

Boys' track looks to bounce back this season

As the season is starting to warm up, the team is aiming to continue the success they've achieved in recent years



THE BOYS' LONG DISTANCE TEAM runs their route during track practice on Thursday, March 5. The first outdoor meet is on April 7 at home.

Jadon Stoner
Assistant Sports Editor

The runners tie up their shoes and look forward to another hopeful season. The gun fires and the boys are off to the races. As the team has been working hard and training for months, the boys are ready and prepared for the months ahead.

Senior hurdler Talon Hutto is very excited for the upcoming year and wants to end his high school running career with a trophy.

"I'm looking forward to the postseason meets, especially sectional because we lost it last year. I can confidently say that we have a good team because we have won so many sectionals previous to last year."

Sophomore sprinter Zac Hutslar is also anticipating a successful season and feels prepared to face other teams around the area.

"This season I'm definitely looking forward to seeing where our team is because we definitely have some athletes this year. I think our team is definitely excelling over other teams in the conference this year because we have been putting in work since January this year and coach [Zack]Koetter and coach [Donnie] Gumble are definitely getting us faster and stronger."

Head coach Zack Koetter also feels very prepared and primed to face the top competition.

"In the conference I think we are probably the top team, we've been conference champions the

past three years. I think our biggest competition for our team will be New Albany, but I think that we're a deeper team than them."

These high team expectations are a combination of individual goals

"My personal goal this season to qualify for state in hurdles and long jump," said junior hurdler Wenkers Wright.

Senior sprinter Calvin Brown also has a positive outlook on his upcoming season and expects a strong season from himself.

"My goal is to go out and compete every meet and better myself."

As with any team, there are challenges that will be faced and must be pushed through in order for the team to succeed.

"The biggest challenge for the team right now is staying healthy. A challenge that I have is that we have a very talented team, so a varsity spot is going to be hard to come by," said junior long-distance runner Seth Owings.

Hutto also recognizes that the team staying healthy and competitive will be a critical factor in having an accomplished and triumphant season.

"One big challenge when it comes to track are injuries. Shin splints and stress fractures happen more often than a regular person would think."

Koetter is excited to see how his team will react when adversity hits, and feels that his team is inclined to face the challenges that the season

"I'm looking forward to seeing how we respond against competition that is with us or maybe even beyond us. I want to see how we move and improve as the year goes on."

Though the expectations are already high, there would be some very immense achievements that would make this season memorable.

"This season would be really special if we had multiple guys go to state," said Wright.

Hutslar is confident that this year will be exceptional and one to remember.

"The reason this season is special is because all of our runners have been putting in work and getting faster. This is going to be a good year for the Floyd Central track team."