



MINNEOTA VOLLEYBALL

Last Year: A year ago the Vikings drove to the Section 3A Championship game before losing to Tracy-Milroy-Balaton, 25-19; 25-23 and 25-20. They finished the season with a 25-7 record and they were 10-1 in the Camden Conference.

This Year: They Vikings have a new coach, Hayley Fruin, a young squad with just one senior, but an attitude that they can succeed and can become one of the elite of the area. There will be stiff competition from the likes of Canby, MACCRAY and Tracy-Milroy-Balaton. But this team is build with power, and could climb toward the top quickly. They have a new setter, but with a familiar name — Kockelman. Morgan could be the glue that holds this team together.

Assistant Coaches: Kaley Buysse, Sar-

ah Stassen. Volunteers are Sam Pies and Molly Hennen.

Roster: **Seniors:** Jennifer Krog. **Juniors:** Lydia Sussner; Morgan Kockelman; Brooklyn Nelson; Lizzy Gillingham, Emily Pohlen and Sydney Larson. **Sophomore:** Morgan Hennen. **Ninth Graders:** Abby Hennen, Ellie Pesch. **Eighth Grader:** Natalie Rolbiecki. **Manager:** Carolyn Hoffmann.

Schedule:

Minneota Vikings Schedule

Aug. 26, TBD Underwood at Hopkins Lindbergh Center.
Aug. 28, 5:30 p.m. Belgrade-Broten-Elrosa @ Ridgewater College in Willmar
Sept. 5, 6 p.m. @ CMC (Prinsburg)
Sept. 8, TBD Tournament Marshall @ SMSU
Sept. 9, TBD Tournament Marshall @ SMSU
Sept. 12, 6 p.m. @ MACCRAY

Sept. 14, 4:45 p.m. Tracy-Milroy-Balaton
Sept. 19, TBD Lac qui Parle Valley @ Madison
Sept. 21, 4:45 p.m. Dawson-Boyd
Sept. 22, 4:30 p.m. @ Midwest Volleyball Warehouse
Sept. 23, 9 a.m. @ Midwest Volleyball Warehouse
Sept. 26, 4:45 p.m. Canby
Sept. 28, 4:45 p.m. @ Renville Co. West
Oct. 3, 4:45 p.m. Kerkhoven-M-S
Oct. 5, 4:45 p.m. @ Russell-Tyler-Ruthton
Oct. 9, 4:45 p.m. Yellow Medicine East
Oct. 10, 4:45 p.m. Lakeview
Oct. 13, 5 p.m. @ Apple Valley Tourney
Oct. 14, 9 a.m. @ Apple Valley Tourney
Oct. 19, 6:15 p.m. @ Windom

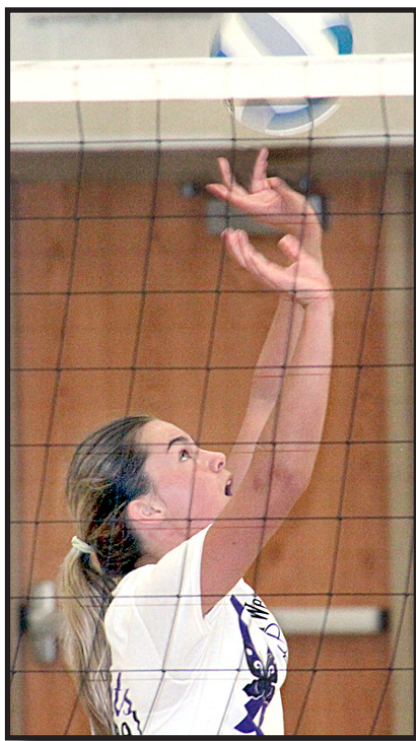


Hayley Fruin (right), with B squad Coach Kaley Buysse (left) and C squad Coach Sarah Stassen (center).



Minneota volleyball fans are likely to see a lot of Lydia Sussner attacking the net for the Minneota Vikings this year. She smashed a hit toward the other side of the net during a huge scrimmage in Minneota on Thursday. Behind her, as they will be all season, were setter Morgan Kockelman (left) and Abby Hennen (right). Minneota held its own against all seven teams, and, while scores were not officially kept, won all or nearly all of their matches.

Staff Photo
by
Byron Higgin



Setter Morgan Kockelman

New regime with new setter

By Byron Higgin
Mascot Sports Editor

The surroundings are oh, so familiar for Hayley Fruin.

She's come full circle, from being a member of the only Minneota State Volleyball State Championship team in 2006, to being a new mother 14 weeks ago and now she's the head coach of her Alma mater, the Minneota girls' volleyball team.

"It's definitely fun to come home," she said with a quick smile enveloping her face.

"I'm very excited and looking forward to the season, now that it's here," she said.

She directed the Lakeview Lakers volleyball team for a couple of seasons, then came back to Minneota as

the assistant and B squad coach last year.

Now, it's her turn — and her time on her home court.

She's been pushing her 14 week maternity leave from her day-time employer, Bremer Bank in Marshall. "Today is the last day," she said on Friday.

Then the smile returned and she explained, "I've got an understanding boss at the bank. She's a volleyball referee so she understands everything."

As for her new baby, Weston ... well, he's been born into a team filled with babysitters. "The girls will be good babysitters," she chuckled. And then there's always grandpa and grandma, her parents, Mike and Pam Hennen.

This is a homecoming for the new coach and nobody seems more excit-

ed to give her a present that a group of young players being built around a powerful junior hitter Lydia Sussner.

"They've stepped into the gym with tough practices but have no complaints. They know what work is and they are highly competitive," said Fruin.

The coach knows teams will try and key their defense against Sussner, but that may play into Minneota's hand, because a nice contingent of hitters will be more than a support team, but an instrument of destruction.

The team's only senior, Jennifer Krog, has shed her past two injury-plagued seasons and is ready to mount an attack at the net. Joining her are junior hitters Lizzy Gillingham and Sydney Larson.

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Coach Fruin and son Weston

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