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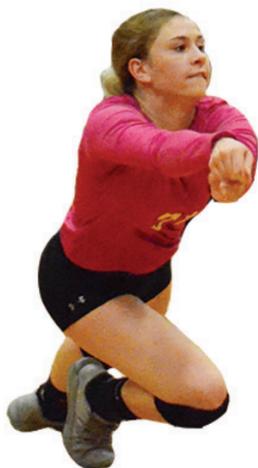


Fall Sports

Volleyball

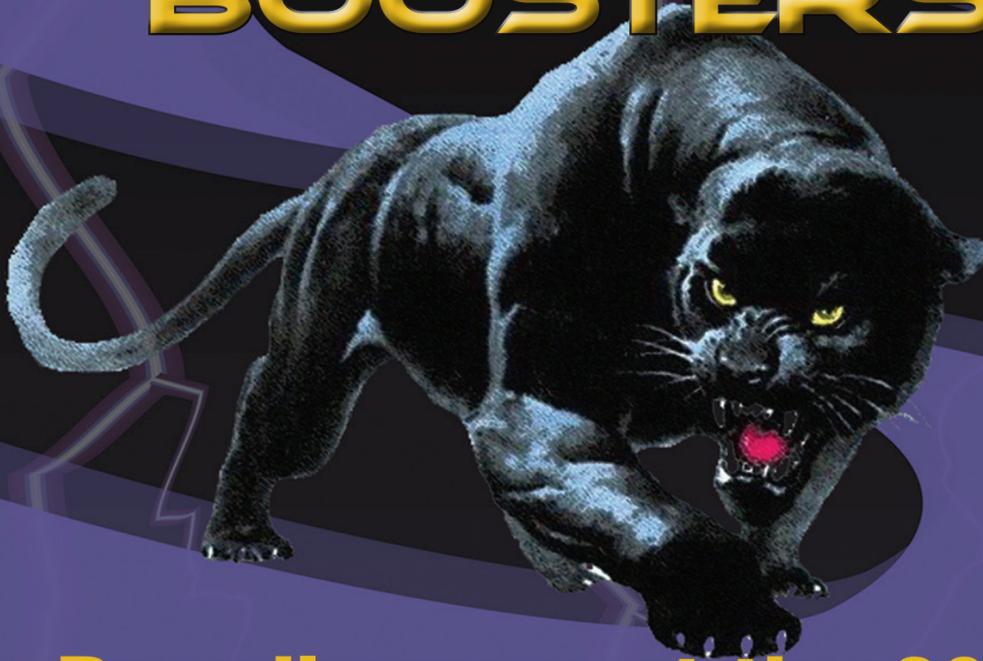


Football



Cross Country

SARATOGA PANTHER BOOSTERS



Proudly support the 2020 Football Team!



Photo by Mike Armstrong

Back row, from left, Zack Standard, Geoffrey Johnson, Teegan Love, Justin Shotwell, Gavin Bartlett, Heston Fisher, Noah Rimmer, Alex Irby, Kellen Reder, Brayden Gray, Deke Herring, Slayd Daley, Jordan Travis and Douglass Campbell. Front row, from left, Frank Crimmins, Tuger Carricato, Cale Mowry.

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Panthers switch to Nine-man

Saratoga enters new season and new system, coach expects quick course correction

by Mike Armstrong

This season, the Saratoga High School football team is going to be playing a nine-man game instead of six-man. The Panthers played as a six-man team for the past two years. Coach Logan Wright knows that there will be some adjustment for the players.

The rules require that the offense situate four players in

the backfield and five on the line of scrimmage. A standard 'I' formation has a quarterback, a fullback, a tailback, and five linemen. Most often, the outside linemen are a tight end and a wide receiver, but the alignment varies by formation. The fourth player in the offensive backfield often plays as an additional wide receiver or tight end.

A favorite defensive

formation is three defensive linemen, three linebackers and two defensive backs with one safety.

The games are often high scoring versus 11-man because the number of players is reduced by more than the size of the field with fast players frequently finding more space to run on the field.

The Panthers had a winning season going 5-3 overall and

5-2 in conference play last year. Wright has been the coach for the past two years when the team was six-man and has two seniors, Noah Rimmer and Teegan Love, who have been with him since he started as coach.

Wright appreciates all the current seniors and younger players that have come out to play for the season.



For all current sports schedules, please check crb2.org.

Encampment

Tiger Boosters



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Photo by Joshua Wood

Back row, from left, Bryce Reid, Kalub German, Kagan Gilbert, Kelton Koehn, Dalton Peterson, Koye Gilbert, Benjamin Wagy. Middle row, from left, Caleb Lee, Kyle Nuhn, Quade Jordan, Lane LaBorde, Kaben Pickett, Michael Anderson. Front Row, from left, Jacob Fairbanks, Caysen Barkhurst, Eddie Buford, Bristin Sifford, Ryon Miller.

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Encampment returns to conference play

Tigers excited to play varsity schedule with hope of making play-offs

by Joshua Wood

The Encampment Tigers successfully resurrected their football program last year after three decades in which the Tigers and the Saratoga Panthers shared the gridiron under the purple and gold. While the schedule last year was strictly junior varsity, Encampment steps onto the field this year with a varsity schedule in six-man football.

"It feels great to be playing varsity this year," said Kegan

Willford, head coach of the Encampment Tigers. "Last year we were grateful to be able to just play football, but this year the team is excited to play a varsity schedule and be eligible for the playoffs."

The Tigers are already off to a roaring start this season as they secured their first varsity win against the Midwest Oilers and were victorious against the defending 1A Six-Man

Champions, the Little Snake River Valley Rattlers. This year, Encampment has a total of 18 students on the team with many of them returning players who helped found the program last year.

The first year that the Tigers take to the field on a varsity schedule brings its own challenges due to restrictions put in place by the Wyoming High School Activities Association (WSHAA) in response

to the novel coronavirus (COVID-19). Despite those challenges, Willford says the team is positive.

"The team feels fortunate to have a season at this point and are willing to follow the precautions in order to keep the season going each week," said Willford.

With this being the first year that Encampment plays a varsity schedule, the Tigers are beginning with a clean slate that many teams don't

have. This season, however, isn't guaranteed and could be shut down at any moment at the direction of WSHAA and the Wyoming Department of Health.

"The team expects to be competitive this season," Willford said. "We hope the season will be able to go as planned, but nothing is certain."



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Photo courtesy Cliff Jones

Back row, from left, Rayce Ward, Bryce Cripe, Devon Grosstick, Ura Schmidt, Taylor Widdison, Joseph Borah. Front row, from left, Tom Wagner, Hayden Antencio, Dylan Romero, Howard Bame, Anthony Solaas, Jesse Deegan, Quinn Felton, Taylor Kennedy. Not picture, Andrew Scott.

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Miners look to new and old players for leadership

After making it to state championship last year, HEM moves forward without senior players

by Mike Armstrong

Going the the six-man championship game last season was a thrill for the Hanna, Elk Mountain, Medicine Bow (HEM) Miners. The team that played in that game did lose some key seniors with the graduation of Conor and Shane McGraw and with Brendon Reeves. Head Coach Zach

Scott knows the departure of these players and some other seniors have left positions of leadership to be filled by players that remain. Scott knows the team may not go undefeated like it did last year, but that is not a concern. He is looking for a team that gives it all when it faces opponents on the field.

He acknowledges that the

Miners might have relied on the three seniors heavily last year, but he knows that he has players on the team capable of stepping up to fill the void. Scott said it might take a few games before the team jells, but he doesn't have any doubt it will happen as he has watched the team practice together.

Senior Devon Grosstick,

who was a starter last year, is being looked to fill one of those leadership roles. Scott has been impressed with Ura Schmidt's commitment the past summer in getting his body ready for the season.

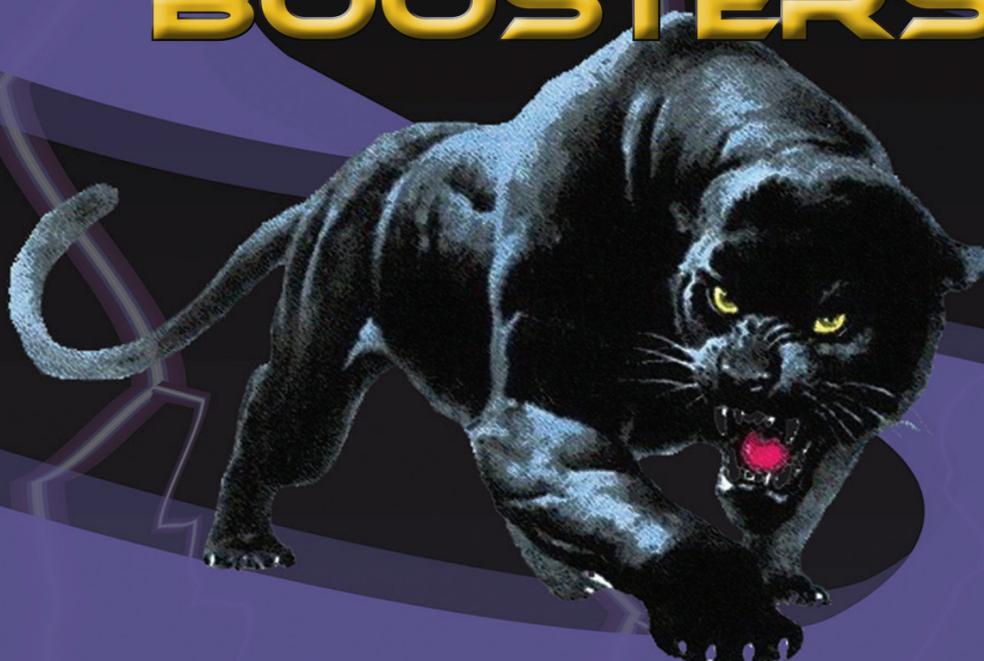
Scott is looking to start Dylan Romero as quarterback. He said that Romero has been at the position for three years although many teams they will

face this season don't know this.

Andrew Scott and Jace Smith had some good games last year and Scott looks to them to do well again this year.

The most important thing HEM has going for it this year is the hard work all the players have been willing to put in at practice. Scott said, in the end, this dedication will pay off.

SARATOGA PANTHER BOOSTERS



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Photo by Joshua Wood

Back row, from left, Grady Bartlett, Calvin Condict, Kelton Johnson, Brayden Barkhurst, Grant Bartlett. Front row, from left, Jaden Campbell, Amber Stubbs, Marilee Williams, Kaitlyn Campbell.

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Saratoga runs into new season

Five boys and four girls make up two teams of high school cross country

by Joshua Wood

The Saratoga Cross Country team is already off to a running start this year with a handful of meets under their belts. Last year, the varsity boys were back-to-back state champions at the 2A State Cross Country Championship and have the Bartlett Twins, Grant and Grady, returning as state champion and state runner-up.

This year, the long distance runners have five boys and

four girls running for them in high school and the same number for middle school for a total of 18 runners.

Cross country is not immune to the restrictions put in place by the Wyoming High School Athletics Association (WHSAA), though it is a sport more suited to those restrictions.

“Being outdoors and running seems to be a safer environment for our sport,” said Rex Hohnholt, head coach for Saratoga Cross

Country. “Overall the Covid-19 restrictions have not impacted our practices to the point of being a detriment. I am really proud of how well our students at SMHS (Saratoga Middle High School) have adapted to the procedures mandated by the state, county and school district.”

The biggest restriction impacting the cross country runners, is that races are limited to 30 runners at a time. This increases the competition much more than in previous

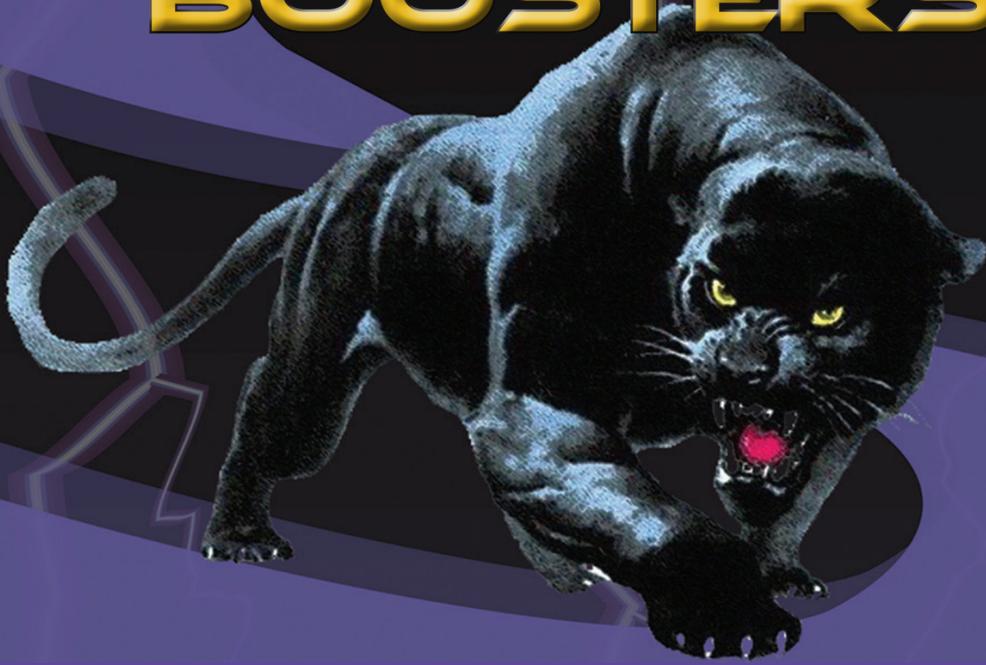
years, but the silver lining for Hohnholt is that this is something that every team has to deal with this season.

For the previous four years, the Saratoga Panthers had the leadership of Encampment’s Jarom Herring, who was a back-to-back state champion in 2018 and 2019. With a returning state champion and state runner-up, the goals for the cross country team remain the same as they have in the past.

“The expectations are

always the same and that is to put in the necessary work to compete for a state championship and only the athletes desire to commit to that goal is what makes us better every single week,” Hohnholt said. “We have a lot of work to do but the level of effort is there. Now the level of consistency has to take over. With both teams able to field a team each athlete on our teams will have a huge impact on us achieving those goals.”

SARATOGA PANTHER BOOSTERS



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Photo by Dana Davis

Back row, from left, Gabi Johnson, Lexi Herring, Whitney Bennett, Tasia Daley, Olivia Everett, Savannah Wells, Sam Duke. Front row, from left, Anna Peterson, Sadie Bangs, Shelby Knotwell, Makenna King, Sophia Powell, Kesly Muhammet.

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Lady Panthers hope for full season

Saratoga netters adapt to restrictions put in place by state and WHSAA

by Joshua Wood

The Saratoga Lady Panthers have started their year off well as they secured their first conference win last week. For the 1A State Runner-ups, however, the goal isn't necessarily to make it to the state championship again, but rather to take the season week-by-week.

With the season at risk of being cancelled at any given moment, the Lady Panthers have to make each game count. While this was

a concern for the student athletes at first, Head Coach Shayley Love encouraged them to focus on the season.

"I think we were so uptight about it at first that we were almost playing like, 'Oh gosh, don't screw up because then we're going to get shut down.' We kind of visited and said, 'Let us worry about that stuff. You guys just worry about playing and enjoying the time right now.' Especially our seniors," said Love. "We want them to have some kind of a

season."

According to Love, while the restrictions implemented by the Wyoming High School Athletics Association (WHSAA) provided some difficulty at the beginning of the season, it has almost become second nature.

"It was a little overwhelming because I felt like we were running around taking care of all the housekeeping stuff before we could actually get to what we needed to do and that was practice," Love said.

"Now that we're used to it, it's more of a natural thing. I don't think it's really that big of an issue now."

The first several games for the Lady Panthers saw them take to the road where they saw the precautions vary depending upon school size. At a tournament in Rock Springs, things were more strict while, in Dubois, things were a little more lax.

"Every place is different," said Love. "Obviously, Rock Springs is going to be a little

more strict because they are a bigger school, plus there were how many teams there? So, they were pretty strict about who had to wear masks and when. Dubois was a little more lax but, then again, we only had like three people from Saratoga in the stands, so they didn't have to be as big of sticklers on that."

In the meantime, Saratoga is taking the precautions seriously to ensure that they can have as close to a regular season as possible.



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Photo by Joshua Wood

Back row, from left, Shiann Finney, Lizzi James, Grace Tieszen. Middle row, from left, Cora Schroeder, Petyon Munroe. Front row, from left, Hanna Lee, Allison Bromley, Hailey Carr, Kayla Smith. Not pictured, Ellie Dugger, Katie Dugger.

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Lady Tigers adapt in new season

Encampment volleyball follow restrictions but miss traditions

by Joshua Wood
The Encampment Lady Tigers were one of the few teams in Carbon County School District No. 2 not to lose seniors to graduation between last season and this season. The juniors who helped lead the team to the 1A West Regional Tournament last year return as seniors and are joined by seasoned sophomores and new freshman players. According to Robin

Brown, head coach of the Encampment Lady Tigers, the netters are just happy to have a season. Indeed, even a month before the start of the season it was unclear if there would be one and, even then, it proceeds with a number of restrictions. "We pushed the requirements really hard that first week just getting them used to it and now it's like no big thing," said Brown. "They know when they come into

practice they have to have their gators on. We take their temperatures every day and they have to do their symptom check. It's just a normal part of their day, it's not anything different for them at this point." With 10 players on the team, practices are able to spread out and the whole team is able to practice. That means that masks aren't often needed during practices, though they are worn into and out of practice as well as when

the players are on the bench during games. "I think, for us, the weirdest thing is before and after games not being to go shake the other team's hand. That's just awkward and the girls have always been really good about thanking the officials and thanking the scorekeepers and going up and shaking their hands and we're not able to do that," Brown said. "I know, for them, that's a little bit hard. That sportsmanship part of it

is just different. It's still there, it's just different than it was before." While the Lady Tigers still have some things to work on, Brown feels that the team can make it past regionals should the season progress as hoped. "We have very high expectations," said Brown. "I feel like when we finally get it on and put that whole game together, we'll be able to play with any team in the state."



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Photo courtesy Jackie Jones

*Back row: Jackie Jones, Allison Hammond, Hayley Felton, Madison Campbell, Taylar Scott, Amy Campbell, Hannah Christie, Jolynn Borah, Russ Wiggam
Front row: Jamie Jeorgesesen, Avery Scott, Emma Garcia, T'ylsa Solass, Hanna Gonzales, Rainey Wilson, McKaylee Widdison, Mackenzie Priest, Sara Sikes, Jessica Fowler*

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Lady Miners look forward to the season

HEM Netters hope to make best of 2020 season

by Mike Armstrong

The Hanna, Elk Mountain, Medicine Bow girls volleyball team went 19-8 last year and went to State. They did fine, but it was not like 2018 when the team went to the finals. The expectation of a repeat performance was on the minds of many fans, and maybe

even the players, although head coach Jackie Jones just wanted the team to do well to the best of their capabilities and enjoy themselves.

This year Jones is setting the same goals.

She has three strong captains in Madison and Amy Campbell and Taylor Scott.

The three were sophomores when they played in 2018.

Last year, the three got more experience that Jones believes will help the team go forward. Rainey Wilson, was a freshman on the team that went to the championship as were Hannah Christie, Jolynn Borah, T'lyssa Solaas, and

Annie Sikes.

In practice, Jones has seen good looks from several girls. There are 17 girls that have made the team.

The target that was on the back of the team last year, is probably not as strong as last year. This takes pressure off the girls.

Jones wants the team to play cohesively but, most importantly, she wants the girls to enjoy the season. She believes the team will do well this season if they play to the potential she believes that is on the team.