr., 5-9, 160, R/R); LHP/RF Noah Coleman (Sr., 6-1, 190, L/L); CF Ayden Middlebrooks (Sr., 5-9, 160, R/R); RF Bradley Williams (Sr., 5-11, 165, R/R); C/RHP Connor Brown (Sr., 6-1, 190, R/R); LF/RHP Will Wolf (Sr., 5-8, 160, R/R); 1B/RHP Jake Gray (Sr., 6-4, 200, R/R); RHP Koby Dunn (Sr., 5-11, 165, R/R)

Other Returning

Players: LHP/1B Ben

Howard (Sr., 5-11, 170, L/L); OF Will Bailey (So., 5-9, 150, L/L); C Bryson Williams (So., 5-9, 150, R/R); OF/1B Tommy King (Sr., 5-11, 170, L/L); 2B Eli Bowen (Sr., 5-10, 165, R/R)

Season Outlook: Look for the Bulldogs to be back in the postseason hunt. Eight starters, seven of them seniors, return to lead the team. Pitcher Noah Coleman leads what could be a deep rotation. Meanwhile on offense, shortstop Omar Daniels is back to lead a unit that can score plenty of runs.

HEBRON CHRISTIAN LIONS

Head Coach: Ben Drust

Assistant Coach (s): David Lincoln, Justin Oates

2018 Record: 15-15

Returning Starters: OF Max Bennett (Sr., 6-2, 160, R/R); C Anthony Lentine (Sr., 5-9, 180, R/R); LHP Ethan Byrd (Sr., 6-1, 165, L/L); INF/RHP Jackson Boyd (Sr., 5-10, 165, R/R); INF/RHP Mason Ashby (Sr., 6-2, 170, R/R); C Thomas Headley (Sr., 6-2, 180, R/R); INF/OF Jason Lockhart (Sr., 6-1, 160, L/R); 1B/OF Alex Pawson (Sr., 6-1, 180, R/R); INF Garrett Howe (Sr., 5-9, 160, L/R); INF/OF Jack Ihm (Sr., 5-10, 160, R/R); OF/RHP Gavin Incrocci (Sr., 5-11, 160, R/R)

Season Outlook: The Lions started slowly last year but got hot late in the season. They went undefeated in region play. Hebron Christian should pick up from where it left off. A wealth of talent returns, including infielder/pitcher Jackson Boyd. There is enough returning talent to challenge for the region crown.

LAKEVIEW ACADEMY LIONS

Head Coach: Deuce Roark

Assistant Coach (s): Houghton Carswell, Kevin Millwood, Derek Fadoo

2018 Record: 12-15

Returning Starters: 3B/RHP Ian Echols (Sr., 5-8, 220, R/R); INF/RHP KJ Millwood (Sr., 6-2, 180, R/R); 1B/RHP Campbell Melson (Sr., 6-0, 185, L/R); SS/RHP Andrew Estes (Sr., 5-10, 185, R/R); C/INF/RHP Sam Stewart (Sr., 6-0, 180, R/R); OF/RHP Jordan Thomas (Sr., 6-0, 165, L/R); OF/RHP Holden

Cooper (Sr., 6-1, 160, R/R); INF Skyler Thellman (So., 6-3, 155, R/R)

Other Returning Players: 1B/RHP Conley Millwood (So., 6-0, 150, L/R); INF/RHP Parker Allen (So., 6-1, 155, R/R); OF James Michael Harrison (So., 5-9, 160, R/R); INF/C/RHP Bodie Blackwell (So., 5-9, 160, R/R)

Season Outlook: Eight starters return for the Lions who should have a chance to improve on last year's finish. A trio of seniors – Ian Echols, KJ Millwood and Campbell Melson – return to lead the way. But keep an eye on a pair of promising juniors in Andrew Estes and Sam Stewart.

PRINCE AVENUE CHRISTIAN WOLVERINES

Head Coach: Phil Roberts

Assistant Coach (s): Brandt Akin, Tanner Martin

2018 Record: 24-12

Returning Starters: INF/RHP Thomas Ross (Sr., 6-2, 180, R/R); OF/RHP Murphy Healan (Sr., 5-11, 165, R/R); C David Mathis (Sr., 5-8, 160, R/R); INF/RHP Jake Haynes (Sr., 6-1, 175, R/R); U/RHP Bryson Seay (Sr., 6-0, 180, R/R)

Other Returning Players: 1B Sammy Hodges (Sr., 6-2, 205, L/R); C/U Hunter Melton (Sr., 5-5, 130, R/R); OF/RHP Jake Pittman (So., 6-1, 160, R/R)

Season Outlook: The Wolverines have some talent left over from last year's state runner-up team. Five starters are back, including standout Thomas Ross (.376 avg.; 10 saves). But Prince Avenue Christian must get some production from some younger players to approach last year's success.

PROVIDENCE CHRISTIAN STORM

Head Coach: Adam Cantrell

Assistant Coach (s):

Nick Stidham, Preston Smith, Parker Conley

2018 Record: 21-17

Returning Starters: LHP Cole Tillotson (Sr., 6-0, 180, L/L); OF Keegan Trantum (Sr., 5-6, 155, R/R); LHP Simon Graf (Sr., 5-10, 160, R/L); U Crawford Hansard (Sr., 5-9, 160, R/R); RHP/SS Ben Johnson (Sr., 6-3, 165, R/R); C/1B Anthony Bowen (Sr., 6-4, 215, R/R); U Sam Aurelia (Sr., 5-9, 145, R/R); C/INF Pierce Phillips (Sr., 5-10, 165, R/R)

Other Returning

Players: RHP/1B Casey Luck (Sr., 6-1, 200, R/R);

RHP/OF Jordan van den Berg (Sr., 6-2, 200, R/R); C Patrick Fain (Sr., 5-8, 195, R/R); RHP/1B Austin Kohler (Sr., 6-4, 250, R/R)

Season Outlook: Providence Christian returns eight starters, including two of its top pitchers from last season in Cole Tillotson (4-3, 1.81 ERA) and Simon Graf (3-5, 4.25 ERA). Offensive leaders Keegan Trantum (.348 avg., 19 RBIs) and Ben Johnson (.375 avg., 23 RBIs) also return. The Storm should definitely be in the postseason chase again.



Noah Coleman
George Walton



Omar Daniels
George Walton



Koby Dunn
George Walton



Will Wolf
George Walton



Thomas Ross
Prince Avenue Christian



Simon Graf
Providence Christian



Ben Johnson
Providence Christian



Cole Tillotson
Providence Christian



Keegan Trantum
Providence Christian

RIVERSIDE MILITARY EAGLES

Head Coach: Zeb Lackey (new)

Survey not returned

TALLULAH FALLS INDIANS

Head Coach: Mark Wilcox

Assistant Coach (s): Dustin Rogers, Lowell Hamilton

2018 Record: 12-12

Returning Starters: RHP/U Gage Webb (Sr., 6-0, 185, R/R); C Chathan Clouatre (So., 5-11, 170, R/R); RHP/1B Thomas Harris (Jr., 6-1, 215, R/R); INF/RHP Davis Jennings (Jr., 5-9, 160, L/R); OF Zach Corwin (Jr., 5-11, 175, R/R); OF/INF Nathan Lewis (Sr., 5-6, 150, L/R); 3B/RHP Caleb Whitlock (Jr., 5-11, 185, R/R); OF Marshall Harrelson (Sr., 5-10, 180, R/R)

Top Newcomers: INF Dylan Alonso (Fr., 5-6, 150, R/R); RHP Aubrey Higgins (Fr., 5-8, 160, R/R); INF Drew Bates (Fr., 5-10, 150, R/R); RHP Aiden Gragg (Fr., 5-10, 175, R/R)

Season Outlook: An excellent group of returning players are back at Tallulah Falls as the Indians should have a chance to keep getting better. Eight starters return, including senior Gage Webb (.436 avg.). The senior class is small, but look for a solid corps of juniors to step up and contribute.

TOWNS COUNTY INDIANS

Head Coach: Shannon Floyd

Survey not returned

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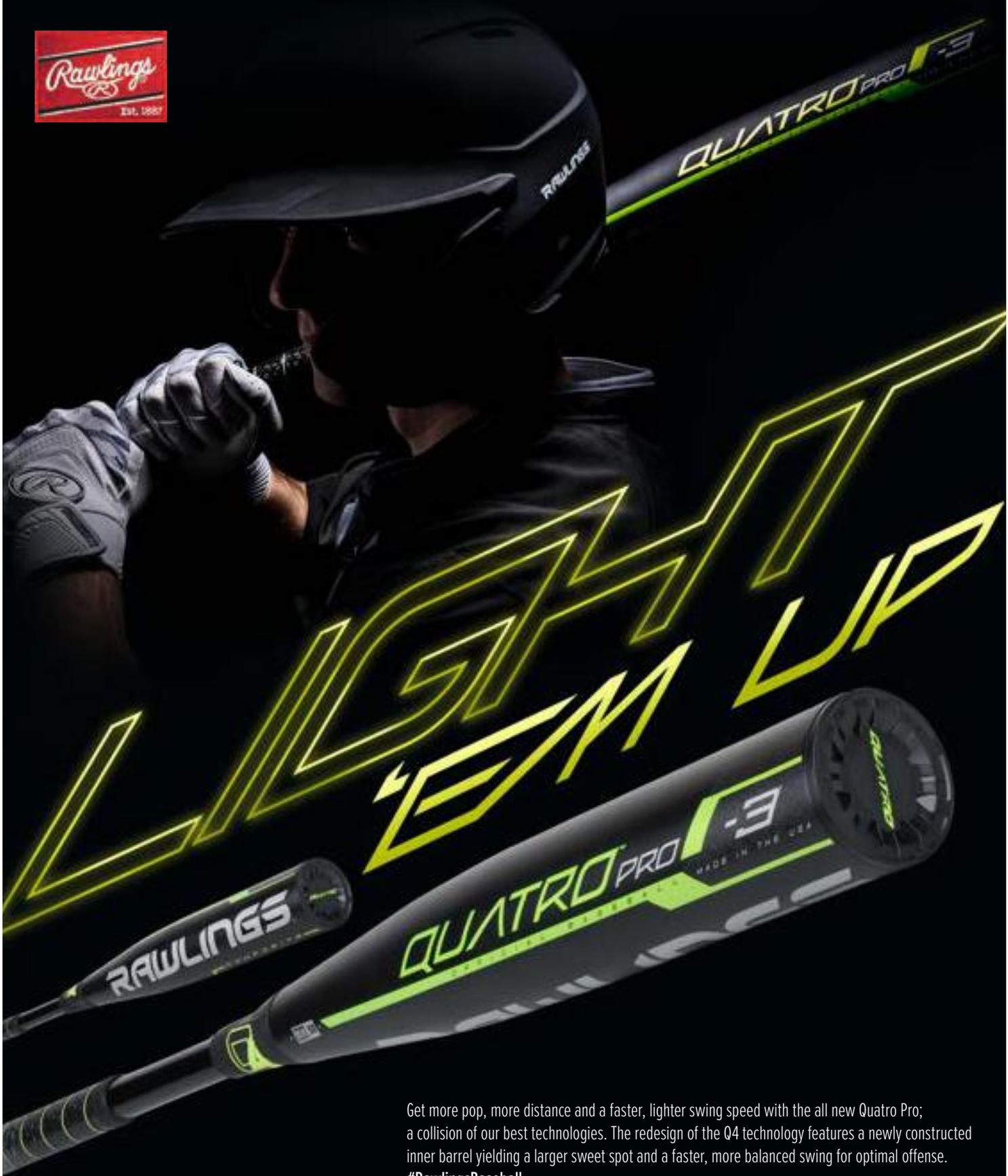
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Georgia High School Baseball State Records

Compiled by the Georgia Dugout Club and the Georgia Dugout Preview Magazine

Batting

Hits in a Season

Rank	Player	School	Record	Year
1	Kaleb Cowart	Cook	70	2010
2	Ryan Ritter	Wheeler	68	1991
3	Adam Frazier	Oconee County	66	2010

Doubles in a Season

1	Alex Lee	Lanier County	28	1989
2	Adam Frazier	Oconee County	24	2010
3	Ric Bishop	Columbus	21	2003
3	Kody Adams	Pike County	21	2011

Triples in a Season

1	Harrison Stewart	Thomasville	10	2017
2	Doug Roper	Vidalia	9	1995
3	Two tied with 8			

Home Runs in a Season

1	Christin Stewart	Providence Christian	26	2012
2	Micah Owings	Gainesville	25	2002
2	Brodie Pullen	Calhoun	25	2007
4	Clint Frazier	Loganville	24	2012

Walks in a Season

1	Christin Stewart	Providence Christian	51	2012
2	Joshua Lowe	Pope	50	2016
3	Two players tied			

Stolen Bases in a Season

1	Ladonis Bryant	Early County	59	2013
2	Eddie Noble	Lanier County	57	2001
3	Two players tied			

RBI's in a Season

1	Brodie Pullen	Calhoun	74	2005
2	Casey Moody	Spalding	71	2011
3	Christin Stewart	Providence Christian	70	2012

Batting Average in a Season (minimum 60 at bats)

1	David Lamberth	Macon County	0.720	1997
2	Whit Robbins	Calhoun	0.661	2003
3	Kaleb Cowart	Cook	0.654	2010

Hits in a Career

Rank	Player	School	Record	Years
1	Kaleb Cowart	Cook	216	2007-2010
2	Danny Lockhart	Hebron Christian	215	2008-2011
3	Matt Robbins	Calhoun	210	1999-2002

Doubles in a Career

1	Kaleb Cowart	Cook	54	2007-2010
2	Adam Frazier	Oconee County	53	2008-2010
3	Kody Adams	Pike County	47	2008-2011

Triples in a Career

1	Corey Patterson	Harrison	17	1995-1998
1	Jon Brackett	Wheeler	17	?
3	Ladonis Bryant	Early County	12	2010-2013

Home Runs in a Career

1	Micah Owings	Gainesville	69	1999-2002
1	Christin Stewart	Providence Christian	69	2009-2012
3	Clint Frazier	Loganville	63	2010-2013

Walks in a Career

1	Corey Patterson	Harrison	110	1995-1998
2	Tyler Austin	Heritage, Conyers	100	2007-2010
3	Jake Fields	Jefferson	97	2007-2010

Stolen Bases in a Career

1	Antonio Allen	Jonesboro	134	2007-2010
2	Andrew Smith	North Hall	122	2010-2014
3	Tyler Jones	Social Circle	118	2004-2007

RBI's in a Career

1	Matt Robbins	Calhoun	224	1999-2002
2	Jake Fields	Jefferson	189	2007-2010
3	Kaleb Cowart	Cook	185	2007-2010

Batting Average in a Career (minimum 120 at bats)

1	Jake Fields	Jefferson	0.561	2007-2010
2	Whit Robbins	Calhoun	0.534	2000-2003
3	Alex Lee	Lanier County	0.526	1986-1989

Pitching

ERA in a Season (minimum 56 innings)

Rank	Player	School	Record	Year
1	Jeff Cartledge	Columbus	0.00	1979
2	Brock Turner	Madison County	0.08	2012
3	Josh Smoker	Calhoun	0.09	2005

Wins in a Season

1	Kevin Smith	Columbus	17	1991
2	John Davis	Forest Park	16	1986
2	Doug Roper	Vidalia	16	1995
2	Drew Tanner	Coffee	16	1982

Strikeouts in a Season

1	Drew Tanner	Coffee	197	1982
2	Grafton Kent	Lanier County	194	2001
3	Matthew Crownover	Ringgold	176	2010

Innings Pitched in a Season

1	John Davis	Forest Park	121	1986
2	Mike Autrey	Columbus	118.1	1980
3	John Davis	Forest Park	117	1985

ERA in a Career (minimum 112 innings)

Rank	Player	School	Record	Years
1	Kaleb Cowart	Cook	0.83	2007-2010
2	Braden Hayes	Parkview	0.91	2016-2018
3	D.J. Johnson	Cook	1.06	2007-2010

Wins in a Career

1	John Carroll	Gainesville	44	1999-2002
1	Matt Handley	Greater Atlanta Christian	44	1999-2002
3	Drew Tanner	Coffee	43	1979-1982
3	Conard Broom	Gordon Lee	43	2012-2015

Strikeouts in a Career

1	Drew Tanner	Coffee	519	1979-1982
2	Josh Smoker	Calhoun	487	2004-2007
3	John Davis	Forest Park	474	1983-1986

Innings Pitched in a Career

1	John Davis	Forest Park	386	1983-1986
2	Drew Tanner	Coffee	361	1979-1982
3	Sylvestor West	Lanier County	320	1981-1984

2019 Returning Statistical Leaders

Georgia High School Association

(Statistics for returning players only provided coaches sent in stats to Georgia Dugout Preview Magazine)

BATTING

AVERAGE (Minimum 40 at bats)			DOUBLES			TRIPLES		
Name	School	Average	Name	School	Total	Name	School	Total
Cal Smith	Trinity Christian	0.540	Evan Place	Buford	20	Eric Johnson	Peach County	8
Kyle Riesselmann	Trinity Christian	0.534	Daulton Schley	Ringgold	18	Michael Harris	Stockbridge	6
TJ Wright	Westside-Augusta	0.526	Andre Tarver	Ringgold	18	Brandon Prince	Carrollton	6
Kam Brinson	Aquinas	0.524	Alek Boychuk	Mill Creek	14	Chandler Byron	Monroe Area	5
Andrew Jenkins	Pace Academy	0.516	Caleb Clark	North Hall	14	Ethan Anderson	River Ridge	4
Tyrek Presley	Charles Drew	0.510	Carter Holton	Benedictine	14	Michael Borah	North Gwinnett	4
Michael Harris	Stockbridge	0.506	Hunter Marsh	Winder-Barrow	13	Jacob Anderson	Morgan County	3
Woody Waters	Newnan	0.484	Jacob Pierce	Veterans	13	Jeremiah Burgess	Brookstone	3
Tyler Andrews	Lowndes	0.475	Brandon Prince	Carrollton	13	Ryan Dyal	East Coweta	3
Brennan Burks	Trinity Christian	0.473	Avery Stephens	Valdosta	13	Buddy Floyd	Pope	3
Christian Wylder	Woodward Academy	0.469	Tyler Andrews	Lowndes	12	Nick Herndon	Thomas Co. Central	3
Brison Creech	Westside-Augusta	0.467	Cale Conley	Gainesville	12	William Kelley	East Coweta	3
Brandon Prince	Carrollton	0.464	John Giesler	Walton	12	Hunter Lane	Morgan County	3
Timmy Brooks	Harris County	0.459	CJ Rose	Lowndes	12	Charlie Lanier	Carrollton	3
Chris Pendleton	Savannah Country Day	0.450	Caden Smith	Pope	12	Cooper Martin	Wayne County	3
Branden Lamback	Redan	0.448	Kyle Bork	St. Francis	11	Cory McCann	Valdosta	3
Graham Pauley	Milton	0.446	Pierce Gallo	Walton	11	Brian Port	Starr's Mill	3
Andre Tarver	Ringgold	0.444	Trevor Knowles	Charlton County	11	Victor Scott	McEachern	3
Matthew Welsh	Chamblee	0.443	Cal Smith	Trinity Christian	11	Caden Smith	Pope	3
Kyle Bork	St. Francis	0.441						
Jacquez Jackson	Brooks County	0.441						
Mason Spivey	Harlem	0.440						

RBIS			HOME RUNS			STOLEN BASES		
Name	School	Total	Name	School	Total	Name	School	Total
Ethan Anderson	River Ridge	62	Colby Thomas	Valdosta	14	CJ Abrams	Blessed Trinity	37
Andrew Jenkins	Pace Academy	47	Kyle Riesselmann	Trinity Christian	13	Jimmy Cipriani	Thomasville	31
Daulton Schley	Ringgold	47	Cal Smith	Trinity Christian	12	Carter Guarino	North Cobb Christian	30
Parks Harber	Westminster	46	Parks Harber	Westminster	10	Brandon Prince	Carrollton	30
Chris Gaiter	Carrollton	45	Ethan Stamps	Morgan County	10	Tyrek Presley	Charles Drew	28
Kyle Riesselmann	Trinity Christian	45	Chandler Kendall	Fannin County	9	Austin Turner	Buford	28
Cal Smith	Trinity Christian	45	Avery Stephens	Valdosta	9	Crawford Hansard	Providence Christian	27
John Anderson	Grayson	42	Miles BOWENS	Tucker	8	Dalton Thomas	Ola	25
Kyle Bork	St. Francis	42	Andrew Jenkins	Pace Academy	8	Gabe Allison	West Hall	24
Brandon Prince	Carrollton	42	Brennan Milone	Woodstock	8	Asa Awbrey	Carrollton	24
Colby Thomas	Coldosta	40	Ethan Anderson	River Ridge	7	Tony Player	East Coweta	24
Josh Newton	Locust Grove	39	John Anderson	Grayson	7	Jordan Walker	Decatur	24
Jordan Walker	Decatur	39	Brennan Burks	Trinity Christian	7	Billy Ward	Temple	23
Jake Smith	Blessed Trinity	37	Carter Holton	Benedictine	7	Zac Corbin	Jefferson	22
Mason Barnett	Cartersville	35	Spencer Keefe	Woodstock	7	Khalil Hassan	Woodland-Henry	22
Jeremiah Burgess	Brookstone	35	Landon Sims	South Forsyth	7	Ryan Davis	Blessed Trinity	21
Carter Holton	Benedictine	35	Alek Boychuk	Mill Creek	6	Lane Kitchens	Bleckley County	21
Jackson Milliner	Brookstone	35	Colin Grant	River Ridge	6	Charlie Lanier	Carrollton	21
Ethan Stamps	Morgan County	35	Dom Hughes	North Oconee	6	Andre Tarver	Ringgold	21
Colby Williams	Troup	35	Braelin Mitchell	Callaway	6			
Chris Pendleton	Savannah Country Day	34	Brian Port	Starr's Mill	6			



2019 Returning Statistical Leaders

Georgia High School Association

(Statistics for returning players only provided coaches sent in stats to Georgia Dugout Preview Magazine)

PITCHING								
WINS			STRIKOUTS			ERA (Minimum 30 innings pitched)		
Name	School	Total	Name	School	Total	Name	School	Total
Cameron Jones	Houston County	11	Ramsey David	Buford	119	Ethan Stamps	Morgan County	0.10
Josiah Siegel	Woodstock	11	Carter Holton	Benedictine	116	Jake Smith	Blessed Trinity	0.27
Alex Flood	Brookwood	10	Sean Adams	Buford	105	Hurston Waldrep	Thomasville	0.27
Matt Karnibad	Savannah Country Day	10	Colby Williams	Troup	100	Jackson Finley	Richmond Hill	0.29
Bryce Melear	Greenbrier	10	Bryce Melear	Greenbrier	99	Coleman Crow	Pike County	0.45
Garrett Casey	Troup	9	Davis Rokose	Chattahoochee	99	Kenny Mills	Strong Rock Christian	0.47
Trent Estes	Bowdon	9	Nick Barber	Bainbridge	98	Blake Wehunt	Franklin County	0.70
Carter Holton	Benedictine	9	Ethan Stamps	Morgan County	96	Christian Wylder	Woodward Academy	0.70
Luke Jannetta	Westminster	9	Blake Wehunt	Franklin County	96	Ethan Johnson	Effingham County	0.73
Ethan Johnson	Effingham County	9	Ga'von Wray	Stephenson	94	Ga'von Wray	Stephenson	0.74
Ethan Stamps	Morgan County	9	Josiah Siegel	Woodstock	90	Jonathan Morgan	Westminster	0.77
Avery Stephens	Valdosta	9	Aaron Wainright	Camden County	89	David Rokose	Chattahoochee	0.81
Wyatt Tennant	Ringgold	9	Riley Bishop	Grayson	87	Jaxon O'Neal	Newnan	0.84
			Avery Stephens	Valdosta	86	DJ Collins	Cairo	0.88
			Garrett Casey	Troup	85	Ethan Godwin	Cairo	0.88
			Dylan Johnson	Miller County	81	Landon Sims	South Forsyth	0.90
			Simon Graf	Providence Christian	80	Gage Morris	Cartersville	0.92
			Duncan Lutz	Clinch County	80	Carter Holton	Benedictine	0.96
			Jaxon O'Neal	Newnan	80	Matt Karnibad	Savannah Country Day	0.96
			Patrick O'Rourke	Pincrest Academy	80	Bradley Gronefeld	Statesboro	1.01
			Landon Sims	South Forsyth	80	Tyler Chesser	Charlton County	1.02
			Caleb Clark	North Hall	78	Nick Barber	Bainbridge	1.05
			Avery Stephens	Valdosta	78	Max Pralgo	Pope	1.07
			Davis Swenson	Stephens County	78	Jacob Anderson	Morgan County	1.09
			Wyatt Tennant	Ringgold	78	Tyler Richardson	Ola	1.11
						Wyatt Tennant	Ringgold	1.12

SAVES		
Name	School	Total
Thomas Ross	Prince Avenue Christian	10
Jake Smith	Blessed Trinity	8
CJ Couch	Buford	7
Blane Belisario	North Cobb Christian	4
Mason Kearney	Lassiter	4
Hurston Waldrep	Thomasville	4
Garrett Gainous	Cairo	3
Andrew Herlitz	Pope	3
Alex McKay	Hillgrove	3
Holden Tucker	Ringgold	3
Colby Williams	Troup	3

GEORGIA HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL

ALL-TIME COACHING VICTORIES

Coach	School	Won	Loss	Coach	School	Won	Loss
Bobby Howard	St. Anne-Pacelli	985	296	John Poitevint	retired, 2014	455	236
Gerald Barnes	Westside-Augusta	896	300	Jerry Croft	retired, 2006	449	268
John Brown	retired, 2014	781	356	Trent Mongero	Glynn Academy	446	197
Jimmie Lewis	Harlem	737	409	Mickey McMurtry	retired, 2009	445	169
Donnie English	retired, 2014	716	397	Tim Lemons	Chattahoochee	441	377
Harvey Cochran	retired, 2012	682	348	Tony Wolfe	retired, 2017	441	192
Renza Israel	retired, 2009	623	316	Phil Williams	retired, 2013	438	286
Carl Carter	Savannah Christian	609	214	Cecil Barber	retired, 2013	436	152
Stuart Chester	Buford	591	153	Anthony Dimitri	retired, 2007	436	258
Terry Holder	retired, 2009	588	153	Doug Jones	Mill Creek	434	222
Cliff Shelton	retired, 2014	578	298	Chuck Campbell	retired, 2009	433	217
Terry Cadenhead	retired, 2005	577	305	Mike Strickland	Marist	428	229
Chip Henderson	Calhoun	569	176	Billy Nicholson	Johns Creek	427	230
Andy Harlin	Blessed Trinity	568	186	Brad Campbell	retired, 2014	426	209
Hugh Buchanan	retired, 2004	546	245	Albert Lodge	retired, 2004	422	193
Bubber Adams	retired, 2001	543	157	Jim Jefferson	retired, 2013	421	189
Joey Hiller	Tattnall Square	533	126	Jim Minor	retired, 2018	419	222
Charlie Griffith	retired, 2016	532	320	Dick Prindle	retired, 2002	419	297
Rob Williams	retired, 2013	529	203	Chan Brown	Parkview	410	143
Mark Clark	retired, 2015	528	245	Todd Eubanks	South Effingham	409	227
Mike Power	retired, 2017	525	220	Lance Oubs	Lovett	409	180
Bob Owsley	retired, 2010	520	218	Brian Smith	Winder-Barrow	407	234
Danny Blue	Social Circle	519	210	Steve Dennis	retired, 2017	401	327
Donnie Branch	LaGrange	519	241	Chester Pierce	retired, 2004	400	245
Charlie Owens	retired, 2011	513	442	Brent Moseley	Starr's Mill	398	178
John Sawyer	retired, 1999	513	295	Doug Nix	Berrien	397	261
Marvin Pruitt	retired, 2014	510	300	Mark Elkins	Harrison	396	204
James Conoly	retired, 2010	498	313	Kevin Farmer	Benedictine	396	118
David McDonald	retired, 2010	496	322	George Hansen	Kennesaw Mountain	387	228
Mike Hutch	retired, 2018	495	373	Brad Porter	Valdosta	382	184
Greg James	retired, 2016	489	287	Paul Glass	Jeff Davis	381	212
Chuck Fehr	retired, 2009	485	291	Hank Aldridge	retired, 2001	379	146
Jeff Rowland	Pope	480	227	Manny Pontonio	retired, 2009	379	188
Billy Beale	retired, 2011	478	331	Greg Robinson	Etowah	379	230
Gus Bell	retired, 2016	476	337	Noel George	retired, 1989	378	166
Dwayne Sapp	Dawson County	475	200	John DeVore	retired, 1996	377	232
Jeff Segars	Loganville	474	190	Shane Amos	Walton	376	194
Kenny Morris	retired, 2013	472	256	Bill Womack	retired, 1998	376	172
Bart Shuman	retired, 2017	472	307	Mickey Moody	Jackson	375	170
Barry Veal	retired, 2014	472	191	Seth Gaspin	retired, 2018	373	179
Wayne Vickery	retired, 2008	470	128	Chuck Cheek	Schley County	372	120
Dennis Jordan	North Paulding	468	188	Richard Chumley	retired, 2002	368	295
Frank Vashaw	Franklin County	464	259	Bill Pate	retired, 2018	362	211
Greg Hamilton	retired, 2015	463	226	Rob English	retired, 1991	360	164
Tony Boyd	East Paulding	458	365	Jon Ayers	retired, 2018	357	212
Franklin Deloach	East Coweta	457	189				



Mike Power



Cliff Shelton



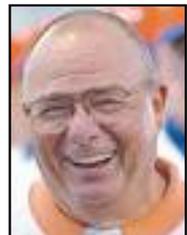
Bobby Howard



Jimmie Lewis



Gerald Barnes



Hugh Buchanan

Georgia Dugout Preview School Index

School	Page	School	Page	School	Page	School	Page	School	Page
ACE Charter	134	Creekview	40	Hiram	59	Mount Zion-Carrollton	132	South Effingham	51
Adairsville	95	Crisp County	88	Holy Innocents	129	Mount Zion-Jonesboro	38	South Forsyth	22
Alcovy	36	Cross Creek	68	Houston County	31	Mountain View	23	South Gwinnett	26
Alexander	38	Cross Keys	56	Howard	66	Mundy's Mill	38	South Paulding	39
Allatoona	40	Dacula	45	Hughes, Langston	39	Murray County	96	Southeast Bulloch	82
Alpharetta	42	Dade County	111	Irwin County	122	New Hampstead	51	Southeast Whitfield	72
Americus-Sumter	64	Dalton	40	Islands	92	New Manchester	39	Southwest DeKalb	56
Apalachee	45	Darlington	131	Jackson	92	Newnan	17	Southwest, Macon	107
Appling County	90	Dawson County	97	Jackson County	99	Newton	26	Spalding	67
Aquinas	134	Decatur	56	Jackson, Maynard	57	Norcross	25	Spencer	110
Arabia Mountain	55	Denmark	73	Jeff Davis	105	North Atlanta	43	Sprayberry	41
Archer	26	Discovery	23	Jefferson	99	North Clayton	69	Starr's Mill	53
Armuchee	111	Dodge County	106	Jefferson County	108	North Cobb	18	Statesboro	51
Athens Academy	136	Dooly County	127	Jenkins, H.V.	92	North Cobb Christian	132	Stephens County	75
Athens Christian	137	Dougherty	65	Jenkins County	124	North Forsyth	22	Stephenson	38
Atkinson County	121	Douglas County	39	Johns Creek	43	North Gwinnett	24	Stewart County	121
Bacon County	105	Douglass	110	Johnson County	125	North Hall	98	Stockbridge	54
Baconton Charter	120	Drew, Charles	37	Johnson, Gainesville	60	North Murray	96	Stone Mountain	94
Bainbridge	43	Drew Charter	128	Johnson, Savannah	92	North Oconee	74	Strong Rock Christian	129
Baker County	120	Druid Hills	69	Jones County	54	North Paulding	19	Stratford	135
Baldwin	68	Dublin	107	Jonesboro	52	North Springs	57	Swainsboro	106
Banks County	112	Duluth	23	Jordan	109	Northeast, Macon	107	Tallah Falls	139
Banneker	56	Dunwoody	43	Josey	108	Northgate	39	Tattnall County	91
Beach	91	Dutchtown	53	Kell	59	Northside, Columbus	66	Tattnall Square	135
Benedictine	97	Eagles Landing	53	Kendrick	93	Northside, Warner Robins	31	Taylor County	128
Berkmar	24	Eagles Landing Christian	128	Kennesaw Mountain	18	Northview	43	Telfair County	123
Berrien	103	Early County	104	King's Ridge Christian	132	Northwest Whitfield	72	Temple	110
BEST Academy	110	East Coweta	16	KIPP Collegiate	110	Oconee County	75	Terrell County	121
Bleckley County	106	East Hall	97	LaFayette	72	Oglethorpe County	113	Therrell	110
Blessed Trinity	73	East Jackson	98	LaGrange	71	Ola	54	Thomas County Central	50
Bowdon	131	East Laurens	107	Lake Oconee	135	Osborne	41	Thomasville	104
Bradwell Institute	33	East Paulding	58	Lakeside, DeKalb	25	Our Lady of Mercy	118	Thomson	68
Brantley County	90	Eastside	69	Lakeside, Evans	37	Pace Academy	94	Tift County	16
Bremen	109	Echols County	122	Lakeview Academy	138	Paideia	129	Toombs County	106
Brooks County	104	Effingham County	33	Lakeview-Ft Oglethorpe	96	Parkview	25	Towers	94
Brookstone	126	Elbert County	112	Lamar County	110	Pataula Charter	120	Towns County	139
Brookwood	24	Emanuel County Institute	124	Lambert	21	Paulding County	59	Truettlen	126
Brunswick	33	Etowah	19	Landmark Christian	129	Peach County	93	Tri-Cities	39
Bryan County	105	Evans	36	Laney	108	Peachtree Ridge	24	Trinity Christian	130
Burford	60	Fannin County	97	Lanier	46	Pebblebrook	17	Trion	133
Burke County	68	Fayette County	52	Lanier County	122	Pelham	120	Troup	71
Butler	107	Fellowship Christian	131	Lassiter	20	Pepperell	112	Tucker	38
Cairo	64	First Presbyterian Day	134	Lee County	31	Perry	67	Twiggs County	136
Calhoun	95	Fitzgerald	104	Liberty County	90	Pickens	72	Turner County	123
Calhoun County	120	Flowery Branch	73	Lincoln County	135	Pierce County	90	Union Grove	55
Callaway	109	Forest Park	57	Lithia Springs	57	Pike County	93	Union County	114
Calvary Day	124	Forsyth Central	21	Lithonia	56	Pincrest Academy	133	Upson-Lee	67
Cambridge	42	Franklin County	98	Locust Grove	54	Pope	44	Valdosta	31
Camden County	14	Fulton Leadership	129	Loganville	60	Portal	125	Veterans	50
Campbell	16	Furrow Charter	127	Long County	90	Prince Avenue Christian	138	Vidalia	106
Carrollton	58	Gainesville	45	Lovejoy	37	Providence Christian	138	Villa Rica	59
Cartersville	70	Galloway	129	Lovett	94	Putnam County	113	Walker	133
Carver, Atlanta	56	George Walton	138	Lowndes	15	Quitman County	121	Walnut Grove	61
Carver, Columbus	65	Georgia Military	135	Luella	69	Rabun County	113	Walton	20
Cass	58	Gilmer	71	Lumpkin County	98	Randolph-Clay	121	Ware County	51
Cedar Grove	93	Glascock County	135	Macon County	127	Redan	94	Warner Robins	50
Cedar Shoals	60	Glenn Hills	107	Madison County	74	Richmond Academy	68	Washington	110
Cedartown	70	Glynn Academy	34	Manchester	127	Richmond Hill	35	Washington County	107
Centennial	42	Gordon Central	111	Marietta	18	Ridgeland	72	Washington-Wilkes	136
Central Gwinnett	25	Gordon Lee	131	Marion County	127	Ringgold	96	Wayne County	52
Central, Carrollton	70	Grady	57	Marist	74	River Ridge	41	Weber	130
Central, Macon	92	Grayson	26	Martin Luther King, Jr.	37	Riverdale	52	Webster County	121
Chamblee	55	Greater Atlanta Christian	97	Mary Persons	66	Riverside Military	139	Wesleyan	130
Chapel Hill	70	Greenbrier	36	Mays	39	Riverwood	57	West Forsyth	22
Charlton County	121	Greene County	135	McEachern	18	Rockmart	112	West Hall	74
Chattahoochee	43	Greenville	127	McIntosh	52	Rockdale County	26	West Laurens	67
Chattahoochee County	120	Griffin	52	McIntosh County Academy	125	Rome	59	Westlake	17
Chattooga	111	Groves	92	McNair	110	Roswell	20	Westminster	94
Cherokee	19	Grovetown	36	Meadowcreek	25	Rutland	93	Westover	66
Cherokee Bluff	97	Habersham Central	46	Metter	105	Saint Anne-Pacelli	128	Westside, Augusta	108
Chestatee	73	Hampton	69	Mill Creek	23	Saint Pius X	66	Westside, Macon	93
Christian Heritage	131	Hancock Central	135	Miller County	120	Saint Francis	133	Wheeler	17
Clarke Central	60	Hapeville	110	Miller Grove	56	Salem	69	Wheeler County	126
Clarkston	55	Haralson County	96	Milton	22	Sandy Creek	71	White County	74
Claxton	124	Hardaway	65	Mitchell County	120	Savannah	92	Whitefield Academy	133
Clinch County	122	Harlem	107	Model	111	Savannah Christian	125	Whitewater	53
Coahulla Creek	95	Harris County	50	Monroe	88	Savannah Country Day	125	Wilcox County	123
Coffee	30	Harrison	41	Monroe Area	99	Schley County	128	Wilkinson County	136
Collins Hill	23	Hart County	99	Montgomery County	125	Screven County	108	Winder-Barrow	46
Colquitt County	15	Hawkinsville	127	Monticello	113	Seminole County	121	Windsor Forest	92
Columbia	55	Heard County	109	Morgan County	99	Sequoyah	41	Woodland, Bartow	59
Columbus	65	Hebron Christian Academy	138	Morrow	37	Shaw	66	Woodland, Henry	55
Commerce	137	Henry County	69	Mount Bethel Christian	132	Shiloh	26	Woodstock	21
Cook	87	Hephzibah	108	Mount de Sales	135	Social Circle	113	Woodward Academy	69
Coosa	111	Heritage, Catoosa	72	Mount Paran Christian	132	Sonoraville	96	Worth County	88
Crawford County	127	Heritage, Conyers	36	Mount Pisgah Christian	132	South Atlanta	110		
Creekside	39	Hillgrove	17	Mount Vernon Presbyterian	129	South Cobb	41		

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