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WASECA COUNTY PIONEER

LOCAL COMMUNITY-DRIVEN NEWSPAPER SERVING ALL OF WASECA COUNTY

No. 35 Vol. II \$2

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Friday, September 1, 2023

■ Pages 5-10



Fall Sports Preview

Waseca bus in fatal accident

On Saturday night, a school bus carrying the Waseca Volleyball team was involved in a fatal accident on I-90 not far from Albert Lea. The bus collided with a 2006 Ford Mustang; its driver, Mark Tigner, 55, of Brandon, South Dakota, died at the accident site. No passengers of the bus, drivers, students, or staff suffered any life-threatening injuries, although several were taken to the Albert Lea Hospital for checkups.

The accident occurred shortly after 8:40 p.m., according to a report from the Minnesota State Highway Patrol.

The cause of the crash remains unclear, although various reports say the bus was traveling eastbound in a two-lane construction zone when the west-bound Mustang crossed into the eastbound lane. The bus driver steered toward the shoulder; rather than striking the bus head-on, the Mustang glanced off the vehicle's side.

Waseca Public Schools released this statement on its Facebook page on Sunday:

"Last evening, a school bus carrying our volleyball teams was involved in a collision with another vehicle as they traveled back from an away contest. While the state patrol is continuing to investigate the accident, we can confirm that no Waseca students or staff were seriously injured in the incident, and we are following up with students and families to support them through this event. Unfortunately, partial reports can result in misinformation being shared, so we wanted to give our school community the most accurate update we could without interrupting law enforcement's work. Thank you for all of your thoughts and well wishes for our students and staff."

On the Saturday of the crash, the Waseca varsity volleyball team had a Big South Conference crossover at Fairmont High School which began at 5:30 p.m. The B and C Squad also had conference crossovers, which took place at Fairmont Elementary at 7 p.m.

* * *

Relay For Life of Steele/Waseca County. Sept. 23

Steele/Waseca County will be having a Relay For Life event from 5-10 p.m. at the Steele County Fairgrounds. There will be a silent auction, entertainment, survivor recognition, raffle, kids activities and food.

* * *

Waseca Pioneer moves offices

The Waseca County Pioneer has relocated to its new office at 111 W. Elm Ave., next to the VFW, across from Keen Bank.

Our office hours and mailing address remain the same. P.O. Box 578. Hours: 11 a.m. - 4 p.m., Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday.

A word from The Word

For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.

Jeremiah 29:11

New to Waseca Schools



A NEW BEGINNING - New teachers from all Waseca learning sites were welcomed during a lunch held Friday, August 24, at Lakeside. Pictured here are (seated at front, from left) Marley Rowher, joining the Alternative Learning Center (ALC); Carol Goebel, joining Waseca Junior/Senior High School (JHHS); Jessie Hager, Hartley; Sammi Ladd, Hartley; and Tessa Dekruif, Hartley. Middle row, from left: John Pereda, JHHS; Ashley Depauw, Waseca Intermediate School (WIS); Ashten Matton, JHHS; Hannah Eckblad, JHHS; Miranda Merrill, JHHS; Megan Kreinbring, JHHS. Back row, from left: Dan Marlow, Hartley; Anthony Jackson, ALC; Andy Marincic, JHHS; Carly Wiste, Team Academy; and Ashlyn Rosenberg, Hartley.

Pioneer photo by Deb Bently

Waseca welcomes new teachers

By DEB BENTLY
News Editor

A total of 16 new teaching staff members from four Waseca learning sites were welcomed at a luncheon co-sponsored by the Waseca Rotary, Lions, and Exchange clubs on Friday, August 24, at the Lakeview Golf Course.

Lions Club president Diane Beckman told teachers, "I hope this luncheon helps demonstrate that Waseca supports schools in a very big way. As you settle into your new positions, we want you to feel appreciated and recognized."

Exchange Club president Mikhail Rostislavovich agreed: "Please lean on any of our organizations. Let us know how we can be of help."

"We are here for you, teachers," assured Rotary president Amy Potter. "We want to help on every level, whether that's support or assistance in your classroom, or a friendly greeting as you're out shopping. We want you to know we're glad you're here."

Teachers were introduced by their respective principals who shared various tidbits during their conversations. Junior/Senior high school

principal Jason Miller encouraged his new teachers to provide information about their favorite places to go for a long walk: answers ranged from "a national park" to a laughingly delivered "off a tall cliff."

Waseca Intermediate School (WIS) principal John Huttemeier had only one staff member, Ashley Depauw, to introduce. She shared that she is a regional representative for the little-known sport of "Rolle Bolle," which uses a small, wheel-like device in a game with similarities to both horseshoes and Bocce Ball. Despite being enigmatic, the

sport has offered tournaments and competitions in the midwest for decades.

As the luncheon was winding down, Superintendent Eric Hudspeth introduced himself and thanked the three sponsoring organizations for their support and for the luncheon.

"This is what Waseca is all about," he declared, "support for our schools. We are going to have a great week getting ready for our new school year. We're glad you have a chance to settle in and find out what it means to be a Bluejay."

Milbrath, Johnson, Fitch run for county seat

By ELI LUTGENS
Publisher

Three candidates have filed for the open Waseca County Commissioner seat in District 3, vacant since the death of longtime commissioner Blair Nelson in May. Brad Milbrath, Larry Johnson and Ann Fitch have all filed the necessary paperwork to run in the special primary election set for November 7. The top highest vote getters from the Nov. 7 primary will move onto a general special election February 13, 2024. Whoever wins the February election will serve the remaining three years of a four-year term representing citizens in the City of Waseca Wards 1A and 2A. Voting booths for those Wards are at Christ Community and Faith United Methodist Churches.



Brad Milbrath

Milbrath, first to announce, filed on August 15. He is a former Waseca County Sheriff who retired at the end of 2022.

Johnson, next to announce and file on Aug. 17, is a former Waseca City Council member who is currently employed as a banker/mortgage lender at MinnWest Bank.

Fitch, also a former Waseca City Council member from 2015 to 2019, serves as the president of the Waseca County Chamber of Commerce.

Johnson released the following statement on Facebook:

"I have filed to run for County Commissioner. Many of you know me. You have seen me volunteering at various functions, maybe you spent time



Larry Johnson

socializing at my past businesses, maybe I DJ'd your wedding or your kids or I helped you with your home loan. It is my belief that this position requires the type of skills that I have acquired over the last 33 years getting to know you and this community. As a former city council person, I know how to approach difficult civic tasks and to work toward building a consensus to help move projects forward. As a former business owner and a current banker, I understand the importance of reading budgets and understanding their impact on citizens. I humbly ask for your support and vote as we move toward



Ann Fitch

County continued on 3

Former Janesville mayor murdered

Mark Novak, who served as mayor of Janesville from 2011-2013, died after being attacked in his home in Bloomington last week.

Novak, 74, experienced multiple sharp and blunt force injuries, according to the Hennepin County Medical Examiner's office.

Pamela Novak, his wife, 72, was seriously injured in the attack which occurred in the early-morning hours of Thursday, August 24.



Novak

Novak served one term as mayor of Janesville. The Novaks have lived in Bloomington since 2013. Both were active volunteers while they lived in Janesville according to Janesville City administrator Clinton Rogers.

"Mark will be missed by many friends in our community," Rogers said in a Star Tribune interview. "We hope for a speedy recovery for Pam."

Police responded to a 911 caller at 5 a.m. Thursday; the caller stated there was someone in the house, according to a news release distributed by the Bloomington Police Department.

Police went to the caller's home on 105th Street near Oak Grove Middle School, and discovered the woman on the floor inside the home just as 44-year-old Adam Roring was spotted climbing out a window and was arrested. Shortly thereafter, Mark Novak was found dead inside the home. Both victims appeared to have been beaten and stabbed.

Both were taken by ambulance to Hennepin County Medical Center (HCMC), where Mark Novak was pronounced dead. By Sunday evening, Pamela was determined to be in satisfactory condition, according to an HCMC spokesperson.

Roring — whom Facebook posts claim to be a nephew to Pamela — was arrested on suspicion of murder Thursday morning and was in the Hennepin County jail as of Sunday. He has been charged with murder in the second degree-not premeditated. Sentencing guidelines for the charge include up to 40 years for murder and 20 for attempted murder. Roring does not appear to have a significant criminal history in Minnesota.

A gofundme page set up for the Novak family had raised more than \$20,000 as of Wednesday evening.

Back to School Special!

We at the Waseca County Pioneer work hard to bring the latest local news and information to Waseca, Janesville, New Richland, Waldorf, and the many townships in Waseca County. Each week features new and interesting stories about local persons, businesses, and of course, the Waseca School district. Many of our editions include special coverage of important milestones for students, parents, and families, including: Graduation, Homecoming, Prom, and all Waseca Sports, all year long. Don't miss out! Fill in the coupon and mail it to our office, or call and subscribe now! 507-463-8112

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Waldorf is test city for clean water loan program

By ELI LUTGENS
Publisher/Editor

The Waldorf City Council chambers were busy Monday night August 14, 2023. After more discussion with Nathan Gerdts, President of the Waldorf Wood Ducks, the two groups agreed to a lease agreement on the baseball field in town. The Wood Ducks intend to renovate the field and turn the field into a place for the team to begin playing amateur baseball beginning in 2025. Plans include a new fence, new field, bleachers, and a grandstand.

Waldorf resident Dave Bottin gave a presentation and the council approved a new recycling program in town. The plan will see drop off points in town for plastic bags, the kinds typically used at convenience stores. After 500 pounds have been collected, the city will receive a bench. Bottin also got the city of Pemberton to do the same program. He volunteered to drive all of the recycled bags to the Mankato Cubs food drop off point each month.

In city maintenance, tree branches trimming still needs to be finished and alleyway gravel needs to be completed.

Mayor Rob Wilkening is hoping the city can get in on State Bonding funds to purchase new water meters for homes in Waldorf.

Waldorf is the initial test city approved for a MN Clean Water partners loan program. Residents are able to, through the city, borrow money at

WALDORF CITY COUNCIL

an interest rate of 1 ½ percent in order to address any water sewer issues. The MN Pollution agency is looking to implement this program across MN and Waldorf will serve as its first testing ground. Through the program, Waldorf can borrow up to a total \$750,000 (as a city) to residents for their needs.

The community center is getting new mats at a cost of \$620. The cost to clean the existing mats would have exceeded this cost.

Charlie Barnes asked the council to purchase a plot of land from him next to the ball field the Wood Ducks are now leasing, for \$16,000. The city tabled the topic, saying it was too early in the process. Concerns over the cost were also raised. The current tax value of the property \$7,900. Barnes said his price meant he made \$0 on the land. "It will be a wash. I just don't want to lose any money."

Xcel energy poles in town have been marked for repair. Red tags mean replacement, yellow means they have some life left in them.

The council scheduled a workshop for Monday August 28 at 6:30 p.m.

The city's Local Government Aid payment is suspended until the city completes its audit. The city hopes to do so in August and present it in September.

The meeting adjourned at 8:57 p.m.

Marijuana sales moratorium passes

By JONAH STAFFORD
Staff Writer

The Janesville City Council held two public hearings for city ordinances in response to the state legislature's recent legalization of recreational use of cannabis products in Minnesota at its August 14 meeting. At the first hearing, the council considered a moratorium on issuing licenses allowing retail sale and retail sale in general of cannabis in Janesville until up to January 1, 2025.

The document proposing the moratorium was prepared by City Attorney Jason Moran. By 2025, the state government will have established the Department of Cannabis, a governing body that will oversee the legal cannabis industry. It was noted that many other towns in Minnesota, including in Waseca County, are starting to issue similar moratoriums to allow the state government time to plan how and to whom retail licenses will be issued.

As a municipality, Janesville's eventual ordinances will be allowed to be more restrictive than state law, but not less. One member said he hoped once the moratorium was passed, a city ordinance for cannabis use could be drafted up in about six months. Without objections from anyone in attendance, the moratorium was passed by the council. It was said that once a notice was printed in the Janesville Journal, the city's official newspaper, the moratorium would go into effect.

A second, similar hearing was held for an ordinance prohibiting the use of THC products in public places. This ban would include all city property including on streets or sidewalks, and in parks, the cemetery, and city-owned facilities like the Whispering Creek nursing home and the Prairie Ridge Golf Course. While the golf course was implied to be included in the ordinance as it is city property, council member Sarah Johnson suggested that it be named specifically to prevent confusion. This ordinance was passed unanimously. Despite it, cannabis use and growing of cannabis plants will remain legal at private residences.

Sam Ryan of Janesville Boy Scout Troop 89 spoke about his plan to renovate the pavilion at Lakeview Park for his Eagle Scout Project. He said the pavilion has been vandalized and is in a state of disrepair. Ryan said he'd already secured the funding needed for the project, but could not begin without the council's approval; a motion approving his project passed unanimously.

Though he was not present at the

JANESVILLE CITY COUNCIL

meeting, a message from Janesville resident Mark Sweeney was read for the council. In that note, Sweeney expressed concern about vehicles not stopping for pedestrians at crosswalks in city intersections. Those same concerns were echoed by the council. Mayor Andy Arnoldt suggested the city spend public safety funds on surveillance cameras at intersections. Other council members suggested placing signs indicating crosswalks or repainting them so they're more clearly marked. The council agreed to revisit this item at a later meeting.

One concerned citizen spoke about the use of taxpayer money to fund the Prairie Ridge Golf Course. He argued that since the course has increased in profitability over the past three years, funds should be found in its budget to repay taxpayers, whose contributions helped the course keep operating during its unprofitable years.

Since the last meeting, the legislature provided the city its local government aid (LGA) package for the year. After legislators rewrote the formula to calculate LGA disbursements, Janesville will receive about \$960,000. This is about \$100,000 more than the previous year.

The council continued to review Janesville's projected 2024 budget.

The fire department's budget is expected to be \$158,000, about \$12,000 less than the previous year. \$5,000 of that decrease came from the professional services item, as those funds were not used often last year.

Also discussed was the library budget, which increased by 56.5% from 2023 to \$16,975. The reasons for the increase include a \$2,000 library building feasibility study, as well as an extra \$4,500 for building repairs and \$1,200 for natural gas heating.

The community development fund increased 61.9% to \$132,429 due to increased employee wages, as well as nuisance/zoning legal fees.

The cemetery fund remained identical to last year's, sitting at \$8,580. This is because it will continue to receive upkeep services from Marty Erdman in 2024 as part of a pre-existing contract.

The building inspections fund is expected to increase 9.8% to \$56,000, while no change was reported for the animal control fund which sits at \$2,500.



Last Tuesday, Sue McIntosh, director, and Angie Rodriguez, shelter manager, gave Exchange Club members an interesting presentation about Bethlehem Inn of Waseca. Pictured above, Caryn D. Wendt, Perry Berg, Rodriguez, McIntosh, and Mikhael Rostislavovich.

Bethlehem Inn helping many in need

Sue McIntosh, director, and Angie Rodriguez, shelter manager, of Waseca's Bethlehem Inn, were speakers for the Waseca Exchange Club on August 22. The two described the work they do and the services Bethlehem Inn provides. The non-profit facility, located at 400 Second Avenue Northwest, offers short-term shelter for women and children whose lives have become unsettled.

Regarding her job, McIntosh admits she once believed there were few, if any, homeless people in the Waseca area. "I found out I was wrong," she told Exchange Club members. Research into the question revealed that, in 2022, nearly 8,000 Minnesotans found themselves homeless; almost 500 were from southeastern Minnesota.

Bethlehem Inn is a transitional living facility authorized to provide "short-term" shelter to those in need. Typical stays last between 90 days and 6 months. In addition to housing, guests are offered information about resources and options to help them become "semi-independent." Among the services they are introduced to are social services, mental health services, employment, childcare, and even school enrollment.

Since opening in 2019, Bethlehem Inn has accommodated 172 women and 151 children; up to 16 individuals can be housed at a time. According to McIntosh, the average stay is between 90 and 120 days.

The Bethlehem Inn has two full-time and three part-time staff members, known as family advocates. The agency relies on private donations and grants to continue operating.

"It is important to understand that homelessness does not discriminate," observed McIntosh, mentioning that adults seeking help have ranged in age from 18 to 78. Among them have been educators, occupational therapists, pharmacy assistants, managers and stay-at-home mothers. She said

many, if not most, had been victims of trauma and abuse, or have physical or psychological health issues, histories of substance abuse, or criminal backgrounds.

McIntosh and Rodriguez also told Exchange Club members that every day at their facility is different and what they are doing can change drastically depending on who comes to them for help.

The Bethlehem Inn will be hosting a fundraiser the evening of Saturday, Oct. 7 at the Star Fire Event Center. The Gary Rue Dance Party Reunion will be performing; tickets are \$30. More information is available on the Bethlehem Inn website.

■ County from Page 1

the election and toward a bright future for Waseca County."

Milbrath released the following public statement in early August:

"My name is Brad J. Milbrath, retired Sheriff of Waseca County. I am stating my intent to run for Waseca County District 3 Commissioner, which has been left vacant by the untimely passing of Commissioner Blair Nelson.

"I have 34 years of local government experience, with 24 years in

Waseca County as chief deputy and sheriff. I have extensive knowledge of Waseca County operations, policies, procedures, department activities and responsibilities, as well as public relations with staff and local, state, and federal agencies. This knowledge will allow me to continue with current county board business effectively and efficiently.

"Commissioner Nelson and I worked closely on many projects while I was serving as sheriff. We had similar visions and ideas for making Waseca County a better place to call home for current residents and those we hope to attract and welcome to Waseca County.

"As your next County Commis-

sioner, I will use the experience and skills I developed as Sheriff to ensure District 3 voters, as well as all Waseca County residents, will get professional and effective representation. I will make sure your concerns and issues are addressed and that your voices are heard.

"I would appreciate your vote in November."

Ann Fitch released the following public statement Wednesday:

"It is with great enthusiasm that I am running for Waseca County Commissioner, 3rd District Seat. Having spent a lifetime living, working, and serving in Waseca, I have witnessed the challenges and opportunities that our county faces. I firmly believe that

together we can build a brighter future for all. My journey has been one of service and dedication to making our area an even better place to live, work, and thrive. As your county commissioner, I will bring transparency, a collaborative spirit, and a deep understanding of the needs of our all neighborhoods.

"I know my years spent on Waseca City Council, Waseca Economic Development Administration, Discover Waseca Tourism, and numerous other organizations have prepared me well for this endeavor. I look forward to sharing my thoughts with you throughout this campaign. "Your support is appreciated and never taken for granted."



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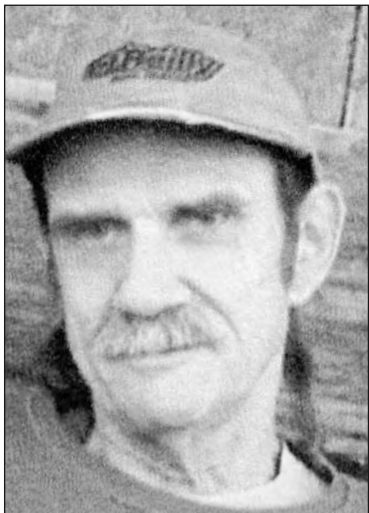


For more information contact the SWCD Office at
300 North State Street, Door 4, Waseca 507-535-0603

OBITUARIES

Dennis Dahle

Dennis Dean Dahle, age 62, of Waseca died on Wednesday, August 23, 2023 at the Mayo Clinic Health System in Waseca. Born on July 3, 1961 in Waseca, Minnesota, he was the son of James and Lucille (Ginter) Dahle. He attended Waseca Public Schools. Dennis later attended technical college in Faribault. He was employed for many years at Daily Printing Inc. in Plymouth. He loved Harley Davidson motorcycles and working on cars. Dennis loved his dog and cats as well as caring for the stray cats in his neighborhood. He had a heart of gold and would help anyone. He is survived by his brother, Scott Dahle; friend and caregiver, Lori Schneidewind; niece, Tarin Kuball; and great-nephew, Trent Kuball. He was preceded in death



Dennis Dahle

by his parents; brother, James; and longtime girlfriend, Tracy Bittrich. Private graveside services will be held at Woodville Cemetery.

John Matz

John Robert Matz, age 91 of Bloomington, formerly of Waseca, died on the afternoon of Tuesday, August 22, 2023, at the Minnesota Masonic Home in Bloomington. John was born in Waseca on December 31, 1931, to parents Anthony and Elaine (Krueger) Matz. He attended school in Waseca and graduated from Waseca Central High School. On August 7, 1954, he was married to LaVonne Klessig in her hometown of Colby, WI. Throughout his working years, John was employed at Herter's and for Waseca County before beginning his 36-year career at the E.F. Johnson Company. He began his E.F. Johnson years as an hourly materials handler and by retirement had worked his way up to the Director of Production. Also during those years he continued his education by earning a S.M.E. (Society of Manufacturing Engineering) cer-

tificate, and later continued his involvement as a local and regional director of the organization, all the while operating the family farm. His last job was at Charlie's Hardware. When he retired from there, he became a member of "The Board". John was an avid outdoorsman who enjoyed hunting, fishing, and collecting rocks and Indian artifacts. He was the very first card-carrying member of the Waseca Sportsman's Club after its inception in the 1960's. John also enjoyed volunteering with the Waseca Historical Society and the Waseca Sleigh and Cutter Festival. In his later years, he enjoyed nothing more than attending his grandchildren's many school and sports activities. He was a long-time member of First Congregational Church in Waseca and was involved both in the Masonic Lodge and the Shriner's Club. John is survived by three children, Cheryl Matz Au of Bloomington,

Kathy Roeglin of Plymouth, and Bob Matz of Chaska; and four grandchildren, Jon, Patrick, Jacob, and Sarah. He was preceded in death by both of his parents; his wife of 58 years, LaVonne Matz; and his sister and brother-in-law, Marion (Ray) Hanenberger. John's family would like to offer a heartfelt thanks to the many nurses, caregivers, and therapists at the Minnesota Masonic Home and the doctors and nurses at Abbott Northwestern Hospital who helped them care for their dad. Visitation will be held from 4-7 p.m. on Saturday, August 26, 2023, at the Third Street Chapel of Dennis-Steffel-Omtvedt Funeral and Cremation Service in Waseca and will continue for one hour before service at the church on Sunday. Funeral services will be held at 1:30 p.m. on Sunday, August 27, 2023, at First Congregational Church in Waseca, with Rev. Ken Andrs of-



John Matz

ficiating. Interment will follow at Woodville Cemetery in Waseca. dsfuneral.com

Verna Leona Schoenrock

Verna Leona Schoenrock, age 90, of New Richland passed away at her home on Saturday, August 26, 2023. Verna was baptized at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Mankato, MN. She was confirmed at Evangelical Lutheran Church in St. Clair, MN. She graduated from St. Clair High School in 1950. She was united in marriage to Lester Herman Schoenrock on December 20, 1950. They farmed together until his passing in 1972. She continued to farm with family and never completely retired even if it meant she could only prepare them meals or furnish shuttle service between fields. Verna enjoyed people and volunteered at the New Richland Care Center for several years. She helped with making quilts at Hosanna Lutheran, enjoyed gardening, baking cookies, and loved watching her grandchildren's sporting events. Verna is survived by children, Loren (Marlene) Schoenrock, grandchildren, Chad and Leah, Linda (Jeff) Groskreutz, grandchildren, Tyler and Katie, Lesa (Rod) Hulloper, grandsons, Brian, Brady and Brent, Leon (Beth)



Verna Schoenrock

Schoenrock, grandchildren, Betsy and Benjamin; 18 great-grandchildren; and brother, Wally (Phyllis) Birk. She was preceded in death by her husband, Lester; her parents, Erick and Olga Birk; sister, Friedella Mosher; and brother, Arthur Birk. The funeral service will be at 11 a.m. on Saturday, September 2, 2023 at Hosanna Lutheran Church in Mankato. Visitation will be held one hour prior to the service at the church. Interment will be at the First Lutheran Church Cemetery in Waldorf. Dsofuneral.com



Larry Nelson of Freeborn with his 1956 International Ratrod car hauler. A Ratrod is a collection of pieces, he explains; it features a guardrail as its front bumper; streetlight poles along the sides and a license plate proclaiming it "UG-LEE."

Pioneer photos by Tristan Gehring



Dale Paulson of Elysian with his 1963 Impala Supersport. He did a frame-up restoration, personally doing all the work except painting. At right is Jim Heidemann of Hartland with his 1969 Chevy Nova.



Larry Fennert, originally of Waldorf, and Jim Bungarden of Wells handling registration for the car and bike show in Waldorf.



Serving up plates at the fire department's annual corn and burger feed were Luke Cordes, Ashley Shutrop, Mindy McDonough, Cody Dobberstein, Molly Brunsen, and Renee Cordes.



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Waldorf fire department benefit

By TRISTAN GEHRING
Staff writer

The City of Waldorf was hopping on Friday, August 25. Two events brought in enthusiastic crowds: the city's first-ever classic car show followed by the annual firehouse corn and burger feed and dance.

The car show began at 4 p.m. with vehicles continuing to register for quite a while. About 25 cars were on display. All entrants were given the opportunity to vote for their three favorite cars, with prizes for first, second and third place. In addition to ribbons, first place winner Mike Klampe received a compact air compressor. Second and third place winners Cocy Schmapf and Brad Schmapf received small car care kits.

The corn and burger feed supporting the fire department was scheduled to begin at 5:30, but with hungry people lining up at 5 the decision was made to start serving early. The menu consisted of burgers "with all the fixings," ears of sweet corn, chips, cookies, and lemonade with alcoholic beverages available for purchase. The 2023 event was supported by 30 sponsors. They were A&B Custom Equipment, Crystal Valley, Hefty Seed Co., Holmes Ag Supply, Vinson Plumbing and Heating, Lac Lindeland and Deb Bezlicke, Matawain Grain & Feed, McPherson Crop Management, Roesler Seeds, MinnWest Bank and MinnWest Insurance, SASCS LLC, SCC Farm Business Management/Todd Stencel, Schlaak Channel Seeds, Sonnek Custom Injection, Staples Oil Co. Inc., McDonough Repair LLC, Haven Studio/Ruthie Webster, The Orange Door Grill and Bar, Hilltop Farm Hops, Daydream Vacations by Jan, St. Clair Auto Repair, Waldorf Ag & Grain, Cedar Crate, Flexible Plastics Inc., Quality Extrusions, G C Distributing Co. Inc., Smiths Mill Implements, Jay's Auto Service, Lindeland Farms, and McCarthy Oil. The fire department thanks its sponsors and would like the public to know that in order to become a sponsor for next year's fundraiser they need only reach out to any member of the fire department. In addition to the meal, the fundraiser also included a 50/50 raffle, a raffle with a fixed prize of \$1,000 for the first drawn, and a dance with music by Red Dirt Road. All proceeds directly benefited the Waldorf Fire Relief Association.

Moratorium on cannabis products passes

By JESSICA LUTGENS
Staff writer

With no local residents present wishing to comment on the public hearing regarding New Richland's THC moratorium during the city council's first meeting of the month on Monday, Aug. 14, the council passed Resolution 23-14, an interim ordinance prohibiting the sale, testing, manufacturing, cultivating, growing, transporting, delivery, and distribution of cannabis products in the City of New Richland. A public hearing was set for Aug. 28 regarding a THC public consumption ordinance.

The New Richland Care Center audit for 2022 was presented and approved by the council before the ambulance report, submitted in writing, was reviewed. The report stated that the New Richland ambulance has had 112 runs for the year as of Aug. 7. One member of the ambulance crew has resigned; it was noted that the first EMT class has begun with four people enrolled. The ambulance report was approved.

The fire department report, submitted in writing, stated that the NRPD responded to one fire call and one medical call in July. A discussion was had regarding the sale of the department's old parade truck; City Administrator Martens was directed to look into requirements and options for sale. The report was approved.

Police Chief Tanyce Bruegger presented the police report, stating that the NRPD responded to 42 calls for service in July. One new part-time officer, Drew DeRaad, was approved by the council.

Council members agreed to hold a work session regarding the 2024

NEW RICHLAND CITY COUNCIL

budget following the Aug. 28 council meeting. The city's former warning siren was also discussed: Council members approved placing it up for sale via sealed bid.

Present to discuss flooding and EDA items, including the opportunity to bring more business to town, were Dan and Amber Lewer. The administrator's report was presented and approved. Council member Jason Casey asked Martens to investigate any legal or practical issues which might arise if the city opened a THC dispensary.

The meeting adjourned at 7:56 p.m.

FALL SPORTSPREVIEW

Waseca High School Football

Optimism again reigns for Jays

By JIM LUTGENS
Sports Editor

A great deal of skilled players graduated from the 2022 Waseca High School football team. But a lot of talent returns. Gone are Oliver O'Brien, quarterback/free safety who was named Player of the Year in the Big South Conference; Christian Rodriguez, a 1,000-yard rusher who played in the Minnesota all-star game; and Kyle Ahlschlager, an extraordinary running back and return man with lightning speed.

Back are Damarius Russell, one of the top players in the state, his little brother Deron Russell, and several others who helped light up the scoreboard with regularity in last year's 8-2 campaign.

Brad Wendland is also back for his 18th season as WHS head coach and 22nd season overall. His Bluejay squads have compiled a 137-72 record, with their best recent finish an 11-3 mark in 2018.

As usual, Wendland has high expectations. And the players appear ready.

"The kids have done a great job over the summer preparing for the season at team camp and in the weight room," said Wendland. "We expect to compete for championships."

A good deal of that optimism can be attributed to the Russell brothers. Damarius, a 6-foot, 170-pound junior, is described by Wendland as, "A dynamic wide receiver/defensive back," and is regarded by most as

one of the best and fastest players in the state. Deron, 5-11, 160, is a sophomore who started alongside his brother in the defensive backfield last fall. He's also expected to be a big contributor at wide receiver.

Damarius is also a backup quarterback to new starter Jordan Johnston, a 5-10, 170-pound sophomore.

The running back position will be led by Kaeden Johnson, a 5-9, 174-pound senior who possesses exceptional speed.

Also returning as starters are seniors Laird Keaton (6-3, 180, WR/DB), Carter Ellis (6-0, 190, RB/LB), Noah Thompson (6-2, 200, OL/DB), Andrew Robran (6-4, 220, OL/LB) and Shane Engel Mueller (5-10, 205, OL/DL), juniors Carson Ohnstad (6-0, 175, WR/DB), Tauston Rupe (5-10, 195, RB/LB), Ben Hagen (5-11, 300, OL/DL), Branden Jascha (6-2, 270, OL/DL), and Ethan Stenzel (6-0, 220, OL/DL).

Senior Nate Engel Mueller, (5-9, 185) will start at linebacker this fall while junior Cody Weber (5-7, 230) will start at center.

The rest of the roster includes seniors Keaton Roeker, Jose Mexitico Perez, Rudy Moncada, Jacob Thompson, Josh Norman, Iven Rodriguez and Javonn Rodney, juniors Bennett Ludwig, Caden Danner, Cameron Karsten, Koltun Quillen, Max Wirtz, John Feely, Micah Allen-Haas, David Hogkins, Brenlee Reyna, Andy Balderas, Keegan Peterson and Jaden Beck,



LISTEN UP — Waseca High School football coach Brad Wendland addresses his players during practice last week. The Bluejays are looking for continued success, opening the season Sept. 1 at home against Stewartville.

Pioneer photo by Jim Lutgens

"We expect to compete for championships."
— WHS coach Brad Wendland

and sophomores Cyrett Long, William Mansfield, Jacob Root, Lucas Seltun, Liam Biddle, Riley Mitchell, Wyatt Hager, Allen Kopetzki, Kaden Garza, Jonathan Gransee, Caleb Wulf, Nathan Kaiser, Julius Oviedo, Dylan Hansen and Roman Siler. The managers are Ian Hollinger, Kaeden Pierce and Grace Dickerson.

"We hope that balance will be a strength for our team," said Coach Wendland. "Offensively, we want all the skilled players to touch the ball. Defensively, we are optimistic we can match up against strong run and pass teams."

Staying healthy and developing toughness, according to Wendland, are two key components to success.

"We will need to see development

on special teams, passing game, and develop depth," he said.

Wendland's coaching staff includes Eric Teders, Connolly Turek, Ben Lueken, Jarius Volkmann, Ken Andrs, Brian Rupe, Levi Poppe, Ted Hammond and Rick Wulf.

Wendland said Waseca is ideal for both football players and coaches.

"Waseca is a super place to play high school football," said Wendland. "We are excited to support the other fall sports and play for our school and community."

The Big South favorites, according to Wendland, are Waseca, Jordan, Fairmont and Marshall, with the first three teams expected to battle for the Section 2AAA championship.



LEADERS — The 2023 Waseca High School football coaching staff. Front from left: Ben Lueken, Connolly Turek, Rick Wulf, Brian Rupe; back: Jarius Volkmann, Brad Wendland, Eric Teders, Levi Poppe. Missing from photo: Ted Hammond.

Pioneer photo by Jim Lutgens

Waseca Football 2023
Sept. 1 vs. Stewartville, 7 p.m.
Sept. 8 at St. Peter, 7 p.m.
Sept. 15 vs. Marshall, 7 p.m.
Sept. 22 vs. Belle Plaine, 7 p.m.
Sept. 29 at Jordan, 7 p.m.

Oct. 6 vs. TCU (HC), 7 p.m.
Oct. 13 at Albert Lea, 7 p.m.
Oct. 18 at Fairmont, 7 p.m.
Oct. 24 Section quarterfinals
Oct. 28 Section semifinals
Nov. 3 Section final

Waseca High School Girls' Tennis

After 14-4 season, Bluejays have some big shoes to fill

By JIM LUTGENS
Sports Editor

There's no two ways about it. The 2023 Waseca High School girls' tennis team has some big shoes to fill.

Last year's Bluejays finished with a record of 14-4 after going 4-21 in 2021. They were 4-1 in the Big South East, good for second place, and were seeded sixth in Section 1AA.

"We had a fantastic season in 2022," said 25th-year head coach Kyle Collins.

Graduated off that squad are No. 1 singles player Sarah Robbins, No. 2 singles girl Cece Huttemier, and doubles layer Miranda Breck. Robbins and Huttemier were on the varsity for five or six seasons, according to Collins, while Breck was a three-year letterwinner. The Bluejays also lost Lauren Drexler, who moved to Wisconsin after posting a 15-4 record at No. 3 doubles last year.

Senior Sarah Haley, 12-7 at No. 3 singles last year, will be in the No. 1 or 2 slot this year, as will junior Takya Schoenrock, who was 11-8 at fourth singles last

fall. Also back: junior Mia Kanewischer, 9-9 at 1 and 2 doubles last year; junior Addie Pfeiffer, 9-9 at No. 2 doubles; sophomore Maddy Bensen, 11-8 at No. 2 doubles; and sophomore Paige Dufault, 13-4 at No. 3 doubles.

Also expected to have a key impact on the varsity are senior Elizabeth Roessler, juniors Ashton Jenzen and Esme Pearce, and sophomores Vivian Mader and Tailyn Kaput.

Also on the roster are sophomores Pearl Moore, Paige Sandoval and Lily Sanches, and ninth-graders Grace Chawra and Mia Nesenson.

The Bluejays have a total of 16 players, including six returning letterwinners, with two seniors, five juniors, seven sophomores and two freshmen.

"We have some big shoes to fill with the graduation of Robbins and Huttemier," said Collins.

The Bluejays have moved down from Section 1AA to 1A, changing from the big schools to the smaller schools. Also new in Section 1A are Cannon Falls, Lake City, Winona Cotter, St.

Croix Lutheran, and the team Collins considers the favorite in the section, Rochester Lourdes. Collins tabbed St. Peter as the team to beat in the Big South.

Collins is assisted by Trish Mercier and Abbe Hoehn.

WHS 2023 Girls' Tennis
Aug. 17 Home triangular
Aug. 21 at Mound-Westonka
Aug. 22 Worthington
Aug. 25 at Farmington
Aug. 26 Home triangular
Aug. 31 Red Wing
Sept. 5 at New Prague
Sept. 7 St. Peter
Sept. 9 Home triangular
Sept. 12 Fairmont
Sept. 14 at Blue Earth Area
Sept. 18 at Owatonna
Sept. 19 at New Ulm
Sept. 21 at Sleepy Eye
Sept. 25 at Northfield
Sept. 28 at Cannon Falls
Oct. 5 Section team quarterfinals
Oct. 9 Section team semifinals
Oct. 16-17 Section individual



NETTERS — The 2023 Waseca High School girls' tennis team. Front from left: Mia Nesesen, Esme Pearce, Maddy Benson, Vivian Mader, Takya Schoenrock, Lily Sanchez; row two: Ashton Jenzen, Tailyn Kaput, Addie Pfeifer, Mia Kanewischer, Sarah Haley, Paola Sandoval, Grace Chawra; back: coach Kyle Collins, Lizzie Roessler, Paige Dufault, Pearl Moore, coach Trish Mercier, coach Abbe Hoehn.

Pioneer photo by Jim Lutgens

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FALL SPORTS

PREVIEW

Waseca High School Cross Country



CC BOYS — Members of the 2003 Waseca High School boys' cross country team. From left: Levi Ring, Colby Hoof, Colton Schroeder, Tyler Jellum, Tristan Godwin. Not pictured: Isaac Fjeldkamp, expected to be the Bluejays' No. 1 runner, and Tanner Hansen, who figures to be among the top five.



CC GIRLS — Members of the 2023 Waseca High School girls' cross country team. Front from left: Violet Rohwer, Stella Omtvedt, Callie Dufault, Maren Schimming, Kelsey Draeger, unidentified; back: Norah Schimming, Melanie Krueger Eineke, Taylor Markeson, unidentified.

Pioneer photos by Jim Lutgens

WHS girls aim to repeat as section champions

By JIM LUTGENS
Sports Editor

Wondering about the aspirations for the 2023 Waseca High School girls' cross country team?

Think big.

The Bluejays, Section 1AA champions last fall, return five of their top seven runners, and eighth-year head coach Grant Popp is looking for more of the same.

"I am hoping the girls' team can improve their conference finish and repeat as section champs," said Popp, who acknowledges it will not be an easy task; but it's attainable.

"We lost some key seniors last year," said Popp. "Based on returning runners from the section meet, we are projected to be in third place. However, I think the girls had a good summer of training and will be willing to put in the work to compete for a return to state."

"I think the girls had a good summer of training and will be willing to put in the work to compete for a return to state."

— WHS coach Grant Popp

Leading the way are Callie Dufault and Stella Omtvedt. Popp said to keep an eye on Taylor Markeson, who finished the season on the varsity last year, but had a great summer of training and is expected to be a bigger factor this year.

The girls, who finished 13th in the state meet last year, also have Kelsey Draeger, Noelle Drake, Maddie Halla, Berkly Hinna, Violet Rohwer, Maren Schimming, Norah Schimming, Ava VanDenHemel, Jenna

Yoder and Melanie Krueger Eineke.

The boys, fourth in the Big South Conference and seventh in Section 1AA, will be led by Isaac Fjeldkamp. Tanner Hansen and Tyler Jellum had great summers of training, according to Popp, and are expected to have a bigger role on the varsity this fall.

The rest of the boys include Jack Anderson, Sam Fjeldkamp, Tristan Godwin, Colby Hoof, Elijah Johanneck, Levi Ring,

Dakota Mertz, Bobby Mortenson and Colton Schroeder.

Four of the Bluejays' top seven return from last year.

"I think we can improve both our conference and section finishes," said Popp. "We lost two of our top three runners from last season, but all of our returning runners put in more miles this summer and I think our top five will be able to score better, even with their losses."

Four of the Bluejays' top five boys are juniors. The girls' squad is also young, with only one senior.

As usual, the Bluejays will encounter tough opposition.

"There are some really strong cross country teams in the conference," said Popp. "Marshall is always competitive on both the boys' and girls' sides, and the Worthington

boys are also very good. In our section, Faribault is strong on both sides, along with a number of teams who will be competitive for the girls. I think the Winona boys are a strong favorite in Section 1AA."

Popp is assisted by Nancy Kaplan and Heidi McCabe.

WHS 2023 Cross Country

Aug. 31 at Bear Cave Park, 4 p.m.
Sept. 7 at Tri-City United, 4 p.m.
Sept. 14 at Kasson-Mantorville, 4 p.m.
Sept. 19 at Albert Lea, 4 p.m.
Sept. 28 at Zumbrota, 4 p.m.
Oct. 5 Waseca Invitational, 4 p.m.
Oct. 10 at Jordan, 4 p.m.
Oct. 27 Big South at Marshall, 3:30
Oct. 26 Section at Albert Lea
Nov. 4 State

Waseca High School Boys' Soccer

It looks like a season of transition for WHS boys

By JIM LUTGENS
Sports Editor

Say this about the 2023 Waseca High School boys' soccer team: it should be an interesting season.

The Bluejays, according to 20-plus-year head coach J.D. Delgado, are in a rebuilding mode with six seniors, five juniors and two sophomores.

"We will need to pull some younger junior varsity players to assist us with games," said Delgado. "We will be rebuilding and preparing the younger kids to be ready for the upcoming years. We have a big gap in players' ages."

The captains are seniors, defender Mason Jes, defender Lucas Vasquez and goalkeeper Eduardo Gallegos Jr.

Delgado looks for big things from Gallegos.

"Regarded as a highly promising player in his youth, he has since established himself as one of the best goalkeepers in the area," said the coach. "His field vision is impressive and his blocking ability superb."

Delgado is also optimistic about

senior defender Logan Heyer and freshman attacking midfielder Henry Huttemier.

"Heyer is known for his strength, leadership and aerial ability," said Delgado. "His strength when blocking is extraordinary. The way he handles himself on the field when defending is great. He has superb speed and a powerful kick."

Huttemier, according to Delgado, has been at the core of the team's offense.

"He quickly took control of the team," said Delgado. "He would often show players much older than him different tactical advantages they were missing. The way he sees the game allow him to make off-ball runs, opening channels for his teammates. He can work in pockets between opposing team's defenders, pull them out of position, and know every run his teammate make, even if he isn't looking in that direction. Often, we need him to manage his 'fuel tank,' as it may get empty too quickly."

Other 7h-12th-graders: seniors Noah Dahle, Dominic Grunzke and

Ezra Skains, juniors Adrian Ulises, Christopher Badillo, Lucas McQuery and Lucas Johnson, sophomores Brady Tlougan and Amin Sharif, freshmen Gregorio Castillo-Sivestre, Fushen Mei, Dawson Goodlander, Nolan McQuery, Jacob Harguth, Carson Harter and Logan Konz, 8th-graders Matthew Nelson, Landon Rutt, Carlo Driessen and Sawyer Mairs, and 7th-graders Jayden Alexander, Keegan Rodriguez, Maahin Lad, Gabriel Sanchez Jr., Thomas Vasquez, Oliver Rugroden, Dominik Mansfield and Shylo Driessen.

Delgado brings to the Bluejays more than 20 years of coaching experience, holding a Premier license, the top license for U.S. soccer coaches. He's assisted by his son, Jesse Delgado, a former Bluejay and well known distance runner, David Vasquez and Mike McQuery.

According to Delgado, Worthington has been at the top of the Big South Conference and section, followed by Marshall and Faribault.

"We are hoping to challenge every



SOCCER BOYS — The 2023 Waseca High School boys' soccer team. Front from left: Sunny Mei, unidentified, C.J. Badillo, Maahin Lad, Jacob Harguth, Matthew Nelson, Lucas McQuery; row two: Noah Dahle, Mason Jes, Lucas Vasquez, Ezra Skains, Eduardo Gallegos Jr., Amin Sharif, Israel Johnson, Brady Tlougan; back: coach J.D. Delgado, Jesse Delgado, Dominic Grunzke, Logan Heyer, Henry Huttenmier, coach Mike McQuery, coach David Vasquez.

Pioneer photo by Jim Lutgens

team in our area," said Delgado. "We will focus on our strength to play the ball consistently and keep it from the opponent. Our team consists of many younger players, but we will take every game as a learning opportunity and we will be ready soon. Our team is very young. We will definitely be working together

as a team to minimize the challenge."

Waseca High School 2023 Boys' Soccer

Aug. 24 at Mound-Westonka, 2 p.m.
Aug. 26 at Marshall, 11:45 a.m.
Aug. 31 New Ulm, 7 p.m.
Sept. 5 Fairmont, 7 p.m.
Sept. 7 at St. James, 7 p.m.

Sept. 9 Marshall, 11:45 a.m.
Sept. 11 at Byron, 7 p.m.
Sept. 12 St. Peter, 6:45 p.m.
Sept. 14 at New Ulm, 6:45 p.m.
Sept. 18 at St. Peter, 6:45 p.m.
Sept. 19 at Worthington, 7 p.m.
Sept. 21 at Kasson-Mantorville, 7 p.m.

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- The Bailey House is one of Waseca's oldest homes, built in 1868.
- 1 in 10 Americans sell their home due to paranormal activity.
- 50% of millennial investors choose to invest in real estate.
- The median house price increased by 416% between 1980 & 2020.
- 1 in 4 renters spend 50% of their income on housing.
- U.S. home values have increased 7.2% over the past three years.
- A little over one-third of sellers initially try to sell their homes themselves as a "For Sale by Owner" listing. However, only about 10% of sellers actually get their FSBO listing across the finish line; the rest give up and hire a real estate agent.

FALL SPORTSPREVIEW

Waseca High School Girls' Soccer

Soccer girls primed to shine

By JIM LUTGENS
Sports Editor

Last fall, the Waseca High School girls' soccer team climbed the ladder almost all the way to the top, finishing second in the Big South Conference.

The Bluejays' sights are set higher this year.

With a core of returning four-year starters and a potential standout player, coach Phil Bulfer and the Bluejays are aiming at a championship trophy.

"I believe we had a successful 2022 season," said Bulfer. "And I believe that we are going to take a solid run at the conference title this year. I truly believe that these girls are up for the challenge and are eager to prove that we can hold that title again."

Not that it will be easy.

"The 2023 season is of course going to be a challenge," said Bulfer. "I think that all of the teams in our conference have been making improvements every year."

The Bluejays will be led by seniors Mallory Bruhn, Ella Krautkremer, Addison Wieseler and Evelyn Nydegger, an NRHEG student and a track and field standout last spring. All have started for three seasons.

"Evelyn Nydegger will be, I

believe, one of our standouts and a difference maker within the group starting up on top for the first time," said Bulfer. "Addison Wieseler will be a key component to controlling our defensive midfield. Mallory Bruhn will be commanding our defense. Ella Krautkremer will be exciting to watch as she will be playing as midfield defender with a dangerous right show from the back. Gaby Lopez will be returning after an exciting summer season with a soccer club in the Twin Cities."

Sophomore goaltender Ella Bulfer returns to the Bluejays fresh off a national tournament.

"She's ready to prove that she is the one to beat," said Coach Bulfer.

Juniors include Lopez Sophie Chawra, Lopez, Lucia Mansfield, Ashley Sanchez and Emily LeMieux. Sophomores are Bulfer, Eva Bruhn and Riley Schaffer.

Starting the season on the junior varsity: juniors Jennifer Hernandez, Peyton Kalbow and Camila Marquez, sophomore Bianca Hernandez, freshmen Jacei Jensen, Angelica Kopez and Jesalyn Wiess, 8th-graders Sophia Larson, Khloe Nelson and Reese Rodriguez, and 7th-graders Delilah Veroeven and Sheila Driessen.

Though Coach Bulfer said the Big South is always strong, he looks for



SOCCER GIRLS — The 2023 Waseca High School girls' soccer team: Mallory Bruhn, Sophie Chawra, Gaby Lopez, Evelyn Nydegger, Camila Marquez, Lucia Mansfield, Addison Wieseler, Ella Krautkremer, Emily LeMieux, Ava Brung, Ashley Sanchez, Ella Bulfer, Reese Rodriguez, Angelica Lopez, assistant coach Madeline Bulfer, head coach Phil Bulfer.

Pioneer photo by Jim Lutgens

Conference."

Waseca High School 2023 Girls' Soccer

Aug. 26 at Marshall, 10 a.m.
Aug. 29 at Fairmont, 7 p.m.
Aug. 31 New Ulm, 6:45 p.m.
Sept. 5 Fairmont, 7 p.m.

Sept. 7 St. James/W/M, 7 p.m.
Sept. 10 Marshall, 10 a.m.
Sept. 12 at St. Peter, 6:45
Sept. 14 at New Ulm, 7 p.m.
Sept. 18 St. Peter, 7 p.m.
Sept. 19 at Worthington, 7 p.m.
Sept. 21 Kasson-Mantorville 7 p.m.
Sept. 26 at Red Wing, 7 p.m.

Sept. 28 Worthington, 7 p.m.
Oct. 2 at Byron, 7 p.m.
Oct. 3 vs. SJ/W/M at Madelia, 7 p.m.
Oct. 10 Section quarterfinals
Oct. 12 Section semifinals

Waseca High School Cheerleaders



CHEERLEADERS — The 2023 Waseca High School fall cheerleaders. Front from left: Meriah Hiller, Elli Hoban, Amilyz Lynch, Ryleigh Ebnet, Josie Ross, Savanna Schlueter, Emma Donnay; row two: Tegan Plateau, Katie Olson, Hayden Lynch, Quinn Dahle, Cece Bjerke, Grace Below, Kaylie Morrissey; back: Madison Raschke, Reese Ludwig, Bella Wilken, Layla Keith, Lily Peterson, Chloe Johnson, Ava Omvedt, Natalie Berndt.

Pioneer photo by Jim Lutgens

WHS Volleyball

Waseca High School 2023 Volleyball

Aug. 31 at New Ulm, 7:30
Sept. 2 at Rochester Inv., 8 a.m.
Sept. 5 at St. James Area, 7:30
Sept. 7 at Blue Earth Area, 7:15
Sept. 14 at MN Valley Luth., 7:30
Sept. 19 St. Peter, 7:15
Sept. 26 Fairmont, 7:30
Sept. 28 Tri-City United, 7:30
Oct. 2 Blue Earth Area, 7:30
Oct. 3 at St. Peter, 7:15
Oct. 9 New Ulm, 7:30
Oct. 10 at LeSueur-Hend., 7 p.m.
Oct. 12 at LCWM, 7 p.m.
Oct. 16 St. James Area, 7:30
Oct. 23 Section play-in game
Oct. 26 Section quarterfinals
Oct. 31 Section semifinals
Nov. 2 Section final

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NRHEG PANTHERS
FALL SPORTS

PREVIEW



FOOTBALL — The 2023 NRHEG High School football team is looking to turn things around after a rare losing record. The Panthers open the season Thursday, Aug. 31 at Randolph. Pioneer photo by Deb Bently

Panthers hoping to regain winning tradition

By JIM LUTGENS
Sports Editor

Last year, for the first time in head football coach Marc Kruger's five years at NRHEG High School, his career record dropped below the .500 mark.

Can the Panthers swing it the other way this fall?

With a number of talented returning lettermen, including their starting quarterback, it does appear within the realm of possibility.

"Having our quarterback return will be huge," said Kruger.

That quarterback, Alden Dobberstein finished among the top 50 in the state in passing yards last season. And he's only a junior.

"We will look to him a lot," said Kruger.

Senior Jaylin Raab also figures to be a key contributor, starting at running back and playing with Dobberstein in the defensive backfield.

"Jaylin will step into the main running back role," said Kruger. "We will look to use his speed whenever we can."

Also back as letterwinners are seniors Sam Olson (WR/LB), Reese Routh (WR/LB), Zander Flatness (line), Garrett Degen (line) and George Roesler (TE/DE), juniors Aiden Schlaak (WR/DB), Carter Martens (line) and Jace Ihrke (line), and sophomore Wyatt Larson (TE/DE).

As usual, the Panthers gradu-

"We will be young, but very athletic. We have a tough schedule, but will always expect to win."

— Coach Marc Kruger

ated a number of talented individuals off last year's team, including Andrew Phillips, Sawyer Prigge, Makota Misgen, Lucas Hanna, Nash Howe, Ethan Thompson and Brady Schlaak.

Kruger, 19-23 in five NRHEG seasons, definitely does not expect a cakewalk, but you get the feeling he hopes to improve on last year's record of 1-8. They were 9-3 in 2018, reaching the state quarterfinals after winning the school's first-ever section football championship.

"We will be young, but very athletic," said Kruger. "We have a tough schedule, but will always expect to win."

The key to success, according to Kruger, is for the Panthers to utilize their speed as much as possible and to overcome their lack of experience as soon as possible.

"We need to stay together," said Kruger. "We have a really tough start to the season with four games against really strong opponents."

After opening at Randolph, the Panthers host Norwood-Young America, Mayer Lutheran and St. Clair/Loyola. They have two

Thursday games and two Saturday contests. Homecoming is Oct. 6 against WEM. The Panthers battle JWP Oct. 12 at Janesville for the Gold Brick Trophy.



Kruger

Kruger is assisted by Neil Fuchs, Jeff Jimenez, Chad Sykes, Dan Bell, Brian Bellcourt and Aaron Gilliland.

Kruger looks for St. Clair/Mankato Loyola as the team to beat in both the conference and section.

How do the Panthers fit in? It should be fun to find out.

2023 NRHEG Football
Aug. 31 at Randolph, 7 p.m.
Sept. 9 vs. Norwood-YA, 1 p.m.
Sept. 16 vs. Mayer Lutheran, 1 p.m.
Sept. 22 vs. St. Clair/Loyola, 7 p.m.
Sept. 29 at Medford, 7 p.m.
Oct. 6 vs. WEM (HC), 7 p.m.
Oct. 12 at JWP, 7 p.m.
Oct. 18 vs. USC, 7 p.m.



Seniors for the 2023 NRHEG High School football team. Front from left: Jackson Chrz, George Roesler and Reese Routh; back: Garrett Degen, Zander Flatness, Sam Olson and Jaylin Raab.

Pioneer photo by Deb Bently



LEAD THE WAY — Last-year seniors Sawyer Prigge (8) and Andrew Phillips (29) lead the Panthers on to the field for their final home game of the 2022 season.

Photo by Chris Schlaak

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NRHEG PANTHERS

FALL SPORTS

PREVIEW

NRHEG Volleyball

Panthers look to build on success

By JIM LUTGENS
Sports Editor

The NRHEG High School volleyball team enjoyed a more-than-respectable 21-7 overall record last season under first-year head coach Ashley Tolzman.

What's in store for this fall? Hopefully, more of the same.

While the Panthers lost some outstanding athletes to graduation, Tolzman has three experienced seniors to build around: setter Hallie Schultz, outside hitter Tayler Schmidt and libero Faith Neilsen.

"Hallie is a key player because she has such a great understanding of the game of volleyball," said Tolzman. "She has the ability to read the court really well and make good decisions. She is a great leader and a positive teammate."

The Panthers will miss 2023 graduates Sidney Schultz, Erin Jacobson, Sarah George, Bailey Ihrke and Bree Ihrke. Schultz holds the school record for digs.

The rest of this year's Panthers are seniors Keira Lenort, Madison Murray, Elsie Schultz, Isabel Stadheim and Sydney Lever, junior Aryanna Howe, and sophomores Gabrielle Schlaak, Camryn VanMaldeghem, Chloe Stork and Adalyn Stadheim.

Most of the Panthers are multi-sport athletes with varsity experi-

"We have many versatile players we can try in different positions."

— NRHEG coach Ashley Tolzman

VOLLEYBALL — The 2023 NRHEG High School volleyball team. Front from left: Olivia Berg, Chloe Riewer, Mallory Schlinger, Izley Boerner, Nora Flatness; back: Addy Stadheim, Aspyn Stenzel, Sierra Misgen, Chloe Stork, Anika Ladlie, Avah Reich, Aryanna Howe.

Pioneer photo by Deb Bently

Schuller and Jen Hatton, sees Bethlehem Academy, Kenyon-Wanamingo and WEM as the favorites in the Gopher Conference. She looks for WEM, Belle Plain and Southwest Christian as the top squads in Section 2AA.

2023 NRHEG Volleyball

Aug. 29 vs. Alden-Conger

Sept. 5 vs. Martin Luther/GHEC

Sept. 7 at Triton

Sept. 12 vs. United South Central

Sept. 14 at WEM

Sept. 19 vs. Medford

Sept. 23 at USC Invitational

Sept. 26 vs. Tri-City United

Sept. 18 vs. Blooming Prairie

Oct. 3 at Hayfield

Oct. 5 vs. JWP

Oct. 9 at Bethlehem Academy

Oct. 10 at Kenyon-Wanamingo

Oct. 12 at Maple River

Oct. 16 at Nicollet

Oct. 17 vs. Randolph

NRHEG Cross Country

Runners hope to vie for individual honors

By JIM LUTGENS
Sports Editor

The numbers are just not there for the 2023 NRHEG High School cross country team to think about any team titles.

Individually, they should bring home some medals, maybe even gold at the Gopher Conference meet.

The Panthers will be led by first-year head coach Larry Nydegger, who's no stranger to NRHEG. He was an assistant coach for nine years and is the father of two talented Panther runners.

Returning all-conference performers Jacob Karl and Devon Nelson head the boys' team.

"I expect Jacob and Devon to contend for the individual conference title since they both finished in the top five at last year's conference meet," said Nydegger.

They're joined by returning letter-winner Jackson McGannon on the boys' side.

Annabelle Petsinger is the lone returnee for the girls' varsity, captained this year by Holly Bartness.

"We'll have strong leadership in our captains Jacob Karl and Holly Bartness, and our lone senior Annabelle Petsinger," said Nydegger.

The boys, according to Nydegger, do not have enough runners to score as a team at meets.

The key to success?

"We need to remain healthy and focus on improvement each week,"

said Nydegger. "We are a youthful team that will gain a great deal of experience this season. Annabelle will provide senior leadership as our most experienced runner."

The Panthers' lone home meet of the season is Sept. 19 at Riverview Golf Course.

The Panthers participated at the Trail Run hosted by Medford at the River Bend Nature Center on Aug. 25th.

The meet was attended by Le Sueur-Henderson, NRHEG, USC/AC and Medford.

For the Panther girls, Bartness finished the 5-kilometer course in fourth place with a time of 25:50. Petsinger finished 10th at 28:13.

On the boy's side, Karl and Nelson took the top two spots, Jacob finishing in 19:52, Devon 20:17. McGannon finished 15th with a time of 25:00.

"It was a good first meet," said Coach Nydegger. "We hope to get our younger runners more experience before bringing them up to the varsity level."

2023 NRHEG Cross Country

Aug. 25 Inv. at Medford

Aug. 31 Inv. at Bear Dave Park

Sept. 7 Inv. at Oaks Golf Club

Sept. 12 Inv. at Blooming Pr. CC

Sept. 19 Inv. at Riverview GC

Sept. 28 Inv. at Prairie Ridge GC

Oct. 5 Inv. at Waseca Lakeside GC

Oct. 10 Inv. at Oak View GC

Oct. 16 Conf. at Blooming Pr. CC

Oct. 26 Section at Riverside CC

CC — The 2023 NRHEG High School cross country team. Front from left: Holly Bartness, Amelia Duryee, Julieann Wobbrock, Ella Jenn, Madison Corkill, Annabelle Petsinger; back: manager Alexis McGannon, Jacob Karl, Devon Nelson, Jackson McGannon, Owen Flatland, coach Larry Nydegger.

Pioneer photo by Deb Bently

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FALL SPORTS

PREVIEW



JWP Football



FOOTBALL — The 2023 JWP High School football team. Front from left: Brayden Blasing, Blayne Wandrie, Seth Dahlberg, Gavin Weedman, Carson Schultz, Jeffrey Simonson, Aidan Rider, Parker Gearity, Tyson Johnson, Yale Johnson, and Jackson Winters; row two: Rocco Scholl, Josiah Hagen, Michael Walker, Aiden Cummins, Caleb Quast, Daulton Bauer, Chase Gerdts, Dylan Hood, and Rylan Rolfsen; row three: Davien Weis, Jaxon Miller, Ethan Born, Peyton O'Brien, Max Davis, Avery Fall, Isaiah Berndt, Luke Cahill, and Landon Johnson; row four: Ryan Kronbach, Austin Carda, Dylan McWaters, Cole Schlueter, Ty Melchior, Austin Quast, Nolan Morsching, Cole Gartner, and Logan Thell. Not pictured: Alex James and Zach Blasing. Photo courtesy of Janesville Journal

Bulldogs aiming for continued improvement

By JIM LUTGENS
Sports Editor

Although the Janesville-Waldorf-Pemberton High School football team did not have a dazzling record last year, 2-8 overall and 1-4 in conference play, it was not a season without highlights.

The 2023 Bulldogs aim to provide more of the same. And, according to first-year head coach Ryan Luedtke, they're aiming to improve the win-loss record as well.

"We expect the team to compete in every game this season from start to end," said Luedtke. "We have a line that has good size, and a plethora of backs and wide receivers who can move. If we can face some adversity with the same energy and focus when things are going well, we will have a lot of

fun this season."

The Bulldogs graduated all-district selections Jack Cahill and Karson Lindsay and Ryder Thissen, along with Sam Carlson, Kelton Erler, Nick Johnson and Matt VanRavenhorst.

Returning lettermen include seniors Ryan Kronbach, Austin Carda, Cole Gartner, Alex James, Ryan Krohnback, Dylan McWaters, Ty Melchoir, Nolan Morsching, Austin Quast, Cole Schlueter and Logan Thell, and juniors Isaiah Berndt, Ethan Born, Luke Cahill, Max Davis, Avery Fall, Landon Jonnson, Jaxon Miller, Lucas Morsching, Peyton O'Brien and Davien Weis. Kronbach was an all-district selection last season.

"We have depth at the wide receiver, running back, linebacker, and defensive back

positions," said Luedtke. "We also have explosive athletes in these position groups like Ryan Kronbach at wide receiver, Nolan Morsching at running back, an Avery Fall at linebacker. Then we have Austin Carda anchoring the leading the line at center. I expect these groups to shine over the course of the season."

The biggest challenge, according to Luedtke, will be players learning a new system.

"They have been doing a great job of asking questions and learning the new system," said Luedtke. "I'm excited to see what we can do."

The Bulldogs' key to success?

"We will need to run the ball to stay ahead of the chains on offense, and make plays

through the air when we struggle to run the ball," said Luedtke. "We will need to stop the run on defense and force the other team to pass. Finally, we will need to execute on special teams in order to not give any short fields to our opponents."

Luedtke has a large coaching staff that includes Howard VanOtterloo, Sam Schruin, Brandon Goebel, Bjorn Peterson, Tom Gannon and Rich Davis. Although this is Luedtke's first year as head coach, he's been at JWP 12 years.

"The entire team has worked hard during fall camp, and brought energy to every practice," said Luedtke. "We are running a different offense and defense with all different terminology. They have been focused and brought a great attitude to understand the

new offensive and defensive strategy. I'm excited to see what this team can accomplish."

Luedtke listed Blue Earth Area, Maple River and St. Clair/Mankato Loyola as section favorites.

JWP High School 2023 Football

Sept. 1 Lester Prairie, 7 p.m.
Sept. 8 GFW at Winthrop, 7 p.m.
Sept. 15 Cleveland (Parent Night), 7 p.m.
Sept. 22 WEM (HC), 7 p.m.
Sept. 29 SC/ML at Mankato, 7 p.m.
Oct. 6 at United South Central, 7 p.m.
Oct. 12 NRHEG (Senior Night), 7 p.m.
Oct. 18 at Medford, 7 p.m.

JWP Volleyball



VOLLEYBALL — The 2023 JWP High School volleyball team. Front from left: Ava Appel, Brielle Dessner, Ellah Oliver, Brielle Bure, Nevaeh Weimert, Lilly Strauss, and Katie Olson; back: Caitlin Kleve, Hope Dimmel, Presley James, Claire Walz, Paige Walz, Aubrey Weedman, Lexie Dahlberg, and Ali Olson. Photo courtesy of Janesville Journal

JWP spikers ready to rock

By JIM LUTGENS
Sports Editor

According to fifth-year head coach Jessica Keenan, the Janesville-Waldorf-Pemberton High School volleyball team has grown, in more ways than one.

"The girls have grown a lot over the past year," said Keenan. "Both physically and volleyball skills-wise."

It leads Keenan to believe the Bulldogs can definitely top last year's win-loss record of 7-19 overall and 1-10 in the Gopher Conference.

"I expect our team to surprise a lot of our opponents this season," said Keenan. "A majority of the team are returners from last season, so we're coming in with lots more experience than we had last season."

The Bulldogs graduated one key player from last season, honorable-mention all-conference selection Jessa Westphal. She was also on the

All-State Academic team.

Among the returnees are Brielle Bure, the team's Defensive MVP who received honorable mention all-conference, and Aubrey Weedman, the overall MVP of last year's squad.

Also returning are Ali Olson, Claire Walz, Lexie Dahlberg, Lilly Strauss, Neveah Weimert and Paige Walz.

"We have a lot of movement positionally on the team this season," said Keenan. "The girls have a bit to learn and need to work on hitter chemistry with the setters from their new positions, but I think those will get cleared up very quickly into practice!"

Keenan, assisted by Tater Schmitz and Kayla Holden, has a record of 27-58 for the Bulldogs, with their recent best finish in 2021 when they reached the sub-section semifinals.

The key to success for the 2023

Bulldogs?

"Taking risks will be the key to success for the team this year," said Keenan. "They will need to trust themselves and their teammates and be willing to step outside of their comfort zone to continue to level up their volleyball game."

JWP High School 2023 Volleyball

Aug. 29 Cleveland, 7:15 p.m.
Sept. 5 Alden-Conger, 7:15 p.m.
Sept. 7 at WEM, 7:15 p.m.
Sept. 11 Nicollet, 7:15 p.m.
Sept. 12 Medford, 7:15 p.m.
Sept. 14 at Bethlehem Acad., 7:15 p.m.
Sept. 18 at St. Clair, 7 p.m.
Sept. 19 Blooming Prairie, 7:15 p.m.
Sept. 21 at Hayfield, 7:15 p.m.
Sept. 28 Maple River, 7:15 p.m.
Sept. 30 at TCU Invitational, 8:30 a.m.
Oct. 2 at Mankato Loyola, 7 p.m.
Oct. 3 Kenyon-Wanamingo, 7:15 p.m.
Oct. 5 at NRHEG, 7:15 p.m.
Oct. 9 at Triton, 7:15 p.m.
Oct. 10 Randolph, 7:15 (Parent Night)
Oct. 17 United So. Central, 7:15 p.m.

JWP/WEM Cross Country

JWP girls return conference champ

By JIM LUTGENS
Sports Editor

Returning the conference champion is huge for any cross country team.

This year, the JWP/WEM Grizzly girls are one of those squads.

Led by 2022 conference champ MaKenzie Westphal, who's only an 8th-grader, the Bulldogs and co-head coaches Eric Kehoe and Skyler Petry are optimistic about what may transpire this fall.

Westphal, who finished fourth in the section last year and advanced to state, is joined by returnees Madeline Huess, Kwynn Krause and Madalyn Miller. Huess and Krause are sophomores. Miller is an 8th-grader. Krause and Miller were second team all-conference last year.

Ashlin Keyes, who placed 15th in the conference meet last year, has graduated, as have Faith Olson and Maddie Kunst, who both contributed heavily to the varsity in 2022.

The girls also have junior Madeline Hoehn, who was out for the team last year but injured, senior Lauren White and sophomore Ellsie Schlie.

"Looking at the girls that we have returning and new athletes out, I expect to have a strong season," said Kehoe. "We for sure have a solid set of four runners. We'll have to wait a little bit further into the season to see if we're able to make one more strong runner. I'm hoping we can at least match last season's performances at meets."

The JWP/WEM boys are coming off a season in which they placed fourth in the conference and 13th in the section. Luke Cahill, honorable mention all-conference performer, is the strongest senior runner to graduate.

Returning are key varsity contributors Wyatt Jans, a freshman, and junior Alex Kleve. Jans was 43rd in the section last year.

The coaches are also expecting



GRIZZLY GIRLS — The 2023 JWP High School girls' cross country team. Front from left: Lydia Huelsnitz, MaKenzie Westphal, Madalyn Miller, and Lydia Coultsey; back: Kwynn Krause, Madeline Hoehn, Maddie Huess, and Ellie Schlie. Not pictured: Anne Adams and Lauren White.

help from juniors Gavin Brown and James Whitener, junior Maddox Moreno and seventh-grader Teegan Mulder.

"With the couple of boys we have returning who had a very strong track season and some new boys who look very promising, I would



GRIZZLY BOYS — The 2023 JWP High School boys' cross country team. Front from left: Alex Kleve, Teagan Mulder, and Wesley Heinz. Back row: Maddox Moreno, Gavin Brown, and Wyatt Jans. Not pictured: James Whitener.

not be surprised if we surpassed last season's performance."

In order to be successful, the Grizzlies need to remain injury-free, according to Kehoe.

"But I mostly gauge success on students hitting personal bests on courses," said Kehoe. "For me, we

just have to put in the work at every practice."

Kehoe and Petry are assisted by Elizabeth Kvebak.

JWP/WEM High School 2023 Cross Country

Aug. 25 at Fairmont Inv., 9:30 a.m.

Photos courtesy of Janesville Journal

Aug. 31 at Mankato Loyola Inv., 4 p.m.
Sept. 7 at Hayfield Inv., 4:15 p.m.
Sept. 14 at Maple River Inv., 4:30 p.m.
Sept. 19 at NRHEG Inv., 4:30 p.m.
Sept. 28 JWP/WEM Inv., 4:30
Oct. 5 at Waseca Inv., 4 p.m.
Oct. 10 at USC Inv., 4:30 p.m.
Oct. 16 Conference at BP, 4:30 p.m.

Argus archives

100 Years Ago – The Janesville Argus, August 29, 1923

- An item supplied by Herman Kroeger, who resides northeast of town a mile or two, will be of interest. It opens up to view the somewhat spectacular income from a source utilized by comparatively few farmers. Mr. Kroeger brought to town on Wednesday 175 bushels of clover seed. Sixty pounds to the bushel figures exactly at 1,050 pounds. The selling price was thirteen and a half cents to the pound. Accordingly, Mr. Kroeger received \$1,417.00 for the seed. Out of this he figures a threshing bill of about two hundred dollars. Counting his time at fair wages, of course, would cut the profit down. But it is quite satisfactory, neertheless.

- On Wednesday evening last the Old Town club met once more at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Harold McCormick. After the formal opening a good program was rendered consisting of a recitation by Miss Margaret Cahill, a splendid dialog by Mrs. McCormick and Miss Sadie McGuiness, songs by Messrs. Wm. Ray and Jay McGuiness followed by a speech by Mr. E. D. Garlick.

- The matter of a tourist camp for Janesville was brought prominently to the attention of our people last week when several parties stopped in town and inquired as to where they might pitch their tents. After much grief they finally took a vacant space south of the mill. Here is a location perhaps that may be available and as near to supplies as any other that might be designated. Its necessity is apparent. Other towns of less repute than Janesville have given over their united efforts to supplying the need. The matter was definitely impressed upon the minds of some of our people by the criticisms indulged in by these tourists, who were compelled to find their own place of encampment without help from the people here. Other towns employ men to meet tourists and welcome them and also to assist them if necessary.

75 Years Ago – The Janesville Argus, September 2, 1948

- The 4-H Health progress winners for Waseca County have now been announced by Mrs. Gloria Bartelt, county nurse, who made the two health inspections during the past 4-H club year. The winners are chosen on the basis of corrections they have made in their personal health. The boys and girls selected by Mrs. Bartelt and the clubs they represent are as follows: Kenneth Roemhildt of 4-H Clovers, Rita McDanielson of Waseca Go Getters, Wayne Armstrong of Bells of St. Mary, Yvonne Brandmire of Janesville Hearty Workers, Helen Foss of Freedom Hi-Flyers, Glee Huxford of Waldorf Peppy Peppers, Clifford Weydert of 4-H Clover for Luck, Niel Wobschall of Sunny Siders, Barbara Cords of Smiths Mill Winners, Gertrude Harguth of Wilton Winners, Lois Ann Perkins of Thrifty Peppers, Shirly Walstrom of Vista Busy Bees. These winners will receive a one day sightseeing trip this fall as their reward.

- Waseca county farmers who have a grain storage problem were asked today to tell their troubles to the county Agricultural Conservation committee, better known as the “Triple-A” committee. The committee's office is located at Waseca. “The record crop of grain, with corn production alone estimated at 3 ½ billion bushels emphasizes the need for storage as a means to orderly marketing.” Edward V. Doyle, chairman, said.

50 Years Ago – The Janesville Argus, August 29, 1973

- After being in Janesville for two days, the Rotary's new foreign exchange student was sure of two things: coffee in the states tastes like water, and bananas just don't have the flavor of Bolivian grown. Before you get the idea that our exchange student is hyper critical, let me assure you that he isn't. Quite to the contrary, he is extremely polite and only gave honest answers when we asked about coffee and bananas, both Bolivian crops. His full name is Edgar Alberto Luna Yanez, but he'd like to be known as Alberto, or better yet, just plain Berto. Berto arrived in Minneapolis Friday afternoon and was greeted by his first host family, Mr. and Mrs. David Hoversten. The trip from his hometown of Oruro, Bolivia to Minneapolis took 16 hours by air.

- Beginning September 1, 1973 drivers in Minnesota will notice a change in the warning lamp system used by school buses loading and unloading children, the Minnesota Departments of Public Safety and Education announced today. The new system is called the 8-lamp system. It differs from the old in several important ways. Under the new system, school buses will display flashing amber lamps as a pre-warning that they are preparing to stop for children. When the bus comes to a stop to pick up or discharge students, flashing red lights will come on. These flashing red lights will be the signal that approaching and following traffic must stop.

- Janesville Public and Trinity Lutheran School both announced identical free and reduced meal policies this past week. For reduced price meals your income can range from \$3,280 to \$13,060, depending on family size. For free meals the income range is from \$2,740 to \$10,880.

25 Years Ago – The Janesville Argus, September 2, 1998

- Two Janesville women struck it big at a recent state bowling tournament. Arlene Pooley and Cheryl Schuch came away with smiles on their faces and record scores having placed second in the single divisions at the 1998 Women's Bowling Association tournament. The annual tournament begins in mid-January and continues to the end of May. This year the team events were held in Owatonna, and the double and single events were held in Austin. Both Cheryl and Arlene enjoy bowling as a pastime because it does not take up a lot of time, yet it is a great way to get together with friends and meet new people.

- Three city council positions will be open during the upcoming general election on Tuesday, Nov. 3. The following positions are open on the Janesville City Council: Mayor Tom Trahms' seat which is a two-year term; council member Jeff Bartelt's seat which is a four-year term. At press time, Jeff Bartelt, Bob Westphal, and Sharlot Storjohann have filed for city council seats, and Frank “Buzz” Morrill filed for the mayor seat.

- The Minnesota Futures Fund (MFF) is inviting additional proposals from agencies working to meet the changing needs created by the implementation of welfare-to-work legislation. Grant awards are available up to \$20,000 for non-profit/public organizations or consortiums whose clients have been affected by changes in federal funding.



25 YEARS AGO - The 1998-99 marching season begins in earnest Saturday at the Minnesota State Fair for the Waseca Marching Jays who finish spat camp this week. The group has been practicing Monday through Friday since Aug. 3 in preparation of this year.

25 years ago: Waseca medical center breaks ground

100 Years Ago – The Waseca Journal, August 29, 1923

- After twenty-six years of service at one charge, Rev. Wasbotten of this city tendered his resignation to the congregation at the Norwegian Lutheran Church Sunday morning. He had resigned from the North Waseca Lutheran Church last year and from his charge at Aurora a week ago. He has accepted an offer as rector and manager of the largest old people's home conducted by the Norwegian Lutheran Church in this country. This home is located at Wittenberg, Wis. Rev. Wasbotten will take charge of this home about Nov. 1.

- Speeders came in for some tough jolts at the council meeting last evening. The council men felt that there was altogether too much speeding going on and action should be taken before someone got hurt. Dan Mahoney opened the subject by saying: “This automobile speeding around town is getting worse. We ought to take some action against it. In most cities they have a sign just at the city limits telling the speed limit. Waseca hasn't got this.”

- Waseca race horses have been winning again at the fairs in Iowa. Down at Knoxville, Iowa, Teviston, the fast horse owned by W. S. Brown, won the 2:14 stake trot last Tuesday. Hedgewood Patch came third in the 2:13 stake pace last Wednesday. George Gano won second in the 2:11 pace Tuesday. These races were all hotly contested and some of the best horses in the country raced.

75 Years Ago – The Waseca Journal, September 1, 1948

- George Herter is seriously considering building a new Herter's Sporting Goods Manufacturing plant on Highway 14 about a hundred yards east of the Clear Lake road intersection. Bill Deef, who has recently purchased the 20 acre tract from Wm. Krause, has three big earth mover scrapers, perated by sons, Bob, Tom and Jack leveling the property, most of which adjoins Highway 14. Herter says that the final deal has not been completed and he hasn't as yet decided whether he will start building this year or next.

- John Cunningham, rural mail carrier, suffered a severe neck kink, when a car he was driving was struck in the rear while he pulled up to a mail box near the Law3ence Kromer farm, 7 miles south of Waseca, Thursday morning. The second driver looked off into the field for a moment to wave at home farmers and when he returned his eyes to the road was about to smash into Cunningham's car. Cunningham's car was shoved off into the ditch, but damages to the rear of the vehicle were slight. The second car had major front end damage. Cunningham was treated by a Waseca physician and is now recuperating at his home. He is expected to be back on his mail route Thursday or Friday.

- You probably heard of baling hay in a hurry to save it from being scorched by the sun, but Friday they baled hay at the Frank Motz farm, seven miles north of Ellendale, to keep it from going up in flames. Ellendale firemen were called to the Motz farm at 3 p.m. Friday. Hay at the btom of the barn loft, which has been there since June, caught fire and it was at first impossible to get at the blaze. Baling machines owned by Ray Bailey of Hope and the Sawyer brothers of Ellendale were rushed to the scene. Volunteers pitched hay to the ground from the loft and two other groups operating the baling machines. They hay was baled as fast as it was pitched out of the burning building. The baled hay was hauled to a safe area. Several hours the men worked feverishly until the burning hay was reached.

50 Years Ago – Waseca's Daily Journal, August 29, 1973

- Alfred Sprengeler, owner of the Sprengeler Oil Company in Waseca, has sold his bulk tank business to Ray and Rita Gallagher, owners and operators of Korteum-Webb Products. The couple will take over business Sept. 1. According to Ray Gallagher the addition of a second truck in the Webb business will increase their customer load by about 75. He will be servicing most customers that were previously serviced by Sprengeler.

- Waseca County Veterans and coordinators of the Veterans' Outreach Program at UMW discussed the benefits a Veterans Coop Farm Program would offer. Veterans, UMW instructors and other Agriculture related instructors and businessmen in the area met Tuesday night at UMW to discuss veteran benefits and to take a look at the opportunities UMW offers them. The dominant interest was in obtaining a Veterans Coop Farm program. This program gives the active veteran farmer a chance to improve himself by keeping farm records and taking some classes, while at the same time receiving G.I. Benefits.

25 Years Ago – The Waseca County News, August 25, 1998

- Waseca Area Medical Center-Mayo Health System will have a groundbreaking ceremony for a new physician clinic building Tuesday, Aug. 25 at 5 p.m. Officials from the Medical Center, Immanuel St. Joseph's in Mankato, the city of Waseca and others will participate in a short program and will be available to answer questions. Medical Center Executive Vice President Mike Milbrath said Mayo Health System President Dr. Douglas Wood and Mayo's residency director Dr. William Jacot will be at the groundbreaking.

- Warden Jim Tippy has been at the Waseca Federal Correction Institution (FCI) since it opened Feb. 8, 1995. Since that time, he has guided the facility's challenging transformation from the University of Minnesota-Waseca campus into a federal correctional facility. While Tippy said he would like to stay in his position for another two or three years to see the completion of the project, federal correctional employees are required to retire at the age of 57. So, now, the time has come for Tippy to retire. Tippy's career path to the warden's office in Waseca has had many twists and turns along the way. In his 30 years of working with the Federal Bureau of Prisons, Tippy has worked at all levels of the system from minimum to maximum security facilities.

Looking Back

100 Years Back - 1923

-The Austin baseball team and umpire O'Brien defeated New Richland again Sunday at Waseca by a 13 to 0 score. When umpire O'Brien started dishing out his usual brand of decisions against New Richland the team lost all its pep and the game was handed to Austin on a platter. Doc Cipa was pitching for Austin and was as wild as a “hoot owl,” but still the batters persisted in stretching across the plate to get a swat at them. Nock took three walks off Cipra and Turnquist two, but more might have been given a life had they waited Cipra out.

-Sportsmen in town felt the sporting blood in their veins sky-rocket when Art Brisbane came in Saturday morning about nine o'clock and reported that he saw a real, live, and honest-to-goodness deer outside his cottage at Winter's point.

-While driving into Waseca from Waterville last Saturday evening C. P. O'Leary slipped off the grade and went into a potato field. All four wheels on his Ford were broken off, but he was not injured.

-Minnesota now has 430,000 automobiles and trucks producing \$7,015,000 of state trunk highway funds for 1923.

-Roy Skelton and family and Harry Eschle spent Sunday at August Volling's.

-H. V. Clark, who has operated a battery and tire repair shop in New Richland for the past two years, has sold a large share of his stock to the Messersmith & Krueger garage and will close his place of business after Saturday of this week.

-Joe Stadulski pitched for Minnesota Lake Sunday against Amboy and shut them out 2 to 0.

77 Years Back - 1946

-To C. A. Chindlund, local creamery operator, goes the high honor of placing third in the butter entries at the Minnesota State Fair. His exhibit scored 95 ¼. This is a remarkable showing when it is considered that Mr. Chindlund has been in charge of the creamery but four months.

-Roy Johnston either is an especially good onion grower or has an especially fertile garden. He brought two onions to this office Monday, one of which weighed a little more than one and a quarter pounds and the other an ounce or two less than a pound.

-What is probably the largest northern pike to be caught in St. Olaf lake in many years was landed Friday by Jack Gardner. The big fellow tipped the beam at 8 ½ pound.

-Gene Brandvold of New Richland spent Monday afternoon with Bobby and Craig Proehl.

-Mr. and Mrs. Indykiewicz and sons visited Sunday and were dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. Cletus Steinbach at Mankato. Keith stayed in Mankato to visit his grandmother Mrs. Angeline Abbe.

-Mr. and Mrs. V. C. Nelson and children, accompanied by Virgel Shurson, drove to Lewiston Sunday for a visit at the T. L. Peterson home. Mr. Nelson and Virgel returned Sunday evening but Mrs. Nelson, Kenneth, Nancy and Perry remained til Thursday this week.

-Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Rasmussen and children, Walter Gerdt and sons, Willard and Marlin, were Sunday dinner guests at the Erwin Eichhorst home. Mrs. Sarah Meany of St. Clair joined them for supper.

50 Years Back - 1973

-Residents of the village of New Richland are invited to attend a meeting to discuss the construction of a nursing home in New Richland.

-New high school instructors at New Richland-Hartland high school this year are Roger Melquist, biology instructor and cross country and track coach; Ross Stone, vocal and instrumental music; Mrs. LaDona Flowers, vocational home economics and Mrs. Shirley Strand, remedial reading.

-John McCoy, a 1973 graduate of Waldorf-Pemberton high school has been named to the seventh annual edition of Who's Who Among American High School Students, 1972-1973.

-Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Kalis and Mr. and Mrs. Ed Schuster spent last week vacationing in northern Minnesota.

-PFC Charles D. Rosacker, son of Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Rosacker of New Richland arrived in Korea about August 15. He is stationed at Young San, the center of Seoul, capital of Korea. He is working in the personnel department, Protocol J-6 in the United Nations Command. It is expected that he will be there a year.

-Agnes Christopherson entertained with a coffee party on Wednesday afternoon. Her guests were Mrs. John Armstrong, Mrs. Mabel Johnson, Mrs. Ruth Marlin, Mrs. Hilma Olson and Mrs. Duane Bethke of Pickney, Mich.

-Thursday evening, Mr. and Mrs. Richard maywald and Mrs. R. H. Maywald and Ruth and Julia helped Jimmy Armstrong observe his ninth birthday at the Dale Armstrong home in Waseca.

25 Years Back - 1993

-Louise Bartelt accepted a plaque for the Ella Pick estate presented on behalf of the city of Waldorf by Mayor Harold Tesch Saturday during the ribbon-cutting ceremony at the new Community Center. The city received a \$50,000 stipend from Ella's estate after her demise to be used as the city council saw fit.

-LaDona Flowers, NRHEG High School's family and consumer sciences instructor, enjoyed an exciting two weeks in China this summer. Not only did she have the opportunity to visit historical sites in Beijing, but also to orchestrate English training seminars for DZ Trading offices in Shanghai.

-JWP students who entertain at area events in the “5 to One” band will no doubt be playing their last year together since all are seniors in high school and they all plan to go on to college. They provided big band and swing music during the Summerfest Beef & Turkey Feed at Pemberton earlier this month. They are Chris Bollman, Shelly Traynor, Ryan Berndt, Jeff Oelke and Jerry Frasher.

-Nathan Oftedahl, son of Dean and Ruth Oftedahl of Pemberton, graduated from Naval Basic Training on Friday, July 31, 1998 at Great Lakes, Illinois. He was part of Division 266 and was Ship Master at Arms. He is currently stationed in Orlando, Florida, for schooling as a nuclear engineer.

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Al Quie, former Minnesota governor and congressman, is shown in this photo taken in 1979. Photo courtesy of Minnesota Historical Society

Former Governor Al Quie dies at 99

Former Minnesota Gov. Al Quie died Friday Aug. 15 at age 99.

Quie served one term as governor from 1979 to 1983 after a long career in the U.S. House of Representatives.

Quie died of natural causes late Friday at a senior living community in suburban Wayzata, Minn., where he had lived for the last 10 years, his son Joel Quie told the Associated Press Saturday.

While he had been in declining health in recent months, he still enjoyed meeting and greeting people. At a family gathering two weeks ago, he read aloud to his great-grandchildren from their favorite storybook, his son said. He died just a month shy of his 100th birthday.

“His stature and his energy and his enthusiasm for life was there right to the end,” Joel Quie said.

He served in the House from 1958 to 1979, representing southern Minnesota. His term as governor was marked by a deep economic recession and a series of special sessions to address budget issues, and he chose not to seek reelection in 1982.

He had a long career after politics and was known for his Norwegian roots, his devotion to his family and Lutheran religion, his love of horses and his gentle good humor.

Quie was born on his family’s farm in Rice County in 1923 and served in the Navy in World War II. He married Gretchen Hansen in 1948 and they were together until she died at age 85 in 2015. They had five children.

Quie was elected to the state Senate in 1954, and to Congress in a close special election in 1958 after Rep. August Andresen died in office.

He represented southeastern Minnesota for 20 years in the House before he was elected governor.

In Congress, Quie championed the passage of the law that is now known as the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, which requires equal educational access for disabled children.

Before current Gov. Tim Walz, Quie was the last Minnesotan to make the leap from Washington to the governor’s office.

Late in life, Quie spoke fondly of his time in Washington and with acknowledgment that the move to St. Paul wasn’t easy.

“The harder job was governor,” Quie told MPR News in 2018. “There’s only one of us.”

Almost immediately after Quie took office the state was mired in financial troubles. He tried to work across the political aisle to balance

the budget and agreed to raise taxes, which split his support among Republicans. As his popularity dropped amid the ongoing budget struggles, he declined to seek a second term.

After leaving office Quie was active in the Prison Fellowship, a nonprofit Christian ministry.

In the aftermath of the 2010 election, the Republican Party of Minnesota’s Central Committee barred Quie from taking part in party activities for two years because he supported third party candidate Tom Horner for governor.

He also was a leader in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, but he eventually split with the church over its support for same-sex marriage.

As news of Quie’s death spread he was remembered fondly.

“I considered him a friend and a mentor, admired his strong commitment to his faith, and am grateful for his leadership as governor,” said Minnesota Republican Party Chair David Hann in a statement.

“Al was a gentle giant,” former Republican Gov. Tim Pawlenty said. “He had strong views and a kind soul.”

Former Gov. Arne Carlson, also a Republican, was first elected as state auditor in 1978, the same election that swept Quie into office.

“At this time in America’s history, the issue of character and loyalty stand out,” Carlson said. “I think he’ll always be remembered for his personal character much more than any particular piece of legislation.”

Joel Quie, a retired Lutheran pastor, said his family used his 99th birthday celebration last year as sort of a dress rehearsal for what they hoped would be his 100th. Current Gov. Tim Walz proclaimed it Al Quie Day.

“Gwen and I are remembering the life and work of former Minnesota Gov. Al Quie with heavy hearts, but with many fond memories,” Walz said in a statement. “Just months ago I had the honor of attending a celebration for his 99th birthday, where I thanked him for his mentorship, wisdom, and leadership. He was as caring, funny, and generous as ever.”

When he turned 97, the former Navy pilot got to fly in an open cockpit plane — albeit with another pilot at the controls. He had been an avid horseman and last rode when he was 95. His goal was to saddle a horse when he turned 100, his son said.

“God blessed him with incredible resilience and stamina,” his son said. “And he embraced it and lived life to the fullest.”

Fear is something to approach God with

By PASTOR KEN ANDRS

There are a few things that scare me. I am talking about things that trigger my emotional response to a situation, there are few things that do that to me. I have seen a lot in my years, fear is something that I approach with a lot of faith in God.

How do you have faith when afraid? As followers of God, we have been given a perspective on life that brings fear into sharp focus. Not only fear though, but anger, joy, love, and all other emotions are given a new perspective in Christ.

Isaiah 41:10 is nestled into a series of verses that encourages Israel to build faith and trust in God while they are in exile. God has judged Israel and turned them over to exile in Babylon at the hand of Nebuchadnezzar, now another King in Cyrus the Great is coming to Babylon and the Israel-



ites were in fear that they would be destroyed and abandoned by God. So, God spoke to them these words from Isaiah 41:10,

So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

Israel was afraid of being abandoned by God in the midst of exile, but God had a greater plan. He had a plan to use Cyrus to restore His people to the promised land, but Israel did not know God’s plan and was

face here on earth though. Why do horrendous things happen to people? Why does evil exist? Why are bad things allowed to happen? Where is God in the midst of pain?

God has a plan to use the fear and hurt we experience. Waiting to see what that plan is takes faith. God is at work, pray that He will reveal Himself to you through your daily life and even more so in the midst of fear, pain, and hurt.

We can deal with the fear, pain, and hurt knowing that God’s plan is greater than our own, it does not end the feelings, but it helps us work through them. Ask God to meet you in your daily life and reveal Himself to you, get to know Him through reading your bible and praying. And focus on His glory, anticipating eternal life with Him.

Waseca County History Center

Where'd It Go?

Otisco Purol Gasoline Station, Otisco MN. Ca. 1932

Manager William Sudendorf (Suddendorf) standing by gasoline pump and 1920s automobile near small, white clapboard sided building with sign on front: "Purol Gasolines".

Donor recalls that the Purol Gasoline Station was located on the southwest corner of the Otisco crossroads with Highway 13.

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507-201-7293 (Pastor Andrew Isker)
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FAITH UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
801 4th Ave NE, Waseca
507-835-3167
Worship Sundays 9:30 a.m.
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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
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ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH
401 3rd Ave NE, Waseca
507-833-1703
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ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH
314 4th Ave NE, Waseca
507-835-2647
Worship Sunday 9:00 a.m.
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FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
503 2nd Ave NE, Waseca
507-835-4548 (office email: lcwaseca@hickorytech.net)
Worship Sunday 10 a.m.
* * *

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH
300 E Elm Ave, Waseca
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Worship Sunday 9 a.m.
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Sunday - 8:45 a.m. Worship
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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
* * *

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Pastor Pamela Jensen
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Tuesday - 8:30 a.m. Quilting
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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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10 a.m. - Mass
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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
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Sunday - 8:30 a.m. Worship
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NOTE: CHANGES IN CHURCH CALENDARS MUST BE MADE BY NOTIFICATION FROM A MEMBER OF THE CONGREGATION TO THE WASECA COUNTY PIONEER.

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Waseca tennis drops four straight

Things went downhill fast for the Waseca High School girls' tennis team.

The Bluejays dropped four matches in two days, falling 5-2 to Farmington and 6-1 to Jordan Friday at Farmington, a day before being

defeated 7-0 by Stewartville and 5-2 by Faribault on the WHS courts.

Waseca winners against Farmington were by No. 3 singles player Addie Pfeifer and Vivian Mader at No. 4 singles. Both prevailed in straight sets, Mader dropping only one game.

The victory at Jordan came at No. 2 doubles, where Paige Dufault and

Mader combined to win a third-set tiebreaker.

Dufault and Mader came the closest to winning against Stewartville.

Against Faribault, No. 2 singles player Sarah Haley triumphed, as did the No. 2 doubles team of Dufault and Mader.

Waseca's record fell to 3-4.

JWP Volleyball splits first match, losses to Cleveland

The JWP volleyball team last week completed two sets with Mankato Loyola before the game was called to be completed on a different night due to the court conditions in the Loyola gym.

After dropping the first game 29-

27, the Bulldogs took game two 25-19.

Individually: Nevaeh Weimert 2 aces, 100% serving percentage, 10 assists, 3 digs; Aubrey Weedman 1 ace, 6 kills, 14 assists, 5 digs; Katie Olson 6 kills, 1 block, 2 digs; Lilly Strauss 3 kills; Presley James 4 kills, 3 blocks; Paige Walz 4 kills; Brielle Bure 8 digs; Lexie Dahlberg 11 digs.

The Bulldogs fell 3-0 to Cleveland Aug. 29. Game scores were 25-18, 25-18, 25-12.

For JWP: Bure 1 ace, 1 kill, 13 digs; Dahlberg 2 aces, 19 digs; Ali Olson 1 ace, 6 digs; Katie Olson 5 kills, 1 block, 3 digs; Strauss 4 kills, 1 block, 3 digs; James 4 kills, 2 digs; Weimert 2 assists, 6 digs; Weedman 13 assists, 2 kills, 11 digs.

NRHEG Volleyball drops opener to Alden

The NRHEG volleyball team hosted Alden-Conger for its season opener Tuesday and lost 3-0. Game scores were 25-18, 25-6 and 25-22.

"We had a tough opener against Alden," said Panthers coach Ashley

Tolzman. "They have a very fast-paced offense and a great ability to swing on all plays. We fought hard and will use this to learn from and grow as a team. Overall, I am proud of how the girls played and adapted to new positions."

Individually: Gabby Schlaak 3

kills, 1 block, 7 digs; Camryn Van-Maldeghe 2 kills, 2 blocks, 5 digs; Izzy Stadheim 1 assist, 3 digs; Tayler Schmidt 3 kills, 3 blocks, 2 digs; Hallie Schultz 9 assists, 5 blocks, 7 digs; Keira Lenort 2 kills, 4 blocks; Madi Murray 1 kill, 2 blocks, 1 dig; Faith Nielsen 1 kill, 10 digs.

NRHEG Cross Country opens season

The Panthers participated at the trail run meet hosted by Medford at the River Bend Nature Center on Aug 25th.

The meet was attended by Le Sueur-Henderson, NRHEG, USC/AC and Medford.

For the Panther girls, Holly Bartness finished the 5K course in fourth place with a time of 25:50. Team-mate Annabelle Petsinger finished in

10th at 28:13.

On the boy's side, Panther runners Jacob Karl and Devon Nelton took the top 2 spots. Jacob finishing in 19:52. Devon 20:17. Jackson McGannon finished in 15th with a time of 25:00.



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LOCATION: From Meriden, MN 1 mile north on 92nd Ave. Or 8 miles west of Owatonna, MN on Crane Creek Rd.

Please Note: Bruce has sold his property and has decided to hold a public auction on his personal property items. Only a partial list of items. Tracy Holland

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All veterans present at the cemetery during the Caleb Erickson Memorial Day gave a salute in Erickson's honor.



A tribute to Caleb Erickson at the Waseca American Legion.

Ninth annual Erickson ride

By **TRISTAN GEHRING**
Staff Writer

The ninth annual Caleb Erickson Memorial Day took place in Waseca Friday and Saturday, August 25 and 26, with great success in raising funds for veteran support. “He’s worth remembering,” said “Mac,” a Marine who served alongside Caleb Erickson. “The people who come here are a big part of keeping his memory alive.” Mac was one of five Marines in attendance who served alongside Caleb during his time in the service. Each year Caleb’s mother, Karla Scherff, has arranged for flights to bring these men together

from across the United States in memory of her son, which Mac said is “no small feat.” The motorcycle ride, the highlight of the event, included more than 60 bikes and 25 cars. Serving as road guards for the ride were Kirk “Indian John” Mansfield, Matt “Pink Floyd” Dale, and “Woody.” “May God ride beside each of us and bring us home to our loved ones this evening,” said Indian John during his blessing of the bikes prior to the ride. The first stop of the day was Woodville Cemetery, where Caleb Erickson is buried. “First we take care of busi-



Karla Scherff, mother to Caleb Erickson, behind her son's gravestone along with Erickson's niece and nephew, and every Marine present during the cemetery that day.



The road guard prepares to lead over 100 drivers in a five-hour motorcycle ride.

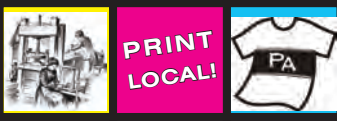
ness,” said Mansfield. “Then we play.” At the cemetery, Mansfield and Scherff each spoke in memory of Erickson. “Make your life a blessing, not because there are any guarantees in life but because there are not,” said Mansfield. Through teary laughter, Scherff told the crowd, “If Caleb were here he would say, ‘This isn’t for me – I don’t need all of this.’” The highest-ranking veteran in the crowd was then responsible for calling to order all veterans present for a salute to

Caleb Erickson before the ride moved on. Later stops were made in Good Thunder, Courtland and St. Peter before everyone returned to the Waseca American Legion about 6 p.m. “We’re here to show the visiting Marines the love we have as a Southern Minnesota community,” said Mansfield about the turnout for the ride. “I hope they can take some of that home with them.”

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3	4 LABOR DAY	5	6pm BAR Bingo	7pm BINGO	8 MEAT Raffle 5:30 Horse racing 6:30pm	9
10 ALL YOU can EAT Breakfast VFW 8:00am - Noon Your Host Relay For Life	11 7 pm Post & AUX. Meeting PATRIOT DAY	12	13pm BAR Bingo	14 7pm BINGO	15 NATIONAL POW/MIA DAY MEAT Raffle 5:30 pm Horse racing 6:30pm	16
17	18 AIR FORCE BIRTHDAY	19 Burger nite 5-7pm	20 6pm BAR Bingo	21 7pm BINGO	22 MEAT Raffle 5:30 Horse racing 6:30pm	23
24 ALL YOU can EAT Breakfast VFW 8:00am - Noon Your Host Bantam Hockey	25	26 Burger nite 5-7pm	27 6pm BAR Bingo	28 7pm BINGO	29 MEAT Raffle 5:30 Horse racing 6:30pm VFW DAY	30

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