



Beacon

A publication of the Ban Johnson Amateur Baseball League

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- Volume 36
- Issue 1



CLOSE PLAY - Bryce Lievens, Regal Plastic second baseman, steals second base before **Alex Cargain**, Natural Baseball Academy shortstop, makes a tag in a doubleheader June 8th at Macken Park. Natural Baseball swept the doubleheader 6-5 and 6-1.

2014 BJ season is off and running

The 2014 Ban Johnson League schedule is underway with 13 teams competing for the coveted 2014 BJ championship.

There are 12 teams back from the 2013 season. Building Champions has two teams this year.

In 2013, the KC Sports Club Blues won the regular season title.

Seaboard won the league title defeating Natural Baseball Academy.

NBA came through a preliminary seven-team post-season tournament and championship tournament to come within one game of the championship.

What will the 2014 season bring?

Stay tuned.

Here is a look at the season based on information supplied by the teams.

The teams are listed in alphabetical order:

Bandits

Manager **Mike Payne** is in his third season managing the Bandits.

"I believe we have an opportunity to make some waves this year," Payne said. "I'm trying to approach the season with the idea that we are still a young team."

The Bandits return a number of players from the 2013 season, including infielder **Collan Payne**, outfielder **Austin Evans**, pitcher **Cody Starr**, infielder **Alec Witt**, pitcher **Nicholas Brandecker**, outfielder **Kendrick White** and pitcher **Aaron Kurtz**.

Newcomers to the team include infielder Jacob Powell, pitcher **Luke Temperelli**, outfielder **Jared Helfitch**, pitcher **Steve Gillespie**, pitcher **Gabe Swope**, catchers **Rocco Scarcello** and **Keith Winteroud**, outfielder **Danton Maddox**, DH **Jake Castagno**, infielders **Kyle Foster**, **Taylor Brooks** and **Gabe Greenbaum**, outfielder **Jake Stafford** and pitcher **Andy Keck**.

"I am optimistic about the season," he said. "Our team is primarily made up of high school players headed to play at the collegiate level. We grooming them for a future in

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Notable Numbers presented by Independence Ridge Apts.

A quick glance at the 2014 Ban Johnson League season

Here are the key facts for the 2014 season:

* This is the 87th Anniversary season for the league that got its start in 1927.

* The league has 13 teams, 12 returning and one new team, a second Building Champions club.

* There are no divisions. Each team plays eight teams twice and four teams three times for a total of 28 games per team in the regular season.

* All games are scheduled for seven inning doubleheaders except the third game against a team, which will be a nine-inning game.

* A tournament at the end of the season will decide the league champion. All 13 teams will be involved in the tourney with seeding determined by regular season standings.

* Games this year will be played at the Mid-

America Sports Complex, Missouri 3&2, Macken Park, Liberty High School, Liberty North High School, Spring Hill High School and William Jewell College.

* The 46th annual All-Star Game hosted by the Royals will be played at Kauffman Stadium on Sunday, July 27 at 9 a.m.

* GameChanger will be used for scorekeeping, stats, livestreaming and game recap stories.

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Ban Johnson League Standings

(thru June 12)

	W	L	GB
NKC Apts.	5	2	---
Milgram Mustangs	5	3	0.5
Seaboard	2	1	1.0
BJ Raiders	4	3	1.0
Natural Baseball	5	4	1.0
MSBL Royals	2	2	1.5
Midwest Orioles	5	5	1.5
Regal Plastics	4	5	2.0
Bandits	3	4	2.0
MidAmeriCare Nationals	3	4	2.0
Building Champions Navy	3	4	2.0
UMB Bank	2	3	2.0
Building Champions Gold	3	6	3.0

2014 Ban Johnson League season

Continued from page 1

BJ Raiders

This is **Mike Herr**'s fifth year as the manager of the Raiders.

The returning players he is counting on are pitcher **Milan Pleacher**, second baseman **Bryan Rezin** and pitcher **Chris Mancha**.

The newcomers that he is looking at to help the Raiders this season are outfielder **Victor Brancato**, catcher **Jared Patton**, shortstop **Coleman Waheed** and third baseman **Cole Doherty**.

"We only have a few returners from last year, so we will have a lot of new faces," Herr said. "But my expectations remain high."

Building Champions Gold

The Building Champions program has split into two teams for the 2014 season.

Managing the Gold team is **Luke Cassis**

Building Champions Navy

The Navy manager is **Jeff Robinson**.

MidAmeriCare Nationals

John Gage is in his second season managing the team in the Ban Johnson League.

He has returning all-star players in catcher/first baseman **Jared Gage**, outfielder/pitcher **AJ Boyer** and pitcher **Sean Goosetree**.

The newcomers include outfielders **Dylan Farrell**, **Zach Morgan** and **Anthony Biando**, pitchers **Dylan Riley**, **Logan Taylor**, **Jake Kern** and **Blake Stephens**, catcher/infielder **Mason Noweki** and middle infielder **Sam Falcoln**.

Midwest Orioles

The Orioles return catcher **Jake Jones** and infielder **Jericho Burasco** and have a good newcomer in pitcher **Zach Maskill**.

Milgram Mustangs

Kevin Shaw is in his 25th year as a coach/manager in the league.

The Mustangs return all-stars **Sam Morman**, **JD Weyer**, **Ryan Lasneske**, **Andrew Blackwell** and **Dakota Graham**.

Also back in the fold are **JW McGraw**, **Zac Shaw**, **Andrew Curry** and **Wes Jones**.

Newcomers who Shaw expected to help the team are **Derek Mann**, **Dylan Christie**, **Colton Hilbrenner**, **Chase Watt** and **JJ Wesley**.

"We have a good mix of veteran leadership along with key additions that should solidify the season's line-

up," Shaw said. "The key to the season will be if the pitching can hold up throughout the season."

MSBL Royals

Tony Hurla is in his third year as the Royals manager.

The Royals return pitcher **Cade Brummer** and catcher **Patrick Swain**.

"This year we have over 20 newcomers and we will be counting on all of them to make an impact," Hurla said.

Natural Baseball Academy

The team has a new manager in **Brian Knippelmeyer**.

NKC Apartments

The team returns eight veteran players, including BJ Pitcher of the Year **David Reese**, BJ stolen base leader **Patrick Burns** and outfielder **Zach Roberts**.

"We add seven new position players who bring a good mix of position flexibility, speed and power," fourth-year manager **Tom Dailey** said. "We add 10 new pitchers ranging from successful rising college freshman to regular starters in their college programs."

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Ban Johnson Awards Dinner Dec. 27 at Deer Creek Golf Club



Andrew Blackwell, Milgram Mustangs utilityman, received the Bruce Rice Hustle Award from former Hustle Award winners (from left) **Chris Halford (1980)**, **Bill Fenton (1964)** and **Miles Shelton (2011)**. The award is presented by the **John Stipetich Family**.



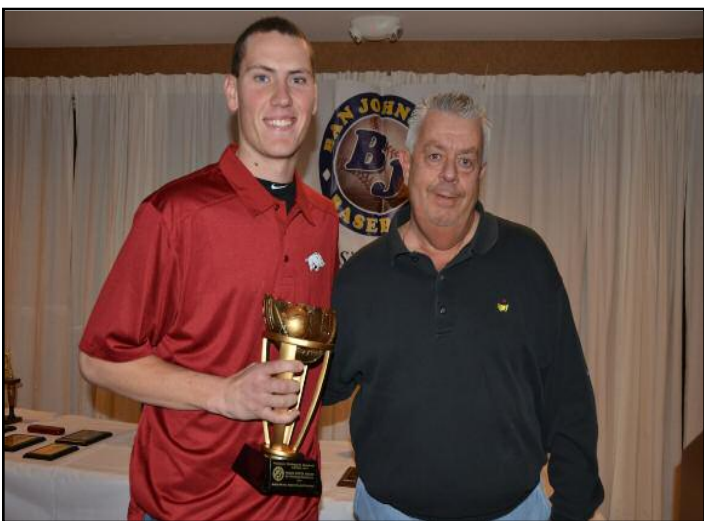
Seaboard, under the leadership of Sponsor Representative **Brad Warner** and Manager **Will Meier**, was honored as 2013 BJ Champions.



Kyle Clifton (left) from UMB Bank received the **Lester Milgram MVP** award from **Bob Twibell**. The award is presented by the **Twibell Family**. Clifton also received the 2012 MVP award.



Kyle Clifton (left) UMB Bank third baseman, received the **Alex George** Batting Champion trophy from **Alex George**, son of BJ Hall of Fame manager Alex George.



Bobby Wernes (left), Natural Baseball Academy shortstop, received the **Frank White** Award for Fielding Excellence from **Paul Provas**, Chicago White Sox scout and BJ alum.



David Reese (right), NKC Apts. right hander, received the **Arnie Briggs** Pitcher of the Year award from **Steve Renko**, longtime MLB pitcher and BJ Hall of Famer. Reese also received the **Ron Zuber** Most Strikeouts award and the **Joe Presko** Most Wins award.

BJ Award Winners for 2013

Here is a look at the awards that were presented at the All-League Dinner Dec. 27, 2013 at the Deer Creek Golf Club:

BJ Champion - Seaboard

BJ Runner-Up - Natural Baseball Academy.

Regular Season First Place - KC SportsClub Blues

Most Stolen Bases - **Patrick Burns**, NKC Apartments.

Moe Lago Most Home Runs Award - **Jared Patton**, Regal Plastics.

Marvin Tucker RBI Award - **Kyle Clifton**, UMB Bank.

Alex George Batting Champion - **Kyle Clifton**, UMB Bank

Ron Zuber Most Strikeouts Award - **David Reese**, NKC Apartments.

Joe Presko Most Wins Award - **Ryan Lasneske**, Milgram Mustangs and **David Reese**, NKC Apartments.

Don Saint Lowest ERA Award - **John Aubie**, KC SportsClub Blues

Arnie Briggs -Pitcher of the Year Award - **David Reese**, NKC Apartments.

Bill Fenton All-Star Game MVP - **Jared Patton**, Regal Plastics.

Pat Nolan Championship Series MVP - **Josh Langangan**, Seaboard.

Lester Milgram MVP (Presented by the Twibell family) - **Kyle Clifton**, UMB Bank.

Bruce Rice Hustle Award (Presented by the **John Stipetich** family) - **Andrew Blackwell**, Milgram Mustangs.

Frank White Award for Fielding Excellence -- **Bobby Wernes**, Natural Baseball Academy.

Sidney Brown Umpire of the Year - **Ralph Willcott**.

Service Awards.

Alan Peel, 15 years scorekeeper

David Gershon, 11 years general manager/coach NKC Apartments

Nolen O'Dowd, 10 years Milgram Mustangs coach

Rob Aulet, 10 years umpire

Ralph Willcott, 10 years umpire

Chris Andes, five years umpire

Mike Neal, 5 years manager Regal Plastics

UMB Bank, 35 years team sponsorship

Hall of Fame Induction

Kansas City Royals

Appreciation

Special thanks to Annual Dinner Gold Sponsor **Jack Talley** and Enterprise Rent-A-Car.



BJ Hall of Famer **Roger Twibell** announced the Kansas City Royals as the newest member of the league's Hall of Fame. The Royals are the first organization to be selected for this honor and join 38 individuals currently in the Hall.



The league recognized UMB Bank for 35 years of team sponsorship. Shown here are **Bob McFarlane**, BJ executive director; **Bob Webb**, UMB sponsor representative; **Harry Peel**, BJ executive Vice President and former longtime UMB sponsor rep; and **Cary Lundy**, former longtime UMB manager.

Highlights presented by NKC Apts.

May 27

Midwest Orioles 5 Bandits 0

The Orioles scored three runs in the second inning. **Jake Jones** was two-for-three and **Jerico Burasco** and **Ian Barker** hit homers.

London Collins got the win in relief working the last six innings, allowing one hit, fanning eight and walking none.

NKC Apartments 8, MidAmeriCare 1

Patrick Burns went two for five with an RBI, **Blake Peterson**, two-for-five with three RBIs and **Matthew Stacks**, two-for-five with two RBIs.

May 29

Midwest Orioles 4, MSBL Royals 2

The Orioles scored all four runs in the bottom of the first.

Ian Barker and **Matt Petelin** went one for two.

Jacob Cantwell went the first six innings for the win. **Zachary Maskill** worked the seventh, striking out three.

MSBL Royals 11, Midwest Orioles 1 (5)

Zach Macke went three-for-four and **Ryan Fisher**, two-for-three. **Brock Miller** had a double and two RBIs.

BJ Raiders 11 UMB Bank 1 (7)

The Raiders scored eight runs in the sixth and seventh inning to end the nine inning game after seven.

Victor Brancato was two-for-two with a double and three RBIs; **Bryan Rezin**, one-for-three with two RBIs and **Nico Codemo**, two-for-three with two RBIs.

May 30

NKC Apartments 9, AmeriCare Nationals 3

NKC scored six runs in the bottom of the fourth.

Connor Arobasso went two-for-four and **Matthew Stack** was three-for-four with a doubles and two RBIs.

AmeriCare Nationals 5, NKC Apartments 2

Mason Howell went two-for-three.

Building Champions Gold 6, Natural Baseball Academy 4

The winners scored six runs in the bottom of the fourth.

Dylan Heitz went two-for-two with three RBIs.

Natural Baseball Academy 8, Building Champions Gold 2

Matthew Elliott went two-for-two with an RBI.

Midwest Orioles 5, Bandits 4 (10)

The Orioles scored a run in the top of the 10th.

J. Rogers tripled and scored on a single by **Jordan Brown**.

Keegin Brannin went two-for-four with a triple and an RBI.

Bandits 16, Orioles 4.

Matthew Mayden was four-for-five with two RBIs; **Nick Arnone**, two-for-three with a double and two RBIs and **Jared Allnut** was three-for-five.

Regal Plastics 12, Building Champions Navy 8

Regal scored eight runs in the top of the second.

Caleb Baker went two-for-five, **Jesse Gray**, one-for-three with three RBIs and **Bryce Lievens**, one-for-four with four RBIs.

Regal Plastics 5, Building Champions Navy 4

Regal won the game on a sacrifice fly by Nate Goff in the bottom of the seventh.

June 1

Milgram Mustangs 1, Seaboard 0

Samuel Mormon was one-for-two with the lone RBI. **Ryan Lasneske** blanked Seaboard on four hits.

UMB Bank 3, BJ Raiders 1

UMB scored all its runs in the top of the third.

Zach Anderson was one-for-three with an RBI and **Mitchell Glessner**, two-for-four with a double and RBI.

Alex Thornton worked the first six frames, fanning six and walking one.

UMB Bank 4 BJ Raiders 2

Each team only had three hits.

Tyler Jewell had an RBI and **Jacob Smith** was one-for-three with an RBI.

Seaboard 12, Milgram Mustangs 1 (6)

Seaboard scored six runs in the bottom of the sixth.

Anthony Miller went three-for-four with two doubles and two RBIs while **Jake Harvey** was two-for-three with two RBIs and a double.

Natural Baseball Academy 6, Midwest Orioles 3

Matthew Elliott was two-for-four with two RBIs.

Building Champions Gold 11, Bandits 6

Sam Chadick was two-for-four with homer and three RBIs; **Jake Mercer**, two-for-four with a homer and two RBIs and **Adam Thies**, two-for-four with a homer and three RBIs.

Building Champion Navy 6, MSBL Royals 4

Drake Herman went two-for-three with an RBI and **Evan Bourn**, two-for-three with a triple and two RBIs.

Midwest Orioles 12, Natural Baseball Academy 10

Jake Jones was two-for-four with a double and three RBIs and **Seth Lieser**, four-for-four with a double and two RBIs.

Bandits 13, Building Champions Gold 1 (4)

The Bandits scored 10 runs in the bottom of the second.

Anthony Evans was three-for-three with five RBIs and **Eric Benson**, two-for-two with two RBIs.

June 2

MSBL Royals 3, Building Champions Navy 1

Nicholas Delcher was two-for-three and **Brock Miller**, one-for-three with two RBIs.

June 3

NKC Apartments 5, Regal Plastics 1

Patrick Burns was two-for-three with an RBI and **Blake Peterson** was two-for-three with two RBIs.

NKC Apartments 7, Regal Plastics 0

Three pitchers combined on a one-hitter.

Connor Arobasso went two-for-three with a double, homer and three RBIs.

BJ Raiders 5, Milgram Mustangs 2

Victor Brancato went two-for-three with a double and **Coleman Waheed**, two-for-three with an RBI.

Milgram Mustangs 13, BJ Raiders 7

The Mustangs scored seven runs in the top of the seventh.

Zac Shaw was two-for-five; **Aaron Stubblefield**, two-for-five and **JD Weyer**, three-for-four an RBI and two doubles.

Natural Baseball Academy 6, Midwest Orioles 3

Christian Patterson was two-for-four with a double and two RBIs and **Taylor Davis**, three-for-four with a triple and two RBIs.

Bandits 15, Building Champions Gold 9

Zac Blakemore went three-for-three with two RBIs; **Austin Evans**, one-for-four with a double and **Anthony Corona** was three-for-six with a double.

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Alumni Corner presented by Moe Lago

Three Ban Johnson alums are honored

Three former Ban Johnson League players have been honored by various organizations in the greater Kansas City area.

* Former Major League Baseball pitcher **Rick Sutcliffe** was presented the Buck O'Neill Legacy Award by the Negro Leagues Baseball Museum on Nov. 13.

Sutcliffe pitched for a number of MLB clubs. He was the National League Rookie of the Year in 1979 with the LA Dodgers and 1984 Cy Young Award winner for the Chicago Cubs.

He has been an ESPN analyst for the past 19 years and he played for Butternut Bread in the Ban Johnson League.

* Dr. **Mark Balderston** was inducted into the Shawnee Mission North Hall of Fame on Feb. 14. Balderston has been the Indians team doctor for

30 years.

He spent many years as the softball coach at Shawnee Mission Northwest, winning state titles in 2002 and 2003.

He operates the Balderston Chiropractic and Sports Injury Clinic in Shawnee.

He played for Milgrams in the Ban Johnson League.

* **Jack Talley** was given a Citation for Achievement from William Jewell College on March 6.

Talley, a 1980 William Jewell grad, is group vice president and general manager of Enterprise Holding.

He played for Kansas City Life in the BJ and is a member of the All-75-Year Team.



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2014 Ban Johnson League season

Continued from page 3

Regal Plastics

Mike Neal is in his sixth year of guiding the team.

Returning to the fold are catcher **Nate Goff**, pitcher/first baseman **Zach Bradford**, third baseman/catcher **Jared Meyer** and pitchers **Logan Moose** and **Matt Wasche**.

“We have several new players to the roster that we are expecting big things from, but unfortunately, I have only heard about their ability from coaches and teammates and have not had the privilege of watching them in person,” Neal said. “Pitcher **Brett Valentine** brings elite level velocity and a feel for pitching.”

Seaboard

Third year manager **Will Meier** doesn't return a lot of players from his 2013 championship team.

Seaboard returns second baseman **Braden Brown**, shortstop **LJ Hatch**, catcher/DH **Michael Hayworth** and pitcher **Ross Johnson**.

“We have too many newcomers to mention and looking forward to all of them contributing to the team,” Meier said.

UMB Bank

Adam Clay is starting his fifth year as the manager of



DEFENDING CHAMPIONS - Seaboard is making a run for back-to-back league titles. Getting ready to take on Milgram Mustangs June 8 at Macken Park are (from left) **Anthony Miller**, **CJ Stuever**, **Michael Hayworth** and **Ross Johnson**.

UMB Bank.

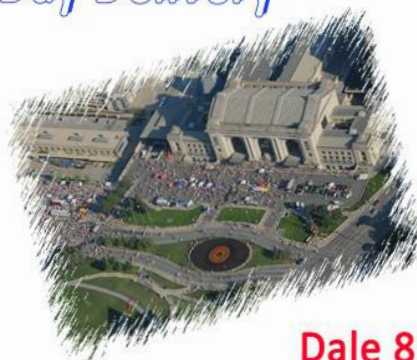
The returning players include **Alex Drew**, **Danny Kralicek**, **Daniel LaMunyon** and **Licio Tamburlini**.

Clay is looking for help from newcomers **Mitch Glessner**, **Eric Ross**, **Zach Anderson** and **Paul Fernandez**.

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HIGH FLYING - **Zach Pirrello**, Natural Baseball Academy outfielder, scores ahead of a wide throw to Regal Plastic catcher **Nate Goff** June 8 at Macken Park.

Continued from page 6

June 6

Building Champions Navy 9, Bandits 5

Evan Bourn went one-for-three with a homer and two RBIs, while **Tristan Perkins** was two-for-two.

BJ Raiders 3, AmeriCare Nationals 2 (9)

The Raiders scored a run in the top of the ninth.

Jared Patton was one-for-four with an RBI.

BJ Raiders 2 AmeriCare Nationals 1 (10)

Bryan Rezin's two-strike solo homer in the 10th was the difference in the game.

Milgram Mustangs 5, Natural Baseball Academy 4 (8)

Sam Morman was two-for-three with a double, triple and three RBIs while **JJ Wesley** went two-for-four.

Regal Plastics 4, Building Champions Gold 2

Bryan Porting was one-for-three with an RBI while **Nate Goff** was one-for-three with an RBI.

Regal Plastics 7, Building Champions Gold 3.

Regal scored four runs in the top of the sixth.

Jared Meyer was two-for-three and **David Maddock** was one-for-three with a double and two RBIs.

June 8

NKC Apartments 4, Midwest Orioles 3

NKC scored all four runs in the bottom of the third.

Austin Kochsmeyer went two-for-two with two RBIs and **Zach Roberts** was two-for-two.

Midwest Orioles 8, NKC Apartments 2

The Orioles scored eight runs in the first three innings.

Ian Barker was one-for-four with a homer and a sacrifice fly while **Drew Blair** was two-for-three.

AmeriCare Nationals 4, UMB Bank 3

The Nationals scored the winning run in the bottom of the sixth.

Zach Morgan was one-for-three with a homer and three RBIs.

AmeriCare Nationals 6, UMB Bank 2

The Nationals scored four runs in the bottom of the sixth.

Zach Morgan went two-for-four and **Dylan Riley** was two-for-three with a double.

Natural Baseball Academy 6, Regal Plastics 5

Trevor Burkdoll was two-for-three with two doubles and an RBI; **Jake Vore**, one-for-three with a double and an RBI while **Keith Winteroud** had a solo

homer.

Natural Baseball Academy 6, Regal Plastics 1

Luke Knight was two-for-three with a double and two RBIs and **Elijah Keppler**, two-for-three.

Seaboard 9, Milgram Mustangs 2

Anthony Miller was two-for-four with two doubles and three RBIs and **Andrew Warner**, two-for-three with two RBIs.

Building Champions Navy 5, Building Champions Gold 1

Tristan Perkins was two-for-four; **Evan Bourn**, one-for-three with a double and an RBI and **Luke Viestenz**, two-for-two.

Building Champions Gold 6, Building Champions Navy 2

Sam Chadick was two-for-four and **Brett Anderson**, one-for-two with two RBIs.

June 11

Milgram Mustangs 9, Regal Plastics 3

Dylan Christie was two-for-four with a double and two RBI; **Andrew Curry**, two-for-three with an RBI and **Sam Morman** went two-for-four with a double and two RBIs.



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| Bill Fenton | Country Club Dairy 1963-67 | ◆ Mike Peterson | Country Club/Milgram 1966-70,
Coach 1975-2011; |
| ◆ Stuart Goldman | Coach 1968-80 | ◆ Tim Presko | Asst. general manager 2012-current |
| ◆ Mark Goodwin | Sports Information Director 1992-94 | ◆ Paul Provas | Boyle's Famous Corned Beef |
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| ◆ Jerry Lafferty | Milgram 1980-85 | ◆ Don Saint | Milgram player/coach 1967-75 |
| ◆ Moe Lago | Guy's 1968-72 | <i>P</i> Carl Shortino | Milgram 1977-79 |
| ◆ Allen Laffoon | Scout, KC Royals | <i>P</i> Jack Talley | Milgram 1957-60 |
| ◆ Richard Ludwig | Lapetina's/Western Auto | Matt Zych | Lapetina's 1955-57 |
| <i>P</i> Kevin McIntosh | 1955-59; Coach 1965-69 | | Gateway/Country Club Dairy 1966-72 |
| ◆ Curt Mathews | Katz, 1954-59 | | Meyer Dairy/KC Life 1976-80 |
| ◆ Ken Monaco | Boyle's 1977-79 | | |
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P = Platinum Level
 ◆ = Diamond Club

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