

Meet The
GCHS

Wildcats
2019-2020 Basketball Team



Ryan
JAMES
#12
Fr.



Camoron
McBETH
#14
Fr.



Samuel
GRAHAM
#15
Fr.



Kayden
MILLER
#20
Fr.



Noah
EASON
#20
Fr.



Elijah
BLACKSTON
#21
Fr.



Maurice
PACKER
#25
Fr.



Andrew
LOTT
#35
Fr.

GCHS Basketball

we can have a chance to do anything. Defense is the key.”

Players to watch this year will be seniors Chris Gray, Anthony Calhoun and Jordan Anders. Gray didn’t see a ton of action as a junior, but grew bigger and stronger in the offseason. At 6-4, he looks like the part of a power forward or center, but he also has some of the best ball-handling skills on the team.

Anders is a transfer student that played at Perry Central a year ago. He too is a physical presence on the court at 6-3, 200 pounds, but he can also knock down the deep shot, which can really help Ricks’ team stretch opposing defenses.

Calhoun is having a great season on the gridiron for the Wildcats and is expected to do the same for GCHS on the hardwood as well. He averaged six points, three rebounds, two assists and two steals as a junior, but is expected to play a much bigger role in 2019-2020.

“Chris Gray and Conner West are going to be huge assets playing in the paint, rebounding and shooting the outside shot,” Ricks said. “Anthony Calhoun’s quickness to the basket and his defensive skills set him apart. Jordan Anders is new to the team this year and will be an important asset shooting from the outside.”

Gray and Anders realize they will be expected to carry a good bit of the load for the Wildcats and say they are ready for the challenge. Both believe their team has a chance to be very good, despite the offseason shakeups.

“When I got the scoop that we were going to lose some players I said that I would do everything in my power to try and help lead the team as best as I can,” Gray said. “I don’t think the pressure will stand as long as I can get my teammates involved every practice and game.”

“I feel like communication and relentlessness to make sure

we give it 100 percent all four quarters will be keys for us this year. As a team we want to turn some heads and win games many people may not expect us to win. Our goal is to be strong in our division so we can make playoffs again, but we’re going to focus on taking it game by game.”

Anders agreed and said he and his teammates are ready to prove doubters wrong.

“This is our year to show what we’ve got and we aren’t going to hold back,” he said. “We are just going to keep putting in the work at practice and that will pay off.”

“The goal is to concentrate on one game at a time.”

Junior Brock Green will be a key for the Cats this year as well. Green saw action in 21 games as a sophomore and Ricks says he has continued to improve in the offseason. Green shows a lot of athleticism on the court and is a strong rebounder who shoots the mid-range jumpshot really well.

Conner West is a rangy sophomore who is also playing a key role on the GCHS football team. The same goes for Wests’ classmates Dallarus Cooper and J’shon McGee and freshman Kayden ‘K.J.’ Miller. Ricks expects all four to be big contributors when they join the team.

Meanwhile, the absence of those football players will open up opportunities for several others to step up. Those include sophomores Parker Errington and Ashton Peters, as well as promising freshman Ashton Peters. All three have been getting lots of time on the floor together and have gained their coach’s confidence.

Rounding out the squad is sophomores Day-Day Johnson and Jamir McCann, along with freshmen Elijah Blackston, Samuel Graham, Andrew Lott, Noah Eason, Maurice Packer and Camoron McBeth.

Competing in Region 7-4A will be a challenge with the

defending champs from Forrest Co. AHS returning a lot of lettermen and Poplarville looking to be strong as well. Stone County, who competed in Class 5A last year, is in the mix as well, along with Purvis and Sumrall. The Bobcats, Tornados and Aggies are all off to 2-0 starts to their seasons, with Purvis looking particularly strong early on with blowout

wins over Laurel Christian School and Enterprise.

To get ready for the region gauntlet, the Cats will look to find their groove in non-region matchups with Pearl River Central, North Pike and George County. They will get a good look at where they are as a team when they take on Richton and George County in this week’s tournament at New Augusta.

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DEALER

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Your Effort

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Laykin

Lindsey & Adaline