
Spring sports train for upcoming seasons

by Levi Higgs, *Smoke Signal* Sports Editor

With the new semester, spring sports are beginning to get their legs back for competition. Here is a quick update and preview for all things to come with Riverdale High School's spring athletics.

Baseball- The baseball team has been hard at work all year, training during 7th period and conditioning after school as we get closer to the season. They need their strength for a tough 40 plus game season that spans nearly 3 months, if you count scrimmages. We can look to see the Warriors baseball team on Saturday February 18 as they take on Tullahoma at Jones field. The team will be in full swing March 13 as they welcome Independence for their 5:30pm season opener.

Softball- The lady warrior softball team is wanting to build off a strong season last year with even more wins and greater score differences. With nine upperclassmen on the roster, the team should be able to carry some of that experience with them this year. For information on the team's progress follow Coach Breeden on twitter: @Warriorsoftball.

Track and Field (Boys and Girls)- The track team is ready and set to go this year as they too wish to improve from last year. They aim to work hard and take the "dis" out of "disability", as mentioned in their mission statement. They sure know how to do that recording a state winner for the past 19 years. Look to see Coach Ricky Fields and the rest of the team have another photo-finish season this year.

Tennis (Boys and Girls)- The Riverdale Tennis program is looking to smash a winner this season as they look to bounce back and improve from last year's overall performance. They condition Monday through Thursday. The girls are determined to dethrone their rival the Siegel Stars as the district champions. While the boys, led by junior Jesse Boles and senior Paul Montgomery, are set to rally back at whatever the district sends their way. We, just as Coach Curry, can be excited for where the Riverdale tennis team is heading.

Soccer- The Warriors are ready to win this year as they take on their toughest schedule in years. This is a purposeful schedule because the boys have been to the state tournament two years in a row, but have fallen twice to the eventual state champions. The team is a veteran bunch comprised of nearly all seniors and juniors. This experience and lots of hard work will hopefully bring them a taste of state tournament victory. The team has a late home opener due to many away games. They take on Pope John Paul II under the lights at Tomahawk Stadium March 27.