

The Prairie Press

August 26, 2023

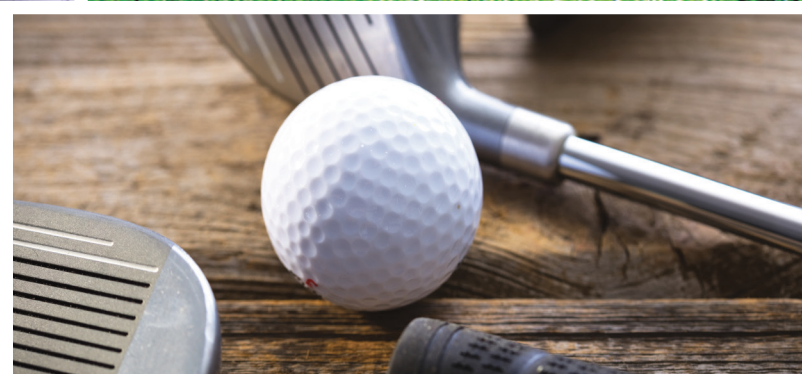
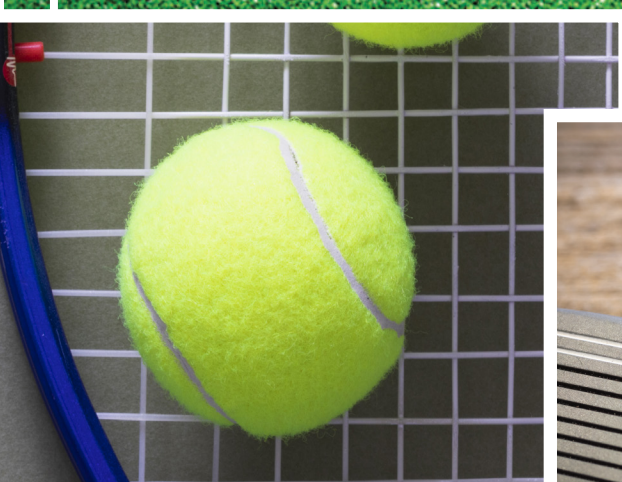


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2023 PHS football schedule and roster

» 2023 PARIS VARSITY FOOTBALL

Aug. 25 North Vermilion, Ind. 6:30 p.m.
 Sep. 1 Charleston 7 p.m.
 Sep. 8 at Marshall 7 p.m.
 Sep. 15 Lawrenceville 7 p.m.
 Sep. 22 at Mt. Carmel 7 p.m.
 Sep. 29 Newton 7 p.m.
 Oct. 6 at Richland County (Olney) 7 p.m.
 Oct. 13 at Robinson 7 p.m.
 Oct. 20 Casey-Westfield 7 p.m.

» 2023 PARIS JV FOOTBALL

Aug. 28 Tuscola 6 p.m.
 Sep. 4 at Charleston 6 p.m.
 Sep. 11 Marshall 6 p.m.
 Sep. 18 at Lawrenceville 6 p.m.
 Sep. 25 Mt. Carmel 6 p.m.
 Oct. 2 at Newton 6 p.m.
 Oct. 9 Richland County (Olney) 6 p.m.
 Oct. 16 Robinson 6 p.m.

» 2023 PARIS TIGER FOOTBALL VARSITY ROSTER

1 Madox Hutchings Fr WR/DB
 2 Karic Mason-Vitale So TE/LB
 3 Caleb Brinkley Sr WR/DB
 4 Mason Byrnes Jr RB/LB
 5 Ethan Curl Sr RB/LB
 6 Garret Rigdon So RB/DB
 7 Wyatt McCarty So WR/DB
 8 Carson Kollman So RB/DL
 9 Robert Wells Sr WR/LB
 10 Drew Rogers Jr QB/DB
 11 Ty King Jr WR/DB
 12 Quinn Williams Jr WR/DB
 13 Andre Calhoun Fr QB/DB
 15 Carter Crippes So WR/DB
 18 Brayden Rogers So QB/LB
 21 Calvin Rigdon Sr RB/LB
 22 Camden Yantis Fr WR/DB
 23 Gabe Roush So TE/LB
 31 Dawson Rogers Fr WR/DB
 41 Skyler Sweet Fr RB/LB
 49 Logan Curl So RB/LB
 51 Will Moody Sr OL/DL
 52 Brody Bishop So OL/DL
 54 Carter Eastham So OL/DL
 55 Koen Brinkerhoff Jr OL/DL
 56 Dylan Flores-Amaro So OL/DL
 58 Cooper Keys Jr OL/DL
 60 Evan Ramsey Jr OL/DL
 61 Charlie Ford So OL/DL
 62 Drake East So OL/DL
 64 Logan Ludington Fr OL/DL
 68 Taylon Deare Jr OL/DL
 71 Steven Muchow Sr OL/DL
 72 Richard Black Jr OL/DL
 75 Issac Jenkins So OL/DL
 80 Joshua Lamour So WR/DB
 84 Christian Perez So WR/DB
 87 Carter Cochran Fr TE/LB



Robby Tucker/The Prairie Press

A pair of Tigers go head-to-head in linemen drills. Victory will start at the line of scrimmage for the Tigers this season.

» 2023 PARIS TIGER FOOTBALL JV ROSTER

3 Madox Hutchings Fr WR/DB
 5 Camden Yantis Fr WR/DB
 7 Wyatt McCarty So WR/DB
 9 Carter Cochran Fr WR/DB
 10 Dawson Rogers Fr TE/LB
 13 Andre Calhoun Fr QB/DB
 15 Carter Crippes So WR/DB
 18 Brayden Rogers So QB/LB
 23 Gabe Roush So TE/LB
 33 Cameron Rollings Fr WR/DB
 41 Skyler Sweet Fr RB/LB
 49 Logan Curl So RB/LB
 52 Brody Bishop So OL/DL
 55 Alex Paquette Fr OL/DL
 56 Logan Ludington Fr OL/DL
 61 Charlie Ford So OL/DL
 62 Drake East So OL/DL
 71 Mason Rehmel Fr OL/DL
 72 Aydon Orndorff Fr OL/DL
 75 Issac Jenkins So OL/DL
 80 Joshua Lamour So WR/DB
 84 Christian Perez So WR/DB

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Justine Bogue PharmD

PHS Girls Golf Coming to an End in Paris

BY AUBREY WILSON
awilson@prairiepress.net

Paris High school girls golf has only three members, seniors Kya Bradford, Samantha Milam and Aubrey Wilson. Coach Hannah Furnish has coached at the high school for four years.

Furnish has a positive attitude towards this year's season. Even though there are not enough girls to qualify as a team, she hopes to see good scores from all three girls. Furnish believes golf is a great sport people can play their whole lives.

Such a small group has its perks.

"We're all close knit, and get along well," said Furnish.

Another perk of such a small team is the ability to focus individually on players. Furnish enjoys working one on one with the girls during practice.

This year will be an emotional one for those involved, the seniors graduating are the first freshmen Furnish had, and has coached all four years.

"It's helped me grow as a person and a coach," She explained.

With no girl golfers coming up, and all the current girls graduating, Furnish is unsure of what girl's golf will look like in the coming years, but hopes it will continue to grow at Paris High School.

Furnish has worked with these girls for multiple years and looks forward to seeing where they go in the future. She has loved watching the three of them grow as golfers, and as people.

» 2023 PARIS BOYS GOLF SCHEDULE

Aug. 24 at Tuscola 4 p.m.
Aug. 28 at Robinson 4 p.m.
Aug. 29 at Oblong 4 p.m.
Aug. 31 at Mattoon/Charleston/Urbana 4 p.m.
Sep. 1 Olney Invite TBA
Sep. 5 at Marshall 4 p.m.
Sep. 8 Mattoon Invitational 4 p.m.
Sep. 9 Mattoon Invitational 8 a.m.
Sep. 12 Paris/Marshall/Westville 4 p.m.
Sep. 16 Paris Golf Invitational 8:30 a.m.
Sep. 18 St. Anthony Match Play 1 p.m.
Sep. 19 at Westville 4 p.m.
Sep. 20 at LIC Championship 8:30 a.m.
Sep. 22 Charleston Golf Tourney 1 p.m.

» 2023 PARIS GIRLS GOLF SCHEDULE

Aug. 28 at Robinson 4 p.m.
Aug. 29 at Oblong 4 p.m.
Aug. 31 South Vermilion, Ind. 4 p.m.
Sep. 5 Marshall 4 p.m.
Sep. 6 Olney Girls Invite 3 p.m.
Sep. 7 at Charleston/T-Town/Paris 4 p.m.
Sep. 11 at West Vigo 4:15 p.m.
Sep. 12 Westville/Olney 4 p.m.
Sep. 18 at Robinson 4 p.m.
Sep. 20 at LIC Championship 8:30 a.m.
Sep. 21 Paris/Mt. Zion/ 4 p.m.
TBA Charleston/Eisenhower TBA

» PHS GOLF ROSTER (BOYS AND GIRLS)

Aubrey Wilson, Sr
Sammy Milam, Sr
Kya Bradford, Sr
Parker Underwood, Sr
Drake Bartos, Sr
Marcus Mitchell, Jr
Sean Dunn, So
Lincoln Livesay, Fr
Carter Brinkley, Fr
Jaeyzn Arbuckle, Fr

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Robby Tucker/The Prairie Press
Drew Rogers scans the field for a target during practice. Rogers has been designated as QB1 this season, and will be expected to lead the Tiger offense on the field.



Robby Tucker/The Prairie Press
Head coach Jeremy Clodfelder, right, offers some advice to one of his players during practice. In a previous interview, Clodfelder was outspoken in his praise for his team's attitude.



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Tiger volleyball has new look, same motivation

SPECIAL TO THE PRAIRIE PRESS

Summer open gyms and two weeks of practice wrapped up for the Paris Volleyball program. All three squads (fresh/soph, junior varsity and varsity) will begin their seasons on the road with trips to Broadlands and Cayuga.

The outlook has boiled to this point just as Head Coach Clay Bess anticipated; returning

Lady Tigers are claiming their spots in the starting lineups, but incoming Lady Tigers are making a strong case for playing younger talent.

That is the main reason Coach Bess kept 16 freshmen in the program.

"We have excellent talent in our older group. Enough talent to win. But we also have very skilled and eager underclassmen who are going to settle in at some point this

season," said Bess. "It's going to be a blend of the two groups that help our JV and Varsity teams excel when we need them to."

Experienced talent will fill the varsity starting lineup on opening night. Senior Aubree Leader will be the main offensive threat for a Lady Tiger team who will rely on defense and discipline. Leader will play the six rotation this season. This is a new role for her, but one she is prepared for, especially from the service line.

Jami Wallace is the only other returning starter, back in the middle position. Wallace will need to supply defense and is versatile enough on offense to score in multiple ways.

Seniors Maddie Ramsey and Addie Ford expect to contribute from the front row and back row, respectively. Junior setter Sam Kindred is back in the varsity lineup. Kindred saw action two years ago when Emily Wells missed time due to injury. Now, it is Kindred's offense to run.

Four juniors will round out the season's opening rotation. Annie Pruitt and Kynlee Shanks, excellent passers for the Lady Tigers, will be charged with shoring up step one of Paris' offense, a task that Coach Bess has not been shy to say is the program's weakest skill. Hailey Yantis will look to make an impact from the right pin on offense. A tri-ath-

lete last season, Peighton Smith, will start as the other middle in orange and black.

The program features one other senior, Kymberley Klyiac, and two other juniors, Linda Selimoska and Emily Fleming.

"I think the only way to replace a 10-person senior class, and follow up an all-time successful season, is with patience," Bess explained. "We've practiced very hard the first two weeks... implemented a few systems and ideas. Now, the matches begin and we're not looking for perfection, but looking for what we need to tweak and fine-tune. The only high expectations I've set are for the end of the season. That's once we figure out who we are and who can work best together."

Paris started the season 5-1 in Bess' first season last year, before finishing 19-14, and faces the same opponents to open up 2023. The Lady Tigers open Little Illini play against Casey on Thursday, Sept. 7, in a match the team is looking forward to in light of their conference championship aspirations. Those goals undoubtedly add Mt. Carmel (Oct. 5) and Newton (Oct. 19) to the watch list. Both opponents are LIC powers and both visit Paris. Two other opponents circled on a tough slate of matches will face Paris on the road: Bismarck-Henning (Sept. 19) and Terre Haute North (Oct. 9).

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of you and
what a honor
it is to watch
you play.**

Love, Mom

*Jami
Wallace*



Robby Tucker/The Prairie Press

Members of the Paris Tigers JV squad meet at the net during a scrimmage on Saturday, Aug. 19. While coach Clay Bess is relying heavily on his veterans and seniors this year, a new crop of promising young talent could fill in the gaps on this season's team.

2023 PHS volleyball roster and schedule

» VARSITY

4 Maddie Ramsey Sr. 5'8" OH
7 Jami Wallace Sr. 5'8" MH
11 Hailey Yantis Jr. 5'6" RS
14 Peighton Smith Jr. 5'10" MH
15 Aubree Leader Sr. 5'9" OH
21 Kynlee Shanks Jr. 5'4" DS
22 Addie Ford Sr. 5'7" DS
26 Sam Kindred Jr. 5'7" S
27 Annie Pruitt Jr. 5'6" L
28 Kymberley Klyaic Sr. 5'7" OH

» JUNIOR VARSITY

1 Abby Clodfelder So. 5'5" OH
8 Kylee Kleptz So. 5'10" RS
10 Mirayah Smith So. 5'6" MH
13 Kailey Young Fr. 5'7" S
17 Alina Leader So. 5'8" S
18 Blakelee Shanks So. 5'7" OH
19 Sara Staley Fr. 5'2" L
23 Mallaree Burgin So. 5'5" MH
25 Linda Selimoska Jr. 5'6" DS
29 Emily Fleming Jr. 5'7" MH

» FRESHMEN

34/1 Maddie Fr. ank Fr. 5'4" DS
2 Alyssa Martin Fr. 5'3" DS
32/3 Emma Kraemer Fr. 5'6" OH
3/5 Eva Smith Fr. 5'7" RS,S
27/7 Mattie Carter Fr. 5'6" DS
9 Klaire York Fr. 5'10" MH
20/10 Abi McConkey Fr. 5'7" MH
6/11 Lily Wyrick Fr. 5'3" DS
33/12 Rory Schopmeyer Fr. 5'4" DS
12/8 Sydney Landsaw So. 5'6" DS
15 Kailey Young Fr. 5'7" S
16 Alison Wyrick Fr. 5'4" OH
31/17 Jacie Young Fr. 5'8" OH
19 Sara Staley Fr. 5'2" DS
23 Mallarree Burgin So. 5'5" MH
24 Morgan Coombes Fr. 5'9" MH
30/28 Miranda Hogan Fr. 5'9" MH
32 Alexis Landsaw Fr. 5'7" OH

» 2023 PARIS VOLLEYBALL SCHEDULE

Aug. 29 at Hutsonville 6 p.m.
Aug. 31 Martinsville 6 p.m.
Sep. 5 at Georgetown-Ridge Farm 6 p.m.
Sep. 7 Casey-Westfield 6 p.m.
Sep. 9 at Shelbyville Varsity Tourney 8 a.m.
Sep. 11 North Central Farmersburg 5 p.m.
Sep. 14 at Lawrenceville 6 p.m.
Sep. 18 Tri-County 6 p.m.
Sep. 19 at Bismark-Henning 6 p.m.
Sep. 21 Oblong 6 p.m.

Sep. 25 Riverton Parke, Ind. 5:30 p.m.
Sep. 27 Salt Fork 6 p.m.
Sep. 28 Marshall 6 p.m.
Oct. 2 Chrisman 6 p.m.
Oct. 3 at Richland County (Olney) 6 p.m.
Oct. 5 Mt. Carmel 6 p.m.
Oct. 7 Tiger Classic 8:30 a.m.
Oct. 10 Tuscola 6 p.m.
Oct. 11 at Danville 6 p.m.
Oct. 12 at Robinson 6 p.m.
Oct. 16 at Neoga 6:15 p.m.
Oct. 29 Newton 6 p.m.

Lady Tiger tennis sports reloading with younger players, new attitude

SPECIAL TO THE PRAIRIE PRESS

This fall marks Coach Stefan Aydt's ninth season at the helm of the PHS girls tennis program, in addition to 11 seasons of experience as the boys tennis coach. Aydt is assisted for the second straight year by 2018 PHS graduate, former tennis player and state qualifier Jacob Randolph.

The Lady Tigers need to replace a talented group of seniors who accounted for about 70% of their match victories last year, including their top doubles team, Lily Graham and Kimber Calvert, who were state qualifiers. Calvert is continuing her career at Monmouth College this season.

Paris' two returning players with significant varsity experience are juniors Emmy Barrett and Graci Watson who played #4 and #6 last year and are currently standing at #1 and #2 in the lineup, respectively. Sophomores Bella Moreschi, Myah Bartos and Shelby Fry all picked up varsity wins in limited play last year and will look to build on that experience this season. Finally, sophomore Ava Barrett will be playing #6 and looking to earn the first varsity win of her career.

The Lady Tigers return five other players along with seven first-year players for a roster of 18 girls. This year's Lady Tiger squad is young - Kendel Whitehead (a first-year play-

er) is the only senior.

"We're definitely focusing on skill development this season," Aydt explained. "And hoping to learn quickly as we get into our early matches.

Typically, Aydt's goals include finishing in the top half of every tournament we play, having a winning record in duals and qualifying someone for the state tournament. Right now, the Lady Tigers are primarily focused on improving every practice.

"I'm definitely looking forward to getting a chance to see how we match up with our usual opponents after the time our girls put in improving this summer," said Aydt. "But with the heat, it looks like we're going to have to wait a while longer on that."

As the defending LIC champion, Robinson is the conference favorite coming into the season, returning their full lineup from last season. Olney is also expected to be a strong contender as well, while Casey and Newton both return most or all of their top six. The LIC will be a strong conference again this year.

Paris hosts the LIC Tournament on Saturday, Oct. 7, preceded by the Paris Doubles Tournament on Saturday, Sept. 16. Both are tough tournaments, featuring multiple returning state qualifiers and some of the area's top teams in Robinson (both), Teutopolis (Paris Doubles), and Flora (Paris Doubles).



Adonna Magers Bennett/The Prairie Press

Members of the PHS Varsity volleyball team pose for a photo.



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2023 Lady Tiger tennis roster and schedule

>> 2023 PHS GIRLS TENNIS ROSTER

Ava Barrett So.
Emerson Barrett Jr.
Myah Bartos So.
Daija Bright Jr.
Kendal Close So.
Olivia Drake So.
Kaidence Eveland Fr.
Shelby Fry So.
Addison Hansel So.
Sydney Landsaw So.
Danyella Miller So.

Bella Moreschi So.
Anna Muchow Fr.
Chloe Peperak So.
Addy Reel Jr.
Linda Selimoska Jr.
Taylor Shewey So.
Faith Smith Fr.
Bella Sunkel Fr.
Lottie Volstorff So.
Paven Walker So.
Graci Watson Jr.
Kendel Whitehead Sr.
Hailey Yantis Jr.

>> FALL 2023 PHS GIRLS TENNIS SCHEDULE

Aug. 28 Robinson High School (JV) 4:30 p.m.
Aug. 29 at Shelbyville 4:30 p.m.
Aug. 30 at St. Thomas More 4 p.m.
Sep. 2 at Robinson Tourney 9 a.m.
Sep. 5 at Robinson 4 p.m.
Sep. 7 at Charleston 4:15 p.m.
Sep. 9 at Flora 11 a.m.
Sep. 11 Danville Schlarmann 4 p.m.
Sep. 12 Effingham St. Anthony 4:30 p.m.

Sep. 14 Effingham 4:30 p.m.
Sep. 16 Paris Doubles Tourney 8 a.m.
Sep. 18 Casey-Westfield 4:30 p.m.
Sep. 21 at Mt. Carmel 4:30 p.m.
Sep. 23 at Teutopolis (JV) TBA
Sep. 25 at Richland (Olney) 4:15 p.m.
Sep. 26 Newton 4 p.m.
Sep. 28 Mattoon 4 p.m.
Oct. 2 Robinson 4 p.m.
Oct. 5 at Casey-Westfield 4:30 p.m.
Oct. 7 LIC Tourney 4 p.m.
Oct. 9 Teutopolis (JV) 4:30 p.m.

2023 PHS cross country roster and schedule

>> 2023 PARIS CROSS-COUNTRY SCHEDULE

Aug. 26 Acklin Memorial Cross Country Invite 8:30 a.m.
Aug. 29 Lawrenceville/Robinson 4:15 p.m.
TBA St. Anthony/T-Town
Sep. 2 Chrisman Cow Chip Invitational TBA
Sep. 5 Robinson 5 p.m.

Sep. 14 Pal-Hut/Riverton Parke, Ind. 4 p.m.
Sep. 16 Tuscola Classic 10 a.m.
Sep. 19 at Heritage 4:30 p.m.
Sep. 28 Robinson Invitational 4:30 p.m.
Oct. 3 West Vigo/Salt Fork/La Salette 4 p.m.
Oct. 7 Cumberland Invitational 9 a.m.
Oct. 10 at LIC meet @ Terre Haute Course 4:30 p.m.

>> GIRLS CROSS COUNTRY

Alison Wyrick Fr.
Lily Wyrick Fr.
Kailey Young Fr.
Paisley Reed Fr.
Taetum Noel So.
Kilee Edwards So.
Kaylee Klyaic So.
Taylor Clark Jr.

>> BOYS CROSS COUNTRY

Gage Wright Fr.

Gage White Fr.
Shayn White Fr.
Grayson Craffets Fr.
Nathan Fonner Fr.
Harrison Hays Fr.
Storm Miller Fr.
Mason Barrett Fr.
Nathan Fonner Fr.
Gavin Reed So.
Graham Templeton Jr.
Trevan Jernigan Sr.



Good Luck
to all the
players and teams!

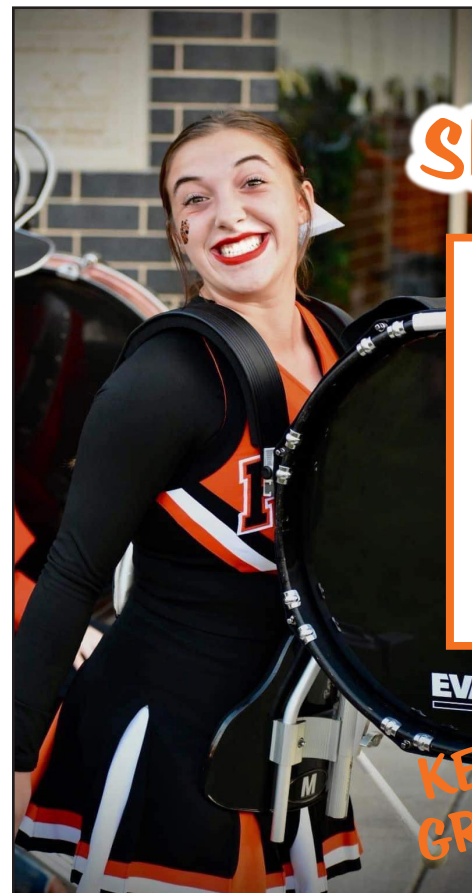
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Love, Mom, Olivia and Zach

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Titans golf small in numbers, ready for challenge

BY TIM HENDERSHOT
sportsfan122774@yahoo.com

All athletic programs go through changes, including the Tri-County high school golf program. Since the Shiloh joined the Tri-County co-op in 2014, the Titans have sent three golfers to the IHSA Class 1A finals in eight years. The past couple of seasons have seen a decline in numbers, other than the 2020 COVID season where players who normally would participate in other fall sports competed due to their season being moved to the spring and shortened.

Last season, Theresa Sisk took over the reins and is back for her second season at the helm. Sisk's roster includes six golfers, three boys and three girls. While the Titans will not be able to compete as teams, they will have opportunities to compete as individuals.

Three of Sisk's six players are playing for the first time – Sisk has a game plan to assist the newcomers while keeping her returning players motivated.

"Last year, I learned that the new players need to keep their penalty strokes to a mini-

mum," she said. "It makes a difference when you can keep the ball in play and not have to take a penalty. That is also a goal for the new players this season to keep the penalty strokes to a minimum. As for the seasoned players, they need to try and be consistent and challenge themselves to beat the score they shot the match before."

Two senior players, Kaylee Ruff and Davin Smith, return to the green for their farewell tours. Smith has been with the program all four years. Ruff has played golf all four years too, with this being her second season with Tri-County.

Sophomore Logan Gerberding also returns for his second season on the team. With Smith having the most experience and having played since he was a little boy, Sisk has acknowledged his help in assisting his teammates.

"Davin Smith of course is our leader," Sisk explained. "He has played golf since a very young age. He is also a great help in helping the others with their swings and giving them advice on the course."

Smith and Ruff are not the only seniors on the course this season – they are joined by fellow seniors Lucy Krabel and Jonika Nickles, who are playing for the first time ever. Sophomore Will Dudley is the final player of the group and is in his first season as well.

The Titans will face a formidable schedule of teams, including a new member of the Lincoln Prairie Conference in the Sullivan Redskins. The Redskins golf program is a major powerhouse in the state, with plenty of IHSA State Finals appearances under the program's belt. It is a task that Sisk sees as motivation in the future.

"It is exciting to see Sullivan join the conference," Sisk said. "It is a great opportunity to play against a program that has had success."

The Titans started the season on Monday, Aug. 21 in Tuscola at the Warriors Doubles Invitational with the duo of Ruff and Smith teaming up on the course. On Wednesday, Aug. 23, the whole team competed in a meet hosted by the Marshall Lions.

» 2023-24 TCT GOLF TEAM

Boys
Davin Smith Sr.
Logan Gerberding So.
Will Dudley So.

Girls
Kaylee Ruff Sr.
Lucy Krabel Sr.
Jonika Nickles Sr.

Head Coach
Theresa Sisk

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Upperclassmen leadership, talent are key for Titan volleyball teams

BY TIM HENDERSHOT
sportsfan122774@yahoo.com

For the Tri-County, volleyball has been a staple of the co-op since Kansas and Oakland joined forces in 2005. The program boasts 10 regional titles, including a third-place state finish in 2012 in Class 1A.

In the past two seasons, the Titans remained competitive, but have not seen the results the program is used to, going 15-13 overall and 4-6 in the Lincoln Prairie Conference a year ago.

For the upcoming 2023-2024 season, the Titans look to rise back towards the top.

Head Coach Crystal Buckler returns for her seventh season at the helm of Tri-County volleyball and has some well-known staff members along for the ride. Three former Tri-County players are on board. Cailynne Neill, formerly Phillips, returns as an assistant coach for her second season, and is joined by first-year assistant coaches Madison Shirley and Alison Smith.

Smith just recently concluded a solid college career at Vincennes University before

transferring to Union College in Kentucky for her final two years. Neill, Shirley, and Smith were a part of the 2017 Titans team that won the Class 1A regional championship on their home court in Kansas.

24 Lady Titans will wear the Purple, Orange and Blue this season, with a varsity roster consisting of experienced returning players and a strong core of new talent.

The Lincoln Prairie Conference welcomes a new member as the Sullivan Redskins make their debut after their stint in the Central Illinois Conference. With the addition of Sullivan, the conference becomes even deeper with teams including ALAH, Heritage, Cerro Gordo-Bement, Decatur LSA and Blue Ridge becoming title contenders. Teams such as Villa Grove, Arcola and Cumberland are rising up to bring more parity to the league.

Despite the new arrival, Buckler knows the mission for the Titans remains the same.

"The Tri-County Titan Volleyball team is ready to start our season out on the right foot," she said.



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Youth and numbers have Cardinal cross country teams flying high

BY ROBBY TUCKER
rtucker@prairiepress.net

The Chrisman cross country program grew over the offseason, and head coach Seth Pearson could not be happier.

"We are very excited about our season this year as our numbers have increased from last year," Pearson explained.

The Cardinals' bolstered roster is composed of eight boys and three girls. Sophomore Seth Ellis is the boys team captain, and will lead a young but eager group of runners including Hunter Meeker (Fr.), Aidan Morgan (Fr.), Morgan Coombs (Fr.), Jackson Wilson (Fr.), Amos Neal (So.), Jack Cody (So.) and Joe Breazelle (Fr.).

For the ladies, junior Ali Prisecaru is stepping into a leadership role as team captain. She will

compete alongside Leah Phipps (So.) and Remi Laughead (Fr.).

While both teams are young, Pearson is confident in their abilities.

"We are a young group with a bright future ahead of us," he said. "But, that isn't stopping us from dreaming big this season. If we can stay injury-free, we have a good shot at winning our County Championships and will likely have a couple of athletes qualify for the State Finals."

Regardless of this season's outcome, cross country fans have plenty to look forward to with Pearson's new squad. As time passes and the group gains valuable experience, it seems the sky will be the only limit for the Cardinals.

2023 Chrisman Fall Sports schedules

» 2023 CHRISMAN/GEORGETOWN HS CROSS COUNTRY SCHEDULE

8/26 Doc Acklin Race @ Paris 8:30 a.m. (girls), 9 a.m. (boys)
8/29 Academy High, BH, HA, Rantoul, Chr/Geo @ Home 4:15 p.m.
9/2 Cow Chip Classic @ Home 9 a.m.
9/12 VVC @ Kickapoo 4:30 p.m.
9/14 Uni High @ U of I Arboretum 4:30 p.m.
9/19 Heritage @ Homer Lake 4:30 p.m.
9/23 Spartan Classic @ St. Joe 9 a.m.
9/26 Lasalette, West, HA, Chr/Geo @ Home 4:15 p.m.
10/7 Cumberland Invite @ Lakeland 9 a.m.
10/10 VVC Meet @ Chrisman 4:30 p.m.
10/14 Bulldog Classic @ St. Anthony 9 a.m.
10/21 Regionals @ Home 10 a.m.
10/28 Sectionals TBA
11/4 State Meet TBA

» 2023 CHS VOLLEYBALL

8/22 Marshall 6 p.m.
8/24 @ Riverton Parke 5:30 p.m.
8/26 @ Westville Tourney 9 a.m.
8/29 ALAH 6 p.m.
8/30 Georgetown* 6 p.m.
9/5 @ Villa Grove 6 p.m.
9/7 @ Cissna Park* 6 p.m.
9/11 @ Tuscola 6 p.m.
9/12 @ Iroquois West* 6 p.m.
9/14 Salt Fork* 6 p.m.

9/18 Heritage* 6 p.m.
9/19 Watseka* 6 p.m.
9/21 @ Oakwood* 6 p.m.
9/23 @ Hutsonville Tournament TBD
9/25 @ Martinsville 6 p.m.
9/28 Schlarmann* 6 p.m.
9/30 Sullivan 10 a.m.
10/2 @ Paris 6 p.m.
10/3 @ Georgetown 6 p.m.
10/5 BHRA* 6 p.m.
10/7 @ Paris Tournament TBD
10/9 @ Judah Christian 6 p.m.
10/10 Westville* 6 p.m.
10/12 @ Armstrong/Potomac* 6 p.m.
10/17 Milford* 6 p.m.
10/19 @ Hoopeston* 6 p.m.

» 2023 CHS GOLF SCHEDULE

8/16 @ 4 p.m. - Harrison Park (Oakwood, Chrisman, St Joseph)
8/22 @ 4 p.m. - Eagle Ridge Golf Course (Paris, Marshall, Casey, Chrisman)
8/30 @ 4 p.m. - Shewanee Country Club (Watsaka, Milford, Donovan, Tripoint)
9/14 @ 4 p.m. - Harrison Park (Salt Fork, Hoopeston, Chrisman)
9/19 @ 4 p.m. - Harrison Park (Salt Fork, Milford, Chrisman)
9/21 @ 4:30 p.m. - VVC Golf Match @ Turtle Run, Danville
9/28 Regionals

Tri-County football reloads as conference expands

BY TIM HENDERSHOT
sportsfan122774@yahoo.com

For the Tri-County Titans high school football team, the anticipation surrounding the upcoming season has steadily increased since April. Once the summer workouts began, a large contingent of players attended summer workouts, only feeding the team's confidence. The consistent turnout is something head coach TJ Blake hopes will turn into on-field success.

"Summer workouts went really well," Blake said. "We were able to average between 20-25 players for each of the workouts which was very promising. (It) shows how many of our guys are committed to getting better and how many are hungry for success for this coming season. We also changed up how we trained and organized each workout. We went with less overall time, but still got the same amount of work in and put a huge emphasis on getting faster as a team."

Blake returns for his second season at the helm of the Titans, coming off a 3-6 overall record and 2-5 in the Lincoln Prairie Conference last year.

This season, the stakes in conference play are even higher as two new teams join the league. The two new teams are the Sullivan-Okaw Valley Redskins, who hail from the Central Illinois Conference and the Nokomis Redskins who were previously independent.

The expansion is a challenge Blake says his team is looking forward to.

"The guys are excited for the closed schedule and the opportunity to seeing a couple new faces in the LPC in Sullivan-Okaw Valley and Nokomis," he said. "I wouldn't say that there's a sense of urgency because, as cliché as it sounds,

we take it one week at a time. As long as we handle our business and give each opponent our best effort, good things will happen and the chips will fall where they're supposed to. The goal each year is to make the playoffs and that starts with being an at-large with five wins, but six makes us guaranteed. Anything after that is icing on the cake. We believe in our guys and feel we're capable of anything."

The roster of 33 players returns a solid batch of starters from last season, but has some big shoes to fill in certain skill positions. Most of the offensive line did graduate meaning it will be up to last season's reserves to step in at certain spots.

The line play will be led by seniors Wyatt Glibert and John Kibler and will be backed up by seniors Cole Decker, Jeremiah Evans and Wyatt Conner. Juniors Jimmy Dillon, Karsten Willison, Bryson Hudson, Grant North, Jack Houlihan and Taran Borntrager along with sophomore Aiden Loveall will give the Titans some needed depth on both sides of the ball. Kibler returns as the team's leading tackler from a year ago with 38.

On the offensive side of the ball, the Titans will have junior Garrett Pollock behind center again after throwing for 392 yards and four touchdowns last season. The bulk of the running game from a year ago has graduated, leaving some big shoes to fill in the backfield along with passing opportunities on the outside.

Junior Caden Logan returns as the team's leading receiver, and sophomore Clay Kibler returns as the team's leading rusher and second leading receiver. The Titans are looking to seniors Alex Hoel and Justin Robertson to accom-

modate Logan on the edges along with junior Andy Houlihan to take the place at tight end.

Juniors Myles Watson and Donnie Loveall will give Tri-County more options in the backfield to support Kibler. Despite the holes that need to be filled, Blake is confident the fresh faces are capable of filling the void.

"We lost some major pieces last year in both the skill positions and in the trenches, but we've gotten some new faces that I believe will help al-

leviate some of the lost production from Gaige Cox and Tyler VonLanken graduating," Blake said. "To go along with the new faces, we have some younger guys that are battling to earn their spot that are going to help us by giving us depth which we haven't had in a long while, not only in the trenches, but with our skills as well. Our coaches believe we're going to be much more well-rounded, rather than lean on just a few guys, which makes us very excited!"



We are so PROUD of you
Skylar!

We have enjoyed watching
you throughout your high
school career.

We love you & so proud of you,
Nan and Poppy



» 2023 TRI-COUNTY VARSITY FOOTBALL SCHEDULE

Aug. 25 Sangamon Valley 8 p.m.
Sep. 1 at Cerro Gordo 7 p.m.
Sep. 8 ALAH 7 p.m.
Sep. 15 Arcola 7 p.m.
Sep. 22 at Nokomis 7 p.m.
Sep. 29 Argenta-Oreana 7 p.m.
Oct. 7 Cumberland 7 p.m.
Oct. 13 at Sullivan 7 p.m.
Oct. 20 Villa Grove 7 p.m.

» 2023 TRI-COUNTY JUNIOR VARSITY FOOTBALL SCHEDULE

Aug. 28 Sangamon Valley 6 p.m.
Sep. 4 at Cerro Gordo 6 p.m.
Sep. 11 ALAH 6 p.m.
Sep. 18 at Arcola 6 p.m.
Oct. 2 Argenta-Oreana 6 p.m.
Oct. 9 Cumberland 6 p.m.
Oct. 16 at Sullivan 6 p.m.

NO GIMMICKS,

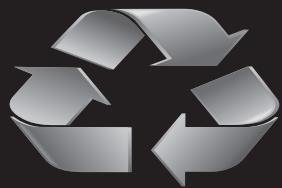
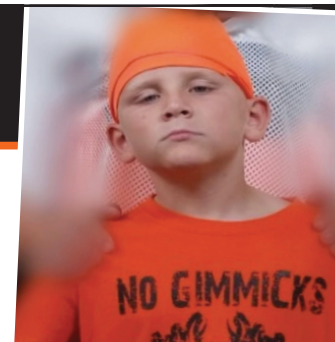
this guy is ready for
his senior year!

You make us proud,

Will Moody!

Wishing you
a safe and
successful
season.

Love you!
Mom, Dad, Natalie, & Max



REUSE THE NEWS
Recycle this newspaper

TITANS

From Page 9

"No matter what team we face, our goal is to come out with the win, as well as working on small things we know that need improvement."

The Titans are looking for some leadership from its upperclassmen with two players from last year's team looking to take that role. Seniors Josie Armstrong and Briana Reese return with the most time on the court.

Armstrong was the team's setter, making the plays happen and leading the team in assists with 306 (10.9 per match) while also being one of the main defenders at the net leading the team in blocks with 71 (2.5 blocks per match).

Armstrong was also a key offensive player, finishing fourth on the team in kills (93 kills, 3.3 per match).

Reese was the main player keeping balls alive on the defensive side, leading the team in digs at 158 (5.6 digs per match). She was also the team's leading server, notching 35

aces in 28 matches.

Joining the fold with larger roles this season are seniors Sami McClain and Kaitlyn Brandenburg. Brandenburg has previous experience as a starter on the junior varsity and McClain returns after suffering an achilles injury a year ago.

Junior Amaya Duzan returns having been in the starting lineup a year ago and will be joined by fellow classmates Carleigh Clifton, Shaylun Christenberry, Lily North and Lily Brown – all of whom played as starters or reserves on the junior varsity team a year ago.

No matter what the lineup is on the court, Buckler sees the objective is clear every time the spotlight is on.

"Each player's goal is to not only make sure that they are playing at their best level of play, but also encouraging their teammates to also give 110%," Buckler said. "Our returning seniors understand what it takes to come out on top. Our expectations of them are to set good examples for the underclassmen. Like every other year, the girls have big shoes to fill. With filling in those spots, the coaching staff believes there are several girls with talent and the desire to win."

The varsity roster concludes with three talented freshman making their high school

debut. Freshmen Brookelyn Gough, Cara Phillips, the younger sister of assistant coach Cailynne Neill, and Taylor Williams, the sister of just recently graduated player Kaylin Williams, will get some first-hand experience learning from the upperclassmen.

All three players were staples of their respective junior high programs for the past three years and will rely on their older teammates to contribute in different ways to achieve success. Despite having limited time on the court this summer, Buckler has been impressed with what she has seen during the workouts.

"The past few weeks we have had limited availability for gym time, but the days we were able to get into the gym we have seen that our fundamentals are improving, and we have a lot of talent to use this year," she said. "From the matches we've played this summer, we have seen that our upperclassmen have set a good example to our younger players by encouraging and showing them the correct skills needed for the high school level."

The season began for the Titans this week with three straight road matches – one at Ob-long on Monday, Aug. 21, one at Tuscola on Aug. 22 and one at Westville on Aug. 23.



You are such
a bright star!
You never
give up and
never let that
change.

Love,
Mom and Dad

We're proud
of you

Sammy Milam



>> TRI-COUNTY 2023 VOLLEYBALL SCHEDULE

Aug. 29 at Casey Westfield
Aug. 31 at Oakwood
Sep. 5 Shelbyville
Sep. 7 Villa Grove
Sep. 11 Marshall
Sep. 12 Blue Ridge
Sep. 14 Okaw Valley
Sep. 18 at Paris

Sep. 19 at Heritage
Sep. 21 Argenta-Oreana
Sep. 26 ALAH
Sep. 28 at Arcola
Oct. 2-5 Lincoln Prairie Conference Tourney
Oct. 7 @Paris Invitational
Oct. 10 Cerro Gordo-Bement
Oct. 12 at Sullivan
Oct. 17 at Cumberland
Oct. 19 Decatur Lutheran

If The Press didn't tell you ...
who would?

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We're proud of you!

Love

Grandma and Grandpa Peterson, Mom and
Dad, Kaylee Jo, Randy Allen and Jay

