

Sports

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The Antioch Tom Tom

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Youth movement...

Six underclassmen starters fill gap on struggling girls soccer season

Jake Anderson — Layout and Design Editor

Playing on a varsity sport as an underclassman is not only a privilege, but an honor as well. For a young athlete to know they are competing against older adversaries can serve as a confidence booster. However, when a varsity program is forced to start six underclassmen at a time, they are usually bound to struggle. This is the case for the girls soccer program here at ACHS. The Lady Sequoits are currently 5-9-4 overall, and 2-3-1 in the division.

"This season we have a very young team, as we are starting six underclassmen. It's hard because there is a lot of teaching these young athletes have to catch up on because they have not had the experience of the older girls," said ACHS varsity girls soccer coach Hannah Drye.

This is the first year at the helm of the program for Drye, who stepped in for long-time coach Charlie Trout. The transition was smooth, as Drye had served under Trout as an assistant coach the previous years.

According to Drye, she really counts on her seniors for help with all of the underclassmen.

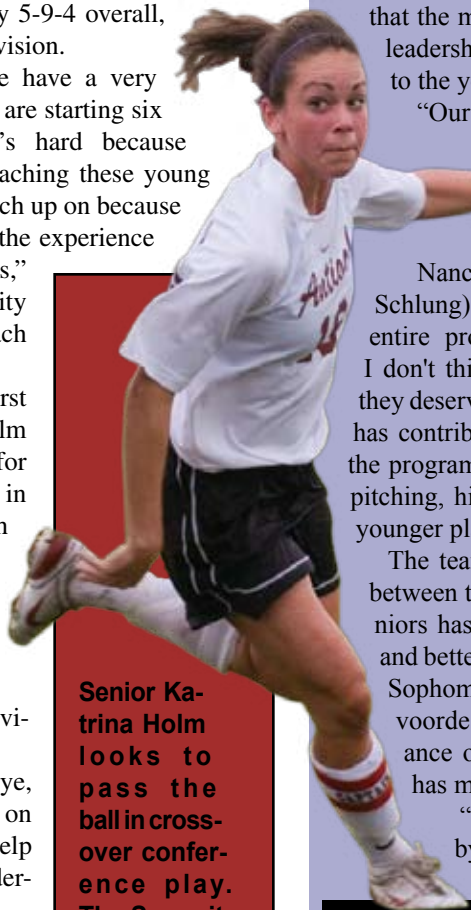
"It's so nice to have responsible seniors with this many young girls on the team this year. Seniors like Katie Budd, Katrina

Holm, Molly Brooke and Jenna Krumpus share a leadership role that has morphed this team together so well," said Drye.

The Lady Sequoits have been seeded third out of four teams in their regional. The location of the regional plays in favor of the Sequoits, as it is being held at ACHS.

The regional consists of the following teams in order of seed: Vernon Hills, Regina Dominican (Wilmette), Antioch, and North Chicago. The Sequoits are set to square off against Regina Dominican on Tuesday, May 19 at 4 p.m.

"Our main goal right now is to prepare ourselves for the playoffs. We lost to Regina Dominican 1-0 in a tournament this season, but I'm only focused on us bringing our best efforts to the field," said senior captain Katrina Holm.



Senior Katrina Holm looks to pass the ball in cross-over conference play. The Sequoits ended up losing the match 4-2 against Warren.

Seniors lead ranked softball team to #1 seed in regionals

Cameron Molnar — Photo Coordinator

It was a sad day in the world of U.S. sports when the 117th International Olympic Committee decided to not have womens softball as a sport in the 2012 summer games. Although the sport will not be played internationally, the younger generation of high school girls softball is nothing short of successful in Antioch. The astounding 23-2 record so far for the Lady Sequoits is one of the positive highlights this spring.

There are many elements combined both on and off the field that have led to the great season: the booming performance on offense, the stellar defense, and most importantly, the senior leadership. Coach Jeff Tylka believes that the main key to their success is the leadership the seniors have presented to the younger players.

"Our seniors (Jen Precht, Ashley Mysliwicz, Jamie Villalobos, Lauren Colette, Nancy Bell, Britt Shannon, and Jen Schlung) have made it possible for the entire program to be successful, and I don't think they always get the credit they deserve. Each and every one of them has contributed to the overall success of the program, whether it has been through pitching, hitting, running, or tutoring the younger players," said Tylka.

The team chemistry in the clubhouse between the younger players and the seniors has only made the team stronger and better throughout the whole season. Sophomore catcher Hannah Vandevoorde believes that the seniors' guidance on the diamond as well as off has made them the team to beat.

"The seniors are helping us a lot by giving us direction both on and off the field," said Vandevoorde.

voorde. "The captains always keep us in line outside of school, making sure we don't get into trouble. They push us to be our best on the field, but they do it in a friendly way."

Not all of the games have gone the Sequoits' way, however. Their perfect record was put on the line against Vernon Hills April 27, ending in a 1-0 defeat. Although their first loss was tough, Tylka's philosophy of playing today's game and not worrying about previous ones has kept the team focused.

"Our first loss was tough to take because we beat ourselves. I told the girls the only game that matters is the one you are playing in that day. I think the girls have really taken to this philosophy and it helps keep us from coming out flat," said Tylka.

Instead of sulking about the devastating loss, junior third baseman Lauren Moore said the team looked at the positive aspects of the game.

"Being undefeated, it was hard to take in our loss to Vernon Hills. As the team got together at the end of the game, we talked about all of the positive reasons to the loss. Plus, we would rather see a loss when it doesn't matter, rather than getting to the playoffs and losing," said Moore.

As the regular season comes to a close in only a matter of weeks, the seeding for the playoffs have been announced. As the top seed of the regional, Tylka has no doubts that as long as the team plays at its best, nobody can beat the Lady Sequoits.

"There are some very talented teams in our regional, but we feel that if we play to the best of our ability, we can compete and beat anyone," said Tylka.



Head Softball Coach

Jeff Tylka

Senior Sequoits

Ashley Mysliwicz 14 Mysliwicz signed letter of intent with Iowa Wesleyan. She plays second base and holds a spot in the pitching rotation. Team captain.

Jen Schlung 11 Schlung plays on the junior varsity squad. She has been a four-year player and also participates in tennis here at ACHS.

Britt Shannon 6 Shannon plays on the junior varsity team. She has been a four-year player and also participates in the ACHS choir program.

Lauren Colette 8 Colette played softball for the past four years. She is a varsity player and also runs cross-country in the fall.

Jamie Villalobos 7 Utility player. Villalobos played four years for ACHS, but has been playing softball for nine years total.

Nancy Bell 10 Bell is a four-year player who catches for varsity. She also has over a 4.0 GPA and will play club or intramural softball at Marquette University next year.

Jen Precht 4 Precht signed letter of intent with Carthage College in Kenosha, WI. Plays as the starting varsity center fielder. Also participates in basketball.



on track

Logan Kent



- Nominee for the Athlete of the Year
- Played on the varsity baseball team for the past four years
- Currently leads the team in homeruns and has a batting average of .423
- Named captain of the 2009 baseball team

Team chemistry is at an all-time high, and even though the record doesn't show it, we have been having a great time this year.

the question

Who were the 2007-2008 male and female Athletes of the Year?

See answer below

in the numbers

Girls Softball
Varsity 3, Zion Benton 1
Varsity 4, Zion Benton 3

Boys Baseball
Varsity 1, Mundelein 11

Girls Soccer
Varsity 1, Vernon Hills 3

Boys Tennis
Varsity 1, Lakes 4

Girls Track
NSC Meet
Varsity: 2nd place

sequoit snippet

Eleven athletes have been selected as finalists for the ACHS Athlete of the Year Award. The Male and Female Athlete of the Year will be announced at the student recognition assembly on Tuesday, May 19.

Finalists include: Erin Schoenfelder, Jen Naegele, Katrina Holm, Martha Arntson, Brittany Deem, and Katie Budd rounding out the girls division. Nominees from the boys include: Eric Smith, Logan Kent, Cameron White, Tom Gerstner, and Tyler Woolard.

the answer

Lamarr Pottinger and Kali Krumpus