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Sports



Big Ideas of New Ulm provided Waseca High School students with a VR experience in various skill trades including welding.

A look forward

Career fair highlights possibilities

By MICHAEL ROY
Editor

The Waseca Community Arena played host to a career fair on Monday, May 22, which offered a bit more than the usual flyers and packets of information on job opportunities. This fair gave high school sophomores, juniors and even a few seniors hands-on activities to see what a career in welding or nursing would be like.

“We wanted this career fair to be more immersive for the students,” explained Waseca Chamber of Commerce Executive Directive Ann Fitch. “We really wanted the students to get their hands and minds working for this event. We wanted all the businesses to give some kind of engaging activity to the students

Fair continued on 11



Waseca County Public Health Director Sarah Berry showed students how to properly weigh a baby and fill out a patient questionnaire during the career fair Monday, May 22. Pioneer photos by Michael Roy

Waseca Memorial Day parade 9 a.m.

The annual Waseca High School Memorial Day program will begin with a parade at 9 a.m., weather permitting, with a program to follow indoors at the high school at 9:30 a.m.

Waseca County Farmers Market opens June 3

Waseca County Farmers Market at 409 8th Ave. NE in Waseca will be opening for the season beginning June 3rd at 8 a.m. The market will be open Saturdays from 8 a.m. until noon until October.

Graduation Open house ads available

Celebrate this year’s graduates in the paper with a photo and open house announcement. Cost is \$20 for one week or \$30 for two weeks.

Please email news@waseca-countypioneer.com or call 837-6767

Pat Utz benefit June 24 at Purple Goose

Pat Utz cancer benefit beginning at noon Saturday, June 24 at Janesville’s Purple Goose. Cash donations can be submitted to GoFundme - Utz Cancer Benefit. Donations also accepted at Elysian Bank - Pat Utz Fundraiser.

Fire Department fish fry June 24 at 4 p.m.

The Waseca Firefighters’ fish fry and fundraiser begins at 4 p.m. Saturday, June 24. Fish served until 7 p.m. or gone.

Use north doors of Waseca Fire Department, 303 S. State Street.

Thirty-third annual FCA Sports Camp set for Aug. 1-3

The thirty-third annual Waseca Fellowship of Christian Athletes Jr. Sports Camp is set for August 1-3, 2023 for athletes entering grades 3-8. Registration online at www.minnesotafca.org/waseca-jsc.

A word from
The Word 

So shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it. Isaiah 55:11

Students honored

\$140,000 distributed

By ELI LUTGENS
Publisher

For more than four decades, Waseca has celebrated area student achievements with an annual Honors Night program. On May 17, a record, more than \$140,000 in grants, and scholarships were handed out and nearly 100 students recognized. The program lasted more than three hours with dozens of speakers from dozens of organizations sharing stories as they handed out grant after grant, scholarship, after scholarship.

The following awards were given out and accepted by the following students:

2023 Recipients

Joseph Adamek: John P. Priebe Memorial Scholarship, \$2,000.

Kyle Ahlschlager: Rosenau Medical Scholarship, \$1,000; Waseca Hockey Association Scholarship, \$750.

Brice Anderson: Donald Clayton Memorial Agricultural Scholarship, \$500.

Lucas Androli: Don Eustice Memorial Scholarship, \$1,000; Ward House Brewery Scholarship, \$500; alternate to Waseca American Legion Post #228 Auxiliary Scholarship, \$500

Samantha Azure: Marine Corps “Distinguished Athlete” Nominee - Award; Everett R. & Ruth M. Johnson Memorial Scholarship, \$725

Ashley Barrientos: Michael Filzen Memorial Scholarship, on behalf of the Waseca Trail Association, \$720

Leah Bartelt: Skilled Trades Scholarship (Rick’s Appliance), \$250; Waseca American Legion Post #228 Scholarship, \$500; E.F. Johnson Foundation of MN Comm. Foundation Scholarship, \$1,000; Garret R. Johnson Memorial Scholarship, \$500

Maia Bartelt: Donald Clayton Memorial Agricultural Scholarship, \$500; Waseca County American Dairy Association Scholarship, \$500; Waseca Sleigh & Cutter Scholarship, \$1,000; E.F. Johnson Foundation of MN Comm. Foundation Scholarship, \$5,000

Erica Bowers: St. John Church - Karla Schroeder Memorial Scholarship, \$500

Miranda Breck: Alexis Tiegs Friendship Memorial Scholarship, \$250; Steele-Waseca Cooperative, \$1,000

Braelen Budin: Don Eustice Memorial Scholarship, \$1,000; Ingeborg Rugroden Scholarship, \$975



More than \$140,000 in grants and scholarships were awarded during Waseca’s annual Honors Night May 17. Above Sydney Kofstad and Arianna Krogseng.

Jersey Castle: Waseca American Legion Post #228 Auxiliary Scholarship, \$500; Waseca Lions Club Scholarship, \$1,000

Ethan Davis: E.F. Johnson Foundation of MN Comm. Foundation Scholarship, \$5,000

Jenaro Delgado Jr.: Itron, Inc. Scholarships, \$500; Waseca All-School Reunion, \$750

Hailey Dettmer: Abigail Claire Wendland Spirit Scholarship, \$1,000; Stoltenberg-Rotary Scholarship - 1 award @ \$4,000

Ella Dufault: Club Sweat (Itron) Scholarship, \$500; Waseca Lions Club Scholarship, \$1,000; Schroeder Family Nursing Scholarship, \$2,000

Sophie Farris: Rosenau Student with Potential Scholarship, \$1,000; Ward House Brewery Scholarship, \$500

Joseph Feldkamp: Waseca Arts Council, Inc. Scholarship, \$500; Waseca County American Dairy Association Scholarship, \$500; Waseca Knights of Columbus Scholarship, \$1,000; Waseca VFW Post #1642 Scholarship, \$1,000; Greg & Donnette Wheelock Agriculture Scholarship, \$750; Alternate to: Barbara J. Sankovitz Music Scholarship, \$1,000; Alternate to: Waseca American Legion Post #228 Auxiliary Scholarship, \$500

Payton Garza: Rosenau Student with Potential Scholarship, \$1,000; St. John Church - Karla

Awards continued on 11



Oliver O'Brien accepts the honorable Coach Statz Scholarship. Below Haylee Sommers. Pioneer photos by Eli Lutgens



Ishimara joins Waseca church

By JONAH STAFFORD
Staff Writer

Pastor Eric Ishimara was installed at Christ the King Lutheran Church in Waseca in a special service on Sunday, May 21. Ishimara hails from the San Francisco area and has served churches in Colorado, Iowa, and California. Prior to being installed in Waseca, he was a pastor in Sacramento for 11 years. He is a graduate of Fuller Theological Seminary in Pasadena, California and has 31 years of experience in the ministry.

Before he became pastor, Ishimara

worked as a teacher. His first steps into church work were being an accompanist and music director at various churches. Ishimara described himself as having been a “professional musician” during that time.

As he became more involved at church, Ishimara began to consider becoming a pastor; thanks to encouragement from others, he eventually accepted his “divine call.”

Ishimara has been living in Waseca for almost three months

Pastor continued on 4



Pastor Eric Ishimara and his wife Beverly after the installation service at Christ the King Lutheran in Waseca.

WASECA CITY COUNCIL

Council addresses drainage, pollution

By MICHAEL ROY
Editor

The Waseca city council held a public hearing on Tuesday, May 16 to discuss the city’s stormwater pollution prevention plan. City engineer Nate Willey explained that the hearing is mostly related to the city’s municipal stormwater (MS4) permit responsibilities, and that the city provides an opportunity for public input every year.

The MS4 permit responsibilities are set by the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency. Willey shared that permits last five years, and that the prior permit for the city expired in November of 2020. Coverage officially became available November 18, 2021, and the permit will expire either in 2025 when the five-year period ends or when a new, updated permit is issued.

The city is to take six “minimum control measures” when it comes to its MS4 permit. It must inform and reach out to the public to educate them, have public participation and involvement, have a method of detecting and eliminating any illicit discharge into the system, have construction site stormwater runoff control, have post-construction stormwater management, and provide pollution prevention and good housekeeping (municipal operations).

The main topic of discussion throughout the hearing was the amount of phosphorus in lakes and how the actions taken through the MS4 permit allow the city to control those amounts. “High levels cause excessive algae growth and can impact water quality and aquatic life,” Willey explained. “But you don’t want to eliminate phosphorus. You need that to have life. Excessiveness is what causes problems.”

Alum treatment systems help remove phosphorus from the stormwater, for example.

An example of an MS4 street improvement was the replacement of all the storm sewers in the Second Street SW/Second Ave SW projects. Willey also claimed that leaf pickup and street sweeping helps control phosphorus levels.

Council member John Mansfield wondered how much the city was paying to sweep the streets and whether the results justify the costs. Willey argued that the city receives credits for

Council continued on 4



Compostings

by Al Batt
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A new form of creative writing

ECHOES FROM THE LOAFERS' CLUB MEETING

I had to see a veterinarian about my nose.

Why a veterinarian?
Nose hares.

DRIVING BY BRUCE'S DRIVE

I have a wonderful neighbor named Bruce. Deep thoughts occur as I drive past his drive. I went to town and back, 4 miles each way, without my phone. That's 8 miles without a cellphone. GASP! Am I crazy or forgetful? I didn't need to hold my breath like a Navy Seal. I did it on purpose. I wasn't awaiting to hear if I'd garnered a MacArthur Genius Grant and if I'd gotten a spam call, whoever called would call back. Johnny Cash sang, "Don't take your phone to town, son. Leave your phone at home, Al. Don't take your phone to town."

CATARACT CAVALRY

Mom had cataract surgery. It was a long ordeal in those days. It involved a hospital stay and brick-like pillows to keep her from moving her head while she was in the hospital bed. I worried about her. It was only fair. She worried about me. As I drove her home after the surgery, she was quieter than normal. Then she said, "When did they put all these lines on the highway?" Humor was the cavalry that rode in and saved the day with a smile.

SARAH MCLACHLAN STARTED A CRYING EPI-DEMIC

I sat on the sofa between two small granddaughters. We were watching something easily forgettable on TV when an ASPCA ad came on. There were images of sad and abused dogs and cats as Sarah McLachlan sang, "You're in the arms of the angel. May you find some comfort here." One of the little girls began to cry. Then the other. It was too much for me. I joined them. My wife entered the room and saw the three of us crying. She looked at me and said, "What did you do now?"

BOB LIVED THROUGH HIS AUTOPSY

I was having lunch between classes when a man I didn't know took a seat next to me and asked if I'd like to see photos of his autopsy. He didn't wait for my answer before showing me printed photos of him on a gurney. He appeared to have had an autopsy performed on his body before it was sewed back together. Large stitches covered his torso. He'd been in a movie. He gave me a button reading, "Share a smile with a

stranger."

I'VE LEARNED

Bad penmanship is creative writing.

Post-It Notes were made to have "kick me" written on them.

"Last in, first out" applies to leftovers in the refrigerator.

NATURE NOTES

Ken Nelson of Clarks Grove wondered when Baltimore orioles leave after nesting and how many broods they have. They have one brood. In July, most young orioles leave the nest and become independent. The parents molt their body and flight feathers in anticipation of their migration south. By September, it's rare to see any orioles hanging around. Their durable sock-like nests continue to hang, thanks to a tightly woven construction, strong knots and superior building materials.

"Do robins find worms by sight or sound?" Robins hop around our yards, with heads cocked, searching for worms. Research published in the journal Animal Behavior concluded robins could use either visual or auditory cues to find worms, but probably use both.

"Why do squirrels insist on stopping in a street and then running in front of my car?" Why do squirrels run into the path of an oncoming car? Are they panicking or just goofy? Squirrels spend their lives trying not to be killed and then they do this? Instinct drives this behavior while you're driving your car. Squirrels run in a serpentine or zig-zag pattern to throw hunting hawks off their swooping game. This method helps squirrels dodge raptors and other predators, but not Dodges. I must add that this is a commonly held theory, which squirrels have refused to confirm or deny.

"What do hummingbirds feed on when they return in a cold, late spring?" Sap and insects. Yellow-bellied sapsuckers, which winter in the southeastern U.S. and Central America, migrate north in early spring when the sap is running. They use their strong bills to notch rows of sapwells in trees. They drink the sap and feed on the insects attracted to it. Hummingbirds rely on the bounty of sap provided by sapsuckers and visit the wells to drink the sweet liquid and feed on the insects attracted to it. For hummingbirds, this is an important food source that helps them survive until the flowers bloom.

MEETING ADJOURNED

"I feel fairly certain that my hatred harms me more than the people whom I hate."—Max Frisch. Be kind.

Thinking back to the before times

We're nearing the end of May... and what a long month it's been.

Actually, the past few weeks haven't been as super busy as the same time span in other years. We are slowly nearing the end of the school year. Graduations will be taking place (St. Clair already had theirs almost two weeks ago), spring sports teams are starting section playoffs, and all the non-graduates will be itching to get out of school for another summer.

It's hard to believe it will be seven years since I graduated from Janesville-Waldorf-Pemberton this year. A lot has changed since I graduated. For example, back then construction on the JWP athletic complex was just beginning, which included upgrades to the football field, the track, and building a brand new softball field with artificial turf. Back in the day, the parking lot was gravel and the current softball field was nothing but grass that served as a practice area for my sixth-grade football team.

My class was among the first to experience the new and improved cafeteria. The media center has changed quite a bit, too: not the space itself, but everything inside of it. When I was a senior, there were still desks with desktop computers at each one of them; Chromebooks were just getting distributed. Now, there are tables arranged in a horse-shoe pattern near the center of the media center where meetings happen while other parts of the media center have a lot of chairs that are either



Music to my Ears

by Michael Roy
copyright © 2022 by Michael Roy

perfect for naps or which make your backside ache after ten minutes.

Another thing that changed was the class structure. There are a lot more clubs, including an attempt at a cosplay club from what I've heard. Now it seems like the norm for students to be taking college level courses; it was not that common when I was in school (at least from what I remember). There also seem to be a lot more hands-on classes. I think my graduating class served as the test for the advanced metal sculpture class, and I don't honestly recall a chef who served the president of the United States ever visiting my cooking class.

It's still pretty amazing how much time has passed by since I've graduated. When I first started writing this, I thought, "It only feels like two or three years since I graduated from JWP." But the more I think about it, the more I realize it has felt like seven years.

It's also hard to believe that the Class of 2023 is in the same "generation" as I am. Having been born in 1998, I am two years removed from being the last of the millennials. Eli and I are among the first to be born

as members of what's called Generation Z.

Things have changed so much since I've been in school that it's hard to relate to the Class of 2023, even though they are in the same generation as I am. However it may seem, though, within a few years, they will be in the same boat as I'm in.

So, like all those proud parents, teachers, or principals, I'd like to offer the graduates some advice they didn't ask for.

First off, life is going to be tough. Yes, your parents may have claimed you had it easy, but trust me. As a former high schooler, I guarantee you didn't have it easy. But here's the sad part: it won't get any easier. People will still judge you, nothing will be simple, and you get more challenges added to your plate. You'll soon have to have a job to pay for a roof over your head, anything that you want to own, and sooner or later, you'll get introduced to the fantastic world of taxes.

But here's where the optimism comes in: You get a fresh beginning. Everyone starts at level one again. Did you have bad grades? Sure,

maybe you didn't get into that one college you set your hopes on, but that doesn't mean you're a failure. Were you bullied? Guess what? You're on the same level as your bully. Oh, and the popular people have to regain their popularity in college and in life. Besides that, your popularity doesn't have to be a determining factor in whether you succeed.

Don't be afraid of failure. I've heard many times that schools are teaching kids to be afraid of failing. You are going to fail. You have no choice. If you don't fail, you won't learn, and you'll be stuck where you are. Don't be afraid to fail. (I wish I had understood this a few years ago.)

This includes plans not going your way. I went to school for music and I had to drop out in the middle of my junior year because I couldn't afford to keep going. (Pro tip: Unless you're rich or get enough scholarships to cover a majority of your schooling, don't attend a private college like I did. That's something I'm still paying for.)

Most of all, enjoy this summer. Say goodbye to everyone in your class at graduation. Chances are you will never see at least half of them ever again. You may not always have your friends around, either. I drifted apart from most of my high school friends. People move on, and that's reality.

Congratulations to everyone that graduated and will graduate throughout this month and in June.

How well can artificial intelligence write?

Good morning, afternoon, evening, middle of night. Whenever you choose to read the paper, I commend you.

This column I would like to talk about AI (artificial intelligence) and Chat GPT (generative pre-trained transformer). I don't know how many of you have snapchat, but there has recently been added a feature where you can chat with Snapchat AI, and I personally find it creepy. You can ask it anything and it will respond in conversation like a normal human. Well, not exactly. The weird thing is that it specifically says it doesn't know your location, but when you ask it where the nearest McDonald's is, for example, it will tell you exactly where to go; I find that a little off-putting. A lot of people also use Chat GPT - I don't trust that either. This week I did an experiment and decided to use Chat GPT to write my column to see what it would say. I gave it a prompt of what I did on Tuesday and told it to write a newspaper column. The prompt that I put into Chat GPT is "write a newspaper column in the first person about my day yesterday. Include some potential takeaways that a person would learn from the events. I worked out my legs for the first time in a long time, I watched the old Spiderman movie for the first time, and I went hiking at Interstate State Park with friends, but we got swarmed by mosquitoes and had to leave early. Then I went to the sculpture garden and listened to music. Next I learned how to play the Rainbow Six Siege video game on my friend's computer and then re-watched the first season of Bridgerton because I forgot how good it



To Be Determined

by Amelia Roessler
copyright © 2022 by Amelia Roessler

was."

I have placed Chat GPT's response here, in italics, so you can see how well it did.

My Day: A Rollercoaster of Firsts, Nature's Nuisances, and Entertainment Escapades

Yesterday was one of those days that reminded me of the beauty and unpredictability life has to offer. From rediscovering my muscles at the gym to battling mosquitoes in the great outdoors, and immersing myself in a medley of entertainment options, it was a whirlwind of new experiences and unexpected challenges.

The day started with a sense of determination as I embarked on a long-overdue leg workout at the gym. Admittedly, it had been quite a while since I last focused on my lower body, so the post-workout soreness that greeted me this morning serves as a gentle reminder to never neglect any muscle group. I learned that consistency is key in maintaining a balanced fitness routine and that pushing oneself out of their comfort zone can yield satisfying results.

In the afternoon, I decided to indulge in a classic movie I had somehow managed to miss until now: the original Spider-Man film. As I watched the web-slinger swing through the city streets and grapple

with his responsibilities, I couldn't help but reflect on the importance of embracing one's true identity and using our unique talents to make a positive impact on the world. Sometimes, it takes a friendly neighborhood superhero to remind us of our own potential.

Later, my friends and I embarked on a hiking adventure at Interstate State Park. However, our enthusiasm for nature's beauty quickly waned when we found ourselves in the midst of a mosquito frenzy. Despite our best efforts to ward off the tiny bloodsuckers, their persistence got the best of us, and we had to cut our hike short. It was a humbling experience that taught us the importance of adaptability and resilience in the face of unexpected obstacles.

To lift our spirits, we made our way to the local sculpture garden, where an open-air concert was taking place. Surrounded by breathtaking artwork and melodious tunes, we allowed ourselves to get lost in the magic of the moment. It was a gentle reminder to savor life's simple pleasures, to appreciate the beauty that lies in both the creations of human hands and the symphony of sounds that touch our souls.

In the evening, I delved into the world of gaming, trying my hand at Rainbow Six Siege on my friend's

computer. As a novice in the gaming realm, I quickly realized the importance of strategy, teamwork, and adaptability. I learned that success often comes from working together, communicating effectively, and being flexible in the face of ever-changing circumstances. It was an exciting experience that showed me the power of collaboration in achieving common goals.

Finally, as the night grew darker, I surrendered to the enchanting world of Bridgerton once again. Re-watching the first season reminded me of the allure of period dramas, the intricacies of human relationships, and the escapism that comes with a well-crafted storyline. It served as a gentle reminder to occasionally lose myself in the realms of fiction and appreciate the creativity and artistry that goes into captivating storytelling.

Reflecting on my day yesterday, I am reminded of the importance of balance, adaptability, and the willingness to embrace new experiences. Life is a tapestry of both highs and lows, and it is in the midst of these twists and turns that we find opportunities for growth, self-discovery, and joy. So let us face each day with open hearts, ready to welcome the unexpected and learn from every moment, be it at the gym, on a hike, in front of a screen, or lost in the pages of a story.

I don't know about you guys, but I was pleasantly surprised with how well ChatGPT did with writing this column. Maybe I will have to explore some more...

My Determination: "Oh I gotta get on that internet, I'm late on everything!" - Jerry Seinfeld

Chance encounters at garage sales

Like many folks, I enjoyed Waseca's city wide garage sales this past weekend. The experience was delightful. When all was said and done I didn't purchase many items but enjoyed the trip with friends.

Among our many stops was the Stensrud estate sale, where I ran into Sarah Born-Raetz. It seems I run into her often. I am friends with her niece Morgan Born-oh and Sarah is my longtime payroll accountant. She and her husband and their family have an interesting story. There's honestly too much to say that isn't appropriate to share in the paper, but I will say this, it was unexpected. Together they have six kids, the youngest of which are truly adorable. Their youngest, Paisley, is 2 or 3 and I've met her a few times now.

The first was when Sarah brought Paisley along to my office while working on some tax filing tasks, and then again on Mothers day. That day, my family and I went to the Willows



STAR GAZING

by Eli Lutgens
copyright © 2022 by Eli Lutgens

in New Richland and after we all got seated I looked up: Directly at the table across from me was this adorable little girl looking at me and smiling. When I looked around, there were her great-grandparents who I recognized from attending Waseca basketball games. Nearby sat Addison, who I believe is the oldest of the six Born-Raetz offspring. Addison is a senior this year and hoping to break the school record in pole vaulting. Before this last meet he got a brand new "pole vaulting pole" (I'm sure there's an official name) and he made height but just clipped the bar. Good luck Addison.

I lost count of others I recognized, but the most notable was Kelly Boedeker from a local non-profit, Waseca Area Care Givers, which is located across the street from the post office. Kelly's son, Devin Stankiewicz, is engaged to my first cousin Morgan Besser. They live up in Alaska.

All in all, it was a great morning/afternoon. When done shopping we concluded with some food from Pizza Ranch.

I should probably talk about some of the "newsing" I did this past week. I don't have as much as usual to report, since I came down with a ter-

rible cold after I returned home Saturday and have been hampered by it. So, my newsing was simply doling out assignments among our wonderful editorial staff.

P.S. I am terribly sorry to the Waseca Area Foundation for not making it to their program. Wednesdays are the day I put the paper together (electronically) and I couldn't attend. Regardless, I should have attended. To make matters worse, I genuinely enjoy hearing, seeing, photographing, and writing about each award winner and their grant. I didn't get to do that this time so my guilt and regret are compounded. Not only did I let Amy Potter and the Foundation down, I also missed out on a fun grant ceremony. They really do incredible work at the WAF: I'm grateful for all they do.

"Next time!" In what calendar are kept the records of those next times which never come?"

— Helen Hunt Jackson, Ramona



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Delores Boerigter, organizer of the “Touch of Country Class” events.

A touch of country

By JONAH STAFFORD
Staff Writer

Shoppers from near and far enjoyed an antique and craft show at A Touch of Country Class Boutique in Waseca the weekend of May 20 and 21.

The show, an annual tradition since 1989, is owned and operated by Delores Boerigter of Iowa. She sends out her “crafter letters” about three months in advance, recruiting local sellers of homemade crafts, folk art, and antiques. Boerigter estimates that 125 consigners took part in the recent show.

Boerigter was inspired to start A Touch of Country Class Boutique when she went to a similar show 35 years ago and thought “I could do that.” Since the first show over 30 years ago, Boerigter says the boutique has grown into a larger event, which brings a lot of business to the Waseca community at large.

Boerigter claims to be more of a business-woman than a crafter, but has a few items for sale this year. Her personal favorite items are the antiques due to their “unusualness” and high build quality.

Boerigter does not consider running A Touch of Country Class Boutique to be challenging because she enjoys her work and has a cohort of “loyal employees.”

Cindy Kolander, one of this year's consignors, said that she is proud to be part of such an “ongoing big event in Waseca.”

A Touch of Country Class Boutique will be reopening for the last time of its Spring season from May 25-29. The show's fall dates will be September 14-17 and 21-24.

WASECA SCHOOL BOARD

Upgrades moving forward

Vision cards guiding progress

By MELISSA DUNN
Staff Writer

Superintendent Eric Hudspith spent a large portion of the May 18 school board meeting discussing the district's facility report and strategic planning. The district's leadership team has been working with Teamworks International, an Education Leadership Solutions company, to “move from classroom to boardroom as we think about our next strategic plan,” Hudspith said.

Teamworks CEO Sheri Allen presented a slide show as she spoke at the meeting about the process the district has completed and continues to work through, including gathering feedback from staff, students, parents, and the public; assessing building and department strengths and needs; and the creation of vision cards for each department, building, and for the district overall.

“We've done all this work,” Hudspith added. “In a few months, we can bring the action plan, the operational plan, to the board and say ‘Now what's the strategic plan refresh going to look like?’”

In the facilities report, Hudspith discussed how the district's facilities' needs are exceeding the \$750,000 long-term facilities maintenance funding received by the state (Hartley currently has \$3.6 million in deferred maintenance). He highlighted challenges at the Hartley building that are increasing more rapidly, including the water quality issue discovered in 2019, or the air handling units.

“Another issue we run into is the trouble of finding replacement parts for some fixtures and equipment that are now many, many years old. To find a new part for a 1954 item is challenging right now.”

The facilities task force created in 2020 found that there is no particular grade-level alignment more beneficial for learning than any other, but students experience less regression with fewer transitions between new buildings. Hudspith showed graphics of the new bond referendum survey results for both a Hartley remodel and for a new building or addition to the intermediate school, and the potential total costs for the projects.

Another matter of business was a report from district food service director Ross Larson, who highlighted plans prompted by recent changes in state requirements. Larson said the summer food program runs from June 12 to August 25 at the Central building with the exception of July 4. Breakfast is served from 7:30-8:30 a.m. and lunch from 11:00-12:30 p.m. As for the 2023-24 school year, Larson says his department is still working with MDE and USDA to plan for the universal free meals program requirement.

“Breakfast is free for everybody, no matter what,” Larson says. “We will still have to have parents fill out the educational benefits form in the back-to-school mailing they'll receive in July or August. It's tied to many other district-wide reduced fees, like sports.”

Superintendent Hudspith asked Larson to talk about why the Central building is a summer site rather than any of the other facilities. “It's based on the current free and reduced lunch percentages. Central is the one with the highest percentage, based on the forms we get back from parents,” Larson replied.

Summer programming in the other buildings will still be providing lunches in a packed-to-go meal form. Larson also briefly mentioned plans to implement farm-to-school partnerships and greater use of the school garden.

WASECA CITY COUNCIL

Morgan's to expand

By MICHAEL ROY
Editor

Morgan's Meat Market received approval from the Waseca City Council for a conditional use permit at the Tuesday, May 16, meeting.

Planning and Zoning Coordinator Bill Green gave the council a bit of background on the issue, saying that in a previous meeting, the council approved conditional use permits in the B-3, B-4, I-1, and I-2 districts. Morgan's Meats is located in the B-3 district.

It gave Morgan's Meats owner Dean Morgan a chance to apply for a conditional use permit, as before it was technically illegal for meat processing plants to do so.

Green explained that Morgan's needs the permit to build about 2400 square feet for additional processing space. The conditional use permit would allow the construction to extend into the expected 15-foot minimum setback. The business would encroach five feet into the west side while going ten feet to

Meeting continued on 11

WASECA CITY COUNCIL

Utility program provides incentives

By MICHAEL ROY
Editor

At the Tuesday, May 16, Waseca council meeting, Economic Development Authority Manager Tina Wilson shared information about the Southern Minnesota Municipal Power Agency (SMMPPA), a program meant to incentivize new businesses and economic development by providing discounts on the cost of utilities. It is a program that Waseca Utilities is considering.

Dubbed the “Waseca Utilities Economic Development Program,” it gives businesses potential to qualify for an economic development credit that lasts five years. The first year would be a full credit; the amount would decrease incrementally each year. After the allowed five-year period, the business would pay for the full electrical credit.

Those who would qualify for the program are new businesses using the Waseca electrical utility with a load of 250 kilowatts or greater, existing customers adding a new incremental connected load of 250 kilowatts or greater, or existing customers in distress that “have legitimate opportunities to move operations outside of Waseca's utilities service area.” Those who exceed the demand of Waseca utilities' tenth-largest current retail customer (about 110 kW) could also be eligible.

“This would not come out of the city's pocket,” Wilson ex-

Utilities continued on 12

Career Justice

FCI seeks workers in range of fields

By MICHAEL ROY
Editor

One thing that's been common among almost every business or institution is that they have been looking for people to hire; it seems the Federal Correctional Institution of Waseca is no exception.

Currently, the facility is looking to hire correctional officers, an advanced practice nurse (or a mid-level practitioner), registered nurses, medical officers, a chaplain, a staff psychologist, and a drug abuse program coordinator.

“We're always looking for people,” said Kirstin Hess, a human resources officer at the Waseca Federal Correctional Institution.

This constant search is why the institution held a hiring event this past Thursday, May 18, to give people more information about the Waseca FCI and the positions it is looking to fill. It was one of a line of monthly career fairs the institution has, according to Hess.

“Some people may not realize that we need more than correctional officers here,” Hess explained. “Others may not even realize that there is a federal level prison here in Waseca.”

For those that welcome the possibility, it may be that there is an inviting position still open for them at the Waseca federal prison.

“We are not only competing with



Human Resources Director Kristin Hess was in charge of the career fair at the Waseca Federal Correctional Institution on Thursday, May 18. The prison holds these fairs monthly.

other prisons and law enforcement agencies to hire people,” Hess elaborated. “We are also competing with other places like Aldi and Walmart who pay similar wages to what we have here.”

That competition is part of the reason why the institute offers a 25-percent recruitment incentive for applicants who meet certain criteria, such as working in the position for a certain length of time. Federal agencies like the Waseca FCI have struggled to get people with the right amount of experience, work history, education, or background into the door without the incentives.

Hess claimed the Waseca FCI already had a recruitment incentive of ten percent in place before the increase to 25 percent went into effect

“Some people may not realize that we need more than correctional officers here. Others may not even realize that there is a federal level prison here in Waseca.”

— Kirstin Hess

nationwide. “We've needed these incentives to encourage people to look into joining us,” she added.

During the career fair, a few candidates were taking a class to better understand the job requirements in any positions of interest to them at the federal prison.

Those who came to the career fair left with a packet of information ex-

plaining the compensation and benefits package offered by the Waseca FCI along with requirements for positions like a correctional officer.

“We really just want to spread the word that we're always hiring,” Hess shared. “Again, we're not only looking for officers but other important positions as well like nurses and medical officers.”

A list of things *not* to do this summer



Bits and Pieces

by Dave Zika

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with everything you need before backing it into the water. You have the time as the launch line grows smaller. I've witnessed people get very irritated when someone takes ten minutes with their boat in the water loading it.

◆ If you are not great at backing your new boat in, practice on a day when the launch lot isn't busy. Backing a boat for the first time can be a “several backing tries” experience.

◆ When backing your boat in, leave your trailer safety strap hooked to your boat until you are somewhat in the water, especially if you are backing down a hill.

◆ Make sure your motor is tilted up. I've seen fishermen have real catastrophes when they unhook their boat before backing, especially with a roller trailer. Boats have slid off the trailer, crashing onto the cement ramp, putting giant holes in fiberglass and huge dents in aluminum. I've seen the lower units of boat mo-

tors completely destroyed.

◆ Always fill your motor with non-oxygenated gas, no ethanol. It's a bit more expensive but will save you heartaches and headaches, especially if you own a four stroke motor. On fishing trips, I've seen fishermen all excited for their week-long vacation fishing trip back their boats into the water and the motor is a no-go! The problem: moisture and water in the gas or fuel line.

◆ Make sure you have enough gas in your boat: Many times the fuel gauges aren't very accurate or don't work. I've towed several boats back to their docks on Tetonka when they've run out of petrol and signaled for help.

Last year, I was out on Tetonka fishing and the back of a big inboard boat was really smoking. The boaters had an electrical fire, extinguished it, and were in a frenzy. I towed them back to their cabin, a long journey across water, a very big boat.

When it comes to being mechanical I'd receive a C- for a grade, however, when I make a trip with my boat I better have the knowledge to change a flat trailer tire or deal with a non-functioning trailer light. You can't travel after dark with no lights, or leave your loaded boat on the shoulder and drive miles for help. Traveling, pulling a boat, and having a breakdown can be a real conundrum.

Lisa reads many hours and has a super sophisticated vocabulary. I do not! It's really rewarding to add a few vocabulary words to my arsenal when I hear them. “Conundrum” means a difficult or confusing problem. “Booyah, that 17' crappie is the biggest I've ever seen.” “We are putting that one on the wall, grandson!”

“Booyah” means a well-played victorious moment in sport; a pure moment of joy.

Seeing the baby wood ducks jump out of the box was serendipity. “Serendipity” means good fortune and good luck: the occurrence and development of events by chance in a happy, beneficial way.

The next time you are socializing with friends, throw “conundrum,” “booyah,” or “serendipity” at them. They will look at you and ask, “Who are you?”

Until next time! The Big Z

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OBITUARIES

Charles F. Schaedler Jr.

Charles Frederick Schaedler, Jr., age 83, formerly of Waterville, passed away on Sunday, April 30, 2023, in Arizona.

Born on June 25, 1939 in Minneapolis, MN to Charles Sr., and Enid Schaedler. Charles served in the US Air Force for 4 1/2 years before his honorable discharge. He retired from the United States Postal Service after 30 years of service. He was a loving and devoted husband and father.

Charles is survived by Marie, his loving wife of 28 years; children Charles Schaedler III, Steve (Gayle) Schaedler, Kevin (Jacque) Schaedler, Shelly (Bruce) Meyer, and Nicki LeBlanc; step-children Brian Johnson, Brent Johnson, and Jenny (John) Knutson; step-children by previous marriage Tammy (Russ) Kamin and Tim (Bonnie) Spaude; 20 grandchildren and one great-grandson. He is also survived by siblings Rich Schaedler, Jackie (Pat) Keegan, and Mary (Doug) LaFriniere. He was preceded in death by his parents and stepson by previous marriage, Rick Spaude.

Charles was a kind and gentle man. He enjoyed reading and doing crosswords in pen. He taught himself guitar as a teenager and



Charles F. Schaedler Jr.

played and sang throughout his life even though he never learned to read music. He was happiest when he was with his wife, children, and grandchildren. He was adored by his grandchildren as he had such a loving and silly relationship with them all. Taking them boating was his favorite hobby.

A Memorial Service will be held on Thursday, June 29, 2023 at 1:30 p.m. at Christ the King Lutheran Church in Waseca (309 6th St. NE). Visitation will follow at the church. A private interment will be at Fort Snelling National Cemetery at 10:30 a.m. on Friday, June 30.

Helen Curran

Helen Marie Byron Curran, age 94, of Hopkins, formerly of Waseca, died peacefully from complications of pneumonia on May 18, 2023, surrounded by her children.

Helen was born on September 21, 1928, to William and Mary Elmira (Conway) Byron in Waseca County. Helen graduated from Sacred Heart High School in 1946 and from The College of St. Teresa in 1950. She subsequently obtained her Master's Degree in Spanish from Minnesota State University, Mankato. Helen married Raymond Curran on July 5, 1952, at St. Mary's Catholic Church in St. Mary's Township, Waseca County. She was a beloved educator, teaching Spanish and English at Lewiston, Morris-town, and Waseca. In addition, she taught driver's education in the classroom, but had the good sense not to teach behind the wheel. Her retirement years were filled with family parties, volunteer opportunities, and doting on her grandchildren. Covid did not dull her educational instincts, as she hosted a weekly Sunday night Zoom review of various Shakespeare plays with her children and grandchildren. Helen enjoyed playing cards competitively and took special delight in crushing the rascals, aka her grandchildren. For the past five years, Helen resided at The Glenn in Hopkins, where she took part in nearly all activities, attended daily Mass, and played Bridge with good friends.

Helen's legacy will live on in her four children, Colleen, Peggy, John (Kathy) and Mary Ann (Tom Murray); seven grandchildren,



Helen Marie Byron Curran

John, Mary Angela, Danielle, Erin, Joe, Johnny, and Christina; brothers Jim and Paul; and sister-in-law Mayone. She was preceded in death by her husband who died in a construction accident in 1967; her parents; her siblings William, George, Mildred, and Sister Colleen Byron OSF; her sisters-in-law, Mary Ann, Mary Jane, and Rita; and son-in-law, Jerry Amundson.

Visitation will be held at the State Street Chapel of Dennis-Steffel-Omtvedt Funeral and Cremation Service in Waseca on Friday May 26, from 4-7 pm, and will continue the next morning for one hour before service at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Waseca.

Mass of Christian Burial will be held at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Waseca on Saturday, May 27, at 10:30 am, with Father James Starasich as celebrant.

Memorials are suggested to the Sacred Heart Education Endowment Fund or the Sisters of St. Francis in Rochester. dsfuneral.com

Kay A. Landrum

Kay Anne Landrum, age 70, of Owatonna passed away at her home on Monday, May 22, 2023.

Born on October 13, 1952 in Austin, MN, Kay was the daughter of Florimond and Stella (Schneider) Meister. She graduated from Waterville Elysian High School in 1970. On August 27, 1971, she was united in marriage to Michael Landrum in Faribault. They have enjoyed over 50 wonderful years together.

"Kay was the sweetest loving person. She never judged or had a bad

word for anyone. She struggled with repeated cancer for over 20 years and still always carried a smile for everyone she met, without complaining. She should be an inspiration to us all. I am a better man because of her, and the pain of losing her will only end when I am reunited with her."

Kay is survived by her husband, Michael Landrum of Owatonna; her sons, Ryan (Katie) Landrum of Waterville, Joshua Landrum of Eagle Lake; grandchildren, Taylor Landrum, Clare Landrum, Kiera Landrum, Kayla Landrum; two sisters, Irene Brandt of Winona, Kathy

Meyer of Iowa City, IA; and many nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Florimond and Stella Meister; siblings, Lorraine Ludwig, David Meister, and Alan Meister.

A memorial service will be held on Wednesday, May 31, 2023 at 11:00 AM at the Third Street Chapel of Dennis-Steffel-Omtvedt Funeral and Cremation Service. Visitation will be held one hour prior to the service at the funeral home. Interment will be at Woodville Cemetery. DSOfuneral.com



Kay A. Landrum

Pastor

from Page 1

prior to this installation and was joined at the service by his wife,

Beverly.

As he had a "comfortable life" in California, Ishimara said that many people have asked him why he moved to a rural community in Minnesota. "God called me," he replies.

Ishimara felt that he had concluded his work at his previous congregation and after Christ the King

called him to be their new pastor, both he and Beverly became convinced that taking this call was the right decision.

Ishimara described pastoral work as a "tremendously rewarding opportunity" because he is able to connect God's word with people's lives.

"A pastor, in various ways, is a

communicator; the medium of our work is the word," said Ishimara.

Ishimara said he is excited to get to know the Waseca community, meet his new congregants, and help guide them through "what kind of future God perceives for them."

Council

from Page 1

eliminating a certain amount of phosphorus. "If we didn't do leaf pickup, we might not make the credit," he added. "It's true we also may not see immediate impact, but it will impact the lakes over time."

"I get your point," Mansfield said. "I just wanted to throw that out there. My constituents are saying taxes are high. I think we have to let them tell us they can pick up their own leaves."

Council member Stacey Schroeder also asked people not to discharge grass clippings into the streets. "Yes," Willey replied. "Please, please, don't put grass and leaves into the city gutters. That creates a lot of phosphorus."

Council member Jeremy Conrath then asked about the \$50,000 the Waseca Area Lakes Association receives in funds every year and wondered if it could be better used for water retention. "It may not only benefit the leaves, but keep water out of residents' basements."

He also stated dissatisfaction with the Lakes Association's handling of the issue. "This type of thing has been on their agenda for the last year, and it's not very well received," he said. "They say every single meeting

that they are the voice of the lake and they need to take some drastic measures by asking us council members to give them more money."

While he admitted that the county commissioners may have contributed more to the Lakes Association than the city has, he feels as if the group hasn't been sufficiently appreciative. "We gave some people \$1,000 and they were very grateful to us. We gave them \$50,000 and they act like we gave them nothing. I'm pro-lake, but I also feel a bit insulted."

The public hearing opened at 7:56 p.m. Michelle Oswald, a Waseca resident, shared concerns about Gaiter Lake water flowing into a swamp and eventually into Clear Lake. She wondered if fertilizers from nearby farms and houses had any negative impact on Clear Lake. She also asked how much of a role leaf pickup played in reducing phosphorus levels in lakes.

"If we didn't have leaf pickup, I don't think we would meet our requirements," Willey answered. "I think Clear Lake also benefits from Gaiter Lake picking up deposits as well as having that county tile nearby. As far as fertilizer's impact, I don't have a quantified answer. But if there is excess fertilizer on [a property owner's] lawn, it will certainly run off into the lakes."

Willey added that if the city decided to develop Gaiter Lake, that could potentially reduce any runoff

going into Clear Lake. The public hearing closed at 8:01 p.m.

Before the end of the meeting, the subject of Clear Lake came up again when Mayor Randy Zimmerman suggested that the council give clear direction to city manager Carl Sonnenburg on what they want him to look into as far as developing the land.

Council member Mark Christiansen stood firm on his position that the city should move forward with it while Mansfield was vehemently against the city developing land, especially in the south part of the city. Mansfield added that he would be much less against more development on the northern side of town. "We can tie everything else over there out west," he said.

Schroeder pointed out that if the city did its own development at Gaiter Lake, it would be showing residents that the city is investing in itself. "When I grew up, the thres-

hold to get things in Waseca was \$10,000," she said. "Owatonna's in a housing crisis."

"And they're not screwing around," Christiansen added. "They're developing as we speak."

Zimmerman told the council, "Unless we're willing to make an investment, I'm not blaming anyone for not wanting to develop. It's getting to that point. I agree the city shouldn't be involved, but I think we need to make a move to spur something to show we want growth. Everyone says they want lower taxes and a grocery store, but if we can't develop, nothing's going to happen."

"I didn't ask for money from the city when I developed my business," Mansfield pointed out. "I want the city to get out of the way. I want the government to get out of the way."

In the end, the council decided to put Gaiter Lake back on the action agenda for its Tuesday, June 6, council meeting.

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MEMORIALIZING THOSE WHO SERVED

Lowell Wadd lived to serve

By **TRISTAN JENSEN**
Editorial Assistant

Editorial Note: This article was originally published in the 2022 Veterans Day edition of the Pioneer. Both Lowell and his wife Jan have since passed away.

Lowell Wadd, celebrated his 97th birthday in 2022 alongside his wife of 67 years, Jan Wadd.

Wadd was born in 1925 to Anna and Oscar Wadd and grew up on a farm just five miles north of Waseca. He was the youngest of three boys, Edgar being his oldest brother and Marvin the middle child. “I was a little squirt,” he said with a laugh. Wadd’s family also took in “a young girl,” Helen Powell, after the death of her parents and helped raise her for years. He was schooled at what he called a “regular” country school north of Waseca—a two-room schoolhouse holding four grades of students in each room. In 1942, as a seventeen-year-old finished with high school, Wadd enlisted. His brother Edgar was killed in the line of duty in Italy around the same time, while Marvin stayed home to help mind the farm. “Someone had to be there and I was just a young punk, I wouldn’t know what to do anyway,” said Wadd.

Wadd initially enlisted with the B5 Aviation program, but found this program was being phased out. He and another young man chose to join the Navy instead, and went to the Great Lakes Naval Station for training. Wadd ended up in Japan during occupation, where he stayed about two years. He was stationed on Tokyo Bay, working out of an old garage to maintain electrical generators and keep communications open between ship and shore crews. “At that time they were using teletype communication,” Wadd explained.

“We had some help from locals,” Wadd said about their garage setup. “You know, they’d hire a few, and there was a young Japanese boy, I suppose he was about fifteen, Tanako Tatsuo. He was just a good, smart kid, and he liked to be around us Americans, so that worked out fine, and he’d kinda clean up where we had our bunkhouse and do different odd jobs. When it came time for us to go home, I called Tanako and talked to him, said I was going back to the United States - going home,” Wadd told. “He sat down and cried. He didn’t want me to go home. Of course that wasn’t meant to be. As time went on, I had to go home.” Wadd continued, “He was pretty handy with making things: In our shop he’d find a piece of wood and he’d go out in the shop and he’d be busy – you know, if we didn’t have something for him to do he’d be in the vise with his pocket knife, and by golly he was the handiest. He



HONOR — For decades, it was the pride of Lowell Wadd’s life to participate in the VFW honor guard, giving the traditional salute at funerals. Photo by Tristan Jensen

took a block of wood and kept whittling on it and he made me a model P38 bomber fighter plane, carved and glued together, and placed on a stand. A beautiful piece, stuff you’d like to keep around.”

“He loved you, Lowell, and I know you loved him,” Jan said. “Yes, I did,” Lowell replied. “I wouldn’t have minded taking him home with me. But it wasn’t meant to be.”

After returning home to the United States, Wadd worked on his family’s farm and for Birdseye for a few years before getting into heavy construction, operating bulldozers and other large equipment. It was the career he’d be in until retirement, but that didn’t mean staying in one place. “I got a little restless and I knew a lot of guys that were in construction, they’d go back overseas and work for contractors and air bases in different countries,” Wadd explained. “I had the chance to go to French Morocco, so I of course signed up. We had to sign up for a couple years, and I worked over in French Morocco then, and when I came home just shortly after that I met this lady here. And it went pretty fast, didn’t it?”

“Well, it was two years before we got married,” Jan replied.

“Yeah, it was only two years,” Wadd shot back lightly.

Lowell and Jan Wadd met in 1953 through mutual friends when she was still quite young. “There was this wonderful group of friends,” Jan explained. “Most of them, except my one girlfriend, were all older than me. And all of us ended up getting married within a couple years of each other and being in each others’ weddings, and that was beautiful.” The pair married in 1955 and started their married life renting an apartment in Mankato. They lived there about a year and a half before buying a house in Waseca on East Elm Avenue, where they raised their two sons. Curtis Wadd was born in 1959; Craig 18 months later in 1960. Curtis now has two boys of his own, neither of whom are married. One owns Lakes Motorsports and Marine in Waterville, and the other is studying marine biology at St. Thomas, according to the Wadds. “He comes home for a visit Monday,” Wadd said. Jan smiled at that. “We’re very anxious to see him.”

Wadd continued on 11

Lowell Root: proud legacy

By **DEB BENTLY**
News Editor

When Waseca resident Lowell Root died in February of this year, he left an impressive legacy.

His contributions to the community and his family were immeasurable. In the 1940s and ‘50s, he worked with his father, Enoch, and brothers to develop housing on what are now Ninth and Tenth Avenues Southeast. He worked at two of Waseca’s primary founding businesses, E.F. Johnson and Herters. He was a member of Sacred Heart Catholic Church. He and his wife Beverly raised a family of four: Brad, Brenda, Brian and Blaine. He worked in construction for more than 20 years with his brothers Leland and Lyndel, specializing in laying concrete.

And through it all, he was a staunch and determined supporter of the community’s three veteran organizations, all of which he joined: the V.F.W., the American Legion, and the Eagles.

Lowell’s son Blaine remembers the pride and dedication his parents showed during his childhood, both taking part in the V.F.W.’s marching units—his mother with the auxiliary. Lowell also served unfailingly on the V.F.W. “Honor Guard,” the group which attends the funerals of service members and veterans. When he retired from the honor guard in 2017, he was recognized for 65 years of service with the group.

This dedication was rooted in Lowell’s 3-year stint in the Army. He was drafted during the Korean War and stationed in Mannheim, Germany. He told the story for decades of how, when he arrived at the “Hell on Wheels” tank brigade, leadership was a bit uncertain what to do with him. “He told them he knew how to drive a jeep,” Blaine reveals, “so they decided he would be their driver.”

For the next three years, whatever the temperature, Lowell transported brigade members to a wide variety of destinations—airports, train stations, maneuvers, housing, medical treatment. He achieved the rank of corporal during his service. “He used to say, those old canvas-topped jeeps had no heat. They were definitely not meant to be driven year ‘round,” remembers Blaine. He also recalls Lowell’s cryptic statements about the area around Mannheim. “He said it was all blown apart, just a complete mess,” he says.

Lowell’s dedication might be surprising considering a number of factors. Perhaps most importantly, he was a newlywed, having married Beverly in June of 1951. Furthermore, within the span of two years or less, not only was he drafted, but so were two of his brothers, Wendell and Leland. Their brother Lester, a fourth son to their parents Enoch and

“He had an absolutely selfless love for his country.” — **Blaine Root**

Lillian Root, volunteered, leaving the couple with only one son, Lyndel, at home. All this just as work was getting underway on the building project in the southeast quadrant of Waseca.

However he acquired it, though, Lowell’s pride in his military service and his dedication to the veteran organizations was unceasing.

“My siblings and I grew up seeing that,” says Blaine. He credits his father’s patriotism as one of the reasons both he and his brother Brian eventually also joined the military. Brian signed on with the Air Force and served for six years. Blaine enlisted in the Army, “Same as my dad!” and went on to serve for most of 28 years, first as a mechanic, then in administration, logistics, and eventually special operations. During his service he traveled all over the world, and can name off an extensive list of countries where he’s been.

Home in Waseca, now, for most of 10 years, Blaine regularly joins the V.F.W. Marching Unit, and was even able to march alongside his dad for a number of years. He had already made a habit of doing so when he was at home on leave throughout his service.

Blaine can boast an important record of his own: not long after he and Brian joined the military and met eligibility requirements, Lowell purchased them lifetime memberships in Waseca V.F.W. Blaine is the organization’s youngest ever lifetime member, having joined before the age of 20.

Despite—or perhaps because of—the extent of Blaine’s travels, he says his mother and father visited him at nearly all the bases where he was stationed: Kansas, Indiana, Alabama, Belgium. Even after Beverly’s death in 2003, Lowell visited twice in Alaska.

“He would always want to eat in the mess hall,” remembers Blaine. The topic of meals would come up, he says, and his father would declare they could do no better than dining on base.

All that while, Lowell continued his maintenance and construction work, laying concrete for A.B. Systems out of Rochester as his full-time job, and offering evening or weekend work with his brothers Leland and Lyndel.

Blaine points out that it is easy to find Waseca sidewalks with the inscription “Root Brothers” testifying



FATHER AND SON - Blaine and Lowell Root.



ACKNOWLEDGEMENT - Lowell Root receiving a certificate for 65 years of service with the VFW Honor Guard in 2017.



IN THE DRIVER’S SEAT - Drafted in the 1950s, Lowell Root was chosen as the driver for the Second Tank Battalion in Mannheim, Germany.

to their prolific work. All the while, Lowell continued to support fellow veterans. He assisted with the expansion of the V.F.W. without charging for his work. “He would do anything for the V.F.W. and the Legion,” Blaine recalls. “If there was ever a veteran in need of concrete work, I know he was glad to help them out.

“He had an absolutely selfless love for his country. He was a good, caring man.”

Along with all those legacies, Blaine takes pride that he now owns one of the houses built as part of the Ninth and Tenth Avenue construction project back in the 1950s.

And speaking of legacies, he and his brother Brian both take part in the V.F.W. marching brigade and honor guard. After all, that’s the kind of thing a lifetime member would do.



THE MAN, THE MYTH, THE LEGEND - Lowell Root

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JWP boys claim conference title

Thell claims individual title, repeats as Player of the Year

By MICHAEL ROY
Staff Writer

The JWP High School golf program has always been great, with the girls' team taking title after title the past few seasons.

On Thursday, May 18, it was the boys' turn.

The Bulldog boys took the Gopher Conference title at Waseca Lakeside Golf Club after two 18-hole rounds. The team fired a total of 660 (329 first round, 331 in the second) to take the title.

It was another great meet for junior Logan Thell, who took the title of Gopher Conference Boys' Player of the Year for the second consecutive season. He shot a score of 152 (77, 75) and did so well that he finished eight strokes ahead of the second-place finisher.

Fellow Junior Steven Dimmel

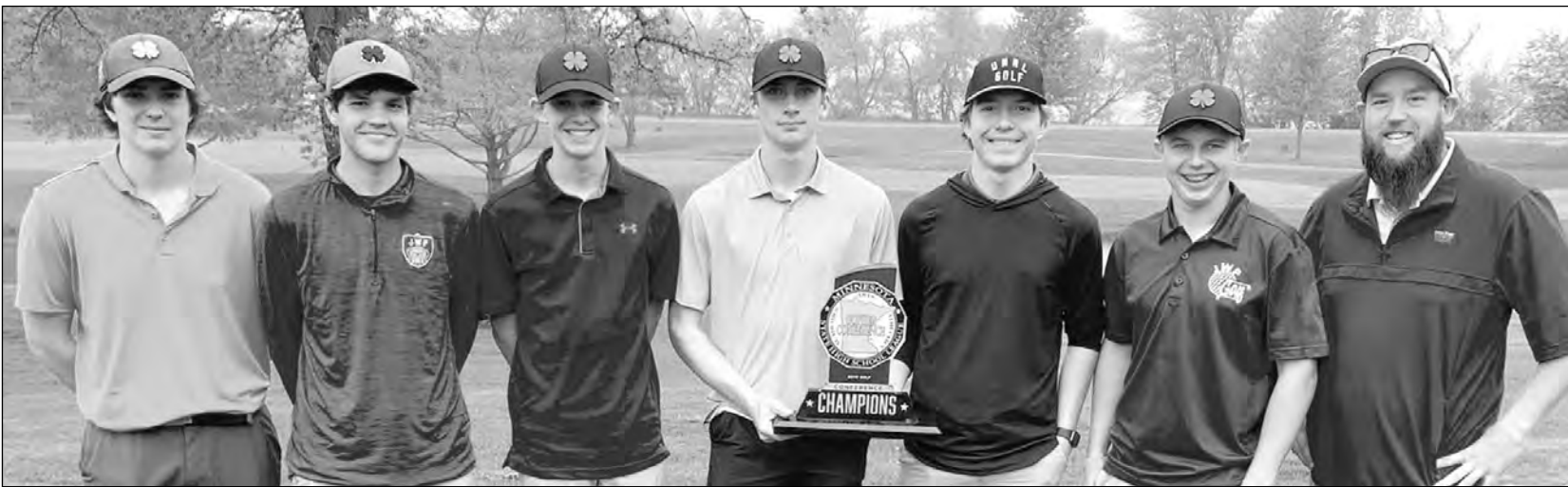
joined him in receiving all-conference honors. Junior Alex James and sophomore girls' golfer Hope Dimmel received honorable mention.

Earlier in the week, JWP golfers took part in two meets hosted by NRHEG.

The first NRHEG invitational was at Waseca Monday, May 15. JWP took second out of mostly Gopher Conference opponents, with rival Triton taking the top spot with 325.

Dimmel led the way again, taking medalist honors by firing a 76. Thell tied for second with Hayfield's Sam Tucker with a 77. Carter Miller took 10th overall with an 83, his personal best in an 18-hole meet. Jeffrey Simonson fired a 101 and Tyler Nelson 131.

Hope Dimmel took sixth overall in the girls' competition with a 104.



MEET THE CHAMPS — The Gopher Conference champion JWP boys' golf team. From left: Logan Thell, Carter Miller, Jeffrey Simonson, Ryan Kronbach, Alex James, Steven Dimmel, and coach Mike Gardner. During the conference championship, Thell was the medalist and was the conference Player of the Year.

Three strokes were the deciding factor between sixth and third, with NRHEG's Grace Wilkenson taking the bronze with 101. Rebecca Walters of Maple River was the medalist while Triton's Tessa Tushaus took second.

NRHEG hosted another meet on Tuesday, May 16, this time at Riverview in rural New Richland.

This time, the JWP boys' team tied with United South Central, both firing a 166.

Miller once again hit a personal

record, this time on a nine-hole course with a 39. He tied with USC's Kadyne Neubauer and teammate Steven Dimmel for first place.

Simonson earned a top five finish, firing a 41 to finish fifth. Ryan Kronbach and Alex James finished 12th and 13th, respectively scoring 49 and 49. Nelson, who shot a 62, rounded out the scoring for JWP.

Hope Dimmel fired a 53, finishing fourth overall.

JWP's dominance on the links continued at Kenyon County Club

Tuesday, May 23. Riding off of the adrenaline of winning the conference title match, the boys took first place with a score of 155, nine higher than second-place Triton.

Four Bulldog boys cracked the top 10, while two more made the top 15. Thell collected another medalist honor on the season with a 36. Steven Dimmel was right behind him with 37. James took fourth, firing a 39 while Simonson tied for ninth with 43. Miller (46), Kronbach (47), and Nelson (71) helped the

boys earn first.

Hope Dimmel also had a fantastic day, scoring a season low 42 for nine holes. It was enough for the sophomore to earn first place over Kenyon-Wanamingo's sophomore Lydia Floterud, who ended the day with 45.

Hope Dimmel will participate in the Section 2A girls' golf tournament at North Links, North Mankato on Tuesday, May 30. The boys' portion of the golf tournament will take place June 1.



A GREAT DAY — The WHS track and field teams finished first in the Waseca Invitational May 18. Above left, Damerius Russell takes the handoff from Kyle Ahlschlager for the anchor leg of the 4x100 relay. Above right, Gabby Lopez takes the handoff from Camille Ring in the girls' 4x100. Below from left: Stella Omvedt, Joe Feldkamp, Kaeden Johnson.



Bluejays sweep home invitational

By JIM LUTGENS
Sports Editor

The Waseca High School track and field teams completed their regular season by winning the Waseca Invitational Thursday, May 18.

The WHS boys won with 171 points, followed by Austin with 112, New Ulm 104, Blue Earth Area 84, NRHEG 66.5 and WEM 47.5

One of the highlights was the 100-meter dash, which Kaeden Johnson won in 11.17 seconds, 1/100th of a second faster than Kyle Ahlschlager. Jordan Johnston took fourth. Joe Feldkamp won the 1600 in 5:00.02 and the 800 in 2:09.8 while Eddie Herman won the shot put at 46-11 and the discus at 159.10. Addison Sampson was first in the pole vault at 12-6 and first in the 300 hurdles in 43.53.

The Jays' other firsts were by Cole Schultz, 110 high hurdles, 17.76; Christian Rodriguez, 200, 23.32; and the 4x100 relay team of Rodriguez, Damaris Russell, Johnson and Ahlschlager, which clocked 46.57.

Other places: Colton Schroeder, 2nd, 3200; Ethan Stenzel, 2nd, shot put and 4th, discus; 4x200, 2nd (Brady Tlougan, Deron Russell, Jett Rohl, Micah Allen-Haas; William Mansfield, 3rd, pole vault; 4x400, 3rd (Tristan Goodwin, Cade Kalbow, Isaac Feldkamp, Joe Feldkamp; Johnston, 4th, long jump; Goodwin, 4th, 1600; Rohl, 5th, 200; Jacob Hadley, 5th, high jump and 6th, 400; Wyatt Hager, 6th, discus.

The Waseca girls won with 155.0 points. Following: Austin 145.2, NRHEG 82.7, New Ulm 79, WEM 63, Blue Earth Area 57.2.

The girls won six events, with Brooklyn Flatau taking the 100 hurdles in 16.44, Stella Omvedt winning the 1600 in 5:59.78 and Ella Dufault finishing first in the 800 in 2:28.39. Thyme Lang, Samantha Azure, Camille Ring and Gabby Lopez clocked 1:49.84 for first in the 4x200. Lang, Azure, Ring and Lopez won the 4x100 in 52.48. Ella Dufault, Evelyn O'Brien, Omvedt and Maren Schimming took the 4x400 in 4:28.95.

Other places: Ring, 2nd, 100 hurdles; O'Brien, 2nd, 800; Lopez, 2nd, 200; Flatau, 2nd, long jump and 3rd, 300 hurdles; Sartori, 2nd, discus; 4x800, 2nd (Callie Dufault, Schimming, Kelsey Draeger, Melanie Krueger); Layla Keith, 3rd, 100; Lang, 3rd, 200; Ring, 3rd, long jump Haydn Lynch, 3rd, high jump; Azure, 3rd, shot put and 5th, 200; Lang, 4th, high jump; Vivian Mader, 5th, 100 hurdles and 300 hurdles; Grace Frye, 5th, 100; Callie Dufault, 5th, 800; Kya Hoof, 6th, 1600; Melanie Krueger, 6th, 400.

"We had a lot of PRs and season bests," said Bluejays coach David Abel. "Brooklyn Flatau had a great day, Isaac Feldkamp ran his best-ever 800 and Christian Rodriguez had a great race in the 200. It was another exciting 100-meter boys' race. Eddie Herman had a big throw in the discus."



WHS baseball finishes regular season with slugfest loss to LSH

By JIM LUTGENS
Sports Editor

The Waseca High School baseball team lost 12-8 to LeSueur-Henderson Monday, May 22 at Tink Larson Community Field.

After giving up a run in the top of the first inning, the Bluejays seemingly took control in the bottom of the inning, plating four runs.

The Jays added a run in the second and it remained 5-1 until the top of the fourth, when the Giants batted around the order while putting five runs on the scoreboard.

Waseca regained the lead 7-6 in the bottom of the fourth, but the Giants came up with four runs in the sixth and two in the seventh to hold off a late Bluejay rally.

Tyson Reger, Payton Garza, Griffin Krautkremer and Grant Cox scored two runs apiece for the Bluejays. Reger was 4-for-4. Keaton Roeker drove in a pair of runs, Oliver O'Brien and Max Wirtz one apiece. Kendrick Volkmann had two hits and two stolen bases.

"We hit the ball fairly well, but they hit it a little better."

— Tink Larson

Reger started on the mound and took the pitching loss. Roeker and Max Wirtz pitched in relief.

"We hit the ball fairly well, but LeSueur-Henderson hit it a little better and took advantage of late-game control problems on the mound," said Waseca assistant coach Tink Larson. "Reger had a great night swinging the bat. We are looking forward to the upcoming playoffs."

The Bluejays, seeded fifth in Section 2AA, hosted No. 12 seed WEM on Thursday. The winner plays Tuesday, May 30 at 5 p.m. against No. 4 LeSueur-Henderson or No. 13 Medford.



SAFE AT HOME — Tyson Reger (2) slides safely into home during the Waseca High School baseball team's 12-8 loss to LeSueur-Henderson in the final game of the regular season at Tink Larson Community Field Monday, May 22. Reger had four hits and scored twice.

Pioneer photo by Jim Lutgens

Season ends for Waseca softball

The 2023 season came to abrupt end for the Waseca High School softball team Tuesday with a 10-3 loss to Tri-City United in the opening round of Section 2AA tournament at Montgomery.

The Bluejays were seeded ninth in the section, TCU eighth. The Titans advanced to face No. 1 seed New Ulm.

Waseca's head coach was Abby Bloomquist.

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Waseca track teams second in conference meet

By JIM LUTGENS
Sports Editor

A Big South Conference championship was not in the cards for the 2023 Waseca High School track and field teams.

But the Bluejays had a pretty good night. Waseca finished second in both the boys' and girls' divisions of Tuesday's conference meet at Marshall, breaking two school records.

Worthington's boys won with 166.5 points, followed by Waseca with 137.5, Fairmont 113, Marshall 111, St. Peter 105 and New Ulm 54.

Damarius Russell, a sophomore, was the Bluejays' leading scorer, taking first in the

100-meter daash in 11.41 seconds, second in the 200 in 22.59 and second in the long jump at 21-3.

Christian Rodriguez, Russell, Kaeden Johnson and Kyle Ahlschlager combined to win the 4x100 with a time of 42.82, a new school record.

The other record to fall was in the pole vault, where Addison Sampson cleared 13-6 for first place.

The other first for the boys was by Eddie Herman, who dominated the discus while winning with a throw of 166-11.

Waseca owned the 100, where Russell was followed in second and third place, respectively, by Johnson in 11.46 and

Ahlschlager in 11.47.

Rodriguez, Johnston, Johnson and Micah Allen-Haas teamed for second in the 4x200 relay.

Other boys' places: Ahlschlager, 3rd, 200; Ethan Stenzel, 3rd, shot put; Herman, 4th, shot put; William Mansfield, 4th, pole vault; Rodriguez, 5th, 200; Isaac Feldkamp, 5th, 800 and 1600; Joe Feldkamp, 3200; Sampson, 5th, 300 hurdles; Jacob Hadley, 5th, high jump; Brady Tloutan, 6th, 400; 4x400 relay, 6th (Johnston, Tloutan, Wyatt Hager, Isaac Feldkamp); 4x800, 6th (Joe Feldkamp, Bobby Mortenson, Colson Schroeder, Lucas Vasquez).

Marshall totaled 182.5 points for first in

the girls' division, with Waseca second with 148. Following: Fairmont 138.5, St. Peter 118, New Ulm 66 and Worthington 37.

Camille Ring had a big night, winning the 100 in 13.35 and the 100 high hurdles in 16.33 while taking fourth in the 300 hurdles. Brooklyn Flatau took gold in the long jump, going 17-0.25, and was second in the 100 hurdles. Ava Bruhn, Layla Keith, Samantha Azure and Thyme Lang won the 4x100 relay in 52.8. Azure was second in the shot put.

Other places: Vivian Mader, 3rd, 300 hurdles and 4th, 300 hurdles; 4x200, 3rd (Azure, Lang, Bruhn, Keth); 4x800, 3rd (Evelyn O'Brien, Maren Schimming, Callie Dufault, Melanie Krueger); Lang, 4th, 200;

Callie Dufault, 4th, 3200; 4x400, 4th (Ella Dufault, O'Brien, Schimming, Reese Rodriguez); Kalea Sartori, 4th, shot put and discus; Haydn Lynch, 4th, high jump; Bruhn, 4th, triple jump; Azure, 5th, 200; Ella Dufault, 5th, 800 and 1600; Ring, fifth, long jump; Neveah Sampson, 6th, discus.

All-conference honors were earned for any individual or relay that placed in the top three.

The Bluejays are off until Thursday, June 1, when they travel to Lakeville for the second meet, which concludes June 3 at Lakeville. The top two individuals, first-place relays and those meeting qualifying standards advance to state.

Dual-meet season ends for Waseca tennis boys

By JIM LUTGENS
Sports Editor

In the final match of the regular season, the Waseca High School boys' tennis team dropped a 5-2 decision to Lake City on the Bluejays' courts.

The only difference from the Section 1A quarterfinals was the location. Third-seeded Lake City hosted Waseca and ended the Bluejays' season 5-2 Thursday, May 18. Waseca, seeded sixth in the section, finished with a dual-meet record of 7-8.

Eighth-grader Otto Schoenrock posted Waseca's lone singles victory, winning a pair of tiebreakers 7-6 (5), 7-6 (4) in the No. 4 slot.

The Bluejays' No. 2 doubles team of Jenaro Delgado and Dominic Grunzke won 6-3, 7-5.

In singles, Waseca's Tyler Jellum lost at No. 1, Henry Huttemier fell at No. 2 and Jan Schoen lost at No. 3.

Jacari Jellum and Oliver Rohwer dropped two close sets at No. 1 doubles, 7-5, 7-5. Corbin Connors and Armaan Bhatti lost a marathon match at No. 3 doubles, 6-3, 5-7, 10-7.



WAY TO GO — Freshman Kayle Langford, left, acting as courtesy runner for sophomore Autumn Thissen. They were celebrating Thissen's double.

Pioneer photo by Michael Roy

JWP softball team ends regular season on two-game losing skid

By MICHAEL ROY
Staff Writer

It was a tough break for the JWP girls' softball team and an even tougher end to the regular season. Their final two games at home against United South Central and Waseca resulted in frustrating losses. They took a 10-2 loss to the Rebels on Thursday, May 18 and were on the losing end of a close 9-8 game against the Bluejays the following Friday.

Rebels 10, Bulldogs 1

The score makes the game between JWP and United South Central look a lot less competitive than it truly was. However, it was a defensive slog for a few innings.

Until the fourth inning, it was a tight contest where it was 2-1. Sophomore Brielle Dessner cut it close, but it looked like she beat the throw. However, the umpire nearest to the base made a controversial call that some thought changed the momentum of the game, calling her out.

United South Central took advantage and piled on eight more runs.

The Bulldogs, who were always reliably on the offensive attack, couldn't respond.

Waseca 9, Bulldogs 8

The tough week ended on an even tougher note when the Bulldogs hosted Waseca.

Although the game was originally planned for Saturday, May 20, it was rescheduled to the previous Friday to free up Waseca's schedule.

It was a classic cross-county battle in which the Bulldogs took the first run. Dessner got home off senior Jessa Westphal's single right at Waseca pitcher McKyla Hasselquist, who wasn't quite prepared for it.

However, both Westphal and freshman Kayle Langford were caught stealing, and the two outs contributed to what could have been a nice start to JWP's day.

Waseca replied with three runs due to miscues and errors by the Bulldogs in the top of the second. From there, it was an uphill battle until the end for the Bulldogs. Ellah Oliver scored one in the bottom of the second to get them within one.

When the score was 6-2 in the bottom of the fourth, two successful bunts by Oliver and freshman Victoria Blomstrom helped the team build some steam. While junior Lexie Dahlberg was out on a pop fly, she helped get one run batted in. Dessner's triple helped three more get home to tie it 6-6.

Eventually, in the bottom of the fifth, Waseca switched pitchers from the junior Hasselquist to senior Hannah Thursdale, which did the trick. Although the Bulldogs tied it again in the bottom of the sixth inning thanks to an RBI by Langford to get Dessner home, the Bluejays earned one last run in the top of the seventh, which made all the difference.

Thursdale struck out one, sophomore Autumn Thissen was tagged out on first, and Thursdale threw another strikeout to end the game.

JWP pitcher Vanessa Terbeest played all seven innings, allowing the nine runs while striking out four. Waseca pitcher McKyla Hasselquist pitched four innings and struck out two while allowing six runs. Hannah Thursdale closed the game, playing the latter three innings and allowing two runs while striking out four.

The 1-2 stretch put the team's regular season record at 6-12 (2-8 in-conference). As the #6 seed in the Section 1A playoffs, the team had a second chance against #3 United South Central in the playoffs on Monday, May 22.

JWP track and field teams second, fourth at Triton

By MICHAEL ROY
Staff Writer

With the absence of head coach Sam Schruin, who left to do a few weeks of training in Europe for the Army National Guard, the JWP track teams continued their season at Triton in Dodge Center, where the boys took second and the girls fourth.

St. Peter won the girls' competition with a score of 192.5, with Rochester Lourdes in a distance sec-

ond with a 105.5 and Kenyon-Wanamingo taking third with 94. JWP's 79 earned them fourth place.

The Saints of St. Peter also took first in the boys' competition with 196. JWP's boys scored 153.5, besting Rochester Lourdes who had 79, Lyle-Pacelli with 63, Pine Island with 55.5, Triton with 48.5, Byron with 43.5, Kenyon-Wanamingo with 39, and Hayfield with seven.

It was a golden day for the 4x200 girls' relay team of Lilly Strauss,

Nevaeh Weimert, Raquel Fischer, and Ashlin Keyes. Individually, Jack Cahill tallied a first in the pole vault with Alex James taking first in the long jump.

Behind Alex James in the long jump was Ryan Kronbach, who took second. Kaden Baker collected a second-place finish in the 110 hurdles.

Other second-place finishers were the boys' 4x200 relay team (Isaiah Berndt, Alex James, Daulton Bauer,

and Ryan Kronbach), the 4x800 team (Luke Cahill, Derek Gustafson, Memphis James, and Alex Kleve), M. James in the triple jump, Isaac Gahlon in the pole vault, Berndt in the 100, Ashlin Keyes in the high jump, and Lilly Strauss in the long jump.

Leading the third-place finishers were three relay teams: the boys' 4x100 (Gahlon, Berndt, A. James, and Bauer), the girls' 4x100 team (Presley James, Weimert, Strauss,

and Fischer), and the girls' 4x400. Team (Keyes, Strauss, Weimert, and Madison Kunst). Individually, third place finishers were Berndt in the long jump, Bauer in the 200, Kleve in the 1600, Luke Cahill in the 3200, Michael VanRavenhorst in the triple jump, and Fischer in the girls' shot put.

The track teams participated in a sub-section meet in Sibley East on Thursday, May 25.

Braves win opener at Minn. Lake

The Waseca Braves amateur baseball team had a successful opening to the 2023 season, winning 3-1 at Minnesota Lake Sunday.

It was almost a no-hitter for the visitors as the Lakers managed only two hits.

Danny Cromer did not allow a hit until the eighth, with Minnesota Lake scored its run. Kelvin Nelson pitched in relief, helping the Braves out of a slight jam in the eighth and retiring the last five batters for the save.

Nelson finished with three hits, Uriah Possin two. Ryan Glynn and Jimmy Loonan scored.

"Cromer really looked good through seven hitless innings," said Waseca coach Tink Larson. "It was a nice start to a new season."

Bulldogs fall to USC in section softball tournament

By MICHAEL ROY
Staff Writer

It wasn't the way the JWP softball team intended to end the season. It never is for any team.

But after their best season since 2019, the Bulls of Waseca were handed their hardest loss by Gopher Conference rival United South Central in the first round of the Section 1A playoffs Monday, May 22.

"It was a tough way to end a good season,"

JWP coach Megan Christopher said.

After one inning, both teams were tied 1-1. However, out of nowhere, USC took advantage of a few errors and holes in the Bulldogs' defense and tallied 13 more runs.

Again, a usually stellar Bulldogs offense couldn't find a way to score runs, and with two more by the Rebels in the top of the fourth inning, the game ended in three and a half innings with a score of 16-1.

The softball team ended their season with a

6-13.

Despite the loss, the Bulldogs can look back with pride on their season. The team carved its best record in four years and earned more wins this season than in the past two years, which were hard to recover from due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

"I'm proud of this team," Christopher said. "We had a lot of fun this season, and a lot of the games we played were competitive."

She's proudest of her three seniors — catch-

er Isabelle Rider, pitcher Vanessa TerBeest, and second baseman Jessa Westphal — for their leadership and work ethic throughout their time on the varsity softball team.

"Those group of girls are tenacious," she said. "That means they might be stubborn at times, but they always persevere. They never gave up, no matter what the score was. They'll make it far in life and achieve great things with that attitude."

Baseball Bulldogs upended by USC, New Ulm

By MICHAEL ROY
Staff Writer

It was a tough end to the regular season for the JWP baseball team. Although they secured their first winning season under head coach Cory Jewison, the Bulldogs took a frustrating 14-13 loss to United South Central at Wells Thursday, May 17. A 9-3 defeat to New Ulm Cathedral the following Friday didn't help.

Rebels 14, Bulldogs 13

You would think that a 16-hit day, a batter nearly hitting for the cycle, and a 13-run campaign would earn you a win.

But for JWP, it was still not enough against red-hot USC in

Wells.

The near upset started off quiet when the teams matched every run the other scored. JWP earned the first run of the game; USC tied it.

Ryan Hanson started his attempt at hitting for the cycle when he hit a solo home run in the third inning. When they approached the fourth inning with a two-run tie, he also led the Bulldogs on their seven-run campaign, hitting a triple and earning three RBIs.

However, all that hard work to get the seven-run lead was wiped out in the bottom of the fourth when the Rebels replied with eight runs. Freshman Chase Gerdt, who was pitching well, allowed two runs to make it 9-4. He was then switched

out for junior Ty Melchior, who was asked to clear the bases-loaded situation before him. However, the Rebels took the 10-9 lead and pretty much kept it for the rest of the game.

In the end, both teams scored a combined 27 runs and racked up 33 hits. It was an impressive offensive game that sadly saw JWP as the loser.

Gerdt pitched 3.2 innings, allowing four runs while striking out three.

Greyhounds 9, Bulldogs 3

It was another grueling day as the Bulldogs traveled to New Ulm to face the Cathedral Greyhounds.

NUC had a very impressive 13-3 record before facing the Bulldogs in their final game of the regular sea-

son. At first, however, the Bulldogs made them look like a middle-of-the-pack team.

But a sudden lapse in defense saw the Greyhounds take a big lead late in the game.

"It was a close game," Head Coach Cory Jewison reported. "We were doing well until the bottom of the sixth, where they scored five."

The Greyhounds' victory marked their fourteenth, while JWP took their seventh loss of the season.

The team's record is now 10-7 (4-7 in-conference). They received the No. 7 seed and hosted #10 Rushford-Peterson — the team that eliminated them from the playoffs last season — on Wednesday, May 24.

WASECA BRAVES SCHEDULE – 2023

Sunday	May 28	Lake Crystal	Away	2:00
Wednesday	May 31	Owatonna	Home	7:30
Sunday	June 4	Eagle Lake	Away	2:00
Wednesday	June 7	Wells	Home	7:30
Saturday	June 10	Stewartville	Home	7:00
Sunday	June 11	Lake Crystal	Home	2:00

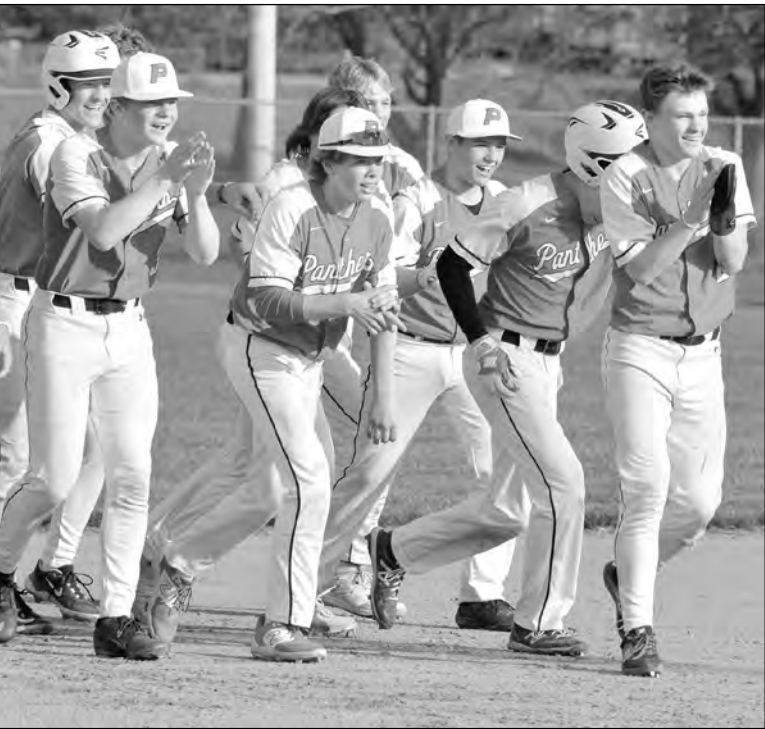
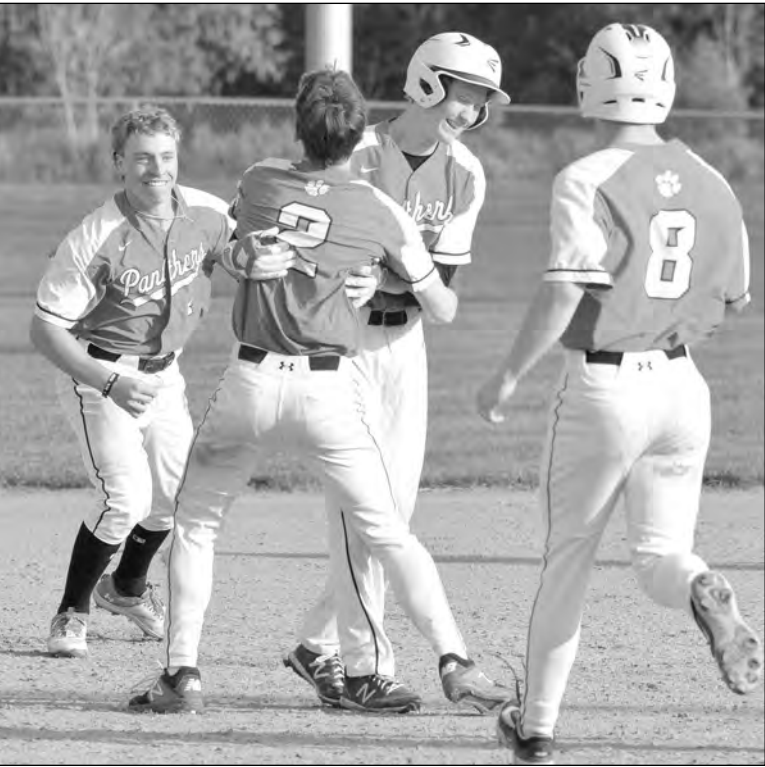
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The NRHEG baseball team came up big last Friday, scoring in the bottom of the seventh inning to defeat Kenyon-Wanamingo 5-4. On top, the Panthers' Andrew Phillips, Dexter Lee, Alden Dobberstein and Ethan Thompson celebrate the game-winning hit. Middle, the Panthers joyously exit the field. Bottom, third baseman Carter Martens starts a crucial double play.

Pioneer photos by Eli Lutgens

Walk-off win

Panthers prevail in final at-bat

By ELI LUTGENS
Publisher/Editor

The NRHEG High School baseball team won its final home game of the regular season in exciting fashion Friday night, walking off Kenyon-Wanamingo 5-4 at Jeff and Carol Reese Field in New Richland.

The Panthers took an early lead and held onto it until the seventh inning, when Kenyon-Wanamingo clawed back to tie the game at 4-4.

In the Panthers' half of the inning, every indication pointed to extra innings when junior Dexter Lee came to the plate with one on

and two outs. He singled sharply to left and was batted around to third base on a follow-up single from Ethan Thompson. On the very next pitch, Alden Dobberstein laced a walk-off hit over the left fielder's head.

Freshman Jared Lee earned the victory, pitching one inning in relief. Jackson Chrz pitched five innings, and Dexter Lee pitched one inning in relief.

As the No. 1 seed in the sub-section, the Panthers will receive a bye in the first round of playoffs and host a playoff game for the second consecutive year.

Girls' golf team 25-3 going into season's final stretch

The NRHEG girls' golf team turned in another strong showing last week, winning the Panther Invitational at Riverview Golf Course.

The Panthers, according to coach Brad Root, are 25-3 heading into the final three weeks of the season.

Meela Budach again led the Panthers, shooting a 50 for medalist honors. Grace Wilkenson shot 52, Mallory Schlinger 58, Ciara Stenzel 60 and Lainee Krohn 67.

For the boys, Carter Schlaak carded a 59, Shan Hansen 68 and Tyler Kress 70.

Looking snazzy

Softball Panthers shore up defense entering playoffs

By JIM LUTGENS
Sports Editor

It looks like the NRHEG softball team is ready for post-season play.

The Panthers completed a two-win week Friday with a 21-3, four-inning triumph over Kenyon-Wanamingo. The lone blemish for the week was a 2-1 loss to United South Central in which the Panthers committed five errors to the Rebels' one.

There were plenty of hitting heroes at Kasson, where the Panthers plated 10 runs in the top of the first inning and nine in the second.

Camryn VanMaldeghem was 2-for-3 with four RBIs, three stolen bases and three runs scored. Faith Nielsen went 2-for-4 with a double, three runs and two RBIs, Trinity Smith-Vulcan 2-for-3 with four RBIs and two runs, Hallie Schultz 2-for-4 with three RBIs and two runs. Addy Stadheim was 2-for-3 with two runs, Presley Nielsen 2-for-4 with two runs. Sidney Schultz and Bree Ihrke both scored two runs.

Faith Nielsen was the winning pitcher, allowing two earned runs on four hits. She walked one and struck out five.

"The girls hit well and played great defense tonight as well as took advantage of Keyon-Wanamingo's miscues," said NRHEG coach Wendy Schultz. "The girls hit well, totaling 12 hits in four innings. The past two games the girls have really



PANTHER POWER — The Panthers' Faith Nielsen, left, fires a pitch during the Panthers' two-win week. Sidney Schultz, right, lays down a bunt.

Photos by Judy Tweeten

stepped up their defense. It's a great way to head into the playoffs."

The Panthers turned back Medford 4-1 last Thursday.

VanMaldeghem was 3-for-4 with two stolen bases, Faith Nielsen 2-for-4; both doubled. Sidney Schultz was 2-for-4 with two RBIs. Ihrke also hit safely.

Faith Nielsen scattered six hits and two walks, with one strikeout.

"The girls played great defense and made some big catches and plays," said Coach Schultz.

Top defensive plays included a first-inning throw from

VanMaldeghem to Addy Stadheim to get the out at home, a couple nice catches by Smith-Vulcan and Ihrke in the outfield, and a line-drive double play by Sidney Schultz.

"Cam, Faith and Sid were consistent at the plate tonight," said Coach Schultz. "Faith and Addy continue to be a solid battery."

The Panthers were nipped by USC at Wells last Tuesday, when they plagued by defensive woes.

"This was a closely played game that we felt we could have won," said Coach Schultz. "We had two costly miscues that led to USC scor-

ing. We'll keep plugging away at practice and hope we cut down on errors."

VanMaldeghem, Hallie Schultz and Addy Stadheim had NRHEG's lone hits.

Faith Nielsen yielded no earned runs on six hits, walking two and fanning six.

The Panthers, 9-7 overall and 6-5 in the Gopher Conference, opened sub-section play Thursday, May 25. The tournament continues this weekend at Caswell Park in Mankato.

Track teams face new competition at Waseca

By JIM LUTGENS
Sports Editor

The best part about the Waseca Invitational, according to NRHEG track and field coach Duey Ferber, is that it gives the Panthers a chance to see competition they otherwise would not.

The worst part, this year anyway, is that it was the third meet of the week for many of the NRHEG girls, who finished third among six teams at Waseca Thursday, May 18.

Waseca won with 155.9 points, followed by Austin at 145.2. NRHEG 72.7, New Ulm 79, WEM 63 and Blue Earth Area 57.2.

"It was a fun night for our girls getting to compete against teams we haven't seen yet," said Ferber. "We had some good performances even though this was the third meet of the week for many of our girls."

The Panthers picked up two first places, by Lauren Cowell, who threw the discus 110-1, and Anika Ladlie, who cleared 4-10 in the high jump.

Evelyn Nydegger was second in the triple jump, second in the 300 intermediate hurdles and fourth in the 110 high hurdles. Cowell was fourth in the shot put.

Other places; Quinn VanMaldeghem, 4th, 800; 4x400 relay, 4th (Keira Lenort, Sierra Misgen, Elise Aronson, VanMaldeghem); 4x100, 5th (Josie Strom, Holly Bartness, Chloe Riewer, Paige Johnson); McKenzie Mueller, 5th, discus; Olivia Kofstad, 5th, triple jump; Gabby Schlaak, 6th, 100 hurdles and 300 hurdles; Malonna Wilson, 6th, shot put; Riewer, 6th, long jump; Strom, 7th, 100 and 8th, triple jump; Misgen, 7th, 400; 4x200, 7th (Misgen, Bartness, Riewer, Clara Buendorf; Kyra Spies, 8th, 100; Buendorf, 8th,



TOUGH FOES— The NRHEG track and field teams faced some solid opponents in last week's Waseca Invitational. Above, the Panthers' Paige Johnson takes the hand-off from Chloe Riewer in the 4x100 relay.

Pioneer photo by Jim Lutgens

800; Lenort, 8th, high jump.

"This was a nice meet to prepare for next week's sub-section meet," said Ferber.

The NRHEG boys faced some stellar competition at Waseca, where the home team won going away with 171 points. Following: Austin 112, New Ulm 104, Blue Earth Area 84, NRHEG 66.5, WEM 47.5.

The Panthers had no first-place finishers, though Levin Kitzer was second in the 110 hurdles and Parker Bunn took second in the 300 intermediates.

Others: Sawyer Prigge, 3rd, high jump; Will

Tuttle, 3rd, triple jump; Lucas Hanna, 3rd, discus and 6th, shot put; 4x800, 3rd (Sam Christensen, Jacob Karl, Devon Nelton, Gavin Sletten); Sletten, 4th, 800; Bunn, 4th, 110 hurdles; Kitzer, 4th, 300 hurdles; Harbor Cromwell, 4th, pole vault; Charlie Fuller, 5th, triple jump; Karl, 6th, 1600; 4x200, 7th (Bunn, Brendan Schmidt, Cromwell, Cohen Riewer).

"We didn't run at full strength tonight," said Ferber. "We're trying to get some of the guys healthy for next week. Our hurdlers, throwers and middle-distance runners had a good night."

NRHEG clay target team finishes third

Led by Eustice, Lenort, 10 receive conference honors

Gracie Luna in the Top 25 Female shooters for the conference.

Eustice finished fourth and was joined by Alden Dobberstein, Reese Routh, Ned Bell, and Sean Beauvais for the Male Top 25 conference averages.

"It was an odd season in which the first conference placings were not announced until three weeks into the five-week season," said coach Dan Sorum. "This is due to

the fact many teams up north could not access their gun clubs for the first half of the season because of snow."

The NRHEG team now advances to the Class 6A Championship in Alexandria on June 17. The nine-day tournament (one for each class) will determine the top 40 teams that will move onto the Minnesota State High School League state tournament.



Eustice



Lenort



In 1948, the Janesville Argus found a rare photo of the Decoria Township band playing at a July 4 celebration in Janesville in 1895.

Baseball team wins conference pennant

1923

-In line with the well-known song and poem “Laws may come and laws may go, but weeds grow on forever,” the legislature of 1923 has again made a change in legislation affecting the control of noxious weeds. This is the passage of “Noxious Weeds Act,” Chapter 318, Session Laws of 1923. In the passage of this act the law under which weed control work operated in 1921 and ’22 has been repealed.

-Through the initiative and energy of two prominent businessmen, backed by others, a ball team is in sight. Several meetings have been held recently, voluntary on the part of those who participated. It was the unanimous opinion that a team composed of local players was feasible and that it might easily be put over. Accordingly, steps were at once taken to perfect an organization.

-Miss Lucy Joyce, daughter of Mr. James Joyce, one of our popular mail carriers, participated in a play presented by the junior class at the College of St. Teresa, Winona. The title of the play was “As Gold in a Japanese Garden.” Miss Joyce took one of the leading parts and received many encomiums on account of the splendid manner in which she acquitted herself.

-A prominent farmer voices his sentiments in the Argus office Monday morning, among other things expressing the opinion that while the Farm Bureau is a good thing and meets his approval, he could not endorse all its activities particularly as to ways and means and methods to secure members. In his opinion if it really is the scarce of so much value to the farmer, the farmer should appreciate it and join without being pushed into it headlong through specious flattery and insistent importuning.

1948

-Janesville High School came through with flying colors to win the Sub-District baseball championship at Waseca last week. In the first game the home gang knocked off Morristown by a count of 8-4. In the second game of the afternoon, Janesville pounded out a one-sided win over Medford, 13-3.

-The Brown Construction Company resumed work again this morning just north of the sand pile in Berndt’s Point when the filling of the sand pile hole was the first job to be undertaken in that vicinity since last fall. In addition to this particular job, the general lay of the land will be improved and made ready for other work at the Lake Elysian Park.

-The Janesville HS baseball team copped the Gopher League pennant by downing Freeborn Monday afternoon in the latter’s own backyard by a score of 10-7. Not bad wen you consider the fact they also won the Sub-District honors at Waseca the previous week by trouncing Morristown and Medford High Schools.

-On Friday, May 28th, 971 pupils from the Waseca County Rural School system will close their books for another school year. There are 697 pupils attending the 52 open schools while 274 students in the 27 closed rural districts and five districts closed to seventh and eighth graders are transported daily to open rural schools, public schools, and parochial schools.

1973

-Mrs. John Schmidt and Mrs. David Pope were named Cub Scout Den Leaders at the monthly meeting of the local Cub Scout Pack Monday night. Mrs. Schmidt

will be assisted by Mrs. Bob Ryan. The new position of Den Leader Coach was initiated and Mrs. Cliff Coonrod was named to fill it. She will be assisting Cubmaster Don Santo and the den leaders.

-Mrs. Robert (Jan) Westphal will open her own beauty parlor here next Wednesday, May 30. Called Jan’s Fashion Tress, the new business will be located in the Westphal home at 704 West First Street. Mrs. Westphal completed beauty school March 15 and will be the owner-operator of the shop. Shirley Meister, Mankato, will be the manager-operator of the firm. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Willard Arndt, Janesville.

-The Janesville Rotary Club has been notified by Rotary District 595 that 16-year-old Alberto Luna Yanez of Oruro, Bolivia will be Janesville Rotary’s third exchange student, according to Cliff Gardner, chairman of Janesville Rotary’s Student Exchange Program. Per Olof Hansen is currently completing a one-year stay here as Rotary’s second exchange student, having arrived from Molndal, Sweden in August, 1972.

-Waldorf-Pemberton High School has named seven seniors as honor students. These students have maintained at least a B average throughout three years of senior high. The Student Council will present honor cords to those achieving this honor and they will be worn as a mark of distinction at graduation exercises. The honor students are as follows: Douglas Bathke, Kevin Drossel, Pam Coy, Greig Eichhorst, Layne Ludeman, Keith Maurer, and LuAnn Ward.

1998

-Were you among the millions of Americans watching the Powerball drawing Wednesday night? Not many could resist the chance to win \$195 million. The urgency to buy a Powerball ticket was so intense last week that lines formed outside stores. Locally, Sandy Ewert, manager at Budget Mart, said its Powerball sales did increase this past week. While sales during the daytime were a bit higher, overall it was a 50/50 split between day and nighttime sales.

-Charles “Chuck” Brenner has been named branch manager of the Waldorf office of Roundbank according to Neil Fruechte, bank president. His most recent position has been general manager for Harvest States Cooperative in Janesville. As branch manager, Brenner will be responsible for serving the credit needs of bank customers in the Waldorf area and overseeing the operations of the Waldorf bank office.

-A frustrating season ended on a down note when second-seeded Montgomery-Lonsdale buried the Janesville-Waldorf-Pemberton baseball team 21-0 in five innings of the May 18 Sub-Section 8A opener. M-L advanced to the semi-finals with a 16-5 record. JWP ended its season at 3-14, losing 10 of its final 11 games, and winning just two of seven road games during the year. JWP, which was hoping to make a tournament run similar to a year ago, never had a chance against the heavy-hitting Redbirds. Monty ripped 17 hits, including four doubles and a pair of homers, while scoring runs in every inning.

-Nicole Nelson, daughter of Paul and Lorraine Mueller, of Waldorf, graduated from Concordia University, St. Paul, on Saturday, May 16. Nelson received a bachelor of arts degree cum laude in outreach.

Tippy, Raichle retire

Waseca Herald, 1923

-A club membership of 200, of whom at least 150 will be golf players, is the goal set by the Lakeside Club of Waseca at the annual meeting at the club house, on the north shore of Clear Lake on Tuesday evening. A committee of five will be appointed to make a drive next week. The beautiful appearance of the grounds this spring, which the added popularity of the new Elks Club House in course of erection nearby, lent enthusiasm to the meeting and made everyone present a booster for the Lakeside Club. The club dues are \$5 a year and this gives the member, his wife and young children the privilege of the club house, the bath house and the beach and the playgrounds adjacent.

-The newly organized Waseca ball team surprised the local fans again last Sunday by winning from Waterville by a 3 to 1 score. It looked like an easy win for Waseca in the second inning when Trapp, a new man who played third base, stepped to plate and slammed out a home run. Waseca got three men on bases later in the inning, but Varsala, the Waterville pitcher, tightened up and retired the side with the bases full. It was nip and tuck playing from hen until the seventh innning, when Jack Connelly got a two bagger and scored on Shigley’s single. The third run was secured in the next inning when Malters, who played center was given a pass and then was advanced by Trapp and Bokinske. Waterville’s only run was secured in the ninth, when Perkins connected with Connelly’s curve for a three-bagger and scored on a single by Philler.

Waseca Herald, 1948

-An early interest in entering their horses for the 1948 Waseca Horse Show set for Sunday, June 6th, is being shown by exhibitors both locally and out of the county, according to Elmer C. Iversen, secretary of the Waseca Horse Club. The total of entries have now reached almost 50, he reported early this week, with many of them from out of town.

-The Rev. G. E. Martin of the Waseca Methodist Church was the guest at Baccalaureate services for



In 1973, Post 1642 (Waseca) officers were chosen. Front row, from left: Quartermaster Wes Bryant, Senior Vice Commander Dorwin Peterson, Commander Dean Means, Junio Vice Commander Lyle Cromer and Bob Dahnert. Back row: Trustee Gerald Buker, Dallas Greeney, adjutant Stu Peterson, trustee Al Grams, and Bill Fitzsimmons.



VFW Auxiliary Officers from 1973 were, front row: Trustee Dorothy Buker, Treasurer Donna Patten, Senior Vice President Barb Grams, President Lora Mena,s Junior Vice President Vivian Peterson, Secretary Lola Greeney, and Conductress Bev Root. Back row: Musicial Jo Ann Palm, In-trustor Adelia O’Hara, Trustee Eileen Peterson, and color bearers Sharon LaPlount, Virginia Cromer and Merle Rietfort.

the senior class of Central High School which was held Sunday evening in the school auditorium at 8 p.m. The program included the processional “Pomp and Chivalry” played by the Waseca high school band under the direction of Herbert J. Streliz, the call to worship by Rev. M. D. Hinderlie and the Gloria Patria by the audience.

-Mankato High School baseball Scarlets defeated Central 4-3 at Waseca, Saturday, in their first non-conference game of the season. Central High School twirler, George Miller, also made hits scarce as he gave up only four safeties, but the Scarlets bunched three of them in the fourth inning for three runs.

Waseca Daily Journal, 1973

-Deb Wendland, 18, daughter of Mr. And Mrs. Ken Wendland, Waseca, joined the Journal staff this week as a summer intern. She is a sophomore at Drake University in Des Moines, Iowa and is majoring in the news-editorial division of journalism. While working with the Journal news staff, Deb will be covering a variety of community and area news events. She will also be

doing bookkeeping for the circulation department of the Journal. In high school Deb worked on both the yearbook and paper staff.

-Dean Fleming, president of Dean’s Specialty Supply, Waseca, announced the appointment today of Daryl Ellison, manger of administration and comptroller of the firm. At the same time he announced Ted Matz as assistant to the president. Boyd Fleeger is the general manager and acting marketing and sales manager. Ellison has been associated with Hubbard Milling Company in Mankato as comptroller, assistant treasurer and manager of finance since 1963. He is also a registered certified public accountant.

-The Bluejay tennis team finished second in the District Four Team Meet which was held at Owatonna Wednesday afternoon. The Bluejays defeated Owatonna 3-2 in the first match and then lost 4-1 to Northfield in the finals. The Raiders won over Faribault 4-1 to advance to the finals.

Waseca County News, 1998

-Richard L. Stiff will replace warden Jim Tippy at the Federal Correctional Institution in Waseca (FCI)

after Tippy retires from the post Aug. 31. The announcement was made Friday. Stiff will assume the post in December. “My plan right now is to retire and stay here in Waseca,” Tippy said. “I have got a lot of different activities that I am involved in.”

-“The younger I went, the better it got.” That is how Waterville-Elysian-Morristown (WEM) fifth-grade teacher Ran Raichle described his teaching experience at Morristown Elementary. Richle has decided the time is now to develop his theories on his first love, education, and his second love, polka music. He has decided to retire from teaching after 31 years, 29 of which were at WEM elementary school in Morristown.

-While the sounds of the band playing have ceased and Memorial Day parade circuit already run, the honoring of those who died defending America will resonate in Waseca again this summer. The arrival of a replica of the Vietnam Wall on Sunday, Aug. 6, will likely bring thousands to the community during its four-day stop here.

1948: Worst spring for road construction

1923

-Ben Turpin’s press agent is said to be responsible for a story that the comedian’s admirers enjoy, whether it is true or not. Turpin approached the teller of a strange bank with a check to be cashed. The teller did not recognize him. Such is fame! “Have you any way to identify yourself?” asked the non-movie-attending teller. “Sure,” replied Ben, and he became cross-eyed and did his great film fall. “Now, do you know me?” he asked confidently. “No,” answered the teller, “but here’s your money. You have earned it”

-Clifford Moore who was accidentally shot in the head last week is doing nicely, as is Ole T. Morstad, who suffered a deep gash in his leg.

-The seventh months old baby of Mr. and Mrs. Schlaak is recovering from an attack of chicken pox.

-A deal was closed Monday evening of this week between F. W. Delfs and W. J. Romig, whereby Mr. Romig resumes his former station as landlord of the Hotel New Richland. In leaving, Mr. Delfs stated that it is with deep regret that he leaves this community, which he found much to his liking. “I have enjoyed my stay in New Richland immensely, and have met many excellent people while here, and I wish to assure them that the only reason I have for leaving is due strictly to the help problem which is almost impossible,” said Mr. Delfs.

-The discipline of farming, and the education it gives in the elemental things of life are turning out a race of forceful, broad minded self reliant men and women. It is worthwhile. That was what one farm mother wrote in answer to the question, “Would You Want Your Daughter to Marry a Farmer?”

- There is no other farm product in Minnesota whose price the farmers can influence as much as they can influence the price of cream or butterfat. The price of butterfat is the only price on farm products that has not fallen below the cost of production during the past two years.

-FOR SALE- three light used cars, complete with starter and lights, at a bargain. Lewer, Woodhall, Cunningham Co., Inc., Waseca, Minn

1948

-“We could hardly have found a worse spring for road construction,” was the comment of O. B. Swenson, resident engineer with the State Highway department in Albert Lea, in discussing the progress of Highway 13 from New Richland to Albert Lea.

-Baseball fortunes for New Richland in the Maple Valley league are bright with two victories in as many starts, a fact when the ninth inning revealed them 11 to 7 winners over the visitors from Winnebago. The game was played before a good crowd and a fine baseball day ushered in the season’s opener at Anderson field.

-Farmers are notified that they should see Frank Root at the Land O’ Lakes hatchery and get their cane seed to plant for the pheasants. The state will not release any pheasant stock in this territory until the seed is delivered.

-If every farmer were as vigilant as is Clifford Johnson the fox population might easily be exterminated. A few weeks ago he secured ten foxes within a single day. Last week he continued his annihilation, taking seven more. From no one not only will chickens and pheasants be free from fox depredations but it has meant \$34 in bounties for Mr.

Johnson.

-Waseca County will pay a bounty of ten cents a crow, in accordance with state law, up to June 15th 1947. Take your crows to the Chairman of the Town Board in which the crow was shot or killed and the Chairman will remove one leg from each crow.

-So many outside eggs have been purchased locally and throughout the State that The Enterprise has started a Big Egg Contest. Early entries range from 6 ¼ by 7 ¾ inches weighing 4 ½ ounces, to what was at least the temporary champion, 7 ¼ by 9 ½ inches, weighing six ounces.

1973

-Thirteen seniors have been named as honor students at Waldorf-Pemberton high school. The designation of honor student means that they have maintained at least a B average through three years of senior high. It has been a tradition at Waldorf-Pemberton for the student council to present honor cards to those achieving this honor and they are worn as a mark of distinction at graduation exercises.

-Poppy Day in New Richland will be Saturday, May 20, according to Mrs. Art Dinneen, poppy chairman for the Auxiliary Unit of the Andrew Borgen Post 75. She points out that wearing a poppy on Poppy Day, Saturday, will honor the more than half-million Americans who died and the nearly one million wounded during World Wars I and II, the Korean War and the current VietNam conflict.

-The New Richland Red Caps, leading most of the way in Saturday’s game, failed to come out on top as Owatonna scored one run in each of the seventh and eight innings to win a victory by a score of 5-4.

-New Richland- Hartland’s track team went over the 100 mark as they

won the Gopher Conference Track title, here, Friday. Their 111 ½ points was almost twice that of the second place team, Blooming Prairie.

-Our work toward building a better environment continues. Many people were reached with one program or another on May 11, which was designated as Environment Day in Waseca. This week a program was held for about 750 sixth graders from LeSueur and Waseca counties at the Lake Sakatah State Park near Waterville.

1998

-National Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Week, a celebration to honor approximately 750,000 EMS providers nationwide who deliver lifesaving emergency care, is scheduled for May 18-24. Governor Anne Carlson has proclaimed the week of May 18 through 24 as Emergency Medical Services Week in Minnesota.

-The staff at the New Richland Care Center is considering instituting an Adult Day Care Program at the Center, according to Lee Edson, administrator. The proposed week day program would provide social, mental and physical stimulation to meet each participant’s abilities and needs.

-Weather conditions for this week were cooler and wetter than normal. Air temperature averaged 50.3 °F or 4° below normal. Rainfall totaled 1.15” or one-half inch above normal.

-Selected Teacher of the Month at the school in New Richland was Jay Lahners, ninth grade science and chemistry instructor.

-After losing a couple of games earlier due to the lack of hitting, the Panther girls’ softball team’s bats burned the ball as they slammed out 29 hits when they defeated Glenville-Emmons 25-12 last Thursday.



The

Pastor's Column

Slow down, turn to God

By PASTOR KEN ANDRS

It is back porch, garage open, dinner on the grill season. This past weekend my family went to garage sales and, in the evening, as we transported everything home, we got excited by the fact that everyone was outside and enjoying the weather. It was as if Wasecans everywhere decided it was time to emerge from the chrysalis of winter and shed the coats to sit in the warmth.

Pretty soon it will be too warm to do much moving after work, but right now we plant gardens, spend time walking the lakes, and cruising the streets with the windows down. I am trying to find the time to build Naomi's garden boxes and get her going on her plantings, while also making plans to grow peppers and cucumbers on my patio. This is the season in which we spend more time managing our projects than being concerned about our spiritual life.

My favorite time of the day is sitting out back and slowing down enough to talk with God and hear from Him in reading His word. God is at work in our busy times and quiet times. He is watching and working. He is healing and challenging us. Are we willing to listen?

I was talking with another track coach about our season and how our track kids handled the stress of competition. As we talked the topic of our mutual faith came up and how we are engaging in our relationship with God. The same way that we talk with God and develop our relationship with Him is the most effective way to handle the stress of competition.

First, we must slow down, go to God with all your stressors, frustrations, hurts, and anger. Speak to Him about your life, confessing your short-comings, and need for

"We must slow down, go to God with all your stressors, frustrations, hurts, and anger."
— Pastor Ken Andrs

God to move. Acknowledge your need for Him in your life and ask Him to speak to you through His word. Then open God's word to see what He will speak to you about today. God's word is living and active, speaking to us, a situation we encounter through the day, or someone else through us.

Today, in my readings I read Psalm 52, perhaps this passage is for you and your life today.

8 But I am like a green olive tree in the house of God.
I trust in the steadfast love of God forever and ever.
9 I will thank you forever, because you have done it.
I will wait for your name, for it is good,
in the presence of the godly.

God reminded me through this Psalm that no matter how strong I am, or accomplished I am God is far greater than me. I should humble myself and rely upon Him for all things. His love for me nourishes me everyday and teaches me to follow Him. I will continue to wait for Him to direct my paths and grow in faith and knowledge of Him by His steadfast love. In this way I thank Him for the warmth of summer as it reminds me of the growth He has for us all.

Blessed by the spirit

Sacred Heart confirms forty

By MICHAEL ROY
Editor

It was a sunny day when 40 young Catholics were confirmed at the Waseca Sacred Heart Catholic Church at 2 p.m. on Sunday, May 21.

Out of the 40 Catholics confirmed, 22 were from Sacred Heart; 18 others were from the Communion of Saints Tri-Parish of St. Ann (Janesville), St. Joseph (Waldorf), and All Saints (New Richland).

Bishop Robert Barron of the Winona-Rochester Diocese performed the rite of confirmation on the students, which included the presentation of the candidates, renewal of baptismal promises, the laying on of hands, the anointing with the sacred chrism, and the prayers of the faithful. Standing by were Sacred Heart pastor Father Th   Ho  ng and St. Ann-St. Joseph-All Saints pastor Fr. Brian Mulligan.

Below is a list of candidates with their chosen confirmation saint and sponsor. Candidates are sorted out by parish.

Sacred Heart (Waseca)
Hunter Barnes (St. Patrick), sponsored by Darcy Barnes; Maddy Benson (St. Valentine), sponsored by Andee Hoehn; Ryan Borneke (St. Sebastian), sponsored by Rachel Borneke; Ava Bruhn (St. Maria Goretti), sponsored by Erin Schue; Carson Crawford (St. Anthony of Padua), sponsored by Brenda Walter; Brayden Hesch-Priem (St. Jude), sponsored by Norman Johnson; Ethan Hiller (St. Jude), sponsored by Stacie Bruhn; Anders Jorgenson (St. Michael the Archangel), sponsored by Nicholas Kern; Layla Keith (St. Joan of Arc), sponsored by Nancy Denn; Addison Kelm (St. Maria Goretti), sponsored by Todd Harguth; Allen Kopetzki (St. Joseph of Cupertino), sponsored by Edna Burns; Bennett Ludwig (St. Sebastian),



SACRED HEART — Sacred Heart Catholic Church confirmed 22 young Catholics on Sunday, May 21. They are Hunter Barnes, Maddy Benson, Ryan Borneke, Ava Bruhn, Carson Crawford, Brayden Hesch-Priem, Ethan Hiller, Anders Jorgenson, Layla Keith, Addison Kelm, Allen Kopetzki, Bennett Ludwig, Lucia Mansfield, William Mansfield, Lucas McQuery, Brayden Miller, Korbin Mulcahey, Addison Pfeifer, Jett Rohl, Zachary Schimek, Lucas Selthun, and Cody Weber.
Photo courtest of Sacred Heart Catholic Church



COMMUNION OF SAINTS — 18 Catholics from St. Ann (Janesville), St. Joseph (Waldorf), and All Saints (New Richland) joined Waseca candidates in confirmation. They are Ava Appel, Brielle Bure, Luke Cahill, Eric Daschner, Brielle Dessner, Isaac Gahlon, Onikia Herme, Carter Hoehn, Madeline Hoehn, Madyn Holland, Alex Kleve, Ava McNair, Ellah Oliver, Aspyn Stenzel, Lilly Strauss, Autumn Thissen, Montanna Waters, and Aubrey Weedman.
Photo by Michael Roy

sponsored by Larry Johnson; Lucia Mansfield (St. Rose of Lima), sponsored by Elizabeth Mansfield; William Mansfield (St. Anthony the Great), sponsored by Preston Mansfield; Lucas McQuery (St. Ignatius of Loyola), sponsored by Chris Dahle; Brayden Miller (St. Thomas the Apostle), sponsored by Larce Jorgenson; Korbin Mulcahey (St. Aaron), sponsored by Linda Huebl; Addison Pfeifer (St. Catherine of Siena), sponsored by Sarah Hoffman; Jett Rohl (St. Sebastian), sponsored by Lisa Taylor; Zachary Schimek (St. Francis of Assisi), sponsored by Dylan Fleming; Lucas Selthun (St. Joan of Arc), sponsored by Alissa Yushita; and Cody Weber

(St. Adjutor), sponsored by Milan Weber.

Communion of Saints (Janesville-Waldorf-New Richland)
Ava Appel (St. Teresa of Calcutta), sponsored by Jena Schoenrock; Brielle Bure (St. Maria Goretti), sponsored by Kirston Janike; Luke Cahill (St. Luke), sponsored by Mary White; Eric Daschner (St. John the Baptist), sponsored by Jonathan Daschner; Brielle Dessner (St. Madeleine Sophie Barat), sponsored by Lorina Dessner; Isaac Gahlon (St. Michael the Archangel), sponsored by Steve Gahlon; Onikia Herme (St. Elizabeth), sponsored by Karissa Jewison; Carter Hoehn (St. Petergrine), sponsored by Brennan

Hoehn; Madeline Hoehn (St. Petergrine), sponsored by Regan Hoehn; Madyn Holland (St. Josephine), sponsored by Allen Sheik; Alex Kleve (St. Anthony of Padua), sponsored by Faith Ryan; Ava McNair (St. Valentine), sponsored by Carol Williams; Ellah Oliver (St. Teresa of Calcutta), sponsored by Addison Oliver; Aspyn Stenzel (St. Kateri Tekakwitha), sponsored by Clay Stenzel; Lilly Strauss (St. Sebastian), sponsored by Kennedy Strauss; Autumn Thissen (St. Joan of Arc), sponsored by Dianne Thissen; Montanna Waters (St. Rose of Lima), sponsored by Judy Daschner; and Aubrey Weedman (St. Nick), sponsored by Kathryn (Kay) Halter.

Attend the Church of your Choice!

CHRIST COMMUNITY CHURCH
2200 4th St NE, Waseca
507-835-2235
Service times 9:30 a.m.
* * * *

4TH STREET EVANGELICAL CHURCH
605 4th St NE, Waseca
507-201-7293 (Pastor Andrew Isker)
Worship Sundays 10 a.m.
* * * *

FAITH UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
801 4th Ave NE, Waseca
507-835-3167
Worship Sundays 9:30 a.m.
* * * *

CHRIST THE KING LUTHERAN CHURCH
309 6th St NE, Waseca
507-835-9176
Worship Sundays 9 a.m., 10:15 a.m.
Sunday School/Fellowship
* * * *

ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH
401 3rd Ave NE, Waseca
507-833-1703
Sundays 9:00 a.m.
* * * *

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH
314 4th Ave NE, Waseca
507-835-2647
Worship Sunday 9:00 a.m.
* * * *

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
503 2nd Ave NE, Waseca
507-835-4548 (office email: 1cwaseca@hickorytech.net)
Worship Sunday 10 a.m.
* * * *

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH
300 E Elm Ave, Waseca
507-835-1709

Worship Sunday 9 a.m.
* * * *

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.
* * * *

REAL LIFE CHURCH
620 W Elm Ave, Waseca
507-607-8245
Sundays 9 and 10:30 a.m.
* * * *

CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST LATTER-DAY SAINTS
1001 9th Ave SE, Waseca
507-835-4640
Sacrament meeting 10:00 a.m.
* * * *

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507-835-2213
Sunday worship 10:45 a.m., 6:00 p.m.
* * * *

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507-833-1082
Sunday Worship 10:00 a.m., Sun Evening 6:00 p.m., Wed. evening 6:30 p.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
* * * *

ST. PETER EVANGELICAL

LUTHERAN CHURCH
Otisco, Minnesota
Rev. Scott Williams, Pastor
Thursday - 6:30 p.m. Soup & Study
Sunday - 8:45 a.m. Worship
* * * *

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
* * * *

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL
New Richland, Minnesota
Pastor Pamela Jensen
Sunday - 10 a.m. Worship
* * * *

LESEUR 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
* * * *

VISTA LUTHERAN CHURCH
New Richland, Minnesota
Pastor Dan Kordahl
Sunday - 10:30 a.m. Worship
* * * *

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
* * * *

ALL SAINTS CATHOLIC CHURCH
New Richland, Minnesota
Father Brian Mulligan
Saturday - 5 p.m. Mass
* * * *

FIRST LUTHERAN Missouri Synod
Waldorf, Minnesota
Rev. Michael Mathews, pastor
Sundays: Sunday School 9 a.m., Bible Study 9:20 a.m., Worship 10:30 a.m.
* * * *

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH
Freedom Township
Sunday - 9 a.m. Worship
* * * *

ZOAR UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Pastor Ava Adams-Morris
Waldorf, Minnesota
Sunday - 9 a.m. Worship
* * * *

ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC
Waldorf, Minnesota
Father Brian Mulligan
Sunday - 8 a.m. Worship
* * * *

TRINITY LUTHERAN
Wilton Township
Rev. Larry Sipe, Pastor
Sunday - 10:30 a.m. Worship
* * * *

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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
* * * *

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412 N. Main Street, Janesville
Interhim Pastor
Wednesday, Saturday - 6:30 p.m. Worship
Sunday - 8 a.m. Worship, 9 Bible Class, 10:00 a.m. Worship
* * * *

JANESVILLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
401 N. West St., Janesville
Pastor Kathy King
Sunday - 8:15 a.m. Worship
* * * *

BLOOMING GROVE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
43089 180th St., Morristown
Pastor Kathy King
Sunday - 10:45 a.m. Worship
* * * *

ST. ANN CATHOLIC CHURCH
307 W. 2nd St, Janesville
Father Brian Mulligan
10 a.m. - Mass
* * * *

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH
300 Owen St., Janesville
Pastor Sarah Krolak
* * * *

ST. JOHN EVANGELICAL CHURCH
Alma City, Minnesota
Vacancy
Sunday = 1 p.m. Worship

TRINITY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
Smiths Mill, Minnesota
Vacancy
Thursday - 7:00 p.m. Worship
Sunday - 8:30 a.m. Worship
* * * *

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
* * * *

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■ Awards

from Page 1

Schroeder Memorial Scholarship, \$500
Aubree Hansen: Itron, Inc. Scholarships, \$1,000; Rosenau Medical Scholarship, \$1,000
Charlet Harguth: iWealth Foundation - Business Scholarship, \$1,000; Waseca Knights of Columbus Scholarship, \$1,500 (Legacy); Waseca VFW Post #1642 Scholarship, \$1,000; Minnwest Junior Board Scholarship, \$1,000
Eddie Herman: John P. Priebe Military Memorial Scholarship, \$1,000; E.F. Johnson Foundation of MN Comm. Foundation Scholarship, \$5,000
Kya Hoof: Schroeder Family Nursing Scholarship, \$2,000
Alexander Honstad: iWealth Foundation - Business Scholarship, \$1,000; Waseca Exchange Club “Youth of the Year” Scholarship, \$750; John P. Priebe Memorial Scholarship, \$2,000
Cecelia Huttemier: Andy Burnett Hockey Memorial Scholarship, \$1,100; Katie Zika Athletic Scholarship, \$1,000; Minnwest Junior Board Scholarship, \$250; Marine Corps “Scholastic Excellence” Nominee - Award; Waseca Hockey Association Scholarship, \$750; Waseca High School Class of 1960 Community Scholarship, \$1,500
Cierra Ingalls: John R. & Thelma C. Jondal Memorial Scholarship, \$250
Megan Kanewischer: Club Sweat (Itron) Scholarship, \$500; Rosenau Medical Scholarship, \$1,000; Waseca American Legion Post #228 Scholarship, \$500
Eva Keck: Itron, Inc. Scholarships, \$500
Jacob Kehler: James Ballard Memorial Scholarship, \$1,525
William King: Waseca VFW Post #1642 Auxiliary Scholarship, \$1,000; Alexis Tiesg Friendship Memorial Scholarship, \$500; MN Masonic Charities “Selfless Scholar” - outside scholarship, \$2,500
Sydney Kofstad: Marilyn Lau Memorial Scholarship, \$350
Lindsey Kopetzki: Barbara J.

Sankovitz Music Scholarship, \$1,000; Abigail Claire Wendland Spirit Scholarship, \$1,000; Waseca Knights of Columbus Scholarship, \$1,000; Waseca Marching Classic Scholarship (Waseca Classic, Inc.), \$1,000; Tuscan Lodge 77 Masonic Scholarship, \$1,000; Marine Corps “Semper Fidelis” Nominee - Award; James B. Cochran Memorial Scholarship, \$1,725; Alternate to: Waseca Education Association Scholarship, \$1,000
Griffin Krautkremer: Andy Burnett Hockey Memorial Scholarship, \$1,100
Arianna Krogsgeng: Marilyn Lau Memorial Scholarship, \$350; Rosenau Student with Potential Scholarship, \$1,000; Gregg “Marty” Martin College Scholarship Program, \$20,000
Avery Madsen: Club Sweat (Itron) Scholarship, \$500; Rosenau Medical Scholarship, \$1,000; Waseca Sons of the American Legion Scholarship, \$500; Schroeder Family Nursing Scholarship, \$2,000
Madelyn Malecha: Rosenau Student with Potential Scholarship, \$1,000
Jacqlyn Mathern: Waseca Hockey Association Scholarship, \$750
McKenna Miller: E.F. Johnson Foundation of MN Comm. Foundation Scholarship, \$1,000
Elias Nevalainen: Alternate to: Waseca American Legion Post #228 Auxiliary Scholarship, \$500
Oliver O’Brien: Waseca Education Association Scholarship, \$1,000; Waseca Knights of Columbus Scholarship, \$1,000; Coach Statz Scholarship, \$1,000; Caleb Erickson Memorial Scholarship, \$1,000
Kyra Pfeifer: Waseca Education Association Scholarship, \$1,000; Waseca Sons of the American Legion Scholarship, \$500
Eustice Raetz: Skilled Trades Scholarship (Rick’s Appliance), \$250; Greg & Donnette Wheelock Agriculture Scholarship, \$750; Jon & Vicky O’Neil Scholarship, \$500
Camille Ring: Don Eustice Memorial Scholarship, \$1,000
Kaleb Robeck: E.F. Johnson Foundation of MN Comm. Foundation Scholarship, \$1,000
Christian Rodriguez: Waseca Exchange Club “Youth of the Year” Scholarship, \$750; Tuscan Lodge 77 Masonic Scholarship, \$1,000; Ma-

rine Corps “Distinguished Athlete” Nominee - Award
Britney Ross: John P. Priebe Memorial Scholarship, \$2,000
Riley Ruedy: Club Sweat (Itron) Scholarship, \$500; Hope Chapter #34 Order of the Eastern Star Scholarship, \$1,000; Waseca Sons of the American Legion Scholarship, \$500
Jayme Sandbeck: Minnwest Junior Board Scholarship, \$250; Roger & Rosalie Grems Memorial Scholarship, \$775
Stormie Schmidt: Clarence D. Paulson Memorial Scholarship, \$5,000; Don Eustice Memorial Scholarship, \$1,000; Waseca County Sheriff’s Posse Scholarship, \$500; E.F. Johnson Foundation of MN Comm. Foundation Scholarship, \$1,000; Jorgen Peters Natural Resources Scholarship, \$400
Cole Schultz: Greg Ashland Memorial Scholarship, \$1,000
Korbin Schumacher: Don Eustice Memorial Scholarship, \$1,000
Haylee Sommers: John D. Bendix Scholarship, \$500; Rosenau Student with Potential Scholarship, \$1,000; Waseca VFW Post #1642 Auxiliary Scholarship, \$1,000
Hannah Thursdale: Holland Norton Memorial Scholarship, \$350
Timothea Volkmer: Arlen Larson Memorial Scholarship, \$775
Kloe Wadd: Waseca County American Dairy Association Scholarship, \$500; Monday Study Club Scholarship, \$1,000; Don & Mary Winegar Memorial Scholarship, \$1,000; Jorgen Peters Agricultural Scholarship, \$400; FFA Alumni Scholarship, \$400; Alternate to: Waseca American Legion Post #228 Auxiliary Scholarship, \$500
Kyrle Walker: Schroeder Family Nursing Scholarship, \$2,000
Hannah Wilder: Barbara J. Sankovitz Music Scholarship, \$1,000; Rosenau Medical Scholarship, \$1,000; Waseca Lions Club Scholarship, \$1,000; Waseca Marching Classic Scholarship (Les & Karen Tloughan), \$1,000; Mavis Wheelock Memorial Heath Care Scholarship, \$1,000; MN Masonic Charities “Selfless Scholar” - outside scholarship, \$2,500
Emma Williamson: John P. Priebe Memorial Scholarship, \$1,000
Ethan Yeater-Crosby: E.F. Johnson Foundation of MN Comm. Foundation Scholarship, \$1,000

■ Meeting

from Page 3

the east.
“We talked to the neighbors and received no public comments,” Green said. “There is also access to the north and south side for emergency vehicles.”
The planning commission unanimously approved supporting the conditional use permit after its public hearing.
Before the council voted, Morgan asked to have a reimbursement for the \$520 variance fee, since he also paid a \$700 fee for his conditional use permit. The council approved his request.
“Thank you for reinvesting in

Waseca,” Mayor Randy Zimmerman said.
Economic Development Authority Manager Tina Wilson provided the council with a comprehensive plan review process; the council had directed staff to complete the plan during its March 21 meeting.
The review included the scheduling of work sessions, talks on land use, community identity and vision, and other topics. The schedule showed when staff will review and make recommendations on each topic, when the planning commission will review said recommendations with public input, when the staff will make edits, when the commission will review again with the public, and when the council will get updates on certain topics.

Part two of the schedule includes steps for the adoption of an updated comprehensive plan, which the city council will not hold a public hearing for until March of 2025. The review and adoption stage will culminate at a city council public hearing in November of 2025.

Reports and announcements

Council member Mark Christiansen announced that the numbers for community education look strong and that community activities will be thriving over the summer. However, Prairie Fire Children’s Theatre, which provides theater opportunities to grade school students, will not operate in Waseca or anywhere else this year.
The meeting adjourned at 8:37 p.m.

■ Wadd

from Page 5

Once their children were grown, Lowell and Jan built a home on the north edge of Waseca in a line of new properties in a then-heavily-wooded area. The couple were among the first to move there. Both described that property as beautiful, with large oak trees and a walking bridge over the water behind their lot but no through-traffic. “We loved that house,” Wadd said. Wadd retired from construction work at the age of 70. “Most people retire at 65, but I kind of liked to work. I thought it might be nice to, how do you say, kind of stack up a little extra in case I live awhile,” he said

of his long career. Eventually the burden of lawn care prompted them to move back into town, to a smaller property, where they lived for some time before moving to Colony Court more recently.
Jan had high praise for life at Colony Court, as her husband nodded along. “It’s hard when you have to leave your home,” she said, but expressed that the level of comfort and accommodation at Colony Court made it easier. The activities director, she said, is “one of the best” based on her own experience working as activities director at Lakeshore Inn.
Lowell Wadd is remembered fondly at the Waseca VFW Post for his long membership. He participated in the VFW’s honor guard, giving the traditional salute at funerals for those who had served for

“at least” five years. “Rain, sleet, and snow,” added Jan. “It was beautiful, you’d always come home and say you were so happy to be able to do it.” He also sold tickets at steak and fish fries for years, “raising money so we would have a club of our own.” Jan also got involved with the Auxiliary there. About the VFW, Wadd said “We gotta get down there soon.”

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May 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3 6pm BAR Bingo	4 HALL 7pm BINGO	5 MEAT Raffle 5:30 Horse racing 7pm	6
7	8 7 pm Post & AUX. Meeting VE DAY	9	10 6pm BAR Bingo	11 HALL 7pm BINGO	12 MEAT Raffle 5:30 Horse racing 7pm	13 ARMED FORCES WEEK
14 ALL YOU can EAT Breakfast VFW 8:00am–Noon Your Host Waseca VFW BASEBALL MOTHERS DAY	15 PEACE OFFICERS MEMORIAL DAY	16	17 6pm BAR Bingo	18 HALL 7pm BINGO	19 MEAT Raffle 5:30 Horse racing 7pm	20 ARMED FORCES DAY
21	22	23	24 6pm BAR Bingo	25 HALL 7pm BINGO	26 MEAT Raffle 5:30 Horse racing 7pm	27
28	29 MEMORIAL DAY	30	31 6pm BAR Bingo	MONTH OF THE MILITARY CARE- GIVER	NATINAL MIL- ITARY APPRECI- ATION MONTH	

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THUR.—1pm to 11pm
FRI.– SAT.–11am to 1 am
POST & AUX MEETING 7pm club open 6pm MEMBERS only. Mn. Gambling license number 00385

■ Fair

from Page 1

so they could experience what their line of work is like.”
Other companies, such as Junior Achievement of Owatonna, took a different approach to getting students active in the career fair. These organizations offered a disc drop game which asked students questions about a variety of topics, including naming a statistic about Waseca or

providing a fact about the region.
“We visited most of these students when they were in second through fifth grades,” District Manager Vanessa Jensen explained. “We gave them a little bit of information about our area and different career paths they could take.”
In a way, it was a pop quiz for the students many years later.
Other companies such as the New Ulm non-profit Big Ideas were much more immersive. At one station set up outside in the parking lot, students could test out welding. Another booth inside the arena provided students with a virtual reality experi-

ence in fields such as electrician, plumber, small engine repair, or other skill trade.
The career fair was sponsored in part by the Waseca Chamber of Commerce in partnership with Waseca High School. Fitch gives the Waseca School District’s Teaching and Learning Assistant Kari Wadd a majority of the credit for helping put the event together.
“She was an instrumental part in making this happen,” she said. “She helped us coordinate with the vendors at this career fair so we could give the kids as immersive of an experience as possible.”

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Curtis Swenson

Swenson family establishes fund

The Curtis Swenson Family has established a \$25,000 donor advisor fund administered by the Saint Paul & Minnesota Foundation. The primary purpose of the fund is to benefit the New Richland Public Schools and Library. Born on December 27, 1939, Curt Swenson began his schooling at the one-room schoolhouse nearest the family farm in New Richland. As a distinguished student at New Richland High School, graduating in 1957, he earned a National Merit Scholarship and graduated from Macalester College with a degree in economics. Curt believed that the quality of his education beginning in that one room schoolhouse through his high school years laid the foundation for his successful career. As a gifted writer, his early years began in radio, television and news reporting for United Press In-

ternational. Later, he moved into corporate public relations in Minneapolis and New York. In 1987, Curt founded his own public and investor relations consulting firm in Minneapolis. Upon retirement, he sold the firm and moved to Sarasota, Florida where he volunteered in public schools helping children learn to read. As a philanthropist, Curt's charitable giving included the performing arts, food banks, Head Start children's learning programs and Macalester College. Curt Swenson died in May, 2021 at the age of 81. He instructed his estate to make distributions to benefit education and specified that special consideration be given to the public schools of New Richland. It is with pleasure and pride that Curt's family honors his intention with the donor advisor fund for local education.

Utilities from Page 3

plained, "It's coming out of the SMMPA's economic fund." The credits the city chooses to purchase benefit the SMMPA. "It's part of why they support this type of infrastructure," she said. However, Wilson added that if someone came in requiring expansive infrastructure improvement or additions, the credit opportunity could not go toward that. "It can only go toward load usage," she elaborated. In order to qualify, she ex-

plained, businesses have to show they're in distress. If they receive economic distress money from the state, depending on the program, it can either help or hinder their ability to put in an application. "The incentive is to keep businesses here," Wilson said. One caveat she noted is that the businesses applying for this credit must also look at other city supported energy efficiency programs. "When it comes to new or expanding businesses or the application process, the city utilities make that decision," she said. "A retention project could come to the city, but that's decided by the SMMPA board of directors."

Grades 5 and 6 hold concert

By JONAH STAFFORD
Staff Writer

Student musicians at Waseca Intermediate School capped off a year of practices and performances with their Spring Band Concert the evening of Thursday, May 18. The fifth- and sixth-grade bands performed, both under the direction of Mr. Craig Brenden. The concert centered around the works of composer Randall D. Standridge; each band played only one song by any other composer.

The fifth-graders performed first, playing Standridge's "Starfire Fanfare," "Mercury's March" by Laura M. Kramer," followed by Standridge's "Tadpoles" and "Shadow Fire." Before the band performed "Tadpoles," Brenden made a comment that the selection of that piece was fitting, as he saw the fifth-graders as tadpoles now, but they



Waseca Intermediate fifth- and sixth-grade students performed their spring concert May 18. Pioneer photo by Jonah Stafford

will become "frogs" as they grow in their musicianship as sixth-graders next year.

The sixth-grade band's selections were Standridge's "Fanfare for the Sixteenth Empire," followed by "A Distant Past" by Caitlyn Clark and

"Warriors of the Sixteenth Empire," "F-1," and "The Black Cat," which were all by Standridge. The first three songs were linked by a medieval theme, while "F-1" was inspired by pro racing. "Black Cat" was a character piece featuring occasional

meowing and hissing from students. The WIS gymnasium was filled to capacity with parents and supporters from around the community; all seemed fully engaged in the bands' playing until the sixth graders' final bow.

FOOD TRUCKS



Throughout the day Saturday, May 20, there were a few food trucks between the Boxcar Bar and Napa Auto Parts store raising funds to support local law enforcement in celebration of the 2023 National Police Week, which took place from May 14-20. Jill Forshee with Don-O's All American Gyros ran one of three food trucks raising money for local law enforcement for Police Appreciation Week on Saturday, May 20. Polly's Pantry was another food truck behind the Boxcar Bar selling funnel cakes, hot dogs, and tater twisters (a potato cut into a spiral, fried, and on a stick).

Pioneer photo by Michael Roy

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