

# SPORTS SUPERLATIVES

spring prep sports edition

## OUTSTANDING TEAM

**Osage soccer**  
Record: 18-5



The Lady Indians pose for a photo after their Pink Night, where the team raised money for the Susan G. Komen foundation for breast cancer research. FILE PHOTO

The Osage Lady Indians had a number of questions being asked about their young team when the spring season rolled around, with the main one being: will the team be able to play at the same level they did in 2012?

A strong core of seniors had left, leaving a young group, dominated by a sophomore class who had joined the team the season before.

At the beginning of the season, the team had two goals: win the district title, and win 18 or more games.

Those questions were quickly answered, as the young team stepped in their third year of existence, going on a 10 game winning streak before being handed their first loss in the championship match of the Branson Tournament by Carl Junction.

That, however, didn't slow the team

down, as they bounced back, finishing the regular season with 13 shutouts and a 16-4 regular season record. Toss in a 5-0 district win over Laquey and a 4-1 district championship win over Crocker, and the team had met their goals for the season.

The explosive potential of the Lady Indians' offense, led by Josie Verslues, Cassidy Culver and Monica Cisar proved to be too much for the majority of their Class 1 opponents. Paired with a strong defense and Vanessa Webber in the goal, the Lady Indians gave up a total of 20 goals this season while scoring a whopping 102 goals, with over sixty of those goals coming from a combination of Verslues and Culver.

The team will look to repeat this feat in the spring of 2014, and while they lose some talented seniors, they will also gain some new blood from the incoming freshman class.

### Season highlights:

- First ever District Title
- 2nd-place at Branson Tournament

### Notable player accomplishments:

- District 11 Player of the Year Josie Verslues
- District 11 Offensive Player of the Year: Cassidy Culver
- District 11 Keeper of the Year: Vanessa Webber
- All-District First Team/All-Region Josie Verslues, Cassidy Culver, Monica Cisar and Vanessa Webber
- All-District Second Team Hannah Bashore, Kristina Ruck, Kristina Ziegler, and Mikaela Dullard

## MOST IMPROVED

**Camdenton tennis**  
Record: 10-4

Laker tennis coach Kirk Richey knew the Lakers would improve upon 2012's 3-11 performance in 2013. But with a new leader in senior Luc Ginoux, the Lakers exceeded all expectations, finishing the season at 10-4. With five out of six players on the varsity team seniors, the Lakers used depth and experience to win a marquee match against rival Lebanon early in the season. The Lakers, playing in arguably the most difficult conference in the state, took fifth in the Ozark Tournament April May 2. Camdenton even sent one representative to the state tournament May 24. 2014



Senior Connor Burton takes on Smith-Cotton

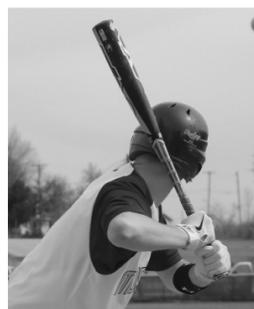
will be a rebuilding year for the squad as they look back on the success of 2013.

## HONORABLE mentions

### Eldon baseball

Record: 10-10

The Mustangs have been an interesting baseball team to watch this season. They have been slow to start in some of their games, but for some reason, they always seem to pick up momentum as the game progresses, making them very tough in the final innings. In fact, they've mounted a few nice comebacks over the season. Strangely enough, though, the team has played in five games that went in to extra innings, and only won one of them. While the record has improved from 9-11 to 10-10, the mechanics



Eldon's Joesph Limbach at the plate

of the young team has been improving, and a number of players have emerged as potential game-changers.

### Camdenton soccer

Record: 16-7-1

The Lady Lakers' soccer team has been one of the most winning teams at the lake in recent years, and in the 2013 season, they didn't disappoint. Camdenton's drive to win not only defeated their opponents on the field, but it won the battle against the weather, as the team could be found playing and practicing in nearly every weather condition this spring, even practicing in the snow. Their hard work translated to 16 wins on the field, including three 10-0 wins and a seven game win-streak on the last leg of the season. But in one of the toughest districts in the state, the Lady Lakers fell to Jefferson City in the championship game after the Lady Jays mounted a comeback to win 3-2. The team, however, has received numerous nods for their play, with eight players being honored by the district.



### Camdenton baseball

Record: 11-10

While the 2012 season has a better record (13-11) for the Camdenton Lakers, the 2013 season has been one heck of a ride. Finishing the regular season, the team was ranked sixth (and last) in their district, and with powerhouses like Jefferson City, Helias and Rock Bridge in the district tournament, the odds were against the Lakers. Despite that, the team took their loyal fans along for a wild roller coaster ride, winning their first two district games with two seventh inning comebacks, knocking both Jefferson City teams out of the tournament before falling to Rock Bridge in the championship game. Knocking off the top-three seeded teams would have been a true miracle, but the Lakers very nearly did it.



### Camdenton track

The Camdenton Lakers' track team took some big strides, particularly on the boys' side of things. In last season's Laker Invitational meet, the Lady Lakers finished first, while their male counterparts did not. In the 2013 meet, both teams finished first, making this the first time in over a decade in which the Lakers swept both sides of the meet. In the Ozark Conference meet this season, the Lady Lakers finished first with a score of 131, while the boys finished fourth. The team managed to send four competitors to the state meet this season, with Denver Hanson taking



Courtney Foulk competes in the triple jump at Camdenton

7th overall in the 110 meter hurdles and McKenzie Wright taking 2nd in the high jump and 5th in the triple jump.

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