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D-G-F Rebels Boys Basketball Team Returns Experience

Lynae Schenck
Sports Writer



The Dilworth-Glyndon-Felton Rebels boys basketball team is coached by Mike Clark, now in his seventh year. He will be assisted by Andy Cox for the B team and Robbie Strand for ninth grade.

Clark loves to teach and coach each and every player he gets a chance to work with. Teaching life lessons, being a great role model and preparing the players for their future is very important to him.

"Seeing the smile on a players face when they learn something new and having success with it is absolutely priceless," he said.

Lost from last year's team to graduation are Nathan Brown, Cole Honek and Nick Lund. The Rebels finished 8-19 overall and 3-9 in the Heart O' Lakes Conference.

Returning players for the Rebels are seniors Nathan Leitner, 6'5" forward; Tanner Tahrn, 6'2" forward; Jackson Friend, 6'1" forward; and Drew Coalwell, 5'11" guard. Juniors are Ben Henriksen, 5'9" guard; Aiden Leach, 5'11" guard who made the Heart O' Lakes All-Conference team last season; and Jacob Strand, 5'10" guard.

There are six players on the team that have been a varsity starter at one time or another. They gained valuable experience the last couple years. Leitner, Tahrn, Coalwell, Henriksen, Leah and Jacob Strand have gotten this varsity team out on the court.

"Each one of these players has a



The Dilworth-Glyndon-Felton Rebels boys basketball varsity team members are, left to right, front row-Ben Henriksen, Jamison Kerr, Aiden Leach, Jacob Strand, Chris Walz, Colby Schreiber, Justin Wang; back row-Jackson Friend, Tanner Tahrn, Owen Leach, Nathan Leitner, Drew Coalwell and Ian Mickelson.

great attitude, love the game, has a great work ethic and the ability to be a great team player," says Clark.

"They will be tremendous and influential leaders for our younger

players. Friend will also be a leader this season. He has a terrific work ethic, great attitude and leads by example. He is more than willing to do all the little things that make a

team successful."

Team goals for this season will be to improve all aspects of the game, never get outworked, and excel at all the "little things" that are often overlooked. Team play, hustle, hard work and executing fundamental aspects of the game is key to any and all success.

The Heart O' Lakes Conference is going to be as competitive as it has been for quite some time. Perham, Breckenridge and Hawley all return many mature, experienced and skilled players who are very well coached.

"It will be hard to break into

that top three, but as we've seen in the past anything can happen on any given night," says Clark. "It should be a very exciting conference season."

The Rebels asset for this season will be their experience and very skilled players. This should allow them to compete at a pretty high level each night.

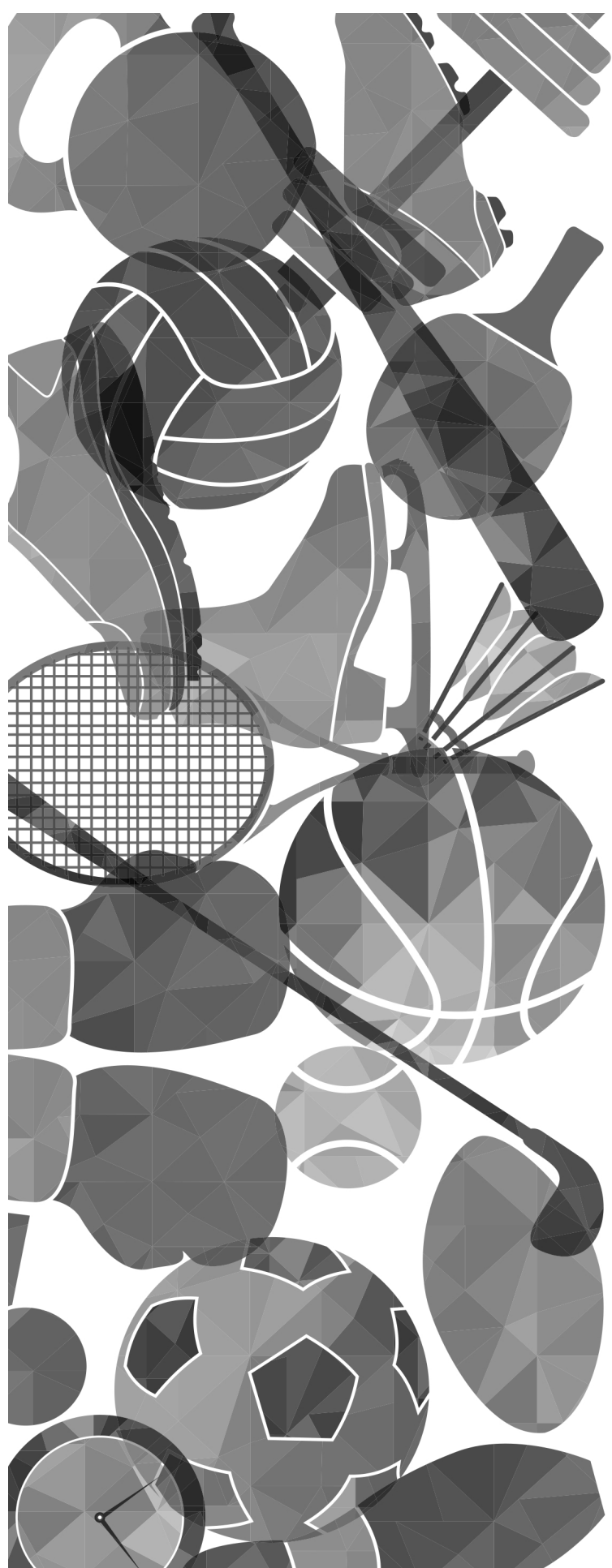
Clark remembered some of his favorite coaching moments over the years, one being coaching his children. He also, of course, remembers winning the 2016 section championship and participating in the state tournament.

Clark is very excited with the players returning this season to the team, as well as the underclassman who have the opportunity to compete for a prominent role. The number of basketball players with a skill set and tremendous work ethic grows each season for the Rebels. This depth is a testament to their hard work and willingness to improve. It provides great competition in practice and allows each player the opportunity to reach their potential.

"It is going to be a very fun and exciting brand of basketball we play this season," concludes Clark. "However we will have to play our best each night to compete and be successful. We have the right players to do just that."

The roster for the Rebels players is as follows:

1	Ben Henriksen	G	5'9	11
2	Drew Coalwell	G	6'0	11
3	Ian Mickelson	G	6'0	10
4	Jamison Kerr	G	5'10	12
5	Colby Schreiber	G	5'6	10
10	Owen Leach	F	6'3	8
11	Aiden Leach	G	5'11	11
12	Jacob Strand	G	5'11	11
15	Jackson Friend	F	6'1	12
20	Justin Wang	F	5'10	10
23	Nathan Leitner	F	6'6	12
24	Tanner Tahrn	F	6'2	12
32	Chris Walz	G	5'9	12



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