

## CAL-MUM SPRING PREVIEW: Defending sectional champ Raiders return to the tennis court this spring.

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CALEDONIA — After winning both the Section V Class D1 and LCAA D-II tennis titles a year ago, head coach Brian McQuillan returns for his 23rd season on the hard courts this spring.

Cal-Mum also finished 11-2 as a team.

It was a memorable 2021 for McQuillan and the Raiders as they had both of the finalists in the Class D Individual Doubles championships — seniors Emerson Martelle and Matthew Dollard who won the title defeating their freshman teammates Lorenzo Martelle and Garret Thompson in the finals.

This year key returners include sophomore Martelle, who played third singles as a freshman and was an LCAA All-Star, runner up in Section V Class D doubles championship along with Thompson, a sophomore who also returns.

Other key returners include sophomore Oliver Johnson, who played first doubles as a freshman; junior Alden Hatch, who played second doubles last year as a sophomore and sophomore Justin Sullivan, who played some second doubles a year ago.

Top newcomers include sophomores Nate Doll, Max Poray and Michael Gere; seniors Tristan Abbey, Gavin Doran and Cameron Plano; and junior Ian Kresge.

“After an amazing season last year going 11-2 and winning the Section V Class D1 sectional title, our team will look to regroup this year with a very solid group of returning and newcomer sophomores,” coach McQuillan said. “Although the team lost their top two players from last season (Emerson Martelle and Matt Dollard) to graduation, sophomores Lorenzon Martelle, Garret Thompson, Oliver Johnson, Justin Sullivan, and junior Alden Hatch all return and will lead this year’s team as they look to once again be a top small school team. Joining the returning players are three very solid sophomores Nate Doll, Max Poray, and Micheal Gere, who will all battle for the top singles and doubles positions on the team.”

### *SOFTBALL*

Head coach Dan Dickens returns for his 16th season after finishing 10-7 a year ago and falling to Bolivar-Richburg in the sectional quarterfinals.

Dickens has guided the Lady Raiders to a 262-69 record and 10 LCAA divisional titles and six sectional championships during his tenure.

With six returning starters back this spring, Cal-Mum should be a tough opponent.

It all starts with senior catcher Montgomery Kessler, who will be a team captain and five-year starter.

Last year ‘Monty’ hit .413 with 28 RBIs, 26 hits, six triples, three doubles and one HR on the season.

Impressively, she only struck out twice in 75 plate appearances.

She will play next year at Keuka College.

Junior Maddy Devore will play shortstop for the Raiders after hitting 492 with a team-best 36 runs scored, 32 hits and 20 RBIs from the lead-off spot.

She added nine doubles, nine triples and was the Class C-2 Player of the Year for Section V.

Devore pitched last season out of necessity but will anchor the infield at shortstop this spring.

In the circle, she was 10-6 with 79 K's in 108 innings.

"Maddy and Monty were two of the best players in the LCAA last season but we are going to need to have other girls step up this year to achieve the success we are looking to again," coach Dickens said.

Look for senior Sawyer Richardson (OF/P) to help the cause after hitting .367 with 22 hits, 17 runs and eight RBIs a year ago. Dickens says she's one of the players expected to be counted on to pitch this season and also play outfield and 1B if needed.

Senior Taylor Mills (OF) was the team's starting centerfielder last season and batted .420 with 23 runs scored, 21 hits and eight RBIs. She also added three doubles.

Junior Avery DeMarco ((2B) added 17 hits, 17 runs scored, 12 RBIs and three triples a year ago while senior Lizzy Pies (OF) started in right and added 11 runs scored and five hits.

"Sawyer, Taylor, and Avery all had success throughout the season," Dickens said. "I think we just need to get more consistency out of them."

Other players with some experience at the varsity level include senior Molly Ryan (OF) who was mostly used as C-M's courtesy runner and scored 20 runs, and according to Dickens "gives us some depth in the outfield."

Sophomore Madison Wyskiel (Inf) started C-M's last game of the season and had 1 hit in that game.

"She should have a much larger role this season at either first or second, or could play short if Maddy needs to pitch," Dickens said. "Madison has some power and speed which are always welcomed in the lineup."

Others to look out for include sophomores Adrianna DiSalvo (OF) and Emma Years (Inf/P) who coach Dickens says both "have a lot of upside."

Juniors Lilly Auger and Leilani Monegro will round out the varsity roster while sophomores Isabella Cochran and Malina Bellos along with freshman Kate McCowan will travel with the varsity team to Myrtle Beach as well this season.

"We do have some really athletic younger girls coming through which is always exciting as well," Dickens said. "Wyskiel will start at third, Years and DiSalvo both have looked good in pre-season so far, We scored 198 runs last season in 17 games which is great, but the problem is we didn't play great in the field (55 errors) and gave up 149 runs. We are really focusing on improving defensively this season and with three different girls able to throw, hopefully one of them steps up and takes control of the spot."

Dickens is expecting a tough LCAA D-III this season especially with Keshequa.

"Keshequa who won the division last season and return a bunch of their talented players," Dickens said. "Should be pretty competitive after between the rest of us, and hopefully we can give them a battle the two times we play them." Dickens also feels the sectional bracket will be a challenge.

"It's pretty loaded with Bolivar-Richburg and Lyndonville who both played in the C2 Finals last year and return most of their teams, and now you add Keshequa who won D-1," said Dickens. "Hopefully we continue to get better throughout the season and can give these teams a run in sectionals,"

## *BASEBALL*

Head coach Andy Leyden returns for his fifth season and is hoping to get Cal-Mum baseball back to what it once was.

The Raiders finished just 2-14 a year ago losing to Oakfield-Alabama in the first round of sectionals.

He has the returning experience to definitely improve.

Senior Camden Reed (P/C) returns to the line up after hitting .310 a year ago. On the mound, Reed tossed 22 2/3 innings with an ERA of 4.01.

Senior Jacob Cappotelli (IF/ P) batted .327 last year and also logged 14 1/3 innings on the bump with a solid 2.40 ERA.

Senior Evan Raniewicz (OF/P) threw the most innings a year ago going 35 2/3 innings allowing a steady and consistent 3.34 ERA.

Other returners include junior Luke Donaghue (OF/DH) and senior Kyle Wade, who was out most of last season with an injury.

Top newcomers include Donny Peet (IF/P).

“I am excited about this year’s team,” coach Leyden said. “We return our entire pitching staff and return eight out our nine bats that were in the lineup last year. We will look to minimize the young mistakes that we made last year.”

## *BOYS TRACK*

Josh Shelton is ready to get things going on the track this spring as the fifth year head coach will have his work cut out for him with a “very small and inexperienced team this year.”

Top returners include senior Tyler McCowan (sprints) who was the 300m champion in indoor this year.

Other key returners include seniors Aidan Anderson (distance) and Zach Kuhn (distance) and junior Cedric Bowen (throws).

“Tyler had an outstanding end to his indoor season and we are hoping that he will build on that success in the outdoor season,” coach Shelton said. “Overall, we have the potential to see some great individual performances on the track and in the field and can’t wait to get the season underway.”

## *GIRLS TRACK*

No information provided