

Engadine Eagles

Dave McNeil To Take Over Eagles Girls Hoops Program

Dave McNeil has been named the new girls basketball coach for the Eagles varsity program. He is a 1975 graduate of Engadine High School (EHS).

Coach McNeil held the coaching duties for the Engadine junior varsity girls team for the final 16 games during the 2008-09 season.

The McNeil family moved from Gould City when Dave was in fourth grade and he attended Flint Beecher school system through his junior year before moving back to the Upper Peninsula and Engadine for his senior year.

Mr. McNeil spent five years in the United States Army and continued his military duties with the National Guard for 11 more years.

Coach McNeil was part of the Big Bay de Noc athletic program coaching boys and girls basketball, golf, track, and junior high sports for more than 10 years.

"I am excited about the opportunity to coach at Engadine and look forward to the upcoming season with the girls program," said McNeil.

"You must have good preparations and that means strong fundamentals, and work hard in preparation for the season. We, as a team, will play with what is dealt us."

McNeil's special interest is Class D hoops and he feels he has good knowledge of that level of basketball.

Mr. McNeil works part-time as a radio sports broadcaster in Manistique. He and his wife, Ann, reside in Manistique. They have been married for 30 years and have three sons, Jason, Brandon, and Samuel.

Girls basketball's first official day of practice in the state was November 9, but the Engadine hoops date was postponed owing



The Engadine Eagles 2009-2010 girls varsity basketball team includes (front, from left) Krista Metcalf-13, Kayla Miller-3, Kacie Rutledge-12, Morgan MacArthur-4; (back) Coach Dave McNeil, Lynzee Bigelow-30, Elisa Hobbs-5, Jessica Davis-32, and Katie Hobbs-24. Missing from photograph is Leah Blanchard.

to the Eagles' success in the volleyball tournament. Engadine won the volleyball districts Saturday, November 7, and competed in regional tournaments at North Dickinson November 9 through November 13, postponing the hardwood season for Coach McNeil and his team.

Young Squad To Take the Court for Eagles

The 2009-2010 Eagles team

for Coach McNeil will be a young squad with four seniors, two juniors, and three sophomores. Junior Kacie Rutledge (guard) is in her third varsity season. Senior Kayla Miller (guard/forward) and sophomores Morgan MacArthur (forward/guard), Krista Metcalf (guard), and Katie Hobbs (guard/forward) are in their second varsity season.

First-year players are seniors Leah Blanchard (center/forward), Lynzee Bigelow (forward/center), and Elisa Hobbs (center), and junior Jessica Davis (center/forward).

"This will be a new system and we should be able to put a quick team and a big team on the floor with the talent. We will also have to keep the score down and play good

defense," said the coach.

The Eagles will compete for the Eastern Upper Peninsula Conference championship with Brimley, Cedarville, Pickford, and DeTour and face non-conference opponents that include Rapid River, Mackinaw City, Newberry, Mid Peninsula, Big Bay de Noc, Alanson, and Superior Central.

Engadine Eagles Prepare for Season With Four Returning Players

The Engadine Eagles and sixth-year coach Elmer Albright will have four returning players and five first-year athletes to build the 2009-2010 squad.

Third-year players are seniors Phillip Hood (guard) and Michael Klobucher (center/forward). Second-year athletes are juniors Tyler Bennett (forward) and Luke Smith (guard).

"The returning players will need to step up and take control if we are going to be successful," said Coach Albright.

First-year players are seniors Joey Swider (forward/center), Kenny Oven (guard), and Dalton Mulholland (guard), junior Johnny Mills (forward), and sophomores Michael Ramelis (center) and Conner Frisch (forward/center).

"We will need to play under control and also play above ourselves. The defense will need to step up and take control and we must stay healthy and stay out of foul trouble," the coach said.

The varsity and junior varsity team, coached by Matt Hieshetter of Gulliver, will



The Engadine Eagles 2009-2010 varsity boys basketball team includes (front, from left) Dalton Mulholland-12, Luke Smith-23, Conner Frisch-21; (back) Coach Elmer Albright, Phillip Hood-15, Tyler Bennett-45, Michael Klobucher-50, Joey Swider-33, and Michael Ramelis-40. Missing from photograph is Kenny Oven.

practice together during the season.

The Eagles will compete

for the Eastern Upper Peninsula Conference title with Cedarville, Pickford, Brimley,

and DeTour and have non-league games against Big Bay de Noc, Newberry, Rapid

River, Mackinaw City, Mid Peninsula, Alanson, and Superior Central.