



squad GOALS

Seniors Katlyn Giefer, Jacque Smith and Gabby Wimes have been on the varsity squad together since their freshman year. Their time together forged a bond that defined the team's entire season.

It all started August 2013, when three nervous freshmen, Katlyn Giefer, Jacque Smith and Gabby Wimes, stepped up to the court for the first round of tryouts, eventually earning their spots on the varsity squad by the end of the week. Three years later, they stepped onto the court for their final year as Stars. The three played volleyball together before playing at St. Teresa's and had hoped to continue together.

"It's just so comfortable," Smith said. "We know each other on and off the court, so it's so easy. If any of us is having a rough game, I can go to her and she can go to me to make it better."

Wimes agreed that their close friendships were a big help when they worked together.

"I just feel like it helps me connect on the court more because I know their tendencies and what they want to do and how I can help them if they are struggling," Wimes said.

Senior Mary Keller joined varsity as a sophomore and felt very welcomed.

"My first year (on varsity) was sophomore year so I was new to the whole varsity thing and Gabby, Jacque, and Katlyn had already played together so it was all so new to me," Keller said. "The team has definitely been really open and fun."

Wimes expressed how different varsity was freshman year versus senior year.

"When I was a freshman I kind of idolized the seniors on the team because they were so good and were going into really good D1 programs so it was cool to say I've been able to play with those players," Wimes said. "Now it's weird because we are those players now and people look up to us so it's cool and I feel like the longer you play volleyball the more confident you get with it and knowing who you are and what skills and abilities you have."

Giefer praised STA for their volleyball program and believed girls should seriously consider playing if they want to continue in college.

"I feel like we have been really thankful for the volleyball program here," Giefer said. "They've had a pretty good history, but in the past four years we've had really good players that have gone D1 or are going D1. I feel like compared to a lot of other high schools it's more high up and it actually prepares us for college."

When asked for advice for girls who want to try volleyball, Smith believed confidence is key.

"Just know what you can do," Smith said. "It will show if you can just relax and play your game."



FIRST ROW: Grace Bergoff, Lorna Green, Emily Cory, Kate Schaefer, Aspen Jester, Nicole Kuehn, Deillah Chavis, Bella Petry, Morgan Wright, Lucy Bailey, Audrey Didier, Caroline Smith, Kit Mohajir
 SECOND ROW: Kristen Ford, Rose Ammatelli, Grace Pence, Cozette Viles, Jacque Smith, Megan Coffey, Maria Wiedeman, Katlyn Giefer, Isabel Flores, Avalon Manica, Catherine Bartek, Annabelle Colombo
 THIRD ROW: Margaux Thompson, Molly Cowan, Isabel Burnett, Missy Larson, Nyala Bullock, Amanda Hanaman, Lauren Brentlinger, Maddie Lueke, Sami Sell, Ayannia Carter, Bailey Fennesy, Elise McGhie, Torri Henry
 FOURTH ROW: Mia Tomasic, Ann Leverich, Cadina Palelei, Macy Bauers, Mary Keller, Claire Wilmot, Ellie Bichelmeier, Ellie Brewer, Gabby Wimes, Molly Bird, Lillian Hines, Kiernan O'Boyle, Jordan Klumb

SCOREBOARD

DATE	OPPONENT	SCORE
8/22	Lee's Summit North	2-0 W
8/24	St. Joseph Lafayette	2-0 W
8/27	Blue Valley	2-0 W
8/30	St. Thomas Aquinas	2-0 W
9/2	Eagle Valley	3-0 W
	Fruita Monument	3-1 W
9/3	Berthoud	3-0 W
	Holy Family	3-1 W
	Kearney	2-0 W
9/14	Notre Dame de Sion	2-0 W
9/14	Lee's Summit North	0-2 L
9/17	Liberty	1-1 T
	Liberty North	2-0 W
	Ozark	2-1 W
	Pleasant Hill	2-0 W
9/21	Bishop Miege	2-0 W
9/22	Blue Springs	2-0 W
9/24	Blue Springs	1-2 L
	Blue Valley North	2-1 W
	St. James Academy	0-2 L
DISTRICT TOURNAMENT		
10/18	Truman	2-0 W
10/19	Lee's Summit North	2-0 W
10/28-29	STATE	4th



A. HEAR ME ROAR Senior Gabby Wimes cheers after the stars score a point Oct. 29. photo by catelyn campbell
 B. FINAL FAREWELL Senior Mary Keller cries after her final volleyball game Oct. 29. photo by catelyn campbell
 C. READY SET BLOCK From left, junior Maria Wiedeman and senior Mary Keller put up their hands to block the ball in the district semifinals Oct. 18. photo by camryn gish
 D. SLIP N SLIDE Senior Jacque Smith slides for a ball at the 3rd place match Oct. 29. photo by catelyn campbell
 E. PURE FOCUS Senior Katlyn Giefer sets the volleyball during warm-ups at St. Thomas Aquinas Aug. 30. photo by camryn gish
 F. FIRST PLACE The seniors hold up their Class 4 district volleyball 1st place plaque Oct. 19. The Stars took down Lee Summit North 2-0. photo by samantha panis