

## Fall sports preview

# STARTING THE SEASON



## Volleyball starts season with Memorial Tournament

**Dakota Shuckman**  
*senior*

The Wabaunsee volleyball team is starting the season under new coaches: head coach Tracy Capoun and assistant coaches Hillary Dees and Allison Bruna.

Seventeen girls have joined the team, including five returning lettermen.

Last year, they advanced to the sub-state championship, losing by 2 points to Burlingame.

Junior Sam Capoun said the strengths of the team include height, while one of the weaknesses is moving to the ball.

Senior Jordan Haya said the games she is looking forward to are Rock Creek, Silver Lake, and Wamego.

The team started the season Saturday at the Amy Schutter Memorial Tournament. The team won over Axtell and St. Xavier, while falling to Council Grove, Rock Creek and Centralia. The team all agreed that they did not rise to their full potential.

Sam Capoun said "We need to do better at pulling off wins in tight situations."

The Chargers also competed at Riley County Tuesday. Results were not available at press time.



## Tennis finishes strong at Wamego tournament

**Chance Orton**  
*senior*

Tennis coach Susan Schrader expects the seven returning members of the WHS tennis team to see continual improvement throughout the season.

She wants to have them playing their best game at the end of the year.

The team started the season August 25 at Wamego. Hannah Berroth placed second in #2 singles. Bailee Henry and Haley Turner also placed second in #2 doubles.

The biggest meets of the year are Regionals, to qualify for State, and State if they make it because that is the "big stage" that everyone wants to eventually reach.

The way that teams in the past have been different from the team this year is that there are more players with less experience this year.

Some returning members of the tennis team said what the hardest part of tennis was that the heat is hard to deal with, it is hard to hit the ball where you're supposed to and when you are brand new the swing is hard to perfect.

The tennis players said the best part of tennis was Schraderisms — random things Schrader says — all of the fun that is had with all the people at meets and the fact that the girls can talk about anything they want.

The tennis team will compete at Seaman High School in Topeka Saturday.



## Football begins tomorrow at Silver Lake

**Taylor Falk**  
*senior*

In the past the Wabaunsee High School football teams have only had limited success. They hope to change that this year.

The football team has never been as big as the other teams but they worked with what they had. This year the numbers improved by two people jumping from 27 to 29. There are more upperclassmen this year and the team hopes to be more

successful with more experience. Head coach Brian Henry said, "The senior leadership is there. Positive or negative, they don't know, but whatever it is it's working."

Senior Jed Swicegood said, "Practice is going well this year and we are coming together as a team."

One of the team's goals is to break the league losing streak. Henry said the success depends on how hard the underclassmen work. Senior Josh Hurla said, "One of our

strengths this year is that we have a lot of speed but, still aren't the biggest so that's one of our weaknesses."

Senior Dakota Schuckman said, "The scrimmage was decent, we could have looked better on the offensive side of the ball. But our defense looked pretty solid."

This season may be as tough as always but the team hopes to get some wins. The season starts tomorrow on the road against the Silver Lake Eagles.

## Cross Country begins today at Mission Valley

**Kristin Berroth**  
*junior*

This year the cross country team has high numbers from both the high school and the junior high. There are eleven high school students and seven junior high students out. The high school has two returners out this season.

Head coach Roger Alderman is expecting the hardest meet for his team to be the Wamego meet. Alderman says his strongest runners are senior Chance Orton and junior Blaine Tharman because they were All-League last year.

Alderman's outlook for this year all depends on how quick the younger runners come along, which can contribute to a successful season.

Chance Orton is in fourth year of cross country and said his favorite part has to be Mrs. Alderman's cookies. Senior Cristy Flippin said she is excited for this season because she is excited to see how well she will compete. Flippin's goal for her first season out is to never finish last.

The first meet of the season is today at Mission Valley.

**Check out the activities  
calender at  
[www.usd329.com](http://www.usd329.com)  
for details and updates.**