

All-Stars prepare for state baseball

Written by Holyoke Enterprise

Four players from Holyoke's Babe Ruth baseball team have been selected to compete on the Border League All-Star team at the state tournament in Burlington July 19-23.

Representing Holyoke on the 13-15-year-old team are Gunnar Kroeger, Brenden Kage, Brendan Mayden and Taylor Mayden.

Also on the team are Tyler Woodhams, Chance Dunker, Trey Walter and Cole McKinley of Sedgwick County; Bryce Bivins, Darian Wilkening and Kaleb Anderson of Haxtun; and Maverick Widdowson of Chappell, Neb.

Coaches for the team are Sherman Kage and Matt Zilla of Holyoke.

"We got a pretty awesome team," Kage said. "It's pretty phenomenal the group of kids we have."

A few scrimmages have been scheduled to help the players come together as a team.

Without a single practice, the team picked up a pair of wins against Akron Wednesday, June 26. The Border League All-Stars topped Akron 16-3 in the first match and 12-2 in the second game.

Doubleheaders have also been planned for Tuesday, July 2 in Wray, Monday, July 8 in Akron and Wednesday, July 10 at home against Wray.

A small tournament is also in the works for Sunday, July 7 in Brush that would include the Border League All-Star team, Brush, Akron and Bennett/Strasburg.

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In order to advance to the regional tournament in Boonville, Mo. Aug. 1-6, the All-Star team would have to earn a first-place finish at the state tournament. Winning the regional tournament would qualify the team for the national tournament in Loudoun County, Va. Aug. 15-22.

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