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Lady Trojans Volleyball Excited For New Season

Tracy Hinsz
Sports Writer



The Barnesville Lady Trojans volleyball team returned to the netted hard court for the start of the 2018 campaign, riding an impressive three-year run in which they have won 64 games. The team might have lost some talented players, but this year's team is preparing hard, getting ready to take the next step and continue their winning ways.

Returning for her 11th season as head coach is Megan Askegaard. She has an overall record of 178 wins, 106 losses and five ties as leader of the Lady Trojans and is on a six-year run of 135 wins and 41 losses.

Her team ended last season by beating Pelican Rapids in a hard fought, first round playoff game before falling to a powerful Wadena-Deer Creek squad to end their season.

The Lady Trojans will have to replace one of the best players to ever play for the Barnesville program in Nicole Herbranson. She ended her career with three straight most valuable player awards and another nomination for the Heart O' Lakes All-Conference team. She was instrumental in her team winning 64



Members of the Barnesville Lady Trojans Volleyball team are, left to right, front row - Natalie Votava, Grace Hagen, Kya Anderson, Kaitlyn Maesse, Kimberly Maesse; middle row - Olivia Sorenson, Samantha Passa, April Schridde, Jordan Tschumperlin, Emily Condon, Nicole Mulcahy; back row - Assistant Coach Maggie Stickney, Assistant Coach McKinzie Tangen, Lexi Bolgrean, Elora Passa, Claire Meyer, Head Coach Megan Askegaard and Assistant Coach Rachel Solum. Not pictured is Lauren Halverson.

games over the last three seasons.

Herbranson has taken her talents to Minnesota State University Moorhead to pursue her dream to play college basketball. What she brought to the floor statistics wise will be difficult to replace, but her leadership on and off the floor will also be sorely missed.

Two other players have gone on to pursue their college dreams of playing volleyball beyond the high school level. McKenna Peterson has

moved on to M-State Fergus Falls and Allison Peterson has taken her talents to North Dakota State School of Science in Wahpeton.

These three ladies, as well as many others, were instrumental in helping the program to the success they have had over the last few years.

But the cupboard is not dry in Barnesville as the team returns starters Elora Passa, Claire Meyer, Emily Condon and Samantha Passa.

Elora Passa, who holds the setter

and outside hitter position, had 388 kills, 345 assists, 227 digs and a hitting percentage of 23 percent

last year. For her career she has 698 kills and 824 assists. Passa was also

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