

# *THE WEISER SIGNAL AMERICAN PRESENTS:* **THE 2022 SPRING SPORTS PREVIEW**



## **WOLVERINES**

**TRACK AND FIELD - PAGE 2**

**SOFTBALL - PAGE 3**

**BASEBALL - PAGE 4**

**GOLF - PAGE 5**

**TENNIS - PAGE 8**

Wolverine Ellie Eames practices throwing the shot put.

## **TRI-VALLEY**

**TITANS**

**TRACK AND FIELD**

**PAGE 10**

## **SPRING SPORTS CALENDAR**

**PAGES 6-7**

## **FEATURE COLTON BURR**

**PAGE 11**



The 2022 Weiser Wolverine track and field team consists of 88 members, 45 girls and 43 boys. The Wolverines return nine state qualifiers from the 2021 season. With the large number of participants and experience they bring coaches Dave Shirts, Gavin Gaskell, John Srholec, Doug Applegate, Roger Watkins, Delton Walker, and Jacen Smith hope for a very successful year. Photos by Nicole Miller

# Experience, numbers are strengths heading into 2022 track season

by Nicole Miller

The Weiser High School track team is hoping that a combination of big team numbers and strong returning state qualifiers will lead to a successful year in track and field events.

There are 88 members on the Wolverine track team this season, with 45 girls and 43 boys. Several of the runners are returning state qualifiers and new runners look to make a strong addition to the team.

Returning boys state competitors include Maddox Stevens – high hurdles; Colton Foster – 400 and 4x400; Brayden Walker – 300 intermediate hurdles (third place state finish), 800 and 4x400 relay; and Michael Youngberg – 4x400 relay.

The girls return Mattie Shirts – triple jump, high jump, and 4x400 relay; Shae Kunz – pole vault and 4x100 relay; Ashlyn Walker – 4x100 relay; Emily Christopherson – 4x100 relay; and Kate Davies – 4x400 relay.

In addition to the returning runners, Coach Dave Shirts said he expects some new runners to have an impact on the team.

Brian Munoz will be strong in the sprinting events. Daniel Clemmer should run well in the 400. Daniel Rodriguez and Trenton Hawker are both expected to do well in discus, and



The Weiser track and field team is preparing for their first meet to be held on March 15 in Weiser with McCall hosting. Pictured above warming up are from left, Kylee Quinton, Jarod Lindley, Kierra Hoobery, Aleska Burton, and Judah Parsons. Below throwing coach John Srholec instructs his athletes on the proper way to throw the discus.

Triston McMehill should do well in shot put.

Freshman Kailee Lerew and junior Kylie Quinton were both state placers in cross country and expect to have a strong track season, as well.

With the large team, Shirts said he feels confident that other runners will have breakthroughs throughout the season.

Shirts added that he anticipates his team's strength this year will be the 400 and 800

in addition to hurdles. He also hopes to see improvement in the 1600.

The coaching staff is hoping for the long, triple, and high jumpers, as well as the throwers and vaulters, to make good breakthroughs and there are some good possibilities for strong runners in the 100 and 200.

Coaching the team this year along with Dave Shirts is Gavin Gaskell, John Srholec, Doug

Applegate, Roger Watkins, Delton Walker, and Jacen Smith.

Shirts expects both Fruitland and McCall to be tough competition but said they will focus on Weiser's times and distances the most.

"Our goal for the season is to improve with every practice and meet," Shirts said. "We want it to be a positive and fun experience for our athletes. We have had good success in the past, and we hope to peak at

district and state time."

The Wolverines first large meet of the season will be at the Parma Ice Breaker on April 1. This should be a great meet to start the season as it will be a large meet and the Wolverines will face off against district teams from Fruitland, Parma, Homedale, and McCall, as well as New Plymouth, Garden Valley, Marsing, Grangeville, Greenleaf, Nampa Christian, and Tri-Valley.

## TRACK AND FIELD

Date	Meet	Time
3/15	Quad-Meet at Weiser (McCall Host)	4:00
4/1	Meet at Parma	TBA
4/9	Middleton Invite	11:00
4/12	Weiser Quadrathlon	4:00
4/21	Weiser Invite	3:00
4/28	SRV at Fruitland	TBA
5/6	New Plymouth Invite	1:00
5/12-13	District at Weiser	TBA
5/20-21	State at Middleton	TBA





The Lady Wolverines have devoted a lot of their off season time honing their softball skills participating in summer softball and are ready for a successful season. Twenty-nine girls turned out to play this year with 12 selected for the varsity squad. Pictured above are members of the varsity team, from left, Grace Swank, Mecarte Olsen, Paisley Noyer, Tobie Noyer, Ivy Morris, Whitney Cordes, Abi Wilkins, Rylee Roberts, Macy Maloney, Taylor Bushong, Annabelle Mattson, and Hannah Swank. Photo by Zane Davis

## Lady Wolverines are excited for the upcoming season

*With 10 players returning to play softball Weiser feels this is the ‘year of shock’*

by Zane Davis

In his fifth year at the helm of the Lady Wolverine softball program, varsity head coach, Brad Cordes, is “very excited” about the upcoming season and the group of girls that make up the two Lady Wolverine teams.

Twenty-nine student athletes turned out to vie for a position on the Wolverine squad, and 12 talented women were selected to represent Weiser High School at the varsity level.

Ten players will be returning this season, and there are two new highly anticipated players to the team. Seniors, Whitney Cordes, Ivy Morris, Mecarte Olson, and Taylor Bushong will be bringing their experience and versatility to the Lady Wolverine team this season.

Cordes will be returning as one of the four pitchers for the Lady Wolverines but will also play the corners of first and third base, as well. Olson plays a big role at first base and will resume her duties at that position. Bushong is expected to play a big part this season with her skills behind the plate, and the versatility of Morris will make her a valuable utility player in the infield and in the grass.

Returning juniors this year are Macy Maloney, twin sisters, Grace and Hannah Swank, and

Tobie Noyer. A transfer from Centennial High School, Annabelle Mattson, is expected to make an impact for the Wolverines in left field. Noyer will be exhibiting her talents and versatility behind the plate as well as from the rubber in the pitching position. She will also step into the shortstop position again. Hannah Swank will take her place in right field this season, while Grace Swank will be helping on the diamond at catcher, second, and third base.

Sadly, junior pitcher and hard-hitting, Danica Lockett, will not be on the official roster this season, as she suffered a devastating knee injury during the 2021-2022 basketball season, and is still recovering. Lockett will be greatly missed but will still be helping out the team in various ways.

Sophomores, Abi Wilkins and Riley Roberts will be splitting the difference in the grass, playing center field and right field, respectively.

The second newcomer to the team this season is freshman, Paisley Noyer. Noyer will be bringing exceptional skills to the pitching staff and will also be taking her place at shortstop and first base, as needed.

The Lady Wolverines have spent a lot of time on the softball field since the conclusion of the

2021 season with the majority of the team participating in summer softball as well as practicing hard in the off-season.

Coach Cordes stated that “I believe that the summer tournament ball was extremely helpful.” He anticipates that it will be a very successful season and he is “pretty confident” that his Lady Wolverine team “knows who they are now,” and that will show in their dominance on the diamond.

The Lady Wolverines implemented a set of team core values this season, and as a result decided that they are one complete unit and there will be no captains this year. Their values also include responsibility, accountability, quality over quantity and a positive attitude.

The cohesiveness of the 2022 team is evident when talking with seniors, Bushong, Morris, Olson, Cordes and junior, Tobie Noyer. This group of young women exhibit their confidence and friendship not only in their mannerisms, but also in their statements regarding the season.

Olson stated, “We have a lot of potential” this year and feels that, “this is our year!”

Morris commented about the friendships that the team has on and off the field, and Noyer added, “We work together, and we



work hard.” Bushong reiterated the sentiment of Olson, however, with a bit more pizazz, stating, “This is the year of shock!”, while in her understated demeanor, Cordes complimented the talent of the underclassmen on the team.

Coach Cordes will be aided at the varsity level, by another Coach Cordes, his brother Wade and 2018 Weiser High School and Lady Wolverine alumni,

Brittany Hickey. Annaka Wogan will be returning again this season to lead the future of the Lady Wolverine program, the junior varsity team, and she will be assisted by Cody Samson and Jessica Profe.

The Lady Wolverines will kick off their 2022 regular season with a road game against the Emmett Huskies on March 14, followed by a home pairing against the visiting Ontario Tigers on March 15.



Pictured above, right, head coach Brad Cordes works with Hannah Swank during batting practice. Above Macy Maloney swings hard and gets a hit. Photos by Zane Davis

## SOFTBALL

Date	Meet	Site	Time			
3/14	Emmett	A	5:00	4/13	*Homedale	A 5:00
3/15	Ontario	A	5:30	4/14	Cole Valley	A 4:00
<b>3/18</b>	<b>Baker (DH)</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>1:00</b>	<b>4/18</b>	<b>*McCall</b>	<b>A 5:00</b>
3/25, 26	WTP Tourney	A	TBA	4/20	*Payette	A 5:00
<b>3/29</b>	<b>*McCall</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>5:00</b>	<b>4/25</b>	<b>*Parma</b>	<b>A 5:00</b>
<b>4/1</b>	<b>Ontario</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>5:00</b>	<b>5/2</b>	<b>*Fruitland</b>	<b>H 5:00</b>
4/2	Kimberly Spring Classic	A	TBA	5/7	<b>*Homedale</b>	<b>H 5:00</b>
<b>4/4</b>	<b>*Payette</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>5:00</b>	5/7, 9, 10, 11 District	JV District (top 4)	TBA TBA
<b>4/6</b>	<b>*Parma</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>5:00</b>	5/14	State Play-in at Mt. Home	1:00
4/9	Buhl (DH)	A	12:00	5/20, 21	State Tournament at Buhl	TBA
4/11	*Fruitland	A	5:00			

\*Denotes SRV Games



Last year's state champions will be working hard throughout the season to defend their title at this year's state tournament. Weiser has 28 players to fill a varsity and junior varsity team. Weiser is led by coaches, pictured front row, from left, Sam Edwards, head coach Bowe von Brethorst, junior varsity coach Kristian Claudio, Josh Dolton and Brent Marvin. Not pictured is Steve Messick. Pictured below right is senior Willy Shirts in the outfield ready to catch a fly ball. Pictured bottom are catchers Jack Burke and Kaleb Grove working with coach Brent Marvin. Photos by Katie von Brethorst

## Weiser hurlers look to defend state championship in 2022

by Katie von Brethorst

Weiser baseball is back!

After winning their first ever state baseball title, the Wolverines are stacked with talent and poised to take on another season.

Weiser's team is led by some familiar faces, including head coach Bowe von Brethorst, along with Kristian Claudio leading the junior varsity team.

The rest of the coaches volunteer their time and have for a number of years including Josh Dolton, Sam Edwards, Steve Messick, and Brent Marvin.

"It really takes a village," von Brethorst said last week. "Without these guys, we wouldn't have baseball. They come almost every day to practice and set the tone. They sacrifice time with their families, and I appreciate every one of them."

This year, Weiser has 28 players on two teams, which is a lot considering most towns Weiser competes against can barely fill two teams.

Spring sports can be interesting because in the past it has been a time to try something new or take it easy playing a sport, but nowadays it is a competitive business and just watching the

practices shows the amount of intensity that these players must have.

Weiser returns several starters to the field this year, including State Championship seniors Brett Spencer, Koda Coers, Willy Shirts, Payton Albertson, Jack Burke, and Manager Danny Glaspie or as he is known around town "Lil' Chevy."

Spencer, Shirts, Albertson, and Burke also won a state championship football ring last fall.

There is some depth in several positions, including on the pitching mound, which is the key to having any sort of winning season.

"Everyone pitches in Weiser baseball, is what we used to say, but our pitchers have come a long way. We have three of our six seniors who will pitch for us and then some young arms that will get some reps," von Brethorst said.

The coaches are also looking at some young talent coming up to help the team and the potential for two sets of brothers to be playing ball together this year as well with the Shirts and Spencer brothers.

Weiser will open play at home

Thursday, March 10 against Melba, which did well in the 2A division last year.

Most of Weiser's home games will be easy to attend for Weiser fans with games starting at 6 p.m. Weiser's home field is one of three with lights in the Snake River Valley (SRV) conference. The Wolverines have already been using the lights plenty this season with longer practices and lots of field preparations.

The athletes and coaches have already dug weeds, edged grass, and made field improvements, which has become an annual tradition since the field is in a public park and isn't solely used by the baseball team. To help pay for these repairs and other costs, the team has also been selling outfield signs and has several sponsors for the year so far.

Weiser should be competitive in the SRV arena this year as well. They will be playing the likes of Fruitland, Homedale, McCall, Parma, and Payette this year and the competition should be decent all the way through the SRV.

If you have some time to catch a game, come on out and support your Weiser Wolverine baseball team!



Date	Meet	Site	Time	Date	Meet	Site	Time
3/10	Melba	H	6:00	4/18	*McCall	A	5:00
3/14	Emmett	A	5:00	4/20	*Payette	A	5:00
3/15	Cole Valley	H	6:00	4/25	*Parma	A	5:00
3/18-19	Bill Betts Turney	A	TBA	4/27	*Fruitland	H	6:00
3/29	*McCall	H	6:00	5/2	*Homedale	H	6:00
3/31	Melba	A	5:00	5/5	Vale	H	6:00
4/2	Vale	A	2:00	5/7	District	TBA	TBA
4/4	*Payette	H	6:00	5/7, 9, 10, 11			
4/6	*Parma	H	6:00		District (High Seed)	TBA	
4/9	Buhl (DH)	A	12:00	5/14	State Play-in	TBA	
4/11	*Fruitland	A	6:00	5/19, 20, 21			
4/13	*Homedale	A	5:00		State	TBA	
4/15	Mt. Home (DH)	A	3:00		*Denotes SRV games		



The Weiser High School golf team has a new head coach, Jordan Edwards with assistant coach Jonathan Edwards. The team consists of nine members, four boys and five girls. Pictured above back row from left, coaches Jonathan and Jordan Edwards, Paige Johnson, Jasi Yraguen, Carter Williams, Dylan Young, Calvin Clapperton, Coach Jay Edwards, Coach Mike Ryan. Front, Lucy Hickey, Braxton Franek, Serena Boles, and Hannah Grace. Pictured below, junior Paige Johnson a returning golfer from last year's team hits a chip during a recent practice. Photo by Philip A. Janquart

## Golf team moves forward in 2022 with first-year coach

by Philip A. Janquart

The Weiser High School golf team begins its season today, March 9, with the Homedale Ice Breaker at River Bend Golf Course.

First-year coach Jordan Edwards said she is excited to be at the helm to lead a team of nine golfers as they march through a season that ends in a Matchplay at Rolling Hills Golf Course in Weiser on May 6.

District competition will take place this year May 11 at Rolling Hills Golf Course in Weiser, with the state tournament scheduled for May 16 and 17 at River Bend in Homedale.

"Our kids have a wide range of skills," Edwards said.

The boys' team consists of senior Calvin Clapperton, juniors Carter Williams and Devyn Young, and sophomore Braxton Franek.

Girls include juniors Jasi Yraguen and Paige Johnson, and freshmen Hannah Grace, Serena

Boles, and Lucy Hickey.

Edwards said all the boys are returning this year and that there are newcomers on the girls' side.

"We have some great players, very dedicated kids, so I'm excited; I think it'll be great," she said.

Edwards said that while she believes all of her players have the potential to shine this year, she specifically anticipates Carter Williams and Devyn Young to stand out among the boys in 2022.

For the girls, she expects Jasi Yraguen, Paige Johnson, and Lucy Hickey to step up. Freshmen Hannah Grace and Serena Boles are new to the sport but show great potential, Edwards said.

### Edwards

Jordan Edwards said she grew up "all over" the northwest, attending Bishop Kelly in Boise for her first two years in high school, finishing up her junior and senior years at Eagle High

School in Eagle. She graduated in 2005.

"I kind of hopped around in college, too," she said. "I went to Western Washington University, in Bellingham, Wash. for two years and then went on to an exchange program in Ecuador for a semester. Then I transferred to the College of Idaho and finished up playing golf there. I was on scholarship."

Edwards graduated with a degree in Spanish and currently works as a paraprofessional in the kindergarten rooms at Pioneer Elementary School.

She is also very active in the community.

"I've been involved in quite a few things," she said. "I was part of the Weiser River Resource Council and I co-founded the farmer's market here in Weiser. Then I ran the Weiser Recycling Center for about three years."

About two months ago, she became involved in the founding of the Future Wolverine

Foundation, a new organization that aims to help young athletes and their families pay for sports equipment and fees.

"I'm the vice-president of that," she said. "It's a very cool program that we are excited to get started because there is a need for it. Working in the schools, you can definitely see that need."

Edwards' husband, Jonathan, is also a golfer who played for Santa Clara University. She said golf has been a part of her family's life as far back as she can remember.

"My dad, Todd Points, played golf in high school and college, and his family kind of grew up playing, so I kind of got into it with my dad," she said. "And then I started working at Bury Golf Club in Eagle when I was 15, so you know, I've always been around it. It's always just been a part of our life and lifestyle."

Edwards said one of her most memorable golf-related mo-

ments was working as a caddy for a professional golfer from Argentina.

"It was an international tournament, and it was so cool," she said. "That kind of got me on to caddying, and I've caddied for a couple different pro golfers."

Taking the position of head golf coach at Weiser High School is a big step in Edwards' life-long experience with the sport.

"It's a full-circle kind of thing for me. I've always enjoyed the sport," she said. "My friends and my parents played but being able to see that full-circle scope of how it plays into your life as an adult, like being able to play for work, being able to play in college and pay for your school, just being able to share that with high school kids is a great thing."

"It's not just a sport, it's a life-long activity, and it teaches you a lot about yourself, about teamwork, a lot about commitment and hard work. It's just a cool sport."



Date	Meet	Site	Time
3/9	V Boys	Homedale Ice Breaker (River Bend)	10:00
3/14	V Girls	Weiser Girls Invite (Rolling Hills)	3:00
3/28	All	SRV (Fruitland) Scotch Pines	3:00
4/4	JV B & G	SRV JV (Weiser) Rolling Hills	3:00
4/6	V B & G	SRV (Weiser) Rolling Hills	3:00
4/9	All	WHS Fundraiser Tourney	10:00
4/11	V Girls	Buhl Invite (Clear Lake CC)	10:00
4/12	All	SRV (Payette) Scotch Pines	3:00
4/18	V Girls	Baker Invite (Quail Ridge)	TBA
4/20	All	SRV (Homedale) River Bend	3:00
4/25	V Boys	Baker Invite (Quail Ridge)	TBA
4/27	All	SRV (Parma) Timberstone	3:00
5/3	All	SRV (McCall)	TBA
5/6	V B & G	Match Play (Rolling Hills)	TBA
5/9	V B & G	District (Parma) Timberstone	11:30
<b>Week of 5/9 TBA</b>			
<b>JV B &amp; G</b>			
??		<b>JV District (Weiser) Rolling Hills</b>	
5/16-17		State - Practice Round	
		State Tournament (River Bend)	



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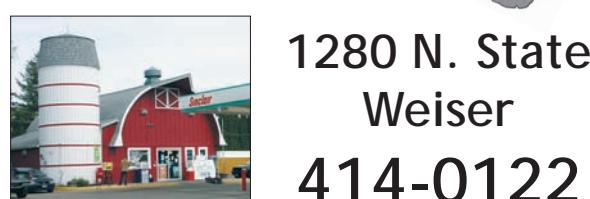
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# Wolverine SPRING SPORTS SCHEDULE

# 2022



## BASEBALL

Date	Meet	Site	Time	Date	Meet	Site	Time
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4/2	Kimberly Spring		5/7
	Classic	A	TBA
4/4	*Payette	H	5:00
4/6	*Parma	H	5:00
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4/11	*Fruitland	A	5:00

\*Denotes SRV Games



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5/9	V B & G	District (Parma) Timberstone	11:30
Week of 5/9 TBA			
5/16-17	JV B & G	JV District (Weiser) Rolling Hills	TBA
		State Tournament at River Bend Golf Course, Wilder	TBA



## TENNIS

Date	Meet	Site	Time
3/11	Emmett	A	4:30
3/14	Vale	H	4:00
4/1	Emmett	H	4:00
4/5	*Homedale	A	4:00
4/7	*Fruitland	A	4:00
4/11	Baker	H	4:00
4/13	*Parma	H	4:00
4/18	Baker	A	TBA
4/19	*Payette	A	4:00

\*Denotes SRV Matches



## TRACK AND FIELD

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4/28	SRV at Fruitland	TBA
5/6	New Plymouth Invite	1:00
5/12-13	District at Weiser	TBA
5/20-21	State at Middleton	TBA



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The Weiser tennis team is being led by new head coach Scott Manser. A large group of 42 Wolverines are on the roster. The girls team consists of Emma Tolman, Christy Bake, Britynn Seward, Alexandria Froshiesar, Bailey Coleman, Kendall Rynearson, Libbie Rynearson, McKenna Manser, Brooklynn Jensen, Paloma Almanza, Halle Seward, Aaliyah Perez, Nadine Chandler, Mollie Price, Alexandra Cozad, Kate Walker, Lacy Christopherson, Eva Valenzuela, Alexa Martin, Lexie Wrenfrow, Xenia Weisener, Addison Anderson, Esther Walker, Rilynn Strasser, and Eloa Evangelista. Brylee Williams, Charlie Woods, Huntyr McClellan, Mason Davis, Mason Brush, Eli Woods, Elias Anderson, Kolin Cook, Josh Mizar, Diego Delgadillo, Dauge McClellan, Luke Bake, Isaiah Hernandez, Kasey Kautz, Jayden Anderson, Diego Hernandez, and Travis Rose are the boys on the team. Photos by Philip A. Janquart

# Tennis team anticipates strong season

## *Tolman leads girls' team, will defend state championship*

by Philip A. Janquart

Scott Manser has taken over as head coach of the Weiser High School tennis team.

Manser, who served as an assistant last year and spent six years helping the middle school program, is filling a vacancy left by Angie Soulen who decided to step down as head coach following the 2021 season to pursue other interests.

Manser, a 1994 Weiser High School graduate and former mixed doubles player, has inherited what could potentially prove to be a strong team, which includes an unprecedented 42 players, according to the team's roster.

"There are some seniors that I've been kind of following because I coached them when they were in sixth grade," Manser said. "So, it's going to be fun."

One of those athletes is defending state singles champion, Emma Tolman, who, along with 2021 district competitor, Christy Bake, will lead the girls' team.

One of Manser's first moves as new head coach was to name Tolman captain of the girls' team. Tolman, who finished with a 19-2 record, lost the district championship last season to Parma's Austyn Harris only to turn around and beat her in the state championship.

Tolman conceded that she wasn't as focused as she could have been at districts and that the loss, while disappointing, forced her to revisit her game plan heading into the state competition.

"Districts was a rough day



Emma Tolman, pictured above, won the state title last year. She is a smart player with a ton of talent and will be in the running to defend her title. Pictured below is Brylee Williams who will be leading the boys team. Both were named captains of this year's team.

mentally for me and I may have gone into it a little overconfident because I was the first seed for our district, so when I went up against her (Harris), she was giving it all she had and I wasn't ready for it," she said.

"But it really prepared me for state, for different techniques, because she is a very different style than I am. I'm a little bit more brute force, definitely more of a strength player, but she likes a lot of back spin, which is just kind of dropping the ball in short. I had to make a lot of adjustments,

and I gave her a little bit of that spin, too, which she wasn't ready for. I played smarter, I think."

Manser said he knew immediately what happened to Tolman during districts and worked together with her to correct the problem.

"It was obvious why she lost," Manser said. "Austyn has this kind of funky backspin, and the ball will hit and won't bounce far, so it's a short shot. Emma wasn't able to get there quick enough, but the great thing about Emma is that she recognized

that. It was one of the coolest things when she came out of the district tournament. We spent the next week and a half working on that and made the adjustments for the next time she met up with Austyn and it paid off."

Tolman, who plans to attend Utah Valley University in Orem next fall, said the district loss to Harris is something she has kept with her in the offseason as she prepares for 2022.

"Losing in districts helped me realize what I need to improve on, just kind of my toolbox, and figuring out how I can expand my mentality and also my physical skills, being able to do different shots, putting spin on different balls and being smarter," she said.

Tolman, who recently auditioned for UVU's Musical Theater Performance program, said she has not decided whether to pursue tennis at the next level.

She credits her dad, Judd, however, for much of her success in the sport thus far.

"I do a lot of music, so I feel I'm cool there, but I never thought I'd be successful in sports," she explained. "It's mainly because of my dad that I improved a lot last year and I was able to push myself to the point where I could win a state championship, and now I have that mentality."

Bake is another strength for

the girls' team this year. Placing fourth at districts in 2021, Manser says she has the potential to improve on that mark.

"Christy is really great; she isn't afraid of anything," Manser said. "She has a bunch of brothers that are really good tennis players, so she's grown up playing against them. They were really tough, so nothing or nobody scares her. She's a competitor and she just never gives up. There is a lot of drive in her."

Manser said that in terms of improvement, Bake, along with his entire team, needs to improve on consistency.

"Tennis can be tough, and you get down at times," he said. "There is sometimes a really tough mental piece to it, and so staying in it mentally, that is something everyone on the team needs to work on."

Leading the boys team this year is Brylee Williams who Manser named boys' team captain.

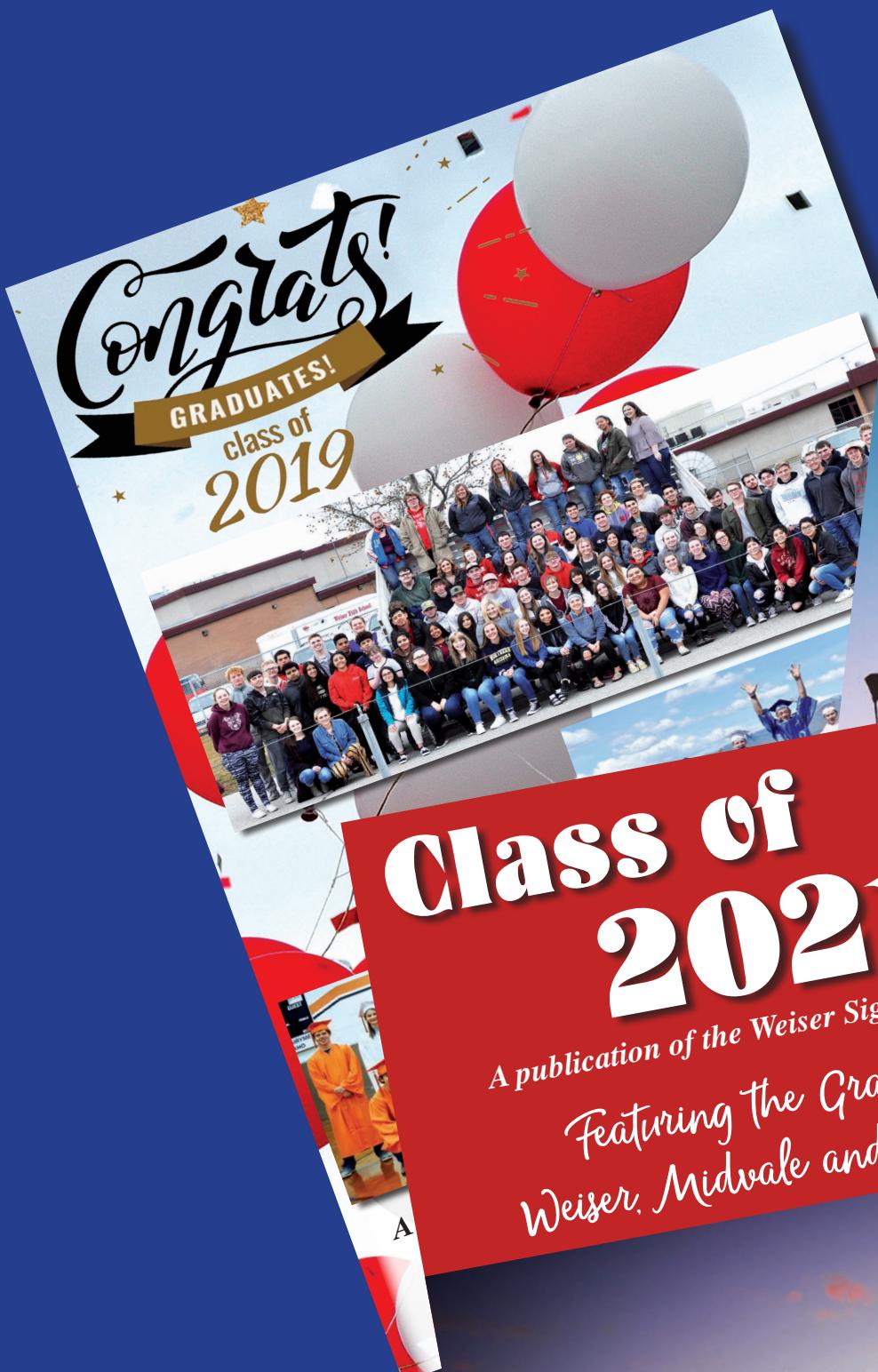
"Brylee is the lone senior and will be leading the charge," he said. "We have a younger boys' team, but we have a lot of really good returning players, including Huntyr McClellan, Mason Davis, and Charlie Woods."

McClellan played mixed doubles last year, and Davis and Woods played doubles. Manser said some of his boys will most likely play in new positions.



## TENNIS

Date	Meet	Site	Time	4/21	*Homedale	H	4:00
3/11	Emmett	A	4:30	4/26	*Fruitland	H	4:00
<b>3/14</b>	Vale	H	<b>4:00</b>	5/3	*Parma	A	4:00
<b>4/1</b>	Emmett	H	<b>4:00</b>	<b>5/5</b>	*Payette	H	4:00
4/5	*Homedale	A	4:00	5/9	Sun Valley/		
4/7	*Fruitland	A	4:00		Gooding SV/Gooding	TBA	
<b>4/11</b>	Baker	H	<b>4:00</b>	5/12-13	District (Multiple)	TBA	
<b>4/13</b>	*Parma	H	<b>4:00</b>	<b>5/14</b>	<b>District Finals</b>	H	TBA
4/18	Baker	A	TBA	5/20-21	State at Ridgevue		TBA
4/19	*Payette	A	4:00		*Denotes SRV Matches		

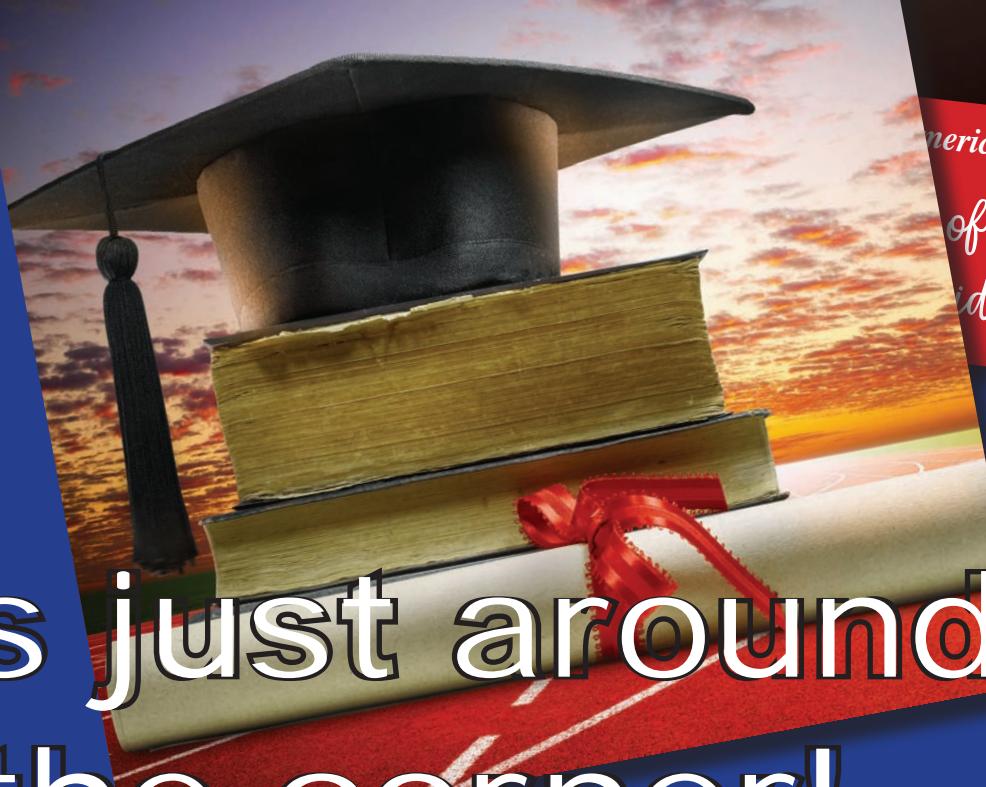


# Class of 2020

## class of 2021

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The Tri-Valley Titans track and field team has a large turnout for this year's program. Pictured above are members of the girl's team who won the 2021 district title as a team with seven members, from left Coach Rich Hollon, Maren Hansen, Emma Hollon, Lauryn Mitchell, Shayna Landiss, Josey Jones, and Tyler Gressley. Not pictured: Becka Chandler. Pictured below, top right, Claytin Harper almost broke 20 feet in his first jump of the 2021 season. Harper qualified for state and placed as a freshman. Junior Maren Hansen, qualified for state in the shot put.

# Tri-Valley tracksters looking strong ahead of 2022 season

*Tri-Valley Titan girls look to defend district championship*

by Philip A. Janquart

Last year the Tri-Valley track team had 17 athletes, including seven girls who, as a team, won the district competition.

This year, the Titans have the potential to defend that title and maybe even a little more.

"We have 25 or 30 kids, which is marvelous," said head coach Rich Hollon, who is also the head cross-country coach and is now in his second year leading the Titan track and field team. He is also a fifth-grade teacher at Cambridge Elementary School.

"We only have one or two seniors," he said. "We have a lot of youth, a lot of sophomores and freshmen, but it's pretty exciting because that's a really

good position to be in."

The Titans lost standouts Emma Hollon and Lauryn Mitchell to graduation. The pair are attending Eastern Oregon University on track and cross-country scholarships.

Returning for the girls' team, however, is junior thrower Maren Hansen who competed at the state championships in 2021.

"She's very good at the shot put," said Hollon. "I expect she will do well and probably go back to state where I think she should place and do very well."

Also returning is middle distance runner Tyler Gressley.

Hollon is also excited about incoming freshman

Emma Barton who will be a welcome addition to the girls' distance team.

"She did really well last year," Hollon said. "She is also a really good triple jumper. I expect she is going to do very well for us this year. It was very exciting to have our seven girls win district last year. It was just incredible. In fact, it was funny to watch the Melba girls react. They said, 'They just won districts with seven girls?'

On the boys' side, sophomore Claytin Harper is expected to have another solid season.

"This young man, as a freshman last year, in his first jump of the season, almost broke 20 feet in the long jump, which is pretty remarkable," Hollon said. "He went to state last year and placed as a freshman, so we'll have him back this year."

Also returning for the boys' team is senior

thrower Logan Farrens who Hollon said has been working hard to improve his technique.

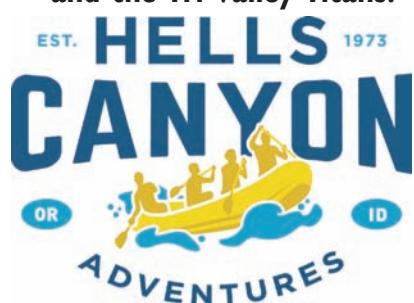
"Most of our athletes are really young and untested at the high school level, but we have good distance kids, good speed, good jumpers, and with Maren, who is our strongest thrower, I think we are going to be really solid," Hollon said last week. "We are strong on the relay side, and we are going to be competitive in the 4x400, 4x100, and maybe even the 4x200 on the girls' side. Overall, it's going to be exciting. Again, most of the kids are untested, but watching them so far in our first week of practice, I'm very optimistic about what they are going to be able to do. Last year, we had 34 middle school kids, so we could potentially have 50 to 60 kids practicing together this year, which is pretty

darn exciting."

is the March 16 Spring Opener in New Plymouth.



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Colton Burr a Weiser High School graduate is competing in his final year at Northwest Nazarene University. Burr has had a successful collegiate career in the weight throw, hammer throw and shot put both indoor and outdoor. Last year he was chosen as the West Region Men's Field Athlete of the Year for the United States Track and Field and Cross Country Coaches Association. During the 2022 Indoor Track and Field Great Northwest Athletic Conference championships Burr took the first place medal in the weight throw with a personal record throw of 17.53 meters. His coach at NNU is Weiser High School graduate Danny Bowman. Photos by Mady Fouse and Sage Way.

## Colton Burr continues his successful collegiate career in the throwing events at Northwest Nazarene University

by Nicole Miller

Weiser High School Alumni Colton Burr was chosen last year as the West Region Men's Field Athlete of the Year for the United States Track and Field and Cross Country Coaches Association (USTFCCCA). Burr has continued his successes in the throwing ring this season, as he competes for his senior year at Northwest Nazarene University.

Throughout his final indoor season, Burr improved his personal record on the weight throw by over a meter throwing 17.53. This earned Burr the top spot in the conference championship and was the third furthest for an NNU athlete in school history. Burr also took fourth place at the conference championship in shot-put.

Burr will now move onto his final outdoor season for NNU. During the outdoor season, Burr will continue to throw shot-put but will transition from weighted throw to hammer throw.

Both hammer throw and weight throw were new to Burr because they are illegal events at

the high school level in Idaho. In some ways this could have put him at a disadvantage, but Burr said that he was able to try the events his freshman year, and get the fundamentals. Then, since he was at home throughout most of 2020 due to COVID, he practiced consistently on his own.

Burr's goals for the season are to be conference champion in hammer throw and break the all-time school record. This means that Burr will need to increase his hammer throw personal best from 168 feet to 186 feet. Burr is heading into the season with confidence that he can.

Burr chose to attend NNU based on how at home he felt when he was on campus as well as the acclaimed engineering program of the university. As a college athlete Burr feels that the small-town atmosphere at NNU has really helped him with balancing his education with his athletic career.

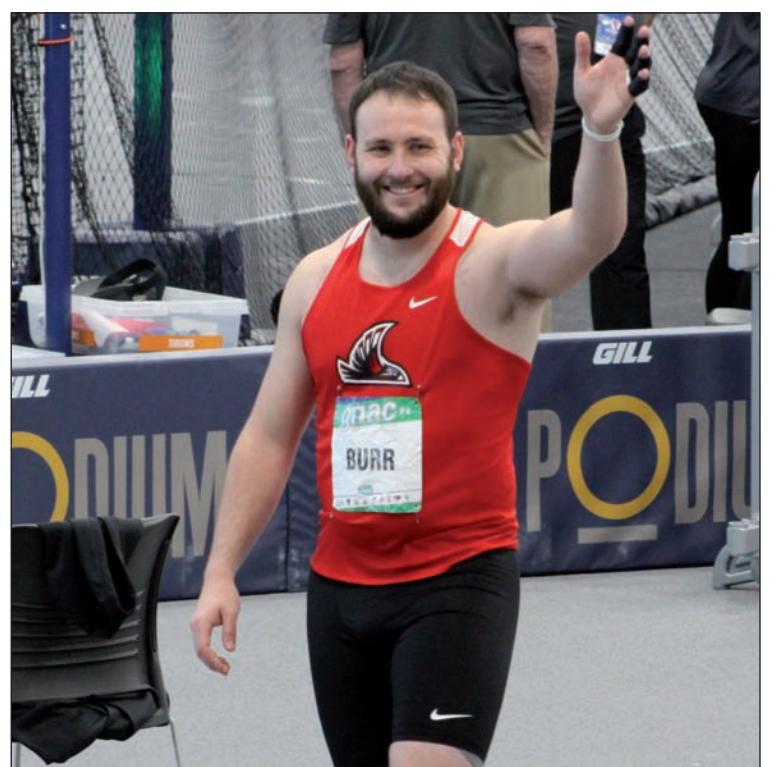
"My favorite part about being an athlete at NNU is being able to meet so many amazing people. The small-town feel of NNU is

really amazing. It's not at every college where my professors and peers know me by name and congratulate me on my performance over the weekend," Burr said.

Burr would advise local athletes interested in getting involved in collegiate sports to go for it, and not give up on those goals. Because you are from a small town and might not have all the same resources and opportunities as other big schools, you can still go out and talk to the college coaches. You may not be on their radar, but you can always put yourself out there and see what can happen.

Burr said that one of the big things he learned growing up in Weiser was hard work. The amazing coaches in Weiser taught him how to be coachable. That lesson has continued to serve him well both in the throwing ring and the classroom at the collegiate level.

Colton's coach at NNU is also a Weiser High School graduate. After a successful high school career Danny Bowman ran at NNU and he is finishing his 18th season coaching and his fourth



season at NNU as the head coach of track and field and cross country.

Burr is currently majoring in mechanical and agricultural en-

gineering. After college he hopes to work in an agricultural setting, making machines to make producing food products easier and more efficient.



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Jasi Yraguen, a returning golfer for the Weiser Wolverine golf team will be helping to lead the girls team. Yraguen is pictured practicing her chip shot at a recent practice session at Rolling Hills Golf Course. Photo by Philip A. Janquart

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