

Seniors look forward after loss of spring sports

With the IHSA's cancellation of upcoming sports many seniors reminisce over past years and what could have happened this season

Jadon Stoner

Assistant Sports Editor

Adam Hynes

Sports Editor

Meg Edwards

Sports Reporter

Brady Beam

Sports Reporter

In early April governor Eric Holcomb announced that Indiana schools were to halt in-person classes and the rest of the school year was to be completed online when possible via eLearning. After hearing this news, spring sport athletes assumed their worst fears had become a reality. This was soon confirmed when the IHSA released a statement saying that all spring sports had been cancelled about a week later.

Disappointment

While many students have two or three years left, seniors have lost their final seasons in their spring sports.

"The season getting canceled is heartbreaking because all of the seniors have worked for years just to play this season, but we won't get that," said senior outfielder Carson Stiller.

Most seniors see their final season as their last ride and a dream they have been waiting for.

"The season getting cancelled really sucks. I've dreamt about playing this year more than any other year," said senior pitcher Daly Skees.

For some their

passion is being ripped right out of their hands.

"I was personally very upset. My heart was truly broken because my first true love was taken from me and I couldn't do anything about it. I was so sad to see my senior year be taken from me," said senior center fielder Bailey McLean.

Senior outfielder and middle infielder Madison Bush was looking forward to special senior moments.

"The most upsetting part about not playing senior year is that I will never have my last game or a

senior night."

The sadness and shock continued on the hardcourts, as many senior girls' tennis players were looking to make one last run in their final year.

"This has probably been the hardest thing for me to understand upon everything else that's been going on," said senior Lindsey Dorsch.

Many seniors were not ready to give up hearing the cheers from friends and family.

"It all happened so suddenly, so I

wasn't prepared to process it all. It's really hard to know that I'll never again get to put on an FC uniform or hear 'get up Floyd' echoing across the courts," said senior tennis player Abby Jaminson.

Some seniors were also using this spring season to try out new areas on their respective teams.

"Since it would be my first year running distance, I was looking forward to running good times and beating them throughout the season," said senior Carley Conway

Expectations

With high expectations for the upcoming seasons, having them taken away suddenly hurts even more.

"I'm upset that the season was canceled. I was really looking forward to winning a lot of games this season because our team has bonded really well," said senior pitcher Madison Wathen.

Leadership

With seasons coming fast many

athletes had their shot at being leaders.

"I feel horrible," said senior sprinter Talon Hutto. "I was trying to be a leader on this team and it has just been ruined."

These leaders were also ready to see the hard work they poured into their sport blossom.

"We were going to be competitive this year with some teams we hadn't been with in the past," said Jamison. "I was super excited to see all of our hard work in the off season come to fruition."

Unfinished business

The basketball team ended up in a bit of a different situation than all of the spring sports. After running through Jeff and Jennings County en route to the first boys' basketball sectional title in 31 years, the upcoming regional and rest of the state tournament was canceled.

"I am obviously sad about the season being canceled, as it was a great opportunity for both our team and the school," said senior center Grant Gohmann. "I really felt this team was special and had a unique opportunity to not only win regionals, but make a deep run in the tournament."

Not only is losing a successful season hard but it is even harder for some students who wanted closure in their final games.

"It's definitely a rough feeling not getting any closure. We put in a lot of work for it to end the way it did," said senior guard Ben Purvis.

Senior guard Seth Burks



Scarlett Hatton/*The Bagpiper*

agreed with many of Purvis' and Gohmann's sentiments about the loss of the season.

"It is absolutely awful and I miss it every day. We didn't deserve this but there's nothing we can do about it."

Remaining positive

As all of us are trying to do during this time, these athletes attempt to look on the bright side and find something good in all of this. Star senior pitcher Max Meyer, though disappointed, is trying to focus on the positives.

"The good thing is that I have a lot of time to prepare and get ready for next year at Indiana State."

Other athletes are also using their positivity and time to train for future endeavors.

"I'm trying to keep a positive attitude. I am also continuing to train and hopefully will be able to run some races in the summer," said senior runner Sydney Liddle.

Senior infielder Joe Harrington is also trying to keep a positive state of mind to boost his attitude for the future.

"I'm basically just staying in a positive mindset and working hard every day to stay in shape for the next opportunity."

Senior sprinter and jumper Spencer Freiburger looks forward to her time as a college athlete in order to cope with these hard times.

"I will be competing as a heptathlete on the women's track team at the University of Louisville, so although my high school season is over, I still have to stay as active as possible to prepare for real competition."

Memories

Through the devastation and heartbreak this one-of-a-kind

event brings, the senior athletes look back on the memorable moments they made with their teammates.

"The memories made off the field made us come together more as a team on the field," said senior pitcher Joel Archer.

Senior long-distance runner Mandy Howe also has lots of positives to reminisce about from her time in track and field.

"A great memory I have is the one week we replaced maintenance days with games that involved running on the field. I will never forget the laughter and joy that brought me."

Despite losing her senior season, senior sprinter Chloe Loftus looks back with a smile on her high school career.

"Cross country camp is one of the best memories I have had with my team. Another memory I have is getting to run track state my junior year and placing 10th in the 4x800, missing the podium by one place and three seconds."

Senior tennis player Katie Weimer recalls some bizarre events off the court that bonded her team closer together.

"Some of my favorite memories were going to stay in hotel rooms and doing crazy things like ding-dong-ditching, or when we hit a deer on the bus."

Senior infielder Caleb Kimm also has remembrance of fun times off the field with his team.

"My favorite memory was when we stayed the night in Evansville after the Castle game. This was a fun, team-building night because we won the game against a very good Castle team and came back to the hotel and



Brock Kennedy/*The Bagpiper*

SENIORS SETH BURKS, GRANT GOHMANN, AND BEN PURVIS smile holding their sectional championship plaque on March 7. The boys won against Jennings County 70-33 and were on the road to regionals. Regionals was canceled due to the COVID-19 breakout.

ate pizza and hung out."

Moving forward

Although sports seasons ended as fast as they started,

some are ready for college athletics.

"The next step for me and for my softball career is playing

for University of Louisville this coming fall. I couldn't be more excited," said senior catcher Taryn Weddle.