

## Local High School Baseball Preview Capsules

### AYER SHIRLEY

**League:** Mid-Wach D  
**Last year's record:** 7-9  
**Returning starters:** Andrew Consalvo, so., 1B; Nick Granger, so., 2B; Will Doyle, sr., SS; Steven Lawton, sr., CF; Michael Woodland, so., OF/P.  
**Other returning lettermen:** Nate Hunt, so., OF; Cole Casto, jr., OF.  
**Promising newcomers:** John Dupel, so., 3B; Chris Rooney, fr., P/IF/OF.  
**Coach Billy Wright (2nd season):** "Defensively and pitching-wise we should be strong. I just hope the sticks come around — if they do, we'll be very competitive. We're so young, so offensively is where we're really trying to improve."

### BILLERICA

**League:** MVC Division 2  
**Last year's record:** 10-12  
**Returning starters:** Kevin Kennedy, sr., CF; Ryan Murphy, so., 1B/P  
**Other returning lettermen:** Morgan Mulkerin, sr., OF; Billy Rose, sr., P/3B; Brady McGarry, sr., P/OF; Tyler Stack, sr., SS; Matt Tucker, jr., 2B.  
**Promising newcomers:** Ryan Brouillette, jr., P/OF; Dan Fantasia, jr., 3B/OF; Matt Livingston, so., 3B/P; Matt Lewitzky, so., OF; Ethan Hadley, sr., P/1B; DJ Sidell, fr., SS/P; Michael Stack, fr., SS/P; Danny Cabrera, fr., C.  
**Coach Joe Higgins (11th season):** "We're going to be young but we have some good young players. We have three pretty established starters, so if we can play some strong defense and manufacture some runs, we'll be OK. This year's team is not as potent offensively as last year's, which is why I think we'll have to manufacture runs. But maybe I'll be pleasantly surprised."

### CHELMSFORD

**League:** MVC Division 1  
**Last year's record:** 13-9, lost to Methuen in Division 1 North quarterfinals  
**Returning starters:** Ryan Hart, sr., ss; Peter Miller, sr., 3B; Mike Untracht, sr., P.  
**Other returning lettermen:** Ben Burke, sr., P; Nick Pottle, sr., P; Shea Ryan, jr., P/OF; Micah Migliorin, sr., P/OF; Jack Beauchesne, so., OF/P; Mike Vecchione, so., OF.  
**Promising newcomers:** Maguire Donovan, sr., C; Aaron Palermo, sr., IF; Chris Bungard, sr., 1B; Bob Small, sr., OF; Eric Wroebel, sr., OF; Jack Adamson, jr., P; Andrew Cloutier, jr., P/OF; Mike Connor, jr., IF; Matt Doherty, jr., IF; Carl Erickson, jr., 1B; Jarrad Huggins, jr., C/IF; Graham Jeffries, jr., P; Chad Lizzine, jr., IF; Chris Rabias, jr., C.  
**Coach Mike O'Keefe (24th season):** "As you can see, we have many players who are competing for positions. We understand that many may float back and forth from varsity and JV to get needed playing time. We are excited by the amount of kids who have shown interest and have worked hard. The league, as always, will be extremely competitive. Central Catholic, Andover and North Andover have the pitching and depth returning that will make them the teams to chase."

### DRACUT

**League:** MVC Division 2  
**Last year's record:** 11-10, lost to Masconomet in Division 2 North first round  
**Returning starters:** Adam Berger, sr., C/3B; Ryan Talbot, sr., CF/P; Kyle Hould, sr., C/SS/3B; Joe Donnelly, sr., 2B/P/SS.  
**Other returning lettermen:** Mark Murray, sr., P.  
**Promising newcomers:** Austin Chausse, sr., P/1B; Micheal Pilato, sr., P/IF; Chris Nugent, sr., 1B; Jared Brule, sr., OF/P; Micheal Patterson, jr., P/SS/3B; Devin Lambert, jr., P/LF; Brad Keefe, jr., C/2B; Jared Fahey, jr., P/IF; John Cormier P/OF.  
**Coach Steve Talbot (3rd season):** "Very inexperienced on the mound but we are getting better everyday. The boys are working



COURTESY PHOTO

Returning veterans for the Lowell Catholic baseball team for 2018 include (front, from left) Alex Graves, Ryan Duffy, Andrew Martin, Matthew Larson, Peter Sawyer and Kyle DeRoma; (rear, from left) Declan Dunbar, Mikas Kulbis-Marino, Zach Gitschier, David Gill, Nate Sayer and Andrius Kulbis-Marino.

hard and I fully expect they will compete every day. We have some players that really understand the game and make everyone better. The league is strong as usual."

### GREATER LOWELL

**League:** CAC Large  
**Last year's record:** 8-12  
**Returning starters:** Cole Blades, so., 3B; Brian Bosia, so., P/1B; Zack Cook, sr., C; Jeremy Gray, jr., C; Cole Harris, sr., 1B; Nick Kacavas, sr., SS/P; Connor Lagasse, jr., 2B; Ian Paquette, sr., OF; Jeff Springer, jr., P/OF.  
**Other returning lettermen:** Darinel Santana, sr., OF.  
**Promising newcomers:** Matt Gaudette, so., 2B/SS; Ryan Hickey, so., OF/P; Jose Lazu, so., P/SS; Deryk Lopez, jr., OF; Cody Perretti, jr., C; Jake Labonte, jr., 1B/OF; Riley Stys, so., P/OF.  
**Coach Dave MacLaughlin (35th season):** "We're going to be young with the pitching staff. Kacavas batted .367 last year and we expect Jeremy Gray to help carry us a bit, offensively. Cole Blades had a nice year as a freshman as well. We always preach pitching and defense."

### LOWELL CATHOLIC

**League:** CCL Small  
**Last year's record:** 19-5, lost to Archbishop Williams in Division 4 state semifinals  
**Returning starters:** Zach Gitschier, sr., OF/P; Mikas Kulbis-Marino, sr., OF; Ryan Duffy, sr., IF/P; Alex Graves, jr., IF/P; David Gill, jr., IF/P; Kyle DeRoma, jr., C.  
**Other returning lettermen:** Nate Sayer, jr., OF/P; Matt Larson, jr., IF/P; Peter Sawyer, jr., IF/P; Declan Dunbar, jr., OF; Andrew Martin, so., IF/C.  
**Promising newcomers:** Andruis Kulbis-Marino, sr., IF; Josh Sayer, so., OF; Ian Sullivan, so., IF/OF.  
**Coach Matt Stone (7th season):** "The core should be pretty strong, and we'll be really good up the middle. We'll lean on our seniors for leadership and any other leaders who emerge during the season. The league is usually competitive."

### LOWELL

**League:** MVC Division 1  
**Last year's record:** 17-8, lost to Wellesley in Div. 1 state semifinals  
**Returning starters:** Edgar Velazquez, jr., OF; Anderson Jimenez, sr., SS; Matt Draper, sr., P.  
**Other returning lettermen:** Chris Ward, sr., P.  
**Promising newcomers:** Jake Marsh, sr., OF; Jon Ryder, sr., P/3B; Ben Asselin, jr., P/OF; John Donovan, jr., C/P; Brian Callery, jr., P/1B; Aidan Foyle, jr., P; Brendan DeMarco, so., P/OF; Tyler Hoey, so., P/3B; Ray Velazquez, fr., OF/IF; Adam Betty, fr., P.  
**Coach Dan Graham (11th season):** "We lost a lot from last year. We do have some young guys who I think will become very good players over the course of the season. I'd

like to practice less and play more to get a better idea of what we have. Our lack of returnees is a little troublesome, but I think we have a lot of players in the freshmen and sophomore classes who are baseball players — it's their No. 1 sport. Hopefully our players who played hockey will help that success on the ice carry over to this team."

### NASHOBA TECH

**League:** Colonial Athletic League  
**Last year's record:** 5-15  
**Returning lettermen:** Vinny Eramo, sr., C; Nick Crawford, sr., IF; DJ Fraser, so., P/C; Brandon Gauthier, jr., P/1B; Anthony Aulet, sr., P/3B; Jonathan Suero, so., OF; David Kelly, sr., P/OF.  
**Promising newcomers:** Owen Swanbon, so., IF; James Fitzgerald, jr., 1B.  
**Coach Billy Moloney (1st season):** "My expectations are always a little high, maybe I shouldn't do that in my first year, but oh well. I expect that we'll be able to compete, fully knowing that we need to be proficient in all areas. If we do that, we'll compete. The catcher position should be strong with Eramo."

### NORTH MIDDLESEX

**League:** Mid-Wach C  
**Last year's record:** 14-7, lost to Leominster in Division 1 Central quarterfinals  
**Returning starters:** Pat Aubuchon, jr., P/C; Nick White, sr., P/IF; Brendan Sullivan, sr., SS/P; Tim Mahoney, sr., LF; Jack Boudreau, sr., CF.  
**Other returning lettermen:** Josh Bornaman, jr., 1B; Robbie Gaskins, jr., IF; Seth Farley, jr., P/1B; Zach Reeves, so., 3B/C.  
**Promising newcomers:** Sean Hayward, fr., 3B; Tyler Mahoney, so., IF; Alex Mutile, jr., 1B; Reed Callahan, so., OF.  
**Coach Tom Bartelson (13th season):** "Our expectation is to defend our Mid-Wach C title. We've got that winning attitude and we want to repeat as league champs. Aubuchon is a machine at the plate and I expect him to pick up right where he left off last year. Nick White should also give us a strong season, offensively. We're a little thin, pitching-wise. There's a couple spots up for grabs. Offensively, we've just been hitting in the cage, so it's tough to tell. But I expect our top four or five guys to carry us for a while."

### SHAWSHEEN TECH

**League:** CAC Large  
**Last year's record:** 17-5, lost to Lynnfield in Division 3 North quarterfinals  
**Returning starters:** Nick Nardella, sr., OF; Russ Murphy, sr., C; Sean Flagg, sr., P; Zac Carpenter, sr., 3B; James Alagna, sr., 1B/DH; Chris Galinos, sr., 2B; Anthony Medeiros, sr., P; C.J. Zemetres, jr., P/IF/OF.  
**Other returning lettermen:** Craig Meland, sr., P/IF/OF.

**Promising newcomers:** Connor Rich, so., OF; Anthony Freda, so., IF.  
**Coach Brian McCarthy (6th season):** "We are returning a handful of important players from last year's team and hope to fill in the spots where some key contributors graduated last year with some young talent this season. We have a handful of returning position players, especially in the infield. We hope our defense can establish itself early in the season. We have a few bats coming back in our lineup — Alagna, Galinos and Zemetres — they provided a lot of offense for us last year. However, we graduated a lot of offense as well and we will have to produce runs early on. One bright spot for us is that we are returning a number of players from the pitching staff and hope their experience on the mound can lead us, especially in the early part of the season as our young batters start to get comfortable."

### TEWKSBURY

**League:** MVC Division 2  
**Last year's record:** 2-18  
**Returning starters:** Travis MacMurdo, jr., P/1B; Kyle Rossetti, jr., P/OF; Dom Jolly, sr., C/P; Matt Perron, jr., IF; Kyle Zervas, jr., IF; Michael Polimeno, jr., IF; Cam Legvold, sr., CF/P; Tyler Wilson, sr., OF.  
**Other returning lettermen:** Nate Ell, sr., IF/OF; Nolan Timmons, so., OF; Kyle Obst, sr., P/OF; Chris Blimberg, jr., P.  
**Promising newcomers:** Garrett Kingston, so., IF; Ryne Rametta, fr., C; Chris Antonelli, so., OF; Chad Boschetti, jr., OF/P; Riley Frost, jr., P; Derek Graffeo, jr., C.  
**Coach Kirk Monbleau (3rd season):** "I think we have a lot of returning guys who got varsity time as young kids, and probably before they were ready. They've had time to mature so I think the game will slow down a bit for them. We've been trying to talk to the team about playing mistake-free baseball, as hard as that is to do. But we also hope we can get some timely hitting."

### TYNGSBORO

**League:** Mid-Wach D  
**Last year's record:** 9-12, lost to Hopedale in D4 Central first round  
**Returning starters:** Garrett Vigneault, sr., OF/P; Tyler Hapenny, jr., OF/P; Chris Ausiello, jr., SS/P; Johnny Carlson, so., 2B/P; Phil Sutherland, so., 1B/P.  
**Other returning lettermen:** Matt Pontbriant, sr., OF; Connor Tompkins, jr., 3B/P.  
**Promising newcomers:** Justin Santos, sr., 3B; Zach Eldridge, jr., OF; Nolan Michaud, so., OF/2B; Alex Carney, so., C/P/3B; Josh Ducharme, so., C/2B; Connor Graham, so., OF/P.  
**Coach Ken Connerty (13th season):** "Our goal is to win our league, get into the state tourney and go as far as we can. We have a

### PLAYERS TO WATCH

**INFIELD:** Will Doyle, sr., Ayer Shirley; Ryan Murphy, so., Billerica; Ryan Hart, sr., Chelmsford; Peter Miller, sr., Chelmsford; Joe Donnelly, sr., Dracut; Kyle Hould, sr., Dracut; Cole Blades, so., Greater Lowell; Jeremy Gray, jr., Greater Lowell; Nick Kacavas, sr., Greater Lowell; Kyle DeRoma, jr., Lowell Catholic; Anderson Jimenez, sr., Lowell; Vinny Eramo, sr., Nashoba Tech; Pat Aubuchon, jr., North Middlesex; James Alagna, sr., Shawsheen Tech; Chris Galinos, sr., Shawsheen Tech; Matt Perron, jr., Tewksbury; Kyle Zervas, jr., Tewksbury; Sean Egan, sr., Westford Academy; Kevin Egan, so., Westford Academy; Jared Aucoin, sr., Wilmington; Dan Gracia, sr., Wilmington.  
**OUTFIELD:** Steve Lawton, sr., Ayer Shirley; Kevin Kennedy, sr., Billerica; Mikas Kulbis-Marino, sr., Lowell Catholic; Edgar Velazquez, jr., Lowell; Josh Boudreau, sr., North Middlesex; Matt Rideout, sr., Wilmington; Graham Smith, sr., Wilmington; Tom Worob, sr., Wilmington  
**PITCHERS:** Billy Rose, sr., Billerica; Mike Untracht, sr., Chelmsford; Zach Gitschier, sr., Lowell Catholic; Matt Draper, sr., Lowell; Tyler Hoey, so., Lowell; Nick White, sr., North Middlesex; C.J. Zemetres, jr., Shawsheen Tech; Cam Legvold, sr., Tewksbury; Travis MacMurdo, jr., Tewksbury; Kindred Atwood, jr., Westford Academy; Alex Mondro, sr., Westford Academy; Chris Grecco, sr., Wilmington.

good mix of upperclassmen and lowerclassmen. Also a strong but inexperienced sophomore class."

### WESTFORD ACADEMY

**League:** DCL Large  
**Last year's record:** 12-9, lost to Chelmsford in Division 1 North first round  
**Returning starters:** Sean Egan, sr., 2B.  
**Other returning lettermen:** Alex Mondro, sr., P; Tyler Guillemette, jr., IF; Matt Laverdure, jr., P; Ian Kim, sr., 1B.  
**Promising newcomers:** Jason Fitzgerald, so., IF; Ryan Durgin, so, C; Kevin Egan, so., IF; Chris Zeoli, jr., IF; Ben Nudler, jr., P; Kindred Atwood, jr., P; Ben Lawrence, jr., OF; Jackson Roux, jr., C; John Berrigan, jr., OF; Steven Okuhara, sr., OF; Bryan McNeil, sr., OF; Matt Baggeroer, sr., 1B; Matt Whelan, sr., P.  
**Coach Mike Parent (3rd season):** "We're young, we only have one returning starter. But with that comes a lot of passion for the game. I think our pitching staff will keep us competitive, we just have to find ways to score runs. We have good team speed and a united group. We play in a tough league, so we just have to keep on plugging away."

### WILMINGTON

**League:** Middlesex, Freedom  
**Last year's record:** 16-5, lost to Burlington in D2 North first round  
**Returning starters:** Tom Worob, sr., OF; Graham Smith, sr., CF; Matt Rideout, sr., OF; Jared Aucoin, sr., 1B; Dan Gracia, sr., SS/P; Chris Grecco, sr., 3B/P.  
**Other returning lettermen:** Kyle Beatrice, sr., 3B; Ben Maynard, sr., 2B; Riley Zaya, sr., 2B; Gavin Kelsey, jr., C; Chris Stokes, jr., SS.  
**Promising newcomers:** Peter Marino, jr., OF; Cam Kippenburger, jr., 3B; Mike Fiorenza, jr., C.  
**Coach Aldo Caira (17th season):** "I had six all-stars in the league last year — Worob, Smith, Rideout, Grecco, Gracia and Aucoin. They're all back, so I'm expecting big things. I just hope they don't read their own press. Grecco and Gracia are 1A and 1B as aces. Smith and Gracia are committed to play at Franklin Pierce. The league is always tough, Burlington gave us a lot of trouble last year."



**PACK MEN:** Lowell's Carlos Rivera, Colin Fitzpatrick and Nasir Gibson compete in the mile against Haverhill High earlier this week. They finished first, third and second, respectively.

SUN/JULIA MALAKIE

## Shutouts for Westford, GL, Lions

Robbie Hudson had 12 kills and 3 blocks as Westford Academy defeated Arlington, 3-0, in a Dual County League boys volleyball match.

### High schools

Elsewhere in boys volleyball match, Greater Lowell Tech beat Lowell Catholic 3-0 and Chelmsford blanked Haverhill 3-0.

**BOYS VOLLEYBALL**  
**Westford .....3**  
**Arlington .....0**  
Tom Burke chipped in with 3 aces and 27 assists while helping the Grey Ghosts sweep to victory, 28-26, 25-18, 25-21.  
Cam Tierney added 3 kills and 5 blocks for Westford (2-1, 1-1 DCL).

**Chelmsford .....3**  
**Haverhill .....0**  
Luke Briand tallied 10 kills, 4 blocks and 4 aces while leading the Lions past Haverhill, 25-17, 25-18, 25-22.

Levi Cass finished with 6 kills, 2 blocks and 4 digs, and Liam McGinty notched 10 kills.  
Aaron Schaefer chipped in with 13 digs and 3 aces.  
**Lawrence .....3**  
**Lowell .....0**  
Sokunbuth Ly notched 15 kills and 10 blocks, and Jullian Tang added 8 kills and 7 blocks while leading the way for Lowell in this MVC match.  
Pirak Som dished out 27 assists for the Red Raiders (2-1).  
Lowell beat Lawrence,

3-2, earlier in the week.  
**Greater Lowell .....3**  
**Lowell Catholic .....0**  
Greater Lowell blanked Lowell Catholic, 25-11, 26-24, 25-23, in a non-league match.

Brandon Silva (12 kills, 6 digs), Caleb Scott (5 kills, 2 blocks) and Henry Byun (24 assists, 4 aces) played well for Lowell Catholic.  
**Winchester .....3**  
**Billerica .....0**  
The Indians fell by scores of 25-17, 25-11, 25-14.  
Ankeet Patel had 3 kills and 2 aces for Billerica while Liam McDermott played a strong game.  
**GIRLS LACROSSE**  
**Tyngsboro .....17**  
**Lunenburg .....11**  
Annabelle Harrington scored 5 goals while power-

ing Tyngsboro past Lunenburg. Lexie Casey netted 4 goals as the Tigers evened their record at 1-1.  
Sara Hammerstone netted 3 goals and had 1 assist. Mollie Flanagan fired in 2 goals and added 1 assist. Amanda Leal and Justine Wagner potted 1 goal each. Emily Ronan made 10 saves in goal.  
**North Andover .....17**  
**Lowell .....6**  
Kaleigh Dunham and Abigail Mitchell scored 2 goals each while leading the way for Lowell in this MVC game that was played Thursday.  
Sarah Abraham and Lilly Diamantopoulos netted 1 goal each for the Red Raiders. Nina Phan made 4 saves.