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Trojan Boys Track And Field Looking For Success

Tracy Hinsz
Sports Writer

The Barnesville Trojans have once again entered a new boys track and field season with a young roster full of potential. Coach Scott Amundson hopes to combine this potential with technique and hard work producing a productive and special season.

Amundson returns as head boys track and field coach for his sixth season. He works mostly with the field events, specializing in the shot put and discus, while helping out wherever he is needed.

Amundson will have a new assistant coach this season as Chad Suter has joined the program. Suter will focus on the long and triple jump events. Head girls coach Mike Schaub will coach the sprints and sprint relays. Britta Teeple will assist the track and field team, coaching the high jump and the distance runners. First-year coach McKinzie Tangen has joined the squad to help assist in the hurdles and will be coaching the junior high. Volunteer coaches for the 2018 season include Fred Danhke, Nick Paur and Kelly Peppel.

Barnesville will have two seniors leading the program this season in Jonny Kletsch and Tyler Stage. Both athletes will compete in the shot put and discus events, pushing to medal in each meet. Juniors that have come out for the upcoming

season include Nick Detloff - sprints and relays, Jacob Morgan - sprints, relays and jumps, Nate Rehder - pole vault, hurdles and distance events, Stanley Schoenecker - sprints, jumps and relays, and Jonah LeNoue - shot put and discus. Juniors new to the program this season include Firmian Elsholz - sprints, jumps and relays, Jackson Poepping - shot put and discus, Ashton Johnson - shot put and discus, Jason Henrikson - jumps and relays and Nick Swenson - jumps and distance.

Sophomore Hunter Zenzen - hurdles, sprints, and discus, returns to the team and is poised to have a breakout year. Damian Camperud returns this year hoping to help out in the sprints and throws. Freshmen hoping to help the program this season include Wyatt Roller, Connor Erickson and Joey Mark.

The Junior High program will consist of Cameron Heng, Kaden Zenzen, Noah Huseman, Andrew Peterson, Spencer Schumacher, Johnny Robideau, Owen Riddle and Wyatt Suter.

"This is the largest group of boys' athletes that I have coached since I took over six years ago," Amundson said. "I feel that we have a few individuals who have a good chance of placing very high in our section track meet this season. With hard work and a little luck, we could possibly have some athletes advance to the state tourney as well. We had a few athletes who made huge gains last season and are ready to take the next step this year. We had some athletes face some health issues last season that are hungry to get back and compete, wanting to prove



Members of the Barnesville Trojans boys track team are, left to right, row one - Noah Huseman, Wyatt Roller, Jacob Morgan, Connor Erickson, Owen Riddle, Andrew Pederson; row two - Nick Swenson, Spencer Schumacher, Ashton Johnson, Nate Rehder, Joey Mark, Cameron Heng, Jonny Robideau; row three - Wyatt Suter, Jackson Poepping, Nick Detloff, Jason Henrikson, Damian Camperud, Jonah LeNoue; row four - Assistant Coach Chad Suter, Sam Askegaard, Hunter Zenzen, Tyler Stage, Kaden Zenzen, Firmian Elsholz and Head Coach Scott Amundson. Not pictured is Jonny Kletsch, Mason Herbranson and Stanley Schoenecker.

themselves. "Last year, I had high expectations for all of our individuals, relay teams and throwers going into the season. Throughout the course of the season, the athletes did not disappoint, having a very good regular season.

"We had a lot of athletes set personal records, improving each day. Nate Rehder made huge strides last year in the pole vault, setting a

personal record of 11 feet, beating his old mark of eight feet, six inches. Jacob Morgan had a very good finish to the year, placing fifth in the 100-meter dash at the section meet. A few late season injuries hampered some of our individual athletes from going farther than they might have. Hopefully a little luck and good health will see these kids perform to their fullest potential."

Amundson believes that Perham will be the favorite to win the Heart O' Lakes Conference with Dilworth-Glyndon-Felton favored to win the Section 8A Track and Field Meet. Pelican Rapids is the also the odds on favorite to win the True Team Track and Field Meet.

"We are going to be awfully young again in 2018, but I feel we have some upper end potential with

a few of our athletes," Amundson said. "If they are willing to work hard and keep their focus, they have the possibility of getting to state. We have the ability to surprise some people this season in a few of our events and look forward to see if we can maximize our potential with our entire team. I am excited to get the season underway and look forward to coaching this team in 2018."

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Good Luck To The Teams This Season!