



Coach Greg Gile

Assistant Coaches: LeAnne Bot, Walker Hennen, Nicole Evers.

Record Last Year
Won Section 5A
Fifth at State Class A Girls
Tournament

Outlook This Year
Every chance for the girls to
compete for a state spot again.

Coach's Quote
"I think the girls will be highly
competitive." — Coach Greg Gile.

Girls Roster

Seniors: Brooklynn Downing,
Laura Knutson, Carolyn Hoffmann,
Allison Citterman. **Sophomores:**
Natalie Bot. **Eighth Graders:**
Lauren Bowyer, Jeren Rost.

Girls Schedule

Tuesday, April 10 Marshall Invitational
(Minnetonka, Dawson-Boyd, RCW, BBE,
Redwood Valley, MCC, Benson, Wabasso,
Lakeview, Canby, RTR, LoPV, MACCRA,
Montevideo, YME, BOLD, Mt. Lake Christian,
Tuesday, April 17 at RTR (Tyler), 4:30
p.m.
Thursday, April 19 at Hendricks, 4:30
p.m.
Tuesday, April 24 Ortonville Invite, 10
a.m. (Ortonville, West Central Area, Dawson-Boyd,
Underwood, RCW, Lakeview, Canby, Montevideo, YME,
Morris Area, Wheaton, Milbank, Sisseton,
Lakeview, RTR, TMB), 4:30 p.m.
Monday, April 30 MINNEOTA (Canby,
Hendricks, Lakeview, RTR, TMB), 4:30
p.m.
Tuesday, May 1 MINNEOTA INVITATIONAL,
11 a.m. (BBE, Canby, Dawson-Boyd, LoPV,
Lakeview, MACCRA, RTR, Worthington, YME)
Thursday, May 3 at Tracy, 4:30 p.m.
Monday, May 7 at Lakeview (boys and girls meet), 4:30 p.m.
Wednesday, May 9 Benson Invite, 9
a.m. (Benson, Dawson-Boyd, RCW, BBE,
Litchfield, Lakeview, LoPV, MACCRA,
Paynesville, YME, Morris Area)
Monday, May 14 CONFERENCE
TOURNAMENT at Marshall, 7:30 a.m.
Wednesday, May 23 SECTION 5A
Tournament at Willmar, 9 a.m.
Wednesday, May 30 SECTION 5A
Tournament Day 2 at Willmar, 9 a.m.
Tuesday, June 12 State Tournament at
Becker, TBD.
Wednesday, June 13 State Tournament
at Becker, TBD.

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Minnetonka senior Brooklynn Downing has golfed in the state tournament at Becker three times and is hoping to help take her team back to the state tournament again this year. Here she watched a shot last year at the Becker course. File Photo by Byron Higgin.

Evers returns to help coach her team

By Byron Higgin
Mascot Publisher

Maybe nobody has more invested in the Minnetonka girls' golf team than Nicole Evers. Oh, she graduated, you say! True. But some people leave — yet, they keep coming back again.

"We brought Nicole into the coaching ranks. I think that's a tremendous honor for her," said Coach Greg Gile.

Perhaps nobody would be better suited to help Minnetonka's girls squad than Evers.



Nicole Evers

"I will remember Nicole Evers for the incredible improvement demonstrated from the end of her freshman year to her sophomore year."

"Her scores on the Marshall golf course during her freshman year were quite high. However, she took golf lessons during the following summer months on a regular

basis resulting. By her sophomore year it was her score that got us into the state tournament," said the coach.

"The next year she broke her ankle. But she didn't quit."

The coach added, "Her performance demonstrated the most improvement I have ever seen in such a short span of time."

"Weeks later, Nicole broke her ankle which kept her off the golf course, summer tournaments, and prevented her from realizing a promising volleyball and basketball experience her junior year. Nicole recovered during the golf season and once again her scores helped our girls return to the state golf tournament."

But as Coach Gile said, "Nicole soon experienced another setback with dental surgery and was unable to play following the state golf tournament or participate in volleyball her senior year. Despite two difficult setbacks, Nicole demonstrated remarkable leadership helping our girls' golf team enjoy a terrific 2017 golf season."

Through it all she was the, "Principal instructor at Viking golf camp the last three years. I was honored to have her on the golf camp staff," said Gile. So it's that same tenacity the coach figures Evers will bring to this year's squad.



Carolyn Hoffmann



Brooklynn Downing



Laura Knutson



Natalie Bot



Allison Citterman



Jeren Rost



Lauren Bowyer

Citterman, Natalie Bot, Lauren Knutson and Carolyn Hoffmann all returning with state tournament experience — the cupboard is hardly bare.

And, "We've got two eighth graders — Lauren Bowyer and Jeren Rost, who are young, but they are pretty talented for their age."

In the junior high ranks, Bauer and Rost were at the top of their peers.

"Nicole's leadership, experience, character, and involvement with our Viking golf camp made her a perfect candidate to continue her involvement with the Minnetonka golf team as an assistant coach," said Coach Gile.

The coach feels the girls, "Will be competitive." If so, a lot may be due to Evers' contributions "over the years," rubbing off on this year's squad.

Make no mistake, "Nicole and Heidi Guttmorsson are some big shoes to fill," says the coach.

Heidi Guttmorsson has her name on every school record (Low nine-hole score, low 18-hole score, most state appearances, lowest finish state tournament, second).

Guttmorsson either has been the team medalist or tournament medalist since eighth grade. "She was a terrific team captain, an outstanding athlete, and spent countless hours on the practice range developing the golfing skills allowing her to record two top 10 finishes (sixth and second) at the state golf tournament. Her dedication, leadership and hard work had a direct impact on the performance of her teammates."

But with seniors Brooklynn Downing, Allison

girls battled through adversity, had to fight their way to the top. But when the dust cleared, they were on top of Section 5A after two tough days of golfing and they headed for another state golf meet.

At state, the Vikings finished in fifth place. Guttmorsson ended in a three-way tie for second place with a two-day total of 160.

Minnetonka's other golfers were: Lauren Knutson 197; Brooklynn Downing 196; Nicole Evers 205; Carolyn Hoffmann 207 and Allison Citterman 212.

With all that experience behind them, it's probably hasty not to count the Vikings as a contender to return to the state once again this year.

Downing has three state golf tournaments appearances and three all conference selections.

Senior Allison Citterman (One state golf appearance); senior Carolyn Hoffmann (two state golf appearances, one all conference selection); senior Laura Knutson (One state golf appearance, one all conference selection, sophomore Natalie Bot (returning letter winner).

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Minneota Boys Golf

Record Last Year
Nolan Boerboom qualified for the state boys' tournament.

Outlook This Year
This team has been building for several years, has a leader and could be contender for the state.

Coach's Quote
"This team has a chance this year." — Coach Greg Gile.

Roster
Seniors—Tristan Sorensen, TJ Esping, Lucas Bot, Tyler Myhre
Juniors—Mitchell Rost, Zach Van Keulen.
Sophomore—Nolan Boerboom.
Freshman—Chase Differding, Zach Hennen, Braxton Downing.
Eighth Grade—Cole Myhre.

Boys Schedule
Tuesday, April 17 at RTR (Tyler), 4:30 p.m.
Thursday, April 19 at Hendricks, 4:30 p.m.
Monday, April 23 Ortonville Invite, 9 a.m. (Ortonville, West Central Area, Dawson-Boyd, Underwood, RCW, Lakeview, Canby, Montevideo, YME, Morris Area, Wheaton, Milbank, Sisseton).
Wednesday, April 25 at Benson Invite, 9 a.m. (Benson, Dawson-Boyd, RCW, BBE, Litchfield, Lakeview, LqPV, MACCRA, Paynesville, YME, Morris Area).
Thursday, April 26 at Canby (Hendricks, Lakeview, RTR, TMB), 4:30 p.m.
Monday, April 30 MINNEOTA (Canby, Hendricks, Lakeview, RTR, TMB), 4:30 p.m.
Tuesday, May 1 Lakeview Invitational, 11 a.m.
Thursday, May 3 at Tracy, 4:30 p.m.
Monday, May 7 at Lakeview (boys and girls meet), 4:30 p.m.
Monday, May 14 CONFERENCE TOURNAMENT at Marshall, 7:30 a.m.
Wednesday, May 23 SECTION 5A Tournament at Willmar, 9 a.m.
Wednesday, May 30 SECTION 5A Tournament Day 2 at Willmar, 9 a.m.
Tuesday, June 12 State Tournament at Becker, TBD.
Wednesday, June 13 State Tournament at Becker, TBD.

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Nolan Boerboom stood surrounded by trees on the State Tournament Course in Becker. File Photo by Byron Higgin.

Building on Boerboom

By Byron Higgin
Mascot Sports Editor

Commitment.

It's a word coaches hang their hat on. But it's also a word some players only talk about.

But when a player commits himself to his sport and works hard to perfect his trade, the word "commitment," is more than a word, it's an attitude.

Nolan Boerboom committed to golf last year. And it paid off with a trip to the state tournament, a 37th place finish and two-day golf score of 172.

Injuries piled up on him for a couple of years, slowing his natural progress. Then, he began to call the golf course home, built a stronger body and as a freshman took total leadership of the Viking boys' golf team.

Now, as a sophomore, he stands in the archway of leading an experienced squad — and maybe this time, just maybe, he can lead the whole team back to Becker and the state tournament.

"This team has a good chance," said Coach Greg Gile.

With Boerboom's leadership, and a natural progression of improvement, it's not such a tall order.

Senior Tristan Sorensen battled through a mysterious physical ailment a year ago, then pulled it all together and individually qualified for the Section 5A tournament. He didn't make it to state, but he made a statement that he'd improved and may be ready for the next step.

Sorensen has been golfing since the seventh grade and he feels his best part of his game is "chipping."

"Nolan Boerboom has the one state golf appearance plus one all-conference selection with a scoring average of 43.1," said Coach Gile.

Standing on the cusp of success are seniors TJ Esping and Tyler Myhre. Both had "up and down" seasons a year ago. So consistency could be a factor in this team's success. Esping averaged 49.9 strokes per nine holes and Myhre 48.4 a year ago. Another senior, Lucas Bot, scored 49.6 as an average.

Bot has been on the team for three years and his strong suit is his driver.

Esping has golfed since the seventh grade.

Coach Gile indicated he may have a "coach tag along with Esping," to help him gain consistency. "He has the tools," the coach said.

Senior Lucas Bot also had some up and down times and could help the squad. As for Myhre, "The short game" is his best skill.

At times it was Mitchell Rost who led the team during regular season meets. If he remains solid and even improves from last year, that could be another cog in an ever-improving Viking boys' squad.

Rost burst through as a starting lineman for the state champion Vikings football team and he also played basketball. So he's honed his competitive edge and is heading for even more success.

Rost's average score last year was 46.1 and Tristan Sorensen's was 50.

Eighth grader Cole Myhre and freshman Chase Differding will also have a chance to see some varsity time this year.

"Starting positions for the varsity boys will be very competitive. They have a lot of potential but need two more starters to bring their scores into the low 40s," said Coach Gile.

"To be competitive we will need team scores in the 160s. The boys have a solid work ethic which means anything is possible," he added.

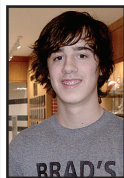
Senior's favorite holes

Lucas Bot: No. 14 at Marshall.

Tyler Myhre: No. 6 at Minneota.

Tristan Sorensen: No. 2 in Minneota.

TJ Esping: No. 1 in Minneota.



Chase Differding



Mitchell Rost



Lucas Bot



TJ Esping



Tristan Sorensen



Tyler Myhre



Nolan Boerboom



Cole Myhre

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Viking Pride



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April 4, 2018



Coach Kent Williams

Assistant Coaches: Troy DeSmet, Ken DeBoer and Dale Verschelde

Record Last Year
Did a good job at the state tournament with Hannah Brewers finishing with 42 of 50 hits in the Novice Division. Travis Engels took high conference average for boys and average high overall for the Vikings.

Outlook This Year
One year stronger. A new coach, but a lot of the same shooters. Should be another good campaign.

Coach's Quote
"Looking at the team members this year, we have a lot of returning athletes and quite a few new athletes, as well."
— Coach Kent Williams

Team roster

Seniors: Kyle Banks, Hunter Fier, Noel Swedzinski

Juniors: Shawn Buysse, Ryan Vlamincik

Sophomores: Hannah Brewers, Tony DeSmet, Brenden Kimpe, Madison Scholten.

Freshmen: Reid Fier, McKenzie Monnet, Kaden Myhre

8th grade: Elizabeth DeSmet, Landon DeSmet

7th grade: Garret DeBoer, Logan Myhre, Hudson Scholten, Joseph Verschelde

6th grade: Wyatt Myhre

Schedule

Week of April 3
Practice Week 1
Week of April 10
Practice Week 2
Week of April 17
Reserve week (in case of inclement weather)
Week of April 24
Competition Week 1
Week of May 1
Competition Week 2
Week of May 8
Competition Week 3
Week of May 15
Competition Week 4
Week of May 22
Competition Week 5
Week of May 29
Fun Week
June (date to be determined)
Minnesota Clay Target Shooting Championships

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Senior Hunter Fier took aim for the Minneota Clay Target Shooting team. They will begin their fourth year of competition in Minnesota's fastest-growing sport. File Photo by Sue Jacobson.

Aiming for improvement, unity

By Scott Thoma
Mascot Staff Writer

Now in their third full season, the Minneota Clay Target Shooting team is looking to improve on its impressive showing in last year's state championship.

"Last year, Minneota competed in the 2A Novice Class at the championship in Alexandria," said Kent Williams, who takes over for Bill Delaney as head coach.

"They ended with the ranking of fourth out of 25 teams in the Novice Class."

Troy DeSmet, Ken DeBoer and Dale Verschelde will assist Williams with the clay target shooting team this year.

Minneota has 19 competitors signed up for the team this year in grades 6-12. Practice began on Tuesday, April 3.

"Looking at the team members this year, we have a lot of returning athletes and quite a few new athletes, as well," said Williams.

"We also have a nice mixture of students in grades 6-12."

"This will be a positive aspect of the team as those that are younger will be able to learn more from the more experienced shooters."

The team will be shooting on Tuesdays and Thursdays at the Minneota Sportsman's Club. They will have two practice weeks beginning April 3, followed by five weeks of competition.

Unlike any other sport, clay target shooting teams compete on their own and don't see the competition until the state tournament. Until then, the shooters compete at their sportsman's club facility or shooting range to shoot targets.

Scores are then tabulated each week and sent to a central tabulator and a running total is compiled. At the end of the season, teams are assigned to various divisions based on their season totals.

"After our two practice weeks, we then have five weeks of competition," Williams explained. "Competitions will all occur at the Sportsman's Club."

"We use an online scoring system where athletes scores are recorded and then compared to other teams in Minnesota. By the end of the five weeks of competition, student athletes are ranked based on their individual scores and the total team scores, as well."

In June, the team will travel to Alexandria to compete at the state competition against all the other teams in their own conference size.

Teams can be comprised of boys or girls. Minneota will field a young team this season with only three seniors, Noel Swedzinski, Hunter Fier and Kyle Banks.

"We will rely on them to be encouraging examples to the underclassmen,"



Minneota Junior Shawn Buysse has been a great shooter for the Clay Target Shooting team. His experience and leadership will be important for this young squad. Mascot file photo.

said Williams.

"For the ladies, Hannah Brewers will be returning. She shot very well at the state tournament last year, receiving second in her class. We will rely on her to be an example to the underclassmen, as well as help us recruit more ladies into this sport."

Williams feels the more time the students spend at the shooting range, the better the team will be.

"As with any sport, the practice time on the field will be valuable," he said.

"Students need to shoot two rounds per week to be part of the league. However, we offer other chances for students to shoot more rounds."

"The more experienced members will also need to be encouraging examples to the younger athletes. Shooting in front of peers can be a mental game. We will be focusing on a positive encouraging atmosphere as a team."

Organizations have sponsored the clay target shooting team to reduce costs to the competitors and make the sports more accessible to all athletes.

Those organizations include: Southwest Sportsman's Club, Lyon County Pheasants Forever, Friends of the NRA, and the National Wild Turkey Federation.

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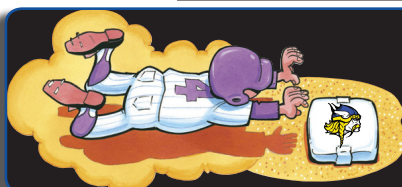


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Coach Heidi Boerboom

Assistant Coaches: Heather Anderson; Kelsea (Tolk) Anderson; volunteer coach Larissa Kockelman.

Record Last Year
12-9 overall; 11-7 conference

Outlook This Year
If pitching holds up, the Vikings could be very competitive.

Coach's Quote

"Weaknesses includes replacing Becca Kalhoff, which is going to be very difficult—offensively and defensively. She had a tremendous season on the mound for us last year—walking only 15 batters the entire season. Her leadership was also valuable to our team. Larissa Kockelman will also be missed. Still trying to figure out the outfield, but we have the athletes to get it done."

— Coach Heidi Boerboom

Roster

Senior-Katie Friehl.

Juniors: Sydney Larson, Brooklyn Nelson, Emily Pohlen.

Sophomores: Kaylee Johnson, Madison Sorensen, Katie Konold.

Freshman: Abby Hennen.

Schedule

Friday, April 6 vs. RTR at Tyler, 4:30 p.m. (2).
Tuesday, April 10 vs. Renville Co. West at Danube, 4:30 p.m. (2).
Tuesday, April 17 DAWSON-BOYD, 4:30 p.m. (2).
Thursday, April 19 at Lac qui Parle Valley, 4:30 p.m. (2).
Tuesday, April 24 MACCRAV, 4:30 p.m. (2).
Thursday, April 26 Kerkhoven-M-S at Sunburg, 4:30 p.m.
Thursday, May 3 YELLOW MEDICINE EAST, 4:30 p.m. (2).
Monday, May 7 at Montevideo, 5 p.m.
Friday, May 11 at Tracy-M-B, 4:30 p.m. (2).
Thursday, May 17 REDWOOD VALLEY, 5 p.m.
Tuesday, May 22 SUB-SECTION, TBA, 3 p.m.
Saturday, May 26 SECTION, TBA, 11 a.m.

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Brooklyn Nelson is expected to carry a bulk of the pitching duties. She suffered a leg injury in volleyball but is hoping she's read to throw this spring for the Minneota-Canby girls' softball team. Inset is Sydney Larson, catcher, who is the power hitter and can also pitch. File Photo by Byron Higgin.

Larson-Nelson duo returns

By Byron Higgin
Mascot Sports Editor

When Brooklyn Nelson tore her Achilles tendon during volleyball practice, she feared losing far more than the volleyball season.

She's also expected to be the starting pitcher for the Minneota-Canby Softball team.

"Brooklyn Nelson was just given the okay to return to sports after her ACL surgery in the fall," said Coach Heidi Boerboom.

The coach added, "I'm very excited to have her back on the mound." That's particularly good news since the team lost Canby graduate Becca Kalhoff.

"Replacing Becca will be very difficult, both offensively and defensively. She had a tremendous year on the mound for us," said Boerboom.

A year ago Kalhoff walked only 15 batters the entire season. "Her leadership was also valuable to our team. Larissa Kockelman will also be missed," said the coach.

However, Kockelman has returned as a "volunteer coach" to lend her expertise to the team.

Yet, at this time, "We're still trying to figure out the outfield, but we have the athletes to get it done," said the coach.

Katie Friehl of Canby is the only returning senior and she's played a lot of outfield — but could also get some time on the infield.

Perhaps the mainstay of the team is catcher (and part-time pitcher) Sydney Larson. She's the power hitter for this team and when not catching, will see

some time on the mound.

"Sydney is coming along as a pitcher and will continue to catch too. Sydney led the team in hitting last year," said the coach.

When she's pitching, Abby Hennen is likely to take up the catching duties. Hennen also plays infield and outfield and was one of team's leading hitters a year ago.

Other returning letter winners include outfielder Emily Pohlen, Kaylee Johnson, third baseman Madison Sorensen, and Katie Konold.

"Friehl is fast on the bases and in outfield," coach Boerboom said.

She will be counted on as one of the veterans this year.

"Madison Sorensen is as good as any third baseperson that I have ever seen here — and that was as a freshman," said the coach.

"I look for Emily to have a big season. She injured her knee last year and had to sit out the last half of the schedule. But she's a solid player who can hit the ball hard and play almost anywhere on the field," said Coach Boerboom.

She added that Abby Hennen is another athlete that can play anywhere. With Sydney taking on more responsibility on the mound, Abby will be spending more time behind the plate.

"She can hit and runs the bases aggressively."

There are also several youngsters coming up through the season that could help this year.

When it comes to the Camden Conference, Kerkhoven-Murdock-Sunburg and Lac qui Parle Valley are probably the teams to beat this year.

Oh, let's not forget to put Minneota-Canby in that group as well.



The Minneota-Canby Vikings are: (front row, left to right) Emily Pohlen, Sydney Larson, Katie Friehl and Brooklyn Nelson. Second Row: Abby Hennen, Audra Buysse and Abby Rangaard. Third Row: Kaylee Johnson and Madison Sorensen. Back Row: Katie Konold.

Photo for the Mascot by Sue Jacobson.

Have a great season Vikings!



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