

# Golf teams hoping for development of young guns

With one lone senior representing the Lake Mills Boys and Girls golf teams this season, boys' coach Lyle Thomson, and girls' coach, Brady Kurtz, know that learning and teaching the game will be a big part of their effort this season.

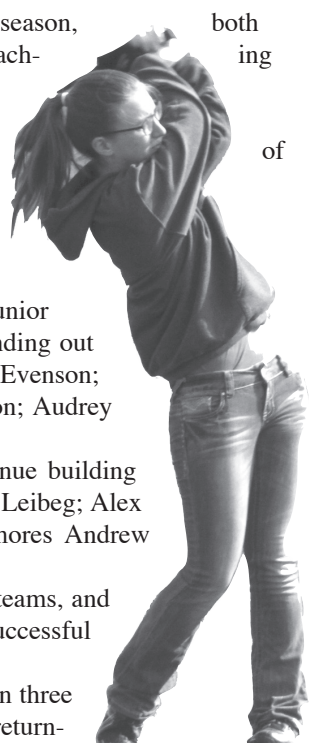
Thomson said he is looking for his team to, "give their best efforts, and continue to improve" throughout the year. Kurtz, basically echoed the comments of Thomson, saying, "We have only two players returning. All of the other girls on the team are completely new to the game. It will be a steep learning curve for them."

Not that the cupboard is completely bare, especially on the girls' side, where the two returning players form a nice nucleus from which to build upon. Madison Westcott, a senior, is a three-time letterwinner in the sport, and she is joined by junior Claire Grothe, a two-time letterwinner and two-time all conference selection. Rounding out the girls squad are three more juniors and several sophomores, including: Hannah Evenson; Anna Kaktis; and, Alessandra Groe, juniors. Along with sophomores: Lydia Saxton; Audrey Caspersen; and, Kendall Kirschbaum.

The boys team returns seven underclassmen to its ranks, as they look to continue building on the learning they accomplished last season. The roster includes: Juniors, Austin Leibeg; Alex Martinson; Javier Gallardo; Alex Dahle; and, Zach Johnson, along with sophomores Andrew Mannes, and Nate Orban. All seven returnees earned letters last season.

Both coaches look for 2017 to be a year of growth and learning for their young teams, and hope that the growth that takes place over the course of the season, will lead to a successful season.

"We are a very young and inexperienced team," noted Thomson. "If we could win three or four meets, we would call the season a success." With a little more experience returning, Kurtz has hopes for a little beyond just learning, for a team that finished 26-7 over-



all last season and fourth in the TIC West meet. "We need our experienced players to help bring the new players along," Kurtz said. "If they can help our inexperienced players develop some confidence, that would be very good for us." He added that, if that can be accomplished and some confidence is developed among the new players, it will be a successful season.

VARSITY GOLF			
4-3	Central Springs/West Fork	Manly	
4-7	Belmond-Klemme/North Iowa	North Iowa	
4-10	Eagle Grove/North Union	Eagle Grove	
4-13	West Hancock/Bishop Garrigan (Girls)	Britt	
4-17	Forest City/GHV	HOME	
4-21	Eagle Grove/North Union	HOME	
4-24	Forest City/Bishop Garrigan	Forest City	
4-28	Belmond-Klemme/North Iowa	Belmond-Klemme	
4-29	West Hancock (Boys)	Britt	
4-29	Clarion-Goldfield-Dows (Girls)	Clarion-Goldfield	
5-1	GHV/West Hancock	Garner	
Time: 4:15 p.m.			

# Deep track squads look to run to Des Moines

Last year, the boys and girls track teams had five events com-state meet at the end of the season, and with much of that same boys' coach, Dan Rice, and girls' coach, Becky Dahn, have or stronger performance this season.

"We think we could have a chance to send events to the state meet this season, if we can stay healthy," Rice noted of his team.

Dahn shared much of his optimism, when asked about the state of her team before the season has officially "We have very high expectations for the season, as long healthy. We have eight freshmen coming up this year senior."

The girls feature Lexi Groe returning, after qualify-as a member of the shuttle hurdle team and in the 100 Lexi's track and field career, she has done very well," "Lexi is a great senior leader for the team. She has a positive attitude and is always ready to help her fellow

Losing only one senior last season, Dahn has plenty of both expe-weaponry to go along with Groe, including: Hailey Borgmeyer, who in the open 400; and Dana Baumann and Mallory Wilhelm, who were members of the state shuttle hurdle team. Also ready to make noise are experienced runners, such as returning letterwinners: Mallory Baumann (hurdles/sprints); Rylee Bowman (sprints); Lily Thompson (distance); Lauren Scholbrock (throwing); Morgan Fritz (distance); Jadyh Joynt (sprints); Dana Baumann (hurdles/sprints); Hannah Hanson (sprints); Lyv Arispe (sprints); Breanna Mary (sprints); and Lexi Schwartz (sprints); They will be joined by freshmen: Sierra Selvidge, Kate Groe, Madison Holtan, Jessa Gasteiger, Hope Levine; Dani Brua; Megan Groe and Olivia Moen.

In addition to much of the boys shuttle hurdle team and Grant Fjelstad, who qualified for state last season in the 110 hurdles, Rice also returns a deep and experienced roster, including letterwinners: Cael Boehmer (sprints/hurdles); Tommy Kaktis (sprints/hurdles/long jump); Dylan Renneker (middle distance); Maverick Schmitt (middle distance/distance); Alex Albert (sprints/hurdles); Cole Bergo (throwing); Gabe Irons (throwing); Brett Tyler (throwing); Charlie Dugger (sprints/hurdles); Parker Eaton (sprints); Marcus Escherich (throwing); Luke Groe (sprints); and Slade Sifuentes (sprints/hurdles/middle distance).



bined, qualify for the firepower returning, high hopes for a repeat six to eight begun. as we can stay and lost only one ing for state last season hurdles. "Over noted Dahn. wonderful, teammates." rienced and young qualified for state in the open 400; and Dana Baumann and Mallory Wilhelm, who were members of the state shuttle hurdle team. Also ready to make noise are experienced runners, such as returning letterwinners: Mallory Baumann (hurdles/sprints); Rylee Bowman (sprints); Lily Thompson (distance); Lauren Scholbrock (throwing); Morgan Fritz (distance); Jadyh Joynt (sprints); Dana Baumann (hurdles/sprints); Hannah Hanson (sprints); Lyv Arispe (sprints); Breanna Mary (sprints); and Lexi Schwartz (sprints); They will be joined by freshmen: Sierra Selvidge, Kate Groe, Madison Holtan, Jessa Gasteiger, Hope Levine; Dani Brua; Megan Groe and Olivia Moen.

Rice noted that distance runner, Carson Rygh, who qualified for state in cross country and finished one spot shy of medaling, was someone to watch this season.

After winning three individual meets, and the TIC West runner-up, Rice feels that his team should be mentioned as one of the favorites for the 2017 season. "We should have a deep team that could compete for the TIC West title, although Forest City will be tough to beat," he said. "We think we can also make a run at the district title, now that we have moved down to Class 1A."

The picture is the same for Coach Dahn and the girls. "With 13 upper classmen, we have an experienced team," said Dahn. "As long as we can stay focused and healthy, I believe they will be able to complete the goals they have set for themselves."

Dahn added that much of the success they enjoy this season will be attributed to their focus and mental toughness. "The area we are trying to work the most on this year is being mentally tough. Staying focused is the main key to success. These girls make their own individual goals to start the season. Some of these girls have very high goals for themselves and the team. I believe these goals are achievable, but they need to stay focused, set their sights on their goals, and work hard to achieve them."

3-18	Buena Vista University (10 a.m.)	Away
3-31	Forest City (Boys)	Away
4-4	West Hancock	Britt
4-4	Eagle Grove (Boys)	Away
4-7	Hampton-Dumont (Girls)	Away
4-10	Northwood-Kensett CSD (Girls)	Away
4-11	Clear Lake (Boys)	Away
4-11	Algona (Girls)	Away
4-13	LM Invitational (Boys 5 p.m.)	HOME
4-18	Garner-Hayfield/Ventura (Girls)	Away
4-18	Belmond-Klemme (Boys 5 p.m.)	Away
4-21	Belmond-Klemme (Girls 5 p.m.)	Away
4-24	LM Invitational (Girls 5 p.m.)	HOME
4-25	Forest City (Girls)	Away
4-25	Garner-Hayfield/Ventura (Boys)	Away
4-28	Hampton-Dumont	Away
5-1	West Hancock	Away
5-4	North Iowa Conference	Away

Boys Head Coach: Dan Rice  
Girls Head Coach: Becky Dahn

Schedules may be subject to change.  
For updated schedules, please visit  
[www.lake-mills.k12.ia.us](http://www.lake-mills.k12.ia.us)



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