



Hawks, Generals are ready to freeze up  
opponents on the hardwood and mats



# 2021 Winter Sports Preview

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# S-O boys look to fill holes created by graduation

Generals aiming to improve on 9-12 2020-21 record

BY LORI WISER-DYAS

This year’s edition of Sibley-Ocheyedan’s boys’ basketball team has an increase of two players despite losing five players to graduation. The roster shows three returning starters as well as two other returning letterwinners.

Logan Bruxvoort is one of the returning starters. He finished last season with 160 points, 133 total rebounds including 82 from the offensive glass, 12 assists, 12 steals and 11 blocked shots.

Keagan Van Westen totaled 109 points, 83 rebounds, 57 assists and 28 steals, while Jonny Santana posted 107 points, 86 rebounds, 31 assists, nine steals and 11 blocked shots. Joining the trio of returning starters are senior letterwinners Michael Frick and Creighton Cosgrove.

The quintet contributed to the team’s



BRANDON BERGFELD



Members of the 2021-22 Sibley-Ocheyedan varsity boys’ basketball team pictured front row, from left to right: Conner Beltman, Keagan Van Westen, Javier Martinez, Michael Frick, Vance Hayenga-Johnson and Sam Chambers. Back row: Creighton Cosgrove, Jonny Santana and Logan Bruxvoort. Not pictured: Wylie Kruger. ARLYN PEDLEY/PRESS-NEWS

1,122 total points, 172 offensive rebounds, 412 defensive grabs for a total of 584 boards, 247 assists, 143 steals and 75 blocked shots.

“Size, post play, senior leadership and team defense are our strengths this year,” said coach Brandon Bergfeld. “My concerns are shooting consistency and depth.”

The Generals are, and will be, working hard to reach their goals. According to the coach they include competing with every team, having a better than .500 record and winning a tournament game.

Bergfeld is confident the team can improve from last year by “communicating on defense and limiting possessions of each game.”

“We won’t be a team that’s going to win 70-80 point shootouts. We’ll be competitive by winning ugly 40-50 point slugfest

type games,” he said.

As for the team to beat in Siouxland Conference play, Bergfeld pointed to Boyden-Hull, which has reached the championship game in each of the last three years. He also noted Central Lyon and Rock Valley as strong contenders.

## 2021-22 S-O VARSITY BASKETBALL SCHEDULE

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

All girls’ varsity games start at 6 p.m., followed by the varsity boys’ games unless otherwise noted.

Friday, Dec. 3: Sheldon (G/B), Sibley, 6 p.m.

Tuesday, Dec. 7: Okoboji (G/B), Milford, 6 p.m.

Friday, Dec. 10: MOC-Floyd Valley (G/B), Orange City, 6 p.m.

Tuesday, Dec. 14: Rock Valley (G/B), Sibley, 6 p.m.

Friday, Dec. 17: George-Little Rock (G/B), George, 6 p.m.

Tuesday, Dec. 21: Central Lyon (G/B), Rock Rapids, 6 p.m.

Monday, Jan. 3: Adrian/Ellsworth, Minn. (G/B), Sibley, 6 p.m.

Tuesday, Jan. 4: West Lyon (G/B), Inwood, 6 p.m.

Friday, Jan. 7: Boyden-Hull (G/B),

Hull, 6 p.m.

Monday, Jan. 10: Harris-Lake Park (B), Lake Park, 7:30 p.m.

Friday, Jan. 14: Sioux Center (G/B), Sibley, 6 p.m.

Tuesday, Jan. 18: Sheldon (G/B), Sheldon, 6 p.m.

Friday, Jan. 21: Okoboji (G/B), Sibley, 6 p.m.

Tuesday, Jan. 25: MOC-Floyd Valley (G/B), Sibley, 6 p.m.

Friday, Jan. 28: Rock Valley (G/B), Rock Valley, 6:15 p.m.

Tuesday, Feb. 1: George-Little Rock (G/B), Sibley, 6 p.m.

Thursday, Feb. 3: Hartley-Melvin-Sanborn (G/B), Hartley, 6 p.m.

Friday, Feb. 4: Central Lyon (G/B), Sibley, 6 p.m.

Tuesday, Feb. 8: West Lyon (G/B), Sibley, 6 p.m.

Friday, Feb. 11: Boyden-Hull (B), Sibley, 7:30 p.m.



Members of the 2021-22 Sibley-Ocheyedan cheerleading team pictured front row, from left to right: Claire Vreeman, Alexis Hulstein, Julissa Acevedo, Natalie Garcia and Natalie Wollmuth. Back row: Grace Nasers, Vivian Zepeda, Tabea Schotler, Mackenzie Beyer, Kennedy Van Westen and Karissa Hulstein. ARLYN PEDLEY/PRESS-NEWS

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## S-O Generals JV/JVR boys' hoops team

Members of the 2021-22 Sibley-Ocheyedan JV/JVR boys' basketball team pictured front row, from left to right: Cole Dykstra, Riley Getzel, James Chatwell, Jack Hausen, Dylan Top and Javier Martinez. Back row: Ethan Harper, Max Konings, Anthony Santana, Sam Schnepf, Conner Beltman and Sam Chambers. Not pictured: Angel Valverde. ARLYN PEDLEY/PRESS-NEWS

## 2021-22 S-O JV/JVR BASKETBALL SCHEDULE

Friday, Dec. 3: Sheldon (JV G/B), Sibley, 4:30 p.m.  
 Tuesday, Dec. 7: Okoboji (JV G/B), Milford, 4:30 p.m.  
 Thursday, Dec. 9: Sheldon (9 G/B), Sheldon, 6:30 p.m.  
 Friday, Dec. 10: MOC-Floyd Valley (JV G/B), Orange City, 4:30 p.m.  
 Tuesday, Dec. 14: Rock Valley (9 G/B), Sibley, 4:30 p.m.  
 Friday, Dec. 17: George-Little Rock (JV G/B), George, 3:45 p.m.  
 Tuesday, Dec. 21: Central Lyon (9 G/B), Rock Rapids, 4:30 p.m.  
 Monday, Jan. 3: Adrian/Ellsworth, Minn. (JV G/B), Sibley, 4:30 p.m.  
 Tuesday, Jan. 4: West Lyon (9 G/B), Inwood, 4:30 p.m.  
 Friday, Jan. 7: Boyden-Hull (9 G/B), Hull, 4:30 p.m.  
 Monday, Jan. 10: Harris-Lake Park (JV G/B), Lake Park, 4:30 p.m.  
 Friday, Jan. 14: Sioux Center (9 G/B), Sibley, 4:30 p.m.  
 Tuesday, Jan. 18: Sheldon (JV G/B), Sheldon, 4:30 p.m.  
 Friday, Jan. 21: Okoboji (9 G/B), Sibley, 4:30 p.m.  
 Tuesday, Jan. 25: MOC-Floyd Valley (JV G/B), Sibley, 4:30 p.m.  
 Friday, Jan. 28: Rock Valley (JV G/B), Rock Valley, 4:30 p.m.  
 Tuesday, Feb. 1: George-Little Rock (9 G/B), Sibley, 4:30 p.m.  
 Thursday, Feb. 3: Hartley-Melvin-Sanborn (JV G/B), Hartley, 4:30 p.m.  
 Friday, Feb. 4: Central Lyon (JV G/B), Sibley, 4:30 p.m.  
 Tuesday, Feb. 8: West Lyon (JV G/B), Sibley, 4:30 p.m.  
 Friday, Feb. 11: Boyden-Hull (9/JV B), Sibley, 4:30 p.m.

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Time of transition as Hawk boys hit the hardwood

Revamped lineup, aggressive style of play among changes

BY MIKE PETERSEN

There are some changes in store this winter for the Hartley-Melvin-Sanborn boys' basketball team.

One change is at the top, where H-M-S graduate Naet Hoaglund succeeds Mark Petersen as head coach and head football coach Jay Eilers is the new assistant. There will be others. H-M-S must replace seven 2021 graduates, five of whom were leaders in several categories, and the pace of play and aggressiveness are going to ramp up.

Hoaglund takes over a program that finished 13-10 last year, which was its best record in five years. He feels the transition has been "pretty smooth" and credits that to players' desire to be successful and do the right things.

While graduation losses will be noticeable, Hoaglund can rely on two returning juniors who have been key contributors since they were freshmen.

Lance Berends, first team all-War Eagle Conference and a Class 1A all-substate selection, led H-M-S with 363 points, 225 rebounds and 43 blocks. Kooper Ebel, also first team all-WEC, scored 256 points and topped the squad with 96 assists and 50 steals.

Developing the right player combinations to join the two "workhorses" may take time.

"Honestly, it's wide open right now. I have a general idea but 3-7 or eight are fairly interchangeable," Hoaglund noted. "It's just a matter of me figuring out which pieces work best together. A lot of it is dictated on matchups."

Senior Jordan Ortega ranks third among returning players in most statistical categories. Senior Mason Brinkman and juniors



NAET HOAGLUND



Members of the 2021-22 Hartley-Melvin-Sanborn boys' varsity basketball team pictured front row, from left to right: Jordan Ortega, Keith DeBoer, Kooper Ebel, Mason Brinkman and Brenton Thomas. Second row: Landon Elwood, Trenton Vollink, Tyson Tessum, Travis Kamradt and Wyatt Borden. Third row: Ethan Diehm, Elijah Groeneweg, Lance Berends, Keevyn Jacobsma and Lucas Kroese. MIKE PETERSEN/SENTINEL-NEWS

Travis Kamradt and Trenton Vollink are solid perimeter defenders and compete hard. Junior Keevyn Jacobsma is emerging in the post and can play outside, and senior Wyatt Borden understands where the ball needs to go offensively and works hard to get position defensively. Keith DeBoer and Brenton Thomas are providing great senior leadership.

Whatever lineup is on the floor, Hoaglund wants them to play an up-tempo style.

"I like to see them run the court hard. Whether it's a steal or a rebound, I want to see us get the ball up the court and immediately try to create an advantage and attack the basket," he noted.

That includes moving Berends outside

See H-M-S BOYS, Page 5

2020-21 H-M-S VARSITY BASKETBALL SCHEDULE

|   |   |
|---|---|
| Girls' Coaches: Head – Lester Tessum (3 <sup>rd</sup> year); Assistant – Jenni Van Otterloo |   |
| Boys' Coaches: Head – Naet Hoaglund (1 <sup>st</sup> year); Assistant – Jay Eilers          |   |
| Thursday, Dec. 2: Woodbury Central (G/B), Hartley, 6 p.m.                                   | Friday, Jan. 7: Harris-Lake Park (G/B), Lake Park, 6 p.m. |
| Friday, Dec. 3: Trinity Christian (G/B), Hartley, 6 p.m.                                    | Monday, Jan. 10: Sheldon (G/B), Hartley, 6 p.m.           |
| Monday, Dec. 6: Sioux Central (JV/V B), Hartley, 6 p.m.                                     | Friday, Jan. 14: MMCRU (G/B), Hartley, 6 p.m.             |
| Friday, Dec. 10: Remsen St. Mary's (G/B), Remsen, 6 p.m.                                    | Tuesday, Jan. 18: South O'Brien (G/B), Paulina, 6 p.m.    |
| Monday, Dec. 13: West Bend-Mallard (G/B), Hartley, 6 p.m.                                   | Friday, Jan. 21: West Sioux (G/B), Hawarden, 6 p.m.       |
| Tuesday, Dec. 14: Akron-Westfield (G/B), Akron, 6 p.m.                                      | Tuesday, Jan. 25: MMCRU (G/B), Marcus, 6 p.m.             |
| Friday, Dec. 17: Gehlen Catholic (G/B), LeMars, 6 p.m.                                      | Thursday, Jan. 27: Boyden-Hull (G/B), Hartley, 6 p.m.     |
| Tuesday, Dec. 21: Unity Christian (G/B), Hartley, 6 p.m.                                    | Friday, Jan. 28: Hinton (G/B), Hartley, 6 p.m.            |
| Tuesday, Jan. 4: GT/RA (G/B), Graettinger, 6 p.m.   | Tuesday, Feb. 1: Harris-Lake Park (G/B), Hartley, 6 p.m.  |
|   | Thursday, Feb. 3: Sibley-Ocheyedan (G/B), Hartley, 6 p.m. |
|   | Friday, Feb. 4: Trinity Christian (G/B), Hull, 6 p.m.     |
|   | Tuesday, Feb. 8: South O'Brien (G/B), Hartley, 6 p.m.     |

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H-M-S boys

From page 4

more so teams cannot double- and triple-team him. That should open things up and create opportunities for everyone to get to the rim.

H-M-S also looks to use its athleticism to pressure the ball defensively.

“We kind of want to shrink the floor a little bit, get them to a side, make them uncomfortable and work for everything,” Hoaglund said. “If they don’t have to work for everything, then we’re not doing our job.”

Hoaglund feels the Hawks need to get to the foul line more often and make a higher percentage of their attempts.

“We shot 60 percent from the free throw line last year and that’s not going to cut it if we are to be the team we want to be,” he said. “I think we only got 282 attempts. If you look at the teams at the top of our conference they were in the 300s. That tells me that it’s probably too many jump shots and we weren’t being aggressive enough.”

Teams mentioned by Hoaglund as conference contenders were all in the Top 4 of the 2020-21 standings.

“Unity Christian is always tough. Gehlen Catholic is always tough. Remsen St. Mary’s is going to be tough,” he noted. “And anytime we play South O’Brien it’s going to be a tight game.”



H-M-S JV boys’ BB team

Members of the 2021-22 Hartley-Melvin-Sanborn boys’ junior varsity basketball team pictured front row, from left to right: Aiden Espeland, JR Araiza, George Vargas and Cody Glackin. Second row: Jayden Leth, Thomas Cano, Zach Pearson, Jacob Cates and Adam Schierholz. Third row: Caison Kruger, Bradley Van Beek, Ethan Huberg and Bryce Ortega. MIKE PETERS-EN/SENTINEL-NEWS

One possible up-and-comer is West Sioux, which finished fifth.

“They’ve got some good stuff going down there. I think they are going to be kind of an under-the-radar team,” Ho-

glund said.

The Hawks’ 5-5 record put them in the middle of the standings. It will be challenging to get past the contenders, but Hoaglund thinks H-M-S has the ability to do it.

“It’s a tough schedule, but I think we can compete with all of them,” he said. “If we can walk away from each and every game knowing we left it all out there – there’s nothing in the tank – that’s success to me.”

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**Good Luck H-M-S Hawks and S-O Generals!**



# Big expectations await S-O girls this winter

Ranked Generals hope to vie for league title

BY LORI WISER-DYAS

It would be a vast understatement to say Sibley-Ocheyedan's girls' basketball team expects big things this season. The Generals enter the season ranked No. 8 in Class 2A by the Iowa Girls' High School Athletic Union. Twenty girls have reported for practice under Coach Steve Kellen, including two seniors, seven juniors, four sophomores and seven freshmen.



STEVE KELLEN

The Generals return three starters and a total of eight letterwinners from last year's 16-6 season. Back are starters Madison Brouwer, Bria Wasmund and Marissa Ackerman along with letterwinners Abbie Bos, Sydney Richardson, Jadyn Jensen, Keytin Elser and Alayna Wingate. Collectively, the group accounted for 902 the team's 1,187 points a year ago.

This experience is the team's main strength, according to their coach. The Generals are also blessed with height and the skills needed to compete every night and potentially improve upon last year's 16-6 record.

Kellen acknowledged one worry. "My concern is how fast it takes the underclassmen to feel comfortable in game situations," he said. With all their returning experience, the Generals are already loaded. Once those underclassmen adjust to the faster game, the squad could have depth coaches dream of having.

Brouwer was a unanimous All-Siouxland pick who totaled 353 points while shooting nearly 50 percent (126/255) from the field, 26.7 percent (10/38) behind the arc and 78.8 percent (91/114) at the free throw line. As a sophomore, she led the team with 206 rebounds, including



Members of the 2021-22 Sibley-Ocheyedan varsity girls' basketball team pictured front row, from left to right: Addi Douma, Olivia Hensch, Abbie Bos, Sydney Richardson, Jadyn Jensen and Bria Wasmund. Back row: Alayna Wingate, Keytin Elser, Madison Brouwer, Ella Bruxvoort, Marissa Ackerman, Shaelyn Kruger and Zoe Ackerman. ARLYN PEDLEY/PRESS-NEWS

78 from the offensive glass. Wasmund, also an all-conference player as a sophomore, tallied 278 total points and 101 assists to go with 78 steals last year. Ackerman contributed 152 points, 139 rebounds, 37 assists, 20 steals and 14 blocked shots a year ago. Abbie Bos, one of two returning seniors on the squad, registered 84 points, 57 rebounds, 20 assists, 11 steals and seven blocked shots. Sydney Richardson, also a senior, chipped in with 51 points, 19 rebounds, six assists and three steals. While acknowledging the team has talent and the potential to improve on last season's 16-6 mark, Kellen was also cau-

"Yes, we have the talent, but you still have to play the game. The conference is full of talented players and coaches."

— Steve Kellen

tious. "Yes, we have the talent, but you still have to play the game," he said. "The conference is full of talented players and coaches." With three ranked teams in the always-

tough Siouxland Conference this year, one stood out to Kellen. "West Lyon (ranked No. 3 in Class 3A) is the team to beat," he said. "I feel we will be in the top tier of the conference this coming season."



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# Sibley-Ocheyedan JV/JVR girls' basketball team



Members of the 2021-22 Sibley-Ocheyedan JV/JVR girls' basketball team pictured front row, from left to right: Natalie Weber, Erika Rosenberg, Zoe Ackerman, Addi Douma, Olivia Hensch, Haiden Wielenga and Sofia Hisek. Back row: Alyssa Jacob-sma, Addy Langstraat, Keytin Elser, Alayna Wingate, Shaelyn Kruger, Ella Brux-voort, Jadyn Jensen and Reagan Rusche. ARLYN PEDLEY/PRESS-NEWS



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## Lower numbers, 7 freshmen add up to young squad

Hawk girls working hard to come together as a team

BY MIKE PETERSEN

The Hartley-Melvin-Sanborn girls' basketball program is experiencing a decline in numbers and an influx of young talent entering the 2021-22 season.

"We'll be at 14 with seven of them freshmen – a pretty young squad," acknowledged Hawk coach Lester Tessum, who is in his third year with the program.

A small roster has both advantages and limitations.

"It's more playing time for the girls, whether it is JV or varsity. It's easier to get girls on the floor," Tessum said. "If you run into a bunch of injuries or things like that, having less numbers can be a bit of a problem. Sometimes the style you play is determined by how many numbers you have so you can rotate."

H-M-S has returning experience from last year's squad which was 5-17 overall. Senior Lydia Harders led H-M-S in scoring, rebounds and steals; and senior Jasmine Lux [honorable mention all-War Eagle] was third in scoring, second in rebounds and tied for the lead in steals.

Senior Emily Otto and juniors Elise Haack and Emily Mutombo are other returners with experience.

Freshmen on the varsity roster are Abby Douma, Gracie Knobloch, Frankie Mohni, Kylee Schipphoff and Eliza Tewes.

"They know the game. They know how it's played, know where to be," Tessum noted. "The freshmen went to a lot of camps and tournaments. They have played a lot of basketball and you can tell."

Despite a lack of numbers and the youth of the squad, Tessum thinks H-M-S has more depth than in recent years.

On the court, Tessum feels the Hawks can be flexible offensively.



LESTER  
TESSUM



Members of the 2021-22 Hartley-Melvin-Sanborn girls' basketball team pictured front row, from left to right: Jasmine Lux, Lydia Harders and Emily Otto. Second row: Kayla Kathman, Frankie Mohni, Emily Mutombo, Elise Haack, Gracie Knobloch, Eliza Tewes and Kamryn Ebel. Third row: Ashleigh Vermeer, Abby Otto, Abby Douma, Kylee Schipphoff, Kyra Vermeer and Addy Sheeler. MIKE PETERSEN/SENTINEL-NEWS

"I think that with the group we have, we can run about any type of offense," he said. "We have the ball handlers and enough size in the post to be able to do that."

Defensively, H-M-S will run its 2-3 zone extended, and possibly work into some full-court press. Patience will be a key against teams that apply pressure.

"I think we'll have enough ball handlers and quickness to press and hopefully get a few turnovers," Tessum noted. "As long as we don't get impatient with the ball [against the press] we do pretty well. So we're teaching that 'patience with the ball, they aren't scoring if we've got it' type of attitude, and I think we'll do fine."

He also anticipates that H-M-S will be a

strong offensive rebounding team with size in the post and an offense that is structured so players are in position when shots go up.

Tessum expects another tough campaign in the conference.

"The War Eagle's a tough conference," Tessum acknowledged. "Any night you've got to come out and play your best. I don't care who you're playing."

The Top 2 conference teams in 2020-21 enter this season highly ranked. Unity Christian is No. 1 in Class 3A and MMC-RU is No. 6 in 1A.

"MMCRU is going to be there. Unity is going to be there," Tessum said. "Remsen St. Mary's had a lot of freshmen last year. They'll be a tough out."

The Hawks finished eighth with a 3-7 record. Tessum would like to see this year's squad finish "someplace in the middle."

In addition to achieving the "little goals" that H-M-S sets for each game, Tessum would like to see the squad develop cohesiveness as the season progresses.

"Everybody wants to win. There's none of us that play the game and try not to win," he acknowledged. "For this group being as young as they are, I would say: come together on the court, becoming a team. When you bring that many freshmen into a group it's a lot of learning going on. So coming together as a team to really become a team would be a real good goal for this group."

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Hartley-Melvin-Sanborn  
cheer squad



Basketball cheerleaders at Hartley-Melvin-Sanborn for the 2021-22 season pictured front row, from left to right: Grace Dalen, Lily Rons and Anna Vander Veen. Second row: Delaney Murphy, Megan Ten Kley, Emma Vollink, Emily Heneman and Lanie Raveling. MIKE PETERSEN/SENTINEL-NEWS



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2021-22 H-M-S JV BASKETBALL SCHEDULE

|   |   |
|---|---|
| Thursday, Dec. 2: Woodbury Central (JV G/B), Hartley, 4:30 p.m. | Lake Park, 4:30 p.m.  |
| Friday, Dec. 3: Trinity Christian (JV G), Hartley, 4:30 p.m.    | Saturday, Jan. 8: Spencer (9/JV B), Spencer, 8 a.m.             |
| Monday, Dec. 6: Sioux Central (9/JV B) Hartley, 4:30 p.m.       | Monday, Jan. 10: Sheldon (JV G/B), Hartley, 4:30 p.m.           |
| Thursday, Dec. 9: Boyden-Hull (JV G/B), Hull, 6 p.m.            | Friday, Jan. 14: MMCru (JV G/B), Hartley, 4:30 p.m.             |
| Friday, Dec. 10: Remsen St. Mary's (JV B), Remsen, 4:30 p.m.    | Tuesday, Jan. 18: South O'Brien (JV G/B), Paullina, 4 p.m.      |
| Monday, Dec. 13: West Bend-Mallard (JV G/B), Hartley, 4:30 p.m. | Thursday, Jan. 20: South O'Brien (C B), Paullina, 6:30 p.m.     |
| Tuesday, Dec. 14: Akron-Westfield (JV G), Akron, 4:30 p.m.      | Friday, Jan. 21: West Sioux (JV G), Harwarden, 4:30 p.m.        |
| Thursday, Dec. 16: South O'Brien, (9 B), Hartley, 6 p.m.        | Thursday, Jan. 27: Boyden-Hull (JV G/B), Hartley, 4:30 p.m.     |
| Friday, Dec. 17: Gehlen Catholic (JV B), LeMars, 4:30 p.m.      | Friday, Jan. 28: Hinton (JV G/B), Hartley, 4:30 p.m.            |
| Monday, Dec. 20: Okoboji (JV G/B), Hartley, 6 p.m.              | Tuesday, Feb. 1: Harris-Lake Park (JV G/B), Hartley, 4:30 p.m.  |
| Tuesday, Dec. 21: Unity Christian (JV G/B), Hartley, 4:30 p.m.  | Thursday, Feb. 3: Sibley-Ocheyedan (JV G/B), Hartley, 4:30 p.m. |
| Tuesday, Jan. 4: GT/RA (JV G/B), Graettinger, 4 p.m.            | Friday, Feb. 4: Trinity Christian (JV G), Hull, 4:30 p.m.       |
| Friday, Jan. 7: Harris-Lake Park (JV B),                        | Tuesday, Feb. 8: South O'Brien (JV G/B), Hartley, 4:30 p.m.     |

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## Generals focusing on individual mat success

S-O wrestlers prioritizing personal benchmarks this season

BY LORI WISER-DYAS

Numbers may be low but enthusiasm is high in the Sibley-Ocheyedan wrestling room.

Coach Nick Krogman has five young men wrestling for the Generals this year. Of that number, only four are able to compete at this point while the other is injured. The team graduated seven wrestlers last year, including a pair of state place winners.

"The kids have lots of potential. Maybe three could qualify for state if they put in the work," Krogman said. "These are good kids with lots of potential."

With such limited numbers, Krogman acknowledged "practices are difficult because some wrestlers have no partners with which to train."

Krogman predicted junior Jonathan Krogman will compete at either 145 or 152 while junior Keegan De Zeeuw is looking at 152 or 160. Sophomore Michael Block is expected to compete 220 and freshman Kayne Julius at either 106 or 113.

"I told the guys we are not going to win tournaments or duals, but if we can go out every night and win four matches, that is success for us this year," said Krogman.

In the group, only Jonathan Krogman has any state experience, which dates to his freshman year. According to the coach, the others are doing good things in practice.



NICK KROGMAN



Members of the 2021-22 Sibley-Ocheyedan varsity wrestling team pictured front row, from left to right: Michael Block, Keegan De Zeeuw, Jonathan Krogman and Kayne Julius. ARLYN PEDLEY/PRESS-NEWS

### SIBLEY-OCHEYEDAN WRESTLING

Head Coach: Nick Krogman

Thursday, Dec. 2: V Quad, Lawton, 5:30 p.m.  
Saturday, Dec. 4: V Tournament, Milford, 10:30 a.m.  
Monday, Dec. 6: JV Tournament, Orange City, 4:45 p.m.  
Tuesday, Dec. 7: V Double Dual, Emmetsburg, 6 p.m.  
Thursday, Dec. 9: JV/V Double Dual, Sibley, 6 p.m.  
Saturday, Dec. 11: V S-O Invitational, Sibley, 10:30 a.m.  
Thursday, Dec. 16: JV/V Quad, Estherville, 6 p.m.  
Saturday, Dec. 18: V Tournament, Spencer, 10 a.m.  
Tuesday, Dec. 21: V Quad, Sibley, 6 p.m.

Thursday, Jan. 6: V Quad, Adrian, Minn., 6 p.m.  
Saturday, Jan. 8: V Tournament, Graettinger, 10 a.m.  
Thursday, Jan. 13: JV/V Double Dual, Milford, 6 p.m.  
Saturday, Jan. 15: JV/V Tournament, LeMars, 10 a.m.  
Thursday, Jan. 20: JV/V Double Dual, George, 6 p.m.  
Friday, Jan. 21: V Tournament, Ida Grove, 4:30 p.m.  
Saturday, Jan. 22: V Tournament, Ida Grove, 10 a.m.  
Friday, Jan. 28: V Siouxland Conference, Sioux Center, 5 p.m.  
Monday, Jan. 31: JV Tournament, Orange City, 4:45 p.m.  
Saturday, Feb. 5: 1A Sectional Tournament, Hawarden, noon  
Saturday, Feb. 12: 1A District Tournament, Emmetsburg, 11 a.m.

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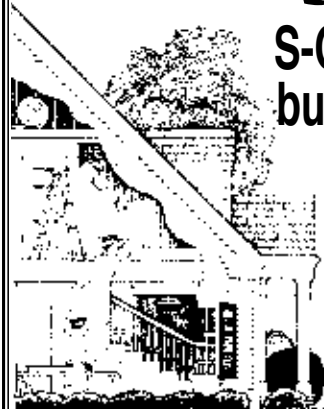
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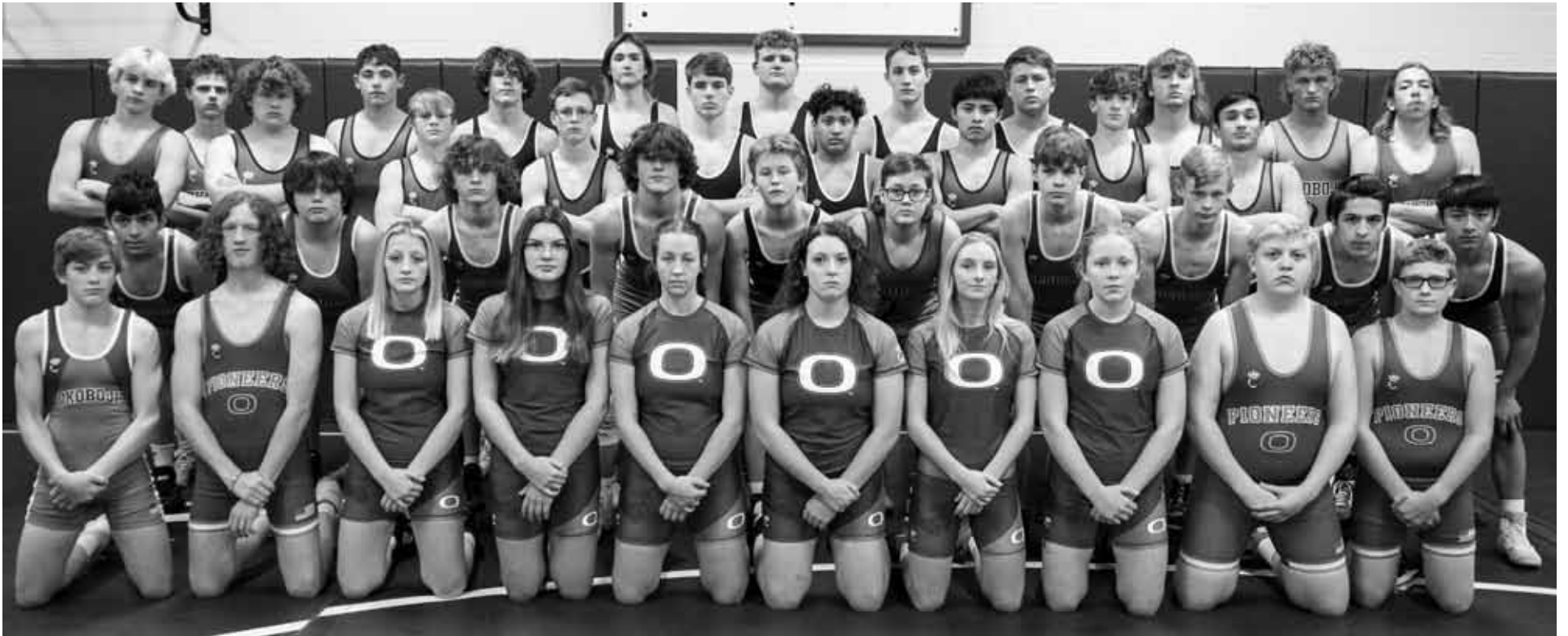
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# Numbers are big strength for Okoboji/HMS wrestlers



Members of the 2021-22 Okoboji/H-M-S wrestling team pictured front row, from left to right: Tyce Hanson, Tyler Netsch, Elli Hanson, Avery Ballis, Kaitlyn Rouse, Trista Tanner, Keira McCoy, Soraya Hanson, Tegen Hart and Michael Gonnerman. Second row: Edgar Flores, Javier Reynosa, Brennan Baschke, Nathaniel Franklyn, Cole Becker, Josh Origer, Tristin Strantz, Alex Rouse, Myles Lopez and Aaron Ortiz. Third row: Coen Rabel, Nate Hinshaw, Jack Mastbergen, Caleb Jones, Noah Strantz, Angel Tamayo, Johnny Ortiz, Dylan Jones and Bryce Sehman. Fourth row: Camden Erickson, Ethan Wiersma, James Gellerman, Ryan Pyle, Nick Bronstad, Bryce Dodge, Sam Pas, Levi Van Beek, Jesse Bockman and Owen McCoy. Not Pictured: Sydni Powell and Alex Koep. PHOTO COURTESY OF MATT HEINRICHS/DICKINSON COUNTY NEWS

## Competition, hard work foundations for successful season

BY MIKE PETERSEN

The Okoboji/H-M-S wrestling room is a crowded place these days. That's because there are over 30 athletes hitting the mats for the 2021-22 season.

This is the third season that H-M-S wrestlers are participating in the combined program with Okoboji. The result is a large squad that is poised to have a successful season.

Pioneer coach Nate Dau sees several benefits from increasing numbers.

"The more competition we have in the room the more we will grow as a team," he said. "When we have buy-in for the sport of wrestling, everybody improves, which benefits the team."

That commitment has been evident since the end of the 2020-21 season.

"We have had wrestlers work very hard in the offseason and spend a lot of time on the mat and in the weight room," Dau noted. "Noah Strantz has done just that. We're confident he will have a great season because of all his hard work."

Strantz, a junior, was a district qualifier at 152 pounds. He also landed on the all-Siouxland Conference second team as a runner-up finisher. His final record was 29-15.

Individuals are also challenging one another to improve.

"We have some great partners in the room that push each other every day and that will pay off in the later part of the season," Dau said. "Nick Bronstad and Sam Pas fit that category well and much of their success can be attributed to each other."

Bronstad, a senior from H-M-S, was the Pioneers' only state qualifier last season. He placed eighth at 285 pounds and finished with a 35-15 record. Pas, a junior, was 18-22.

Other returners mentioned by Dau are: Seniors Jesse Bockman (11-6) and Bryce Sehman (6-16); juniors Logan Duvall (8-28), Caleb Jones (19-24), Dylan Jones (26-20) and Ryan Pyle (14-27); and sophomore Michael Gonnerman (11-27). Records are according to trackwrestling.com.

Dau is also excited about the group of freshmen entering the program.

"We have a solid freshman class coming in with good numbers and kids with a lot of mat time," he said. "Nathaniel Franklin and James Gellerman (of H-M-S) are both AAU state place winners from last season and will help us in the upper weights. Both have a lot of fight in them and we can't wait to see them compete."

Dau is also happy with the size of the girls' program, which has nearly 10 members.

Central Lyon/George-Little Rock and Sheldon/South O'Brien finished 1-2 last year in the Siouxland Conference dual and individual tournament standings. Okoboji/HMS finished sixth and seventh, respectively. Highest place finishers by the Pioneers were Strantz, second place; Pas, third; Bronstad, fourth; Bryce Dodge (H-M-S, junior, 17-24), Gonnerman and Jones, fifth.

Another H-M-S returner is Jonathan Ortiz,



H-M-S senior Nick Bronstad (left) is the lone returning state qualifier from last year's wrestling team. FILE PHOTO

who was 6-14 as a sophomore.

Dau did not commit to choosing any conference favorites this year. Instead, the Pioneers are focusing on improvement throughout the season.

"Success for us this season is finishing with the same kids we started with and getting better each day," he said.

### OKOBOJI/H-M-S WRESTLING

Head Coach: Nate Dau  
Assistants - Ryan Pratt, Josh Pratt, Alex Spooner, Ethen Johnson, Todd Gonnerman

Thursday, Dec. 2: JV/V Double Dual, Graettinger, 6 p.m.

Friday, Dec. 3: JV Okoboji/HMS Tournament, Milford, 5 p.m.

Saturday, Dec. 4: V Okoboji/HMS Tournament, Milford, 10:30 a.m.

Monday, Dec. 6: JV Tournament, Orange City, 4:45 p.m.

Thursday, Dec. 9: JV/V Double Dual, Sioux Center, 6 p.m.

Saturday, Dec. 11: V Tournament, Emmetsburg, 10:30 a.m.

Thursday, Dec. 16: JV/V Double Dual, Rock Rapids, 6 p.m.

Saturday, Dec. 18: JV/V Tournament, Spencer, 10 a.m.

Tuesday, Jan. 4: JV/V Quad, Rockwell City, 6 p.m.

Thursday, Jan. 6: JV/V Quad, Pocahontas, 6 p.m.

Saturday, Jan. 8: V Tournament, Clear Lake, 9:30 a.m.

Tuesday, Jan. 11: JV/V Quad, Algona, 6 p.m.

Thursday, Jan. 13: JV/V Double Dual, Milford, 6 p.m.

Saturday, Jan. 15: Tournament, Rock Valley, 10 a.m.

Monday, Jan. 17: JV Tournament, Storm Lake, 5 p.m.

Thursday, Jan. 20: JV/V Double Dual, Orange City, 6 p.m.

Friday, Jan. 21: V Tournament, Ida Grove, 4:30 p.m.

Saturday, Jan. 22: V Tournament, Ida Grove, 9:30 a.m.

Friday, Jan. 28: V Siouxland Conference, Sioux Center, 5 p.m.

Monday, Jan. 31: JV Tournament, Orange City, 4:45 p.m.

Saturday, Feb. 5: 2A Sectional Meet, Estherville, Noon.

Saturday, Feb. 12: 2A District Meet, Webster City, 11 a.m.

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**Sibley-Ocheyedan dance team**

Members of the 2021-22 Sibley-Ocheyedan dance team pictured front row, from left to right: Emily Schutte, Marissa Duis and Allyson Meinders. Back row: Hallie Pedley, Cora Rueter, Emma Brockshus and Madison Marco. ARLYN PEDLEY/PRESS-NEWS



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