N-P girls golf bringing strong nucleus back for upcoming season

BY NICK THOMPSON

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After an offseason that saw no one graduate, the Nashua-Plainfield girls golf team is looking to make a splash on the links this spring.

Head coach Jeff Trost, who is in his 43rd year at the helm and almost has 700 career meet wins, is feeling good about this upcoming year, but is worried about the depth of his team.

"We have a good nucleus of players who played in a lot of meets last season," Trost said. "As for weaknesses, we don't have a lot of depth. If one of the top players has a bad day, then our team score will suffer."

Paige Franzen is the leading returner for the Huskies with a 10 meet average of 49.08. Also returning is Autumn Nelson (Sr, 53 avg.), Payton Howland (Jr, 84.8 avg.), Natalie Sinnwell (Jr, 70.50 avg.) and Faith Franzen (So, 60.58 avg.).

As for competition this season, Trost is looking out for Newman Catholic, who he says fields a strong team year after year.

The conference has taken a hit with graduations and the top spot is up for grabs.

"I think we have a chance to make some noise in the conference and postseason this year, but it will take everyone to achieve that," Trost said.

From left: Payton Howland, Natalie Sinnwell, Autumn Nelson, Paige Franzen, Faith Franzen. Not pictured: Ellie Woodman



Denver Cyclones boys golf



BY NICK THOMPSON

The 2023 Denver boys golf team.

Clarksville golf hoping to build foundation for future success

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Golf is a game of practice. For the Clarksville Indians boys and girls golf teams, practice will make perfect this season.

"We want to have new players gain experience and confidence in their golf game," seventh-year head coach Ashten Fenneman said.

While the numbers for

the Indians are low, four golfers in total with three boys and one girl, they are hoping to compete with conference foes Tripoli and Don Bosco.

On the boys side, they will be returning Rex Ross, Casey Leerhoff and Aiden Morrison. They will have to navigate the loss of three golfers due to graduation.

Taya Jacobs will once again be the lone Clarks-

ville girl golfer after being the only one last year as well.

Awareness on the golf course is key for the Indians this upcoming season.

"We have a few areas of improvement to work on," Fenneman said. "Working on short game strategy as well as situational awareness with club selection will be key this year."



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N-P boys golf will take group mindset into 2023



COURTESY PHOT

Front from left: Wyatt Bouillon, Devin Griffin, Kendrick Huck, Tyler Zimmer, William Clark, Kaden McMichael.

Back from left: Blake Wahl, Dawson Glaser, Cal Levi, Trent Rodruck, William Lindeland, Bradie Woodman, Ty Berger, Devon Blanchard.

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With the graduating seniors leaving, it can sometimes leave a hole that is tough to fill and that is most evident in golf.

"In golf, it is hard to say," head coach Jeff Trost said about the Huskies toughest competition. "One new player or the loss of one good player can change your team outlook significantly. If you lose a high 30's/low 40's player and have to replace them with a high 40's/low 50's player and your team score is 10 strokes worse with that one player difference. Or you have new player who is capable of shooting low scores to replace someone who shoots higher scores and your team score drops significantly. So not knowing what side of that each team is, it is hard to say who will be decent. North Butler went to the state meet but graduated several of their players so I think they will drop off some"

Nashua-Plainfield will be returning a quintet of starters with valuable varsity experience that averaged a score of 62.4 in their rounds last year.

Sophomore Dawson Glaser comes into the year with the most experience (10 meets last year) and the lowest average (57.2).

"We have players returning that played in quite a few meets so we have some experience returning," Trost said. "Our weakness is that we won't have someone who will be able to shoot a really low round. To score well as a team, it will take a group effort with everyone contributing."

Trost has set the expectations for the year as finishing higher in the conference than they did last year when they placed



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