

CANFIELD LADY CARDS UPDATE



August 1, 2017

Volume 1, Edition 7

Welcome to the 2017 edition of the Canfield Lady Cardinals update. This newsletter includes a wrap up from the 2016-2017 season, letters from graduating seniors, important dates for next year, and thoughts about our summer.

COACH'S CORNER

This past summer began with a spirited middle school camp in which our high school players served as coaches for our 73 campers. The varsity team competed in the Stow summer league facing many strong teams from Medina, Stow, Kenston, and Green to name just a few. A varsity shootout at Barberton over two days provided the next challenge where we played very good competition in Norton, Mansfield, and Barberton, eventually losing in the tournament finals to Chippewa. Finally, the team ended their competitive summer with the annual trip to Eastern Ohio Basketball Camp. The team experienced the traditional ups and downs of the camp but improved greatly with several players embracing new roles for the team. Several close losses last year made this team hungrier to come back this offseason and work harder to turn those losses into wins. More players completed our summer workout goals than at any time in recent history. The Lady Cards have many talented returning players and will face the traditional grueling schedule.



Pictured to the left are our five returning seniors (from left to right) Ashley Veneroso, McKenna Carey, Christina Rivera, Emerson Fletcher, and Jill Baker (Summer 2017).

Pictured to the right are players who volunteered at the St. Vincent DePaul Society serving and preparing food for those less fortunate (Winter 2017).



Basketball has influenced my life in more ways that I could have ever expected. Since my freshman year I have learned that not every loss was a true loss, but there was value in each mistake. Every downfall was just another detour we took on as a team on the road to success. I've learned to be gracious with every win, but also to never settle. By the end of my senior year, I was able to look back and see how much basketball has taught me about leadership, patience and the importance of communication. I have Mr. Reel to thank for always pushing me to be better than I was and for trusting in my opinions. Without him, my teammates, and the rest of my impactful coaching staff, I would not be the person I am today, and for that I am thankful.

Sandra will be continuing her academic career at The Ohio State University.

What basketball at Canfield meant to me is that it was not always just about the games. There are bigger things than just the games, like the friends that you make become your sisters and their parents become your second parents. Everybody at Canfield is welcoming and the parents did everything in their power to make our seasons amazing. All the memories that I made in my four years of playing in high school are memories that I will carry with me forever. Our long bus rides to games, our pre-games in the locker room, or Huggins, and our team dinners. Those memories that I had made with my team I'll cherish forever. Coach Reel was not just my coach, he was like a second dad to me. He was always there when I needed him, on and off the court. He would know how to help me out of situations and know exactly what to say to me. All of the coaches, teammates and parents that I had met along my journey of Canfield basketball are people I know I will always be able to fall back on. Growing up in my family nobody ever played basketball, so when I started in 8th grade I had no idea what I was doing. But along my way everybody would go out of their way to help me. And finally, my senior year I could look back on all the progress I made along the way. Basketball had motivated me to do so much better in school, because I knew I would have to have good grades. But it was more than that, I wanted to prove everybody wrong along the way. Mr. Reel and the program that he runs at Canfield is great and it is only going to get better. I believe that he as a coach had pushed me enough for me to be able to play at the next level. I also believe my teammates had pushed me and had given me great competition to go against. So I would like to thank my teammates, players, parents, and my coaches for all they have done for me over my years as a Canfield Lady Cardinal Basketball Player.

Brittany will be continuing her academic and basketball career at Malone University.

~ Important Dates

October 27	First Day of Practice
November 25	First Game vs. New Philadelphia
December 6	First League Game vs. Howland
January 20	Tentative Alumni Day
March 15-17	State Tournament

SUMMER GOALS

One extra degree of effort makes all the difference. If you don't believe that, one made 3-point shot and one made 2-point shot would have earned us four extra wins last season and a share of the league championship. Our players were challenged to earn their way into one of two clubs this summer. The goals were as follows:

Elite Club

1. Play 50 1 x 1 Games
2. Play 50 3 x 3 Games
3. Complete 40 ball-handling sessions.
4. Make 30 3's, 10 FT's, 10 layups, 10 pullup J's 4x a week (2200 total makes)

212 Club

1. Play 50 1 x 1 Games
2. Play 50 3 x 3 Games
3. Complete 50 ball-handling sessions
4. Make 50 3's, 20 FT's, 20 layups, 20 pullup J's 4x a week (4400 total makes)

ELITE CLUB

McKenna Carey
Emerson Fletcher
Morgan Carey

Jill Baker
Gianna Flask
Jillian Mt. Castle

Christina Rivera
Britney Young
Gabby Demidovich

212 CLUB

Ashley Veneroso
Frankie Ricciardi

Serena Sammarone

Grace Mangapora



Above are our players who achieved summer goals and were awarded with a trip to Kennywood. From left: Morgan Carey, Frankie Ricciardi, Jillian Mt. Castle, Gabby Demidovich, Emerson Fletcher, Britney Young, Gianna Flask, Ashley Veneroso, Jill Baker, McKenna Carey, Christina Rivera Not pictured: Grace Mangapora, Serena Sammarone (Summer 2017)



Top: 4th/5th/6th grade campers. Second from Top: 7th/8th grade campers Middle Left: Our campers posing for a picture on the last day of camp Middle Right: Campers playing in a 3 on 3 game. Bottom: Some of our youth campers practicing a "quick hands" drill (Summer 2017).

2016 SEASON WRAP-UP

Last season was a very successful year for our teams. The 7th grade team, led by Coach Pavlansky, finished with a record of 17-2 and finished runner-up in the league tournament. The 8th grade team, led by Coach Harmon, finished with a 11-7 record. Both teams showed plenty of reasons to be excited about the future of the program. Coach Ross led the 9th grade team to an 8-0 record that featured two exciting wins over Howland and the league championship. Coach Miller led the JV team to a 17-4 record with a team that displayed an unselfishness that was great to watch. The varsity team, coached by Coach Reel, completed a 14-8 season, finishing second in the league while enjoying great wins against Austintown Fitch, Lakeview, and South Range. They accomplished this despite suffering numerous injuries and sickness that forced many players to adapt to new roles.

The team success that the Cards had last season allowed several players to earn individual accolades. Jill Baker and Serena Sammarone earned first team all-league honors. Serena also earned a third team All-Northeast Ohio district selection. Jill and Brittany Coonce were both honorable mention All-Northeast Ohio selections while Brittany earned all-league second team honors. Other letter winners included Alexandra Stanic, McKenna Carey, Emerson Fletcher, Christina Rivera, Ashley Veneroso, Mia Cayavec, and Grace Mangapora.

DID YOU KNOW?

The Canfield Lady Cardinals hosted their first alumni event last winter. We are looking for even more alumni involvement this year. More details to come for next year's event.

