

Lady Eagles solid on defense, but batters need to mature

BY TOMMY HICKS

tommyhicks@thecallnews.com

Jackson Academy softball head coach Caleb Anderson is a newbie, this being his first season as head coach of the Eagles' squad. And many of the players on his roster will know what he is experiencing as they will be in their first or second season playing varsity competition.

Together, Anderson and his team hope to find their niche and success as the Eagles take on their AISA schedule.

"We're pretty young and we're going to be inexperienced in a lot of spots, especially on the mound where we'll be very inexperienced," Anderson said, noting the youth of his pitching staff. "But we have a senior there (Maggie Pritchett) and hopefully she'll come

through. She hasn't played in a few years and she'll be in the circle.

"Overall, especially in the outfield, we'll be young, but we'll be led there by one senior who will be in centerfield and that's Sydni Andrews. She's played for the last five or six years as a starter. Maybe she'll lead us and we'll get some wins. We'll be leaning on her because probably to her left and her right she'll have a seventh- and an eighth-grader with her."

All is not dire for the Eagles and in fact Anderson said he's excited to see what his team can accomplish.

"I think defensively we'll be pretty solid, especially at middle infield," he said. "But some of these younger players may get overmatched by some of the veteran pitchers they'll face, but defensively we'll be pretty solid. Our

shortstop is Kayleigh Jones and second baseman is Lauren Coker and they are solid players. Coker is an eighth-grader who is a transfer from Chatom. She swings the bat pretty well and she has a good glove and we're expecting a lot from her."

Anderson said he is eager to get started in his first season.

"It's exciting. There are a lot of expectations and I'm excited to come in and put some new ideas in and see how it goes," he said.

"This is a good group. They've come out and worked hard. They've had to work around my schedule because I'm also the head boys' basketball coach too, so we're getting to practice when we can. But when we do practice they come out and work hard. I'm excited to see how they will do this year."

COULDN'T MAKE IT TO THE GAME?



SUBSCRIBE TO THE
CALL NEWS

AND GET ALL THE LOCAL HIGHLIGHTS
IN OUR SPORTS SECTION!

251-866-5998 | WWW.THECALLNEWS.COM



John Brown Ins and Fin Svcs Inc
John I Brown, Agent
3921 North College Avenue
Jackson, AL 36545
Bus: 251-246-0385

I love
this town.

Thanks, JA Eagles.

I love being here to help
life go right" in a community
where people are making a
difference every day.
Thank you for all you do.

 **State Farm**[®]