

SPORTS

Women's Basketball Season Starting Up Despite COVID-19

BY ISABELLA D'BURKE

WITH THE UNFORTUNATE cancellation of fall sports, it is imaginable that the women's basketball team had doubts about their upcoming season. However, they continued to work hard throughout the uncertainty, and it will soon pay off as the NSIC recently released a schedule for the 2020–2021 basketball season.

The women's team will be coming into the season experienced and cohesive as they only lost one senior last year, Cassidy Byrd. In addition to gaining two new freshmen, the strong returning classes will provide a strong backbone for the team underneath all of the hard work the women have been putting in this fall. Returning to the team will be seniors Riley Wheatcraft and

Danielle Schuab, who both made the 2019-20 basketball All-Conference teams. The two combined scored an average of 26.1 points per game. Continuing, the duo's three-point shooting resulted in ranks of sixth and seventh in the conference last year. Overall, last season the team finished with a 15-14 record and a conference record of 12-10. They entered the NSIC Tournament as the fourth seed in the NSIC South and were eliminated by Northern State in overtime.

New on the women's team are Lindsey Becher and Sarah Kuma. Becher comes from Mounds View High School in Shoreview, Minnesota. She lettered five times in basketball, was named All-Conference her sophomore and junior year, All-Conference Honorable Mention 8th grade and freshman year, Most Valuable Player junior year, and Defensive Player of the Year sophomore year. Kuma played for Lakeville North High School in Lakeville, Minnesota. She lettered five times in basketball, was named All-Conference her junior year, played in four state tournaments, and holds her high school's all-time school record for her 3 point shooting percentage.

Next year, the team will be losing four seniors, Danielle Schuab, Sidney Wentlend, Riley Wheatcraft, and Ayla Lemke. While they will be losing four crucial players, the women's team already signed three new players on November 11th (National Signing Day). The team will be gaining Megan Gamble from Clear Lake, Minnesota, Caela Tighe from Big Lake, Minnesota, and Faith Alberts from Parkers Prairie, Minnesota.

The women will start up their season with a game away against University of Minnesota Crookston on January 2nd and 3rd. Then, they continue on the road at Wayne State the next weekend. The first home game for the Lady Bears will be on the 15th and 16th against Sioux Falls.



2021 WBB Season Preview

Photo Credit: Rene Elias

CSP Swim Team Practicing for Inaugural Season

BY DAVINA BELLINGER

WITH THE END OF fall semester approaching, CSP's first women's swim team is completing their season. Practices this season started up in October, and they were held at the new pool located at Henry Sibley High School. Due to COVID, the NSIC has changed the swim team's schedule and shifted their competitive schedule from a fall season to not being able to compete until January 1st.

The CSP swim team was eager to start up their first season, but due to the pandemic, this inaugural season looked a bit different than they were expecting. In the water, they had to spread out in the pool. The swim team has a total of three members which makes it easy to have a lot of space and have their own lanes in between other swimmers. When the team is out of the water, they wear their masks.

Matt Bos is the head coach of the women's swim and dive team. He is hopeful for the whole team to continue staying positive for the rest of the season. Bos said, "Obviously this is a challenging year for everybody in so many ways. Our goal is to just stay as positive as we can and take it one day

at a time. I think, if anything, people will learn to be flexible which hopefully will help to create growth mindsets down the road."

Liv Laube is a first year student and one of three team members. She hopes that the team will expand and continue to add new members. She said, "I hope that this year we create the culture we want for our

team. I want our team to work hard at everything we do, so we should start that now, even though we don't know what will happen because of COVID-19." Bos also said, "We have great kids with positive attitudes who are willing to step outside of their comfort zone. It's a joy to work with these women on a daily basis."

Laube stated that what she really enjoys about

being a part of the swim team is having the opportunity to practice with her other teammates. She said, "I really enjoy being a part of a team, so it has been nice meeting the other women and practicing with them."

Matt Bos said that one of the achievements they have accomplished so far is staying healthy and staying focused on school & training. Bos said, "We are trying to keep things simple. Focusing on school work and getting in whatever good training we can get is all of our focus. Obviously we want people to stay healthy."



Photo Credit: Josh Deer