

Team looks to young talent for this season

By Addie Rosebrock
feature editor

The boys swim team is looking to new, young talent to impact the scoreboard. “My ultimate goal for this season as a freshman would first beat my personal records, especially in the 100 and 50 freestyle, but I also hope to break some school records, like the relays,” freshman Griffin Kroll said.

New freshmen are replacing last May’s graduates.

“The team will be different with the seniors that are gone because they made the season more fun and enjoyable. A lot of ideas and small traditions we do as a team were brought up last year by the seniors, but the freshmen will help the team a lot. They have been swimming for a long time and are really good. We have a chance of breaking the relay records because of them. We lost quite a few seniors, and we have people coming in, so our numbers won’t be smaller and they will be able to fill in the shoes of the seniors,” senior Arya Gokhale said.

The loss of the seniors last year impacted the team, but it will impact them even more next year.

“The team will definitely be losing some of the faster kids when this season ends. The seniors are on all the A relays. We got a senior guy to dive this year just for fun, but next year, we will lose a point from it. It has always been hard for us to find divers,” sophomore David Brenton said.

When it comes to sports, hard work is often just as important as natural talent.

“I have been super excited to swim, but I have not been able to get in the water for a lot of pre-season, so I have a lot of making up to do. This year, a lot of our talent has been working hard, so we are ready for the season to start. We had a lot of great seniors last year that we, unfortunately, do not have this year, but we have a lot of incoming freshmen with a lot of talent. I am super excited to be able to compete with all the new talented people who have joined us,” senior Ethan Rose said.

Sectionals is an exciting and nerve-wracking time for athletes.

“The meet I prepare for the most is Sectionals. It is our final one for the season, and we prepare for two weeks for that meet,” Gokhale said.

Rose also looks forward to Sectionals; he hopes to go farther.

“When it comes to preparing for meets, we definitely look forward to Sectionals the most. It is always the biggest meet of the year, and for most people, it is the last



Senior Arya Gokhale works on his butterfly stroke during practice. Gokhale specializes in the 100 yard fly. Olivia Ford photo

meet, so we do multiple weeks for taper swimming to prepare. My goal for this season is to get a relay to State. It is always a big deal when we get a fast time, and I believe that we can get a fast enough time to go to State,” Rose said.

Sophomore Emmanuel Jackson is excited for a fun and competitive season with his friends.

“We have some big plans for the freshman class coming in. Most have been swimming for five or more years now, so the team will be very fast. A big one to look out for is the relay this year,” Jackson said.

Watch the swimmers prove their hard work is paying off at their next meet against Plainfield at home on Monday at 5:30 p.m.



Sophomore Annie Chrisman works on her kicking during a set. Chrisman is expected to play a vital role in relays this season. Olivia Ford photo

Freshman Emme Lewallen works on her butterfly during practice. Lewallen has been a part of the Greenwood Gators swim club for four years. Olivia Ford photo



Off-season to help Lady Woodmen swimmers

By Norah Wallischeck
news editor

With their season getting underway, the girls swim team has been preparing both in and out of the pool.

“I have been preparing for the high school season by doing Greenwood Gators. They are a swimming club that has helped me be able to practice and improve my swimming. This will be my fourth year with the Greenwood Gators,” freshman Emme Lewallen said.

Even without club swimming, the girls have found ways to work during the off-season to prepare.

“I personally did not get the chance to do club swimming, so I did APC, which helped me prepare for the season by getting stronger in the weight room,” junior Maria Mears said.

The off-season preparations have been building excitement, and the girls are eager to watch themselves and their teammates improve. The team hopes their improvements will ensure a successful season record.

“My favorite part about swimming is seeing myself and my teammates improve. I think this year will be a good year. We have lots of very talented athletes who can do great things for the team” senior Ryann Marker said.

The team supports each other during practice and meets.

“My favorite part of swimming would have to be having friends to motivate me and everyone else through practices and meets. Everyone is very encouraging, which is something I really like,” Lewallen said.

Despite losing several seniors to graduation, the team has confidence.

“We lost a lot of good seniors last year, but I do believe that we can all improve and still compete with our rival teams of the same size if we work hard like we have been to be able to compete at our best,” Mears said.

With their next meet on Monday against Plainfield, the girls will continue to dedicate their time and efforts to achieving their goals for the season.

“I feel like the team and I will work the hardest to achieve the goals we have set for ourselves. We are always doing our best at practice to make sure we swim our best at meets,” Lewallen said.

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