



# BLIZZARD

## IN THE NEWS - VOL. 10

CURRENT NEWS

DATES TO SAVE

### END OF YEAR AWARDS BANQUET!

On Sunday morning Blizzard families took a break from their lives to connect one final time at CHS Field (home of the St. Paul Saints) for the Elite player's awards banquet. The annual event is where everyone can laugh together, reminisce on the past season and share a few tears together as we say goodbye to the graduating seniors.

In what is becoming a yearly reminder, stay away from picking a bad fantasy football team or placing a wager with Eddie Gerald. The results of such events were on full display to kick off the banquet as 2027 Grad RJ Madison did not make a correct wrestling prediction with Eddie and the result was him having to rock a wrestling singlet. The fantasy football "loser" 2024 Grad Bradyn Bezanson (die hard Packer fan) had to give a speech written by Cole Albers (die hard Viking fan). As you can imagine in both instances the spectators were not disappointed as it was a great icebreaker to what is an emotional day.

Owner and Coach Adam Barta would follow the opening by highlighting the past season by sharing stories, highlighting successes of the program, and talking about the seniors. As he stated the program would not exist without the harmonization of the coaches, players and parents working together. The awards of the teams are not issued by the coaches of the respective teams but rather the players. The five awards given each year for the elite players are: 1) "Johnny Price" Most Valuable Player Award 2) "Joe Loftus" Top Hitter Award 3) "Logan Shore" Top Pitcher Award 4) "Jake Kuschke" Leadership Award and 5) "Blue gLove" Top Defensive Player Award.



Players, parents and coaches watch Bryan Sanchez video tribute to the 2023 Fall Elite Season at CHS Field

All the recipients of these awards are listed below as well as group pictures of those that were able to attend.

In addition to the player awards we also recognize the “Montana” Coach of the Year award going to a coach that exemplified great leadership, results, dedication, etc. The 2023 Fall Elite recipient, Eddie Gerald coached the 2026 Blue team that saw the team go an astounding 31-3 on the way to numerous championships. We also recognize an individual that leaves us speechless, and Heidi Barta won the popular “Diesel” award. If you bump into Heidi, I will let her tell the story of how she achieved “Diesel” status (Heidi, you know everyone loves you!).



*Eddie Gerald and RJ Madison*

The awards portion was followed by senior speeches given by Bradyn Bezanson, Chase McQuade and Hunter Carlson. These three young men were a strong representation of the 2024 class not only thanking teammates, coaches and parents but also talked about what it means to put on that Blizzard uniform.

I cannot stress this enough, the fact that the day is so emotional year in, and year out is a testament of the kind of culture and program Blizzard has become over the past 20 years. The coaches, players and parents are invested in so many ways and the thought of the “ride” coming to a halt is not something you look forward to. I have not discovered a device to freeze or go back in time but if I do I know several parents/players that would jump on such an opportunity. As Dr. Seuss said “Don’t cry because it’s over. Smile because it happened.”

One final time, THANK YOU SENIORS, best of luck with your college careers and never forget you always have a home at the academy!



*Bradyn Bezanson*



*Chase McQuade and Adam Barta*



*Hunter Carlson and Cole Albers*

# #BLUELOVE



## “Johnny Price” – Most Valuable Player

11U Blue (Billy Murtha); 12U Blue (Luke Olsen); 13U Blue (Cam Favilla) Black (Baylor Brown); 14U Blue (Jay Mound) Black (Jude Heyer) Red (Drew Sonneson); 15U Blue (Oscar Waisanen) Black (RJ Madison); 2026 Blue (Cason Borchardt) Black (Isaiah Walker) Red (Donny Johnson); 2025 Elite (Peter Adie); 2024/25 Blue (Tyler Allshouse) Black (Ethan Clark); 2024 Blue (Tyler Guerin)



## “Joe Loftus” – Top Hitter

11U Blue (Keegan Hoeschen); 12U Blue (Jett Mataczynski); 13U Blue (Miles Tomaszewski) Black (Yuvi Singh); 14U Blue (Jay Mound) Black (Carter Daluge) Red (Drew Sonneson); 15U Blue (Cade Hamilton) Black (RJ Madison); 2026 Blue (Sam Abrahamson) Black (Benjamin Fenske) Red (Easton Riddlehoover); 2025 Elite (Peter Adie); 2024/25 Blue (Tyler Allshouse) Black (Owen Farrington); 2024 Blue (Leo Lauscher)



## “Logan Shore” – Top Pitcher

11U Blue (Brayden Hostrawser); 12U Blue (Wyatt Gutzman); 13U Blue (Connor Flanagan) Black (Jayce Johnson); 14U Blue (Hayden Danelski) Black (Nick Corbett) Red (Jimmy Storholm); 15U Blue (Kason Neuhring) Black (Silas Nelson); 2026 Blue (Mason Schmidt) Black (Isaiah Walker) Red (Kasey MacCallum); 2025 Elite (Ryan Maylone); 2024/25 Blue (Nick Johnson) Black (Colin Fike); 2024 Blue (Jack Scanlon)



## “Blue gLove” – Top Defensive Player

11U Blue (Bennett Travis); 12U Blue (Dane Swenson); 13U Blue (Noah Scott) Black (Baylor Brown); 14U Blue (Hayden Danelski) Black (Mason Fenwick) Red (Tyler Tuttle); 15U Blue (Oscar Waisanen) Black (Gavin Iverson); 2026 Blue (Jace Mataczynski) Black (Henry Saunders) Red (Donny Johnson); 2025 Elite (Andrew Brandt); 2024/25 Blue (Carson Timm) Black (Ben Johnson); 2024 Blue (Hunter Carlson)



## “Jake Kuschke” – Leadership Award

11U Blue (Eric Loe); 12U Blue (Jacob Doherty); 13U Blue (Noah Scott) Black (Jayce Johnson); 14U Blue (Brody Radtke) Black (Bowen Jarombek) Red (Riley Skalisky); 15U Blue (Riley West) Black (Gavin Iverson); 2026 Blue (Jack Glancey) Black (Keith Milam) Red (Donny Johnson); 2025 Elite (Charlie Mueller); 2024/25 Blue (Carson Timm) Black (Ben Engele); 2024 Blue (Hunter Carlson)



Heidi Barta (Diesel Award) Eddie Gerald (Montana - Coach of the Year)





# THANK YOU SENIORS!!!

PLAY WITH THE BEST IN THE STATE  
AGAINST THE BEST IN THE COUNTRY