

# THS Cardinals



## 2023 Fall Sports

Tipton Times • Thursday, Aug. 24, 2023



### Girls Golf



### Football



### Cross Country



### Band



### Cheer



### Volleyball



Also previewing Otterville and Bunceton








Cardinal football

Members of the 2023-24 Tipton Cardinal football team are, from left: Brenton Arnold, Max Maddex, Rhett Lambert, Emmett Haas, Cain Myers, Cooper Pettigrew, Jackson Bailey, Tyler Baer and Charlie Miller; second row, Theron Kliethermes, Kingston Gensler, Hunter Hagerman, Gavin Hunsburger, Reid Broyles, Josiah Galloway, Leland Potter and Jackson Birdwell; third row, Cooper Doss, Waylon Rambo, Dalton Doss, Will Cashman, Tyler Rivera, Jayden Hill, Mason Carel and Paxton Pyle/ fourth row, Landon Griffin, Ben Bestgen, Evan Ragsdale, Grant Pardoe, Nicklaus Wolf, Andrew Bestgen and Austin Shores; fifth row, Dane Schlotzhauer, Chance Petree, Riley Walters, Ty Bixler, Sam Duke, William Wiecken, Lucas Cashman and Brady Dicus; and back row, Coach Chad Hickam, Coach Nathan Bestgen, Coach Bill Duke and Coach McGwire Dean.




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# Cards come off first winning season in 10 years

## 64<sup>th</sup> year hopes to be ‘better for the team’

By Tara Alumbaugh  
*Times’ sports*

The Tipton Cardinal football team is starting its 64<sup>th</sup> season, with Coach Bill Duke taking the helm for the third year. He is joined by assistant coaches Nathan Bestgen, McGwire Dean and Chad Hickam.

After each game, Duke asks the coach and players, “Does anyone have anything better for the team?” This question has become a staple in the huddles, working together to improve.

The Cardinals had a 6-4 winning record last season, showing the hard work during off season has paid off.

Six starting seniors left with graduation last season, but Duke feels the returning underclassman and this year’s batch of seniors will still be able to get the job done.

“I have been pleasantly surprised with the amount of energy the boys show up to practice with,” said Duke.

Returning for their last year on the team are seniors Brenton Arnold, Max Maddex, Emmett Haas, Cain Myers, Cooper Pettigrew, Jackson Bailey, Tyler Baer and Charlie Miller. These boys saw meaningful varsity playing time last season.

Juniors Dalton Doss, Landon Griffin and Lucas Cashman return this season, along with sophomores Leland Potter, Jayden Hill, Tyler Rivera, Will Cashman, Dane Schlotzhauer, Ben Bestgen, Sam Duke, William Wiecken, Grant Pardoe, Nicklaus Wolf and Brady Dicus.

Joining the 41-athlete team are senior Rhett Lambert, junior Waylon Rambo, sophomores Mason Carell and Riley Walters, and freshmen Theron Kleithermes, Kingston Gensler, Hunter Hagerman, Gavin Hunsburger, Reid Broyles, Josiah Galloway, Cooper Doss, Paxton Pyle, Austin Shores, Andrew Bestgen, Evan Ragsdale, Chance Petree and Ty Bixler.

The Cardinals return four out of five offensive linemen, their quarterback and several running backs and receivers.

This is the second year the Cardi-



### On the line

The Tipton Cardinal football team takes to the line in a varsity versus junior varsity scrimmage. The Cardinals are coming off a 6-4 season, looking forward to their first game Friday, Aug. 25, at Crest Ridge. Kick off is at 7 p.m.

nals are in the West Central Conference and have a goal to bring home the conference title. Also competing for the conference crown will be Crest Ridge, Lincoln, Cole Camp, Wellington-Napoleon, Windsor, Cass Midway, Lone Jack and Adrian.

“Being a newer conference, the title would mean a lot to the boys,” said Duke.

The Cardinals have been working on strength and weights since the middle of December. Summer session saw them take part in the Quincy University team camp in Illinois and a small combined practice with Higginsville and Lamar. Duke has seen each athlete improve

in each aspect of lifting and knowledge.

“It doesn’t matter what grade these boys are in, they just want to do their best,” said Duke. “Everyone is competing with excitement and trust each other on the field.”

The Cardinals won’t rely on just a passing game or just a running game. Duke plans to take each game from the start and do what’s best for the kids and what the opponent will let them do.

“We want to try to put kids in the position to be successful,” said Duke.

The Cardinals competed in a pre-season jamboree at California Friday, Aug. 18, to test their skills

against Marshall, Father Tolton and California.

The season will officially begin Friday, Aug. 25, playing at 7 p.m. at Crest Ridge.

The Cardinals’ home opener will take place Friday, Sept. 1, hosting Lincoln, with Homecoming being held Friday, Sept. 22, against Wellington-Napolean.

Senior night will take place with the “Pink Out” game Friday, Oct. 13, against Lone Jack.

#### VARSITY FOOTBALL

8/18	Jamboree	California	7 p.m.
8/25	Crest Ridge	A	7 p.m.
9/1	Lincoln	H	7 p.m.
9/8	Cole Camp	H	7 p.m.
9/15	Orchard Farm	H	7 p.m.
9/22	Wellington-Napoleon(Homecoming)	H	7 p.m.
9/29	Windsor	A	7 p.m.
10/6	Cass Midway	A	7 p.m.
10/13	Lone Jack (Senior/Pink Out)	H	7 p.m.
10/21	Adrian	A	7 p.m.
10/27	Districts		TBA

#### JV FOOTBALL

9/5	Crest Ridge	A	6:45 p.m.
9/11	Warsaw	H	5:30 p.m.
9/25	Cole Camp	A	5:30 p.m.
10/9	Russellville	H	6:30 p.m.
10/16	Linn	H	5:30 p.m.

Head Coach: Bill Duke

Assts.: Chad Hickam, Nathan Bestgen, and McGuire Dean

#### JR HIGH FOOTBALL

9/5	Crest Ridge w/Chilhowee	A	5 p.m.
9/12	Versailles	H	5:30 p.m.
9/26	Harrisburg	H	5:30 p.m.
10/2	Windsor	A	5 p.m.
10/9	Russellville	H	5 p.m.
10/16	Lincoln	A	5:30 p.m.

Coaches: Dylan Cooper and Zac Overbeck

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**Lady Cardinals**  
Members of the 2023-24 Tipton Lady Cardinals volleyball team are, from left: Front row, Raylin Potter, Ryliegh Belt and Madalyn Hagerman; middle row, Addison McQuaide, Raylyn Wilfong, Mahayla Rambo, Anna Crane and Grace Higgins; and back row, Coach Hannah Ashley, Charlee Bailey, Camdyn Garber, Kaylie Kohler, Kaylee Kuschel, Ava Schlotzhauer, Myra Haas, Kaitlyn Tuttle and assistant coach Gracie Wierman.

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Have a great fall season!



# Lady Cards look to take the court with experience

## Build off competitive summer

By Tara Alumbaugh  
Times' sports

The Tipton Lady Cardinals volleyball team have worked hard over the summer to build on the program.

Coach Hannah Ashley coming in on her second year as head coach, with Gracie Wierman, past Lady Cardinal, as her assistant.

The team comes off an 8-23-1 season, pushing themselves at practice to work on control with their body and the ball.

The team has been conditioning, working on "speed strength" and plyometrics for vertical and speed.

"We have a lot of varsity experience on our team," said Ashley. "Half of the team has competed at the varsity level, but we are still a young team."

The team's volleyball knowledge will need to grow throughout the season, but Coach Ashley is confident they will have a good season and grow as a team.

Returning are: Seniors Madalyn Hagerman, outside hitter and defensive specialist, Raylin Potter and Ryleigh Belt, defensive specialist; junior Charlee Bailey, setter; sophomores Anna Crane, outside hitter and defensive specialist, Ava Schlotzhauer, middle blocker and outside hitter, and Kaitlyn Tuttle, a utility player who will be seen at middle blocker, outside hitter and setter, Raylyn Wilfong and Kya Smith, defensive specialist.

A line of freshmen Ladies will join the team with Camdyn Garber, Grace Higgins, Kaylee Kuschel, Larrah Petree, Addison McQuaide and Kaylie Kohler, who are still working on their positions on the court.

The team started their season with the Russellville Jamboree



### Serve it up

Tipton Lady Cardinal Mahayla Rambo, freshman, gets down her rhythm for serves during volleyball practice. The Ladies will take the court for their first tournament Saturday, Aug. 26, at Father Tolton, Columbia, followed by the first game at home against Centralia at 5:30 p.m. on Monday, Aug. 28.

Tuesday, Aug. 22, and will start Aug. 28, hosting Centralia. their regular season on Monday,

JV & VARSITY VOLLEYBALL				
8/26	Fr. Tolton Tourney V	A		TBA
8/28	Centralia JV/V	H	5:30 p.m.	
8/31	Versailles JV/V	A	5:30 p.m.	
9/5	Skyline JV/V	H	5:30 p.m.	
9/7	*Sacred Heart JV/V	H	5:30 p.m.	
9/11	Russellville JV/V	H	5:30 p.m.	
9/12	*N'west-Hughesville JV/V	H	5:30 p.m.	
9/14	*La Monte JV/V	A	5 p.m.	
9/19	*Cole Camp JV/V	A	5 p.m.	
9/23	Hallsville Tournament JV/V	A		TBA
9/25	*Windsor JV/V	A	5:30 p.m.	
9/26	*Otterville JV/V	H	5:30 p.m.	
9/28	*Smithton JV/V	A	5:30 p.m.	
9/30	Green Ridge Tourn. JV	A		TBA
10/3	*Lincoln JV/V	H	5:30	
10/5-7	Kay. Conf. Tourn. V			Cole Camp TBA
10/9	Warsaw JV/V	H	5:30 p.m.	
10/10	Green Ridge JV/V	A	5:30 p.m.	
10/12	*Stover (Senior) JV/V	H	5:30p.m.	
10/14	Versailles Invite V	A		TBA
*Conference				
Head Coach: Hannah Ashley				
Asst. Coach: Gracie Wierman				

JR HIGH VOLLEYBALL				
9/7	*Sacred Heart	H	5:30 p.m.	
9/12	*N'West Hughesville	H	5:30 p.m.	
9/14	*La Monte	A	5 p.m.	
9/19	*Cole Camp	A	5 p.m.	
9/25	*Windsor	A	4:30 p.m.	
9/26	*Otterville	H	5:30 p.m.	
9/28	*Smithton	A	5:30 p.m.	
10/3	*Lincoln	H	5:30 p.m.	
10/10	*Green Ridge	A	5:30 p.m.	
10/12	*Stover	H	5:30 p.m.	
10/13-14	Kaysinger Tourney			Green Ridge TBA
*Conference				
Coach: Samantha Price				

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**Ladies on the course**  
Members of the 2023-24 Tipton Lady Golf team are, from left: Larrah Petree, Clara Williams, Courtney Edwards, Ava Schlotzhauer, Amanda Garcia and Charlee Bailey. Not pictured is Kya Smith and Coach Jason Culpepper.

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# Girls golf looks to improve off eighth place state finish last season

By Tara Alumbaugh  
*Times' sports*

The Tipton Lady Cardinal golf team is working on their second season and hope to continue the success with an eighth place state finish.

Coach Jason Culpepper will step in once again as the coach, bringing sophomores Ava Schlotzhauer, a state qualifier last season, and Kya Smith back with him.

Senior Courtney Edwards, junior Charlee Bailey, sophomores Clara Williams and Amanda Garcia, and freshman Larrah Petree round out the rest of the team.

Each golfer brings a different talent to the team, all of whom look for another state finish with more individual qualifiers.

The girls are working on making contact with the ball and long hits across the course during practice.

"The girls are always positive and look forward to getting better every day," said Culpepper. "They listen really well and have been working hard. They are a fun group to coach."

The Ladies home course will be at the Tipton Country Club, hosting the first meet of the season Thursday, Aug. 31, against Versailles.



## Swing!

Tipton Lady Cardinal Ava Schlotzhauer, sophomore, focuses on her swing during golf practice at the Tipton Country Club. This is the second season for the Lady Cardinal spring golf season. They will play their first match Thursday, Aug. 31, hosting Versailles.

GIRLS GOLF			
8/31	Versailles	Tipton Country Club	
9/6	Buffalo Tourney		A
9/12	Marshall		A
9/14	Versailles Invite		A
9/18	Smith-Cotton Classic		Sedalia
9/19	Harrisburg Scramble		Columbia
9/21	Stover	Tipton Country Club	
9/29	Stover Tourney	Versailles Country Club	
10/2	Kaysin. Conf. Tourney		Sedalia
Coaches: Jason Culpepper			

JH, JV & VARSITY CROSS COUNTRY			
9/2	Jeff City Jays	V/JV	9 a.m.
9/7	Marshall	V/JV/JH	4 p.m.
9/9	Linn	V/JV/JH	9 a.m.
9/16	Fulton	V/JV/JH	9 a.m.
9/23	Hermitage	V/JV/JH	9 a.m.
10/7	Harrisburg	V/JV/JH	9 a.m.
10/11	Kaysinger XC Meet	V/JV/JH	4 p.m.
	at Stover		
10/14	Smithton	V/JV/JH	9 a.m.
10/16	Vienna	V/JV	4 p.m.
10/21	Fatima	V	9 a.m.
All meets are away Coach: Michael Reeves			

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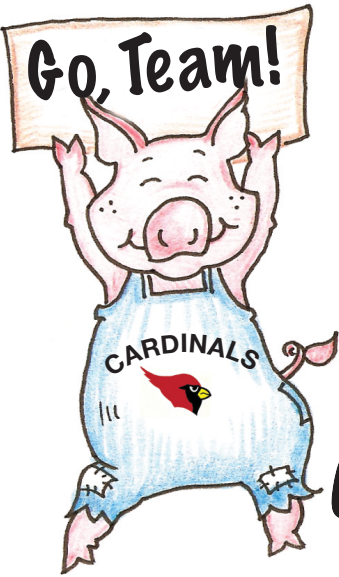
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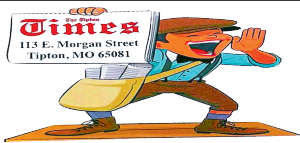
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**Cheer squad**  
Members of the 2023-24 Tipton varsity football cheer squad are from left: Front row, Meagan Koechner and Holly Parker; second row, Cailey Savage, Madilynn Edwards, Illisa McDonald and Bailey Bradshaw; third row, Lily Hampton, Nina Allison and Miley McDonald; and back row, Paige Brown, Leila Hunsburger and Ella Williams. The team is coached by Gina Hunsburger.

# Hunsburger keeps cheer foundation growing

**By Tara Alumbaugh**  
*Times' sports*

The Tipton varsity cheer squad welcomes Gina Hunsburger as their new coach for the football season.

Hunsburger has a main goal for the program, to continue building solid foundational skills.

"The girls have been working diligently all summer on stunt progression skills," said Hunsburger. "They are safely landing solid stunts from extensions to baskets."

Returning to the squad are seniors Meagan Koechner, co-captain, and Holly Parker, juniors Lily Hampton, co-captain, Paige Brown and Illisa McDonald, and sophomores Miley McDonald, Bailey Bradshaw, Cassidy Twenter and Madilynn Edwards.

Joining the team are junior Ella Williams, and freshmen Cailey Savage, Nina Allison, Leighla Hunsburger and Kaitlynn Brewer.

The squad has been putting in the work needed to have a successful season. They are trying new approaches, jumps, motions, cheers and stunts.

"I can't wait to see what this season holds with their hard work and determination," said Hunsburger.

The Ladies will be in front of the fans cheering on the football team on Fridays starting Aug. 26, at Crest Ridge.

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**Marching band**

Members of the 2023-24 Cardinal Pride Marching Band are from left: Front row, Jackson Baer, Jeorgia Reed, Rita Xiao and Bailey Bradshaw; second row, Jaylin Turley, Hernan Ubaldo, Mason Ward, Giovanni Ubaldo and Kallie Eldridge; third row, Kaylynn Jones, Elizabeth Guymon, Tucker Doyle and Jackson Birdwell; and back row, Cassidy Twenter, Zavannah Kruse, Dayton Doyel, Carter Helms and director Andrew Maddux. Not pictured are Logan Petree, drum major, and Kyndall Turley.

# Petree leads Cardinal Band as drum major

## Band ready for halftime shows

**By Tara Alumbaugh**  
*Times' sports*

The Tipton Cardinal Pride Marching Band welcomes Logan Petree at the helm of the field as drum major this season.

Andrew Maddux will start his fourth year as the band director with Amanda Twenter in her second year at color guard coach.

The band brought home third place at Carrolton Band Day, third at Smith-Cotton and first at Odessa last year.

This year, Maddux looks for his band to play more in tune and be more consistent on time attendance.

"The band is already sounding better than last year," said Maddux. "They are playing with purpose and attention to detail. They are being respectful of each other and being student leaders."

Maddux will still work on getting the band's feet in time and work on balanced playing across the group.

Returning to the band this year are: Seniors Dayton Doyel, percussion section leader, and Rita Xiao, Clarinet section leader; junior Logan Petree, drum major, and Kyndall Turley, trombone; and sophomores Bailey Bradshaw, flute section leader, James Brewer, percussion, Tucker Doyle, percussion, Kallie Eldridge, color guard captain, Carter Helms, percussion, Zavannah Kruse, percussion, Enrique Rivera, saxophone, Cassidy Twenter, color guard, Giovanni Ubaldo, trumpet, and William Wiecken, trombone.

Sophomore Jaylin Turley will join the color guard, with freshmen Jackson Baer, saxophone, Jackson Birdwell, percussion, Elizabeth Guymon, trombone, Kaylynn Jones, percussion, Jeorgia Reed, Clarinet, Hernan Ubaldo, trumpet, and Mason Ward, trumpet, joining the musicians.

Along with playing the home football halftime shows, the band will have five competitions, starting Aug. 26, at Timberland Marching Percussion Competition. They will also perform at Carrolton Band Day, Rock Bridge Marching Festival, CMU Band Day and Odessa Marching Invitational.

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# Lone runner will outfit Cardinal Cross Country

**By Tara Alumbaugh**  
*Times' sports*

Sophomore Carter Helms will be the lone runner for the Tipton High School cross country team this season under Coach Michael Reeves. This is Reeves' first year at Tipton and first year in cross country. He will usually be seen on the court during boys basketball.

Helms is in his second year of high school cross country and looks to improve at each meet. Reeves is going to keep working with Helms on conditioning and hopefully over time his results will improve.

The cross country team is still taking athletes and if interested Coach Reeves can be contacted at reevesm@tipton.k12.mo.us.



**Lone runner**

Tipton Cardinal, Carter Helms, sophomore, is this year's lone runner for the cross country team. Under the coaching of Michael Reeves, Helms first meet will be at Jefferson City High School Saturday, Sept. 2, at 9 a.m.





**Have a great season, Cardinals!**

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Lady Eagles

Members of the 2023-24 Otterville Lady Eagles volleyball team are, from left: Hailey Hollomon, Jadyn Phillips, Alie Bemboom, Eowyn Loveland, Dakota Millsap, Katie Hopkins, Micah Summers, Allie Oswald, Briella Hernandez and Jena Halter. The Ladies will start their season with the Stover Jamboree Thursday, Aug. 24.

Lady Eagles put in work to build volleyball program

By Tara Alumbaugh  
Times' sports

The Otterville Lady Eagles bring experience back to the team with players and Coach Nichole Hollomon.

Hollomon is in her third year as the varsity coach, and fourth year in the program. She is joined by Emily Gorrell as the assistant coach and junior high coach.

Players coming back to the team

are: Seniors Jenna Halter, outside hitter, Hailey Hollomon, setter and Eowyn Loveland, middle hitter; juniors Alanna Bemboom, outside hitter, and Jadyn Phillips, outside hitter and setter.

These ladies also bring post season honors with Halter, Hollomon, Bemboom and Phillips being named to the Academic All-State team, and Hollomon receiving All-District Honorable Mention.

The team welcomes sophomores Micah Summer, defensive player, and Allie Oswald, and freshmen Dakota Millsap, who has experience with middle hitting and setting, Katie Hopkins, a strong hitter, and Briella Hernandez, who is willing to play just about any position.

Coach Hollomon has spent practices learning how to work better together.

"As a team, the Ladies have been

willing to step in and try new positions," said Hollomon.

The Lady Eagles are half experienced and half new to the sport, Hollomon is excited to see the growth these athletes will experience. She feels this will be a fun and rewarding season for the team if they keep up the hard work.

The Ladies will start their season with the Stover Jamboree Thursday, Aug. 24,

OTTERVILLE 8-MAN FOOTBALL			
(WITH N'WEST)			
8/25	Santa Fe	H	7 p.m.
9/1	Osceola	A	7 p.m.
9/8	St. Paul Lutheran(Concordia)	H	7 p.m.
9/15	Sweet Springs	H	7 p.m.
9/22	Orrick	A	7 p.m.
9/29	Concordia	A	7 p.m.
10/6	Knox County	H	7 p.m.
10/13	Paris	H	7 p.m.
10/20	Hardin-Central	A	7 p.m.
Head Coach: Ryan Benny			

LADY EAGLE VOLLEYBALL			
8/24	Stover Jamboree	A	TBA
8/28	Columbia Independent	H	
8/30	Kingsville	A	5:30 p.m.
9/5	Chamois	H	6 p.m.
9/7	Windsor	A	5:30 p.m.
9/12	Stover	H	6p.m.
9/14	Sacred Heart	H	
9/18	Lincoln	A	5:30 p.m.
9/19	N'West (Hughesville)	A	
9/21	La Monte	H	
9/26	Tipton	A	
9/28	Cole Camp	A	5 p.m.
9/30	Calvary Lutheran Tourney	A	TBA
10/2	Calvary Lutheran	A	6 p.m.
10/3	Smithton	H	5:30 p.m.
10/5-7	Kays. Conf. Tourney	A	TBA
10/10	Chilhowee	H	5:30 p.m.
10/12	Green Ridge	H	5:30 p.m.
10/16	Russellville	A	5 p.m.
10/17-24	District Tourney	A	TBA
Head Coach: Nichole Hollomon			

BPH BASEBALL			
8/25	Tuscumbia	H	5 p.m.
8/28	Sturgeon	H	5:30 p.m.
8/31	New Franklin	A	5 p.m.
9/5	New Bloomfield	A	5 p.m.
9/7	Jamestown	H	5 p.m.
9/8	Vienna	H	5 p.m.
9/11	New Bloomfield	H	5 p.m.
9/12	New Franklin	H	5:30 p.m.
9/13	Crocker	H	5 p.m.
9/15-16	Eugene Baseball Bash	A	TBA
9/18	Pilot Grove	H	5 p.m.
9/21	Higbee	A	7 p.m.
9/22	Eugene	H	5 p.m.
9/25	Jamestown	A	7 p.m.
9/26	St. Elizabeth	H	5:30 p.m.
9/29	Northeast(Cairo)	A	5 p.m.
10/2	Madison	A	7 p.m.
10/3	Community	H	5 p.m.
10/7	Jamestown	A	TBA
Head Coach: Dustin Ray			

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10/7	Jamestown	A	TBA
Head Coach: Dustin Ray			



Good luck to our  
Bunceton & Prairie Home teams  
this Fall Season!

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**BPH Softball**

Members of the 2023-24 Bunceton/Prairie Home fall softball team are, from left: Front row, Hunter Scott, Aubrey Thompson, Abby Gerke and Riley Zimmerman; middle, Tyleigh Kendrick, Daisie Huth, Maddy Kuester, Kynna Knapheide and Constance Goff; and back, Jordan Alpers, Ava Marcum, Reagan Haslag, Addison Ray and Justice Case. The Ladies will play their first game of the season Saturday, Aug. 26, at Boonville in the Lady Pirate Leadoff Classic.

# Lady Dragons start fall softball

**By Tara Alumbaugh**  
*Times' sports*

The Bunceton/Prairie Home Lady Dragons are taking their spot on the field this fall, trading the volleyball court for softball.

Coach Nichole Bruce, who was the assistant coach the last two years during spring softball, will take her spot as the head coach with assistant Maleiah Parker at her side.

The team is coming off a 5-9 record last season, bringing back 11 players: Senior Riley Zimmerman, catcher; sophomores Daisie Huth and Aubrey Thompson, outfielder and infielder, Addison Ray, pitcher, Tyleigh Kendrick, Reagan Haslag, Hunter Scott and Maddy Keuster, outfield, and Abby Gerke, Ava Marcum and Jordyn Alpers, infield.

Three players will join the Lady Dragons: Senior Constance Goff, who Bruce says is showing great strength for the outfield positions; and freshmen Justice Case, coming in with catching experience, and Kynna Knapheide, who brings experience on the infield.

"Kynna is showing great things at second base," said Bruce.

The Lady Dragons started practices going back to the basics, working on fundamentals and proper forms for throwing, batting and sliding.

"Our goal for this season is to

build a strong foundation for the program," said Bruce. "We want to bond as a team, but also as two communities. We want our BPH program to have a strong foundation with support from parents, fans and community members. Their support is very impactful to the success of our season."

The Lady Dragons are working on becoming better with each practice and game, building a strong team connection. The team has been able to identify positives on the field and the places that they need to focus on.

"We are seeing a lot of leaders on the team this year," said Bruce. "We have girls stepping up and standing out when it comes to leadership."

The Ladies have a young team, but Coach Bruce has no doubt that by the end of this season they will be

able to tell the effects their hard work has.

Bruce sees a team full of good work ethic, positive vibes and a lot of knowledge.

"Coach Parker and myself are excited to see the great things the team will do this season," said Bruce. "If they keep working like they have been this first week they will see success on the field. The success may not be every win, but after each game if they have learned at least one thing it will be a success at the end of the season because we will be better tomorrow than we were today."

They Ladies will start their season with the Lady Pirates Leadoff Classic in Boonville Saturday, Aug. 26.



**The Tipton Times**

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# Prairie Home/Bunceton baseball return full pitching staff

**By Tara Alumbaugh**  
*Times' sports*

The Prairie Home/Bunceton baseball team is ready to start the season, coming off a 10-11 record.

With a team of 13 players, Coach Dustin Ray feels they have a good mix of returners and freshmen to fill the team.

"I think we will be athletic and hopefully continue to improve," said Ray.

The Panthers tied for first in the 2022 conference season. As any coach would, Ray would like to believe that his team is the favorite of the CCAA conference.

The team returns their entire pitching staff for the third year in a row.

"We return the most talent in the conference and have shown in the past that we are a team to be worried about," said Ray. "Jamestown however is always a tough opponent and they are extremely well coached."

The Panthers look to be thorough throughout the season, showing up ready to play each day, not worrying about who they play, but how they play.

Coach Ray worries about the

team's depth on the bench, despite having more subs this season.

Returning to the team are pitchers Layne Brandes, Jackson Pitts, Landon Case and Wyatt Case.

In the outfield Jackson Pitts returns as centerfielder, along with Carter Pethan, left fielder, and Grant Milne and Bowen Force, splitting time in right field.

Wyatt Case will also be used as majority catcher.

Infielders returning are Layne Brandes at shortstop as the reigning conference player of the year.

Landon Case will take his spot at third base, and Landyn Sells, second base.

Joining the team are freshmen Brody Miller, Cooper Brown, Cooper Brandes, Cooper Scott and Vincent Foster.

"I still have a lot to learn about each one of these young men," said Ray. "I believe they will all play a role in the success of this team. They bring athleticism and good work ethic."

The Panthers will start their season Friday, Aug. 25, with a home game against Tusculumbia.



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