

2018-19 Area High School Basketball Preview



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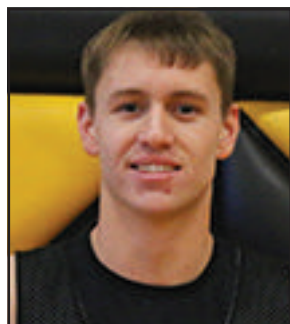
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Fayette Falcons boys basketball



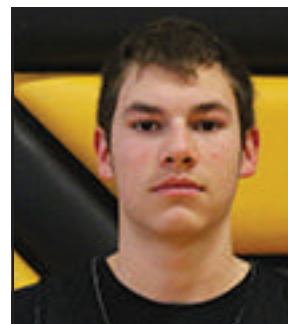
Kolby Skaggs
Senior 6'2" Forward
Parents: Ryan & Ashlee Skaggs



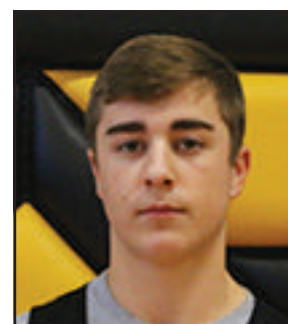
Vince Roberts
Senior 6'0" Guard
Parents: Ben & Cindy Roberts



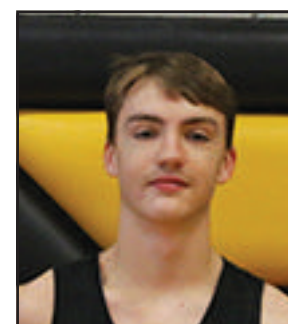
Kaden Polson
Sophomore 5'7" Guard
Parent: Micki Polson



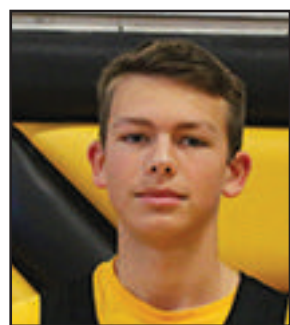
Cody Hilgedick
Sophomore 5'10" Guard
Parents: Shane and Charice Hilgedick



Cale Polson
Junior 5'9" Guard
Parents: Jimmy Polson, Bill and Marla Owen



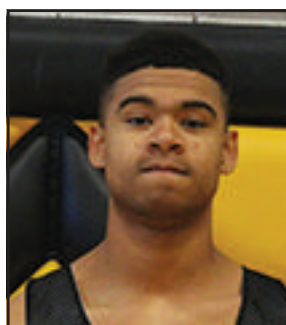
Zach Henderson
Sophomore 6'0" Guard
Parent: David and Sarah Henderson



Grant Himmelmann
Sophomore 6'0" Guard
Parents: Kristen and Kurt Himmelmann



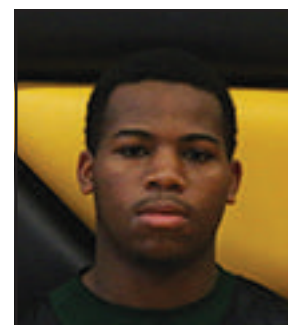
Aaron Barber
Sophomore 5'9" Guard
Parents: Brian and Anne Barber



Leo Anderson
Freshman 6'2" Forward
Parents: Leonard Bragg



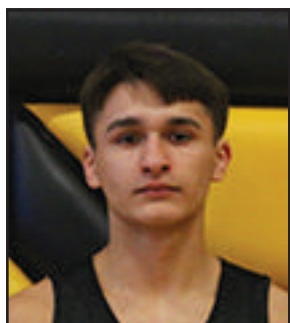
Chris Dunivent
Senior 6'4" Center
Parent: Jennifer Dunivent



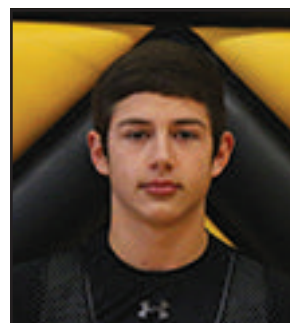
Isaiah Estes
Senior 5'11" Guard/Forward
Parents: Brandon & Courtney Estes



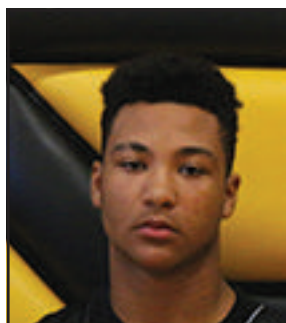
Ross Hudson
Senior 5'10" Guard
Parents: Matt & Mary Ann Hudson



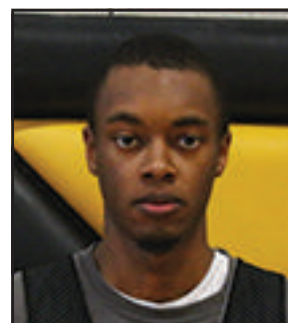
Kyle Schleeter
Sophomore 6'0" Guard
Parents: Shaun and Lynn Schleeter



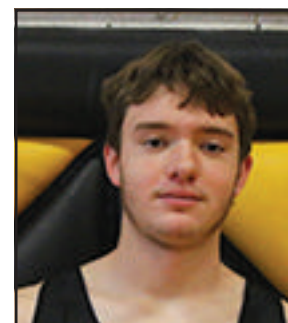
Tyler Bartholomew
Freshman 5'7" Guard
Parents: Scott and Deana Bartholomew



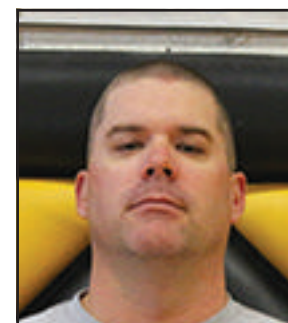
Zavier Tatum
Sophomore 5'7" Guard
Parents: Floyd Tatum and Candace Rhorer



Darius Lee
Senior 6'0" Guard
Parents: Dylan Lee and Myra Kelly



Josh Henderson
Sophomore 6'1" Forward
Parents: David and Sara Henderson



Jon Bishop
Head Coach

Area High School Basketball Preview

Bishop takes over at Fayette

The Fayette Falcons enter 2018-19 high school basketball with a new head coach, but it's one who both the basketball program and the community are familiar with.

Jon Bishop, formerly the head coach of the Higbee Tigers, has taken over the program after eight seasons at Higbee. Fayette's former head coach, Ben Pallardy, accepted a head coach position at Eldon after the conclusion of the 2017-18 season. He had a 63-66 record after five seasons at Fayette.

Bishop has lived in Fayette over the past several years, and is familiar with both the program and the community. Higbee has been a regular on Fayette's basketball schedule. The two teams meet again this season on Dec. 6 at Higbee.

"I've been able to watch some of them grow up and play and compete," Bishop said about his new basketball players. "That was one of the nice reasons about transferring and coming over here and having the opportunity. I've gotten to know them over the summer. We had a good summer. We had a lot

of participation. We had a lot of guys that came out. Being new, you have a lot of new faces showing up, the guys that just kind of want to test it out and give it a shot with a new coach and a new program."

Bishop said his team will do a lot of things similar to what they did under Pallardy. Over the past five seasons, the Falcons were playing a style of basketball that featured a fast tempo on offense paired with stingy pressure on defense. The Falcons will do things similar to that this season.

One thing that will be different this season is that Fayette fans won't see the "No. 10" they watched on the court the last four years. Blake Dawson, who finished his varsity career with more than 1,500 points and was the go-to scoring option for the Falcons, has graduated.

However, the Falcons will have plenty of options to which to refer for offensive production. Sophomore Kyle Schleeter, who played his way into the starting lineup as a freshman, is back. The same goes for senior Vince Roberts, who finds himself in a

leadership role after Dawson's departure. Junior Cale Polson emerged last season as a reliable scorer, and showed he could be dangerous both in the paint and behind the perimeter.

Dawson averaged 21 points per game last season. Having so many scorers on the team this season puts Fayette in a fortunate position. Rather than finding a way to "replace" Dawson's production, they have the pieces to "recreate" that production. What's even more dangerous is that this recreating comes from multiple contributors.

"You work hard every day in practice to really find a niche for somebody," Bishop said. "We have guys that are capable of scoring. I'll be truthful, I think we have four guys that are capable of doing that. Obviously, with four of them, it's going to be tough to get one of them 20 points per game. But, I think with that dynamic, of course Kyle averaged about 11-and-a-half or so, and Vince was about 10. We have weapons, and we're going to use them as

(Continued on Page 22)

FAYETTE FALCONS



2017-18 RECORD: 23-4 overall, 8-1 in Lewis & Clark Conference (1st place)

PLAYOFF RESULT: Lost 76-59 to Harrisburg in Class 2 District 8 Tournament semifinals

TOURNAMENT RESULTS: 1st place — Glasgow Tournament; 1st place — New Franklin Tournament; 3rd place — Slater Wildcat Classic.

KEY LOSSES: Blake Dawson, Chavez Kent

KEY RETURNERS: Vince Roberts, sr.; Isaiah Estes, sr.; Kolby Skaggs, sr.; Cale Polson, jr.; Kyle Schleeter, soph.

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Fayette Falcons girls basketball



Jennifer Nelson
Senior 5'8" Guard/Forward
Parents: Mark and Colleen Nelson



Madison Reed
Senior 5'10" Post
Parents: Chris and Rich Reed



Emma Hoover
Senior 5'3" Guard
Parents: Angie and Emmet Rogers, Dan and Kelly Hoover



Abbey Conrow
Junior 5'4" Guard
Parents: Jamie and Angie Conrow



Murphy Quint
Junior 5'6" Post
Parents: Billy and Jessica Quint



Kylea Hoover
Sophomore 5'4" Guard
Parents: Emmett and Angie Rogers, Dan and Kelly Hoover



Breanna Estes
Sophomore 5'4" Post
Parents: Brandon and Courtney Estes



Abby Nation
Sophomore 5'2" Guard
Parents: Travis Nation and Jackie Chew



Shay'Aira Lee-McQuitty
Sophomore 5'3" Guard
Parent: Heather McDonald



Emma Chew
Freshman 5'2" Guard
Parents: Jackie Chew



Audrey Johnson
Freshman 5'6" Forward
Parents: Shawn and Shannon Johnson



Jordyn Ball
Freshman 5'4" Guard
Parents: Kevin and Lynette Beeler



Laci Fuhlage
Freshman 5'1" Guard
Parents: Bart Fuhlage, Christine Fuhlage



Sydney Spielbauer
Freshman 5'7" Forward
Parents: Brain and Jennifer Spielbauer



Novy Foland
Assistant Coach



Valerie Foland
Head Coach

Area High School Basketball Preview

New head coach brings 'enthusiasm' to Lady Falcons

The Fayette Lady Falcons enter the 2018-19 basketball season in what is unfortunately a familiar spot. They have a new head coach, making this the fourth head coach of the program over the last five years.

Jeff Martin held the position the past two seasons. The Lady Falcons won 15 games over those two seasons. Martin has retired, and now Valerie Kimball takes over as the head coach of the program.

Kimball was once the head coach of the Keytesville junior high girls basketball program. This is her first time coaching high school basketball. She is approaching this first season with enthusiasm, she said.

"I am hoping to get the fundamentals of the girls cleaned up," Kimball said. "That is my main goal. I've seen them play. Right now, I just feel like the fundamentals could really be worked on. That's what we're hitting pretty hard."

Kimball said that in addition to working on fundamentals, she has introduced them to some different offenses. She hopes something

clicks with the team, she said. The Lady Falcons are trying an offense this season that is more reaction-based and less positional-based.

"The girls are very used to 'what position do I go to next,'" Foland said. "I'm trying to teach them patterns on how to react to the ball, so it's more reaction-based."

Kimball said she's also had her players work on conditioning, saying that a basketball team can't be productive if they can't run the floor.

"I think another strength they haven't utilized in the past is their speed," Foland said. "Right now, I want them in top shape so that maybe we could get some cheap points off of fast breaks. They're all fast girls, so I want to utilize that."

Four players from last year's starting lineup return this season. Foland said that senior Emma Hoover will remain the starting point guard. Hoover averaged 3.2 assists per game last season and 4.8 points per game. She missed seven games last season after suffering an ankle injury at the Slater Wildcat Classic.

Junior Abbey Conrow returns as the team's leading

scorer. She averaged 13.7 points per game last season. Conrow made a team-high 53 3-pointers while shooting 38 percent from behind the line last season, and scored 357 points.

"We have really tried to consistently hone down on her shooting," Foland said. "It will be more consistent, but right now she's kind of in between the back and front of the rim, so we've been focusing on getting it right over the front, hand in the kindergarten cookie jar kind of shooting drills."

Seniors Jennifer Nelson and Maddie Reed are two post players who can shoot well from outside, Foland said. Reed was the second-leading scorer last season with 6.2 points per game and led the team with rebounding.

Also on the team this season are juniors Cameron Bias and Murphy Quint, sophomores Shay'aira Lee-McQuitty, Abbey Nation, Kylea Hoover and Breanna Estes, and freshmen Jordyn Ball, Laci Fuhlage, Sydney Spielbauer, Emma Chew and Audrey Johsson.

FAYETTE LADY FALCONS



2017-18 RECORD: 8-18 overall, 2-6 in Lewis & Clark Conference (8th place)

PLAYOFF RESULT: Lost 59-25 to New Bloomfield in Class 2 District 8 Tournament quarterfinals

TOURNAMENT RESULTS: 6th place — Glasgow Tournament; 5th place — New Franklin Tournament; 6th place — Slater Wildcat Classic.

KEY LOSSES: Samantha Conrow

KEY RETURNERS: Emma Hoover (jr.), Maddie Reed (sr.), Jennifer Nelson (sr.), Abbey Conrow (jr.)

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New Franklin Bulldogs boys basketball



Kolby Anson
Senior 6'2" Forward
Parents: Kevin & Leslie Anson



Carter Bailey
Junior 6'0" Guard
Parents: John & Kim Bailey



Jackson Dorson
Junior 6'1" Guard
Parents: Benji & Sandy Dorson



Tyler Perkins
Junior 5'9" Guard
Parents: Brian & Janice Perkins



Crayton Gallatin
Junior 6'2" Forward
Parents: Darrell & Angie Hendrix



Gavin Bishop
Junior 6'2" Forward
Parents: Wayne & Michelle Bishop



David Brucks
Sophomore 5'7" Guard
Parents: Barb Brucks



Asa Fischer
Sophomore 5'8" Guard
Parents: Brian and Christenia Fischer



Tyson Dowell
Sophomore 6'2" Guard
Parents: Ross and Becky Dowell



Alex Grover
Sophomore 5'3" Guard
Parents: John and Teri Grover



Blake Evans
Freshman 5'9" Forward
Parents: Jud and Joanna Evans



Sammy Marshall
Freshman 5'11" Guard
Parents: Alan and Candy Marshall



Zac Roth
Freshman 5'5" Guard
Parents: Jesse McCoy and Billie Vollrath



Tyler Jennings
Freshman 6'6" Guard
Parents: Jason and Stephanie Jennings



Tre Cowans
Freshman 6'0" Forward
Parents: Lance Cowans and Trista Hopper



Caleb Hull
Freshman 5'9" Guard
Parents: Jay and Julie Hull



Tiernan Hoover
Freshman 5'4" Guard
Parents: Donny and Jamie Hoover



Brett Boggs
Freshman 6'0" Forward
Parents: Dustin and Kristina Boggs

Area High School Basketball Preview

Bulldogs reload for another title run

The New Franklin Bulldogs are coming off a season where they won 20 games, the Central Activities Conference title, and advanced to the Class 2 District 14 title game.

The Bulldogs won the CAC for the second time in three years. They also reached the 20-win mark for the second time over that same span. They lost 60-39 to the Sacred Heart Gremlins in the district championship.

New Franklin head coach Ross Dobson returns for his second year as the head Bulldog. He brings back a squad that lost its two main contributors from last season — Mason Bailey and Bailey Lyons.

Dobson said he brings back 6-foot-2 Kolby Anson, who is the lone senior on the current roster. Anson has practiced against Bailey and Lyons the past three years, so he knows what is expected of him in the paint in his senior season.

“He’s been put through the ringer against two All-Conference players, for sure,” Dobson said. “We see him to step up in that role. Jackson Dorson has also kind of been that same thing. He’s been going against those two guys the last few years. We see those guys stepping up along with Crayton Gallatin.”

A Class 2 school can find itself in a position where it would have to rebuild in a season after losing significant contributors, like New Franklin losing Bailey and Lyons. Instead, with the size the Bulldogs bring back, Dobson is in a position to not rebuild, but recreate.

Gallatin stands at 6-foot-2, and Dorson is 6-foot-1. In addition, the Bulldogs are able to play the same style that led them to a 20-win season and a conference championship a year ago. Anson, Gallatin and Dorson can play in a rotation on the inside, while New Frank-

lin’s speedy guards can line the perimeter.

One of those guards is junior Gavin Bishop. Standing at 6-foot-2, Dobson said Bishop has the chance to be an all-around player for the Bulldogs. Bishop was another major contributor on last season’s team, and the team will try to get him as many scoring chances as possible, Dobson said.

Junior Tyler Perkins returns as the starting point guard. He assumes his role at the point for the third straight year. Dobson said Perkins’ maturity began to show last season. His growth as a player sets him up to be one of the team leaders this season. He will also be expected to fill the scoring void left by Lyons and Bailey, Dobson said.

“We’re hoping he can pick up some of the slack in the scoring effort and

Continued on Page 23

NEW FRANKLIN BULLDOGS



2017-18 RECORD: 13-13 overall, 8-4 in Central Activities Conference (3rd place)

PLAYOFF RESULT: Lost 66-61 to Sweet Springs in Class 2 District 14 Tournament quarterfinals

TOURNAMENT RESULTS: 4th place — Glasgow Tournament; 2nd place — New Franklin Tournament; 3rd place — Sturgeon Tournament.

KEY LOSS: Austin Jones: (8.8 ppg, 3.8 rpg); Brendan Hundley: (7.1 ppg)

KEY RETURNERS: Bailey Lyons: sr., 6’5” (11.6 ppg, 7.0 rpg); Mason Bailey: sr., 6’3” (8.7 ppg, 6.1 rpg)

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New Franklin Bulldogs girls basketball



Lauren Evans

Senior 5'7" Guard
Parents: Jud & Joanna Evans



Shelby Breshears

Senior 5'11" Forward
Parents: David & Amanda
Breshears



Kristin Flick

Freshman 5'3" Guard
Parents: Chris and Stacy Flick



Kayce Hundley

Sophomore 5'8" Forward
Parent: Tammie Hundley,
Matthew Wilkerson



Campbell Cooper

Sophomore 5'5" Guard
Parent: Brian and Stephanie
Cooper



Madelyn Chaney

Sophomore 5'0" Guard
Parent: Eric and Amanda Chaney



Not Pictured

Abby Maupin

Freshman 5'8" Guard
Parents: Matt and Lisa Maupin



Ashley Freese

Assistant Coach



Morgan Vetter

Head Coach

Lady Bulldogs anxious to begin season

The New Franklin Lady Bulldogs are entering a new season experiencing significant turnover, and will have a smaller team than they have had in the past.

Head coach Morgan Vetter enters her third season with New Franklin, and she has seven players on the current roster. Of those seven, Lauren Evans and Shelby Breshears are the only two seniors.

Vetter said that despite having such a small roster, she is anxious to get the season started and see what her

team is capable of doing.

"Our numbers don't lie," Vetter said. "We've very limited on numbers, so we're interested to see how during season play things are going to turn out."

Vetter said that all seven players will be expected to contribute significant minutes. She said that all seven of her players already know they are expected to play a lot of minutes.

The Lady Bulldogs are without 5-foot-9 All-Conference forward Madison Matney. She was the team's

leading scorer and leading rebounder last season. The good news for New Franklin is that Breshears returns. She missed more than half of last season when she suffered a torn ACL.

Breshears and Matney spent part of last season and a full season before as a tandem in the paint on both sides of the court. After Breshears' injury last season, Matney had that role to herself. Breshears finds herself in that same position as New Franklin enters this new basketball

season.

"(Madison) was her own breed just like Shelby is kind of her own breed, in the sense that they both did very different things," Vetter said. "They both are very aggressive, and post players at that. I think this year, we'll be maybe not as one-dimensional. Hopefully, we'll have some outside play along with some inside play. We should be long and pretty lanky."

The other senior leader for the Lady Bulldogs this season will be Evans. Vetter

said Evans will again run the point guard position while also being another scoring option for New Franklin.

In addition to Evans being on the perimeter, Vetter said New Franklin will have "several" people who can shoot from outside. Evans is one of them. Another is Madelyn Chaney, who contributed significant minutes last season as a freshman.

"We had five people that played big minutes last year, so those five people

should be decent outside threats," Vetter said. "We have two freshmen I think that will contribute to that as well."

Those two freshmen are Kristin Flick and Abby Maupin.

The Central Activities Conference will look a little different this season. The Community Lady Trojans have joined the Conference, giving the league eight teams.

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Area High School Basketball Preview

Continued from Page 8

With eight teams now in the CAC, the conference is split into two divisions. New Franklin is in the West Division, and they will play the other three teams twice. Those teams are Slater, Glasgow and Pilot Grove.

Cairo won the CAC last season. They bring back most of the experience that took them to the Class 2 Show-Me Show-down last season. They are the favorite to repeat as conference champions again this season.

"With the East and the West side, I'd be interested to see how that will play out," Vetter said. "Overall, our conference is always a pretty competitive conference, for sure. The bottom side (West side) of the conference is definitely competitive."

New Franklin has

NEW FRANKLIN LADY BULLDOGS



2017-18 RECORD: 7-19 overall, 2-10 in Central Activities Conference (6th place)

PLAYOFF RESULT: Lost 42-40 to Windsor in Class 2 District 14 Tournament quarterfinals

TOURNAMENT RESULTS: 6th place — Glasgow Tournament; 4th place — New Franklin Tournament; 7th place — Sturgeon Tournament.

KEY LOSSES: Madison Matney, Grace Hundley, Lilly Oser

KEY RETURNERS: Lauren Evans, sr.; Shelby Breshears, sr.

been assigned to Class 2 District 14 for a second straight year. Last season, they made a first-round exit with a 42-40 loss to Windsor.

Windsor is in that district again this season. The other teams are Cole Camp, Fayette, Sacred heart, Smithton, Stover, Sweet Springs, and Tip-

ton. The one team not in this district last season was Howard County rival Fayette.

New Franklin's next game is on Dec. 7 at Madison, beginning at 6 p.m. Their next home game is Dec. 11 against the Slater Lady Wildcats, also beginning at 6 p.m.



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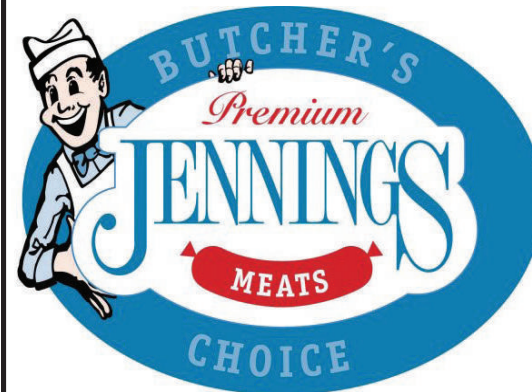
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Glasgow Yellowjackets boys basketball



Briar Boss
Senior 6'2" Forward
Parents: Travis and Melissa Boss



Jacob Bean
Senior 5'11" Guard
Parents: Aaron and Jennifer Bean



Cole Fuemmeler
Junior 6'0" Forward
Parents: Darren and Sonya Fuemmeler



De'Shonne Cowans
Sophomore 6'0" Forward
Parents: Matt and Linsey Cowans



Antwaun Herriford
Sophomore 5'10" Guard
Parents: Curtis and Sasha Herriford



Adris Hamilton
Senior 5'10" Guard
Parents: Idris & Felicia Hamilton



Logan Fuemmeler
Senior 6'2" Forward
Parents: Alan and Deb Fuemmeler



Brandon Prentzler
Senior 6'0" Guard
Parents: Bryan and Tina Prentzler



Drew Sanders
Freshman 5'10" Guard
Parents: Rodney and Gina Sanders



Chrisitan DeWolfe
Freshman 5'9" Guard
Parents: Chuck and Vida DeWolfe



Carson Frevert
Freshman 5'11" Guard
Parents: Shawn and Melissa Frevert



Jaquan Cowans
Freshman 5'11" Forward
Parents: Linsey Cowans



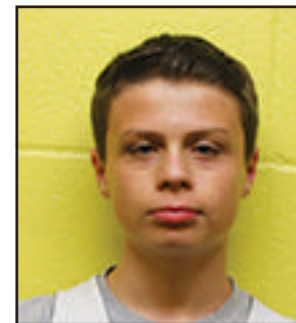
Zane Johanning
Freshman 5'6" Guard
Parents: Patrick and Stephanie Johanning



Noah Boss
Sophomore 5'8" Guard
Parents: Travis and Melissa Boss



Spencer Wood
Freshman 5'7" Guard
Parents: Robert and Jenna Wood



Kelly Shields
Freshman 5'6" Guard
Parents: Jed Shields and Amy Sanders



Carter Wood
Freshman 5'6" Guard
Parents: Robbert and Jenna Wood



Trevor Sanders
Sophomore 5'6" Guard
Parents: Tracy and Jody Sanders

Area High School Basketball Preview

Yellowjackets will be much faster this season

Glasgow head coach Mick Cropp had to introduce a new style of play last season for his Yellowjackets after they lost three 1,000-point scorers.

Under that new style, the Yellowjackets won 15 games and advanced to the semifinal round of the Class 1 District 9 tournament. Glasgow will use that style again this season, and they will be much more dangerous after having a full season to get acquainted with it.

Cropp said his players liked playing that way. They liked the fast pace, he said.

What is that style, exactly? It's one with quick transition on both ends of

the court. Last season, it was led by seniors Kabyl and Gage MacMillan. Those two have graduated, but Cropp has more guards to put in their place.

Taking over at the point this season is sophomore Antwaun Herriford. He played varsity as a freshman in a bench role. Last season, he was being groomed as a point guard, Cropp said.

He becomes a starter in his sophomore season. Joining Herriford along the perimeter is senior guard Adris Hamilton. The two had a whole season together last year last year, and that should translate to success in this new campaign.

"When you see Adris you see Antwaun, and when you see Antwaun you see Adris," Cropp said. "They're basically joined at the hip, so they play together all the time. That's all they do, play basketball together. They do compliment themselves pretty well."

Herriford slides into his new role as the team's main facilitator, but also has an ability to score the ball. He can cut, spin and slash his way to the basket and score in the paint. Hamilton plays with a similar style, and also has a deadly shot from behind the 3-point line. Cropp said the team will look to

Continued on Page 23

GLASGOW YELLOWJACKETS



2017-18 RECORD: 15-12 overall, 8-4 in Central Activities Conference (3rd place)

PLAYOFF RESULT: Lost 51-43 to St. Elizabeth in Class 1 District 9 Tournament semifinals

TOURNAMENT RESULTS: 4th place — Glasgow Tournament; 6th place — Marceline Tournament; 4th place — Slater Wildcat Classic.

KEY LOSSES: Kabyl McMillan, Gage McMillan

KEY RETURNERS: Briar Boss, sr.; Adris Hamilton, sr.; Antwaun Herriford, soph.

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Glasgow Yellowjackets girls basketball



Teagan Howell
Senior 5'7" Forward
Parents: Shelly and Jessee Howell



Madisyn Parks
Senior 5'2" Guard
Parents: Lewis and Whitney Parks



Brooke Hackman
Senior 5'2" Guard
Parents: Doug and Sally Hackman



Krista Monnig
Junior 5'4" Guard
Parents: Mitch and Gina Monnig



Hadley Sanders
Sophomore 5'3" Guard
Parents: Kent Sanders and Heather Reynolds



Emma Massie
Freshman 5'7" Forward
Parents: Jason and Sarah Massie



Miranda Cooper
Sophomore 5'3" Guard
Parents: John Cooper and Sam Gibbs



Darby Reynolds
Sophomore 5'8" Forward
Parents: Michael and Michelle Reynolds



Brenna Hubbard
Freshman 5'9" Forward
Parents: Marcus and Julie Davis



Malia Carmack
Freshman 5'5" Guard
Parents: Todd and Debra Carmack



Molly Monnig
Head Coach

Lady Jackets bringing whole new style

For four years, Glasgow fans watched as two post players who stood taller than six feet took the court night in and night out.

Those two have graduated, as well as three other seniors, who all played significant roles in getting the Lady Jackets to the Show-Me Showdown two times in three years.

Jaden Monnig, a three-time All-State player who finished her career with 1,500-plus points and 1,000-plus rebounds, was

one of those who graduated. The other player who stood taller than six feet was Abby Littrell. Molly Reynolds and Kristin Stockhorst, two deadly 3-point shooters, and Carrington Frevert, who served as the team's "sixth man" last season, were the other three key pieces from last year's team.

Glasgow head coach Molly Monnig said she and her team are looking at all the turnovers as "exciting," as they are able to

play with a new style this season. Last season, the Lady Jackets played an inside-out style, with their post players either scoring inside or setting up an outside shot for one of their guards.

This season, the Lady Jackets will feature with much more motion. This Glasgow team has less size than a year ago, but just as much speed.

"We get to play a whole new style both offensively and defensively," Monnig

said. "It's, at times, stressful for the girls because there are a lot of new things happening. We get to play a much more energetic style, so they also enjoy that."

One example of how things will be different is the play people will see from freshman forward Brenna Hubbard. She is quickly establishing herself as an impact player, but it's the style she brings that sets her apart from past post players at

Glasgow.

Hubbard can score inside, and she can also shoot from behind the perimeter. This season's starting lineup features a second freshman quickly establishing her self as an impact player — Malia Carmack.

"They've played a lot of basketball, and I think it's very obvious with the way they play," Monnig said. "They understand a lot of things and they can really score the ball. They

can run in transition and do a lot of different things."

Senior guard Madisyn Parks is the only returning starter from last season, and is one of three seniors on this year's roster.

"She's been a great leader," Monnig said. "All of my seniors have been great leaders so far. I think their leadership has really given our younger kids a lot of confidence."

The other two seniors

(Continued on Page 13)

Area High School Basketball Preview

(Continued from Page 12)

are forward Teagan Howell and guard Brooke Hackman. Howell will be a post player, while Hackman will serve as one of the team's guards.

"Teagan is very, very stong, plays very, very physical and she's a vocal leader," Monnig said. "She's helped a lot of our younger post player wings kind of understand their role.

Monnig said the Lady Jackets will mainly focus on guard play this season, giving them opportunities to attack the basket on offense, and be more aggressive on defense. Having as much speed on the court gives them an advantage in transition night in and night out.

Monnig said one thing about her team that's being overlooked is that the sophomore and junior guards playing for her this season gained a lot of experience practicing against the seniors from last season. People might look at the fact that the Lady Jackets are without four starters from a year ago and will have a lot of new faces on the court. These players have some seasoning, and have the speed and basketball smarts to adapt to a new style.

"We're going to do a lot of different things," Monnig said. "We're going to really get after it in the full court and half-court, and try to apply a lot of pressure. We'll play a lot of four-out, one-in type of things."

Four-out, one-in per-

tains to one player in the post and four players outside. People might also see Hubbard playing in the post. Matchups each night will determine her role.

On the defensive end, Monnig said the Lady Jackets will be aggressive. They will use their speed to try to create chaos, and hopefully turn that chaos into points at the other end, she said.

The Central Activities Conference will look a little different this season. The conference has added an eighth team in the Community Lady Trojans. Glasgow is somewhat familiar with Community, having played them in the Class 1 sectional round last season.

With eight teams now in the CAC, the conference is split into two divi-

GLASGOW LADY YELLOWJACKETS



2017-18 RECORD: 22-9 overall, 8-4 in Central Activities Conference (3rd place)

PLAYOFF RESULT: Lost 56-50 to Wheatland in Show-Me Showdown Third Place Game

TOURNAMENT RESULTS: 3rd place — Glasgow Tournament; 2nd place — Marceline Tournament; 3rd place — Slater Wildcat Classic.

KEY LOSSES: Jaden Monnig, Abby Littrell, Kristin Stockhorst, Molly Reynolds, Carrington Frevert

KEY RETURNERS: Madisyn Parks, sr.; Teagan Howell, sr.

sions. Glasgow is in the West Division, and they will play the other three teams twice. Those teams are Slater, New Franklin and Pilot Grove.

Cairo won the CAC last season. They bring back most of the experience that took them to the Class 2

Show-Me Showdown last season. They are the favorite to repeat as conference champions again this season.

Glasgow has been assigned to Class 1 District 11. They share the district with Brunswick, Bucklin, Hale, Keytesville,

Meadville, Northwestern (Mendon), Slater, and Tina-Avalon.

Glasgow's next game is at home on Dec. 6 against the Westran Lady Hornets. Tipoff is at 6 p.m.

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Harrisburg Bulldogs boys basketball



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Senior 5'10" Forward



Charles Strain
Senior 5'11" Guard



Wyatt Robinson
Sophomore 5'10" Guard



Jonah Sanford
Junior 6'1" Forward



Kyler Longdon
Sophomore 5'8" Guard



Dayton Albin
Sophomore 5'10" Forward



Tanner Fike
Freshman 5'10" Forward



Cody James
Senior 6'4" Forward



Tanner Lanes
Freshman 6'3" Forward



Ryan Freeman
Senior 6'1" Forward



Willy Dennison
Freshman 5'4" Guard



Tyler Cockrum
Senior 5'10" Forward



Braylon Stephenson
Freshman 5'11" Forward



Reed Brown
Junior 6'4" Forward



Aiden Stricker
Freshman 6'0" Forward



Travis Gardner
Freshman 5'11" Guard



Jace Carr
Freshman 6'1" Forward



Zack Hudnell
Senior 6'0" Guard



Andrew Weber
Freshman 5'5" Guard



Justus Whitaker
Sophomore 5'9" Guard



Mason Hardin
Assistant Coach



Kyle Fisher
Head Coach

Area High School Basketball Preview

An era comes to an end, but the Bulldogs continue on

The Harrisburg Bulldogs saw significant turnover at the end of last season, as eight seniors finished their time with the program.

Those eight seniors were a part of a team that won back-to-back district titles, and made a trip to the Class 2 Show-Me Showdown in 2017.

"It's something we haven't had around here in a while," Harrisburg head coach Kyle Fisher said. "Probably five or six years ago, we had a big senior class leave. It is a little bit of a year of transition, the system is not going to change. Expectations aren't going to change. We may tweak some things

here and there offensively and defensively, but, for the most part, we're going to keep things the same. We'll expect guys to rise to the occasion and to not have a letdown."

Two of those departed seniors are All-State players Cody Karl and Cade Combs. Both players passed 1,000 career points while at Harrisburg, and were named Lewis and Clark All-Conference and All-District multiple times. Last season, the two accounted for nearly 40 points per game for the Bulldogs.

Karl was the team's starting point guard for the past three seasons. Fisher said that Karl left "big

shoes to fill" after his departure, and that he has yet to determine who the new starter will be at the position.

"He's really a guy that's going to be tough to replace on both ends of the floor," Fisher said. "We have Aaron Sims coming back. He played some point guard for us last year. We have a couple of freshmen and sophomores who have a chance to compete for that spot, as well."

Fisher said Karl dominated the point guard position the past three years and stayed on the floor as much as possible. This year, point guard could be kept to a rotation, he said, while he tries to figure out

HARRISBURG BULLDOGS



2017-18 RECORD: 22-7 overall

PLAYOFF RESULT: Lost 89-79 to Milan in Class 2 sectional round

TOURNAMENT RESULTS: 3rd place — Centralia Invitational; 1st place — Macon Invitational; 3rd place — Southern Boone Tournament

KEY LOSSES: Cade Combs, Cody Karl, Christian Jenkins, Ethan Sublett, Jordan Olmstead, Scott Hill

KEY RETURNERS: Aaron Sims, sr., Cody James, sr., Tyler Cockrum, sr., Jonah Sanford, jr.,

the best matchups on any given night.

"We really haven't sorted that out yet," Fisher said. "Hopefully, some guys will step up in the next couple of weeks and

it really sorts itself out."

Fisher said that while so many significant contributors left after last season, he looks to re-tool, and not rebuild. It won't come from just two

players, he said, but will come from a "multitude" of players. With that, the scoring production could be a little more balanced this season, he said.

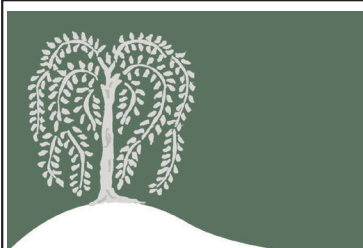
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Harrisburg Bulldogs girls basketball



Sydney Fischer
Senior 5'9" Guard/Forward
Parents: Allen & Wendy Fischer



Kyla Heuer
Senior 5'9" Forward
Parents: Kelli & Rob Heuer



Hailey Emanuel
Sophomore 5'3" Guard
Parents: Eric Emanuel and
Amanda Hargis



Kailey Franklin
Sophomore 5'7" Guard
Parents: Aaron and Laura
Franklin



Halle Baden
Sophomore 6'0" Forward
Parents: David and Kristi Baden



Jillian Thornhill
Senior 5'2" Guard
Parents: Jared & Wendy
Thornhill



Hailey Shouten
Freshman 5'5" Guard
Parents: Chuck and Christy
Shouten



Katie Starbuck
Freshman 4'11" Guard
Parents: Cole and Lacie Starbuck



Alivia Spry
Junior 5'11" Forward
Parents: Josh & Anne Spry



Emma Barton
Junior 5'9" Forward
Parents: Steve & Monica Barton



Hailey Meyer
Freshman 5'7" Guard
Parents: Benny and Robin Gilpin



Zoe Carr
Junior 5'7" Guard
Parents: Jeff and Stacey Carr



Baylie Combs
Sophomore 5'7" Forward
Parents: Steve and Carmen
Combs



Kait Weil
Senior 5'7" Guard
Parents: Mike and Kim Weil



Olivia Fischer
Sophomore 5'4" Guard
Parents: Allen and Wendy Fischer



Ryan Richardson
Head Coach

Area High School Basketball Preview

In Year Two, Richardson brings everyone back

The Harrisburg Lady Bulldogs enter the 2018-2019 season in a unique situation. They ended last season with no seniors on the roster, and every key player returns this year.

Head coach Ryan Richardson is beginning his second season at the position. He took over after long-time coach Dan Bachmeier retired. Not only was it his first time coaching girls high school basketball, it was also his first head coaching experience.

"You always come in thinking you're ready," Richardson said. "I spent 10 years as an assistant coach, and I worked under a lot of great head coaches. I thought I was prepared. X's and O's-wise, every head coach X's and O's. The hardest part, and where I really had to grow up, was managing. Managing personalities, managing parents and managing even your assistant coaches. I made a lot of mistakes in managing. I spent a lot of time during my offseason learning

how to manage up. That's players, staff, and parents, and that's the hard part you don't really get until you're thrown into the fire. You have to be the one that answers every question and every problem."

The Lady Bulldogs went 7-17 in Richardson's first season. They began the year with a 52-49 upset over Southern Boone. Richardson said Harrisburg fell behind 12-0 to begin the game before chipping away at the Southern Boone lead. A 3-pointer from Emma Barton at the end of the third quarter gave the Lady Bulldogs a spark, and they carried that momentum into the fourth quarter.

"We got on a roll after that (3-pointer) and won the game," Richardson said. "I always told myself I would remain calm, whether it was a win or a loss, in front of the people. I don't know if I ever worked so hard to not show emotion like I did in that 30 seconds. After I shook all their hands, and shook their coach's hand, I

was walking back and the first person I saw when I went around the corner was my dad, and my dad is not a guy that shows a ton of emotion. I'm pretty sure he squeezed me so hard and threw me up almost through the ceiling. I think he was more excited than I was."

Three of the Lady Bulldogs' 17 losses last season were by less than 10 points. One of those games was against the Marceline Lady Tigers. Harrisburg lost 51-45 in overtime. Richardson said every player on the team remembers the feeling after that game.

"That's a game that I knew we should have won and we didn't," Richardson said.

Leading Harrisburg this season will be seniors Sydney Fischer and Kyla Heuer. Fischer is the returning lead scorer with 7.3 points per game last season. Heuer averaged four points per game.

Another scoring threat for the Lady Bulldogs will be junior Emma Barton.

HARRISBURG LADY BULLDOGS



2017-18 RECORD: 7-17 overall, 3-5 Lewis and Clark (6th place)

PLAYOFF RESULT: Lost 67-52 to Calvary Lutheran in Class 2 District 8 Tournament quarterfinals

TOURNAMENT RESULTS: 8th place — Centralia Tournament; 8th place — Macon Tournament; 6th place — Southern Boone Classic.

KEY LOSSES: None

KEY RETURNERS: Sydney Fischer: sr.; Kyla Heuer, sr., Emma Barton jr.

She averaged 5.8 points per game last season. She had the clutch 3-pointer against Southern Boone last season. Opposing teams should look at her as an outside threat.

Richardson is preparing for his second season in the Lewis and Clark Conference. Harrisburg had some close contests in the league last season. If they can correct their mistakes and find ways to close out close games, they could finish in the top half of the conference in 2018-2019.

The Bulldogs are assigned to Class 2 District 7 this season. Their district assignment this season looks very similar to their assignment last year.

The Lady Bulldogs

share the district with Calvary Lutheran, who knocked them out of the district tournament last season.

Also in the district are New Bloomfield, Cairo, Russellville, Salisbury, Sturgeon and Westran. New Bloomfield, Sturgeon and Russellville were all in a district with Harrisburg

last season.

The Lady Bulldogs' next game will be at the Centralia Invitational Tournament. The Tournament will be held Dec. 3-8.

Harrisburg's first opponent and the start time of the game are to be determined.

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Higbee Tigers boys basketball



William Gibson

Junior 6'1" Forward
Parents: James & Rebecca
Gibson



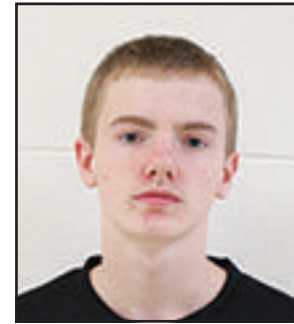
Seth Kirby

Junior 5'8" Guard
Parent: Matt & Michelle Kirby



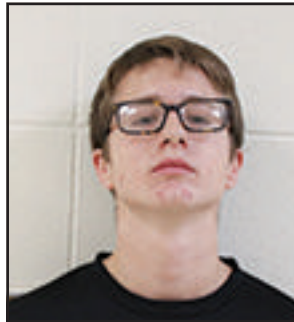
Brett Nauerth

Sophomore 6'0" Forward
Parents: Chad & Jessica
Crawford



Keetun Redifer

Sophomore 5'11" Guard
Parents: Tommy and Cara Redifer



Malaki Squires

Freshman 5'9" Guard
Grandparents: David and Kathy
Bartolecci



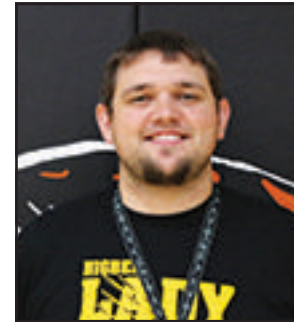
James Smith

Freshman 6'0" Forward
Parents: Robert and Rena Smith



Luke Ritter

Freshman 5'7" Guard
Parent: Jesse and Lyann Ritter



Tanner Burton

Head Coach

Burton takes on an additional role

Jon Bishop was the head coach of the Higbee Tigers for eight seasons. He has accepted the same position at Fayette, as Tanner Burton takes over the Higbee boys basketball program.

Burton was already set to enter his sixth season as the Lady Tigers' head coach, where he has accumulated an 85-46 record in those five seasons. He now takes on a new challenge, where he will be handling two basketball programs at the same time.

"It was my choice and I asked for it," Burton said. "That was one of the things I felt I needed, a different challenge. I needed something to round me out better as a coach. I wanted to give them everything I've got, and I've coached most of these boys before. It's just a matter of being a juggling act at this point."

The Tigers enter the 2018-19 season with seven players on the roster. The program is experiencing significant turn-

over, with seven players from last season moving on after graduation.

Looking at it only as seven players leaving doesn't say much about what Higbee lost after last season. The departing players held significant size. Four of those players stood at least 6-foot-2, something not seen often in Class 1.

John Schell (6-foot-4) was the team leader in scoring (14.5 points per game) and rebounding (11.6 rebounds per game.). Wade Spilman

was the second leading scorer with 11.5 points per game. Spilman had the size (6-foot-2) to play in the post, and was an effective player from the perimeter.

"We went from a post-loaded team to a guard-loaded team," Burton said. "There's a lot of change happening. With low numbers, it creates another challenge for us. But again, it's one of those things where we say there's no excuses. It's one of those things where we have to own it

and we have to play with what we've got."

Burton said his players will have to play disciplined to avoid foul trouble. Each player will be given a role, and in March, they will know how each player handled their respective role, he said.

Junior William Gibson is one player who returns this season. He is the returning leader in varsity minutes, scoring and assists.

Gibson averaged 10.6 points per game and 4.9

assists per game as the starting point guard. He is one of two juniors on the roster.

The other junior on the roster is Seth Kirby. Burton he said Kirby played what he felt wasn't a lot of minutes at the varsity level last season. This is expected for a sophomore on a senior-heavy roster.

Burton said the remaining five players on the roster have little to no varsity experience.

(Continued on Page 19)

Area High School Basketball Preview

(Continued from Page 18)

Three of them are freshmen (Jaime Smith, Pat Squires and Luke Ridder). Two sophomores are on the roster, Keaton Rediford and Brett Nauwerth.

"Obviously, they're going to make an impact out of the gates," Burton said. "I have seven."

Burton said his players will have a different role from what they've done before. He said Smith was a post-dominant player in junior high, and now will be an undersized player in high school.

"For these kids, as freshmen, it's a bigger jump for boys than girls," Burton said. "They have to adapt faster, and hopefully we're

preparing them through the summer and through our practices now, and they'll be able to come in and there won't be that big disparity between them. The older guys will have to do a good job of being great leaders and stepping in and reinforcing the positives and leading the team like they're supposed to."

Gibson and Kirby have been named as team captains, Burton said, and will be the two guys he looks for to "keep their heads on straight" and keep the team focused.

"I think that's where the success lies," Burton said. "How do they make sure that we're keeping the ship headed in the right direction at all times. I think they'll do a great job of that."

Burton said he hopes the team can form some sort of an identity by January. For now, he said he is trying different things and trying to find what works. Some of it will be motion offense, he said, and some of it will be positionless basketball.

Burton said he views Jamestown and Prairie Home as the top two teams in the Cooper County Activities Conference this season. Higbee will have three conference road games, with Bunceton being the only home game.

Higbee's next home game is Dec. 6 against the Fayette Falcons. Fans will want to pack the Higbee gym and give Fayette head coach a warm welcome. The game tips at 7:30 p.m.

HIGBEE TIGERS



2017-18 RECORD: 14-11, 2-2 in CCAA (2nd place)

PLAYOFF RESULT: Lost 63-42 to Glasgow in Class 1 District 9 Tournament quarterfinals

TOURNAMENT RESULTS: 8th place — Northwestern Tournament; 5th place — Keytesville Tournament; 3rd place — Brashear Invitational Tournament

KEY LOSSES: John Schell, Wade Spillman
KEY RETURNERS: William Gibson, jr.; Seth Kirby, jr.

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Higbee Tigers girls basketball



Macey Whisenand

Freshman 5'2" Guard
Parents: Jonathan and Brandy Whisenand



Grace Westfall

Senior 5'4" Guard
Parent: BJ & Lisa Westfall



Madison Eames

Senior 5'2" Guard
Parent: Scott Eames and Bridgett Smith



Jillian Huddleston

Junior 5'6" Guard/Forward
Parent: Dusty & Mindy Huddleston



Shelby Garven

Junior 5'7" Forward
Parent: Troy and Christi Garven



Devin Clark

Junior 5'10" Forward
Parents: Donald and Tara Clark



Victoria Gibson

Freshman 5'7" Guard
Parents: James and Rebecca Gibson



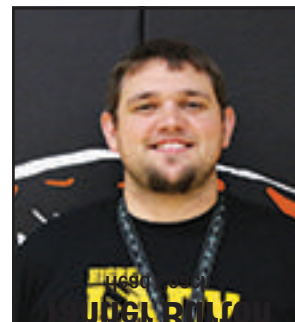
Shelby Clark

Senior 5'8" Forward
Parents: Donald and Tara Clark



Alexis Whisenand

Senior 5'7" Forward
Parents: Jonathan & Brandy Whisenand



Tanner Burton

Head Coach

Next class ready to set its legacy at Higbee

The Higbee Lady Tigers from a season ago left another mark on the girls basketball program, winning 20 games and advancing all the way to a district title game.

Three players who played a significant role in Higbee's 20-8 season in 2017-18 have moved on, but head coach Tanner Burton said he expects the 2018-19 Lady Tigers to continue to carry the program going forward.

"We have three seniors who are captains for us this year, and all three look to really send themselves out," Burton said. "That's the thing that's been sticking with us, what legacy do they want to leave and

what kind of impact do they want to leave on the program. Fortunately, for us right now, we're in a pattern that these kids for us are all having a profound impact on our program."

The departing senior class from last season is (so far) the winningest senior class in program history. Geocie Sager, Sam Nelson and Claire Berendzen won 78 games in their four years at Higbee.

This season, Grace Westfall, Shelby Clark, and Alexis Whisenand have emerged as the senior leaders. Burton began coaching high school and middle school girls basketball at Higbee six years ago, and

he said these three are the first group he has coached since the seventh grade.

"The expectation is here for them to be successful," Burton said. "A lot of people think this will be one of my more successful senior classes. I think that's extremely special, because none of those kids, as of right now, have been the kids that put up thousands of points and stuff like that."

These three have played with three players over the past two years who did reach the 1,000-point milestone. Sager reached 1,000 points last season. Two years ago, Sabrina Huddleston and Rhiannon Runyon reached the mil-

lennium mark for scoring.

"I think that right now what you see is you have some really good teammates who sat behind the wings, similar to what you saw with Geocie last year, that sat back and never scored more than nine or 10 points a game," Burton said. "All of a sudden, they're seniors and now they can cut loose and run the show. I think you'll continue to see this turnover where we have kids step up and play at a high level their senior year. They want to set the bar higher for the next class."

Burton said the current senior class could tie the previous class in wins if they can win 21 games this

season. He said reaching that mark was one of the things his seniors talked about at the beginning of the season.

"This team has great potential to be successful," Burton said. "It's a matter of how high do they want to go. Are they going to set limits on themselves, or are they just going to play the game and let the wins come?"

Burton said the Lady Tigers' schedule is filled with good competition, with teams around the area reaching their "peak." Games could be competitive night in and night out, and will make for fun basketball, he said.

With Burton now

having three seniors on his team who have been with him since the beginning, he now has what is a foundation of players rising through the grades from seventh grade to the high school level. Players spending this much time playing together for so many years build a camaraderie, he said, and they have built a culture at Higbee.

"These kids have bought in, and they were the kids that showed up when I needed them to," Burton said. "They've really been something special, and I think that's the expectation this year, for this to be a special year."

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Area High School Basketball Preview

(Continued from Page 20)

Westfall was close to averaging a double-double last season, scoring 11.4 points per game while grabbing 8.4 rebounds. Whisenand averaged 9.7 rebounds per game, and had a career-high 23 rebounds against Bevier on Jan. 23. She had eight double-doubles last season.

Sager was the team's starting point guard last season, and that position in the starting lineup became vacant upon her graduating. Burton said he could go with a non-specific point guard assignment this season, with as many as five players running the point during a game. It would depend on matchups and situations, he said.

Not only was Sager the starting point guard last season, she also was the team's go-to scorer. She had seven games where she scored more than 20 points, and averaged 15.7 points per game for the season. Burton said Westfall could step into that role as the go-to scorer this season.

She eclipsed 20 points in two of the last three games of last season.

Burton said another player who could be that person is junior Devin Clark. She re-joined the Lady Tigers last season after taking a year off from basketball. She eased back into playing the game with the team early on, but really began to stand out toward the end. She recorded a double-double in four of Higbee's last six games.

"She's extremely athletic and has no idea how high the ceiling is for her," Burton said. "She doesn't understand the fact that she's extremely gifted and athletic. She just plays the game for fun, and that makes her extremely dangerous."

Higbee opened the 2018-19 season at the Northwestern Invitational with a game against Keytesville, winning 60-31. Clark had a double-double, scoring 13 points and grabbing 10 rebounds. Westfall had 13 points. Freshman Macey Whisenand led the team with 14 points.

Burton said he could

have as many as five players who could reach as many as 15-20 points in a game, and seven players who will consistently reach double-figures in scoring. The benefit is being who they are, he said, is that opposing teams early on will have their sights set on Westfall and Alexis Whisenand. The other players, including Clark and Macey Whisenand, are currently under the radar.

Burton said that winning the Cooper County Activities Association has been a goal the program wants to achieve. The Lady Tigers dropped a pair of tough losses to Bunceton and Prairie Home last season. They also lost to Calvary Lutheran, last season's CCAA champion.

Burton said his team has three conference games on the road this season, and any game played on the road is tough. One of those games is at Calvary Lutheran. Burton said Calvary Lutheran is believed to be the conference favorite this season.

Higbee has been as-

HIGBEE LADY TIGERS



2017-18 RECORD: 20-8 overall, 1-3 in CCAA

PLAYOFF RESULT: Lost 58-22 to Glasgow in Class 1 District 9 Tournament finals

TOURNAMENT RESULTS: 1st place — Northwestern Tournament; 3rd place — Keytesville Tournament, 2nd place — Brashear Tournament

KEY LOSSES: Geocie Sager, Sam Nelson

KEY RETURNERS: ; Alexis Whisenand, sr.; Grace Westfall, sr.; Shelby Clark, sr.; Devin Clark, jr.

signed to Class 1 District 10 this season. They are in the district with Bevier, Canton, Community, Madison, Marion County, North Shelby and Wellsville. Community was a district winner last season, losing in the sectional round to Glasgow. Madison was a district winner two seasons ago, but lost to Community last season in districts.

The Lady Tigers have lost three 1,000-point scorers over the past two seasons. However, they are in a different situation this year. Those past two seasons, most of the scoring was handled by only

one or two players. Entering this season, the Lady Tigers have plenty of variety as far as putting points on the scoreboard.

Expect multiple players to step up and light up the scoreboard on any given night. The thought of winning 20-plus games is tough in Class 1 high school basketball,

but this program has done it in three of the past four seasons. Higbee fans can expect the same results this season.

The Lady Tigers played their home opener against Bevier on Dec. 3. They play at home again on Dec. 6 against Fayette, beginning at 6 p.m.

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Area High School Basketball Preview

Fayette boys preview

(Continued from Page 3)

best we can.”

Preseason began on Oct. 29. When teams in Missouri were allowed to hold official practices, Bishop had only one-third of his team. The rest were still playing football. The football Falcons won the Class 1 District 5 title, their first district title in 11 years. One thing being considered was if the basketball team would have only five players in uniform when it opened the season at the 88th Annual Glasgow Tournament on Nov. 26.

Winning a district title in football put Fayette in the Class 1 state playoffs, and it was unclear just how

far they would go. Bishop said that while he wasn't certain when he would have his whole team on the court, he didn't consider it a setback.

“Any of these guys, and any coach, and any player are going to tell you that if you're going to trade losing or having to forfeit the Glasgow Tournament due to a lack of players versus being prepared and ready throughout the (football) season and have an opportunity to win districts, they're going to take districts any time,” Bishop said. “I'm going to preach that as well. We love the Glasgow Tournament. We love playing in it. It's close, it's competitive. We obviously won it last year

and we want to continue to do that, but, of course we have to wait on our other guys.”

Bishop said that calling it a “setback” could be perceived as wishing ill will on another sport, something he made clear he did not want to do.

Athletes at Fayette have put in work through head football coach Roger VanDeZande's weight room philosophy over the past three years, and that philosophy has brought success to the basketball program. Those athletes have seen increases in both size and athleticism. Bishop said he wants to carry that into the basketball season.

Senior Isaiah Estes and

Polson were running backs in VanDeZande's offense. Bishop will use them to drive the ball inside and score in the paint. Roberts has the speed and athleticism to move the ball up and down the court quickly. Seniors Kolby Skaggs and Chris Dunivent bring size to the post. Once this team fully adjusts from football to basketball, they could cause matchup dilemmas for opposing teams.

The Falcons won the Lewis and Clark Conference title last season, their first since 2008. Bishop said that winning the conference again this year is up to the senior class. They won the Lewis and Clark Conference in football.

“Those are all things we can feed off of, and it is very important (to repeat as conference champions),” Bishop said. “It's a very tough conference.”

Bishop said that Harrisburg lost some talented players from last year, while Salisbury returns a decent team and Westran will be improved. It will be a conference where teams will have to show up and play hard every night, he said.

The Falcons have been assigned to Class 2 District 14 this season. This season is different since they are not in a district with Harrisburg. The Bulldogs have been a thorn in Fayette's side in district play the past four seasons.

Every district tournament loss for Fayette has come at the hands of Harrisburg over that span.

The Falcons are sharing the district with Howard County rival New Franklin this season. Also in Class 2 District 14 are Sacred Heart, who won the same district last season, Cole Camp, Smithton, Stover, Sweet Springs, and Tipton. The district host is to be determined.

Fayette's next game is Dec. 6 at Higbee. This game holds some significance, as it will be Bishop's first game in Higbee's gym since accepting the head coach position at Fayette. The game is scheduled to tip at 7:30 p.m.

Harrisburg boys preview

(Continued from Page 15)

“Last year, we went about seven or eight deep most nights,” Fisher said. “I think this year we could go 10-12 deep most nights.”

The Harrisburg Bulldogs have featured a combination of size and speed in recent seasons, something that can be considered rare at the Class 2 level. Fisher said he thinks this year's team could be bigger and just as athletic.

“Last year, we were extremely fast at pretty much every spot,” Fisher said. “This year, we bring Cody (James) back, and we have Ryan Freeman coming back with him as a senior big who played some big minutes down the stretch for us last year. We have

some young kids coming up who have some really good size, some freshmen coming up and some sophomores who have some speed and some strength. As far as size and speed, we'll be right there where we've been the last couple of years.”

James is the only returning starter from last season. Freeman came in off the bench during games, but was a key part of the Bulldogs' rotation. Tyler Cockrum and Jonah Sanford are another two players who contributed varsity minutes last season, who Fisher said could be inside players in the rotation this season.

“He works extremely hard and really does whatever the team needs,” Fisher said about Sanford.

“Whether it's scoring, rebounding, defending, getting on the floor and drawing charges, he's just a great kid to have in the program. I really think with those four, that's a good place to start with replacing some of those rumpers that we lost down low last year.”

The Bulldogs finished second in the Lewis and Clark Conference last season. They lost a close game to the Fayette Falcons early in the season. They had a shot at winning a share of the conference title, with a chance to repeat as conference champions, but a loss to Salisbury on the last night of the regular season negated that opportunity.

Fisher said he thinks that Fayette appears to be

the favorite to win the conference this season. They have a new coach, Jon Bishop, who accepted the job after Ben Pallardy became the head boys basketball coach at Eldon High School. Bishop was previously the head coach of the Higbee Tigers.

Fisher said that despite having a new coach, the Falcons return most of their team from a year ago. Blake Dawson, their leading scorer, and Chavez Kent moved on after graduation. Everyone else returns, and they should be looked at when talking about who has a good shot at winning the Lewis and Clark Conference crown, Fisher said.

“After that, I think it's wide open,” Fisher said. “I

think we'll have a chance to compete for the title. Salisbury lost four starters, but they're going to be in the mix year in and year out. Marceline brings back a couple of All-Conference kids. The schools up north, Knox (County), Schuyler (County) and Scotland (County), are always talented. Paris had a young team last year, not a great record but were really playing well at the end of the year. Westran brings back two All-Conference players, so I think last year it was pretty top-heavy with the top two or three teams. I think you'll see a little more balance this year. I like our chances, and the main thing we use our conference for is to try to get ourselves ready to compete

for a district title.”

Last year, Harrisburg was one of four ranked teams in their district. They other three were Fayette, New Bloomfield, and Eugene. Those were the four teams to reach the district semifinals. Harrisburg defeated New Bloomfield in a close game where Cade Combs scored 48 points to lift the Bulldogs to their second straight conference crown.

The Bulldogs have been assigned to Class 2 District 7 this season. They share the district with New Bloomfield, Calvary Lutheran, Sturgeon and Russellville this season. Cairo has moved up to Class 2 this season, and they are in District 8, as are Salisbury and Westran.

Area High School Basketball Preview

New Franklin boys preview

Continued from Page 7

be more of a threat offensively,” Dobson said. “Defensively, as well, he needs to make sure he steps it up there, too. He needs to improve his overall ability on the floor, both offensively and defensively.”

Last season, the Bulldogs advanced to the championship game of two in-season tournaments — the Glasgow Tournament and the New Franklin Tournament. At both tournaments, New Franklin lost to the Fayette Falcons.

Fayette’s Cale Polson made a steal and scored a layup with :28 remaining in the Glasgow Tournament championship game. New Franklin had the final possession and used all :28. Perkins dribbled around the perimeter and took a wide-open 3-pointer that bounced off the back of the rim. Lyons grabbed the rebound and attempted a putback. The putback attempt missed, and Fayette escaped with a 52-51

win and the Glasgow Tournament first place trophy.

Dobson said the goal at these in-season tournaments is not necessarily earning a first place trophy, but to take home any kind of trophy. To take home a trophy in a tournament, a team must win at least two games.

“Even if it’s a consolation, we’re coming out with two wins,” Dobson said. “It’s third place with two wins, or a championship with three wins. Our goal every tournament is to get at least one trophy. We did come very close at the Glasgow Tournament last year. We had a late turnover that led to them shooting a wide-open layup. And then, they came up here to our tournament. We didn’t play very well for the first three quarters. We decided to finally turn it on and kind of make it a ballgame.”

When asked if his team hopes to run into Fayette in another tournament this season, Dobson said it doesn’t matter who his team plays. The only

thing they are looking for is a trophy, regardless of who they meet in each tournament.

New Franklin’s first conference game is Dec. 7 at the Madison Panthers. Beginning with that game, the Bulldogs will begin their conference title defense. Dobson said he doesn’t view any specific team as a threat to remove them from the conference throne this season, saying that every team in the CAC will give them a challenge.

The Community Trojans are new to the CAC. They are the one unfamiliar foe this season for New Franklin. The Trojans went 9-17 last season. Their season ended with a 56-40 loss to Chamois in the Class 1 District 10 semifinals.

Dobson said that Pilot Grove returns a majority of their starting lineup last season. Glasgow also returns most of their team. Slater advanced to the Class 1 state quarterfinals last season, losing 51-48 to Chamois. The Cairo Bearcats bring back experience, as do the Sturgeon Bulldogs and the Madison Panthers. The CAC looks to be at near-even strength this season.

The Bulldogs are assigned to Class 2 District 14. Sacred Heart, the team who beat them in the district title game last season, are in that district. Dobson said that while he and his Bulldogs know that they can only play who they are matched with come district time, they do have a taste for revenge against Sacred Heart.

Fayette is also in District 14 with New Franklin. A meeting in the district tournament between these two teams would heighten the stakes in this Howard County rivalry.

Also with New Franklin in District 14 are Cole Camp, Smithton, Stover, Sweet Springs and Tipton.

The Bulldogs played at Fayette on Dec. 4. Results were not available at press time. New Franklin’s next home game is Dec. 11 against Slater. The game is scheduled to tip at 7:30 p.m.

Glasgow boys preview

Continued from Page 11

Hamilton as their main scorer. He held that same role last season.

The Yellowjackets won’t rely solely on guard play this season. They have an inside option, as well. That option is senior Briar Boss.

Boss was thrust into the role as Glasgow’s big man last season after the departure of Kennedy Davis and Jason Monnig. He got acquainted with the role rather quickly. That sets up for a big year in his senior season.

“He really does so well, a lot of times, of going up strong (to the basket),” Cropp said. “He jumps so well and he jumps so high. He gets a nice shot off, and it really improved in the second half of last year into this year. We’re really looking forward to him continuing on with that the

rest of this season.”

Boss made his first dunk last season in the opening round of the Slater Wildcat Classic against the Slater Wildcats. This season, he has added an alley-oop to his repertoire.

Boss won’t be by himself down low. With him in the starting lineup is 6-foot Deshon Cowans. His main role will be as a rebounder and as a defender.

Senior guards Brandon Prentzler and Jacob Bean are two more faces that Glasgow fans will see more of this season.

Cropp said that Bean has earned more minutes this season.

The Yellowjackets went 8-4 in the Central Activities Conference last season. The conference will have a different make up this season. The Community Trojans join the conference this season, making them the eighth

team to join the league.

The conference will be split into two divisions this season, an East Division and a West Division. Glasgow will be in the West Division with Slater, the New Franklin Bulldogs and the Pilot Grove Tigers. They will play each team twice and each team in the East Division once.

Glasgow has been assigned to Class 1 District 11 this season. They are in the district with Slater, Brunswick, Bucklin, Hale, Keytesville, Meadville, Northwestern (Mendon) and Tina-Avalon. Most of these teams were in a district together last season, with Slater defeating Northwestern in the title game.

Glasgow’s next game is Dec. 6 at home against the Westran Homets. Tipoff is scheduled for 7:30 p.m. at Larry Littrell Court.

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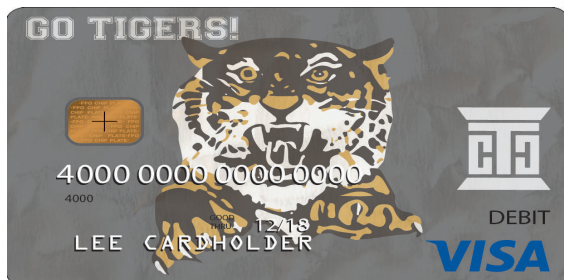
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