

3 all-state players join softball league

Written by Jim Ecker

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Three more college softball players who received all-state honors in high school have joined the Iowa Women's Softball League for the 2018 campaign next summer.

Lexi Merritt, now a sophomore at Grand View University, was a two-time all-state selection during her prep career at West Des Moines Valley.

Maleah Georgen, a freshman at Luther, was an all-state catcher at West Delaware High School. And Katelyn Banning, a freshman at Indian Hills Community College, earned all-state laurels at Center Point-Urbana.

Nine players have joined the IWSL for next season with many more on the way. ([CLICK HERE TO SEE COMPLETE LIST OF PLAYERS](#))

Merritt, a first baseman, hit .362 with five homers and 53 RBIs as a freshman at Grand View last season. She was named first team all-conference in the Heart of America and was named the league's Gold Glove winner for first basemen. She also made the NAIA all-region team.

([CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#))

Georgen hit .411 with two homers and 39 RBIs at West Delaware this season.

Banning, an outfielder and first baseman, hit .455 with 31 RBIs this season and helped the Stormin' Pointers finish third in the Class 3A state tournament.

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The Iowa Women's Softball League was established by the Metro Sports Report last year to give college softball players a summer league of their own. The plan is to have six teams in the Eastern Division in Cedar Rapids in 2018, along with four teams in the Central Division in Indianola and Ames.

The league will consist of eight Sunday doubleheaders in June and July. All teams will play 16 games.

The entire registration process can be handled on the Metro Sports Report website. Simply click on the registration link that appears with this story. Have a credit card handy to pay the \$100 player fee through PayPal.

The Hawkeye Convenience Stores is the title sponsor for the Iowa Women's Softball League in 2018.