

Media Notes



Monday, June 3 – Wednesday, June 5 | Games 23-25
Kane County Cougars (14-8) vs. Winnipeg Goldeyes (10-12)

Monday: RHP Tony Carreon (0-1, 8.67) vs. RHP Joey Matulovich (2-0, 2.88)
Tuesday: RHP Nick Belzer (2-0, 2.84) vs. RHP Landen Bourassa (1-1, 4.95)
Wednesday: RHP Westin Muir (3-2, 5.67) vs. LHP Travis Seabrooke (1-1, 1.57)

Blue Cross Park | Winnipeg, MB
6:30, 6:30 p.m., 11:00 a.m. | AABaseball.TV

THIS SERIES: The Cougars conclude a nine-game road trip with three games at Blue Cross Park against the Winnipeg Goldeyes. Since falling in the opening game at Lincoln, Kane County has won five straight games, including a sweep of the Lake County DockHounds this past weekend.

FOR STARTERS: Right-handers **Tony Carreon**, **Nick Belzer**, and **Westin Muir** will take the bump in the three game series at Winnipeg. Muir and Belzer both return from 2023, while Carreon was signed last month.

ABOUT THE COUGARS: The Kane County Cougars are in their fourth season as members of the American Association. Last season, Kane County finished 49-51 and in third place the AA East Division. In the postseason, the Cougars fell to Milwaukee two games to one in the East Division Semifinals. 15 players from last year's squad return including All-Star starting pitchers **Jack Fox** and **Westin Muir**. Also returning on the mound are **Nick Belzer**, **CJ Carter**, **AJ Jones**, **Logan Nissen**, and **Ryan Richardson**. Among position players, **Josh Allen**, **Galli Cribbs Jr.**, **Todd Lott**, **Erny Ordoñez**, and **Harrison Smith** return on the infield. In the outfield, **Jonah Davis**, **Cornelius Randolph**, and **Armond Upshaw** all return from last year's playoff squad. The newcomers on the roster include a Kane County native, right-hander **Ryan Nutof**. Left-handed starter **Alex Troop**, who hails from Batavia, recently was transferred to the Chicago Cubs organization.

ABOUT THE MANAGER: **George Tsamis** enters his fourth season as the 21st manager in Cougar history. Tsamis joined the Cougars coaching staff after 18 years managing the St. Paul Saints. Tsamis has over 1,000 wins and two American Association championships. In each of the last two seasons, Tsamis has led Kane County to the Postseason.

The Cougars...
Lead the American Association with a .284 team batting average and 130 runs scored.

Season Series vs. WPG

Runs.....	0-0, N/A
HR.....	0-0, N/A
Errors.....	0-0, N/A
SB's	0-0, N/A

MOST (Offense)

HR.....	0, N/A
RBI.....	0, N/A
Hits.....	0, N/A
K.....	0, N/A

MOST (Pitching)

Wins.....	0, N/A
ERA.....	0.00, N/A
Saves.....	0, N/A
K.....	0, N/A

UPCOMING PROMOTIONS

Friday, June 7
Super Hero Night
Postgame Fireworks!
Friday Frenzy

Saturday, June 8
The Office Night
Kate Flannery Appearance (Meredith)
Pregame Concert by the Wayouts
Postgame Fireworks!

Sunday, June 9
Bluey & Bingo

KCO Leaders (Offense)

HR.....	5, Davis
RBI.....	23, Davis
Hits.....	30, Lott
K.....	23, 2-tied

KCO Leaders (Pitching)

Wins.....	3, Muir
ERA.....	0.00, Smith
Saves.....	7, Nutof
K.....	25, Muir

WPG Leaders (Offense)

HR.....	5, Murphy
RBI.....	24, Murphy
Hits.....	29, Croes
K.....	35, Murphy

WPG Leaders (Pitching)

Wins.....	2, 3-tied
ERA.....	1.57, Seabrooke
Saves.....	3, Courtney
K.....	26, Bourassa

ATOMIC PORK CHOPS: For three dates this year, the Kane County Cougars will change their identity to the "Atomic Pork Chops". A trend that started in 2019, the Pork Chops recognize their proximity with Fermilab and their signature pork chop sandwich for this promotion. Since adopting the alter-ego, the Cougars are 5-5 when playing as the "Atomic Pork Chops". The Cougars finished 2-2 as the "Atomic Pork Chops" in 2023.

ABOUT THE OPPONENT: The Winnipeg Goldeyes began play in 1994 in the Northern League. Winnipeg has gone on to win one Northern League Title in that inaugural season, and three American Association Championships in 2012, 2016, and 2017. Last season, Winnipeg finished 43-57.

2024 vs WPG

	Record	Streak
Home:	0-0	--
Away:	0-0	--
Total:	0-0	--

BA vs. WPG: .000
ERA vs WPG: 0.00

CAT CHAT

COUGAR HISTORY: The Kane County Cougars have had over 400 players reach Major League Baseball in the history of the franchise. In the 64 years the franchise was located in Decatur, Illinois, 165 players made it to the MLB level. By position, 74 pitchers and 17 shortstops lead the list. The 1938 team sent eight players to the MLB level, the most of any year in Decatur. While the team was located in Wausau, Wisconsin for 16 years, they sent 63 players to the MLB level.

CURRENT MLB ALUMNI: Kyle Schwarber, Willson Contreras, Brad Keller, David Bote, Alek Thomas, Jazz Chisholm and Geraldo Perdomo are just a few of the current MLB names that have spent time in Kane County. The Kane County Cougars have seen nearly 200 players make it to the MLB level. The top three MLB teams that brought players from Kane County to the MLB were the Miami Marlins (then known as the Florida Marlins) with 51, the Oakland Athletics with 32 and the Chicago Cubs with 16.

FORMER COUGARS IN THE FALL CLASSIC: The Arizona Diamondbacks reached the 2023 World Series, falling to the Texas Rangers four games to one. Arizona's roster included former Cougars **Geraldo Perdomo, Alek Thomas, Kevin Ginkel, Luis Frías and José Herrera.**

KANE COUNTY CICADAS: On June 20th, the Cougars will adopt the identity of the "Kane County Cicadas". 2024 is a rare occasion when two separate broods of cicadas will both emerge in Northern Illinois. The two broods emerging are Brood XIII and Brood XIX. It is the first time in 221 years that those two broods will emerge simultaneously.

NORTHWESTERN MEDICINE FIELD: Since 1991, the Kane County Cougars have played their home games at Philip B. Elfstrom Stadium, named after the former Kane County Forest Preserve President and the man most responsible for bringing Minor League Baseball to Kane County. In 2012, the stadium was renamed as Fifth Third Bank Ballpark. Now in its seventh season, the facility is named Northwestern Medicine Field. The ballpark was renamed on November 15, 2015.

THIS DATE IN BASEBALL HISTORY: **June 3, 1925** – White Sox manager **Eddie Collins** records his 3,000th hit against Detroit. **June 4, 1964** – **Sandy Koufax** becomes the fourth pitcher to hurl three no-hitters by blanking the NL-leading Phillies, 3-0. **June 5, 1989** – The Toronto SkyDome opens, but the Blue Jays fall 5-3 to the Brewers.

THIS DATE IN NON-BASEBALL HISTORY: **June 3, 1937** – The Duke of Windsor marries Wallis Simpson. **June 4, 1970** – Tonga gains independence from the British Empire. **June 5, 1956** – **Elvis Presley** introduces his new single "Hound Dog" on the Milton Berle Show.

All-Time Records	
Affiliated Record.....	2,096-2,042
Records by Manager	
Manager (Year)	W-L
George Tsamis ('21- '24)	163-160
Vince Harrison ('19)	81-58
Blake Lalli (18)	72-66
Butch Hobson (17)	72-67
Mike Benjamin (16)	65-75
Mark Grudzielanek (15)	84-54
Mark Johnson (13-14)	146-129
Brian Buchanan (12)	68-72
Vance Wilson (11)	65-74
Steve Scarsons (09)	76-64
Aaron Nieckula (06-08, 10)	285-269
Dave Joppie (04-05)	150-128
Webster Garrison (03)	80-59
Steve Phillips (02)	64-75
Russ Morman (00-01)	162-115
Rick Renteria (99)	78-59
Juan Bustabad (98)	69-71
Lynn Jones (94-97)	275-273
Carlos Tosca (93)	75-62
Joel Youngblood (92)	61-76
Bob Miscik (91)	68-67
All-Time Playoffs & Championship Years	
41-36; 2001, 2014	

2024 PROMOTIONS

- June 7th – Super Hero Night
- June 8th – The Office Night ft. **Kate Flannery (Meredith)**
- June 9th – Bluey Night
- June 18th – Bark in the Park
- June 19th – Negro Leagues Celebration
- June 20th – Cicada Night
- June 21st – Swedish Days Celebration
- June 22nd – The Eras Night: Cougars Version

- July 2nd – Peanut Free Night
- July 11th – 80s Night
- July 12th – Video Game Night
- July 13th – Military Appreciation Night
- July 19th – Tie Dye Night
- July 20th – Christmas in July
- July 21st – Bluey Night
- July 30th – Bark in the Park

- August 2nd – Harry Potter Night
- August 3rd – Hawaii Night
- August 4th – Princess Day
- August 6th – Fan Appreciation Night
- Thursday, August 8th- Outer Banks Night/ Waubesa Community College Night
- August 16th – American Girl Night
- August 17th – Country Music Night
- August 30th – DC Super Villains Night
- August 31st – Star Wars Night

Records and Standings

Goldeyes	Category	Cougars
22	Games	22
10-12	Overall Record	14-8
5-4	Home Record	6-4
5-8	Away Record	8-4
8-2	When Scoring First	8-5
2-3	One-Run Games	4-1
0-0	Extra-Innings Record	1-0
2-0	Doubleheaders Record	0-0
W1	Current Streak	W5
2	Longest Win Streak	5
4	Longest Losing Streak	3
5-5	Last 10 Games	8-2
3-2	Last 5 Games	5-0

American Association Standings		
East		
		GB
1.	COUGARS	14-8
2.	Cleburne	13-10 1.5
3.	Chicago	11-10 2.5
4.	Milwaukee	11-10 2.5
5.	Lake Country	8-14 6.0
6.	Gary	7-15 7.0
West		
1.	Sioux Falls	13-7
2.	Fargo-Moorhead	13-8 0.5
3.	Kansas City	12-9 1.5
4.	WINNIPEG	10-12 4.0
5.	Lincoln	9-13 5.0
6.	Sioux City	8-13 5.5

Upcoming Birthdays!

- June**
- 12th – Harrison Smith (28)
 - 14th – Westin Muir (25)
 - 20th – Armond Upshaw (28)

Tuesday's Starter

RHP Nick Belzer

W-L: 2-0

ERA: 2.84



Info

No. 16
Ht. 6'2"
Wt. 215
AGE 28
Resides: Altoona, IA

9th Year of Professional Baseball: Returns to Kane County after joining the Cougars mid-way through 2023... Recorded a 5.14 ERA in 7 starts with Kane County in 2023... Started last season w/ Tri-City (Frontier League)... 2 seasons with Brewers org ('19: AZL & '21: Single-A)... 4 years in AA ('19-'20: St. Paul, '21: Sioux City, '22: Kansas City)... Had a 1.32 ERA w/ St. Paul in 2019 before being signed by MIL...

Minnesota State-Mankato: Struck out 11 batters in b2b games... One complete game .

Other: Helped Ankney HS to 1st state title in 20 years... Now head pitching instructor for "Game Ready Training" – Youth Baseball Clinic

Game-By-Game (1 Quality Start) *Relief Appearances							
Date	Dec.	IP	H	R	ER	BB	K
5/14 vs. SF		6.0	2	1	1	3	5
5/19 vs. MIL	W	5.0	5	1	1	1	6
5/24 vs. GAR		3.0	2	1	1	1	1
5/29 @ LIN	W	5.0	8	3	3	2	5
May (2-0, 2.84)		19.0	17	6	6	7	17
2024 (2-0, 2.84)		19.0	17	6	6	7	17

By the Numbers *According to PointStreak

	W-L	ERA	G	IP	H	ER
HOME	1-0	1.92	3	14.0	9	3
ROAD	1-0	5.40	1	5.0	8	3
1 st Half	2-0	2.84	4	19.0	17	6
2 nd Half	0-0	0.00	0	0.0	0	0
		AVG	HR	BB	K	
vs. LEFT		.500	0	2	1	
vs. RIGHT		.239	0	5	16	
TOTAL		.246	0	7	17	

Season Superlatives (Starts Only)

STRIKEOUTS.....6, (5/19 vs. MIL)
WALKS.....3, (5/14 vs. SF)
IP.....6.0, (5/14 vs. SF)
HITS.....8, (5/29@ LIN)
RUNS.....3, (5/29 @ LIN)
EARNED RUNS.....3, (5/29 @ LIN)
HR.....0
FEWEST HITS.....2, (2x, 5/24 vs. GAR)
FEWEST WALKS.....1 (2x, 5/24 vs. GAR)
FEWEST RUNS.....1, (3x, 5/24 vs. GAR)

LAST WIN: 5/29 @ LIN
LAST LOSS: N/A
LAST HR ALLOWED: N/A

RUNS BY INNING

INN	G	R
1	4	1
2	4	3
3	4	0
4	3	0
5	3	2
6	1	0
7	0	0
8	0	0
9	0	0

2024 vs. WPG

Player AVG AB H HR BB K

2024 Starts vs. WPG

Date W/L IP H R ER BB K

Kane County Cougars Batting Notes

#7 Josh Allen, INF

(Returning Cougar: '21 – '23)

Age: 33
'24 vs WPG:

Status: VETERAN

Resides: Fort Meade, FL
Longest Hitting Streak: 3 (5/12 – 5/16)

11th year in pro baseball (FRONTIER, AA)... University of West Florida

- 3rd different stint w/ the Cougars... Also played under George Tsamis for 3 yrs w/ St. Paul Saints ('18-'20)
 - From Fort Meade, FL. Same hometown as Andrew McCutchen (PIT OF)
 - Reached as high as Double-A in the New York Mets organization. Has played in +600 career professional games.
 - Hit 9th inning game-tying HR in 1st game of year in 2023 (5/20 vs SC)... 39-game on base streak from 5/20-7/7 during 2023 season.
- 1 walk in last 9 games (14 in first 12 gms of season)... At least one hit in 8 of last 10 games**

#5 Trendon Craig, OF

Age: 23
'24 vs WPG:

Status: LS-2

Resides: Stafford, VA
Longest Hitting Streak: 4 (5/28 – Present)

4th year in pro baseball (BAL)... Louisburg College

- Selected by the Baltimore Orioles in the 20th Round of the 2021 MLB Draft
 - Stole 24 bases in 62 games during the 2023 season across three MiLB levels
 - Was committed to play at NC State, but decided to join Orioles organization after being drafted
 - Hit .420 with 14 HR and 55 RBI in 41 games at Louisburg College (NJCAA, Louisburg, NC) in 2021 season
- Last 4 games: 6-for-17, HR, 2B, 2 RBI**

#1 Galli Cribbs Jr., INF

"GAL-ee"

*Returning Cougar ('15, '16, '21-'23)

Age: 30
'24 vs WPG:

Status: VETERAN

Resides: Katy, TX
Longest Hitting Streak: 2 (5/17 – 5/19)

10th season in pro baseball (AZ, MIA)... Bellevue University, Clarendon Coll. and San Jacinto

- Hit 1st career HR at Northwestern Medicine Field on 7/16/23 (4 seasons with Kane County across MiLB and AA)...
 - Played in 12 games for Kane County in 2021 (.325 BA) then signed by Miami (46 gms- Pensacola-AA, 10 gms-Jacksonville-AAA)
 - 6th different yr. w/Cougars (2015-16 w/AZ org.)... Hit cycle 4/18/18 w/Jackson (D-Backs-AA). 1st cycle in Southern Lg. history
 - Father-in-law: Former MLB pitcher RHP Woody Williams- one of only 18 pitchers to earn a win against all 30 MLB teams
- Has not played since May 23... At least one hit in 2 of last 3 games played**

#44 Jared Cushing, INF

Age: 23
'24 vs WPG:

Status: ROOKIE

Resides: Leland, NC
Longest Hitting Streak: 0 (5/17 – 5/19)

1st season in pro baseball... Xavier University

- Joined Cougars after finishing collegiate season with Xavier in the Big East
- Originally from Naperville, IL and attended Joliet Catholic Academy
- 2023 All-Big East Second Team at Second Base, helping Xavier to 2023 Big East Championship... Hit 14 HR that season and had a .500 SLG%

0-for-3 in first professional game 6/2 at LC

#14 Jonah Davis, OF

* Returning Cougar: ('23)

Age: 26
'24 vs WPG:

Status: LS-3

Resides: San Diego, CA
Longest Hitting Streak: 6 (5/27- Current)

5th year in pro baseball (STL, PIT)... Univ. of California-Berkely

- Led 2023 Cougars with 18 HR, 51 RBI and 83 H -Earned 1st-Team All-PAC 12 honors in '18 at Cal (14 HR & 58 RBI)
 - Dad, Anthony, is a composer, jazz pianist and music professor at UC-Davis. Mom, Cindy is an opera singer and voice teacher.
 - At Cal, was teammates w/ White Sox 1B Andrew Vaughn and Darren Baker, son of Astros manager Dusty Baker.
 - Dad won the Pulitzer Prize for Music for his 2019 Opera, *The Central Park Five*, his first opera was X, *The Life and Times of Malcolm X*
- 11-for-28 (.392), 3 HR, 3 2B, 3B, 13 RBI during current 6-game hit streak**

Kane County Cougars Batting Notes

#3 Hayden Dunhurst, C

Age: 23
'24 vs WPG

Status: LS-1

Resides: Carriere, MS
Longest Hitting Streak: 2 (5/22 – 5/24)

3rd year in pro baseball (KCR)... Ole Miss

- Member of 2022 Ole Miss team that won College World Series, starting 54 games
- Won Rawlings/ ABCA Gold Glove Award in 2021 and was named All-SEC 2nd Team
- Ranked #1 catcher in the nation and #44 overall prospect out of Pearl River Central High School in 2019
- Crafted his catching technique by watching YouTube videos of Yadier Molina and Salvador Pérez

0-for-last-7

#4 Claudio Finol, INF

Age: 24
'24 vs WPG:

Status: LS-1

Resides: Waynesville, OH
Longest Hitting Streak: 7 (5/26 - Present)

7th year in pro baseball (CIN, PIT)

- Joined the Reds organization in the Dominican Summer League as a 17-year old in 2017
- Originally from Maracaibo, Venezuela, which is the second-largest city in Venezuela...the city is nicknamed “The Beloved Land of the Sun”
- Played all 5 infield positions during time in MiLB (just 8 games at catcher)...also pitched one inning in 2022
- Selected by Pittsburgh in the 2021 Rule 5 Draft after starting his career in the Cincinnati organization

At least one hit in 13 of last 14 games

#9 Todd Lott, OF

*** Returning Cougar ('23)**

Age: 25
'24 vs WPG:

Status: LS-2

Resides: Jacksonville, FL
Longest Hitting Streak: 7 (5/11 – 5/19)

5th year of pro baseball (STL Org.)... 9th Round Draft pick by STL in 2019... Louisiana-Lafayette

- During the 2023 season with Cougars, hit 7 home runs in a 5-game span from July 25-30
- Reached as high as Double-A with Cardinals...Belted 14 home runs across two levels during the 2022 season (A+-AA)
- Perfect Game 3rd Team All-American in High School (Trinity Christian Academy in Jacksonville)... 2018 Cape Cod League All-Star
- Cousin of NFL HOF safety Ronnie Lott, who won 5 Super Bowls with San Francisco 49ers and made 10 Pro Bowls

Went 4-for-9, HR, 3 RBI, 3 R in last series at Lake Country... Currently on 5-game hit streak

#17 Erny Ordonez, INF

*** Returning Cougar: ('23)**

Age: 25
'24 vs WPG: N/A

Status: LS-3

Resides: Zephyr Hills, FL
Longest Hitting Streak: 10 (5/22 – 6/2)

5th year in professional baseball (3 yrs in PIT org – 33rd RD pick in 2019)

- Played in 17 games for the Cougars near the end of 2023, notched an 8-game hit streak in late August/ early September
- Central Arizona College alumn (9 former MLB: Rich Harden, Ian Kinsler, etc), was committed to Kansas before PIT draft
- Millenium HS (Arizona) alum (Kyle Bradish & Josh Rojas)
- Had a 5-hit, 5-RBI night on 6/1/23 vs Winston-Salem

10-game hit streak snapped 6/2 at Lake Country

#2 Cornelius Randolph, OF

*** Returning Cougar ('22-'23)**

Age: 26
'24 vs WPG: N/A

Status: LS-4

Resides: Newnan, GA
Longest Hitting Streak: 6 (5/11 – 5/17)

9th year in pro baseball (7 years in PHI org, 1 year in CWS org.) 1th round draft pick out of Griffin High School in 2015

- Leads the Cougars in multiple categories since the franchise joined the American Association: H (174), R (98), 2B (45), and RBI (100)
- 10th overall draft pick by the Philadelphia Phillies in 2015... Reached as high as Triple-A Lehigh Valley in 2021
- Worked out using a Peloton to get in shape for the 2021 Season
- Began the 2022 season with Double-A Birmingham in the Chicago White Sox organization

2-for-3, 2B, RBI in last game played 5/25 vs. Gary

Kane County Cougars Batting Notes

#17 Simon Reid, C

Age: 23
'24 vs WPG: N/A

Status: LS-1

Resides: McKinney, TX
Longest Hitting Streak: 4 (5/10 – 5/17)

3rd year in pro baseball (LAD)... Westmont College

- Drafted by the LA Dodgers in the 10th Round of the 2022 MLB Draft
- Alongside brother, Bailey Reid, runs a coffee company called "Minor League Coffee Company"
- Named GSAC Freshman of the Year after posting a 1.004 OPS in 2021
- Hobbies include video games, spikeball, and golf

2-for-4, 2B, 2 RBI on 6/1 @ Lake Country

#4 Harrison Smith, INF

** Returning Cougar ('23)*

Age: 27
'24 vs WPG: N/A

Status: LS-4

Resides: Austin, TX
Longest Hitting Streak: 3 (5/29-6/1)

6th year in pro baseball (Chicago, Lake Country in AA)... Oral Roberts University

- Spent each of last four seasons as a member of the Chicago Dogs, started the 2023 season as a member of Lake Country.
- Family owns Smith & Sons in California and grows pistachios, lemons, and oranges
- Played two seasons at Bakersfield College before transferring to Oral Roberts, attended Frontier HS prior to college career.

4 RBI in last series at Lake Country

#8 Armond Upshaw, OF

** Returning Cougar ('23)*

Age: 26
'24 vs WPG: N/A

Status: LS-3

Resides: Newnan, GA
Longest Hitting Streak: 8 (5/23 – Present)

11th Round pick by WAS in 2016... 7th year in pro baseball (WSH)...

- Started the 2023 season with the Harrisburg Senators in the Washington Nationals Org.
- Was a two-way player at Pensacola State College (NJCAA). Committed to play at Missouri, but chose to sign with Nationals
- Found out he was drafted while at little brother's baseball game (call from mom).
- Stole 27 bases in 98 games between Hagerstown (A) and Potomac (A+) during the 2019 season

14-for-34 (.412) during current 8-game hit streak

#24 Je'Von Ward, OF

Age: 24
'24 vs WPG: N/A

Status: LS-3

Resides: Long Beach, CA
Longest Hitting Streak: 6 (5/26-Present)

12th Round pick by MIL in 2017... 7th year in pro baseball...

- Hit 8 HR and drove in 30 runs in 78 games for the Wisconsin Timber Rattlers in 2023
- Attended Richard Gahr HS in Cerritos, CA, which has produced 6 MLB players including Jacob Faria and Chris Devenski (TBR)
- Was committed to play baseball at University of Southern California before being drafted by the Brewers
- Dad, Reggie Ward, played football at Notre Dame. Uncle, Mark Carrier, played safety in the NFL for 12 seasons .
- Played in Arizona Fall League in 2022, missed time after undergoing Tommy John surgery for a torn UCL in 2021

10-for-25 (.400) during current 6-game hit streak

Kane County Cougars Bullpen Notes

#6 Michael Brewer RHP

STATUS: LS-1 **RESIDES:** Fort Wayne, IN **HT/WT:** 6'2" / 200 **AGE:** 25

3rd year in professional baseball... Highest level: Class A (Dunedin)

- Outfielder at Eastern Kentucky University... Named to 2019 Ohio Valley All-Tournament Team when he hit .533 in the tournament
- Did not become a full-time pitcher until the age of 23... 35 strikeouts in 34 innings with Class A Dunedin in 2023 (TOR)
- Won a state football title at R. Nelson Snider High School in Fort Wayne as a wide receiver

Last appearance: Earned first save of season on 6/2 @ LC (1.0 IP, 1 ER, 2 H, 0 BB, 2 Ks) 1 day(s) since last pitched (6/2 @ LC)

#19 CJ Carter RHP

STATUS: LS-2 **RESIDES:** Lithonia, GA **HT/WT:** 5'10" / 180 **AGE:** 26

5th year in professional baseball... 29th round draft pick by MIA in 2018... Highest level: Double-A (Pensacola)

- Acquired in a trade with Kansas City for a player to be named later 5/20/22
- Full name is Chavez Jordan Wesley Carter. Perfect Game All Southeast Region Honorable Mention at Arabia Mountain H.S.
- Played at three different colleges: Indian River & Alvin Community Colleges before finishing his career at Troy University

Trending: 1 ER allowed 9 Ks over last 3 app. (4.2 IP)

2 day(s) since last pitched (6/1 @ LC)

#27 AJ Jones RHP

STATUS: LS-1 **RESIDES:** Sarasota, FL **HT/WT:** 6'5" / 220 **AGE:** 25

4th year in professional baseball College: Univ. of Central Florida, Jacksonville Univ. & Florida Atlantic

- Spent 2022 (and start of 2023) w/ Milwaukee... 2021 w/ Chicago Dogs
- 2021 Grad of U. of C. Florida (10K gm vs #1 Ole Miss)... Conf. POW 2x w/ Jacksonville Univ (MLB INF Daniel Murphy...)
- HS: SR yr cut short (injury) started 2-0, w/ 0.00... State runner-up JR yr (3-1, 0.93)... 2017 Summer teammate w/ LAD OF James Outman

Trending: Took loss 5/27 @ LIN after allowing 3 ER on 3 H

2 day(s) since last pitched (6/1 @ LC)

#15 Jordan Martinson LHP

STATUS: LS-2 **RESIDES:** North Richlands, TX **HT/WT:** 5'11" / 210 **AGE:** 27

- Originally drafted by the New York Mets in the 11th Round of the 2019 MLB Draft
- Reached as high as Triple-A in his career and also spent time in the Australian Baseball League in 2022-23
- Led the Missouri Valley Conference in wins while at Dallas Baptist in 2018 with 9
- Older brother, Jason Martinson, played at Texas State and in the Washington Nationals Organization

Trending: 0 ER and 4 H allowed over last 7 appearances (9.1 IP)

1 day(s) since last pitched (6/2 @ LC)

#30 RHP Logan Nissen

****Placed on inactive list 5/20**

STATUS: LS-1 **RESIDES:** Mankato, MN **HT/WT:** 6'5" / 225 **AGE:** 25

4th year in professional baseball 1 Year with F-M, 2nd Year with Kane County

- Primary closer for the Cougars in 2022... named an East Division All-Star.
- Appeared in 19 games with 11 starts for the Fargo-Moorhead Redhawks in 2021, finishing 6-5 with a 4.56 ERA
- First-team All Upper Midwest Conference (NCAA Division III) in 2021
- Spent the summer of 2018 as a part of the Rochester Honkers in the Northwoods League

#23 LHP Ryan Nutof

STATUS: LS-4 **RESIDES:** Palm Beach Gardens, FL **HT/WT:** 6'2" / 215 **AGE:** 28

- Originally from South Elgin, IL, located just a few towns north of Northwestern Medicine Field in Kane County
- 6th season in professional baseball... previously in Reds organization, reaching as high as Triple-A
- Named a Freshman All-American at Michigan in 2015, when he went 5-3 with a 3.71 ERA
- Owns a career 3.82 ERA and has recorded 288 strikeouts in 276 MiLB innings... Earned 1st Save of season (5/10 @ MIL)

Trending: 7 saves... 5 saves since May 19... No ER in last 2 app.

2 day(s) since last pitched (6/1 @ LC)

#13 Ryan Richardson RHP

STATUS: LS-2 **RESIDES:** Spokane, WA **HT/WT:** 5'9" / 170 **AGE:** 34

11th year in pro baseball. Has played in the Frontier League, Pecos League, Pacific Association, Atlantic League & AA

- Recorded a 4.97 ERA with 17 Ks, 6 BB in 20 appearances for Kane County in 2021
- Was slated to manage Alpine Cowboys (Pecos League) one of his former teams prior to the 2021 season.
- Graduated from Campbellsville University after transferring from Walla Walla CC (Sweets)

Trending: Allowed 4 ER on 5 H last time out

1 day(s) since last pitched (6/2 @ LC)

Kane County Cougars Bullpen Notes

#10 Harrison Smith RHP

STATUS: LS-3

RESIDES: Austin, TX

HT/WT: 5'10" / 180

AGE: 27

-2-way player for the Cougars

-Has pitched in American Association since 2019 w/ Chicago Dogs... (Made 11 appearances last year w/ Cougars)

-Had a 10-pitch, 2 inning appearance on 5/17 vs MIL

Trending: Had a 10-pitch 1-inning performance on 5/17 vs MIL

14 day(s) since last pitched (5/20@ KC)

#20 Garrett Williams LHP

STATUS: VETERAN

RESIDES: Lubbock, TX

HT/WT: 6'2" / 210

AGE: 29

-Pitched last 7 seasons w/ SFG, STL, & OAK... Everywhere from Single-A to Triple-A

-Teammates w/ Pete Alonso on 2018 Scottsdale Scorpions (Arizona Fall League)

Trending: 0 ER, 4Ks over last 2 app. (2.0 IP)

2 day(s) since last pitched (6/1 @ LC)

Kane County Cougars Coaching Staff

George Tsamis

Manager

George Tsamis enters his fourth season as the 21st manager in Kane County Cougar history. Tsamis spent the 18 years prior to 2021 managing the St. Paul Saints. Tsamis is the winningest manager in the history of the American Association with over 1,000 victories. He led St. Paul to two championships, including one in 2019. Prior to managing St. Paul, Tsamis also led the New Jersey Jackals to back-to-back Northern League championships in just two years. Tsamis pitched in 41 games for the Minnesota Twins in 1993. He was drafted by the Twins in the 15th round of the 1989 MLB Draft. Tsamis was also part of the 1979 Little League World Series team that lost to Taiwan in the championship game.

"SAM-iss"

Matt Passarelle

Hitting Coach

Passarelle enters his 10th season as a coach in the American Association and third with the Cougars. He spent the 2020 and 2021 seasons with the Milwaukee Milkmen. Prior to joining the Milkmen, he spent five seasons with the Sioux City Explorers. Under his guidance, the Explorers won back-to-back Central Division Championships in 2015 and 2016 as well as the South Division Championship in 2019. Passarelle played collegiately at NCAA Division I-MAAC school Iona College for four years. He also played for the Johnson Johnnies of the Frontier League for three seasons.

"PASS-uh-RELL-ee"

David Holmberg

Pitching Coach

Holmberg joins the Cougars after 15 years as a professional pitcher. Holmberg pitched 51 games in MLB across four seasons with Arizona, Cincinnati, and Chicago (AL). In 2023, Holmberg started 11 games with the Lincoln Saltdogs in the American Association, finishing the year 8-2. Holmberg was originally selected by the White Sox as the 71st Overall pick in the 2009 MLB Draft out of Port Charlotte High School. Holmberg was a member of the 2020 Milwaukee Milkmen team that won the American Association championship.

Scott Ellis

Athletic Trainer

Ellis is entering his second year as an Athletic Trainer in the American Association. Ellis also works as an Ironman, marathon, and triathlon trainer.

2024 Kane County Cougars Transactions

May (6)

- 5/10 – KC **Roster** activated
- 5/17 – LHP **Alex Troop** transferred to Chicago Cubs
- 5/18 – LHP **Tommy Sommer** activated from injured list
- 5/20 – RHP **Logan Nissen** placed on inactive list
- 5/20 – RHP **Antonio Carreon** added to roster
- 5/31 – INF **Jared Cushing** added to roster