



2003-04 SPRING
CENTRAL COLLEGE
PRESSBOOK





Founded –1853

Enrollment –1,693

Affiliation –Reformed Church in America

President – Dr. David Roe

Membership – Iowa Intercollegiate Athletic Conference, National Collegiate Athletic Association, Division III

Founded in 1853, Central College is a four-year coeducational liberal arts college of the Reformed Church in America. Located 40 miles southeast of Des Moines, Central offers its 1,659 students learning opportunities not only on the Pella campus, but international study sites in Hangzhou, China; London and Colchester, England; Paris, France; Eldoret, Kenya; Leiden, the Netherlands; Merida, Mexico; Granada, Spain; Carmarthen, Wales; and Vienne, Austria.

Central is a member of the National Collegiate Athletic Association, Division III, and the Iowa Intercollegiate Athletic Conference. Men compete in baseball, football, basketball, tennis, golf, wrestling, soccer, track and cross country while women compete in tennis, golf, track, softball, volleyball, cross country, soccer and basketball. Rugby is offered at the club level.

The Kuyper Athletic Complex

The Kuyper Athletic Complex is located at the corner of Independence Street and West Fifth Street in southwest Pella. The complex includes P.H. Kuyper Gymnasium (1970), H.S. Kuyper Fieldhouse (1987), A.N. Kuyper Field (1977), the baseball and softball fields (1978), Ryerson Golf Driving Range (2002), cross country course (2003), tennis courts (1992), soccer field (1992) and the Ron Schipper Fitness Center (1999). The complex also includes practice and intramural softball diamonds and football fields. Golf meets are held at the Bos Landen Golf Resort, two miles southwest of the campus on Highway T-15.

Directory

Sports Information Director (Interim) Abby Gonzales
Office (641) 628-5278
Home (641) 628-2754
Fax (641) 628-5340
E-mail sportsinfo@central.edu
Central web page www.central.edu/athletics



ATHLETIC STAFF

Athletic director	Al Dorenkamp
Special assistant to the athletic director	John Edwards
Director of intramurals and special events	Adam Stevens
Assistant director of intramurals	Dan Mason
Athletic office manager	Jeffy Schuring
Head athletic trainer	Leslie Duinink
Assistant athletic trainer	Greg Gilmore
Assistant athletic trainer	Doug West
Athletic training education program director	John Roslien
Strength and conditioning coordinator/ Ron Schipper Fitness Center coordinator	Jake Anderson
Building and grounds manager	Vince Guillien
Interim sports information director	Abby Gonzales

FACULTY ATHLETIC COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES

Beverly Brand, assistant professor of education
 Dr. Edmond Willis, professor of psychology

COACHING STAFF

Baseball	Adam Stevens
Assistant baseball	Dan Mason
Assistant baseball	Wade Van Vark
Basketball--Men's	Mike Boschee
Assistant basketball	Marc Pennington
Assistant basketball	Chris Roberts
Basketball--Women's	Mick Angel
Assistant basketball	Cathy Angel
Assistant basketball	Mark Uitermarkt
Assistant basketball	Josh Harrington
Cross country--Men's/women's	Jeff Bovee
Assistant cross country	Stephen Fyfe
Assistant cross country	Guy Mosher
Football	Jeff McMartin
Assistant football	Jeff Bollard—offensive line
Assistant football	Dick Bowzer—receivers
Assistant football	Darrell Brand—running backs
Assistant football	Don De Waard—def. coordinator/linebackers

Assistant football	Reid Evans—offensive line
Assistant football	Matt Paulsen—defensive backs
Assistant football	David Roe—kickers/punters
Assistant football	Jeff Sanger—stingers
Assistant football	Kevin Sanger—defensive line
Assistant football	Jerry Southmayd—quarterbacks
Assistant football	Travis Sterling—strength/conditioning

Assistant football	Emory Stewart—tight ends
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Golf--Men's

Assistant golf	Charlie Estabrook
Assistant golf	Tom Linton
Assistant golf	Jon Hietbrink

Golf--Women's

Assistant golf	Greg Hoekstra
Assistant golf	Dan Mason

Soccer--Men's

Assistant soccer	Garry Laidlaw
Assistant soccer	Takis Apostolopoulos
Assistant soccer	Eric Boeyink

Soccer--Women's

Assistant soccer	Rick Burns
Assistant soccer	Russell Goodman

Softball

Assistant softball	George Wares
Assistant softball	Denise Barnard
Assistant softball	Teresa Thompson

Tennis--Men's/women's

Assistant men's tennis	Doug Stursma
Assistant women's tennis	Marc Hansen
Assistant women's tennis	Rod Braun

Track and field--Men's/women's

Associate track and field	Kevin Sanger
Assistant track and field	Guy Mosher
Assistant track and field	Jeff Bovee
Assistant track and field	Chris Button
Assistant track and field	Katie Button
Assistant track and field	Stephen Fyfe
Assistant track and field	Mike Marcinkowski
Assistant track and field	Eric Pingel

Volleyball

Assistant volleyball	Kent Clayberg
Assistant volleyball	Megan Clayberg
Assistant volleyball	Ann Van Hemert
Assistant volleyball	Colleen Evenhouse

Wrestling

Assistant wrestling	Matt Diehl
Assistant wrestling	Ryan Cunningham
Assistant wrestling	Russell Pamulak
Assistant wrestling	Scott Williamson

HEAD COACH DIRECTORY

Name	E-mail	Office phone
Angel, Mick	angelm@central.edu	628-5672
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Fax numbers

Athletic department	(641) 628-5356
Sports information	(641) 628-5340



BASEBALL

2004 schedule

Date	Opponent	Location	Time
March 14	\$St. Michael's College (Vt.)	Port Charlotte, Fla.	Noon
	\$Marian College (Wis.)	Port Charlotte, Fla.	3 p.m.
March 15	\$Mid-America Nazarene (Kan.)	Port Charlotte, Fla.	Noon
	\$Massachusetts College	Port Charlotte, Fla.	3 p.m.
March 16	\$Greenville College (Ind.)	Port Charlotte, Fla.	11 a.m.
March 18	\$Dordt	Port Charlotte, Fla.	9:30 a.m.
	\$Dordt	Port Charlotte, Fla.	Noon
March 19	\$Purdue-North Central (Ind.)	Port Charlotte, Fla.	12:30 p.m.
	\$Purdue-North Central (Ind.)	Port Charlotte, Fla.	3 p.m.
March 20	\$St. Josephs (N.Y.)	Port Charlotte, Fla.	9 a.m.
March 25	Knox (Ill.)	Galesburg, Ill.	2 p.m.
March 27	William Penn+	Pella	1 p.m.
March 30	Grand View	Pella	2 p.m.
April 3	*Coe	Pella	1 p.m.
April 7	Graceland+	Lamoni	1 p.m.
April 10	*Cornell	Mt. Vernon	1 p.m.
April 13	Grinnell+	Pella	2 p.m.
April 14	*Dubuque	Dubuque	1 p.m.
April 16	Morningside	Carroll	3 p.m.
April 19	*Wartburg	Pella	1 p.m.
April 21	Iowa Wesleyan+	Pella	2:30 p.m.
April 22	*Buena Vista	Storm Lake	3:30 p.m.
April 24	*Luther	Pella	1 p.m.
April 28	Upper Iowa+	Fayette	1 p.m.
May 1	*Simpson	Pella	1 p.m.
May 3	Grand View	Des Moines	3 p.m.
May 8	*Loras	Dubuque	1 p.m.
May 13-16	*IIAC Tournament	Cedar Rapids	TBA
May 20-23	NCAA Div. III regional	TBA	TBA
May 27-01	NCAA Div. III national	Appleton, Wis.	TBA

*Iowa Conference doubleheader

\$Port Charlotte Invitational

+doubleheader

2004 junior varsity schedule

Date	Opponent	Location	Time
March 31	Southwestern CC	Creston	1 p.m.
April 1	DMACC—Boone	Boone	1 p.m.
April 9	Indian Hills CC	Pella	2 p.m.
April 26	North Central Missouri College	Pella	2 p.m.
April 27	Southwestern CC	Pella	2 p.m.
April 30	Indian Hills	Centerville	4 p.m.

BASEBALL QUICK FACTS

2003 record: 12-24 overall, 7-11 conference (eighth place)
2003 all-conference selections: 2 (P-Jim Barclay, second team; OF-Shea Stamp, second team)
Position starters lost: 2 (SS-Brent Fridley, Inf.-Travis Hilsabeck)
Starting pitchers lost: 4 (Jim Barclay, Nick Poch, Adam Rozenboom, Eric Van Wyngarden)
Position starters returning: 4 (2B-Nate Landas, SS-Steve Gebhart, LF-Shea Stamp, CF-Pat Johnson)
Starting pitchers returning: 4 (Kent Patterson, Matt Rohach, Austin DeHoogh, Gavin Mitchell)
Letterwinners lost: 10
Letterwinners returning: 10
2004 captains: Pat Johnson, Kody Wohlers, Casey Olney

Adam Stevens

Head coach

Adam Stevens is entering his first season as head coach at Central.

Stevens has been an assistant at Wabash College (Ind.) for the past year. While at Wabash, Stevens performed hitting and infield coaching duties and was the primary recruiting coordinator. His team broke the school record for double plays, and recorded its first winning season in five years with a 22-18 mark, the third most wins in the school's history.

Prior to his one year at Wabash, Stevens served as an administrative assistant in the baseball office at Ball State University. He received his master's degree in physical education/athletic administration from Ball State in 2003.

A four-year starter for Morningside College, Stevens played in 110 consecutive games. He was team captain his senior year. He also served as head junior varsity coach and assistant varsity coach at Sioux City West High School for two years.

Stevens replaces last year's interim co-head coaches Matt Ballou and Dave Baker following the 25-year career of coach John Edwards.

Wade Van Vark

Assistant coach

Wade Van Vark is entering his first season as assistant coach for the Dutch.

A native of Pella, Van Vark was drafted by the Philadelphia Phillies in 1999. He played one season with the Phillies as an outfielder.

Van Vark, a 1999 Central graduate, was a three time all-Iowa Conference selection. He was also a two-time team MVP and the 1999 Iowa Conference MVP. Van Vark holds Central records for most wins in a career (17), most games in a career (39) and shares the record for most complete games in a career (19). Van Vark also holds the record for most career strikeouts (158).

Dan Mason

Assistant coach

Dan Mason is entering his first season as assistant baseball coach for the Dutch.

A native of the Chicago area, Mason is a former standout baseball player at North Park College (Ill.). He earned NCAA Div. III All-American honors in 1983 and was inducted into the North Park College Hall of Fame in 1988.

Mason received his master's degree in physical education from Mankato State University (Minn.) where he served as a graduate assistant coach.

2003 results

12-24 overall, 7-11 conference

March 10	Moravian (Pa.)+	Ft. Myers, Fla.	W, 17-1
	Hiram (Ohio)+	Ft. Myers, Fla.	L, 3-1
March 11	Wittenberg (Ohio)+	Ft. Myers, Fla.	L, 3-2
	Mt. Union (Ohio)+	Ft. Myers, Fla.	L, 17-4
March 12	Arcadia (Pa.)	Ft. Myers, Fla.	L, 6-5; W, 6-5
March 13	Wittenberg (Ohio)	Ft. Myers, Fla.	W, 12-6; L, 15-12
March 14	Eastern Nazarene (Mass.)	Ft. Myers, Fla.	L, 4-3; W, 16-3
March 15	Denison (Ohio)	Ft. Myers, Fla.	L, 5-3; L, 18-2
March 22	Augustana (Ill.)	Rock Island, Ill.	L, 7-3; L, 8-1
April 1	William Penn	Oskaloosa	L, 4-2; W, 4-3
April 5	Cornell*	Mt. Vernon	L, 1-0; L, 8-7
April 9	Luther*	Pella	W, 5-0; L, 6-4

April 12	Loras*	Dubuque	L, 3-1; L, 9-1
April 14	Grand View+	Des Moines	L, 15-8
April 17	Buena Vista*	Storm Lake	W, 4-2 (nine inn.); W, 11-2
April 21	Dubuque*	Pella	L, 13-6; W, 13-2
April 23	Upper Iowa*	Fayette	L, 10-4; W, 4-3
April 25	Grand View+	Pella	L, 15-8
April 26	Coe*	Pella	W, 9-6; L, 9-2
April 29	Grinnell	Pella	2 p.m.
May 1	Simpson*	Pella	L, 8-2; W, 6-5
May 3	Wartburg*	Waverly	L, 11-6; L, 10-6

+nine-inning game; all others are seven-inning doubleheaders

*Iowa Conf. tournament

2003 Iowa Conference standings

Team	Conf.		Overall		
	W	L	W	L	T
Cornell	12	5	25	13	0
Wartburg	10	6	28	10	1
Simpson	10	7	21	16	0
Loras	10	8	24	15	0
Debuque	10	8	16	21	0
Beuena Vista	8	8	14	22	1
Upper Iowa	7	10	12	24	0
Central	7	11	12	24	0
Coe 7	11	16	21	0	
Luther	5	12	13	24	0

Iowa Conference team champions

1947	Central	1975	Central , Luther
1948	Central	1976	Buena Vista
1949	Buena Vista	1977	Wartburg
1950	Buena Vista	1978	Wartburg, William Penn
1951	Buena Vista	1979	Wartburg
1952	Loras, Simpson	1980	Buena Vista
1953	Buena Vista	1981	Buena Vista, William Penn
1954	Buena Vista	1982	William Penn
1955	Buena Vista	1983	Luther
1956	Upper Iowa	1984	Luther
1957	Buena Vista	1985	Luther
1958	Simpson	1986	William Penn
1959	Buena Vista	1987	Simpson
1960	Luther	1988	William Penn
1961	Wartburg	1989	William Penn
1962	Wartburg	1990	William Penn
1963	Wartburg	1991	Simpson
1964	Luther	1992	William Penn
1965	Buena Vista	1993	Upper Iowa
1966	Luther	1994	Simpson
1967	Upper Iowa	1995	Upper Iowa
1968	Luther	1996	Upper Iowa
1969	Luther	1997	Wartburg
1970	Buena Vista	1998	Wartburg
1971	Luther	1999	Wartburg
1972	Luther, Upper Iowa	2000	Wartburg
1973	Upper Iowa	2001	Wartburg
1974	Buena Vista	2002	Buena Vista
		2003	Cornell

2003 statistics -- Batting

Name	Avg.	G	AB	R	H	RBI	2B	3B	HR	SB	BB	SO	HBP	OB%
Todd Ehlers	.500	3/1	6	2	3	1	1	0	0	0-0	1	0	0	.571
Steve Gebhart	.369	31/29	103	23	38	26	9	0	4	2-3	5	0	11	.398
Austin DeHoogh	.368	8/7	19	4	7	4	0	0	0	3-4	5	1	0	.500
Kody Wohlers	.362	24/22	58	16	21	15	5	0	3	1-1	8	15	7	.486
Shea Stamp	.300	24/21	70	18	21	14	3	1	6	2-5	14	21	1	.424
Scott Cranell	.300	7/2	10	2	3	1	0	0	0	0-1	0	1	0	.300
Tim Higgins	.298	36/33	124	25	37	22	12	0	4	8-8	12	24	5	.383
Patrick Johnson	.277	36/36	119	15	33	17	10	1	1	7-10	13	33	7	.373
Adam Duerfeldt	.269	36/36	119	24	32	14	7	2	1	9-12	18	14	7	.396
Ben Metzger	.266	29/27	94	12	25	15	3	1	1	2-4	2	20	1	.286
Brent Fridley	.264	34/34	91	17	24	10	6	0	0	6-6	13	27	4	.376
Casey Olney	.235	11/4	17	1	4	2	0	0	0	0-0	2	8	0	.316
Nate Landas	.222	30/27	90	18	20	12	5	1	2	1-3	9	13	3	.311
Mike Poch	.212	15/9	33	8	7	2	0	1	0	1-1	1	7	1	.257
Travis Hilsabeck	.196	32/30	92	13	18	23	2	1	3	5-5	9	39	3	.283
Nick Poch	.167	2/2	6	0	1	0	0	0	0	1-1	0	4	0	.167
Totals	.280	36/36	1051	198	294	178	63	8	25	48-64	112	238	39	.367
Opponents	.307	36/36	1046	239	321	211	70	5	29	32-38	142	172	45	.407

2003 statistics – Pitching

Name	ERA	GS	W-L	CG	Shtrout	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	HBP	WP	BIK
Austin DeHoogh	3.12	0	1-1	0	0	17.1	14	8	6	6	14	5	2	0
Jim Barclay	3.89	7	1-5	3	0	39.1	47	23	17	12	42	2	2	0
Kent Patterson	5.79	9	3-4	1	0	42.0	56	40	27	20	23	3	2	1
Nick DePenning	6.75	0	0-0	0	0	8.0	13	12	6	7	6	2	4	0
Adam Rozenboom	6.87	2	1-1	0	0	18.1	22	15	14	13	11	4	0	2
Gavin Mitchell	7.20	0	0-1	0	0	15.0	21	14	12	9	4	2	2	0
Nick Poch	7.40	4	1-1	0	0	24.1	37	22	20	8	14	3	1	0
Justin Kingery	7.48	3	1-3	0	0	21.2	28	24	18	24	16	3	4	0
Eric Van Wyngarden	7.53	5	3-4	1	1	28.2	34	28	24	12	18	5	0	0
Casey Ragar	10.50	0	0-0	0	0	6.0	5	8	7	7	4	3	0	0
Matt Rohach	10.53	4	1-2	0	0	19.2	26	25	23	17	16	5	5	0
Mike Poch	11.88	1	0-2	0	0	8.1	11	11	11	5	4	5	1	0
Cass Stubbs	81.00	1	0-0	0	0	1.0	7	9	9	2	0	3	1	0
Totals	6.99	36	12-24	5	1	249.2	321	239	194	142	172	45	24	3
Opponents	5.37	36	24-12	7	1	259.2	294	198	155	112	238	39	34	3

2003 statistics – Fielding

Player	Ch.	PO	A	E	FLD%	DPS
Austin DeHoogh	18	13	5	0	1.000	1
Kody Wholers	101	91	8	2	0.980	
Shea Stamp	38	32	2	4	0.895	
Pat Johnson	63	62	0	1	0.984	
Adam Duerfeldt	128	114	10	4	0.969	4
Nate Landas	35	15	19	1	0.971	4
Steve Gebhart	88	23	50	15	0.830	3
Matt Rohach	1	0	1	0	1.000	
Gavin Mitchell	4	1	2	1	0.750	
Kent Patterson	7	0	5	2	0.714	
Casey Olney	6	3	1	2	0.667	
Nick DePenning	4	0	1	3	0.250	

Career statistics – Batting

Austin DeHoogh	G	AB	R	H	RBI	2B	3B	HR	SB
2002	33	102	17	25	18	5	3	0	2
2003	8	19	4	7	4	0	0	0	3
Total	41	121	21	32	22	5	3	0	5
Adam Duerfeldt	G	AB	R	H	RBI	2B	3B	HR	SB
2003	36	119	24	32	14	7	2	1	9
Total	36	119	24	32	14	7	2	1	9
Steve Gebhart	G	AB	R	H	RBI	2B	3B	HR	SB
2003	31	103	23	38	26	9	0	4	2
Total	31	103	23	38	26	9	0	4	2
Patrick Johnson	G	AB	R	H	RBI	2B	3B	HR	SB
2003	36	119	15	33	17	10	1	1	7
Total	36	119	15	33	17	10	1	1	7
Nathan Landas	G	AB	R	H	RBI	2B	3B	HR	SB
2002	18	44	15	11	9	3	1	0	2
2003	30	90	18	20	12	5	1	2	1
Total	48	134	33	31	21	8	2	2	3
Shea Stamp	G	AB	R	H	RBI	2B	3B	HR	SB
2003	24	70	18	21	14	3	1	6	2
Total	24	70	18	21	14	3	1	6	2
Kody Wohlers	G	AB	R	H	RBI	2B	3B	HR	SB
2002	34	96	20	21	21	3	1	2	0
2003	24	58	16	21	15	5	0	3	1
Total	58	154	36	42	36	8	1	5	1

Career statistics – Pitching

	ERA	G	W	L	CG	SH.	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Austin DeHoogh												
2003	3.12	15	1	1	0	0	17.1	14	8	6	6	14
Total	3.12	15	1	1	0	0	17.1	14	8	6	6	14
Gavin Mitchell												
2003	7.20	12	0	1	0	0	15.0	21	14	12	9	4
Total	7.20	12	0	1	0	0	15.0	21	14	12	9	4
Kent Patterson												
2003	5.79	11	3	4	1	0	42.0	56	40	27	20	23
Total	5.79	11	3	4	1	0	42.0	56	40	27	20	23
Matt Ronach												
2003	10.53	7	1	2	0	0	19.2	26	25	23	17	16
Total	10.53	7	1	2	0	0	19.2	26	25	23	17	16

2004 Central College baseball roster

Name	Yr.	Pos.	B/T	Ht.	Wt.	Hometown	High school
Drew Anderson	Fr.	P	L/L	5'9	165	Story City, Iowa	Roland-Story
Chris Borgman	So.	P	R/R	6'4	185	Fulton, Ill.	Fulton
**Austin DeHoogh	Jr.	OF/P	R/R	5'10	157	Clive, Iowa	WDM Valley
Brett Delaney	So.	OF	R/R	5'10	185	Ankeny, Iowa	Saydel
Nicholas DePenning	So.	P	R/R	6'5	177	Sully, Iowa	Lynnville-Sully
Jon Doudna	So.	OF/P	R/R	6'2	180	Johnston, Iowa	Johnston
*Adam Duerfeldt	So.	C/1B	R/R	6'	195	Urbandale, Iowa	Urbandale
Dan Flaherty	Jr.	SS/2B	R/R	5'7	149	Holdrege, Neb.	Holdrege
*Steve Gebhart	Jr.	SS	R/R	6'	185	Des Moines, Iowa	Saydel
Nick Grove	Sr.	P	R/R	5'9	185	Omaha, Neb.	Roncalli Catholic
Matt Harre	So.	P	R/R	6'4	190	Leawood, Kan.	Shawnee Mission East
Ben Hodges	So.	C	R/R	6'1	190	Wapello, Iowa	Wapello
Jim Hollendonner	Fr.	2B	R/R	5'7	155	Orlando Park, Ill.	Carl Sandburg
*Pat Johnson	Sr.	OF	L/R	5'11	175	State Center, Iowa	Hilliard DavidsonTylor
Tylor Johnson	Fr.	P	R/R	6'	186	Montrose, Iowa	Ft. Madison
Matt Kuempel	So.	3B/C	R/R	6'	190	Anita, Iowa	Anita
*Nate Landas	Sr.	2B	R/R	5'6	150	Marshalltown, Iowa	Marshalltown
Tanner Ludwig	Fr.	P	R/R	6'1	170	Urbandale, Iowa	Urbandale
Ross McFerrin	So.	OF/P	R/R	6'	190	Council Bluffs, Iowa	Lewis Central
*Gavin Mitchell	So.	P	R/R	5'10	185	Irvington, Ill.	Centralia
Matt Murphy	Jr.	3B	L/R	5'6	185	Ames, Iowa	Ames
Casey Olney	Sr.	3B	R/R	6'	195	Yuma, Ariz.	Cibola
*Kent Patterson	Jr.	P	L/L	5'11	200	Collins, Iowa	Collins-Maxwell
Trent Powers	So.	2B	R/R	5'10	147	Jefferson, Iowa	Jefferson-Scranton
Casey Ragar	Sr.	P	L/L	6'	200	Keokuk, Iowa	Keokuk
Jeremy Robinson	Jr.	OF	R/R	6'2	185	Danville, Iowa	Danville
*Matt Rohach	So.	P	R/R	5'11	170	Ottumwa, Iowa	Ottumwa
Josh Sandin	Jr.	OF	R/R	6'	210	Ankeny, Iowa	Saydel
Tom Sheehan	So.	1B	R/R	6'4	215	Wheaton, Ill.	Wheaton North
*Shea Stamp	So.	OF	L/L	6'1	180	Lisbon, Iowa	Lisbon
**Kody Wohlers	Jr.	C	L/R	6'1	195	Missouri Valley, Iowa	Missouri Valley

*letters earned

Outlook

First-year coach Adam Stevens is hoping to bring some much needed energy to the Dutch baseball program.

The Dutch tied for eighth in the Iowa Conference last year with a 7-11 league mark and posted a 12-24 overall record. Central lost all-conference pitcher Jim Barclay to graduation along with nine other letterwinners including four starting position players and five pitchers.

"So far I've been pleased with the leadership from the upperclassmen," said Stevens. "We just need to focus on improving each and every day, every practice, every game."

Infield

Two starters return in the infield and Stevens is hoping those two will be able to carry the team.

Junior shortstop Steve Gebhart led the team with a .369 batting average and had a .573 slugging percentage. He recorded four home runs and had nine doubles while driving in 26 runs. Senior Nate Landas returns at second base. Landas committed just one error last season for a .971 fielding percentage.

"Steve is a very good athlete and a great leader on the field," Stevens said. "I expect big things from him and Nate this season. Nate has experience on the field and I think he's going to show it."

Adam Duerfeldt is a candidate to start at first base. Sophomore Tom Sheenan is also going to be vying for time.

"We need Adam on the field," he said. "He's a great athlete and will be able to help us in many aspects of the game."

Senior Casey Olney will most likely start at third base but will be pushed by sophomore Josh Anderson.

"Both of these guys can play," Stevens said. "Hitting is going to be a key factor in determining who is going to get to start."

Catchers Kody Wohlers and Duerfeldt split time behind the plate last season and were also designated hitters for the Dutch. Wohlers hit .362 with three homers and 15 RBIs while Duerfeldt hit .269 with one home run and 14 RBIs.

Outfield

The Dutch return two outfielders. Senior Pat Johnson and sophomore Shea Stamp will most likely start in their respective fields with Johnson playing center field and Stamp left field.

Stamp was a second-team all-conference performer last year as a freshman posting a .300 hitting percentage in 24 games while hitting six home runs. Johnson started all 36 contests and batted .277 with one homer and 17 RBIs. He held a .984 fielding percentage at the end of the season with just one error in 63 attempts.

"Pat is a good leader for us and serves as one of our co-captains," said Stevens.

The final spot in the outfield will probably go to junior Josh Sandin, a newcomer from Iowa Central Community College.

"Josh can swing the bat and will give us an offensive boost," Stevens said. "He's a good athlete and I think he'd do well in that position."

DeHoogh will also see some action in the outfield.

Pitchers

The Dutch have to handle a major loss on the mound with three starting pitchers gone from last year's squad. Central doesn't have a whole lot of experience or depth in the bullpen so much hope may rest on the shoulders of junior returner Kent Patterson. The lefty started nine times and appeared in 11 games.

"With just Kent being the only one with some significant varsity experience, we'll need some younger guys to have big years in order for us to compete at a high level," said Stevens.

Stevens is looking for newcomer Chris Borgman (Carthage) to be able to help out considerably as well as sophomore Matt Rohach.

"Those three will be our top pitchers and I'm looking for them to be able to handle themselves on the mound and to lead our team," Stevens said.

Junior Austin DeHoogh and sophomore Gavin Mitchell also saw action out of the bullpen last year. DeHoogh appeared in a team-high 15 games and Mitchell appeared in 12. Stevens is considering having DeHoogh play some in the outfield as well.

"Austin will throw a little for us but I have some other plans for him as well," said Stevens. "He's going to be a contributor for us and we need him on the field."

Designated Hitter

Stevens is looking for someone with a hot bat to play and said whoever is on will get the nod.

"It's going to come down to whoever is hot at that moment, we're going to play them," he said.

The most likely candidates are Sheehan and Sandin as well as sophomore Brett Delaney.

The Iowa Conference

Wartburg is undoubtedly the league's favorite to win the championship. The Knights have won the last seven conference titles and is ranked 20th in the Collegiate Baseball Newspaper's preseason poll.

"Wartburg is the team to beat, that's for sure," said Stevens.

Simpson is favored to follow in a close second.

"I think we'll surprise some people," Stevens said. "Offensively, we're going to score some runs. Our guys can hit. Really, we'll be able to go as far as our pitching allows us."

Schedule

Stevens and crew will have a pretty tough schedule as Central will face traditionally strong opponents in non-conference play starting with the annual trip to Florida.

"We're going to need to lay the foundation in Florida and hopefully, that will lead to good things," Stevens said.

The Dutch have a 10-game spring break schedule and will face several NAIA schools as well as some tough NCAA Div. III competition. Central heads into the regular season schedule the end of March.

"We have a tough schedule, no doubt," he said. "Obviously, we can't overlook anyone, but right now, we just need to worry about ourselves and our level of play."

