

Section 2A Champions



The JWP Bulldogs boys' basketball team earned its first trip to the state tournament since 2008, their 4th in school history ('96, '97,) after winning four straight section playoff games, improving their record to 28-3. They defeated T/ML/GHEC, Cleveland, Nicollet, and Springfield. The state tournament begins March 26. Pictured, front row, sitting, from left: Gavin Weedman, Caleb Quast, Daulton Bauer, Gavin Bauer, Parker Gearity, Manager AJ Radunz, Manager Tate Nohner. Back row: Head Coach Nick James, Jeffrey Simonson, James Schoenrock, Tyson Johnson, Tyson Kronbach, Carson Schultz, Jaxon Wolff, Zander Terbeest, Michael Walker, Blake Bure, Seth Dahlberg, Maddex Bauer, Leighlan Harris, Brody Berndt, Manager Trayvn Shultz, Assistant Coach Connor Morton, Assistant Coach Matt Dahlberg Missing Manager Ayden Peterson, and Assistant Coach Gabriel Hauer. Photo by Eli Lutgens

Section 2AA Champions



Rattling off four straight wins through the Class 2AA Section 2 playoff bracket, the Waseca Bluejays earned a trip to the 2026 State Tournament. The Bluejays defeated Sibley East, Maple River, Glencoe-Silver Lake and Belle Plaine, improving their record to 23-7. This year is Waseca's 14th appearance in the state boys' basketball tournament. They also went in 1918, 1919, 1948, 1974, 1975, 1987, 1988, 2002, 2016, 2019, 2021, 2024 and 2025. The Bluejays were state champions in 1918 and 2021, finishing second in 2019 and 2025. They reached the section finals in 2020, when the Covid pandemic prompted cancellation of the state tournament. Front row, from left: Crosby Hinna, Max Deml, Kamerin Ferch, Owen Honstad, Caleb Wulf, Owen Rupe, Julius Oviedo, Logan Reger, Aiden Cisneros. Back Row: Seth Anderson, Devin Buendorf, Richard Guse, Ethan Hiller, Braiden Nelson, Tucker Thompson, Cyrett Long, Toby Jeske, Deron Russell, Brody Dufault, Wyatt Hager, Nate Kaiser, Riley Mitchell, Austin Nagel, Alex Dickerson. Pioneer photo by Eli Lutgens

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