

# Volleyball program returns top-notch players

By Rongi Yost  
Correspondent

The girls volleyball squad returns eight players this season. Several come back with all-league and all-state honors under their belts.

Senior setter Hawley Harrer returns for her final season, before she heads to UCLA as a Division I player. Harrer has earned numerous awards, including last year's 4A State Player of the Year. She was the Sky-Em Player of the Year in both 2015 and 2016, and earned first-team all-league in 2014, 2015, and 2016. In 2016, Hawley was selected as Sisters High School's Female Athlete of the Year. In 2017, she was finalist for the Oregon Prep Volleyball Player of the Year and also a finalist for the Oregon Prep Athlete of the Year.

Harrer is a tremendous athlete and volleyball player and will be a leader on the floor this year. Coach Rory Rush told *The Nugget* that her level and knowledge of the game will raise the level of play for the entire team.

Jessie Brigham is also a senior and will return as the Outlaws' libero (defensive

specialist). Brigham has also earned many top-level honors, including first-team all-league in 2014, 2015, and 2016, and first-team all-state in 2015 and 2016. She was also selected second-team all-state in 2014. Jessie has an amazing ability to read and anticipate the ball, and will be a force in the back row for the Outlaws. Rush said that Jessie brings intensity and passion to the court that will elevate play.

Ashlynn Cantwell (senior) is a second-team all-leaguer and will play outside hitter. Cantwell is a solid all-around player, and her strength and quickness will bring a powerful attack from the outside.

Cassidy Ling-Scott will see time at both the right side and setter. Cassidy took last year off from volleyball, but returns as a senior for her final year. Ling-Scott has great hands and will play opposite from Harrer. She will also bring intensity to the Outlaws' right side.

Erynn Ricker (senior) is an outstanding athlete and volleyball player. Erynn will play at middle hitter and will bring quickness and power to that position.

Juniors Sydney Head and

Kendra Sitz (junior) will both see time at outside hitter. Head, in addition to outside hitter, will also play as a defensive specialist and be a valuable asset in the back row. Sitz is returning from an ACL surgery after missing half of the 2016 season. She's been dedicated to her recovery and will bring a powerful attack on the outside. Kendra is very versatile and has the ability to play any position.

Sophomore Samantha Silva is a great utility player and is able to play any position with intensity and consistency. Rush stated that Samantha is a great team player and her teammates trust she will get the job done.

Five new players will join the Lady Outlaws this year, including sophomores Adelyn Myhre, Mattie Mynatt, and Maddison Anderson. Freshmen Ellie Rush and Sophie Silva will round out the roster.

Myhre will get some time and experience in at the setter position, and according to Rush, will most probably take over as setter next year. Mynatt will also gain experience at the varsity level. Rush noted that with so many

players graduating this year, Mattie will need to be ready to be a force at the net next year. Anderson will see time at both the right side and as a defensive specialist, Rush will see time at setter, and Silva will play middle.

returning from a historic season. Our core group brings lots of experience playing at the high school level, and being recognized as some of the top players around the state.

"This year we look to continue the winning tradition, build on past success, and continue to build a cohesive fundamental foundation in our program for years to come. Our returning players have so much they can teach our up-and-coming talented players about the game and how to bring intensity to the floor. I am looking to them to be leaders on and off the floor as we look to continue to grow as a program and make our community proud. I am excited to lead this group of young ladies as we embark on an exciting season."

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Rush said, "This year we have a solid group of experienced players and athletes



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