

2020

FALL SPORTS

preview



THE
Brookings
Register

Brady Clark leads ‘Cats into 2020 season

The Bobcat football team has a new head coach for the 2020 season – Brady Clark.

He is the son of a long-time coach.

“I was around the game all the time ... it was just in my blood,” he said.

Clark graduated from West Central and headed west to play football at Black Hills State. That’s when he decided to go into teaching.

He played four years for the Yellow Jackets and then took advantage of a fifth year of eligibility in track and field. He debuted at the Rocky Mountain Athletic Championships and won the discus title.

Clark moved back east after graduation to be closer to family.

He was the head coach at Oldham-Ramona/Rutland the last five years.

“I had a great five years there,” added Clark, who is 30. “Being there is a big reason why I’m here now. I’ll never forget that.”

He’s a fifth-grade reading

teacher at Camelot.

OFFENSE

“We changed our offense up,” Clark said. “We went with something new and something that I know works, but it takes a long time to get it down.

“We’re kind of a ground-and-pound, in-your-face type team and we’ll throw the ball when we need to. Luckily we have the ability to do that, as well.

“We had a lot of kids come out that hadn’t played before and things like that, which is great. Everybody is relatively new to what we’re doing this year; even the coaching staff – we have a lot of new guys coaching, too. So it’s just a lot of new stuff.”

Clark said the team has a lot of talent.

“We can give the ball to anybody at any time and it will be effective. I think we have a very athletic front line. We’re young and kind of inexperienced all around

– we have a few returning starters here and there.

“Max Struck is a returning receiver and does a really good job. It’s just guys here and there ... we’re going to lean our leaders a little bit more at the beginning of the year on that side of the ball. We’re slowly gaining confidence with what we’re doing as we’re going day in and day out and I’m just really excited to see where it can go.”

Quarterback

Jaxon Bowes is No. 1.

“First year being the 1 guy right now and he has some nerves and things like that,” Clark said of the 6-foot-1, 170-pound junior. “But the thing with Jaxon is what you always need with a quarterback but we really, really needed this year was a leader. And Jaxon is a very, very good leader. He’s knows what to do and the other stuff’s going to come. I mean, it’s early.”

Junior Jackson Krogman

is No. 2 and sophomore Justin Cofell No. 3.

Defense

The base defense looks like a 4-4 but is actually a 4-2.

“We have a lot of athletes, so we need to scheme around what we have,” noted Clark. “We have to fly around and make plays.

“Defense is discipline, flying around and making plays and just being a football player, being aggressive.

“Our front four, once again, I think we have some good strength and athleticism.

“We’re still growing. But give me a solid O-line and D-line and we can win some games, right? We have a lot of good skill positions in the back and leadership there.”

Linebacker Wes Koenig is a notable returner.

“He’s a tank and he’s smart. He knows where he needs to be and he’s a great guy to have on the field,” Clark noted.

Defensive end Brock

Longville is also back.

“We’re going to kind of move him to different spots this year,” Clark said.

“We’re asking some guys to make some sacrifices for the betterment of the team,” added Clark. “It’s been fun. It’s always going to be a challenge, but it’s been fun and I think once we get that confidence together of what we’re all doing – we saw more of it during (Saturday’s) scrimmage that it’s going to turn out well for us.”

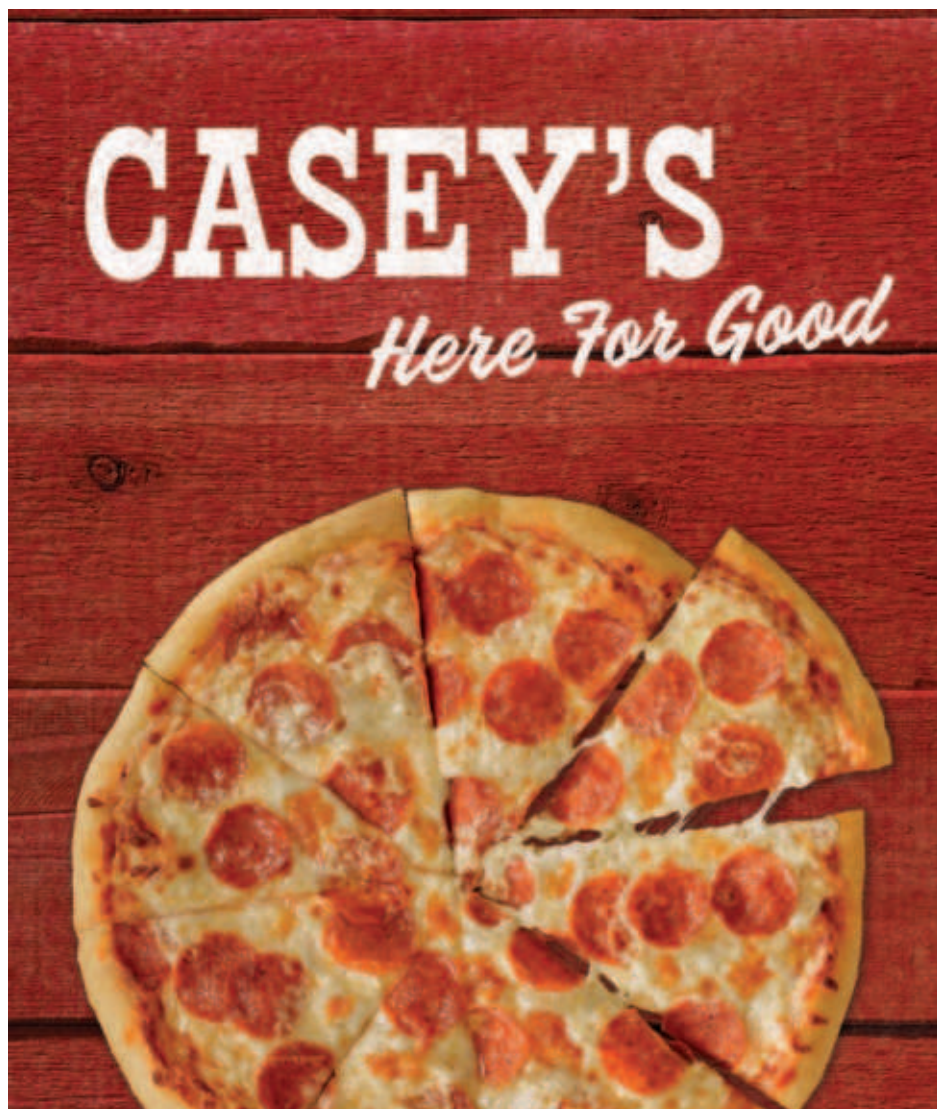
Coordinators

Clark is the defensive coordinator.

Jacolby Anderson is the offensive coordinator.

Rounding out the coaching staff are Robb McClemans, Tyler Schneider, Jason Sebern, Jarrod Huntimer, Travis Engebretson, Matt Christie, Cohl Ratermann, Aaron Mason and Logun Feister.

The season gets underway at Huron on Friday at 7 p.m.



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Lifetouch

Brookings football (from left): First row – Dakota Nguyen, Jaden Cofell, Spencer Christie, Josh Devine, Gavin Fixsen, Hunter Gray, Ryan Bauman, Jaxton Eck, Keegan Fields, Justin Cofell, Jaxon Bowes, Alivia Smart, Makiah Martinson; Second row – John Noordsy, Max Struck, Payton Theodosopoulos, Lincoln Hardin, Jackson Hoffman, Gavin Klinkhammer, Derek Brallier, Cole McKeown, Max Hoppe, Eric Lam, Tyson Brandt, Noah Bayer; Third row – Josh Buri, Joey Williams, Tim Melby, Israel Caldron, Sam Hardin, Wes Koenig, Marcello Herrera, Carter Wright, Davis Engen, James Olson, Perry King, Brock Longville; Fourth row – Konnor McClain, Matt Nordmeyer, Kyle Bauer, Parker Theobald, Mason Cranford, Daniel Klug, Caleb Loehr, Ethan Tjaden-Beutke, Magnus Nelson, Avery Minor.

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Volleyball returns six varsity players this season

Brookings volleyball was in a bit of a rebuilding year last season. The Bobcats finished with an overall record of 9-19, but were playing with a lot of girls who did not have a lot of experience.

This year, Brookings has six girls that are returning with varsity experience. Second year head coach Tina Birgen said she the team has been gelling in the weeks leading up to the beginning of the season.

“I would say as a group, our biggest goal is want to come out and we want to compete and we want to gel together and work together as a team. No team is any better than the weakest player on their team. We want to come out and support each other and just compete. That’s our strongest goal right now,” Birgen said.

COVID-19 has put a bit of a strain on the Bobcats preseason workouts. They just started doing six on six scrimmages last week. Birgen said she won’t really know a whole lot about her team until their a couple of weeks into the season.

“I know where my head is and I would like to see at least a .500 season, but I don’t really know where we’re at as a group yet. ... I think COVID has taken a lot away. Now that I’ve been sitting in a gym and have been scrimmaging, I think we’re at a point where we can set our goals for the season,” Birgen said.

Birgen said she expects her returning players, Brittany Birgen, Kat Charging, Landry Wilson, Haley Sampson, Riley Weisbeck and Tessa Nelson, to have active roles this season even though they’re young.

Brookings volleyball (from left): First row – Tessa Nelson, Riley Weisbeck, Allie Clark; Second row – Sydney Schneider, Haley Sampson, Mackenzie Weber, Emily Harms; Third row – Brittany Birgen, Landree Wilson, Kat Charging, Emma Groen, Tayla Dobrenski, Gracie Adamson; Fourth row – Emma Moerke, Michele Adamson, Tina Birgen, Andrea Gullickson, Hannah Stuart.



Lifetouch



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Boys' soccer team featuring different look in 2020 season

The Brookings boys' soccer team looks a little different year. After graduating six seniors from last year, the Bobcats are going to be relying on their young guys to make a run in the Eastern South Dakota Conference.

"We lost six really strong seniors and so we've come into the year with not as numerous of a senior class. We have a lot of guys playing up in a position or moving up in the depth chart farther than they could. We have a lot of guys that our looking forward to the season and looking forward to what we can do," head coach Steve Binkley said.

The Bobcats made the playoffs last season, but lost on the road to No. 3 seeded Brandon Valley in the first game. In their first two games of the 2020 season, Brookings lost to Sioux Falls Roosevelt 5-1 and lost to Watertown 6-0. Binkley said he liked the way his guys played even though it didn't translate to the scoreboard.

"I think with young guys, they typically like to move forward and attack and get single minded at times, but our guys didn't do that. I think they played possession and played smart. They seem to have a lot

of resilience to make their runs and then get back on defense. So they're doing a lot of mature stuff," Binkley said.

Brookings is led by senior Schaffer Vestal, who scored a goal on a penalty kick against Roosevelt. Binkley said he thinks his top-five guys go up against anybody in the state.

"We're really strong in the middle and we're really quick off the dribble and have those threats. However, I do think we lack some size, especially in the back. [Vestal] is the guy who can bring a lot of talent to the game. He's right next to Dawson Peters, who will get a lot of chances to control the game. James Park and Junior Eberline who are two younger players, but are really strong offensively," he said.

Brookings has two junior captains in defensemen Carter Johnson and goalie Tyler Sprang. Binkley added that those two can kind of guide some of the younger guys.

The goal remains the same as it always is for the Bobcats. Win the ESD. Binkley said he believes his team has what it takes to do that.

"I think we have a team that can play competitively in the conference," Binkley said.



Lifetouch

Brookings boys' soccer (from left): Front row – Noah Briseno, Dawson Peters, Rylan Eide, Carl Steineicht, Cole Leisinger and Joe Schmit; Middle row – Assistant coach Ricky Ganci, Keiji Nomata, James Park, Trenton Pederson, Derek Brallier, Talon Everding, Joshua Park, Junior Eberline and Jacob Kappenman; Back row – Head coach Steve Binkley, Adonai Lusamvuku, Lucas Wingate, Carter Johnson, Tyler Sprang, Nithin Perumal, Schaffer Vestal, Micah Ardry, Drew Ton and Assistant coach Jace Larson.

"Certainly we hope to get to the point where we can host a playoff game. Last year was a good example of that. We went

to Brandon and played on the turf and probably weren't as strong as we usually are here at home. So we're going to try

to do everything we can to get that record and end up hosting a playoff game at home late in the season."

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Girls' soccer squad seeks continued growth

Adam Juba is in his second season as the Brookings girls' soccer coach. His main goal for this season is the same as it was last year and that is to continue to grow the program.

Last year, the Bobcats were the No. 12 seed in the playoffs and lost a 2-1 in the first round. Juba said it was nice to see his team compete so hard in the playoffs.

"Last year we grew as a team and were continuing to build on that now. We just want to continue to keep growing the program and getting as many girls to try out as we can," Juba said.

Brookings graduated six seniors last year and is having a tough time filling the holes. Brookings lost 3-0 in their first game of the year against Sioux Falls Roosevelt and fell to Watertown 4-0 in their second game. Juba said he liked the way his team moved on offense even though they only managed to get one shot on goal in the two games.

"I think we strung passes together well compared to what I've seen before. What I've seen the first couple weeks of practice is that we can pass

the ball really well and worked the ball well around the field. Now we just need to translate that into the attack and start to get some shots on goal," Juba said.

With such an inexperienced team, Juba said that he thinks any of his players have the potential to have a breakout season.

"They all work so incredibly hard in practice that I can't put a stamp on anybody that will for sure break out because I don't know what to expect," Juba said.

Brookings had 26 girls in their program at the beginning of last season and grew to 36 by the end. They are at 32 at the beginning of this year. Juba hopes he can keep it around that number while also improving the team along the way.

"The big thing for me is to just make sure the girls have fun. Some long term goals are to have a .500 winning percentage season and then eventually down the road let's win the conference. This year, we hope to hit .500 at least, but like I said I'm excited to see what we have in store," Juba said.



Lifetouch

Brookings girls' soccer (from left): Front row – Alexis Schelske, Madison Schelske, Desirae Johnson, Elise Lefers and Bayleigh Morson; Middle row – Maddix Archer, Abby Mohs, Micah Reed, Leanna Briseno, Hailey Graham and Ella Kjelden; Back row – Head coach Adam Juba, Abbie Dubro, Ella Bisgard, Brooklyn McGuire, Claire Burns, Rachel Gannon, Assistant coach Mike Starace and Assistant coach Lynsey Magnus.

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Conrad leads cross country squad into season

Boys

Sam Conrad earned All-State honors in 2019, placing 21st in Huron with a 5K clocking 1.54 seconds over the 17-minute mark.

“We return a large number from last year,” said coach Chris Gruenhagen. “We replace Daniel May on the varsity team from a year ago but I felt like we’ve been fairly young on the varsity side the last couple years. There is a good class of juniors with a sprinkle of seniors, sophomores and maybe even a freshman. It’ll be an interesting kind of layout just to see who our seven end up being. There is going to be a lot of mixing and matching to figure that out.”

Brookings ended up 11th at state in 2019.

“We return a good core from the state meet a year ago. Sam Conrad was 21st at the state meet last year and as a sophomore this year, I would anticipate him being up front,” added Gruenhagen. “Behind him will be a core group of those juniors that I talked about – Talon Everding, Nick Diersen, Ian Smith, Jack Schultz – those guys look to round things out



Brookings boys' cross country (from left): Front row – Joey Fitzpatrick, Ian Smith, Jack Schultz, Sam Conrad, Kaden Reynolds, Carter Mueller, Rylan Eide, Jacob York; Back row – Joseph Toronto, Talon Everding,

Others that are in the mix are seniors Kobe Bowser and Quentin Eck as well as a good group of freshmen who I think are very excited about running and pushing themselves – Nathan Smith, Jacob York, Ipen Nyawanda, Joey Fitzpatrick, Rylan Eide – they’ve done a really good job just of showing

me that they’ve done something over summer, instead of just four days of seeing them run.

“It’s never a bad problem to not have an idea of who your varsity is going to be,” the coach added.

“I think it really pushes the kids that want it. Nothing is go-

ing, Nick Diersen, Kobe Bowser, Quentin Eck, Kadin Loiseau, Nathan Smith, Ben Hawkinson, Ian Langelett. Not pictured are Igen Nyawanda, Harrison Wakeman.

ing to be given to them and every race is going to matter. And even in the circumstances that we’re in, we hope that we’re able to have an entire season and get to compete. Each week is going to be interesting; each workout is going to be interesting.

“I’m excited for the boys. I

think we’ll definitely see an improvement both at the conference level and the state level – that we move up as a team. It’ll be a fun couple of years with that group of young kids.”

The Brookings Invitational is Sept. 24 at Edgebrook.

See **XC**, page 8

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XC: Girls' team graduated a pair of standouts

Continued from page 7

Girls

“Obviously some holes when you speak of names that have departed us,” said Gruenhagen. “When you lose Ellie Abraham, who had six years of varsity experience, and Ainsley Powers, with five years of varsity experience – just the number of accolades that they had; it’s a lot. And that’s not counting Katie Osbeck, who graduated, and Emily Rystrom, who ran the state meet for us last year. There are going to be some new faces on our varsity side, for sure.

“But we return some people that have had an awful lot of varsity experience – Kayla Shoup is a junior now, she has an all-conference cross country honor and a couple on the track; (sophomore) Jaixai Reineke has two all-conference cross country accolades. The other state re-



Brookings girls' cross country (from left): Front row – Jenna York, Beth Hawkinson, Addie Smetana, Karly Brinkman, Maddie Kepner, Aletha

turnee, Jenna York, will be a sophomore this year. Ashton Scott is a senior – she ran the state meet last year. So we bring back four state meet runners from last year and then we have a good group

of freshmen that will look to make kind of a splash on our team, as well. Lily Murray has shown some good sessions early; you can tell that she had done some running over the summer – excited to

Baker, Jaixai Reineke; Back row – Kayla Shoup, Ashton Scott, Sofia Dvergsten, Olivia Jorgenson, Jenna Sprang, Lily Murray

have her kind of in that mix; I think she’s going to jump in an do pretty well for us. Aletha Baker is a sophomore and you can tell she’s had a very big summer, as well; excited to have her back. We

have 13 girls on the roster and I think outside of four or five, there are going to be a couple of positions for those girls to figure out who’s going to be the seven and push each other, as well.”

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‘Cats return top four singles players

Challenge matches are said and done, so the Bobcat girls’ tennis roster is pretty much locked up for the year.

Skylor Ness, Lynn Foster, Tristina Ting and Paige Foster are again Nos. 1-4, with Brea Tonsager and Heather Rudd closing it out. Ness and Ting are No. 1 doubles; the Fosters are at No. 2 and Tonsager and Rudd at No. 3.

“We’re going to be in the middle of the pack somewhere, so we want the kids just to enjoy the season and do some improving and set some personal goals and finish as high as they can,” said coach Brian Dobbs. “Our seniors – Skylor Ness and Lynn Foster – it’d be nice to see them do as much winning as possible since it’s their last year. Those are our goals.”

The Bobcats are experienced up top.

“Nos. 1-4 we are experienced. Our 5 and 6 are brand new to varsity. So it will be kind of a learning experience for them this year,” Dobbs added.

As for the pandemic – it hasn’t alter the tennis routine much.

“The virus is not really affecting us as far as playing tennis – little things, like we can’t huddle up or give high fives or shake hands; we have to have masks on when we’re close to each other and masks on when we’re traveling, that kind of thing,” Dobbs noted.

The Bobcats again have a heavy home schedule in 2020.



Lifetouch

Brookings girls’ tennis (from left): Front row – Heather Rudd, Isha Hooda, Elle Schulte-Coplan, Tristina Tiong, Paige Foster and Nancy Yang; Back row – Assistant coach Brenna Langland, Mary Rudd, Rae Nupen, Skylor Ness, Lynn Foster, Brea Tonsager and Head coach Brian Dobbs.

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Boys' golf team looking to gain experience

The Brookings boys' golf team is looking to build off of a season where they were just trying to gain experience.

The Bobcats are hoping to gain more experience this year as they have just one senior on the team. Brookings had a tough finish at state last year and head coach Andy Lee thinks his team was able to learn from it.

"We had a lot of sophomores playing in our top six and some freshmen. Just some younger kids that maybe didn't have the experience of playing in a state tournament. For the most part though, I think they learned to work well together and even though we weren't as successful as we wanted to be at the state tournament, I think we made it a pretty good experience and made it good bonding experience heading into this year," Lee said.

With four juniors, two sophomores and two freshmen on the team, Lee said he expects the team to not only be competitive with other teams, but also to be competitive with themselves.

"We're sitting in a position that's way different from last year," Lee said. "We have a lot of young guys that our looking

to push some of the older guys and compete for those top six spots. So I'm looking forward to seeing a lot of competition between players and also at tournaments. I think we've shown a lot of improvement and I know that some of our players can score better than they did last year. I think they're going to have to use that because I think there's no reason that we can't compete with other teams with the six that we bring for our tournaments."

Brookings will look to lean on their upperclassmen though. Lee said the guy that he's seen the most improvement out of is Brayton Mack.

"The guy I've seen with the most promise so far is Brayton Mack. He went to state last year and that was his first taste of that. As a junior [Mack]'s scoring in the first two meets of the season were extremely improved compared to last year and I think that he's playing at a different level. Another junior in Jesse Roberts is looking to break out. He went to state last year and he's been a medalist in the ESD [Eastern South Dakota] meet too. So he's looking to show some leadership and hold others accountable as



Lifetouch

Brookings boys' golf (middle schoolers in white, varsity/JV in black): Joe O'Neil, Rhys Heiberger, Tyson Lunn, Preston Beringer, Head coach Andy Lee, Bennett Howell, Tanner Overby, Masen Holen, Issak Earley, Samuel Thompson, Jase Bauer, Cooper Deatherage, Luke Honkomp, Nathan Brecher, Egan Jensen, Donawin Davis, Assistant coach Spencer Yackley, Chase Karch, Jake Bauer, Andre Flores, Dylan Vede Kop, Jesse Roberts, Brayton Mack, Karson Deckert, Dylan Johnson, Jack Even, Kade Brecher, Justin Kortan and Cale Jones.

well," Lee said.

Lee added that the lone senior Justin Kortan will need to step up as well with leadership.

After the tough season last year, one thing Lee said he wants to see is consistency. He said if they can be consistent,

the results will come.

"Being able to score better on a consistent basis. We have guys that can score [well] and I know they have the ability to do it, it's just whether or not we can do it consistently. I think that comes with working hard in practice

and working on our game. A great goal for us would honestly be to finish in the top-12 at state. We usually finish in kind of the back half of those 18, 19 teams and I think this year if we play like we can, we can finish in the top-eight or top-nine," Lee said.

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Softball squad experienced this year

The Brookings softball team finally has something that they haven't had in a while. Experience.

"We finally have experience," said head coach Bill Kratz. "I have a lot of expectations for this year. Our whole varsity team is back from last year. We actually have seniors that play on the varsity. Which we haven't had for years. Our expectations are to be right there because we can play with anybody in the state."

Kratz said it is going to come down to their pitching. The Bobcats have eight pitchers this year where in years past they've only had two or three. He also said that he expects his four seniors to have big seasons.

"Sierra Stevens, our catcher who was all-state last year, she's been playing varsity since she was in ninth grade. Skyler Skyler Hinricher, who has played a lot of summer ball. Sydney Schneider, who played volleyball the past couple of years, but she's playing with us this year. She's our shortstop and brings us a lot more defense this year," Kratz said.

Brookings went 1-2 last season in the State Tournament. Kratz said the goal for his team this year is to make it into the final four at state.

"The past couple of years if some things went right we probably could have got to the [final four], but that is our goal. We know playing against Harrisburg, Roosevelt, O'Gorman. That they're going to be there. Those three are favored, but that's our goal," Kratz said.



Brookings softball (from left): Front row – Madison Pantzke, Mya Erickson, Janine Warne, Jaelyn Gasper, Kylie Moe, Paige Stout, Megan Wadsworth and Addison Sneer; Middle row – Ava Sandine, Brooklyn Benthin, Annika Hawks, Sydney Schneider, Skyler Hinricher, Sydney Bebensee, Morgan Linstad, Abbie Harmelink, Adrianna Olson and Madalee Howell; Back row – Tess Pantzke, Kennedy Gerjets, Sierra Stevens, Jess Rindels, Jenna Evans, Gracie Adamson, Brinleigh Mack, Kaely Dixon, Tessa Tweidt and Sydney Grendler. Not pictured is Alora Funderburg.



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Brookings competitive cheer (from left): Front row – Grace Lesnar, Luci Siemonsma, Kyra McClemons, Grace Vostad, Bailey TeKrony, Jocelyn Zerr, Delilah Fuls and Cloe Barber; Back row – Jenna Schoon, Alyssa Love, Kolbey Weier, Lily Siemonsma, Audrey Jensen, Trinity Kindt, Carlie McGuire and Claire Einspahr.



Brookings competitive dance (from left): Front row – Clare Strong, Faith Calderon, Luci Siemonsma, Lily Siemonsma, Kate Struck, Amber Brockberg and Arianna Myers; Back row – Kaia Smith, Paige Johnson, Rylee Bowser, Lisa Batone, Caidynce Schmuhl, Justine Wilson and Rowan Carda. Not pictured are Emily Hua and Ashlynd Shepherd.

Cheer team seeking top-three finish; dance team youthful

The Brookings competitive cheer team came in second in the Eastern South Dakota Conference meet last season, but second-year head coach Becca Rounds said she didn't think the team performed to their standards at the state meet.

This season, she hopes to finish in the top-three at the state tournament.

"I would say a really good goal for our team would be to be in the running for an ESD title and then finish in the top-three or top four at state," Rounds said.

The Bobcats have four seniors this year and for the first time in Brookings history one of them is a male in Kolbey Weier. The other seniors include Trinity Kindt, Lily Siemonsma and Jenna Schoon. Brookings will have 14 members on the floor this year when they compete. Rounds said that is a little smaller than usual, but they thought it would give them the best chance to max out all of their scores.

Rounds said her team has a chance to max out their scores in all of their routines and to do that they have to stay focused.

"I would say we have to keep drilling all of those skills. We're going to have to stay healthy and move through the season with all of our athletes at practice," Rounds said.

With COVID-19 being a factor, one of the goals Rounds has for the team is just to be able to continue practicing.

"I would say heading into the season, every coach has different expectations. I would just say heading into the season we're just very happy and grateful that we've been able to practice and continuing to practice this far. So that's a main goal of our ours. Another main goal is to be top-three and top-four all season," Rounds said.

Competitive dance

Brianna Vig is the new head coach of the Bobcat dance team and is excited for the upcoming season.

"They had a much smaller team last year," Vig said. "So I'm very excited to have the numbers up. I believe they are double of what we had last year. Which is very exciting."

Dance teams this year in South Dakota are only allowed to choose two forms of dancing. Vig said her team decided to go with pom and hip hop because she thought that was their biggest strength. The Bobcats have 16 girls on the team. All of them participate in hip hop and 13 of them participate in pom.

Brookings has a very young team. They have two seniors that are both returning in Lily Siemonsma and Arianna Meyers. The team doesn't have any juniors and have girls as young as seventh grade. With the young team, Vig said she just wants to see improve-

ment from them throughout the year.

"Whatever they came in with in tryouts or the first week of practice, by the end of the season, I just want to see improvement. I'm not looking for perfection necessarily, I'm just looking for progress. I just want the girls to have fun. I want dance to be a safe place where they can come in and do some physical activity, meet with their friends and ultimately have fun," Vig said.

Vig added that when it comes to results at the nine competitions the Bobcats will be participating in, she just wants them to do better than they did before.

"Going into the first competition, whatever happens, by the end of the season I just want them to take it to the next level or two and maybe beating out a team that we hadn't before. That were neck and neck with and are super close. Just having those little goals in mind and taking it one step at a time and being better than we were when we started," Vig said.

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Sioux Valley Competitive Cheer

Front row (from left) – Bella Koolmo, Luka Verpaalen, Chloe Andre, Ashton Tucker, Keatyn Moad, Taylor Bingham, Kamryn Schwartz and Kalista King; Middle row – Shanna Bakken, Maria Quale, Ava Vande Weerd, Kiana King, Hailey Larson, Mercedes VanderWal, Kynslee Gatzke, Avery Kooima, Morgan Hemmested, Jocelyn Peters and Ashlyn Tangen; Back row – Chloe Wilson, Sydney VanBeek, Jaelyn Moe, Jordyn Sheets, Izzy Cotton, Abby Ching, Kalia King, Caroline Ravenscroft, Porshia VanderWal, Loralye Walz, Isabelle

Jess Gatzke/Jae Ann Photography

Head Coach: Casie King (19th season).

Assistant Coaches: Jordyn Lucas.

2019 Recap: Class A overall state champions for the 13th consecutive year. Undefeated in Class A throughout the season, highest score ever recorded in State Cheer regardless of class.

Key athletes lost: Baylea Lucas,



Delanie Tangen, Hailey Gascogine, Darla VanKooten, Jolein Verpaalen and Kylie Sheets.

Key returning athletes: Keatyn Moad, Taylor Bingham, Chloe Andre, Ashton Tucker, Kamryn Schwartz, Kalista King, Bella Koolmo and Luka Verpaalen.

Team strengths: Sioux Valley is a strong stunting team, typically the only team in the state to put up six stunt groups. We strive to compete the most elite stunts possible, each time we succeed in achieving

a stunt we work to make it more complex and visually appealing.

Team weaknesses: Sioux Valley's biggest weakness is probably walking the balance between pushing for bigger and bigger skills in our routine instead of competing what is a safe, clean routine. It is proven that a clean, simple routine scores well with judges and overpacking a routine can risk lowering your scores instead of enhancing them. We try to walk that fine line between doing

what we enjoy by pushing the envelope and still performing a clean routine.

Coach's comments: "Every year we let our seniors pick a theme or motto for the season. Our Seniors chose something a little crazy this year and we think we will be putting something on the floor that will really entertain the crowd and score well with the judges. We have so much packed into a 2.5 minute routine and we can't wait to compete."

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Sioux Valley Football



Jess Gatzke/Jae Ann Photography

Front row (from left) – Dillen Scheely, Reihdir Vander Wal, Hudsyn Ruesink, Jace Christensen, Skylar Trygstad, Tyson Moe, Boden Schiller, Dawson Doyscher, Austin Siegel, Brayden Larson, Brock Bloker and Hunter Rose; Middle row – Camden Hughes, Coach Dan Hughes, Garrett Nelson, Wyatt Hockett, Lane Leibsch, Evan Schade, David Knutson, Jakob Ziegler, Damian Danzeisen, Layson Lucas, McKade Rentsch, Carson Christopherson, Justin Blackledge, Russell Sheets, Aidan Brower and Preston VanderWal; Back row – Coach John Hughes, Cole Coners, Coach Van Ravenswaay, Caleb Elijah, Connor Logan, Mason Doyscher, Michael Larson, Jaxton Schiller, Kashas Vander Wal, Parker Puetz, Jaxon Kooima, Avry Mangan, Raven Olson, Ashton Bultje, Haze Wagner, Seth Heidenreich, Coach Jordan Fast, Coach Damon Becker and Coach Ken Vigdal.

Head Coach: Dan Hughes.

Assistant Coaches: Jordan Fast, Matt Cadwell, Ryan Schiller, Jayme Trygstad, Lorenzo Williams.

2019 Recap: 6-4. Lost 33-0 to eventual-champion Bridgewater-Emery/Ethan in quarterfinals.

Key returning athletes:

Return 24 letterwinners, including nine offensive and 10 defensive starters. ... Jaxton Schiller, Kashas VanderWal, Avry Mangan, Layson Lucas, Mason Doyscher, McKade Rentsch, Raven Olson, Michael Larson, Parker Puetz, Carson Christopherson, Conner Logan, Ashton

Bultke, Dylen Milton, Seth Heidenrech, Jake Ziegler, David Knutson and Haze Wagner.

Team strengths: Our 2020 team is intense. They are extremely focused and very, very intense.

Team weaknesses: Our biggest challenge is having

more fun than we did last year. 2019 was legit. ... 2020 will be even more legit. ON-WARD!

Coach's comments: We are 100% committed to reaching our potential; everyone working together from the players, coaches, parents and fans.

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Sioux Valley Volleyball

Head Coach: Jill Vincent (11th season).

Assistant Coaches: Kaitlin Todd, Mikaela Hoeke, Nikki Moir.

2019 Recap: 15-20. Third place in Lake Central Conference. Lake Preston Tournament runner-up. SoDak 16 qualifier.

Key athletes lost: Miakken Vincent, Perri Liedtke, Rylee Honomichl, Rachel Cotton.

Key returning athletes: Return nine letterwinners, including four starters. ... Rylan Willis, Reagan Johnson, Haydyn Hauge, Taylor Moir.

Team strengths: The players are willing to play many positions

in order for the team to be successful and be the best we can be by year's end.

Team weaknesses: Our depth will need to grow and improve in order to compete with the season's competition. The returning letterwinners have playing experience and we will continue to work on game situations.

Coach's comments: "This season we are trying to find the right mix of Cossacks to take the floor to be competitive each and every match. We will learn from each match and grow as a team and by the end of the season we will have our team ready to give our best."



Jess Gatzke/Jae Ann Photography

Front row (from left) – Addison Eich, Savannah Rawden, Jada Knutson, Kaedyn Sapp, Keyra Kruse and Tia Glaus; Middle row – Katie Richarz, Caitlyn Craddock, Elizabeth Shultz, Julia Schneider, Laryn Stevens, Ashley Bjerke, Tehya Walz and Sydney Hesby; Back row – Portia Weishaar, Kasey Pistulka, Madeline Jacobson, Kaitlin Ruden, Rylan Willis, Haydyn Hauge, Taylor Moir, Natalie Jacobson, Reagan Johnson and Julia Stefensen. Not pictured are Rylley Behrens and Breanna Jensen.

Sioux Valley Cross Country

Head Coach: Bill Vincent (7th season).

Assistant Coaches: Don Sutera (19th season).

Key returning athletes: State qualifier Colby Gatzke, a senior, and Isabelle Blocker, an eighth-grader.

Team strengths: We return some great leadership and both of our dtate qualifiers from last year to lead a young, energetic team of boys and girls. We are excited about our upcoming talent.

Team weaknesses: Inexperience with our young kids. As we gain experience we will become more competitive in the team standings.

Coach's comments: "We look forward to being able to compete in athletics again after the long break due to COVID-19. We had a strong finish to our season last fall with a very young team, therefore making us excited for this upcoming cross country season!"



Jess Gatzke/Jae Ann Photography

Front row (from left) – Quynn Nielson, Kellon Tucker, Brady Hiltunen, Carter Sapp, Dylan Strouth, Bret Milton, Carson Wosje, Ethan Barsness, Trevor Shultz, Brody Haaland, Kade Waltz and Caitlin Russel; Back row – Isabelle Bloker, Abby Haaland, Kailey Craddock, Kendra Hiltunen, Gabe Papiernik, Colby Gatzke, Cade Gross, Sienna Weiss, Brooke Knutson, Talya Vincent and Summer Guthmiller.

Sioux Valley Boys' Golf

Head Coach: Sherry Holderby (15th year).

2019 Recap: Region runner-up. Place fourth at Class A State Tournament.

Key athletes lost: Nate Buisker (fourth place state) and state tourney participants Logan Steffensen, Parker Loban and Parker Rinehart.

Key returning athletes: State tourney participant Alex Stein.

Team strengths: Many athletes spent numerous hours honing their skills and played countless rounds over the summer. We have 18 golfers on the team competing for varsity spots and bringing out the best in each other.

Team weaknesses: We lack varsity golf experience and will need to work on course management strategies and maintaining our focus.

Coach's comments: "We are looking forward to working hard, having fun and competing this season."



Jess Gatzke/Jae Ann Photography

Front row (from left) – Jace Christensen, Christopher Moberg, Jack Opitz, Boden Schiller, Hudson Ruesink, Brock Bloker and Clayton Willis; Back row – Coach Sherry Holderby, Hayden Ruesink, Lane Liebsch, Tyler Bezdichek, Kyan Overbo, Alex Stein, Colby Gatzke, Jaxton Schiller, Payton Lemme, Brayden Squires and Parker Puetz. Not pictured is Caleb Murphy.

Deubrook Area Volleyball

Head Coach: Rachele DeBeer (25th year as head coach, including 11th season at Deubrook).

Assistant Coaches: Denise Nepodal, Haley Scalise.

2019 Recap: 18-13.

Key athletes lost: Macyn Peterson (All-DVC), Claire Olsen (All-DVC honorable mention, Madi Molengraaf (important minutes. ... Ashley Landmark, Ryleigh Potts, Hadley Krier, Autumn Molengraaf, Caitlin Kor and Kenzie Wilts

Key returning athletes: All-DVC performers Baylee Holmlund and Dre Vandermeer. ... Brooke Koppatschek, Emily Koenig, Emma Vandermeer, Miranda Moravetz, Emma Duenwald, Emma Sheffield.

Team strengths: We do bring back some great experience from last season. We have been working on our ball control, and it is much improved. We have been able to grow as a blocking and defensive team. The girls have worked hard in the offseason.

Team weaknesses: In order to put the best team on the floor, we may need to move some of our players to different positions. If we can adjust to new roles or embrace our role, we will be a much stronger team. We will continue to work on communication. This team has so much potential if they stick together.

Coach's comments: "I am so grateful for the opportunity to coach this team. Our theme for



First row (from left) – Jadyn Mack, Ellie Koenig, Miranda Moravetz, Taylor Ekern, Delaney Pedersen, Madalyn Bauman and Kyarra Blum; Middle row – Katherine Kroger, Skylar Bauman, Brooke Koppatschek, Bailey Landmark, Skyla Petersen, Hanna Kjelden, Akasha Gorecki, Allison Andrews and Kylie Ramlo; Back row – Elizabeth Olsen, Emily Nelson, Keyauna Gustad, Emma Vandermeer, Emma Sheffield, Dre' Vandermeer, Baylee Holmlund and Emma Duenwald.

the season is RESTORE for obvious reasons. We are refreshed and refocused as a team, and we

are eager to play and grateful for every chance that we get to have a match."

Deubrook Area Cross Country

Head Coach: Brad DeBeer (2nd year).

Assistant Coaches: Paul Ekern, Pam Olsen.

2019 Recap: Girls: DVC runner-up. ...Boys: Third in DVC, fifth in region.

Key athletes lost: Girls: Dre Vandermeer. ... Boys: Payton Moe, Dartanion Lehmen, Mason Ramlo, Shiloh Koch.

Key returning athletes: Girls: Ellie Olsen, So. (DVC champ, Region 1B champ, fifth at Class B state meet); ElleAnna Hanson, So. (state participant); Carley Landmark, Jr.; Joeve Krier, So. ... Boys: Parker Crooks, Jr. (state participant).

Team strengths: Girls: Depth,

quality, experience, work ethic, attitude and character. Boys: Work ethic and potential.

Team weaknesses: Girls : Varsity state meet experience. ... Boys: Depth, experience, numbers in upper grades.

Coach's comments: "On the girls' side, we have a great group of girls that are willing to work and want to be among Class B's elite teams. Ellie Olsen is proving to be a great leader as she strives to improve on her fifth-place finish last year! This is going to be a fun group to watch compete and improve throughout the season!! ... On the boys' side, I look forward to watching this young group progress and compete to



Front row (from left) – Austin Olsen, Colton Trooien, JP Rogness, Jaxon Quail, Carter Schulte and Tegan Hansen; Back row – Lexi Timmons, Brynlee Hansen, Ellie Olsen, Carley Landmark, ElleAnna Hanson, Carly Englestad, Joeve Krier and Adele Hopfinger. Not pictured is Parker Crooks.

get better every meet! I look for Parker Crooks to run motivat-

ed this year and lead our young group!"

Good Luck To All Teams!



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Deubrook Area Football

Head Coach: Jon Boer (1st year).

Assistant Coaches: Brock Landmark, Bruce Johnson, Colby Trooien, Geoff Andrews.

2019 Recap: The Dolphins were 0-8 last year and had a season where they gained a lot of experience and know that will lead to success in the future.

Key athletes lost: Trace Vierhuf, Derrick Molengraf.

Key returning athletes: Tyler Berndt, Jackson Selleck.

Team strengths: One of our strengths will be our overall ath-

leticism. The boys have worked hard in the offseason to improve physically and look to carry that onto the field.

Team weaknesses: Any time you implement a new system offensively and defensively it takes time to make adjust and find the right fit for all your athletes.

Coach's comments: "Really excited about the upcoming season and see the fruit of the athletes hard work. We expect to compete every week and let the chips fall as they may."

Arlington/Lake Preston Football

Head Coach: Steve Gilbertson (118-59 career record).

Assistant Coaches: Randy Schmidt, Jordan Solberg, Derek Mertz, Zachariah Ricke.

2019 Recap: 4-5. Lost in first round of 9AA Playoffs.

Key athletes lost: We need to replace two all-state players. Returning starters and less experienced players will need to improve in order for us to fill the void left from graduation and take a step forward this season.

Key returning athletes: Return 11 letterwinners, including seven offensive starters and six defensive. ... Jasper Denison, Tate Larson, Jon Tawzer, Seth Madsen, Chris Wallace, Mason Bunker, Dylan Geary, Christopher Wallace, Tate Larsen.

Team strengths: We like our passion and enthusiasm for the game and our desire to be competitive.

Team weaknesses: Our kids will have to grasp the offense and be able to score points for us to be successful.

Deubrook Area Competitive Cheer



Front row (from left) – Allie Duenwald, Liberty Wendinger, Jadyn Mack, Karsyn Ovall, Hadley Prinsen, Sage Koppatschek; Back row – Cambria Sieve, Akasha Gorecki, Catherine Klein, Elizabeth Olsen, Ashtyn Jurrens, Emilee Petersen.

Head Coach: Alicia Gass.

Assistant Coach: Ashley Gouws.

2019 Recap: Last year we ended the season in 4th place in the small division. We had hoped to place higher, but we had a deduction that pushed us back some as far as places go. The team performed well in the regular season and we were very pleased with how we ended things. Obviously a state championship is the goal, but we are proud of how hard the girls worked!

Key athletes lost: We lost one senior last year. Gracie Snyder was a hard working athlete that gave us her all. We also lost a foreign exchange student from Denmark. It was a new experience having a foreign exchange student on our team, but Laura caught on quickly and rolled with the punches. Both girls will be dearly missed this season.

Key returning athletes: We have some great girls returning this season, including our

only senior, Sage Koppatschek. She is a great team leader and is a valuable asset to our team! Of the 12 girls on our team, 8 of them are returning from last year, so we look forward to advancing things quickly this season!

Team strengths: Our strengths are our experience, strong leadership among many of our athletes, as well as the motivation to work hard and learn new things.

Team weaknesses: This year we bring on three 7th graders to the team. Being new to cheer, it creates some challenges for sure. However, they are taking it like champs and pushing themselves to get better daily!

Coach's comments: "Ashley and I look forward to a great season. We are hopeful that we can have a successful season even with the challenges covid may bring our way. The girls are ready to push hard for the next two months with the end goal being State Champs! Go 'Phins!"

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Arlington Volleyball

Front row (from left) – Harley Johnson, Maysa Baldwin, Nicole Steffensen, Morgan Baldwin, Jada Henriksen, Tanaya Weiss, Dani Carlson; Back row – Grace Parry, Morgan Larsen, Erin Haufschild, Erica Mohr, Natalie Burns, Dakota Flanery, Hadley Carlson, Jennica Weiss, Ava Bunker. Not pictured are Jaida DeVries and Aubree DeVries.

Head Coach: Josie Weber (2nd season).

Assistant Coaches: Richele Lemme, Kelsey Borchard, Sam Martens.

2019 Recap: 12-20 – Played a lot of tough matches, got better toward the end of the year.

Key athletes lost: Seniors Jael Lundquist and Sarah Weinberg.

Key returning athletes: Jaida DeVries, Jennica Weiss, Hadley Carlson, Grace Parry.

Team strengths: The girls do a



great job of communicating and working as a team. They love being out on the floor and are always looking to how they can improve.

Team weaknesses: Our team

will continue to focus on the fundamentals and improve throughout the year.

Coach's comments: "We were able to get in the gym a little bit

this summer, but the girls have missed being and playing together. We are looking forward to competing in the gym again soon."

Arlington Cross Country

Head Coach: Jeani Vincent (3rd year).

Assistant Coaches: Michelle Madsen.

2019 Recap: Senior Victoria Donovan and Jada Henriksen both qualified for state.

Key athletes lost: Donovan.

Key returning athletes: Henriksen.

Coach's comments: "Excited for the season and for the young new runners coming up! Excited to have more high runners this year that will hopefully be competing at the varsity level by the end of the season.

Elkton-Lake Benton Cross Country

Head Coach: Mark Harming (4th year).

2019 Recap: Boys' team qualified for the State Cross Country meet for the second year in a row and fourth time in five years. Girls' team was able to fill a varsity roster at the end of the season for the first time in two years.

Key athletes lost: Only one senior on last year's team, Danial Nelson.

Key returning athletes: Riley Hunter and Miles Harming both finished top 10 in the conference and region last year. Cameron Lorden qualified for the state Cross Country meet. Transfer Mason Ramlo qualified for the state meet running for Deubrook. On the girls' side, Malayna Hemmen placed at the DVC and region meets, and qualified for state.

Team strengths: We have pretty good depth this year. Our top two runners finished right next to each other last year in both conference and region, and have gained strength and experience. The addition of Mason Ramlo makes our team depth quite a bit stronger. On the girls' side, we have some girls who worked hard this summer and that should pay off with some improved performances this season.

Team weaknesses: For the boys, we need our number 3, 4, and 5 runners to improve so that we can contend with the top teams in the area. They are good runners



Front row (from left) – Payton Sik, Eliot Erickson, Caden Crofutt, Madelyn Jensen, Malayna Hemmen; Back row – Mason Ramlo, Miles Harming, Charlie Harming, Tevan Erickson, Emily Robbins, Garrett Neill, Nathan Timm, Jack Skordahl. Not pictured are Cameron Lorden, Ashton Neill, Caedmon Bressler, Raph Johnson.

with experience, so we are hopeful this will improve. For the girls team, it's depth. We only have three HS girls, so there's not much room for error. Our girls have worked hard, but it would be nice to have some more athletes.

Coach's comments: "Really looking forward to this season. The boys team has gained another year of experience, and added depth, and we should be a stronger team than the last few years. The girls team is also more experienced, and doing better. The future is also bright on both teams, with this being the largest CC team we have had in several years. This is a great bunch of kids to coach and work with."

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Estelline/Hendricks Volleyball



Head Coach: Paul Chick (3rd year).

Assistant Coaches: Tiffany Runia, Meghan Carmody.

2019 Recap: 27-10. Qualified for the SoDak 16 – the deepest post-season run in team history – before falling in four sets to Ethan.

Key athletes lost: Sophie Johnson, Cora Hofer.

Key returning athletes: Kylie Beare (All-DVC first team), Kaylee Johnson (All-DVC HM).

Team strengths: Young team that works well together; four returners with leadership.

Team weaknesses: Some big positions to fill, but have a lot of young talent ready to play and show what they can do.

Colman-Egan Volleyball



First row (from left) – Lili Mays, Josie Keyes, Kinzley Shafer, Elaina Rhode, Aleigha Lange, Karissa Williams, Sadie McCorkle; Second row – Kadance Landis, Kennedy Landis, Kaitlyn Taggart, Anna Zwart, Savanna Schmidt, Kaylee Voelker, Brynlee Landis, Paige Franka; Third row – Braiden Westley, Ava Mousel, Elizabeth Moore, Daniela Lee, Amanda Lee, Karisma Rennich, Berkley Groos; Fourth row – Abby Rhode, Olivia Baumberger, Faith Taggart, Hailey Larson, Mackenzie Hemmer, Madison Fodness, Lanie Mousel

Head Coach: Abigail Dockter (3rd year).

Assistant Coaches: Julie Preheim, Katlynn Menzie.

2019 Recap: 23-9. DVC regular-season champs. Region 4B runner-up. Pentagon Tournament winners.

Key athletes lost: Setter Jordan Wittrock.

Key returning athletes: All-DVC first-teamers Olivia Baumberger, Braiden Westley and Mackenzie Hemmer and All-DVC HM Elizabeth Moore.

Team strengths: We have five of our six starters back, with a very experienced group of athletes. They are all very strong and versatile players that can be thrown anywhere on the

court. They are very hard working and determined both in the classroom and on the court, which has helped their success previously and will continue to help them this year.

Team weaknesses: Our major weakness is our consistency. Being able to come out and play each game to the best of our ability is our focus for this season.

Coach's comments: I am extremely excited for this season. Each year I have seen major improvement with this group of girls so I am anxious to see everything they can accomplish this season. We have very high expectations for them and are hoping they will be successful during playoffs this season.

Estelline/Hendricks Cross Country

Head Coach: James Benning (18th year).

Assistant Coaches: Jessica Johnson (8th year).

2019 Recap: The girls won the DVC title and the boys were second as both teams placed fourth in the region meet.

Key athletes lost: Kaylee Faehnrich, Dallis Trego.

Key returning athletes: Riley Benning (pictured above) placed sixth at the state meet, while Justin Buschenfeld, Jesade Siverson, Kaylee Johnson and Sadie Johnson each qualified for state.

Team strengths: We have some upperclassmen who have had a lot of success returning. We also have a good group of younger runners who will help the team improve and become very competitive. We have several sixth-graders participating, so the future looks very promising.

Team weaknesses: We need more high school girls to participate.

Coach's comments: Our boys' and girls' teams should be able to compete for the DVC title and four our teams to qualify for the state meet if we can remain healthy and steadily improve.

Lake Preston Volleyball

Head Coach: Kelsey Smith (3rd year).

Assistant Coaches: Sara Beckler.

2019 Recap: 3-26. For the past two years, we have been primarily underclassmen. While we were young and building our program, we have gained a lot of varsity experience to start the season off with.

Key returning athletes: We have three returning starters who received honors and awards last year. Senior Holly Andrews is our setter and right side hitter. Holly received DVC Honorable Mention and was voted our team MVP. Annika Nelson, junior, is our big middle hitter. Last year she received our DVC All Conference and was voted our team's Offensive Player of the Year. Our last returning starter who received an award last year was sophomore Ava Malone who was

voted our team's Defensive Player of the Year.

Team strengths: We only lost one consistent starter from last year's team. We will not be starting over this year, but continually building. We have a big junior class that has been playing varsity for two years, and we have an athletic freshmen class that is going to compete for playing time.

Team weaknesses: We will continue to work on our communication this year.

Coach's comments: "I am really looking forward to this year. In the past, we have been so young, and it has been difficult to compete at times. This year, we have a lot of talent on our team that is going to make practice competitive and keep players motivated to keep their starting spots."

Colman-Egan Cross Country



From row (left to right) – Presley Luze, McKayla Loehr, Brynlee Landis, Sutton Bunde; Back row – Elaina Rhode, Abby Rhode, Karson Quale, Jackson Wright, Reese Luze. Not pictured is Jessi Streff.

The Colman-Egan girls' cross country team won the Region 2B meet last year and lost just one starter.

Reese Luze, Abby Rhode and Presley Luze are the top returning athletes.

The Hawks took third in the Dakota Valley Conference meet in 2019.

"We are lucky to have young returning varsity runners, and with young talented run-

ners to fill out the roster." Said eighth-year coach Troy McKenney. "We are also young on the boys side, and just hope to continually improve as the season progresses into the month of October.

"With having a young team, staying healthy is always a concern."

The Hawks lost Jordan Wittrock to graduation.

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Flandreau Football



Front row (from left) – Dylan Christenson, Steven Moose, Ethan Hoffman, Caleb Pit-senberger, Brendan Peterson. Not Pictured Sergio Morales and Tathan Headrick; Middle row – Drew Bamba, Lane Johanson, Kevin Fernandez, Tanner Christenson, Gary Moose, Chance Wasson, Sam Gassman, Mario Bonilla; Back row – Tash Lunday, Kolby Peters, Chase Reed, Brady Johnson, Braden Peters, Gage Gullickson, Isiah Fisherman.

Head Coach: Derek Genzlinger (3rd year).

Assistant Coaches: Josh Edlund, Dalton Hannasch, Blake Savey, Joe Parsley.

2019 Recap: 0-8.

Key athletes lost: Matt Pauley, Devon Burggraff

Key returning athletes: Tash Lunday TE/LB All-Big East, Braden Peters (All-BEC HM), Brady Johnson (All-BEC HM), Chase Reed (All-BEC HM), Tanner Christenson, Gage Gullickson, Kolby Peters, Kevin Fernandez, Ethan Hoffman, Lane Johanson, Tathan Headrick, Isiah Fisherman.

Team strengths: We return all of our offensive and defensive lineman from last year. Two of them now four-year starters

and two of them as three-year starters. We also return out leading pass catcher in Tash Lunday and four out of our top five tacklers from last year.

Team weaknesses: We only have 22 guys out so depth is a problem at the skill positions. Lots of new faces in those spots as well, so it will be important to get growth out of our wide receivers.

Coach's comments: "Even with limited numbers this has been the hardest working group we have had in my 6 years here. Guys are working hard and bringing a great attitude to practice. We bring back a lot of upper-classmen and have hit the ground running in Year 2 of our new systems."

Flandreau Volleyball



Head Coach: Kimberly DeKruif (1st year)

Assistant Coaches: Lori Williams (4th year)

2019 Recap: 5-21. Hannah Parsley – All-BEC, All-LCC; Madison Kontz and Macy Kneebone – BEC HM.

Key athletes lost: Parsley, Kontz, Shalyn Peters, Kennedy HEadrick, Grace Johanson.

Key returning athletes: Kneebone (All-BEC HM), Kennedy

Peper, Alison Rice, Bella Pavlis.

Team strengths: Core group of returning athletes.

Team weaknesses: Our number of returning athletes with significant varsity experience is low.

Coach's comments: "I am excited to return to the volleyball program as head coach this season. We have a solid group of returning athletes and a large pool of potential joining our program."

Flandreau Boys' Golf



Front row (from left) – Jonathan Powers, Kaden Burshiem, Alfie Henderson, Dylan Christianson; Back row – Coach Adam Anderson, Carson Headrick, Brant LeBrun, Cade LeBrun, Bradley Heinemann.

Head Coach: Adam Anderson (2nd year).

2019 Recap: Devon Burggraff qualified for the State A tourney after placing 25th in regions. He was 91st at state.

Key athletes lost: Burggraff.

Key returning athletes: Bradley Heinemann, Cade LeBrun, Dylan Christianson, Alfie Henderson, Jonathan Powers.

Team strengths: We have a young team with now multiple years of experience that is showing improvements in striking the ball and game strategy.

Team weaknesses: We have few numbers, but that means more experience in

Coach's comments: The Flan-

dreau boys golf team holds a mix of young and experienced golfers, opening us up for years of growth and successes on and off the course. While the boys faced many challenges this 2019 season (with new courses and opponents), the Flandreau golf team competed hard and showed great patience and flexibility that will come in handy for the 2020 golf season. We have a few new members to the team and a returning golfer, Dylan Christianson, who is participating in Football as well as golf. Flandreau will have a great year based off the improvement seen over the summer. These students are out here to have fun and better themselves.

Oldham-Ramona/Rutland Football

Head Coach: Logan DeRungs (1st year).

Assistant Coaches: Jason Hanson, Kyle Broghammer, Josh Olson.

2019 Recap: 4-5. Lost in first round of playoffs. Averaged 275 yards (155 rushing/120 passing) and 23 points per game.

Key athletes lost: Daniel Jatton, Tristan Hageman, Isaac Hegdahl.

Key returning athletes: 13 letterwinners, including four offensive and five defensive starters. ... Juniors Will Matson, Orion Albertson, Jacob Jatton, Will Olson, Isaac Trygstad, Kenneth Lindholm, Carter Wermers, Wyatt Bickett, JJ Agnew and sophomore Kadyn Gehrels.

Team strengths: We have a large class of juniors that have two years of experience on each side of the ball. Will Matson has two years of experience as a starting quarterback and his intelligence and knowledge of the game will help us. We have athletes that can make plays in space and will be used in various roles offensively. ORR has experienced some success the past six seasons and the younger kids have gravitated towards that. We qualified for the

playoffs twice and narrowly missed out with three 3-5 seasons. We will look to continue that success this fall.

Team weaknesses: Big plays really hurt us last year. We need to be more disciplined in our gap control and make sure we force teams to work for the yards and points they get. We did a nice job last year of forcing turnovers (2 per game), but we need a little more focus on getting the ball carrier to the ground on first contact. We must do a better job this year with ball security both in the running and passing game. Mental toughness is something we will look to turn more attention to. This will allow us to be creative with things such as no-huddle offense, audibles and adjustments at the line of scrimmage and having athletes in multiple positions to better utilize their skill sets.

Coach's comments: "We graduated an 800-yard rusher in Daniel Jatton and also 4 of our top six offensive lineman. Limiting the big plays and an emphasis on not giving up yards after contact will be our primary focus defensively."

Oldham-Ramona/Rutland Volleyball

Head Coach: Kaylee Stratton (3rd year).

Assistant Coaches: Carli Bunger, Shelby Thompson.

2019 Recap: 8-18.

Key athletes lost: Khloe Tieman; Kylie Anderson.

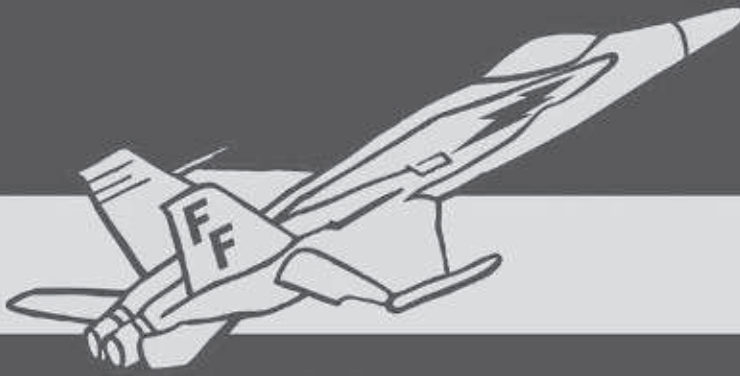
Key returning athletes: Maddy Eich, Ry-lie Aschmeller, Sine Matson (All-DVC HM), Alivia Spilde, Breckyn Leighton, Julia Tryg-

stad, Alivia Bickett. Paige Hanson, Brooklyn Hageman

Team strengths: Team chemistry; great communicators.

Team weaknesses: Young.

Coach's comments: "We look to improve our record from last season and compete in our conference."



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Elkton-Lake Benton Football



Front row (from left) – Riley Hunter, Matthew Grooters, Jack Hemmen, Aiden Erickson, Matthew Nibbe, William Neill, Martin Davis; Middle row – Wade Nibbe, Travis Smith, Carson Griffith, Logan Kuehl, Garrett Neill, Ryan Krog, Lane Thompson, Jacob Timm; Back row – Dustin Asmus, Andrew Wieme, Quinten Poindexter, Riddick Westley, Caden Miller, KaDan Smith, Brody Bales.

Head Coach: Ethan Pearson (1st year).

Assistant Coaches: Kaleb Haas, Steve Erickson, Brian Jandahl.

2019 Recap: 1-7.

Key athletes lost: Grant DeRuyter, Bryson Sik, Alex Landsman, Hayden Hunter, Noah Greer.

Key returning athletes: Aiden Erickson, Jack Hemmen, William Neill, Matthew Nibbe, Lane Thompson, and Riley Hunter.

Team strengths: We have a hard-working group of guys; we feel that we are able to build around some players on offense and defensive line. We have a group of solid skill players, just need to continue and learn a new

system.

Team weaknesses: We have a schedule that will prove to be a challenge once again. We aren't deep at some positions, so we will have to rely on some younger players to step in and make some contributions at the varsity level.

Coach's comments: "We have a group of kids that will work very hard and work for one another. We have a whole new coaching staff, so implementing new offense and defense during practice, and getting the players to understand them has been our biggest goal off all camp. We play a tough schedule, but we have to look at it as an opportunity to knock off a big team each week we go out."

Elkton-Lake Benton Volleyball



Front row (from left) – Sydney Pierce, Piper Stein, Ella Crofutt, Malayna Hemmen, Autumn Tooley, Brooklyn Nielsen, Julia Drietz, Kayla Goertz, Tristin Basham, Zoey Greer, Carlie Bolish; Back row – Tevan Erickson, Jady Seiler, Madisyn Nielsen, Emily Robbins, Kailyn Drietz, Hannah Krog, Rachael Krog, Aubrey Schindler, Kinsley Krog, Aubree Bales, McKenna Krog.

Head Coach: Melissa Erickson (15th year, 12th in Elkton)

Assistant Coaches: Taylor Miles.

2019 Recap: 24-8. Dakota Valley Conference Tournament champions.

Key athletes lost: Aubrey Wirth, Jesse Busselman, Emily Miller, Emma Kampmann, Alex Sanderson.

Key returning athletes: Hannah Krog (three-time All-DVC, 2019 DVC MVP, three-time All-Register, 2019 Register POV, two-time AVCA Phenom Athlete, Under Armour All American Watch List, 1,000-plus kills), Julia Drietz (two-time All-DVC, AVCA Phenom Athlete, Under Armour All American Watch List, 1,000 set assists),

Brooklyn Nielsen, Rachael Krog (All-DVC HM, AVCA Phenom Athlete).

Team strengths: We return four starters with at least two or more years of experience. These girls will provide a strong core for our offense and defense.

Team weaknesses: We will need to improve our serve receive as well as becoming consistent and aggressive servers.

Coach's comments: "This could prove to be a year full of fun with potential to turn some heads. These girls love to compete and challenge each other. I look forward to the competition in practice which will only set us up for success against our opponents."

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Colman-Egan Football

Front row (from left) – Brayden Wiess, Jesse Baumberger, Tanner Anderson, Noah Bowen, Logan Voelker, Xander Mallory. Back row – Wyatt Bush, Kelby Voelker, Weston Miles, Ben Zwart, Noah Anderson, Dawson Miles, Cole Hannasch, Easton Williamson, Ryan Voelker, Austin Gullickson, Ryker Hawkins.



Head Coach: Chad Williamson (50-22 career record).

Assistant Coaches: Jeremy Crisp, Tyler Husby.

2019 Recap: 12-0, Class 9A state champions (third title in four years), DVC champs.

Key athletes lost: Dalton Voelker, Nate Tolley, Eli Bowen, Ty Hiller, Chase Hemmer, Cole Tolley, Riley Bush.

Key returning athletes: Starters Ryker Hawkins (two-way), Ryan Voelker (two-way), Kelby Voelker,

Wyatt Bush, Noah Anderson, Cole Hannasch. ... Newcomers Austin Gullickson, Weston Miles, Dawson Tolley, Skyler Anderson, Trey Costine, Tanner Anderson, Ben Zwart, Easton Williamson, Logan Voelker.

Team strengths: The biggest key to our season will be if players can accomplish their assignments on a

weekly basis. Many players in very key positions will have to prove themselves this year. ... We will have a very upper classman dominated roster this season. They have worked very hard to reach the standard of excellence that is expected and they know it is their job continue that throughout the season.

Team weaknesses: Very difficult to replace a senior class like our program had in 2019 but if our players commit to the program we should be successful. Our program has many players that have not had much Friday night action the last few years that will need to fill many key positions.



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