

## Proudly support the 2020 Girls Basketball Team!



Photo by Joshua Wood

Back row: Francis Urban, Shelby Knotwell, Savannah Wells, Anna Peterson, Heather Wallace, Tasia Daley, Samantha Duke, Gabi Johnson  
 Front Row: Elizabeth Vannett, Katie Fiedor, Whitney Bennett, Olivia Everett, Makenna King, Sam Fiedor  
 \*Not Pictured: Sophia Powell

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# Lady Panthers field a baker's dozen

## Returning core of varsity experience shows promise for the season

by Joshua Wood

Normally, the number 13 is considered unlucky but it may just be a lucky number for the Saratoga Lady Panthers this year as they have a baker's dozen that will be donning jersey's this season.

Over the last few seasons, the Lady Panthers have made strides in improving their program as they went to the 1A West Regional Tournament in 2019 and went to the 1A State Championship in 2020 for the first time in 16 years.

"Obviously our ultimate goal is to make it to state. Last year, we wanted to do better at state but we are really happy we got a win at state and didn't get eliminated in two (games). That was the first time we've been to state for 16 years," said Heather Bartlett, head coach of the Lady Panthers. "We made it regionals the year before, hadn't been to regionals for a long time, made it to state last year. This year we think we can

go to state and do well."

While that goal is on the horizon, the current pandemic is also causing Saratoga's girls to focus on one game at a time.

"Our theme for this year is gratitude and we've just decided that we're going to be grateful for every practice, every game, every opportunity we have to be together this year because we never know what's going to happen," Bartlett said. "I told the girls they could either be grateful for everything we had or we could be angry about everything and we just need to choose gratitude."

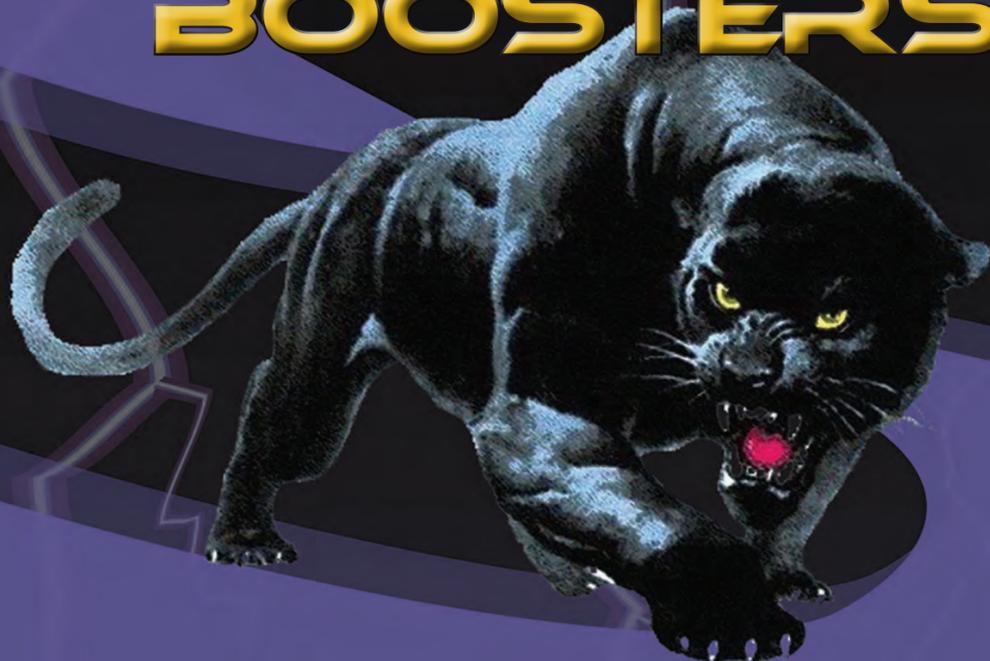
With the 13 student athletes coming onto the court this year, Bartlett has a returning core of athletes who had plenty of varsity experience from last season and is confident that the Lady Panthers will do well this year. Additionally, while the Panther Den may not be able to be as packed as it has been in the past, community

support is still important for the team.

"Obviously it's super important and we don't know how the fans are going to end up. That could change. What's true at the beginning of the season may not be true (in) the middle of the season," said Bartlett. "There is the NFHS (National Federation of State High Schools) streaming camera that anybody can watch for a really reasonable price. Any support the girls can feel from the community, even though they may not be able to come in and watch as normal, is really important and will help kind of carry them through the year."

The Saratoga Lady Panthers will start off their season with a home game as they host the Dubois Lady Rams on December 11. They will then travel to Wheatland on December 12 to compete in the Burns Tournament.

# SARATOGA PANTHER BOOSTERS



## Proudly support the 2020 Boys Basketball Team!



Photo by Joshua Wood

First row: Erik Pinedo, Frank Crimmins, Silas Vannett, Grady Bartlett, Geoffrey Johnson, Grant Bartlett, Rowdy Alameda, Fischer Williams.

Back row: Marilee Williams (manager), Calvin Condict, JD Buttle, Jordan Travis, Gavin Bartlett, Noah Rimmer, Teegan Love, Heston Fisher, Kelton Johnson, Campbell Grabow (manager).

\*Not pictured: Alex Irby

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## Grateful to get started

### Panthers return to court after historic win last season

by Joshua Wood

Last season, the Saratoga Panthers made history as they were victorious at the 1A State Basketball Championship in Casper. For the first time in school history, Saratoga returned home as the No. 1 team in the state.

The very next week, however, everything changed with the restrictions put in place due to the coronavirus. While it is a goal to return to Casper this year, the Panthers are still taking the approach of game-by-game.

"We're definitely going game-by-game, which would be our goal anyway. We just want to get a little better everyday. Let's be better when we leave than when we came in," said Jason Williams, head coach of the Saratoga Panthers. "There's so much that's out of our control, we just are going to focus on what we

can control."

Despite the months of not being able to hold true open gyms or hold basketball camps over the summer, Williams said he is impressed with what he is seeing from the 17 boys that will be taking to the hardwood this season. That return to the court, however, comes with restrictions.

"We don't like them but it's the world we live in right now. All we have to do is look back at last year and look at the 3A/4A and just think, 'At least we're here'," Williams said. "That's what we really try to do when it does start to feel like a burden, is to get some perspective. At least we can be playing, so let's enjoy it while we can."

With it being unclear if the winter sports season will end like people hope, with teams making the trek to Casper, the Panthers are keeping their focus on the

near future.

"Right now we're just kind of focusing on the next couple weeks to Christmas and then just seeing what happens then," Williams said.

Additionally, while community support has been important in the past, Williams said it is even more important this year as attendance regulations will prevent a large number of fans from watching in person.

"We know that there's going to be a lot of them watching us on the NFHS network, so we want to do the community proud, too. We definitely need the community and we have a great community that's supported us in so many ways," said Williams. "We're excited to get started and grateful to get started."



## Proudly support the 2020 Girls Basketball Team!



Back: Grace Tieszen, Shiann Finney, Amber Stubbs, Lizzi James, Peyton Munroe  
 Front: Allison Bromley, Savannah Suttee, Kayla Smith, Cora Schroeder \*Not Pictured: Hannah Lee

Photo courtesy Clint Bromley

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# Ten Lady Tigers take to court

## Team takes varsity experience into new season

by Joshua Wood

Despite the difficulties provided by restrictions put in place due to the coronavirus, fall sports were able to finish successfully and winter sports are underway. Last season, the Encampment Lady Tigers were unable to secure a conference win but the young team returns this season with plenty of varsity experience.

The Lady Tigers started out the season with 10 girls on the team but, due to a preseason injury, are down to nine which is the same number they played with last year. This year also marks the senior year for four members; Lizzi James, Amber Stubbs, Shiann

Finney and Grace Tieszen. The four seniors will lead two sophomores and two freshmen on the court.

Just like the fall sports season, student athletes and others will have to deal with restrictions when not playing on the court. According to Clint Bromley, head coach of the Lady Tigers, the team is fairing well with the restrictions.

"They are used to wearing the masks in school and that helps on the court as well," said Bromley.

Much like the fall sports season, the winter sports season is operating with a cloud hanging over gameplay as, at any moment, the season could be ended. While this

season will be unlike others in the past, Bromley says there is still a goal to make an appearance at both regionals and state.

"Our goals always include making it through the regional tournament and getting to represent our school at the state tournament," Bromley said. "If the current situation does not change by the end of February there will be an added layer of difficulty to achieve those goals as only two teams from our conference will get to go to state."

Much like how the volleyball season played out this year, the current plan for determining who goes to state will follow a tournament of the

1A Southwest Conference in Farson-Eden and a tournament of the 1A West Conference in Lander.

Community support is important each year to school sports but it may be even more important this year even as there is a limit placed on the number of people in attendance. With updated guidelines from the Wyoming High School Athletics Association, the limit of those in attendance has been placed at 100.

"I think community support is always an important factor in the success of any team. With the restriction on the number of fans that can attend games this year, it is going to

be crucial that parents can be in attendance and help support their daughters throughout the season," said Bromley. "Not everyone is going to get to attend every game this year, but through NFHS (National Federation of State High School Associations) everyone can watch the games in real time, and that can bring responses back to the girls and help them evaluate their performance."

The Lady Tigers will start off their season this weekend as they host the Dubois Lady Rams at 11 a.m. on December 11 and the Cheyenne Central Lady Indians at 11 a.m. on December 12 at Encampment High School.

Encampment

Tiger Boosters



## Proudly support the 2020 Boys Basketball Team!



Photo courtesy Jake Johnston

Front: Mike Anderson, Lucas Stubbs, Bristin Sifford, Ryon Miller, Hayden Crowe, Kaben Pickett, Quade Jordan  
Back: Koye Gilbert, Eddie Buford, Dalton Peterson, Kelton Koehn, Kagan Gilbert, Brayden barkhurst, Caysen Barkhurst  
Not pictured: Jake Fairbanks, Bryce Reid, Caleb Lee

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# Encampment returns to court with 17

## Tigers' return to hardwood will see some changes

by Joshua Wood

Over the past few seasons, the Encampment Tigers have been able to make appearances at the 1A State Basketball Championship in Casper as they placed 3rd in 2018, 2nd in 2019 and 3rd in 2020. This year, however, provides its own set of challenges for all teams as schools throughout the state deal with restrictions due to the coronavirus (COVID-19).

According to Jake Johnston, head coach of the Encampment Tigers, the 17 student athletes preparing to hit the hardwood this year are taking the difficulties in stride.

"I think the players feel blessed to have a season during such a unique time," said Johnston.

Unique is, quite possibly, an understatement as sporting events will be required to keep attendance under 100 people

and thus requiring the use of tickets for games. Additionally, all spectators will be required to wear masks as will the coaches and any players not on the court. Finally, the team of 17 will only be able to have 12 suited up for the game due to guidelines issued by the Wyoming High School Athletics Association.

Though the Tigers were able to claw their way into the State Championship the last few years, their focus each year is often on the next game on the schedule. That very same mentality is being used this year.

"Every year we try to focus on the fundamentals and put ourselves in situations where we can be successful," Johnston said. "We will try to improve every practice and every game, because at any time the season could be shut down."

Community support is, of course, important to the success of any high school sports program and it would seem that it is required now more than ever due to the limited attendance.

"Encampment has wonderful support from the community," said Johnston. "I see that support continuing this year as well."

The Tigers will take to the hardwood at home this weekend to begin their season. While, in the past, they've hosted at least four teams for the Carbon County Classic, they will host two teams instead. Encampment will host the Dubois Rams at 11 a.m. on December 11 and the Cheyenne Central Indians at 11 a.m. on December 12.

### REMINDER: Masks are required at all indoor events



**Please contact your school for attendance information.**



## Proudly support the 2020 Girls Basketball Team !



Photo by Mike Armstrong

Front: Avery Scott, T'ylsa Solaas, Emma Garcia, Hanna Gonzales, Mackenzie Priest, Jamie Jeorgesen,,  
 Back: Allison Hammond, Jorgia Waxweiler, Rainey Wilson, Madison Campbell, Tylar Scott, Amy Campbell, Adrienne Broadwater, Jessica Fowler  
 \*Not pictured Hannah Christie

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# Lady Miners return with strong core

## HEM girls have seniors return to court

*by Mike Armstrong*

"You know we feel fortunate this year, because we haven't had seniors forever," Hanna, Elk Mountain, Medicine Bow (HEM) High School head girls basketball coach Jackie Jones said. "We actually have five seniors on the roster this year and all five have experience. We are expecting them to be our nucleus. Plus we have a junior, Rainey Wilson, who has started since she was a freshman."

Jones is also looking to her younger players to contribute.

"T'ylsa Solaas, I look for good things. She is a worker and a hustler, so she will be playing in the mix," Jones said.

She said the Lady Miners has

some good freshmen on the team that Jones believes will turn into solid players.

"Probably our biggest surprise is Jamie Jeorgesen," Jones said. "She has a beautiful touch on her shots and we are really working with her on being more aggressive."

Another freshman hopeful is Avery Scott.

"Avery had a lot of time on the volleyball court this season, so initially she might see less time on the basketball court than she did on the volleyball court, but she is another who has come in and working hard," Jones observed.

She said sophomores Hanna Gonzales and Jorja Waxweiler

have shown good things during practice and see them getting playing time.

Jones acknowledges her seniors give her depth. The three co-captains; Amy Campbell, Madison Campbell and Tylar Scott have great chemistry on the court after years of playing together, and give their coach reason to believe the season will be successful.

"It is nice to know that I can walk away from the younger girls and be assured my team leaders are introducing good offense and defense plays," Jones said. "I don't worry when they are in charge, quite honestly. That is a luxury a coach doesn't always have."



**For all current sports schedules, please check [crb2.org](http://crb2.org).**



## Proudly support the 2020 Boys Basketball Team !



Photo by Mike Armstrong

Front row: Cameron Chester, Jericho Hendricks, Jesse Deegan, Aaron Barron and Hayden Atencio.  
 Back row: Taylor Kennedy, Kyler Proffitt, Taylor Widdison, Devon Grosstick, Ura Schmidt, Rayce Ward and Dylan Romero.

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# HEM is ready for basketball

## Miners begin season with philosophy change

by Mike Armstrong

The Hanna, Elk Mountain, Medicine Bow (HEM) Miners basketball team is ready for the season to start said head coach Cliff Jones.

"We lost a few kids from last year and it will change our philosophy a bit," Jones said. "In the past, we were athletic enough to be able to play with the teams that were on the schedule, even if we didn't win."

He said there will be some pressure on some returning players to fill gaps.

"Devon (Grosstick) has been a starter for three years, and Taylor Widdison was a starter last year, so with those guys we

have experience," Jones said. "Dylan (Romero) played a lot off the bench and Taylor Kennedy is back after being absent a year. So far as upper classmen go, we have five. Then we have the group of sophomore boys that got some time last year, and we will be relying on those kids."

He said in small schools, it is cyclical about having the talent to have a winning team.

"We don't have a feeder program like a lot of small schools," Jones said. "For whatever reasons, some do. They always have a few freshmen ready to go. Unfortunately we will get super

talent one cycle and then it is gone. It is very much boom or bust, because kids that we train one season might be gone the next. It is just the way it is."

The philosophy Jones said that will have to be adhered to is focusing on defense and rebounding.

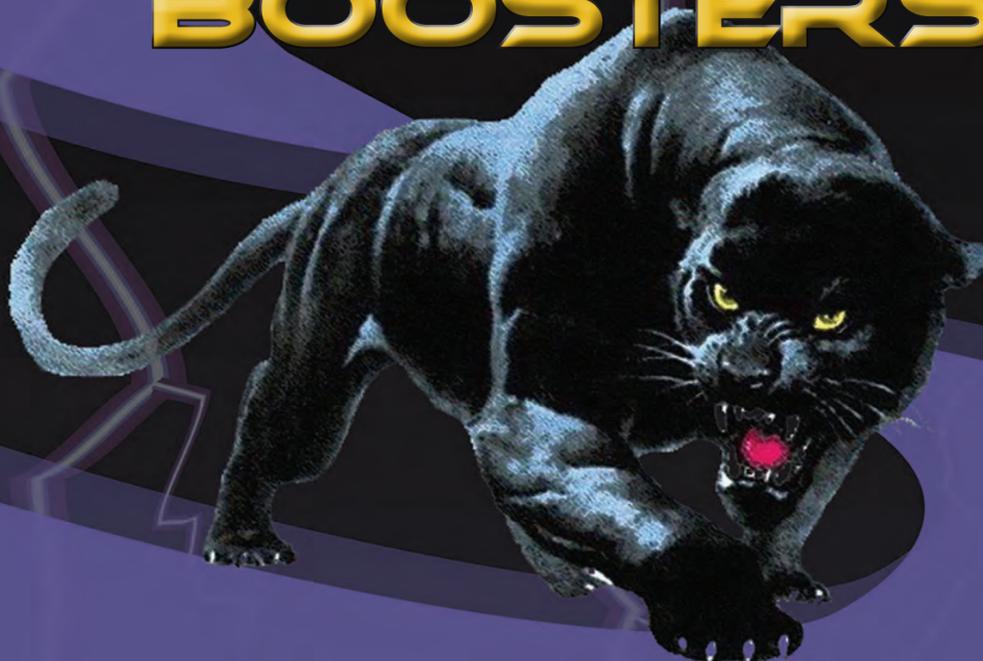
"We will have eliminate our mistakes because in the past, we could trade baskets because we were going to win the battle up and down the floor," Jones said. "It will be interesting, but we are excited to get started."

**REMINDER:**  
 Masks are required at all  
 indoor events



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# SARATOGA PANTHER BOOSTERS



## Proudly support the 2020 Wrestling Team!



Photo by Joshua Wood

Back Row : Douglas Campbell, Brayden Gray, Logan Robinson, Kellen Reeder, Ben Wagy, Jerry Everett, Slayd Daley  
Front Row: Ayden LeCureux, Caleb Bangs, Kaden Hedley, Cale Mowry, Josiah Mata, Justin Shotwell, Seven Patrick  
\*Not pictured: Tuger Carricato

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## Panthers are young and ready

### Group of grapplers prepared for competition in unusual season

*by Mike Armstrong*

The Saratoga High School wrestling team had a high turnout for the season with 15 grapplers. In this group, there are four returning seniors that bring experience to the Panther team. Head wrestling coach Jared Mason will get wrestlers that have been to state in Justin

Shotwell, Jerry Everett, Caleb Bangs and Kaden Hedley.

There are no juniors on the team, but there are five sophomores. Kellen Reeder, Ben Wagy, Cale Mowry, Slayd Daley, and Seven Patrick are young, but bring some experience to the team.

The six freshman round out

the Panther wrestling team. They are Douglas Campbell, Brayden Gray, Logan Robinson, Ayden Le Cureux, Josiah Mata and Tuger Carricato.

The season will present challenges to the Panthers, but like every past season, there will be wrestlers that rise to the occasion.

## REMINDER:

Masks are required at all indoor events



Please contact your school for attendance information.



## Proudly support the 2020 Wrestling Team!



Photo courtesy Robert Riddle

Front row: MaKaylee Widdison, Anthony Solass, Charlee Solass  
 Back Row: Sara Sikes(manager), Jaquelyn Nelsen(manager), Joseph Borah, Howard Bame, Thomas Wagner

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# Miners ready to grapple

## Co-ed team of wrestlers prepared for season

by Mike Armstrong

Hanna, Elk Mountain, Medicine Bow (HEM) High School wrestling is on for 2020 even though the way fans can see the matches have changed.

“With Covid 19, things will be very different in the wrestling environment” HEM head coach Robert Riddle said. “We will strive to improve and keep things going throughout the season.”

Riddle said he was optimistic with what his team could do this year.

“Our goal is to improve each week and be able to compete

at regionals and state,” Riddle said. “We have several returning state qualifiers this year.”

The team has two female wrestlers. Charlee Solaas, a senior and the leader of the team, and Makaylee Widdison, a sophomore who joined this year.

Adrian King is the other senior on the team who returns with two years experience on the team.

“We have one junior returning to the team, which is Joseph Borah,” Riddle said. “Joe is still rehabbing from a football injury and will start when he is

released.”

Widdison is not the only sophomore on the team

“We have two sophomores returning this season,” Riddle said. “Howard Bame and Thomas Wagner. Our lone freshman, Anthony Solass is a joining us from a three year stint at the junior high level.”

Riddle, like so many coaches during these times is grateful the kids have a season.

“Our goal is to improve each week and be able to compete at regionals and state,” Riddle concluded



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**HAVE A GREAT SEASON!**