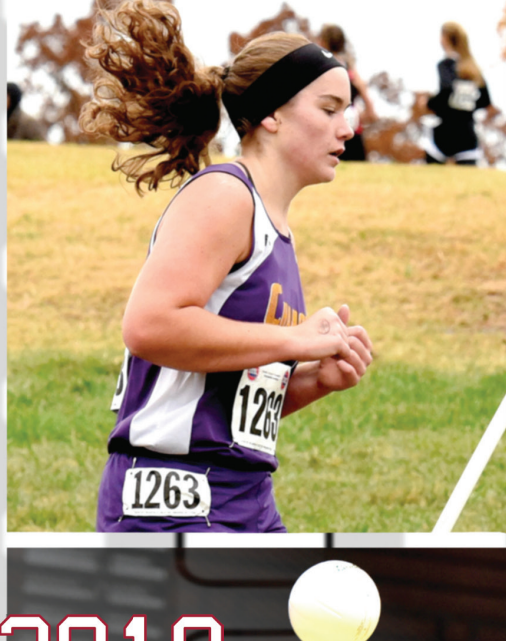




2019 FALL SPORTS GUIDE



UD SPORTS SUPPLEMENT



AUGUST 28, 2019



Chamois Pages 3-5

Linn Pages 6-12

Fatima Pages 13-23

Perspective: Things Lost & Things Recovered

As I put this fall sports guide together, I found myself frustrated at stupid little things like losing nearly all of last fall's photos and materials.

I seem to be cursed when it comes to some aspects of technology, as anyone willing to listen will attest. Just ask Mike Ely, who has done all he can to help me recover this data, to no avail.

I'll be the first to admit that I'm hard on things, including my body, which was recently determined to be the equivalent of a Civil War survivor thrice wounded and run down by stampeding cavalry.

I know I'm not that old; you can't believe everything some internet quiz tells you.

Let I digress further, let me explain that due to the nature of my life, with all the photos I take and materials I collect with writing, I go through memory pretty fast.

Apparently, I should have done more research into stability issues with the drives I was buying, and perhaps saved myself a ton of self-castigation.

The first (yes, there's more than one) drive failed in a rather odd way. My brother-in-law in his efforts to help said it was a power issue, but he couldn't find a way to maintain power and transfer the data. That drive is sitting in a safe place with the hope that one day I can break into it.

I replaced that drive and went about the task of carefully storing new items. Honestly, I thought I was doing well, but then I noticed the drive, which was partitioned for both Mac and PC use, began to fail.

Mac has this pesky little irritant like the computer has abandonment issues. You can't just pull the cord out of the USB port without first telling Mac you want to eject it. You can't do it even by accident, apparently, and there is no forgiveness for such an obvious attempt to steal your drive from the computer.

The accusatory message stared back at me: "Drive ejected without permission!" or some such nonsense.

I swear I wasn't doing it on purpose. I even screamed that at the Mac several times to the alarm of my family. I guess I shouldn't do that at 3 a.m.

Several times, I just unplugged the device and plugged it back in, which eventually worked. I say that because there were times when it took a full five minutes to reestablish contact.

At some point, however, the farce

went from annoying to seriously maddening.

The drive was more likely to disconnect for reasons unknown, at times just because of a shift in air pressure. I got to the point at which I feared sneezing.

The situation became untenable when the Mac wouldn't accept the reconnection at all.

So I plugged it into the PC. I mean, what would you do?

A message came up from the trusty programmers in the PC world telling me that the drive was damaged.

Of course, the helpful offer to scan and repair the drive was happily accepted, and life went on pretty much as usual.

Then, one night I was trying to find a particular set of photos and *poof!* they were nowhere to be found.

I find that interesting, as a fan of true crime stories. One thing that seems to catch criminals is that despite their best efforts to erase incriminating evidence from the hard drive, forensic specialists recover it in about 10 seconds.

Yet when I allowed the PC to scan and repair a drive, some of my files disappear into the ethers. I have yet to find any of them, but then I don't have any friends in forensics.

For the most part, however, the repair worked, and I was able to use the drive again on the Mac. *Yay!*

That whole process should have been a red flag, a warning of the dire consequences which awaited my continued use of the drive in this manner.

Unfortunately, I didn't make the

connection, no pun intended, and one day, the Mac gave me its snotty little message, and when I turned to the PC for help, my do-overs had reached an end.

This drive included everything from October through December, which is a TON of stuff, let me tell you.

So as I put the sports guide together, I was searching everywhere for photos and stories, in my effort to present a quality publication. Hopefully it passes muster.

As for things recovered, I was very happy to see that volleyball has returned to Chamois.

Last year, the team didn't have enough players, and had to cancel the season, which was a bummer for all involved.

This summer, I spoke with new Athletic Director Kyle Burkett, who told me the goal was to bring the program back.

Of course, there had to be enough players, meaning at least six but preferably a few more.

Coach Katie Kuschel and Assistant Coach Leisha Kempker were set to lead the team, and as the first day of practice drew near, there was a collective breath held to see how many young ladies would turn out.

Happily, there are nine players, which gives the Lady Pirates a chance for a breather during a match if need be.

The fall season appears to be full of great talent, and I'm excited to finally get going with it, since the start was delayed by the Missouri State High School Association by a week.

That gave coaches more time to prepare, but scrimmaging against your teammates gets old after a while.

Chamois cross country has three returning state qualifiers on the girls side, all of whom are playing volleyball as well, so that will be fun to watch.

Linn has some multiple-sport athletes as well, and though the softball team is young, Coach Renee Heidger is confident they'll be competitive.

Keep an eye on the Linn volleyball team, which has some experience under second-year coach Michelle Kelley.

At Fatima, everyone is back and accounted for, as the volleyball team is once again led by Lisa McKim, who said this year's squad is very strong. Ditto the JV and C teams, coached by Curtis Brandt.

It seems like only yesterday I was watching Matt Eisterhold run up and down the field in Blue & Gold, but he's been part of the coaching staff for six years, and the head coach for three. Where does the time go? I am excited to see how this group of players does, after a rebuilding year in 2018 that provided them some experience.

Coach Marc Bridges is almost a legend on the cross country course, and both the boys and girls teams are defending champions. The girls have won it five straight years, and Kendall Haller is the returning individual champion. The state meet will be held in Columbia this year after many years at Oak Hills Golf Center, so that will add an interesting wrinkle to the season.

I can't wait to get started!

See you at the game. NAJ

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After a year's absence, volleyball returns to Chamois, Kempker says team is working hard to catch up

A year removed from a season without volleyball, Chamois has fielded a team of nine young ladies who are eager to get the action started.

"We can hold our own, but it's

definitely a growing year since we missed a season," said Assistant Coach Leisha Kempker, speaking on behalf of Head Coach Katie Kuschel, who has been out for personal reasons and will rejoin the team

soon. "Our goal is to be competitive and shoot for a winning record."

Kempker was part of the coaching staff in 2008, when the team won its district, but this time around, it's going to be more challenging for several reasons. "We didn't have a summer conditioning program or play any matches because we didn't know whether there would even be enough for a team this year," Kempker said. "We'll have freshmen stepping out on the court against seasoned veterans from other teams that are completely prepared for the season. It will be tough, but the girls have impressed me in practices. They get here early, and they're eager to learn."

With limited numbers, the key will be to keep everyone healthy, and beyond that, learning the game so they are competitive, with the overarching goal to win matches.

To do that, the team will rely on three players with experience.

Senior Alexis Slusser and juniors Katie Keilholz and MaKenna Wuelling, all of whom are members of the cross country team as well this fall, played volleyball at Chamois two years ago, and Slusser has two years of experience.

"Alexis is well-conditioned, and her previous years of play will be important for us," said Kempker of the middle hitter. "She is a consistent server and is working on position serving, which will be a big asset."

Keilholz has spent a lot of time over

the summer working on her physical condition, sparked largely by her finish at the state cross country meet last fall. "She'll play middle hitter opposite Alexis, and it's new to her, but she's quick and will provide some much-needed blocking. She can get to any ball, and play the outside well. She is open to change, and adapts quickly."

Wuelling is the team's primary setter. "As a front row player, she's a strong hitter, but her being on the back row will help as well because of her quickness and ability to track the ball," said Kempker.

Sophomore Ariel Owens is an outside hitter, and has a great vertical jump. "She can play middle hitter in a pinch, and has a good serve," said Kempker. "We're working on her timing to make her an effective blocker as well."

Sophomores on the team are Caitlin Slusser and Emely Farmer.

"Caitlin continues to improve her serving every day," said Kempker. "When she started, she couldn't get the ball over the net, but she's doing much better. She's probably going to play outside hitter, and is capable of playing the back row too."

Farmer will likely be a setter on the front row. "She'll also see time on the right side," said Kempker. "Her passing is better and she's really improved her serving. It's



ASSISTANT COACH Leisha Kempker readies the ball during a receiving drill with the Lady Pirates. She and volunteer coach Sam Mitchem have kept practices in Head Coach Katie Kuschel's absence.

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Five harriers return to lead Chamois XC

Chamois returns two seniors in Richard Schaperclaus and Alexis Slusser, along with five others with experience on the cross country course, including juniors Katie Keilholz and MaKenna Wuelling, as all four earned a berth at last year's state championship.

Coach John Leach returns with high hopes for the Pirates, who have nine



MAKENNA WUELLING returns to the cross country course after earning a bid to the state meet last fall.

runners altogether at the high school level.

"It's nice to have those kids back with their experience," said Leach. "We've had some athletes work really hard in the off-season to prepare for this fall, and I think it will make a difference."

The seniors, bring a lot of experience as well, and hope to get to state this fall.

"Richard ran one of the fastest times we've had in a while," said Leach, as Schaperclaus made it to state, finishing with a time of 19:39.14 to earn 82nd-place. "He went back to the drawing board. I feel he was disappointed at his finish at state, and the course at Jefferson City isn't easy. It takes a lot out of you, and it's not going

to be any easier this year when we go the flat course in Columbia."

Slusser had a solid season in 2018-19, and has run a lot more than she has in the past, Leach said. "She's looking better in early practices, and I think she'll have a lot more confidence once the season starts," he added. "If we can keep her healthy, she has a great shot of returning to the state meet like she did last year."

Slusser posted a time of 25:27.64 to earn 89th overall.

Keilholz had a Lady Pirates-best 44th place in a time of 24:08.59 at Oak Hills Golf Course last year.

"She was not thrilled with her finish so

went out and worked harder, and put in a lot of miles after that," he added. "It really helped her with conditioning during the basketball season, and track, and now, after a summer of conditioning, she's looking really good in practice. I think she has high expectations to return to the state meet, and I believe she'll do even better come November."

Wuelling placed 133rd in a time of 27:34.66 at the state meet last November, and looks to return to the championship

**See Pirates XC
Page 6**

JH Lady Pirates will field full team

The Chamois JH cross country team features a full girls team and one lone boy as the fall season is set to kick off.

Coach John Leach said that while individual medals are great, he is really focused on helping the girls team vie for trophies.

"We have a good group of second-year runners that bring a lot of experience back from last year, and I think it will come together well as we get going," said Leach. "The girls have very good chemistry, and they are very competitive with each other, but it's constructive because they all want the others to do their best."

The team includes eighth-graders Madeline Gerloff, Eevie Halbert, Devin Slusser, Elsie Wuelling and seventh-grader Riley Davis, and on the boys side, seventh-grader Caleb Keilholz.

Gerloff is coming of a solid seventh-grade season. "She's taller and I think she's faster this year," said Leach. "I really think she's going to beat all her times from last year. She loves to run, and I am highly optimistic that she will earn a lot of medals this year."

Halbert is improving her stamina at the long-distance running. "She stepped up last year at the meets, and I think she'll continue

to get better as the season unfolds," Leach noted.

Slusser is expected to improve her times as well. "She's starting to get into shape as the practices keep going, and I think she'll be even better once she gets to a real meet," said Leach.

Wuelling, meanwhile, ran well last year, and is primed to keep going as the fall season approaches. "She likes to run, and I think once we get going, I think she'll be in a position to medal in several meets."

Davis enters the fray for the first time. "She is learning how to run distance races, and I think by the end of the year, she may be in position to get a medal," said Leach. "She's going to push the other girls, regardless."

Keilholz as the lone Pirate out for cross country will not have the benefit of being pushed or competing against teammates, but in practice, he's been third or fourth when running against the high school team. "I think he's going to do some great things as a seventh-grader, even against the older boys," said Leach. "He's hard-nosed and likes to win."

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Chamois Volleyball

DATE	OPPONENT	LEVEL	HOME/AWAY	TIME(S)
08/30/19	Belle High School	JV/V	Away	6:00 pm
09/03/19	Fatima High School	JV/V	Away	6:00 pm
09/09/19	Eugene High School	JV/V	Home	6:00 pm
09/12/19	Russellville High School	JV/V	Home	6:00 pm
09/24/19	North Callaway	JV/V	Away	5:30 pm
09/26/19	Missouri School For The Deaf	JV/V	Home	6:00 pm
09/30/19	Calvary Lutheran High School	JV/V	Home	6:00 pm
10/07/19	Eugene High School	JV/V	Away	6:00 pm
10/11/19	Bunceton R-IV High School	JV/V	Home	6:00 pm
10/14/19	North Callaway	JV/V	Home	6:00 pm
10/21/19	Bunceton R-IV High School	JV/V	Away	6:00 pm
10/22/19	Missouri School For The Deaf	JV/V	Away	6:00 pm
10/24/19	Linn R-II High School	JV/V	Away	6:00 pm
10/28/19--10/30/19	Districts	Varsity	Away	TBA
11/02/19	Sectionals	Varsity	Away	TBA
11/08/19	State Championships	Varsity	Away	TBA

Chamois Volleyball Class 1 District 12 Assignments

** Bunceton * Calvary Lutheran * Chamois
* Columbia Independent * Eugene
* Missouri School for the Deaf * Russellville

** Districts TBA **

Chamois Cross Country

DATE	OPPONENT	LEVEL	HOME/AWAY	TIME(S)
09/07/19	New Haven High School	7-12	Away	8:30 am
09/11/19	Vienna High School	7-12	Away	3:45 pm
09/14/19	Linn R-II High School	7-12	Away	9:00 am
09/26/19	Belle High School	7-12	Away	4:00 pm
10/02/19	Conference CC	7-12	Away	4:00 pm
10/05/19	Calvary Lutheran High School	7-12	Away	9:30 am
10/08/19	Hermann High School	7-12	Away	4:00 pm
10/15/19	Owensville High School	7-12	Away	4:00 pm
10/21/19	Vienna High School	VG/VB	Away	4:00 pm
11/02/19	Districts	VG/VB	Away	TBA
11/09/19--11/09/19	State	VG/VB	Away	TBA

Chamois XC District Assignments TBA

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EMELY FARMER prepares to receive the ball during a recent practice at Chamois.

Chamois VB from Page 3

much stronger now.”

Three freshmen round out the team: Gabby Farmer, Alex McKague and Brittney Chapman.

“Gabby is a very good position server, and she loves the jump serve,” said Kempker. “If we were playing a 5-1, she would make a very good libero, but we’re going to play a 6-2. She’s a little hustler, and go-getter, so I expect her to make an impact.”

McKague is a strong server and can be

a good setter in a back-up role. “She’ll play back row, and will be effective there as well,” said Kempker.

Chapman is still working through rotations and learning the game. “We’re evaluating to see where she’ll fit best,” said Kempker. “She could play right or left, and possibly front row. I’ve seen great improvement since the first day of practice. Right now, the key is building her confidence.”

Assisting in a volunteer capacity is Samantha Mitchem. “I’m so glad to have her with us,” said Kempker. “She will make logistics a lot easier as we get going.”

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Linn cross country squad has experience, depth

There are 11 boys out for the Linn cross country team, including three seniors, including Ryan Platt, the leader of the pack.

“He’s put in the most miles this summer and looks great at practice,” said Coach Suann Bower. “Ryan is a quiet, no-nonsense guy and likes to reach his

goals. He leads by example and works very hard. Being a senior, I feel Ryan won’t let anything get in his way of making it to state this year.”

Chris Kmiec is team’s other senior. “Chris has so much excitement this year for cross country. He has set his goals high trying to improve his time at each meet.

His legacy on the team is to remind all the runners that there is no walking in cross country.”

Senior Joe Ramsey returns to the team as well. “He is looking strong and will make an impact down the road I believe,” said Bower.

Sophomores Bryer Baker and Gibson Tschappler also return to the team. “They

are working hard and trying to hit that next level in their running,” Bower said. “Both are working on making improvements to their running posture. As they become more efficient runners they will be with the

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Pirates XC From Page 4

this year.

“MaKenna is a girl who goes out and tries her best, and gives everything she has,” said Leach. “Right now she’s doing both volleyball and cross country, which is taking a toll physically, but once the seasons start and we’re not doubling up practices, it will become a little easier.”

Sophomores are Hunter Nolte, Mason Lamb, Eli Paulsmeyer and Caine Schaben, and the lone freshman is Shannon Cowans.

“Hunter was here every morning last year and improved his times immensely throughout the season,” said Leach. “He is a great kid to have on the team. He ran a lot of JV meets last year, but did compete on varsity toward the end of the season.”

Lamb, meanwhile, has a lot of energy and uses all of it at practices. “He’s really pushing himself to get better and vie for a top varsity spot,” said Leach, noting Lamb ran a 25:04.72 at districts last year. “I think he’ll continue to improve, and we’ll see his times come down throughout the year.”

Schaben did not run last year, but ran in junior high. “I see some improvement from his eighth-grade year, and he’s

talented, so I think he’ll be in the mix to do some great things at the varsity level,” said Leach.

Cowans is a very athletic addition to the team. “He came out a week late, but he’s keeping up with the leaders and pushing Richard to the max, which is a great thing for both of them,” said Leach. “I really think big things can happen with him if he continues to work hard. He has a lot of potential.”

Overall, the focus for Leach this year is to see if the boys can be motivated to succeed at districts and earn a top-two finish for the first time in a long time. “That’s my main goal for the boys,” said Leach. “We have some talented runners that are working hard. We’ll need to stay healthy, but if all goes well, we should be right there competing for a district championship.”

On the girls side, Leach said he has high expectations for the trio to return to state. “I’m not putting pressure on them, but if they just go out and run their race like they’re capable of doing, they can get back to state,” he said. “Katie is really pushing Richard in practice right now too, and she’s a lot stronger than she was last year, when she was injured.”



JASON POWERS and JD Kruger keep pace in a JH meet last year, and are now working to meet the increased speed and distance at the high school level.

Good Luck

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Kelley working on wins, but also life lessons as Linn 2019 volleyball season gets under way

This year's Linn volleyball team, with returning coach Michelle Kelley, will feature eight varsity players, along with a JV squad and a mix of players who will round out a frosh team, which will include a mix of freshmen and sophomores.

"We're a very well-rounded team and I'm excited to see how we do," said Kelley. "The girls really mesh well together, both on and off the court. We want to win, of course, but just as importantly I want to teach life lessons along the way, and empower these young ladies as female athletes."

Guest evaluators were at recent practices to help Kelley and Assistant Coach Sharlet Peterson determine strengths and positions.

"That went very well," said Kelley. "The evaluators provided good recommendations, and hopefully that will lead to players having more confidence and consistency."

Having a returning coach is important too, Kelley said. "There has been a lot of turnover in the program, and for the kids and myself, it's good to have last year's

experience as we move forward this fall. I know the girls better now, and the girls know what to expect from me."

Five of the eight players on the varsity roster are seniors.

"We have some great leadership among these young ladies, and that will be very helpful as the season unfolds," said Kelley.

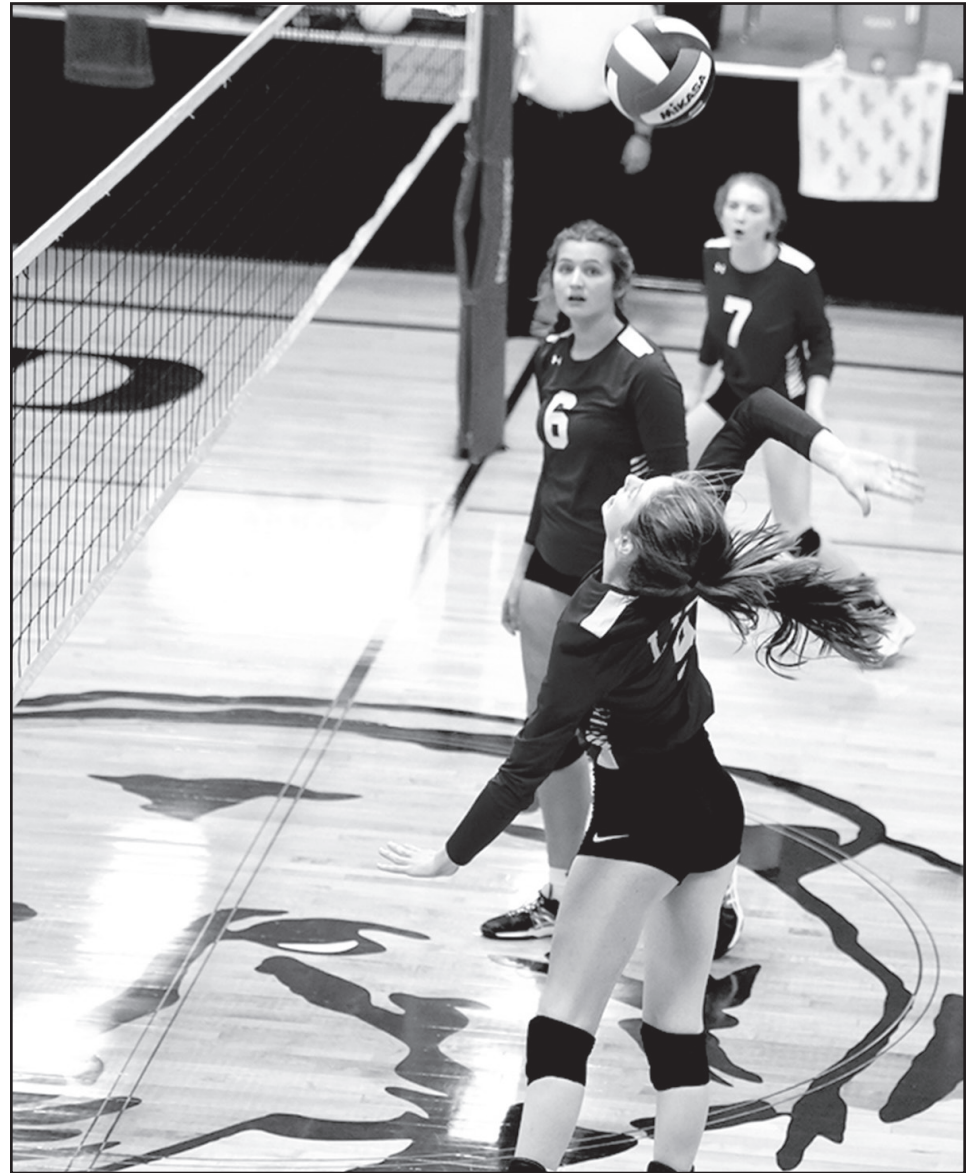
SENIORS

Alexis Wolfe is a returning varsity player who will play middle and outside hitter. "She's a good blocker with a lot of height, and I expect her to be powerful at the net," Kelley said. "She has been working with the younger players on mechanics, and is a strong leader."

Lexie Heidbrink, who earned both All-District and All-Conference honors last year, returns to compete in a variety of positions. "She is my best all-around player," said Kelley. "She's a strong hitter and blocker, but she can also play back row

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LEXIE HEIDBRINK, right, is one of the team's returning heavy hitters.



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Lady Cats XC in good shape

Linn has seven dedicated young ladies out for cross country, led by Coach Suann Bower and Assistant Coach Robyn Baker.

"Ellie Monnette and Myra Baker are our sophomore team leaders," said Bower. "Both of these harriers have put in some good miles over the summer, and despite being young, they show great team leadership. I have high expectations for these girls. They had super track seasons and have what it takes to be in the top finishers in competition."

Freshmen Olivia Helmig, Erika Platt, Annaliese Bowser, Marissa Gehlert and Peyton Beelek round out the team.

"Olivia is in good shape, and is making adjustments to maintain the three-mile pace," said Bower. "She excels in competition and will be improving as the season progresses."

Platt is a consistent and hard worker. "She is very practical and determined, which is very helpful and inspiring," said

Bower. "Erika will do everything in her power to be there for the team."

Bowser is splitting her time between cross country and softball. "She is recovering from a shoulder surgery this summer, so progress will come at a little slower pace for her but she doesn't complain," Bower said. "We are super happy that she joined us so we can compete as a team."

Gehlert and Beelek joined the team late and are added bonuses, Bower said. "They are working on building their strength and endurance," she said. "They give us the numbers we need and fit in very well with the girls team. I'm happy they decided to come out and give cross country a try."

Overall, Bower is confident in the team's ability to gel.

"I think the girls will learn and grow from each meet," she said. "They are very supportive of each other and are a fun group."

Zach Dodson has goals of getting in better shape and beating his brother, who runs for another school. "He's already made progress on getting in better shape so I think he'll be ready when competition comes around," said Bower. "Zach has a lot of natural ability when it comes to sports."

Jason Powers is ready to take on the challenge of moving to the next level. "He's very quiet (at least at practice) and is working hard on pushing his pace," said Bower. "The distance doesn't seem to bother him so I'm looking forward to seeing what he can do."

Brendan Ely is built like a long distance runner, tall and thin, with a long stride. "We are working on his running form and building up his endurance," Bower noted. "I saw him working out in the weight room a lot this summer and I know hard work pays off."

JD Kruger is pretty versatile. "I think he competed in seven different events in track last season but distance running was not one of them," said Bower. "I like an athlete that is up for the challenge—not taking the easy route just because it takes more work to get to the finish line."

The team is young but has tons of potential, Bower added.

"Overall they are a quiet group, no one has stepped up to be the 'negotiator' at practices," she said. "We haven't seen any drama, which has made these early practices great. I feel this team may start out slowly but will make their mark by the end of the season. Time will tell."



ASSISTANT COACH Robyn Baker returns to help the Wildcats this year.

Linn XC From Page 6

front of the pack. I'm impressed with the character of these kids. We are fortunate to have them on the team."

Sophomore Jackson Biggs is new to the district. "He looks to be athletic and is ready to give it his all," said Bower. "We will see how he develops as a Wildcat."

Bower said she is thrilled to have seven freshmen boys out for the team. "We didn't see them out much in the summer running, but it's evident who has put in the miles already," she added. "This group of harriers can and will make an impact on our team. We have several fighting for varsity spots."

Rhett Robinson just loves to run. "He has looked strong at practice and will be with our leaders," Bower said. "He is not afraid of the challenge and has the confidence that will help him reach his goals. He is one to watch for."

John Schmidt is training well. "He has adjusted to the longer distance and looks like he will be in the top seven," said Bower. "John is the type of athlete that will try to the best of his ability to do what you ask of him. He's very coachable."

Rowan Eichholz had a successful cross country season as an eighth-grader and Bower looks for him to do well this season too. "He has much to learn about how to pace and run at the high school level but I'm confident he will succeed," said Bower. "He puts a lot of thought into his running."

Linn XC District Assignments TBA

Linn Cross Country

DAY	DATE	TIME	OPPONENT	LOCATION	LEVEL
Tuesday	9/3/19	5:00	Watermelon Run	Linn	JH/HS
Saturday	9/7/19	8:30	New Haven Invitational	New Haven	JH/HS
Saturday	9/14/19	9:00	Linn Invitational	Linn	JH/HS
Saturday	9/21/19	9:00	South Callaway Inviational	Mokane	JH/HS
Thursday	9/26/19	4:00	Belle Invitational	Belle	JH/HS
Saturday	9/28/19	9:00	Gans Creek Classic	Columbia	HS
Wednesday	10/2/19	4:00	Show-Me Conference	Mokane	JH/HS
Saturday	10/12/19	9:00	Russellville Invitational	Russellville	JH/HS
Monday	10/21/19	4:00	Vienna Invitational	Vienna	HS
Saturday	10/26/19	9:00	Fatima Inviational	Fatima	HS
Saturday	11/2/19	9:00	Disricts	TBA	HS
Saturday	11/9/19	9:00	State Championship	TBA	HS



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Linn Volleyball Class 2 District 10

* Belle * Bourbon * Cuba * Dixon * Fatima * Linn * Steelville

** District host TBA **

Linn JH cross country looks to field full girls team

Linn is hoping to field a full JH cross country team on the girl's side as Reagan Klouzek and Aileen Blackburn return from last year.

"These two look ready to go," said Coach Suann Bower. "Reagan has put in some miles over the summer and has high spirits for this season. She has become much better at her distance running and pacing, and is up for a challenge and ready to run. Aileen had a good season last year and is looking to improve upon it this year. She is getting her legs under her and will be ready when the season starts. Both of these young ladies have great potential to be in the top pack and do great this season."

Newcomers are Katrina Mueller, Hailey Knight, and Courtney Woods. "These girls are learning the ins and outs of running," said Bower. "It's been a little of a rough start with not having much

experience running and getting acclimated to the distance and weather the first week but I really hope they stick with it and learn to love the sport."

Three seventh-grade boys will run cross country this season led by Andrew Ely thus far.

"He has a long stride and quietly makes up ground on people," Bower said. "His endurance has improved quickly. Dakota Stephens has some speed and is working on the stamina needed in cross country. Zach Henson has struggled a little with the heat and distance but progress will come with practice and the right attitude."

Even though our numbers are down this year, Bower said she thinks the kids can do very well if they work hard and believe in themselves. "Overcoming the mental boundaries is half the battle sometimes in this sport," she added.

Linn Volleyball

DAY	DATE	TIME	OPPONENT	LOCATION	LEVEL
Monday	8/26/19	5:00	Jamboree	Calvary Lutheran	V
Tuesday	9/3/19	5:00	California	Linn	9/JV/V
Thursday	9/5/19	5:00	Owensville	Linn	9/JV/V
Tuesday	9/10/19	5:00	Fatima	Fatima	9/JV/V
Thursday	9/12/19	5:00	St. Clair	St. Clair	JV/V
Saturday	9/14/19	TBA	Hickman Tournament	Columbia	V
Monday	9/16/19	5:00	Russellville	Russellville	9/JV/V
Tuesday	9/17/19	6:00	Dixon	Linn	JV/V
Friday	9/20/19	4:00	Linn JV Tournament (Linn, Eugene, Capital City, Calvary Lutheran)	Linn	JV
Monday	9/23/19	6:00	Blair Oaks	Wardsville	JV/V
Tuesday	9/24/19	5:00	Belle	Belle	9/JV/V
Friday	9/27/19	6:00	Calvary Lutheran	Linn	JV/V
Saturday	9/28/19	TBA	Russellville JV Tournament	Russellville	JV
Thursday	10/3/19	5:00	Southern Boone	Linn	9/JV/V
Monday	10/7/19	5:30	St. James	St. James	9/JV/V
Saturday	10/12/19	TBA	Belle Tournament	Belle	V
Monday	10/14/19	5:00	New Haven	Linn	9/JV/V
Tuesday	10/15/19	5:30	Cuba	Cuba	9/JV/V
Friday	10/18/19	6:00	Eugene	Eugene	JV/V
Saturday	10/19/19	TBA	Versailles Tournament	Versailles	V
Tuesday	10/22/19	5:00	Russellville	Linn	9/JV/V
Thursday	10/24/19	6:00	Chamois	Linn	JV/V
Mon-Fri	10/28/19-10/31/19	TBA	Districts	TBA	V
Saturday	11/2/19	TBA	Sectionals & Quarterfinals	TBA	V
Fri-Sat	11/8/19-11/9/19	TBA	State Championships	TBA	V

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Happy Labor Day Weekend

Linn VB
From Page 7

and is a good passer. I expect a good season from her."

Samantha Brandt also played varsity last year, and is a natural leader. "She has a great team mindset, which is very important to our goals," said Kelley.

Lauren Hock played libero at the JV level last year, but will act as the team's second setter this fall. "I'm excited to watch her develop her setting skills, and her defense is very good," said Kelley.

The final senior is Nicole Deeken, who joins the varsity for the first time. "For only being a second-year high school volleyball player, she's doing very well," Kelley said. "She's dependable, and a consistent server, and will help on the back row."

JUNIORS

Amber Hueste brings her All-Conference setting experience back to the court. "She has a great mental game, and reads the court very well," said Kelley. "She picks up on the little things, and is very consistent both with her setting and at the service line."

Grace Brandt is a returning varsity player that can fill any position. "She can do great things at the net, especially her blocking, and she's a great power server," said Kelley. "The best part is that she

provides us a lot of versatility."

Claire Baker rounds out the varsity squad in her first year at that level. "She has a great attitude and is very positive," said Kelley. "Her ability to read the court makes her a big asset, and her hitting and blocking has improved."

While primarily JV players, juniors Chloe Rhoden, Elizabeth Brandt, Brook Scheulen and Renee Jacquin will see time at the varsity level this year.

"These ladies will provide us a solid core for the JV team," said Kelley. "I expect them to do very well, as they focus on improving their skills."

Senior foreign-exchange student Arianna Cingolani, and sophomores Macci Blauvelt, Elizabeth Heckman, Karlee Cox, Emma Schaefer, Dorian Hill, Aubri Atwell and Marlee will round out the JV team, while sophomores Hannah Hall, Ally Wagner and Kailey Spencer will split time between JV and the frosh team.

Freshmen Destiny Voss, Kylie Wolfe, Jasmine Kemp, Adisen Dudenhoeffer, Courtney Nichols, Natalie Morre and Leighann Horan will also play on the frosh team, which has 10 scheduled matches, twice what was on the plate last year.

"We have a great opportunity to get these girls into games more often, and help them develop their skills," said Kelley. "I'm looking forward to a great season."



LINN SENIOR Lauren Hock chases the ball during a receiving drill.

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Heidger hopes strong summer equals great fall season

Linn softball coach Renee Heidger is encouraged by what she saw over the summer, and hopes that translates to a great fall season as the Lady Wildcats seek to improve on a 14-8 season.

"We have some versatility, and we're hoping to be competitive," she said. "We have a good nucleus of returning players, and at two camps over the summer, we had a good showing. We were very competitive, which makes me think we'll have a good year."

Linn plays a tough schedule, and with some quality tournaments along the way to districts, Heidger said the team should be in good shape come October. "We'll take it one game at a time, and hopefully everyone remains healthy, and improves," she said. "We have some talented players and some experience coming back, so we're really in a good position to do some good things."

SENIORS

Catcher Darby Nolting led the team with a BA of .400 last year, with three doubles and seven RBI, but her play behind the plate was outstanding. "She had a great season," said Heidger. "She's very quick and I had to move her from the outfield to catcher last year. I lost some speed in the outfield, but she really grew into the catcher's role. She's very athletic, with a strong arm and solid bat."

Third baseman Rachel Keilholz started at second base but will cover the hot corner this year. "She's a quiet player but she gets it done," Heidger said. "She was a consistent defensive player last season, and that's a big plus, not to have to worry about

that."

Keilholz last year hit .258 with a double and a team-high 17 RBI. From the circle, she went 6-1 in seven starts, with 15 earned runs on 37 hits, with 32 strikeouts and 13 walks.

The third senior on the roster is Kennedy Frank, who returns to the team after not playing since her freshman year. "She's showing promise at the plate in practice," said Heidger. "We're still evaluating her defensive positions, but she's battling for a spot in the outfield."

JUNIORS

Lindsey Brandt, who hit .368 with four triples, a double and a home run, drove in seven last year while scoring 23 runs. The third-year starter will cover short stop, a position she's made her own.

"She's a very talented young lady," said Heidger. "Her consistency at the plate, whether it's finding the right pitch or holding out for a walk, is impressive. She finds a way to get on base, and I'll probably have her in the top three in the lineup."

Jessica Keilholz will be the go-to pitcher for the Lady Wildcats, and play at second base when she's not on the rubber. "She's looked very sharp all summer," said Heidger. "Her velocity has increased and she has better movement on the ball. Jessica can hit well too, and has been driving the ball with authority."

J. Keilholz last year went 10-60 (.167), but four of those hits were doubles, and she accounted for four RBI while scoring eight runs.

Abby Klebba hit .245 last season, with

a pair of doubles and two triples with eight RBI, is battling for first base but may also be a designated player this year, a role she filled last season. "She hits in streaks, and we'll need her to be consistent at the plate," said Heidger.

Riley Senevey may play middle infield or find a home in the outfield. "She's a good player with a good arm," said Heidger, noting Senevey played in left field last year. "She reads the ball well, and can get there. Riley was a consistent hitter over the summer, and we'll need that this fall."

Destiny Riley played some at first base and other times covered second base last

year. "She has a lot of talent, and she'll compete for a spot in the infield," said Heidger. "She was streaky at the plate a year ago, but her bat speed is quicker, and she'll put the ball in play."

Elyse Klouzek and Abby Sweezer were primarily JV players last year that are working for an outfield position. "Elyse has improved a lot, and she's good at tracking the ball," said Heidger. "She's working on her arm strength, and is starting

See Linn SB
Page 12

Linn Softball Class 2 District 8 Assignments

* Belle * Cuba * Hermann
* Linn * New Haven

** District host TBA **

Linn Softball

DAY	DATE	TIME	OPPONENT	LOCATION	LEVEL
Tuesday	8/27/19	4:00	Jamboree	Ashland	V
Thursday	9/5/19	5:00	Owensville	Linn	V/JV
Friday	9/6/19	5:00	Vienna	Vienna	V/JV
Monday	9/9/19	5:00	Capital City High	Jefferson City	V/JV
Thursday	9/12/19	5:00	Belle	Linn	V/JV
Friday-Saturday	9/13/19-9/14/19	TBA	Sullivan Tournament	Sullivan	Varsity
Monday	9/16/19	5:00	Southern Boone	Ashland	V/JV
Tuesday	9/17/19	5:00	New Bloomfield	New Bloomfield	V/JV
Friday	9/20/19	5:00	Tuscumbia	Linn	V/JV
Monday	9/23/19	5:00	St. Elizabeth	St. Elizabeth	V/JV
Tuesday	9/24/19	5:00	South Callway	Linn	V/JV
Thursday	9/26/09	5:00	Russellville	Russville	V/JV
Friday	9/27/19	5:00	Fatima	Fatima	V/JV
Monday	9/30/19	5:00	Eldon	Eldon	V/JV
Saturday	10/5/19	TBA	Linn Tournament	Linn	Varsity
Thursday	10/10/19	5:00	Eugene	Linn	V/JV
Friday-Saturday	10/11/19-10/12/19	TBA	Rolla Tournament	Rolla	Varsity
Monday	10/14/19	5:00	New Haven (Senior Night)	Linn	V/JV
Wed-Sat	10/15/19-10/19/19	TBA	Districts	TBA	V
Wednesday	10/23/19	TBA	Sectionals	TBA	V
Saturday	10/26/19	TBA	Quarterfinals	TBA	V
Friday-Saturday	11/1/19-11/2/19	TBA	State Championship	TBA	V

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LINN SOFTBALL coach Renee Heidger outlines goals with players during a recent practice. At right is Lindsay Brandt, one of the fastest players on the team, here scoring a run in last year's district game against Calvary Lutheran.

Linn SB
From Page 11

to gain confidence at the plate.”

Sweezer is hitting the ball better during practice. “I’m not sure where she’ll wind up because we’re still evaluating, but she has some power at the plate,” Heidger said.

SOPHOMORES

Macy Branson played varsity first base at times last year. “She’s come a long way since then, and if she continues to make strides, I think she’ll have some opportunities at varsity this year,” the coach said.

Savanna Senevey is a first-year player

in the learning phase, and Kayla Arlen is in the same situation, having joined the team late. “They don’t have much softball experience, so we’re helping them develop to see where they can help us,” said Heidger.

FRESHMEN

Ashara Hostetler has played a lot of softball, and is a versatile player, working this year as the team’s second pitcher and outfield. “She makes good contact at the plate, and will be in the mix of things, based on her performance in practice,” said Heidger.

Autumn Baker will likely play in center field. “She’s fast, maybe the fastest on the team,” Heidger said. “She’s starting



to show promise in the outfield, and she’s coming along offensively.”

Delaney Schmidt has made improvement in the outfield, Heidger said. “She has the ability to play several positions at the varsity level,” the coach added. “Delaney has good mechanics with a quick release, and I think she’ll be able to hit the ball consistently.”

Allie Klebba has also shown improvement. “She’s a very athletic player, and I see a lot of potential,” said Heidger, noting Klebba has played some first base during practice. “She did well in summer

league, and I look forward to seeing her continue to develop.”

Annaliese Bowser was injured this summer and has been on restricted activity. “We’re waiting to see how she’ll do once she’s healthy,” said Heidger. “She hits with pop and power, and has the potential to break into the varsity lineup.”

Lilly Meyer is new to the team. “She’s working hard, and we’re still evaluating to see what position is best for her,” said Heidger.

Joining the team again this year is Assistant Coach Ryan Rost.



JESSICA KEILHOLZ will take over pitching duties for Linn this fall.

Our readers want to see where YOU have taken the UD. Send a photo and information to udnewslinn@gmail.com

Good Luck

Wildcats, Comets and Pirates on a Great Season!

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2 All-Staters return to lead Fatima's defense of title

The Lady Comets cross country team is looking for its sixth straight championship come November, and Coach Marc Bridges is pleased to have another solid group as the fall season begins.

"We have an incredible senior class of five outstanding runners," said Bridges. "Kendall Haller returns as the defending state champion (20:21.98) from last season. After a short break from track, Kendall has put in a lot of work this summer and is looking good so far."

Fellow senior Alexis Fischer placed seventh (21:10.92) last year at state and has had a very full summer of running, even competing in a half marathon a few weeks ago.

Senior Kailey Woody returns this season as a two time All-State cross country athlete, and had a great spring in track last year. At last year's state meet, Woody finished 45th in 22:42.64, while Sierra Sankey is a very strong runner, who finished in a time of 23:08.84 for 104th place. "She was a little beat up at last season's state meet but after a solid spring in which she earned All-State honors in track, I look for a big season from her," said Bridges.

The final senior, Madison Conley returns to the team after stepping away her junior season.

"I have been very impressed with Madison so far and look for her to make an



DEFENDING INDIVIDUAL champion Kendall Haller, above, and fellow All-Stater Alexis Fischer, right, return to lead a packed Lady Comets cross country team, which is looking to defend last year's title.

See Fatima XC
Page 15

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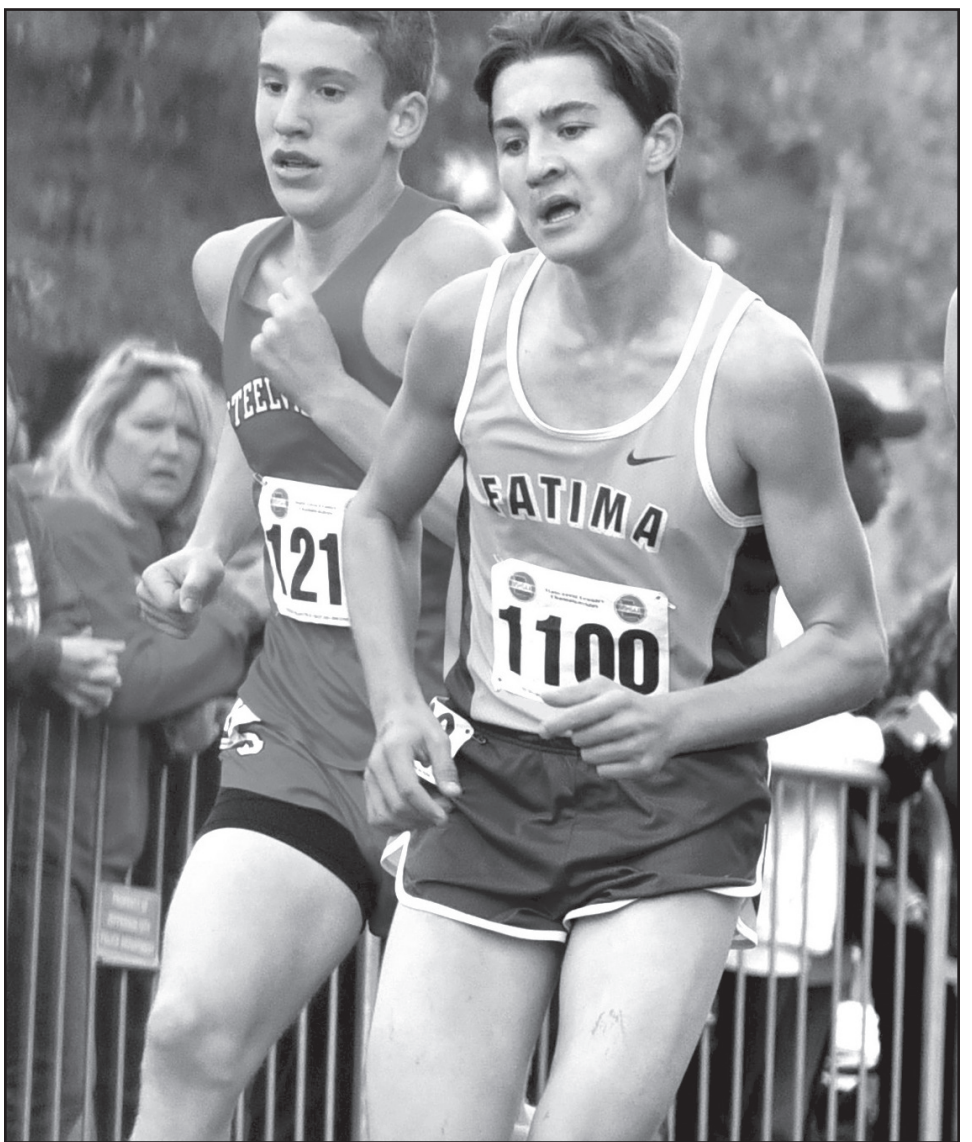
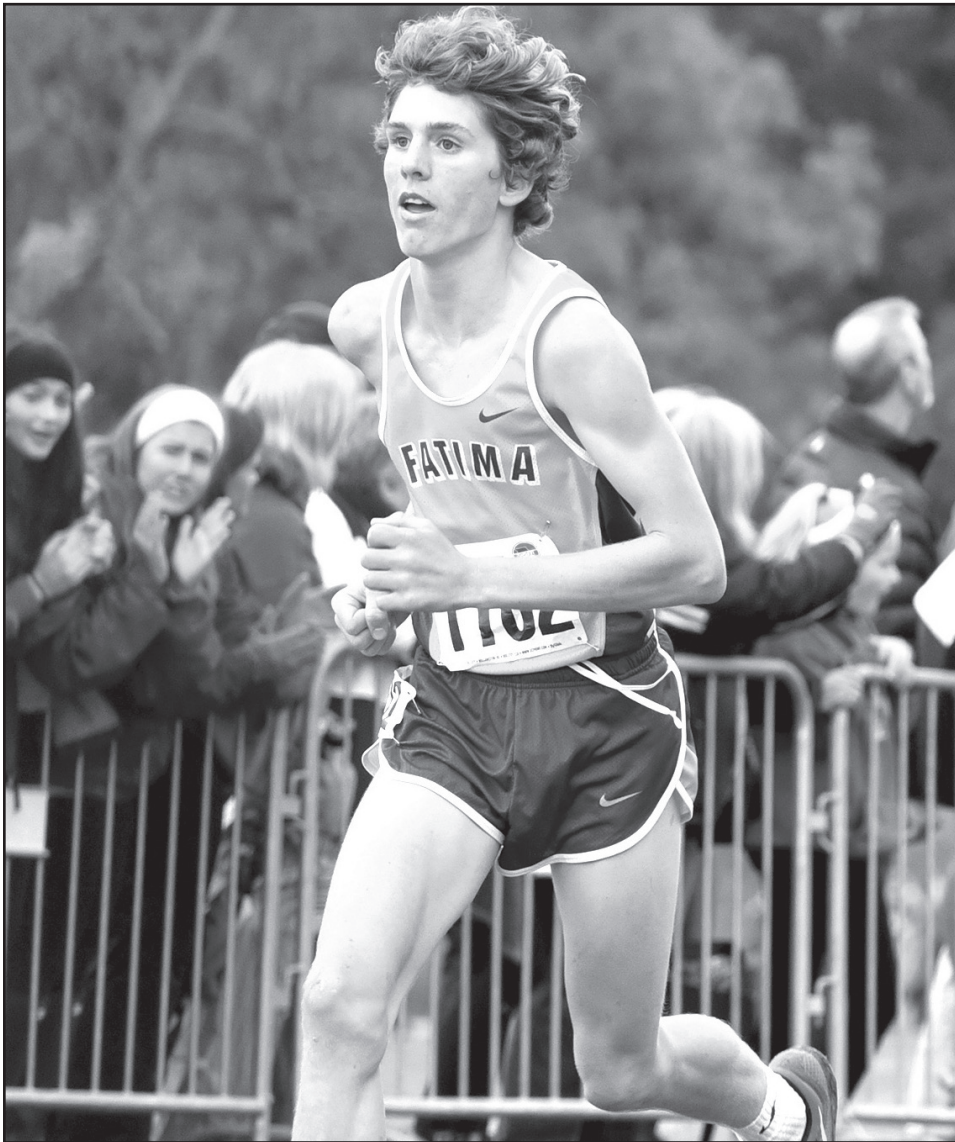
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LUCAS LAUX, left, and Caden Halsag earned All-State to help the Comets to last year's team championship, and both look primed for another top finish.



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KAILEY WOODY, above, Sierra Sankey, below, and Rachel Temmen, at right, return from a great 2018 campaign that ended with the team's fifth straight championship.



Fatima XC From Page 13

impact this year," Bridges said.

Junior Rachel Temmen returns as a varsity member of last year's team after running a time of 24:37.00 for 122nd place at state.

"Rachel provides leadership and connection between our seniors and our freshmen and is a great asset to the team," said Bridges.

Fatima has three freshmen on the squad this year: Sarah Groene, Emma Bower, and Corinn Karst.

"These girls have been very dedicated this summer and with an already stacked lineup they will have a huge impact on our team as they will fill a few of the varsity spots," Bridges noted. "Like the boys team, we are starting slowly working our way into the first part of the season and looking forward to our opener."

Fatima opens the season Sept. 7 at Bolivar.

Fatima HS Cross Country

DATE	OPPONENT	LEVEL	HOME/AWAY	TIME(S)
09/07/19	Bolivar - Richard Clark invitational	Varsity/JV	Away	9:00 am
09/14/19	Forest Park	Varsity/JV	Away	TBA
09/14/19	Linn High School	7th/8th (G&B)	Away	TBA
09/21/19	Fulton Invitational	Var/JV/JH	Away	9:00 am
09/26/19	Belle High School	7th/8th (G&B)	Away	4:00 pm
09/28/19	Gans Creek Classic - Columbia	Varsity/JV	Away	TBA
10/02/19	Show Me Conference - S. Callaway	Var/JV/JH	Away	4:00 pm
10/05/19	Camdenton High School	Vars/JV	Away	12:15 pm
10/15/19	Owensville High School	Varsity/JV	Away	4:00 pm
10/26/19	Fatima Invitational	Varsity/JV	Home	9:00 am
11/02/19	Districts	Varsity	Away	TBA
11/09/19	MHSAA Championships	Varsity	Away	TBA

**Fatima Cross Country
District Assignments TBA**

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Comets look to repeat as state champs, team features three All-State returners

Fatima's boys cross country team returns five starters from last year's state champion squad, including three All-State juniors in Dawson Woehr, who finished eighth in a time of 17:31.77, Lucas Laux, who was ninth (17:40.41), and Caden Haslag, whose time of 17:56.95 was good for 20th place.

The Comets are primed for a return to the podium this fall.

"So far the boys looked strong in practices and we are slowly working out way toward the season opener," said Coach Marc Bridges.

Junior Jake Boyce and sophomore Thomas Libbert (59, 18:55.58 at the state meet) also return as members of last year's varsity team.

Seniors Elijah Selin and Josh Even, as well as junior, Dean Hagenhoff and sophomores Gavin Satterfield, Eli Froning, and Collin Bridges return from last year's team and along with newcomer, freshman Michael Kloeppe, look to challenge for

varsity positions this season.

"Elijah and Caden were very committed this summer to following their running plans and it should pay dividends this fall," said Bridges. "Dawson, Lucas and Josh also stepped up their running volume from past seasons and I look forward to what improvements that will lead to. Thomas, Gavin Satterfield, Collin Bridges, and Michael were very dedicated this summer as well and I'm sure it will pay off. Michael is our only new team member this season and I'm excited to watch him progress. He has a natural ability and the kind of attitude every coach loves."

Coach Levi Maxwell joins the team this season as an assistant coach and has been eager to learn the sport this summer. "We are excited and grateful to have coach Maxwell on board this year," said Bridges.

Fatima opens the season Sept. 7 at Bolivar.

4 girls, 3 boys for Fatima JH cross country

This year's Fatima Junior High cross country team will have four girls and three boys take to the course.

The girls team is made up of eighth-graders Gracie Deeken and Joselyn Winkelman, and seventh-graders Sophie Bock and Lily Gregory.

"So far I have been pretty impressed with how well our girls have been running," said Coach Marc Bridges. "Most of the girls team has been doing a little bit on

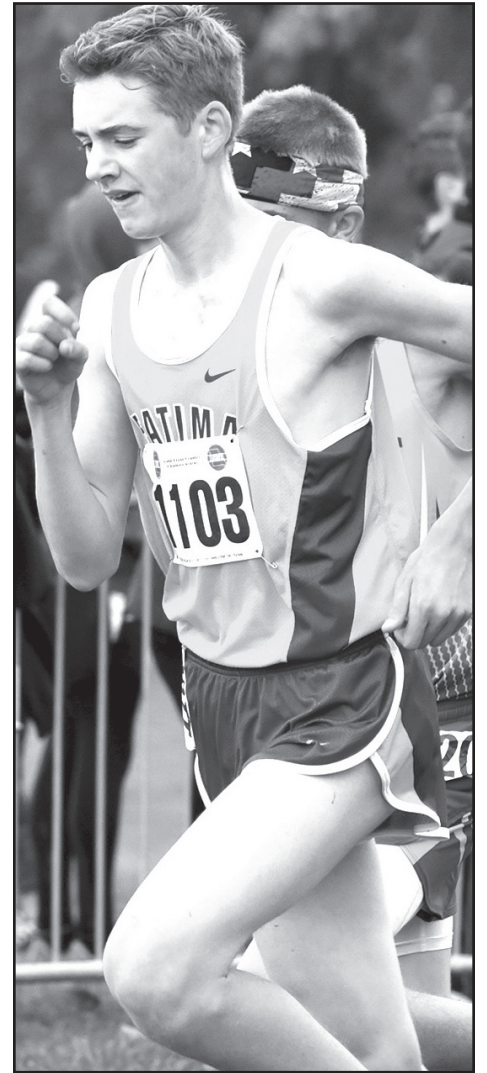
their own and it really shows as we get into the early season."

The boys team is made up of eighth-graders Royce Alstrom and Isaac Gentges, and seventh-grader Brady Hagar.

"Like our girls team, the boys team looks to be in good shape early on, showing that they have put a little preparation in before the season got underway," said Bridges. "Several of our runners this year are not exactly new to cross country as they

have been running with the Westphalia club team and have traveled to competitions last year. Their experience with racing will definitely give them a leg up early in the season as they already understand a bit of race strategy."

Coach Levi Maxwell will be taking on the majority of the junior high duties this fall, and Bridges said he is off to a great start getting the kids race ready.



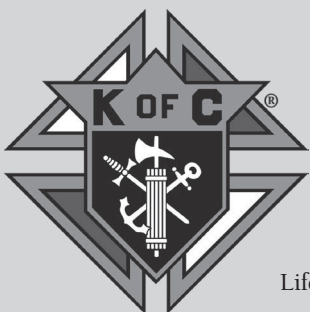
THOMAS LIBBERT returns with state experience as part the Comets 2018 championship squad.

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McKim: Fatima volleyball will be very strong this year

Fatima varsity coach Lisa McKim said volleyball team will be very strong this season.

"They've been an absolute blast to coach," said, McKim, who returns for her second year at the helm. "We have a ton of returning starters and they have another full club volleyball season under their belts. The skill level of these girls is just amazing. We have so many players playing club volleyball at a very high level that it boosts our high school program to compete with much larger schools and be successful. I am very excited about what is upcoming in the next three months and I have been working with our squad through the summer to set realistic goals for our season."

When McKim and Asst. Coach Curtis Brandt have the teams sit down, it always comes back to the same goal: Get to state.

"That is a lofty goal for any team, but I am a believer in setting a goal to shoot for and working hard to get there," McKim said. "I believe in that philosophy and I believe in this team. We have a lot of offensive weapons and our defense is strong in the back court as well, if we can put it all together we can get there. It takes a ton of discipline and a ton of drive to power through a very long season and not lose sight of the end game. From what I am seeing from this group they want it. I want it. We all want it, now we will do our very best to go get it."

Running the offense this season in the setter position at the varsity level will be senior Maria Verslues and junior Allison

Samson. "Both Maria and Allison are returning varsity level setters with another year of experience under their belt," said McKim. "I am very excited to have not one, but two varsity level setters to run our very complex offense. I trust both Maria and Allison's talents and their decision making while on the floor. As a coach, they make my job very easy."

Swinging from the outside this season will be four-year varsity starter senior Ellie Crede. "Ellie is an extremely talented strong player wherever she is on the floor," said McKim. "Her natural position is outside hitter and we are glad to get her back out there. She is creeping up on the kills record for our school and if she works hard this season she has a shot to get it."

The team's second outside hitter is returning varsity player, junior Hannah Moeller. "She continues to impress me with how strong she is at the net," said McKim. "She is just a powerhouse up there. The velocity on her swings is just intense and if she gets by the block there is not much you can do to defend it. Hannah and Ellie will be a big part of our success this season for sure."

Swinging from the right side of the court this season are two returning varsity players: seniors Kendal Nilges and Jenna Reinkemeyer. "Kendal will see her second season on the right side and she was very successful there last year in both attacking percentage as well as total blocks, so I am not worried in the least about her production this season," said McKim. "It is always a comfort to me to have such strong options



ELLIE CREDE returns to the Lady Comets with her powerful swing.

at the net and with Kendal that is exactly what we are getting. Jenna is making a move this season from outside to right side and she is making this transition look easy, to be honest. Her swing from the right is

**See Fatima Varsity
Page 23**

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Fatima soccer returns with experience and talent

Coach Matt Eisterhold enters his third season with the Fatima boys soccer team, and after a building year, he's looking at different goals for the team's success.

"I'm optimistic going into the season," he said. "Last year we were very young, and we only lost two seniors to graduation, so overall, we have a lot of experienced players coming back, and they're very talented."

The question isn't whether these guys will be able to compete, it's how competitive they will be.

"Last year we had that underdog fight," said Eisterhold, now in his sixth season overall as a member of the coaching staff. "Not many people had high hopes for us last year, and the guys took that to heart, and went out with something to prove. We surprised some people but this year, we have to keep that fire, and combine that experience with hard work in order to be successful."

Here's a look at the varsity players.

SENIORS

The Comets have seniors all over the field this season, with the offense spearheaded by striker Trey Herzing, who accounted for 28 of the team's goals in 2018.

"He had significant surgery, and he's easing back into things," said Eisterhold. "He's had no contact leading to the season, but he looks primed for another great year. His physicality, intensity and aggressiveness are contagious, and represent what we want as a team. We'll rely on him again to provide an offensive spark, but we hope to

balance his efforts with those of other players that are capable of stepping up and scoring goals."

Nick Angerer is a returning varsity defensive starter who will play central or outside defender. "He gets in the attack for possession well and isn't afraid to square up with anyone," said Eisterhold. "Nick organized a lot of the off-season stuff the guys did, and he is passionate about soccer. He really wants to succeed."

Paul Boeckmann, in his third year with the varsity squad, will likely play in the central defensive area after last year he worked on defining his role. "He has great field vision and a high soccer IQ," said Eisterhold. "He's a good leader on the team and very vocal."

Sam Gentges played club ball last spring with a team in Columbia, so he's primed for a great season as a midfielder. "He's bringing a lot of experience to the field this year, and he's matured a lot," said Eisterhold. "We need him to get a lot of touches on each possession for us to be successful."

Dean Laughlin is very athletic and has been working towards competing and helping the varsity program since he entered. "He has been willing to put in the time to learn the game and his role on the team, and he's turned into a very reliable player," said Eisterhold. "He's one of the quickest defensive players we've had in a while, and I expect him to be a cornerstone for us."

He and Angerer will shift between center and outside defense this year.

Kobe Holtmeyer rounds out the senior roster and will play outside midfielder. "He's a role player, and understands that," said Eisterhold. "He does whatever we need, and does it well. He's always a spark plug and provides us with a lot of energy. He's tough and will get in the middle of it every chance he gets."

Hayden Massman was injured recently and has not been cleared for contact during practices. "He's been there every day and has been an extra pair of eyes with me," said Eisterhold of the forward. "We hope to get him on the field by mid-September. I know he's anxious to get out there and play. He will provide depth for us offensively, and I'm looking for him to score some goals for us this season."

JUNIORS

Hunter Rademan is a returning captain from last year. "No one outworks him," said Eisterhold of the outside midfielder/defensive back. "His energy motivates others, and he that encourages others to follow his lead as well. He's a great leader on the field."

Joseph Schwartz is the team's third-year starting goalkeeper. "He's very smart in goal," Eisterhold said. "We are looking to use his feet more this year and get him involved in our possessions. We've relied on him heavily to win games, and that will continue this year."

Ethan Flores played offense through club ball and when he began playing at Fatima, but moved to defense last year and will play there again this fall. "He's got the green light to move forward from his right-

side defensive position, depending on the situation," said Eisterhold. "He's tougher and more physical this year, and I'm looking forward to seeing what he'll provide this year."

Nathan Troesser is a returning central midfielder and one of Fatima's target players. "The more touches he has, the more likely we'll be to convert possessions into scoring opportunities," said Eisterhold. "He's a very technically-skilled player, and he's crafty."

Dalton Gentges is a utility player who will help as an outside midfielder and defensive back. "He'll also be effective in the middle of the field," said Eisterhold. "Dalton is very open to challenges and I think he'll be a huge part of the battles we'll face in the middle of the field, but he'll go wherever we need him to play."

Joey Muenks will help in the offensive end of the field, either in the midfield moving up or as a forward. "He's good with his role in the midfield, but I expect him to score some goals this season," said Eisterhold.

Gus Amptman will get his first shot at varsity this year. "He's still learning how to play at this level, but he'll see significant minutes as the season unfolds," said Eisterhold. "Gus will add depth at the midfield for us."

Ben Schroeder is another first-year

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Talented freshman group joins Fatima volleyball

This year Fatima was very fortunate to have a very strong group of freshman volleyball players enter the program, and several of them will be playing at the JV level with Coach Curtis Brandt, who also will help with the C squad.

"We were left with too few ninth-graders to build a true freshman team so instead we will utilize a C squad comprised of freshman and sophomores that are still a huge asset to the future of our program but have been put into new positions or need a little more time to develop their skills," said Brandt. "We want them to get as many touches as possible before moving to the next level. These players are all good enough to qualify for most school's JV teams and some varsity, but with this area's emphasis on volleyball the last several years we are fortunate to have a large squad of players. This offers us dynamic options but unfortunately we don't have room for everyone to play at the level they are capable of. Both teams will be very competitive and we will continue to move players laterally up and down levels as their skills are needed and developed throughout the season."

Elsie Bax and Olivia Kleffner are both hard-hitting outside hitters for the JV team and will be very tough to defend with their heavy swing from the front and back row. "Their aggressiveness and mobility will more than likely earn them rotations all around the court," said Brandt. "I am excited to see them continue to improve on their timing with a high percentage of kills."

Leah Markway and Abby Kempker will be setters for the JV team as the Lady Comets run a 6-2 offense. "They have amazing control on the ball and know the game very well," Brandt noted. "They see the court and make great decisions. Both players have great skill at the service line and will be fun to coach as we break the opponent's defense with accurate spot serving. Also both offer quality swings at the net and do a great job putting the ball in play at all times. This quality will definitely earn them some rotations as right side hitters in the front row when not filling their setter role."

Anna Crede and Samantha Bax will fill the middle hitter roles. "They are both tall and hit well with quick sets," said Brandt. "They also offer great blocking abilities as they are our primary defense on the opponent's attacks. Anna and Sam continue to challenge themselves with multiple front row hitting options which will allow us to build offensive plays centered around their mobility at the net. Their amazing attitude and competitive nature is a lot of fun to coach because they are never content will average and strive for improvement at all times."

Annabelle Massman and Eliza Nilges will see several rotations on both teams but for the JV they are a huge asset in the right side hitter role. "They swing very well from that side of the court and offer us a strong attack that isn't typical for this level of play," Brandt said. "They work well with our middle hitters to double block the opponent's strong side attack and it will be

tough to break through them at the net."

Jenna Bax, Ava Bock and Ryleigh Wegman round out the JV squad with great passing as defensive specialists. "All three players are very well rounded and know the game better than most," said Brandt. "They are great utility players and can fill any role on the court if needed. All can swing well from the front row, have good hands as setters if needed but their greatest asset will be their aggressive passing from the back row. They are fundamentally sound and have a very high percentage of passes reach the front row where our setters need them. They are also very mobile and read the ball off the attack resulting in playable digs allowing us to set up our offense. They will be the first touch of most plays and their success factors heavily on us getting a win. They are up for the challenge and very resilient with the pressure put on them when needed the most."

Bax and Massman are not only an asset to the JV team but will be the primary outside hitters for the C squad. "Their time at the front row will only add to their value on the JV team," said Brandt. "Jenna does a great job putting the ball into play and finding holes on the other side of the net

and will be tough to defend. Annabelle is somewhat new to the outside hitter role, but has adjusted very well and I could not be more pleased with the results she is giving. She swings hard and with her height can put a hard angle to her hits."

Addison Peters and Marissa Haller will be the C squad's middle hitters. "Addison fits the middle hitter mold very well with her quick, hard swing and she gets well above the net for power," Brandt said. "I am excited to see her progress in this position and improve on timing as we challenge her with each practice. She has the potential to be one of the best in our league at the junior level. She also offers a very strong serve that will result in several aces throughout the year. Marissa is very new as a middle hitter and has been very open to learning this new position. She is another very well rounded player and puts the ball in play nearly every time. I am never worried about the results when Marissa touches the ball because whether it

See Fatima JV
Page 23

Linn Volleyball Class 2 District 10

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** District host TBA **

Fatima Volleyball

DATE	OPPONENT	LEVEL	HOME/AWAY	TIME(S)
08/29/19	Blue and Gold Scrimmage	9th/JV/Varsity	Home	6:00 pm
08/30/19	Hickman High School	9th/JV/Varsity	Home	5:00 pm
09/03/19	Chamois High School	JV	Home	6:00 pm
09/10/19	Linn High School	9th/JV/Varsity	Home	5:00 pm
09/12/19	Hermann High School	9th/JV/Varsity	Away	5:00 pm
09/14/19	Hickman Volleyball Tournament	Varsity	Away	8:00 am
09/14/19	Helias Freshman Tournament	9th Grade	Away	8:30 am
09/16/19	Southern Boone High School	9th/JV/Varsity	Home	5:00 pm
09/17/19	Eugene High School	JV/Varsity	Home	6:00 pm
09/19/19	Owensville High School	9th/JV/Varsity	Away	5:00 pm
09/21/19	Capital City JV Tournament	Jr. Varsity	Away	8:30 am
09/23/19	Rock Bridge High School	9th/JV/Varsity	Home	5:00 pm
09/24/19	Boonville High School	Varsity/JV	Away	5:30 pm
09/26/19	Jefferson City High School	9th/JV/Varsity	Away	4:30 pm
09/28/19	Union Freshman Tournament	9th Grade	Away	8:30 am
09/30/19	Capital City High School	Varsity/JV	Home	6:00 pm
10/03/19	Blair Oaks High School	9th/JV/Varsity	Home	5:00 pm
10/05/19	Waynesville JV Tournament	Jr. Varsity	Away	8:30 am
10/07/19	9th tri meet Versailles @ B.O.		Away	TBA
10/08/19	School of the Osage	9th/JV/Varsity	Away	5:00 pm
10/10/19	Battle High School	9th/JV/Varsity	Away	5:30 pm
10/12/19	Lebanon Volleyball Tournament	Varsity/JV	Away	8:30 am
10/15/19	California High School	9th/JV/Varsity	Home	5:30 pm
10/17/19	Russellville High School	JV / 9th	Home	6:00 pm
10/19/19	Waynesville Freshman Tournament	9th Grade	Away	9:00 am
10/21/19	New Haven High School	9th/JV/Varsity	Home	5:00 pm
10/24/19	Helias High School	9th/JV/Varsity	Away	5:00 pm
10/28/19--10/29/19	Districts	Varsity	Away	TBA

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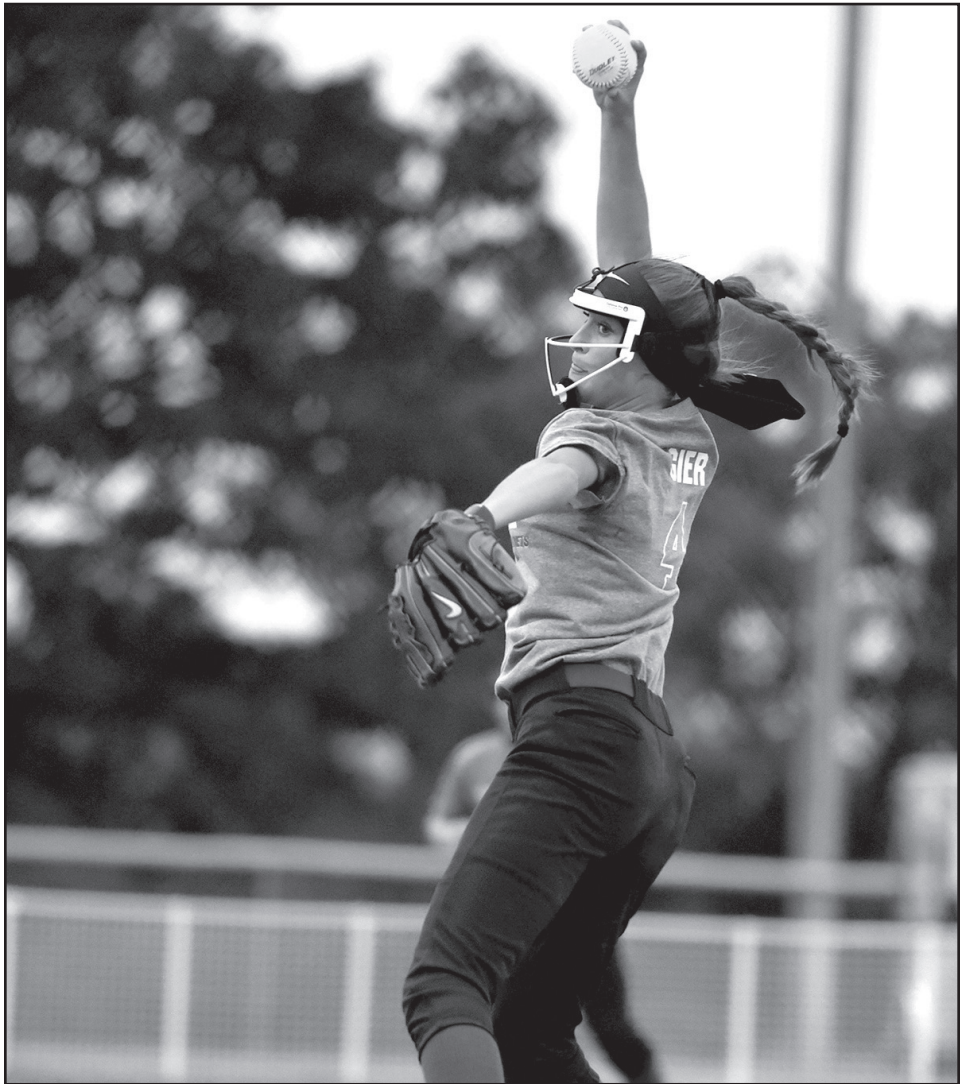
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TREY HERZING scored 28 goals last year and is set to lead the offense again. Sophomore Chayce Gier, above, threw at the JV level last year with some varsity experience during tournaments. She will assume the majority of pitching duties this season.



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MADelyn HUHN is the lone senior on Fatima's softball roster this year.

Fatima Softball Class 2 District 10

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Lady Comets SB replacing four key positions

Fatima's softball team will have young players in spots this year, primarily in the middle of the field, as four players were lost to graduation following a 14-13 finish.

"We've moved people around to find out who will fill those roles best," said Coach Dana Scheppers, noting that catcher, pitcher, short stop and center field are still being evaluated. "Some positions are still up in the air, but I think we'll be competitive, and maybe surprise some people."

In addition to fielding losses, the Lady Comets are without three of their top four hitters from last year, but Scheppers said she's working to help her players improve at the plate.

"We need people to step it up, and provide consistent hitting," she added. "We have a lot of talent, and the girls are driven to succeed. They're working hard in practice, and developing in their new positions. There's a lot to learn, but they're putting in the effort, and I expect good things."

With 22 players, Scheppers said she anticipates 12 will be on the varsity roster.

The lone senior is Madelyn Huhn, who played some in right field last year, and is battling for a starting job there this fall. "She works hard and always gives 100 percent," said Scheppers, noting that sophomore Anna Eichholz is also vying for the position. "It will come down to defensive consistency, and who contributes to the offense."

Huhn hit .211 last year, with one RBI and seven runs scored. Eichholz played primarily JV last year.

Pitching duties will be handled by sophomore Chayce Gier, who threw at the JV level last year with some varsity experience during tournaments.

"Chayce played a lot this summer, and has worked on her pitching a lot during the off-season," said Scheppers. "She's young but she can hold her own on the rubber."

Gier last year allowed 23 earned runs on 52 hits with 10 walks and 21 strikeouts over 35.1 innings of varsity play.

Sophomore Chesney Luebbering moves from second base to catcher this year. "Chesney always gives everything she has, and she works well with Chayce," said Scheppers. "She had a decent year offensively last year, and I expect her to show improvement."

Luebbering hit .242 last fall, with four doubles and a home run while driving in nine and scoring 10.

Junior Londyn Stuckenschneider will play at first base, a role she held last year. "She continues to work hard to improve her fielding skills there," said Scheppers. "I expect her to do good things at the plate this year."

See Fatima SB
Page 23



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Soccer
From Page 18

varsity player who is finding his way to the next level. "He's asking a lot of good questions, and working hard," Eisterhold said of the defender.

Also joining the team is Felix Treude, a foreign-exchange student from Germany. "He got to the U.S. a day before practice started and has been on the go since," said Eisterhold. "He's a technically proficient player, but he's learning our system and expectations. For now, he's getting his feet wet, but I expect he'll contribute as the season gets under way."

SOPHOMORES

Defender Isaac Falter may be the fastest player on the team, and Eisterhold said he will have plenty of chances to showcase that speed. "He's still learning his role and the system at varsity level, but I think he's got a chance to make an impact," the coach added.

Ben Gentges also will suit up for the varsity squad. "He'll give us depth at the central midfielder position, and with his soccer IQ, I believe he'll be a big part of our success," said Eisterhold.

FRESHMEN

Blake Gentges will play as a forward. "I knew he was talented from watching him play in camps, and he's one of the quickest players we have," said Eisterhold. "He'll make an immediate impact as a forward or in midfield. I expect a solid year from him if he continues to work hard."

The final player on the roster is Ryan Kesel, who will play on the offensive end of the field. "He has a big body and he's very athletic with a lot of soccer smarts," said Eisterhold. "We anticipate him helping as a forward, and providing significant depth in that position."

Overall, Coach Eisterhold, who is joined by assistants Clint Dobry and Josh

Kunkleman, believes the team is primed for a solid year.

"We have high expectations," said Eisterhold. "Our goal is to make a deep run in the postseason, but we're also looking to improve from game to the next, and take advantage of the talent and experience on this team."

Eisterhold added he is very pleased with his assistant coaches. "Both these guys have a lot of soccer experience," he said. "Clint and Josh bring different things to the table, but they understand the goals of the program and are doing a great job with the kids."

Fatima assistant soccer coaches Clint Dobry and Josh Kunkleman, who will be a big part of helping the varsity squad to success, will also focus on developing younger players as the JV team looks to compete in 10 to 12 games this year, along with the Helias JV tournament.

"Our goal is to get these guys ready to play at the next level," said Dobry, who is in his second year with the boys team. "There's a chance for some of these guys to get into varsity games as the season progresses, but our main focus is to have this group become a cohesive unit and play well together by the end of the season."

Sophomore Garrett Borgmeyer is the team leader for the Comets. "He has greatly improved from last season, and he'll be an impact player," said Dobry of the central midfielder.

Sophomore Jackson Riegel is the team's returning goalkeeper. "Near the end of last year he was really making a lot of progress in the next, and I look forward to even more advancement this season," Dobry said.

Freshmen on the JV squad are Andrew Brandt (F), Curtis Falter (MF), Mitchell Falter (MF), Patrick Holterman (D), Chase Kremer (D), Jackson Logan (F), Raymond Laughlin (D), Jacob Rolwes (D), Jackson Schenewerk (D), Jonathan Schulte (D) and Victor Struempf (MF).



PAUL BOECKMANN returns to the midfield for the Comets this fall. Former player Josh Kunkleman, below, joins the team this year as an assistant coach.



Fatima Soccer

DATE	OPPONENT	LEVEL	HOME/AWAY	TIME(S)
08/24/19	Jamboree @ Sacred Heart HS	JV/Varsity	Away	10:00 am
09/03/19	Fulton High School	Varsity	Home	5:00 pm
09/05/19	Camdenton High School	Varsity/JV	Away	5:00 pm
09/09/19	Stover High School	Varsity/JV	Away	5:00 pm
09/10/19	Capital City High School	Varsity/JV	Home	5:00 pm
09/12/19	Dixon High School	Varsity/JV	Home	5:00 pm
09/16/19	Crocker High School	Varsity/JV	Away	5:00 pm
09/19/19	Helias High School	Varsity/JV	Away	5:00 pm
09/23/19	MMA	Varsity/JV	Home	5:00 pm
09/26/19	Boonville High School	Varsity/JV	Home	5:00 pm
09/27/19--09/28/19	Helias JV Tournament	JV	Away	TBA
09/30/19	Mexico High School	Varsity/JV	Home	5:00 pm
10/01/19	School of the Osage	Varsity/JV	Away	5:00 pm
10/04/19--10/05/19	Laker Shootout	Varsity	Away	TBA
10/07/19	Warrenton High School	Varsity/JV	Home	5:00 pm
10/10/19	Southern Boone High School	Varsity/JV	Away	5:00 pm
10/11/19	Belle High School	Varsity/JV	Home	5:00 pm
10/14/19	Laquey High School	Varsity/JV	Home	5:00 pm
10/17/19	Battle High School	Varsity/JV	Home	5:00 pm
10/18/19	Union High School	Varsity/JV	Away	5:00 pm
10/21/19	Jefferson City High School	Varsity/JV	Away	5:00 pm
10/24/19	Green Ridge	Varsity/JV	Home	5:00 pm
10/29/19	Sacred Heart High School	Varsity/JV	Away	5:00 pm
10/31/19	St. Clair High School	Varsity/JV	Away	5:00 pm
11/02/19--11/06/19	Districts	Varsity	Home	TBA

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Fatima Varsity
From Page 17

very strong and her blocking is improving every week. I am excited to see Jenna in her new role and I think she will surprise a lot of people with just how versatile she is."

Fatima's middle hitter situation this season is what dreams are made of, McKim noted. "We have a new addition to our squad this season with senior Jorey Luebbert," the coach said of the Osage County native who has moved back into the community. "We are so excited to have her back. Jorey is a very strong middle hitter with insane blocking ability. She simply gets a touch on almost everything she tries for. She is truly fun to watch and so much fun to coach because her attack options spread the entire net."

Returning varsity player junior Claire Nilges is the team's second middle hitter. "Claire was both All-Conference and All-District last year at the middle hitter

Fatima SB
From Page 21

Stuckenschneider counted six doubles and drove in 11 last year while scoring 15 as she hit .227 on the year.

Juniors Allyson Havens and Molly Klooppel are battling for second base, and the latter is trying for a spot at third as well. "They're both new to varsity, and showing improvement," Scheppers said. "I need consistency at the plate, someone who can add an offensive threat to the lineup."

Sophomore Morgan Luebbering is also in the hunt for a home at third base. "She's impressed me the last couple weeks," said Scheppers. "Her range is improving daily and she's becoming more comfortable at third. She can hit for power, and I'm hoping she can help us offensively."

Junior Karli Struempf played third base last year but is moving to short stop. "She's new to the position but she's receptive to what we're telling her," said Scheppers. "There's a lot to learn but she is working hard every day to improve."

Struempf returns as one of last year's top hitters, finishing with a BA of .356, with nine doubles and 21 RBI.

Roaming left field this year will be junior Taylor Bexten. "Her range and glove really improved over the summer," said Scheppers. "She's more confident and consistent than before, and she will have an opportunity to provide an offensive spark for us."

Junior Lauren Brandt is making the move from left to center field for the first time, and should be solid there. "She reads

position and she is stronger this year if you can believe that," said McKim. "She is one of those players that's fun to coach just because her positive energy is contagious and she is just a beast in the middle. Ellie Crede was one of our middles last season and she did a phenomenal job filling that role and earning the district MVP award, but we are so happy with the addition of Jorey and having Claire being as strong as she is - that now we can move Ellie back to the outside and have all three of these ladies be dominant. We are going to be middle strong this year for sure and we intend to use that to our advantage and move the ball utilizing all of our attack zones."

Running the back court and filling our libero position is senior Avery Orscheln, a three-year varsity player. "Her defense skills are what win ball games," said McKim. "Everybody always gets excited for the big hit out of the front row but I truly get excited to see a player get an awesome dig in the back court and just take

the ball well, and her speed and great glove will help her finish plays," said Scheppers. "I expect she'll do very well in center field, and we will need her to provide consistency at the plate."

Brandt last year had 13 hits, two of which were home runs, as she drove in six and scored 16.

Junior Claire Kampeter is looking for a role in either left or right field. "She's looking for time at the varsity level," said Scheppers. "She does well in practice and she'll need that to carry over into games, which will happen as her confidence grows."

Sophomore Laney Bassett will be a courtesy runner at the varsity level, and may see time at either second or in the outfield. "She's very fast, and we want to take advantage of that," said Scheppers.

Freshmen Rachel Woehr and Ellie Brune will pitch at the JV level, but may see time at varsity, especially during tournaments. "They're working hard to develop their control and movement," said Scheppers.

The JV squad will primarily include sophomore Emma Kleffner (1B) and Bassett (2B), and freshmen Lydia Brunnert (3B), Olivia Reichel (OF/C), Allison Schwartze (SS), Woehr (P/OF), Caleigh Huot (OF), Shelby Wankum (OF), Sophie Bock (OF) and Brune (P/OF).

"We have a very athletic group of girls," said Scheppers. "They are working hard every day, and there's a lot of potential. I can see some off them dressing for varsity by the end of the year."

Returning to help coach this year are Amy Kemna and Rachel Veit.

the wind out of a hitter's sails. Avery does just that. She reads a ball very well and is quick on her feet. She makes a good first move which in turn lets her get to a ton of balls. Our defense needs her back there and we are so happy we can depend on her skill set & her drive to cover the floor for our team."

The varsity team will have a very deep bench this season. "We simply have a ton of talent and that is a good problem to have when coaching varsity," said McKim. "We have some very strong backups in seniors Lacy Bertels and Hanna Kremer. Lacy will see some time in middle and possibly outside as well this season. Lacy is versatile and has a great attitude and is always willing to fill in wherever she is asked.

Hanna will most likely be used in a serving capacity this season. Hanna has very strong serve that can truly be an asset to our team."

Rounding out the varsity roster are three defensive specialists: juniors Natalie Thoenen, Abby Gentges and Haley Brandt. "Natalie, Abby and Haley have been working very hard all summer and their defensive skills continue to improve," said McKim. "I feel confident that all three of these players will see some back row time and be an asset to our defense. Abby has a unique ability to spot serve and that skill is priceless when picking apart a serve receive for an opposing team. Abby will probably be called upon to serve in key situations this season as well."

Fatima JV
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is a pass, serve, set or attack she will produce results."

Eliza Nilges and Ryleigh Wegman will be the C squad's setters. "Much like our JV setters, these two also offer a strong right side attack when not filling the setter position," said Brandt. "I am pleased at their soft touch and accuracy when setting along with great decision making. They are making huge progress each and every practice and offer a very positive and cheerful attitude that only improves their value on the team."

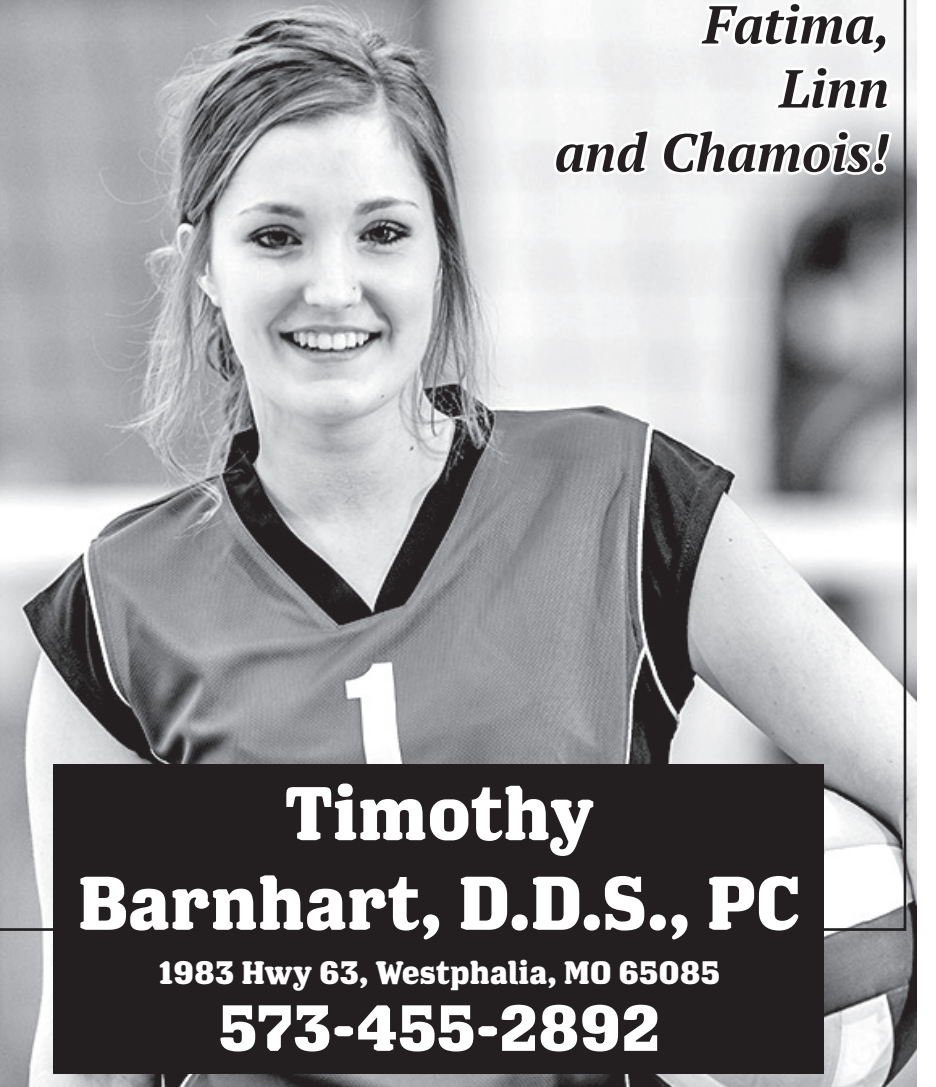
Taylor Hoelscher and Karlie Ocheskey are last but definitely not least. "They will fill defensive specialist roles and have a huge job with their accurate passing and aggressive mobility in the back row,"

Brandt offered. "I also will rely on them to be leaders with the other back row players as the need arises. Taylor and Karlie are the hardest working players on and off the court. They are very strong and resilient and are a huge asset to push the other players at all times, during conditioning, practices and game time. We are very fortunate to have them on the team and their impact may not be as obvious as some but it doesn't go unnoticed and will be the key to our success this season."

Brandt said he is honored and excited to coach again this season for the Fatima Comets. "With such a dynamic group of girls each having their own unique skills and strengths that complement the team so well," he added. "They challenge me at every practice as they master each progressive drill I give them and wanting more. I am proud of all of them and confident we will be extremely successful this season."

You have alot to smile about!

**Good Luck
Fatima,
Linn
and Chamois!**



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**Good Luck Fatima Comets,
Linn Wildcats and Chamois Pirates
on your sports seasons!**

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