

2021 FALL SPORTS

Gracie Dudley
Dance

Captain Jadyn Reid
Cheer

Drum Major
Quincy Crawford
Band

Paityn Cook
Tennis

Gage Mantonya
Cross Country

Wallace Gregory
Soccer

Paige Gillund
Volleyball

Emrie Neal
Team Captain

Bailey Jones
Softball

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2021 Cardinal Coaching Staff



THE FOOTBALL STAFF, Left to Right: Defensive C./RB's (Nolan Wilson), Head Coach/Off C. (Kevin LaFavor), QBs (Eric Silkwood), O Line/D Line (Dustin Roark and Casey Taylor), Sp. T Coordinator/WR's (Kade Tucker), Defensive Backs (Ben Monaco). Coach LaFavor has clearly stated he is extremely pleased and proud of his staff.



COACH ZACH ADAMS, the 2021 Cardinal boys soccer coach. Coach Adams is a 2014 CHS Alum.



CLINTON CROSS COUNTRY: Coach Nathan Johnson standing with his assistant coach Jayme Bittle.



COACH ERICA HILMAS-TUCKER is the head coach for both the Fall and Spring Tennis teams. She is highly qualified and has a great assistant coach, Sarah Armon.



THE THREE MUSKETEERS: CHS Volleyball coaches, Savanna McGhee, Pam Jones and Sara (McGhee) Nepple.



SOFTBALL COACHES: Krista Adams, Head Coach Gary Bowers, and Sydney Snyder



CHEER SQUAD COACHES: Left to right, Katelyn Panek, Head Coach Kayla Sherer and Madison Lamb.

Coach Sherer Excited About the Year

Comments from Coach Sherer: “We are looking forward to performing in front of the community at Meet the Cards and other school events. It will be our first real live performance in front of a crowd in almost 2 years. We are excited for Monday night football games, rain or shine! The cheerleaders have been working hard to learn material for the upcoming games; practicing over the summer, holding camp with UCM Cheerleaders, and have already started practices for the season. We are ready to go.” The squad is coached by Kayla Sherer assisted by Katelyn Panek and Madison Lamb.



2021 CHEER SENIORS: Sophie Schilling, Jadyne Reid, Madie Hager, Jessica Tipton, Ashley Berry, and Natalee Newman.



FOOTBALL CHEERS-VARSITY roster: Ashley Berry, Angeles Ramirez, Ellison Sisney, Jadyne Reid, Jenna Hess, Jessica Tipton, Kylie Licking, Madie Hager, Martha Fredrickson, Natalee Newman, Olivia Goth, Olivia Klassen, Parker Cochran and Sophie Schilling.
JV Squad: Alexa Ramirez, Alexandria Markham, Amaya Morris, Amitria McNack, Elana Cole, Gracie Lankford, Hannah Gerhardt, Mikalah Scott, Patience Pfliederer, Riley-Ann Dunn, Rylee Reid, Sloan Roberts and Taryn Gilbert.

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2021 Clinton Cardinal Cross Country

Jawin' With Johnson

Nathan Johnson is in his 11th year coaching at CHS. Coach Johnson knows the kids and the kids know their coach. No surprises. Cross Country and Track are solid programs at Clinton, and obviously the coaching from Mr. Johnson and others is a big part of that.

“The 2021 Cross Country squad has two Seniors, Brent Carroll and Laramie (Gage) Mantonya. Besides Brent and Gage, you would have to say Nicholas Crowell is also a key runner. He is ready to prove himself.”

Others of note?: “Leah Kenney was a standout middle school Cross Country runner. She has placed in the top 10 in many of her races. She will be one of the top girls to watch this year. Vyla Brown was also a standout middle schooler. Vyla and Leah will compete with each other to place in the top of every freshman race.

Strengths? “We are a very young team this year with the majority of our athletes being freshmen and sophomores. However, the upperclassman we do have are great runners and leaders. We will have some of the best incoming freshman runners that cross country has ever seen. Don't let the underclassmen athletes fool you because they are good and I mean really good. We are a family. We compete and run for each other. We have heart.”

What are some of the team challenges?: “The biggest challenge will be how young we are as a team. Yes, we are good for our age, but experience just takes time. That is one disadvantage we will have. The more races we run as a team, the more growth you will see. I am not worried about the talent and work ethic, but more the experience. When we finally click and both of those are on the same page, we will do amazing things.”

Comments on Conference/Schedule?: “The conference we are in is amazing, we are very lucky to be in the MRVC with such a high caliber of competition. Being one of the smallest schools in the conference, it can be very tough, but it helps us prepare for post-season.”

General Season Outlook?: “It's going to be a good season. It may start off a little slow as we learn how to work as a team. Like I mentioned before, the experience will come, but the talent is already there. We always show up to do amazing things post-season. I am very clear that the season meets are all practice for the post-season meets. Post-season is when our season really starts. That's when we really bring it and are all together on the same page. We come to compete. We come to bring success to our school and community.”

Coach Johnson summed things up: “I am very excited to have yet another season as the Clinton Cardinals Cross Country coach. We have some very talented athletes. All we need is time to grow this season and we will come out swinging when it really matters. Like I always tell the kids, if you have heart, if you have passion, then you will be a champion. It's important that if you love what you are doing and you are running with your heart, then no matter what, you WILL be a CHAMPION. Either on the inside or out.”

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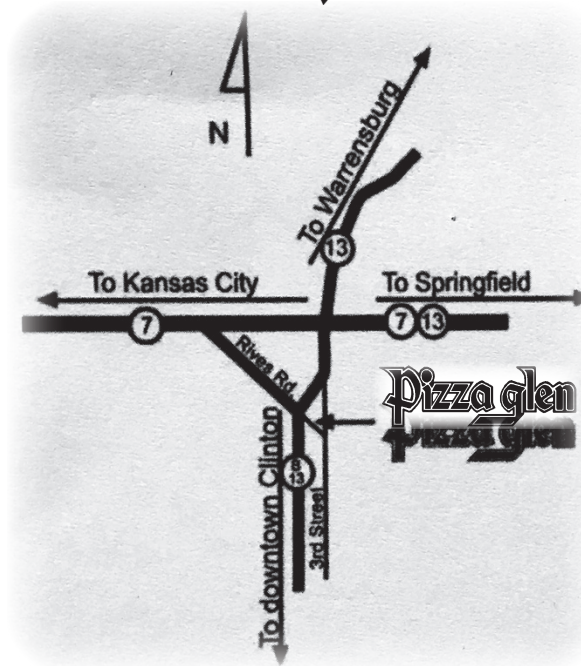
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Sunday 4 pm to 8 pm

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Cardinal Cross Country Schedule



Date	Opponent	Time
9/4	Sat at Bolivar	8 a.m.
9/11	Sat at Ray-Pec	
9/14	Tue at Bolivar	4:30 p.m.
9/18	Sat Clinton Invite	
9/25	Sat Hermitage Invite	
10/2	Sat at Camdenon	9 a.m.
10/9	Sat at Butler	TBD
10/14	Thur at Warrensburg	
10/20	Wed MRVC Meet	TBD
10/23	Sat at Fatima	9:30 a.m.



COUNTRY TEAM MEMBERS: Xavier Mason leads the way. Alexa McCartney is right behind. Sarah Mendenhall is getting instruction from Coach Johnson (in the Gator). Lauren Bagley and Eleanor McMillan are in the back. They are all working on getting better.



GAGE MANTONYA



BRENT CARROLL



THE CLINTON CROSS COUNTRY team has been meeting in front of the high school for their morning runs. Front row left to right: Vyla Brown, Lauren Bagley, Leah Kenney, Alexa McCartney and Eleanor McMillan. Back row: Coach Johnson, Quin Grunig, Nicholas Crowell, Gage Ross, Laramie Mantonya, Colby Bigler, Xavier Mason, Mikah Wareham and Sarah Mendenhall. Not pictured Brent Carroll.



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THE LARGE CARDINAL PRIDE BAND (roster): Noah Adams, Tyler Anderson, Camron Bath, Samuel Baughman, Makenna Beasley, Miranda Beaty, Andrew Bedwell, Xavia Bell, Kendal Bohannon, Aubrey Bosch, Gerald Brown, Nyssa Brown, Caitlyn Bryant, Hailey Coleman, Dylan Coskey, Alexander Crawford, Quincy Crawford, Joseph Dean, Casey Dowdy, Gracie Dudley, Garrett Dunn II, Aspen Dunn, Noah Fonke, Kaitlyn Foster, Cory Garrison, Hannah Gerhardt, Taryn Gilbert, Tate Goth, Victoria Gregory, Abraham Griffey, Elijah Griffey, Lucan Guynn, Jazsneelia Harding, Taylor Henson, Lucas Heredia, Kason Himes, Molly Houk, Madison Huey, Ella Huggins, Tyler Johnson, Abbygail Jones, Addison Jones, Atticus Jones, Bailey Jones, Misty Julian, Ryan Keith, Taylor Kirk, Royce Kleppen, Kearsten Knight, Kanden LaFarge, Gracie Lankford, Nathan Lankford, Kylie Licking, Allison Livingston, Madison Livingston, Kaydith Maddox, Alexandria Markham, Kayla McCanles, Whitney McCanles, Eleanor McMillan, Isabella McMillan, Amitria McNack, Sarah Mendenhall, Gavin Mothersbaugh, Jonathan Neill, Bridget Newman, Aiden O'Roark, Austin Petry, Makenna Pugh, Alexa Ramirez, Shayli Reid, Marissa Rivas, Sean Rivas, Liam Ross, Alexandria Russell, Miles Russell, Audrey Schilling, Olivia Schilling, Chloe Shubin, Gabriel Simmons, Hannah Snider, Kaden Snyder, Andrea Stigall, Ariana Stroud, Emma Swartz, John Thomas, Wyatt Tucker, Sydney Wareham, Eldon Webster, Melanee Wood, Rayden Worthington and Maycee Wray.

MORE CARDINAL PRIDE BAND ON PAGE 10&11

An Interview with Cardinal Pride Band

Mr. Pat Miles opened with, “First let me point out that Mr. Austin Bressman is the Assistant Director of Bands, we work closely together. He is a graduate of Staley High School in Kansas City. He received his bachelor’s degree in Music Education from UCM in Warrensburg. He specializes in percussion and has added so much value to our program as our drum line instructor.” (This is Mr. Miles seventh year at the Clinton SD and Mr. Bressman’s second. Mr. Miles began teaching at Chilhowee as a substitute for their band program prior to his graduation from UCM. He went on to student teach with Mr. Dave Robinson in Knob Noster. After graduation in 2008, he taught at Green Ridge. He returned to the “nest” as a Cardinal in 2015. Mr. Miles won the Clinton Teacher of

the Year Award in 2018-2019.)

Mr. Miles covered the importance of the band parents: (The officers of the Band Aides are Mr. Tim Dudley-President, Mr. Johnny Crawford and Mrs. Melissa Crawford- Secretaries, Mrs. Amanda Johnson-Treasurer.) “All our band parents put in so much work to make sure our students have the best possible experience during their time on our team! Not only do they help plan events and assist with props for marching band, they provide meals, support and supervision for our kids during competitions and trips. We are very fortunate to have such an involved group of parents invested in our group’s success.”

How does this year compare to others? “Every coach will tell you that every year is different. I don’t like to compare groups, but I can tell you this year’s group will be larger than what we’ve seen in previous years. We are definitely

returning our focus to relationships, musical problem solving and (most importantly) quality experiences that translate from the classroom into life skills. Oh, and of course, the star of the show- FUN!”

Comments about incoming freshmen? “We have many staff meetings with band leadership during our camps. The most common observation from our leadership team has been about the positive mindset the new members have consistently displayed. They have been so excited to jump in to learn new skills (including line dances) and music. They hold each other accountable and just have fun being a part of a band!”

How is the MS Band doing? “Our middle school band had a great mindset last year. In a year that COVID, quarantines, social distancing and general worry could have torn down any program. Despite all odds, our CMS



THE SENIOR LEADERSHIP in Band is always important: Back Row (left to right): Drew Bedwell, Liam Ross, Noah Fonke, Dylan Coskey, Quincy Crawford, Noah Adams, Garrett Dunn, and Abraham Griffey. Front Row: Bella McMillan, Kearsten Knight, Bailey Jones, Alli Russell, Madi Livingston, Xavia Bell and Hailey Coleman.

students rose to the occasion! They did their best to accommodate changes to routine, festivals and competitions moving to digital formats. Our 7th and 8th grade students have the opportunity to begin Jazz Band and our 8th grade students get their first taste of marching

competition. Mr. Bressman and I are very excited to get back to our CMS students!" I asked Mr. Miles to educate me on the different contests/competitions the band participates in.

"The MRVC does not have a formal contest.

This year, they will be offering a "paper" honor band. Students nominated and selected to this ensemble will not be traveling or performing as a formal ensemble. Our MSHSAA district does offer a district level solo/small ensemble festival for students to perform alone or in small groups in the Spring. Students earning Gold ratings automatically move on to perform at the state level approximately one month later. There is a separate one tier state event for state large ensembles. Our school district

is also one of the few in the state with a full jazz curriculum offered as a class during the school day. As a result, we have had more students auditioning for district and State jazz ensembles. Last year, Noah Adams was one of only 7 students selected from our region to be a part of MSHSAA district jazz. Our band has consistently achieved top ratings at the large ensemble festival and we have had many students perform at the state level for solo/small ensembles."

How do you feel the Band (Marching/Pep/Concert) supports other programs? "We attend and perform at football games, basketball games, pep rallies, district and state athletic events, we march the halls, homecoming, graduation, concerts, special district events, business openings, and at just about any event someone needs some fun and entertainment! During athletic contests, our sole purpose is to add to the atmosphere, fun, and cheers. Come out to a game and you'll feel the extra energy our group adds to anything." Mr. Miles summed it up with, "Our students embrace having fun with a positive mindset. If this is continually built upon by our leadership council and band staff, this will be a great year with the best kiddos around!"

(There is no doubt the CHS Cardinal Pride Band is one of the best in the area and brings a ton of pride to the school district and its patrons. Thanks to all and have a great year.)



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2021 CHS Soccer

The new interim Cardinal boys soccer coach is Zach Adams. He has no assistant at this time. This is Coach Adams' second year teaching. He was the assistant boys soccer coach last year under Coach Guenther. The program is low on numbers this year at 19 but 10 of them are seniors. The 2020 squad had a record of 16-3. Coach Adams pointed out that nine of the 10 seniors played varsity last year and senior Garrett Dunn is returning to the program after missing his junior year. Coach Adams emphasized the experience the team has with 11 different returning players having at least one varsity start last year.

Coach Adams, "We should be very competitive counting on the experience we have. Two of our top scorers are back, Wally Gregory and Derek McCormack." Coach Adams also pointed out that five freshmen are on the squad. "Evan Mantonya and Jackson Woodland are two of the freshmen and they were at the majority of the open fields. They also made it to a lot of the summer weights as well. Hopefully our experience and our leadership from seniors will be one of our big strengths. Having only 19 guys out will be a challenge. We open up

the season at Boonville. Our conference starts against Pleasant Hill (3rd) and then Harrisonville (1st), who were in the top of the conference last year."

Editor's notes: With only 19 on the squad it will be difficult to have full JV games. It will be

interesting.

Coach Adams concluded, "We're hoping to continue the success that we had last year. I'm proud of how hard the guys worked over the summer at open field and with this first week of official practice."



CHS SOCCER SENIORS: Back row, left to right: Keaton Townsend, Adam Walrath, Tyler Gardner, Dylan Bloom and Noah Adams. Front row: Derek McCormack, Brant Bremer, Wally Gregory and Abe Griffey. Not pictured Garrett Dunn.



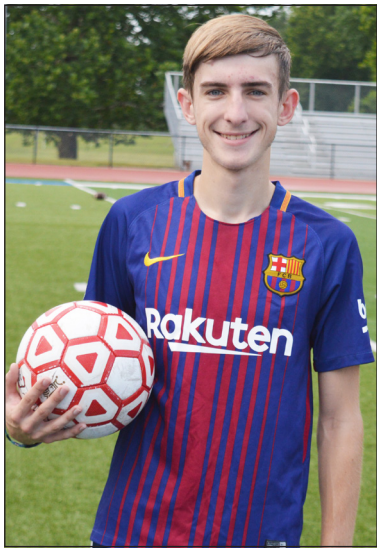
CARDINAL SOCCER TEAM: Back row, left to right: Miles Russell, Jackson Woodland, Cale Zink, Eli Griffey, Landon Modlin, Caden McCartney, Hunter Willings, Xzavier Ray, Evan Mantonya and Coach Zach Adams. Front row: Garrett Dunn, Keaton Townsend, Derek McCormack, Abraham Griffey, Tyler Gardner, Adam Walrath, Noah Adams, Brant Bremer, Dylan Bloom, and Wally Gregory.

Cardinal Soccer Schedule



Date	Opponent	Time
8/31	at Boonville	6:30 p.m.
9/2	Green Ridge	5:00 p.m.
9/8-11	Clinton Tourney	TBD
9/16	at Lone Jack	6:30 p.m.
9/21	Pleasant Hill	6:30 p.m.
9/23-25	Bolivar Classic	TBD
9/28	at Harrisonville	6:30 p.m.
10/1-2	Willard Classic	TBD
10/5	at Odessa	6:30 p.m.
10/7	Osage	TBD
10/11	at Camdenton	6:30 p.m.
10/12	Warrensburg	6:30 p.m.
10/14	at Knob Noster	6:30 p.m.
10/19	at Oak Grove	6:30 p.m.
10/26	Ex. Springs	6:30 p.m.
10/28	Center	TBD

JV games are usually played before the varsity.



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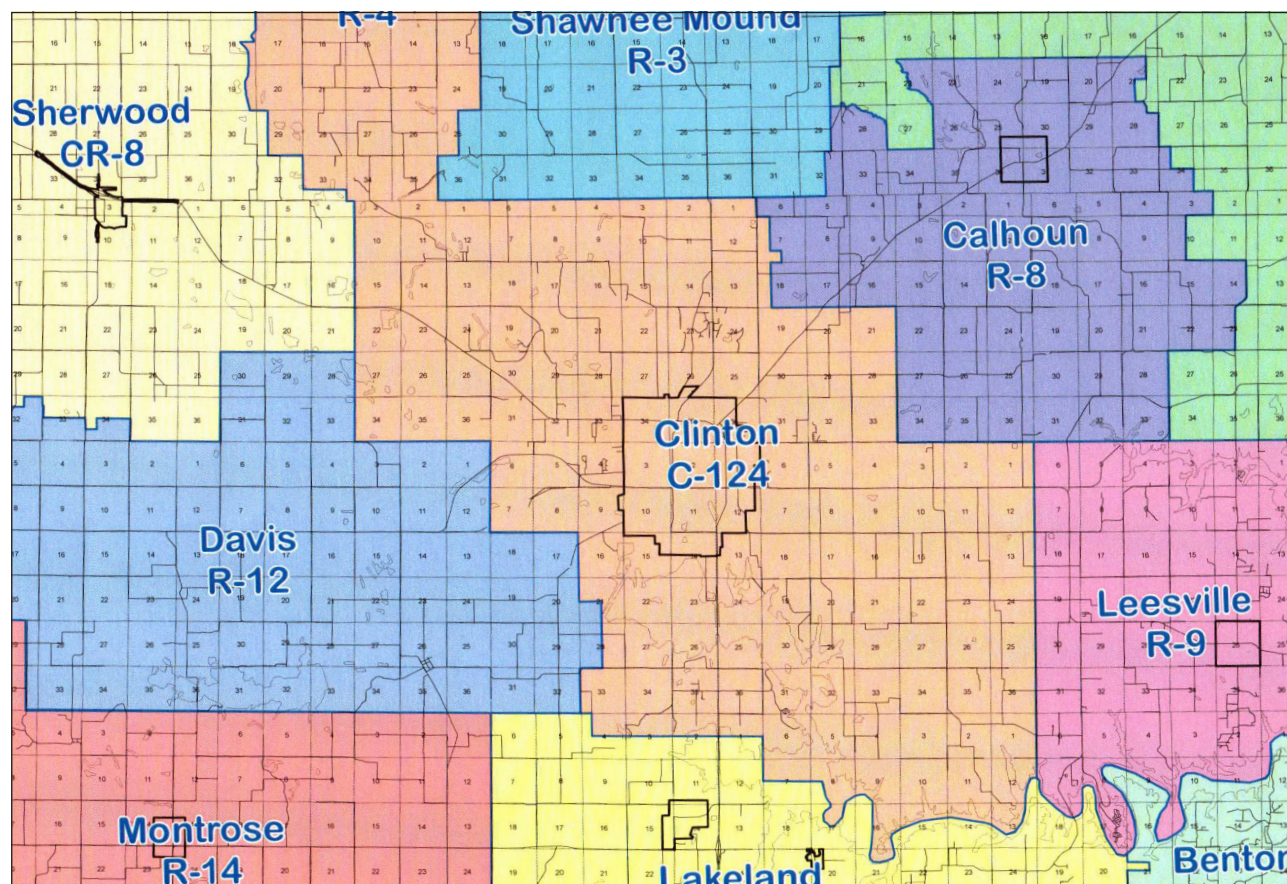
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Crimson Girls Dancing Away



Coach Mesh outlined the 2021 Dance Team (aka The Crimson Girls): The Dance Captain is Gracie Dudley. The co-captains are Ashley Berry, Sophie Schilling, and Bridget Newman. The seniors this year are Ashley Berry and Sophie Schilling. The dance team will be competing with the Cardinal Pride Marching Band at marching band competitions, as well as competing on their own in the indoor competitions for dance hosted at these events. The team has a great mixture of veteran dancers and rookies. The rookies have been giving 110% this summer, and the veterans have shown strong leadership in ensuring everyone on the team is accountable and ready to compete and dance this fall! The Crimson Girls can't wait to show the Clinton community their hard work during halftimes at Cardinal Stadium and later at Basketball games! I do have an assistant coach this year. Her name is Melanie Strong.



ABOVE: CHS DANCE TEAM at Camp: The team won many awards and ribbons at their Summer UCM Camp. **Back row:** Coach Melanie Strong, (Varsity Team) Captain Gracie Dudley, Co-Captain Bridget Newman, Madison Huey, Maycee Wray, Co-Captain Sophie Schilling, Co-Captain Ashley Berry, Jazsneelia Harding, and Coach Rikki Mesh. **Front row-(JV)** Olivia Cooper, Caitlyn Bryant, Hannah Gerhardt, Amitria McNack, and Anahi Sandoval. Sophie Schilling and Ashley Berry were honored as All-American Dancers at the camp.

Right: SENIORS SOPHIE SCHILLING and Ashley Berry. These Seniors were also awarded All-American Awards at their Summer Camp conducted by the UCM Dance Team.



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MORE FOOTBALL ON PAGE 18&19

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Cardinal JV Football Schedule



Date	Opponent
8/30	Mon at Ava
9/06	Mon at Odessa
9/13	Mon at Holden
9/20	Mon Pleasant Hill
9/27	Mon at Oak Grove
10/04	Mon at Excelsior Springs
10/11	Mon Harrisonville
10/18	Mon Warrensburg
10/25	Mon at Center

All Games played Mondays at 5:30 p.m.
Always check the school website as
schedules change.



13 CARDINAL JUNIORS: #8 Brent Gray, #52 Monte Bullock, #20 Cole Heistand, #7 Landon King, #67 Owen Determan, #4 Emrie Neal, #10 Andrew Himes, #5 Bradley Fife, #76 Hayden McQuire, #11 Braydon Ethridge and #78 Jordan Wilson. Not pictured: #56 Phillip Harrison and #77 Gage Brown. The 2021 team maybe short on Seniors but their Junior group is outstanding.



2021 CARDINAL TEAM CAPTAINS: #52 Monte Bullock, #67 Owen Determan, #4 Emrie Neal, #24 Gage Crispi and #74 Isaac Tennial.

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Coach LaFavor Looks at 2021

I recently asked Coach LaFavor to give me some information about the Cardinals upcoming squad and the season. Even though he is very busy, he offered these thoughts. He started off bragging on his coaching staff. Cardinal HS Coaching Staff: Kevin LaFavor - Head Coach/Off. Coordinator, Nolan Wilson-Def. Coordinator - RBs/LBs, Kade Tucker - Special Teams Coordinator - WR/DBs, Ben Monaco - WRs/DBs - New Strength and Conditioning Teacher, Eric Silkwood - QBs/LBs, Dustin Roark - OL/DL New Former Player at Missouri Valley and for Coach LaFavor at Lincoln., Casey Taylor - OL/DL - New MS Science Teacher. Coach LaFavor commented, "This is hands down the best

coaching staff I have been a part of with 9 total State Championship appearances as either a player or coach combined. Our coaching staff is energetic and excited to work with and teach our young players every day." Coach LaFavor has been coaching for six years and is entering his second year at CHS. He is very excited about his staff this year.

The only returning senior is Dylan Bloom Kicker/Punter, but Coach LaFavor pointed out several returning key players:

- JR Emrie Neal - WR/ OLB
- Soph Isaac Tennial - OL/DL 2nd Team All-District Offensive Line 2020
- Soph Cohen Bramell - OL/DE
- SR Dylan Bloom - K/P 1st Team All-District Kicker 2020
- JR Cole Heistand - WR/CB 1st Team All-District DB 2020

He added some newcomers to look for:

• Soph QB - Collin Berry - He will be taking over as QB where he has good ability to run and pass.

• Soph RB - Gage Crispi - Gage is a very explosive athlete who has ability to break a big play every time he touches the ball.

• Soph WR/OLB - Cameron Mertz - Cameron is a playmaker on both sides of the ball. He has tremendous route running ability and a knack for finding the football on defense.

• Soph RB/MLB - Carson Roskop - Carson is our thunder to Gage's lightning. He is a strong kid who has the ability to run over or by opponents.

"All of these guys were JV last year with some limited varsity minutes."

Every team has strengths and challenges- Coach LaFavor commented, "I think we will have four strengths: speed/athleticism, a dynamic offense that allows us to spread the ball to multiple weapons, our defensive secondary is deep with multiple skilled athletes competing for playing time. We will also have a three-headed running game, featuring sophomores Gage Crispi and Carson Roskop at running back. Plus, either Sophomore Collin Berry or Freshman Kanden LaFarge at QB, who both possess tremendous ability to run and pass.

When asked about challenges, Coach LaFavor said, "We are very young with only one senior who is our kicker and punter. We will have some growing pains in a very tough conference, but we look forward to getting to grow and develop our young players who will (soon) get opportunities to play and grow at the varsity level. We have a very tough conference, possibly the strongest conference in Missouri High School Football Class 5 and down." (The CSD announced on Wednesday, Aug. 18 that the football team, because of its youth, will play only a JV schedule for one year.)

Coach LaFavor went on to say, "I see us learning and growing as a team with many hurdles to climb being so young. I also feel our youth is a strength and enables us to view both success and failure as a learning experience. We feel there is a lot to be excited about in Clinton for years to come with this group of young men." Thanks Coach and Go Cards!



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Talking With Coach Bowers

I asked Coach Bowers to talk about the fast approaching softball season:

“I have two assistants this year Coach Krista Adams (her second year with the team) and our rookie Coach Sydney Snyder. I played a ton of ball, even at the professional level, and the lady coaches both played college ball. We have the experience to help these young players get better. It should be a fun year. We will be competitive and we are shooting for at least 10 wins.”

This is Coach Bowers fourth year with the Cardinals. He also works with the baseball team. He is a Science teacher at the high school. Coach Adams teaches Math at the Middle School, and Coach Snyder is a Physical Education teacher.

Coach Bowers added, “We are a young team with only one Senior, Bailey Jones. Bailey will supply leadership and we will have several other upper classmen in leadership roles. Our key returning players are Bailey at third, Briley Wishard pitcher, Makenna Goth and Ava Potter up the middle and Allie Goucher behind the plate. Some newcomers that will make us better are Freshmen Addison Markham,

Jacey Peery, and Junior Chloe Evans. So far, the girls have shown great attitudes and work ethic. We are very young, which is always a

challenge, but this is a strong hard working group. I believe we will be competitive.”

Thanks Coach and Go Cardinals!



THE CARDINALS SOFTBALL TEAM: Back Row: Ava Potter, Briley Wishard, Addison Markham, Jacey Peery, Kendal Bohannon, Chloe Evans. Middle Row: Makenna Goth, Belle Clifton, Kayla McCanles, Kalena Martinez, Raynee Sublette. Front Row: Lyn Brauer, Rylae Albin, Allie Goucher, Kaydith Maddox, Bailey Jones. Not pictured Cailey Spina. The team is coached by head coach Gary Bowers, assistant coaches Krista Adams, and first year coach Sydney Snyder.

Cardinal Softball Schedule



Date	Opponent
8/28 Sat	at Halfway Tourney
8/30 Mon	Marshall
9/2 Thur	at P.Hill
9/7 Tue	Marion C. Early
9/9 Thur	P. Hill
9/14 Tue	at Sherwood
9/16 Thur	at Harrisonville
9/17-18	at Weaubleau T.
9/21 Tue	at Odessa
9/23 Thur	Sum. Christian
9/24-25	at UCM Tourney
9/27 Mon	at Knob Noster
9/28 Tue	at Oak Grove
9/30 Thur	Ex. Springs
10/5 Tue	Warrensburg
10/7 Thur	at Nevada

Check schedules, but most games start with Varsity at 4:30 or 5 p.m. followed by a JV game.

Looking Back Looking Forward



There should be plenty of action this year with even more tallies in the win column. Looking back, the Cardinal Softball teams had double digit wins from 2012 to 2017, winning 90 games, but it's been tough the last three years (7 wins). The program ran out of experienced pitching, and that is a tough thing to run out of in softball. The Cards were Conference Champs or Co-Champs for five straight years. Things are looking up with this group. They have some experienced pitching and some travel experience. It should be a fun and interesting season. It started with the Halfway Tourney on Saturday, August 28.

Go Cards.



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2021 CHS Volleyball



KAYLEE NABER and Paige Gillund: The volleyball squad only has two Seniors but they are ready to supply the needed leadership.



THE 2021 CHS VOLLEYBALL TEAM: Front row, L to R: Kaylee Naber and Paige Gillund. 2nd Row: Raylen Richman, Paige McNabb, Skyte Wilson, Kylie Williamson, Sabrina Meloy, Mia Bagley, Katryna Preston and Josi Berry. 3rd Row: Nevah Rucker-Wilson, Maycee Wray, Jazmyn Shockley, Corynn Sowers, Katie Schaffer, Maddison Parrett, Riley-Ann Dunn and Chelsi Berry. Back Row: Mariah Wilson, Carly Fosnow, Abby Jones, Mercedes Brown, Kinzlie Hager, Nyssa Brown, Emily Barnes, Harley Lincoln and Miranda Beaty. Not Pictured: Shelby Ragan and Savannah Cosgrove.

ADDITIONAL VOLLEYBALL ON PAGES 26&27



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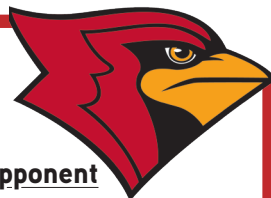


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2020 ACTION: The CHS Volleyball program was fighting out of a tough slump as recent as 2017-2018. That year they went 1-26. Then things turned around with more players getting involved with travel VB. The last three years the Cards went 43-40-5. In other words they became competitive. In fact, last year they went 6-1 vs the MRVC teams and 13-9-1 overall. The Lady Cards did lose some talented seniors, so rebuilding maybe in order. They obviously have a lot of girls out and some serious talent. It will be a fun season with some new young players and new coaches: Savanna McGhee, Sara Nepple and Pam Jones. Everybody is excited. Go Cards.

Cardinal Volleyball Schedule



Date	Opponent	Date	Opponent
8/28	Branson Invitational	10/2	at Green Ridge (JV)
8/31	Adrian	10/5	at Harrisonville
9/9	at Smith-Cotton	10/7	at Odessa
9/14	Barstow	10/9	El Do Springs Invi.
9/18	at Osceola (JV)	10/12	Warrensburg
9/21	Nevada	10/14	at Oak Grove
9/23	Pleasant Hill	10/16	Clinton Tournament
9/28	Center	10/18	at Excelsior Springs
9/30	Buffalo	10/21	at Warsaw

Games usually start at 5 p.m. with the freshmen.



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What's Up With CHS Volleyball?

(Editor) First I can tell you we have three new volleyball coaches and a lot of young athletes on the 2021 team. The energy at the practices is impressive. When I heard about our new coaching staff I was very excited. It has been fun to watch the McGhee sisters (Savanna and Sara) grow up and find their way back to their old school. Sara is now Sara Nepple. Often 'late hires' have little experience and no real connection to the community. That sure didn't happen here. Savanna, Sara and Pam Jones could not be more qualified or more connected. Welcome ladies, have fun.

Savanna McGhee: "I am the new high school head volleyball coach. I was born and raised in Clinton and attended Clinton Schools so I have always been a Cardinal. I graduated from Clinton High School in 2019, and I am currently finishing my bachelor's in Elementary Education. I will graduate from

CMU this coming December. In high school I played volleyball and soccer, and am beyond excited to be back in the school district and sharing my love for volleyball with these girls!"

Sara Nepple: "I am one of the new assistant volleyball coaches. I have an 18 month old named Kade who is very energetic and full of life. My husband, Caleb, and I have been married for four years and moved back to Clinton from California at the end of 2019. We always wanted to come back home and be close to family. I am currently still going to school for my bachelor's in Elementary Education at Central Methodist University. I am excited to be back home and be a part of a program I was once a part of as a student-athlete."

Pam Jones: "I am also one of the new assistant coaches. My husband, Chet, and I have been married for 31 years and we have three children together: Alex, Zach, and Abby. I have been in the Clinton School District for 19 years, and have been teaching preschool for 26. I currently share a room with Ms. Christy

at CECC. Sometime very soon I am also going to become a grandma to a sweet little girl! Volleyball has always been my favorite sport and it is my passion. I want to inspire these girls to be the best they can be in this sport!"

Coach McGhee: "We have a lot of girls out for volleyball, but only two seniors; Paige Gillund and Kaylee Naber. Clearly we have a great group of girls that bring a lot of ability and energy to the court, but many are inexperienced. So, we have room for improvement. We have a very competitive schedule but a real chance for success. In other words, we have a great opportunity to have a winning record this year. We are beyond excited to be back into this school district and be a part of a program we were all a part of when we were in school. We cannot wait to see what these girls accomplish this year! We love this school and this sport, and want to push these girls to give it their all this season."

Kaylee Naber and Paige Gillund: The squad only has two Seniors but they are ready to supply the needed leadership.

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## 2021 Cardinal Girls Tennis



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**2021 GIRLS TENNIS: Front row left to right: Railee Compton, Grace Sisk, Kennedy Cook, Carley Combs, Paityn Cook, Marissa McClain and Coach Sarah Armon. Back row: Coach Erica Hilmas-Tucker, Abby Palmer, Hannah Snider and Tessa Hook. Not pictured: Ellie Swaters, Anna Hilty, Brooklyn Mullins, and Alexis Harkey.**



## A Visit With Coach Hilmas

“This is my second year coaching at CHS. I have been coaching girl’s tennis at Camp Riva Lake, an all-girls summer camp since I was sixteen. I am now the Assistant Director of the camp but still instruct tennis. I am lucky enough to have a great assistant with Sarah Armon, her second year. We are very lucky to have five outstanding seniors on the squad this year: Paityn Cook, Ellie Swaters, Tessa Hook, Railee Compton and Grace Sisk. I would have to say our key varsity level players are Paityn and Kennedy Cook, Anna Hilty, Ellie Swaters, and Tessa Hook. You never know who might improve quickly but two newcomers to watch would be Carley Combs and Marissa McClain. Everybody will contribute.”

Team Strengths to mention? “After having their last season cut short due to a COVID-related lineup change, these girls are coming into this season more determined than ever. This is a mature and driven group, and each girl is excited to give their best on the court this season.”

Any team challenges to mention? “I am hoping that we will have more underclassmen decide to join as the school year gets rolling. We do not have many younger players to start building up for when our seniors graduate.”

Any comments on the Conference or Schedule? “It is rather disappointing that we will not play Odessa before we see them at the conference tournament. Odessa is a well-coached team that presents both

an equal level of play and yet a challenge at the same time for the girls, that I believe is necessary to build their skillsets, along with Bolivar, who recently joined the Ozark Conference. I believe that some of our best and most educational matches will be seen when we play Warrensburg, Smith-Cotton and Harrisonville.”

General season outlook? “Now that Coach Armon and myself have a year of coaching at Clinton in the books, we are really taking this year to focus on adding endurance and mindset training into our program. We are excited to get this season started. I am enthusiastic that the Girls Tennis Team will be one that excels.”

Final thoughts? “Oh my goodness, the resurfaced courts are beautiful. We cannot thank the Education Foundation enough for the upgrade! They will be thoroughly utilized by both the Girls and Boys teams.”

## 2021 Tennis Team

The tennis team will be senior dominated and that will help this year, but as Coach Hilmas points out, the team needs more underclassmen.

### Cardinal Tennis Schedule



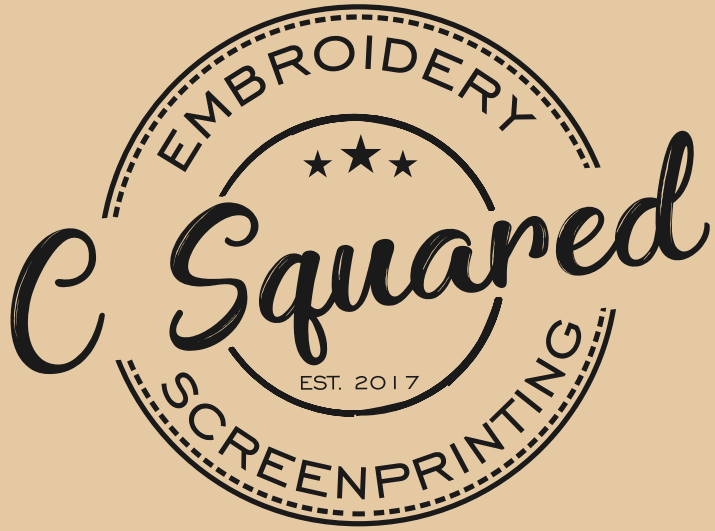
| Date | Day  | Opponent        |
|------|------|-----------------|
| 8/30 | Mon  | at Knob Noster  |
| 8/31 | Tue  | at Center       |
| 9/1  | Wed  | Bolivar         |
| 9/2  | Thur | Harrisonville   |
| 9/8  | Wed  | Smith-Cotton    |
| 9/9  | Thur | Center          |
| 9/10 | Fri  | at Warr. Tour.  |
| 9/13 | Mon  | at Warr.        |
| 9/14 | Tue  | at Ex. Springs  |
| 9/17 | Fri  | at Warr. (Dbls) |
| 9/21 | Tue  | at TBD          |
| 9/22 | Wed  | at Bolivar T.   |
| 9/24 | Fri  | at S-C Classic  |
| 9/29 | Wed  | at MRVC T.      |

Most tennis matches start at 4:30 p.m. It is always wise to check ahead of time. CHS home matches have the JV at the MS and the Varsity at the Artesian Courts.



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