



Elkton Girls Basketball



Team Rundown:

No guards; no problem. Or at least that is the hope for this year's Elkton basketball team.

After their two primary ball-handlers graduated –including Maggie Briggs who is now on the Pacific University JV team – the Elks are looking to find a new way forward but their success, they believe, is not dependent on it.

“I’ve got some girls that are decent ball handlers, just not real true point guards which in our offense doesn’t really matter a whole lot,” said Rob Parker who is in his 28th year of coaching.

Parker is not worried because his team utilizes a read-and-react offense that is predicated on playing without positions so the use of a traditional ball handler is non-essential. Some of his players were first introduced to the system when Parker’s wife first

taught them the style of play in fifth grade.

Regardless of what offense the team runs, there is excitement on the defensive end.

“Honestly, I think defense has always been our strong suit,” said senior Hannah Maxwell. “We’ve always ran a full-court press so I’m excited to see where that goes this year because we have some quick girls on our team.”

The Elks will be dependent on their stingy defense again if they are going to replicate the success of last year’s 22-7 team that lost in the second round of the playoffs. While they only lost two seniors from that team, the team is returning just two starters this season and have no juniors on the roster.

Team Perspective with Hannah Maxwell

Expectations for the season:

I think last year we had a really high expectation to where we would finish because the years before, even our freshmen year, we made it to state. Sophomore year we just missed state and last year we were like, we’re doing it, this is where we’re going, we’re going to state. So I think we were just really focused on going to state last year.

Goals for the season:

I think for us, at least for me personally, we kind of just want to influence them to the best of our ability to be positive and to put 100 percent onto the court because we do have a really young team. It’s really hard to say where we’re going to go this year but I just want everyone to give 110

percent so that we can get as far as we’re able to.

I mean honestly, the first couple practices I’m just surprised with how far we’ve made it. How well we’ve done in the first two practices. I think, and I notice that, I think everyone’s there and they want to do their best and I think that’s really going to help us at the end of the season putting in the work now.

On their offense:

We don’t really have an offense. If you ask Mr. Parker, his famous quote will be, technically we don’t have an offense, well we do but, we don’t actually run any set plays. It’s like a read and react offense and you just go with what the game gives you. And honestly it takes teams by surprise and I think it’s been a great advantage all of these years.

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