

2020 UD SPRING SPORTS GUIDE



MARCH 18, 2020

Chamois Pages 3B-5B

Linn Pages 6B-12B

Fatima Pages 13B-23B

Perspective: Bad Luck, COVID-19 & the Spring Season

As the spring season is set to unfold, I am among those who wonder what will happen thanks to the coronavirus.

I've already gone through a bout with pneumonia this year, and I don't want anything to do with this respiratory illness. I don't care if it does more significantly impact the elderly or those with preexisting conditions such as asthma. My luck is just not holding up of late, and I'd rather not take any chances.

If there's a negative life lottery, I think I've won it.

I guess we're talking about karma, which is weird because I've always believed in the "what goes around, comes around," philosophy, and done my best to at the very least not invite my own destruction.

Last fall, right before the season hit district play, my camera had an issue. One of the shutter blades became disconnected, and that's not something you can just repair on your own. Nikon required I send the D750 to them, which is understandable.

This high-tech piece of equipment is not something they want just anyone touching. At the same time, it's a costly repair, for which I was not prepared.

By the time I got my ducks in a row and sent it off, I was prepared to sell a kidney if need be, just because I really needed that camera back.

I got through with a D600, which is nowhere near enough. It's like putting a sports car in the garage and using a very old Pinto. It will get you around, but it doesn't handle the corners at all, and there's a chance it will blow up.

To be fair, I am grateful I had the opportunity to continue shooting pictures with a Nikon, but I sent my 750 off with only an estimate of the repair cost, and part of me worried it would be lost or destroyed in transit, or that it would be too expensive.

What actually happened was quite amazing. I received a box in the mail from Nikon with my camera, which had basically been refurbished. A bad grip had been replaced, and the shutter issue was no more.

I couldn't believe it. The note inside indicated there was no charge as Nikon had decided to make the repairs as a goodwill gesture.

Talk about happy. I couldn't believe my luck or whatever that was, and to get back into the sports car was just a great feeling.

However, it didn't last.

During the week of district basketball, I started off with three games on that Monday.

The first was at Eldon, where the Lady Comets took on Blair Oaks.

I knew my time was limited, since I had to get to Capital City for the Chamois boys, and New Bloomfield for the Linn girls.

So I shot the first half, and felt good about my pictures. I packed up and headed down the stairs. Of course, like any good boy, I decided to use the restroom so I wouldn't have any discomfort on the next leg of the drive.

I honestly cannot recreate the scene in my mind as well as I would like. I know I closed the bag, but the zipper must not have caught or something, because I entered the restroom and the bag just flew open, spilling the contents violently upon the hard floor.

A few Osage County guys witnessed the tragedy and helped me put the bag

together again, but the damage was done.

I didn't realize it at the time. It wasn't until I tried to photograph the Chamois game that the focus seemed to be locked, which confused me at first.

Of course when I looked at the lens and body of the camera, the extent of the damage became clear.

All I can say is that the heavy lens attached to the camera was in part the reason for the damage, but the lens survived, so there's that.

For now, I'm back to the D600, and doing the best I can, but I am even more curious about the idea of karma. Why would the universe conspire to have Nikon refurbish the unit at no cost only to have it destroyed in a men's room?

It's very confusing and disappointing, to be honest, and then COVID-19 hits and there's no way I am even looking at it sideways. I can only imagine what would happen to me.

As for the virus, I've been reading a lot

and trying to keep up with the latest so I can do my best to protect myself and my family during this dark time.

I am extremely disappointed that my state chess kids will not be competing this year. For the most part, these 13 club members have met twice a week for the entire school year in preparation for the biggest chess tournament of the year, and the coronavirus has shut it down. Well played, CV.

Mine is not the only group that lost a much-anticipated event. Linn FFA had to cancel its district event, and all choir events were lost.

I want to give a shout-out to those in the medical field, along with those in emergency management. I attended a meeting the other night with first responders, and know it's going to be a challenge for all involved. Should the unthinkable happen here, and with five cases in Missouri, it seems more than possible, first responders and medical professionals will be in the line of fire.

Do your part: wash your hands, keep hand sanitizer nearby, cover up when you sneeze, keep your distance from others, and if you have symptoms, tell your doctor.

A little common sense will go a long way.

I hope everyone manages to avoid CV, and that we get some kind of spring season. As of now, spring championships have not been canceled.

In the meantime, can someone explain the overwhelming urge to buy toilet paper?

See you at the game. NAJ

Coronavirus puts spring season on hold

As of now, the spring season is on hold until at least April for area schools due to the coronavirus.

It is our intent with this sports guide to showcase the hard work student-athletes have put into preparing for the season.

We understand that there are a lot of unknown factors at this point, and the schedules printed within this guide will not match up, but we are presenting all spring information anyway.

If and when schools resume, and provided the spring season will be played out, we will provide updated info.

Good health to all during this uncertain time. NAJ

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ELI PAULSMEYER will compete again in the mid-distance events.

Chamois to field 15 in spring track with 4 seniors

The Chamois High School track team has 15 athletes, including four seniors, which Coach John Leach said will make the team very competitive.

“We had some kids that didn’t come out this year, which will have an impact, but the kids that have come out are working hard, and they have a strong desire to improve, so we’ll do our best and let things fall where they fall,” said Leach.

Seniors are Brandon Dodson, Dawson Haslag, Joseph Kirsch and Chloe Holloway.

Dodson returns from a state medalist season in the pole vault, and will compete this year in the vault, triple jump, long jump and 400m relay.

“He’s already jumping higher than last year,” said Leach. “I feel he’s going to increase the school record, and I think he can earn All-State this year, and do even better than he did last year.”

Haslag is a returning sprinter, running the 100m, 200m and 400m sprints, along with the 400m relay.

Last year he made it to sectionals in the 100m dash. “This year, I think he’s got a real chance to get to state this year,” said Leach. “He’s enlisted in the Marine Corps and he’s been working really hard in that, so I think he’ll be in great shape for the season.”

Kirsch has really improved his level of fitness. “He’s running a lot better than he did last year, and I think he’ll be better in the shot and disc, and he may be running

some events this year as well,” said Leach. “He’s gained so much during the off-season, and is a totally different kid from last year. He’s a lean, mean, fighting machine.”

Holloway is in her first track season since junior high, and is another who has enlisted in the military. “She’s the fastest she’s ever been,” said Leach, noting she will run the 100m and 200m sprints, along with other events as the year unfolds.

Juniors are Kaylee Sieg and MaKenna Wuelling.

Sieg will compete in the throwing events, including javelin this year. “We have our own javelin this year, which will be really cool,” said Leach. “We had to borrow one last year, so this year, she’ll get more comfortable, and I expect her to do better than ever before. She’s working hard on her technique, and has shown a lot of improvement, so I think she’ll do some great things.”

Wuelling will be the team’s long and triple-jumper. “My goal for her is to get to state in the triple jump,” said Wuelling. “We have some work to do, but she’s coming off a great basketball season, and we’re working on her confidence level so we can get her to the state meet.”

Five sophomores fill out the team,

**See Chamois
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JH Pirates track team features a ton of talent, potential

Chamois has a majority of eighth-graders out for the JH spring track season, and Coach John Leach said there are many talented runners.

"We have five girls that won the cross country championship in the conference, and I think they have a great opportunity to do very well this year in track," said Leach. "We also have some very talented boys on the team, and with a scattering of events, I think we have some kids that will make a splash."

Of the five Lady Pirates that won last fall's Show-Me cross country crown, four are eighth-graders, with Elsey Wuelling, Devin Slusser, Evvie Halbert and Madeline

Gerloff, and one seventh-grader in Rylee Davis.

On the track this year, Leach said he believes the young ladies will do very well in distance and relay events. "I think we have the capability of setting some school records this year," said Leach.

Wuelling will compete in the mids and relays. "Elsey has trying to chase down Madeline since last year, and she's getting close," said Leach. "She's really stepped up and done a good job, I'm pleased with what she's doing."

Gerloff is coming off a conference championship in cross country, and has grown as a runner. "Her confidence has

also grown, and I'm really thinking she has a shot at beating the record in the mile," said Leach.

Slusser has come a long way in her running as well, along with her confidence. "That's led to her running much better so far, and I think she'll have her best times just because she's more confident in her ability," said Leach. "Her ability is through

the roof."

Halbert also had a good XC season and did well in basketball. "I think she'll run her best times this year," said Leach of the hurdles and sprints, along with relays.

**See JH Pirates
Page 5B**



MADELINE GERLOFF returns to help the JH Lady Pirates in the spring track season.

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JH Pirates From Page 4B

"Her confidence is still soaring from the fall seasons."

Davis rounds out the girls, and brings a lot of cross country experience to the table. "She'll learn a lot about track from the other girls this season, and I think she'll find a niche in track and surprise some people," said Leach.

On the boys side, the team includes eighth-graders Chris Slusser (jumps, sprints), Ian Hines (sprints, mids), Aaron Kirsch (throws), and seventh-graders Caleb Keilholz (mids, distance) and William Kirsch (sprints, throws).

"Chris is a tall athlete and he's a lot more mature," said Leach. "I think he'll run his best times, and I'm very pleased with his workouts so far."

Hines has started to get in shape. "His back has been bothering him, but he's starting to come into his own," said Leach. "He has some unrealized potential that we hope to tap into this year."

A. Kirsch is very coachable. "He's going to continue improve in both the running and throws because of his work ethic and overall strength," said Leach.

Keilholz is coming off great cross country and basketball seasons, Leach said he believes he will do well in his mid-distance and distance events this year.

"He's a great kid to have on the team," Leach added. "He never complains. He goes out and does everything you ask of him, and he doesn't want to lose."

W. Kirsch also has some raw talent. "He's learning how to do the throws and run, which is always difficult for seventh-graders because they've never done it before," said Leach. "They're learning how to run properly, and the system, and dealing with the everyday aches and pains that come with running."



AARON KIRSCH will again compete in the throwing events for the JH Pirates.

Chamois from Page 3B

including Hunter Nolte (mid-distance, distance), RJ Hagenhoff (shot, disc, javelin and some running events), Ethan Halbert (sprints), Caine Schaben (sprints, mid-distance), Eli Paulsmeyer (mid-distance) and Emely Farmer (sprints, mid-distance).

Nolte has a great work ethic. "He had a successful cross country season, and I was pleasantly surprised he came out for track," said Leach. "I think he will have a good season, and I'm glad he's out for track."

Hagenhoff has continued to improve in the throwing events. "I feel he'll make great personal strides this year, and maybe



JUNIOR KAYLEE Sieg is working hard in the throwing events for Chamois.

enough to get out of districts and into sectionals," said Leach. "He has some work to do, but he has a great attitude."

Halbert is starting to understand how to run sprints. "He is going to improve his times immensely as we go," said Leach. "Going out for basketball and pushing the kids ahead of him will pay off down the road."

Schaben comes to practice every day with a good attitude. "He'll be another sophomore that will step up and surprise you," said Leach. "He'll be part of the sprint relay, and who knows how far that squad can go."

Farmer is brand-new to track. "I'm not sure what she's going to do, but she brings a great attitude to the team, and she's very coachable," said Leach. "She does what we're asking her to do, and we'll see where she fits in."

The team's three freshmen are Waylon Carter (throws), Shannon Cowans (sprint, mid-distance) and Bradley Ruegge (throws, sprints, mid-distance).

"Waylon has been working well with the shot and disc, and is starting to get his technique down," said Leach. "Those events are wide open to anyone who wants to take them, and I think he can be one of our best, but it's going to take hard work to get there."

Cowans had a great cross country season with a state berth. "He understands what he has to do, and I think as a freshman, he'll do well in the sprints and the mile," said Leach. "Shannon has been very coachable, and I've been very happy with him."

Ruegge has not gone out for track in a while but Coach Leach said he is working hard and could help in some events.

Chamois HS Track

| DATE | OPPONENT | LEVEL | HOME/AWAY | TIME(S) |
|----------|------------------------------|-------|-----------|----------|
| 03/24/20 | Russellville High School | HS | Away | 4:00 pm |
| 03/26/20 | Linn R-II High School | HS | Away | 3:30 pm |
| 04/02/20 | Linn R-II High School | HS | Away | 1:00 pm |
| 04/04/20 | Russellville High School | HS | Away | 10:00 am |
| 04/07/20 | Fatima High School | HS | Away | 3:00 pm |
| 04/09/20 | Missouri School For The Deaf | HS | Away | 1:00 pm |
| 04/14/20 | Show-Me Conference | HS | Away | 1:30 pm |
| 04/20/20 | Linn R-II High School | 7-12 | Away | 3:30 pm |
| 04/28/20 | Hermann High School | HS | Away | 4:00 pm |
| 05/09/20 | Districts | HS | Away | 9:00 am |
| 05/16/20 | Sectionals | HS | Away | 11:00 am |
| 05/22/20 | State | HS | Away | TBA |

Chamois Track Class 1 District 2

- * Barat Academy * Chamois * Clopton * Community
- * Frederick Douglass * Harrisburg (Host) * Higbee
- * Jamestown * Madison * Missouri School for the Deaf
- * Northeast (Cairo) * Paris * Prairie Home
- * Silex * St. Elizabeth * Sturgeon * The Fulton School at St. Albans * Transportation and Law * Tuscumbia
- * Vienna * Wellsville-Middletown

Chamois JH Track

| DATE | OPPONENT | LEVEL | HOME/AWAY | TIME(S) |
|----------|--------------------------|---------|-----------|---------|
| 03/23/20 | Linn | 7th/8th | Away | 3:30 pm |
| 03/31/20 | Fatima Jr. High Relays | 7th/8th | Away | 2:30 pm |
| 04/14/20 | Jr. High Conference Meet | 7th/8th | Away | 1:30 pm |
| 04/20/20 | Linn R-II High School | JH | Away | 3:30 pm |
| 04/23/20 | Linn R-II High School | 7th/8th | Away | 3:30 pm |
| 04/27/20 | Russellville High School | 7/8 | Away | 3:30 pm |

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LINN SENIOR Drew Voss last year hit 410 (32-78) with eight doubles and a triple, while recording 21 RBI and 19 runs scored.

Linn baseball returns several varsity players, looks for deep playoff run this spring

Second-year head coach Michael Fible is excited about the upcoming baseball season, with 19 players out this spring.

"I feel really good about it," said Fible, who believes the team can improve on last year's 12-9 record. "Returning as many as we have from last year's varsity team is always a positive. It's nice to not have to start from scratch. There's been a lot of growth, and the older guys are helping the younger guys. They're bringing them up with them."

Fible said this will be a defensive-oriented team based on early practices. "We'll score runs and have some big games, but I predict we'll be in a lot of low-scoring games, and be able to win the 2-1 or 3-2 type games."

This team, Fible said, is very capable of making a deep playoff run. "We have the pitching staff and the offensive capability to make it farther," he said. "Being in a district championship and the experiences we gained last year make it easier to push for that deep run."

That's not to say the district tournament will be easy, as Linn faces some stout competition.

"We are in another tough district going into the 2020 season," said Fible. "I believe we have the pitching staff to put us in a good position, to be one of the top teams in the district. It is going to be very important to earn one of the top two seeds, because of the first round bye. Our district will be

unique for us as we see all five teams at some point throughout the season, it will be vital for us to win the regular season games against district opponents and earn the number one seed."

District teams are Dixon, Belle, Hermann, South Callaway, Fatima and Linn.

In the conference, Fible said the Show-Me is one of the tougher around. "There are a lot of strong teams in this conference and it's always a battle to finish in the top," said Fible.

There are 12 players suiting up for varsity this year, including seniors Drew Voss, Jackson Voss, Alex Grellner, Blake Wibberg, Parker Patterson and Jacob Peters, juniors Austin McKim, Andy Hueste, Caden Robinson, Matt Nenninger and Kaleb Brandt, and sophomore Aiden Kline.

D. Voss will be primarily at first base. "He did a great job for us there last year, and has improved a lot," said Fible. "He'll do well, and he also will come in as a traditional closer so we can use him in more games due to pitch-count limitations. Offensively, Drew is a true gap to gap guy, and give us some extra-base hits. With his speed and physique, he can leg out doubles and triples, and with the guys in front of him on base, we hope to generate more RBIs."

On the mound, D. Voss threw 16.1 innings, going 1-0 in two starts. He allowed six earned runs on seven hits with 19 walks and 30 strikeouts. At the plate, he hit .410 (32-78) with eight doubles and a triple, while recording 21 RBI and 19 runs scored.

J. Voss will be a big part of the starting rotation and will hold down center field when he's not on the mound, where last year he went 3-2 in seven starts, allowing 16 earned runs (1.659 ERA) on 53 hits over 44.0 innings, with 20 walks and 39 strikeouts.

"I hope to get a little more contact this year, and use his speed on the bases when he gets aboard," said Fible. "When pitching, he'll be one of our top three, and he'll be effective again."

In 54 at-bats last year, J. Voss collected 15 hits (.278), including two doubles and a triple, with 11 RBI and 13 runs scored.

Grellner will be one of the main pitchers, a role he carried last year, and defensively, he'll play somewhere on the infield.

"Offensively, he has a lot of raw talent, and I believe he'll be a good RBI hitter for us again this year," said Fible.

Grellner hit .308 (20-65) with seven doubles and a triple, while driving in 17 and scoring 17 runs. On the mound, he gave up 22 earned runs on 44 hits (3.30 ERA), with 30 walks and 33 strikeouts in 46.2 innings. He finished with a record of 2-2 in eight starts.

Wibberg will also vie for a starting outfield spot, and will provide some relief pitching. "He could start a game here and there when we need it, and he's one of the guys I trust with the ball," said Fible.

On the mound last year, Wibberg in 12.2 innings allowed no earned runs on 12 hits, with six walks and six strikeouts. Offensively, Wibberg had a pair of hits in 14 at-bats with one RBI.

"Offensively, he's going to make good contact, and he'll be a solid RBI guy."

Peters is vying for returns to the out-



ALEX GRELLNER returns as one of Linn's top pitchers this year. He gave up 30 walks and struck out 33 in 46.2 innings, finishing with a record of 2-2 in eight starts.

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Bill & Laura Voss



MATTHEW HECKMAN earned All-State honors last year and is geared for another trip. Below is Bryer Baker, who will compete in the distance events.



Linn Track Class 1 District 3

- * Atlanta * Bevier * Brashear * Bucklin * Canton
- * Gilman City * Green City * Grundy County
- * Knox County * La Plata * Linn County * Marion County
- * Mercer * Newtown-Harris * North Shelby * Novinger
- * Princeton * Schuyler County * Scotland County * Tri-County

Host: Putnam Co. Unionville

Bower, HS boys track team ready for spring season

As the track season nears, Linn coach Suann Bower is very happy to be outdoors.

"If our season is as good as the weather during the first week of practice then we will be great," she said. "It's been a blessing to get outside in the sunshine and see what these athletes can do. Usually we are stuck inside and cannot get out and work on field events or get any miles run, but it's been different this year. One of the biggest challenges we are faced with is placing the kids in the right event. Our numbers are down some so we may have to get creative."

On the boys team, Tanner Brandt, Kaleb Brandt, Brandon Mueller, Dakota Peters and Trenton Sorenson have been working on the throws.

"This group should represent us very well," said Bower. "Everyone is healthy for the moment and they have their sights set high. I'm looking forward to some great throws this year."

Matthew Heckman is determined to get back to state in the hurdles and earn All-State honors again. "He has the skills to get it done," said Bower.

Last year, Heckman earned All-State Saturday in the 300m hurdles after narrowly missing the finals in the 110m event on Friday.

In the 110m prelims, Heckman said he

prepared the best he could but nerves played a role. "Once the nerves start kicking in, it messes up the fundamentals you try to learn," he said. "That was my problem. I just need to focus on my mentality during the race."

Heckman was affected by a displaced hurdle, which created a difficult jump during the race. "But at the same time, if you're not in front, you have to work that much harder to catch up, and get out of everyone else's wake."

He finished in 16.42 seconds to earn 10th in the state in the 110m high hurdles.

Later in the day, Heckman competed in the 300m hurdles, and nerves were not really a factor. "Not qualifying in the 110m hurdles gave me some extra motivation to get out of the prelims in the 300," he said. "I was so close last year, just two spots off, and I was once again two spots off in the 110s. I had to tell myself not to make this year be the year I was so close once again. That added to my motivation, and I just plowed through the hurdles all the way around."

He bettered his prelim time (42.51)

**See Linn Boys Track
Page 11B**

Linn Track

| DAY | DATE | TIME | OPPONENT | LOCATION | LEVEL |
|----------|-----------------|------|---------------------------|--------------|-------|
| Tuesday | 3/17/20 | 3:30 | Red & White | Linn | JH/HS |
| Monday | 3/23/20 | 3:30 | Linn Quad | Linn | JH |
| Tuesday | 3/24/20 | 3:30 | Russellville Quad | Russellville | HS |
| Thursday | 3/26/20 | 3:30 | Linn Quad | Linn | HS |
| Tuesday | 3/31/20 | 3:30 | Fatima Invitational | Fatima | JH |
| Thursday | 4/2/20 | 1:00 | Linn Invitational | Linn | HS |
| Saturday | 4/4/20 | 1:00 | Russellville Invitational | Russellville | HS |
| Tuesday | 4/7/20 | 3:30 | Eugene | Eugene | JH |
| Thursday | 4/9/20 | 1:00 | MSD Relays | MSD | HS |
| Tuesday | 4/14/20 | 1:30 | Conference Track | Russellville | JH/HS |
| Thursday | 4/16/20 | 3:00 | Eldon Relays | Eldon | HS |
| Monday | 4/20/20 | 3:30 | Maries/Osage Challenge | Linn | JH/HS |
| Thursday | 4/23/20 | 3:30 | Linn Invitational | Linn | JH |
| Tuesday | 4/28/20 | 4:00 | Hermann | Hermann | HS |
| Friday | 5/1/20 | 4:00 | South Callaway | Mokane | HS |
| Saturday | 5/9/20 | TBA | Districts | TBA | HS |
| Saturday | 5/16/20 | TBA | Sectional | TBA | HS |
| Fri-Sat | 5/22/20-5/23/20 | TBA | State | TBA | HS |

Have a great season Linn Wildcats, Fatima Comets and Chamois Pirates



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Linn golf in a rebuilding year this season, Rost says

Linn golf coach Ryan Rost is looking at a rebuilding year as four of his top five golfers graduated last year, but he's confident that the best will rise to represent the Wildcats well this year.

"We have 20 kids out for golf this year, and so far, they're really putting in a good

effort," said Rost, who is in his second year at the helm. "With so many younger golfers, we'll have an opportunity for them to get a lot of play to see who wants a varsity spot, and it bodes well for the future of the program."

Junior Alek Peters is the lone returner

from last year's squad. "He had a great season," said Rost. "He has improved a lot and should have a great year again. He just missed the cut for All-State last year, so he's really motivated not only to get back to state, but to improve his final standing."

Peters led the Wildcats with an 84-87/171 on the par 72 Rivercut Golf Course at Springfield to earn 24th. After the first day he was tied for 15th but finished nine spots down after day two, just missing the All-State cut of 168.

At the sectional level Rivercut Golf Course in Springfield, Peters shot a 17-over 88 for 11th place, and junior Ben Steinbeck,

the only other player on the roster with any varsity experience, stepped up toward the end of last year but saw his season end with a 114 for 42nd place. The cut was 92.

"He's hungry to be in the top five and if he continues to work hard, he has a great opportunity to do just that," said Rost.

Last year was a milestone for the Wildcats, who for the first time in seven years, and only for the second time in school history, the Class 2, District 5 title

**See Linn Golf
Page 11B**

Linn Golf Class 2 District 4

- * Blair Oaks * Cuba * Father Tolton Regional Catholic
- * Fatima * Hermann * Linn * North Callaway
- * South Callaway * Southern Boone * Steelville

** Host to be announced **

Linn Golf

| DATE | TIME | OPPONENT | LOCATION | LEVEL |
|-------------------|------|-----------------------------------------------------|----------------|-------|
| 3/30/20 | 4:00 | Linn Quad (Dixon, Cuba, Fatima) | Linn | V/JV |
| 4/1/20 | 9:00 | Russellville Invitational | Redfield | V |
| 4/8/20 | 9:00 | Versailles Invitational | Rolling Hills | V |
| 4/9/20 | 4:00 | Eugene Quad | Redfield | V/JV |
| 4/13/20 | 4:00 | New Bloomfield Quad | Meadow Lakes | V/JV |
| 4/15/20 | 9:00 | Southern Boone Inviational | Eagle Knoll | V |
| 4/16/20 | 4:00 | Osage Quad | Osage National | V/JV |
| 4/20/20 | 9:00 | Helias Invitational | Helias | V |
| 4/22/20 | 9:00 | Conference Golf Meet | Redfield | V |
| 4/28/20 | 4:00 | Linn BBQ Quad (Owensville, New Bloomfield, Hermann) | Linn | V/JV |
| 4/29/20 | 4:00 | Harrisburg | Harrisburg | V |
| 5/4/2020-5/6/2020 | TBA | Districts | TBA | V |
| 5/11/20 | TBA | Sectionals | TBA | V |
| 5/18/20-5/19/20 | TBA | State | TBA | V |



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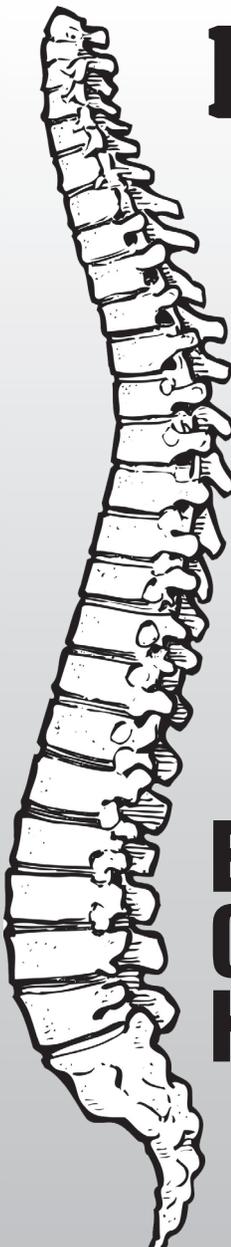
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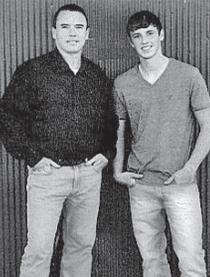
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MYRA BAKER starts quick in her leg of the 3200m relay at last year's state meet and didn't let up until the finish line for seventh place. She will once again line up for the baton this spring.

Two All-State Lady Cats return to the lineup

Linn track coach Suann Bower is anxious to get the season started, and hopes it is as pleasant as the first week of practice.

The girls squad this year includes returning All-Staters Myra Baker and Chloe Rhoden.

"They will be a huge part of our relays but will also score points in the jumps and open 400 and 800 events," said Bower. "They look great at practice."

Ellie Monnette, Erika Platt and Olivia Helmig will join the girls on relays. "Ellie will again be running distance events while Erika will long jump and sprint," Bower noted. "Olivia looks great vaulting and has set her goals high. She will also run sprints. These young ladies are hard workers and love to compete. I'm excited to see what they can do."

Marly Houston, Sydney Strobe, Claire Helmig and Paigelyn Porter will be the team's hurdlers.

"Sydney had a good season last year and wants to finish strong her senior year," said Bower. "Marly dominated the 100's last year in junior high and should place well at the high school level."

Houston also high jumps and vaults.

"Claire and Paigelyn are working hard on their speed and form," said

Bower, adding this group will also be in the sprints and sprint relays.

Marissa Gehlert, Elizabeth Heckman and Hannah Otto round out the group of sprinters, jumpers and vaulters. Gehlert will long jump, vault and sprint. Heckman is trying the triple jump and sprints, and Otto is sprinting.

"We are looking at different combinations for the relays at this point but I feel as we progress throughout the season the girls will represent us well in these areas," said Bower.

Linn's throwers include Hannah Koenigsfeld, Lisa Kruger, Macy Branson, Annaliese Bowser, and Delaney Schmidt.

"These ladies are working hard and can achieve their goals if they stay focused and healthy," Bower said.

Koenigsfeld, Kruger, and Branson return with experience while Bowser and Schmidt are learning technique and getting stronger.

"We should be strong in all the throws this season," said Bower. "I expect big performances from all of these young ladies."

"Overall I'm very pleased with the attitudes and work ethics of these athletes. They are excited and have set some realistic goals for this season."

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Osage County Sports Teams

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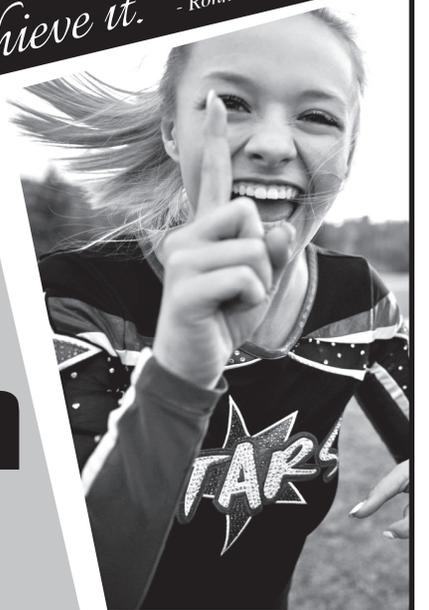
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LINN SENIOR Hannah Koenigsfeld has been working hard for a return to the state meet in the javelin.

JH Wildcats track will build on XC experience

Linn track coach Suann Bower returns to lead the junior high Wildcats. Aileen Blackburn and Reagan Klouzek return as the team's distance runners.

"Coming off good cross country seasons and their experience from last year they should compete very well," Bower said. "Reagan is excited to high jump again this year also."

Katrina Mueller is Linn's other returner. She has been working on throws but will also run some events.

Newcomers Kiana Hostetler, Natasha Jewell, Rachael Kruger and Courtney Wood round out the squad.

"We do not have great numbers but we will have a fun season," said Bower. "Kiana has lots of speed and is trying out a few field events. Rachael wants to work on the hurdles and pole vault. She will also sprint. Courtney will be in the throws and Natasha will sprint. I hope the girls enjoy the experience as well as learn about the events. We should see improvement throughout the whole season."

On the boys side, Lucas Collins

leads the team with experience. He will hurdle, jump and run sprints. "He has grown a few inches and is stronger from last season so he is ready to make some noise," said Bower.

Gavin Davis also returns and will sprint and high jump. "He is very enthusiastic about this season and has worked hard at practice," Bower noted.

Britt Winslow, Vincent Biggs and Tyler Wolfe are the team's throwers this season. "They have been working on throwing technique and form and are making steady progress," said Bower. "I think we will see great improvement throughout this season."

Andrew Ely and Cole Franken are going to be in the jumps and sprints, the former trying the triple jump while Franken is working on long jump.

"With this young group I hope to see the competitive side come out of these young athletes," said Bower. "Right now they are quiet and reserved so when competition rolls around we want to see the determination and Wildcat Spirit go to work."

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Comets & Pirates
for a successful season!*

Linn Boys Track From Page 8B

and a 42.16-second performance in the finals to earn seventh place and All-State.

Ryan Platt and Lukas Oidtman are also returning All-Staters. "They will lead our sprinters in the individual events as well as relays," said Bower. "Their leadership and experience is going to be key in getting the job done this year."

At last year's state meet, the boys 400m relay team broke a long-standing record, and Platt and Oidtman return from that team.

Setting the record was special. "We worked all year to break it, and doing it at state was great," said Platt following the

meet.

Platt and Oidtman are just plain fast and give it all they have each and every race, Bower noted. "They worked so hard to get the handoffs right and it certainly paid off for them," she said at the conclusion of last year's state meet.

Gibson Tschappler will run the distance events. "He is stronger and more determined this year to achieve his goals," Bower noted.

Bryer Baker and Jason Powers are the team's "utility athletes" who can run the sprints, 800 or the 1600. "It's nice to have athletes that can handle the different events," said Bower. "We are going to have to see where they are needed the most in order to help the team. Bryer and Jason are soft spoken but give it their all in

competition."

Zach Dodson, JD Kruger and Chris Kmiec will cover the majority of the field events other than the throws. Dodson will pole vault and high jump while Kruger will triple jump and Kmiec will long jump. All three will also sprint.

"We have a lot of work ahead of us to get our goals accomplished but I'm pleased with the workouts so far this season," Bower said. "After we get a few meets under our feet we will know what we want to do in the relays. This team has a lot of potential."

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LINN SENIOR Alek Peters earned a berth at the state championship last year, and is eager to get back and earn All-State honors.

Linn Golf From Page 8B

by one stroke over Winfield, 343-344 on a very windy and rainy day.

Peters earned All-District honors with a share of fifth place as he shot a 13-over 84.

Coach Rost said Peters has a real opportunity to repeat that process and get back to state.

"Alek has been working hard and played as much golf in the off-season to prepare for this year, and I'm anxious to see how well he will do."

Steinbeck, meanwhile, shot a 33-over-par 104 and placed 21st at the district tournament.

Linn also claimed the Show Me

Conference championship as Peters shot an 41/45-86, and took third after a scorecard playoff.

Seniors vying for a top spot are Chance Pinkerton, Thadeus Sale-Poole, Alexis Wolfe, Lauren Hock and foreign-exchange student Arianna Cingolani. They are joined by juniors Austin DeCramer, Aubri Atwell and Caleb Kixmiller, sophomores Josh McKim, Austin Wolfe, Evan Hock, Case Pinkerton, Karlee Cox and Elizabeth Heckman, and freshman Cole Holtschneider, Rhett Robinson, Landen Bennett and John Schmidt.

"Some of these players have never played golf before so we're working on the fundamentals with them, and some have a little experience and just need to fine-tune their game," said Rost. "Several of these kids show real promise."



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**See Linn Baseball
Page 6B**

field. "He's one of those guys that's fighting for any one of the three spots out there, and he's understanding the mental side of the game more than last year," said Fible. "Jacob was a good contact guy for us last year, and he will occasionally provide some power. I expect the same out of him this year offensively."

At the JV level last year, Peters had three hits in 10 ABs with a pair of doubles, three RBI and five runs scored.

Patterson will spend a lot of time in left field, where he played last year. "He's another guy that can move to all three spots in the outfield," said Fible. "Offensively, I expect him to do the small-ball stuff, like bunts, and he'll do a good job with contact and limiting strikeouts."

In 68 at-bats, Patterson had 20 hits, including four doubles, with nine RBI and 11 runs scored.

McKim is the team's primary catcher, having started there the last two years. "Offensively, he started to pick it up at the end of last year, and I hope it carries over this year. He provided a lot of clutch hits and RBIs for us, and I hope he'll be able to continue that with the guys getting on in front of him."

Last year, McKim drove in 11 and scored seven as he hit .329 (24-73) with a double.

Hueste will move to short stop this year after primarily playing at second base last year. He also will do some pitching. "He's kind of like Drew, coming in to close out games and hopefully shorten some games," said Fible. "He can provide both power and small-ball at the plate, so he's a key guy in our order to put him in any spot. He'll be successful no matter where we need him to play."

Hueste's .303 came from 23 hits in 76

at-bats, during which he delivered four doubles and a triple to drive in eight and score 18. He pitched 16.1 innings last year, going 3-2 in eight games with two starts. He allowed seven earned runs on 12 hits, with seven walks and 16 strikeouts.

C. Robinson will play at second base after moving around a little bit last year, with time in the outfield. "He'll stay in the dirt most of the time, and at the plate, he led off last year and did a good job," said Fible. "He's a smart player, and he will be able to use contact and speed to get aboard, and once he's on, he creates some opportunities that will be difficult for other teams in terms of his speed and stealing bases."

Robinson finished the year with a BA of .319 (22-69) with three doubles and a triple as he drove in 10 and scored 22 runs.

Nenninger made a lot of strides over the summer, and he can play all four infield positions. "He'll fill that role when we need to move guys around, and put him in somewhere," said Fible. "He will also pitch a little bit after doing well in the summer. He can be a long relief guy, with an occasional start in busy weeks. Offensively, he's done a lot of work to shorten his swing, and we hope that will help him eliminate strikeouts and make him a good contact hitter."

Brandt is new to the team this year. "From what I've seen so far, he'll fit in at third base, but he could also be a backup first baseman," said Fible. "He's the third guy I hope to get some starts out of this year on the mound. He's a hard thrower and mixes in well with Jackson and Alex. It looks like he'll be able to command his curve ball and he has some off-speed stuff to go with it. Offensively, he's a true power hitter that will provide some pop. He'll drive it over and through people. Hopefully he'll fit into that spot, with guys in front of him."

Kline got a lot of valuable experience at varsity as a freshman last year, and played a lot of summer ball. "He's grown and



JACKSONVOSS scored one of the most exciting runs of the season last year on a suicide squeeze against Cuba. He brings his alert base-running back the Wildcats.

matured a lot in baseball," said Fible. "I see him fitting into one of our outfield spots, probably right field. He also pitched some, and will probably do some mid-game or relief work. He struggled at times offensively last year, but now he's seen it, and I expect him to have a much better season. He understands more about what pitchers are trying to do, and he'll be more successful."

Last year, Kline went 11-42 (.262) with seven RBI and nine runs scored on seven singles and four doubles.

The JV team will include sophomores Keagan Heywood and Logan Leibrecht, and freshmen are Landen Bennett, Brendan Ely, Cody Leivian, Elijah Baker and Rhett Robinson.

"These guys need experience and they're going to get that playing JV," said Fible. "We don't have a huge line-up so they will play every game, which means they'll grow every game. With some guys, they're learning a new position, and others have some experience. All of them have a

spot in the varsity at some point, and they've all shown potential for whatever position they want to play."

Three will be pitching, and have a ton of potential. "They don't throw as hard as a varsity player should, so they're going to get a chance at JV to improve their arm strength and learn how to pitch at the varsity level."

Defensively, the guys are still learning how to play positionally, but Fible said he's impressed. "They're learning quickly, and making improvements," he said. "Offensively, there's a lot of potential to tap into, and we're going to find it."

All of these players are learning by absorbing as much information from the upper classmen who were on a successful team last year.

"I'm excited about this group and what they represent for the future of Linn baseball," said Fible.

Kyle Nolting also returns for his second year as assistant coach, and will lead the JV team.

Linn Baseball

| DATE | TIME | OPPONENT | LOCATION | LEVEL |
|-----------------|------|------------------------------|----------------|-------|
| 3/16/20 | TBA | Jamboree | TBA | V |
| 3/21/20 | TBA | Bonus (Eldon, Eugene) | Eldon | V |
| 3/24/20 | 5:00 | Calvary Lutheran | Linn | V/JV |
| 3/28/20 | TBA | Bonus (Vienna, Blair Oaks) | Linn | V |
| 3/30/20 | 5:00 | New Hevan | New Hevan | V/JV |
| 3/31/20 | 5:00 | South Callaway | South Callaway | V/JV |
| 4/3/20-4/4/20 | TBA | Iberia Tournament | Iberia | V |
| 4/7/20 | 5:00 | New Bloomfield | Linn | V/JV |
| 4/14/20 | 5:00 | Hermann | Linn | V/JV |
| 4/16/20 | 5:00 | Russellville | Russellville | V/JV |
| 4/17-4/18 | TBA | Linn Tournament | Linn | V |
| 4/21/20 | 5:00 | Southern Boone | Southern Boone | V/JV |
| 4/24-4/25 | TBA | California Tournament | California | V |
| 4/27/20 | 5:00 | Dixon | Dixon | V/JV |
| 4/28/20 | 5:00 | St. Elizabeth | Linn | V/JV |
| 5/1/20 | 5:00 | Fatima | Linn | V/JV |
| 5/4/20 | 5:00 | Tuscumbia | Linn | V/JV |
| 3/26/20 | 5:00 | Father Tolton | Linn | V/JV |
| 5/8/20 | 4:30 | Owensville | Linn | V/JV |
| 5/9/20 | TBA | Bonus (Hermann, Wright City) | Hermann | V |
| 5/11/20 | 5:00 | Eugene | Eugene | V/JV |
| 5/12/20 | 5:00 | Belle | Belle | V/JV |
| 5/15/20-5/23/20 | TBA | Districts | TBA | V |
| 5/25/20 | TBA | Sectionals | TBA | V |
| 5/27/20 | TBA | Quarterfinals | TBA | V |
| 6/1/20-6/3/20 | TBA | State Championship | TBA | V |

Good Luck

Wildcats, Comets and Pirates on a Great Season!

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Comets rebuilding after graduation of six seniors

With a roster of 36 players, Fatima baseball is ready to hit the diamond this spring under second-year head coach Brian Bax, who said the Comets this year will be strong with nine returning seniors.

"Our top strength is experience," said Bax. "Last year we only had four or five kids with varsity experience, and because we played so many last season, we have about 14 kids with that valuable experience."

Offensively, Bax said the team hopes

to improve on its mark of .280 last year, which came against some higher class teams, and he believes the Comets can hit about 20 points higher.

"We won't have a lot of home run guys, maybe a few with three or four, but I think we'll have better contact and be able to drive in runs," said Bax. "Defensively, we will be better this year. I have 12 kids I'm really confident that I can put anywhere on the field and be competitive against quality teams."

Pitching took a hit as the team lost two of its three starters from last year's squad. "The question is who will step up and fill those roles," said Bax. "I think we have close, if not better, arms this year than last year, and I'm sure we'll find a good combination of pitching."

Fatima has eight players who Bax said can pitch well at the varsity level, and of that group, three or four will be capable of stepping into a starting rotation.

Senior 6-4 RHP Austin Troesser, who signed to play baseball at MU and is a returning All-State player, will have a big target on his back this year. "He's one of the top eight or 10 pitchers in the state, and he'll face the best other teams have to offer," said Bax. "Austin is right where we need him to be at this point in the season."

Troesser was a workhorse, with the second-most innings pitched at 52.1 over 15 games, of which he started nine and finished 4-3 with two saves. He allowed 16 earned runs on 50 hits (2.140 ERA), with 61 strikeouts and 25 walks.

Senior righty Ethan Backes, 6-3, really threw the ball at the end of last season, and he too will be in the top four or five starting rotation. "I've been happy with the progression of his change-up over the last year," said Bax. "He's also doing a better job of focusing in game-time situations."

In 11.2 innings over five games with one start, Backes allowed nine earned runs on 17 hits with seven strikeouts and nine walks.

Hunter Bax, 6-0, another senior right-handed pitcher, is arguably the strongest player on the roster, Bax said. "He throws

hard, and I'm excited to have him in the rotation this year," the coach said. "He has a nice cutter on top of his 80-plus fastball."

Senior Dawson Peters, 5-8, who will be one of the top pitchers, doesn't have a lot of size but the right-hander throws hard. "He's a competitor with a solid curve ball," said Bax. "I think some guys will be underestimated by other teams until guys step in the box against him, and then look out. He did a good job at the jamboree against Helias."

Peters started twice last year and pitched a total of 4.1 innings, during which he allowed three earned runs on five hits, with seven strikeouts and three walks.

Wyatt Luebbert, a 6-1 senior RH pitcher, will serve in more of a relief position. "He has a good fastball with an above average curve ball," said Bax. "I'll be looking for him to shut down some teams."

Luebbert pitched 12 innings in six games, allowing 12 earned on 18 hits, with 12 strikeouts and nine walks.

Landre Bailey, a 5-10 senior LH reliever, has made some strides during the off-season. "His velocity and command have increased, and his change-up is working really well right now," said Bax.

Bailey last year threw in five games, finishing with 9.1 innings, during which he allowed 10 earned runs on 20 hits, with four walks and seven strikeouts.

Junior RHP Daniel Kleffner, 5-10, has



TREY HERZING had a great score in a close game against Houston in last year's sectional round of the playoffs. He is back for his senior year.

Linn/Fatima Class 3 District 9

- * Belle * Dixon * Fatima * Hermann
- * Linn * South Callaway

** District host TBA **

See Fatima Baseball
Page 21B

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KENDALL HALLER returns to compete in the individual and relay distance events.

Lady Comets track will take advantage of numbers in a race to top state finish

Fatima high school girls track & field team includes 31 athletes, with six seniors, six juniors, nine sophomores, and 10 freshmen. Four returners, Kailey Woody, Alexis Fischer, Kendall Haller, and Sierra Sankey bring All-State experience.

“Our strength this season is in our numbers,” said Coach Marc Bridges. “We should have a well-balanced squad, with several girls competing in sprints, hurdles, distance, jumps and throws.”

Competing in the sprints and relays are Laney Bassett, Elsie Bax, Samantha Bax, Sophie Bock, Caliegh Huot, Maria Juergensmeyer, Claire Kampeter, Corinn Karst, Alexandra Kliethermes, Karlee Ocheskey, Sankey, Bridgette Veit and Rachel Woehr.

“Alexandra, Bridgett, Elsie, Laney, and Sierra bring state-level experience and talent to the sprints and relays, with Caliegh, Corinn, Rachel, and Maria making a serious bid for some of the relay spots,” said Bridges.

Block, Kampeter, Kliethermes and Alecia Naab will battle in the hurdles. Bridges noted that Naab and Kliethermes will likely take the role of 100m hurdlers, while Vanessa Block and Kampeter will focus more on the 300m hurdles.

Competing in the distance events this year are Haller, Fischer, Woody, Sankey, Emma Bower, Sarah Groene and Rachel Temmen.

Fischer and Haller will take on the longer 3200m event, while Woody and Temmen will likely handle the 1600m, with some help from Bower and Groene. Sankey, Bower and Groene will likely look to the 800m.

“We will definitely look to field a solid 4x800m relay with any combination of our distance girls,” said Bridges.

Throwers are Emma Gregory, Aubrey Kirsch, Emma Kleffner, Victoria Nivens, Eliana Steinman, Jessica Steinman and Abby Welschmeyer.

“Aubrey and Emma return as our top discus throwers while Aubrey, Victoria, and Abby handled most of the shot responsibilities from last season,” said Bridges.

Kirsch and Welschmeyer return as Fatima’s top javelin throwers from last year.

Competing in the jumps are E. Bax, S. Bax, Erin Bock, S. Bock, Sydney Falter, Huot, Karst, Kendal Nilges, Ocheskey and Woehr.

Nilges returns from last season as a co-school record holder in the high jump and is joined by Karst and S. Bax. E. Bax, Huot, Woehr, S. Bax will long jump, while Falter, S. Bock and Woehr will handle the triple jump and E. Bock will give the pole vault a try.



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ETHAN FLORES returns to the Comets in the sprints, including both the 100m and 300m hurdles.

Comets track will face challenges with only 17 out for spring season

Fatima's boys track and field will field 17 athletes, including three seniors, two juniors, eight sophomores, and four freshmen.

"With only 17 boys our biggest challenge this season will be to fill all of the events," said Coach Marc Bridges.

Competing in the sprints and hurdles this year are Ethan Flores, Austin Kliethermes, Raymond Laughlin, Trenton Post, Jackson Riegel and Scott Sankey.

"Ethan and Trenton bring a lot of experience in the hurdles and sprints and will help to guide this young group of sprinters this season," said Bridges.

Distance events will be run by Caden Haslag, Michael Kloepfel, Gavin Satterfield and Elijah Selin.

Haslag and Selin, both All-District from last year, will likely handle the 3200m

for the Comets this season while Satterfield and Kloepfel will run the 1600m and 800m events.

Competing in the throws are Collin Bridges, Curtis Falter, Isaac Falter, Caleb Reinkemeyer, Riegel, Coy Starke and Jake Stuecken.

"Caleb returns as our top thrower in both the shot and discus," said Bridges. "Isaac will likely fill our second discus spot, while the second shot position is wide open. Caden Haslag reruns as our best javelin thrower from last year and will likely be joined by Jackson."

Hunter Herzing, Austin Kliethermes and Sankey will compete in the jumps this season.

Herzing will compete as the team's top long and triple jumper, while Sankey and Kliethermes will take on the pole vault.

Fatima Track Class 3 District 4

- * Blair Oaks * Boonville * California
- * Centralia (**Host**) * Father Tolton Regional Catholic
- * Fatima * Hallsville * Hermann * Macon
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Lady Comets soccer team has youthful energy but fewer players this season

Fatima girls soccer has fewer players than in the past, with three players lost due to injuries suffered just prior to the season, but Coach Clint Dobry, in his third year as head coach, said the youth of the team will give the Lady Comets a sense of energy.

"The girls have a great sense of excitement to get out and play, and the fact that many of the younger girls will be able to start," said Dobry. "It's going to be nice to get outside and enjoy the spring weather, since we've been cooped up a lot in the gym with all the recent rains."

Early in the season, Dobry thinks the team will have some growing pains. "We may lose some games we otherwise would win just because of that immaturity, but I believe by the end of the season, we'll see quite a bit of consistent growth."

A total of 15 players are suiting up this spring.

Along the way, the Lady Comets will be led by four seniors: Morgan Muenks (F), Grace Kloepfel (D), Madelyn Huhn (MF) and Alana Schulte (GK).

Muenks is a four-year starter and despite a minor injury should be fine. "I'm expecting a career year out of her this year," said Dobry. "She's been working hard on her game and looks good out on the field, and I think she'll break her own scoring records this year."

Muenks scored eight goals last year, but admittedly, her return to the team will be delayed. Muenks is not expected to play for

six to eight weeks but should return for the second half of the season.

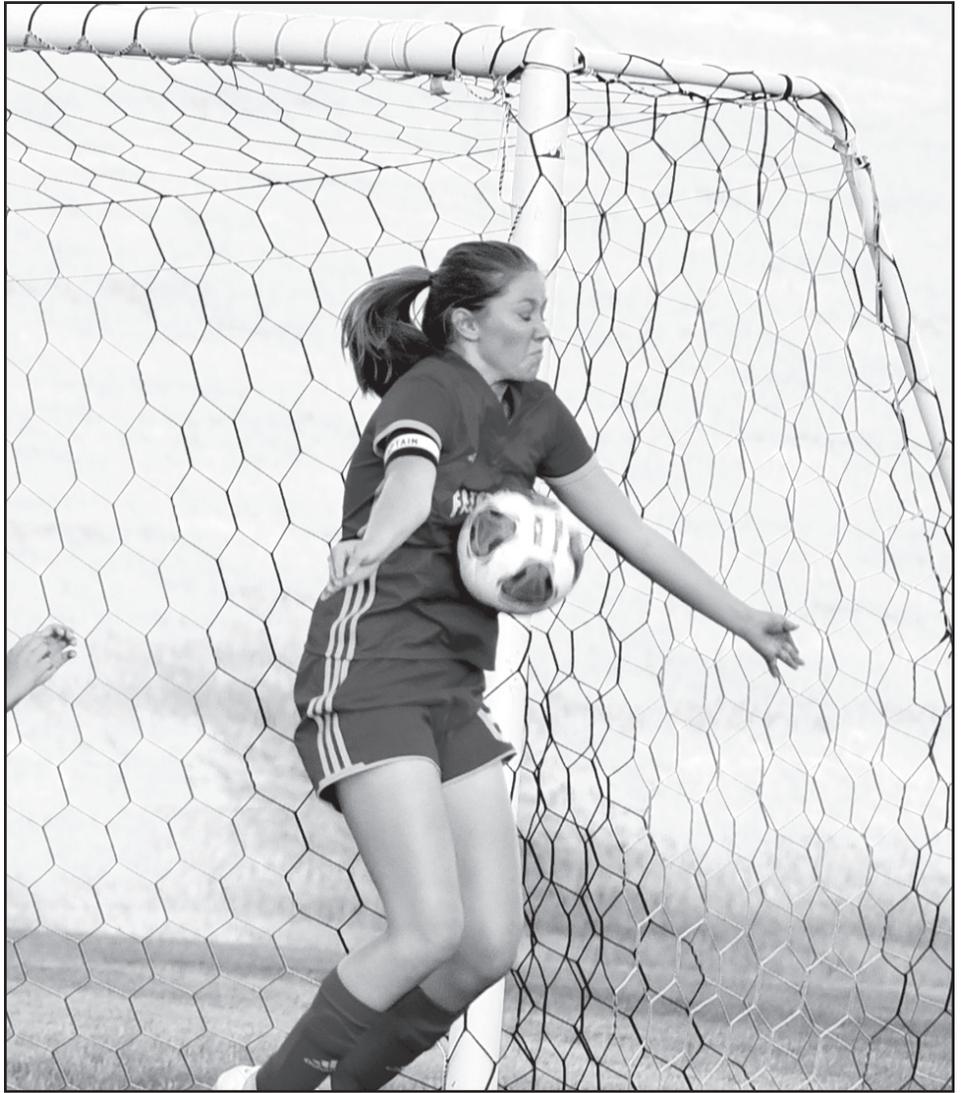
Kloepfel, one of the team's captains, is a defensive leader. "She could be an All-State player, she's got that much talent," said Dobry. "This could be a breakout year for her. She carries herself very well and is committed to improving all the time."

Huhn, another team captain, is in her first year as the unofficial leader of the team. "I'm looking for her to pick up the slack when games get tough, and to work with the girls and teach them what it means to win," said Dobry. "She has a lot of untapped potential as a great player, and that with her ability to lead is something I think she will do well."

Schulte takes over in goal for the first time at the varsity level. "She has incredible athleticism as a goalie, and could be one of the best keepers we've ever had," said Dobry. "Our season will depend a lot on how she performs, and I'm confident she will do well."

Juniors are Erika Pope (F), Allie Hale (MF), Miranda Jones (D), Abigail Rehagen (MF).

Pope returns after a season in which she broke the scoring record. "She did that in a shortened year, and with a full season, I think



FATIMA SENIOR Alana Schulte has long been a big part of the defense, and this year she will move to goalkeeper.

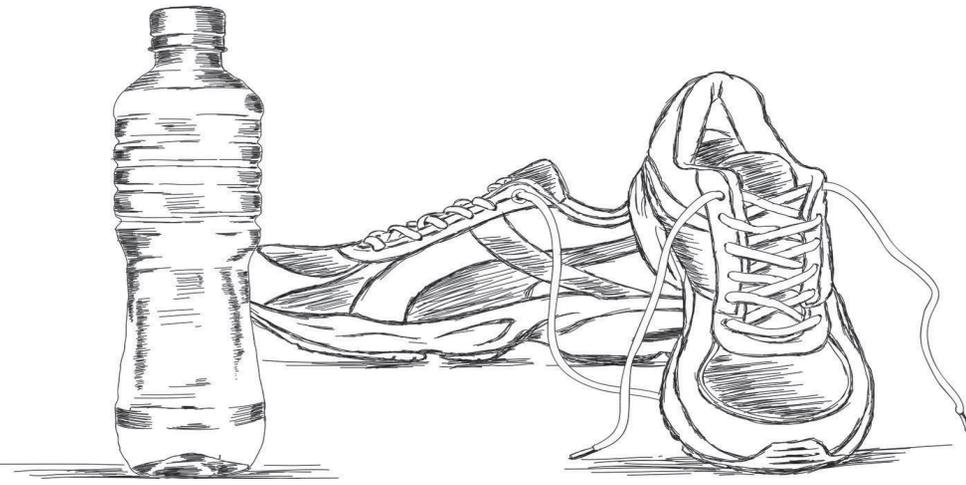
See Fatima Soccer
Page 23B



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KAILEY WOODY will help the Lady Comets in distance events this year, and Caden Haslag will compete in the throws.

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FATIMA SENIOR Cole Lehmen finished 41st at the state meet last year and is hungry for a return to the championships this spring.

Fatima golf includes two returners from 2019, new coach as Kilgore takes over

Fatima golfers are few in number this year, with seven suiting up to hit the links under first-year coach Scott Kilgore, who is pleased with the effort thus far into the season.

“The guys have been working extremely hard at practice so far! I’m expecting big things out of these boys,” he said. “I’m getting good leadership out of the returning players. With our several newcomers, we are hoping to make a statement this season from a team perspective.”

Senior Cole Lehmen qualified for state last year and was the only Fatima representative at Rivercut Golf Course, Springfield, where he shot a 91-89/180 on the par 72 course to finish 41st.

At the sectional tournament, Lehmen finished in 18th-place at the par-71 Rolling Hills Country Club in Versailles with a 17-over 88.

Lehmen is joined by junior returner Hunter Rademann, who finished 49th with a 111 at last year’s sectional meet. He qualified for this contest with a 53/52-105 at the district meet.

Seniors Masan Stuecken and Dean Laughlin, along with juniors Ryan Bexten and Carter Karst, and freshman Jackson Logan, will also compete for the Comets this spring.

At the district tournament last year, Karst was fourth among Comets scorers with a 74/66-140, and Bexten rounded out the team with a 76/68-144.

Conference will be a difficult meet again for Fatima, but the Comets took second last year.

Returning golfers did well, as Lehmen led the attack with a 46/40-86, as Rademan posted a 41/46-87, and Karst shot a 50/60-110.

Linn Golf Class 2 District 4

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- * South Callaway * Southern Boone * Steelville

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Several JH Comets return to help lead the team

Fatima JH track is getting ready for another great season, Coach Casey Bruce said, who will once again lead the team, which has 21 athletes this year.

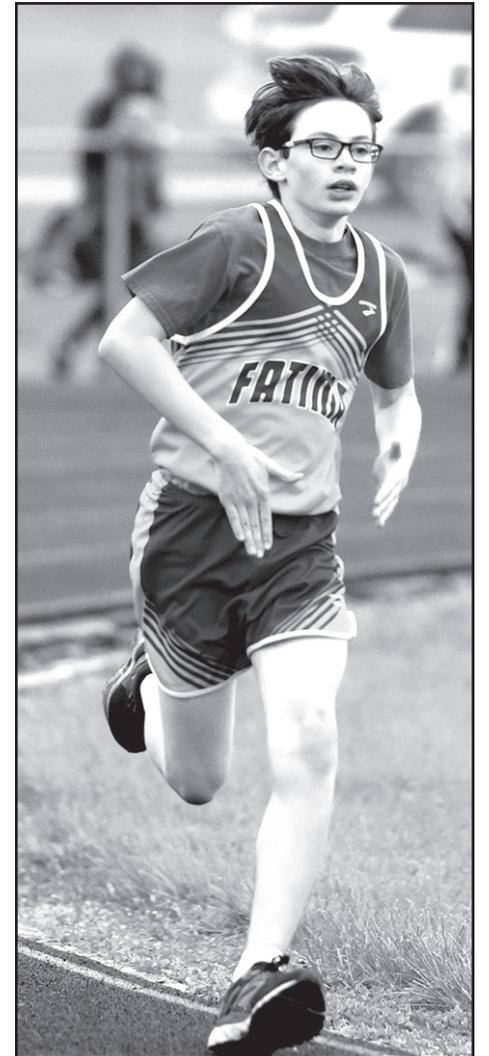
Returning eighth-graders are Royce Ahlstrom, Toby Bruce, Miranda Gabelsberger, Alyssa Hoeller, Wyatt Reinkemeyer, Emily Robinson, Ella Scheulen, and Joselyn Winkelman.

Ahlstrom and Bruce will be joined in the distance races by seventh-grader Brady Hager this season. Reinkemeyer will be Fatima's only boy thrower, but will lead the sprinter group of seventh-graders Jonathon Block, Wyatt Gabelsberger, and Richard Luebbert.

On the girls' side Gabelsberger will be joined in the throwing events by Claire Baumhoer, Megan Gabelsberger, and Isabelle Starke. The distance girls will all be coming from the JH cross country team.

"We may be young but will have the experience," said Coach Bruce of Reagan Bock, Gracie Deeken, Lily Gregory.

The sprinters will have the most leadership with Alyssa Hoeller, Emily Robinson, Ella Scheulen, and Joselyn Winkelman. Joining them in the sprints will be Leni Hemmel, Cheyenne Hicks, and Mya Sankey.



EMILY ROBINSON and Royce Ahlstrom are among the eighth-graders returning to help lead the JH Comets.

Fatima JH Track

| DATE | OPPONENT | LEVEL | HOME/AWAY | TIME(S) |
|----------|--------------------------------|---------------|-----------|---------|
| 03/23/20 | Linn JH Quad | 7th & 8th | Away | 3:30 pm |
| 03/26/20 | Blair Oaks High School | 7th/8th | Away | 4:00 pm |
| 03/31/20 | Fatima JH Blue & Gold Relays | 7th & 8th | Home | 2:30 pm |
| 04/14/20 | Show Me Conference Track Meet | 7th & 8th | Away | 1:00 pm |
| 04/20/20 | Russellville | 7th/8th (G&B) | Away | 2:00 pm |
| 04/23/20 | Linn Middle School Relays | 7th & 8th | Away | 3:30 pm |
| 04/30/20 | South Callaway JH Invitational | 7th & 8th | Away | 4:00 pm |



Susan Lange,
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Fatima Baseball -V/JV

| DATE | OPPONENT | LEVEL | HOME/AWAY | TIME(S) |
|-------------------|----------------------------|-------------|-----------|----------|
| 03/14/20-03/14/20 | Jamboree | | Away | TBA |
| 03/21/20 | Capital City High School | Varsity | Away | 12:00 pm |
| 03/21/20 | Boonville High School | Varsity | Away | 2:00 pm |
| 03/24/20 | Helias High School | Varsity/JV | Away | 5:00 pm |
| 03/26/20 | Fulton High School | Varsity/JV | Home | 5:00 pm |
| 03/30/20 | Southern Boone High School | Varsity/JV | Home | 5:00 pm |
| 03/31/20 | New Bloomfield High School | Varsity/JV | Away | 5:00 pm |
| 04/02/20-04/04/20 | Capital City Invitational | Varsity | Away | TBA |
| 04/06/20 | St. Elizabeth High School | Varsity/JV | Away | 5:00 pm |
| 04/07/20 | Battle High School | Varsity/JV | Home | 5:00 pm |
| 04/09/20 | Russellville High School | Varsity/JV | Home | 5:00 pm |
| 04/16/20 | Hallsville High School | Varsity/JV | Home | 5:00 pm |
| 04/17/20 | Eugene High School | Varsity/JV | Home | 5:00 pm |
| 04/20/20 | Capital City High School | Varsity/JV | Away | 5:00 pm |
| 04/21/20 | Hickman High School | Varsity/JV | Home | 5:00 pm |
| 04/23/20 | Blair Oaks High School | Varsity/JV | Away | 5:00 pm |
| 04/28/20 | South Callaway High School | Varsity/JV | Away | 5:00 pm |
| 04/30/20 | Tuscumbia High School | Varsity | Away | 5:00 pm |
| 05/01/20 | Linn High School | Varsity/JV | Away | 5:00 pm |
| 05/02/20-05/02/20 | Blair Oaks JV Tournament | Jr. Varsity | Away | TBA |
| 05/04/20-05/08/20 | Fulton Tournament | Varsity | Away | TBA |
| 05/12/20 | Rock Bridge High School | Varsity/JV | Home | 5:00 pm |
| 05/14/20 | Vienna High School | Varsity/JV | Away | 5:00 pm |
| 05/16/20-05/23/20 | Districts | Varsity | Away | TBA |

Schnieders joins Fatima as JV coach, players developing

Steve Schnieders is Fatima's new JV and assistant coach as the Comets prepare to take the field.

"He's got a ton of baseball experience, and he's great with the kids," said Head Coach Brian Bax. "I'm really glad to have him as part of this team."

Schnieders watched both of his sons go through the Fatima program, and coached them, along with other area youth over the last 45 years.

"We have a good nucleus of a team, with good pitching, which a lot of teams don't have," said Schnieders. "Hitting is always a work in progress. The main thing is to get the fundamentals down. We have a good program all the way around, and I look forward to working with them. I believe building confidence to use the

talent they have is very important to their long-term success. The guys have to want the ball when they take the mound, or want the ball to be hit at them. Then it's a matter of letting the talent take over."

Schnieders said a lot of parents work with their kids outside of practice, which helps makes the team more competitive.

"We also have a very tough schedule, which will always make you stronger," said Schnieders. "I'm really enjoying it, and love seeing the smiles on their faces when they figure something out or make a good play."

See Fatima JV
Page 21B

Fatima Baseball - C

| DATE | OPPONENT | LEVEL | HOME/AWAY | TIME(S) |
|-------------------|--------------------------------|-----------|-----------|---------|
| 04/02/20 | Jefferson City High School | 9th Grade | Home | 5:00 pm |
| 04/14/20 | Rock Bridge High School | 9th/10th | Home | 5:00 pm |
| 04/16/20 | Blair Oaks High School | 9th/10th | Away | 5:00 pm |
| 04/17/20 | Fulton High School | 9th Grade | Away | 5:00 pm |
| 04/24/20-04/25/20 | Blair Oaks Freshman Tournament | 9th/10th | Away | TBA |
| 04/30/20 | Southern Boone High School | 9th/10th | Home | 5:00 pm |
| 05/04/20 | Helias High School | 9th/10th | Away | 5:00 pm |
| 05/07/20 | Battle High School | 9th Grade | Away | 5:00 pm |
| 05/12/20 | Fulton High School | 9th Grade | Away | 5:00 pm |



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Fatima Baseball
From Page 13B

great control, Bax said. "He's developed a really good change-up to confuse batters, and he'll throw strikes to keep us in ball games," the coach added.

Kleffner's JV performance included a team-high 27.2 innings pitched over eight games, with four starts and a 1-0 record. He allowed 11 earned runs on 13 hits, with 17 walks and 24 strikeouts.

Gage Cunningham, a 6-3 junior right-hander, didn't throw a lot last year as a sophomore, but Bax said he's been working hard all winter. "I expect him to be in the top four of our rotation as the year progresses," he said.

Cunningham didn't see much varsity action last year, pitching six innings over four games, allowing seven earned runs on nine hits, with five strikeouts and nine walks.

Junior Jared Markway, a 6-1 RHP, is not overpowering but has a very good change-up, and will serve as a relief pitcher this year. "He's been working extremely hard and it shows," said Bax.

As a JV pitcher last year, Markway in 6.1 innings over four games allowed five earned runs on nine hits with two strikeouts and no walks.

Junior Dean Hagenhoff, a 6-2 right-hander, may figure into the starting pitching rotation. "He's an upper 70s fastball thrower with a decent curve ball," said Bax. "The question is how much he improved from last year to this year."

At the JV level last year, Hagenhoff threw 6.2 innings over three games, allowing seven earned runs on seven hits, with six strikeouts and six walks.

Sophomore pitcher Evan Kliethermes at 6-1 is a strong right-hander with a good fast ball and above average cutter. "There's a possibility he'll be one of our top four throwers," said Bax. "He's got a lot of potential."

Nathan Lehmen, 6-2 and Jonathan Dickneite, 6-5, both sophomores, will see some time at the varsity level, but Bax said he doesn't have an exact plan. "We will choose when to throw them into the fire, but they are solid, and learning a lot," said Bax, noting that each threw five innings last year at the JV level.

On the defensive side, the captain is Trey Herzing, who has signed to play at Truman State University. "He's one of the top five outfielders in the state of Missouri," said Bax, noting the senior runs a 6.6-60. "I expect him to lead the team offensively and probably will be our lead-off all year."

Cunningham is a returning starter who throws right and bats left, and hit over .300 last year while playing in right field most of

the season. "I expect him to do the same thing this year," said Bax. "I think he'll hit .350 or above this year."

Bailey is also expected to roam the outfield. "He's extremely good, defensively," said Bax. "I can put him anywhere in the outfield and be confident he'll be able to handle any situation he encounters. He'll make plays."

Offensively, Bax said summer ball was a good showcase for Bailey, especially his batting power. "I expect good things from him at the plate," said Bax.

Senior Brandon Dulle, 5-9, will see some time in the outfield but is a solid utility player. "He'll also see time on the infield, and will compete for the starting catching position," said Bax. "He's just a good player with a lot of potential. I also expect him to swing the bat really well. He's been working hard and already looks more confident this year."

Last year, Dulle hit .226 (7-31) with one RBI and eight runs scored.

On the infield, Dawson Peters should be the mainstay at short stop when he's not pitching. "As long as his defense holds up, he will keep that position," said Bax. "He's got some of the best hands I've ever seen."

Peters had nine hits in 42 ABs (.214) with two doubles, four RBI and six runs scored.

Junior Jake Boyce, 5-11, will see time at third, short and second base, and led the team in hitting last year. "He's grown up from last year," said Bax. "He's a lot stronger in general, and he'll be on the field at some point, somewhere, depending on what we need. He also has the potential to win the starting catching job because of his defensive ability behind the plate."

Boyce hit 19 singles in 54 at-bats (.352), with five RBI and 11 runs scored.

Hagenhoff will play some middle infield, but most of his time will likely be at third base. "He's probably my most athletic infielder, and has the potential to hit mid-300s," said Bax. "He's a big kid and has some strength."

Hagenhoff went 18-81 (.222) with 10 RBI and 10 runs scored.

At first base will be a platoon of players, including seniors Ethan Backes, Wyatt Luebbert and Jaden Hoskins (5-10), all of whom will alternate between playing at first and serving as the DH.

"Jaden and Wyatt have the best power on the team, and I expect them to give us multiple-base hits," said Bax. "Ethan has the potential to improve his rate of contact this year."

Offensively, Hoskins hit .272, going 22-81, with nine doubles, two triples and two home runs, driving in 21 and scoring six runs. Luebbert hit .308 (24-78) with 14 RBI and 10 runs scored. Backes in 44 at-bats claimed seven hits, including a

triple and two HRs as he drove in eight and scored seven.

Hoskins will also compete for a starting catching job. "He's one of the most athletic kids I have on the team, and I'm looking for him to settle in and be a better defensive player," said Bax. "He has by far the most potential to be a power hitter for us."

Junior Dawson Woehr, 5-11, is vying to be the team's second baseman. "I'm looking for him to pick up his offense a little bit at the varsity level, and he's got a chance to win the starting position at second," said Bax.

At the JV level last year, Woehr went 16-35 (.475) with three doubles, eight RBI and nine runs scored.

Junior Shane Verslues, 5-9, will see time at third base. "He's better defensively than he was last year, and swings the bat really well," said Bax. "He's one of those guys we're going to try to get into the lineup."

Verslues had a solid year as a JV player last year, hitting .343 (12-35) with three doubles, 11 RBI and eight runs scored.

Dalton Gentges, a junior, is one of the best defenders on the team. "Aside from Trey, he's probably my best defensive outfielder," said Bax. "He has a chance to win a starting job on the team this year, for sure."

Gentges hit .357 last year at the JV level, going 15-42 with a double, 10 RBI and six runs scored.

Chase Plassmeyer, a 5-10 sophomore, will vie for a catching job. "He's really athletic and he's good behind the plate," said Bax. "I look forward to watching him mature this year."

Plassmeyer as a JV player last season hit .320 (8-25) with a double, seven RBI and five runs scored.

Bax said he's very pleased with the coaching staff.

Steve Schnieders is the team's new assistant coach. "He's got a ton of baseball experience, and he's great with the kids," said Bax. "I'm really glad to have him as

part of this team."

Jeff Adamson returns as the team's freshman coach and TJ Keilholz will serve as his assistant. The latter played college ball at CMC, and Bax said he's a good asset to have with these young players. "He and Jeff work well together, and as we need them, they'll come up to help out with JV and varsity," said Bax.

Also joining the team is Tyler Plassmeyer, who will serve as bench and first-base coach, and will assist as needed with the C and JV teams. "He was an All-State player, and he's very good with the kids," said Coach Bax. "I'm anxious to see how well we can do with all these coaching minds."

Fatima JV
From Page 20B

The JV team includes Chase Plassmeyer, Evan Kliethermes, Joseph Hoerschgen, Daniel Kleffner, Dalton Gentges, Warren Wilde, Peter Borgmeyer and Braden Juergensmeyer.

Jeff Adamson returns as the C team coach and TJ Keilholz will serve as his assistant. The latter was a college coach for CMC, and Bax said he's a good asset to have with these young players. "He and Jeff work well together, and as we need them, they'll come up to help out with JV," said Bax.

C team members are freshmen Blake Gentges, Ethan Luebbering, Max Buscher, Noah Jaegers, Aiden Williams, Jacob Schulte, Jack Robertson, Hunter Rademann, Ryan Kesel, Grayson Juergensmeyer, Nathan Lehmen, Jon Dickneite, Jared Markway and Luke Boyce.

Also joining the team is Tyler Plassmeyer, who will serve as bench and first-base coach, and will assist as needed with the C and JV teams. "He was an All-State player, and he's very good with the kids," said Coach Bax. "I'm anxious to see how well we can do with all these coaching minds."

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SHANE VERSLUES had a solid year at JV last year and hopes to make an impact on the varsity squad as the season unfolds.



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JACKSON REIGEL battles for position in his mid-distance race in last year's district meet, and will once again compete in the sprints and mids.



ABBY WELSCHMEYER returns to the throwing events for the Lady Comets.

Fatima HS Track

| DATE | OPPONENT | LEVEL | HOME/AWAY | TIME(S) |
|--------------------|----------------------------------------|------------|-----------|---------|
| 03/24/20 | St. James | Varsity/JV | Away | 3:30 pm |
| 03/27/20 | Blair Oaks High School | Varsity | Away | 3:45 pm |
| 04/02/20 | Linn Invitational | Varsity | Away | 1:00 pm |
| 04/07/20 | Fatima II Rick Buersmeyer Invitational | Varsity/JV | Home | 3:00 pm |
| 04/14/20 | Show Me Conference @ Russelville | Varsity | Away | 1:00 pm |
| 04/17/20 | Owensville Relays | Varsity | Away | 4:00 pm |
| 04/28/20 | Hermann Invitational | Varsity/JV | Away | 4:00 pm |
| 05/01/20 | Fulton Invitational | Varsity | Away | 4:00 pm |
| 05/07/20 | Smith Cotton Open | Varsity/JV | Away | 3:00 pm |
| 05/16/20 | District Meet | Varsity | Away | 3:00 pm |
| 05/23/20 | Sectional Meet | Varsity | Away | TBA |
| 05/29/20--05/30/20 | MSHSAA Championships | Varsity | Away | TBA |

Fatima Golf

| DATE | OPPONENT | LEVEL | HOME/AWAY | TIME(S) |
|--------------------|---------------------------------------------------|------------|-----------|---------|
| 03/25/20 | Helias - JCCC | Varsity | Away | 4:00 pm |
| 03/30/20 | Linn Quad (Linn CC) | Varsity/JV | Away | 4:00 pm |
| 03/31/20 | Rolla - Oak Meadow CC | Varsity/JV | Away | 4:00 pm |
| 04/01/20--04/01/20 | Russellville Blue & White Invitational (Redfield) | Varsity | Away | 9:00 am |
| 04/07/20 | California High School | Varsity/JV | Home | 4:00 pm |
| 04/08/20 | Southern Boone HS (Eagle Knoll) | Varsity/JV | Away | 4:00 pm |
| 04/09/20 | Eugene - Redfield | Varsity/JV | Away | 4:00 pm |
| 04/13/20 | Fr. Tolton - Columbia CC | Varsity | Away | 9:30 am |
| 04/15/20--04/15/20 | Southern Boone HS (Eagle Knoll) | Varsity | Away | 9:00 am |
| 04/22/20 | Show-Me Conference Tourn. (Redfield) | Varsity | Away | 9:00 am |
| 04/27/20 | Jefferson City Invitational - Meadow Lake | Varsity | Away | 9:00 am |
| 05/04/20--05/06/20 | Districts | Varsity | Away | TBA |
| 05/11/20 | Sectionals | Varsity | Away | TBA |

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**Fatima Soccer
From Page 16B**

she's going to dominate this year," said Dobry. "Her work ethic is incredible, and she's always working on her game. I think she'll have another career win."

Hale had a solid freshman year and was a little down last year, but thus far, Dobry said she is in top form again. "I'm looking for big things from her in the middle of the field," said Dobry. "She's the only left-footer on the team the year, so we're going to be looking for advanced things from her."

Jones is a quiet player and continues to learn the game. "She's in great shape this year," said Dobry. "She will see a lot of time out on the field this year, and I'm very excited to see how well she can do."

Rehagen was more of a platoon player last year, but will see more time on the field as the season unfolds. "She's maturing very well as a soccer player, and should be very effective any time she's on the field," said Dobry.

The team's only sophomore is Emily Brandt, who will be playing as a forward. "She has a lot of potential as an offensive player," said Dory. "We're still working with

her on skills and playing the game well, but she is a very eager player, and she'll have an opportunity to be one of our primary scorers this year."

Six freshmen round out the team, including Maci Kloeppel (MF), Zoe Rehagen (MF), Mary Schwartz (D), Megan Borgmeyer (D), Isabella Kremer (F) and Cami Wieberg (F).

"This group will control how we do this year," said Dobry. "They have a lot of energy, and they'll be filling a lot of starting positions, as well as backing up the older players, so we'll need them to do well. Their attitude as a whole is incredible, and they're ready to see what high school soccer is all about. I'm anxious to see how well they'll do this year."

Dobry is joined by Asst. Coach Josh Kunkelman.

**Fatima Soccer
Class 1 District 5**

* Belle * Crocker * Dixon *
Fatima *Laquey
** Host TBA **

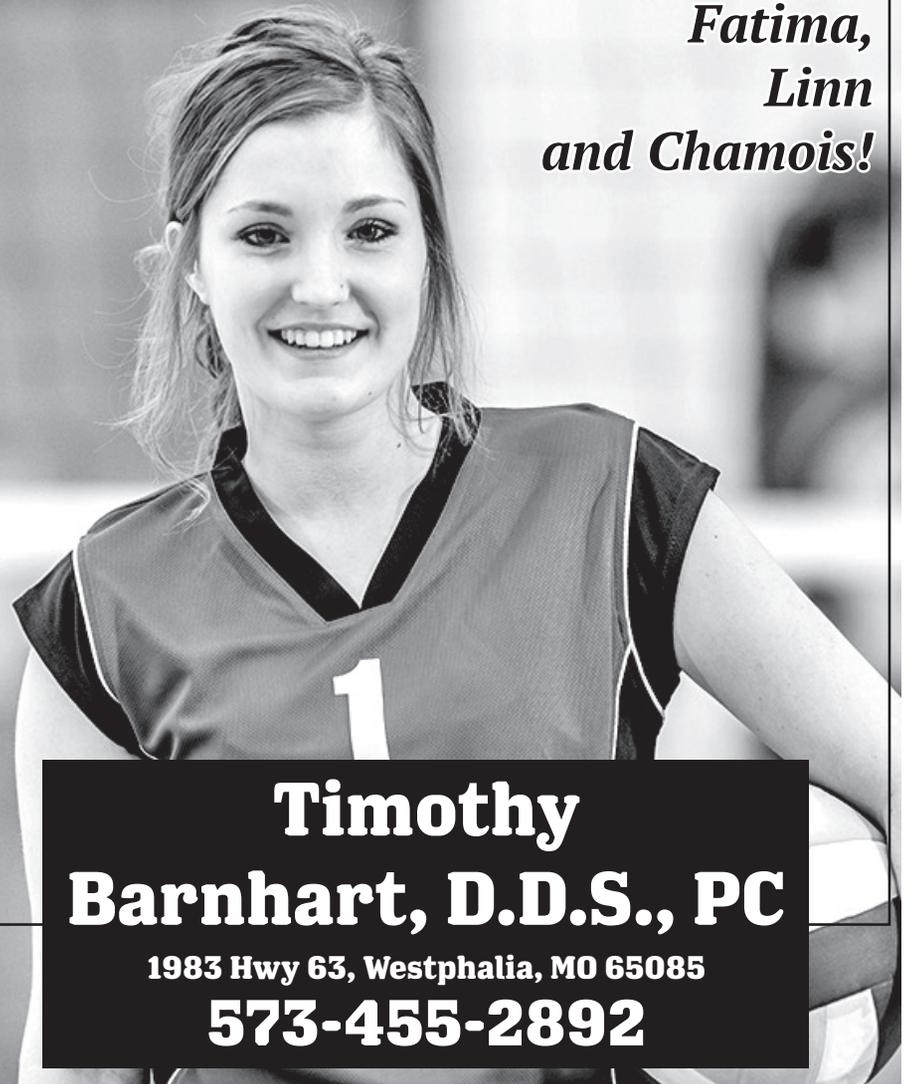
Fatima Girls Soccer

| DATE | OPPONENT | LEVEL | HOME/AWAY | TIME(S) |
|--------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------------------|-----------|---------|
| 03/17/20 | Jamboree @ JC | Varsity | Away | 5:00 pm |
| 03/24/20 | Mexico High School | Varsity/JV | Away | 5:00 pm |
| 03/26/20 | Belle High School | Varsity | Away | 5:00 pm |
| 03/31/20 | School of the Osage | Varsity/JV | Home | 5:00 pm |
| 04/02/20 | Jefferson City High School | Varsity vs JV / JV vs. Freshmen | Home | 5:00 pm |
| 04/03/20 | Crocker High School | Varsity/JV | Away | 5:00 pm |
| 04/06/20 | St. Clair High School | Varsity/JV | Home | 5:00 pm |
| 04/07/20 | Dixon High School | Varsity/JV | Away | 5:00 pm |
| 04/09/20 | Owensville High School | Varsity/JV | Away | 5:00 pm |
| 04/13/20 | St. James High School | Varsity/JV | Home | 5:00 pm |
| 04/14/20 | Southern Boone High School | Varsity/JV | Away | 5:00 pm |
| 04/16/20 | Boonville High School | Varsity/JV | Away | 5:00 pm |
| 04/20/20 | Warrenton High School | Varsity/JV | Home | 5:00 pm |
| 04/21/20 | Capital City High School | Varsity/JV | Away | 5:00 pm |
| 04/24/20--04/25/20 | Fr. Tolton Invitational | Varsity | Away | TBA |
| 04/28/20 | Fulton High School | Varsity/JV | Home | 5:00 pm |
| 05/01/20--05/02/20 | Laker Invitational | Varsity | Away | TBA |
| 05/05/20 | Moberly High School | Varsity/JV | Home | 5:00 pm |
| 05/07/20 | Battle High School | Varsity/JV | Home | 5:00 pm |
| 05/08/20 | Stover High School | Varsity/JV | Home | 5:00 pm |
| 05/12/20 | Winfield High School | Varsity/JV | Away | 5:00 pm |
| 05/18/20--05/23/20 | Districts | Varsity | Away | TBA |



GRACE KLOEPPEL, front, and teammate Madelyn Huhn will be among the Lady Comets' leaders this year.

*You have alot to smile about!
Good Luck
Fatima,
Linn
and Chamois!*



**Timothy
Barnhart, D.D.S., PC**
1983 Hwy 63, Westphalia, MO 65085
573-455-2892

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



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