

Spring Sports Preview



Kennett High senior Sam Alkalay and his teammates are thrilled to have a spring season. (LLOYD JONES PHOTO)



After waiting more than 650 days, the Kennett High baseball team is back in action on the diamond. The Eagles are excited about the 2021 season. (LLOYD JONES PHOTO)

Boys of summer are thrilled to be back on the field

By LLOYD JONES
THE CONWAY DAILY SUN

CONWAY — It took 665 days but baseball is back, and no one is happier than Kennett High Coach Josh McAllister. The Eagles were definite title contenders in 2020, but COVID-19 derailed the entire season.

“That’s a long time, 665 days,” McAllister, who is in his sixth year at the helm of his alma mater, said. “It was disappointing not to be able to play last year.”

He added: “We’re back and we’re playing, which wonderful.”

The last time the hometown flock played a game was June 1, 2019, when the No. 7 seeded Eagles fell 6-4 on a walk-off two-run home run at No. 2 Hollis Brookline in the Division II quarterfinals. The team went 13-7 that year, and after reaching the Elite 8, many had the boys from Conway pegged as the team to beat in 2020.

While there were no games last season, the Eagles met remotely through the spring. Kennett had four returning senior All-State players in Nate Grames, a top-notch pitcher, and Riley Fletcher, who played third base and shortstop, who both were named to the First-Team in 2019. Zach Smith, one of the top hitters in the division, earned Second-Team All-State laurels, while Ethan Ouellette, a dynamite centerfielder, garnered Third-Team All-State recognition.

McAllister met with his players via Zoom and actually wrapped up the season with the presentation of awards. The Jack Burns Memorial Baseball Award was presented by Coach McAllister to Smith, while the fourth annual David “Doc” Walker

“It was disappointing not to be able to play last year. We’re back and we’re playing, which wonderful.”
— Josh McAllister

10th Player Baseball Award, presented by bullpen guru Doc Walker, went to senior Dominic Jones.

Preseason this spring has seen some hiccups due to the coronavirus. The Eagles had to quarantine as a team for 10 days, missing out on two games with Winnisquam. Once cleared to return, KHS learned that Gilford, which was to play a home-and-home series, had to cancel due to its outbreak of the virus.

There were 32 players who came out for the program.

“We had an alarming amount of freshmen and sophomores,” said McAllister.

McAllister plans to carry 13 players on the varsity squad with some possibly swinging between the varsity and junior varsity teams. Fourteen players made the JV squad.

Seniors on this year’s varsity team are Noah Barrows, Parker Coleman, Riley Gavett, Harrison Keeler, Brady King and Sean Regnier; juniors are Will Metz and Brady Robitaille; and sophomores Caleb Bradford, Jack Robinson, Sam Seavey and Bridger Viger; and freshman Body Nagle.

“I like this team,” McAllister said. “It’s a real good group of seniors. All six of them played summer ball and have a passion for the game.”



Kennett High senior Parker Coleman is being counted on as one of the aces on this year’s pitching staff along with Harrison Keeler. Coleman will also see action in centerfield and shortstop. (LLOYD JONES PHOTO)



Coach Chris Chaffee loves the attitude of this year's Fryeburg Academy girls' tennis team. The Raiders have a good mix of veterans and newcomers. (JULIAN ZHU PHOTO)

Raiders are progressing in net play

By LLOYD JONES
THE CONWAY DAILY SUN

FRYEBURG — After being sidelined in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Fryeburg Academy girls' tennis team returns to the court in 2021 eager to make up for lost time and have a new coach with longtime ties to the program just as passionate.

"These Raiders have a passion and an inner belief that make them champions," said Coach Chris Chaffee, who is thrilled to be back on the sidelines at FA.

"This is my 13th year as the girls' coach and I am humbled to be able to coach the girls this season," Chaffee said. "I missed it for sure last year and I always look forward to meeting and helping every player the best that I can."

Preseason started earlier this month, and Chaffee likes what he's seen thus far from his squad.

"They are fueled with a drive and a willingness to improve each day," he said, adding, "A foundation

based on a strong mindset is the building block that makes this group of girls a pleasure to teach. I am thrilled to be their coach."

Members of the team include seniors Marra Mac-Millan and Ellen Taylor; juniors Alana Cini, Leah Charles, Naomi Harper, Riley Miller, Maggie Pierce, Chloe Satory, Rose Schenstrom, Daryna Serediuk and Yoonseo Song; sophomores Ainsley Foster and Shin May; and freshmen Jiwon Choi, Amber Gagnon, MaryJane Owens and Winter Raymond.

Returning Raiders include juniors Cini, Charles, Harper and Schenstrom. McMillian, who will be playing singles this year, is also out for the team.

"Marra has got some game and talent," said Chaffee. "She can strike a good ball and is also lefty which is a big advantage to have. She has some playing experience that will help lead the team."

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Track team dealing with the hurdles of COVID-19

By LLOYD JONES
THE CONWAY DAILY SUN

CONWAY — Off and running and handle the hurdles that come with the COVID-19 pandemic — that's how the season has started for the Kennett High track team, which has been able to compete in pair of away meets to open the 2021 campaign.

The Eagles had just one day of practice before their first meet in Laconia on April 20 after being shut down for 10 days due to COVID-19. Still, Coach Bernie Livingston was excited for his squad to get the opportunity to throw, jump and run against another school.

The New Hampshire Interscholastic Athletic Association canceled all spring sports in 2020 due to the coronavirus. Kennett's sports teams met virtually through that spring working on skills and drills. The Eagles even held spring sports awards with Livingston selecting Nadia Van Dyne to receive the Track and Field Award.

Livingston, who is in his 38th year at the helm of the program, said he's experienced a year quite like this one after also coaching cross-country running in the fall and indoor track in the winter.

"Not even close," he said, shaking his head.

"Given all that's going on these are manageable numbers. This wouldn't be the year to have 100-plus out for the team." — Bernie Livingston

Livingston and other coaches start each practice with temperature checks of his athletes and then has each one fill out a COVID questionnaire, with everyone having to wear masks and social distancing.

Athletics was shut down two weeks ago at KHS after the largest uptick of coronavirus cases on the campus this school year. The Eagles had been scheduled to open the season on April 13 with a meet at Prospect Mountain in Alton but it was canceled.

There are 46 athletes out for the program this spring with 27 girls and 19 boys.

"Given all that's going on," said Livingston, "these are manageable numbers. This wouldn't be the year to have 100-plus out for the team."

He added: "It's a relatively young team in we don't have a lot of upperclassmen. I think we have a total of six seniors out."

Kennett also lost a pair of veteran coaches in Peter Kondrat, who oversaw the javelin, discus and shot put throwers, but has retired after 15 years with the program, and Ken Sciacca, a former track coach at the University of Lowell and in Salem, worked with the pole vaulters and hurdlers since 2017 but has moved to Wolfeboro.

"It's two big loses for our program," Livingston said.

Livingston will be joined on the track by assistants coaches Tim Livingston (his son), Juliana Livingston (his granddaughter), Eileen Livingston (his wife) and Kathleen Murdough. Current virtual Master's World Champion in the 400 meters, Terry (Livingston) Ballou (his daughter) is also working with the sprinters and relay teams.

Tim Livingston, who coaches cross-country at the middle school level, is the distance coach, working with athletes at the 800-, 1600- and 3200-meter distances along with the 4X800 meters relay teams.

Kathleen Murdough is also back and working with athletes on a wide range of events but primar-



The Kennett High girls' track team has had two meets thus far this season, traveling to Laconia and Wolfeboro. (LLOYD JONES PHOTO)



The Kennett High boys' team is looking forward to hosting two home meets this season with the first one set for this Tuesday (against Plymouth and Kingswood) and again on May 11 (against Inter-Lakes and Laconia). (LLOYD JONES PHOTO)

ily with the sprinters.

Eileen Livingston is also helping with the team this spring in the running events.

Juliana Livingston is working with the throwers.

Members of this year's team for the boys include seniors Cody Hamlin, Myles Harrigan, Bryce Hill, Ian Martin, Boone Mixer-Bailey, Thomas Troon and Logan Violette; juniors Hunter Daggett, Jack Martin, Kylan Morneau and Tristan Smith; sophomores Ben Biche, Devon Glackin and Adam Schmidt; and freshmen Sebastian Brochu, Ty Buell, Nash Harrigan, Tyler McCluskey and Tyler Walcott.

On the girl's team are seniors Dylan Derby, Jessica Hill and Sierra Parsons; juniors Mackenzie Bradbury, Amy Burton, Taylor Garland, Maya Gove,

Sam Habert-Jacques, Grace Perley, Mara Taylor and Alexis Tuttle; sophomores Shannon Abrams, Elizabeth Blair, McKayla Dockham, Karina Knapp and Annabelle Light; and freshmen Molly DellaValla, Eliah Feil, Emily Miller, Leah Paglierani, Catherine Shackford, Kendyl Shackford, Danielle Stewart, Autumn Verran, Rylie Walker, Aida Wheat and Shwe Win.

This year's team captains are Jessica Hill and Sierra Parsons for the girl's team and Cody Hamlin, Bryce Hill and Logan Violette for the boy's team.

Due to COVID protocols, the Eagles have held staggered practices with the cohorts set up for the



The 2021 Fryeburg Academy baseball team hopes to make some noise in the Western Maine Conference this spring. (MOLLY PRATT PHOTO)

Allain is excited about his Raiders

By JOHN SKELTON
THE CONWAY DAILY SUN

FRYEBURG — First-year Fryeburg Academy baseball Coach Greg Allain is excited about the Raiders' prospects this spring. Coming off three wins and three losses in the preseason, including a are tripleheader of five-inning games against top notch A Conference teams at Kennebunk on April 10, the Raiders have talked about their developing team identity: aggressive, hit-and-run and take the extra base offensively.

The Raiders are backstopped by sturdy senior Eddie Thurston behind the plate; the catcher will regularly bat third in the lineup. Several pitchers will toe the rubber for the Raiders, including senior Gabe Rogers, junior Noah Grant, sophomores Cam Johnson, Bryce Richardson and Caleb Micklon.

The lineup may vary on any given game. Allain envisions Richardson and Micklon setting the table batting in the top two spots. Thurston may be fol-

lowed by powerful freshman Ethan Laird in the clean-up spot and Rogers batting fifth. With a versatile lineup, slots 6-8 in the batting order are likely in flux, while junior Noah Grant will frequently bat ninth and reset the table for the top of the order.

Defensively, Rogers will hold down third base when not on the mound, with Micklon completing the left side of the infield at shortstop. Grant and sophomore Thomas Otengo complete the right side at second and first bases. Senior Isaiah Day and freshman Austin Warren are versatile players who can fill in throughout the lineup. The outfield will be patrolled from among senior Aiden Richardson, Johnson, junior Dameon Doe and freshman Gunnar Saunders.

Adding veteran leadership from the bench, but unfortunately sidelined by injury, will be senior Bryce Micklon. Allain notes "we are a young team,

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The 2021 Fryeburg Academy softball team is a good mixture of veterans and enthusiastic newcomers eager to make their mark on the diamond. The Raiders opened the season with a 7-0 victory on the road over Greely. (LLOYD JONES PHOTO)

Raiders might be the team to beat

By JAMES ANDERSON
THE CONWAY DAILY SUN

FRYEBURG — COVID-19 continues to interrupt spring sports. In the early going Fryeburg Academy had difficulty getting everyone out for practice. Missing the entire season last year has left the coaching staff — Coach Fred Apt and Assistant Coach Chris Dutton — unaware of the younger player's unique talents.

Two years ago Fryeburg played for a Regional Championship. Returners from that team will have to be responsible for pulling the wagon. Emilia DeSanctis will handle most of the pitching responsibilities, with Camden Jones available on the side. When not pitching Camden will hold down the short-stop position, and both girls will be counted to hit.

Captain Morgan Fusco will be solid behind the plate with Kayrin Johnson back at second base. Katy

McIntyre will hold down the very important center field slot, which makes the Raiders strong up the middle, but still looking to fill the corner positions.

The coaches will be challenged to do their finest work to make this season a success, but Apt and Dutton welcome the challenge, and above all, are thrilled this squad gets to play ball.

This team should score runs with its pressure-free offensive philosophy of just put the ball in play up the middle and run the bases aggressively. The Raiders hope to pressure to score every inning and take any big hits as they come.

DeSanctis will look to spot her fastball from the circle and nibble on the outside corner to righties and the inside corner to lefties. It will be comforting to her to have Fusco behind the plate blocking

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Eagles finally get an opportunity to take to the field

By LLOYD JONES
THE CONWAY DAILY SUN

CONWAY — If it seems like it's been a long time since the Kennett High softball team has been in action, you're right. Coach Chris Kroski took over the program two years ago and had to wait more than 675 days to coach his first game due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Eagles were the last spring team at KHS to open their season, hosting Prospect Mountain on Tuesday. The hometown flock fell 4-0 to the visiting Timberwolves.

"It's been a while," joked Kroski, adding, "I think we're all grateful that we can play this season. This was the first game in a couple of years. We're a little rusty but we'll get there."

Members of the varsity squad include senior Amirah Daugherty; juniors Emma Arnold, Caroline Coleman, Ashley Glaze, Isabel Higgins, Emily Kenny and Ava Smith; sophomores Marissa Caputo, Catherine Chick, Hope Elias, Carli Krebs and Lauren Violette; and freshmen Georgia Coleman; Shyanne Glencross, Allie Hussey and Stella Keeler.

Members of the junior varsity squad include junior Samantha Simpson and Ava Smith; sophomores Leah Alkalay, Maddie Bell, Victoria Brocato, Ashley Garside, Lily Holt-Tillinghast, Kaylee McLellan, Cassandra Nigro, Sophie Odell and Remi Snowden; and freshmen Isabelle Brown, Aubrie Cormier, Karlee Eldridge and Alisha Smart.

Joining Kroski on the varsity bench is Assistant Coach Curtis Coleman and Natalie Shaw, the team's pitching coach.

Larry Meader returns as the junior varsity coach, along with Assistant Coach Dave Caputo.

There are 31 girls out for the sport this spring with 16 on varsity and 15 on the JV roster. Twenty-two of the girls in the program are either sophomores or freshmen.

Kroski, a master patrol officer for the Conway Police Department, knows the game well. He was drafted by the Seattle Mariners as a catcher/first baseman and spent from 2002-09 in the Seattle and Cincinnati Reds organization reaching Triple-A, where he tore his ACL. He coached the varsity baseball team for Stateline neighbor Fryeburg Academy from 2016-19 before taking over the Kennett softball team.

Kroski succeeds Peter Ames, who retired after the 2019 season. He coached varsity softball for 33 years, compiling a record of 456-222, while winning four state championships and finishing as runners up twice.

"I'm excited for the season to finally happen," Kroski said. "We've got some talent and great numbers in our underclassmen."

Higgins is the team's primary pitcher, while Keeler and Chick also will see mound duties for the varsity and JV.

"Izzy has looked good," said Kroski. "She locates the ball well."

Hussey and Glengross are the primary catchers and the two freshmen are solid behind the plate. Glencross can also play first base, which will be primarily occupied by Krebs. Caroline Coleman, the lone varsity member from 2019, will be at second base with Kenny at shortstop and Glaze at third. Caputo can play a variety of infield positions.

Elias will patrol centerfield while Chick, Violette, Georgia Coleman and Doherty will be in the outfield mix.

Arnold has been sidelined due to injury but hopes to be cleared to return next week.

Kroski said speed is one of this team's best attributes.



It took more than 670 days, but the Kennett High softball team finally returned to the diamond when the Eagles played Stateline neighbors Fryeburg Academy in Fryeburg, Maine, on Saturday. (LLOYD JONES PHOTO)

"Emily Kenny, Caroline Coleman and Marissa Caputo are lightning in a bottle," he said. "I like to make things happen when we can, We're going to run, bunt, whatever we need to do to manufacture runs."

The New Hampshire Interscholastic Athletic Association canceled all spring sports in 2020 due to the coronavirus. Kennett's sports teams met virtually through that spring with Kroski working with his players on skills and drills. The Eagles even held spring sports awards with Kroski selecting senior Jessica Noyes to receive the Softball Award.

Kroski was able to finally see some of his players in person last summer thanks to the MWV Eagles summer softball team, which Caputo started in 2018, and there was so much interest in 2020 that two teams (U14 and U16) were formed and played.

Preseason this spring saw some more hiccups due to the coronavirus. The school went remote for a week, shutting down all athletics over that stint which results in missing out on two games with Winnisquam. Once cleared to return, KHS learned that Gilford, which was to play a home-and-home series, had to cancel due to its outbreak of the virus.

The hometown flock did make the trek over to Stateline neighbor Fryeburg Academy for an exhibition game last Saturday. The varsity fell 16-2 to a veteran Raiders team, while JV squad lost in extra innings 7-6.

The Eagles faced a strong Prospect Mountain team (3-1 in Division III) on Tuesday and were limited to just one hit. "We struggled hitting," Kroski said. "You can't beat anyone if you don't score a run."

He added: "We'll be in the cage (Wednesday), and we'll crank it up. For a lot of these sophomores and freshmen the last time they saw pitching it was coming in at 35 to 40 mph. They're not used to seeing 50-60 mph, but they'll get there. We're only going to get better."

Kroski said the Eagles were solid defensively and got a nice performance on the mound from Higgins, who struck out four while walking just one Timberwolves batter.

The NHIAA had an open tournament last fall and



Kennett High catcher Syhanne Glencross warms up prior to an exhibition game at Fryeburg Academy last Saturday. (LLOYD JONES PHOTO)

winter for multiple sports with everyone making the playoffs and initially playing in a regionalized cluster in the opening rounds of post-season play. A similar format will be followed this spring.

Weather permitting, the Eagles (0-1 in Division II) are scheduled to travel to Whitefield to play White Mountains Regional (4-1 in Division III) today at 4 p.m.

Kennett is scheduled to travel to rival Kingswood on Monday (4 p.m.) in the first of a home-and-home series, which is slated to culminate in Conway on Wednesday at 4 p.m.

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The Kennett High varsity lacrosse team is the newest high school sport under the NHIAA's umbrella this spring. (NEAL WEAVER PHOTO)

Eagles make their varsity debut

By LLOYD JONES
THE CONWAY DAILY SUN

CONWAY — This year's Kennett High girls' lacrosse players are trailblazers for the sport on Eagles' Way. After earning varsity status for the program last year, the Eagles saw their season stymied by COVID-19, which meant no games were played but the team was able to do skills and drills remotely with then-new Coach Jennifer Laine.

The hometown flock, like many of the spring sports teams at KHS was hit with a bout of COVID this spring, forcing the Eagles to quarantine for 10 days. KHS returned to practice last week, got in a day of training and then played host to Plymouth at Centola Field on April 20 in its first official varsity game. Despite not having a full squad due to coronavirus cohort quarantining, the Eagles gave the visiting Bobcats all they could handle for the first three quarters before the girls from Plymouth

pulled away for the 14-8 win.

"The girls faced a lot of adversity and responded well," said Laine. "We were essentially tied with them at halftime. Plymouth broke away in the final 7 or 8 minutes. For a first game, I was super proud of the girls and the effort they put forth."

Laine and Assistant Coach Chris Meier, who also coaches the junior varsity squad, had 32 girls come out for the sport this spring.

"I can't say enough about Chris and what he means to the program," Laine said. "He has such a passion for the game. All the stuff that he does behind the scene to support the kids is so helpful."

Seniors on this year's squad are Tatum Brett, Ella Chandler, Jaelin Cummings, Olivia Curry and Celia Lynn; juniors Molly Arnold, Arielle Butterfield, Veronica Caroboni, Ava DiFranco, Ella Fecteau

see **KHS GIRLS LACROSSE** page 19

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The Fryeburg Academy boys' tennis team is looking to make some noise on the courts this spring. (JULIAN ZHU PHOTO)

FA boys tennis is happy to be back

BY JOHN SKELTON
THE CONWAY DAILY SUN

FRYEBURG — The young Fryeburg Academy boys' tennis team expects "a season of growth for both me and the team," according to first-year Coach John Waldie.

With zero competitive tennis played last spring by a roster that includes no seniors, junior Owen West is the only player with regular varsity experience dating back to his freshman spring. West teamed with sophomore James Harrison at the first doubles position in a 6-1, 6-4 loss to the Mountain Valley pairing of Mickeriz and Durant on April 15. Waldie felt the duo played well in the season-opener, using their height and agility at the net to win several points.

Sophomore "Chris" Jaemin Kwon earned Fryeburg the victory at first singles in an exciting 4-6, 6-4, (10-6) match over Weston. Due to impending

darkness, the third set was limited to a 10 point tie-breaker. Kwon displayed consistency, speed, agility and court coverage throughout the match. While not the hardest hitter of the ball, Kwon kept points alive until his opponent made errors.

Freshman Austin Dornier lost 6-2, 6-0 at second singles to MV's Sevigny. Normally, Waldie predicts that Dornier, with his "consistent first serve and steady groundstrokes," will compete in the third singles, when junior Ethan Nemeth returns to the lineup.

Also stepping up a notch to third singles against MV was junior "Brian" Yongseok Yoo, who suffered a hard-fought 6-4, 4-6, 4-6 defeat to Cameron of MV. Waldie characterized Yoo as "a hard hitter with a big serve and pronounced topspin groundstrokes who will need to work on his consistency" to match his

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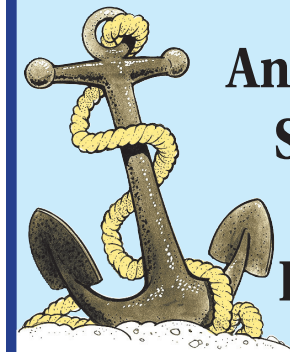
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The Kennett High boys' lacrosse team hopes to make its mark in the open tournament next month. (LLOYD JONES PHOTO)

Kennett boys lacrosse is ready to compete this spring

By LLOYD JONES
THE CONWAY DAILY SUN

CONWAY — “At least we’re playing,” that how Coach Steve Graustein sums up this spring for the Kennett High boys’ lacrosse team amid all of the challenges the COVID-19 pandemic has created.

“I couldn’t say that last year,” Graustein, who is in his third year at the helm of the program, said by phone on Tuesday. “Doing remote last year was one of the most interesting things I’ve ever participated in. Fortunately, we had a group of boys who stuck it out and earned their varsity letters.”

The New Hampshire Interscholastic Athletic Association canceled all spring sports in 2020 due to the coronavirus. Kennett’s sports teams met virtually through that spring working on skills and drills. The Eagles even held spring sports awards with Coach Graustein presenting the KHS Lacrosse Award to then-seniors Trevor LaRusso and Reilly Murphy.

Members of this year’s team include seniors Ethan Baillargeon, Atticus “House” Fayle, Gaven Eldridge-Ferry, Gaven Gagne, Bobby Graustein, Dalton Petell, Brad Santuccio, Brady Shaw and Bryson Wroblewski; juniors Tanner Bennett; Evan Fisette, Isaiah Monica and Sean Morgan; sophomores Sean Carrier, Aiden Colbath, Jacob Infinger, Carver Petell and Kyle Stearns; and freshman Robbie Murphy.

Members of the junior varsity squad are juniors Griffin McAuliffe, Aiden Costello and Colin Sheldon; sophomores Sawyer Battles, Jackson Burke, Bradley Finn, MacCary Kelsch, Mack Mudgett and Cooper Santuccio; and freshmen Caiden Graves, Braedon Grieb, Nathaniel Lynn, Peter Rogers, Carter Tasker, Sam Treshinsky and Micah White.

Joining Graustein on the sideline are assistant John Barry and JV Coach Trent Weston.

“John is kind of a mentor for me,” Graustein said of Barry. “He coached at Pinkerton Academy for more than 30 years, he’s a legend.”

There are 35 boys out for the program. Graustein is carrying 19 boys on the varsity team.

Gagne, Graustein and Dalton Petell are the team captains.

“It was a democratic process, I’m happy with the choices,” said Graustein.

He added: “One of the things I like about this year’s team is the leadership of all of the older guys. They’ve played together a lot. I’m also starting to see the sophomores step up and are starting to fit in and contribute.”

Kennett fell in season-opener to Plymouth on the road, 12-5 on April 20. Due to COVID contact tracing, the Eagles were missing players and had been limited in their preseason practices before the match. KHS trailed 3-2 after the first quarter, 6-4 at halftime and 10-4 after the third quarter.

Dalton Petell scored two goals for KHS and led the team with five ground balls. Graustein, Murphy and Fayle also netted goals. For Fayle and Murphy it was their first varsity goal.

Making his debut in goal, Stearns made seven saves.

The Eagles were sharper and had a deeper bench in an exhibition game against Stateline neighbors Fryeburg Academy last Friday. On Senior Day for the Eagles, Kennett fell behind 2-0 to the Raiders in the first quarter on two Will Galligan goals, but then rattled off the final 15 goals in the match for the 15-2 win.

Infinger, who scored his first varsity goal in the first quarter, finished the day with four goals. Graustein also scored four times and added four assists.

Fisette and Mojica also netted their first varsity goals and finished with three and two, respectfully, on the day. Ferry also netted a pair of goals and added an assist.

The ground ball leader for the game was Wroblewski with six of the team’s 21.

The Eagles were successful on 15 of 44 shot attempts.

Stearns made eight saves in the win.

“Kyle is doing a very good job,” said Graustein. “For a first-year goalie only playing his second game, he’s eager to learn and wants to get better.”

Coach sees defense as one of the team’s strong suits with Wroblewski, Bennett and Gagne. Santuccio and Shaw also help the defense as long stick middies.



Kennett High junior Isaiah Mojica (right) looks to pass to teammate Evan Fisette during last Friday’s home exhibition match against Fryeburg Academy. (LLOYD JONES PHOTO)

The New Hampshire Interscholastic Athletic Association had an open tournament last fall and winter for multiple sports with everyone making the playoffs and initially playing in a regionalized cluster in the opening rounds of post-season play. It will follow the same format this season.

“I think the open tournament is a very good thing,” said Graustein. “It’s fair for everyone. It means we’ll all get another game and hopefully more.”

The Eagles have talked about goals for the season.

“We want to make the program better and to improve our lacrosse IQ,” Graustein said. “We want to improve our overall playing ability. Secondly, we want to win some games, hopefully, more than two years ago; have a good showing in each game and be competitive. The kids are working hard.”

Kennett is scheduled to host rival Kingswood on Tuesday (4 p.m.) in the first game of a home-and-home series, which is slated to wrap up in Wolfeboro on Thursday at 5:30 p.m.

FA boys lacrosse team looks to surprise some foes

By JOHN SKELTON
THE CONWAY DAILY SUN

FRYEBURG — In a lament common to many spring coaches, Bob Hodgman-Burns reports that his squad of boys lacrosse players at Fryeburg Academy will be young and inexperienced, having lost a year of skills and development to the COVID-less sports season of spring 2020. The 2021 Raiders will rely heavily on the leadership of senior midfield captain Will Galligan. Andrew Turner and Dominic Zimel are the only other players from the Class of 2021, and they lack the experience of Galligan.

Fortunately, starting at the defensive end, the Raiders have received solid play from first-year goalkeeper, sophomore Patrick Dross, who has played well despite coming under fire in a 12-0 scrimmage defeat to the Post-Graduate players of Bridgton Academy, and a 14-0 opening game defeat at traditional boys lax powerhouse North Yarmouth Academy (1-0) on April 17.

The Raiders showed improvement in both early games, limiting their opponents to just two goals in each second half. The Raiders (0-2) opened their offensive stat sheet in a 3-1 loss at Gray-New Gloucester (1-1) on April 20.

Hodgman-Burns (H-B) reports a healthy roster of 25 players, predominately juniors and sophomores, with only one freshman, Nicholas Turner. Amongst his crew, H-B has a wide range of abilities, with a predominance of new lacrosse players. Thus early season training has focused on basic skills of passing and catching and winning ground balls.

The offensive patterns and tactics have been limited to date, as younger Raiders build up their basic skills. Even rules of substitutions and zones to play in were new to several players against Bridgton and NYA; these were the first two times for many Raiders on a fully lined lacrosse field.

Nonetheless, H-B reports an infectious

enthusiasm among athletes who “are just happy to get outdoors playing.” After last spring, it is a pleasure “to be suiting up.” Further, H-B comments that there has been positive rapport, patience and guidance supplied by his veteran players to several newcomers to the game.

Among those players who enter the season with some experience, H-B expects strong seasons from junior defenseman Joe Fox and his sophomore brother Haden. Junior attackman Taylor Day promises to rack up some goals as the offense develops. Sophomore Owen Galligan will see plenty of field time. Among the junior class, H-B looks for speedy development and “shaking off the rust” from Dana Hamlin, Danali Johnson Liam Patter-

son and sophomore Gabe McKinney.

With no Heal Points to be concerned about and an open tournament for which all may qualify, H-B is hopeful that his young squad may advance to be a dangerous opponent by playoff time. For the meanwhile, the defense will rely on simple man-to-man coverage and the offensive patterns are basic as ball-handling skills limit the intricacy of patterns the Raiders may develop as the season progresses.

One area of strength H-B has noted

is face-offs. This particular skill, which requires grit and determination, has been a positive for the Raiders to date and reflects well on the team's character and commitment to improvement.

H-B reports full support among players to follow bus seating plans, wear masks during practice and games and commit to doing the little things which will enable completion of a challenging 14-game schedule. The Raiders are scheduled to host Traip Academy (0-2) this Saturday at 10:30 a.m.



There are good numbers out for the Fryeburg Academy boys' lacrosse team this spring. (JENNIFER BARTLETT PHOTO)



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Spring sports in the snow. Kennett High shortstop Bridger Viger looks like he's in a snow globe, but he's actually on the diamond in Fryeburg, Maine, playing an April 22 exhibition game against the Raiders. (JOE VIGER PHOTO)



Fryeburg Academy and Kennett High met for an exhibition game in Fryeburg, Maine, on April 22. The teams played well, despite having to deal with snow most of the afternoon. Here, FA freshman Ethan Lord delivers a pitch. The Raiders edged the Eagles 5-4. (JOE VIGER PHOTO)

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Fryeburg Academy and Kennett High met for an exhibition game in Fryeburg, Maine, on April 22. The teams played well, despite having to deal with snow most of the afternoon. Here, Kennett's Noah Barrows successfully steals second base while Job Fox covers the base. (JOE VIGER PHOTO)



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The Fryeburg Academy girls' lacrosse team is happy to be able to compete this year. (JULIAN ZHU PHOTO)

FA looking to make up for lost time

By JOHN SKELTON
THE CONWAY DAILY SUN

FRYEBURG — According to Coach David Olson, “This is going to be a rebuilding season for the 2021 Fryeburg Academy girls’ lacrosse team.”

With the entire season lost to COVID-19 last spring, plus the loss of the talented laxwomen of the Class of 2020 — Abigail Hewes, Bridget O’Neil, Abigail Winterbottom, Purlin Twigg-Smith, Ryan Duffy and Sophie Kummer — the Raiders are sorely depleted.

Olson notes, “Losing one out of four years of playing lacrosse has severely impacted the athletic progress of the underclassman. Not only is skill development and game knowledge affected by the loss, but also the challenge of not having the leadership and mentorship of the six 2020 graduates.”

Leading this year’s team are senior tri-captains Svea Olson, Hope Duffy and Maggie Powers. Other veterans include juniors Jillian Lindgren and Maddie Foreman and sophomore Anna Plessinger.

New to the Raiders program but possessing lacrosse experience are sophomore Aletheia Carney

and first-year Tamara Rusakovich. New players showing increasing potential are juniors Adriana Gil, Adriana Mas and sophomore Grace Murley.

With 16 players on the roster this spring the emphasis has been on skill development, increasing game knowledge and executing offensive and defensive plays.

According to Coach, “The loss of last season left us all devastated, especially the seniors, but we were all in it together. The return to play this season, for some, is well welcomed and to others, it is a new challenge for them and a chance to try something different.”

Coach Olson declared, “A strength for us right now is the leadership from the tri-captains. Svea, Maggie and Hope have been bringing the girls together and emphasizing strong team values. Their enthusiasm is already affecting the team’s progress and performance.”

Powers will test her skills as a first-time goalie and backbone of the team.

see FA GIRLS LACROSSE page 17

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After having its first four matches canceled due to COVID-19, the Kennett High girls' tennis team finally opened the season on the road in Plymouth on Monday. The Eagles were missing eight team members due to school vacation week. (LLOYD JONES PHOTO)

Eagles are eager for tennis action

By LLOYD JONES
THE CONWAY DAILY SUN

CONWAY — There are lots of smiling faces behind masks on the Kennett High girls' tennis team this season. The Eagles, who missed out on the 2020 season due to the COVID-19 pandemic, are happy to be back on the courts and actually playing matches this spring.

"I think we're all glad to be playing," said Duncan Yarworth, who is in his fourth year at the helm of the program.

This year's team includes seniors Lia Anzaldi, Brianna Boynton, Dylan Derby, Shannon Derby, Kameryn Dockham, Ava Jarell, Nicole Lockhart, Amee Petell and Grace Ward; junior Sydney Deblois-Hill and Eve Paglierani; sophomore Jocelyn Anzaldi and freshmen Gracie Baillargeon and Olivia Scott.

"We have smaller numbers out this year, but I think 14 is a good number, a lot more manageable," said Yarworth, who had 20 girls out for the team in 2018 and a whopping 30 in 2019.

The New Hampshire Interscholastic Athletic Association canceled all spring sports in 2020 due to the coronavirus. Kennett's sports teams met virtually through that spring working on skills and drills. The Eagles even held spring sports awards with Yarworth selecting Alexis Gunn to receive the Girls Tennis Award.

The spring season got off to a two-week delay after the hometown flock was shut down for a week and forced to go to remote learning due to 15 detected cases of the coronavirus on campus. This resulted in matches with Inter-Lakes (planned for April 12 and 15) being canceled. Once able to return to the courts, the Eagles learned their next two matches with Gilford (slated for April 19 and 22) were canceled due to COVID at the Golden Eagles' campus.

KHS made its season debut, playing its first match in more than 670 days, when it made the trek to Plymouth on Tuesday, playing shorthanded

see KHS GIRLS TENNIS page 17

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Kennett boys tennis needs to avoid the injury-bug

By LLOYD JONES
THE CONWAY DAILY SUN

CONWAY — Stay healthy, that's the message Coach Jason Cicero keeps reminding the members of the Kennett High boys' tennis team. With just seven players out for the program this spring, injuries and illness two things the Eagles can't afford a lot of.

"Finger's crossed, no injuries," Cicero said, smiling. "We've got to stay healthy, the guys know that."

Kennett started the season with just six players, and when two were forced in COVID-19 after a cohort in school detected the virus, it looked like the team might be forced to forfeit some early matches. KHS ended up having to go remote for a week due to an uptick in cases which ultimately sidelined all of the sports teams. The tennis team's first two matches with Inter-Lakes, scheduled for April 15-16, were both canceled.

The hometown flock eventually had a seventh player join the team, and the Eagles made their 2021 season debut on the road against Gilford on April 19. The hosts edged the boys from Conway 5-4.

Members of the team include senior Sam Alkalay; juniors Camden Bailey, Andrew Fournier and Spencer Ogren; sophomore Grant Barahona; and freshmen Martin Lockhart and Jake Young.

Cicero is joined on the court by Assistant Coach Steve Pietrow.

The New Hampshire Interscholastic Athletic Association canceled all spring sports in 2020 due to the coronavirus. Kennett's sports teams met virtually through that spring working on skills and drills. The Eagles even held spring sports awards with Cicero selecting Jack Wheeler to receive the Boys Tennis Award.

"We had a strong group last year, it's a shame they never got to play," said Cicero. "Our numbers are down a bit this year but there's a good contingent of seventh and eighth-graders in the pipeline. I think we're starting to see the benefit of the Advantage Kids (summer tennis) program."

Alkalay, the lone returning letter winner, is the team captain and will play No. 1 singles and doubles.

"Sam has really improved his overall game," Cicero said. "He's a solid tennis player. It's a shame we don't have Eric (Schandor, who played No. 1 singles for the Eagles in 2019 as a sophomore)."

Bailey is playing No. 2 singles and No. 1 doubles with Alkalay.

"Camden looks really good," Cicero said. "He had a nice structure to build on."

The Eagles were able to get six indoor sessions at the Canmore



Members of the 2021 Kennett High boys' tennis team are (from left) Coach Jason Cicero, Martin Lockhart, Jake Young, Sam Alkalay, Spencer Ogren, Camden Bailey, Andrew Fournier, Grant Barahona and Assistant Coach Steve Pietrow. (LLOYD JONES PHOTO)

Tennis Club this spring.

"That really helped," Cicero said. "(Laughing) It was nice not to have to shovel the courts this year. It's the first time I can remember that we didn't have to do that."

Ogren, who is new to the sport, but

a "good athlete," according to Cicero, is playing No. 3 singles and will team with No. 4 Fournier as the team's No. 2 doubles tandem.

Barahona is currently No. 5 on the team's ladder with Lockhart at No. 6 and Young at No. 3. A combination of

this trio will slot into the No. 3 doubles spot.

"These three are eager to learn and willing to do anything the team needs," said Cicero.

Kennett played well at Gilford.

"This was actually encouraging considering we had two players on quarantine for a week and then had a week without practice," said Cicero. "It was the first competitive high school match for five out of six of the varsity team players. It was pretty cool to see them be able to do that."

In singles, Alkalay def Joseph Schelb 8-1; Izaak Waltom def Bailey 8-6; Aiden Townsend def Spencer Ogren 8-5; Fournier def Aydyn Berube 8-3; Matteo Giovanditto def Barahona 8-1; and Drew DeCarli def Martin Lockhart 8-0.

In doubles, Alkalay/Bailey def Schelb/Walton 8-4; Ogren/Fournier def Townsend/Berube 8-2; and Giovanditto/DeCarli def Barahona/Lockhart 8-2.

The NHIAA had an open tournament last fall and winter for multiple sports with everyone making the play-offs and initially playing in a regionalized cluster in the opening rounds of post-season play. A similar format will be followed this spring.

Cicero talked about team goals.

"We want to improve as a team with each match," he said. "The nice thing is we're playing sports this spring. We're all happy to be back playing."

Kennett is scheduled to travel to rival Kingswood on Monday (4 p.m.) in the first of a home-and-home series, which is slated to culminate in Conway on Thursday at 4 p.m.



Kennett High junior Camden Bailey, who is playing No. 2 singles and No. 1 doubles with senior Sam Alkalay, returns a lob in his match against Plymouth at KHS on Wednesday. The Eagles won the overall match 5-4. (LLOYD JONES PHOTO)

KHS GIRLS TENNIS from page 15

due to missing eight girls because of April vacation on a cold, windy afternoon. The Bobcats topped the Eagles 6-3.

"We had a handful of kids who hadn't played a (varsity) match before," said Yarworth. "We had to shift a few people around. We lost, but overall, it was a good showing."

Jarell played No. 1 singles followed by Baillargeon at No. 2; Jocelyn Anzaldi at No. 3; Ward at No. 4; Paglierani at No. 5; and Scott at No. 6. Baillargeon and Anzaldi won their matches.

In doubles, Jarell/Baillargeon won at No. 1, while Anzaldi/Ward along with Paglierani/Scott fell in close matches.

"We got our first one in, which was nice," Yarworth said. "Hopefully, next week, we'll be back to full strength."

When at full strength, Yarworth envisions a lineup of Dockham at No. 1 singles; Jarell at No. 2; Lia Anzaldi at No. 3; Shannon Derby at No. 4; Baillargeon at No. 5; and Jocelyn Anzaldi at No. 6.

While not totally set on his doubles tandems, Yarworth said he'll probably start out with pairings of Dockham/Jarell, Lia Anzaldi/Shannon Derby and Baillargeon/Jocelyn Anzaldi.

The Eagles hosted Plymouth in a rematch on Thursday. Results were not known as of press time.

Yarworth announced Dockham and Jarell as the team captains on Tuesday.

Yarworth spoke about goals for this season.

"We haven't set anything specifically," he said. "We want to make the most of our practice time and see where we can go in our matches. I think we'd like to get better than two years ago (when the team won three matches)."



Kennett High senior Kameryn Dockham will play No. 1 singles for the Eagles this season. (LLOYD JONES PHOTO)

The New Hampshire Interscholastic Athletic Association had an open tournament last fall and winter for multiple sports with everyone making the playoffs and initially playing in a regionalized cluster in the opening rounds of post-season play. It is the same format this spring.

Kennett is scheduled to host rival Kingswood on Monday (4 p.m.) in the first of a home-and-home series, which is slated to culminate in Wolfeboro on Thursday at 4 p.m.

FA GIRLS LACROSSE from page 14

The Raiders' "biggest challenge this season will be closing the skill gap of the first-timers and moving the ball as an effective unit," according to Olson.

He added, "Obviously playing a running game while being masked is not very comfortable but there has been very little complaining and plenty of compliance. The other team protocols are being managed and the advantage to having a smaller squad is it makes it easier to spread out and keep everyone safe."

Three keys for a successful Fryeburg lacrosse

season, according to Coach Olson: "quickly improving skill development and game knowledge, working together as an effective team and coming to the realization of just how fun playing girls lacrosse is!"

With the achievement of those goals, there is a good chance the Raiders may show up at the end of the season tournament as contenders.

Fryeburg (0-2) fell 14-0 in its opener against Waynflete in Portland, Maine, on April 15.

The girls from Fryeburg came up short in Gray, Maine, against Gray-New Gloucester/Poland on April 20, falling 13-5. Duffy netted three goals for the Raiders.

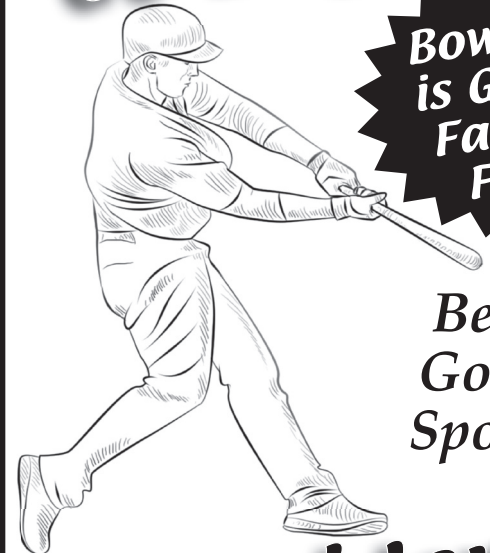
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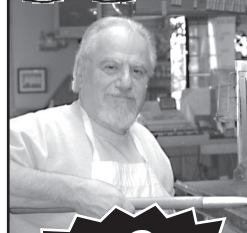
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Running Raiders are raring to go this track season

By LLOYD JONES
THE CONWAY DAILY SUN

FRYEBURG — No one is happier to see people running, jumping and throwing this spring than Kevin McDonald, head coach of the Fryeburg Academy track team.

The Raiders lost out on the 2020 season due to the COVID-19 pandemic, but two weeks into this year's preseason the Fryeburg girls and boys are rounding into shape. Having an early spring has allowed McDonald and his troops to get out on the track much sooner than usual, which has aided in the training.

"Yahoo we are back," shared Coach McDonald, who is now in his 10th year at the helm of the track program at the Academy. "We lost our first week to COVID, but had a complete week and are going strong (the past two weeks)."

Joining McDonald on his coaching staff are assistant coaches Trevor Hope, who has been with the team for four years; Corrin Hope, who returns for her second year; and newcomer Ursula Volkommer-Haley.

"We have 44 athletes on our roster after Week I," said McDonald. "We lost four (athletes) during the first week, so we are feeling pretty good with this number. We have a very talented team with all events covered except pole vault."

He added: "The athletes worked very hard this week and some are experiencing a bit of soreness but remain positive. The protocols for COVID have been OK. No one likes them but we all want a season so we will follow whatever is required."

Members of the track team for the girls include seniors Samantha Carus, Shar Day, Livia DeVries, Jordie Eastman, Olivia Krug and Brooke Rousey; juniors Nyla Charest, Caileigh Crowe, Zoe Jung, Alanna Nataluk and Stella Yoon; sophomores Lily Amazon, Ashleigh Bariteau, Kasey-Jane Clark, Zemmi MacMillan, Anna Morse, Hannah Nguyen, Polly Pierce and Elizabeth Thorne; and freshmen Isabel Macht and Lainey Rousey.

Boys include seniors Riccardo DeMaria, Armel Maloji, Owen Ring, Jil Sehr and Louis Sehr; juniors Marcos Barrionuevo, Luke Dupuis, Zach Hoeft, JoJo Jensen, Brody McGrath, Padric McGrath and Sam Rivers; sophomores Jacob Adams, Hogan Bemis, Corbin Blake, Andrew Irwin, Deek Maxim, River Pullan and Michael Trumbull; and freshmen Arkie Baptista, Makya Brown, Brady Burnell, Tyler Burnell, Zackery Emery, Sam Johnson and Tristin Nylin.

McDonald said some of the key athletes this season will be: throwing events — Padric McGrath, Brody McGrath, Sharlah-Mae Day and Derek Maxim.

Sprints and jumps — Adams, Charest, DeMaria, MacMillan, Maloji, Jil and Lewis Sehr and Trumbull.

Middle distance runners — Thorne, Jensen, Maxim and Bariteau.

Distance runners — Baptista, Bemis, Carus, Dupuis, Johnson, Macht and Natuluk.

Hurdlers — Jensen, Livia DeVries, Macht, Thorne and Trumbull.

McDonald is optimistic about the season and delighted to see the season happening.

"The return for me has been huge," he said. "We have a fantastic group of kids that are positive, hard-working and ready to compete. Our focus so far has been on conditioning and we plan to move to more event-specific drills next week while maintaining more aggressive fitness work."

McDonald added: "A successful season will be



Members of the Fryeburg Academy girls' track team have been fortunate to get out on to the track early this year due to the relatively mild winter. (MOLLY PRATT PHOTO)



Coach Kevin McDonald and his Fryeburg Academy boys' track team are eager for the season to begin after missing out on the 2020 campaign due to COVID-19 (MOLLY PRATT PHOTO)

injury-free, COVID-free, improvement by all and a large number qualified for states. Fun bus rides, lots of smiles and happy athletes. We really do have an awesome team — there is not one complainer and

all are positive and want to find success."

The Raiders are scheduled to open the season on Saturday with a trip to Hirman, Maine, for a meet hosted by Sacopee Valley at 10 a.m.

KHS GIRLS LACROSSE from page 8

(team manager), Cassandra Irish, Jordan Meier, Isabelle Murray, Abby Novak, and Kate Vaughan; and freshmen Ava Gaudette and Liza Graustein.

Members of the junior varsity include juniors Brynne Gove and Addy Nelson; sophomores Tessa Capozzoli, Morgan Carr, Grace Gagne, Sydney Graziano, Ceili Mahoney and Vivian Rober-Carpenter; and freshmen Sophia Hanson, Kendall Kreiger, Allie Lash, Abbey Lees, Mackenzie Morehouse, Madison Walcott, and Ivy Zipf.

Last year, Laine and her team never got to see each other except by computer as the New Hampshire Interscholastic Athletic Association canceled spring sports for 2020. The Eagles did complete the virtual season with Laine presenting the Eagle Award to sophomores Cassandra Irish and Jordan Meier.

Laine has been impressed with players and have they have handled every hurdle the virus has thrown at them. "The girls have adapted, they just keep going," she said. "My No. 1 hope is to share my love of lacrosse with them, seeing them outside, being healthy and having fun. If I can teach them the fundamental skills of the sport, they'll have even more fun."

Laine, who grew up in Westborough, Mass., and began playing lacrosse as a freshman after not getting a part in the school's spring musical, quickly developed a passion for the sport. She continued playing at Assumption College, and upon graduation in 2006, she had 221 points on 188 goals and 33 assists. Elected to the Assumption Sports Hall

of Fame in 2018, she remains the leading point and goal scorer in Assumption women's lacrosse history and was a two-time laxpower.com All-American. "It's such a fun sport," Laine said, adding her high school coach Melissa Callendar always, "stressed the importance of team camaraderie."

"I've really drawn from that," she said. "I think the thing about lacrosse here at Kennett is that it's a brand new sport, there are no expectations. The players can go and enjoy the process of learning without the pressure."

The Eagles are going with freshmen in goal with Graustein and Goodman.

"It takes a lot of heart to play the position," said Laine. "You have to be mentally and physically tough, and Liza has that mental toughness."

Graustein is also a strong defender when not in net. Also playing defense are Brett, Arnold and Novak, who was named the MVP of the first game. "She created so many turnovers," said Laine.

In midfield, Cummings is a steadying influence along with Chandler, Ava Gaudette, Meier, Vaughan, Irish, Curry and Carboni.

Playing attack are Goodman, DiFranco, Butterfield, Murray, Lynn and Taylor Gaudette.

"We've been playing with only about half our roster because of all of the (COVID) regulations," said Laine. "Next week should be the first week where we have the full varsity roster."

The Eagles played Plymouth a second time, playing

see **KHS GIRLS LACROSSE** page 21

FA BOYS TENNIS from page 9

competitive drive.

The second Raiders' point in their 3-2 loss to Mountain Valley came courtesy of freshman twin brothers Brian and Kevin Lucy at second doubles. While neither are strong hitters, the matching redheads' consistency and athleticism forced their opponents into many mistakes and long points in their 6-4, 7-5 win over Frisbee and Gamache.

This spring the Raiders will compete in the Western Maine Conference with several strong opponents from the greater Portland area. This will be a change from the predominantly private school schedule of Gould, Hebron and Hyde from past years. According to Waldie, "We are a raw group of mostly new additions to the game of tennis. Know-

ing that we are 'behind the curve' in the competitive tennis business, I expect it to be a season of growth for both me and the team."

With such a young squad, Waldie has set simple goals for his athletes: "get better each match, grow as players and as students."

With 11 players on the roster, Waldie hopes to pick up some extra games beyond the three singles and two doubles which comprise a varsity match, to gain experience for his entire lineup. The youthful Raiders got a taste of some top opposition on April 20, against traditional tennis powerhouse, Greeley. Playing two team matches with single eight-game sets, the Raiders were handled easily by the Rangers, losing 5-0 and 5-0, winning only nine games on the afternoon, to fall to 0-3 losses on the young season.

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Best of luck to Marissa, and all of the Kennett Lady Eagles Softball Team!

Have a great Spring Season!



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KHS TRACK from page 4

throwers, sprinters and distance runners.

“The kids have early cooperated,” Livingston said. “It’s been tough on people because of quarantine. The weather has really helped us. We were on the track the first day of practice (March 29), that’s been a godsend.”

The Eagles have five meets this season after losing the Alton meet, including two at home on May 4 with Kingswood and Plymouth and May 11 with Inter-Lakes and Plymouth. Both meets are scheduled for 4 p.m.

In a three team meet in Laconia on April 20, the Kennett girls took top honors with 96 points, followed by Laconia, 34; and Winnisquam, 8.

For the boys, Winnisquam took top honors with 68 points, followed by Kennett, 48, and Laconia, 27.

For the girls: 100-meter dash: won by Aida Wheat, 13:34; Rylie Walker, third, 15:00; Alexis Tuttle, fourth, 15:18; Jessica Hill, fifth, 15:74; and Kendyl Shackford, sixth, 16:40.

200 meters: won by Aida Wheat, 27.68; Rylie Walker, third, 32.15; Alexis Tuttle, fourth, 32.56; and Jessica Hill, sixth, 33.28.

400 meters: won by Shannon Abrams, 1:07.41; Autumn Verran, third, 1:17.09; Annabelle Light, fourth, 1:19:09; Catherine Shackford, fifth, 1:19:09; Mackenzie Bradbury, sixth, 1:30.52.

800 meters: won by Amy Burton, 2:36.09; Grace Perley, second, 2:45.56; Maya Gove, third, 3:06.78; and Mara Taylor, fourth, 3:11.88.

1,600 meters: won by Amy Buton, 5:44.96; Taylor Garland, third, 6:52.75; Molly DellaValla, fourth, 6:53.55; Leah Paglierani, fifth, 7:05.68; and Eliah Feil, sixth, 7:14.92.

3,200 meters: won by F. Gosselin, Winninsquam, 13:28.18; Amy Burton, second, 13:53.31; Molly DellaValla, third, 16:35.83; and Leah Paglierani, fourth, 16:38.18.

Long jump: won by Aida Wheat, 12’3.75”; Karina Knapp, third, 11’10.5”; Light, fourth, 11’6.5”; Sam Habert-Jacques, fifth, 11’5.5”; and Autumn Verran, seventh, 10’11”.

Shot put: won by Sydney Ross, Laconia, 29’8.5”; Sierra Parsons, second, 28’5.5”; Elizabeth Blair, fourth, 22.9.5”.

Discus: won by Sierra Parsons, 98’1”; Taylor Garland, third, 81’; Elizabeth Blair, fourth, 57’5”; and Shwe Win, eighth, 32’8”.

Javelin: won by Ross, Laconia, 93’1”; Sierra Parsons, fourth, 73’2”; Molly DellaValla, fifth, 60’1”; Elizabeth Blair, sixth, 40’1”; and Shwe Win, eighth, 38’7”.

110 hurdles: won by Sam Habert-Jacques, 20.40.

Triple jump: won by Annabelle Light, 24’8”;



Distance runners for the Kennett High track team get in some road road on Eagles’ Way under the watchful eye of Coach Tim Livingston. (LLOYD JONES PHOTO)

Karina Knapp, second, 24’1”; and Autumn Verran, third, 22’9.75”.

4X100-meter relay: won by KHS, 56.90.

4X400-meter relay: won by KHS, 4:55.38.

For the boys: 110-meter hurdles: won by Tyler McCluskey, 21.78.

100 meters: won by Bryce Hill, 12.17; Jack Martin, fourth, 12.84; Thomas Troon, fifth, 13.61; Devon Glackin, sixth, 13.88; and Tyler Walcott, seventh, 16.69.

200 meters: won by S. Mousseenn, Laconia, 25.46; Jack Martin, second, 26.08; Thomas Troon, fifth, 27.68; Devon Glackin, sixth, 28.81; and Sebastian Brochu, seventh, 30.42.

400 meters: won by Tyler McCluskey, 1:03.24; and Tristen Smith, second, 1:01.42.

800 meters: won by J. Seavey, Winnisquam, 2:14.02; Logan Violette, fourth, 2:26.15; Kylan Morneau, fifth, 2:26.56; Boone Mixer-Bailey, sixth, 2:33.56; Ben Biche, seventh, 2:36.88; and Hunter Daggett, eighth, 2:39.27.

3,200 meters: won by D. Robert, Winnisquam, 10:55.78; Ben Biche, second, 13:54.

Long jump: won by Miles Harrigan, 18’7”; Nash

Harrigan, third, 15’4”; and Devon Glackin, sixth, 13’6.75”.

Shot put: won by Colin Smith, Laconia, 35’; and Ian Martin, third, 31’5”.

Discus: won by Patrick Goodwin, Winnisquam, 85’10”; and Cody Hamlin, seventh, 56’8”.

Javelin: won by Kylan Morneau, 111’8”; Ian Martin, fifth, 82’10; and Cody Hamlin, sixth, 82’3”.

4X100-meter relay: won by KHS, 48.12.

4X400-meter relay: won by Winnisquam, 3:51.75; and KHS, second, 3:58.81.

“We typically have eight meets,” said Livingston. “There will be no Wilderness League Championship this year. We will do the divisional meet, but it will be the girls in the morning and the boys in the afternoon. They’re also going to really be limiting the number of entries. There are seven field events but I can only enter 10 athletes.”

He added: “Track is hard, but not impossible, under COVID guidelines. It’s had on coaches, really it’s hard on everyone. My group has been really resilient. It should be an interesting season, one we’ll always remember.”

FA BOYS BASEBALL from page 5

freshman Austin Warren are versatile players who can fill in throughout the lineup. The outfield will be patrolled from among senior Aiden Richardson, Johnson, junior Dameon Doe and freshman Gunnar Saunders.

Adding veteran leadership from the bench, but unfortunately sidelined by injury, will be senior Bryce Micklon. Allain notes “we are a young team, with an opportunity to have a pretty good year.” With an open tournament, the Raiders hope for continual improvement to peak at playoff time.

On April 20, the regular season started off with a pitcher’s duel in Cumberland, Maine. Greely’s Brady Nolin no-hit the Raiders (0-1), while Grant blanked the Rangers (1-0) through

six innings, only to concede the game-winner in the bottom of the seventh inning in the 1-0 loss.

The Raiders committed just one error, Grant threw a three-hitter, and the Raiders are primed to unleash more potent offense as the season unfolds.

FA won the local exhibition matchup against stateline neighbor Kennett High 5-4 in Fryeburg on April 22 amid whiteout conditions at times due to snow squalls.

“It was a good game,” said Allain. “It was nice to see a lot of the kids who I grew up coaching (with the Home Run Bulldogs program). I looked around the field and 12 of the 18 played for the Bulldogs at one point.”

Despite frigid temperatures, Allain said it “was a relatively clean game by both teams” in terms of

defense. Lord worked the first 5 2/3 innings to get the win with Rcihardson getting the final four outs to pick up the save.

“I wish we could do this every year,” Allain said about playing Kennett. “I hope that we can, but I know sometimes the snow hasn’t melted by now.”

In the scrimmage, Allain said Thurston hit the ball well while Rogers had a pair of hits and Lord delivered a clutch base knock.

“I think once we get everyone hitting, we should be pretty good,” Allain said.

The Raiders split home-and-home series with Sacopee Valley, winning 6-5 at home on Monday, but fell 6-4 to the Hawks in Hiram, Maine, on Wednesday.

Fryeburg is scheduled to host Oxford Hills on Friday at 4 p.m., weather permitting.

FA SOFTBALL from page 6

pitches and gunning down possible base swipers.

The Raiders got the season off on a good note with a 7-0 victory over Greely in Cumberland, Maine, on April 20. DeSanctis pitched a three-hit, 13 strikeout, complete game and also belted a two-run double in the second inning of the win.

FA scored two runs in each of the first two innings and never looked back in the victory. DeSanctis used a live fastball and occasionally changed speeds to keep the Greely batters off-balance in the shutout.

Coach Apt and Fusco seemed one step ahead of the Greely offense calling pitches as DeSanctis executed from the circle.

Neither team created much offense through the middle innings until Raider Katy McIntyre came through with a two-out triple in the seventh, which drove in three runs. It was a nice way to cap off a very successful opener for the Raiders. Coach Apt was pleased with the outcome.

Coaches Apt and Dutton have a way of making everyday fun, and thus their players believe in themselves, and when a team believes watch out. The sky's the limit, and the learning environment is rich. It is hard to know where opponents will be at. I think when these girls realize the point is to win — they will win. Call me a homer, but I like the attitude of this group. I would refer to them as a combination of toughness and talent with a little pinch of attitude that will put them over the top. When it comes to the 2021 Raiders coaches and players I'm all in. They are just what we need. A



Masks will be mandatory this season on the softball diamond in Maine for high school athletics. Fryeburg Academy junior Emma Rydman has adjusted to the new COVID-19 protocol. (JULIAN ZHU PHOTO)

little bit of inspiration.

Fryeburg won the exhibition game with state-line neighbors Kennett High on Saturday 16-2.

The Raiders hosted Sacopee Valley on Monday to open a home-and-home series with the Hawks, which culminated in Hiram, Maine, on Wednesday. Fryeburg won both contests, winning 7-1 at home and 8-1 on the road to improve to 3-0.

Fryeburg is scheduled to host Oxford Hills on Friday at 4 p.m., weather permitting.

KHS GIRLS LACROSSE from page 19

in Plymouth on April 22 on a brutally cold afternoon with high winds and snow. The Bobcats got the win.

"It was more like arctic conditions than spring-like," Laine joke. "I was in snow pants and shivering. The girls showed so much heart. It didn't matter how cold it was, they never gave up."

Laine is happy to see the Eagles playing and improving every day.

"We have to remember with all of this COVID-chaos, we still get to play," she said. "We'd love to win a couple as we're learning. I want them to enjoy this experience."

Laine hopes to grow the game here in Mount Washington Valley.

"My hope is we can develop a summer league for incoming eighth-graders up to seniors in order to continue to develop the depth," she said.

Laine has a summer camp planned for Aug. 2-6 for girls in grades 4-7 from 9 a.m. to noon and for grades 8-12 from 5-8 p.m. Joining Laine will be her sister, Emily, who was a standout at Southern New Hampshire University where she graduated in 2012 as the school all-time leader in goals and points.

Kennett, which played Stateline neighbor Fryeburg Academy in a scrimmage on Tuesday, is scheduled to travel to Wolfeboro on Tuesday to play the Kingswood Knights at 5:30 p.m. in the first of a home-and-home series which is slated to culminate in Conway on Thursday at 4 p.m.

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EAGLES from page 2

Keeler and Coleman will be counted on to lead the team in innings pitched. Both want to continue playing in college beyond Kennett High. Keeler plans to attend Susquehanna University in Selinsgrove, Pa., while Coleman will take a post-graduate year at Bridgton Academy in Bridgton, Maine. When not on the mound, Coleman and Keeler, who both play for the Maine Lightning last summer, will patrol centerfield, while Coleman may also see action at shortstop.

Barrows will be the team's primary shortstop and will be counted on in the late innings as a closer, capable of throwing in the low 80s, according to McAllister.

King, who will play first primarily or be in the outfield, has a strong left-handed bat.

Gavett is a left-handed pitcher, while Regnier, who can play second and third base, may see some mound time, too.

Metz is another pitcher for the Eagles, who will be counted on in relief. He has good life on his fastball, according to McAllister.

Robitaille will be in left field, and McAllister said he's working on a new "strategy at the plate," and "if he executes his plan, should have quite a bit of success."

Viger is playing second base and has "a sweet swing," at the plate, according to McAllister, which led to him hitting near the top of the order.

Robinson is the team's catcher and has been getting more and more comfortable behind the plate each day.

Seavey, who can play either of the corner infield spots, is expected to provide the Eagles with some key relief innings as a table-setter to Barrows.

Bradford is the fastest runner on the team and could be a game-changer on the base paths for KHS. He's capable of playing all over the field giving the team another layer of versatility.

Nagle is the lone freshman on the varsity. "He's raw but athletic," said McAllister. He may see some action at third base but may also transition to the outfield.

McAllister also has a talented core of assistants. Seth Allen returns for the fifth year as the varsity assistant, while Sal DiSanza will work with both the varsity and JV teams. Ryan Richard is the new JV coach, with assistant Alex Ricker, while Doc Walker, the bullpen guru, has been bumped up as the varsity bench coach.

"We have a good line of communication throughout the program," McAllister said.

The Eagles traveled to the Pine Tree State on April 22 to play neighbor Fryeburg Academy in an exhibition game. Played in whiteout conditions at times due to snow squalls, the Raiders edged KHS 5-4.



Kennett High sophomore catcher Jack Robinson makes the play at home to get a Plymouth baserunner out during Monday's home-opener at Coach Bob Burns Field. The teams split a home-and-home series with the Bobcats winning 11-0 in Conway on Monday and the Eagles returning the favor with a 9-4 win in Plymouth on Thursday. (LLOYD JONES PHOTO)

"It was fun, although I'd have liked it to have been a little warmer," McAllister said, laughing. "We got eight this and stole 12 bases. We kept guys on second and third but couldn't get the key hits."

The Eagles did get the key hits on Saturday when they traveled to Whitefield and rallied for two runs in the top of the seventh off University of Maine commitment Tyler Hicks, to top White Mountains Regional 5-4.

KHS played small ball in the second inning to manufacture three runs. Robitaille, Regnier and Robinson, hitting 7-9 in the lineup, sparked the offense.

Trailing 4-3 in the top of the seventh inning, Robinson worked a seven-pitch walk off Hicks, who according to McAllister, "is one of the best guys we'll see this season, to open the inning. Coleman followed with a double. With Bradford pinch running for Robinson, Viger delivered an RBI single to right field. King added a sacrifice fly to put the Eagles in front for good.

"It was a great win," McAllister said. "It was one of those comebacks that everyone should feel good about. I kept telling the guys, we've got to find a way to solve (Hicks), and they did."

The New Hampshire Interscholastic Athletic Association had an open

tournament last fall and winter for multiple sports with everyone making the playoffs and initially playing in a regionalized cluster in the opening rounds of post-season play. That format will continue this spring.

"With the open tournament, we're going to be able to treat the 12 regular-season games like the preseason, getting ready for the tournament,"

said McAllister. "We're going to try to win games, but we want to make sure we're playing our best baseball in May."

One new change fans will notice this spring, the Eagles have moved from the first to the third base dugout. The move, made by McAllister, was designed to give KHS spectators a better vantage spot.



Coach Josh McAllister is over the moon happy to be back in the dugout with the Kennett High baseball team after the Eagles missed out on the 2020 season due to COVID-19. (LLOYD JONES PHOTO)

FA GIRLS TENNIS from page 3

Serediuk is a newcomer to the team this year and, according to Chaffee, “will add some important depth” to the team.

“Daryna is from Ukraine and is athletic,” he said. “She has the motivation to do well and to win. Daryna’s topspin forehand is her biggest weapon.”

Harper, according to Chaffee, “has a gracious but competitive nature. Her speed and consistency add to the natural court coverage ability.”

Cini and Schenstrom are expected to be a factor in doubles.

“Alana and Rose have the right energy to play well,” Chaffee said. “Alana can control the ball pretty well. So, that combined with Roze’s volleys and both of their court awareness, they will work well together.”

He added: “Our other doubles players are newcomers to the roster. Sophomores Chloe Sartory and Ainsley Foster are the biggest and pleasant surprises this year. Chloe is a field hockey player and possesses natural hand-eye coordination and maneuverability. With the help of Ainsley’s focus and consistency they will perform well on the court.”

Chaffee said Charles and Miller are also progressing well.

“Their skills are increasing and they are gaining confidence day in day out,” he said. “Every player on the team amazes me in terms of their attitude and personality. They are extremely supportive, gracious and are ready and capable to achieve the goal of getting the very best out of themselves. That effort will produce results and those are qualities you want to have in life.”

Chaffee is happy to have good numbers out for the team. “The girls had a big turnout for this season, which is awesome to see,” he said. “We have players that have never played before, we have players that have played a few times and we have a couple that has played seasonally.

“All the different levels of players and interest are very positive to see. It means a lot for the growth of the sport of tennis at the Academy and in the community. As a coach I want them to try to soak up as much knowledge and information they can, but also have fun doing it.

“There is no pressure on them this year. I know they will make me proud. Being on the court and practicing with the players we have this year brings

“Our hope as a team is to grow and to hang tough. We aren’t going to yield. We are going to keep going. We are going to push and continue to move forward. With that mindset, it will take them beyond winning and display perseverance and resilience.”

— Chris Chaffee

a lot of happiness and joy as a coach. The girls have champion-like attitudes but also show tremendous sportsmanship to one another.”

Chaffee talked about team goals for the season.

“One of the main goals this year as a coach and for the team is improvement and progress,” he said. “We have just started practicing and every player on the team has gotten better each day. They are having fun and they want to come to practice every day, with a desire to play.

“They are determined to continue to learn new skills. As a coach, you can’t ask much more than that. They give so much effort and have so much character. They all have the heart and are willing to put in the work. With this drive, the results will come.”

Fryeburg opened its season with a see-saw match against Mountain Valley at home on April 15. The visiting Falcons won the contest 3-2.

In singles, Serediuk fell 6-2, 7-6 (7-5); MacMillan won 6-1, 6-1; and Harper fell 6-1, 6-7 (7-5 in the tie-break), 7-6 (7-5).

In doubles, Sartory/Foster fell 4-6, 6-4, 6-2; and Cinci/Miller won 6-0, 6-3.

On April 20, the Raiders fell 5-0 to Greely in Cumberland, Maine.

Serediuk fell 6-2, 6-4; MacMillan lost 6-0, 6-0; and Harper came up just short in a thriller, 3-6, 6-2, 6-4.

In doubles, Foster/Miller lost 6-0, 6-3; and Owens/Schenstrom fell 6-0, 6-1.

The Raiders are scheduled to travel to North Yarmouth Academy on Friday for a 4 p.m. match.

“Our hope as a team is to grow and to hang tough,” said Chaffee. “We aren’t going to yield. We are going to keep going. We are going to push and continue to move forward. With that mindset, it will take them beyond winning and display perseverance and resilience.”



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