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Versatility Asset For Titan Hoops This Season

Lynae Schenck
Sports Writer



The NCE-UH Titans boys basketball varsity team members are, left to right, front row-Morgan Stueness, Steffen Sather, Ross Jirik, Andrew Amberg, Logan Miller, Treyton Klemetson, Kasy Lisburg, Chase Green; back row-Parker Lien, Hunter Crompton, Riley Resnick, Tate Maesse, Kale McCollum, Broden Lien, Kennedy Ramstorf, Sunny Resnick, Noah Klemetson, Tate Sagedahl and Wyatt Saice.

The Norman County East-Ulen-Hitterdal Titans boys basketball team will be coached by Brett Maas again this season. Assisting him this season is Dustin Crompton, junior varsity, Kain Schow, C-team, and Brock Nelson, volunteer assistant.

Last season the Titans finished with a 24-4 record and were Pine-To-Prairie South Division champions. They lost eight seniors from last year's team: Isaac Habedank, Concordia football; Isaac Stene, Concordia football; Cody Peterick, MSUM; Dawson Fox, M State Fergus Falls basketball; Jaden Sagedahl, NDSU; Eric Begg, Mayville State football; Braden Wilmore, MSUM; and Toby Bjerklie, South Dakota School of Mines.

One of Maas's favorite things about coaching is being able to visit these and other former players after they have graduated. Seeing them in the stands, having them come to practice and seeing them succeed in the real world are things he enjoys.

There are 10 players who wore varsity jerseys last season that are returning. Seniors Noah Klemetson, 6'1" point guard; Steffen Sather, 6'1" guard; Ross Jirik, 5'9" guard; Sunny Resnick, 6'1" guard; Hunter Crompton, 6'5" post; Kale McCollum, 6'6" post; Wyatt Saice, 5'11" guard; Tate Maesse, 6'3" post; and Andrew Amberg, 5'11" guard. Riley Resnick is the lone junior returning as a 6'3" post.

Maas expects all seniors to be team captains and leaders this season. Only two of the returning players, Noah Klemetson and Kale McCollum, have much varsity playing experience. The rest of the seniors have had a lot of success at the lower levels and in other sports.

As always, the Titans ultimate team goal is to be playing their best basketball by tournament time. They want to be able to contend for a conference, sub-section and section title. They have the opportunity and ability to become one of the better teams in the area. The Titans' perimeter game, as well as on the block, has talent. Along with their eight seniors, they have some underclassmen with the ability to play on the varsity level as well.

"We are hoping we can mesh together throughout the season and be a great basketball team," notes Maas.

He considers the team's versatility to be a big asset for the team's success this season. They have a good combination of guards and big post players, as well as upperclassmen and underclassmen.

"I believe we have the ability to play at a fast tempo as well as a much slower pace to be successful," adds Maas. "I am looking forward to coaching this group and seeing how we mesh together."

In the Pine-To-Prairie conference, Mahnomen-Waubun and Ada-Borup are the teams to beat this season for the Titans. They have talent, experience and solid coaching coming back from a year ago. The Titans look forward to playing both teams twice this season.

"We have great kids on the court and in the classroom," concludes Maas. "They work hard in and outside of basketball, they are unselfish and they put the team

first. I also love the community and parent support we receive. Our fans are second to none."

The Titans boys roster is as follows:

| | | | | |
|----|-------------------|---|------|----|
| 0 | Hunter Crompton | F | 6'5 | 12 |
| 0 | Tate Sagedahl | F | 6'2 | 11 |
| 2 | Noah Klemetson | G | 6'2 | 12 |
| 3 | Ross Jirik | G | 5'9 | 12 |
| 4 | Andrew Amberg | G | 5'10 | 12 |
| 5 | Treyton Klemetson | F | 6'1 | 11 |
| 11 | Logan Miller | G | 6'0 | 11 |
| 12 | Tate Maesse | F | 6'3 | 12 |
| 13 | Wyatt Saice | G | 5'10 | 12 |
| 14 | Parker Lien | G | 6'0 | 11 |
| 15 | Sunny Resnick | F | 6'1 | 12 |
| 20 | Kasy Lisburg | F | 6'0 | 11 |
| 22 | Kale McCollum | C | 6'6 | 12 |
| 23 | Chase Green | G | 5'11 | 11 |
| 24 | Riley Resnick | F | 6'3 | 11 |
| 25 | Morgan Stueness | G | 5'10 | 10 |
| 31 | Kennedy Ramstorf | F | 6'1 | 11 |
| 33 | Broden Lien | F | 6'5 | 10 |
| 34 | Steffen Sather | G | 6'0 | 12 |

Titans Will Be An Aggressive Team This Season

Lynae Schenck
Sports Writer



The Norman Country East-Ulen-Hitterdal Titans girls basketball varsity team members are, left to right, front row-Macey Gordon and Lauren Sather; middle row-Zoe Keezer, Alexis Abraham, Alison Amberg, Morgan Begg, Anikka Bakke, Sage Thompson; back row-Ryan Pahl, Brad Dunham, Aspen Thompson, Brianna Thompson, Anna Knutson, Alivia Mortenson and Head Coach Nick Hanson.

The Norman County East and Ulen-Hitterdal Titans will be coached by Nick Hanson this season. Assisting him will be Ryan Pahl and Brad Dunham.

The Titans finished 15-12 last season, and lost two seniors from last year's team, Alexa Mortenson and Kayla Sirjord. They are looking for this year's seniors to pick up where they left off.

Returning this season for the Titans are seniors Anna Knutson, 5'9" center; Lauren Sather, 5'4" guard; and Alison Amberg, 5'5" guard. Juniors are Alivia Mortenson, 5'8" guard and Pine-To-Prairie conference first team; Brianna Thompson, 5'8" forward; Alexis Abraham, 5'5" guard; Aspen Thompson, 5'6" forward; Ani Bakke, 5'4" guard; and Zoe Keezer, 5'6" forward.

Coach Hanson is looking to the seniors and juniors as team leaders. He sees them all bringing something different to the table for the team.

The team hopes to create their own definition of greatness and

grow every day. The team expects to compete in every game and see where it takes them this year.

The asset for the team will be its aggressiveness.

"We have a few aggressive

athletes that will put pressure on defenders to play without fouling," says Hanson.

The girls have worked hard this season. The leaders are holding everyone to the same standard. Hanson looks forward to watching the team, and he said they will be a fun team to come out and see in action.

In the Pine-To-Prairie conference, Hanson sees Ada-Borup West as a team to beat this year. They won the conference last season.

"One of my favorite things about coaching the Titans this season is a chance to help these players grow," concludes Hanson. "We want to be able to come together after a

tournament to eat and be ourselves regardless what the results of the tournament were."

The Titans roster this season, according to www.mshsl.org, is as follows:

| | | | |
|----|------------------|---|----|
| 0 | Macey Gordon | G | 11 |
| 1 | Lauren Sather | G | 12 |
| 2 | Alexis Abraham | G | 11 |
| 4 | Alison Amberg | F | 12 |
| 5 | Zoe Keezer | F | 11 |
| 10 | Sage Thompson | F | 10 |
| 12 | Alivia Mortenson | G | 11 |
| 14 | Brianna Thompson | F | 11 |
| 15 | Anikka Bakke | G | 11 |
| 24 | Aspen Thompson | G | 11 |
| 32 | Anna Knutson | C | 12 |

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