

Briefs

Cougars prep for postseason

The AGWSR Cougars, ranked 12th in Class 1A, went 0-3 at Saturday's Hudson Tournament. They fell to 1A number-eight Don Bosco but picked up the opening set (21-15, 15-21, 9-15). They also got one from Aplington-Parkersburg in another three-set loss (16-21, 21-18, 10-15). They ended the day going three with East Buchanan, winning the first set (21-8, 19-21, 6-15).

Brynn Smith recorded her 1,000th career dig in the tournament.

The losses put the Cougars at 13-24, on the season with the postseason opening on Monday, Oct. 17. The Cougars are slated to host the first three rounds, beginning with West Hancock. The winner sees either North Iowa or Graettinger-Terrill-Ruthven-Ayrshire in a Class 1A, Region 3 quarter-final in Ackley on Oct. 19. That winner goes on to the semifinals to face either Glidden-Ralston, Storm Lake St. Mary's or South O'Brien in Ackley on Oct. 24.

Regional finals will be held at a site to be determined on Oct. 26. The top half of the bracket includes Newell-Fonda, Paton-Churdan, Fort Dodge St. Edmond, Ar-We-Va, Algona bishop Garrigan, Harris-Lake Park, Trinity Christian, and George, Little Rock.

Seasons approach, pheasants equal 2021

Results of Iowa's 2022 pheasant population survey are in and the results were nearly identical to that of 2021, when hunters harvested the highest number of roosters in more than a decade.

Youth pheasant season is Oct. 22-23; Pheasant season is Oct. 29-Jan. 10, 2023; Quail season is Oct. 29-Jan. 31, 2023; Rabbit season is Sept. 3-Feb. 28, 2023; and Partridge season is Oct. 8-Jan. 31, 2023.



Tessa Sperflage receives this Grundy Center offering as Elise Olson watches on. AGWSR lost to the Spartans, but bounced back to bump off South Hardin to take seventh place in the North Iowa Cedar League Tournament.

Cougars flip switch

AGWSR improves NICL Tourney result

BY COREY MEINTS
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The AGWSR Cougars won two matches in last year's inaugural North Iowa Cedar League Volleyball Tournament. They won two again this year, but placed two spots higher. The difference was they won Tuesday's opener. They won their final match of the tourney Thursday in Ackley to grab seventh.

AGWSR beat Hudson (25-16, 25-19) and lost to third-ranked in Class 2A Wapsie Valley (12-25, 19-25) Tuesday night. Day two was Thursday in Ackley as they split with a loss to Grundy Center (25-20, 25-19) and a win against South Hardin (15-25, 25-15, 15-11).

AGWSR's first day results from a year. This time around, the Cougars won the opener with Brynn Smith leading the charge with 10 kills. Karis Lippert was a perfect 16 of 16 with a pair of aces in serve.

The second game was all Wapsie Valley, and the numbers show it. Smith finished with just four kills in the two sets. Lila Vaughn also dropped in

four. Lippert only had five turns behind the line, but didn't miss. Trevyn Smith also went through nine serves unblemished.

The Cougars also split placing matches Thursday in Ackley as AGWSR (12th in Class 1A), South Hardin (2A), Grundy Center (10th in 2A) and Sumner-Fredericksburg (9th in 2A) were all there to decide fifth through eight.

AGWSR battled GC, and were as close as 15-14 before the Spartans ultimately pulled away in the first set. They tried to mount a comeback in the second, using four Smith service winners to make it 23-18. GC ultimately won with a sideout.

Game one of the seventh-place match was oddly one-sided, thanks to a quick start that put AGWSR in a 7-1 hole. Alli Sheldahl turned an early sideout into six service points after AGWSR's Brylea Metzgar put down a kill for a 1-0 home lead. SH had the only other service run, a three-pointer by Ava Paige, that made it 20-11. A Cougar error and an ace finished the set.

The Cougars flipped things around in the second, getting a fast 8-2 start of their own. The Tigers went on to score just three points in serve in the set. The cougars used a couple two-point runs by Karis Lippert and Tessa Sperflage to blow things



PHOTOS BY COREY MEINTS/ACKLEY WORLD JOURNAL

Lila Vaughn finished the North Iowa Cedar League Tournament with 15 kills, most, like this one, set up by Trevyn Smith. Smith finished with 67 assists in the four matches.

open. The winner came with Elise Olson behind the line as Trevyn Smith landed a kill.

SH spotted themselves out to a 2-0 lead in the race to 15 in the third frame. AGWSR came blaring back, getting a B. Smith kill that led to Lippert scoring two in serve. B. Smith later toed the line to score three, making it a 10-7 Cougar lead. Elise Olson again held serve, this time giving the

hosts the win with an ace to nail down seventh.

"We really needed that I think for us and our confidence," AGWSR head coach Jill Smith said. "Especially against South Hardin after we played them last week and didn't perform well. We came out in the first set tonight and it looked like a repeat. I'm just really proud of the girls for flipping a switch and really competing in that second and third set."

NICL Volleyball

Oct. 4 at Wapsie Valley

Game One
AGWSR: 25 25
Hudson: 16 19

Game Two

AGWSR: 12 19
WV: 25 25

Oct. 6 at Ackley

Game One

GC: 25 25
AGWSR: 20 19

Game Two

SH: 25 15 11
AGWSR: 15 25 15

AGWSR Tournament Stats

Kills: Brynn Smith 42; Lila Vaughn 15; Trevyn Smith 11; Brylea Metzgar 11; Karis Lippert 6; Ava Olson 6.
Assists: T. Smith 67; Tessa Sperflage 12; Elise Olson 3; B. Smith 4; Tori Metzgar 2; Lippert 1.
Blocks: Vaughn 5; B. Metzgar 4; B. Smith 3; T. Smith 3; A. Olson 2; Lippert 1.
Digs: Sperflage 26; B. Smith 25; Sperflage 26; T. Smith 14; Tori Metzgar 12; Lippert 10; E. Olson 9; B. Metzgar 5; A. Olson 5; Vaughn 2.
Serving: Lippert 38-39-2 aces; B. Smith 27-30-2; B. Metzgar 26-31-1; Sperflage 25-25-2; T. Smith 24-28-0; E. Olson 18-22-2.

Even in the loss to GC, J. Smith said she could see that competitiveness that she wants.

"We lost, but I thought we competed really well," J. Smith said. "That's what I'm looking for. Win or lose, let's compete. Overall, I thought we did that in this tournament. I feel we're competing well right now, and that will help." ●

Schedule

CROSS COUNTRY

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 19

TBA/4 p.m.

Class 3A State Qualifier

FRIDAY, OCT. 28

Fort Dodge/3:30 p.m.

Class 3A State

FOOTBALL

FRIDAY, OCT. 14

Sheffield/7 p.m.

AGWSR vs. West Fork

VOLLEYBALL

MONDAY, OCT. 17

Ackley/7 p.m.

AGWSR vs. West Hancock

Class 1A Regional

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 19

Ackley/7 p.m.

TBA vs. TBA

Class 1A Regional

MONDAY, OCT. 24

Ackley/7 p.m.

TBA vs. TBA

Class 1A Regional

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 26

TBA/7 p.m.

TBA vs. TBA

Class 1A Regional Finals

Cadets tune up in Dike

Ollivierre leads IF-A/AGWSR harriers

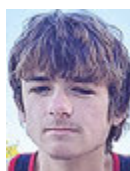
BY COREY MEINTS
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Running the Fox Ridge Golf Course in Dike was a good thing for the Iowa Falls-Alden/AGWSR Cadet harriers. Not so much in the team sense, as the girls finished fourth and the boys 19th, but individually.

Every scoring Cadet girl ran a season or personal best. Two of the boys also ran their fastest times.

Freshman Demi Beaubien, a consistent scorer and top-20 finisher for the Cadet girls, was out sick. They still ended up with three in the top-20, led by the bronze finish of Nakia Ollivierre. She ran a personal best to do it. Teah Miller ran a season-best to finish eighth, as did Teah Miller at 20th. Elizabeth Kietly added a personal best to add her 58th place to the Cadet board, which was rounded out by Caitlyn Archer in 72nd with another PR.

The Cadet girls finished behind number seven in 2A Denver, seventh-ranked in 1A Hudson, and 11th-rated in 1A North Linn.



J. Beaubien



Harding



Miller



Ollivierre

"Demi's absence certainly made a difference in our team score with a swing of likely at least 40 points, and a team finish of second instead of fourth," said Cadet head coach Michael Rottink. "We expect she'll be healthy and ready to go for conference. Ivy McWherter attempted a comeback after a meet off, but was unable to finish, but I though Elizabeth, Caitlyn, and Annika stepped up nicely to run some solid times. Our team average finish time and spread are improving."

The Cadet boys were led by Jase Beaubien (24th) and finished with Aaron Blackburn (36th), both with personal record runs. In between, they scored with Hunter Miller (73rd), Martin Biesel (120th), and Wilken Kube (126th). They, too, were running without two of their potential scorers.

"The boys also were not at full strength with Theo Beisel likely out for

D-NH Invite

Oct. 4 at Dike

Girls Team Results: 1. Denver 68; 2. Hudson 126; 3. North Linn 143; 4. Iowa Falls-Alden/AGWSR 156; 5. Union 199; 6. Sumner-Fredericksburg 203; 7. Osage 212; 8. Benton Community 238; 9. Dike-New Hartford 245; 10. Grundy Center/Gladbrook-Reinbeck 276; 11. Wapsie Valley 277; 12. North Tama 285; 13. Charles City 288; 14. Aplington-Parkersburg 305; 15. Mason City Newman 317; 16. West Marshall 350; 17. BCLUW 393; 18. Grinnell 394.

Cadet Results: 3. Nakia Ollivierre 19:03.2; 8. Teah Miller 20:00.3; 20. Abby Harding 20:49.7; 58. Elizabeth Kietly 22:38.7; 72. Caitlyn Archer 23:14.0; 83. Annika Nelson 23:38.7.

Boys Team Results: 1. Denver 67; 2. Grundy Center/Gladbrook-Reinbeck 69; 3. Grinnell 89; 4. Charles City 107; 5. Benton Community 156; 6. North Linn 209; 7. Hudson 238; 8. Mason City Newman 248; 9. Osage 249; 10. Waterloo Columbus 278; 11. Valley Lutheran 288; 12. Aplington-Parkersburg 337; 13. West Marshall 400; 14. BCLUW 404; 15. Dike-New Hartford 404; 16. Union 418; 17. Baxter 434; 18. Sumner-Fredericksburg 438; 19. Iowa Falls-Alden/AGWSR 453; 20. Dunkerton 510.

Cadet Results: 24. Jase Beaubien 18:00.0; 73. Hunter Miller 19:27.5; 120. Martin Beisel 20:55.8; 126. Wilken Kube 21:56.6; 136. Aaron Blackburn 23:06.4.

the remainder of the season and Eric Wennes dealing with some issues that have dogged him this season," Rottink said. "We hope to have him back for conference and the state qualifier." ●

FRESHMEN PHENOMS

Ollivierre and Beaubien lead Cadet youth charge

BY COREY MEINTS
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The Iowa Falls-Alden/AGWSR Cadet girls cross country team has quite the system going on right now. Seniors Teah Miller and Abby Harding, already two-time State qualifiers, had two time-Stat medalist Ellie Meyer to learn from. Meyer had had State medalist Aubrie Fisher. Fisher, in turn, had two-time qualifier Bethany Lippert.

Now it's Nakia Ollivierre and Demi Beaubien benefitting from that hierarchy.

The freshman pair have been finishing in the top-10 of almost every race so far this season while leading the Cadets to a State ranking in Class 3A.

Ollivierre has been with AGWSR for five years, moving outside of Wellsburg from Joint Base Lewis-McChord in Washington with her mothers Rosalie and Emily Martinez. Her father, Julian Ollivierre-Brewer, is a Ranger in the Army.

Ollivierre picked up running just two years ago and has already had a lot of success. On the track she is a 1500 and 800-meter State middle school champion. In cross country she was ranked third in Class 3A just two weeks into the season and has settled into the top-15 since.

But running, she said, was a means to a bigger end. She is already receiving offers from Div. I women's basketball programs as a top-100 recruit while playing for the Missouri Phenom AAU team. She has grown to love running, however.

"I picked up running to help me with basketball," Ollivierre said. "I had no idea that I would love running as much as I do now. This is my first year running cross country. I love the mental challenge of it and that the courses are different. You have to have a lot of self-discipline, be mentally strong and be able to push yourself. I love the challenge."

Ollivierre won the first two races she ran with the Cadets. She has since won two more, placed fourth in another, and finished 25th in a meet against the best in Class 4A. None of it is a surprise to her.

"I work hard every day," Ollivierre said. "Wanting to outwork my competition is my motivation this season. I don't underestimate

anybody and being humble is key to success. I am a firm believer that hard work pays off. Nothing is deserved, it is all earned. I believe that I am having success because I am not afraid to fail. I'm not afraid to put myself out there, push myself and I don't back down from challenges."

When it comes to picking a favorite between cross country and basketball, she said both help her evolve as an athlete and a person.

"Cross country helps me develop mental strength that builds my confidence in basketball," Ollivierre said. "Basketball introduced my competitiveness that won't let me quit in cross country. Both are developing me into the person that I am becoming."

Beaubien only started running regularly last year as an eighth grader. She joined the cross country team in seventh grade, but it didn't take.

"I was quickly overwhelmed and decided to quit," Beaubien said. "After much persuasion, I decided to give it another try the very next year."

Beaubien holds the IF-A middle school 1500-meter record. Now she is part of a Cadet squad that started the season ranked. She has helped the team win two meets with top-five finishes in three others while grabbing three top-10 finishes herself. She added that she prefers cross country's one-and-done racing.

"I would say that I definitely like cross country better because you don't have to worry about having energy left for your next race," Beaubien said. "Also, there's a smaller team for cross-country, so you get to know your teammates on a personal level."

As a freshman, Beaubien said she wasn't expecting the early success she has seen.

"Since we're running with a much larger age range, I wasn't expecting to get in the top-10 at all this season," Beaubien said. "I had only raced in one 5k before, so I didn't have much of an idea what my pace would be. I was originally aiming for anything under 24 minutes, but now I am going to shoot for anything under 22 minutes. My goal for the next three seasons is to run under 21 minutes and hopefully even lower than that after I know what I can do."

Beaubien's senior brother Jase, leader for the Cadet boys, has set a good example for her she said.

"The thing about Jase is that it's less of what he says and more of what he does to set an example,"



COREY MEINTS/ACKLEY WORLD JOURNAL

Demi Beaubien (left) and Nakia Ollivierre are just freshmen but are two big reasons why the Iowa Falls-Alden/AGWSR Cadet girls cross country team is in the Class 3A rankings. Ollivierre has been ranked since the second poll was released.

Beaubien said. "He's always running. His endurance didn't come out of nowhere. He built his way to where he is, proving that I can do the same if I stick to it. What inspired me to

start running was going to all of Jase's meets when I was younger. What pushes me to keep going is just the feeling of accomplishment after every run." ●

Senior Night spoiled

Injuries costly in 42-8 loss to N-P

BY COREY MEINTS
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James Koop, like most football coaches, doesn't make excuses in the wake of losses. But following AGWSR's 42-10 loss to Nashua-Plainfield in a key Class A, Dist. 3 game, nobody would blame him.

Though he refused to use injuries as an excuse, they were certainly reasons.

"I don't know if we had a turnover before our team doctor Dr. Sperfslage had to put a M.A.S.H. unit together," Koop said. "It was a tough, physical ball game against a physical

team, but we were matching them. Those are three two-way starters we lost for significant time. I'm not making excuses. All of the guys on our team work hard, but there's a difference between our top-15 and the rest. There were times tonight that we had to dip beyond the 15."

Those three linemen, Eli Kuper and Jared Granzow missed a half, and leading rusher Kaden Abbas was on and off the field throughout the contest. That caused a ripple effect as tight end Ben Puente went for that spot down to guard, which he hasn't played since early last year.

Abbas' injuries had the first effect on the game. He is the long snapper and was getting looked at when AGWSR punt-

Nashua-Plainfield 42, AGWSR 8

Oct. 7 at Ackley
N-P: 6 16 14 6 - 42
AGWSR: 0 8 0 0 - 8

Scoring Summary

First Quarter
NP: 6:54 Titus Evans 3 yd. run (Run fail)
Second Quarter
AGWSR: 10:46 Kaden Abbas 1 yd. run (Abbas run)
NP: 4:09 Aiden Geiner 10 yd. run (Bo Harrington run)
NP: 0:35 Harrington 9 yd. pass to Tucker Franzen (Geiner run)
Third Quarter
NP: 9:44 Harrington 41 yd. run (Geiner run)
NP: 8:51 Evans 35 yd. interception return (Run fail)
Fourth Quarter
NP: 10:54 Harrington 35 yd. pass to Trae Geise (Run fail)

AGWSR Stats

Rushing: Kaden Abbas 23-86 yds. TD; Bo Gerbracht 7-52 yds.; Noah Clikeman 10-21 yds.; Ryley Bohner 1-5 yds.; Bradley Roder 2-5 yds.; Aiden Heitland 1-(-16).
Passing: Gerbracht 1-9-2 23 yds.
Receiving: Gabe Nederhoff 1-23 yds.
Tackles: Ben Puente 21; Kaden Abbas 8; Gerbracht 7; Clikeman 7.

ed late in the first half. Down 14-8 at that point, the snap went over punter Aiden Heitland's head and set the Huskies up for another score with 35 seconds left in the half. That



COREY MEINTS/ACKLEY WORLD JOURNAL

Bo Gerbracht was upended here in AGWSR's 42-8 Senior Night loss in Ackley Friday night. The loss effectively ousted the Cougars from the postseason, and kept them one win away from bettering last season's district mark.

came on a nine-yard Bo Harrington pass to Tucker Franzen to make it 22-8.

N-P first scored on a three-yard run by Titus Evans early in the first quarter. AGWSR responded early in the second with a one-yard dive by Abbas, who added the point-after run to give the Cougars an 8-6 lead.

Punts by both followed before the Cougars fumbled the ball away on the

N-P 20. Three plays later, the Huskies used a 10-yard Aiden Geiner run and a two-point conversion to take the lead at 14-8.

That was the first of six Cougar turnovers. The second came after N-P opened the third quarter with a 41-yard Harrington run and two-pointer. This one resulted directly into a score when Evans stepped in front of a Bo Gerbracht pass and returned it 35

yards for a score and a 36-8 Huskie lead.

AGWSR third turnover, another fumble, came late in the third at the visitor 14. N-P ended the verse at the Cougar 39. The scoring ended on a 35-yard Harrington throw to Trae Geise on the third play in the fourth.

The Cougars fumbled two more times and were intercepted on their final three possessions. ●