



State champs

It was a lengthy, unforgettable journey for Guardian Angels Central Catholic in the 2020 Class C State Softball tournament held in Hastings.

The Bluejays were dealt a stunning loss in the opening round of the state tournament, but their mission never changed.

Facing elimination every step of the way, GACC settled in and reeled off six consecutive wins to accomplish its season-long goal. A state championship.

Guardian Angels Central Catholic secured the Class C State Softball title with a pair of wins, 7-3 and 12-0, over Kearney Catholic in the state finals.

“No matter what happened, we were going to leave everything we had on the field, and these kids did that,” head coach Allan Kreikemeier said. “It’s so special to see them achieve a goal like this.”

Playing their way through the

elimination bracket, GACC needed two wins in the Class C state finals.

“We knew we were the best team out here. We knew it was going to be hard, and we just kept fighting,” Bluejay senior Brenna Rief said. “It felt so great to accomplish our goal.”

For Kreikemeier, it’s all about the culture that has been built within the program.

“You don’t have to be the best softball player in the world to contribute to this team. These kids just work hard and get after it,” he said. “The kids really have bought in, and they really believe in themselves.”

GACC had a 29-3 record. The four seniors were: Jenna Schinstock, Brenna Rief, Avery Kreikemeier and Erin Franzluebbbers.

“We are a family. We are inseparable,” Avery Kreikemeier said. “We would do anything for each other.”

GACC excels at state speech meet

All of Guardian Angels Central Catholic’s state speech events brought home hardware from the Class C2 State Speech meet held March 19 at the University of Nebraska-Kearney.

Four different events captured state medals. Two were state titles, while one event earned a silver medal, and another a bronze medal.

Sophia Hass and Tobias Steffensmeier were duet acting champs, and Greta Wooldrik won entertainment speaking.

Earning the silver medal was the oral interpretation of drama team. Members are Tobias Steffensmeier, Evelyn Wooldrik, Avery Kreikemeier and Andie Guenther. Evelyn Wooldrik added to GACC’s point total with a third place finish in interpretation of humorous prose.

“The kids were all at the top of their game. There is nothing better than ending a speech season getting a medal and knowing you are in the top six competitors in the state, let alone having two champions,” Stokely said.

Overall, GACC finished 3rd as a team in Class C2.

“All of these kids have worked incredibly hard. We had a slow start to the season, but ultimately, it led us to end on an unbelievable high,” Stokely said.



Class of 1941 was represented by Nick Wieler (80-year reunion).



Class of 1955: from left, Doris Roberts Clausen, Sharon Rolf Anderson, Jean Michaelis Popken, Marvin Prinz, Janice Prinz Ortmeier, Ed Bracht, Betty Ortmeier Kreikemeier and Jolene Reiman Wiesen.



Class of 1946: Henry Druke (75-year reunion).



Class of 1961: from left, Ambrose Peitzmeier, Harold Rief, Sarah Ellis Stratman Hough, Eugene Grovijohn and Daniel Knievel.



Class of 1950 (60-year class reunion) from left, Ed Heimann, Willie Harstick, Dottie Sendgraff Batenhorst, Roman Uhing, Margaret Wortman Montgomery and Ed Wortman.



Class of 1951 was represented by Arlene Reeson and Joan Kloke Lueckenhoff.
Alumni photos courtesy of Kelly Steffen Dinslage ('99)



Class of 1956:
from left are
Larry Ulrich, Leona
Kaup Meister,
Ed Schlautman,
Lorraine Neesen
Schlautman, Bob
Vogltance, Mar-
garet Ortmeier
Wordekemper and
Bob Kaup.



Class of 1965: front row: Lois Tingelhoff Kinney, Connie Schmucker Kaup, Don Steffen; middle row: Linda Gralheer Rogers, John Patterson, Donald Knievel, Kathy Schmidt Means, Lorin Meiergerd; back row: Elaine Batenhorst Maly, Lois Wordekemper Christensen, David Ortmeier, Richard Hagedorn, Jerry Rief, Arthur Johnson and Mel Baumert.



Class of 1966: front row: Florence Ridder Hendricks, Carol Kreikemeier McGill, Nancy Kaup Steffen, Martin Peatrowsky, Sharon Popken Mace, Mary Mahlberg Parizek, Diane Nitz; back row: Rich McGill, Rich Baumert, Eugene Schlickbernd, Reggie Smith, Dorothy Deppe Lawse, Eileen Wordekemper Rاندell and Lorie Peitzmeier Endsley.



Class of 1970: Patty Patterson Knobbe, Sandy Schmaderer, Judy Scherer Connealy, Marilyn Ritzdorf Parr, Rick Grovijohn, Bruce Schlecht, Marlene Luebbert Knobbe, Janet Schlickbernd Hassler, Donna Wietfeld Schlecht, Dennis Goeken, Paul Ridder; middle row: Mike Knobbe, Phyllis Batenhorst Knobbe, Joan Kreikemeier Steffen, Helen Rief Engelmeyer, Kathy Grovijohn Larson, Mary Luebbert Voelker, Donna Hunke, Luella Buse, Mary Knievel Koester, Bill Knievel; Back row: Tom Knobbe, Gary Bliemeister, Ken Engelmeyer, Bob Decker, Warren Renner, Dan McDevitt, Jerry Wiechman, Allen Luebbert, Bob Hassler.



Class of 1971 (50-year class): front: Joan Franzluebbbers Kinnett, Carol Reeson Gustafson; second row: Ronnie Doerneman, Joan Knobbe Lieben, Candy Richman Mann, Dorothy Ridder Burger, Sharon Throener Rief, Linda Wolff Frickestein, Barb Hugo Paloma, Duane Heimann; third row: Dale Wordenkemper, Dean Knobbe, Jane Prinz Pekny, Diane Doerneman Aschoff, Janet Wiese Schueth, Diane Throener Lawson, Steve Svoboda, Mark Bertolini, Mary Ann Ulrich Klabunde, Lloyd Rief; back row: Gene Dinslage, Francis Meiergerd, Tom Rief, Stan Oswald, Dan Baumert, Ken Hugo, Terry Nitz, Darrell Bunn, Glen Evert and Mike Kreikemeier.



Class of 1980: front row: Mike Graybeal, Brian Rolf, Paul Steuter, Tim Weiler, Gary Luebbert, Mike Tobey, Randy Rolf; back row: Connie Hagedorn Eilerts, Lois Prinz Akers, Jean Ulrich Guenther, Loretta Kreikemeier Hagedorn, Michelle Knobbe Mazini, Jane Knobbe Wooldrik, Sue Langhorst Wolff and Keith Stieren.



Class of 1981: front row: Keith Kreikemeier, Joe Franzluebbbers, Gary Rolf, Brian Kreikemeier, Gary Bracht; middle row: Joe Suhr, Mark Brunsing, Mary Brazda Luebbert, Denise Lierman Borton, Gregg Clausen; back row: Leon Gentrup, Tony Goeden, Nancy Wordekemper, Susie Eilerts Wordekemper and Lori Prinz Guilfoyle.



Class of 1991: Sara Eisenmenger Helling and Deb Brunsing Bailey.



Class of 1996: front row: Doug Knobbe, Angie Rief Mayberry; back row: Chad Eisenmenger, Jennifer Throener Martinez, Melissa Bliemeister Walsh and Matt Steffen.



Class of 2000 were: front row: Jessica Wortman Wobken, Beth Engelmeyer Frerichs, Kristin Evert Wagner, Jane Rolf Mohling, Michelle Burger Gerths, Ginny Franzluebbbers Ahrens, Sara Knobbe Rolf; middle row: Megan Timmerman Poler, Heather Steffen, Jennifer Burger Mackling, Jackie Kaup VanWinkle, Susan Otte Cantrell, Emily Hotovy Neri, Ashley Iden McKown, Anna Knobbe Palmer; back row: Justin Steffensmeier, Brian Hunke, Chris Kreikemeier, Chris Wagner and Kyle Gentrup.



Class of 1990: front row: Dennis Bracht, Kris Emanuel Daberkow, Lisa Eisenmenger Gulseth, and Jay Knobbe; back row: Randy Throener, Jodi Rolf Meister and Gina Steffen Hardisty.



Class of 1995: front row: Eric Lauritzen, Amy Rief-Elks, Mike Schlickbernd; back row: Matt Wiechman, Jason Kreikemeier and Alan Peatrowsky.



Class of 2001: front row: Craig Schmaderer, Holly Bourek McKnight, Melissa Smeal Schmaderer, Jill Langemeier Stenberg, Nate Schmaderer, Brett Kaup; middle row: Brian Kaup, Craig Meister, Teri Heimann Johnson, Melissa Wolff Bayer, Aaron Ruskamp, Luke Ridder, Julie Hunke Landwehr; back row: David Diekemper, Andy Yosten, Eric Knobbe, Justin Schlautman, John Kreikemeier and Melissa Steffen.

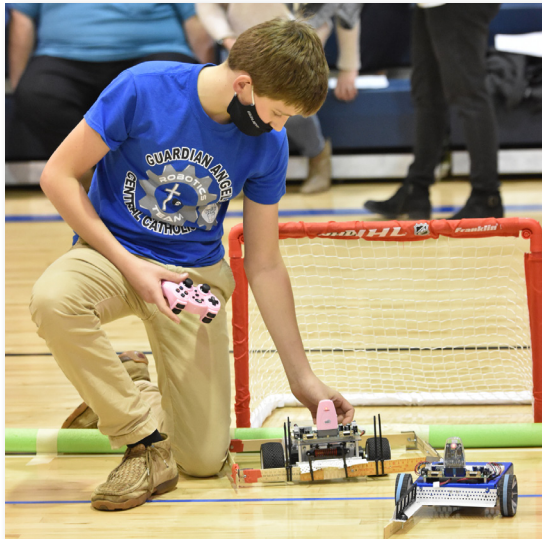


Class of 2010 who attended were: front row: Jeff O'Brien, Katelyn Schlautman Johnson, Joe Knobbe, Kylie Kreikemeier Kai, Mollie Brunsing Stokely; back row: C J Wooldrik, Jonathon Wortman, Sara Prinz, Jamie Meister Bethune, Kelsey Knobbe Schroder and Devon Birchem. Ten-Year reunion members served as hosts/hostesses for this year's reunion. Kylie Kreikemeier Kai was "chairperson."



Class of 2011:
front row: Lindsey Boyum Schutte, Megan Perry, Katie Hunke Schrad, Justine Goeden Ridder, Kirsten Klitz Owens, Emma Stokely;
back row: Jacob Rolf, Ben Eilerts, Jonny Hagedorn and Nate Bruning.

Hayden Throener gets his robot ready for a game of Competition Arena (Hockey) at the GACC Robotics event in March.



Above: Tobias Steffensmeier and Sophia Hass captured a state title in duet at the Class C2 State speech meet.

Left: Greta Wooldrik was the Entertainment gold-medal champion at the Class C2 State speech meet. GACC captured a 3rd-place finish. Wooldrik was one of six members of the GACC speech team to compete in the Class C2 State meet held at Kearney.



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