

HB picks Taylor as field hockey coach

By Brian Lavrich
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Abby Taylor earned her first field hockey head coaching job this winter and it couldn't have come at a better place.

Taylor will take over at Hathaway Brown, her alma mater, as the Blazers have gone to at least the state semifinals 11 straight seasons. Last year, HB went 15-4-1 and lost, in the state semifinals to Columbus Bishop Watterson. HB won state championships in 2002 and 2008.

"I'm so excited," Taylor said. "HB's given so much to me. It's so great to be able to give back. It's my turn to give back. It's a great school."

Taylor served as an assistant at HB last year after moving back to the area from Washington, D.C. Taylor, a Hudson native, played as a freshman and sophomore at Hudson before transferring to HB for her junior and senior years. After she graduated from HB, Taylor went on to play for Virginia.

Being on the staff last year is an advantage for Taylor.

"I think it helps me be more

familiar with the girls," Taylor said. "It was nice. I have an idea of what we want to do for next year. It was definitely helpful."

"We have a young team. We lost quite a few seniors. The goal is to get everyone on the same page because we are such a young program."

The Blazers won a state title in Taylor's junior year.

"It helps because I understand the pressure of it all and I understand what it means," Taylor said. "I have a memory for the rest of my life. I'll never forget it."

Taylor has also been an assistant coach at Hudson. She also is a marketing associate for Vocon Inc., in Cleveland.

Taylor talked about being able to take over such a successful program.

"It is nice, but it is pressure," Taylor said. "It's nice to be in a great program. I hope to continue the legacy."

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March 7, 2013

Sun Press