

Four letterwinners return to swim

Written by Brenda Johnson Brandt

Four returning letterwinners from Holyoke, as well as four other local swimmers and one from Haxtun HS are practicing at the Holyoke Swimming Pool, but will compete again this season with the Sterling High School girls' swim team, coached by Cindy Pennington.

Locally, Adria Colver and Alyson (Colver) Brinkema coach on a volunteer basis for the Holyoke and Haxtun swimmers.

Two HHS sophomores and two juniors return as letterwinners from the 2008-09 season. They are juniors Briar Bergner and Pamela McWilliams and sophomores Amy Krogmeier and Jordan Zeiler.

Others competing on the SHS team are seniors Nicole Brandt and Lilian Menjivar, juniors Christina Banaka and Brandi Orand and Haxtun sophomore Amber Wilkening.

Coach Colver approaches the season with enthusiasm, noting it's another dream team. "It's a wonderful group of girls to work with," she said.

Colver cited the vast range of experience in this year's HHS swimmers—everything from beginners learning the details of the strokes to fairly experienced girls who have competed in summer league, as well as high school swimming. She acknowledged that part will certainly be a challenge, but one she welcomes.

Competition for the Sterling team opened at Northridge Tuesday, Dec. 1. Next up is the Valley Invitational Saturday, Dec. 5.

Home duals scheduled in Sterling this season will be conducted on Monday, Dec. 14, Tuesday, Jan. 12 and Tuesday, Jan. 19.

Colver is in her 21st year of coaching swimming in Holyoke.

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Brinkema herself was a stand-out swimmer at HHS, earning 4A Swimmer of the Year honors as a senior in 2001. She was an Academic All-American swimmer and a Big 12 finalist at the University of Kansas and represented KU at U.S. Nationals.

