



By Christy Sheets

Sports Writer

The Wallace Lady Cats volleyball team enters the 2011 season with anticipation under the leadership of head coach Kory Rohde and assistant coach Elizabeth Strand. Student managers Abbey Rohde, Maggie May, Myah McConnell, and Madisen Pinkal will also be assisting throughout the season.

Over the summer the Lady Cats, who have 21 members this year, were able to attend summer team camps. Rohde feels a great deal of experience was gained. Recall that the Cats posted a 25 and one record last year, and won both their conference and district. They suffered their one and only loss of the season against Dodge at State.

The Lady Cats have seven letter-winners returning from last year's squad—Emily Hasenauer (5'5" senior), Danica Messersmith (5'7" senior), Brooke Hochstetler (6'0" senior), Anna Griffiths (5'5" junior), Chelsea Sowle (6'0" junior), Rachel Marquardt (5'6" junior), and Sara Hubbard (5'6" sophomore). The Lady Cats will also benefit from the transfer of Katelyn Melton (5' 9" junior) from Hayes Center and Laiken Brooks (5'4" sophomore) from Maywood.

Rohde anticipates a successful season for the Lady Cats, as they have some good height and athletic ability. When Coach Rohde was asked about the team he said, "We do not have a lot of varsity experience back from last year, but we are excited to get out there and compete." He added, "We have a great bunch of girls who should really improve throughout the season."

The Lady Cats' first game will be contested on Friday, Sept. 2 against the long time rival Paxton Tigers in Paxton. The game is scheduled to start at 4 p.m. with the C-team.