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CATASAUQUA HIGH SCHOOL

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2025

FALL

SPORTS & ACTIVITIES

CATASAUQUA HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL

Roughies look to take next steps



Braeden Smith looks to block for Aidan Reilly (right) during a game from last season. Both players are back this year for the Roughs.

BY JEFF MOELLER
Special to the Press

Heading into last season, Catasauqua first-year head coach Joe Henrich knew his team would experience their share of growing pains with an inexperienced squad.

Yet, the Rough Riders surprised everyone with their 3-0 start, registering 47 points in their season-opening victory over Mahanoy Area. They will again face Mahanoy Area in the season opener this year.

Unfortunately for the Roughies, their success was short lived, as they went winless the rest of the way.

This spring, Henrich and his troops began a rigid schedule of weight room workouts and other offseason sessions to reverse their course. It may be a tall order, Henrich is confident the Roughies can get back

on track.

"After last season, we had to prepare ourselves to be competitive," stressed Henrich. "We didn't have a prior commitment to the weight room, and we had 25 kids in the weight room this summer. That was a big number for us."

"We had a nice start, but the remainder of the season presented both mental and physical challenges for a team loaded with youth and inexperience."

"This offseason was just that, we challenged them and they have responded."

From there, Henrich will look to his players to make the transformation this fall.

Junior Aidan Reilly returns at quarterback after he missed parts of the season last year. Reilly did manage to throw for 1,325 yards and 12 touchdowns.

Reilly's prime target likely again will be junior Manny Bolmer, who caught 38 balls for 717 yards with eight touchdowns. Senior Jojo Lafond hauled in 26 passes for 255 yards with three touchdowns. Junior Tyler Limandri and Omar Pacheco will also be in the mix.

Senior Cadeo Estronza is the lead returning back with 255 yards rushing. Senior Trayshawn Dunn, junior Ruben Concepcion, and sophomore Joziah Martinez should also see time. Sophomore Robert Marte and freshman Shane Bortz should see some playing time.

Up front, seniors Braeden Smith, transfer Adam Kosciolk, and sophomore Evan DeLong are expected to anchor the line. Others in the mix will be sophomore Robert Marte and

See **FOOT** on Page A3

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Cadeo Estronza is back for Catty and should see plenty of carries this season.



Chris Wellington is expected to help lead the Catty defense this season.

FOOT

Continued from page A2

freshman Shane Bortz.

Defensively, senior Chris Wellington returns as the team's leading tackler last season with 81 stops, and he'll be at middle linebacker. Dunn, Martinez, and sophomores Tuari Wright and Chase Kratochvil round out the linebacking corps.

Smith, Kosciolk, Marte, Concepcion, and Bortz will be along the

line.

Bolmer, Lafond, Estronza, Limandri, and sophomores Jermaine Santiago and Jacoby Ebert are the early candidates in the secondary.

Reilly will handle the punting, and senior Jayden Olivencia will be the kicker. Bolmer and Estronza will handle the kickoff and punt returns.

After Mahanoy, the Roughies will host Wilson and Palisades and then travel to Salisbury.

There all were teams with losing records last season, and Catty may be able to get off to a fast start.

However, the Roughies will then get into the challenging part of their schedule with Notre Dame, Saucon Valley, Jim Thorpe, and Northern Lehigh.

Despite plenty of optimism in camp, Henrich realizes this will be a process.

"Our program just really needs to learn how to win, how to work,

how to lift, how to work together," noted Henrich. "This offseason was just that, we challenged them and they have responded.

"I feel like the kids are light-years ahead of where they were last year. I am excited about our growth and excited to see what we can do. The lines are coming along. We have some good players there and they will only continue to get better."

Cheerleaders set for a busy fall season

BY SCOTT PAGEL

spagel@tnonline.com

Catasauqua cheerleading coach Kawaunna Waldron and her team will be busy again this fall.

Waldron said the team will be doing three competitions this year, The Warriorfest takes place at Wilson High School, followed by the Colonial League Competitive Spirit Competition, and then Northampton's Cheer Challenge.

"We will be doing a Krispy Kreme fundraiser and a Catty Cares T-shirt fundraiser in the coming months," Waldon said.

The varsity team will be made up of: Jaylynn Bonilla, Janetlitz Burgos, Kayla Davis, Julia Harth, Jezial Kelley, Alivia Kurczewski, Ariella Miller, Madison Monberger, Dakota Velas, Maliya Walp and Shakayla Roberts.

The junior varsity team will be made up of: Jadelyn Bradshaw, Cassius Estronza, Jaylah Rosado, Anaiz Espinal, Jazanae Jackson, Isabella Garcia and Alisha Perez-Porrra.

The middle school team will be made up of: Leah Cruz, Ciara Gass, Isla Pacheco, Ava Richie, Victoria Rodriguez and Jayvianah Ocasio.



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CATASAUQUA HIGH SCHOOL FIELD HOCKEY



Shelby Haldeman is back to help lead the Roughs back to the playoffs.



Dakota Velas returns this season for Catty.

Girls are looking to get back to district playoffs

BY JEFF MOELLER
Special to the Press

Catasauqua field hockey coach Amanda Freiler is hoping her team can take the next step.

Last season, the Rough Riders finished with an overall 7-11 regular season record, and they made the District 11 Class 1A playoff for the second consecutive season. They dropped a hard-fought, 1-0 decision to Pen Argyl in the playoff.

This season, Freiler has a solid returning core back in place. She is optimistic that they can improve on last year's record and make a return to districts.

A busy summer certainly can be a catalyst for the fall.

"We worked hard during the summer," stressed Freiler. "We did speed and agility work as well as stick work. We also were in

the Bethlehem Catholic summer league.

"We were working four days a week."

Freiler will depend up leading returning scorer Shelby Haldeman and junior goalie Lizzy Bass to lead the pack. Haldeman, a DeSales University commit, scored 11 goals, and Bass recorded 76 saves.

"Shelby plays club, and she has led us the past few years," said Freiler. "We're excited that she will continue her career at DeSales."

"Lizzy has put in an unreal amount of work during the offseason. She is looking good for the season."

Others expected to be in the mix are juniors Ava Akus, Gia D'Alessio, Chloe Paulas, Kamryn Pushkar, Skylah Sanders, Esmeralda Serrano, and Ava Wetzel. Seniors Dakota Velas and Nicole Oquendo-Ramos will also be counted on for their leadership.

Sophomores Bella Justo – a transfer from Pen Argyl – and freshmen Ruby Moore and Kenzie D'Alessio have impressed during the summer.

Haldeman worked on her game during the summer, and she also is confident that her team will continue to grow. The Roughies will open the season at Palmerton Aug. 26.

"Over the summer, I worked on the physical aspect of the game, such as running and lifting," said Haldeman. "This season, I foresee the team improving all year. We have the hope of making districts for the third year in a row and getting further than we did the past two years."

"Our team is full of young and eager girls that are consistently showing up to practice and improving, so I believe we will be a strong competitor in the district."

"Our team is full of young and eager girls that are consistently showing up to practice and improving, so I believe we will be a strong competitor in the district."

Shelby Haldeman



PRESS PHOTO BY SAMANTHAN ANDERSON

The Catasauqua band will be hard at work at football games this season.

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CATASAUQUA HIGH SCHOOL BOYS SOCCER



Keeper Liam McGinley is back for the boys soccer team.



Elija Vazquez also returns for the Catty boys soccer team.

Rough Riders are looking to get better this season

BY JEFF MOELLER
Special to the Press

In any sport, potential can be an overused word.

The Catasaquua boys' soccer team is hopeful their potential this summer can become a reality this fall. It will be about changing the track of a 3-14 season last year.

"The mood this summer was one of constant improvement," said boys' head soccer coach Josh Inman. "We stressed the need to get better all throughout summer league and our team workouts, and the boys really responded. We pushed hard and they really showed that they have potential."

Senior Jayden Olivenecia has been a starter since his freshman year, and he is the Roughies' leading returning scorer with three goals. He is expected to lead the Roughies' offensive attack.

"He is skillfully very dynamic," said Inman about his senior. "He can cause a lot of havoc for opposing teams and

we will hope to exploit that in as many ways as possible this season."

Other top returnees are senior: Gavin Hacker, juniors Liam McGinley and Andrew Strohl, and sophomores Randy Salcedo, and Elija Vazquez. Freshman Jariel Medina Cotera and Mason Cieslak should be steady contributors.

Inman knows team chemistry may take some time to jell.

"The chemistry can be a difficult thing to judge after such a short period of time, but without the large group of seniors from last year we are going to lean on younger players who will grow and develop together," said Inman. "This can lead to them trusting in each other more and a tighter knit team overall."

Along with chemistry, Inman can sense his team has a thirst for the postseason, something that had alluded them for a while. The Roughies will open the season at Whitehall Aug. 23.

"I think that our

teams are always hungry," he said. "We have not been to the postseason in too long and every year they are doing whatever they can in order to achieve that goal."

He also likes the overall direction of the program. Recent grads Osmar Ferre and Jonathan Cordon Pinto will be playing at DeSales University and Lebanon Valley College respectively this fall.

"Our feeder program looks strong with consistent numbers coming in every year, we have also had a larger number of boys taking the necessary steps to get involved in club ball throughout the year to ensure constant growth," Inman said.

"The upcoming years have solid numbers of players who have grown and developed both together but also on their own within many club programs throughout the area which ultimately leads to the overall benefit of the high school program."

"The mood this summer was one of constant improvement. We stressed the need to get better all throughout summer league and our team workouts, and the boys really responded. We pushed hard and they really showed that they have potential."

Josh Inman

CATASAUQUA HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS SOCCER



Julia Harth is back for the Catty girls soccer team.



Mia Gomes is a returning senior for the girls soccer team.

Girls looking for a potential exciting season

BY JEFF MOELLER
Special to the Press

For the Catasaququa girls' soccer, it will be about keeping momentum.

The Rough Riders won two of their first three games to start last season. New head coach Dave Marth apparently had found a new elixir for success.

However, whatever magic the Roughies found quickly disappeared into the fall air.

Catty went to drop their next nine games, being outscored, 43-6, over the span. From there, the Roughies went 3-2-1 over their final six regular-season games to finish 5-12-1.

This season, Marth is looking to find consistency, and he feels confident behind a retuning core. He was pleased that the Roughies im-

proved from two games the previous season with their 3-14-1 slate.

"We're gearing up for an exciting season ahead," beamed Marth. "This team can be fueled by a strong core of returning players."

The Roughies did lose leading scorer Faith Daku to graduation, but Marth will lean on returning seniors Julia Harth, Eva and Mia Gomes, Eriana Vazquez and goalkeeper, Brooke Barna who made over 100 saves in 2024.

Uyen Ly and Ana Rodriguez-Ramos are returning juniors who will make a big impact this season and are expected to take on even larger roles this year.

Marth is excited about a large freshman class as well and several freshmen who are expected to be big con-

tributors to the team as the season progresses. He also welcomes new assistant coach Madison Walker along with returning assistant Roger Straub.

"Madison's energy and fresh perspective promise to elevate the program," said Marth. "She and Roger will do a great job."

Overall, Marth is anxious to begin his second year guiding the Roughies. They will open their season at Kutztown Aug. 23.

"With a mix of seasoned players and dedicated coaches, the team is poised for a competitive and exciting season ahead," said Marth. "Our team chemistry is great. The players not only respect each other but enjoy working hard on the field together every day."

"With a mix of seasoned players and dedicated coaches, the team is poised for a competitive and exciting season ahead. Our team chemistry is great. The players not only respect each other but enjoy working hard on the field together every day."

Dave Marth

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CATASAUQUA HIGH SCHOOL VOLLEYBALL

Rough Rider girls looking for right ingredients to compete this fall season

BY JEFF MOELLER
Special to the Press

This summer, Catasauqua head volleyball coach John Cesanek was literally trying to piece together his team for the fall.

"This season is going to be challenging and unique," stressed Cesanek. "We have all the pieces, but we just need to figure them out and put the puzzle together as a team. However, this year has its own set of unique and special in-

gredients and tough puzzle pieces."

Coming off a 0-22 season after they made the district playoffs the previous two seasons – the first time in 17 years – the Rough Riders will again be in a rebuilding phase. Even though they did lose six seniors from last year's squad, the Roughies have a seasoned core returning.

Seniors Maliya Walp, Madison Monberger, Amberlynn Faust, Jezial Kelley, Kayla Davis, and

Makayala Bird will look to anchor the squad.

Juniors Kira Kiel and Kylie Scherer and sophomores Janelly Diaz and Jillian LaPointe round out the varsity roster.

Cesanek is optimistic that his team can come together and can continue to strengthen their defense. The Roughies grew in the North Caty Summer Volleyball league, and they also instituted a summer middle school program.

"If we can get every-

thing to come together properly, this group of girls has the potential to catch a lot of teams off guard and hold their own, especially when it comes to defense," said Cesanek. "Then again, our team has always been known for our defense, and many schools are aware of that."

"While we lack the height, a strong offense, and a middle school program to teach upcoming volleyball players, we do make up for it with our

defense."

The Roughies will begin their season against Executive Education Academy Aug. 23. Cesanek is aware that the season ahead can have some bumps in the road.

"The girls will have a very demanding schedule this fall, so they had a lot of work ahead of them before the season even begins," noted Cesanek. "We're blessed with a talented group of returning juniors and a few sophomores who

have the skills, talents, and experience to make a difference.

"To put it simply, this summer and fall are like a Harry Potter movie. It's all about the right ingredients and chemistry. If we put everything together correctly, we have the potential to make something great. But if things don't come together properly, our spell could be disastrous."



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CATASAUQUA 2025 FALL SPORTS SCHEDULES

Cross Country
8/22 @ Lion Invite 1:15 p.m.
8/27 @ Saucon Valley 2:30 p.m.
9/3 Home meet 2 p.m.
9/11 @ Southern Lehigh 2 p.m.
9/16 @ Salisbury 2 p.m.
9/23 @ Wilson 2:30 p.m.
9/30 @ Palmerton 2 p.m.
10/7 @ Northwestern 2 p.m.
10/15 @ Colonial Meet 1:15 p.m.
10/22 @ District Meet 12:25 p.m.

Boys Soccer
8/23 @ Whitehall 12:45 p.m.
8/27 @ Jim Thorpe 5:30 p.m.
8/30 vs Wilson 10 a.m.
9/3 @ Tamaqua 6:30 p.m.
9/4 @ Palmerton 6:45 p.m.
9/6 vs Lehighton 10 a.m.
9/9 @ Moravian Academy 4 p.m.
9/11 @ So. Lehigh 6:30 p.m.
9/13 @ Notre Dame GP 10 a.m.
9/16 @ No. Lehigh 7 p.m.
9/17 vs Palisades 6 p.m.
9/18 vs Saucon Valley 6 p.m.

9/23 vs Pen Argyl 7 p.m.
9/27 vs Bangor 10 a.m.
9/29 @ Notre Dame 4 p.m.
10/1 @ Salisbury 6:45 p.m.
10/7 vs Northwestern 4 p.m.
10/8 vs Notre Dame 6:30 p.m.

Girls soccer
8/23 @ Kutztown 10 a.m.
8/27 vs Jim Thorpe 4 p.m.
8/30 @ Wilson Area 10 a.m.
9/2 vs Notre Dame GP 6 p.m.
9/4 vs Palmerton 6 p.m.
9/6 @ Lehighton 10 a.m.
9/9 vs Moravian Academy 7 p.m.
9/10 vs So. Lehigh 3:45 p.m.
9/16 vs No. Lehigh 7 p.m.
9/18 @ Saucon Valley 4 p.m.
9/29 @ Bangor 4 p.m.
10/1 vs Salisbury 6 p.m.
10/4 vs Tamaqua 10 a.m.
10/7 @ Northwestern 6:30 p.m.

Field Hockey
8/30 @ Salisbury 9 a.m.

9/3 vs Wilson 7:15 p.m.
9/5 @ Moravian Academy 4 p.m.
9/6 @ Pen Argyl 10 a.m.
9/9 vs Northwestern 3:45 p.m.
9/10 vs No. Lehigh 7:15 p.m.
9/12 vs Palisades 4:15 p.m.
9/13 @ Wilson 10 a.m.
9/16 vs Saucon Valley 3:45 p.m.
9/18 @ So. Lehigh 3:30 p.m.
9/22 @ Bangor 4 p.m.
9/24 vs Lehighton 7:15 p.m.
9/30 vs So. Lehigh 4 p.m.
10/1 @ Saucon Valley 4 p.m.
10/3 @ Palisades 3:30 p.m.
10/6 vs Salisbury 7:15 p.m.
10/9 @ Pocono East 4 p.m.

Football
8/22 @ Mahanoy Area 7 p.m.
8/29 vs Wilson 7 p.m.
9/5 vs Palisades 7 p.m.
9/12 @ Salisbury 7 p.m.
9/19 @ Notre Dame GP 7 p.m.
9/26 vs Saucon Valley 7 p.m.
10/3 vs Jim Thorpe 7 p.m.

10/10 @ No. Lehigh 7 p.m.
10/18 @ Pen Argyl 1:30 p.m.
10/24 vs Palmerton 7 p.m.
11/27 vs Northampton 10 a.m.

Volleyball
8/25 vs Palmerton 6 p.m.
8/27 @ Northwestern 4 p.m.
9/2 @ Pen Argyl 6 p.m.
9/4 @ Notre Dame GP 11 a.m.
9/6 @ Tamaqua 11:30 a.m.
9/8 vs Saucon Valley 6 p.m.
9/10 @ Jim Thorpe 6 p.m.
9/16 vs So. Lehigh 6 p.m.
9/18 vs Lehighton 6 p.m.
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CATASAUQUA HIGH SCHOOL CROSS COUNTRY



Evan Reed is back to help lead the boys cross country team.

Harriers looking very good so far

BY JEFF MOELLER
Special to the Press

This year, Catasauqua's cross country team will be seeking to find the right formula.

Rough Riders head coach Kyle Rusnock welcomed a group of veteran and inexperienced runners, all of whom he hopes can peak at the end of the season.

The veteran coach already has seen plenty of positives.

"Things have been going pretty well for us," said Rusnock. "We do have some experience coming back. We also have some newcomers that are going to help out a lot."

Seniors Evan Reed, Jack Brubaker and Nick Kemashvili will pace the boys' unit. Junior Cassius Estronza and sophomores Dylan Reed and David Mercado round out the returnees.

Newcomers are freshmen Blake Reed, Brody Luckenbill, Charlie Piervallo and Bentley Weaver.

"Evan is running very well," boasted Rusnock. "His brother Blake is pushing him at practices, and he will be a great runner for us. Jack Brubaker, David Mercado, Cassius Estronza and Nick Kemashvili are all off to great starts."

"New runners Brody Luckenbill, Bentley Weaver, and Charlie Piervallo are all off to good starts."

Reed, who clocked a season-best best 19:33.10



Shakala Roberts returns to help lead the girls cross country team.

for a 39th-place finish at districts last season, worked hard over the summer to lower his times. He tore his left meniscus during wrestling season and missed the track season.

"I focused on getting back in shape," said Reed. "I'm not really approaching the season much differently. I'm just hoping that I can push through my injuries and start right where I left off last season."

"I am running pretty good right now."

On the girls' side, junior Uyen Ly will lead the pack. She will be joined by returnees senior Shakala Roberts, junior Ana Rodriguez-Ramos and sopho-

more Kailyn Stewart.

Rounding out the roster will be newcomers senior Katie Kemashvili, sophomores Anaiz Espinal, Ashlie Montano-Giron, and freshman Angeliz Stewart.

"Uyen Ly is looking really good so far," beamed Rusnock. "Shakala Roberts, Kailyn Stewart, and Ana Rodriguez-Ramos have had very good summers. We're excited with what we have seen from Katie Kemashvili and Anaiz Espinal."

Overall, Rusnock has been pleased.

"We like what we have seen so far," said Rusnock. "We are looking forward to seeing everyone compete this year."

"We like what we have seen so far. We are looking forward to seeing everyone compete this year."

Kyle Rusnock

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