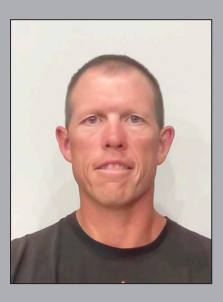
2022
FALL SPORTS
Featuring Tennis, Cross Country, Volleyball & Football from LUVERNE & Hills-Beaver Creek
September 1, 2022
A production of The Star Herald & Featured Advertisers

Meet the Star Herald fall sports team

The Star Herald is seeking a full-time sports writer and photographer, but until we find the right person for the job, we have recruited talented local contributers.

Our photographers are **Canaan Petersen** for Luverne sports and **Samantha McGaffee** for Hills-Beaver Creek. Following are the Star Herald contributors for our fall 2022 sports coverage.



John Sichmeller covers Luverne football for the Star Herald this fall. He's a Luverne High School business and computer teacher and is also the head golf coach and boys' basketball coach.

Why did he agree to cover LHS football for the Star Herald? He recognizes that parents and community sports fans are important components of high school athletics programs, and Star Herald sports pages keep them involved.

"I decided to write the Luverne football articles for the Star Herald because I get to see firsthand all of the hard work that the players and coaches put into the season, and I want them to get the recognition they deserve and keep the community updated on their progress."



Dan Ellingson covers Hills-Beaver Creek football for the Star-Herald this fall. He is the H-BC guidance counselor and high school PE and social studies teacher.

He's been involved with H-BC football since 1990, first as an assistant, then as head coach for 19 years, and now as a junior high volunteer coach.

Why did he agree to cover H-BC football for the Star Herald? "I enjoy being connected to the present players and coaching staff. Also, I enjoy being able to give the players recognition through the game articles. ...

"These are articles that they can look back on in the future and remember their individual and team goals and accomplishments they strove for and hopefully reached."



Stacy Olson covers Luverne volleyball for the Star Herald this fall. She is a 1993 LHS graduate (maiden name Henrichs) and currently works as program director for Habilitative Services Inc (HSI).

She and her husband, JJ, also a 1993 LHS grad, have four children — Ashley (LHS grad 2014), Jakob (LHS

Sportwriters/see page 6B



Jason Berghorst photo/0901 fall sports preview football

Senior members of the Luverne High School football team in 2022 include (front, from left) Riley Sneller, Gavin Reisch, Tyson Cowell, Kaleb Hein, Gavin Baum, (back) Tyler Gebauer, Micah Andersen, DJ Rock, Ross Bergman, Gannon Ahrendt, Andy Halverson, Zach DeBoer, Ja'shon Winter and Anyuon Atem. Todd Oye is the team's head coach.

Cardinal 2022 football program rebuilds on 2021 hard work and team chemistry

By John Sichmeller
For the Star Herald

The Luverne Cardinal football team will look different this season after graduating a large group of seniors in 2022.

Among them were three All-Conference performers (Connor Overgaard, Braydon Ripka and Ashton Sandbulte) and two Honorable Mention (Nathaniel Cole-Kraty and Casey Sehr).

"Last year's senior group enjoyed playing football and put in a lot of time in the off-season," said Luverne football coach Todd Oye.

The Cardinals finished the 2021 campaign with a 4-6 overall record after falling to eventual section champion Fairmont in the second round of Section 3AAA play.

Coach Oye said this year's team may lack experience, but he is looking forward to seeing how the team comes together as the season progresses.

"The kids are really working hard and

Luverne football preview/see 8B



Samantha McGaffee photo/0901 fall sports preview HBC football

Six Hills-Beaver Creek High School seniors will lead the Patriots football team this fall. They are (from left) Cole Rozeboom, Brayden Metzger, Luke Fuerstenberg, Cody Moser, Alex Harris and Brock Harnack. They're pictured with a semi painted by Reisch Trucking, Luverne, which also painted a similar one for the Luverne Cardinals.

Hills Beaver Creek football program to build on previous years of Patriots' success

By Dan Ellingson
For the Star Herald

The 2021 Hills-Beaver Creek Patriots football team won its second consecutive Section 3 Nine-Man Championship last November at Southwest State University in Marshall.

The Pates finished with a record of 9-3, while having their season-ending loss in Minneapolis at US Bank Stadium in the State 9-Man Semi-finals.

That 2021 team had 11 seniors that played major roles in all three phases of the game — offense, defense and special teams.

The 2022 Patriots will see many fresh faces in the football starting lineup, but head coach Rex Metzger said he's optimistic about his current group of players.

"Because of the past successes these players have witnessed firsthand, (the Patriots are 2-2 in the last four section championship games) their mentality is to get better and be the best they can be,"

H-BC football preview/see page 8B



Samantha McGaffee photo/0901 fall sports preview HBC volleyball

Seven Hills-Beaver Creek High School seniors will lead the Lady Pates' volleyball season this fall. They are (front, from left) Aspen Shimp, Tyrae Goodface, Elly Klosterbuer, (back) Lexi Drake, Malli Ternus, Taylor Huisman and Olivia Bork.

H-BC volleyball players excited to have Coach Zylstra return to the Patriots program

By Joni Deelstra

The Hills-Beaver Creek volleyball program is looking forward to having Meghan Zylstra back as the varsity head coach for the 2022 season.

Zylstra, a 2013 graduate of H-BC, was head varsity coach for H-BC in 2017, and prior to that she had been the assistant varsity coach for four years.

Courtney Kruger was the assistant coach last year and will return to coach alongside Zylstra this season.

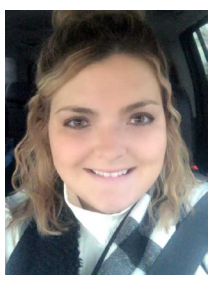
The Lady Pates return to the volleyball court this year after a bruising 2021 season when they faced tough competition and didn't win any conference games.

But coach Zylstra and her players are hoping to turn that around this season.

The Patriots enter the 2022 season with seven seniors, 10 juniors, four sophomores and 15 freshmen.

Olivia Bork, the only returning senior with playing time on varsity last season, said she and her teammates have made lots of progress in practice.

"Our strength will be our hitting," Bork said. "Our weakness is probably our receiving, but we're working on it and getting better."



Meghan Zylstra

Zylstra said she is still shuffling girls around on the court but will be looking at some of the juniors to help out.

She said Grace Anderson will have time on the court, and Brynn Rauk will assist the team as one of the setters.

She said Larissa Steinhoff and Lanae Elbers both play well at the net, and Layla Deelstra, who missed last season to recover from knee surgery, will also see playing time.

Freshman Ella Sammons will also make her varsity debut this season.

"Right now we're doing a lot of groundwork and pushing them past what they think they're capable of," Zylstra said.

"Putting in the work will pay off."

It is apparent in talking with Zylstra and watching her work with the girls in practice that she wants what's best for the team, and she wants each player to reach her full potential in contributing to the program.

"Right now we're doing a lot of groundwork and pushing them past what they think they're capable of. Putting in the work will pay off."

— Meghan Zylstra Hills-Beaver Creek returning head volleyball coach

Among Zylstra's goals for the team this season are to win at least half of the games and get at least one playoff win at home.

The Patriots played in a tournament in Adrian on Saturday, Aug. 27, and their first regular season game was Aug. 30 against Viborg-Hurley.

H-BC Volleyball Schedule

Aug 27 Adrian Tournament A
Aug 30 Viborg Hurley H
Sept 10 Luverne A
Sept 13 Southwest Christian A
Sept 15 Westbrook/Walnut Gr. H
Sept 20 MLA-C H
Sept 22 Red Rock Central H
Sept 23 Edgerton H
Sept 26 St Mary A
Sept 27 Edgerton A
Sept 29 MCC A
Oct. 7 SMSU Tournament A
Oct. 8 SMSU Tournament A
Oct. 11 HLOF A
Oct. 17 Edgerton H
Oct. 18 Luverne A

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Stacy Olson photo/0901 fall sports preview LHS volleyball

Seniors on the LHS volleyball team are (front, from left) Carly Olson, Averill Sehr, Mallory Von Tersch, Josie Anderson, Reese Louwagie, Emma Beyer, (back) Abigail Anderson, Anja Jarchow, Kamyrn Van Batavia, Christina Wagner, Elizabeth Wagner and Justice Ahrendt.

Cardinal volleyball team enters 2022 season with 'strong players and depth in every position on the court'

By Stacy Olson
For the Star Herald

The Luverne High School volleyball team is ready to start the 2022 season.

The Cardinals finished a winning season in 2021 when they won 20 matches and lost six.

Luverne competes in the Big South Conference during the regular season and Section 3AA for playoffs.

The Cardinals' roster is deep with 18 players, including 12 seniors and six juniors.

Luverne graduated some key players last year, but head coach Sarah DeBeer has options to fill some open positions.

She said seniors Emma Beyer (5'5) and Averill Sehr (5'4) will take over the setting roles from 2022 grads Reghan Bork and Trista Baustian.

Junior Tori Serie (5'9) will fill in middle and outside hitter needs and senior Carly Olson (5'5) will return to the libero role taking over for '22 grad Macey Stratton.

The Cardinals also return three starters from 2021 season. Senior middle hitter Christina Wagner (6'1), outside hitters Kamyrn Van Batavia (6'0), and Anja Jarchow (5'11) returned to the court.

"The team should have a lot of depth and potential for the season. There are strong players and depth in every position on the court. The higher level of experience on the court will also be an advantage for the Cardinals this season."

— LHS volleyball coach Sarah DeBeer

Other returning varsity players include senior defensive specialist Carly Olson and senior hitter Elizabeth Wagner (6'1). Senior setters Emma Beyer and Averill Sehr also made some varsity appearances last season.

"Kamryn Van Batavia, Carly Olson, Christina Wagner and Anja Jarchow will be major contributors for the team this season," said coach DeBeer.

"The team should have a lot of depth and potential for the season. There are strong players and depth in every position on the court. The higher level of experience on the court will also be an advantage for the Cardinals this season."

She said her goal for the 2022 season is to "... get better with every game we play and build positive momentum to go to the next game."

DeBeer said she feels one of the stronger teams Luverne will face this season will be Jackson County Central, but she said the Cardinal volleyball team will not back down from a challenge and will come to every game ready to compete.

The Cardinals' coaching staff this season includes head coach DeBeer, B-squad coach Krista Ahrendt, ninth-grade coach April Wallace and volunteer coach Kristin Schomacker.

LHS will host their first home game Thursday, Sept. 1, versus West Lyon and MCC.

Luverne Volleyball Schedule

Aug 25 Edgerton A
Aug 27 Big South Showcase @ Marshall
Sept 1 Triangular H
Sept 6 Marshall H
Sept 8 Westbrook Walnut Grove H
Sept 10 Invitational H
Sept 15 Windom H
Sept 17 Invitational Jackson County A
Sept 20 Redwood Valley A
Sept 22 Pipestone Area A
Sept 27 Worthington A
Sept 29 St James Area H
Oct 6 Jackson County Central H
Oct 10 Southwest Christian H
Oct 13 Adrian H
Oct 15 Invitational A
Oct 18 Hills-Beaver Creek H
Oct 28 *Section Quarters
Nov 1 *Section Semis
Nov 3 *Subsection Finals

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Susan Beers photo/0901 fall sports preview tennis

Four seniors, (from left) Priscilla Muehr, Ella Lanoue, Tori Hemme and Katharine Kelm, will lead the Luverne tennis team this fall along with a promising group of younger players for the 2022 season.

Luverne tennis coach expects new team leaders to put Cardinals back on top of section competition

By Susan Beers
For the Star Herald

The 2022 Luverne girls' tennis season is underway, and head coach Jon Beers said he is hopeful for another great season.

This year's squad is comprised of 27 girls — four seniors, six juniors, 10 sophomores and seven freshmen.

The top returning players from the 2021 season with lots of varsity experience include juniors Sarah Stegenga and Roselynn Hartshorn and seniors Katharine Kelm, Tori Hemme and Priscilla Moehr.

Senior Ella Lanoue and juniors Cassi Chesley, Morgan Hadler, Rayanne Remme and Chloe Schoeneman should all see lots of varsity play this year, Beers said.

"We lost a great group of seniors the last two years. We lost our top two singles (Mia Wenzel and Jacey Smith) and first doubles team (Kristin Rud and Olivia Wieneke) and half of our No. 2 doubles team (Hope Thorson) from last year," he said.

"It's going to be hard to replace them, but I have a large group of juniors and sophomores who have been waiting to play varsity. I expect great things from them this season."

He said he anticipates they'll all play singles and doubles this season.

"It will take a few matches to get our lineup set, but when we have it set, I see no reason why we can't wind up at the top of the section."

This is the second year of the realigned Section 3A, with the Cardinals facing Pipestone Area, Yellow Medicine East, Montevideo, Benson/KMS and others.

Beers said he thinks the top teams to beat in this section are Lac Qui Parle Valley, Montevideo and Morris.

Meanwhile, he said he's looking forward to grooming a new group of younger players in the program.

The incoming group of sophomores all practiced with the middle school last year, so Beers said he's still learning what they're capable of.

They include Caitlin Kindt, Augusta Papik, Corynn Oye, Emma Nath, Nora Louwagie, Madison Hansen, Katia Jarchow, Audrie De Bates, Kaitlin Conger and Emily Carrillo.

"I'm quite pleased with and optimistic about what I've seen so far," Beers said.

"In practice we will continue to work on fundamentals and being able to know what to do in the moment."

That means also learning to adapt to various opponents across the net.

"Each match is different, and each opponent is different so they need to be ready to anticipate that," Beers said.

"I want them to become confident in their skills and believe that they can win. ... Every year our goal is to make it to state, and if we put our minds to it, anything is possible."

"I have a large group of juniors and sophomores who have been waiting to play varsity. I expect great things from them this season."

— Luverne girls' tennis coach Jon Beers

Luverne Tennis Schedule

Aug 20	Morris Area/ Benson	H
Aug 23	Yellow Medicine East	A
Aug 23	MACCRAY	A
Aug 25	Lac Qui Parle Valley	H
Aug 25	Montevideo	H
Aug 27	Worthington	A
Aug 29	River Valley	A
Aug 30	Fairmont	A
Sept 6	Blue Earth Area	H
Sept 8	Marshall	A
Sept 10	St James	H
Sept 13	Worthington	A
Sept 15	Pipestone Area	A
Sept 19	Sioux Falls Lincoln	H
Sept 20	St James Area	H
Sept 22	Redwood Valley	H
Sept 27	TBD Big South	H
Oct 4	Section Quarters	A
Oct 6	Sections Semis – Sioux Falls	A
Oct 13	Sections – Sioux Falls	A
Oct18	Sections Finals – Sioux Falls	A
Oct 25	State Tournament	H

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Sara Schmuck photo/0901 fall sports preview cross country

Runners who made it to section competition in 2021 and are returning to the Luverne cross country team in 2022 are (front, from left) Grace Ingebretson, Tiana Lais, Camden Janiszeski, Camden Hoven, (middle) Brynn Boyenga, Khloe Visker, Kayla Bloemendaal, Jenna DeBates, Ella Schmuck, (back) Carsen Tofteland, Kaleb Hemme, Ryan Fick, Sage Viessman, Owen Janiszeski and Leif Ingebretson.

Cardinal cross country teams run with confidence while staying 'humble and hungry' for success in 2022 season

By Sara Schmuck
For the Star Herald

Coming off the momentous 2021 season, cross country coach Pete Janiszeski said the boys' and girls' teams are ready for the challenge in 2022.

"We've been really consistent the last few years," Janiszeski said. "We always have the goal of getting to state. We have good potential to do that this year."

Last year the LHS girls' team placed third at state and the boys' team placed ninth at state. The teams are running without graduates Tenley Nelson and Griffen Jarchow. Nelson placed second individually at state, contributing high points to the team.

"No one girl is going to replace Tenley," Janiszeski said, "but we're good enough and strong enough and have a solid 'pack' that could move us up in points."

Junior Jenna DeBates placed third at state last year. Camden Janiszeski (senior) and Owen Janiszeski (sophomore) finished the state race in 15th and 17th place respectively.

"We stay humble and hungry," coach Janiszeski said. "We know we have a bigger target on our back this year, so we have to approach the season with confidence, but strive to get better, and of course avoid illnesses and injuries."

The first meet of the year is coming up Friday, Aug. 26.

"We are ready to compete and see what is out there," Janiszeski said. "They've spent some timing running now without racing, and there's nothing like a competition to see where you line up."

Not having raced yet this year, it's harder to predict how Luverne will stack up in the section eventually.

"We do have one of the most well-balanced and strong sections in the state," Janiszeski said. "Any one of our section teams can have it all fall into place for them as the season progresses."

For girls' cross country, MCC and Canby-Minneota are strong standouts. On the boys' side, Windom, Canby-Minneota, Mountain Lake and Lac Qui Parle are teams to watch.

This is Janiszeski's 21st season coaching in Luverne and his 15th year as head coach. Jodi Nelson is in her seventh year as assistant coach.

"We stay humble and hungry. We know we have a bigger target on our back this year, so we have to approach the season with confidence, but strive to get better, and of course avoid illnesses and injuries."

— LHS cross country coach Pete Janiszeski

Luverne Cross Country Schedule

Aug 26 Beresford A
Sept 2 Mountain Lake A
Sept 10 multi-team H
Sept 15 multi-team A
Sept 20 Jackson County Central A
Sept 27 St James Area A
Oct 1 Willmar Invitational A
Oct 6 multi-team H
Oct 11 Adrian A
Oct 18 Big South Championship A
Oct 27 Section 3A Tournament H
Nov 5 St. Olaf College State Tourney

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Rock County Star Herald fall sports contributing writers/continued from page 1B

Stacy Olson/ from page 1B

2016), Rylee Olson (LHS 2019) and Carly Olson (LHS 2023).

Why did she agree to cover Luverne volleyball for the Star Herald? "I am a Luverne volleyball alum who has always loved the sport. I enjoy watching the team compete and have watched many levels of volleyball.

"Our oldest daughter, Ashley, was a college volleyball player at DSU. Our youngest, Carly, is currently a senior defensive specialist for the Cardinals volleyball team. We have been active in the sport for 14 years watching all three of our daughters play for the Cardinals."



Sara Schmuck covers Luverne cross country for the Star Herald this fall. She moved to Luverne in 1999 when she started as a reporter for the Rock County Star Herald.

She is currently the community liaison for Sanford Luverne and Rock Rapids and does freelance marketing, writing and graphic design in her spare time.

Why did she agree to cover cross country for the Star Herald? "I might be one of the least athletic people to cover sports, but I have loved watching my girls blossom as they compete and get better at their athletic activities. I want to make sure Star Herald readers see the results of the team's hard work."



Joni Deelstra covers Hills-Beaver Creek volleyball for the Star Herald this fall. She is a 1997 H-BC graduate (maiden name Brouwer) and now works as a medication aide at the Tuff Memorial Nursing Home. She has four children, 18-year-old Oliver, 16-year-old Layla, 15-year-old Emma and 13-year-old Olivia.

Why did she agree to cover H-BC volleyball for the Star Herald? "I enjoy watching all sports, especially basketball, and my kids have all been very active in sports. I feel sports can help kids develop physical skills, make friends, learn teamwork and improve their self-esteem. My three girls all play volleyball, so I am able to cover the games for the paper and watch them play at the same time."



Susan Beers covers Luverne girls' tennis for the Star Herald this fall. She is the technology integrationist with the Luverne School District. She has a degree in English and communication disorders and has a background in news and feature reporting.

She is married to LHS girls' tennis coach Jon Beers and has one son, Declan, a 2018 LHS graduate who was an active participant in LHS athletics.

Why did she agree to cover Luverne tennis for the Star Herald? "Writing has always been one of my first loves, and since my husband is the tennis coach, I get to hear firsthand how matches went. He loves sports and I love to write, so we make a good team (pun intended).

I think it is important that these girls get recognized for their hard work. I can see how proud my husband is of his tennis girls, and it is rewarding to share that with the community. The Star Herald does an excellent job of keeping up with all of the local area sports. I know how much those articles meant to my family while our son was playing in Luverne, and we wanted to help contribute to that tradition."

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FALL SPORTS SCHEDULES • FALL SPORTS SCHEDULES

2022 LUVERNE

FOOTBALL

Sept 1	Redwood Valley	A
Sept 9	Jackson County Central	H
Sept 15	Windom	H
Sept 23	New Ulm	A
Sept 30	Worthington	H
Oct 7	Pipestone Area	A
Oct 13	Fairmont	A
Oct 19	Waseca	H
Oct 25	Section Quarters	A
Oct 29	Section Semi Finals	A
Nov 4	Section Finals	H

VOLLEYBALL

Aug 25	Edgerton	A
Aug 27	Big South - Marshall	A
Sept 1	Triangular	H
Sept 6	Marshall	H
Sept 8	Westbrook Walnut Grove	H
Sept 10	Invitational	H
Sept 15	Windom	H
Sept 17	Invitational - Jackson County	A
Sept 20	Redwood Valley	A
Sept 22	Pipestone Area	A
Sept 27	Worthington	A
Sept 29	St James Area	H
Oct 6	Jackson County Central	H
Oct 10	SW Minnesota Christian	H
Oct 13	Adrian	H
Oct 18	Hills-Beaver Creek	H
Oct 28	Section Quarters	A
Nov 1	Section Semis	A
Nov 3	Subsection Finals	A

GIRLS' TENNIS

Aug 20	Morris Area / Benson	H
Aug 23	Yellow Medicine East	A
Aug 23	MACCRAY	A
Aug 25	Lac Qui Parle Valley	H
Aug 25	Montevideo	H
Aug 27	Worthington	A
Aug 29	River Valley	A
Aug 30	Fairmont	A
Sept 6	Blue Earth Area	H
Sept 8	Marshall	A
Sept 13	Worthington	A
Sept 15	Pipestone Area	A
Sept 19	Sioux Falls Lincoln	H
Sept 20	St James Area	H
Sept 22	Redwood Valley	H
Sept 27	TBD Big South	H
Oct 4	Section Quarters	A
Oct 6	Sections – Sioux Falls	A
Oct 13	Sections – Sioux Falls	A
Oct 18	Sections – Sioux Falls	A
Oct 25	State Tournament	H

HILLS-BEAVER CREEK

H-BC FOOTBALL

Sept 1	GHEC-Truman	A
Sept 9	Madelia	H
Sept 16	HLOF	A
Sept 23	Westbrook Walnut Grove	H
Sept 30	Renville County West	A
Oct 7	Mountain Lake	H
Oct 14	Red Rock Central	A
Oct 19	Edgerton	H

H-BC VOLLEYBALL

Aug 27	Adrian Tournament	A
Aug 30	Viborg Hurley	H
Sept 10	Luverne	A
Sept 13	SW Minnesota Christian	A
Sept 15	Westbrook/Walnut Grove	H
Sept 20	MLA-C	H
Sept 22	Red Rock Central	H
Sept 23	Edgerton	H
Sept 26	St Mary	A
Sept 27	Edgerton	A
Sept 29	MCC	A
Oct 7	SMSU Tournament	A
Oct 8	SMSU Tournament	A
Oct 11	HLOF	A
Oct 17	Edgerton	H
Oct 18	Luverne	A

CROSS COUNTRY

Aug 26	Beresford	A
Sept 2	Mountain Lake	A
Sept 10	multi-team	H
Sept 15	multi-team	A
Sept 20	Jackson County Central	A
Sept 27	St James Area	A
Oct 1	Willmar Invitational	A
Oct 6	multi-team	H
Oct 11	Adrian	A
Oct 18	Big South Championship	A
Oct 27	Section 3A Tournament	H
Nov 5	State Tournament - Saint Olaf	A

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Luverne High School Cardinals Football fall preview/continued from page 1B

the team chemistry has been great to start fall camp," said coach Oye. "The goal is to improve each week and continue to eliminate mistakes as the season progresses."

The Cardinals' lone returning All-Conference player is senior wide receiver/cornerback Gannon Ahrendt (6'4, 160 pounds), who coach Oye will lean on for big plays throughout the season.

"Gannon had a great season last year, and it will be fun to see what he can do this year in his senior season," Oye said.

Ahrendt said he's looking forward to his final season with the Cardinals.

"I am excited about our home games and getting to play in front of family and friends," Ahrendt said.

The Cardinals will start the season with a trio of potential quarterbacks after losing Casey Sehr to graduation.

Looking to replace Sehr are juniors Conner Connell (6'4, 225) and Jacob Stroh (6'2, 180) and sophomore Carter Sehr (5'10, 150). Each of the quarterbacks provides a unique skill set that differentiates him from the others.

"Connell played a lot on varsity last year at a variety of positions so he has some experience," Oye said. "Stroh is a good leader, and Sehr is an athletic quarterback."

Running the ball is always a staple of the Luverne offense, and the Cardinals have some options in the backfield.

Senior Kaleb Hein (5'10, 170) has had a good camp at fullback according to Oye, and he will be backed up by senior transfer DJ Rock (6'0, 170).

At the tailback position Oye looks for seniors Tyson Cowell (5'10, 150) and Gavin Baum (5'7, 145) and junior Sam Rock (5'10, 170) to carry the load.

The offensive line is shaping up nicely for the Cardinals as they return three starters from last season.

Returning starting guards are senior Zachary DeBoer (6'2, 200) and junior Will Serie (6'1, 220).

Backing up DeBoer and Serie will be senior Ross Bergman (6'2, 215), junior Tucker Dammann (6'2, 280), and sophomore Keaton Ahrendt (6'2, 225). Senior Andy Halverson (6'1, 300) started at center for the Cardinals last season, and backing him up will be sophomore Layne Sasker (6'0, 255).

Oye will look for seniors Gavin Reisch (5'11, 170) and Tyler Gebauer (6'2, 200) along with sophomores Eli Woodley (6'4, 225) and Ryker Johnson (6'2, 235) to fill the tackle spots.

Oye sees Connell playing some tight end when not at quarterback. Also at tight end will be seniors Riley Sneller (5'11, 180) and Anyuon Atem (6'0, 170) and junior Gavin DeBeer (6'0, 160).

Ahrendt will be joined at receiver by senior Ja'shon Winter (6'3, 160) and juniors Elliot Domagala (5'11, 160), Patrick Kroski (6'1, 160) and Cade Kracht (5'10, 175).

The defensive line will consist of seniors Micah Anderson (6'0,180), DJ Rock and Halverson along with juniors Serie and Karson Jurrens (6'1, 280) and sophomore Woodley.

The Cardinals will return Connell as a starting linebacker and he will be joined by Atem, Stroh, Sneller, Hein, and Sam Rock.

Ahrendt and Baum will start at cornerback for Luverne, and Winter will look to compete for playing time at that position.

At the safety position the Cardinals will utilize Cowell, Domagala, DeBeer, Kroski, and sophomore Marcos Diaz (5'8, 165).

The Cardinal special teams will return both their kicker and punter as Kroski will resume kicking duties and Sneller will remain the team's punter.

Coach Oye lists Fairmont, Waseca and TCU as potential section favorites.

The Cardinals will start their season on the road at Redwood Valley on Thursday, Sept. 1.

Luverne Football Schedule

Aug 27 Worthington A
Sept 1 Redwood Valley A
Sept 9 Jackson County H
Sept 15 Windom H
Sept 23 New Ulm A
Sept 30 Worthington H
Oct 7 Pipestone Area A
Oct 13 Fairmont A
Oct 19 Waseca H
Oct 25 Section Quarters
Oct 29 Section Semi Finals
Nov 4 Section Finals

"The kids are really working hard and the team chemistry has been great to start fall camp. The goal is to improve each week and continue to eliminate mistakes as the season progresses."

— Coach Todd Oye

Hills-Beaver Creek High School Patriots Football fall preview/continued from page 1B

Metzger said.

"They are aware of the H-BC football tradition going back to when the program first started in 1965. The tradition goes back a long time, and they want to keep it going."

He said he can tell the players have this history in mind when they're preparing for the upcoming season.

"They had a productive summer, committing to getting stronger, faster and buying into the program," Metzger said.

The 2022 Patriots will have 16 new offensive and defensive starters with only one defensive starter and one offensive starter returning from last year.

Senior Cody Moser is the lone returning starter on both sides of the ball.

The 2022 Patriots will open the season with a 31-player roster that consists of six seniors, four juniors, nine sophomores and 12 freshmen.

"I really like the core group of upperclassmen leaders and players," Metzger said.

He said the early offensive lineups will look like this: Senior Brayden Metzger (5'10, 190) and sophomore Jack Moser (6'2, 210) are competing for the center position. Returning starter senior Cody Moser (6'7, 330) along with senior Alex Harris (5'11, 195), senior Cole Rozeboom (5'9, 170) and sophomore Talon Steensma (5'8, 185) are looking for playing time on the offensive line.

The offensive end position will be filled by senior Luke Fuerstenberg (6'2, 165), junior Riley Tatge (6'2, 185), sophomore Blake Leenderts (5'8, 140) or sophomore Alex Dysthe (6'2 170).

The wide receivers have senior Brock Harnack (5'11, 145), junior Cooper Gehrke (6'0, 135) and sophomores James VandenBosch (5'11, 145), Jackson Gacke (6'1, 160) and Jamesyn Klosterbuer (5'7, 130) looking to catch passes this season for the Patriots.

In the backfield, sophomore Sawyer Bosch (5'9, 160) and freshman Jamin Metzger (6'3, 190) are vying for the quarterback position. They will be handing off to junior Justin Roelfs (5'10, 150), sophomore Beau Bakken (6'5, 205) or sophomore Cameron Allen (6'0, 155).

On the defensive side of the ball, Metzger will favor a 3-3 defensive look. Returning starter Cody Moser will play nose tackle, while Jack Moser and Talon Steensma will also see some playing time.

The early season defensive ends look to be Cole Rozeboom, Riley Tatge, Blake Leenderts or Alex Dysthe.

Potential middle linebackers are Brayden Metzger and Beau Bakken.

Outside linebackers could include Luke Fuerstenberg, Cameron Allen, Sawyer Bosch and Jackson Gacke.

Patrolling the secondary will be Brock Harnack, Justin Roelfs, Cooper Gehrke, James VandenBosch and Jamesyn Klosterbuer.

Metzger said team goals are to not focus on the end of the season, but to get better with each practice and each game.

He expects Mountain Lake, Red Rock Central and Edgerton to compete for the Section 3 Championship at the end of the 2022 season.

Coach Metzger said the coaching staff is working with a talented group of football players who also have good overall team speed and athleticism.

As this team gains experience throughout the season and the playing positions are solidified, they look to keep the H-BC football tradition thriving and strong in 2022.

H-BC Football Schedule

Sept 1 GHEC-Truman A
Sept 9 Madelia H
Sept 16 HLOF A
Sept 23 Westbrook Walnut Gr. H
Sept 30 Renville County West A
Oct 7 Mountain Lake H
Oct 14 Red Rock Central A
Oct 19 Edgerton H

"They are aware of the H-BC football tradition going back to when the program first started in 1965. The tradition goes back a long time, and they want to keep it going."

— Rex Metzger, H-BC head coach



