

PAUL D. BOWKER/THE NEWS

Joe Donovan, Lone Tree's head football coach, instructs the Lions during a pre-season camp workout.JPG

SCOUTING THE LIONS

Head Coach: Joe Donovan

2022 record: 3-5

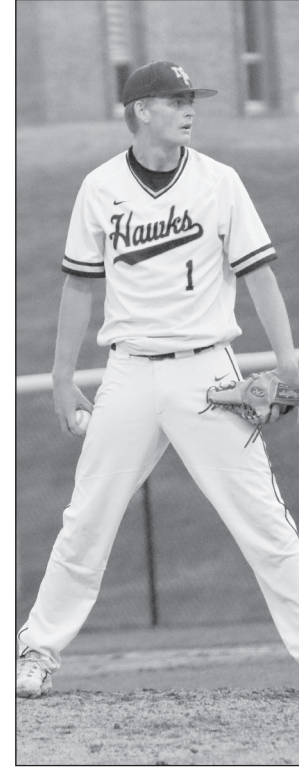
2023 District: Eight-man, District 5

Season opener: Friday, at Parkview Christian, Yorkville, Illinois

Top returnees: Ethan Bockelman, QB/DB; Jader Sanchez, WR/DB; Emmett Burke, WR/DB; Dominic Graap, WR/DB; Maddox Jondle, RB/LB; Brody MaGruder, TE/DE; Cole Abbott, OL/DL; Harry Brenneman, OL/DE; Jack Patterson, OL/LB

Top newcomers: Lukas Fuhrmeister, OL/DE; Domonic Garcia, WR/DB; Reece Holbrook, TE/DE; Mayson Hemsted, WR/DB

Assistant coaches: Randy Ball, Kale Render, Harry Miller, Zach Hebl, Drake Hotz



GIOVANNI CORONEL/THE NEWS

LIONS

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activities and athletics director following the retirement of Tom Squiers, led the Lions to a 3-5 record last year. Lone Tree won three straight games against English Valleys, HLV and Tri-County, but then lost consecutive district games to Winfield-Mt. Union, WACO, New London and Iowa Valley.

Bockelman is a passing and running threat for the Lions. In addition to his 10 passing TDs last year, he also led Lone Tree in rushing with 781 yards and 10 TDs. Combined with junior running back Maddox Jondle, the two totaled more than 1,300 rushing yards and 21 rushing TDs.

The Lions also return two of their three leading receivers, including sophomore Emmett Burke (team-leading 18 catches for 232 yards and 4 TDs) and Sanchez (9 catches, 172 yards, 3 TDs).

Seniors Cole Abbott and Harry Brenneman anchor the offensive and defensive lines.

Most of the offensive starters will also be on defense, and that includes linebacker Jack Patterson who'll play on the line on offense.

Burke is one of seven sophomores on the team and Jacob Bell is an incoming freshman.

Wellman Men's League Golf Standings

1. Freeman Foods	58.5 pts
2. Stutsman's Inc.	55.5 pts
3. Bob's Drywall	54 pts
4. Cilino's	51 pts
5. Patriots	49 pts
6. Bulltown	48.5 pts
7. City Sewer	47.5 pts
8. Capper Auto	46 pts
9. JP Shooting	43 pts
10. Wellman Auto	41 pts

MID-PRAIRIE BASEBALL/Continued from Page 1B

scored 15 runs, and a batting average of .224. His 12 RBIs was a high school career high.

With this being his final year as a Golden Hawk, Miller will be missed by his teammates and coaches not only for his impressive play but also the person he has become because of his choice to play baseball.

"It has been a pleasure coaching Collin," Mullet said. "We have shared a lot of memories together that we will cherish forever. He is a fine young man, and we wish him the best on his next chapter in life."

Throughout his four-year high school career Alex Bean participated in a wide array of sports. He has played soccer, basketball, golf, and of course baseball. A versatile athlete in his senior season, Bean is a type of player people want to have on their team.

"In his senior season he was a true leader for his team and his teammates," Mullet said about Bean's leadership during the 2023 baseball season. "He led by example and does things the right way. In moments of adversity Alex would step up and be the leader our team needed."

In addition to his second team all-state selection as an outfielder, Bean was also selected as an outfielder for the first team all-conference and first team all-district teams.

Bean's 2023 baseball campaign saw him reach high school career highs in hits, RBIs, and strikeouts.

His 39 hits were the second most among the Golden Hawks and the 10th

most in Class 2A. Going 39 for 104 at the plate, Bean ended the year with a .375 batting average. Having a knack for hitting his teammates home to score a run, his 28 RBIs were the second most on the team.

"Baseball is a hard game mentally and it takes a strong and confident minded individual to have success and lead a team like Alex did," Mullet said. "Alex is a great example of what student athletes should aspire to be on and off the field."

A truly skilled player, Bean also shined while playing the pitcher position. He ended his season with a 6-2 pitching record, the fourth most wins in Class 2A. Pitching in 38 innings Bean was able to strikeout 40 batters while giving up 28 hits and he had a 3.50 ERA.

Summer ends and while the same summer will never come again, Mullet and the rest of the coaching staff understand how fortunate they are to coach a team filled with talented players who are growing into exceptional young men.

"We are here to help and guide these teenage boys as they become young men. Seeing Alex mature into the young man he is today has been truly special to see as a coach," Mullet said.

"We are proud of him and all of our seniors. We wish them all the best on their next chapters. Alex and his senior teammates will all make good impacts on their future communities wherever that may be."

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