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IN THE CIRCLE



Hillsboro's Mackenzie Woodhouse

Stellar pitching trio leads way for Hillsboro softball team with lofty goals

By ZACH RASTALL
HSE Sports Reporter

The pitching duo of Chelsea Marty and Jaelyn Bloor were a key component to a Hillsboro team that went 11-8 overall and finished third in the Scenic Bluffs with a 9-5 league mark a year ago.

That pitching situation has only gotten stronger for a 2022 season that holds great promise for the Tigers.

Marty, a 2021 all-conference first-team selection and now a senior who also plays at first, and Bloor, an all-conference honorable mention a year ago as a freshman who plays all over for the team, return to provide a shot of experience in the pitching circle for Hillsboro.

But it's a varsity newcomer who adds an extra dynamic to bolster the team's pitching staff as the Tigers aim to contend for a Scenic Bluffs title this spring: freshman Mackenzie Woodhouse.

In a sport where a team can rely on a single workhorse pitcher if needed, Hillsboro head coach Lindsay Stanek has an embarrassment of riches at her disposal. Right from the get-go, she decided to give her freshman stud a taste of pitching at the varsity level by tabbing her as the starter for the season opener.

"In our first two games, Mackenzie got the start because she's new and new to the conference. These other teams don't know her and that's effective," Stanek said. "To be able to have the option to move these girls around and put a different pitcher — who has movement and stuff they haven't seen with our other pitchers — in there shakes things up."

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- Lindsay Stanek
Head Coach

Hillsboro's
Chelsea
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