

Klopatek leads CG-B honorees

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A shortage of players that forced the Cedar Grove-Belgium baseball team to forfeit its last seven games this summer didn't keep the Rockets from earning postseason honors.

Two Cedar Grove-Belgium sophomores were recognized in recent All-Central Lakeshore Conference voting by coaches.

Taylor Klopatek was named to the all-league second team as a pitcher and received honorable mention as a catcher. Luke Kaat received honorable mention as an infielder.

Klopatek had a 2-3 record and a 1.71 earned-run average in league play for the Rockets, who had a 4-6 mark before forfeiting their final five conference games. He also hit a team-best .373.

"Taylor kept us in virtually every game," Cedar Grove-Belgium coach Mike Johnson said.

"He was our best pitcher and did a wonderful job defensively when we needed help with the catching position."

Kaat, who split time at first base and third base, was the Rockets' top defensive infielder.

"Luke struggled offensively, but he was invaluable defensively," Johnson said.

League champion Howards Grove led all teams in the All-CLC selections, with four of its players named to the top squad. They were pitcher Eric Dickmyer, infielder Cole Reinemann, outfielder Mike Verfuert and utility player Cam Hurtienne.

Dickmyer and Reinemann were unanimous choices.

Rounding out the all-league first team were Elkhart Lake's Josh Schneider (pitcher), Dane Blake (infielder) and Nick Pritzl (outfielder);

Random Lake's Jeremy Lewis (catcher) and Andy Pohl (infielder); and Sheboygan Lutheran/Kohler's Christian Ertel (first baseman) and Adam Kellner (outfielder).

Lewis, Blake, Pohl and Kellner were unanimous selections.