



### **By Christy Sheets**

*Sports Writer*

The Wallace Lady Cats volleyball team enters the 2013 season with high expectations under the leadership of head coach Elizabeth Strand and assistant coach Adam Wright. Student managers Shelby Ogier, Bailee Nielson, and Hannah Nelson will also be assisting the Ladies throughout the season.

Over the summer the Lady Cats, who have 19 members this year, were able to attend two summer team camps, as well as countless individual camps. When asked about camp Coach Strand said, "Almost all of our girls attended at least one individual camp this summer, which was really exciting!" She added, "As a team, we went to the NJC camp at Sterling where the girls won the tournament, and we went to Ogallala. Those game situations should pay off for us as several players will be new to varsity level volleyball this year."

The Lady Cats have eight letter-winners returning from last year's squad— Paige Aylward (5' 6" senior), Sara Hubbard (5' 5" senior), Alexandria Lundvall (5' 2" senior), Jaclyn Nelson (5' 7" senior), Christina Daniels (5' 7" junior), Morgan Messersmith (5' 0" junior), Mickayla Sheets (5' 3" junior), and Hayley Storm (5' 7" junior).

Although the Lady Cats posted a 10-11 record last year, they made an amazing come back at the end of the season, and made it to the district finals. They also had two of the returning starters receive individual conference honors. Daniels made first team and Hubbard made second team in the RPAC. Daniels also received honorable mention from both the Lincoln Journal Star and the Omaha World Herald.

Coach Strand is hoping to improve on last year's record. When asked about the team she said, "We have a great bunch of girls. Almost half of the team was able to commit to weights this summer. These girls have continued to show leadership through conditioning and our first week of practice."

The Lady Cats will have a scrimmage on Thursday, Aug. 29 at 6:30 p.m.

The Wildcats will be collecting items for the Rape and Domestic Abuse Center in North Platte. Those attending are asked to bring paper towels, toilet paper, garbage bags, laundry detergent, dish soap, or conditioner.

The Lady Cats' first game will be on Thursday, Sept. 5 against the Broncos of Wauneta-Palisade.

The junior varsity game is scheduled to start at 5:00 p.m. CT in Wauneta, with varsity to follow.