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## Talent, Depth Helps Round Out Rothsay Roster



Members of the Rothsay Tigers varsity boys basketball team are, left to right, front row - Thomas Webster, Jacob Christ, Tanner Heier, Ethan Curtis, Colby Larson; back row - Cole Weets, Tanner Keep, Parker Keep, Braden Moen, Tanner Tollerud and Noah Fiedler.

**Kelsey Buchholz**  
Sports Writer



The Rothsay Tigers basketball team has continued to improve year after year. With consistency in the coaching staff and a continuous wave of talent willing to work hard rolling through the gym, the Tigers could very well unexpectedly pounce on their competition this season.

Center Parker Keep returns for his senior season, ready to lead a skilled Tiger squad. Keep, picked to start for his third year, "brings a toughness and physicality to our team, especially down low," noted Coach Taylor Fuhs.

Also returning are sophomore guards Colby Larson and Tanner Heier.

"These two young guys started last year and gained a lot of valuable experience," stated Fuhs. "Both are very calm, positive influences on our team."

Another strong contributor

to the Tiger team is senior forward Jacob Christ. Coach Fuhs noted that he isn't just a talented athlete but a great example on and off the court, on game day and in practice.

"He is a great leader when it comes to effort and attitude. He brings another physical presence to our team and plays with great energy and effort."

But even with four solid contributors, having a good bench and strong role players is key to success. The Rothsay Tigers lost three players to graduation last year and there are important positions to step into.

"We have some pieces back from last year's squad, but we have multiple roles to fill. We are lucky to have some upperclassmen to fill our depth."

In addition to Keep and Christ, there are four other seniors on the team: forwards Tanner Keep, Braden Moen, and Cole Weets and guard Thomas Webster. Juniors Ethan Curtis (guard) and Noah Fiedler (forward) will also step into some of those

vacated roles. Capping off the roster is freshman forward Tanner Tollerud.

"I feel this unit is very balanced. We will have multiple guys that will be able to do various things for us," noted Fuhs. "We will also have the ability to defend a lot better than in years past."

This will be good if the Tigers want to keep progressing as they have a strong conference. Coach Fuhs has noted Parkers Prairie and Hillcrest Lutheran Academy as teams to watch this year since they are returning a lot of talent.

But Rothsay believes they can be in every game.

"We hope to compete each night and work together to gain experience as the year goes on," said Fuhs. "We are hoping to play our best basketball come February and March."

Fuhs is in his fourth year as the Rothsay Tigers' head coach. He is joined once again this year by junior varsity coach Chris Heier and junior high coach Jamie Nordick.

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#### Managing Editor

Lynae Schenck • Michael Stein

#### Advertising

Lynae Schenck • Isaiah Johns

#### Writers

Tracy Hinsz • Kelli Froslie • Lynae Schenck  
Kelsey Buchholz • Marc Ness

#### Photographers

Melissa Stock • Renne Nysetvold • Hawley Herald • Kelli Froslie • Caulfield's  
Darcy Schenck • Scherling • Lynae Schenck • Barnesville Record-Review

#### Schedules

Kelli Froslie

#### Layout and Design

Lynae Schenck • Isaiah Johns • Kelli Froslie

#### Publisher

Eugene A. Prim

Questions or comments? [ccc@villemn.net](mailto:ccc@villemn.net)



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