## Mounts again take new direction

The year marks the beginning of another new era for the Dallas High School field hockey team as MaryKate Stauffer takes over as head coach.

Stauffer, the third head coach in four years, hopes to provide some stability to the once-proud program.

## DALLAS FIELD HOCKEY

"I'm very excited about the opportunity to take over a program that has such a strong tradition," said Stauffer, who previously served as head field hockey and lacrosse coach at College Misericordia. "One of my primary goals is to establish some consistency within the program."

Stauffer, who is assisted by Sarah Brander, has been impressed with the team's attitude and work ethic during the preseason. "The kids have been great," she said. "They work very hard and are working very well together. They've been very receptive to learning a new system."

According to Stauffer, one of the team's apparent strengths is the ability to absorb new information and execute it properly. "They are students of the game," said Stauffer. "They want to learn and they pick things up very quickly and are able to apply it on the field."

In addition, Stauffer has been pleasantly surprised by the ability of her players. "I was told that we had some good athletes on the team, but I really didn't know what to expect," she said. "I'm really excited about the athleticism and skill level of our kids."

With 33 players on the roster, the Mountaineers are led by a quartet of senior players: Megan Savage, Diana Glicini, Sam O'Brien and Nikki Gelso.

Other key returnees include junior Cassie Snider and sophomore Kasey Corbett, while freshmen Paige Selenski and Alyssa Pyros could make an immediate impact.

Freshman Lindsay Davenport will likely see plenty of time at goalkeeper.

Stauffer has modest goals in mind for her first season. "We play in a very tough league and our main goal is to be competitive in every game," she explained. "We want to continue to work hard and improve throughout the season."

- by Chris Bel



FOR THE POST/CHARLOTTE BARTIZEK

From left, front row: Lauren Ziminski, Devon Lacey, Courtney Thomas, Stephanie Pace, Nikki Pisacano, C.C. Pambianco, Kasey Corbett, Marissa Wright.

Middle row: Jill Spring, Kylee Besecker, Paige Selenski, Jill Nutche, Megan Daris, Nichole McMahon, Nikki Gelso, Sam O'Brien, Julie Petit, Bailey Van Jura, Alyssa Pyros.

Back row: Michelle Gibbons, Allyssa Cybulski, Kelci Gibbons, Katherine O'Brien, Mindy Yedesko, Cassie Snider, Megan Savage, Diana Glicini, Megan Youells.



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