



KENT STATE BASEBALL

2018 Golden Flashes Media Notes

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2018 SCHEDULE

Date	Opponent	Time/Result
February 4-2		
F16	@ Sam Houston State	W, 7-4
F17	@ Sam Houston State	L, 5-1
F18	@ Sam Houston State	L, 12-6
F23	@ Belmont	W, 17-3
F24	@ Lipscomb	W, 3-1
F25	@ Middle Tennessee	W, 14-5
March 10-7		
M2	@ Winthrop	L, 8-2
M3	@ Winthrop	W, 9-1
M4	@ Winthrop	W, 7-5
M9	@ 7 Arkansas	L, 7-2
M9	@ 7 Arkansas	W, 10-4
M11	@ 7 Arkansas	L, 11-4
M14	Malone	PPD
M16	@ Western Carolina	W, 7-4
M17	@ Western Carolina	W, 6-4 (10)
M18	@ Western Carolina	L, 9-2
M20	Youngstown State	W, 7-2
M23	Ball State	L, 5-1
M24	Ball State	W, 11-0
M25	Ball State	L, 7-2
M27	@ Notre Dame	W, 4-1
M28	@ Notre Dame	L, 2-1
M30	@ Western Michigan	W, 8-3
M30	@ Western Michigan	W, 6-2
April 9-1		
A1	@ Western Michigan	W, 12-6
A3	Bowling Green	PPD
A4	@ Ohio State	PPD
A7	@ Central Michigan	W, 11-3
A8	@ Central Michigan	L, 5-1
A8	@ Central Michigan	W, 19-3
A10	@ Pittsburgh	W, 4-1
A11	Canisius	W, 13-11
A13	Northern Illinois	W, 7-1
A13	Northern Illinois	W, 7-2
A15	Northern Illinois	W, 14-0
A17	@ Bowling Green	PPD
A18	Pittsburgh	W, 2-0
A20	Ohio	4:00
A21	Ohio	4:00
A22	Ohio	1:00
A24	@ Canisius	3:00
A27	@ Toledo	3:05
A28	@ Toledo	1:05
A29	@ Toledo	1:05
May 0-0		
M4	Bowling Green	6:00
M5	Bowling Green	4:00
M6	Bowling Green	1:00
M11	Eastern Michigan	6:00
M12	Eastern Michigan	4:00
M13	Eastern Michigan	1:00
M15	@ Youngstown State	12:00
M17	@ Miami	5:00
M18	@ Miami	4:00
M19	@ Miami	1:00
M23	MAC Tournaments – Avon, OH	

All times EAST

Kent State's 2018 Record

At HOME

On the ROAD

23-10

6-2

16-8

At a NEUTRAL site

Against the MAC

Current Streak

0-0

9-3

W7

GAME

34



Kent State Golden Flashes

19-10; 6-3

Head Coach: Jeff Duncan

5th Season

Ohio Bobcats

17-19; 5-7

Head Coach: Rob Smith

6th Season

BY THE NUMBERS

	KSU	OU
OVERALL	23-10	17-19
CURRENT	W7	L3
CONF	9-3	5-7
NON-CONF	14-7	12-12
HOME	6-2	4-4
AWAY	13-7	7-9
NEUTRAL	0-0	6-6
LAST FIVE	5-0	1-4
LAST TEN	9-1	3-7

Friday, April 20 – Sunday, April 22 2018

Schoonover Stadium (1,327) – Kent, Ohio

TV: None RADIO: KSU Radio Network – Ty Linder

DIAMOND DIALOGUE

- Kent State returns to league play after sweeping NIU last weekend and shutting out Pitt on Wednesday, 2-0.
- KSU is on its longest winning streak of the season, having won seven straight and the Golden Flashes are the only MAC team to sweep a series this year.
- With the 4-1 and 2-0 wins over Pitt, Kent State now boasts four wins (three on the road) over Power Five conference teams – Arkansas (10-4) and Notre Dame (4-1).
- KSU is jumping on teams early and late in 2018. The Flashes have outscored the opposition 33-7 in the first inning and 31-14 in the ninth inning or later so far in the 2018 season.
- Freshman Nick Elsen delivered both RBI hits against Pitt Wednesday with a single and a homer. He has seven hits in his last seven at bats.
- Mason Mamarella is KSU's leading hitter with a .371 average. He also has 24 steals.
- The Golden Flashes have won either the Mid-American Conference regular season or tournament championship in 10 of the last 11 seasons.
- KSU has been tabbed the pre-season league favorite in both the regular and post-season.
- The Golden Flashes will take aim at their 20th consecutive season with at least 30 victories. KSU has had one sub-.500 season since 1981.

POSSIBLE POSITION STARTERS (Based on previous game)

#	Player	Pos	Yr.	Notable
2	Tim Dalporto	C	Sr.	Hit .304 last year with two road home runs
25	Brad Hamilton	1B	Sr.	Team leader in home runs with 8 – has 2 multi-homer gms
5	Greg Lewandoski	2B	Fr.	Rookie from Fla. is hitting .299 over 24 starts
14	Josh Hollander	SS	Jr.	Hit go-ahead grand slam in 9 th inning of season opener
26	Pavin Parks	3B	Jr.	Newcomer has hit .274 with 32 RBIs in 28 games
7	Reilly Hawkins	LF	Sr.	Has two lead-off homers in each of the last two seasons
11	Mason Mamarella	CF	Sr.	Team leader in hitting and stolen bases
13	Nick Kanavas	RF	rSr.	KSU's second-leading hitter with a .355 average
17	Pete Schuler	DH	Jr.	In first two seasons, has 9 homers and 53 RBIs
31	Conner Wollersheim	P	Jr.	Has worked 38 innings this year with an ERA around 4
30	Joey Murray	P	Jr.	2017 MAC Pitcher of the Year is 5-1 with a 1.11 ERA
21	Eli Kraus	P	Sr.	6 th on KSU all-time wins list with 22; 3-0 in MAC starts

QUICK FACTS**Institution Information**

Location – Kent, OH 44240

- 54 miles SW of Cleveland
- 140 miles NE of Columbus
- 100 miles NW of Pittsburgh

Founded – 1910

Enrollment – 23,178

Nickname – Golden Flashes

Colors – Navy Blue and Gold

Affiliation – NCAA Division I

Conference – Mid American Conference

Home venue – Schoonover Stadium

Year Built – 2005

- Lights added 2013
- Indoor facility added 2014
- Shaw sports turf added 2015

University President – Dr. Beverly Warren

Director of Athletics – Joel Nielsen

Coaching Staff

Head Coach – Jeff Duncan (Arizona State)

Years/Record – 4/148-75

Associate Head Coach – Mike Birkbeck

Assistant Coach – Derek Simmons

Assistant Coach – Tony Caldwell

Sports Medicine – Drew Fillis

Team Information

2017 Record – 37-18

2017 MAC Record/Finish – 18-6/First (+2)

2016 Record – 44-14

2016 MAC Record/Finish – 20-4/First (+5)

Position Players Returning/Lost - 7/3

Newcomers - 10

Program History

First Season – 1915

All-Time Record – 1,818 wins 1,292 losses

All-Time MAC – 774 wins 567 losses

MAC Regular Season Pennants – 14

MAC Tournament Pennants – 11

NCAA Regional Appearances – 13

Regional Record – 15-27

NCAA Super Regional Appearances – 1

Super Regional Record – 2-1

NCAA CWS Appearances – 1

*College World Series Record – 1-2***Communications**

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Web site – kentstatesports.com**SERIES HISTORY**

This weekend will mark meetings 176-178 between the Golden Flashes and Bobcats. In 2017 OU took two of three in Athens after KSU had not lost there since 2009. KSU has won 16 of the last 23 games between the two.

GETTING TO KNOW KENT STATE

- Kent State is located in Kent, Ohio, about 50 miles southwest of Cleveland.
- The school and community are both named after Marvin Kent, who was influential in making the area a hub for the Atlantic and Great Western Railroad.
- The university, which had a fall 2017 enrollment of 39,367, is the third-largest in the state of Ohio behind Ohio State and Cincinnati.
- KSU boasts several notable alumni in the fields of sports and entertainment, including Nick Saban, Julian Edelman, Lou Holtz, James Harrison, Antonio Gates, Drew Carey, Arsenio Hall and Michael Keaton.

PRIDE IN THE PROGRAM

Kent State's baseball tradition dates back more than 100 years. Originally called the "Normal Nine," it first tasted post-season success in 1964. In 1993, the Golden Flashes came within one win of winning a regional title, knocking off eventual national champion LSU in the process.

Kent State re-emerged onto the national stage in 2011 with a stunning 7-5 win at Texas in the NCAA Regional tournaments, then compiled a 21-game winning streak in 2012 en route to the school's first ever regional title and appearance in the Super Regionals. There, in a decisive third game in Oregon, all-time hits leader Jimmy Rider floated a single into left field in the bottom of the ninth to send KSU to the College World Series.

The Golden Flashes have spun 11 no-hitters – including Eric Lauer's 2016 gem which also clinched the regular season conference crown.

BACK-TO-BACK REGULAR SEASON TITLES

Kent State dominated Mid-American Conference regular season play in 2016 and 2017. The 2016 Flashes finished 20-4 – just slightly off the insane pace and school record of 24-3 set by the 2012 squad. Kent State's nearest threat in 2016 was Ball State, which finished five games off the pace. Last year, Kent State posted an 18-6 league mark, two games better than second place Central Michigan. In the 2016 and 2017 seasons, KSU was not been swept in a MAC series and lost two out of three only once.

LIFE BEGINS AT 30

2017 marked the 19th consecutive season in which Kent State won at least 30 games. During that near two-decade stretch, KSU has eclipsed the 40-win mark five times. Kent State is averaging 37 wins per season in that span.

2018 Mid-American Conference PRESEASON POLL

- 1 – Kent State – 98 (8)
- 2 – Central Michigan – 86
- 3 – Ball State – 73
- 4 – Ohio – 70
- 5 – Miami – 49 (1)
- 6 – Western Michigan – 47
- 7 – Eastern Michigan – 40
- 8 – Toledo – 36
- 9 – Northern Illinois – 35 (1)
- 10 – Bowling Green – 16

2018 Mid-American Conference STANDINGS

No divisions; top six to tournament; top two receive byes

Place	Team	MAC	ALL
1	Kent State	9-3	23-10
2	Miami	8-4	21-11
T3	Central Michigan	7-5	13-21
T3	Eastern Michigan	7-5	13-20
5	Toledo	6-6	12-20
T6	Ball State	5-7	17-18
T6	Ohio	5-7	17-19
T8	Bowling Green	4-6	9-23
T8	Western Michigan	4-6	14-16
10	Northern Illinois	3-9	11-24

This Week in the MAC:

Ohio @ Kent State
 Eastern Michigan @ Toledo
 Miami @ Northern Illinois
 Ball State @ Bowling Green
 Western Michigan @ Central Michigan

Last Week in the MAC:

Kent State 3 @ Northern Illinois 0
 7-1, 7-2, 14-0
 @ Central Michigan 2 Toledo 1
 4-3, 1-13, 3-2
 @ Western Michigan 1 Bowling Green 0
 9-4
 Miami 2 @ Ball State 1
 17-6, 12-13, 6-5
 Eastern Michigan 2 @ Ohio 1
 6-4, 4-5, 4-3

THE BOOK OF ELI

Kent State's senior southpaw Eli Kraus has rocketed up the Golden Flashes' pitching record lists during the past three seasons. The Medina, Ohio native has won 17 career games for the blue and gold over the previous two seasons after a breakout 9-1 effort in 2016 and 8-3 mark in 2017. As consistent as you'd ever want a starter to be, Kraus' splits from the past two campaigns tell the story:

- 2016 – 14 starts – 9-1 – 2.64 ERA – 88 2/3 IP – 59 K – 24 BB
- 2017 – 14 starts – 8-3 – 2.69 ERA – 93 2/3 IP – 73 K – 21 BB

Not only has Kraus become one of KSU's most reliable and decorated arms, he is also a self-taught guitarist, often times bringing the instrument on road trips to continue to tune his craft.

Kraus is a two-time First Team All-MAC selection and was named to the 2017 MAC All-Tournament team thanks to a career effort - a complete game three-hit shutout of Toledo with eight strikeouts and one walk in the post-season opener. He picked up his 22nd career win at KSU on April 14 vs. NIU.

BOUGHS OF HOLLY

Despite battling injuries during his two-year Flashes' career, junior Josh Hollander has become a solid middle-infielder and tough out in the KSU lineup. He hit .295 a season ago with seven doubles, two triples and a home run. "Holly" knocked in 19 and was 7/8 in stolen base attempts. He was second on the team defensively with 110 assists and was a part of 16 double plays. The Cincinnati native was also Kent State's most reliable bat during the post-season, hitting .454 with an RBI, two runs scored and three walks. His opening night ninth-inning grand slam at Sam Houston State gave KSU a stunning win.

MASTER MASON

While the top degree of Master Mason is the highest one can achieve in the annals of freemasonry, Kent State senior Mason Mamarella has certainly earned his spot at the top of Kent State's lineup. In his two seasons since coming to KSU following the discontinuation of Akron's baseball program in 2015, Mamarella has hit .303 and .330. His average of .330 to match the KSU area code was the team's second highest in 2017 and he was the only player on the roster to play in all 55 games. He collected five triples and six doubles with 26 runs batted in a year ago and swiped a team-best 18 bases. This season he was named MAC Player of the Week for games on Feb. 23-25. He has stolen 20 bases in 24 tries in 2018.

NO ORDINARY JOE

Junior starting pitcher Joey Murray became Kent State's most decorated underclassman in 2017 when the righty posted a 6-1 record with a sparkling 1.80 ERA. KSU's Sunday starter (!) made 14 appearances on the year, including an eight-strikeout performance in the MAC Tournament. In 2016, he burst onto the scene with a mesmerizing eight-inning, 11-strikeout, no-walk effort in the tournament semi-finals to send KSU to the title tilt.

SERIES HISTORY

OHIO (78-97)

Home n/a | On the Road n/a | Neutral n/a

PREVIOUS 10 MEETINGS**Date – Location – Result**

5.27.17 – Avon– OU 7 KSU 2
 5.25.17 – Avon – OU 5 KSU 3
 5.20.17 – Athens – KSU 5 OU 2
 5.19.17 – Athens – OU 8 KSU 5
 5.18.17 – Athens – OU 7 KSU 6
 4.24.16 – Athens – KSU 6 OU 5
 4.23.16 – Athens – KSU 6 OU 0
 4.23.16 – Athens – KSU 8 OU 0
 4.19.15 – Kent – KSU 9 OU 2
 4.18.15 – Kent – OU 11 KSU 4

STATISTICAL LEADERS (2018)**Batting Average**

OU – Rudy Rott – .359

KSU – Mason Mamarella – .371

Hits

OU – Rudy Rott – 52

KSU – Nick Kanavas – 49

Doubles

OU – Rudy Rott - 12

KSU – Pavin Parks – 7

Triples

OU – Devon Garcia – 2

KSU – Pavin Parks – 3

Home Runs

OU – Rudy Rott – 8

KSU – Brad Hamilton – 8

Walks

OU – Rudy Rott – 22

KSU – Pavin Parks – 24

Stolen Bases

OU – Aaron Levy – 4

KSU – Mason Mamarella – 24

Pitching Victories

OU – Gerry Salisbury – 4

KSU – Eli Kraus/Joey Murray – 5

ERA (Min. 10 innings)

OU – Nick Kamrada – 1.89

KSU – Joey Murray – 1.11

Strikeouts

OU – Gerry Salisbury – 40

KSU – Joey Murray – 81

HEAD TO HEAD COMPARISONS

KSU	CATEGORY	OU
23-10	Record	17-19
.281	Batting Average	.269
6.8	Runs per Game	5.5
9.7	Hits per Game	9.4
52	Doubles	63
8	Triples	5
24	Home Runs	34
212	RBI	181
146	Walks	149
51/72	Stolen Bases/Attempts	16/23
3.88	ERA	4.16
3	Shutouts	0
301	Strikeouts	236
.976	Fielding Percentage	.962

NATIONAL MEDIA HIGH ON FLASHES

Once, again, members of the national media think highly of the Golden Flashes coming into the 2018 season. In December, *Collegiate Baseball Newspaper* ranked KSU 34th in its Pre-season Top 40 poll. The publication also selected pitcher Joey Murray a Second-team Pre-Season All-American.

At the end of January, *Baseball America* picked Kent State as the “Team to Beat” in the Mid-American Conference. Citing the team’s pitching depth and veteran lineup, the preview added “If the Golden Flashes can put it all together (in the MAC Tournament), they have a team that would be dangerous in a regional.”

LOSS OF A LEGEND

During the off-season, the Kent State family lost a legendary figure. Gene “Stick” Michael passed away on Sept. 7 2017 following a heart attack. He was 79. Michael, who played both baseball and basketball at KSU, is responsible for the revival of the New York Yankees farm system in the early 1990s which then led to the dynasty of the late 1990s. As New York’s General Manager, he is credited for signing such young talent as Mariano Rivera, Andy Pettitte, Derek Jeter and Jorge Posada. At KSU, Michael lettered in baseball in 1958 and received his education degree in 1967. For several years, the natural grass home field at Kent was named in his honor.

KENT STATE BASEBALL RUNS ON DUNCAN

Since taking the reigns of the KSU Baseball program in the summer of 2013, Jeff Duncan has continued the winning ways of each of his predecessors. Duncan, who was at Purdue in 2012 when the Golden Flashes swept the field at the NCAA Gary Regional hosted by Purdue, has guided KSU to one MAC Tournament title (2014) and back-to-back regular season conference crowns in 2016 and 2017. Under the Chicagoland native’s leadership, Kent State boasts the following numbers:

- 163-86 overall record for an average season record of 37-19
- 79-32 MAC record for an average MAC record of 18-7
- 32-6 record in MAC series
- Have swept 13 MAC series
- Have only been swept once in a MAC series

SIMMONS JOINS COACHING STAFF

Kent State will have a new face on the bench in 2018. Derek Simmons joins Jeff Duncan’s staff after a year at Alabama. In Tuscaloosa, he worked with the infielders and hitters along with coaching first base and coordinating camps. Under Simmons, the Crimson Tide defense led the SEC with 50 double plays turned in 2017. He also spent time at Kennesaw State and Central Michigan along with Team USA. He played college baseball at Montevallo and Georgia State before playing one season of independent baseball. This year for KSU Simmons is coaching third base while fellow newcomer Tony Caldwell coaches first.

13 NCAA REGIONAL APPEARANCES

1964 – 1992 – 1993 – 1994 – 2001 – 2002 – 2004 – 2007 – 2009 – 2010 – 2011 – 2012 – 2014

KENT STATE'S RECORD...

Overall	23-10
MAC	9-3
Interleague	14-7
Home	6-2
Away	16-7
Neutral	0-0
Day games	19-9
Night games	4-1
On grass	12-5
On turf	11-5
vs. Top 10	1-2
vs. Ranked	1-2
vs. Unranked	22-8
vs. Above .500	9-7
vs. Below .500	14-3
Following a WIN	14-9
Following a LOSS	8-1
Against LEFT starter	7-3
Against RIGHT starter	16-7
1-run games	0-1
2-run games	5-0
5+run games	13-6
Extra innings	1-0
Shutouts	3-0
Scoring 0-2 runs	1-8
Scoring 3-5 runs	3-1
Scoring 6-9 runs	10-1
Scoring 10+ runs	9-0
Scoring first	18-6
Opponent scores first	5-4
Leading after 7	20-0
Trailing after 7	2-9
Leading after 8	20-0
Trailing after 8	1-10
Hit 0 home runs	8-7
Hit 1 home run	10-2
Hit 2+ home runs	5-1
Opponent hit 0 home runs	17-4
Opponent hit 1 home run	4-2
Opponent hit 2+ home runs	2-4
Made 0 errors	12-3
Made 1 error	7-4
Made 2+ errors	4-3
Opponent made 0 errors	6-6
Opponent made 1 error	8-2
Opponent made 2+ errors	9-2
Tuesdays	3-0
Wednesdays	2-1
Fridays	8-2
Saturdays	6-1
Sundays	4-5
Longest winning streak	7
Longest losing streak	2
Largest winning margin	16
Largest losing margin	7

BACK COMES BIRKBECK

The Golden Flashes have certainly had continuity at the pitching coach department. Mike Birkbeck returns to the KSU coaching staff for year #22 in 2018. Since his first year in 1997, "Birky" has been responsible for transforming Kent State into one of the finest pitching factories in all of Division I college baseball. Under Birkbeck, Kent State has had 45 pitchers either drafted or signed into Major League Baseball – including 2011 and 2016 first round draft selections Andrew Chafin and Eric Lauer, respectively. Lauer's 0.69 ERA in 2016 earned him National Player and Pitcher of the Year honors. He has also overseen the top five pitching staffs in club history in terms of strikeouts in a single season. Three of the Golden Flashes' 11 no-hitters have occurred under Birkbeck, including April 23, 1997 – Birkbeck's first year – when Mike Skeeles beat Akron (ironically Birkbeck's alma mater) 1-0.

2018 SCHEDULE TIDBITS

The Golden Flashes once again tested themselves in the early season portion of the schedule. Aside from facing 2017 NCAA Super Regional qualifier Sam Houston State in the season's opening weekend, KSU made a March visit to the 29-time NCAA Regional participant Arkansas Razorbacks. It was Kent State's first encounter with the Diamond Hogs since the 2012 College World Series. Sam Houston State and Arkansas combined for 89 wins a year ago. KSU also made trips to Tennessee for the Mule Mix Classic, South Carolina for a three-game series against Winthrop and North Carolina for a three-game set against Western Carolina's Catamounts – the third straight year the Golden Flashes and WCU met in a weekend series.

Once the season gets going, KSU has home-and-home single games scheduled with Pittsburgh, Youngstown State, Canisius and Bowling Green. They visited South Bend for a brief two-game midweek series with Notre Dame and split the two games. The Golden Flashes have also signed a second two-for-one with Ohio State, with the Bucks returning to Kent in 2019.

BUILT ROAD TOUGH

Kent State has been one of the nation's best road teams over the past two seasons. Between 2016 and 2017, the Golden Flashes have posted a sparkling 42-15 record away from Portage County. That mark includes an impressive eight sweeps on the road. KSU is 16-8 this year on the road to bring the three-year total to 58-23 (.716).

SCOUTING THE BOBCATS

Ohio is 17-19, having lost three straight. But the Bobcats are the defending MAC Tournament Champions and won four of five against Kent a year ago en route to the title. They dropped two of three at home last weekend to Eastern Michigan and are making their first trip to Schoonover Stadium since April of 2015. OU is led in hitting by Rudy Rott, who leads the Bobcats in average, hits, doubles and home runs. They have a team batting average of .269 and have slugged 34 homers. Gerry Salisbury leads a pitching staff which has a

THE LAST TIME...

Offense**Individual with 4 hits in a game**

Reilly Hawkins – at CMU – 4.8.17 (4 1B)

Individual with 5 hits in a game

Nick Elsen – vs. NIU – 4.15.18 (3 1B, 2 2B)

Individual with 6 hits in a game

Jeff Revesz – vs. Niagara – 4.17.13 (4 1B, 2 2B)

Individual with 2 hits in one inningJosh Hollander – at CMU – 4.7.18 (7th – 1B, 1B)**Individual hit for the cycle**

Anthony Gallas – at Winthrop – 3.20.10

Individual with 2 home runs in an inningJess Bechard – 3rd vs. Northern Illinois – 3.29.98**Individual with 2 home runs in a game**

Brad Hamilton – at Western Michigan – 4.1.18

Individual with 3 home runs in a game

Drew Saylor – at Marshall – 4.10.05

Individual with a grand slam

Pavin Parks – vs. NIU – 4.14.18

Individual with a pinch hit home run

Brad Hamilton – at Canisius – 5.3.17

Individual with a lead off home run

Reilly Hawkins – at Winthrop – 3.4.18

Individual with 4 runs scored in a game

Mason Mamarella – vs. Central Michigan – 3.26.16

Individual with 5 runs scored in a game

Derek Toadvine – at Youngstown State – 5.1.13

Individual with 6 runs scored in a game

Jason Patton – at Ohio – 4.25.09

Every KSU starter got a hit

At Central Michigan – 4.8.18

KSU scored 10+ runs in an inning12 – 9th inning at Bowling Green – 5.13.16**Pitching****Individual with a no-hitter**

Eric Lauer – at Bowling Green – 5.13.16 (14-0)

Individual with a one-hitter

Ted Rose – vs. Ball State – 5.7.95 (1-0)

Individual with a two-hitter

Eric Lauer – vs. Toledo – 4.8.16 (3-0)

Individual with a complete game shutout

Eli Kraus – vs. Northern Illinois – 4.14.18 (14-0)

Individual with 10+ strikeouts in a game

15 – Joey Murray – vs. Northern Illinois – 4.13.18

Defense**KSU turned a triple play**8th inning at Coastal Carolina – 3.5.05**Team****Sudden death victory**Def. Central Michigan 6-5 – 4.30.17 (1B in 10th)**Victory vs. a #1 ranked opponent**

Def. #1 Florida 5-4 – 6.18.12

Victory vs. a ranked opponent

Def. #7 Arkansas 10-4 – 3.9.18

Sudden death victory in post-season

Def. #8 Oregon 3-2 in B9 (J. Rider 1B) (6.11.12)

Sudden death victory in MAC Tournament

Def. E. Mich. 9-8 in B10 (Bases Loaded BB) (5.29.10)

Extra innings of 15 or more

15 – vs. Toledo – 4.21.17 (def. TOL 1-0)

Extra innings of 20 or more

21 – vs. Kentucky – 6.1.12 (def. KEN 7-6)

Scored 20 runs

21 – vs. Niagara – 4.17.13 (def. NIA 21-2)

Scored 30 runs

31 – at Bowling Green – 4.15.12 (def. BG 31-20)

Had a 10-game winning streak

11 – April 10-29 2016

Had a 20+ game winning streak

21 – April 27-June 9 2012

collective ERA of 4.16 and 236 strikeouts. The Bobcats won MAC Tournament titles in 2015 and 2017 after not qualifying for the NCAA Tournament since 1997.

NO ANNOUNCER JINX

Senior slugger Brad Hamilton – who worked for ESPN3 this season calling KSU volleyball and basketball – has caught fire in the first two months of the season. He already boasts two multi-homer games and leads Kent State in long balls with eight. His father, Tom, is the long-time radio voice of the Cleveland Indians.

SLAMMIN' GOOD TIMES

Kent State has hit four grand slams in 2018. Josh Hollander hit the first on opening night in Texas and Tim DalPorto hit his the next week at Middle Tennessee. Patrick Ferguson and Pavin Parks each cleared the bases with one swing last weekend vs. NIU.

FLASHES PARTY EARLY AND LATE

In a trend that started on opening night, Kent State is bookending teams to death in 2018. KSU has outscored the opposition 33-7 in the first inning this year and is also outscoring the opponent 29-14 in the ninth. This season, 40 percent of the Flashes' runs have come in the seventh inning or later.

ON THE AIR

Since 2006, the excitement of Golden Flashes baseball has been heard on the Kent State Radio Network. In 2018 the action returns to the airwaves on the network – accessible via the iHeart Radio or Tunein apps. Each can be used on a smartphone, pc or tablet. For the 11th year, Ty Linder serves as the dual "Voice of the Flashes" – as both radio play-by-play and Schoonover Stadium public address voice. For select games Linder will be joined by Jacob Pavilack. Pavilack is in his fifth year as a Kent State Radio Network announcer.



Kent State's 2017 addition to an already-impressive collection of jewelry came thanks to a roster dominated by underclassmen such as Pete Schuler (17), Reilly Hawkins (7) and Tim DalPorto (2).

13 NCAA REGIONAL APPEARANCES

1964 – 1992 – 1993 – 1994 – 2001 – 2002 – 2004 – 2007 – 2009 – 2010 – 2011 – 2012 – 2014

ROSTERS AND PRONUNCIATIONS

2018 KENT STATE BASEBALL NUMERICAL ROSTER AND PRONUNCIATIONS						
NO	NAME	POS	HT	YR	B/T	HOMETOWN (HIGH SCHOOL/LAST SCHOOL)
2	Tim DalPorto	C/INF	6'3	SR	R/R	Chicago, Ill. (Nazareth Academy)
3	Jack Zimmerman	OF/LHP	5'10	FR	L/L	Akron, Ohio (Green)
5	Greg Lewandoski	INF	5'10	FR	R/R	Port Orange, Fla. (Spruce Creek)
6	John Schreiber (SHRY-ber)	LHP	5'9	RJR	L/L	Mayfield Village, Ohio (Mayfield Village Mayfield)
7	Reilly Hawkins	OF	5'11	RSR	L/R	Chardon, Ohio (Chardon)
8	John Matthews	INF/RHP	6'1	SO	R/R	Punxsutawney, Pa. (Punxsutawney Area)
9	Kevin Dobos (DOE-biss)	C	6'	SO	R/R	Marvin, NC (Marvin Ridge)
10	Kian O'Brien (KEY-an)	INF	5'11	JR	R/R	Madison, Wis. (Madison College)
11	Mason Mamarella	OF	6'	SR	B/L	Dover, Ohio (Dover/Akron)
12	Ben Carew	OF	6'1	SO	R/R	Appleton, Wis. (Kimberly)
13	Nick Kanavas	OF	6'1	RSR	R/R	Brookfield, Wis. (Madison College)
14	Josh Hollander	INF	5'10	JR	R/R	Loveland, Ohio (Cincinnati Archbishop Moeller)
15	<i>THURMAN MUNSON - RETIRED</i>					
16	Tyler Drabick (Dray-bick)	RHP	6'3	SO	R/R	North Canton, Ohio (North Canton Hoover)
17	Pete Schuler	C	6'3	JR	L/R	Pleasant Prairie, Wis. (St. Joseph)
18	Connor Wollersheim (Shy)	LHP	6'2	JR	L/L	Neenah, Wis. (Appleton North)
19	Zach Spangler	RHP	6'3	RSR	R/R	Cranberry Township, Pa. (Seneca Valley)
21	Jared Skolnicki	LHP	6'2	RSR	B/L	Pittsburgh, Pa. (Keystone Oaks)
22	Austin Havekost (HAVE-uh-cost)	RHP	6'4	RSO	R/R	Seville, Ohio (Medina Senior)
23	Nick Elsen	OF	6'3	FR	R/R	Kenosha, Wis (Indian Trail)
25	Brad Hamilton	C	6'3	SR	R/R	Avon Lake, Ohio (Avon Lake)
26	Pavin Parks (PAY-vin)	INF/RHP	6'1	JR	L/R	Uniontown, Ohio (Seminole State Community College)
27	Peyton Deats	LHP	6'1	FR	L/L	Tiffin, Ohio (Tiffin Calvert)
28	Michael Turner	C	6'	FR	L/R	Warren, Ohio (Warren Champion)
29	Collin Romel	LHP	6'2	FR	L/L	Olmsted Falls, Ohio (Olmsted Falls)
30	Joey Murray	RHP	6'2	JR	R/R	Dublin, Ohio (Dublin Coffman)
31	Eli Kraus	LHP	6'1	SR	L/L	Medina, Ohio (Medina Buckeye)
32	Chris Martin	RHP	6'	RJR	L/R	Mason, Ohio (Mason)
33	Trevor Pittman	RHP	6'1	FR	R/R	Eaton, Ohio (Eaton)
34	Ryan Lane	RHP	6'3	FR	R/R	New London, Ohio (New London)
35	Robert Zeigler (ZIG-ler)	RHP	6'4	RSR	R/R	Defiance, Ohio (Kentucky)
36	Zach Schultz	RHP/OF	6'	SO	L/R	Indiana, Pa. (Indiana)
38	Patrick Ferguson	INF	6'2	SO	L/R	North Huntingdon, Pa. (Pittsburgh Central Catholic)
40	Wyatt Larimer	RHP	6'1	FR	R/R	Lake Milton, Ohio (Berlin Center Western Reserve)
44	Mark Herron	OF	6'2	RFR	L/R	Cortland, Ohio (Warren G. Harding)
51	Joe Watts	INF	6'5	RSO	R/R	Kent, Ohio (Kent Roosevelt)
67	Jarrett Smetana	OF/INF	6'3	RSO	R/R	Chardon, Ohio (Burton Berkshire)
Coaching Staff						
Head Coach		Associate HC/Pitching		Assistant Coach		Assistant Coach
24 – Jeff Duncan		20 – Mike Birkbeck		4 – Derek Simmons		37 – Tony Caldwell
5 th Season – Arizona St		22 nd Season – Akron		1 st Season – Georgia St		1 st Season - Auburn

1964 – 1992 – 1993 – 1994 – 2001 – 2002 – 2004 – 2007 – 2009 – 2010 – 2011 – 2012 – 2014

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