

**THE RING IS OUR THING!** During the last game of the season, Isabella Weir (7) takes one of the finale shots. "I was getting ready to shoot as the buzzer was running out," Weir said. She ended up making the shot.

"You get to have an experience with people at Drake, and you get to see other people's basketball skills.

It's also fun to win, but you can't win without losing."

-Payton Burns (6)



# WE DO HARD THINGS

Sports can get challenging, especially with some losses. Story by Tess Dreeszen and Mataya Farling

After the ball bounces off the floor and the final point is earned, the Drake Black team huddles up and prepares to head home. They had lost the first game of the tournament.

"I think our team definitely could have done better. But I could also work on my skills too," Joey Cross (8) said.

Most of the players agreed that there is always room for improvement. "I definitely would have practiced more on my own, or I could've invited my teammates over and worked on serving and passing with them," Harlow Lamoreaux (8) said.

As the season came to an end, students have taken many key

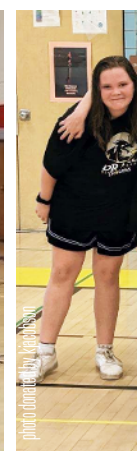
ideas and lessons from this experience on playing for the drake basketball team.

"I have learned teamwork is key. And if we lost, then we could learn from that team, and then we could do some of the stuff that they did," Ryan McKellips (8) said.

While McKellips focused on learning more about teamwork, Mason Mullen (8) got different lessons from his experience.

"I have learned to just have fun and not to get too invested in the game. And to be positive," Mullen said.

The basketball team reflected on all of the great things that they have learned from the season.




**JUST GIVE IT A SHOT!** In an early game of the season, Brooks Blevins (8) gets the ball. "I was looking for an open teammate to pass to," Blevins (8) said. **GETTING SET!** During the second game of the final tournament Addison Basset (8) sets up. Volleyball players have to reset their position after every play. "I was getting ready for the ball be played" Basset (8) said.






# VOLLEY WITH US


Drake volleyball players share their favorite skill to do on the court.



"My favorite thing to do in volleyball is diving for the ball across the floor."  
-Jael Orrin (6)



"My favorite skill in volleyball is bumping because it brings me vollevoljoy".  
-Olyvia Lovato (6)



"I would say my favorite skill is setting, because I really like it."  
-Lila Gelin (8)



**ROLL OUT!** After a long day at practice, Cloey Yaeger (8) falls to the floor. "I dove for a ball, and then got my fingers stepped on, so I just laid on the ground," Yaeger (8) said.



**SERVE IT UP!** It's one of the last volleyball games of the season, and Tess Dreeszen (8) steps up to the back line. "I was getting ready to send a serve over the net," Dreeszen (8) said. The serve ended up being the final point needed to win.



# UPTOWN DUNK

Luke Taylor (8) gives us the lowdown on events behind the scenes.



Why did you choose to join basketball? How do you feel when you play basketball?



"I joined basketball because I had no other winter sports to play at the moment and I enjoy playing basketball."



Have you had any challenges in basketball that you have to overcome? If so what were those challenges?



"I would say the biggest challenge I faced in basketball was when my team played Rocky Mountain Academy. I had to score a lot of points that game in order to win, so that made it hard."



**SAY CHEESE!** The girls basketball team poses for a team picture. "It was our last game of the season and we wanted to remember everyone," Nora Jacobsen (7) said. **BRING IT ON HOME!** During one of the first practices Ronan George (8) plays defense against Noah Ramsey (8). "I really wanted to beat him to the hoop", Ramsey (8) said.