Dragon basketball prepares for fierce competition this season

Written by Darci Tomky

With winter sports practice in full swing, HHS Lady Dragon girls' basketball team is excited for the 2009-10 season and their opening game at Idalia Friday, Dec. 4 at 4 p.m.

Head coach Arlan Scholl said the team has 10 returning letterwinners and three starters from last year's 14 win/9 loss team. They had a good summer season, he said, and the Dragons have five experienced seniors to anchor the team.

While this year's team comes with experience, so does Scholl. This is his 22nd year of coaching—nine of which are with HHS girls' basketball.

Assistant coaches for the Lady Dragons are Clint Goldenstein and Harvey Eurich.

Scholl explained Holyoke's conference and district are going to be some of the strongest in the state this year. "I look for us to be very competitive throughout the season," he said, noting he thinks they will be a very fast team.

HHS girls' basketball was District runner-up in 2009 and took both District and Regional champion honors in 2008. In recent years' State Tournament action, the Dragons placed fifth in 2004, third in 2005, second in 2006, fourth in 2007 and fifth in 2008.

"Our obvious goal would be to go deep into the post season playoffs," said Scholl. "I am very excited and optimistic about this year's team and look forward to the upcoming season."

Letterwinners returning to play on the 2009-10 team are seniors Shelby Beavers, Molly Fricke, Chasity Pelle, Nora Roth and Marissa Smith; juniors Mallory Bennett, Heather Duester, Kaylee Groshans and Marci Vasa; and sophomore Laura Gerk.

The team also includes senior Severine Barras; juniors Patricia Adams and Becca Brandt; sophomores Emily Bradley, Annie Daniel, KrisAnna Ham and Brooke Parker; and freshmen Elissa Baker, Jordan Bernard, Molly Brandt, Marissa Chambers, Chandler Gerk, Lindsay Helgoth, Makaila Stapleton, Erin Vieselmeyer and Becca Weaver.

Student manager for the Dragons is Rachel Schneider.

Results of the season opener at Idalia Friday, Dec. 4 will be reported in next week's Enterprise. HHS will also take on Wray Saturday, Dec. 5 on their home court with games scheduled to begin at 3 p.m.

