

Mean Moose Volleyball Return For the 2022 Season



Charley Higham
Staff writer

The Mean Moose volleyball team has finally returned for the 2022 fall season. Last season, the team won their regional competition against Manitou Springs and Strausberg giving them a spot at state, which was further than the 2020-21 season. They fought hard in the championship, but lost both of their games which concluded the season. Overall, their record was 18-9.

The Moose only had one senior, Malia Tuioti-Mariner, last year. This gives the team a large advantage to just pick up where they left off. There will be five seniors this season to play for the team including Sydney Jackson, Mary Masias, Miquela Abeyta, Avery Mobbey, and Charley Higham.

@Eaton 8/26-27

The team participated in a tournament in Eaton on the 26th. The pool play included the #1 team in 3A, Platte Valley, and Roosevelt. The team easily swept Platte Valley, but lost in a tough fight of five sets to Roosevelt. The next day, the team fought hard, but lost to Palmer Ridge and Windsor, leaving the Moose 1-3 this weekend.

This season looks like it could have a good outcome for the Moose. With very few players lost and new

freshmen to help out the team, success is likely, especially with the turn out of the last season for the Moose. Pre-season volleyball rankings had the Moose at 5th. This, of course, will change with each team's wins and losses. A lot of the rival teams of the Moose in the Inter-mountain 2A/3A league have lost a lot of their star players. The Moose took second place last year, with Bayfield taking first. This will give the Moose a good chance of winning the league championship this year as well.

Annie Mortenson will be returning to the head coach position for her 6th year at Alamosa and 14th year coaching in general. Amy Ortega will be assisting her for another year. There will be a new C-team coach coming to assist as well this year named Sammi Mondragon. We asked Coach Annie what she predicts for this season and she said, "I think that we could have the most successful season that Alamosa volleyball has ever had. I definitely expect to go to state and possibly have a state title." We also asked how they are preparing for the season to which she replied, "In addition to practices, we are playing our pre-season and post-season tournaments on the front range with the top teams in 3A and 4A. Competing at a high level everyday is also important, so that when we get to regionals and state we are used to competing at that level."

@Alamosa 9/3

The team played in a tri-tournament against Dove Creek and Pueblo Central. Pueblo Central was a quick game. The Moose swept the Wild Cats with ease in three sets. Pueblo Central went on to lose to Dove Creek right after in three sets as well. Dove Creek and the Moose were a close match up. Currently, the Dove Creek Bulldogs are second in 1A. The Moose started strong winning the first set, but folded and lost the second. The third they came back,

and then lost the last two sets, bringing the game to an upsetting ending. Losing wasn't great for the team and brought them far down in rankings.

@Pueblo County 9/6

Pueblo County is a great 4A team who put up a very tough fight. The Moose came out very strong and won the first two sets easily. To everyone's surprise, they lost the next two sets. In the last set to 15, the Moose won 16-14. Coach Annie Mortenson's aunt was the Hornets coach which made the match a

little more personal. It was a good competitive game that was a great experience for the team.

This season of Mean Moose volleyball will be an exciting one. With great predictions for the team, including going to state, and the winning streak they are beginning to gain, it is sure to be great. All levels, including c-team and junior varsity, are sure to compete rigorously. Be sure to come out and support your local high school volleyball team this fall season!



Photo by: Kacey Hillis

Lets Get A Little Bit Rowdy — Rowdy Crowd cheers as Laci Christensen gets a kill against Centauri

Mean Moose Football is Back



Jace Quintana
—Staff Writer—

As another school year is underway, that also means that the 2022-23 fall sports season is approaching. Last season, the Moose went 6-4 and made the playoffs.

This was the first time they made the playoffs in four years. After a tough loss in week one, against the Classical Academy, they went on a four game winning streak.

Overall, the Moose had a very successful season and are taking steps in the right direction to make a playoff run.

This offseason the Moose did lots of preparation to meet their goals. They had summer practices that started at 6am Monday through Friday.

The Moose also attended the Broncos 7v7 and the CSU Pueblo team camp. This is one of the favorite camps among all of the players, its a sneak peak of what the season is going to be like.

Some of the top returning players for the Moose are Quarterback Kasey Jones. He finished off the season with 1621 passing yards, 20 touchdowns, and only seven interceptions.

He is the top returning quarterback in class 2A. Another top returner for the Moose is Wide receiver Kade Jones, he finished off the year with 946 receiving yards and 12 touchdowns. He is the top returning wide receiver in 2A.

Alamosa also has the fourth returning line, their top returner is Senior Abram Bowden.

With all of these great returners the Moose also lost some talent. Right Guard and Linebacker Donovan Ramirez is now playing football for the Adams state Grizzlies alongside Linebacker and Wide Receiver Domain Orozco.

Another big loss is Hayden Shawcroft he is now playing college football for the South Dakota Mines Hardrockers. Dante Gonzalez Jr. is playing running back at St. Scholastics Saints.

@Pueblo Central 8/26

The Moose traveled up the I-25 to Dutch Clark Stadium. This was their first game of the season and they played the Pueblo Central Wildcats.

This is a non-league match up for the Moose. In the first quarter the boys started off slow, letting up an easy touchdown and letting up an onside kick.

The score was 12-0 before the Moose got the ball. After the first half they were down 26-14.

In the second half the Moose scored a total of 15 points and the Wildcats scored 14, making the final score 40-29. Kasey Jones ended the game with 320 passing yards completing 20 out of his 36 attempts. He also had 10 carries for a total of 42 yards.

The leading receiver for the Moose was Kade Jones with 154 receiving yards on seven catches.

He was followed by Junior Karter Tolsma with 2 receptions for 74

yards. The leading rusher was running back RJ Meis, he had a total of 45 yards on 11 carries.

@Gunnison 9/2

After a tough loss for the Moose they will get back on the road and head to Gunnison high school to take on the Gunnison Cowboys.

This is another non-league match up for the Moose. The Moose started off the game letting up an opening drive touchdown.

This did not affect the boys very much because the Cowboys did not score

again. The Moose were in control of the game from the start making this an easy win.

The final score was 21-7. Kasey Jones completed 13 out of his 19 pass attempts passing for 111 yards. He also rushed for 101 yards on 14 carries. Junior running back RJ Meis rushed for 86 yards on 18 carries. The leading receiver for the Moose was Micheal Motz he had 3 catches for 53 yards.

@Pagosa Springs 9/16

The Moose traveled over Wolf Creek Pass to take on the Pirates. In the first

half the Moose started off hot scoring 24 points. Kasey Jones threw and ran for a touchdown. Micheal Motz caught a touchdown. In the Second the Moose defense stepped up not letting up a single point. The final score of the game was 38-15. Kasey Jones passed for a total of 281 yards. RJ Meis rushed for 79 yards on 15 carries. The leading receiver for the Moose was Micheal Motz. He had two touchdowns, 189 yards receiving yards on only four receptions. This was huge win for the Moose as they are now starting league play.



Photo by: Emily Melgoza

Build The Brand— AHS Football gets ready to go head to head against Pueblo Central making a name for themselves.