



Compostings

by Al Batt

\$9 million per snap

ECHOES FROM THE LOAFERS' CLUB MEETING

This has been a day to remember.

Why is that?
I don't remember.

DRIVING BY BRUCE'S DRIVE

I have a wonderful neighbor named Bruce. Whenever I pass his drive, thoughts occur to me. It had cleared up cloudy with a dry drizzle and it was a good day—in the Top 10 days of the week. Mums the word and pumpkin spice the words.

My boyhood financial advisors were any enterprises selling baseball cards. I'd earn a little moola walking beans for the neighbors and despite my father's suggestion I put it in the bank, I invested it. For a nickel, I could buy a pack of six (as I recollect) Topp's Baseball cards with a stick of lousy bubblegum included. I'd rush out of the store to find the nearest steps or curb to sit on and begin opening the wax paper covering the cards. There was a TV commercial for Heinz Ketchup featuring the "Anticipation" song by Carly Simon. No ketchup could come close to the anticipation of discovering the identity of the player cards hidden inside. Part of that ad said, "It's slow good." That's what I hoped for from the pack, but first, I'd offered a wish and a prayer that the cards wouldn't be a catcher named Hobie Landrith, a pitcher named Turk Lown or another pitcher named Don Mossi. It wasn't because they were poor players, it was because I got their cards frequently. Instead of getting a Mickey Mantle or a Sandy Koufax, I'd get another Don Mossi. I believed I'd cornered the market on Don Mossi cards. What happened to all those duplicates? Some became pawns in a game of card flipping. From a standing position, the first player took a card and with a flip of the wrist, let it drop to the floor, where it landed heads (picture) or tails (statistics). If both cards were heads or tails, player #2 won both cards. If they didn't match, the cards went to player #1. Doubles were made for clipping with clothespins to the spokes of a bicycle to make an engine sound. It sounded more like a roulette wheel. Don Mossi became one of my prime spokesmen. On Saturday, those baseball cards came alive during the televised "Game of the Week" sponsored by Falstaff Beer. The announcers were Pee Wee Reese and Dizzy Dean. Ol' Diz sang "The Wabash Cannonball" during lulls in the action and made advocates of good grammar grimace by saying things like, "he slud into second base." Many of the Falstaff Beer spots were a cartoon featuring The Old

Pro.
There are no replays, instant or otherwise, available for opening those baseball card packs. Pity. I wish I could go back and treat Don Mossi with a little more kindness.

I'VE LEARNED
Aaron Rodgers, a quarterback for the New York Jets, was injured in the first game of the season. He was paid \$9,373,999 per snap. I'm sure there is an online fundraiser for him.

It's cheaper to fill a gas tank that's half-full than one that's empty.

Politicians are those who will double-cross that bridge when they come to it.

The cold that a man gets and the one a woman catches are different. No man has a casual cold. Every cold contracted by a male is catastrophic.

IN LOCAL NEWS
I attended an open house of appreciation for Wayne Feder, a former teacher and coach at NRHS, and the Chief of the high school student-inspired New Richland Bird Watcher's Society (Biology Club) in 1967. The Fledglings (members) were Ken Abraham (President), Debbie Nelson, Debbie Shurson, Bill Sutlief (Secretary/Treasurer), Pat Bergner, Jeanne Lust, Gratia Hokanson, Pam Querna (Vice-President) and Pat Stafford.

NATURE NOTES
It was a morning easy to embrace with its soft clouds and tenderhearted breezes. October brings blue jay and yellow-rumped warbler migration, starling murmurations and many meadowhawk dragonflies, which I see into November some years.

I watched lovely Franklin's gulls. Only three large wetlands have been used repeatedly as nesting sites in Minnesota over the past 100 years: Agassiz NWR and Thief Lake WMA in Marshall County, and Heron Lake in Jackson County. Breeding adults have black heads with white crescents above and below the eyes. The upperparts are dark gray; the legs and bill are reddish. In non-breeding plumage, the black heads reduce to a patchy black to gray hood covering the top of the head and neck. The forehead and throat become white and the legs and feet turn nearly black, as does the bill, which retains a reddish tip. Named after the Arctic explorer Sir John Franklin and originally called Franklin's rosy gull for its rosy-colored breast and belly, early settlers called it the prairie dove.

MEETING ADJOURNED
"Life is just a short walk from the cradle to the grave and it sure behooves us to be kind to one another along the way.—Alice Childress.

Conversing in the field

He had me at "sandhill cranes." For the sake of this week's paper, I interviewed a couple of Steele County sportsmen who took part in the governor's pheasant hunting opener. One of them, Al Steinbauer, was in the field with Governor Walz and his companions. Al was impressed, by the way, with the governor's skill and familiarity with the hunt. Taking part in the opener was apparently not only for the sake of the publicity, but also for the pleasure of being in the field.

Somewhere during our conversation, Al mentioned that sandhill cranes congregate in a marsh near the hunting site. He said that, being retired, he would be glad to introduce

me to the location, apparently commonly visited by bird watchers.

So at 7:30 the next morning, I was at his door. Twenty minutes later we were parked near a marsh on a remote gravel road, listening to the chatter of what sounded like dozens of birds. Unfortunately, thanks to a cool wind and threatening rain—or to some other circumstance we couldn't discern—the birds didn't move much, so their calls and noises were nearly all we got, when it comes to birds.

One pair did eventually come within range of my telephoto lens. It was a delight to see them flying, and to see them wading in the nearby shallow water.

Thanks to those photos, and



Sandhill cranes in flight above a Steele County marsh. Pioneer photo by Deb Bently



In My Humble Opinion

by Deb Bently

thanks even more to the stories and conversation, I count the experience as a definite win. Al provided some personal perspective on hunting with

the governor, including the security

Field continued on 4

Life's going to take me where it takes me

It is now week seven of school for me; I only know that because that's how my professors have been labeling homework assignments, by the week. Considering we are now involved with midterm season and the middle of the semester, it's time to do a little life update and reflection.

I am beginning to recognize that Adulthood is difficult and a bit overwhelming at times. There's supposedly a mouse living in our apartment, although only one of us has seen it. Thankfully, we are already in search of a new place to live even though we are trying to solve this problem. Currently, we are looking for a house in Como, just north of campus, instead of an apartment. We will see what we end up doing, though, because it seems like a very adult and life changing thing to move into a house.

And then there are the internships, because I guess that's what college people do. While I started my internship career at the New Richland Star Eagle and the good ol' Waseca County Pioneer (thank you Eli and everyone for the wonderful experiences), I wanted to see what the city



To Be Determined

by Amelia Roessler

has to offer. I am applying for the Star Tribune and National Geographic. I am looking into others as well, but those two are the ones I am most excited for.

Or maybe I'll just end up spending my summer continuing my work with the campus paper, the Minnesota Daily, while coming home on the weekends to work the bar. Who knows where life will take me? Looking for internships has made me start thinking more seriously about what I'm going to do once I get out of school. Maybe after I graduate I'll join the Peace Corps and work abroad while writing on the side. How does someone decide what to do with the rest of her life?

In high school, all I knew was that

I wanted to write and not teach, so journalism was it. I realized later that I enjoyed journalism not just for the writing, but because it satisfies my naturally curious nature when I get to learn about so many different things. But I wonder - what if I had gone for a creative writing major instead? Would I be happy with my decision? What if I did end up wanting to teach? Or what if I just switch and become a therapist?

I know of some people who have loved their jobs since day one and of others who didn't find a job they liked until they were 50. Everyone hopes they will like, and maybe even love, their jobs. Who wants to be stuck doing something that forces them to remind themselves every

morning why they should get up and go to work?

People who love their jobs sometimes claim they're not "going to work," they're going to do the thing they love or whatever cliché phrase it is. While I am willing to believe them, I also think it's a lie if they say that's true every day. It's almost impossible to have good or great days every day. If it were true, how could one even learn to appreciate the good days? How could one learn to grow from the bad ones?

While part of me hopes to only have to have one job for the rest of my life, another part of me hopes that I job hop (to an extent) and learn about new places and new jobs (possibly within the journalism field, of course). I suppose the thing to remind myself of is that I'm at the point where life's going to take me where it takes me. I'm just going to enjoy it for as long as I can.

My Determination: "There are two types of beings in the universe: those who dance, and those who do not." - Drax, Guardians of the Galaxy

Life's little surprises, giant gifts

It was my dad's 63rd birthday this past week, Oct. 14.

My dad, James Dwight Lutgens, was born on Dwight Eisenhower's birthday, which is how he got his middle name.

My dad has been a newspaper person for a long time. Since the day he was born, in fact. The local Waseca Journal published his picture on the front page due to his name and date etc.

In his early professional years, my dad worked for the Albert Lea Tribune.

Because he was a single dad, and because sports writers work odd hours, I spent a lot of time at the Tribune as a child. I have fond memories of the building, the printing press area, and so many pizzas from Jake's Pizzeria. There was the office lady who said I could play with the toys in her basket, which her own kid played with, whenever I wanted. I wish I knew her name today.

Then there was "Jackie Chan" or at least, that's what I asked the guy who sat opposite my dad at his own desk—No, his name was not Jackie Chan.

I remember when the Tribune stopped paying for cable TV. For some reason they had channels we didn't get at home.

My brother Nate and I would make games out of everything in that office. Hide and seek was popular. Another common choice was playing with the vending machines. We enjoyed the way that, when we put in pennies, they would come right back out in the change return.

And then there was the printing press room, from which we were strictly barred. I only remember sneaking in there one time. It was smaller than I expected. Or rather, the machines didn't take up as much space as I thought was warranted by such a large room.

I think we only sneaked into the publisher's office once, because I remember being scolded for it.

Dad would always promise us Jake's Pizza if he had to bring us to work with him: It remains, to this



STAR GAZING

by Eli Lutgens

day, my favorite pizza.

I was seven years old when Dad bought the New Richland Star. I remember him saying everyone told him he was crazy to do it. His accountant told him it would be the worst mistake of his life. His lawyer, the same thing.

I'm really grateful he didn't listen to them.

It was probably the safest, riskiest thing he could do.

So, we traded one daycare for another. My brother and I had a video game station and small mechanic shop in the back of the Star office for awhile. We and our friends would skateboard on the concrete floor in the delivery area before we remodeled.

Other times, we played video games.

Still other times we asked Dad when we were going home.

As I was writing this column, intended to be a reflection about my father, Enita, from Colony Court called and I must share this conversation. (I may have spelled her name wrong.)

Me: "Good afternoon, Waseca County Pioneer."

Enita: "Is this the Pioneer?"

Me: "Yes. What can I do for you?" (This must be read in a cheery voice as that's how I usually talk on the phone.)

Enita: "I think we're related, but that doesn't matter."

Me: "It does to me."

Enita proceeded to tell me about an update needed to a church listing on the church page.

"You're not gonna get me in trouble?" Enita asked, with all sincerity, after telling me who the new pastor was, and after I raised the possibility of writing a story. She was unsure

whether he would like to be written about. Her purpose had simply been to update the church worship time and remove the word "vacant."

When we got through the business of the church listing, I asked Enita how we were related.

Enita: "Was your grandma, Millie?"

Me: "Yes."

It turns out Millie was Enita's aunt, which means Enita and I are cousins.

Enita and I spoke for about 10 minutes. She remembered my grandmother's "jokes" and how she would say my name, "Eli."

Enita's mom was Laura (probably spelled wrong again) and Enita's daughter is Debra, "Debbie" Roemhidlt (spelled correctly, I believe), who lives on a farm near Janesville.

When the phone had rung, shortly after our office hours and while I was concentrating on writing my reminiscences, I had been sorely tempted not to answer the phone.

This is not the first time a spontaneous conversation like this has happened with a reader. They make my day. Thank you for calling, Enita.

So it was my dad's birthday, 63 years young.

I have much to say about my dad, far too much for one sitting.

I'm eternally grateful for the lessons he taught and continues to teach me. I would not be the man I am today if not for him. And there probably wouldn't be a new newspaper in Waseca if he had not planted the idea in my mind.

I started working for my dad as an editorial assistant when I was 15. I was really more of an assistant to my mom at the time because she was the one who hired and trained me in. Now more than a decade later I un-

derstand why my dad wasn't excited about training a 15-year-old kid to work in the paper.

But despite any impression I may have created, and perhaps despite my own inclinations at the time, I was here to stay.

I remember writing my first story. I wrote about the father of my best friend Bryant, who had recently been diagnosed with cancer. The Legion in town was holding a benefit for him, so I told Darin I would publicize it in the paper. I did the interview and wrote the story without telling my dad.

When it was done I told my dad, "I wrote this story, you need to print it in the paper."

His response? "We'll see about that."

He stopped partway through an explanation about how bad writing can't go in the paper. I don't know if he stopped because he started reading the story or because I'm his son.

Either way, when he was done reading he told me it was good, "It just needs a little bit of tweaking...."

Those dots represent him saying, "You can't do this or that, or write this type of word before that one, but... it's good writing."

"That's what an editor is for," Dad told me. He also told me good writers don't need very much editing.

And thus started my actual career in journalism.

Thanks Dad. And happy birthday!

"I have rarely ever met a person more fearless and courageous than my father." — Martin Luther King Jr. "My father was my teacher. But most importantly he was a great dad." — Beau Bridges. "A father's love is like your shadow, though he is dead or alive, he will live with your shadow"— P.S. Jagadeesh Kumar.

P.S. There's nothing more comforting in life than to know there's someone whose love is unconditional. Someone who, time and time again, will do whatever they think is best for their children.



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DEADLINES: Pioneer: Noon Tuesday
GOLDEN LINK: Previous Friday

ELI LUTGENS	Publisher
JON LUCCA	Ad Design
DEB BENTLY	News Editor
JIM LUTGENS	Sports Editor/Dad
AMELIA ROESSLER	Editorial Assistant
TERESA ROSACKER	Advertising Sales
JESSICA LUTGENS	Staff Writer
TRISTAN GEHRING	Staff writer
JONAH STAFFORD	Staff Writer
MELISSA DUNN	Staff Writer

Contributing writers/photographers: Dave Zika, Santiago Ramirez. Al Batt

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The Bethlehem Inn fundraiser featured a restaging of “Buddy Holly’s 1959 Winter Dance Party.”

Bethlehem Inn Fundraiser draws 250

Bethlehem Inn held a very successful fund-raising concert this past Saturday at the Starfire Event Center. Around 250 attended and were entertained with a re-staging of Buddy Holly’s 1959 Winter Dance Party, featuring music of Buddy’s co-stars, Ritchie Valens “La Bamba”; Dion & the Belmonts “Teenager in Love”; The Big Bopper “Chantilly Lace”; Frankie Sardo “Fake Out”; and Buddy Holly singing “Rave On,” “It’s So Easy to Fall in Love,” “Peggy Sue” and many other songs.

Bethlehem Inn is thankful for everyone who purchased a ticket

and to business sponsors IWeath, Keen Bank, Thrivent, Ameriprise, United Prairie Bank, Landmark Real Estate, and Birds Eye. They have all helped Bethlehem Inn of Waseca in its mission of helping homeless women and children by providing short-term transitional housing and access to area social services with the goal that they become self-sufficient and contributing members of society. This past year Bethlehem Inn served 52 adult women and 45 children. To help with our mission, please go to our website: bethleheminn-waseca.org.

Waseca ag school alumni offer scholarship

The Southern School of Agriculture (SSA), and the University of Minnesota-Waseca (UMW) Alumni Association have scholarships available to current high school seniors or to college students pursuing a two- or four-year degree, whose parent or grandparent is an alum of the University of Minnesota-Waseca or the Southern School of Agriculture.

Two \$1,000 scholarships will be awarded to a child, grandchild or great-grandchild of an alumnus with a GPA of 3.0 and above, and who is pursuing a 2- or 4-year

post-secondary degree.

For criteria and information on how to apply, interested individuals may visit <http://sroc.cfans.umn.edu/about/alumni> on the web, or write to the Alumni Scholarship Committee, Southern Research and Outreach Center, 35838 120th St., Waseca, MN 56093. Questions can be directed to Deanne Nelson at (507) 837-5629 or Email: nelson191@umn.edu.

Applications must be postmarked no later than January 8, 2024.

Winter weather is coming



Superintendent’s Corner

by Eric Hudspith

child’s school if you have concerns about winter weather gear for your student.

If the winter weather may impact our ability to transport students to school safely, we use a variety of methods to determine whether we will hold on-site classes on any given day. Resources and organizations we access as we make our decision include reports from the national weather service, our local and state snow removal services, the national weather service wind chill chart, staff drives taken around the community

to assess road conditions, and conversations with colleagues in neighboring districts to see what weather may be coming. In these instances, we aim to communicate with families no later than 6:30 am in order to help everyone plan. If there is the opportunity to make a decision the night prior, we will, but we also want to make sure that we are as confident as we can be in the weather predictions.

Waseca is a community that includes city, county, interstate, and township roads, ranging from stu-

dents who live across the street from their school to those who travel a significant distance on this bus. School closure decisions are made with the goal of keeping all students safe, while also doing our best to have students in class as much as possible. Please keep in mind that if parents and guardians do not feel their student should attend school on a given day due to the weather, our schools will support these decisions and work with each family and student.

Winter is an exciting season in Minnesota. Outdoor activities change and can be refreshing as we get out and enjoy the new conditions. Movement and activity continue to be a critical part of a student’s learning experience, and being prepared for this season ensures everyone can participate and enjoy this significant part of our school year. Have a great fall season.



Ashley Semmann

Semmann named Keen’s Retail Banking Development Officer

Ashley Semmann has been promoted and named Retail Banking Development Officer of Keen Bank. In her new position, Semmann is responsible for the growth and development of the Keen Bank retail department. In addition, Semmann will provide ongoing training and supervision for staff and collaborate with other departments in business development initiatives.

“Ashley’s tenure in the banking industry as a proven team builder, trainer and motivator, will be a key component in building on our long tradition of outstanding customer service,” said Bernie Gaytko, President and CEO of Keen Bank. “Ashley will also be responsible for bringing our Keen Bank brand to the Owatonna market this fall, where she was born and raised.”

For more information visit keen.bank.

About Keen Bank

Keen Bank is a local, family-owned and managed bank that has been proudly serving southern Minnesota since 1874. Their commitment to customers, responsiveness to find solutions and genuine willingness to help is the makeup of their organization. Keen Bank meets the needs of customers while maintaining the personal aspects of service that are synonymous with community banking. For more information visit keen.bank. Member FDIC

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Service Center sponsors BackPack program

The Waseca Area Neighborhood Service Center (WANSC) is glad to be able to sponsor the BackPack program. What is the BackPack program? It is a program that provides extra food on the weekends for eligible Waseca students. Each week, bags of food are individually packed at the Waseca Food Shelf. These bags are then delivered to the Waseca schools and distributed by the school counselors to food insecure students to take home for the weekend.

Why is this extra food so important? Research has shown that: 94% of families responding indicate their child is more prepared for school as a result of a weekend food program.

Over 90% of school staff responding indicate a weekend food program has a positive impact on the children receiving the food in the following areas: Attendance (91%), Behavior (91%), (Self Esteem (95%), Attentiveness (94%), Academics (93%),

and relationship with school staff (93%).

Over 90% of school staff responding indicate a weekend food program has a positive impact on the school in the following areas: Connection with Families (99%), Retention of Students (92%), and More supported by the Community (99%).

WANSC wants to give a big SHOUT OUT to the Waseca Lions. They just finished a challenge to supply individual size packages of

Goldfish snack crackers to the BackPack program: a favorite of the students as part of their weekend food package. The Lions were able to donate 627 individual packages of Goldfish snacks-what a wonderful challenge to help support these students!

If any other organization(s) would like to start a challenge to help out the BackPack program or Food Shelf, please contact the WANSC director at (507) 833-4119, ext. 301

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OBITUARIES

Arlene Nelson

ARLENE MARY NELSON, age 85, of Waseca, passed away on Monday, October 9, 2023, at Lakeshore Inn Nursing Home, in Waseca.

She was born on January 3, 1938, in Waseca, a daughter of the late Clarence and Helen (Anderson) Rudolph. She was raised on a farm near Otisco though she preferred to remain indoors as child, close to her mother. She attended District 46 grade school in a one-room schoolhouse. Arlene graduated from Waseca Central High School in 1955 and Mankato Commercial College. She worked in Rochester as a medical secretary prior to her marriage.

On September 29, 1957, she married her high-school sweetheart, Lowell Nelson, at Trinity Lutheran Church of Wilton. They recently celebrated their 66th anniversary.

Arlene was diagnosed with polio at age 11. While there were days she struggled, she would never let on that she was frustrated, hurting or in pain and never allowed it to hold her down. In fact, it led to a prized memory. At Christmastime, she was hospitalized at St. Mary's in Rochester. At the same time, Gene Autry was in town and upon finding a young girl in the hospital on Christmas with the surname Rudolph, he went to her room and sang "Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer" to her.

Arlene was a very kind and compassionate person. She was always concerned about the interests of other people and routinely put them ahead of her own. Nonetheless, she was highly independent and knew her own mind.

As a volunteer, she made calls to schedule donors for American Red Cross blood drives and donated blood as often as she could.

She was a wonderful and avid seamstress. She enjoyed reading, doing crossword puzzles, watching Jeopardy, hosting gatherings, and cooking for friends and family. She loved country music and Elvis



Arlene Nelson

Presley. Above all, she loved having her family together. She was the glue holding together a tight-knit family. Arlene was a longtime member of Grace Lutheran Church in Waseca.

She is survived by her husband, Lowell Nelson of Waseca; daughters, Vicki (James) Montgomery of Thurmont, Maryland, Tammy (Kevin Featherly) Nelson of Bloomington, and Debra (Cris Beal) Nelson of Andover; grandchildren, Michael (Mary Beth) Montgomery of Frederick, Maryland, and Nathan Featherly of Bloomington; great-grandson, Maxwell Montgomery; sister, Janet Rudolph of Waseca; sister-in-law, Lois Bartz of Hermosa Beach, California; and niece, Shari (Chet Taylor) Bartz of Manhattan Beach, California. She is preceded in death by her parents, and grandson, Zachary Featherly.

Memorial Service will be held at 11:00 AM on Friday, October 27, 2023 at the Third Street Chapel of Dennis-Steffel-Omtvedt Funeral and Cremation Service in Waseca. Visitation will be held one hour prior to the service at the funeral home. Interment will follow at Woodville Cemetery in Waseca. Dennis-Steffel-Omtvedt Funeral and Cremation Service is handling the arrangements.

Dsofuneral.com

DEATH NOTICES

Eugene Roemhildt

Eugene P. "Gene" Roemhildt, 91, passed away on Sunday, October 15, 2023 at Ecumen Prairie Hill, St. Peter.

Memorial Service: 11:00am

Thursday, November 9, 2023 at First Lutheran Church, St. Peter with military honors to follow. Visitation will be one hour prior. View complete obituary or leave a condolence at www.saintpeterfuneralhome.com

■ Huber

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this time of year, their tasks are transitioning from receiving and winterizing boats, lawnmowers and utility tractors to servicing and preparing snowmobiles, snowblowers, and other winter equipment for the upcoming cold weather.

Huber explains the business can help with nearly any device that has a gas or electric motor, including chainsaws, ice augers, and the like.

"We're not a dealer for any particular brand," he notes. "But we can help with the general maintenance those types of equipment call for.

"Because we cover all that, some of our customers appreciate having one guy they can go to for all those kinds of things."

Customers can stop at Southside Marine and more for an array of fishing equipment and, if they wish, can learn more about Fire-brand fish houses. Huber points out the "shells" are built "right here in Minnesota." He says the brand fits his customers' needs because they can buy the shell and do any additional work themselves, or they can order a full customized package with an amazing array of features.

To help folks stay warm either while enjoying recreational activities or remaining at home, the business also sells LP gas, and can either deliver it to home heating

tanks or provide fills on-site for RVs, fish houses, and the like.

Southside Marine and More is open weekdays from 7:30 to 5:30. "Those are my hours," comments Huber. "I'm a firm believer that the boss should be the first one in the door each morning and the last one out every evening."

He goes on to admit he enjoys what he does. "First, small engine maintenance was a hobby, then it was my job," he recalls. "Most days, it's hard to tell whether I'm working or having fun.

"I guess I'm lucky that way."

Huber worked with former owner Neal Schauer for three years prior to purchasing the business, although, he says, discussions began within a year of his getting the job. He describes how Schauer made a point of teaching him the finer points of the business, continues to do occasional work for the company, and provides ongoing mentorship.

"Just like Neal, we want to give folks the same treatment they would get from family," says Huber. "We do the job right. If we see something out of the ordinary, we'll call people and let them know, so they can either take care of it themselves or consider having us do it.

"We believe in good communication and treating everyone fairly."



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■ Field

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arrangements—a subject I was curious about. One topic drifted to the next as we watched the sky and listened to the birds. Al mentioned that he takes part in bass fishing tournaments, a matter I had always been curious about: How can there be a contest in a sport which so famously relies on luck?

Though he is an amateur, Al informed me the "professionals" no longer trust anything to chance. He described the electronic equipment

typically found on their boats. They often have three screens: one which shows the topography of the underwater landscape, one which shows their location on an overhead view of the area, and one which displays the readout from a sonar device that constantly scans the "field" 200 to 300 feet ahead of the boat. Such sonars, he said, show hazards and prospects which anglers can, respectively, avoid or target—the images, he commented, are sharp enough to show the angler where his or her lure is in relation to the fish.

As the cranes continued to gabble in the distance, the conversation wandered further and further afield, one tale for another. Fireworks, steakhouses, wild turkeys, humming-

By JESSICA LUTGENS
Staff Writer

A final decision was made by the New Richland City Council during its second meeting of the month on Monday, Sept. 25 regarding keeping chickens in town. One council member, Jason Casey, was in favor of the idea; however, the rest of the council disagreed.

"We heard from people, we had a survey, and since that has happened - other than having one person come forward over the last few months - what's changed? Nothing," said council member Loren Skelton. "If significant things had happened, or we had a room full of people wanting this and bringing things forward to convince us otherwise, then I would agree. But that didn't happen."

A motion was made not to move forward with keeping chickens in town, which passed by a vote of 3-1, with Casey voting against.

Waseca County administrator and commissioners were present to provide the council with updates on happenings within the county. A main concern for citizens of New Richland - flooding - was discussed at length.

City Administrator Tony Martens noted that the hydraulic study discussed last spring has been authorized, paperwork has been signed, and not much can be done until the results of that study are received and can be reviewed.

"We're working on comprehensive planning with the sewer system on the south part of town," Martens added, explaining that, with smoke testing having been completed, cleaning and televising can be done to see if I & I (inflow and infiltration) are contributing to flooding problems in that area.

Dee Malterer, commissioner representing Janesville, discussed the Le Sueur River Watershed and the One Watershed, One Plan project, which will provide over \$1 million in funds

for projects that help with water quality. The county is working and talking with property owners of ditches to see what can be done in that aspect, and it was noted that the amount of money to be received is a small fraction of the total cost of possible projects to be done.

"There's not one fix to this," Malterer said. "There are a lot of things contributing to these problems."

Also discussed were updates to UDC, the MN Prairie County Alliance, updates to Courthouse Park including a new disc golf course, and the county's preliminary tax levy increase of 1.5%. It was noted that the county commissioners have passed support for a broadband grant application with Bevcomm which would provide fiber to 520-plus rural homes in the southwestern part of Waseca County - namely, Freedom, Vivian, Byron and Wilton Townships. If the grant application is successful, it would serve any home or business in those townships that allow it.

Possible changes to the county jail were also discussed due to the fact that it does not currently meet DOC standards. Concerns over the safety of judges, employees, and the public due to transportation of inmates to court through the halls of the courthouse were also mentioned. Options include updating the current jail or outsourcing to Steele and Blue Earth Counties, both of which would have their own benefits. A deadline of February to decide how to move forward was given by the DOC.

The commissioners stressed the importance of obtaining public feedback on issues and projects within Waseca County, and encouraged the New Richland City Council to attend upcoming public forums on such matters.

Bob Johannsen presented the care center report, stating that the average census for August was a little low, which is not abnormal for care

NEW RICHLAND CITY COUNCIL

centers for that time of year. The census has since picked up.

The center is also looking at a new health insurance plan through Intellicents which is similar to the plan the city has been looking into. Building improvements, including PTEC units for heat and air conditioning in resident rooms, a spa room on the east side of the building, and ceiling lifts for bariatric residents, are being planned thanks to roughly \$200,000 in funding from the MN DHS. Staff openings at the center include certified nurse aides and an RN or LPN. The report was approved.

Shell Johnson presented the PeopleService report, which included a purchase request for exhaust fan repair at a cost of \$1,900. The request was approved along with the report.

The water and street report, submitted in writing, stated that 28 blue cards were issued in August resulting in zero shutoffs. A purchase request for new cement and grading around the water treatment plant at a cost of \$1,060 was approved along with the report.

Final comments were given regarding the 2024 preliminary budget, and a discussion was had regarding a new health insurance plan that will save the city a significant amount of money. The council approved entering a business agreement with Intellicents, and with the change to the health insurance for city employees, the preliminary tax levy increase was reduced from over 19% to 14.65%.

"We're going in the right direction," said Martens.

Resolution 23-17 approving the preliminary budget, which includes a preliminary tax levy increase of 14.65%, and setting a public hearing

on the proposed budget for Dec. 11 at 6:35 p.m., was approved with a 3-1 vote. Council member Casey voted against the motion.

A public hearing was held on a VRBO, Vacation Rental by Owner Ordinance, and while no members of the public provided comments, the council discussed the necessity and benefits of such an ordinance. Council member Jody Wynnemer questioned the need for the ordinance, and it was explained that the ordinance would ensure people are following city ordinances and rules.

"We're the only community that our city attorney represents that doesn't have this ordinance," Martens said, adding that three requests for short term rental of properties in town have been received.

A motion was made to approve Ordinance 360, which passed via a 3-2 vote. Council members Wynnemer and Casey voted against the motion, members Ferguson and Skelton voted in favor, and Mayor Chad Neitzel's tie-breaking vote in favor allowed the motion to pass. A motion was also made to approve Resolution 23-16 updating the city fee schedule to add a \$125 VRBO short-term rental license fee, which passed with a 3-2 vote.

The council approved the hiring of Drew DeRaad for the open full-time police officer position, and it was noted that DeRaad agreed to commit to the NRPD for three years. A new ambulance member was also approved, along with rental licenses.

Martens presented the administrator's report, noting that work continues on capital and street plans. A MCPA grant for the hydraulic study has been applied for, which if approved would free up funds for other projects that may arise as a result of the study. The report was approved, and the meeting adjourned at 8:02 p.m.

Arts and cultural heritage grants awarded

The Prairie Lakes agency's Small Arts Project Grant is available to non-profit arts organizations and community groups sponsoring arts activities for their community. School Arts Project grants are for public or private non-parochial schools K-12 for artist residencies, arts presentations, and arts-related field trips.

In Waseca County, Prairie Lakes awarded a \$1,500 grant to support an "American Indian Service Learning Project." A grant of \$2,135 was given in support of band clinics offered during the Waseca Marching Classic.

The Waseca Arts Council (WAC) was awarded \$9,000 to sponsor exhibitions including the "Stitchers in

Time" quilters' guild, the WAC members' show, and exhibits by individual artists. The grant also supports instructor fees and the purchase of supplies for week-long summer art camps in June, July and August.

The Waseca-LeSueur regional library system was awarded a grant in the amount of \$4,125. The library will

collaborate with Cow Tipping Press and Open Arts Minnesota to sponsor literary and theater arts workshops for 10 adults with developmental disabilities in the Waseca area. The classes will culminate with book publication and a community reading event. Funds will be used for instructor fees.

WHS partners with HUDL TV

Waseca, MN – Waseca High School is pleased to announce that beginning this year, all home varsity football, varsity and JV boys' soccer, varsity and JV girls' soccer, varsity and b-squad volleyball, varsity and b-squad boys' basketball, varsity and b-squad girls' basketball, and varsity and JV wrestling events will be livestreamed free of charge via Hudl TV.

Fans will be able to access the free live streams via multiple platforms. Hudl TV is currently supported on

any computer through the website Team1Sports.com. Additional supported platforms include Roku, Amazon Fire TV, Apple TV, or Android TV via the Team1Sports app.

Hudl has been used since 2008 by Waseca High School to help its "athletic teams capture, analyze, and share video and data faster and more effectively." Some of the service's latest suite of technology advancements allows for games to be streamed via these platforms.

Live streaming was made possible this season for free thanks in part to generous donations from two local banks: MinnWest Bank and FM BANK. Both institutions will be presenting partners for all Bluejay events live streamed.

MinnWest Bank "was founded during the 1987 farm crisis and recognizes how important

community banks are to thriving communities." Its local branch is located at 200 Second Street NE in

Waseca.

FM BANK encourages area residents to "Experience the Advantage" of banking with them. They pride themselves on a personalized, convenient, consistent approach to banking with local decision making and a community focus. FM BANK will host a grant opening on Wednesday at 220 Elm Ave East.

where I was, chasing photos of sandhill cranes, if it hadn't been for my work as a reporter.

Thinking of that, maybe I'll stop complaining...for a day or two, anyway.

Got news?
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Governor Tim Walz shakes the hand of local guide Al Steinbauer during the pheasant hunting opener in Owatonna.

Governor Walz enjoys Steele County hunt

By DEB BENTLY
Staff Writer

“It’s a little like telling someone your favorite fishing hole,” says Rex Harriman, a vice president with the Steele County chapter of Minnesota Pheasants. “We had about 100 people who needed spots to hunt.”

Harriman is among the 10 or so planners who worked with the Owatonna Chamber of Commerce to set up the details of the Governor’s Pheasant Hunting Opener this past weekend. During the 9 to 11 a.m. hunt on Saturday, 16 pheasants were harvested, two of them by the group hunting with Governor Tim Walz.

To prepare for the group, “We took Steele County and kind of divided it up,” Harriman comments. Many of the Minnesota Pheasants’ chapter’s 125 or more members scouted possible locations on public land all through last year’s seasons to come up with recommendations. Their criteria were to find good bird habitat and a suitable landscape.

On Saturday, participants were divided into groups which included a “host hunter” (who didn’t carry a gun, but acted more as a guide) and two or three visitors, including members of the governor’s office, DNR, the press, and other groups. Also in attendance were hunters from the Sleepy Eye area; their organization is slated to host next year’s opener.

Owatonna area resident Al Steinbauer served as “host” to the governor’s group, which hunted on a

piece of conservation land in Merton Township. A 15-year member of the local Minnesota Pheasants chapter and lifelong trap shooter, hunter and fisherman, Steinbauer says Walz was impressed with the site, and with the quality of the hunt in general.

Steinbauer says he enjoyed the governor’s company; conversation centered around Walz’s lifetime enjoyment of the challenges, camaraderie, and time outdoors offered by the sport and spending time together in the field.

Steinbauer claims, “I got him in a position to have some success; how it went from there was up to the hunters.” He comments that the grass in the area was still a bit green and thus overly thick, and that the many unharvested acres of crops allowed the pheasant population to be more widely spread out than typical. The weather, though, was ideal.

A traditional element of the pheasant opener, according to Harriman, is a “braggers’ board” which was held after the hunt at the Steele County Fairgrounds. The birds were compared and tail feathers measured to see which hunter had bagged the most impressive specimen.

In addition to Saturday morning’s hunt, numerous activities and events surrounded the governor’s visit to Steele County. Walz met with area business owners, toured the historic “West Hills” area, and took part in an array of social events.

Minnwest Bank named best small bank in MN

Minnwest Bank is proud to be recognized by Newsweek Magazine as the 2023 Best Small Bank in Minnesota. According to the Minnwest website, the organization has 36 branches across the southern half of Minnesota and into South Dakota.

Bank President Ivan van Essen referred to the recognition as “a testament to the bank’s enduring legacy.”

To choose its award winners, Newsweek partnered with the online loan marketplace Lending Tree, to analyze thousands of FDIC-insured banks and credit unions across the United States. Factors taken into account included competitive rates, low fees, rewards, and a wide range of financial products and services. Full results of the Best Small Bank survey can be found online.

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NRHEG finalizes teacher contract

By DEB BENTLY
News Editor

During its September 18 meeting, the NRHEG school board officially approved its 2023-2025 contract with the district’s 67 teachers and other licensed staff. Based on district analysis of the figures, teachers received roughly a 6% pay increase for 2023-24, and a 4% increase in 2024-25.

The numbers do not mean, however, that every teacher will receive a direct salary increase in those amounts, but rather that the full amount paid for salary and benefits to all teachers as a group is 6% higher.

In addition to increases of roughly 5% to teachers’ pay in 2023-24, and 4% in 2024-25, the contract includes a \$300 increase to the amount paid

toward health insurance. A number of advisorships—including for the business-oriented DECA and culinary-focused PRO-START programs—were added to the list of compensated positions. Teachers who accompany students on the annual fifth-grade trip to Eagle Bluff will receive a small stipend; elementary teachers who supervise students before and during concerts and other evening events will also be compensated.

As part of a shared interest between both the teachers and the district to “attract and retain” qualified teachers, a “longevity stipend” was also incorporated into the contract. Teachers who remain on staff for 10 years will receive an additional \$1,000 in their first paycheck of the following year. The same stipend



will be paid to teachers on any following 5-year anniversaries.

Teacher negotiator Mark Domeier mentions that an agreement for an often-proposed “sick leave bank” was reached during this round of discussions. Under its provisions, if any staff member experiences a “catastrophic” health event and does not have banked leave time to cover it, teachers may offer any number they wish of their own banked days. Some special provisions apply, but Domeier says he appreciates the district’s willingness to consider the

merits of this year’s proposal.

Regarding the 2023-25 contract, school superintendent Michael Meihak commented via email that, “This settlement recognized the required extra duties completed outside the regular school day, added language to incentivize teachers to remain in the district, and provided for a salary increase that is fairly consistent with the cost of living increases we are experiencing.”

As he introduced the proposed contract to school board members for their consideration the night of the meeting, he stated he was grateful to teacher representatives for the “respectful, honest exchange” during the negotiation process, which began in April and officially ended with board approval of the contract on September 18.

Patriot’s Pen writing contest

VFW Post 1642 and Auxiliary have announced the 2023-24 Voice of Democracy and Patriot’s Pen essay contests.

Any student in grades 9-12 may enter the Voice of Democracy program to compete for prizes and scholarship money. Each year nearly 27,000 students compete for more than \$2 million in scholarships and incentives. Students are asked to

write and record an audio script on an annual patriotic theme. This year’s theme is: “What are the greatest attributes of our democracy?” Entrants should record their original three- to five-minute essay on CD or a flash drive, include their neatly typed essay with their name, and complete the entry form. An entry form may be obtained online at www.vfw.org/VOD. Entrants may

also contact VFW Chairperson Barb Klampe, or contact Karen Pfarr Anderson through Waseca Junior Senior High School.

The Patriot’s Pen is a VFW youth essay competition open to students in grades 6, 7, and 8. This contest gives students the opportunity to express their views on democracy. The 2023 theme is: “How are you inspired by America?” Interested students

should write and type an essay 300 to 400 words long and attach it to the student entry form. The top essays are eligible for cash prizes and may be entered at the district level of competition. For details contact Barb Klampe, or visit www.vfw.org/Patriot'sPen.

Entries for both contests must be submitted by October 31.

■ Daniel

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uncomfortable. Without them, it’s impossible.

Sandy was 22 when she learned she had kidney disease, the same cause which had led to her father’s death at age 54. “I asked Craig as we were riding home from the doctor, if it killed my father so young, then what would my longevity be?”

This past Saturday, Sandy’s family held an anniversary party: her transplanted kidney has lasted 40 years. As she knew would be the case, she has been taking antirejection medication all this time, but other than that, the kidney has been delivering the freedom and health she longed for prior to the transplant.

Her children, “the best children in the world,” according to Craig, “spared no expense.” Sandy was given a t-shirt that says “My scars are proof I fought for this life.”

And fought she has. In addition to the difficulties leading up to the transplant, Sandy experienced breast cancer in 2003. Complications arose from a surgery at that time which had Sandy hooked to life support with a collapsed lung for five days.

Daughter Kari Jo Schumacher remembers the doctors saying, “We’re not keeping her alive. We don’t know what is.” Within the past six months, Sandy has learned she has diabetes; her pancreas is not regulating her blood sugar as it should, and so she must now take insulin. Also within the last few months, she was experiencing skin problems from the antirejection medication she has been taking since the transplant and had to begin taking a different one.

Still, she chooses not to complain.

The kidney that saved her life 40 years ago is still going strong, though online sources suggest 25 years is more typical.



FAMILY - Sandy Daniel (center) with her husband Craig and their children and grandchildren.

“Mayo Clinic has a ‘transplant picnic’ every year,” says Sandy. “We bring our families, we get together and we share our stories.” From conversations at that gathering, she knows of one person whose transplant has lasted 12 years longer than hers. She knows of another who needed a replacement transplant after 25 years.

Sandy’s family members support her belief that “everything happens for a reason.” Going with her to medical appointments and other events, they have seen her bolster strangers’ spirits within the span of an elevator ride. Her positive outlook and willingness to share her experiences have provided what her daughter-in-law Renee Daniel calls “a whole new world of hope.”

Renee comments, “I’ve seen her go through more than any other person I know. She’s always saying, ‘Don’t worry. God’s got it in his hands.’”

And so the Daniel family celebrated on October 7. Roughly 200 people came and went during the open house held at the Waseca VFW. Family members played guitar, sang, and socialized. Jim Kozan, who underwent a kidney transplant 17 years ago, provided music and entertainment.

Sandy had her picture taken with the five grandchildren she would not otherwise have lived to see, and with



Donor Rick Johnson and recipient Sandy Daniel at the time of the kidney transplant.

children Kari Jo and Craig Schumacher and Troy and Renee Daniel, who were not even in high school the year she received the kidney. She posed with her brother Rick who—never having been in a hospital prior to the transplant—had gone to a lawyer before the surgery to have a will drafted “just in case.”

“We’ve been so blessed to have her,” says Renee. “We learned so much we never would have. She’s

given us the kind of example not many people get.”

Asked what he thinks life might have been like without his grandmother, Carson Schumacher, 23, mentions his grandparents’ catchphrase: “There wouldn’t have been any ‘love to the moon and back,’” he says. Then, making reference to how the Thanksgiving dinner sits cooling on the table, “And no really long prayers.”

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Fields of Faith



About 40 area students attended Waseca's 18th annual "Fields of Faith" event October 11.

Waseca holds 18th annual event

By ELI LUTGENS
Publisher/Editor

A group of about 40 students gathered on the high school football field for Waseca's 18th annual "Fields of Faith," an event held simultaneously at more than 500 schools across the United States on Wednesday, October 11, 2023.

Fields of Faith is a movement started in 2002 by Oklahoma Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA) Area Director Jeff Martin. Its purpose is for students to "challenge their peers to read the Bible and follow Jesus Christ." Student-led assemblies take place across America at local athletic fields, which are regarded as a "neutral rally point" where communities come together.

The Waseca FCA took part in the event the same year it became national, 2004, just two years after its founding. At similar events in the south, it's common for big-name Christian bands to provide music and draw thousands of students: Waseca had a smaller, more humble crowd. According to John Conway, one of the evening's organizers, the students had to start from scratch—again.

"Covid shut us down for two years

and last year was its first return to action," he observes. "We usually can get near 100. But this year's only the second time since 2019 that we have started up again."

The meeting place for Waseca's "Fields of Faith" has varied. Some years, it's warm enough to meet at the football field. Other years, it's been too cold to be outside, so the gathering is moved to the nearby intermediate school.

To start the evening, the students had half an hour of play time when most of them participated in football while others entertained themselves or chatted with friends.

When the assembly gathered closer to the bleachers, people split into groups to introduce themselves in small groups before sharing bible verses. Student speakers and a presentation also took place.

Conway then used a football to describe being physically alive but spiritually dead. "Footballs need a good amount of air to go the distance," he said. "When Adam disobeyed God in the garden, we went flat like this football. Sin entered the world, and we were separated from God."

He then shared Romans 5:19, "For

just as through the disobedience of the one man the many were made sinners, so also through the obedience of the one man the many will be made righteous."

"We're born physically alive but spiritually dead," Conway continued. "That's why Jesus says we must be born again, so we die physically but not spiritually. And that's what 'Fields of Faith' is about, that main message in the Bible. Just like air needs to go inside of the football, people must take in the Holy Spirit to be spiritually filled."

After the students discussed where they were spiritually with their peers, they ended the event with a cup of hot chocolate.

Other schools including NRHEG, Owatonna, Mankato West, Pine Island, Lewiston, and many more around the region have held or will hold a "Fields of Faith" event this year.

Conway said he was happy with Waseca's event. "We have some great Christians here in Minnesota. We especially have a lot of student athletes who are dedicated to following Christ."



About 50 students attended NRHEG's second annual "Fields of Faith" event last Wednesday. Photo by Judy Tweeten

NRHEG's second annual event

By ELI LUTGENS
Publisher/Editor

More than 50 students gathered on the high school football field for NRHEG's second annual "Fields of Faith," an event held simultaneously at more than 500 schools across the United States on Wednesday, October 11, 2023.

Fields of Faith is a movement started in 2002 by Oklahoma Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA) Area Director Jeff Martin. Its purpose is for students to "challenge their peers to read the Bible and follow Jesus Christ." Student-led assemblies take place across America at local

athletic fields, which are regarded as a "neutral rally point" where communities come together.

To start the evening, the students had half an hour of play time when most of them participated in football while others entertained themselves or chatted with friends.

When the assembly gathered closer to the bleachers, people split into groups to introduce chat before sharing Bible verses. Student speakers and a presentation also took place.

The Bible verse for the evening was John 3:30. "He must increase, but I must decrease." The

verse references John the Baptist talking about Jesus, saying his purpose in this world is to decrease. That's what he must do, and Jesus must increase. Meaning, John the Baptist's purpose in this world was to exalt Christ, not himself.

After the students discussed where they were spiritually with their peers, they ended the event with a cup of hot chocolate and treats.

Other schools including Waseca, Owatonna, Mankato West, Pine Island, Lewiston, and many more around the region have held or will hold a "Fields of Faith" event this year.

The Pastor's Column

Be still and know

By PASTOR KEN ANDRS

Go outside and take a deep breath.

Get up, go do it.

No, I am serious, get up, go outside, shut out everything else, and take a deep breath.

What happened for you? Are you calmer? Are you stressed? Was it a needed break? Or was it frustrating? Take a moment to recognize how you feel and why you feel that way, be aware of your emotions, and take control of them.

Now, think about these verses from Psalms 46:

8 Come and see the works of the Lord,

the desolations he has brought on the earth.

9 He makes wars cease to the ends of the earth;

he breaks the bow and shatters the spear,

he burns the shields with fire.

10 "Be still, and know that I am God;

I will be exalted among the nations,

I will be exalted in the earth."

11 The LORD Almighty is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.

Do these verses bring you hope? Fear? Concern? Joy?

So often we will dwell on

verse 10, but forget that verses 8-9 exist and then we gloss over verse 11. Our God is a God of justice, He causes desolation, and at the same time He causes wars to cease. He is powerful, He is righteous, He is compassionate, and He is concerned.

We need to find time to be still, and then rest in the knowledge that God is God. When anxiety and fear threaten to overtake us, we are to be still. That stillness is a form of peace that God grants us in knowing that He is God. When we recognize His power, compassion, righteousness, and concern then our hearts turn toward Him and anticipate His action.

He acts in such a way as to cause all concerns that we have on earth to cease. He is the one we turn to in all our frustrations and He is the one who helps us calm our hearts. When we recognize Him as our Sovereign God, all concerns we have get laid on Him and His actions.

Now do it again, go outside one more time, take a deep breath and acknowledge God's power. Recognize Him as your God who cares for you. Breathe deep in the Sovereignty of God over every concern of this life. Be still, and know He is God.

Attend the Church of your Choice!

CHRIST COMMUNITY CHURCH 2200 4th St NE, Waseca 507-835-2235 Service times 9:30 a.m. * * *	Sundays 9 and 10:30 a.m. * * *	VISTA LUTHERAN CHURCH New Richland, Minnesota Pastor Dan Kordahl Sunday - 10:30 a.m. Worship * * *	TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH 412 N. Main Street, Janesville Interim Pastor Wednesday, Saturday - 6:30 p.m. Worship Sunday - 8 a.m. Worship, 9 Bible Class, 10:00 a.m. Worship * * *
4TH STREET EVANGELICAL CHURCH 605 4th St NE, Waseca 507-201-7293 (Pastor Andrew Isker) Worship Sundays 10 a.m. * * *	Sacrament meeting 10:00 a.m. * * *	VISTA EVANGELICAL COVENANT CHURCH New Richland, Minnesota Brian Schanil Pastor Sunday - 10 a.m. Worship; 9 a.m. Sunday School Tuesdays: The Shepherd's Robe Ministry, 1-3 p.m., 6-8 p.m.; Bonfires and Yard Games, 6 p.m. until dark * * *	JANESVILLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 401 N. West St., Janesville Pastor Kathy King Sunday - 8 a.m. Worship * * *
FAITH UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 801 4th Ave NE, Waseca 507-835-3167 Worship Sundays 9:30 a.m. * * *	GRACE BAPTIST CHURCH 1221 8th St SE, Waseca 507-835-2213 Sunday worship 10:45 a.m., 6:00 p.m. * * *	ALL SAINTS CATHOLIC CHURCH New Richland, Minnesota Father Brian Mulligan Saturday - 5 p.m. Mass * * *	BLOOMING GROVE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 43089 180th St., Morristown Pastor Kathy King Sunday - 8:15 a.m. Summer worship hours, (10:45 a.m. Worship, winter) * * *
CHRIST THE KING LUTHERAN CHURCH 309 6th St NE, Waseca 507-835-9176 Worship Sundays traditional 8:30 a.m., 9:45 a.m. Sunday School/Fellowship; 10:45 a.m. contemporary service * * *	CHRISTIAN ASSEMBLY 900 14th Ave SE, Waseca 507-833-1082 Sunday Worship 10:00 a.m., Sun Evening 6:00 p.m., Wed. evening 6:30 p.m. * * *	FIRST LUTHERAN Missouri Synod Waldorf, Minnesota Rev. Michael Mathews, pastor Sundays: Worship 8 a.m.; 9:10 a.m. Sunday School and adult bible class * * *	ST. ANN CATHOLIC CHURCH 307 W. 2nd St, Janesville 10 a.m. - Mass * * *
ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH 401 3rd Ave NE, Waseca 507-833-1703 Sundays 9:00 a.m. * * *	ST. PETER EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH New Richland, Minnesota Rev. Scott Williams, Pastor Sunday - 9 a.m. Sunday School, Choir and Choir; 10:30 a.m. Worship Monday - 1 p.m. Quilters Wednesday - 7 p.m. Worship * * *	IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH Freedom Township Sunday - 9 a.m. Worship * * *	FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH 300 Owen St., Janesville Pastor Sarah Krolak * * *
ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH 314 4th Ave NE, Waseca 507-835-2647 Worship Sunday 9:00 a.m. * * *	ST. PETER EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH Otisco, Minnesota Rev. Scott Williams, Pastor Thursday - 6:30 p.m. Soup & Study Sunday - 8:45 a.m. Worship * * *	ZOAR UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST Pastor Ava Adams-Morris Waldorf, Minnesota Sunday - 9 a.m. Worship * * *	ST. JOHN EVANGELICAL CHURCH Alma City, Minnesota Pastor Robert Harting Sunday - 10 a.m. Worship * * *
FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH 503 2nd Ave NE, Waseca 507-835-4548 (office email: 1ewaseca@hickorytech.net) Worship Sunday 10 a.m. * * *	TRINITY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH New Richland, Minnesota Pastor Mary Iverson Sunday - 9 a.m. Sunday Worship, Sunday School; 10 a.m. Coffee Monday - 9 a.m. Quilting Wednesday - 6:15 p.m. Confirmation; 7 p.m. Council meeting * * *	ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC Waldorf, Minnesota Father Brian Mulligan Sunday - 8 a.m. Worship * * *	TRINITY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH Smiths Mill, Minnesota Pastor Robert Harting Thursday - 7:00 p.m. Worship Sunday - 8:30 a.m. Worship * * *
GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH 300 E Elm Ave, Waseca 507-835-1709 Worship Sunday 9 a.m. * * *	FIRST CONGREGATIONAL New Richland, Minnesota Pastor Pamela Jensen Sunday - 10 a.m. Worship * * *	THE CHURCH of JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS Brad Donner, Branch President Waseca, Minnesota www.lds.org Sunday - 10 a.m. Sacrament Mtg.; 11:20 a.m. Sunday School Wednesday - 7 p.m. Youth Activities, ages 12-18 * * *	NORTH WASECA LUTHERAN CHURCH ELCA 404 30 120th St. Waseca Pastor Sarah Krolak 507-234-6463 Sunday - 8:45 a.m. Worship; Second Sunday "Young at heart" Wednesday - 6:30 p.m. confirmation * * *
SACRED HEART CATHOLIC CHURCH 111 4th St NW, Waseca 507-835-1222 Worship Saturday 5:15 p.m., Sundays 8:00 and 10:00 a.m., weekdays 8:30 a.m. Tues., Wed. and Fri., 7:00 a.m. Thurs. * * *	LESUEUR RIVER LUTHERAN CHURCH New Richland, Minnesota Pastor Dan Kordahl Sunday - 9 a.m. Worship; 9:30 a.m. Sunday School Tuesday - 8:30 a.m. Quilting * * *		NOTE: CHANGES IN CHURCH CALENDARS MUST BE MADE BY NOTIFICATION FROM A MEMBER OF THE CONGREGATION TO THE WASECA COUNTY PIONEER.
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25 years ago in Waseca



Molly Arnold and Reid Bartlet were crowned 1998 Homecoming Queen and King Thursday evening at the coronation and pep rally.

Argus Archives

100 Years Back - 1923

Grove street in the north part of town has been graveled at the expense of the property owners on the street. E.T. Dieudonne and W.W. Savage hauled the gravel from the Behrndt pit at the south end of the lake.

A co-partnership was formed last week between J.P. Breuer and J.F. Cahill under the firm name of Breuer & Cahill for the purpose of conducting the implement business. Their headquarters for the present are in the Cummins building in the north part of the upper block. It is their intention, however, to secure the Krueger building, if satisfactory terms may be made with the owner.

Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Schorn, newlyweds, who are on the Zimmerman-Tollefson farm south of town, were the recipients of a chicken shower on Sunday when seventy-two of their friends came upon them at their home suddenly. Most of the visitors brought chickens and it may be presumed that the supply was amply sufficient for the occasion.

E.C. Luedtke has installed a radio in his place of business located in the cozy corner in the rear of the store. It is attached to an ordinary Sonora phonograph. The other night Mr. Luedtke gave his hearers first messages from Minneapolis and then from St. Louis, Calgary, Fort Worth and Tallahassee.

Mr. M.S. Lawless, a veteran mail carrier of St. Paul, is here on a visit to his sister, Mrs. Edward Hayden. ON Sunday he was a guest of his niece, Mrs. L.H. Kahnke, and Dr. Kahnke.

G.P. Madden of Waseca and W.A. Pofhl, banker at Waldorf, were in Janesville Thursday afternoon.

Walter Hollmichel and Emil Miller drove to Minneapolis Wednesday morning, where they arrived in the early morning hours. They spent the day there and left about five o'clock, arriving in Janesville about nine.

75 Years Back - 1948

During the past week a deal was completed in which Milton Crossan of Northfield became the new owner of the Janesville Coast to Coast store formerly owned by Ted Harsch of Waseca. Taylor Brothers of Ely-sian owned and operated the store before Harach came in a short time ago.

President Truman's train went through Janesville a little before nine o'clock this morning without stopping. A goodly crowd had gathered at the depot for a glance at our chief executive but few had the satisfaction of seeing him. The president spoke in Mankato this morning while passing through and did the same as he passed through Waseca.

Paid attendance at the world series in Cleveland Sunday was 86,288. The proceeds totaled \$378,778.73. It is reported to be the largest attendance at a single game in baseball history.

Dale Fetchenhier, a member of the Waldorf Peppy Peppers 4-H club, left Sunday morning for the Junior Livestock Show in St. Paul where he is showing his prize baby beef. Ed. Bluhm hauled the calves for all the 4-H clubs in the county to St. Paul Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Louis Battey and children and Mr. and Mrs. Carl Tesch and sons and Mrs. Alfred Tesch helped Mrs. Victor Maurer celebrate her birthday at her home Monday evening.

Geo. Schmidt and family, Lillie Wolfgram and Mr. and Mrs. Harold Langenburg were Sunday dinner guests at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Louie Rudolph.

Mrs. Ema Rieke of Good Thunder and brother, William Schmook of California, spent the week end with Mr. and Mrs. Henry Storjohann.

50 Years Back - 1973

Townhome Developers, Inc. will begin digging the footings here this week for a 17-unit apartment complex. The apartment will be located on Front Street on land purchased from Lampert Yards.

Faulty wiring is believed to be the cause of a fire that gutted the interior of the mobile home owned by Mr. and Mrs. Bill Snyder. The fire started shortly before 8 p.m. Oct. 4 in Vic Dimmel's South Town Park.

In honor of the birthday anniversaries of Alvina Prail and Connie Prail, guests entertained at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Reuben Prail on Sunday were Mr. and Mrs. David Prail and sons of Cedar Falls, Iowa, Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Flemming and daughter of Northfield, Mrs. Tim Anderson and MR. and Mrs. Marlin Spies and children of Waseca, Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Flemming and family of near Waldorf, Miss Marlene Erdman and Dick Newbrough of Mankato and Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Erdman and Marty.

Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Troidahl spent the weekend with the former's aunt and uncle, Mrs. Ingeborg Sampson and John Sperstad at Ederlin, North Dakota.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Eustice entertained at dinner on Saturday in honor of Mr. and Mrs. S.A. Gilday of Cleveland, Ohio. Guests were the Gildays, Mr. and Mrs. William Eustice of LeSueur, Mr. and MRs. Ray Eustice of Waldorf, Mrs. Mary Delaney, Mrs. Grace Pagel, Henry Eustice and Mr. and Mrs. Bollum and family of St. Peter.

Mr. and Mrs. Dale Manthe and family of Belle Plaine and Mrs. Viola Manthe were Sunday guests of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Westphal and boys.

25 Years Back - 1998

The Janesville Police Department and the Waseca County Sheriff's Office responded to a burglary at the Janesville Car Wash late Monday night, Oct. 12. The owner of the car wash said three youths pried the bill changer, containing an undisclosed amount of cash from the wall of the car wash. They fled east toward the railroad tracks once the owners confronted them.

The Minnesota Department of Transportation has selected a preferred alternative for the upgrade of the Highway 14 corridor between Waseca and Owatonna that follows a new alignment 2.5 miles south of existing Highway 14. The estimated cost to construct on the new alignment would be \$39.2 million.

The JWP girls' cross country team swept the top three places in a race for the sixth time this season, and that was enough to lead the Bulldogs to their second straight Gopher conference championship at Mapleton Monday.

Almost 30 percent of the JWP building's construction is completed at the Janesville site.

Waseca’s Brown Electric closes: ‘98

100 Years Back - 1923

E.L. Zimmer informs the Herald that plans have been approved for a new 25-room summer hotel to be erected at Elks Park this fall. The building, he says will be three stories high with broad, enclosed porches. The hotel will cost between \$12,000 and \$14,000.

The attorneys for the Waseca school board, H.M. Gallagher and Moonan & Moonan, secured a settlement last week for the loss of the Waseca high school, which burned last January. The adjusters offered \$73,000 in settlement and the attorneys accepted it.

Rodney Brown, head of the H.A. Brown & Son's electrical department, has just been awarded the contract for the wiring in a new \$75,000 school to be built at Alden.

The world series baseball contest between the Giants and the Yanks will prove more interesting to the average American this week than any other event transpiring any place in the world.

Mrs. F. W. Bettner was in Mankato last week and visited at the home of her sister, Mrs. Hankel. Mrs. Hankel and child accompanied her home and visited here over the week end.

Nearly \$37,500,000 of new money is being brought into Minnesota and left by automobile tourists on the highways this season, according to estimates in a highway bulletin this week held extremely conservative. The total is based on the count of cars bearing license tags of other states made in the recent census of state trunk highway traffic.

Miss Rose Bruce who has been spending the last week visiting at the home of her sister, Mrs. Ambrose Barden in this city, left Monday for Janesville where she will visit before returning to Rochester where she is employed.

75 Years Back - 1946

The general public is invited to attend a dinner to be given at the Waseca Community Building Monday evening at which Mayor Hubert H. Humphrey of Minneapolis will be the speaker.

The Minnesota State Highway Department has promised to make a survey of traffic at the intersection of State Street and Elm Avenue (Trunk Highways 13 and 14) to determine whether a stop and go sign is needed to properly handle the flow of traffic and movement of pedestrians.

At a meeting of parents, Scouters and those interested in Scouting Tuesday evening, Roy Myers was elected Scoutmaster of Troop 85, filling a vacancy caused by the resignation of R.E. Hodgson, who is retiring after 25 years of splendid service.

S 2-c Thomas Reed from the U.S. Navy Training Center at Great Lakes, Ill., was a weekend guest of his aunt and uncle, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Schmidt and family.

Miss Ruth Rosenau of Duluth, Mrs. Tillie Beese of Waseca were Thursday visitors of MR. and Mrs. Herman Stendel.

The State Theatre, owned by E.P. Nelson, is celebrating its 22nd anniversary this week and the second year of its occupancy of a building rebuilt after a disastrous fire in February, 1944.

Mrs. Chas. Brozik, Mrs. L.R. Roebke and Miss Suzanne Brozik spent from Monday until Thursday of last week in Minneapolis.

Mr. and Mrs. A.G. Bethke and Mrs. Bruce Langdon and children spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Duane Bethke and twin boys in Hartland.

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Fugle and son, Richard, and his friend, Don. Moritz, of Minneapolis spent the weekend hunting and visiting at the Frank Brisbane home and with other friends.

50 Years Back - 1973

Northwestern Bell Telephone announced today that it will construct a new facility in Waseca. The building will house company vehicles and provide working quarters for a portion of the Waseca operation. The building will be constructed in the Waseca Development Corporation Park.



Coach Terry Gilbertson talks things over with his defensive captain Paul Gabiou during a time out at the Bluejays game with New Ulm Friday night. The Bluejays defeated New Ulm 27-6.



Five Waseca High School Seniors are vying for the title of Homecoming Queen, back row from left: Julie Larson, Penny Felber and Mary Gary. Front from left: Debbie Dunn and Carrie Hanson.

25 Years Back - 1998

The Minneapolis company Repnet plans to open a 10,000 square-foot manufacturing facility in Waseca in the coming year. The project is the first committed to building at a new Southeast Industrial Park planned for 20 acres south of Transcrypt/E.F. Johnson.

Margaret Cliff closed the door on Waseca's Brown Electric on Sept. 16, 1998. With the death of her husband, Tom Cliff, Sr., in December 1997, she saw it as a necessary decision.

Looking Back (New Richland)

100 Years Back - 1923

A deal was closed this week whereby P.A. Paulson of New Richland became owner of the Berlin store, located at the Berlin creamery in Berlin township of Steele county. J.C. Miller, who for several years has successfully operated the store, becomes owner of the Paulson residence property in New Richland through the terms of the deal.

Geo. Kopman, the photographer, made his last trip to New Richland Saturday of last week. He has sold his studio at Waseca to his helper, Walter Marquardt, who will continue the business at Waseca.

Baseball fans have been enjoying the World Series over the radio installed in the State Bank assembly hall. The game is given play by play, following the batters by balls and strikes the same as though you were on the field in New York.

Wm. O'Riley's \$300 bull, Sir Walter Segis Hengerveld 309256, was delivered at New Richland Saturday from the A.H. Bruce farms at Northfield. The animal won fourth prize in the three year old class at the Minnesota State Fair this year.

Mrs. O.T. Tenneson and Miss Bernice Christenson gave a parcel shower in honor of Miss Geneva Thompson on Tuesday evening at the C.E. Christenson home.

Wanted--Men or women to take orders for genuine guaranteed hosiery for men, women and children. Eliminates darning. Salary \$75 a week full time, \$1.50 an hour spare time. Cottons, heathers, silks. International Stocking Mills, Norristown, Pa.

77 Years Back - 1946

The fixtures for vending gasoline have been abandoned in front of the garage building, now the Minneapolis Knitting Works. Pipes were removed but the tanks were considered not worth moving as they have been in place about 20 years.

Mrs. Harry M. Esklund left by plane Tuesday afternoon from Wold Chamberlain Field, Minneapolis, to join her husband, Capt. Esklund, at Fort Richardson, Alaska. The couple will make their home there until his discharge from the army.

What dyed-in-the-wool baseball fans would consider a "nice piece of base running" has overtaken three New Richland fans. They are Arty Stensrud, Johnny Greenwood and Herb Sponberg. By the grace of an intimate acquaintanceship with Ed. Dougherty, business manager of the Boston Red Sox, Johnny was able to secure ring-side seats to the World Series games at Boston, and the trio was expected to reach Boston Tuesday night.

Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Bakken and daughter, Rose Marie, attended a prenuptial shower in honor of Miss Harriet Thompson and Joyce Heckes at the Elmer Heckes home Sunday afternoon.

Friday afternoon 21 ladies of the Southeast Groups No. 1 and 2 attended a meeting at the city hall, New Richland. Mrs. Wyman gave lessons on making plaster of Paris Plaques, Carving Wood, Mittens and Bedroom Slippers and Weaving of hot pads.

Floyd Kormann has just completed a week's vacation from his milk delivery duties at the creamery. His place was taken by Arthur Nelson, assistant buttermaker.

50 Years Back - 1973



Homecoming Queen Kris Thompson smiles with happiness as Keith Hendrickson places the crown on her head Thursday evening at the coronation at the local high school.

Waldorf-Pemberton FFA Soils team placed first in the District 14 Soils contest at Wells high school Oct. 6. New Richland-Hartland's FFA team was second. Respective scores were 909 and 846. Top individual for the contest was Robert Drager of Waldorf-Pemberton with an individual score of 314, followed by his teammate, Guy Ewald with 306. Steve Kormann of New Richland was fourth with a score of 294. Fifth was Tim Sonnek of Waldorf with a score of 289.

Mr. and Mrs. Irvin Toft of Ellendale were afternoon and supper guests at the Selmer Gulbrandson home. Evening guests were Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Knutson.

Mrs. Olga Amundson, Miss Inga Jacobson and Mrs. Agnes Madson were Saturday dinner guests of Mrs. Stella Madson.

25 Years Back - 1998

The State Bank of New Richland is celebrating 100 years of service to the New Richland area October 19-23. The bank's birthday is actually October 31. It was that day in 1898 that a group of men met to incorporate and elected the first board of directors, which consisted of Christopher Wagner, P.O. Sunde, D.D. Smith, Nels Johnson, C.B. Johnson, B.G. Sutlief and J.L. Hanson.

Earning the right to enter FFA State competition in April was the NRHEG FFA Soils Judging team. They placed second in the Region VII contest at Mankato behind Lake Crystal-Wellcome Memorial. Joe Moon was first individual with 359 points; Tom Schultz, eighth with 330 points; Kris Klinger ninth with 311 points; and Nich Budach, 11th with 307 points.

A new family hair care salon was opened in New Richland on Tuesday, Oct. 6 by Kristen Anderson. O'Hair Station as the new shop has been named, is located at 118 West Division Street.

LaDona Flowers, educator at NRHEG High School, accepted an invitation to give a presentation in the Family and Consumer Sciences in Education portion of the Education Minnesota Professional Conference in St. Paul October 15-16.

Compiled by Jessica Lutgens

Bluejays blast Albert Lea, 53-0

Waseca makes it six straight wins

By JIM LUTGENS
Sports Editor

A steady rain fell throughout the Waseca Bluejays' football game at Albert Lea's Jim Gustafson Field Friday, Feb. 13.

It makes you wonder how many points Waseca would have scored on a dry field.

Despite the wet conditions, the Bluejays romped to a 53-0 victory over the embattled Tigers, who fell to 0-7 and lost their 29th consecutive game.

The Bluejays, meanwhile, were triumphant for a sixth week in a row after dropping the season opener to the state's top-ranked Class AAA team, Stewartville.

Waseca, which finished the season Wednesday at Fairmont for what in all likelihood will be the No. 1 seed in the section, is ranked No. 5 or No. 8 in the state — depending on who you ask.

Section playoffs start Tuesday, Oct. 24 at the site of the higher seeded team.

Last Friday's game at Albert Lea wasn't much of a contest.

The Bluejays scored three times in the opening quarter, tacking on two-point conversions each time. It was 39-0 at halftime and 53-0 after three periods, with reserves playing most of the second half.

The Bluejays' breakthrough player was Micah Allen-Haas, a 5-foot-10, 190-pound junior who led the team with 123 yards rushing, including a 53-yard burst for the Bluejays' first score.

Sophomore quarterback Jordan Johnston turned in another admirable effort, running for 116 yards and throwing for 96.

Johnston ran for a first-quarter touchdown and threw 20 yards to Carson Ohnstad for another. Johnston ran for another score and passed 20 yards to Laird Keeton in the second quarter.

After Allen-Haas' 4-yard touchdown run, Jacob Thompson returned an interception 20 yards for a touchdown for Waseca's final points.

"He's a strong dude," said Bluejays coach Brad Wendland of Haas. "He's steadily gotten better. We always knew he had potential, so during the week we decided to give him a shot. It's going to give him a lot of confidence."

The defense was led by Shane Engle-Mueller with seven tackles. Carter Ellis had four.

"Our defense played really well for the most part," said Bluejays coach Brad Wendland.

The coach also praised the Albert Lea players for not giving up.

"Albert Lea deserves some credit," he said. "Those guys played hard for the whole game."

Again, Wendland stressed the need to cut down on penalties, with the Bluejays called for nine for 65 yards.

"We're going to turn our attention now to Wednesday," said Wendland. "We look forward to a real fun week. It should be a real good game. We feel good about where we are. We'll go out and get as ready as we can, then play as hard as we can."

Waseca 53, Albert Lea 0					
WAS	24	15	14	0	— 53
AL	0	0	0	0	— 0



Allen-Haas



Ellis



S.Engel-Mueller



Johnston



Keeton



Ohnstad



Da.Russell



Wendland

"We'll go out and get as ready as we can, then play as hard as we can."

— Waseca coach Brad Wendland

First Quarter
WAS — Allen-Haas 53 run (Johnston run)
WAS — Johnston 1 run (Allen-Haas run)
WAS — Ohnstad 20 pass from Johnston (Johnston run)

Second Quarter
WAS — Johnston 1 run (Rupe pass from Johnston)
WAS — Keeton 20 pass from Johnston (Hulscher kick)

Third Quarter
WAS — Allen-Haas 4 run (Hulscher kick)
WAS — J.Thompson 20 interception return (Hulscher kick)

Fourth Quarter			
No scoring			
	WAS	AL	
Total plays	52	32	
First downs	16	3	
Rushing Yds.	352	—10	
Passing Yds.	96	31	
Total Yds.	426	21	
Penalties	9-65	7-55	

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS
Rushing — WAS: Allen-Haas 123; Johnston 116; Mexico 72; Roeker 9
Passing — WAS: Johnston 66 yards; AL: Tolbert 6-18, 31
Receiving — WAS: Keeton 25 yards; Da.Russell 21; Ohnstad 20
Waseca Defense — Ellis 2 tackles, 2 assists; N.Engel-Mueller 2 tackles, 1 assist; S.Engel-Mueller 7 tackles; Allen-Haas 1 assist; De.Russell 1 tackle; Rodriguez 2 tackles; Wulf 2 tackles, 1 assist; Selthun 1 assist; Ohnstad 1 tackle; Quillen 1 tackle; Root 1 assist; Roeker 1 fumble recovery; J.Thompson 1 interception



RUNNING AT WILL — At left, Micah Allen-Haas (45) follows Jacob Thompson (52) during the Bluejays' 53-0 victory at Albert Lea last Friday. At right, Jordan Johnson (12) runs alongside Jose Mixteco (23).
Pioneer photos by Jim Lutgens



MAXIMUM ELEVATION — The Bluejays' Carson Ohnstad (18) goes high in the air to secure a touchdown pass.



THAT'S GOTTA HURT — Shane Engle-Mueller (75) tackles the Albert Lea quarterback. In the background is Ivan Rodriguez (71).



EXCUSE ME — Laird Keeton (4) pus a move on an Albert Lea defender.



KEY PLAYS — From left, Damarius Russell on his way to a 70-yard punt return; Ivan Rodriguez (71) corraling an Albert Lea ball carrier; Tauston Rupe (33) pressures the Albert Lea quarterback.



SHAKE AND BAKE — From left: Carson Ohnstad (18) evades a would-be tackler; Micah Allen-Haas (45) breaks up the Waseca sideline.



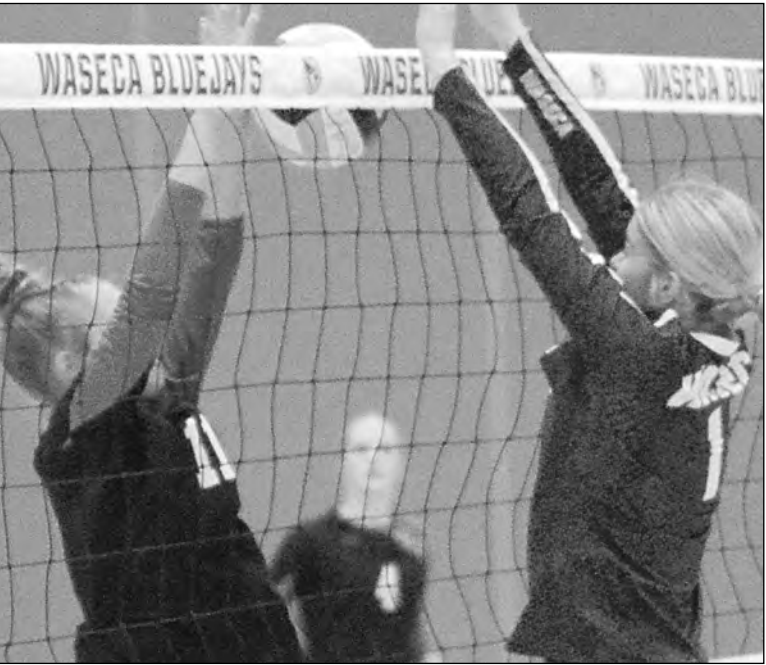
SENIORS — Waseca High School volleyball seniors are, from left, McKyla Hasselquist, Evelyn O'Brien and Allie Eldeen. Submitted photo



BUMP — Alliah Taylor registers a dig against St. James Monday, Oct. 16. Pioneer photos by Jim Lutgens



PASS — Takara Slattery passes the ball to a teammate.



BLOCK — McKyla Hasselquist blocks St. James' Jacey Swanson.

WHS spikers 2nd in Big South East

Jays top St. James on Senior Night

The Waseca High School volleyball team hosted St. James Monday, Oct. 16 and defeated the Saints 3-1.

The Bluejays squeaked out a 26-24 victory in game one, but dropped game two 25-20. Waseca won the all-important game four 25-17 and took the deciding game 25-17.

It was Senior Night for the Bluejays, who honored McKyla Hasselquist, Evelyn O'Brien and Allie Eldeen.

Siri Kuhns had another impressive night, totaling 43 set assists. Alliah Taylor and Ellie Hoehn led Waseca with 10 kills apiece. Evelyn O'Brien totaled seven

kills and three blocks. Kuhns and Takara Slattery tied for the team best with 16 digs apiece.

The previous Thursday, the team trekked to Lake Crystal/Wellcome Memorial and lost in four games. Scores in favor of the Wildcats were 25-11, 28-26, 19-25, 25-18.

Kuhns registered 24 assists and Slattery totaled 26 digs.

The Bluejays sit at 7-3 in the Big Nine East, good for second place, and are 9-6 overall.

The section tournament starts Monday, Oct. 23, and continues Oct. 26 and 31 with the final Nov. 2.



BALL MOVEMENT — At left, the Bluejays' Evelyn Nydegger (3) works her way into scoring position in the Bluejays' 1-0 section quarterfinal victory over Northfield. At right, Mallory Bruhn (22) battles for the ball. Pioneer photos by Jim Lutgens



CLEARING PASS — Addison Wieseler (14) passes the ball against Northfield.



UPPER CLASSMEN — Seniors for the 2023 Waseca High School girls' soccer team included, from left, Addie Wieseler, Ella Krautkremer, Evelyn Nygaard and Mallory Bruhn. The Bluejays' season ended in the section semifinals last week, but they did enough during the season to capture the Big South Conference championship. They also ended a string of first-round losses in section play. Photo by Mackenzie Mueller

Girls' soccer season ends in section semifinals

Bluejays snap string of first-round exits with 1-0 victory over Northfield

The Waseca Lady Jays soccer team entered the postseason IAA Section tournament as the No. 4 seed. On Tuesday, Oct. 10, the Bluejays faced Northfield in the first round at home and came away with a hard fought 1-0 victory. The lone goal being on a penalty kick by Ella Bulfer.

On Thursday, the Jays traveled to top-seeded Winona. Scoreless through the first half, it looked like there was a chance at the upset. Bulfer stopped several attacks on her own, winning several 1-on-1 breakaways by the Winhawks.

The first and only score of the night came about eight minutes into the second half. The Winhawks found the back corner on a flurry of good passing in their attack. From that point it continued to be a defensive battle for the Lady Jays that ultimately meant the end of a very good season.

Waseca finished its season with a conference championship and a 12-4-1 overall record.

"To say I am proud of these ladies would be an understatement," said Waseca coach Phil Bulfer. "The accomplishments of this team went beyond the expectations I had at the beginning of the season. I give a great deal of credit and respect to our seniors: Addison Wieseler, Ella Krautkremer, Evelyn Nydegger, and Mallory Bruhn. They set a tremendous example of what it takes to be a competitor at this level. They will be missed. And I wish them all the best as they move forward."

SCOREBOARD

Football		Boys' Soccer		Big South Conference - West		Triton	
South Central White		Big South Conference				Maple River	
Waseca	4-0 6-1	Worthington	11-1 16-2	Marshall	6-0 23-5	Janesville-Waldorf-Pemberton	
Jordan	2-1 4-3	Marshall	11-1 12-5	Redwood Valley	5-1 26-2	United South Central	
Tri-City United	2-1 4-3	New Ulm	7-4 8-5	Windom Area	4-2 18-9	Bloomington	
Belle Plaine	0-3 1-6	Fairmont Area	4-7 6-9	Luverne	2-4 9-13		
Albert Lea	0-3 0-7	St. Peter	4-8 4-12	Jackson County Central	2-4 10-18		
		Waseca	3-8 3-11-1	Worthington	2-4 11-15		
		St. James/Windom/Madelia	0-11 1-14	Pipestone Area	0-6 1-21		
South Central Red		Volleyball		Gopher Conference		Girls' Soccer Big South Conference	
Marshall	3-0 5-2	Big South Conference - East				2023 Final Standings	
Fairmont	3-1 6-1	St. Peter	9-0 15-4	Kenyon-Wanamingo	10-0 22-2	Waseca	
New Ulm	2-1 5-2	Waseca	7-3 9-6	Bethlehem Academy	9-1 11-11	St. Peter	
St. Peter	0-3 3-4	New Ulm	6-3 11-9	Waterville-Elysian-Morristown	7-3 20-8	Marshall	
Worthington	0-3 1-6	Blue Earth Area	3-7 6-15	Randolph	6-4 13-8	New Ulm	
		St. James Area	2-8 4-16	Medford	6-4 15-13	Fairmont Area	
		Fairmont	2-8 4-17	NRHEG	5-5 12-10	Worthington	
				Hayfield	5-5 8-18	St. James/Windom/Madelia	
Minnesota Class AAA Football Ratings						0-12 0-15	
By MN Football Hub							

1. Stewartville	7-0
2. Esko	7-0
3. Annandale	7-0
4. Litchfield	6-1
5. Dilworth-Glyndon-Felton	6-1
6. Minneapolis North	6-1
7. Dassel-Cokato	6-1
8. Waseca	6-1
9. Fairmont	6-1
10. Pequot Lakes	6-1

Minnesota Class AAA Football Ratings	
By Max Preps	
1. Stewartville	7-0
2. Annandale	7-0
3. Litchfield	6-1
4. Esko	7-0
5. Waseca	6-1
6. Dilworth-Glyndon-Felton	6-1
7. Dassel-Cokato	6-1
8. New London-Spicer	5-2
9. Fairmont	6-1
10. Foley	4-3

Mid Southeast West	
Norwood-Young America	7-0 7-0
Gibbon-Fairfax-Winthrop	6-1 6-1
Mayer Lutheran	5-2 5-2
Lester Prairie	5-2 5-2
United South Central	4-3 4-3
St. Clair/Mankato Loyola	4-3 4-3
NRHEG	3-4 3-4
Randolph	3-4 3-4
Janesville-Waldorf-Pemberton	2-5 2-5
Cleveland	1-6 1-6
Waterville-Elysian-Morristown	2-5 2-5
Medford	0-7 0-7

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SOME SUCCESS — Rainy, windy conditions slowed the potent JWP aerial attack against NRHEG Friday, Oct. 13 in Janesville, where NRHEG won 12-6 in overtime. At left, Nolan Morsching (1) hauls in a pass from Daulton Bauer (5) as Jace Ihrke (57) gives chase. At right, Ryan Kronbach (11) drags Deven Parnpart (26).



WINNING SCORE — George Roesler (85) scores the game-winning touchdown despite the efforts of Dylan McWaters (21). Photo by Amy Ihrke

Panthers slip past Bulldogs 12-6 in overtime

By JIM LUTGENS
Sports Editor

It's one of those rivalries that transcends the game itself, a time to throw the win-loss records out the window and expect an all-out battle. That's what the NRHEG High School football team faced Friday, Oct. 13, when the Panthers came home from Janesville with a 12-6 overtime victory over Janesville-Waldorf-Pemberton on wet, windy night. It was 46 degrees and rainy, with wind gusts up to 40 mph at the opening kickoff.

The win enabled the Panthers to return the Gold Brick - a traveling trophy when NRHEG meets JWP -

back to New Richland after last year's Bulldog triumph.

"This was a slugfest of a game in the wind and rain," said NRHEG coach Marc Kruger, whose team won for the third week in a row. But it wasn't easy.

"The conditions made it extremely difficult," said Kruger. "I am so proud of this team for how they stepped up and finished this game. This is the kind of game that proves how tough we are and how well we can play. It certainly was not the best game we have played, but we found a way to win, and that is what matters."

The Bulldogs took a 6-0 first-

quarter lead with a 4-yard touchdown run by Nolan Morsching.

It remained 6-0 until the final period, when the Panthers knotted it with a 2-yard touchdown run by Harbor Cromwell. A failed two-point conversion try sent it to overtime, where the Panthers won it on an 11-yard touchdown pass from Alden Dobberstein to George Roesler.

If you look at only the statistics, you might think the Bulldogs won. They ran 47 plays to the Panthers' 44, outgaining them 136-70 in total yards and 84-59 rushing. NRHEG did not convert a third down the entire game.

Weather conditions hampered the Bulldogs' potent passing game, as well as NRHEG's aerial attack.

After starting the season 0-4, it was the third consecutive win for the Panthers, who finished the regular season Wednesday at United South Central. Playoffs begin the following Tuesday.

NRHEG 12, JWP 6, OT										
NRHEG	0	0	0	6	6	—	12			
JWP	6	0	0	0	0	—	6			

First Quarter	
JWP - Morsching 4 run (conversion failed)	

Second Quarter	
No Scoring	

Third Quarter	
No Scoring	

Fourth Quarter		
NRHEG - Cromwell 2 run (conversion failed)		
Overtime		
NRHEG - Roesler 11 pass from Dobberstein (conversion failed)		
	NRHEG	JWP
First downs	4	7
Total plays	44	47
Rushing yards	59	84
Passing	1-4-1	3-5-1
Passing Yds.	11	52
Total yards	70	136
Third down	0-9	3-11
Fourth down	1-5	0-4
Turnovers	1	2
Penalties	4-50	3-15

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS		
Rushing — NRHEG: Cromwell 14-41; Dobberstein 11-22; Flatland 3-8; Parnpart 1-0; Raab 6 -12; JWP: N.Morsching 22-73;		

Melchior 4-11; L.Morsching 6-8; Bauer 3-2; Rest of Team 3-10

Passing — NRHEG: Dobberstein 1-4-1, 11; Roesler 0-1-0, 0; JWP: Bauer 3-5-1, 52

Receiving — NRHEG: Roesler 1-11; JWP: Kronbach 1-40; N.Morsching 2-12

Defense — NRHEG: Flatland 8 solo tackles, 3 tackles for loss; Bartlett 7 tackles, 2 tackles for loss; Ihrke 4 tackles, 1 assist, 1 tackle for loss; Roesler 3 tackles, 1 tackle for loss, 1 fumble recovery; Martens 3 tackles; Chrz 2 tackles, 1 interception; Cromwell 1 tackle; Parnpart 1 tackle; Raab 1 tackle; Degen 1 tackle; Brouwers 1 tackle; Hutchens 1 assist; Rest of Team 4 tackles; JWP: N.Morsching 1 tackle, 2 assists; O'Brien 4 tackles, 2 assists; C.Quast 1 tackle; Melchior 3 tackles, 4 assists; Berndt 2 assists; McWaters 1 tackle, 1 assist; Born 2 tackles, 1 assist; L.Morsching 2 assists; A.Quast 4 tackles, 9 assists; Schlueter 3 tackles, 5 assists; Gartner 1 tackle, 7 assists

Season ends for Waseca tennis girls

The Waseca High School tennis girls competed in the Section 1A individual tournament Monday and Tuesday at the Rochester Athletic Club.

In singles, No. 3 seed Sarah Haley, a senior, won 6-0, 6-1 over a Winona Cotter opponent in the first round.

The Bluejays' other singles entrant, junior Takya Schoenrock,

fell 3-6, 6-1, 7-5 to a Rochester Lourdes senior.

The No. 4 doubles team of Mia Kanewischer and Addie Pfeiffer prevailed 6-4, 6-2 in the opening round to advance to Tuesday.

Paige Dufault and Vivian Mader made it to Monday's second round with a 6-2, 0-6, 6-1 victory. They they lost 6-1, 6-0 to a duo from Rochester Lourdes.

Dufault and Mader lost to the No. 3-seeded team, from Lourdes, 6-1, 6-0.

Haley was defeated Tuesday in a three-set loss to the No. 2 seed from Cannon Falls. She fell 6-4, 6-2 to a nunseeded Cannon Falls freshman Livia Tennesen in the third-place match. Tennesen went on to win the true second place match over her teammate, earning a trip to state.

Kanewischer and Pfeiffer fell 6-0, 6-0 to a Rochester Lourdes team, then lost 6-2, 6-4 in the third-place match.

Winona Cotter's Emma Hageman, a sophomore, won the Section 1A title 6-0, 6-0.

Rochester Lourdes advanced both of their doubles teams to the state tournament on Oct. 26 and 27.

NRHEG spikers swept by K-W

By JIM LUTGENS
Sports Editor

NRHEG High School volleyball coach Ashley Tolzman described this year's Kenyon-Wanamingo squad as, "A strong team that has been having a great year."

They showed the Panthers why last Tuesday as NRHEG fell 3-0 at Kenyon. Game scores were 25-12, 25-23, 25-9.

Tolzman had plenty of praise for the Panthers' formidable foe, which improved to 10-0 in the conference and 22-2 overall.

"They cover their court defensively extremely well," she said. "We knew going in it was going to be a tough matchup. We came out much stronger than our match on Monday. The girls stayed positive and had some really great volleys throughout the night. Our second set was very exciting. We were able to keep things close."

Individually for NRHEG: Gabby Schlaak 1 kill, 1 block, 9 digs; Izzy Stadheim 4 digs; Elsie Schultz 1 kill, 10 digs; Tayler Schmidt 5 kills, 3 blocks, 9 digs; Hallie Schultz 17 set assists, 3 blocks, 9 digs; Keira Lenort 6 blocks; Madi Murray 2 kills, 8 blocks, 5 digs; Chloe Stork 3 kills, 6 blocks, 5 digs; Sydney Lewer 1 block; Faith Neilsen 5 kills, 18 digs.

The Panthers played a rare Friday night contest Oct. 13, traveling to Mapleton to take on Maple River. The Eagles won 3-1, with game scores of 25-19, 19-25, 26-24, 25-22.

"It was a very close match," said Tolzman. "There were a lot of long volleys and the Lady Panthers fought well offensively."



ELEVATION — The Panthers' Gabby Schlaak gets high over the net on a kill attempt. Pioneer photo by Jim Lutgens

NRHEG had some impressive individual totals: Schlaak 12 kills, 2 blocks, 15 digs; Stadheim 3 digs; E.Schultz 6 digs; Schmidt 12 kills, 4 blocks, 18 digs; H.Schultz 36 assists, 9 blocks, 13 digs; Lenort 1 kill, 12 blocks; Murray 7 kills, 13 blocks, 1 dig; Stork 3 kills, 5 blocks, 3 digs; Nielsen 1 kill, 22 digs.

The Panthers are 5-5 in the Gopher Conference, 12-10 overall.



GREAT DAY TO RACE — NRHEG's Devon Nilton (6468) won the Gopher Conference boys' cross country championship Monday, while Jacob Karl (6484) finished third. Julieann Wobbrock (6492) led the girls with a third-place finish. Photos by Larry Nydegger



Nelton wins conference meet; NRHEG girls fourth

Blooming prairie hosted the Gopher Conference cross country meet Monday, Oct. 16.

For the boys, Devon Nelton is the individual conference champion, taking first place with a time of 18:49. Teammate Jacob Karl took third, clocking 19:00. Jackson McGannon was 23rd (22:26), Owen Flatland 42nd (25:01).

The NRHEG girls' team finished in fourth place with a score of 112.

Maple River took the girls team title with a score of 58.

The top finisher for the Panthers was Julieann Wobbrock, taking third and getting first team all-conference honors with a time of 21:57.

Ella Jenö gained an all-conference honorable mention nod by finishing in 18th place with a time of 24:26. Rounding out the scoring for the Panthers: Holly Bartness 25th (25:18), Annabelle Petsinger 32nd

(25:57), Madison Corkill 42nd (27:51), and Amelia Duryee 60th 31:18.

"We finally had a healthy girls' team to score today," said NRHEG coach Larry Nydegger. "Julieann ran a nice tactical race, chasing down a WEM/JWP runner during the last mile of the race. Ella battled back from injury to run a fine race. And our veterans Holly and Annabelle had strong performances

as well. The goal was to finish in the top five. And they did it! I am so proud of these young ladies! Devon and Jacob were strong, as they have been all season. It's nice to have a conference champion at NRHEG again! Congratulations Devon!"

The section meet will take place on Oct. 26 at Norwood-Young America.

WHS soccer boys end season

The Waseca High School boys' soccer team saw its season end with a 6-0 loss at Byron last week.

The Bluejays finished with a record of 3-8 in the Big South Conference and 3-11-1 overall.

The Bluejays, coached by J.D. Delgado, will lose six seniors from this year's squad: Eduardo Gallegos, Logan Heyer, Dominic Grunzke, Lucas Vasques, Noah Dahle and Mason Jes.

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8 ALL YOU can EAT Breakfast VFW 8:00am - Noon Your Host Waseca High School Volley Ball	9 7 PM POST & AUX MEETING	10 Burger nite 5-7pm	11 6pm BAR Bingo	12 7pm HALL BINGO	13 MEAT Raffle 5:30 Horse racing 6:30pm U.S. NAVY BIRTH-DAY	14
15	16	17 Burger nite 5-7pm	18 6pm BAR Bingo	19 7pm HALL BINGO	20 WALLEYE EATSor SHRIMP DINNER 5:30 to 7pm	21
22 ALL YOU can EAT Breakfast VFW 8:00am - Noon Your Host Waseca High School Choir	23	24 Burger nite 5-7pm	25 6pm BAR Bingo	26 7pm BINGO DAY OF THE DE-PLOYED TREATS ON THE STREET 5 -7 PM	27 MEAT Raffle 5:30 Horse racing 6:30pm NAVY DAY	28 Halloween BINGO 7 PM
29	30	31 Burger nite 5-7pm				

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Minnesota State Fair 4-H results from Waseca County



Waseca County 4-H State Horse Competitors: Ezra Boerner, KayleeAhna Berg, Karley Hamilton, Bailey Hodgkins, Avary Hopper, Sydney Lewer, and Jadyn White.



KayleeAhna Berg



Ezra Boerner



Avery Hopper



Jadyn White, Karley Hamilton



Jadyn White

State 4-H horse show competitors

Boerner, Berg, Hamilton, Hodgkins, Hopper, Lewer, White among 608 youth

4-H youth from Waseca County participated in the Minnesota 4-H State Horse show Sept. 15-18, 2023. This year, 608 youth from across the state took part in the annual event at the Minnesota State Fair. 4-H members demonstrate their skills and knowledge in hippology (showing knowledge and understanding of equine science and husbandry), horse judging (study of an animal, measuring it against an accepted ideal), horse training and achievement, speech and demonstrations about interest in horses or the horse industry, showmanship and drill team skills.

Youth who participate in the Minnesota 4-H horse project learn about show, trail, and endurance riding; test their horse knowledge at quiz bowls or on judging teams, and study horse science. Youth may participate if they own or lease a horse. There are even options for youth who are interested in horses, but don't have access to one in their community.

"Through the Minnesota 4-H State Horse Show, youth build communications skills, gain deeper learning and interest in horses, and build relationships with caring adults," said Renee Kostick, an extension educator who manages the 4-H horse project in Minnesota. "These experiences contribute to their success in school, community, and futures." The following youth were members of the Waseca County delegation:

State Horse Trips

Hippology/Speech-Demo/Horse Related/Horseless

4-Her/Horse Judging: Ezra Boerner with horse Tequila; Karley Hamilton, Horse Judging; KayleeAhna Berg with Bubba; Bailey Hodgkins, Horse Related; Karley Hamilton with JEM Platinum Plus; Avary Hopper, Horse Judging; Avary Hopper with Mac; Sydney Lewer with Amara; Jadyn White with Diamond

Results:

Ezra Boerner, Tequila - 4th Place

Poles Grade 7, 8th Place Barrels Grade 7, 4th Place Jumping Figure 8 Grade 7, 8th Place Key Race Grade 7

Karley Hamilton, JEM Platinum Plus - 4th Place Horse Training Step 1

To learn more about the Minnesota 4-H Horse Project, contact local extension educator Amy Nelson, at (507-835-0600) and visit the website <https://z.umn.edu/4HHorseProject>.

About Extension 4-H: 4-H is a youth development program of the University of Minnesota Extension. Available for youth grades k-1 year after high school, 4-H'ers participate in hands-on learning experiences in STEM, citizenship & leadership, animal science, creative arts and much more. Through this

learn-by-doing process, youth obtain essential life skills such as problem solving, decision making, coping and communicating that help them succeed in their school, college, community and career. Research shows that youth who participate in 4-H

have better grades and are more emotionally engaged with school, are more than twice as likely to be civically active and contribute to their communities, and are 47% less likely to have risky or problem behaviors.

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& DESIGN



Rylie Cromwell and her dog Nova competed in the state 4-H Dog Show Sept. 23-24 in St. Paul.

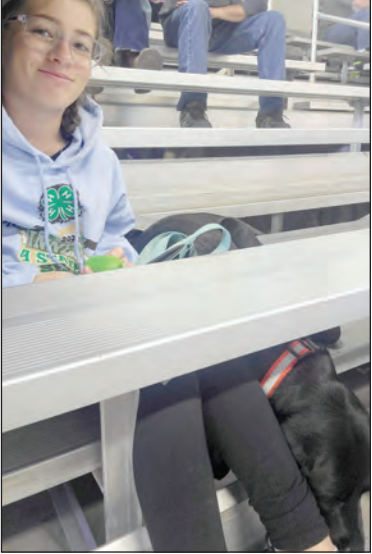
Cromwell and Nova compete at State 4-H

Rylie Cromwell and pet Nova participated in the Minnesota 4-H State Dog show Sept. 23-24, 2023. In total, 363 youth and 417 dogs from across the state participated in this annual event, held at the 4-H Building on the Minnesota State Fairgrounds.

Over the two-day event, 4-H members demonstrate their skills and knowledge in agility, obedience, showmanship, and rally, competing against other youth in their age group and experience level.

Youth members of the Minnesota 4-H Dog Project learn to train and build a trusting relationship with their pet. Topics of study include canine behavior, breed characteristics, diseases, ethics, grooming, health, nutrition, responsible breeding, service dogs, therapy dogs, dog-related careers, and the wide array of dog sports.

"Youth learn so much responsibility from training their dog and competing in the 4-H State Dog Show," said Kim Lambert, one of the many caring adults who volunteer with the 4-H Dog Project statewide. "These kids



Rylie Cromwell, Nova

work all year long, building strong partnerships with their dogs. If they don't work carefully with their dogs, the dogs won't work for them. The responsibility kids learn here they can use forever."

Rylie Cromwell and Nova represented Waseca County in the categories of Agility - Beginner - 16 Inches, Blue Ribbon; Agility - Jumpers 1A - 16 & 20 Inches, Blue Ribbon; Obedience - Beginner, Red Ribbon; Rally - Pre-Novice, Blue Ribbon; and Showmanship - Open, Red Ribbon

To learn more about the 4-H Dog Project, contact 4-H Local Extension Educator Amy Nelson, at 507-835-0600 and visit the website, <https://z.umn.edu/4Hdog>

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