

DIVISION I PRESEASON TOP 20 IN 2023

1  **KIMBERLY
PAPERMAKERS**
FOX VALLEY ASSOCIATION - 1ST

Coming off an impressive campaign last spring, the Papermakers look tough to beat in 2023. An experienced core of kids in the lineup and on the mound give Coach Ryan McGinnis' club a legitimate shot to win their 4th straight FVA title, and make it back to Appleton. UW-Whitewater commit, Evan Olson, will be a force behind the plate.

2  **WHITEFISH BAY
BLUE DUKES**
NORTH SHORE - 1ST

Despite some key players graduating, the Blue Dukes appear to be loaded in 2023. Led by Alabama recruit, JD Dix and Michigan commit Jack Counsell, expectations are high in Whitefish Bay to make a run to state.

3  **OAK CREEK
KNIGHTS**
SOUTHEASTERN - 1ST

The Knights might have all the ingredients to break through a tough sectional and get to Appleton. Senior Evan Calderon leads a talented infield and experienced lineup. With 65% of innings returning from 2022, pitching will also be a strength of Coach Scott Holler's team.

4  **MILWAUKEE
MARQUETTE
HILLTOPPERS**
GREATER METRO - 1ST

Looking to use an incredible 2022 season as a springboard, the 2023 edition of the Hilltoppers looks strong! With Luke Agnew and Sam Wronski returning to anchor the pitching staff, and an experienced lineup back this spring, making a run at the Greater Metro title and earning a spot at D1 state are within reach.

5  **BAY PORT
PIRATES**
FOX RIVER CLASSIC - 1ST

After claiming the Silver trophy last spring, the Pirates have their sights set on Gold. Talented and experienced, Bay Port will look to Cole Benson, senior shortstop and pitcher to help lead the team this spring.

6  **HARTLAND
ARROWHEAD
WARHAWKS**
CLASSIC EIGHT - 1ST

Simply put, the Warhawks appear to be loaded. With Thomas Curry returning behind the plate, top pitcher Arik Egerbrecht, and shortstop Connor Olson, look for Coach Brengosz's club to challenge for a spot in Appleton.

7  **JANESVILLE
CRAIG
COUGARS**
BIG EIGHT - 1st

The Big Eight is strong again, and the Cougars will be tournament tested come playoff time. Jack Schaffner and Aiden Schenk both, both headed to D1 North Dakota State, will lead the way for Coach Victor Herbst's Cougars.

8  **MENOMONEE FALLS
PHOENIX**
GREATER METRO - 1ST

Coach Tim Gotzler's Phoenix made a run to Appleton last spring, and look really strong again. With a ton of experience returning in the rotation and in the lineup, hopes are high for good reason in The Falls. to end the season on a winning note.

9  **VERONA
WILCATS**
BIG EIGHT - 2ND

Verona will rely on lefty Riley Peterson this spring to challenge for the Big Eight, and a trip to Appleton. Peterson, headed to UW-Milwaukee, is one of the top pitchers in the area.

10  **HUDSON
RAIDERS**
BIG RIVERS - 1ST

While the Raiders graduated a lot of talented kids, half of their lineup returns along with Ben Berkhof and Bradyn Bezanson on the mound. Look for the Raiders to make a run for the conference championship and a run at the Marshfield sectional title.

11  **STEVENS POINT
PANTHERS**
WISCONSIN VALLEY - 1ST

The Panthers run-ended a game away from Appleton last spring. The squad has a lot of depth on the mound, led by Noah Marschke, Ty Rechner and Josh Opiola. Benett Klish is back to lead a Panther team expected to make a run in the playoffs. The three-year starter will be playing at Minnesota-Duluth next season.

12  **WAUNAKEE
WARRIORS**
BADGER EAST - 1ST

The Warriors are traditionally strong, and look to be in the hunt for the Badger East title and a deep tournament run. Senior Jack Shepski will lead the way.

13  **FRANKLIN
SABRES**
SOUTHEASTERN - 1ST

The Sabres came up just a game short of state last spring, and could push it over the top in 2023. With good experience back in the lineup, and Noah Musolf, Cooper Kamlay, Grayson Flugaur and Lucas Farin back on the mound, the rotation looks strong also.

14  **MUSKEGO
WARRIORS**
WIAA D1 - 1637
2022 REGIONAL CHAMPS

The Warriors return a ton of experience coming into the 2023 season. Steven Wintheiser and Bradyn Horn lead a pitching staff with 70% of innings returning from a year ago.



The Falcons took a big step last spring advancing to state. Coach Jacob Morman's squad is back for more this year with a talented, experienced group of kids, led by Adam Switalski and Nick Argersinger. They are the early season pick to win the Southern Lakes Conference, and have their eyes focused on a return to Appleton as well.



The Blue Jays return a ton of experience up and down the lineup and on the mound. With eight returners from their starting lineup and 90% of pitching back, look for Menasha to make some noise in the Bay Conference in their sectional.



Coach Nathan Meyer's Broncos have a lot to be excited about this spring! With Owen Nowak and Nathan Williams headlining an experienced lineup, UG is ready to make a run at a third straight Southern Lakes title and another run at state, this time through the Oregon sectional.



After a stellar 2022 season that saw the Panthers end the season in Appleton, their back for more with an experienced group of kids led by Jack Bauer. Coach Brian Johnsen's teams always improve as playoff time approaches. Look for the Panthers to make a deep playoff run this spring.



Coach Bishop's Wildcats return a bulk of their innings from 2022 in what might be their deepest staff in recent memory, including Notre Dame recruit Keenan Mork. With some new faces in the lineup this year, the Wildcats will look to produce runs to make a deep run late in the season.



The Polar Bears appear poised to challenge for the FVA and a sectional title. Senior shortstop shortstop Cam Kuhnke leads an experienced lineup. The Polar Bears also have a ton of experience on the mound.

HONORABLE MENTION:

ASHWAUBENON, GERMANTOWN, HARTFORD UNION, HOMESTEAD, KENOSHA TREMPER, LA CROSSE CENTRAL, MANITOWOC LINCOLN, MIDDLETON, MILTON, MILWAUKEE KING, MONONA GROVE, SOUTH MILWAUKEE, WEST DE PERE