



**2022**

**SUMMER SPORTS**

**Softball/Baseball**

*Estherville Lincoln Central*

*North Union*

*Graettinger-Terrill/Ruthven-Ayrshire*

A publication of the

★ **ESTHERVILLE NEWS**

# ELC ESTHERVILLE LINCOLN CENTRAL MIDGETS



The 2022 Estherville Lincoln Central Softball Team includes, front from left, Mady Jewell, Darieliz Acosta, Jordyn Stokes, Kaitlyn Tendal, Haylee Stokes, Kennedy Paul; middle row: Cara Schiltz, Tatum Dunlavy, Brei Christoffer, Hillary Ruschy, Jasey Anderson, Hope Pytleski, Jersie Nitchals, Evi Nath; back row: Brooklyn Iverson, Joie Christensen, Jaydan Nitchals, Rylee Yager, Gabby Paul, Lilly Snyder, Emily Regelstad and Haylee Nissen.

Photo by David Swartz

## ELC looking for another deep postseason run in 2022

By DAVID SWARTZ  
MANAGING EDITOR

If pitching is all that's needed to take a softball team to the state tournament, Estherville Lincoln Central has it.

However, the Midgets will need to play solid defense and come up with some runs if they want to return to the Class 3A Tournament this season.

A year ago, ELC made a miraculous run to the state tournament, winning three playoff games each by one run—8-7 over Boyden-Hull/Rock Valley, 2-1 over rival Spirit Lake and 2-1 over Sioux Center in the regional championship.

ELC was unable to come up with a win at the state tournament, but finished with a respectable 23-10 record.

"Some of our younger players now have that experience and should help us be leaders and help us handle different situations," said ELC coach Megan Anderson.

The Midgets' pitching tandem of Tatum Dunlavy and Rylee Yager both posted earned run averages under 2.00 last season.

Dunlavy pitched 97.2 innings and finished with a 10-6 record. She struck out 166 batters, walked 41 and gave up 33 runs on 44 hits. She had a 1.65 ERA.

Yager pitched 67 innings, striking out 93 batters and walking 22 while giving up 25 runs on 40 hits. She finished with a 1.97 ERA.

ELC's third pitcher, Gabby Paul, posted a 3-1 record. In 27.1 innings, she struck out 19 batters, walked three and gave up 13 runs on 36 hits for a 3.33 ERA.

ELC struggled at the plate last season, batting .246 as a team.

Dunlavy, now a sophomore, led ELC with a .377 average with 29 hits including eight doubles, two home runs, a triple and 21 RBIs.

Jasey Anderson, now a sophomore, batted .321 last season with 27 hits including three doubles, a triple and 12 RBIs.

Yager, now a freshman, is the only other returning player who batted above .300 with a .308 average. However, her opportunities were limited at the plate.

The loss of Saylor Ayers, Adrienne Rosfjord, Jordyn Moore, Kendyl Ruschy and Amara Heinrichs to graduation leave room for underclassmen to step up this season.

Paul and Kaitlyn Tendal are the team's returning seniors. Tendal can play either first or third bases as needed while Paul can be used in the outfield or as the designated player when not pitching. Fellow senior Jaydan Nitchals, who was the first baseman last year, is with the team as a manager. She isn't expected to play as she is recovering from shoulder surgery following the basketball season.

Defensively, freshman Hillary Ruschy is

Schedule			
May 24	@North Union	June 15	Storm Lake
May 25	GT/RA	June 16	Bishop Garrigan
May 27	@Heelan Tnt	June 17	@Roland Tnt
May 28	@Heelan Tnt	June 18	@Roland Tnt
May 31	@Emmetsburg	June 20	Spencer
June 1	Cherokee	June 22	@Western Christian
June 3	@Atlantic Tnt	June 24	@Ankeny Tnt
June 4	@Atlantic Tnt	June 25	@Ankeny Tnt
June 6	@Spencer	June 27	Spirit Lake
June 8	Western Christian	June 28	@Algona
June 9	@Sioux Central	June 29	@Storm Lake
June 13	@Spirit Lake	June 30	@Forest City
June 14	Sheldon		

behind the plate at catcher. Joining Tendal in the infield are junior Jordyn Stokes at second base and Anderson at shortstop. Dunlavy will play third when not pitching. Jersie Nitchals will see time at first base.

Junior Brei Christoffer roams in right field with freshman Cara Schiltz in center. Junior Darieliz Acosta also is expected to fill in as needed in either the infield, outfield or as the designated player.

Sophomore Kennedy Paul can also fill in as an infielder or pinch hitter this season.

Freshman Haylee Stokes and sophomore Evi Nath will see time as courtesy runners.

"Our goal is simply to continue to get better as the season goes on," said Coach Anderson. "From the game we lose, we just have to figure out what we can do better."

ELC won the Lakes Conference last season with a 9-1 record, losing their one game to Spencer.

The Midgets will look to repeat, but will likely face challenges from Spencer and Spirit Lake.



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The 2022 Estherville Lincoln Central Baseball Team includes, front from left, Preston Crees, Kale Shatto, Dylan Peta, Jake Knudson, Hayden Cornwall, Blake Evans, Tate White, Wes Martin, Asher Molacek, Aiden Swanson; middle row: Carson Grange, Brock Irwin, Kendall Molacek, Kyle Quastad, Daryl Jensen, Ryan Schiltz, Alexander Sheridan, Cade Crees, Victor Escobedo, Nick Hansen, assistant coach Nate Hansen; back row: head coach Lee Evans, Cael Miller, Owen Larson, Jordan Jensen, Griffin Gesche, Landon Vaske, Grant Love, Griffin Hoyer, Seth Busch, and Blake Ingvall. Not pictured is assistant coach Matt Gruhlke.

Photo by David Swartz

# Midgets look to make a run to the state tournament

By DAVID SWARTZ  
MANAGING EDITOR

With nearly the entire roster returning, the Estherville Lincoln Central Baseball Team expects a deep run in the postseason again this year.

The Midgets lost just one starter to graduation in pitcher Will Larson. While he was a key to ELC's success last year, the rest of the roster is ready to step up.

Three ELC seniors already plan to continue their baseball careers after high school. Carter Snyder and Landon Vaske both signed with Iowa Lakes Community College while Seth Busch plans to take his talents to Buena Vista University.

Snyder is the top returning pitcher for ELC. He posted a 5-1 record in six starts. He pitched 42 innings and finished with 46 strikeouts to just nine walks. He gave up 39 hits and had an earned run average of 2.50. He is off to a quick start with 22 strikeouts in two starts this season.

Vaske pitched 12 innings last year and had 16 strikeouts with four walks while giving up nine hits. He already has a win under his belt this season against Manson-Northwest Webster.

Busch also has a win this year, striking out nine batters in three innings on the mound.

Other key seniors are Ryan Schiltz, Blake Ingvall and Daryl Jensen.

Schiltz pitched 22.1 innings and finished with 31 strikeouts and 18 walks. He handles

duties at shortstop when not on the mound.

Ingvall can play shortstop or second base and can also pitch if called on in a pinch.

Jensen is coming off an injury and will roam the outfield once he's back in the lineup.

At the plate, Schiltz is the top returning hitter, as he batted .377 last year. He finished with a team-high 29 hits and scored 31 runs. He had seven doubles, two triples a home run and 22 RBIs.

Busch batted .329 with 24 hits including five doubles, three home runs and 17 RBIs.

Ingvall batted .325 with 27 hits including five doubles and a tea-high 26 RBIs.

Senior Daryl Jensen was out for the first few games, but is expected to be back in the lineup and roaming the outfield. He batted .313 last season with 21 hits.

Seniors Grant Love and Griffin Hoyer also will play roles. Love has filled in in the outfield to start the season. Hoyer is used as a designated hitter.

Also returning to the lineup is sophomore Owen Larson. He posted a 3-1 record on the mound last season with 34 strikeouts to 14 walks. He had an ERA of 3.34. At the plate, he batted .242 with 15 hits and 17 RBIs.

Junior Blake Evans also will see time on the hill as well as the infield. A year ago, he batted .277 with 18 hits and 25 RBIs.

ELC has some depth. Sophomore Cael Miller played in the infield while Schiltz was competing at the state golf meet.

## Schedule

May 17	@H-LP	June 8	Western Christian
May 18	@Central Lyon	June 9	Algona
May 19	Alta-Aurelia	June 13	@Spirit Lake
May 20	@Emmetsburg	June 14	@Forest City
May 23	C-G-D	June 15	Storm Lake
May 24	Manson-NW	June 17	@Cherokee
May 25	Bishop Garrigan	June 20	Spencer
May 26	Sioux Central	June 21	@Humboldt
May 30	Newman Catholic	June 22	@Western Christian
May 31	MOC-Floyd Valley	June 23	@Okoboji
June 1	Cherokee	June 25	ELC Tnt
June 4	@Newell-Fonda Tnt	June 27	Spirit Lake
June 6	@Spencer	June 29	@Storm Lake
June 7	GT/RA	June 30	@North Iowa

Others providing depth for ELC are juniors Cade Cees, Carson Grange and Kyle Quastad and sophomore Aiden Swanson and freshman Kale Shatto.

ELC batted .296 last year as a team with a .434 on-base percentage.

Their experience should help improve both those numbers.

The Midgets finished last season with a 20-6 record, making it all the way to the substate championship when they lost to Unity Christian.

ELC expects to make a run at state tournament.

In the Lakes Conference, ELC finished second behind Storm Lake in the league standings. The Midgets were 8-2 while the Tornados were 10-0. Although Storm Lake also lost a key pitcher to graduation, much of their talent also returns.

ELC was ranked ninth in the preseason rankings, however rival Spirit Lake also returns talent and were ranked eighth.

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# NORTH UNION WARRIORS



The 2022 North Union Softball Team includes, front from left, Cassie Beadle, Sam Nielsen and Maggie Engelby; middle row: Harley Tobin, Shelby Fraker, Olivia Von Bank, Emily Meyer, Ella Ulrich; back row: Coach Jack Von Bank, Lexi Vaske, Libby Stevens, Naomi Jones, Ava Steinberger, Beth Streuber, Aliyah Jones, Brylie Deim, Olivia Price and Coach Kim Price.

Photo by Kim Meyer, Bancroft Register/Swea City Herald Press

## Warriors look to return to state tournament

By DAVID SWARTZ  
MANAGING EDITOR

SWEA CITY — After setting several team records and making it to the Class 2A State Tournament, the North Union Softball Team will be looking for even more in 2022.

The Warriors lost just two seniors to graduation—Kaylee Meyer and Vanessa Von Bank.

They return most of the line-up including junior pitcher Emily Meyer, who set school records in wins (29), shutouts (13) and strikeouts (278).

Meyer had a 29-6 record and walked 48 batters. In 187 innings, she had an earned run average of 1.65 and opponents batted .195 against her.

“I’m excited for this season as I feel we’ve gotten a great defensive team and a very strong offense all the way through the lineup,” said North Union coach Kim Price. “We also have a couple girls on the varsity bench that I’m confident can come in to pinch hit in certain situations and do a great job for us.”

Senior left fielder Sam Nielsen is the top returning hitter after batting .595 last season—another school record. She also scored a school record 64 runs. Nielsen finished the year with 75 hits including five doubles and one triple. She drew 20 walks for an on-base percentage of .651.

As a team, the Warriors set a school record

for batting average at .434 with a school record 12 triples.

Sophomore centerfielder Naomi Jones set the individual school record for triples with six.

The rest of the lineup includes senior third-baseman Cassie Beadle, senior first baseman Maggie Engelby, junior catcher Shelby Fraker, sophomore second baseman Beth Streuber, sophomore shortstop Libby Stevens, and junior right fielder Ella Ulrich.

Beadle had the second-highest batting average last year at .555 with 66 hits and 22 RBIs. She was close behind Nielsen in runs scored with 61.

Last year’s shortstop, junior Olivia Von Bank is out to start the season due to an injury. Coach Price is unsure of when she’ll return.

Von Bank was the team’s third-leading hitter a year ago with a .513 batting average with 59 hits including a team-high nine home runs and 68 RBIs.

Three other players batted over .400 last season with Meyer at .464, Fraker at .419, and Jones at .407. Ulrich finished with a .364 batting average with Streuber batting .333 and Engelby batting .312.

“The main difference to start this season is not having Von Bank in the lineup,” said Price. “I also think another difference is that this team made it to state last year and now they know what that’s like and just the

Schedule			
May 24	ELC	June 11	@ Spirit Lake Tnt
May 25	North Iowa	June 14	Okoboji
May 26	Emmetsburg	June 15	@North Iowa
May 27	@Forest City	June 17	Forest City
May 31	GT/RA	June 18	@ West Sioux Tnt
June 1	@Belmond-Klemme	June 20	@ West Hancock
June 3	Bishop Garrigan	June 21	G-H-V
June 4	@Newell-Fonda Tnt	June 22	Belmond-Klemme
June 6	@Lake Mills	June 23	Central Springs
June 7	West Hancock	June 24	@Bishop Garrigan
June 8	Eagle Grove	June 25	@St. Edmond Tnt
June 9	@Spencer	June 27	Lake Mills
June 10	@G-H-V	June 29	@Eagle Grove

overall experience. They are itching to do it again and have big goals to go down there and make some noise. The day-to-day team goals are to come out to every game ready to play. Work hard, be good teammates, play with passion, continue to improve. If we do those things, I have no doubt we’ll achieve the big post season goals, but we have to focus on the little things along the way.”

The Warriors are obviously favored to repeat as the Top of Iowa West Conference champions after posting a 15-1 record in the

league a year ago.

“I think Garrigan, Lake Mills and Belmond-Klemme will most likely be towards the top of the conference and our toughest competition,” said Price. “Belmond had a pretty decent season last year and has some young talent back. Garrigan and Lake Mills were up there behind us last year. Lake Mills had quite a few underclassmen that hit over .300 last year.”

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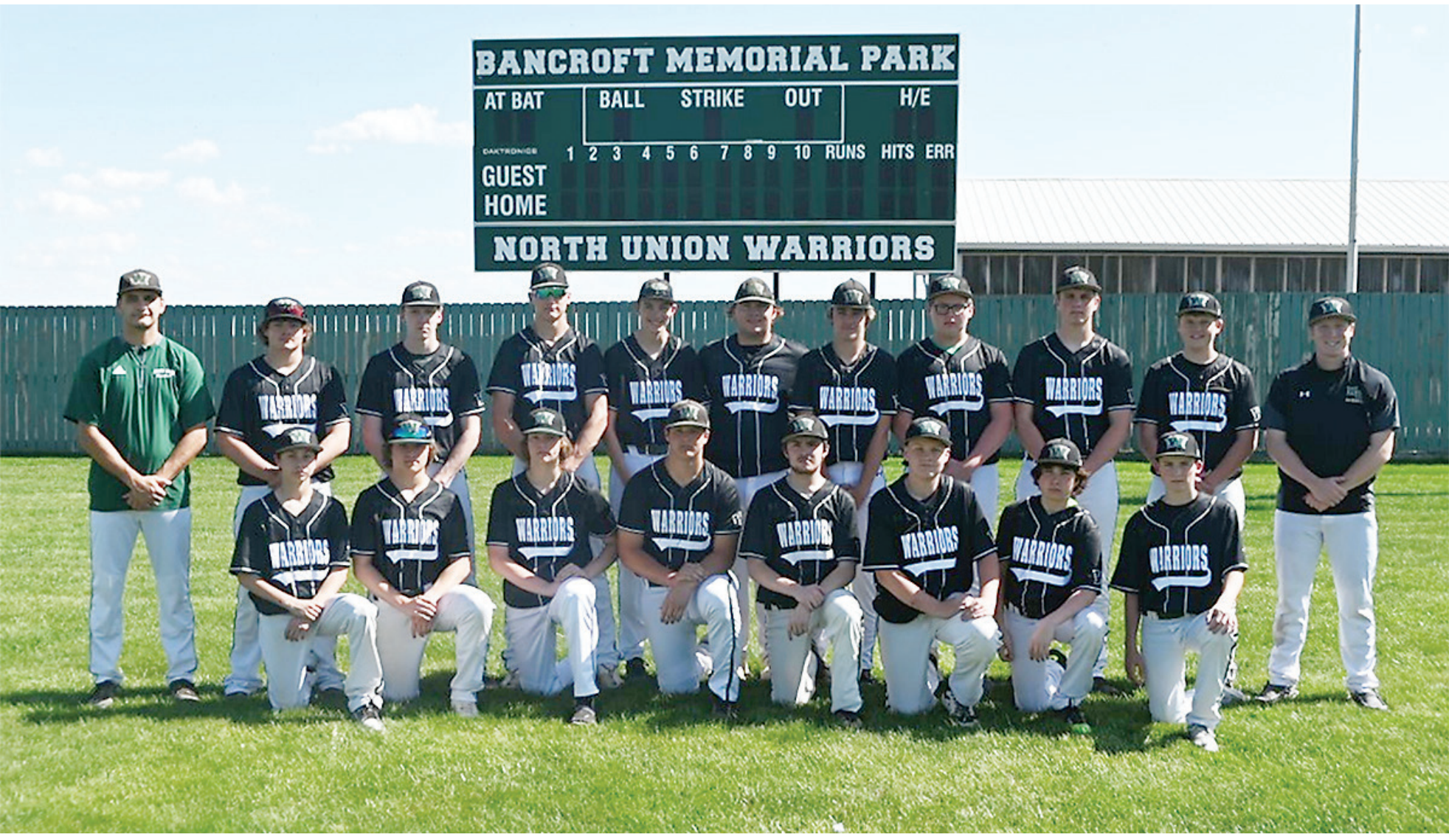
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# NORTH UNION WARRIORS



The 2022 North Union Baseball includes, front from left, Kahel Jones, Talon Priester, Jackson Engeman, Colin Rasch, Dylan Letts, Cole Nicoson, Kolton Weisbrod, Drew Henderson; back row: Coach Royce Brynes, Landon Hagedorn, Carter Morphew Logan Odegaard, Cole Hanson, Jay Heinen, Danyal Fothergill, Brennan Bollinger, Kody Irmiter, Levi Vaske, Coach Noah Morphew. Missing are Owen Haukoos, Ryan Haukoos and Kadin Walter.

Photo by Kim Meyer, Bancroft Register/Swea City Herald Press

## Warriors return experience, expect better in 2022

By DAVID SWARTZ  
MANAGING EDITOR

BANCROFT — The North Union Baseball Team returns eight letter winners from a year ago and will seek to notch a few more wins this season.

The Warriors lost four seniors to graduation and return just one senior this year from a team that finished 3-18 a year ago.

“We’re a younger team with not as much varsity experience,” said North Union coach Royce Brynes. “For some, this will be their first varsity action.”

Returning letters winners are senior Jay Heinen, juniors Logan Odegaard, Ryan Haukoos and Carter Morphew, and sophomores Danyal Fothergill, Talan Priester, Landon Hagedorn and Levi Vaske.

Coach Royce Brynes said Ryan Haukoos, Jay Heinen, Carter Morphew, Danyal Fothergill, Talan Priester, Landon Hagedorn, Levi Vaske, and Kody Irmiter will all be part of the pitching rotation.

Morphew and Heinen are the top returning pitchers for the Warriors. Morphew pitched 32 innings and finished with 22 strikeouts and 28 walks while giving up 43 hits. Heinen pitched 28.1 innings, striking out 19 and walking 25 while giving up 41 hits.

Morphew is the top returning hitter for the Warriors as he batted .286 last year. Heinen was close behind with a .283 batting average while Fothergill batted .262, and Haukoos batted .250.

“Goals this season are obviously to win as many games as we can,” said Brynes “But for the most part our goal is to be competitive every night out and be able to give ourselves a chance to win as many games as possible. With small numbers and pitch count rules, our season will depend largely on pitching.

Possible starting lineup for the first game will see Heinen on the mound with Caden Walders at catcher, Levi Vaske at first base, Logan Odegaard at second, Danyal

### Schedule

May 25	North Iowa	June 14	@H-LP
May 26	Emmetsburg	June 15	North Iowa
May 27	@Forest City	June 16	Okoboji
May 31	GT/RA	June 17	Forest City
June 2	@Manson NW	June 20	@West Hancock
June 3	Bishop Garrigan	June 21	G-HV
June 6	@Lake Mills	June 24	@Bishop Garrigan
June 7	West Hancock	June 27	Lake Mills
June 8	Eagle Grove	June 29	Eagle Grove
June 10	@G-H-V		

Fothergill at shortstop, Ryan Haukoos at third and Landon Hagedorn, Talan Priester and Colin Rasch in the outfield.

The Warriors finished eighth in the Top of Iowa West Conference last year with a 2-12 record.

Coach Brynes looks ahead to the

conference schedule.

“Garner-Hayfield-Ventura returns as last year’s conference champion and I would expect them to be the team to beat until someone knocks them off,” said Brynes. “Forest City and Garrigan are two others who are routinely solid teams.”



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# GRAETTINGER-TERRIL/RUTHVEN-AYRSHIRE TITANS



The 2022 Graettinger-Terril/Ruthven-Ayrshire Softball Team includes, front from left, Emma Chapin, Trista Guinn, Elizabeth Bisgaard, Emma Bland, Natalie Swedin, Tabitha Cother, and Lizzy Palsrok; middle row: Bella Anderson, Lilian Vanderhoff, Jaelyn Elliot, Olivia Anderson, Sophie Petersen, Hailey Ebel, Alissa Palsrok, and Lilly Thompson; back row: Kayley Ruehle, Khloe Hanson, Addie Rutter, Ally Hanson, Kenzie Hoffman, Macy Alderson, Josi Reiman, Madisen Fay, and Alexis Duus.

Photo by Jay Schoning

## Experienced Titans seek more success in 2022

By DAVID SWARTZ  
MANAGING EDITOR

RUTHVEN — The Graettinger-Terril/Ruthven-Ayrshire Softball Team expect more success in 2022. The Titans return nearly their entire lineup from a year ago.

GT/RA coach Kyle Norris says the biggest difference between this year's team and last year's team is experience.

"We only moved one player off from graduation (Sierra Kluever), so we just had to replace that one," he said.

Lizzy Palsrok steps into that spot at third base.

"Everyone's got the same job," Norris said. "They understand it better, and they've worked hard in the off-season."

The Titans finished 16-13 overall in 2021.

"We need to be consistent every inning of every game," said Norris. "We need to make sure we stay focused on our goal, which is to put ourselves in great position for the postseason."

The Titans return both their main pitchers from a year ago in juniors Hailey Ebel and Sophie Petersen.

Ebel led the Titans with a 14-7 record. IN131.2 innings, she struck out 51 batters

and walked 37. She had an earned run average of 4.20.

Petersen finished with a 2-4 record with 19 strikeouts and 35 walks.

Sophomore Josi Reiman also may see the mound more this season and already pitched a couple innings, Norris said.

GT/RA also returns some talented offensive payers.

Myla Murphy, coming off winning four medals at the Class 1A State Track Meet, batted .500 last season. The junior bats left-handed and uses her speed to get on base as the team's leadoff batter. She had a team-high 47 hits and scored 39 runs last season.

Fellow junior Ally Hanson batted .420 last season with 34 hits including 11 doubles, four home runs, a triple and 21 RBIs. Sophomore Natalie Swedin, also a left-hander, batted .402 with 37 his and had 17 RBIs.

Senior Macy Alderson batted .396 including seven home runs, six triples, three doubles and 31 RBIs. Sophomore Lilly Thompson batted .294 last year with 21 hits and five RBIs. Senior Kenzie Hoffman batted .294 with 25 hits with 29 RBIs.

The Titans' tied for fourth in the Twin

### Schedule

May 23	H-M-S	June 10	@Manson NW
May 24	@H-LP	June 13	@ St. Mary's -SL
May 25	@ELC	June 16	Newell-Fonda
May 26	Sibley-Ocheyedan	June 17	Emmetsburg
May 27	Alta-Aurelia	June 20	@Emmetsburg
May 31	@North Union	June 21	@Storm Lake
June 1	@Sioux Central	June 22	Southeast Valley
June 3	Pocahontas Area	June 24	@Alta-Aurelia
June 4	GT/RA Tnt	June 27	@Newell-Fonda
June 6	@Sioux Central	June 29	@H-M-S
June 7	Okoboji	June 20	Sioux Central
June 8	East Sac County		

Lakes Conference a year ago and are looking to move up the league standings.

"Newell-Fonda is the team to beat in our conference and we want to challenge them," said Norris. "Southeast Valley has a couple of good young pitchers. Pocahontas has a good freshman pitcher so they're a wild card. It comes down to someone has to beat

Newell-Fonda."

Norris and his Titans look to make a deep run in the postseason.

"Last year, we made it to regional semifinal and had a tough out against Akron-Westfield," said Norris. "Our expectation is that we're playing that game at home this year."



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# GRAETTINGER-TERRIL/RUTHVEN-AYRSHIRE TITANS



The 2022 Graettinger-Terril/Ruthven-Ayrshire Baseball Team includes, front from left, Andrew Kral, Isaiah Malm, Brock Simington, Caleb Swedin, Koda Saul; middle row: Cormick Currans, Jon Krieger, Wyatt Haffner, Aiden Egertson, Collin Hoffman, Braden Simington, Grounds Assistant Brad Conlon; back row: Head Coach Bob Protexter, Blake Rosacker, Brody Simington, Dalton Young, Donavon Young, Jordan Saul, Patrick Fiddler and Assistant Coach Adam Hein.

Photo by Jay Schoning

## Titans already well on their way to a better season

By DAVID SWARTZ  
MANAGING EDITOR

**RUTHVEN** — The 2022 Graettinger-Terril/Ruthven-Ayrshire Baseball Team is well on its way to improving on its 4-16 record of 2021.

The Titans won three of their first four games, as of this writing need just one more win to surpass last year's win total.

In the first week of play, GT/RA defeated Central Lyon 13-1, North Iowa 6-3, lost to Hartley-Melvin-Sanborn 10-7 and defeated Harris-Lake Park 5-2.

The Titans have shown patience at the plate, drawing 26 walks in those four games while needing just 18 hits.

Bob Protexter returns to coach the Titans who only lost one starter to graduation in Cade Stearns.

Senior Dalton Young leads the

returning bullpen. He pitched 20.2 innings a year ago.

Young recorded eight strikeouts in five innings in the season-opening win over Central Lyon on May 16.

Fellow senior Nolan Darr pitched 15.2 innings, junior Aiden Egertson pitched 12.2 innings, senior Brody Simington pitched 10.2 innings and senior Cormick Currans pitched 9.2 innings.

Sophomore Braden Simington has stepped into the rotation and is 2-0 in two starts this season with 15 strikeouts and eight walks while giving up seven hits.

For the Titan offense, senior Brody Simington led the team a year ago with a .577 batting average. He had 28 hits with two doubles and eight RBIs. Young batted .421 with 16 hits including three doubles and seven RBIs.

Junior Kory Hough batted .360

### Schedule

May 16	Central Lyon	June 8	East Sac County
May 17	North Iowa	June 9	St. Mary's-Remsen
May 18	@H-M-S	June 10	Manson-NW
May 24	@Harris-Lake Park	June 13	@West Bend-Mallard
May 25	Okoboji	June 17	Newell-Fonda
May 26	Sibley-Ocheyedan	June 20	@Emmetsburg
May 31	@North Union	June 22	Southeast Valley
June 1	@SC Calhoun	June 23	@Alta-Aurelia
June 3	Pocahontas Area	June 27	West Bend-Mallard
June 6	@Sioux Central	June 29	South O'Brien
June 7	@ELC		

last year while junior Jordan Saul batted .267.

Junior Patrick Fiddler is one Titan who has shown patience at the plate thus far in the 2022 season, drawing eight walks.

GT/RA tied for eighth in the Twin Lakes Conference a year ago with a 4-7 record. Newell-Fonda is

the team to beat this year after the Mustangs went 11-0 in league play in 2021.

Also in 2021, Emmetsburg, Pocahontas Area, Sioux Central, Alta-Aurelia and Southeast Valley all posted winning records for the season overall and in league play.

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