

# INSIDER: KC Area Spotlight on Young Defensive Standouts

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Oct 16, 2021

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*Payne and Potter from Aquinas big time young defensive future stars*



**INSIDER: KC Area Spotlight on Young Defensive Standouts** – We look at some of the impressive young and up and coming Kansas City area defensive standouts, no doubt Aquinas Marshall is a Safety and outside backer that is a big play play reader and has elite closing speed as one major outside play making machine that is super impressive. Olathe East is a team that will be looking for young players to build their future, one face to know is Hartung at DL, 5-11, 275, A NG that can be a enforcer against the run. Blue Valley West's McManamon could be the most impressive looking DE out there and no doubt is a pure physical machine to take major notice, off, getting that key experience this year and looking better and better each and every week.

## **Mikey Bergeron, 6-2, 180, SS, 2023, Mill Valley @mikeybergeron\_**

This hard hitting machine and strong safety at Mill Valley has 56 total tackles, 2.5 tackles for losses, and one forced fumble for his huge junior season in 2021. A bigger DB with some good size at 6-2, 180, no doubt

Bergeron can reek some major havoc in the Mill Valley secondary unit, a hot athlete that is one of those guys that can really be a hard hitting tackling machine, can play up against the run and make a huge tackle on a ball carrier in the backfield before anything develops or can use his speed and long strides in the open field to chase someone down and make a big time stop. Bergeron is one of the most physical hitters you will find, a guy that really gets some hard licks and shots in on ball carriers. For sure one of the major defensive enforcers for this Mill Valley defensive unit.

## **Truman Griffith, 6-2, 220, DE, 2024, Mill Valley @griffith\_truman**

So far this stud sophomore has 26 tackles and 4.5 sacks in 5 games and in the past 2 games Truman had 1.5 sacks. Just a sophomore this year at Mill Valley no doubt this guys spells future star for his style of play and big time 6-2, 220 frame, its a power frame also, a very

strong and tough man that is all out aggressive on the field and a turn the heat up on a QB kind of rusher off the edge, really spells being the next defensive star for Mill Valley based on his early play this year. Opened the year with 2 tackles, 1 tackle for a loss, 1 sack, 1 forced fumble, 1 fumble recovery and week 2 he had 4 tackles and 1 sack.

### **Craig Hartung, 5-11, 275, DL, 2024, @jr\_hartung**

Olathe East has had a great tradition as a football program and we see that returning soon with players coming up through the ranks like DL and 5-11, 275 Nose Guard and Defensive End Craig Hartung, Jr., no doubt a player that is very physical and a tough one in the trenches that can make some great plays against the run. One of the hardest workers out there, wants it more that most for sure. A major creator of chaos in the middle and progressively getting to the QB or ball.



### **Dillon Marshall, 6-1, 180, S/OLB, 2024, Aquinas @DJMarshall05**

One of the top hybrid play making machines out there and an elite tackler from either outside linebacker of safety spots, Marshall is a hard hitter and a very quick play reader, major talent and a hot athletic play makers with speed and ability to really accelerate on the field to make some huge plays happen. No doubt a super hot athlete, this guy spells all future super star with his play in 2021. No doubt we love the talent and the youth of this amazing Aquinas defensive unit, a unit that is loaded with pure talent from many 2024 and 2023 players that are really all looking to make huge names for themselves this year. Marshall has all the tools to be the best player on the team and that is really saying something as deeply talented as Aquinas is. Marshall could be the latest and greatest from the Aquinas program, really has that potential to be a major star coming up for this hot team.

### **Brody McManamon, 6-1, 220, DE/DT, 2024, Blue Valley West @BrodyMcmanamom**

A player that could as good as it gets in the 2024 class, really has that potential and the build and body style to be a major defensive machine at Blue Valley West. Fast and relentless off the edge at DE, McManamon has great toughness, speed, and is a very good tackler also, no doubt checks all the right boxes for becoming a huge talent and an elite '24 class prospect. He can bench press 270 pounds and is one of the most impressive pound for pound strength guys that will you find out there. A player that we see among the top tier for pure athletic abilities, and that can shine on the field in winning battles over slower OL he faces.

### **Will Morgan, 5-10, 215, NG, 2025, Blue Valley SW @WillMorgan1135**

A big time looking two way impact maker to take major notice of, Morgan is a hot looking big man that can line up on either side of the line and make some big plays, just a freshman, a major talent that we think will be one of the top players in the coming years, Morgan



had a great offseason and has used that to continue into a big and impressive freshman year in 2021. No doubt a very quick player with good footwork and a very tough player also.

**Kian Payne, 6-3, 250, DL, 2024, Aquinas @KianPayne4**

Payne is one of those elite talents, we think this guy could be so good that he becomes the top 2024 player in the state, really a great football frame at 6-3, 250, you can't teach a work ethic like Payne brings on and off the field, a player that wants it more than others do and it's shown on the football field for sure also. Payne was a major talent at the 6Star Football Showcase we had, this guy looked like a dominate senior with his trench play, no doubt a hot player doing some major things.

**Wyatt Potter, 5-10, 185, MLB/OLB, 2024, Aquinas @WyattPotter11**

Potter is one of those major athletes in the middle that can make some huge plays happen, no doubt a great athlete this guy is smart on reading plays and can really motor all over the football

field, a fast guy that is one of the most impressive early '24s we have seen at backer. Had 10 solo tackles and 4 tackle assists in mid September and is a player that is really on the verge of some big time things. Hot radar making big time player.



**Trey Ridley, 6-1, S, 2024, Blue Valley NW @TreyRidley1**

One of the most athletic super sophomore's in Kansas, ball in the air this guy wants it to be his and is a great make a play on the football safety, a very fast safety also, no doubt this guy is one of the most athletic up and coming play makers we have see in the last few years, we really think that Ridley has proven this year he is a elite top tier player maker, very lean and fast, great jumper of routes and a player that is fast and covers the entire field very well.

**Wade Spencer, 6-2, 215, DE, 2023, St. James Academy @WadeSpencer75**

Spencer may be a junior, but with his talent is one of the younger players already getting major college attention in the junior class, this man is a huge talent, South Dakota State, North Dakota State are among the D1s looking hard at the 2020 state champion DE, Spencer had through 3 games 2.5 sacks, 24 total tackles and was averaging 7 tackles per game, no doubt make the QB run for his life pressure attacker, big time tackler and play maker, big impact maker each game from the edge.