

# 2020 Winter Sports Preview

Featuring profiles of the  
wrestling and basketball teams at

**HARTLEY-MELVIN-SANBORN & SIBLEY-OCHEYEDAN**



# Improvement is key for S-O boys this winter

Core group is back from last year's 1-21 team

BY LORI WISER-DYAS

With six returning letterwinners and a pair of starters back, the season looks promising for Sibley-Ocheyedan's boys' basketball team.

Coach Brandon Bergfeld greeted 23 young men when preseason drills began. Of that number, five are seniors along with six juniors, six sophomores and six freshmen.



BRANDON BERGFELD

That total includes returning starters Beau Jenness and Carter Brouwer, and four other letterwinners in Logan Bruxvoort, Keagan Van Westen, Vance Hayenga-Johnson and Dougie Noonkester.

This experience, however, is just one of the Generals' strengths this season, according to Bergfeld.

"Playing from both the perimeter and in the post is a strength," he said. "We have a good mixture of posts who can take up



Members of the 2020-21 Sibley-Ocheyedan boys' varsity basketball team include front row, from left to right: Andrew Espinoza, Cris Garduno, Michael Frick, Beau Jenness, Vance Hayenga-Johnson and Keagan Van Westen. Back row: Damian Van Der Sloot, Creighton Cosgrove, Logan Bruxvoort, Dougie Noonkester, Carter Brouwer and Jonny Santana. ARLYN PEDLEY/PRESS-NEWS

space and score as well as guards who can attack the paint. We also have long and strong defenders who can match up with a variety of teams."

On the other hand, Bergfeld has two main areas of concern.

"We only have 11 guys suiting varsity as of now," the coach said. "Injuries would hurt our depth."

Bergfeld went on to note shooting is also a question mark.

"Last year we struggled from three-

point range but we're hoping summer and offseason time spent in the gym can help that," he said. "We weren't able to get as much time to work on our team stuff or individual skills during the summer as we normally do because of COVID. We also missed out on summer tournaments."

The coach's goal for the season is to be more competitive and finish games.

"We had a lot of close games slip away from us last year," he said. "We want to come out on the other end of those this

year."

If the Generals accomplish this, they will be able to reach the coach's other goal – finishing in the top half of the conference.

The Generals are fully capable of improving on last year's 1-21 mark and moving up in the league. Asked about the always-tough Siouxland Conference, Bergfeld pointed to defending state champs Boyden-Hull. He reiterated his belief S-O can climb into the upper half of the league.



Cheerleaders firing up the Generals this year include front row, from left to right: Toni Rizalado, Julissa Acevedo and Emma Brockshus. Back row: Halle Block, Emily Weaver, MacKenzie Beyer, Bailey Gries and Karissa Hulstein. ARLYN PEDLEY/PRESS-NEWS

## 2020-21 S-O VARSITY BASKETBALL SCHEDULE

Girls' Head Coach: Steve Kellen  
Boys' Head Coach: Brandon Bergfeld

All girls' varsity games start at 6:15 p.m., followed by the varsity boys' games at 7:45 p.m.

- Tuesday, Dec. 8, Okoboji.
- Friday, Dec. 11: at MOC/FV.
- Tuesday, Dec. 15, at Rock Valley.
- Friday, Dec. 18: George-Little Rock.
- Tuesday, Dec. 22: Central Lyon.
- Monday, Jan. 4: at Trinity Christian.
- Tuesday, Jan. 5: West Lyon.

- Friday, Jan. 8: Boyden-Hull.
- Monday, Jan. 11: Harris-Lake Park.
- Friday, Jan. 15: at Sioux Center.
- Tuesday, Jan. 19: Sheldon.
- Friday, Jan. 22: at Okoboji.
- Tuesday, Jan. 26: MOC/FV.
- Friday, Jan. 29: Rock Valley.
- Tuesday, Feb. 2: G-LR.
- Thursday, Feb. 4: Hartley-Melvin-Sanborn.
- Friday, Feb. 5: at Central Lyon.
- Tuesday, Feb. 9: at West Lyon.
- Friday, Feb. 12: at Boyden-Hull (boys only)

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**Sibley-Ocheyedan  
Generals JV boys'  
basketball team**

Members of the 2020-21 Sibley-Ocheyedan boys' junior varsity basketball team include front row, from left to right: Walker Stubbe, Abner Llanes, Erick Ortiz, Riley Getzel, Junior Martinez. Back row: Sam Chambers, Anthony Santana, Maverick Elser, Jack Hausen, Conner Beltman. Not pictured: Sam Schnepf.  
ARLYN PEDLEY/PRESS-NEWS

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# Wealth of experience is big asset for H-M-S boys

Defensive improvement, varied lineups additional strengths

BY MIKE PETERSEN

Experience and improvement may be two key ingredients for success as Hartley-Melvin-Sanborn enters the 2020-21 boys' basketball season.

Hawk coach Mark Petersen enters his third year with the program and is seeing several familiar faces from the 2019-20 squad that finished 9-14 overall.



MARK PETERSEN

The eight returning letter winners include seniors DJ Doyle, Ben Haack, Sam Heyn and Kayl Jacobsma; juniors Mason Brinkman and Jordan Ortega; and sophomores Lance Berends and Kooper Ebel.

Berends was named to the all-War Eagle Conference first team last year after leading H-M-S in scoring, rebounds and blocks. Ebel was honorable mention all-conference. He led the team in assists and steals, was second in rebounds and third in scoring.

"The returning letter winners saw a reasonable amount of time on the floor last season. Everyone at some time of the year started games. We've got a wealth of experience coming back," Petersen said.

Like all other programs, H-M-S did not have regular spring and summer workouts due to COVID-19 restrictions. But that didn't stop H-M-S players from finding ways to work on their skills.

"A lot of these kids were at the parks when they were back open, getting shots and playing," he said. "I know they were getting shots up and shooting competitive shots. That's a good thing."

That commitment to getting better has carried over into preseason practices.

"The kids are working hard. They're a close knit group. They like each other and like competing with each other," Petersen



Members of the 2020-21 Hartley-Melvin-Sanborn varsity boys' basketball team are front row, from left to right: Dawson Schiphoff, Brenton Thomas, DJ Doyle, Kayl Jacobsma, Lance Berends, Keevyn Jacobsma and Ben Haack. Back row: Jason Kruger, Travis Kamradt, Mason Brinkman, Wyatt Borden, Kooper Ebel, Sam Heyn, Jordan Ortega and J.P. Mutombo. MIKE PETERSEN/SENTINEL-NEWS

noted.

Defense and versatility, along with good size and guard play, are additional strengths of this year's team.

"Defensively we'll be improved. They seem to be communicating better," Petersen said. "We are able to throw different lineups on the floor – a power lineup or a shooting lineup. I think we're going to be able to match up against some different teams."

He also mentioned the importance of leadership on the squad.

"We've got kids that are vocal leaders up and down the lineup. They're coaches on the floor," Petersen said.

While Petersen and assistant coach Tom Lidiak see much to like about the squad,

See H-M-S BOYS, Page 5

## 2020-21 H-M-S VARSITY BASKETBALL SCHEDULE

Girls' Coaches: Head – Lester Tessum (2<sup>nd</sup> year); Assistant – Naethan Hoaglund

Boys' Coaches: Head – Mark Petersen (3<sup>rd</sup> year); Assistant – Tom Lidiak

Tuesday, Dec. 8: Trinity Christian (G/B), Hartley, 6 p.m.  
 Friday, Dec. 11: West Sioux (G/B), Hawarden, 6 p.m.  
 Monday, Dec. 14: GT/RA (G/B), Hartley, 6 p.m.  
 Tuesday, Dec. 15: West Bend-Mallard (G/B), West Bend, 6 p.m.  
 Friday, Dec. 18: Remsen St. Mary's (G/B), Hartley, 6 p.m.  
 Tuesday, Dec. 22: South O'Brien (G/B), Paulina, 6 p.m.  
 Tuesday, Jan. 5: Harris-Lake Park (G/B), Hartley, 6 p.m.  
 Friday, Jan. 8: Hinton (G/B), Hinton, 6 p.m.  
 Monday, Jan. 11: Sheldon (G/B), Sheldon, 6:15 p.m.

Tuesday, Jan. 12: Trinity Christian (G/B), Hull, 6 p.m.  
 Friday, Jan. 15: MMCRU (G/B), Hartley, 6 p.m.  
 Friday, Jan. 22: Gehlen Catholic (G/B), Le-Mars, 6 p.m.  
 Tuesday, Jan. 26: South O'Brien (G/B), Hartley, 6 p.m.  
 Thursday, Jan. 28: Boyden-Hull (G/B), Hull, 6:15 p.m.  
 Friday, Jan. 29: Unity Christian (G/B), Orange City, 6:15 p.m.  
 Tuesday, Feb. 2: MMCRU (G/B), Marcus, 6 p.m.  
 Thursday, Feb. 4: Sibley-Ocheyedan (G/B), Sibley, 6:15 p.m.  
 Friday, Feb. 5: Akron-Westfield (G/B), Hartley, 6 p.m.  
 Monday, Feb. 8: Sioux Central (B), Sioux Rapids, 7:30 p.m.  
 Tuesday, Feb. 9: Harris-Lake Park (G/B), Lake Park, 6 p.m.

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H-M-S boys

H-M-S JV boys' basketball team

From page 4

they still stress the basics of the sport. "The focus has to be shooting, rebounding and defense," Petersen noted. "We've got some great teams on our schedule. We've got to be able to play well."

Those teams include Gehlen Catholic, South O'Brien, Unity Christian and West Sioux as contenders in the War Eagle Conference. West Sioux tied for the title last year with Remsen St. Mary's, which was hit hard by graduation losses.

H-M-S finished the 2019-20 season with a 4-6 conference record, tied with Gehlen Catholic and Harris-Lake Park for seventh place. Petersen didn't forecast a finish for 2020-21, but he is confident the Hawks will do their best.

"It's going to be an exciting year, a challenging year," he said. "I want to see the kids get better every day and continue to be the quality people they are. They want to get better. They work hard."

**"I think we're going to be able to match up against some different teams."**

- Mark Petersen



Members of the 2020-21 Hartley-Melvin-Sanborn junior varsity boys' basketball team include front row, from left to right: Zach Pearson, Tommy Den Hartog, Trenton Vollink, Tyson Tessum, Dakota Glackin, Landon Elwood and Scott Glackin. Back row: Lucas Kroese, Alan Abonce, Elijah Groeneweg, Ethan Huberg, Adam Schierholz, Bryce Ortega and Ethan Diehm. Not pictured: Keith DeBoer. MIKE PETERSEN/SENTINEL-NEWS

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# Young talent is key asset for S-O girls

## Generals eyeing Top 5 Siouxland finish

BY LORI WISER-DYAS

One might seriously consider betting the farm on Sibley-Ocheyedan's girls this winter.

The Generals, under second-year head coach Steve Kellen, return all five starters from a year ago and are intent on improving on last year's results. Of the 26 girls out this season, three are seniors, six juniors, 11 sophomores and six freshmen, meaning there will be plenty of competition in practice. The total is an increase of six girls from a year ago.



STEVE KELLEN

"Even with all five starters back, all the players are vying for starting positions," Kellen revealed.

In addition to their experience, Kellen is excited about two other aspects of the team.

"One of our strengths is our height. We have four girls who are six-feet tall on the varsity," he said. "Our guard play is very good. They all have the confidence to shoot the ball."

While the Generals have many strengths, Kellen still sees weaknesses in his team.

"We are still trying to get the girls into my system," he said. "We need to execute our offense and defend the ball better."

The Generals posted a record of 8-14 overall and 6-12 in Siouxland play a year ago. The team shot just 36.3 percent (427/1176) from the field, 27.6 percent (110/399) from three-point range and 63.2 percent (182/288) at the foul line. Individually, Madison Brouwer averaged 15.2 points and 9.8 rebounds per game



Members of the 2020-21 Sibley-Ocheyedan girls' varsity basketball team pictured front row, from left to right: Kelli Greenfield, Alexis Huff and Emma Johnson. Middle row: Bria Wasmund, Sydney Richardson, Jadyn Jensen and Keytin Elser. Back row: Ari Noonkester, Marissa Ackerman, Emily Schutte, Madison Brouwer and Abbie Bos. ARLYN PEDLEY/PRESS-NEWS

See S-O GIRLS, Page 7



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## S-O JV girls' basketball



Members of the 2020-21 Sibley-Ocheyedan girls' junior varsity basketball team pictured front row, from left to right: America Ortiz, Olivia Bosma, Diana Sufle and Olivia Hensch. Middle row: Zoe Ackerman, Addi Douma, Brooke Platt, Emma Langstraat, Alayna Wingate and Jadya Jensen. Back row: Keytin Elser, Kennedy Van Westen, Ella Bruxvoort, Shaelyn Kruger, Avery Zylstra and Makya Dykstra. ARLYN PEDLEY/PRESS-NEWS

## S-O girls

From page 6

while Bria Wasmund kicked in an average of 12.9 points and 4.7 assists.

Kellen plans to continue with his continuity offense against both man and zone defenses.

"It will use ball screen action that will allow the guards to attack the basket while allowing the post players room to

roll and utilize a high-low," he explained.

The coach has definite expectations about the upcoming season.

"Last year there were really no expectations other than improving daily," Kellen said. "This season will be different. Last year we finished 8-14. We will improve from last year. I think a goal should be to get over .500."

Kellen is also eyeing a Top 5 finish in the Siouxland Conference. He pointed to West Lyon as the "cream of the crop" in the league.

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# Half-court defense, rebounding are strengths for Hawk girls

Finding scoring options will be early-season priority

BY MIKE PETERSEN

Hartley-Melvin-Sanborn will rest its hopes for a successful girls' basketball season on solid defense and rebounding while finding its identity on the offensive end of the floor.



LESTER TESSUM

Leading this year's squad are senior letter winners Olivia Grooters, Taya Mason and Darby Mastbergen, juniors Lydia Harders and Jasmine Lux, and sophomore Elise Haack. Senior Paige Gehrke, junior Emily Otto and sophomore Emily Mutombo are also on the varsity roster.

Having lost three of the top scorers from the 2019-20 team that finished 7-16 overall, H-M-S has to build offensive chemistry and find point production in game situations.

"We're looking for offensive leaders," said Hawk coach Lester Tessum. "We're hoping someone steps up and wants to be the leader on the scoring end of things."

Lux was third in scoring last year at just under six points per game and was also third in rebounds with 101. Grooters was close behind with 93 rebounds while Mason led the defense with 53 steals.

The offensive philosophy remains consistent in Tessum's second year at H-M-S.

"We want to take as many shots in the paint as we can and limit turnovers," he said.

Since the coronavirus pandemic interrupted plans to focus on fundamentals during the summer, early-season practices are stressing the basics.

"We do fundamental drills every practice - defense and dribbling," Tessum noted. "The first year you're teaching the philosophies you want to coach to. This year they



Members of the 2020-21 Hartley-Melvin-Sanborn varsity girls' basketball team are front row, from left to right: Elise Haack, Paige Gehrke, Taya Mason and Lydia Harders. Back row: Jasmine Lux, Emily Otto, Olivia Grooters, Darby Mastbergen and Emily Mutombo. MIKE PETERSEN/SENTINEL-NEWS

know what to do defensively and how we want to run plays.

"The girls have really bought into our pressure half-court defense," he added. "We will be as strong as we were last year right off the bat."

With five players listed at 5'9" or taller, H-M-S has the height and also the attitude to compete under the basket.

"I fully expect we will be a good offensive rebounding team. We run our plays to have good offensive rebounding position," Tessum said. "Rebounding is pretty much effort. I think the girls will give us a really good effort."

H-M-S's player rotation will be limited in the early going.

"We'll probably be rotating seven girls

to start the season. I'd like to get to eight or nine as the season progresses," Tessum said. "We'll see how that develops."

Last year's squad finished in a tie for seventh place in the War Eagle Conference. Improving on their 4-6 record will be a challenge.

See H-M-S GIRLS, Page 9

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## H-M-S girls

From page 8

"It's one of the toughest conferences in girls' basketball, I think," Tessum said.

Teams that Tessum mentioned as title contenders – MMCRU, South O'Brien, Unity Christian and West Sioux – were all near the top of last year's standings.

In addition to teaching skills of the game, Tessum continues to use basketball as a means of showing his players what it takes to be successful off the court.

"Almost every practice we talk about life lessons. I relate basketball back to life," he said. "We try to build responsibility and a good work ethic."

One newcomer to the program is assistant coach Naet Hoaglund. The H-M-S graduate's previous head coaching experience at Spirit Lake is already an asset to the program.

"He understands basketball very well," Tessum said. "He has a good understanding of the kids and how to motivate them. He's been a really good addition."

## H-M-S JV girls' basketball



Members of the 2020-21 Hartley-Melvin-Sanborn junior varsity girls' basketball team are front row, from left to right: Alexa Reed-Clancy, Jocelyn Abonce, Annika Overmire, Kayla Kathman and Emily Mutombo. Back row: Madison Otto, Meghan Larson, Abby Otto, Emily Otto, Kyra Vermeer, Ashleigh Vermeer and Elise Haack. Not pictured: Heather Elgersma. MIKE PETERSEN/SENTINEL-NEWS

### 2020-21 H-M-S JV BASKETBALL SCHEDULE

Monday, Dec. 7: Boyden-Hull (JV G/B), Hartley, 6 p.m.  
 Tuesday, Dec. 8: Trinity Christian (9 B) Hartley, 4:30 p.m.  
 Thursday, Dec. 10: Okoboji (9/JV G/B), Milford, 5:30 p.m.  
 Friday, Dec. 11: West Sioux (JV B), Hawarden, 4:45 p.m.  
 Monday, Dec. 14: GT/RA (JV G/B), Hartley, 4:30 p.m.  
 Tuesday, Dec. 15: West Bend-Mallard (JV G/B), West Bend, 4 p.m.  
 Thursday, Dec. 17: South O'Brien, (9 G/B), Paullina, 6 p.m.  
 Friday, Dec. 18: Remsen St. Mary's (JV G/B), Hartley, 4:30 p.m.  
 Tuesday, Dec. 22: South O'Brien (JV G/B), Paullina, 4 p.m.  
 Monday, Jan. 4: Boyden-Hull (9 G/B),

Hartley, 6 p.m.  
 Tuesday, Jan. 5: Harris-Lake Park (JV B), Hartley, 4:30 p.m.  
 Friday, Jan. 8: Hinton (JV G/B), Hinton, 4 p.m.  
 Saturday, Jan. 9: Spencer (9-JV B), Hartley, 9 a.m.  
 Monday, Jan. 11: Sheldon (JV G/B), Sheldon, 4:45 p.m.  
 Tuesday, Jan. 12: Trinity Christian (9 B), Hull, 4:30 p.m.  
 Thursday, Jan. 14: Sioux Central (9 G/B), Hartley, 6 p.m.  
 Friday, Jan. 15: MMCRU (JV G/B), Hartley, 4:30 p.m.  
 Saturday, Jan. 16: Western Christian (9 G), Hull, 9 a.m.  
 Tuesday, Jan. 19: Cherokee (9 G/B), Cherokee, 6:30 p.m.

Thursday, Jan. 21: South O'Brien (9 G/B), Hartley, 6 p.m.  
 Friday, Jan. 22: Gehlen Catholic (JV G), LeMars, 4:30 p.m.  
 Tuesday, Jan. 26: South O'Brien (JV G/B), Hartley, 4:30 p.m.  
 Thursday, Jan. 28: Boyden-Hull (JV G/B), Hull, 4:45 p.m.  
 Friday, Jan. 29: Unity Christian (JV G/B), Orange City, 3:45 p.m.  
 Tuesday, Feb. 2: MMCRU (JV G), Marcus, 4:30 p.m.  
 Thursday, Feb. 4: Sibley-Ocheyedan (JV G/B), Sibley, 4:45 p.m.  
 Friday, Feb. 5: Akron-Westfield (JV G/B), Hartley, 4:30 p.m.  
 Monday, Feb. 8: Sioux Central (9/JV B), Sioux Rapids, 4:30 p.m.  
 Tuesday, Feb. 9: H-LP (JV G), Lake Park, 4:30 p.m.



Hartley-Melvin-Sanborn basketball cheerleaders for the 2020-21 season include front row, from left to right: Delaney Murphy, Grace Dalen and Anna Vander Veen. Back row: Lily Rons, Megan Ten Kley, Emma Vollink and Kylie Jatho. Not pictured: Emily Heneman. MIKE PETERSEN/SENTINEL-NEWS



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## 2 state qualifiers return for S-O wrestling squad

Generals hope to vie for Siouxland crown

BY LORI WISER-DYAS

There's a new man at the helm of Sibley-Ocheyedan wrestling this season who isn't really new to S-O. Nick Krogman, who represented S-O in the state tournament in 1997, is making his coaching debut.

"This is my first coaching job," he acknowledged. "I knew the kids and the predicament. I also had some people reach out so I got my coaching endorsement."

Krogman will be assisted by Mike Finch, a state champ for Hartley-Melvin-Sanborn, who volunteered with the program last year.

"Mike is a strength of the team," Krogman said. "He's a state champion and a multi-year qualifier and helpful to the program."

Krogman has a senior-laden team of 16 this season. The squad is comprised of seven seniors, two juniors, three sophomores and four freshmen.

With a pair of returning state qualifiers in Dahson DeJong and Jonathan Krogman in the room, the coach sees strength in the squad.

Wrestlers include seniors Trevor Deden, Dahson DeJong, Austin Kruger, Isaac Molendorp, Grant Paca, Dylan Platt, Garrett Sarringar; juniors Mario Cuadros, Dimitri Lobo; sophomores Keegan De Zeeuw, Jonathan Krogman, Dylan Top; and freshmen Michael Block, Noah Deden, Kyla Schwager and Dalton Wingate. Eleven already own varsity letters.

"We have a strong senior class who are providing great leadership. We also have some promising underclassmen in the room," Krogman said, acknowledging the team's strengths.

With all these positives, Krogman noted the Generals will probably go into meets



NICK KROGMAN



The 2020-21 Sibley-Ocheyedan wrestling team pictured front row, from left to right: Mario Cuadros, Jonathan Krogman, Noah Doeden and Kyla Schwager. Middle row: Garrett Sarringar, Dimitri Lobo, Dahson Dejong, Dylan Top and Grant Paca. Back row: Keegan De Zeeuw, Dalton Wingate, Isaac Molendorp, Dylan Platt, Austin Kruger and Michael Block. Not Pictured: Trevor Deden. ARLYN PEDLEY/PRESS-NEWS

down 12 points due to two open weights. However, one of those open weights will not be 106, which Krogman expects to be filled by Schwager, who, according to Krogman, is doing very well and wants to learn. The coach expects 120 and 126 will be open.

"COVID is also a concern," he admitted. "We need to stay healthy and get our matches in."

The virus has brought changes to the wrestling room. According to the coach, the room, mats and walls are being disinfected more often and the wrestlers are changing partners roughly every 15 minutes. Wrestlers are also bringing their own water bottles.

COVID will also impact fans. Atten-

dance will be limited due to the virus; however, Krogman said he hopes to live stream many of the meets, including the S-O Invitational.

Although they will likely have the open weights, Krogman said he expects the Generals to be solid in both the dual and tournament settings.

"We have upper-class leadership, two returning state qualifiers and two other district qualifiers," he noted.

Krogman has definite goals for the squad this season.

"We want to push for the top of the Siouxland Conference and I believe we have the talent to do that," he said. "I also believe we can qualify for the state team duals."

**"We have a strong senior class who are providing great leadership. We also have some promising underclassmen in the room."**

**— Nick Krogman, S-O wrestling coach**



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## Okoboji/H-M-S returns 8 letter winners on mat



Members of the 2020-21 Okoboji/H-M-S wrestling team are front row, from left to right: Keira McCoy, Elli Hanson, Michael Gonnerman, Caleb Jones, Soraya Hanson, Kylan Green and Alex Koep. Second row: Kaitlyn Rouse, Tristan Strantz, Logan Duvall, Caden Larue, Noah Strantz, Jonathan Ortiz, Dylan Jones and Avery Ballis. Third row: Nathan Hinshaw, Ryan Pyle, Bryce Dodge, Nick Bronstad, Sam Pas, Chayton Faulkner and Mitchell Meyers. Not pictured: Trista Tanner. PHOTO COURTESY OF MATT HEINRICHS/DICKINSON COUNTY NEWS

### Newcomers will add depth to Pioneers' roster

BY MIKE PETERSEN

Experience and leadership are two positive attributes for the 2020-21 version of the Okoboji/H-M-S wrestling program.

It is the second year that the two schools have combined to compete in wrestling. H-M-S's wrestling numbers are down over the last two seasons, so a sharing agreement with Okoboji provides an opportunity for those who wish to compete on the mat.

Pioneers coach Nate Dau welcomes a total of eight letter winners from the 2019-20 squad. Those from H-M-S are junior Nick Bronstad (285#), who was a district qualifier, and senior Chayton Faulkner (170#).

The other returning letter winners are senior Caden Larue (145#) and sophomores Logan Duvall (182#), Dylan Jones (126#), Sam Pas (220#), Ryan Pyle (132#) and

Noah Strantz (152#), who also qualified for districts.

Other H-M-S athletes on the roster are sophomores Bryce Dodge (145#), Matthew Meyers (152#) and Jonathan Ortiz (138#).

Also wrestling for Okoboji/H-M-S are senior Kylan Green (145#); juniors Elli Hanson (126#), Caleb Jones (126#), Keira McCoy (113#) and Trista Tanner (160#); sophomores Soraya Hanson (132#), Nate Hinshaw (285#), Alex Koep (120#) and Kaitlyn Rouse (160#); and freshmen Avery Ballis (145#), Michael Gonnerman (113#) and Tristan Strantz (120#).

Dau feels the combined program has been a success.

"Last year was our first time merging with another school in H-M-S and we benefited greatly from it," he said. "Our H-M-S wrestlers bring over some tough and talented kids that help us in all aspects during the season."

Okoboji/H-M-S will continue to compete in the Siouxland Conference. During the 2019-20 season the Pioneers finished in a tie for third place with Sheldon/South O'Brien and Sioux Center with 4-3 dual re-

CORDS. They were sixth overall in the conference tournament.

Dau anticipates that the Top 2 teams in the conference last year will be among the favorites for the upcoming season.

"Central Lyon/G-LR will most likely be the team to beat this year at the conference level," Dau said. "West Lyon, along with Sioux Center, has good depth."

Despite graduation losses, Dau feels Okoboji/H-M-S has good leadership from the upperclassmen.

"We graduated a lot of experienced wrestlers last season and we have several seniors that will step up into that leadership role for this team," he said. "We also have wrestlers on the team with high goals which is always a good sign and the team will benefit from it."

The Iowa High School Athletic Association has announced postseason wrestling assignments. Okoboji/H-M-S will compete in the Class 2A sectional on Feb. 6 at Spirit Lake along with Algona, Emmetsburg, Estherville-Lincoln Central, Humboldt and Spirit Lake Park. District qualifiers from Spirit Lake and Clear Lake will compete on Feb. 13 at Humboldt.

#### OKOBOJI/H-M-S WRESTLING

Head Coach: Nate Dau

Thursday, Dec. 3: JV/V Double Dual, Milford, 6 p.m.

Monday, Dec. 7: JV Tournament, Orange City, 4:45 p.m.

Thursday, Dec. 10: JV/V Dual, Sioux Center, 6:15 p.m.

Saturday, Dec. 12: V Tournament, Emmetsburg, 10:30 a.m.

Thursday, Dec. 17: JV/V Double Dual, Milford, 6:15 p.m.

Saturday, Dec. 19: JV/V Tournament, Spencer, 10 a.m.

Saturday, Jan. 9: V Tournament, Forest City, 9:30 a.m.

Thursday, Jan. 14: JV/V Double Dual, Sibley, 6:15 p.m.

Saturday, Jan. 16: V Tournament, Rock Valley, 10 a.m.

Monday, Jan. 18: JV Tournament, Storm Lake, 5 p.m.

Thursday, Jan. 21: JV/V Double Dual, Rock Valley, 6:15 p.m.

Friday, Jan. 22: V Tournament, Ida Grove, 4:30 p.m.

Saturday, Jan. 23: V Tournament, Ida Grove, 9:30 a.m.

Friday, Jan. 29: Siouxland Conference Tournament, Sioux Center, 5 p.m.

Monday, Feb. 1: JV Tournament, Alton, 4:45 p.m.

Saturday, Feb. 6: 2A Sectional Meet, Spirit Lake, Noon.

Saturday, Feb. 13: 2A District Meet, Humboldt, Noon.

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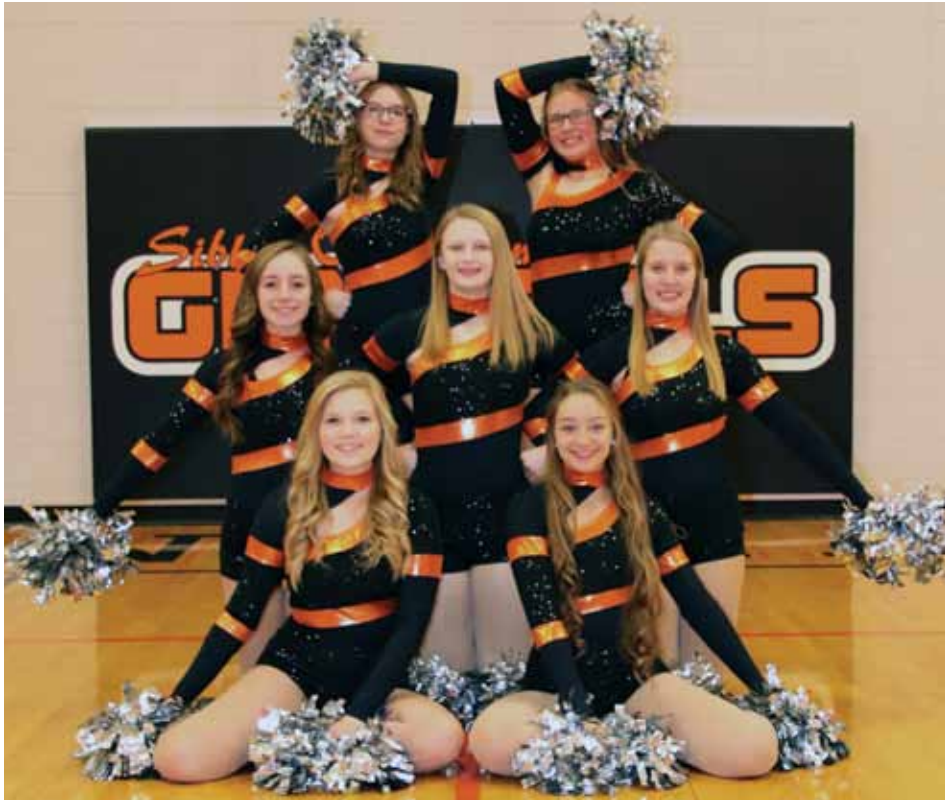


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## Sibley-Ocheyedan dance team



Members of the 2020-21 Sibley-Ocheyedan dance team pictured front row, from left to right: Paige Pedley and Kristyn Johnson. Middle row: Maddy Marco, Allyson Meinders and Marissa Duis. Back row: Ella Reiter and Cora Rueter. ARLYN PEDLEY/PRESS-NEWS



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