Royals land versatile outfielder Sean Gamble in Round 1 of 2025

JAYLON THOMPSON The Kansas City Star

MLB Draft

Gamble waited patiently for his phone to ring. The Des Moines, Iowa native could see his future on the horizon but didn't know where it would ultimately take

Gamble, 19, wouldn't have to go too far. On Sunday, the Kansas City Royals picked him 23rd overall in the 2025 MLB Draft.

"I got the call and it was my brother, my dad and my mom here," Gamble said. "And then my friends started funneling in afterwards. So I got a lot of congratulations and it was a very special night for sure."

The Royals rave about Gamble's versatility. He can play the infield but was selected with plans to feature primarily in center field. Royals scouting director Brian Bridges likes his expansive range and plus speed on the basepaths.

And Gamble fell in love with the organization after a June workout at Kauffman Stadium. But the Royals' interest originated as he matriculated through IMG Academy in Bradenton, Florida.

"They attended lots of my IMG games down in Florida," he said. "So I knew the interest was there. It's just, you know, a draft and everything is up in the air until the moment it happens.

"Then, they invited me to a pre-draft workout at Kauffman Stadium, which was a small group of kids. That's when the interest level peaked and they saw the ability and the talent.'

Gamble fits the Royals' offensive vision. He has projectable hitting tools that consist of a smooth swing from the left-handed side of the plate. He can also hit the baseball to all fields, as evidenced by his .413 batting average, four home runs and 30 RBIs as a senior.

"You know we look at him to be a top-of-the-order leadoff guy that can really run," Bridges said. "He's a 70-run (grade), so real excited. Former hockey player and he played hockey all the way up to the eighth grade and decided he wanted to play baseball."

Gamble became a talented athlete at a young age. He started playing hockey and baseball at age 3. He also dabbled in tennis, as his dad played in college.

That's how he landed at IMG Academy. Gamble attended a tennis camp on campus and returned the following year for baseball. His interest with the program continued to grow and he was a part of school by the time he was 14 years old.

"They kept inviting me back for camps and they saw the interest level," Gamble said. "I was familiar with the coaching staff and the environment. By the time my eighth-grade year came around, I talked to my parents and we just agreed that IMG was the best place for me to maximize my potential in this game."

Gamble had dreams of making it to Major League Baseball. He starred at IMG alongside Washington Nationals star James Wood and Royals prospect Stone Russell, among others. The competition also allowed Gamble to elevate his game quickly.

And draw a commitment to

"It's iron sharpens iron," Gamble said. "I mean, when you're around the best of the best, you get to see their mindset, you get to see their work ethic, you get to see what works and what doesn't work. You get to see how they stay themselves and that's what's

most successful for them. "And it's all just a big learning experience. It's, 'How much I can take in from these professional athletes to attribute to my game?"

Chanute hosts Play for Colin Tournament

SEAN FRYE

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Raising over \$3,700, Chanute hosted the 18U Play for Colin baseball and softball tournament over the weekend. With games played at Santa Fe Sports Complex and Hudson Field, funds generated supported Chanute athlete Colin Keating, a rising senior who is undergoing chemotherapy treatments for Hodgkin's lymphoma.

"If we could trade places with him, we would," said Ryan Ortiz, the tournament director, the sports director for the City of Chanute and the Chanute High School baseball coach. "Everybody's next best thing was to help raise money and relieve costs with him having to go through treatment. It always seems like a weird thing to raise money for somebody, but it's how you show that you care. So that's why we wanted to take funds from this tournament to help them."

The Pride Select out of Shawnee won the softball tournament while the Iola Indians won the baseball tournament.

The tournament didn't charge a gate fee, instead taking donations for the Keating family.

"I'm close with a lot of these coaches," Ortiz said. "Once I told them what we were doing, they knew they were coming. Everybody did well. We didn't do a gate - we asked for donations. Everybody in the community came together. Everybody poured out."

Keating, who's aiming to be back on the field for the Blue Comets next spring after his treatment, was honored with the outpouring of support.

"I was shocked and surprised at how everything turned out," Ortiz said. "People really came out and supported us. The amount of donations was a lot bigger than I thought it was going to be."

Teams throughout Southeast Kansas, including Chanute, Humboldt, Thayer and Iola, were in attendance over the weekend.

The touranment also featured a home run derby for both baseball and softball on Saturday afternoon.

"With my job, the hardest thing any year is getting teams committed," Ortiz



Sean Frye I Tribune photos ABOVE: Alivia Morrison Neodesha, competing for Chanute, blasts a home run during the home run derby on Saturday at the Play for Colin Tournament at Santa Fe Sports Complex.

RIGHT: Logan Page of Humboldt, playing for Thayer, competes in the home run derby on Saturday at the Play for Colin Tournament at Santa Fe Sports Complex.

said. "We just want teams to give us a chance and see how we do things here at the complex. We run things well. So travel to Chanute and feel like you're cared for. You go to other places and they just care if you paid your entry fee."

The Keating family is also accepting donations. Checks can be made out to Amy or Pete Keating and mailed to Ortiz at 1200 Osa Martin Boulevard, Chanute, KS, 66720.



Does Kansas want the Royals or Chiefs more? Partisan divide is emerging

MATTHEW KELLY

The Kansas City Star

A political fault line is emerg-Sunflower State.

Republican and Democratic officials insist they want to lure both teams across the Missouri border, and the massive public subsidy offer that top lawmaktheory support two stadiums.

But according to Senate Pres-Republican, landing the Chiefs should be Kansas' first priority. ocratic Gov. Laura Kelly of favoring the Royals.

Officials in the Kelly administration flatly deny that they have neglected the Chiefs and suggest that unnamed "special interests" might be trying to hijack negotiations.

"The Kelly-Toland administration will continue to keep the interests of the Kansas economy as its top priority in our negotiations with the teams, and will not be swayed by political pressure to give away hard-earned tax dollars to satisfy certain special interests," said Lt. Gov. David Toland on

July 7. Toland, who is also Kansas commerce secretary, is tasked with leading stadium negotiations under the state law establishing the incentive package.

Masterson first accused Kelly's administration of favoring the Royals in a July 2 interview with Kansas City Sports Radio 810 WHB. He doubled down while speaking with reporters after voting to extend the offer to fund up to 70% of new stadium costs through Sales Tax

And Revenue, or STAR bonds. "It is political," Masterson told reporters. "And I think most Kansans know there's a little bit of a disconnect. I think the administration tends to favor the Royals over the Chiefs, and I think most everyone else in the conversation would say the inverse. But it would be great to have both of them."

Certificates of Partici

In response, Kelly's Chief of Staff, Will Lawrence, said

it's important to let the Depart-

Lawrence told The Star.

questions about what special interest groups are attempting to exert influence over the process, Commerce spokesperson ers renewed last week could in Patrick Lowry said he couldn't give any specifics.

"Because all major economic ident Ty Masterson, an Andover development projects require discretion and confidentiality, the department will have He's repeatedly accused Dem- no further comment regarding negotiations or future agreements," Lowry said.

Kansas City Chiefs chair- the price tag on a new ballpark number of games," Sykes said. his family have a track record lion. "This process avoids the spe- of donating to conservative an abortion.

Would Chiefs or Royals stadium help Kansas?

An agreement to fund a stawould be by far Kansas' largest STAR bond project to date.

A domed Chiefs stadium is estimated to cost around \$3 billion, not accounting for any practice facilities. Royals team als would have an advantage get to the revenue numbers they representatives have suggested there just because of the sheer need to cover the bond."

ment of Commerce lead nego- man and CEO Clark Hunt and would be \$1 billion to \$2 bil-

ing in Kansas over whether the cial interest giveaways that are causes, including to a politi- designed to pay back bond debt eight regular season games and Kansas City Chiefs or the Royals would be a better fit for the slature's budget proposals," so often included in the Legals cal action committee that ran through sales tax generated by two preseason games or nine advertisements opposing last new attractions and surround-regular season games and one year's Missouri amendment ing development. Until debt is preseason game a year. In response to follow-up proposal enshrining the right to paid back, that new sales revenue doesn't go towards funding terson, who is widely expected other state and local government priorities.

Asked last week whether a Chiefs or Royals stadium would um. dium for either or both teams be more likely to pay back the public subsidy on time, Senate talking Super Bowls, Final Minority Leader Dinah Sykes, a Lenexa Democrat, had a clear answer

Major League Baseball

teams play 81 home games a The STAR bond program is year. NFL teams play either

In his radio interview, Masto run for governor next year, said he still sees more potential for revenue in a Chiefs stadi-

"If you build a dome, you're Fours, major concerts, lots of development around it," Masterson said. "I actually don't "I would think that the Roy- think it will be that difficult to

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LEGAL

(First published in The Chanute Tribune Tuesday, July 15, 2025)

Budget Form CC-J STATE OF KAN: NOTICE OF HEARING TO EXCEED THE REVENUE NEUTRAL RATE AND BUDGET HEARING 2025-2026 BUDGET

The governing body of Neosho County Community College in Neosho will meet on September 10, 2025 at 9:00 a.m. at Student Union Board Room for the purpose of answering objections of taxpayers relating to the proposed use of all funds, and the amount of levied, the revenue neutral rate, and to consider amendments. Detailed budget inform and will be available at this hearing.

BUDGET SUMMARY The Expenditures and the Amount of 2025 Tax to be Levied (as shown below) establish the maximum limits of the 2025-2026 budget. The "Est. Tax Rate" in the far right column, shown for comparative purpose

Expend. & Expend. & Expend. & 2025 Tax to 6,193,851 39.476 12,294,101 12,656,824 39.853 39.50 General Fund Postsecondary Tech Ed
Adult Education
Adult Supp Education
Motorcycle Private xxxxxxxxx 0 514,02 479,596 XXX XXX XXX XXX XXXXXXXX Truck Driver Training XXX XXXXXXXX 2,711,935 xxx 2,849,155 xxx 3,586,817 xxxxxxxxx Auxiliary Enterprise 180,849 Bond and Interest No Fund Warrant
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 28,741,224
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 39.476
 Revenue Neutral Rate** 38.476 6,193,851 2024 2022 2023 Capital Outlay Bonds Revenue Bonds

5,005,000

4,230,000

KSA 79-2988

*Revenue Neutral Rate as defined by

July 15, 22

LEGAL

(First published in The Chanute Tribune Tuesday, July 1, 2025)

NOTICE OF FORFEITURE

TO: IAMA, INC. c/o Petron Oil & Gas, 14920 W. 90th St., Lenexa, Kansas 66215 J&S MCCOY ENTERPRISES, LLC, of 13300 Rooks Road, Erie, Kansas 67333, ERNIE ASHLOCK, of 14920 W. 90th St., Lenexa, Kansas 66215; and all other persons

The undersigned, owners in severalty of the following described land situate ed in Neosho County, Kansas

S/2SE/4 and the NE/4SE/4 of Section 13, Township 28S, Range 19E,

upon which an oil and gas lease dated August 12, 1992, recorded in Bool 115M, Page 445, was given to Charles D. Phillips, and upon which a corrected oil and gas lease dated effective August 12, 1992, recorded in Book 116M, Page 151, was given to Charles D. Phillips, do hereby notify you that the terms of said lease(s) have been broken by the owner thereof, and we hereby elect to declare, and do declare, the said lease(s) forfeited and void, and that unless you do, within twenty (20) days from this date, notify the Register of Deeds of said County as provided by law that said lease(s) have not been forfeited, we will file with the Register of Deeds an Affidavit of Forfeiture as provided by law and we hereby demand that you execute or have executed a proper surrende of said lease and that you put the same of record in the office of the Register of Deeds of said County within twenty (20) days from this date. Dated this 23rd day of June 2025

> Roger Kinne Revocable Trust Pamela E. Theising Terry L. Theising

Prepared By: JON R. VIETS #9675 201 N. Penn Ave., Suite 604 P.O. Box 1176 Independence, KS 67301 (620) 331-0144 icogroupltd@live.com/

July 1, 8, 15