

Stoffers hopes for winning year

BY DENNIS O'GRADY
Sports Editor

The Carroll High School girls start their third season of softball and the only coach the school has had, Lisa Stoffers, hopes they can have their first winning season this year.

The Tigerettes open their campaign with a junior varsity doubleheader at Coon Rapids Wednesday night, starting at 6 p. m.

"I'm very optimistic towards having a winning season," Stoffers said Monday afternoon in an interview. "This will depend on how well our young people who must step into varsity action without varsity experience come along."

"Even though our record was 7-14 last year, we proved to be very competitive in a tough conference, losing some

close, low scoring games," Stoffers said.

Stoffers says she can count on the leadership and consistent play of her returning starters.

"The starters will help our young players learn and improve each game. With inexperience at pitching, our major priority will be defense," she said.

"Also, we must be very aggressive offensively, getting runners in scoring position because we do have some potentially good batters in the middle of the lineup."

"I'm looking forward to the season with enthusiasm," continued the third-year coach. "The team's attitude has been very good and our returning starters have been very encouraging to the younger players who have also been

very willing to put in extra effort to improve."

Stoffers has seven letterwinners back from last year's team which went 4-8 in Midwest action.

The veterans are seniors Jane Petersen, Lori Norgaard, Nancy Beck and Kim Wenck; junior Beth Blohm and sophomore Julie Dostal.

Petersen is a four-year starter in second team and she gained second team all-conference honors last year.

"She will lead our outfield as well as being our leadoff hitter where she batted .303 a year ago," Stoffers said.

According to Stoffers, Norgaard will stiffen the outfield by moving to center field this year as well as sharing some pitching duties.

"Lori hit .242 last year, but more important she was a

contact hitter, a good base runner and thus led the team in runs scored," Stoffers said.

Norgaard was a first team all-conference utility player a year ago.

Beck was the team's second baseman a year ago, but she has had problems with a recurring knee injury.

"We hope she can be a starter at first base for us," the Carroll coach remarked.

Wenck is also questionable because of a pre-season illness.

Stoffers hopes Wenck can return to her right field spot.

"Blohm will again be the strength of the infield," Stoffers said.

The Carroll coach feels Blohm will be one of the best shortstops in the conference.

Last year Blohm led the team in hitting with a .352

average and shared the lead in rbi's.

Dostal will take over the catching duties this year even though she was a steady third baseman a year ago, according to Stoffers.

"With her good arm and game experience, she will fill in well at catcher," the coach commented.

Dostal hit .286 a year ago and shared the lead in rbi's.

Rounding out the team will be very young players with little or no experience," according to Stoffers.

Freshmen Christy Griffith will fill the third base position and Darla Deen, a newcomer, will be at second, Stoffers said.

Eighth grader Angie Nobiling will be stepping into varsity action early to do a lot of the pitching.

"Angie has good control and will be working hard to increase her speed," the coach said.

Others who could see varsity action include freshmen Karen Heller, Melissa Wilkins and eighth grader Nancy Heffernan.

After Wednesday's game, the Tigerettes will open at home Friday against Lake City, starting with a JV game at 6 p. m. Assisting Stoffers again is Dale Schmidt.

The Schedule

May 27, at Coon Rapids, home
May 29, Lake City, home
June 1, Lake View-Auburn, home

June 3, at Lytton
June 5, Kumper home
June 8, at Denison
June 12, at Manning
June 15, Jefferson home
June 17, at St. Edmond
June 19, Audubon at Breda
June 22, at Perry
June 24, Denison home
June 26, Boone home
June 29, Manning home
July 1, at Jefferson
July 6, at St. Edmond home
July 8, at Audubon
July 10, at Schleswig
July 13, at Scranton
July 16, Perry home
July 18, Sectional



Times Herald Photo by Dennis O'Grady

The Carroll High School girls open their Carroll season Wednesday night at Coon Rapids. Shown above with coach Lisa Stoffers are from left standing, veterans Beth

Blohm, Lori Norgaard, Jane Petersen and Nancy Beck. Missing from picture are Kim Wenck and Julie Dostal.



Times Herald Photo by Caroline Tan Cretl

Warren Rudkin debuts as Carroll High School's new head baseball coach Wednesday night when the Tigers entertain Scranton. Wednesday are from left, Ed Vanderheiden, Scott Steffen, Paul Peterson, Roger Bock,

Gary Benedict, Tony Puffett and Jim White. Missing is Chris Wilkins. Rudkin, who is a recent graduate of Iowa, is being assisted by Steve Kayser.

Carroll boys 12th at Storm Lake

STORM LAKE — The Carroll boys placed 12th out of 16 schools in the district golf meet here Friday.

Estherville won with a 319,

followed by Storm Lake at 324. The Tigers shot a 366 as Mark Harmening led with an 85.

Other Carroll players included a 91 by Jon Petersen, a 94 by Tim Maiden and a 96 by Mark Reser.



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New Carroll coach looks for improvement

BY DENNIS O'GRADY
Sports Editor

Warren Rudkin debuts as the new Carroll High School baseball coach here Wednesday night when his Tigers take on Scranton, starting with a junior varsity game at 6 p. m.

The Tigers were 1-11 in Midwest Conference play a year ago and 3-19 overall and they're looking to improve on that this year.

"Hopefully, we'll have a better record than last year," the Webster City native said. "We've got over 30 kids out and that really pleases me and they've shown a lot of interest," Rudkin added.

Rudkin graduated this spring from the University of Iowa. Assisting him will be Steve Kayser who teaches at St. Lawrence.

There are eight returning lettermen. They are seniors Scott Steffen, Roger Bock, Ed Vanderheiden and Gary Benedict and juniors Chris Wilkins, Jim White and Tony Puffett.

Steffen, who will play second base, hit .351 last year



Warren Rudkin



Steve Kayser

and led the team in hits with 20.

Bock returns at catcher and he'll once again pitch some. He led the club in stolen bases a year ago with 17.

Vanderheiden will be counted on to throw a lot of innings for the Tigers. He was 1-5 last year with a 5.94 earned run average.

Also pitching will be shortstop Paul Peterson. Peterson had a no-hitter last year. His record was 1-6 with a 6.73 earned run mark.

"It looks like he has good stuff and he can be a good shortstop," Rudkin said of Peterson.

Benedict, a left hander, will play first base and also do some pitching. He batted only .214 last year, but didn't bat many times.

Wilkins, who is the center fielder, led the team in hitting with a .365 mark, was second in stolen bases with 11 and second in hits with 19.

The left handed Wilkins also led the team in runs scored

Todd Holm, Rex Mitchell, Dan Dirx and Steve Petersen.

According to Rudkin, Scott Hanke will probably pitch some JV ball and could see some varsity action.

Also, Jeff Beidler will be doing some of the catching.

Tim Rotert will play in the infield, mainly third and short and when Benedict is pitching, will probably be at first.

After Wednesday's home opener, the Tigers will be at Lake City Friday night for a 7 p. m. varsity contest.

The Schedule

May 27, Scranton home
May 29, at Lake City
June 1, at Lake View-Auburn

June 3, Lytton home
June 5, at Kumper
June 8, Denison home
June 12, Manning home
June 13-14, Carroll Invitational

June 15, at Jefferson
June 17, St. Edmond home
June 19, at Audubon
June 22, Perry home
June 24, at Denison
June 27-28, Kumper Invitational

June 29, at Manning
July 1, Jefferson home
July 1, at St. Edmond
July 7, Schleswig at Breda
July 8, Audubon home
July 10, at Perry
July 13, Sectional

and bases on balls. "He should be a good hitter again this summer," Rudkin remarked.

White hit .314 last year while playing third and doing some pitching. He'll do both again this year.

"He looks like a good hitter," the coach said.

Puffett batted .333 last year in 12 at bats and Rudkin plans to use him in the infield and outfield and as the designated hitter.

Others contending for the left and right field berths are

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