

Teamwork the focus of Lady Dragon basketball this year

Written by Darci Tomky

Holyoke's Lady Dragon basketball team is back and ready for challenge as they open their 2010-11 season this Friday.

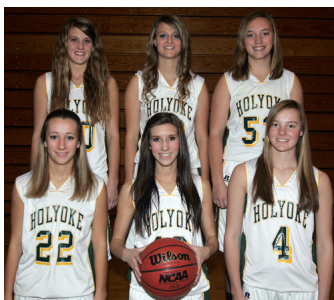
"I am looking forward to this season and continuing the success we have had in the past few years," said head coach Arlan Scholl.

Only one starter is returning from last year's team, but the six returning letterwinners gained much playing time and valuable experience in 2009-10.

Returning letterwinners on the Lady Dragon team are seniors Marci Vasa, Mallory Bennett, Kaylee Groshans and Heather Duester as well as juniors Laura Gerke and KrisAnna Ham.

Each year presents a challenge to "build a team," noted Scholl, but teamwork is what the game of basketball is all about.

"We have 22 talented athletes out for basketball, and they are all looking forward to creating a team atmosphere," said Scholl. "We talk a lot about teamwork and being unselfish, and I strive to allow each participant a chance to experience what this means."



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Returning letterwinners on the HHS girls' basketball team are pictured from left, front row, Laura Gerk, Heather Duester and KrisAnna Ham; and back row, Marci Vasa, Mallory Bennett and Kaylee Groshans. □□□□□ —Enterprise photo

Completing the Lady Dragon team are seniors Emma Adams, Becca Brandt, Patricia Adams and Ilse Kamstra; junior Brooke Parker; sophomores Becca Weaver, Marissa Chambers, Molly Brandt, Jordan Bernard, Chandler Gerk and Erin Vieselmeyer; and freshmen Tia Huffman, Maddie King, Zuri Lopez, Audi Peña and Jacinda Krueger.

Joining Scholl on the coaching staff are Kate Shoemaker and Harvey Eurich. Student managers this year are Rachel Schneider and Eva Penzing.

The team looks forward to a fun and successful year although they know the league and district tournaments will be very difficult and very competitive, according to Scholl. The athletes are ready to work hard and compete at the highest level possible for their team.

HHS has been working to use their speed to create an up-tempo style of game. They are putting a special emphasis on rebounding this year with the goal of out rebounding the opposing team in each game.

“We continue to thank our great Dragon fans for their continued support of all Holyoke athletes,” said Scholl.

Fans will be cheering on the Lady Dragons in their home opener Friday, Dec. 3 against Haxtun with games scheduled to begin at 4 p.m. The following day HHS hosts Idalia starting at 3 p.m.