

SPORTS & SCHOOL NEWS

VOLLEYBALL PREVIEW

Loaded lineup set to return

Spikers return good mix of young and old to court; sixth man will be key to success



The Bison return their top-five attack options from last season, including senior Kaya Garrett (front) who led the team with 57 kills and 19 service aces. (Photo by Rob LaPlante)

Volleyball

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a major role in those runs we could never get out of." Team chemistry will also look to improve. Last year's senior class had only three girls. The season ended with only two, after one elected to quit the team at mid-season.

Peterson feels a combination of a lot of negative things a year ago led to some internal issues.

"It was just an awkward year to be on any team sport last season," Peterson said. "You really weren't allowed to do any team bonding things, because you weren't allowed to gather in groups and you had to wear masks. You can already see this year in practice that the energy and excitement is up."

One thing that is up are the

number of players. Peterson counted 74 that came to opening day practice/try-outs on Aug. 16. Those by far are the largest numbers in her tenure as head coach or assistant at Buffalo.

Systematically, Buffalo again is a smaller team, which will lead to a 5-1 formation. Senior Lindsay Hartman will play as the primary setter. Guida, junior Tatum Kjellberg and senior Kaya Garrett will look to be contributors on the attack. Garrett has been noticeable in early season practices with her control and power in the attack. Grace Kluber and Megan Stendahl also saw action a year ago as sophomores.

The front row-middle has the luxury of some rare size with 6-foot-4 sophomore

Kaia Caffee, back for her second season.

Caffee saw playing time a year ago at middle block, but Peterson is hopeful she can add a new dimension to the court with her size.

"It's awesome to have that height," Peterson said. "She swings hard and she worked hard to work on her coordination and swinging power during summer camps."

Defensively, Buffalo returns Grace Therrien, who emerged late last season as an all-conference libero as a sophomore. Senior Kolleen Ebert also returns as the defensive specialist and a top server. Buffalo did lose sophomore Sydney Beumer, who was a two-year starter, but transferred to Rockford High School. The Bison did add sophomore transfer Ellie Keuseman, who comes from Rockford, but her eligibility requirements for varsity were still being figured out.

Buffalo's season opens with a 7 p.m. road match Thursday, Aug. 26 at Monticello. The Magic are one of seven non-conference teams on the schedule this year, along with three invitationals.

With more positions solidified and more opportunity for success on the schedule, this year's squad is hoping for a big year.

"Last year was weird with substitutions and injuries. I'm hoping this year we can find a rotation and find a group of people that works," Guida said. "Last year, with only playing Lake teams, it was a little bit defeating, because we're a little out-sized against those teams. This year, I think playing teams more matched for us is good. In the same breath, I think we'll be able to compete against Lake teams as well."

2020 FINAL STANDINGS

Lake Boys Soccer

Team	Conf	Overall
Wayzata	9-1-1	12-1-1
Edina	9-2-0	12-2-0
Minnetonka	7-3-1	8-4-1
St. Michael-Albertville	3-6-2	4-7-2
Hopkins	3-7-1	3-8-1
Eden Prairie	2-5-3	5-6-3
Buffalo	0-9-0	0-10-2

Lake Girls Soccer

Team	Conf	Overall
Edina	10-1-0	12-2-0
Wayzata	7-3-1	10-3-1
Minnetonka	6-3-2	9-3-2
St. Michael-Albertville	4-4-3	4-5-3
Hopkins	3-8-0	4-9-0
Buffalo	1-6-2	2-8-2
Eden Prairie	1-7-2	2-8-2

Mississippi 8 Boys Soccer

Team	Conf	Overall
Monticello	8-0-1	9-1-3
Princeton	8-1-1	12-2-1
St. Francis	7-2-2	8-3-2
Chisago Lakes	4-3-4	4-3-4
North Branch	4-4-3	4-5-3
Cambridge-Isanti	2-7-2	2-8-2
Becker	1-8-2	1-8-2
Big Lake	0-9-1	0-11-1

Mississippi 8 Girls Soccer

Team	Conf	Overall
St. Francis	8-1-2	10-2-2
Chisago Lakes	6-1-2	6-1-2
Big Lake	5-1-3	6-2-3
Monticello	5-2-2	7-4-2
North Branch	5-3-2	5-4-2
Princeton	2-5-3	2-7-3
Cambridge-Isanti	1-9-1	1-10-1
Becker	0-10-1	2-11-1

Wright County Boys Soccer

Team	Conf	Overall
Orono	5-0-2	11-2-2
Waconia	5-0-2	9-3-3
Holy Family	5-1-1	9-2-3
Mound Westonka	4-2-1	7-5-1
New Prague	4-4-0	6-5-0
Hutchinson	1-5-1	3-7-2
Delano	1-7-0	3-9-1
Rockford	0-6-1	2-9-1

Wright County Girls Soccer

Team	Conf	Overall
Waconia	7-0-2	13-0-2
Watertown-Mayer	6-1-1	11-2-1
Holy Family	6-3-0	8-5-0
Orono	4-1-3	9-2-4
Delano	3-4-1	4-7-1
New Prague	2-3-3	5-4-3
Mound Westonka	2-5-1	3-8-1
Hutchinson	0-6-2	2-7-2
Rockford	0-7-1	1-8-2

North Central District Football

Team	Div	Overall	PF	PA
Andover	5-0	6-0	193	44
Rogers	3-1	5-2	172	100
Elk River	2-2	4-3	240	180
Monticello	1-2	5-2	144	115
Cambridge-Isanti	1-2	3-4	166	265
Chisago Lakes	0-1	0-1	34	35
St. Francis	0-1	0-2	14	90
Buffalo	0-3	0-5	64	205

Lake Girls Swimming/Diving

Team	Conf	Overall
Minnetonka	6-0-0	6-0-0
Edina	5-1-0	5-1-0
Eden Prairie	4-2-0	4-2-0
Wayzata	3-3-0	3-3-0
Buffalo	2-4-0	3-5-0
Hopkins	1-5-0	1-5-0
St. Michael-Albertville	0-6-0	1-6-0

North Central District Football

Team	Div	Overall
Rocori	5-0	7-0
Willmar	3-2	6-2
Hutchinson	2-2	5-2
Becker	2-2	4-2
Delano	1-2	1-3
St. Cloud Apollo	0-0	0-5
Big Lake	0-5	2-6

Lake Volleyball

Team	Conf	Overall
Wayzata	10-0	12-0
Minnetonka	9-2	11-3
Eden Prairie	8-3	8-4
St. Michael-Albertville	5-5	7-6
Edina	2-7	3-8
Buffalo	2-8	2-11
Hopkins	0-11	1-12

Metro District Football

Team	Div	Overall
Eden Prairie	6-0	7-0
St. Michael-Albertville	3-1	6-2
Shakopee	3-2	6-2
Prior Lake	3-2	4-4
Edina	1-3	2-5
Wayzata	1-4	2-5
Minnetonka	0-5	2-5

Mississippi 8 Volleyball

Team	Conf	Overall
Monticello	8-0	10-1
Cambridge-Isanti	6-2	6-2
North Branch	8-4	9-4
Becker	6-4	7-5
Chisago Lakes	1-2	1-2
Big Lake	3-8	4-8
St. Francis	0-3	0-4
Princeton	0-9	1-9

East Central District Football

Team	Div	Overall
Litchfield	5-0	6-1
Annandale	2-0	7-0
Dassel-Cokato	3-3	5-3
Glencoe-Silver Lake	2-3	3-4
Watertown-Mayer	2-3	2-6
New London-Spicer	1-2	4-4
Holy Family Catholic	0-4	1-6

Wright County Volleyball

Team	Conf	Overall
New Prague	10-2	10-3
Hutchinson	8-2	10-3
Waconia	7-4	7-4
Orono	5-3	5-3
Jordan	7-6	7-7
Delano	4-5	4-6
Holy Family	1-10	1-10
Mound Westonka	1-11	1-12

Mid-State District Football

Team	Div	Overall
Pierz	2-0	7-1
Eden Valley-Watkins	2-1	6-1
Rockford	2-1	5-3
Maple Lake	1-1	3-3
Paynesville	0-0	5-2
Holdingford	0-0	1-3
Howard Lake-Waverly-Winsted	0-1	1-6
Melrose	0-3	2-5

West Division

Team	Conf	Overall
Watertown-Mayer	11-0	12-0
New London-Spicer	9-3	9-3
Litchfield	9-5	9-5
Annandale	7-4	7-4
Glencoe-Silver Lake	6-6	6-6
Rockford	3-7	3-7
Dassel-Cokato	1-11	2-11
Howard Lake-Waverly-Winsted	0-11	0-11

Lake Girls Tennis

Team	Conf	Overall
Wayzata	9-1-1	9-1-1
Edina	9-2-0	9-2-0
Minnetonka	7-3-1	7-3-1
St. Michael-Albertville	3-6-2	3-6-2
Hopkins	3-7-1	3-7-1
Eden Prairie	2-5-3	3-5-3
Buffalo	0-9-0	0-9-2

Central Minnesota Volleyball

Team	Conf	Overall
Maple Lake	9-0	10-1
Belgrade-Broten-Eloso	9-1	9-1
Holdingford	6-2	7-2
Paynesville	6-5	6-5
Eden Valley-Watkins	7-6	7-6
Kimball Area	2-8	2-8
Royalton	1-10	2-10
Atwater-Cosmos-Grove City	0-8	0-8

Lake Girls Cross Country

Team	Points
Minnetonka	51
Edina	59
Wayzata	63
St. Michael-Albertville	99
Eden Prairie	115
Hopkins	133
Buffalo	217

Lake Boys Cross Country

Team	Points
Wayzata	49
Eden Prairie	58
Minnetonka	73
Buffalo	84
Edina	101
Hopkins	120
St. Michael-Albertville	209

BOYS SOCCER PREVIEW

Goal for 2021: more goals

Boys Soccer

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Junior Brett Bedard is in line to see some time in goal this season, as are a couple underclassmen in the mix.

"Wyatt is a tough one to replace, but we have some great young keepers and guys to jump into that role, so I'm excited for that competition to play itself out," Pokorney said.

"You can't really replace him, because he was the

best keeper in the state last year, in my opinion," Tierney said. "I think Brett, or whoever else plays the position, will step in and do a good job. I'm not too worried about the keepers."

Whoever starts in goal, they will have the luxury of an experienced defense corps in Schrepfer, Dorion, and junior Maxwell Zook.

defend in the conference to have a chance. I still think it starts there," Pokorney said. "We have some dangerous players, given the space and if we can get the ball on their feet, we have every opportunity to score a bunch of goals this year. It starts being sound on the defensive side and working together to possess the ball."

Buffalo comes into this season currently on a 32-game winless streak, which dates back to the team's last win, a 4-1 road victory on Oct.

2, 2018 at North Branch. Tierney registered a goal in that win. He's also the only current player on the roster that played on that team. Tierney wants more wins, but he also wants that first conference victory.

"I think we have a good chance against Hopkins," he said. "We tied them a couple years ago and played a couple close ones with them last year. That will be the game we need to win. We'll have to see who else we are competitive with as the season goes on."

2021 Schedule Boys Soccer

August		
27	Monticello	7 p.m.
28	Brainerd	3 p.m.
31	Cambridge-Isanti	7 p.m.
September		
7	Rogers	7 p.m.
9	STMA	5 p.m.
11	OSSEO	4 p.m.
14	Hopkins	7 p.m.
16	CHASKA	5 p.m.
20	Eden Prairie	7 p.m.
25	ELK RIVER	1 p.m.
28	EDINA	7 p.m.
30	St. Michael-Albertville	7 p.m.
October		
2	MINNETONKA	1 p.m.
5	ST. FRANCIS	7 p.m.
7	WAYZATA	7 p.m.
9	Chanhassen	1 p.m.
14	Section 8AAA QF	TBD
19	Section 8AAA SF	TBD
21	Section 8AAA Final	TBD
25-31	State Tourney	TBD
(neutral sites/US. Bank Stadium)		
November		
1-6	State Tourney	TBD
(neutral sites/US. Bank Stadium)		
2020 records:		
0-10-2 overall		
0-9 Lake Conference (7th place)		
Section Tournament:		
Maple Grove 3-0 loss		
Head Coach:		
Joe Pokorney		
Assistant Coaches:		
Josh Tierney, Jordan Danielson		
Captains:		
Carver Tierney, Camden Reinech		



Head Coach Joe Pokorney (right) points instructions to some new players, including Phillip Fleischer-Børresen (left), a foreign-exchange student from Norway. (Photo by Rob LaPlante)

2020 SECTION CHAMPIONS (FALL)

Class AA Boys Soccer	Class AA Girls Tennis	Class AA Boys XC
1 Northfield	1 Rochester Mayo	1 Lakeville South
2 Edina	2 Minnetonka	2 Buffalo
3 Lakeville North	3 Simley	3 Prior Lake
4 Stillwater	4 Mounds View	4 Stillwater Area
5 Mounds View	5 Wayzata	5 Mounds View
6 Wayzata	6 Edina	6 Robbinsdale Armstrong
7 Centennial	7 Duluth East	7 Andover
8 Maple Grove	8 Bemidji	8 Bemidji
Class A Boys Soccer	Class A Girls Tennis	Class A Boys XC
1 Austin	1 Rochester Lourdes	1 Lake City
2 Bloomington Kennedy	2 Litchfield	2 St. James Area
3 Holy Angels	3 Blue Earth Area	3 Lac qui Parle Valley/Dawson-Boyd
4 Mahtomedi	4 Blake	4 Nova Classical Academy
5 Breck	5 New London-Spicer	5 Annandale
6 Orono	6 Osakis	6 Staples-Motley
7 Duluth Denfeld	7 Pequot Lakes	7 Pequot Lakes
8 St. Cloud Tech	8 Thief River Falls	8 Perham
Class AA Girls Soccer	Class AA Girls Swim/D	Class AA Girls XC
1 Lakeville South	1 Farmington	1 Farmington
2 Minnetonka	2 Minnetonka	2 Waconia
3 Eagan	3 Eagan	3 Prior Lake
4 Stillwater	4 Stillwater	4 St. Paul Highland Park
5 Champlin Park	5 Wayzata	5 St. Michael-Albertville
6 Wayzata	6 Edina	6 Edina
7 Centennial	7 Blaine	7 Andover
8 Maple Grove	8 Moorhead	8 Alexandria Area
Class A Girls Soccer	Class A Girls Swim/D	Class A Girls XC
1 Winona Cotter	1 Mankato West	1 Winona-Cotter
2 Waconia	2 Breck	2 Belle Plaine
3 Holy Angels	3 Delano	3 Luverne
4 Hill-Murray	4 Visitation	4 Minnehaha Academy
5 Benilde-St. Margaret's	5 St. Cloud Cathedral	5 Howard Lake-Waverly-Winsted
6 Orono	6 Sartell-St. Stephen	6 Staples-Motley
7 Cloquet/Carlton	7 Mesabi East	7 Pequot Lakes
8 Sartell-St. Stephen	8 Grand Rapids	8 Perham

2020 AP FINAL RANKINGS

Class 9-Man Football	Class 3A Football	Class 6A Football
1 Hill-Beaver Creek	1 Annandale	1 Lakeville South