



# TAKING ROOT

Area chapters celebrate National FFA Week, including Harley-Melvin-Sanborn's new adviser. See ACCENT Section B

## THE N'WEST IOWA

# REVIEW

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## Feenstra preps launch for his Agriculture Tour

Will meet with ag producers as a central Farm Bill figure

BY ELIJAH HELTON  
EHELTON@NWESTIOWA.COM

HULL.—Sowing a new variety of constituent visit, N'West Iowa's congressman is set to launch the Feenstra Agriculture Tour on Wednesday, Feb. 22.

Randy Feenstra said the string of stops focusing on farming policy will bolster his work in the U.S. House of Representatives.

The Republican from Hull sits on the Agriculture and Ways and Means committees, making him one of the key players for this year's Farm Bill.

"I am working every day to defend rural America from out-of-touch attacks from D.C. bureaucrats," Feenstra said. "As the second-largest agriculture-producing district in the nation, I will continue to be a strong voice for Iowa agriculture and our family farmers who feed and fuel our country and the world."

See FEENSTRA on page A7



U.S. Rep. Randy Feenstra speaks Jan. 16 in Orange City. The Republican from Hull plans to announce the Feenstra Agriculture Tour on Wednesday. It is a series of visits with farmers, producers and agribusinesses about the upcoming Farm Bill. Photo by Elijah Helton

## More federal funding rushes in for Lewis & Clark water project

Will receive almost \$80 million in 2023

BY JUSTIN RUST  
JRUST@NWESTIOWA.COM

REGIONAL.—After receiving \$18.6 million from the 2023 Appropriations Bill, the Lewis & Clark Regional Water System officially got its second round of funding for the year

when it was given \$60 million from the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law on Monday.

The \$78.6 million Lewis & Clark is receiving is slightly less than the about \$90 million it received in 2022, but the 2023 amount still is significant and helps the water system get closer to its end goal of being fully connected to all 20 communities by 2025.

Lewis & Clark executive director Troy Larson was more than happy with the amount the water system is getting since there were some years it received \$5 million-\$7 million in funding.

"With the appropriations funding, what we got this year is 10 years of funding in one

See FUNDS on A7

## Lyon rescinds Summit pipeline permit

Board looks to wait to OK right of way

BY ELIJAH HELTON  
EHELTON@NWESTIOWA.COM

ROCK RAPIDS.—Lyon County repealed the right-of-way permit for Summit Carbon Solutions on Tuesday, arguing the CO2 pipeline company should get state approval before cooperating



Lyon County engineer Daryl Albertson speaks during the board of supervisors meeting Tuesday in Rock Rapids. Supervisors revoked the right-of-way permit it granted Summit Carbon Solutions for a planned CO2 pipeline. Photo by Elijah Helton

locally. The board of supervisors originally granted right of way for the pending pipeline Dec. 27 — which would have

allowed Summit to cross county-controlled roads — but changed its mind after

See REPEAL on A10

PART 2 OF A SERIES



They all need some sort of concerned adult that connected them to me in the first place, or that will step up and help them.

Amanda Bahena SIOUX CENTER ATTORNEY



Lisa Wilcox and her 4-year-old son, Lincoln, play soccer with Alexander Ramirez Martin at the American State Bank Sports Complex in Sioux Center. Wilcox is the organizer for Amigos, which held the outing in the new domed complex. Photo by Aleisa Schat

## HOMELESSNESS & HOUSING

BY ALEISA SCHAT  
ASCHAT@NWESTIOWA.COM

This is the second in a series of articles about homelessness and housing issues in N'West Iowa. Adequate housing — housing that is accessible, safe and affordable — is more than simply a matter of physical shelter. It is a matter of safety and stability. It also is an important measure of the health of a community.

A broad coalition of nonprofit organizations, social services agencies and city governments in N'West Iowa are working to address issues related to housing and homelessness in the region's communities. This series is highlighting that work — as well as the work that remains to be done.

REGIONAL.—Around 10 years ago, Sioux Center attorney Amanda Bahena encountered her first legal case involving a child who had crossed the southern border and was living without a parent or guardian in Iowa.

"This person came to me from outside — Storm Lake — so I still was not aware that we had any unaccompanied minors

living here," she said.

Bahena, who specializes in immigration law, is a shareholder attorney at the Sioux Center branch of Woods Fuller Shultz & Smith.

In the years since that first case, Bahena's practice has been overwhelmed by the demand for legal assistance in cases

See CHILDREN on page A10



## ASSISTING UNACCOMPANIED MIGRANT CHILDREN

### INSIDE:

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### WEATHER:

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NEWS

LAW

# Pizza, Puzzles and Pitchers

BY ELIJAH HELTON EHELTON@NWESTIOWA.COM

Minds, mouths race to finish in Rock Valley

**R**OCK VALLEY—Eat a large pizza, assemble a 500-piece puzzle and drink a pitcher of beer as fast as you can.

Those were rules for the 47 four-member teams at the inaugural Pizza, Puzzles and Pitchers in Rock Valley.

A fundraiser for Rock Valley Public Library, director Nicole McCray said the high-energy, adults-only gathering was a hit before she even rang the starting bell the night of Friday, Feb. 9.

"I'm really big on not canceling events. I was like, 'If we have five teams, we're still having it,' and we had 20 teams within the first week," McCray said.

Many of the almost 200 people who packed into the Parkview Event Center drove from out of town for the mind-mouth contest, including all four members of the winning team: Kristi Meyer of Hospers, Aimee Van Holland of Sioux Center, Melissa Dykstra of Maurice and Sheila Harp of Alton.

They finished the three-stage gauntlet in 31 minutes. Unsurprisingly, they are all experienced puzzlers; Van Holland was even up the night before with a 1,000-piece jigsaw. They implemented all the standard puzzle strategies and developed a system to share eating, solving and drinking duties.

"We did the border and sorted by colors, Sheila was pulling colors and



Casie Leightner, Alanna Janssen, Josh Leightner and Alex Janssen of Sioux Center get to work at Pizza, Puzzles and Pitchers — an adult-friendly contest/fundraiser for the Rock Valley Public Library — on Feb. 10. Photos by Elijah Helton

giving us pieces, lots of teamwork," Van Holland said. "We just wanted a girls' night out, and it's good to help out."

Pizza, Puzzles and Pitchers netted about \$3,500 for the library, but McCray said she was more excited about offering an uncommon and enticing get-together.

"People from all different circles within Rock Valley — whether that be schools, churches, community groups — you saw this wonderful mixture of all these different people participating in the same event," McCray said. "For me, that's what I was proud of because that's what I'm trying to build, this sense of coming together and building bridges between people. The fundraiser part was just a bonus."

The pizzas were all single-topping and ordered ahead of time from Pizza Ranch.

Getting a team's assigned pizza created a hectic dash right at the beginning of the event.

The room was quiet for a few minutes before pressure grew. Many who started from a seated position slowly stood, leaning over their tables. Tightened focus unraveled for some; mumbling and giggling turned to clamoring and howling.

Some four-member teams came with specific strategies.

The Leightner-Janssen quartet from Sioux Center had a predictably gendered approach. Wives Casie and Alanna did most of the puzzle while their husbands, Josh and Alex, downed the pie and brew.

"He and I finished in about 15 minutes. Then with the puzzle, we 'helped,' aka stayed out of the way," Alex Janssen said.

The delegation of duties worked out as the team was one of the first runners-up, about 15 minutes behind the top time.

The puzzles were vetted by librarian Shelly Hoogendoorn. She ordered different layouts from different brands. Hoogendoorn chose to order dozens of the one that did not take too long to complete and its pieces nicely fit together.

The art itself included several color-coded mini pictures of nature scenes.

The beer? Standard light options on tap behind the Parkview Event Center bar.

McCray said the night was a success from the first sip to the pizza crust, and yes, the crust had to be devoured to count.

"This had the right vibe, something I would go out and do, wouldn't want to miss it," McCray said. "That was a lot of other people's feelings who attended. There's not a lot in town for adults that's a planned event and where they don't have to do the organizing to get people together."



Maggie Meyer of Hull squats on her team's table while assembling their jigsaw during Pizza, Puzzles and Pitchers on Friday evening, Feb. 10, in Rock Valley.

## THREE ARRESTED ON DRUG-RELATED CHARGES

SHELDON—Three people were arrested on drug-related charges following a traffic stop about 11 a.m. Friday, Feb. 10, in Sheldon.

The arrests of 57-year-old Suzanne Marie Dalbotten of Delwein, 49-year-old Michael John Eaton of Harris and 24-year-old Aubree Victoria Sikma of Sheldon stemmed from the investigation of the report of possible drug activity at a Sheldon business, according to the Sheldon Police Department.

A 2005 Pontiac Grand Prix was stopped a short time later for a traffic violation on the 400 block of Sixth Street.

The three occupants "were extremely nervous," according to the incident report, and were found to have faced previous drug-related charges.

The police department's K-9 was deployed on the vehicle and indicated the odor of drugs.

Small clear bags of methamphetamine were found in the purse of Dalbotten, the driver.

A glass pipe and black container holding small clear bags of meth and another glass pipe were found in the coat of Eaton, a passenger.

A green tooter with white crystalline substance inside it was found in the purse of Sikma, a passenger.

Dalbotten was charged with second-offense possession of a controlled substance — methamphetamine.

Eaton was charged with possession of a controlled substance — methamphetamine — third or subsequent offense and possession of drug paraphernalia.

Sikma was charged with possession of drug paraphernalia.

## WOMAN ARRESTED FOR DRUG PARAPHERNALIA

SIOUX CENTER—A 44-year-old Rock Rapids woman was arrested about 4:30 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 12, in Sioux Center on a charge of possession of drug paraphernalia.

The arrest of Erica Rose Daniels stemmed from the stop of a 2013 Volkswagen on the 300 block of First Avenue Northwest in Sioux Center, according to the Sioux Center Police Department.

Daniels admitted to smoking marijuana earlier in the day and handed over her smoking apparatus, according to the incident report.

She pleaded guilty the same day in Sioux County District in Orange City and was ordered to pay a \$105 fine, a \$15.75 surcharge and \$60 in court-related costs.

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## NEWS

# Schaap transforms story to stage show

Dordt senior's one-act receives regional love

BY ALEISA SCHAT  
ASCHAT@NWESTIOWA.COM

SIOUX CENTER—Dordt University senior Sommer Schaap's one-act play, "Almost Lifelong," lived its first life in another genre.

The play began as a short story last spring, when Schaap wrote it to fulfill an assignment in her fiction writing class.

"That summer, I thought to myself, 'What would happen if I turned this into a play?'" said the 22-year-old theatre major at the university in Sioux Center.

Schaap, who is originally from Edgerton, MN, began adapting the work for the stage, and late last year, she submitted a draft of the script to be considered for a reading at a prestigious college theatre festival.

"The play was still a working draft at that point," she said.

Eventually, she received word "Almost Lifelong" was one of the three one-act plays selected to receive a reading at the Region 5 Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival, which took place Jan. 22-28 in Des Moines.

"It's really exceptional for a student to have their one-act selected — only three were chosen out of over 50 submissions in our seven-state region," said Dordt theatre professor Laurel Koerner.

The competition is not organized according to school size, so Dordt goes head to head with all participating institutions of higher education in Region 5.

During the festival, Schaap was recognized for excellence in acting as well, and she advanced to the semi-final round of the Irene Ryan Acting Scholarship competition.

## PLAYBILL

What: "Almost Lifelong," student-written-and-directed one-act play

When: 7:30 p.m. Friday, Feb. 24; 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 25

Where: Fourth Avenue Theatre at Dordt University in Sioux Center

Tickets: \$5 for general admission and may be purchased at [dordt.ticketleap.com](http://dordt.ticketleap.com).

Contact: 712-722-6208

Following the festival reading of Schaap's play, she received feedback from a group of respondents who included professionals in the theatre world. She also spent a half hour going over her draft of the script with T.J. Young, a Texas-born playwright and dramaturge based in Pittsburgh.

"I took what they had to say into this new version that I made for the performance this spring," Schaap said.

"Almost Lifelong" will be fully staged as part of the university's spring theatre season Friday and Saturday, Feb. 24-25. The production, directed by Schaap, runs about 45 minutes and general admission is \$5.

"The concert reading at ACTF — that's a really valuable step in the refinement of that script," Koerner said. "A script will typically undergo several of those kinds of workshop-level performances or readings, so that the writer can actually hear what it sounds like coming out of the mouths of the characters."

The idea that a piece of writing might be refined through an ongoing, and sometimes ruthless, process



Dordt University senior Sommer Schaap smiles during a conversation with a classmate. Her one-act "Almost Lifelong" earned regional praise and will be performed Feb. 24-25 on the campus in Sioux Center. Photo submitted

of revision is not new to Koerner. Her father, Howard Schaap, is a professor of English at Dordt, and Sommer Schaap has taken multiple writing courses in the English department.

"She's been very motivated to keep refining the work," Koerner said. "She understands the importance of working in drafts, and she keeps coming back to the project with a real motivation to improve the piece."

In the weeks following the festival, Schaap has continued to tighten the play's dialogue, fine-tune its pacing and clarify the action of the story — a challenge given the play began as a written story, with passages of description and exposition.

"There were a lot of things in the short-story version that I had to get rid of," she said. "In a short story, you can tell and describe, but in a one-act, you have to show it. I've worked a lot on showing and not telling."

The play tells the story of two friends, Beck and Ezra.

"It's kind of an exploration of a friendship," Schaap said.

As the play progresses, the friendship deepens, but the two must also navigate change.

"What happens when there's conflict? And what happens when one of them doesn't have the other?" she said. "The story follows their friendship — what road do they end up going down at the end?"

The production is Schaap's senior capstone project, and as graduation approaches, she is beginning to look ahead to life after college. She plans to pursue a career in the performing arts, perhaps in New York, where she spent the fall semester in an off-campus study program.

"I took some theatre classes, and then I had an internship at an off-Broadway theatre," she said.

Schaap spent six busy weeks as a production assistant at New Light Theatre, running errands and relaying messages between members of the crew.

She hopes the coming years will bring new opportunities to work in the theatre world, whether behind the scenes or on stage.

"Now that I've been at Dordt for a while, I've been able to experience the different areas and aspects of theatre — and I really love all of them," she said.

Whatever role she finds her way into, she is excited to tell stories through the medium of theatre, which the Dordt senior believes compels audiences in a particular way.

"It's electrifying — it's in the moment. And if it's good theatre, you feel like you're there, and that it's really happening in front of you," she said. "That's really beautiful."

# O'Brien conservation needing more support for year

Also runs through 2023-24 funding

BY ERIC HARROLD  
EHARROLD@NWESTIOWA.COM

PRIMGAR—Citing cost increases and unbudgeted maintenance expenses, O'Brien County Conservation director Travis Scott requested an additional \$13,230 in support from the county to cover remaining expenses for the current fiscal year, which ends on June 30.

Scott said he moved some unspent insurance money around to pay for other items, but a lot of unanticipated maintenance issues arose due to the use of household rather than commercial-grade door handles, toilets and faucets that ended up getting replaced.

He also said a lot of gravel has been hauled to get caught up from a lack of maintenance to roads and parking lots in the previous year.

"It's been a rough year on spending," Scott said.

Some of the need for additional funding is due to

inflationary cost increases, according to Scott, citing the rising cost of fuel and oil as one that came in higher than the budgeted amount.

Two vehicle purchases also came in higher than what Scott had budgeted. A 2023 Ram truck purchased for use as a patrol vehicle came in at \$39,500.

Scott said a 2003 Ram 2500 pickup and a 2007 Chrysler Town & Country van were traded in and went toward the purchase of a 2022 Ford Escape that cost \$29,000.

Scott indicated the Escape would be used primarily by the county's naturalist.

The department has one existing vehicle allocated for seasonal employee use and two outfitted for park ranger patrol.

Recreational upkeep costs exceeded initial allocations because a playground and other items ordered last year did not arrive before July 1, and therefore must be accounted for in this year's budget.

Scott said conservation staff discovered septic pits at Mill

Creek Park will need to be pumped monthly through the end of the summer with hopes of getting on the Paullina city sewer system in the future. This represents an increase in pumping frequency, which previously was performed every three months.

Scott said the long-term solution would require the addition of lift stations, which he was in the process of obtaining cost estimates.

Trees and seeding costs increased due to the need to seed overshaded areas and to remove and replace dead ash trees.

Internal project costs include \$16,500 for Prairie Heritage Center redesign work Scott hoped would have been completed last year and is anticipated to be completed within a month.

Scott said the conservation board increased spending authority for the donation account to allow access to \$2,600 already in hand. He said funds were used for an open range night at Crosbie Wildlife & Nature Youth Center and to finish out a grant.



O'Brien County conservation director Travis Scott addresses the O'Brien County Board of Supervisors on Tuesday, Feb. 7. Photo by Eric Harrold

"That should balance things to where we need for the rest of this year," he said.

Scott then moved onto discussion for the 2023-24 fiscal year budget.

He increased most line items by 10 percent and the wages for part-time employees were increased by \$6,000.

## OTHER BUSINESS:

The O'Brien County Supervisors on Feb. 7 also approved:

- A utility construction application for Ward Electric Company/MidAmerican Energy Co. The project area is about three miles west of Germantown.
- A resolution adopting a procurement policy for federally and non-federally funded projects.
- The liquor license application by Sheldon Golf & Country Club.

Scott plans to hire three seasonal employees. One seasonal employee would be used to staff the Prairie Heritage Center and assist the county's naturalist, with the other two being field technicians to help with mowing and other routine maintenance.

Recreational upkeep costs were increased for upgrades to restrooms and concrete work.

"A lot of it is smaller stuff, but small stuff adds up in a hurry when you're talking a couple thousand dollars at a time," Scott said.

He budgeted \$55,000 this year to cover the acquisition of a three-quarter-ton truck. One current half-ton pickup will be traded toward the cost of the new truck, which possibly could be shared with the county's Emergency Manage-

ment Agency.

The department is looking to fill a full-time position, which supervisor Nancy McDowell would like to be filled by a ranger.

Scott said it always is beneficial to have an increased law enforcement presence.

The staff has two rangers currently and not hiring a third one would have drawbacks because the rangers work a lot of weekends in the summer, making it difficult to split between two rangers.

Supervisors Dan Friedrichsen said the only drawback he saw was the increased expense of a ranger over a technician. Scott said it would add an additional \$5,000 to personnel expenses in addition to training and equipment costs.

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REGIONAL NEWS

REGIONAL

Governor looking to recognize volunteers

Volunteer Iowa is accepting nominations for the 2023 Governor's Volunteer Awards. The program, established in 1982, provides a way for organizations to honor their volunteers with a state-level recognition award. Three award categories are available: Individual, Group and Length of Service. Award recipient information must be submitted by 6 p.m. April 17 at [appengine.egov.com/apps/ia/lcvss\\_award](http://appengine.egov.com/apps/ia/lcvss_award) along with a handling fee. For nomination information, visit the website [volunteeriowa.org](http://volunteeriowa.org).

SHELDON

Blood drive will be Feb. 20 in Sheldon

The Sheldon Police Department, Sheldon Fire Co., Sheldon Community Ambulance Team and Sheldon Emergency Management Agency are hosting the "Heroes Behind the Badges" blood drive 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Monday, Feb. 20, at KIWA Radio. Participants will receive a \$10 Hy-Vee gift card. To schedule a donation, visit [www.cbllifeblood.org](http://www.cbllifeblood.org), select "events," Feb. 20 and Sheldon Heroes Behind the Badges. For more information, contact Community Blood Bank of Sioux Falls, SD, at 1-877-877-3070.

REGIONAL

Area towns to host bloodmobile visit

LifeServe Blood Center of Sioux City will hold a blood drive 12:30-4:30 p.m. Monday, Feb. 20, at the Hawarden Public Library; 1-6 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 21, at the Hull Public Library; 12:30-5:30 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 22, at the Hartley Community Center; and 9:05 a.m.-2 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 23, at American Reformed Church in Orange City. Donation appointments are required by visiting [lifeservebloodcenter.org](http://lifeservebloodcenter.org) or calling 1-800-287-4903.

SHELDON

Unity Meal set for Feb. 20 in Sheldon

A free Sheldon Area Unity Meal will be served 5:30-6:30 p.m. Monday, Feb. 20, at Living Water Community Church at 610 Second Ave. in Sheldon. A bag of groceries will be available to take home.

HAWARDEN

Topic of seniors to be study of reptiles

Sioux County Conservation will host Senior Environmental Learning and Fellowship programs on the topic herpetology — the study of reptiles and amphibians — at 10 a.m., 12:30 p.m. and 2:30 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 21, at the Prairie Woods Nature Center at Oak Grove Park near Hawarden. Preregister at the Sioux County site [www.siouxcountyparks.org](http://www.siouxcountyparks.org) or call 712-552-3057.



Friendly contest

Travis Klein gets ready to go up for a layup during a basketball game Thursday at the Village Northwest Unlimited in Sheldon. Klein plays for the Village Panthers, who played a friendly contest against Sheldon Christian seventh- and eighth-grade students. Photo by Justin Rust

ing and using their senses. An adult is required to join each child or children. Preregister at [www.mycountyparks.com/County/Sioux/Events.aspx](http://www.mycountyparks.com/County/Sioux/Events.aspx) or preregister at 712-552-3057.

REGIONAL

Caregiver Support Group meetings

Elderbridge Agency on Aging will host a Family Caregiver Support Group meeting 10-11 a.m. on the third Tuesday each month. The next meeting will be Feb. 21. Learn about the ways Elderbridge can help. Join the group by phone, computer or GrandPad. For more information, contact Jenn Lappégard at 1-800-243-0678 Ext. 7033.

REGIONAL

LSI provides foster care, adoption info

Lutheran Services in Iowa is hosting several virtual and in-person orientations for western Iowa families to learn more about foster care and adoption. The virtual orientation will be held via zoom 6-7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 21. The in-person orientation will be held 6-7:30 p.m. Monday, Feb. 27, at LSI Sioux City Office at 1308 S. Cleveland St., Sioux City. To participate, visit [LSIowa.org/InquiryForm](http://LSIowa.org/InquiryForm), or for more information, contact [fosteradopt@LSIowa.org](mailto:fosteradopt@LSIowa.org).

HAWARDEN

Groundhogs topic of Feb. 22 program

Sioux County Conservation will host the Wild Child Nature Series: Groundhogs and Shadows at 10 a.m. or 1 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 22, at the Prairie Woods Nature Center at Oak Grove Park near Hawarden. The series is a nature-based experience that will get 2- to 5-year-old children exploring, moving, play-

15, at Prairie View Home in Sanborn. Service will be 11 a.m. Tuesday, Feb. 21, at Primghar Church of Christ. Burial will be late at the Byrd Family Cemetery in Baywood, VA. Visitation with family present will be 10-11 a.m. Tuesday at the church. Arrangements are under the direction of Eldridge Family Funeral Home in Primghar.

SIoux CENTER  
Sioux Stitchers at library on Feb. 21

The Sioux Stitchers will meet at 1:30 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 21, at the Sioux Center Public Library. Registration is not required, and visitors are welcome. The Sioux Stitchers meets on the third Tuesday monthly at the public library.

SIoux CENTER

Library offering tech help Feb. 21

The Sioux Center Public Library will have a drop-in time for any tech-related questions the public has Tuesday, Feb. 21. Drop in for assistance with topics like the library's e-resources, basic computer use, e-mail and job applications. If others are waiting, 20-minute time slots may apply. No appointments are needed. Just drop in.

Late death notices:

- Mark Moss, 61, Orange City, died Monday, Feb. 13, at UnityPoint Health — St. Luke's Hospital in Sioux City. Arrangements are under the direction of Oolman Funeral Home in Orange City.
- Patricia Anderson, 90, Hawarden, died Tuesday, Feb. 14, 2023, at Hillcrest Care Center in Hawarden. Service will be 10:30 a.m. Tuesday, Feb. 21, at Hawarden United Methodist Church. Burial of the cremated remains will be at Grace Hill Cemetery in Hawarden. Visitation with family present will be 4:30-6 p.m. Monday, Feb. 20, with a prayer service at 6 p.m., at the church. Arrangements are under the direction of Porter Funeral Home in Hawarden.
- Lorena Byrd, 88, Primghar, died Wednesday, Feb.

to the Osceola County Sheriff's Office. He had bloodshot/watery eyes, impaired balance, and the odor of an alcoholic beverage and failed field sobriety tests. Moreno Gomez admitted to drinking two beers, according to the incident report.

He was found to be wanted on a Plymouth County warrant for first-offense operating while under the influence and child endangerment. Martin Chielel was charged with first-offense operating while under the influence; eluding; assault on persons in certain occupations resulting in bodily injury; interference with official acts and inflicting or attempting to inflict bodily injury; possession of a fictitious license, identification card or form; possession of an open container of alcohol as a driver; driving on the wrong side of a two-way highway; and no valid driver's license.

The officer was transported to Hegg Health Center in Rock Valley for treatment of his injuries.

LIIn GROVE MAN JAILED FOR OWI NEAR HARTLEY

HARTLEY—A 21-year-old Linn Grove man was arrested about 2:05 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 4, near Hartley on charges of first-offense operating while under the influence and failure to maintain control of his vehicle.

The arrest of Caden Gregory Webber stemmed from a 2011 Chevrolet Silverado pickup found in the ditch on the 3900 mile of 100th Avenue about 11 miles southeast of Hartley, according to the O'Brien County Sheriff's Office.

Weber told the deputy he was driving south when he went into the ditch. He had bloodshot/watery eyes, impaired balance, and the odor of an alcoholic beverage and failed field sobriety tests.

Corrections:

Information accompanying a photo beneath the headline "Lyon likely to repeal pipe permit" in the Feb. 11 REVIEW incorrectly identified the two people in the picture. Lyon County supervisors Steve Herman and Jerry Birkey were pictured.

The N'West Iowa REVIEW welcomes comments and suggestions as well as information about errors that call for a correction. Call 712-324-5347 Ext. 4 or e-mail [editor@iowainformation.com](mailto:editor@iowainformation.com).

LAW & ORDER

ROCK VALLEY DRIVER CHARGED AFTER CHASE

ROCK VALLEY—A 27-year-old Rock Valley man faces numerous charges following a short chase about 10:20 p.m. Monday, Feb. 6, in Rock Valley.

The arrest of Jesus Timoteo Martin Chielel stemmed from an attempt to stop a 2012 Ford Escape for driving on the wrong side of the road, according to the Rock Valley Police Department.

The vehicle failed to yield to the officer's visual and audible signals until coming to a stop in a private driveway on the 2000 block of 14th Street in Rock Valley.

Martin Chielel, the driver, then exited the vehicle and fled on foot. During the foot chase, a Taser was deployed unsuccessfully, and the officer slipped causing a concussion to his head and a concussion.

As Martin Chielel was being apprehended, he bit the officer, according to the incident report.

Martin Chielel had bloodshot/watery eyes, impaired balance, slurred speech and the odor of an alcoholic beverage and failed field sobriety tests.

Opened and unopened containers of alcohol were found in his vehicle, and he admitted to consuming alcohol while driving, according to the incident report.

Martin Chielel also was found to be in possession of several fake identification cards and a fictitious Social Security card.

He also was found to be wanted on a Plymouth County warrant for first-offense operating while under the influence and child endangerment.

Martin Chielel was charged with first-offense operating while under the influence; eluding; assault on persons in certain occupations resulting in bodily injury; interference with official acts and inflicting or attempting to inflict bodily injury; possession of a fictitious license, identification card or form; possession of an open container of alcohol as a driver; driving on the wrong side of a two-way highway; and no valid driver's license.

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SIIn GROVE MAN JAILED FOR CONTACT VIOLATION

SHELDON—A 38-year-old Sheldon man was arrested Tuesday, Feb. 7, on three counts of violation of a no contact/protective order.

The arrest of Christopher Allen Neill stemmed from texts he sent an individual he is not to have contact with, according to the Sioux County Sheriff's Office.

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Moreno Gomez admitted to drinking two beers, according to the incident report.

HULL MAN ARRESTED FOR OWI IN ORANGE CITY

ORANGE CITY—A 24-year-old Hull man was arrested about 12:40 a.m. Sunday, Feb. 5, in Orange City on charges of first-offense operating while under the influence and speeding.

The arrest of Jonathan Luevano stemmed from the stop of a 2008 Chevrolet Silverado pickup clocked at 47 mph in the 35-mph zone and 43 mph in the 25-mph zone of Seventh Street in Orange City, according to Orange City Police Department.

Luevano had bloodshot/watery eyes and the odor of an alcoholic beverage and admitted to consuming two beers around 9 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 4, according to the incident report.

BOYDEN MAN ARRESTED FOR OWI NEAR SHELDON

SHELDON—A 26-year-old rural Boyden man was arrested about 4:50 a.m. Sunday, Feb. 5, northwest of Sheldon on a charge of first-offense operating while under the influence.

The arrest of Brett Alan Koerselman stemmed from the stop of a 2006 Pontiac Grand Prix on the 3900 mile of McKinley Avenue after it failed to stop for the stop sign at the intersection of Highway 18 and Second Avenue in Sheldon, according to the O'Brien County Sheriff's Office.

Koerselman had bloodshot/watery eyes, impaired balance and the odor of an alcoholic beverage and admitted to drinking alcohol earlier in the night, according to the incident report.

COLLISION BY SHELDON LEADS TO OWI ARREST

SIoux CENTER—A 56-year-old Sioux Center woman was arrested Sunday, Feb. 5, on a Sioux County warrant for second-offense operating while under the influence.

The arrest of Paula Nadine Haarsma stemmed from her losing control of a northbound 2007 GMC Envoy, crossing over the median and striking a southbound 2014 Nissan Armada driven by 42-year-old Leah Marie Herda of Alton on the Highway 60 expressway, two miles south of Sheldon, about 5:35 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 15, according to the Sioux County Sheriff's Office.

Haarsma was transported by the Sheldon Community Ambulance Team to Sanford Sheldon Medical Center for treatment of minor injuries.

Herda was transported by SCAT to Orange City Area Health System for treatment of her injuries.

Haarsma admitted to drinking before driving, according to the incident report.

A blood sample was sent to the Iowa Division of Criminal Investigation Criminalistics Laboratory in Ankeny, which indicated a blood alcohol content above the legal limit.

A warrant for her arrest was issued Jan. 29.

SHELDON MAN JAILED FOR CONTACT VIOLATION

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Weber also admitted to drinking alcohol, according to the incident report.

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Make sure to check out these special sections in this week's issue of The N'West Iowa REVIEW!

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## NEWS

# Osceola rounding corner on its budget

Pending legislative action delaying annual process

BY SANDRA JENSON  
SJENSON@NWESTIOWA.COM

SIBLEY—The Osceola County Board of Supervisors made some progress toward finalizing the proposed fiscal year 2023-24 budget during its meeting Tuesday but needed action from the state before auditor Rochelle Van Tilburg could complete the preparations.

Van Tilburg received word later in the week that Senate File 181 passed and was awaiting the governor's signature. It would grant Iowa counties an extension to file the certified budget until April 30.

The bill also would correct an error in the tax rate for multiresidential properties that skewed the funding formula and negatively affected single-family homeowners. The adjusted numbers factor into the final budget totals.

Additional county budget department changes calculated by Van Tilburg involved salaries. The fair board approved a \$50 per month raise for its employee, Doyle Bos, who handles the maintenance and mowing. A 6 percent salary raise takes effect for the union employees at the Osceola County Sheriff's Office.

Van Tilburg reviewed levy rates. The general basic levy of \$3.50 per \$1,000 of assessed property valuation is already at the maximum.

"I feel like we need to reduce the general



Auditor Rochelle Van Tilburg updates changes to the proposed fiscal year 2023-24 budget during the Osceola County Board of Supervisors meeting on Tuesday in Sibley. Pending legislation was delaying finalizing the budget. Photo by Sandra Jenson

basic levy," she said.

Van Tilburg shared figures for the general supplemental fund where it stands now at \$1.15 per \$1,000 and if it were reduced to \$1 per \$1,000. The rural basic levy and public safety amounts stayed the same.

"I could do a transfer from general basic into general supplemental to offset some of the expenses, and we could lower the levy even more," Van Tilburg said.

One of the options would be setting up a separate fund for the jail remodel and transfer funds out of the general fund. The board recommended budgeting \$250,000.

During the meeting, Van Tilburg again mentioned the pending legislation on the real estate error and budget extension is making the budgeting process more difficult. Van Tilburg, along with the board, would like to avoid having to publish the proposed budget twice.

"It's just frustrating," she said. "They've known about this since November."

The county could file an extension, if needed. Reducing the budget after publication is allowed, but the county cannot increase it. The current fund balances

## OTHER BUSINESS:

### The Osceola County Board of Supervisors on Tuesday also:

- Approved the union contract wage increase of 6 percent.
- Approved the lone bid of \$31,978 received from Kruger Painting of Ellsworth, MN, for office repairs and painting of the rooms on the main level of the courthouse. A separate bid will be requested for the paint. Painting was last done in this area in 1996. Work is tentatively scheduled to be done by the end of April.
- Met new Veterans Affairs director Buffie Dake, a Navy veteran from Ocheyedan.

allow the county some flexibility.

"We're in a great spot to be," Van Tilburg said.

"I just don't know what the legislation's going to do."

# Rock Valley man pleads guilty for firearm incident

Reckless gun use one of his charges

BY JEFF GRANT  
JGRANT@NWESTIOWA.COM

ORANGE CITY—A 38-year-old Rock Valley man has pleaded guilty and been sentenced to charges of assault, reckless use of a firearm and first-degree harassment for a mid-August incident in Rock Valley.



De Groot

The case against Kurtis Lee De Groot stemmed from an incident with a neighbor who is a relative about 9:35 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 14, according to the Rock Valley Police Department.

De Groot sent a text message to the neighbor threatening to discharge a weapon into the neighbor's window, according to court documents.

Before the text message, the neighbor heard a sound he thought was a gunshot.

A spent 9 mm casing for ammunition was found in De Groot's backyard.

A black holstered Glock 43 handgun was found on the bed cover of De Groot's pickup, which was located inside the attached garage.

While clearing the weapon for safety purposes, it was discovered that the magazine was one round from being fully loaded.

De Groot was arrested that night on charges of intimidation with a danger-

ous weapon resulting in reasonable apprehension of injury and/or provoking fear; assault while participating in a felony; second-degree harassment; first-offense domestic abuse assaulting displaying or using weapon; assault; and reckless use of a firearm.

He initially pleaded not guilty but later reached a plea agreement in which he pleaded guilty to assault, reckless use of a firearm and first-degree harassment while the other charges were dismissed.

For the assault charge, Judge Tod Deck on Jan. 31 in Sioux County District Court in Orange City sentenced De Groot to 30 days in jail with credit for time served and ordered to pay court-related costs of \$100.

For the reckless use of a firearm, De Groot was sentenced Feb. 1 to 30 days in jail with credit for time served and ordered to pay court-related costs of \$100.

For the first-degree harassment charge, De Groot was sentenced Feb. 2 to 365 days in jail with all but 40 days suspended and with credit for time already served. He also was ordered to pay a \$1,025 fine, a \$153.75 surcharge and court-related costs of \$100.

De Groot also was placed on probation to the 3rd Judicial District Department of Correctional Services for a period of two years and ordered to pay a \$300 statutory probation supervision fee.

A no contact order with the neighbor also was extended five years.

# O'Brien board gets public health report

Senior living and school vaccine programs rolling

BY ERIC HARROLD  
EHARROLD@NWESTIOWA.COM

PRIMGHAR—O'Brien County Public Health director Kim Morran provided an update on various programs and initiatives to the O'Brien County Board of Supervisors on Tuesday.

She said her staff has administered 426 coronavirus vaccines and bivalent boosters in the past six months. A vaccination clinic is held every Wednesday at the office in the county courthouse in Primghar.

Public health staff has visited Community Memorial Health Center and Morningside Estates in Hartley, Willoway Complex in Sutherland, Cobble Creek Assisted Living in Sheldon and Sheldon Christian Retirement Home to administer flu shots or COVID-19 boosters, according to Morran.

"We share COVID-19 vaccines with Sanford in Sheldon, Lyon County Health Services and Osceola County Regional Health Services, due to everyone not having ultracold freezers to store the vaccine in," Morran said.

Public health annually completes school audits for all public and private schools in the county to make sure every student record is up to date on their immunizations. Morran said her staff writes a provisional authorization for students not current on their immunizations and they are given 30 days to acquire those they lack. In addition, public health audits day cares, preschools and Head Start facilities in the county.

Morran said her office conducted dental screenings and fluoride treatments on 163 children attending nine preschools in O'Brien County in 2022. They also screened approximately half of 55 stu-

## OTHER BUSINESS:

### The O'Brien County Board of Supervisors on Tuesday also approved:

- A quote of \$48,218 from Metal Culverts of Jefferson City, MO, for metal pipe to be used for driveway and field entrances.
- A salary increase for O'Brien County Sheriff's Office administrative assistant Marie Kruger from \$52,650 to \$56,550 per year, effective March 1.
- An hourly rate increase for part-time communications operator Samantha Kooiker from \$22 to \$24.50 per hour effective Feb. 26.

dents attending a preschool in Osceola County.

There are two O'Brien County preschools remaining to be screened that public health was unable to get to before Dec. 30. Morran said those should get completed after details are worked out with Cherokee Public Health Services, which is taking over administration of the oral health grant covering the cost of the screenings.

"We will likely subcontract with Cherokee County to provide the preschool screenings as we were before," she said.

Morran provided an update on the increase in syphilis, with provisional data for 2022 showing 615 cases across Iowa, a number that will likely increase as data is finalized. Data for the state shows a gradual increase since 2011 with 70 cases confirmed that year. The number of cases rose from 283 in 2018 to 751 in 2021.

Morran described syphilis as a bacterial infection usually spread by sexual contact. The disease starts as a painless sore



O'Brien County Public Health director Kim Morran displays some infant models used to demonstrate "shaken baby" syndrome and the effects of in utero exposure to drugs and alcohol at the O'Brien County Board of Supervisors meeting Tuesday. Photo by Eric Harrold

on the genitals, rectum or mouth that can spread from person to person. It can remain inactive in the body for decades before becoming active again.

Cases detected early can be cured with a single shot of penicillin, according to Morran, who advises those who think they have contracted syphilis to seek assistance from their health care provider.

Morran said there has been one documented case of syphilis in O'Brien County in 2023.

# Passenger in Maurice chase pleads guilty

Fine, court costs for interference

BY JEFF GRANT  
JGRANT@NWESTIOWA.COM

ORANGE CITY—One of two men facing charges following a short vehicle pursuit in early October near Maurice has pleaded guilty and been sentenced.

Forty-year-old Mark Daniel Stewart Jr. of Aurelia pleaded guilty to interference with official acts in Sioux County District Court in Orange City.

He was a passenger in a 2008 Lincoln MKZ being driven by 37-year-old Jeremy James Langley of Springfield, SD, that a deputy attempted to stop about 12:30 a.m. Sunday, Oct. 9, on 460th Street, about a mile northeast of Maurice, according to the Sioux County Sheriff's Office.

Langley began driving erratically, striking a vehicle parked near the Sioux County Regional Airport and a build-

ing owned by the airport then turning and striking the deputy's vehicle, according to the incident report.

After striking the patrol vehicle, Langley and Stewart fled from their vehicle, running into a cornfield; a female passenger remained in the vehicle.

The two men were located attempting to hide in the cornfield and taken into custody without further incident.

Langley was found in possession of a THC vaping device and a vaping cartridge containing THC wax.

The patrol vehicle received an estimated \$3,000 damage.

Langley was charged with second-degree criminal mischief; first-offense possession of a controlled substance —

cannabidiol; possession of drug paraphernalia; eluding; reckless driving; interference with official acts; driving while his license was denied, suspended, canceled or revoked; failure to provide proof of vehicle liability insurance; striking an unattended vehicle; failure to maintain control; driving on the wrong side of a two-way highway; failure to obey a stop sign and yield the right of way; operation without registration card or plate; and careless driving.

Stewart was charged with interference with official acts.

The female was released to a family member without being charged.

As part of a plea agreement, Associate Judge Jessica Noll ordered Stewart to pay a \$250

fine, a \$37.50 surcharge and \$60 in court-related costs.

Langley was ordered to pay a \$967.50 fine, a \$55 surcharge and \$145.13 in court-related costs for failure to provide proof of vehicle liability insurance; a \$202.50 fine, a \$55 surcharge and \$30.38 in court-related costs for striking an unattended vehicle, failure to maintain control, driving on the wrong side of a two-way highway and failure to obey a stop sign and yield the right of way; a \$105 fine, a \$55 surcharge and \$15.75 in court-related costs for operation without registration card or plate; and a \$75 fine, a \$55 surcharge and \$11.25 in court costs for careless driving.

Langley pleaded not guilty to the second-degree criminal mischief and first-offense possession of a controlled substance — cannabidiol.

He then failed to appear for a pretrial conference on Jan. 30 and a warrant for his arrest was issued the next day.



Mark Stewart



Jeremy Langley

## LAW & ORDER

### OCHEYEDAN DRIVER TO JAIL FOR OWI IN SIBLEY

SIBLEY—A 43-year-old Ocheyedan man was arrested about 2:40 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 4, in Sibley on a charge of first-offense operating while under the influence.

The arrest of Christopher J. Arndt stemmed from the stop of a 2010 Chevrolet Cobalt for an equipment violation on 10th Street near Eighth Avenue in Sibley, according to the Osceola County Sheriff's Office.

He had bloodshot/watery eyes, impaired balance, slurred speech and the odor of an alcoholic beverage and failed field sobriety tests.

Arndt admitted to consuming a few drinks and said he would register over the legal limit, according to the incident report.

### HARTLEY MAN CHARGED FOR TRESPASSING AGAIN

HARTLEY—A 37-year-old Hartley man was arrested about 11 p.m. Monday, Feb. 13 on a charge of trespassing for the third time in four months.

The arrest of John Anthony Bandomo stemmed from him being observed exiting Maple Grove Apartments at 711 First St. NE after having been served paperwork barring him from being on the property previously, according to the Hartley Police Department.

He pleaded guilty the next day in O'Brien County District Court in Primghar and was ordered to pay a \$260 fine, a \$39 surcharge and \$55 in court-related costs.

Bandomo previously had been arrested for trespassing at the same location on Oct. 11 and Feb. 9.

In each of the other two cases, he also pleaded guilty in district court and was ordered to pay a \$260 fine, a \$39 surcharge and \$55 in court-related costs.

### ROCK RAPIDS MAN TO JAIL FOR INTOX, MORE

ROCK RAPIDS—A 21-year-old Rock Rapids man was arrested shortly before midnight Sunday, Feb. 5, on public intoxication, charges of supplying alcohol to a person under legal age and depositing or throwing litter on a highway.

The arrest of Alex Christopher Vandenoever stemmed from him being found walking on a bridge on Highway 9 near Tama Street in Rock Rapids, according to the Lyon County Sheriff's Office.

He had slurred speech and the odor of an alcoholic beverage, admitted to drinking and dropped a can and a box of Busch Light on the ground, according to the incident report.

Vandenoever said he was drinking at someone's house and told a juvenile that he could

have some of his Busch Light. He said the juvenile then took some of his Busch Light.

### WORTHINGTON PAIR CITED FOR MARIJUANA

SIBLEY—Two Worthington, MN, residents were cited about 2:15 a.m. Monday, Feb. 6, near Sibley on charges of first-offense possession of a controlled substance — marijuana and possession of drug paraphernalia.

The citing of 22-year-old Deondre Torrey Bezoni and 21-year-old Ke Aila Ke Shaye Schaeffer stemmed from the stop of a 2016 Chevrolet Cruze on the Highway 60 expressway ramp at 170th Street east of Sibley for not stopping at two stop signs, according to the Osceola County Sheriff's Office.

The odor of marijuana was detected, and a deputy located a rolling tray with residue and a blunt on it.

Schaeffer, the passenger, said the items belonged to the two of them, according to the incident report.

### MAN ARRESTED FOR FORGERY AND ID THEFT

ROCK RAPIDS—A 34-year-old Beresford, SD, man was arrested about 6:50 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 7, on a Lyon County warrant for third-degree theft, two counts of forgery and two counts of identity theft.

The arrest of Christopher William Condit stemmed from a report on March 22 of two bad checks written at Ace Hardware in Rock Rapids, according to the Lyon County Sheriff's Office.

The first check was written on March 10 in the amount of \$479.24, which was for a power tool kit.

The second check was written on March 11 in the amount of \$456.87, which was for two power tool kits.

A deputy determined the checks had been stolen.

A warrant for Condit's arrest was issued March 28.

### ALGONA MAN CITED FOR DRUG PARAPHERNALIA

ROCK RAPIDS—A 25-year-old Algona man was cited about 10 a.m. Wednesday, Feb. 8, near Rock Rapids on charges of possession of drug paraphernalia and speeding.

The citing of Levi David Penning stemmed from the stop of a westbound 1999 Chevrolet C-2500 pickup for speeding on Highway 9 just east of Jefferson Avenue about seven miles west of Rock Rapids, according to the Lyon County Sheriff's Office.

The odor of marijuana was detected, and Penning said there were a pipe, a glass jar with residue and a grinder in the vehicle. The items were found in the pickup during a search.



NEWS

# Lewis & Clark on right path with more funding

FUNDS

Continued from page A1  
year," Larson said. "We are incredibly grateful. We felt like we went through the Great Depression for a few years."  
Even though Lewis & Clark has received almost \$170 million in federal funds the last two years, the previous lean years means Larson still has to

ask for more funds in 2024. He said engineers still are in the process of estimating next year's ask, which he is hoping will be the last year Lewis & Clark requests federal funding for the base system plans. "It shouldn't be more than \$40 million, but we are in the process of narrowing it down," Larson said. "Between the Appropriations Bill and

the Bipartisan Infrastructure, we feel that is doable. With \$90 million last year and \$78 million this year and then \$40 million next year, we feel that is a doable amount."  
The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law was signed into law by President Joe Biden in 2021 and will still be giving out funds in 2024.

That's why Larson is confident next year's funding could be his final request for the base system.

"That feels fantastic because this project has been in the works since the late 1980s," Larson said. "Parachute pants were popular then, and I had a pair of those, but that's how long it has taken. It feels incredibly good to see that light at the end of the tunnel."

The conversations for Lewis & Clark began in the 1980s and construction started in 2004 with the goal to provide 20 communities with about 45 million gallons of water per day from wells that tap into an aquifer next to the Missouri River near Vermillion, SD.



West Branch Construction of Boyden works on the roof for the Sheldon meter building for the Lewis & Clark Regional Water System. Work is slated to be done in October. Photos submitted



The welding is finished for the basin of the tower going up outside of Sheldon for the Lewis & Clark Regional Water System.

Rock Rapids is one of the 20 communities and started receiving water from Lewis & Clark in 2017. Sioux Center, Hull, Sheldon and Sibley are all awaiting their water yet. Hull and Sioux Center are expected to be connected in April, Sheldon late into the year and Sibley by late 2024 or early 2025. Sioux Center will receive 600,000 gallons of water a day, Hull 400,000 gallons, Sheldon 1.3 million gallons and Sibley will receive 650,000 gallons.

"Shoutout to Sheldon and Sibley that are at the end of the line," Larson said. "Think about the amount of trust that forefathers in those two

communities had to commit to the project that far out. There were probably plenty of naysayers that thought it was a pipe dream, and it's becoming a reality."

The \$60 million from the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law will be used for Sibley's service line and Sibley's meter building. Larson said workers will be out getting easement acquisitions for Sibley's service line at the end of the month.

The funding also will be used for third phase of the water treatment plant in Vermillion.

The third phase includes two more solid contact basins,

a second gravity thickener and a lime slaker. The third phase also is the final one for the base system.

Once the base system is complete, Lewis & Clark can focus solely on its expansion plans, which will up production to 60 million gallons of water a day.

All 20 members voluntarily signed up for the expansion last year.

The expansion received \$27 million from the American Rescue Plan and the rest will cost about \$100 million with a scheduled completion date of 2030 with each community receiving its proportional share.

# Feenstra reveals plan for farm-specific visits

FEENSTRA

Continued from A1

The Feenstra Agriculture Tour will be in addition to his 36-county tour, which covers all of Iowa's 4th District. The content will be similar to regular visits with a focus on the ag sector, including meetings with farmers, producers and other related organizations.

"I am excited to officially launch my agriculture tour to hear directly from our farmers, producers and agricultural community about their suggestions to protect the productivity of Iowa agriculture and their priorities for the upcoming Farm Bill reauthorization," Feenstra said.

Feenstra will announce the tour after Wednesday morning's visit to the Rosen Agriculture Center and Lags Greenhouse at Morningside University in Sioux City.

The first stop on the circuit will be at Sorensen Equipment in Harlan. In addition to the Farm Bill — the core piece of federal ag legislation that's renewed every five years — Feenstra plans to discuss policy on asset depreciation and estate taxes.

The second destination is outside his district. He will join fellow Republican Rep. Mariannette Miller-Meeks and former Iowa Gov. Terry Branstad for the U.S. Global Leadership Coalition Luncheon on Thursday, Feb. 23, in Des Moines.

Feenstra will be back in his district later that day for a cattle producers' town hall in Moorhead.

"In Iowa, agriculture is

the backbone of our rural economy and thriving main streets, and we must work together to sustain this vital industry for generations to come," he said.

The congressman has been big on ag policy since his oath of office in 2021. He has been on the House Agriculture Committee in both terms so far.

In a December interview with The REVIEW, Feenstra said he enjoys working on farm policy in part because it's relatively easy to find common ground in an often-fractionous Washington.

"Agriculture is, in essence, part of every state in our nation. We have to have a strong voice. I don't care what party people are affiliated with as long as they see agricultural production as the breadbasket to the world," he said.

Feenstra identified two key parts of the upcoming Farm Bill: biofuels support and Big Four disruption. He already has a head start on both fronts.

He introduced a trio of bills on Thursday meant to support ethanol and diesel producers.

The three proposals also are designed to deter adoption of electric vehicles, which Feenstra has repeatedly decried as inferior to biofuels-powered transportation.

He also has his Cattle Price Discovery and Transparency Act, which is designed to halt price fixing from the largest meatpackers and secure higher prices for independent cattle producers. Discussing the bill is on the agenda for his Feb. 23 visit to Moorhead.

## TWO JAILED FOR METH AFTER TRAFFIC STOP

ROCK VALLEY—Two Inwood residents were arrested on charges for methamphetamine and more about 2:50 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 11, following a traffic stop on Highway 18 about five miles west of Rock Valley.

The arrest of 38-year-old Leslie Jean Newman and 36-year-old Clayton William Mace stemmed from the stop of a 2009 Ford pickup following a report of it driving on the wrong side of the road, according to the Sioux County Sheriff's Office.

The Iowa State Patrol assisted on the stop. The sheriff's office's K-9 Rocky conducted a drug sniff around the vehicle and indicated to the odor of narcotics coming from inside the vehicle.

Methamphetamine, a glass pipe and a straw were found inside the vehicle. Newman, the driver, had bloodshot/watery eyes, impaired balance and slurred speech and failed field sobriety tests.

She was evaluated by a drug recognition expert, who determined she was under the influence of a controlled substance, according to the incident report.

Newman was charged with second-offense operating while under the influence, first-offense possession of a controlled substance — methamphetamine and possession of drug paraphernalia.

Mace, the passenger, was charged with possession of a controlled substance — third or subsequent offense — methamphetamine and possession of drug paraphernalia.

## TRAIN STRIKES SEMI IN SHELDON; NO ONE HURT

SHELDON—No one was injured, but a semitrailer was totaled when it was struck by a Union Pacific Railroad train about 1:50 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 12, in Sheldon.

Sixty-five-year-old Duane Anthony Deno of Gaylord, MN, was driving a 2020 Freightliner pulling a tanker trailer east on Railroad Avenue near the Sheldon Railroad Depot when it was struck by a northbound UP engine, according to the Sheldon Police Department. Deno did not see the train, ac-

ording to the incident report. The train applied its emergency brakes but struck the rear passenger side of the trailer. The trailer rolled and became disconnected from the truck.

Neither the driver nor train crew were injured.

The semitrailer, owned by JT Trucking of Sheldon, was valued at \$120,000. The train received an estimated \$20,000 damage. A railroad crossing sign received an estimated \$100 damage.

## ORANGE CITY RESIDENT ARRESTED FOR ASSAULT

ORANGE CITY—A 38-year-old Orange City man was arrested about 6:35 p.m. Friday, Feb. 10, in Orange City on a charge of domestic abuse assault impeding air/blood flow causing bodily injury.

The arrest of Jordan Dean Dowson stemmed from him punching another man in the face and impeding airflow by wrapping his arm around the other man's neck at their residence in Orange City, according to the Orange City Police Department.

## ARCHER WOMAN JAILED FOR MARIJUANA, MORE

ARCHER—A 52-year-old Archer woman was arrested about 11:45 p.m. Friday, Feb. 10, on charges of first-offense possession of a controlled substance — marijuana, operation without a registration card or plate and no valid driver's license.

The arrest of Effie Lavinia Jackson stemmed from the stop of a 2000 Mercedes-Benz CLK 320 on the 100 block Main Street in Archer, according to the O'Brien County Sheriff's Office.

She was found in possession of two burnt marijuana cigarettes, according to the incident report.

## ROCK VALLEY RESIDENT ARRESTED FOR ASSAULT

ROCK VALLEY—A 34-year-old Rock Valley man was arrested about 1:55 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 11, on a charge of assault causing bodily injury or mental illness.

The arrest of Raymond Walter Glaser II stemmed from a dispute at Koldy's Sports Bar & Grill in Rock Valley, according to the Rock Valley Police Department.

Glaser punched another man in the mouth, causing the man to

fall backward, striking his head on a bar stool. The other man was transported by a private vehicle to a hospital for treatment of his injuries.

Glaser admitted to striking the other man, according to the incident report, and video surveillance confirmed the assault occurred as reported.

## IRETON WOMAN INJURED IN CRASH NEAR CARNES

CARNES—A 27-year-old Ireton woman was injured in a one-vehicle crash about 8:50 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 12, on the Highway 60 expressway near Carnes.

Jade Lynn Charlotte Vlotho was driving north on Jackson Avenue when she lost control of her 2011 Chevrolet Equinox, which entered the east ditch, rolled then crossed over the northbound lane of the expressway, coming to a rest on roadway, according to the Sioux County Sheriff's Office.

Vlotho was transported by the Orange City Ambulance to Orange Area Health System and later airlifted to Sanford Sheldon Medical Center in Sioux Falls, SD.

Her vehicle received an estimated \$15,000 damage.

## CRASH RESULTS IN OWI, DRUGS, GUNS ARREST

ALTON—A 23-year-old Fairmont, MN, man was arrested about 9:45 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 12, stemming from a report of a crash on the Highway 60 expressway one mile south of Alton.

Shawn Allen Graplar was driving a 2016 Chevrolet Silverado north shortly before 6 p.m. when he lost control of the pickup, which entered the east ditch and struck a fence line and poles, according to the Sioux County Sheriff's Office.

Graplar reported minor injuries, was checked by the Orange City Ambulance crew and declined further medical attention.

His pickup received an estimated \$16,000 damage. Deputies suspected Graplar was under the influence of a drug.

Graplar told law enforcement he had loaded weapons inside the center console of the vehicle and in a duffel bag.

Law enforcement found a .45 loaded handgun and two THC vaping devices inside the center console and a container with a glass lid containing marijuana, two plastic

baggies containing THC gummies and a 9 mm unloaded handgun inside the duffel bag.

Graplar admitted to smoking marijuana, according to the incident report.

He was evaluated by a drug recognition expert, who determined he was impaired and not safe to be operating a motor vehicle.

Graplar was charged with first-offense operating while under the influence, first-offense possession of a controlled substance — marijuana, first-offense possession of a controlled substance — cannabidiol, possession or carrying of dangerous weapons while under the influence, and failure to maintain control of his vehicle.

## SIBLEY MAN CITED FOR MARIJUANA AND PIPE

SIBLEY—A 21-year-old Sibley man was cited about 12:30 a.m. Sunday, Feb. 12, on charges of first-offense possession of a controlled substance — marijuana and possession of drug paraphernalia.

The citing of Devin Michael Roede stemmed from the stop of a 2006 Kia Rio being driven without headlights on 10th Avenue in Sibley, according to the Osceola County Sheriff's Office.

The odor of marijuana was detected, and Roede admitted to having a small amount of marijuana on him, according to the incident report.

Several marijuana roaches and a glass pipe were found in his coat pockets.

## CALIFORNIAN CITED FOR OWI NEAR ROCK RAPIDS

ROCK RAPIDS—A 51-year-old Escondido, CA, man was arrested about 9:30 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 12, near Rock Rapids on a charge of first-offense operating while under the influence.

The arrest of Jeffrey James Fallet stemmed from the stop of a 2021 Toyota 4Runner on Highway 75/Grant Avenue northwest of Rock Rapids for failing to stop for a stop sign, making a wide turn and other violations, according to the Lyon County Sheriff's Office.

Fallet admitted he had been drinking and said he should not be driving, according to the report.

He failed field sobriety tests and his blood alcohol content registered over the legal limit.

LEGAL

### NORTHWEST IOWA AREA SOLID WASTE AGENCY EXECUTIVE MINUTES 2-8-2023

The Executive Board of the Northwest Iowa Area Solid Waste Agency held a meeting on Wednesday, February 8, 2023, at 7:30 a.m. at the Landfill office. Chairman Brommer called the meeting to order. Roll call was taken. Present were: Dennis Vanden Hull, Brad Hindt, Jerry DeBoer, Arlyn Pedley, Cory Alena, Darius Thielvold, Ted Underberg, Jerry Mullenburg, Scott Maggert, and Les Brommer. Absent were: Dan Rolles, Kristi Pitts, Randy Lyman, and Jerry Johnson. Also present: Jeff Phillips and Hannah Sperflage of SCS Engineers of Clive, Iowa.

Motion was made by Mullenburg to approve the Agenda as listed. Seconded by Underberg. All ayes. Motion carried.

Next on the Agenda was a public discussion on the Comprehensive Plan update & Vision Casting. Jeff Phillips of SCS Engineers reviewed the results of the Recycling Services & Programs Survey Satisfaction Survey, that was sent out to the member municipalities and counties of the Agency this past fall. He received 37 out of 43 surveys back or a 77% response on the survey. The member communities were surveyed on their satisfaction with the recycling services such as: Recycling options, Tires, Appliances, E-Waste, HHWM, and Education. They were questioned on what they do to encourage recycling and what are the important issues with solid waste in their communities. Suggestions were then taken from the meeting attendees on what ideas and programs they would like to see implemented in the future. A Program Priority Selection Survey was handed out to those present at the meeting for them to indicate their top 3 choices for the planning area. The results of the Program Priority Selection Survey will be presented at a later meeting by SCS Engineers. The Comprehensive Plan update is due to the DNR in September 2023. The Comprehensive Plan update is done every 5 years.

Motion was made by Hindt to approve the Executive Board Minutes of 1-11-2023. Seconded by Alena. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Thielvold to approve the Full Board Minutes of 1-11-2023. Seconded by Vanden Hull. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Pedley to approve the Recycling Bills received up to 2-8-2023. Seconded by Thielvold. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Hindt to approve the HHM Bills received up to 2-8-2023. Seconded by Vanden Hull. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Mullenburg to approve the Landfill Bills received up to 2-8-2023. Seconded by Alena. All ayes. Motion carried.

The Balance of Appropriation reports were received for information purposes. Manager report: On January 31st, Evora Consulting submitted the Annual Water Quality report, Leachate Control Systems Performance Evaluation report, and the annual Landfill Gas report to the DNR for recalculation. They are currently working on the annual EPA Greenhouse Gas report. On February 15th, Mike Smith and Matt Johnson of the DNR, will be coming for a site visit to go over the Landfill Permit renewal.

Evora Consulting to SCS Engineers as of March 1, 2023. Seconded by Maggert. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Alena to have SCS Engineers complete the project work on the 3 remaining proposals, with the same costs and scope of services, that were proposed by Evora Consulting. Seconded by Vanden Hull. All ayes. Motion carried.

It was brought up to have the Attorney get finished with the changes on the updated Hauler agreements, so they can be submitted and signed in this fiscal year yet.

Motion was made by Underberg to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Hindt. All ayes. Motion carried. The meeting ended at 8:30 p.m.

Les Brommer, Chairman Larry J. Oldenkamp, Secretary

### BILLS RECEIVED UP TO 2-8-2023

A & M Inc. (supplies)	\$88.66
Ag State (fuel, oil)	\$12,415.66
Arnold Motor Supply (parts)	\$174.89
Boer & Sons Excavating (lock)	\$2,276.01
Bronspass (parts, supplies)	\$443.45
Century Business Equipment (paper, pens)	\$15.41
Century Ink (telephone service)	\$103.66
CNH Industrial Capital (tractor parts)	\$1,310.50
Deerborn Group (insurance)	\$138.60
Eagles Club (Hof rental/meeting)	\$175.00
Ed's Machine & Repair (welding supplies)	\$68.95
Evora Consulting (engineer services)	\$3,761.25
Honoplate Catering (full hot meeting meals)	\$652.67
Hyvex (supplies)	\$58.92
Intex (office supplies)	\$1,570.98
Iowa DNR (drift G. Solid Waste fee)	\$35,181.83
Iowa DNR (storm water permit \$ yr.)	\$700.00
Iowa Information (legal publishing, notices)	\$273.84
McMaster-Carr Supply (supplies)	\$196.00
Neaf Chase (amber, supplies)	\$44.69
NET Broadband (internet service)	\$53.79
Northern Safety Company (supplies)	\$221.84
NW REC (electric service)	\$699.35
OK One Stop (repairs, supplies)	\$946.65
One Office Solutions (printer drum, toner)	\$318.45
Pump's Tie Service (service call, parts)	\$961.90
Power Plan (service call, parts)	\$3,668.23
Rural Waste (hauler service)	\$67,044.00
Safety Arcade Simple (safetyfalls & trip)	\$309.34
SCS Engineers (eng. wk. Comp. plan update)	\$1,440.00
Service Master (cleaning)	\$165.00
Sheldon Power & Equipment (parts)	\$160.65
US Postal Service (stamped envelopes)	\$348.15
Van's Recycling (rec. processing)	\$4,339.12
Ventura Wireless (telephone service)	\$104.40
Vogel Point & Glass (supplies)	\$59.00
Wellmark (health insurance)	\$7,038.37
Ziegler (parts, supplies)	\$3,552.64
Total	\$83,141.60

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- FMC, Ocheyeden & Sibley/Gardner Insurance, Sibley
- Hildebrink & Associates, Luverne, Adrian, MN
- HSB (Benz) Insurance, Melvin HSB Insurance, Hull, Sheldon, Sanborn
- HSB/Ranking Insurance, Ireton •The Kelley Group Co., Hull
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- Peoples Insurance Agency, Rock Valley, Sheldon, Sioux Center
- Spargard/Foltz Insurance, Rock Rapids
- Ven's Insurance, Sioux Center

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## OPINION

## REVIEW EDITORIAL

## Care crisis for seniors

### Funding, staffing issues impacting

It is, according to Iowa Health Care Association CEO Brent Willett, an "unsustainable trajectory."

There is a crisis in long-term senior care in our state. Seventeen nursing homes closed in Iowa in 2022, 13 percent of the 129 closures in the United States last year.

In the last two years, 39 nursing homes have closed in the state.

This cannot be allowed to continue.

Like much of America, Iowa has an aging population.

Nearly 18 percent of the 3.1 million people who live here are 65 and older, ranking us 18th in the nation.

It's a blessing people are living longer, but we need to ensure there is care available for those of us who require it.

Willett said these closures are caused by financial issues, especially related to staffing.

Wages have increased 15 percent in recent years, he noted, and care facilities are struggling to compete with the demand for workers.

Add in the demands of the job — the physical requirements, the stress of dealing with people who are often in declining health, and the emotional toll of working with and caring for people who grow ill and die — and you have an employee crisis.

Figure in the calamity of the COVID-19 pandemic, the wave of deaths it caused in the elderly and the stress attached to it, and this worker shortage was inevitable.

As Willett said, this is not sustainable.

It also is worth noting the vast majority of closures have occurred in counties with populations under 50,000.

Seniors in rural areas are being neglected and many are suffering because of it.

We saw yet another example of this at the Rock Rapids Care Center. It has closed — temporarily, we are told — and its residents moved to the Pleasant Acres Care Center in Hull. Both are managed by Arboreta Healthcare, which is based in Sarasota, FL.

"This is not a closure but a transfer of residents," Rock Rapids Care Center administrator Chris Rickard insisted when we spoke to him last week. "When Rock Rapids Care Center will reopen has not yet been determined. We will evaluate our staffing needs to determine when the timing is right and safest for our residents."

We hope that happens. Rock Rapids Health Centre opened in 1977. When Arboreta took it over in June 2021 and slightly revised the name, it was a troubled facility. It had been fined three times over two years, with more than \$235,000 in penalties for quality-of-life issues, pharmacy deficiencies, and problems with infection control. When it was forced to shut its doors this month, only 16 residents remained in a facility with a capacity for 44.

Rickard said the problems were linked to the pandemic as well as the constant struggle to find qualified, caring, committed staff

members. We have no doubts the people who worked there were dedicated to the residents and did the best they could under trying circumstances, often working long hours to care for people they had become deeply connected to over the years. They deserve our thanks.

U.S. News & World Report gave Rock Rapids Health Center a short-term rehabilitation rating of average and a long-term care rating of below average. SeniorCare.com gave it one out of five stars. ElderGuide gave it a D grade.

But it was a care facility for people who needed one. Now it is closed, hopefully not permanently. Without it, there is one less option for people who live in and around Rock Rapids, which is the latest in a sad refrain.

More facilities are being added to the list of those closing.

On Jan. 23, Blue Care Homes LLC announced it could not keep four nursing facilities and two assisted-living facilities in Fort Dodge, Humboldt, Winterset and Maquoketa open. That means 263 people must find a new place to live and receive care.

The Iowa Department of Inspections and Appeals has placed the facilities in receivership and named a temporary manager.

Assisted-living facilities must remain open for 90 days to allow residents to relocate, under federal and state guidelines, while nursing home residents must find a new home within 60 days.

Medicaid pays for the care of more than half the residents in our nursing homes. Even then, it only covers about 80 percent of the total costs. It costs an average of \$97,133 a year per resident, but Medicaid only reimbursed \$78,004 on average.

That is not sustainable.

The Medicaid reimbursement rate has remained flat for two years while wages and other costs spiraled upward. Because of this financial crunch, nearly three of four nursing homes have empty beds, despite the need for them. They just can't find the staff to handle the workload.

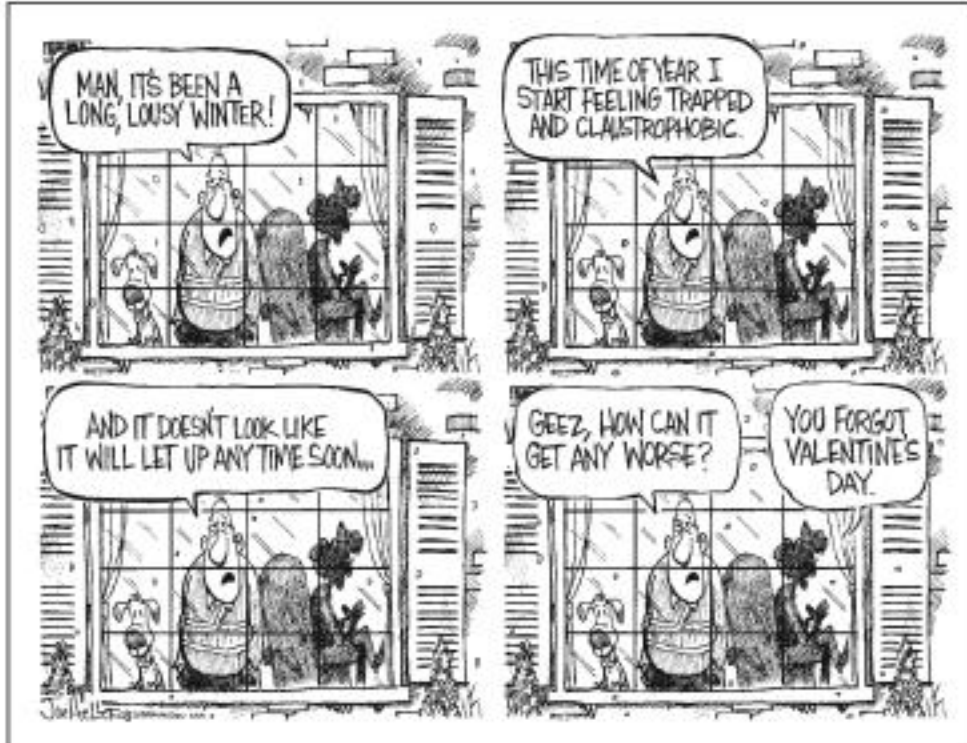
Gov. Kim Reynolds and the Iowa Legislature need to make this a priority. In addition to finding the funding to keep these centers open and our precious seniors safe, the lawmakers need to ensure these facilities are operating properly.

The Department of Inspections and Appeals, which oversees nursing homes and other care facilities, has a long list of unresolved complaints.

A 2022 bill to provide \$300,000 to the Iowa Long-Term Care Ombudsman's Office to respond to more such concerns died in the state Senate.

Gov. Reynolds and the Legislature proved they could move quickly when it's an issue they care about, such as school choice. Reynolds has vowed to support an increase in Medicaid reimbursement, and Willett said he is optimistic.

Let's hope he is right. We could use some good news on this topic after years of troubling reports. Our seniors need and deserve this.



## Reassessing how smart Hunter Biden actually is

President Joe Biden has said on more than one occasion that his son Hunter is "the smartest person I know."

When I first heard this, I thought it was a ridiculous thing to say, considering Hunter's shady past. But knowing the whole history of Hunter Biden, I am starting to think Old Sleepy Joe may be right.

If anyone else had done what Hunter has, they'd been sentenced to jail years ago and be shunned by society. Yet, Hunter is not only a free man, he is also hobnobbing with the global elites, visiting his family in the White House and still allowed on Air Force One.

Hunter Biden must be incredibly intelligent. Or perhaps he's been able to get away with so much for so long because he is the ultimate example of a son of privilege? But that can't be it, can it?

Here is just a partial list of his history, and I'll let you make the call.

Hunter's legal problems started in the summer of 1988 when he was 18 years old. While on a family vacation on the Jersey Shore, he was arrested for narcotics possession. Yet, he did not suffer any legal consequences. He received a pretrial intervention, then had his record expunged. Joe Biden was running for president during this time and famously said about America's war on drugs that he wanted "to hold every drug user accountable." By his own admission, Hunter admitted to abusing cocaine throughout his college years, yet he was never arrested or held accountable in any way. How brilliant.

Hunter eventually went to law school, and upon graduation got a job at MBNA Bank in Delaware, which just happened to be a very large donor to his father, then a senator from Delaware. Hunter's salary right out of law school was just as much as his father's; again, demonstrating his brilliance. Having a high income allowed him to spend lots of money on booze and drugs. Over the next several years he went into rehab numerous



TOM KUIPER  
REVIEW COLUMNIST

times.

In 2013 he signed up for the U.S. Navy Reserve while dad was the vice president. Entering the Navy, he tested positive for cocaine. He tried to blame it on others, saying a couple of black guys must've laced his cigarettes while he was at the bar. A brilliant excuse, but the Navy wasn't buying it, so he eventually accepted his expulsion.

Shortly after this he was appointed to the Board of Burisma, a Ukrainian gas and energy firm, making a reported \$86,000 per month, despite not having any knowledge or experience in the field. This guy is obviously brilliant. I'm sure his appointment had nothing to do with the fact his father was the vice president and oversaw relations between the two countries.

In the fall of 2016 after the breakup of his marriage, and while dating the widow of his dead brother, he is on drug binge in Los Angeles. He decides to drive from LA to Arizona to enter yet another drug rehab facility. He rents a car from Hertz to make the drive. In Arizona, he drops a second car off, after he wrecks the first one, and checks into the clinic. However, people at Hertz discover various things in the car left behind by Hunter and alert the police. They find a bag of crack, a meth pipe, Secret Service business cards, Hunter's credit cards and driver's license, and his dead brother's attorney general's badge. His older brother Beau had been the attorney general of Delaware.

As the police had no idea where he was, they contacted the FBI. Shortly after that, the local police received a call from the Secret Service who assured them everything was fine, Hunter was safe and secure. The local prosecutor was not OK with it as he tried to pursue criminal

charges for possession. But for some strange reason the DA dropped the charges, citing "a lack of evidence." Yet another genius move by Hunter!

In the meantime, he has been under investigation since 2018 for tax and money laundering charges. Investigators have narrowed in on whether he did not report all his income, and whether he lied about his drug use when purchasing a gun. Do you think it would take the federal or state government more than four years to decide on whether to investigate you or me for tax or gun violations? No examples of privilege there, it must surely be due to Hunter's brilliance.

Also in the last few years, he's gotten a stripper pregnant yet denied responsibility, until a paternity test proved he was the father. Also, his name was discovered on the websites of Ashley Madison (for married people who want to have affairs) and his images were on Pornhub. He's also dabbled in painting, selling some of his art for hundreds of thousands of dollars, to anonymous buyers. This allows multiple wealthy donors to funnel their money to Hunter, all while remaining anonymous. Brilliant!

Just a few days ago, it was reported Hunter threatened to withhold the pay of a female employee if she did not engage in FaceTime sex sessions. But that can't be true, he must be innocent.

So, since Hunter is still free, he is smart. Very smart. (Innocent and smart.) Has he been protected over the years by certain people in the Secret Service, the FBI, and the IRS? Is Hunter Biden just a moral degenerate whose family is corrupt to the core? This cannot be the case, because Joe Biden has assured us that both he and Hunter have done nothing wrong. And when Joe Biden says something to the American people, you can take it to the bank, jack!

Joe must be correct: Hunter Biden truly is the "smartest."

Tom Kuiper lives in Sibley. He may be reached at [thomas.kuiper85@gmail.com](mailto:thomas.kuiper85@gmail.com).

■ The N'West Iowa REVIEW encourages letters to the editor. E-mail [editor@iowainformation.com](mailto:editor@iowainformation.com). We ask that letters be signed and include an address and a telephone number for verification.



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## OPINION

## A HISTORY OF THE WAGNER FAMILY PUBLISHING BUSINESS

## It was what we didn't know that counted!

CHAPTER 35  
White Wolf Fire

The family saw various changes in White Wolf Web the next few years.

The first took place when the Johnsons decided to sell their Rock Valley Bee, shopper and interest in White Wolf Regional Print Center. Their plan was to retire and move elsewhere. That left my wife, Connie, and our son Jeff's wife, Myrna, as sole owners of White Wolf.

The second change was a decision to merge Iowa Information's Print Shop, our small offset printing business, from its downtown location to the White Wolf facility. That resulted in an addition to the north side of an already cobbled together building and the purchase of a four-color digital press.

Then we started thinking about adding a larger newspaper press. The used Harris we had bought a few years earlier had only seven units. It takes four units to print four pages of process color. We found ourselves turning down jobs because the customer wanted a minimum of eight pages of process color.

Jeff and Myrna began checking possible sources for a larger press and eventually found one available in Vero Beach, FL. Another Harris press, it featured a four-high tower — that's four press units stacked above each other — and seven compatible Harris units in a line on the floor. It was newer and faster than our existing press and the offer included a splicer, and a roll



PETER W. WAGNER  
PUBLISHER

stand that made it possible to switch rolls of newsprint without stopping the press.

Somehow, we managed to find the dollars for the down payment, but we had difficulty finding financing to complete the purchase.

And then I met Jim Plagge. Recent management issues at Northwestern Bank in Sheldon had put Plagge, who oversaw the Orange City location, into that role at Orange City and Sheldon.

I was calling on him regarding possible bank advertising and it was the first time we met. But somehow, during our conversation, the talked turned to business and then to the family's difficulty finding financing for the new press.

"How much do you need?" Plagge asked.

"Somewhere around \$200,000," I responded.

"I can do that," Plagge answered as he reached into a desk drawer and pulled out a loan form.

A few weeks later, Jeff and I were in Vero Beach to oversee the removal of the newer press from its Florida location. This time the tear down and installation in Sheldon was done by Jeff Fleming of Fleming Enterprises in Fort Worth, TX. It is a relationship the

family has enjoyed and appreciated ever since.

Bringing in a new press to Sheldon required more floor space and Mark Gaul, Sheldon's economic development director, helped us obtain financing for a large addition to the old Crown Fork building we'd earlier bought on old Highway 60. The ground was so soft, we had to have huge holes bored so we could pour 18 concrete pillars to stabilize the floors.

It was all worth the effort. Customer interest in White Wolf continued to grow and we were soon printing 39 titles at least once a month.

Then came the night of June 4, 2013, and the fire.

Connie and I, and our granddaughter Zoey of Des Moines, were already asleep in Sibley when we received a telephone call from Jeff.

He had been awakened by the county 911 dispatcher and told there was a fire in the back area of White Wolf.

One of our drivers had discovered it when he stopped by to pick up that week's papers to deliver to two Nebraska customers.

The fire department was on its way and wanted Jeff to meet them to unlock the door so they could get in to extinguish the flames.

But in just the few minutes it took Jeff to reach the building, the flames had gotten out of control. Even worse, just minutes later, as Connie, Zoey and I reached the Highway 60 overpass east of Sibley, we could see the fire shooting into the air 20 miles away.

The Sheldon Fire Co., assist-

ed by several area departments, worked valiantly, but the old wooden structure filled with newsprint and printing ink burned hot and fast.

In the end, only the new press hall was not ravaged by the fire. The older press, located in the central building, was completely destroyed. The newer press line, farthest from the origin of the fire, was badly damaged but with major repair, could be made operable temporarily.

Connie, Zoey and I along with Myrna along her two children, Sam and Katie, stood in a line and watched the plant burn that night with a close eye on Jeff. He seemed to be everywhere, working to save what he could and contemplating the company's next moves. The night seemed to weigh so heavy on him that we all worried about his health.

But by the time the sun was rising in the east, he had a plan to meet every printing customer's deadline except for the two print jobs that had been lost in the fire.

For the better part of the next 14 months, we were subletting much of our printing to more than 10 plants in three states. In one case, one client's paper was printed more than two hours east of Sheldon and then delivered to the customer more than two hours west of us.

Early the morning after the fire, Cincinnati Insurance, our underwriter, flew in specialists. At first, they suspected the family, which is common at such times, but

changed their minds when they learned we were making a profit and had just reduced our coverage a few months earlier.

Eventually, the investigators determined the fire was set by a disgruntled employee from Sheldon's residential treatment facility. He'd wanted to protest a disagreement by starting a controlled fire in the cardboard compactor. He evidently thought the heavy metal of the compactor walls would retain the blaze.

Although the state fire marshal thought he knew who was responsible for the fire, there was never enough evidence to arrest and convict him.

Once again, Jeff went hunting for a press while Fleming Enterprises began jump-starting the old one. Cincinnati Insurance provided exceptional coverage, but often caused us grief on short-term issues.

A Harris-Heidelberg press, six towers or 24 units, was found near New York City. It had been part of a firm that overexpanded and had gone bankrupt.

While finding the necessary press was the focal point to the whole operation, it needed to be housed in a facility. The old site was destroyed, and it was decided to find a new location.

Jeff was able to find property on the outskirts of Sheldon he thought was suitable for White Wolf Web. The land was just east of the Highway 60 expressway and Highway 18 interchange close to the Ziegler CAT facility. It was

an empty lot, allowing for a building to be designed to fit all of the needs of our printing company.

It took three years to install the new press line by the time we had a new building erected and then had 17 semi loads full of 24 units and accessories as well as some extra units for parts hauled to Sheldon.

On June 3, 2016, just one day short of three years after the fire, the dedication of the new White Wolf plant took place.

U.S. Rep. Steve King was our featured speaker, driving up from Sioux City where he was preparing for a televised political debate that night to be with us. The Sheldon Fire Co. also was on hand. Having poured so much water on the old building the night of the fire, we asked the firefighters to wash down the new structure as a sign of our rebirth.

Interestingly, we still had the same 39 customers on dedication day we had before the fire. All of them had stayed with us during those difficult months.

Today White Wolf's customer base had grown to more than 150 different titles each week. It is sometimes difficult to determine if we are a publishing company with a printing press or a printing company that also publishes a few newspapers.

Next week: Passing the torch.

*Peter W. Wagner lives in Sibley. He is the founder of The N'West Iowa REVIEW and may be reached at [www@iowainformation.com](mailto:www@iowainformation.com).*

## Carbon capture is vital to the future of ethanol, corn prices

After a 30-year executive leadership career with CHS and Land O'Lakes in the Twin Cities, I returned to my roots in north-west Iowa to raise crops and cattle. As a farmer, I fully understand and share a farmer's deep connection for the land.

My move home just happened to coincide with the buildup phase of our great biofuels industry. I liked what I saw, so I invested in it. Today, I serve on the board of an ethanol company and am the president of the Iowa Renewable Fuels Association.

Agriculture has always been successful by staying aligned with its customers' needs. Today's ethanol plants are no different as they work to lower the carbon intensity of their products.

The largest domestic and export markets are demanding low carbon ethanol. Passage of federal clean



AL GIESE  
GUEST COLUMNIST

fuel tax credits last year were also an absolute game changer, equating to up to 60 cents per gallon of ethanol produced with carbon capture and sequestration (CCS) technology.

While folks have different views of carbon policies and credits, every Iowan needs to fully understand the real-world impact they have on Iowa's ethanol plants. If we want to maintain or grow Iowa ethanol production, it will require CCS.

So, if you are a farmer and you are honestly willing to accept a very low corn price and negative basis

reminiscent of the 1990s and you still oppose CCS, that's your right. But if you assume you can oppose CCS and there won't be a huge economic price to pay, then I politely suggest that you think again.

If you are an Iowa legislator and you honestly believe our current laws don't provide enough landowner protections, that's your right. But if you support legislation that singles out CO2 or liquid fuel pipelines instead of applying new standards to all eminent domain requests, then I politely suggest you're not really interested in property rights.

There is no other way for Iowa ethanol producers to interpret such legislation, whether intended or not, than as a direct attack to the benefit of those trying to eliminate liquid fuels. Is it any wonder that the anti-ag, anti-ethanol, anti-internal combustion engine Sierra Club is leading the charge to support such bills?

CCS is the best tool we have to keep liquid fuels viable in the competition with electric vehicles.

If you are an activist that shouts "no eminent domain for private companies" and you live off the natural gas and electric grid, good for you. But if you heat your home with gas and light your rooms with electricity, then I politely suggest that your words and deeds don't align. The electric and gas providers are all private companies. How do you think the distribution networks got built?

Finally, if you consider yourself an environmentalist and want drastic measures to prevent catastrophic climate change, by all means take your stand. But if you call CCS "green washing" then I politely suggest that you're not serious about science. Taking carbon already in the atmosphere from past fossil fuel use and putting it back underground should

not only be considered an incredible achievement from your supposed point of view, but it is a central tenet of every country's plan to meet 2050 carbon reduction goals.

If Iowa enacts laws that make CCS a practical impossibility for its ethanol plants, it will be a massive blow to our farm economy and the entire Iowa economy. IRFA members urge all Iowans to pull together and to find a fair and equitable path forward for CCS because capturing and sequestering carbon will be life or death for most Iowa ethanol plants over the next five years.

*Al Giese of Spirit Lake is the owner of Prairie Feed & Trucking in Milford, a member of the Quad County Corn Processors based in Galva and president of the Iowa Renewable Fuels Association. He may be reached at [al@prairiefeedandtrucking.com](mailto:al@prairiefeedandtrucking.com).*

## Republicans are delivering on our commitment to America

Commitment. It's a word that evokes hope, promises leadership and delivers results.

No other word in the English language constitutes a more ironclad bond between individuals than a commitment.

Roughly four months ago, House Republicans made our own commitment — a Commitment to America — that we would rebuild our economy, end wasteful spending, stand up to the Chinese Communist Party, and defend the American dream for every person, family and community who calls our great nation home.

Because of our commitment, the American people entrusted Republicans with the House majority, not to regurgitate empty rhetoric, but to deliver real results.

I'm proud to say that, in the first weeks of our new majority, Republicans delivered on our promises.

First, we fought for hardworking American taxpayers, families and small businesses.

When President Joe Biden signed into law his so-called Inflation Reduction Act, which funneled \$80 billion in taxpayer dollars to the IRS to hire 87,000 new agents, Republi-



RANDY FEENSTRA  
U.S. HOUSE REPRESENTATIVE

cans pledged that we would defund this ridiculous expansion of government. And we did.

Despite what the Democrats claim, the IRS does not exclusively audit billionaires and large corporations.

According to the Government Accountability Office, more than 90 percent of audits target American families who make less than \$400,000 a year, and President Biden himself has made clear that his administration will audit pass-through businesses with assets greater than \$200,000, which includes most family farms and small businesses in the United States.

Additionally, according to IRS data, low-income families who claim the earned income tax credit are five and

half times more likely to be audited than any other individual.

It's not rocket science. Supercharging the IRS with 87,000 new agents will only raise taxes on middle-class families, cause unnecessary headaches for small business owners, and target honest, hardworking American taxpayers. The Senate should pass this bill and President Biden must sign it.

Second, we fought for America's farmers, producers and rural communities.

By establishing, for the first time in our nation's history, a select committee to investigate the Chinese Communist Party, we will hold China's feet to the fire for stonewalling investigations into the origins of the COVID-19 pandemic and infiltrating rural America through massive farmland purchases.

This new committee — through hearings, subpoenas and rigorous oversight — will also hold China accountable for defying our trade laws, stealing our intellectual property, surveilling our children and violating the sovereignty of free nations across the globe. To compete with China in the 21st century, we must

assert and cement our unyielding economic, military, and technological dominance.

I'm confident that this committee will help us do just that while maintaining global security and protecting our national interests.

Third, we fought for America's energy producers and Iowa's ethanol and biodiesel industries.

In the United States, we are blessed with an abundant supply of energy — from ethanol and biodiesel to natural gas and oil — to power our nation, keep the lights on, and fuel our economy.

Therefore, it is common sense that our emergency oil reserves should be used for emergencies only — right here at home for American families, not for financial gain or policy blunders.

Regrettably, just months ago, President Biden sold oil from our reserves to China to compensate for his war on American energy production.

No price — no matter how high — justifies supplying China with American-made energy.

That's why Republicans — and more than 100 Democrats — voted to permanently end oil sales from

our Strategic Petroleum Reserve to China: a victory for our families and energy independence.

While President Biden has depleted our oil reserves and coddled the Chinese Communist Party, Republicans are united in standing up to China and restoring American energy dominance.

The 118th Congress is off to a roaring and productive start.

In one week alone, we made real progress to strengthen our economy, protect taxpayers, defend farmers and take on China — because our Commitment to America is not just empty rhetoric.

It's a conservative movement.

As a unified conference, we are actively delivering on the promises that we made to the American people, and I promise that our work has only just begun.

*Randy Feenstra of Hull represents Iowa's 4th Congressional District in the U.S. House of Representatives. He previously served as the Hull city administrator, Sioux County treasurer and Iowa state senator. He may be reached through [feenstra.house.gov](mailto:feenstra.house.gov).*

We'll mark our calendar for you!

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## NEWS

## Attorney tries to help migrant kids

## CHILDREN

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involving unaccompanied migrant children living — often in unstable housing situations — in N'West Iowa.

Bahena, who is bilingual, found there were concrete legal steps she could take to put an unaccompanied child on the path to stability and, in some cases, permanent legal status.

"I found that case to be very fulfilling, and in reaching out to other attorneys who had experiences with cases like this, I learned a lot about how unaccompanied minors may get here," Bahena said. "But we're still very much in the dark about the scope of the issue."

## Southern surge

In recent years, the southern border has witnessed a surge of immigrant arrivals, overwhelming detention facilities, separating families and contributing to a humanitarian crisis that only continues to worsen. Among those new arrivals are unaccompanied migrant children.

The Joe Biden administration was caught unprepared for a sharp increase in child migration in 2021, which led to severe overcrowding in border facilities. The crisis worsened in fiscal year 2022, when nearly 130,000 children entered the U.S. government's shelter system, including a record number of unaccompanied children, according to the Department of Human Services.

"I became someone that people would seek out in those situations," Bahena said. "In talking to hundreds of clients over the last 10 years, I feel I've gotten a good grasp of the wide variety of ways someone could end up being an unaccompanied minor, either because they came this way, or because their parent was deported or abandoned them here."

When unaccompanied children are apprehended at the border, or at some point after crossing, they are placed in the temporary care and custody of the Office of Refugee and Resettlement. The office secures temporary housing for each child until a sponsor living in the United States — often a relative — can be vetted and secured and the child can await immigration proceedings.

However, many unaccompanied children are never processed by the system.

"The ones that are least likely to get assistance are the ones that came in without ever being apprehended — there are no deadlines for them. They were never placed with a relative. They came in, nobody saw them, and they're completely under the radar," Bahena said.

Many of those children do not attend school, and some go straight into the workforce, where they may be paid under the table. They are in survival mode and may be unaware of how to seek help.

"They're worried about, 'What am I going to eat? Where are we going to sleep?' Going into an attorney's office is not even a teenager's radar," she said.

## Outside the system

Once minors enter the child welfare system, their cases are aggressively docu-

mented, creating a written record that can be used by judges in court to make further rulings regarding their care.

Many unaccompanied children, on the other hand, exist outside the system.

There is no record of their existence, no caregiver to ensure they go to school, no adult who can sign for them at the doctor.

According to Bahena, it takes one interested adult to change an unaccompanied child's trajectory.

"If they come to me, there's at least an interested adult in their life — I think this is really important," Bahena said. "They all need some sort of concerned adult that connected them to me in the first place, or that will step up and help them."

Sometimes, the person who steps in to help is a relative of the child. Other times, it's a coach at school, or a teacher. It may be an older sibling, or simply a concerned community member who takes an interest.

Once that child gets connected to Bahena, she puts the wheels in motion, and someone — either the adult that brought the child into the office in the first place or someone else — typically steps forward to assume the responsibilities that come along with legal guardianship.

"It formalizes that care relationship, and the legal obligations come with it," Bahena said.

As awareness of Bahena's services has grown in the region, her practice has prioritized cases that have the best chance of ending in permanent legal status — a green card — for the unaccompanied child.

If a history of parental abandonment, abuse or neglect can be established, an application can be made on behalf of the child for Special Immigrant Juvenile status, which must be granted by a judge.

"That can be a route, if they continue through, to lawful permanent residency," Bahena said.

Other cases, including asylum cases, are harder to win, and they require regular trips to immigration court in Omaha, NE, or Minneapolis.

In these cases, Bahena typically refers clients to other attorneys.

"Just because of lack of capacity, we're trying to focus on the cases where we can have the most impact," she said.

Even when special status is granted, however, the process may be sluggish and cumbersome, especially for children fleeing Central America's turbulent northern triangle, which includes Guatemala, El Salvador and Honduras.

"For kids from the northern triangle, that is a very long route. Probably, right now, that is a four- to six-year process," Bahena said.

However long it takes, though, Bahena said once a child is put back on the map, appointed a guardian and plugged into community resources, that child's future is bright.

"I have a lot of long-term relationships with those kids — they have a lot of things they have to accomplish to be able to finalize their status," she said. "But most of them who do come in become more plugged into the area, and there's very few that have started with me and then fallen off along the way."

## AMIGOS:

Good Shepherd Church in Sioux Center has been active in Ukrainian refugee resettlement efforts in its community; however, the congregation has turned its sights toward another group of new arrivals in N'West Iowa: Unaccompanied migrant children and other young newcomers who crossed the southern border and are living, working and going to school in Sioux Center.

"They are in essence doing a resettlement effort on their own, without any support," said Pastor Travis Else.

Volunteers from his congregation, including several who speak Spanish, formed a group called Amigos.

They are building relationships with students in Sioux Center High School's newcomer program for English language learners. Some of the students are in the country without a parent or guardian.

"The heart behind it is just starting relationships with the students," said Amigos organizer Alex Vasquez.

Vasquez, who gives newcomers regular rides to school, is director of diversity initiatives at Dordt University in Sioux Center. When he immigrated to the United States from Columbia as a child, he said he never dreamed he might one day go to college.

"Starting relationships with the students has reminded me of how it was when I first got to the United States. They're not even thinking about college," Vasquez said. "My hope is that at some point they would, but right now, it's just the basic things."

Instead of making assumptions about what would be most helpful to the students, the Amigos group has prioritized listening and learning from the students about what they actually need.

Sometimes, Vasquez said, well-meaning people will give students warm coats or winter gear.

"And then we get to know them, and we're like, 'Hey, why don't you use the jacket?' And they're like, 'Well, we didn't ask for that.' So we asked them, 'What is it that you do want?' And it was like, 'I just want a friend,' or 'I just want to learn how to swim or ride a bike.'"

Along with providing regular rides to school, group members organize monthly activities like ice skating and swimming, introducing the students to spaces that might otherwise remain inaccessible to them due to language and cultural barriers. Interested students will have a chance to take swimming lessons this spring and summer.

Chapis Bahena, who attends Good Shepherd Church, makes regular visits to Sioux Center High School to teach classes on health-related topics to students in the newcomer program. The classes are part of her role with Community Health Partners, Sioux County's public health agency. Bahena is bilingual and serves as a liaison between the Amigos group and newcomers at the school.

On Feb. 8, Amigos organized a recent activity — an outing to the new American State Bank Sports Complex. Seven newcomers, church members and their families played a game of pickup soccer on the turf, one game among many during the highly-attended open-gym hours at the facility.

"Many of these students go to school during the day, then work through the night," said Amigos organizer Lisa Wilcox. "They have had to grow up very quickly, and some need to be given time to just have fun and to be a kid. Our goal is just to build relationships with the students. We are trying to know them better and meet them where they are at."



Doug Bergold of TurnKey Logistics speaks in favor of the Summit Carbon Solutions during Tuesday's Lyon County Board of Supervisors meeting. The board repealed the CO2 pipeline's right-of-way permit it previously granted in December. Photo by Elijah Helton

## Lyon County board revokes right of way for CO2 pipeline

## REPEAL

Continued from page A1

hearing disapproval with constituents and speaking with county engineer Daryl Albertson.

"They're not considered a utility. They're considered a pipeline that's a different definition in code," Albertson said.

The utility designation is central to the broader political fight over the CO2 pipeline. Summit needs approval from the Iowa Utilities Board to construct Iowa's portion of its five-state route. With the utility designation, there also would come the ability for Summit to seek eminent domain, the top objection of many anti-pipeline Iowans.

Summit has routinely said it does not want to use eminent domain, something Doug Bergold repeated at Tuesday's meeting. Bergold works for TurnKey Logistics and works for Summit to secure the company's non-environmental permitting.

He clarified that the right-of-way permit, formally called Permit Number 703, would have had nothing to do with eminent domain.

"If you were to take a look at the size of the Iowa project, how many different permits we have to achieve, if every county were to say 'No, you need IUB approval,' that could put us a year to a year and a half out further," Bergold said.

Regardless, supervisors — who have voiced apprehension about the CO2 pipelines in general — said they were not comfortable proceeding while the IUB has yet to allow construction. The unanimous resolution that revoked the permit called the original decision "premature."

Bergold indicated Summit will likely reach back out to the board in the future as the issue will remain live at least for the rest of the year. The company still has about a third of its route to secure in Iowa.

"It is what it is," Bergold said. "If you don't mind, we're still going to keep on coming in with our quarterly updates at the supervisor meetings. This way, you know how many people we have signed, what's the percentage — because we're going to do business in the future. We're just going to keep lines of communication open."

Based in Ames, Summit is one of companies seeking to build a CO2 pipeline in Iowa.

Using a process known as carbon capture, Summit's system would take the CO2 byproduct from 30 ethanol plants in the Midwest and transport it to be stored underground in North Dakota. The project is marketed as lowering the carbon footprint of biofuels and therefore making them more marketable.

Opponents say the Summit's project and others like it are essentially profiteering schemes with little environmental or financial benefit for regular farmers. Another objection has been the threat of eminent domain for landowners on the pipeline route who are opposed to the 2,000-mile project.

Legislation and litigation about CO2 pipelines are pending in Iowa on multiple fronts, including surveying practices, financial and political affiliations, project safety and the eminent domain issue.



Amanda Bahena chases after Alexander Ramirez Martin as he has the ball during an outing for the group Amigos at the new American State Bank Sports Complex in Sioux Center. Bahena is an immigration lawyer who tries to help migrant kids. Photo by Aleisa Schat

## LAW &amp; ORDER

## CITED FOR SUPPLYING ALCOHOL TO MINORS

LARCHWOOD—A 32-year-old Sioux Falls, SD, woman was cited Friday, Feb. 10, on charges of supplying alcohol to person under legal age, gathering where marijuana is used, three counts of contributing to the delinquency of a minor and first-offense permitting a person under 18 to consume or possess an alcoholic beverage on property.

The citing of Brittany Lee King stemmed from a Jan. 29 report of underage drinking supervised by her at Grand Falls Casino & Golf Resort northwest of Larchwood, according to the Lyon County Sheriff's Office.

An investigation discovered King had rented a hotel room Sunday and Monday, Jan. 29-30, at the casino. In her company were a 16-year-old male and two 15-year-old females. There was another 18-year-old male who had been drinking also.

The two 15-year-old females

were found to be under the influence of alcohol that had been consumed in the hotel room. Only one of the females was King's daughter.

The 16-year-old male was found to be in possession of marijuana in addition to being a runaway/missing juvenile out of South Dakota since 2021.

While speaking with the occupants of the room, the moderate odor of raw marijuana was emitting from the room, according to the incident report.

A search warrant was executed on the hotel room that revealed a significant quantity of marijuana as well as alcohol had been consumed by the minors.

One of the bottles of alcohol was a bottle of Crown Royal Regal Apple Canadian Whisky.

King was observed buying Crown Royal at about 9:40 p.m. Jan. 29 at a Kum & Go in Sioux Falls.

The 16-year-old male was cited on charges of first-offense possession of a controlled substance

— marijuana and interference with official acts.

One of the 15-year-old females was cited on charges of first-offense possession of a controlled substance — marijuana and first-offense possession of alcohol under legal age.

The other 15-year-old female was cited for first-offense possession of alcohol under legal age and providing false identification information.

## SIBLEY MAN ARRESTED FOR SITTING ON WOMAN

SIBLEY—A 67-year-old Sibley man was arrested 7:20 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 5, on charges of willful injury — causing bodily injury and assault.

The arrest of David Dewayne Highsmith stemmed from the investigation of a domestic disturbance call at a residence at 530 Fifth Ave. in Sibley, according to the Osceola County Sheriff's Office.

A female showed the deputies injuries she said she had received.

She said she and Highsmith had gotten into an argument over the use of a vehicle, and when she stepped toward him, he knocked her to the ground, sat on her chest and began to choke her.

## GEORGE MAN CHARGED FOR METH IN SHELDON

SHELDON—A 31-year-old rural George man was arrested about 10:25 a.m. Friday, Feb. 10, in Sheldon on charges of second-offense possession of a controlled substance — methamphetamine and possession of drug paraphernalia.

The arrest of Kent Douglas Vink stemmed from him being found in possession of a black magnetic storage box containing several small baggies, two glass pipes with burnt residue, a red tooter straw, and one small baggy containing methamphetamine at the Iowa Department of Corrections Field Office in Sheldon, according to the incident report from the Sheldon Police Department.

## PRIDE RESIDENT CITED FOR HITTING STAFFER

PRIMGHAR—A resident of the Pride Group facility east of Primghar was arrested about 6:45 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 5, on a charge of assault.

The arrest of 26-year-old William Matthew Parker stemmed from him punching a Pride Group female staff member in the face after being told he could not crush up his medication, according to the O'Brien County Sheriff's Office.

Parker admitted to punching the woman in the face.

He was arrested again about 6:50 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 14, on charges of assault and second-degree harassment.

The arrest of Parker stemmed from two incidents with Pride Group female staff members, according to the sheriff's office.

Parker allegedly threatened to punch a staff member in the face and threatened another staff member, causing her to run into an office and lock the door. The

two women were in fear for their well-being, according to the incident report.

## OCHEYEDAN MAN JAILED ON WARRANT FOR METH

SHELDON—A 59-year-old Ocheyedana man was arrested about 7 a.m. Thursday, Feb. 9, on an O'Brien County warrant for possession of a controlled substance — methamphetamine — third or subsequent offense.

The arrest of Glen Allen Dowdy stemmed from the stop of a 2000 Chevrolet Silverado pickup about 11:45 a.m. Sunday, Jan. 29, at the intersection of Ninth Street and Washington Avenue in Sheldon, according to the Sheldon Police Department.

A small bag containing a white crystalline substance that field tested positive for methamphetamine was found on the floor of the passenger seat where Dowdy was sitting, according to the incident report.

A warrant for his arrest was issued Jan. 30.





Hartley-Melvin-Sanborn High School FFA members Tabatha Cole, Kevin Arambula, Riley Russell, Meghan Larson, Abby Otto, Tanner Tesch, Jordan Waddell, Ashyia-Cherie Betz Murphy, Kelly Buhrmann and Ashlynn Struve ride the chapter's homecoming float in September in Hartley. Lindsey Meyers is the new FFA adviser this school year for the 55 members of the chapter. Photo submitted

## N'WEST IOWA FFA CHAPTERS

Here's a quick look at N'West Iowa's high school FFA chapters and some of their recent and upcoming activities:

### BOYDEN-HULL

**Members:** 56

**Adviser:** Jacob Van Der Wilt

**Officers:** Jonathan Phillips, president; Harrison Van Sloten, vice president; Josephine Kaufman, second vice president; Samantha Gaul, secretary; Aria Rensink, reporter; Jackson Harman, treasurer; Brent Zylstra, sentinel; Aubree Boender, historian; Elyse Zwart, parliamentarian; Jennie Boogerd, chaplain.

**Projects:** Members are preparing for National FFA Week and contests and developing and working on ideas for community outreach, which will be acted upon in the near future. They also will be working on putting in a new irrigation system for their greenhouse.

### CENTRAL LYON

**Members:** 76

**Adviser:** Josh Rockhill

**Officers:** Kadence Boender, president; Chase Thedens, vice president; McKenna Hooyer, secretary; Lilly Henry, treasurer; Elora Enriquez, reporter; Alexandra Flores, historian; Ethan Pedersen, sentinel; Ashton Vande Kop and Morgan Meyer, student advisers; Trevor Diaren and Cole den Hoed, farm managers.

**Projects:** The chapter has been or will be involved in National FFA Week, subdistrict and district competitions, judging at the Siouland Empire Livestock Show and district officer interviews. It also participated in Career and Technical Education Day on Feb. 9 at the Capitol in Des Moines.

### GEORGE-LITTLE ROCK

**Members:** 35

**Adviser:** Miranda Dreesen

**Officers:** Erika Perez, president; Emily Winkel, vice president; Katrina Van Hill, secretary; Jacey Eben, treasurer; Jesse DeGroot, reporter; Ethan Van Engen, sentinel; Jack Krull, farm manager; Tyler Greve and Mitchell Groen, junior advisers.

**Projects:** Members are preparing for National FFA Week, which includes a Tractor Day. In the fall, they also ran a Feed the Farmers event and observed Farm Safety Day.

### HARTLEY-MELVIN-SANBORN

**Members:** 57

**Adviser:** Lindsey Meyers

**Officers:** Tyson Tessum, president; Joe Billings, vice president; Morgan Grooters, secretary; Tanner Tesch, treasurer; George Vargas, reporter; Abby Otto, sentinel.

**Projects:** The chapter participated in the subdistrict contest Feb. 10 in Sioux Rapids and will compete March 4 at the district contest in Sioux City. It also is busy with National FFA Week activities and working on projects related to members' supervised agricultural experiences.

### MOC-FLOYD VALLEY

**Members:** 57

**Adviser:** Molly Cleveringa

**Officers:** Angel Huisman, president; Brady Van Gorp, vice president; Kyle Hansen, treasurer; Kelsey Oolman, secretary; Jaci Schipper, reporter; Brayden Meyer, sentinel; Charlie Moeller, chaplain.

**Projects:** Members competed in the subdistrict contest and are preparing for the northwest district and state contests.

### OKOBOJI

**Members:** 44

**Adviser:** Rich Martin

**Officers:** Amy Martin, president; Michael Gonnerman, vice president; Lauren Ditsworth, secretary; Drew Behrens, treasurer; Olivia Lorenzen, reporter; Andrew Weston, sentinel.

**Projects:** The chapter is restoring an Oliver tractor, doing ditch cleanup for two miles along Highway 71, preparing various foods and other farm-themed activities for National FFA Week. In the fall, the chapter provided sack lunches to farmers, and in the summer, it helped with Grandpa's Barn at the Clay County Fair.

### ROCK VALLEY

**Members:** 120

**Adviser:** Micah Weber

**Officers:** Landyn Van Kekerix, president; Sam Remmerde, vice president; Makyla Van Bommel, secretary; Dawson Van Beek, treasurer; Jackson Van Beek, reporter; Zach Strubbe, sentinel; Merrick Van Grootheest and Austin Van Kekerix, assistant officers.

**Projects:** Members have completed or soon will complete their annual fruit sales, competed in subdistrict contests, FFA banquet, land labs, a purchase of a 3D printer and the state FFA convention.

### SHELDON

**Members:** 112

**Adviser:** Jacob Fox

**Officers:** Gracia Scheaffer, president; Ashley Schmidt, vice president; Brayden Pomeranke, secretary; Macade Holz, treasurer; Dana Konz and Rex Ross, reporters; Zachary Brinkman, sentinel.

**Projects:** The chapter has several upcoming events including the March 4 district contest in Sioux City and FFA Awards Banquet on March 18. It also will run a change drive to benefit the school district's backpack program and organize Drive Your Tractor to School Day as part of National FFA Week.

BY ELIJAH HELTON  
EHELTON@NWESTIOWA.COM

## TAKING ROOT

**H**ARTLEY—Lindsey Meyers has taken root as the new head of the FFA chapter for the Hartley-Melvin-Sanborn School District.

A first-year teacher, Meyers is new this academic year at the high school in Hartley. She took over for former adviser Michelle Wagner, who left to be the O'Brien County youth coordinator for Iowa State University Extension and Outreach.

Meyers said her experiences as a student inspired her to become an agriculture educator.

"It was then when I realized what ag education was and you could make a career out of

it. That's when I got to understand my passion for agriculture, and I loved discussing agriculture with other people," Meyers said. "I realized I might as well put my passion of ag and my passion of teaching together."

The new adviser started with the chapter before her official hiring date in August. She came in the summer with the various FFA projects, which she said got her up to speed before taking charge. The main event of that season was working with the Iowa Junior Beef Breeds Association on June 11 at the Clay County Fairgrounds in Spencer.

Growing up on a farm outside Indiana planted the seeds for a career in agriculture for Meyers. She was deeply involved in 4-H and FFA as a kid, specialized in showing pigs and originally wanted to pursue a veterinarian career.

A single, somewhat weird moment from one of her numerous childhood fairs originally sprouted her interest in ag education. She was walking with a pig she was going to show later and

See FFA on page B2

## H-M-S FFA HARVESTS MEYERS AS CHAPTER'S NEXT ADVISER, MENTOR



# FFA SALUTE

## CHAPTER AT H-M-S SEEING SUCCESS SPROUT

### FFA

Continued from page B1

a stranger stopped and asked to pet it. Then, to Meyers' bewilderment, he leaned in and smelled the animal. He told her he was surprised it didn't smell "like a pig" and instead was clean and soap-scented.

"It was that point in time where I was like, 'This is completely normal to me,' when it comes to how to wash my animals and care for them. That was my normal whereas his normal was completely different, and he didn't have that understanding," Meyers said. "Just being able to educate about that was really interesting, trying to close that consumer gap."

Bridging the consumer gap is one of the missions of any FFA adviser and something that the 22-year-old emphasizes with her 57-member group.

"We are a very rural community. You can see that just by looking across our parking lot and seeing a field out there," Meyers said.

The Hartley-Melvin-Sanborn chapter does not have a farm or greenhouse of its own, but FFA members still get hands-on experience in the agricultural process.

Meyers described creative ways her students are making the most of their time in the extracurricular. Some have internships with farms and cattle operations while others are learning through jobs at restaurants. The adviser said it can all be part of the FFA experience.

"We're all across the board when it comes to animals and plants and crops and stuff like that, even going into the food science of it all. We got a lot of differentiation," she said.



Members of the conduct of meetings team of the Hartley-Melvin-Sanborn High School FFA are (front, from left) freshmen Kaylee Newkirk, Clara Funk, Moriah Otto, Hannah Tessum; (back) Riley Russell, Alex Billings and Lawton Schiphoff. On Friday, Feb. 10, the team qualified for districts, which will be held Saturday, March 4, in Sioux City. Photo submitted

Her students are seeing success in other FFA ventures as well.

The chapter competed Friday, Feb. 10, in the subdistrict contest in Sioux Rapids. An all-freshman team earned a gold rating in the conduct of meetings category and was chosen to advance to the district contest on Saturday, March 4, in Sioux City.

The conduct of meetings event is essentially a mock FFA chapter meeting plus questions afterward. The presentation lasts between eight and 10 minutes.

"They were obviously super nervous. It was their first-ever competition," Meyers said. "All of the judges said they were super confident in what they were saying, they used a good tone, they were great with their opening ceremonies and memorization. All of their discussion points were really strong. They were hitting all the marks that they needed to."

The seven Hartley-Melvin-Sanborn

### AT A GLANCE:

**Name:** Lindsey Meyers  
**Position:** FFA adviser and agriculture teacher at Hartley-Melvin-Sanborn High School  
**Start date:** Aug. 15  
**Age:** 22  
**Residence:** Hartley

**Education:** Bachelor's in agriculture education from Iowa State University in Ames in 2022.  
**Experience:** First-year teacher.  
**Family:** Single.  
**Interests:** Spending time with younger brother, sand volleyball, coaching middle school softball.

freshmen on the district-qualifying team are Alex Billings, Clara Funk, Kaylee Newkirk, Moriah Otto, Riley Russell, Lawton Schiphoff and Hannah Tessum.

More than halfway through her first year as an FFA adviser, as well as her school's ag teacher, Meyers said she is excited to see how her chapter can grow in the future.

"It's about making those kids more advanced and understanding where their food comes from," Meyers said. "Agriculture is — yes, we see it in fields and we have a lot of hog confinements and cattle operations — but we're not just those sows, cows and plows."

## N'WEST IOWA FFA CHAPTERS

### SIBLEY-OCHEYEDAN

**Members:** 159  
**Adviser:** Justin Rottinghaus  
**Officers:** Madison Marco, president; Jared Kruger, vice president; Brooke Platt, secretary; Aiden De Zeeuw, treasurer; Karissa Hulstein, reporter; Jaydee Bremer, sentinel.  
**Projects:** Members have been active with a blood drive on Feb. 8 and the subdistrict contest on Feb. 10. They will be involved with a business appreciation event Feb. 21, community pancake breakfast Feb. 22 and petting zoo Feb. 24. Upperclassmen will take a June trip to Washington, D.C., Florida and Kentucky.

### SIoux CENTER

**Members:** 89  
**Adviser:** Eric Koehlmoos  
**Officers:** Reid Hulshof, president; Margo Schuiteman, vice president; Blake Oostenink, secretary; Jordan De Weerd, treasurer; Olivia Kraayenbrink, reporter; Kade Bauer, sentinel; Laney Franken, parliamentarian; Carl Siebrandt, chaplain; Kole Hooyer, officer at-large.  
**Projects:** The chapter competed in the Ag Bowl at Southwest Minnesota State University

in Marshall and subdistrict contest. It will take part in FFA events at South Dakota State University in Brookings and national land and range judging in Oklahoma City.

### SOUTH O'BRIEN

**Members:** 84  
**Adviser:** Eric Kumm  
**Officers:** Claire Wagner, president; Ben Woodall, vice president; Chloe Hustedt, secretary; Austin Negus, treasurer; Caden Wittrock, reporter; Brett Evans, sentinel; Eliot Boardman, historian; Gabe Moermond, parliamentarian; Bode Bailey, chaplain; Alex Griebel and Bensen Rohwer, officers at-large; BreLee Rasmussen, eighth-grade representative.  
**Projects:** Members competed in subdistrict contests in the categories of ag broadcasting, chapter program and public speaking. They are preparing activities for National FFA Week, including a faculty breakfast, an FFA emblem hunt, burger grilling, high-five Friday at the elementary, a quiz contest and a chapter lunch. Upperclassmen will take a ski trip later in the year.

### UNITY CHRISTIAN

**Members:** 119  
**Adviser:** Dennis Benson  
**Officers:** Gabe Schiebout, president;

Lizzy King, vice president; Jocelyn Muilenburg, secretary; Bryce Fedders, treasurer; Abby Van Roekel, reporter; Elijah Hofmeyer, sentinel; Brody Coolman, chaplain.

**Projects:** The chapter recently helped package 136 meals for the Snack Pack Program, began its fruit sales fundraiser and started preparing district contests. It also is planning for vegetable and flower sales in the spring and tours of Dordt University in Sioux Center and Northwestern College in Orange City.

### WEST SIOUX

**Members:** 120  
**Adviser:** Kaylea Hansmann  
**Officers:** Dyllian Hawkins, president; Molly Hulshof, vice president; Kendra Schipper, secretary; Jessen Graves, treasurer; Allison Mueller, reporter; Bode Wilkens, sentinel.

**Projects:** The chapter held its jacket ceremony on Jan. 10 and elementary coloring contest on Jan. 21. It also is preparing cookies for the middle school on Feb. 22 as part of National FFA Week.

### WEST LYON

**Members:** 98  
**Advisers:** Shauna Steiner and Katherine Newhouse  
**Officers:** Kortlin Knoblock, president; Tara

Hoogendoorn, vice president; Ellen Roemen, secretary; Isabelle Rozeboom, reporter; Jackson Doomeweerd, treasurer; Robbyn Feucht, sentinel; Lauryn Martins, historian; Darren Meyer, chaplain; Sophia Niemeyer, parliamentarian.

**Projects:** Members are preparing for their subdistrict contest Feb. 23 in Orange City, district contest March 4 in Sioux City and state convention April 16-18 in Ames.

### WESTERN CHRISTIAN

**Members:** 87  
**Adviser:** Kylie Nettinga  
**Officers:** Emery Blankespoor, president; Trent Dykstra, vice president; Ashley Fedders, secretary; Noah De Weerd, treasurer; Meagan Mulder, reporter; Barret Bleeker, sentinel.

**Projects:** Members are planning daily activities throughout National FFA Week, including a farm animal day, Drive Your Tractor to School Day, a jean jacket day, and hosting competitions such as ag trivia and Ag Olympics.



**2022-23 Membership List:** Stanley Ahmeier, Caleb Altera, Treyton Bonnema, Brody Boogerd, Braeden Bosma, Dylan Bosma, Autumn Bousema, Joshua Bousema, Kyan Brunsting, Alexa Calthover, Joshua Campbell, Hannah Clemens, Morgan De Groot, Emma De Rooij, Anika Dekkers, Avery Dekkers, Gracie Dekkers, Luke Dekkers, Danielle Dykstra, Brody Enninkamp, Samuel Erwin, Bryce Fedders, Stetsen Fedders, Cozy Feikema, Marissa Feikema, Noah Franken, Christopher Freese, Sean Frens, Landon Froy, Annika Goslinga, Cassidy Haarsma, Colby Haarsma, Caleb Hamming, Huzekiah Hansen, Brayden Hankamp, Marissa Haverhals, Anna Hayman, Klara Hickey, Haley Holland, Elijah Hofmeyer, Brooklyne Hoogland, Henry Huber, Weston Huisman, Wyatt Hulshof, Joseph Karhoff, Ariel King, Elizabeth King, Evan Klompin, Maxim Kuchyk, Aubrey Kulpac, Landon Meordrik, Kellan Meyer, Iain Monroe, DJ Mosier, Jocelyn Muilenburg, Logan Muilenburg, Ryan Muilenburg, Dekker Mulder, Riley Mulder, Emily Noteboom, Ava Noyes, Brody Oolman, Caden Oolman, Rowan Oolman, Andrew Poppema, Ella Poppema, Jaxson Poppema, Tyler Poppema, Paul Pullman, Owen Reitsma, Cole Rens, Bryce Riebeling, Alexander Saarloos, Gabe Schiebout, Lane Scholten, Brayden Schoelleman, Kaitlin Smit, Derian Tintle, Trinity Van Dorckelaar, Graden Van Esen, Cody Van Holland, Isaiah Van Maanen, Easton Van Maanen, Taryn Van Maanen, Eli Van Middenborg, Ethan Van Middenborg, Micah Van Middenborg, Abby Van Roekel, Parker Van Roekel, Aiden Van Voorst, Colton Vande Brake, Dustin Vande Voort, Chloe Vanden Berg, Elliot Vanden Berg, Ivan Vinichenko, Jackson Vogel, Ashton Weida, Caleb Wielenga, Wyatt Wielenga, Jeelye Woodstra, Allyson Yeada and Eliana Zhang.

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# FFA

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## CHURCH

Churches are encouraged to submit updated information, which is listed as space allows. E-mail editor@lowainformation.com.

## ALTON

**PRESBYTERIAN**, 311 12th St. E. Pastor Harlan De Jong. Sunday: 9:30 a.m. Worship.

**REFORMED**, 305 Eighth St. Rev. Scott Bonestroo. Sunday: 9:30 a.m. Worship.

**ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC**, 609 10th St. Father Daniel Greiving. Sunday: 8 a.m. Mass.

## ARCHER

**REFORMED**, 210 Locust St. Sunday: 9:30 a.m. Worship.

**UNITED METHODIST**, 309 Harriman Ave. Pastor Jacob Sandholm. Sunday: 9:30 a.m. Worship.

## ASHTON

**ASHTON BIBLE**, 140 First St. Pastor Dan Kunnari. Sunday: 10:30 a.m. Worship.

**ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC**, 643 Sixth St. Father Siby Punnoose. Saturday: 4:30 p.m. Mass.

## BOYDEN

**FIRST REFORMED**, 901 Pleasant St. Pastor Heath De Jong. Sunday: 9:30 a.m. Worship.

**ST. JOHN LUTHERAN (NALC)**, 3941 280th St. Pastor Mark Jamison. Sunday: 10 a.m. Worship.

**UNITED PRESBYTERIAN**, 817 Lincoln St. Rev. Andrew Hills. Sunday: 9:30 a.m. Worship.

## CALUMET

**ZION UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**, 110 W. Third St. Sunday: 9:30 a.m. Worship.

## CARMEL

**REFORMED**, 2801 360th St. Sunday: 9:30 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. Worship.

## DOON

**FIRST REFORMED**, 406 Barton Ave. Rev. Peter Kolb. Sunday: 10:30 a.m. Worship.

**FIRST UNITED METHODIST**, 201 Barton Ave. Pastor Jim Sweets. Sunday: 9 a.m. Worship.

**PROTESTANT REFORMED**, 408 Sixth Ave. Sunday: 9:30 a.m. and 5 p.m. Worship.

**UNITED REFORMED**, 602 Rice Ave. Rev. John Vermeer. Sunday: 9:30 a.m. and 5 p.m. Worship.

## GEORGE

**CENTRAL BAPTIST**, 206 E. Minnesota Ave. Rev. Sean Mustian. Sunday: 10:30 a.m. Worship.

**EBENEZER PRESBYTERIAN**, 300 E. Iowa Ave. Sunday: 9 a.m. Worship.

**FIRST BAPTIST**, 4102 190th St. Pastor Jesse Sternke. Sunday: 10 a.m. Worship.

**HOPE REFORMED**, 2251 Jay Ave. Rev. Steve De Haan. Sunday: 10 a.m. Worship.

**IMMANUEL LUTHERAN (ELCA)**, 400 E. Iowa Ave. Pastor Jeremy Winter. Sunday: 10:30 a.m. Worship.

**LYON COUNTY FIRST PRESBYTERIAN**, 4140 230th St. Pastor Brian Schafer. Sunday: 9:30 a.m. Worship.

**TABERNACLE BAPTIST**, 206 E. Indiana Ave. Pastor Bryan Anderson. Sunday: 8:30 a.m. and 10:45 a.m.

**ZOAR PRESBYTERIAN**, 2002 Log Ave. Sunday: 10:30 a.m. Worship.

## GERMANTOWN

**ST. JOHN LUTHERAN (LCMS)**, 5092 480th St. Pastor Keith Christiansen. Sunday: 9 a.m. Worship.

## GRANVILLE

**ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC**, 528 Elm St. Father Daniel Greiving. Sunday: 10 a.m. Mass.

## HARTLEY

**GRACE FELLOWSHIP**, 361 N. Eighth Ave. W. Pastor Lynn Dau. Sunday: 10:30 a.m. Worship.

**ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC**, 260 N. Fourth Ave. W. Father Tim

## Kang will perform in concert

## NWC professor will play tunes from third release

ORANGE CITY—Juyeon Kang, an award-winning concert artist and professor of music at Northwestern College, will present a faculty piano recital at 7:30 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 25, in Christ Chapel on the campus in Orange City.

The concert follows the release of her third recording, "Joyful Praise," a few months before and will include 11 of the recording's 15 songs.

A member of the Northwestern faculty since 2003, Kang will perform a wide spectrum of well-known hymns and sacred songs under the theme of "Joyful Praise."

The repertoire includes variations on "Praise to the Lord, the Almighty" from Stralsund Gesangbuch, "Great is Thy Faithfulness" by William Runyan, "It is Well With My Soul" by Philip Bliss, "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross" by Lowell Mason, "The Lord's Prayer" by Albert Hay Malotte, and other pieces.

Inspired by the verses in Psalm 100:1-5, Kang desires for the power of music to remind the audience that God is worthy of our praise in all circumstances.

After playing portions of the repertoire at the funeral of one of her students, Kang realized how healing these songs can be.

"I believe music has the power to touch people's hearts and spirits," Kang said. "I want people to experience God's presence through the music and be reminded of his great love, mercy, healing and comfort."

Kang, a Steinway artist who has received numerous awards since 1998, has performed on four continents and throughout the United States.

Additionally, she has appeared as a soloist with several symphony orches-



Juyeon Kang will present a piano recital at 7:30 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 25, in Christ Chapel on the campus of Northwestern College in Orange City. She is award-winning concert artist and professor of music at Northwestern. Photo submitted

tras, including the Korean Symphony Orchestra, Augusta Symphony Orchestra, Hingham Symphony Orchestra, South Dakota Symphony Orchestra and Sioux City Symphony Orchestra.

Kang holds a bachelor's degree in music from Seoul National University and master's and doctoral degrees in piano performance and literature as well as a master's degree in pedagogy of music theory, from Eastman School of Music in Rochester, NY. She also received a prestigious artist diploma in piano performance from the New England Conservatory of Music in Boston and served as part of the faculty in the college division.

Kang also will perform selections from "Joyful Praise" on March 5 at New Song Church in Carrollton, TX, and on March 6 Southwestern Assemblies of God University in Waxahatchie, TX.

Listeners may purchase CDs at the concert on Feb. 25. All proceeds will be donated to the Murphy International Scholarship at Northwestern College.

CDs can also be found online at CDbaby.com, amazon.com, in the Northwestern bookstore, and at local stores such as Hands Around the World in Orange City. Additionally, the "Joyful Praise" recording is available on Amazon Music, Apple Music, YouTube and Spotify.

Hogan. Sunday: 9 a.m. Mass.

**ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN (LCMS)**, 60 N. Central Ave. Rev. Chris Nitzel. Sunday: 9 a.m. Worship.

**TRINITY UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**, 140 N. Fifth Ave. E. Pastor Lynn Dau. Sunday: 9 a.m. Worship.

## HOSPERS

**FIRST CHRISTIAN REFORMED**, 110 Fourth Ave. N. Rev. Aaron Gonzalez. Sunday: 9:30 a.m. and 5 p.m. Worship.

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN (PCA)**, 200 Elm St. Dr. Brian Janssen. Sunday: 9:30 a.m. Worship; 6 p.m. The Bible Hour.

**ST. ANTHONY CATHOLIC**, 500 Elm St. Father Daniel Greiving. Saturday: 5 p.m. Mass.

**TRINITY**, 501 Main St. Pastor Kurt Bush. Sunday: 9 a.m. Worship.

## HULL

**AMERICAN REFORMED**, 911 First St. Sunday: 9:30 a.m. Worship.

**CALVARY PROTESTANT REFORMED**, 2011 Second St. Rev. Allen Brummel. Sunday: 9:30 a.m. and 6 p.m. Worship.

**FIRST CHRISTIAN REFORMED**, 1121 Fifth St. Rev. Loren Kotman. Sunday: 9:30 a.m. and 6 p.m. Worship.

**FIRST REFORMED**, 911 Second St. Rev. Adam Van Der Stoep. Sunday: 9:30 a.m. Worship.

**HERITAGE REFORMED**, 1204 Third St. Rev. Bartel Elshout. Sunday: 9:30 a.m. and 6 p.m. Worship.

**HOPE CHRISTIAN REFORMED**, 1407 Sixth St. Rev. Keith Hoekstra. Sunday: 9:30 a.m. and 6 p.m. Worship.

**PROTESTANT REFORMED**, 1006 Hayes Ave. Rev. James Lansing. Sunday: 9:30 a.m. and 6 p.m. Worship.

**ST. PAUL LUTHERAN (LCMC)**, 3483 290th St. Pastor Owen Hoegh. Sunday: 9:30 a.m. Worship.

## LITTLE ROCK

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN**, 503 Fisher St. Rev. Chris Lemmon. Sunday: 10 a.m. Worship.

**SALEM REFORMED**, 123 First Ave. Rev. Barry Wynveen. Sunday: 9:30 a.m. Worship.

## MAY CITY

**ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN (LCMS)**, 6665 Frederick Ave. Rev. Richard Milbrandt. Sunday: 10:15 a.m. Worship.

## MELVIN

**AMERICAN LUTHERAN (ELCA)**, 352 Center St. Pastor Judith Johnson. Sunday: 9:30 a.m. Worship. (Rotates with United Methodist every other week.)

**UNITED METHODIST**, 9534 Melvin Road. Pastor Judith Johnson. Sunday: 9:30 a.m. Worship. (Rotates with American Lutheran every other week.)

**FIRST REFORMED**, 138 North St. Rev. Al Honken. Sunday: 9:30 a.m. Worship.

## MIDDLEBURG

**FREE GRACE REFORMED**, 3630 370th St. Rev. Mark Schwarz. Sunday: 9:30 a.m. Worship.

## NEWKIRK

**REFORMED**, 4103 400 St. Rev. John Benson. Sunday: 9:30 a.m. Worship.

## OCHEYEDAN

**CHRISTIAN REFORMED**, 833 Fifth St. Sunday: 9:30 a.m. and 6 p.m. Worship.

**ST. PETER LUTHERAN (LCMS)**, 1075 Pine St. Rev. Richard Milbrandt. Sunday: 8:30 a.m. Worship.

**UNITED METHODIST**, 687 Third St. Pastor Steven Swenson. Sunday: 10:30 a.m. Worship.

**ZION LUTHERAN (LCMS)**, 1307 Tanager Ave. Rev. Richard Milbrandt. Saturday: 5:30 p.m. Worship.

## ORANGE CITY

**ACTIVATION**, Triple Box Event Center, 4758 Ironwood Ave. Sunday: 10 a.m. Worship.

**AMERICAN REFORMED**, 407 Albany Ave. SE. Elizabeth and Mike Hardeman, co-pastors. Sunday: 9:30 a.m. Worship.

**CALVARY CHRISTIAN REFORMED**, 709 Fifth St. SE. Rev. John Klompien. Sunday: 9:30 a.m. and 5 p.m. Worship.

**CHURCH OF THE SAVIOR**, 7530 Arizona Ave. SW. Rev. Dr. Karen Wacome. Sunday: 10:30 a.m. Worship.

**CORNERSTONE BAPTIST**, 211 Third St. SW. Rev. Dr. Si Cochran.

Sunday: 10:30 a.m. Worship.

**DOVER**, 417 Third St. NE. Rev. Tim Poferl. Sunday: 10:30 a.m. Worship.

**FAITH LUTHERAN (LCMS)**, 710 Eighth St. SE. Rev. David Daumer. Sunday: 9:30 a.m. Worship.

**FIRST CHRISTIAN REFORMED**, 408 Arizona Ave. SW. Rev. Mark Vande Zande. Sunday: 9:30 a.m. and 6 p.m. Worship.

**FIRST REFORMED**, 420 Central Ave. NW. Rev. Timothy Breen. Sunday: 8:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. Worship.

**GRACE REFORMED PRESBYTERIAN**, 209 First St. NE. Rev. Ryan Northfield. Sunday: 9:30 a.m. and 6 p.m. Worship.

**IMMANUEL CHRISTIAN REFORMED**, 1405 Albany Ave. NE. Sunday: 9:30 a.m. and 5 p.m. Worship.

**LIVING WATER COMMUNITY**, 1005 Eighth St. SE. (Highway 10). Pastor Garry Nyenhuis. Sunday: 10 a.m. Worship.

**NEW HOPE**, 718 Florida Ave. SW. Rev. Jeff Whitt. Sunday: 8:30 a.m. and 10:45 a.m. Worship; 11 a.m. Spanish Worship.

**REDEEMER UNITED REFORMED**, 302 St. Paul Ave. SE. Rev. Todd De Rooy. Sunday: 9:30 a.m. and 6 p.m. Worship.

**TRINITY**, 201 St. Paul Ave. SE. Pastor Brian Keepers. Sunday: 8:10 a.m., 9 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. Worship.

## PAULLINA

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN**, 103 W. Groesbeck St. Rev. Sheryl Puderbaugh. Sunday: 10:15 a.m. Worship.

**ZION LUTHERAN (Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod)**, 101 E. Bertha St. Rev. Don Meyer. Sunday: 9:30 a.m. Worship.

## PRIMGHAR

**CHURCH OF CHRIST**, 280 First St. NW. Pastor Mike Cooper. Sunday: 10 a.m. Worship.

**CHRIST COMMUNITY**, 280 First St. NE. Rev. Cory Grimm. Sunday: 9:30 a.m. Worship.

**GRACE LUTHERAN (ELCA)**, 380 N. Rerick Ave. Sunday: 9:30 a.m. Worship.

**SOCIETY OF FRIENDS (Quaker)**, 5.5 miles south of Primghar on Highway 59. Sunday: 10 a.m. Worship.

**ST. ANTHONY'S CATHOLIC**, 375 S. Green Ave. Father Tim Hogan. Saturday: 6 p.m. Mass.

**UNITED CHURCH OF PRIMGHAR**, 465 N. Heritage. Pastor Mike Cooper. Sunday: 9 a.m. Worship.

## ROCKVALLEY

**CALVIN CHRISTIAN REFORMED**, 1804 17th Ave. Rev. Gideon Warmala. Sunday: 9:30 a.m. and 6 p.m. Worship.

**COMMON PLACE (EFCA)**, 1129 Main St. Pastor Nicholas Andersen. Sunday: 10 a.m. Worship.

**FAITH**, 1305 Seventh St. Rev. Keith Sietstra. Sunday: 8:30 a.m. and 10:45 a.m. Worship.

**FIRST CHRISTIAN REFORMED**, 1401 16th St. Rev. Matthew Haan. Sunday: 9:30 a.m. and 5:55 p.m. Worship.

**FIRST REFORMED**, 1501 16th St. Rev. Cliff Hoekstra. Sunday: 9:30 a.m. Worship.

**GRACE COMMUNITY**, 1616 18th St. Rev. Joseph Terrell. Sunday: 10:30 a.m. Worship.

**LIGHTHOUSE**, 1503 14th St. Sunday: 11 a.m. Worship.

**NETHERLANDS REFORMED**, 1610 Main St. Rev. J.J. Witvoet. Sunday: 9:30 a.m., 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. Worship.

**OUR SAVIOR'S LUTHERAN (ELCA)**, 1921 12th St. Pastor Edward Pease. Sunday: 9 a.m. Worship.

**PIONEER UNITED METHODIST**, 1030 18th Ave. Pastor Jim Sweets. Sunday: 10:30 a.m. Worship.

**ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC**, 1821 14th St. Father Douglas Klein. Sunday: 9 a.m. English Mass; 11 a.m. Spanish Mass.

**TRINITY CHRISTIAN REFORMED**, 2020 Eighth St. SE. Rev. Henry Lengkeek, senior pastor; Rev. Stanley Groothof, associate pastor. Sunday: 9:30 a.m. and 5 p.m. Worship.

**UNITED REFORMED**, 2485 300th St. Rev. Joel Vander Kool. Sunday: 9:30 a.m. and 6 p.m. Worship.

## SANBORN

**CHRISTIAN REFORMED**, 208 N. Western St. Rev. Phil Westra. Sunday: 9:30 a.m. and 5 p.m. Worship.

**CORNERSTONE UNITED RE-**

**FORMED**, 805 Sunrise Ave. Rev. Dan Donovan. Sunday: 9:30 a.m. and 5 p.m. Worship.

**FIRST REFORMED**, 512 Summit St. Pastor Mark Ellens. Sunday: 9:30 a.m. Worship.

**GRACE EVANGELICAL FREE**, 210 N. Main St. Rev. Kenneth Carlson. Sunday: 10:30 a.m. Worship.

**ST. ANDREW'S UNITED METHODIST**, 604 Sunrise Ave. Pastor Heather Kraai. Sunday: 9 a.m. Worship.

**ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN**, 305 Angie St. Pastor Joseph Bangert. Sunday: 9 a.m. Worship.

## SHELDON

**BETHEL REFORMED**, 604 Park St. Rev. Dave Van Kley. Sunday: 9:30 a.m. Worship in Sheldon High School auditorium.

**CALVARY BAPTIST**, 823 10th St. Pastor Zachary Patke. Sunday: 10:30 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. Worship (first, third and fifth Sundays).

**CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN**, 3011 Marsh Ave. Rev. David Loveall. Sunday: 9:30 a.m. Worship.

**CROSSROADS COMMUNITY (EFCA)**, 730 Western Ave. Pastor Nelson Jenkins. Sunday: 10 a.m. Worship.

**FIRST CHRISTIAN REFORMED**, 901 Ninth St. Rev. Brian Dunn. Sunday: 9:30 a.m. and 5 p.m. Worship.

**FIRST REFORMED**, 1101 Seventh St. Rev. Paul Van Maaren. Sunday: 9:30 a.m. Worship.

**IMMANUEL CHRISTIAN REFORMED**, 601 Union Ave. Rev. Kevin Muyskens. Sunday: 9:30 a.m. and 6 p.m. Worship.

**LIVING WATER COMMUNITY**, 610 Second Ave. Pastor Jesse Walhof. Sunday: 10 a.m. Worship.

**OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN (LCMS)**, 1225 S. Second Ave. Rev. George Clausen. Sunday: 9 a.m. Worship.

**PARKVIEW ASSEMBLY OF GOD**, 516 Fourth Ave. Pastor Mark Chandler. Sunday: 10 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. Worship.

**ST. PATRICK'S CATHOLIC**, 310 10th St. Father Siby Punnoose. Sunday: 8:30 a.m. Mass; 12:30 p.m. Spanish Mass.

**ST. PAUL LUTHERAN (NALC)**, 1425 Pleasant Court. Rev. Daniel Baker. Sunday: 9 a.m. Sunday Worship. 6:30 p.m. Wednesday Worship.

**UNITED METHODIST**, 506 Eighth St. Rev. Kevin Gingerich. Sunday: 8:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. Modern Worship.

## SIBLEY

**CHRISTIAN REFORMED**, 115 Maple Drive. Rev. Ben Wiersma. Sunday: 9:30 a.m. and 5 p.m. Worship.

**FIRST BAPTIST**, 402 Sixth St. Pastor Ryan Austin. Sunday: 10 a.m. Worship.

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN**, 601 Sixth Ave. Sunday: 10 a.m. Worship.

**FIRST REFORMED**, 1010 Sixth St. Sunday: 9 a.m. Praise and Worship.

**ST. ANDREW CATHOLIC**, 708 Eighth St. Father Siby Punnoose. Sunday: 10:30 a.m. Mass.

**TRINITY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN (LCMC)**, 704 Poplar Drive. Rev. Tim Nappe. Sunday: 10 a.m. Worship.

**UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST CONGREGATIONAL**, 704 Fourth Ave. Sunday: Pastor Maggie Gisch. 10 a.m. Worship.

**UNITED METHODIST**, 700 11th Ave. NE. Pastor Steven Swenson. Sunday: 9 a.m. Worship.

## SUTHERLAND

**CHURCH OF CHRIST**, 203 S. Oak St. Pastor John Erickson. Sunday: 9 a.m. Worship.

**BETHEL LUTHERAN (LCMS)**, 502 Ash St. Rev. Brett Witmer. Sunday: 10:30 a.m. Worship.

**MAPLE GROVE CHURCH OF GOD**, 1075 440th St. Pastor Michael Hyde. Sunday: 9:30 a.m. Worship.

**UNITED METHODIST**, 214 W. Second St. Pastor David Morris. Sunday: 10:30 a.m. Worship.

The sponsors of this page are pleased to present this weekly listing of N'West Iowa church services.

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## OBITUARIES

### Dennis Klein

April 5, 1958—Feb. 5, 2023

BATON ROUGE, LA.—Dennis Lee Klein, 64, of Baton Rouge, LA, died Sunday Feb. 5, 2023, at Our Lady of the Lakes in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

Graveside services will be 11 a.m. Saturday, May 13, at St. Mary's Catholic Cemetery in Ashton, with Father Siby Punnoose officiating.

The family invites all for lunch at the shelter at the park in Ashton after the service.

Dennis "Gumpy" was a casual kind of guy, so please dress casual.

Dennis Klein, son of Andrew and Joan (Arioso) Klein, was born April 5, 1958, in Sheldon, Iowa. He lived his youth in Ashton, Iowa, where he attended St.

Joseph's Catholic School. He attended Sheldon Public School. He was a baptized member of St. Mary's Catholic Church in Ashton. Dennis "Gumpy" enjoyed going to casinos. He enjoyed time with his nieces, nephews, family and friends.

Dennis worked construction in Langdon, ND, and many part-time jobs in Baton Rouge, LA, until his retirement. Those left to cherish his memories are one brother, Dave Klein and his wife, Pilar, of Fuquay-Varina, NC; two sisters Susan Pohl of Hiawatha, IA, and Deb Mason and her husband, Rock, of Colo, IA; nieces; nephews; great-nieces; great-nephews; and friends.

He was preceded in death by his mother and father, one brother Michael Klein, one nephew Taylor Klein and both sets of his grandparents.

Blessed be his memory.



Dennis Klein

### Raychel Hughes

April 30, 1992—Feb. 6, 2023

ASHTON—Raychel Ruth Hughes age, 30, of Ashton, Iowa, passed away on Monday, Feb. 6, 2023, at the Sanford Sheldon Medical Center in Sheldon, Iowa.

Her Memorial Service will be at 1 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 21, at the Ashton Bible Church in Ashton, Iowa, with the Rev. Dan Kunnari officiating.

Burial will be at a later date.

Visitation with family present will be from noon until the time of service Tuesday at the Ashton Bible Church in Ashton, Iowa, and will continue after the service in the fellowship hall of the church.

The Vander Ploeg Funeral Home in Sheldon is assisting the family with the arrangements.

Online condolences may be made to the family at [www.vanderploegfunerals.com](http://www.vanderploegfunerals.com).

Raychel Ruth Hughes, the daughter of Debba (Byl) Hughes was born April 30, 1992, in Sioux Falls, South Dakota. Raychel grew up in Sioux Center, where she attended school and graduated Sioux Center Community High School 2011. Raychel had worked



Hughes

for Casey's General Store in Sheldon for five years, she was currently employed with Sekisui Aerospace of Orange City, Iowa, as Quality Control.

Raychel passed away at Sanford Sheldon Medical Center in Sheldon, Iowa, on Monday, Feb. 6, 2023, reaching the age of 30 years, 9 months, and 7 days.

Raychel was a member of the Ashton Bible Church in Ashton. She enjoyed camping, spending time with her daughter riding four-wheelers. She also enjoyed switch games especially "Stardew Valley," watching anime, playing games with family, and doing diamond art and puzzles. Her biggest dream was to buy a horse. Every Friday Night her brother JD and she would go grocery shopping together.

She is survived by her daughter, Ella Hughes of Ashton; her mother, Debba Hughes of Sheldon, Iowa; two sisters, Danelle (Dustin) Perry of Ashton and Nellie Hughes of Sheldon; a brother, JD Hughes of Sheldon; grandparents, Henry and Joan Byl of Sioux Center, Iowa; and other relatives and many friends.

She was preceded in death by her great-grandparents, John and Minnie Byl and William and Jeanie Terpstra.

Vander Ploeg  
Funeral Homes

### Marv Rietema

Dec. 11, 1948—Feb. 6, 2023

SIoux CENTER—Marv Rietema, age 74, of Sioux Center, Iowa, died on Monday, Feb. 6, 2023, at Baylor Scott & White Medical Center — Grapevine at Grapevine, TX.

His funeral service was held Tuesday, Feb. 14, at Faith Christian Reformed Church, with the Rev. Bob Pollema and the Rev. Cliff Hoekstra officiating. Burial was in Memory Gardens Cemetery at Sioux Center.

Arrangements were under the direction of Memorial Funeral Home in Sioux Center.

Marvin Jon Rietema was born on Dec. 11, 1948, in Kanawha, IA, the son of John and Minnie (Christians) Rietema. Marv graduated from Kanawha High School in 1967 and went on to earn a bachelor's degree from Dordt College in 1971.

Marv was united in marriage to Helene (Hengeveld) Rietema on June 30, 1970, in Orange City, IA. Marv and Helene started their careers as teachers in Oskaloosa, IA. After a few years there, they moved back to Sioux Center, where Marv began working at Tri-State Livestock Auction. Not long afterward Marv started, Northwest Order Buyers, his own business in pork production, together with his brother-in-law,

Ted Hengeveld. Marv and Helene made their home in Sioux Center, Iowa, where they raised their three sons. Marv served on the Iowa Pork Board, the board of the Sioux County Youth Fair, and Western Christian High School in Hull and in past years, was an elder and deacon at Faith Christian Reformed Church. He enjoyed raising pigs for the fair, antiques, growing giant pumpkins, eating out at restaurants, vacationing in Mexico, being with friends, spending time at the lakes, road trips and visiting his grandkids.

Marv is survived by his wife of 52 years, Helene Rietema of Sioux Center; his children, Jeff Rietema of Norfolk, NE, Kurt and Emily Rietema of Kansas City, KS, and Justin and Amy Rietema of Fort Lauderdale, FL; and grandchildren, Luke, Perkins, Leo, Charlotte and Finn. He is also survived by his siblings, Wayne and Bev Rietema and Jan and Larry Cooper, and Helene's siblings Ted and Rachel Hengeveld and Ron and Garneth Lighthiser, along with many nieces and nephews.

Marv is preceded in death by his parents, John and Minnie Rietema and Helene's parents, Ted and Nellie Hengeveld.

Memorial donations may be made in Marv's name to Youthfront, a ministry in Kansas City, KS, where his son, Kurt, serves.

MEMORIAL  
Funeral Home



Rietema

### Christina Kersbergen

Dec. 20, 1917—Feb. 10, 2023

ROCK VALLEY—Christina Kersbergen, 105, of Rock Valley, Iowa, died Friday, Feb. 10, 2023, at Whispering Heights of Rock Valley.

Her funeral service was held Wednesday, Feb. 15, at Pioneer United Methodist Church of Rock Valley, with Pastor Jim Sweers officiating.

Burial was at Memory Gardens Cemetery of Sioux Center, Iowa.

Arrangements were under the direction of Porter Funeral Home of Rock Valley.

Condolences may be left for the family at [www.porterfuneralhomes.com](http://www.porterfuneralhomes.com).

Christina Kersbergen was born to Ring and Winnie (Harskamp) Wallenburg on Dec. 20, 1917, on a farm near Middleburg, Iowa.

Chris married Gerrit Van Dieren, and they had a daughter, Jeanette, and son, Kenneth. Gerrit passed away in 1947. She married

William Vugteveen, and they had a daughter, Beverly. William passed away in 1948. Chris married Gerrit Van Surksom in 1951. Gerrit passed away in 1972. She married Richard Ridders in 1975. He passed away in 1984. She then married Robert Kersbergen in 1986. He passed away in 1998. Chris was a barber for many years and also loved baking for the public for several years.

Left to mourn her passing are her daughter, Jeanette (Gerrit) Van Grootheest of Rock Valley, Iowa; son, Kenneth (Deborah) Van Dieren of Rochester, New York; and daughter, Beverly (Glenn) Van Bochove of Sioux Falls, South Dakota; five grandchildren; and numerous great- and great-great grandchildren. She will also be mourned by many nieces, nephews and friends.

She was preceded in death by her parents; five husbands; grandson, Greg Van Grootheest; granddaughter, Amy Williams; seven brothers; and four sisters.



Kersbergen

### Allan Robitaille

Jan. 19, 1933—Feb. 10, 2023

SHELDON—Allan Lambert Robitaille, age 90, of Sheldon, Iowa, passed away on Friday, Feb. 10, 2023, at Sanford Sheldon Health Senior Care Center in Sheldon, Iowa.

There are no services planned at this time.

A Celebration of Life will be held at a later date.

The Vander Ploeg Funeral Home of Sheldon, Iowa, is assisting the family with their arrangements.

Allan Lambert Robitaille passed away at the rich age of 90 on Feb. 10, 2023.

Allan was born on Jan. 19, 1933, in Virginia Minnesota, to Ermalinda (Ackerman) Robitaille and John S. Robitaille. Allan was the youngest of their four children.

Allan was an active boy. He climbed trees and fell out of trees. He would go berry picking with the family so that his mother could make the best chokecherry and Blueberry jam around, spent countless hours swimming in the beautiful lakes of Minnesota and also swam in an occasional gravel pit or two. He was on the school swim team and played hockey.

Upon graduation he enlisted into the U.S. Air Force. It was the beginning of the Korean War, but he was sent to Germany instead. He was trained to be an Air Policeman and became a very sharp shot. This talent was an advantage for him in his later years as he was an avid pheasant hunter. He never came home empty-handed.

He met his wife, Brigitta Maria Pfahler, during his stay in Germany. She couldn't speak a word of English, but by then Allan was fairly fluent in German. She gained the nickname "Getta" at that time and that



Robitaille

name has stuck with her.

Allan and Getta were married Feb. 16, 1954, in Germany. In fact, they were married twice that day. One time for a civil ceremony and then in a religious ceremony. Allan was discharged shortly after their marriage, and he was shipped back to the United States. Getta would follow three months later after the legal red tape and paperwork were completed.

They settled in Winona, Minnesota, and Allan commuted each day across the Mississippi to Eau Claire, WI, where he worked at Stevenson's. Eventually, they would relocate to Austin, MN, where Allan took a job with the J.C. Penney Company. From there, Allan would be transferred within the company to Rochester, MN, Ida Grove IA, and finally to Sheldon, IA, where he managed the J.C. Penney store until his retirement in 1993.

During his retirement, they spent winters in Florida and took their grandchildren on trips to Disney World and Kennedy Space Center.

Getta's family from Germany visited from time to time and they traveled to the Black Hills and northern Minnesota.

Allan enjoyed gardening and fishing, flying RC planes and making rockets.

Left to cherish is memory is his wife, Getta; his two children, Cheryl (Dan) Gosch of Ida Grove, Iowa, and Rob (Kellylynn) Robitaille of Owatonna, Minnesota; grandchildren, Brittany (Lee) Schoof and Derick (Desirae) Gosch; and three great-grandchildren, Wynn Olivia Schoof, Brixton Lee Schoof and Everett Allan Gosch.

He was preceded in death by his parents; a brother, Jack; and two sisters, Marie and Genevieve.

Vander Ploeg  
Funeral Homes

### Marion Sterk

Feb. 9, 1931—Feb. 11, 2023

SHELDON—Marion J. Sterk, age 92, of Sheldon, Iowa, passed away on Saturday, Feb. 11, 2023, at Sanford Sheldon Health Senior Care Center in Sheldon.

His funeral service was held Thursday, Feb. 16, at Vander Ploeg Funeral Home in Sheldon, with Pastor Paul Van Maaren officiating.

Burial was at East Lawn Cemetery in Sheldon.

Marion John Sterk, son of Marinus and Marie (Buysman) Sterk, was born Feb. 9, 1931, in Sheldon, Iowa. He was raised with seven siblings on a farm near Sheldon and attended a rural school.

On June 14, 1950, Marion was married to Nelvina Boone at the Sanborn Christian Reformed Church. The couple made their home in Sanborn for a short time.

They then farmed for a number of years near Edgerton, Minnesota, and Hartley, Iowa.

In 1964, they moved to Sheldon where Marion worked for Land O'Lakes

Feed Plant for many years, retiring in 1993. He was a member of the First Reformed Church in Sheldon.

Marion and Nelvina enjoyed fishing, camping, and traveling during their retirement years. In June of 2017, they became residents of Fieldcrest Assisted Living in Sheldon, where he remained until 2023 when he moved into Sanford Sheldon Health Senior Care Center.

Survivors include three children, son, Terry and his wife Brenda Sterk of Manning, Iowa; daughter, Nadine and her husband Gary De Hoogh of Sheldon, Iowa; and daughter, Sharon and her husband Tim Hejlik of Garner, Iowa; son-in-law, Kerwin and his wife, Kathy Sterler of Sheldon; 14 grandchildren, 35 great-grandchildren; one sister, Corleen Elgersma; and other relatives and friends. Marion was preceded in death by his wife, Nelvina of 69 years; a daughter, Donna Sterler; an infant great-granddaughter, Vanessa Lief; four brothers, Cornelius, Lambert, William, Harold; and two sisters, Henrietta Brinks and Ann Vander Maten.

Vander Ploeg  
Funeral Homes



Marion Sterk

### Gilbert "Gib" Blochowicz

May 28, 1927—Feb. 11, 2023

SIBLEY—Gilbert "Gib" Johannes Blochowicz, 95, Sibley, died Saturday, Feb. 11, 2023, at Country View Manor in Sibley.

Service was Tuesday, Feb. 14, at Trinity Lutheran Church in

Sibley.

Burial was at Holman Township Cemetery in Sibley.

Arrangements were under the direction of Jurens Funeral Home in Sibley.

### Edgar Ramirez-Chilel

May 14, 2003—Feb. 11, 2023

HULL—Edgar Ramirez-Chilel, 19, Hull, died Saturday, Feb. 11, 2023, at Sioux Center Health. Service will be 10 a.m. today (Saturday, Feb. 18)

at Christ The King Catholic Church in Sioux Center.

Arrangements are under the direction of Oolman Funeral Home in Hull.

### Marilyn Kroeze

May 20, 1930—Feb. 13, 2023

ORANGE CITY—Marilyn Marjean Kroeze, 92, Orange City, died Monday, Feb. 13, 2023, at Orange City Area Health System. A family prayer service will be 10 a.m. today (Saturday, Feb. 18) at Immanuel Christian Reformed Church in Orange City. Burial at West

Lawn Cemetery in Orange City. There will be a memorial service 11 a.m. today at the church. A time of visitation and refreshments will follow the memorial service at the church. Arrangements are under the direction of Oolman Funeral Home in Orange City.

### Wesley Schnack

Aug. 12, 1936—Feb. 13, 2023

PRIMGHAR—Wesley Hugo Schnack, 86, Primghar, died Monday, Feb. 13, 2023, at Prairie View Home in Sanborn.

A celebration of life will be 11 a.m. Monday, March 6, at Grace Lutheran Church in Primghar. Burial will be later at

Elkhorn Cemetery in Elkhorn, NE.

Visitation with family present will be 10-11 a.m. Monday, March 6, at the church.

Arrangements are under the direction of Eldridge Family Funeral Home in Primghar.

### Shirley Schroder

Feb. 10, 2023

OCHEYEDAN—Shirley Lorraine Schroder, 87, Ocheyedan, formerly of Cherokee, died Friday, Feb. 10, at her

home. Service will be later.

Arrangements are under the direction of Jurens Funeral Home in Ocheyedan.

OOLMAN  
Funeral Home



## OBITUARIES

## Kenneth Mulder

April 10, 1945—Feb. 12, 2023

ORANGE CITY—Mr. Ken Mulder, age 77, of Orange City, passed away on Sunday, Feb. 12, 2023, at the Prairie Ridge Care Center in Orange City.



Ken Mulder

His funeral service was held Wednesday, Feb. 15, at the Prairie Ridge Care Center in Orange City, with the Rev. Todd De Rooy officiating.

Interment was at the West Lawn Cemetery in Orange City.

The Oolman Funeral Home in Orange City was in charge of arrangements.

Kenneth Dale was born on April 10, 1945, in Le Mars, one of five children born to Gerald "Bun" and Winnie (Bos) Mulder.

He grew up on his family's farm near Carnes and attended the Fedonia Township #1 Country School and the Orange City Christian Grade School.

He loved living on the farm and spent many hours exploring and enjoying God's creation while walking along the Floyd River with his dogs.

Ken was an artist and a writer, and his favorite pictures and stories were about nature.

As an adult, he lived and worked in Le Mars for several years before moving in 1990 to Sheldon, where he began working as a custodian for the Sanford Sheldon Senior Care.

He regularly attended the Sheldon United Methodist Church and participated in many of the church's activities.

He eventually bought a house in Sheldon, which he was very proud of and worked hard to make his own.

As Ken's physical con-

dition declined, it was necessary to move to the Fieldcrest Assisted Living in Sheldon and later to the Happy Siesta Care Center in Remsen.

For the last 10 years, Ken has been a resident of the Prairie Ridge Care Center in Orange City, where he made many friends.

The caregivers and staff accepted Ken into their lives, and he appreciated learning about their families and following up on how their spouses, children, and grandchildren were doing.

He also took it upon himself to be an encourager to others at Prairie Ridge, and in spite of his own pain, he frequently cheered others with a joke or story.

Survivors include three siblings and their spouses, Wanda and Richard Jilderda of Elk Point, South Dakota; Chuck and Jackie Mulder of Sioux Falls, South Dakota, and Tim and Glenda Mulder of Orange City, along with many nieces and nephews.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by a brother, Roger Mulder.

Ken loved the Lord, and he willingly shared his faith with others. He was confident of heaven and a resurrected body.

He lived a full life and found purpose in God, hard work, self-reliance, and a love for others.

His kind heart and a gentle spirit are now at rest with his Heavenly Father.

Memorials will be given to the Prairie Ridge Care Center.

You are invited to leave a message of condolence, print a memorial folder, view a tribute video, and watch a recording of the service at [www.oolman.com](http://www.oolman.com).

■ **Journey Vander Meulen**, daughter of Jon and Jade Vander Meulen of Ochevedan, was born Thursday, Feb. 9, 2023, at Sanford Sheldon Medical Center, weighing 6 pounds, 12 ounces, and measuring 20 inches. She has a brother, Jaxson, and two sisters, Zoey and Rylee. Grandparents are Shawn Bennett of Milford, Scott Mar-

kle of Arnolds Park and Doug and Laura Vander Meulen of Ochevedan. Great-grandparents are Gerry and Jo Vander Meulen of Sibley.

## BIRTH

## OBITUARIES

## Randy Mews

Nov. 5, 1955—Feb. 10, 2023

SUTHERLAND—Randy Roger Mews, 67, Sutherland, died Friday, Feb. 10, 2023, at his residence.

Service will be at 11 a.m.

## Melanie Post

July 12, 1993—Feb. 11, 2023

ROCK VALLEY—Melanie Sue Post, 29, Rock Valley, died Saturday, Feb. 11, 2023, at Hegg Health Center in Rock Valley.

Service was Friday, Feb.

## Craig Simonsen

July 8, 1948—Feb. 11, 2023

SHELDON—Craig Allen Simonsen, 74, Sheldon, formerly of Akron, died Saturday, Feb. 11, 2023, at Sanford Sheldon Medical Center.

A celebration of life will be held 11 a.m. Thursday, March 16, at First Reformed Church in Sheldon.

## Richard "Dick" Swartz

Feb. 14, 1941—Feb. 11, 2023

SANBORN—Richard "Dick" James Swartz, 81, Sanborn, died Saturday, Feb. 11, 2023, at Sanford Sheldon Medical Center.

Service as Friday, Feb. 17, at

## Anthony "Tony" Newman

March 8, 1938—Feb. 13, 2023

ALTON—Anthony "Tony" Joseph Newman, 84, Alton, died Monday, Feb. 13, 2023, at UnityPoint Health — St. Luke's Hospital in Sioux City. Service will be 10:30 a.m. today (Saturday, Feb. 18) at St. Mary's

## Dennis Kellenberger

April 13, 1944—Feb. 16, 2023

LARCHWOOD—Dennis Lee Kellenberger, 78, Larchwood, died Thursday, Feb. 16, 2023, at Dougherty Hospice House in Sioux Falls, SD.

Visitation will be 2-4 p.m. and 6-8 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 19, at Apostolic Christian Church

today (Saturday, Feb. 18) at Eldridge Family Funeral Home in Paullina. Burial will be at Liberty Township Cemetery near Calumet.

17, at Netherlands Reformed Congregation in Rock Valley. Burial was at ValleyView Cemetery in Rock Valley, under the direction of Porter Funeral Home in Rock Valley.

Burial will be later. Visitation with family present will be 5-7 p.m. Wednesday, March 15, at Vander Ploeg Funeral Home in Sheldon.

There also will be a visitation held 5-7 p.m. Friday, March 17, at Kessler Funeral Home in Exira.

United Methodist Church in Melvin.

Burial was at West Holman Township Cemetery near Sibley, under the direction of Sanborn Funeral Home.

Catholic Church in Alton. Visitation with family present will be 9:30-10:30 a.m. today at the church. Arrangements are under the direction of Fisch Funeral Home & Monument in Remsen.

Fellowship Hall in Lester.

Service will be 10 a.m. Monday, Feb. 20, at church.

Burial will be at the church cemetery.

Arrangements are under the direction of Jurens Funeral Home in Larchwood.

St. Peter Lutheran Church in Ochevedan.

Burial will be at Ochevedan Township Cemetery, under the direction of Jurens Funeral Home in Sibley.

## David Decker

Feb. 15, 1960—Feb. 12, 2023

HARTLEY—David Allen Decker, 62, Hartley, died Sunday, Feb. 12, 2023, at Dougherty Hospice House in Sioux Falls, SD.

Service will be at 11 a.m.

## Doris Gist

Feb. 17, 1929—Feb. 14, 2023

SIOUX FALLS, SD—Doris Jean Gist, 93, Sioux Falls, SD, formerly of Inwood, died Tuesday, Feb. 14, 2023, at Sanford USD Medical Center in Sioux Falls.

Service will be 11 a.m. Monday, Feb. 20, at First United Methodist Church in Sioux

today (Saturday, Feb. 18) at Grace Fellowship Church in Hartley.

Burial will be later. Arrangements are under the direction of Hartley Funeral Home.

Burial will be later at Richland Cemetery near Inwood.

Visitation with family present will be 9-11 a.m. Monday at the church.

Arrangements are under the direction of Porter Funeral Home in Inwood.

## Sandy Pearson

Nov. 15, 1947—Feb. 14, 2023

HAWARDEN—Sandra "Sandy" Kay Pearson, 75, Hawarden, formerly of Akron, Iowa, died Tuesday, Feb. 14, 2023, at her home. Service will be 11 a.m. Monday, Feb. 20, at St. John's Lutheran Church in rural Akron.

Burial will be at the church

## Helen Strubbe

Jan. 1, 1930—Feb. 14, 2023

SANBORN—Helen Jean Strubbe, 93, Sanborn, died Tuesday, Feb. 14, 2023, at Prairie View Home in Sanborn.

Service was Friday, Feb. 17,

## David Kuehl

Nov. 28, 1947—Feb. 15, 2023

SIBLEY—David Allen Kuehl, 75, Sibley, died Tuesday, Feb. 15, 2023, at Country View Manor in Sibley.

Service will be 10:30 a.m. today (Saturday, Feb. 18) at

## Steven Niswander

Feb. 18, 1955—Feb. 15, 2023

OCHEYEDAN—Steven Eugene Niswander, 67, Ochevedan, died Wednesday, Feb. 15, 2023, at his home.

Service will be 10:30 a.m. today (Saturday, Feb. 18) at

at St. John's Lutheran Church in Sanborn. Burial was at Roseland Cemetery near Sanborn, under the direction of Sanborn Funeral Home.

Trinity Lutheran Church in Sibley.

Burial will be at Baker Township Cemetery in rural Melvin, under the direction of Jurens Funeral Home in Sibley.

St. Peter Lutheran Church in Ochevedan.

Burial will be at Ochevedan Township Cemetery, under the direction of Jurens Funeral Home in Sibley.

## NEWS

## Northwestern College releases its semester dean's list for fall

## Students needed 3.5 or higher GPA

ORANGE CITY—Northwestern College in Orange City has released its fall semester dean's list for 2022-23, recognizing students who have achieved a 3.5 or higher grade-point average.

Those who received a 3.75 or higher were recognized as Collegiate Scholars.

N'West Iowans named to the list were, by city:

**Alton:** Jenna Aalbers, Josiah Bonestroo, Collegiate Scholar; Micah Bonestroo; Gideon Fynaardt, Collegiate Scholar; Kiernan Groendyke, Collegiate Scholar; Emma Haley, Collegiate Scholar; Madison Probst.

**Boyden:** Jewel Bergstrom;

**Andrew Frick:** Brady Frick; Colleen Rypkema, Collegiate Scholar; Drew Van Roekel, Collegiate Scholar.

**Doon:** Jerron Van Egdorn, Collegiate Scholar.

**George:** Lauren Jurens, Collegiate Scholar.

**Granville:** Sydney Zeutenhorst.

**Hospers:** Sierra Stamer, Collegiate Scholar; Amber Theis; Kaitlyn Van Den Top.

**Hull:** Kobi Baccam; Lydia Baker; Emma Franken; Hannah Heymen, Collegiate Scholar; Brianna Kleinwolterink, Collegiate Scholar; Madison Ten Haken, Collegiate Scholar; Alyssa Ulittenbogaard, Collegiate Scholar; Jaden Van Schepen; Emma Zoet; Brooke Zylstra, Collegiate Scholar.

**Inwood:** Ashlyn Zomermaand, Collegiate Scholar.

**Ireton:** Landon Hofmeyer, Collegiate Scholar.

**Larchwood:** Taylor DeJong, Collegiate Scholar; Jordan DeSmet, Collegiate Scholar; Madysn Grotewold, Collegiate Scholar; Kennedy Kramer, Collegiate Scholar; Zavyr Metzger, Collegiate Scholar; Trevor Reinke; Taylor Rentschler; Jaden Snyder, Collegiate Scholar; Payton Snyder, Collegiate Scholar.

**Lester:** Jalyn Gramstad; Mallory Gramstad, Collegiate Scholar.

**Little Rock:** Lucas Nagel.

**Orange City:** Kaelin Alons, Collegiate Scholar; Madison Blankespoor, Collegiate Scholar; James Bouma; Jenna Bouma, Collegiate Scholar; Avery Calsbeek, Collegiate Scholar; Kyle Christy, Collegiate Scholar; Grace Dahl,

Collegiate Scholar; Thea Angelee Davis, Collegiate Scholar; Adam De Boer, Collegiate Scholar; Jazlin De Haan, Collegiate Scholar; Akeyma Fedders, Collegiate Scholar; Davis Gatterman; Alyssa Glanz; Emily Haverdink; Zoe Heemstra, Collegiate Scholar; Jackson Hoffland, Collegiate Scholar; Catharine Hummel, Collegiate Scholar; Sarah Hummel, Collegiate Scholar; Lindsey Jacobsma; Margaret Kensak, Collegiate Scholar; Ethan Klompfen; Elizabeth Korver, Collegiate Scholar; Danielle Kroeze, Collegiate Scholar; McKenzie Kurtz; William Minnick, Collegiate Scholar; Samantha Monsma, Collegiate Scholar; Delanie Niemyer, Collegiate Scholar; Alexander Nonhof, Collegiate Scholar; Otto Reyna,

Collegiate Scholar; Garrett Scholtens, Collegiate Scholar; Jadeyn Schutt, Collegiate Scholar; Jadeyn Sjaarda, Collegiate Scholar; Jenna Smit; Clare Struck, Collegiate Scholar; Katie Struck, Collegiate Scholar; Sophie Swart, Collegiate Scholar; Thomas Tracy; Alaena Trevino, Collegiate Scholar; Parker Van Kley; Carissa Winn, Collegiate Scholar.

**Paullina:** Austin Hendrickson.

**Primghar:** Luke Jenness, Collegiate Scholar.

**Rock Rapids:** Andrew De Noble; Sutton Schlumbohm; Dylann Van Berkum.

**Rock Valley:** Marcus Blankespoor; Cody Moser; Cody Post, Collegiate Scholar; Lexie Van Kekerix, Collegiate Scholar; April Van Tol.

**Sheldon:** Olivia Granstra, Collegiate Scholar; Rose Hoogers, Collegiate Scholar; Marshall Kleinhesselink; Benjamin Robinson, Collegiate Scholar; Hannah Van Meeteren, Collegiate Scholar.

**Sibley:** Hannah Jacobsma, Collegiate Scholar; Timothy Jensen, Collegiate Scholar; Trey Schuck, Collegiate Scholar.

**Sioux Center:** Gabriela Alvarez; Kole Clevering, Collegiate Scholar; Jori Harskamp; Ty Hulshof; Lane Kameraman; Naomi Lief, Collegiate Scholar; Sydney Mouw, Collegiate Scholar; Alexa Olguin; Gabriel Rathbun; Adriana Sandbulte, Collegiate Scholar; Carter Sandbulte, Collegiate Scholar; Makennah Traver; Jacie Vander Waal; Samantha Vermeer.

## MILESTONES

N'West Iowans named to the fall president's list at Western Iowa Tech Community College in Sioux City for achieving a 4.0 grade-point average were **Meghan Danielson** of Hawarden, **Cole Sperle** of Hawarden, **Juli Kats** of Hull, **Treyton Schiebout** of Orange City, **Katie Van Ravenswaay** of Rock Valley, **Austin Anderson** of Sheldon, **Shelle Brooks** of Sheldon, **Austin Butler** of Sibley and **Trevor Gries** of Sibley. Those named to the fall dean's list for achieving a 3.5-3.99 GPA were **Brady Pottebaum** of Alton, **Jacqueline Paramo** of Hawarden, **Maria Salcedo** of Orange City, **Autumn Van Donkelaar** of Orange City, **Aileena Ford** of Rock Rapids, **Brianna Bultman** of Rock Valley and **Wendy Ruiz** of Sioux Center.

**Emma Bogen** of Alton, **Tara Joiner** of Orange City and **Allison Peters** of Milford were among more than 500 students at the University of Iowa in Iowa City who participated in the 29th annual student-led Dance Marathon Feb. 3-4, generating more than \$1.1 million for the University of Iowa Stead Family Children's Hospital in Iowa City.

**Tanner Dykstra** of Sibley is among 52 students at the University of Nebraska in Lincoln who have been selected for the spring crew of the Jacht Ad Agency. Dykstra, a senior broadcasting and journalism major, is a multimedia strategist for the agency. Jacht is a student-run agency offered through the College of Journalism and Mass Communications that allows participants to gain real-world experience by working with a variety of clients on brand strategy, public relations, multimedia, design and more.

N'West Iowans graduating following the semester from Buena Vista University in Storm Lake were **Maggie Albert** of Hartley, bachelor of science in agricultural science (animal science track); **Brooke Nitchals** of Milford, master of education in teacher leadership, curriculum and instruction (teaching English as a second language track); **Karlee Ohrt** of Paullina, bachelor of arts in elementary education, magna cum laude; and **Glenda Barrios** of Sheldon, bachelor of arts in human services.

N'West Iowans graduating in the fall from Western Iowa Tech Community College in Sioux City were **Brady Pottebaum** of Alton, with honors; **Krysta Dissing** of Alford; **Lane Kenny** of Chatsworth; **Charity Allen** of Hawarden, with honors; **Ernan Garcia Topete** of Hawarden, with honors; **Cole Sperle** of Hawarden; **Joshua Funk** of Primghar; **Jade Gonnerman** of Sanborn; **Maison Oostra** of Sheldon; **Willeam Cam** of Sioux Center; and **Shanyon Leusink** of Sioux Center, with honors.

**Ron Heemstra** of Sioux Center was inducted for a three-year term on the Northwest Iowa Community College Foundation Board during its annual meeting on Jan. 30 in Sheldon. He spent most of his career as the controller for Interstates in Sioux Center. He will present the Sioux Center School District on the board.

**Brandi Snieder** of Boyden and **Belle Schiermeyer** of Rock Rapids were named to the fall dean's list at Trinity Christian College in Palos Heights, IL, for achieving a 3.5 or higher grade-point average.

**Kevin Ten Haken** of Hull and **Amanda Bahena** of Sioux Center were honored for their years of service and commitment to the Northwest Iowa Community College Foundation Board during its annual meeting on Jan. 30 in Sheldon after completing three three-year terms on the board. Ten Haken represented the Boyden-Hull School District on the board while Bahena represented the Sioux Center School District.

**Jochum Wollmuth** of Sibley was named to the fall semester president's honor roll at North Dakota State College of Science in Wahpeton for achieving a 3.5 or higher grade-point average.

**Michaela Johnson** of Little Rock and **Sydney Richardson** of Sibley were named to the fall semester high honor list at Minnesota State University in Mankato for achieving a 4.0 grade-point average.

**Andrea Westra** of Primghar was named to the fall dean's list at Samford University in Birmingham, AL, for achieving a 3.5 or higher GPA.

**U.S. Rep. Randy Feenstra** (R-Iowa) of Hull has been appointed to the subcommittee on livestock, dairy and poultry on the U.S. House of Representatives Agriculture Committee. The subcommittee on livestock, dairy, and poultry has jurisdiction, in part, over livestock, dairy, and poultry markets.

**Brian Watterson** of Sibley and **Abby Van Der Brink** of Sioux Center were named to the fall president's list at Des Moines Area Community College for earning a 4.0 grade-point average. Students must have completed a minimum of six credits.

**Jahlyn DeJong** of Boyden earned a \$200 scholarship by competing for one of three positions on the 2023 Iowa Pork Producers Association Youth Leadership. She was not among those selected.

**Olivia Sandbulte** of Milford and **Maria Yin** of Orange City were named to the fall dean's list at George Fox University in Newberg, OR, for achieving a 3.5 or higher grade-point average.

■ The N'West Iowa REVIEW welcomes the submission of materials for its family pages. Fill out the appropriate form online at [www.nwestiowa.com/submit](http://www.nwestiowa.com/submit).

Submit engagement, wedding, birth and anniversary

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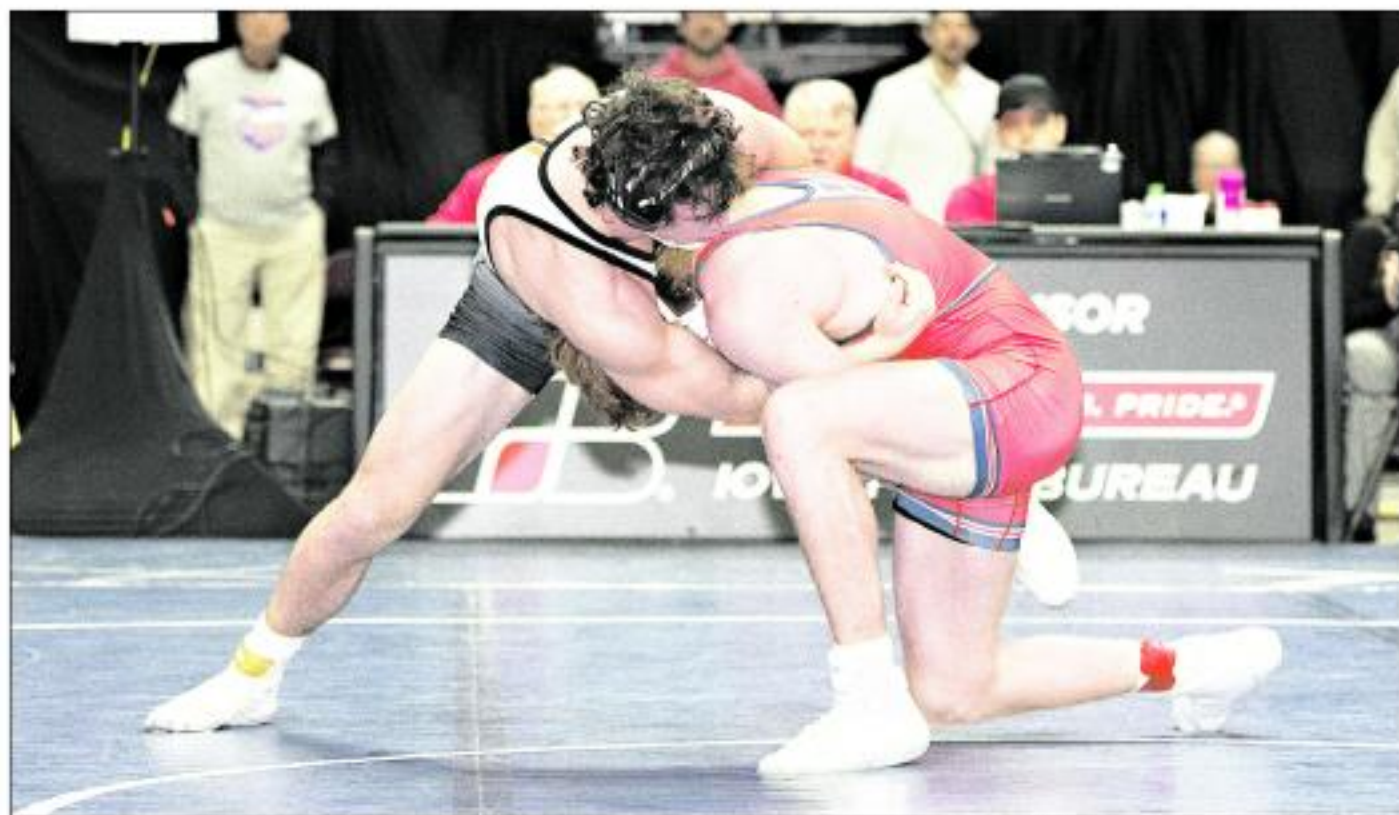
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CLASS 2A STATE WRESTLING

## Five area grapplers will pocket medals



Sheldon-South O'Brien junior Jarrett Roos wrestles Ballard junior Brody Sampson during the Class 2A 182-pound semifinals at the state meet Friday in Des Moines. Roos was unbeaten on the season at 42-0 until dropping a 3-2 decision to Sampson. Photo by Roy Tucker

### Roos sees undefeated run end in tournament semis

BY SCOTT BYERS  
SBYERS@NWESTIOWA.COM

DES MOINES—Five N'West Iowa wrestlers will find themselves on the stand when the Class 2A medals are presented at the state tournament today (Saturday, Feb. 18) in Des Moines.

The highest place winner among the group is yet to be determined.

Sheldon-South O'Brien junior Jarrett Roos

stayed unbeaten until Friday's semifinal round at 182 pounds, when the second seed in the tournament was nipped by third-seeded junior Brody Sampson of Ballard 3-2.

"It is pretty disappointing when you have your sights set on wrestling on Saturday night for 365 days in a row and you come up two points short of victory," said Sheldon-South O'Brien coach Kory Roos, Jarrett's father. "Once you get a couple of hours to let it subside and get your head on right, you see it is not going to define Jarrett and who he is. If anything, it will make him work harder."

The coach said no matter how many times

Jarrett Roos wrestled the semifinal, it might have come out differently each time. In this case, Sampson scored a takedown late in the first period and Jarrett Roos had just enough time to escape and make it 2-1. Each wrestler got an escape from the down position.

"Jarrett came into the tournament on a mission and he pinned his first two guys, but with each round it gets harder and harder. He was confident, but I wouldn't say overconfident," coach Roos said. "The kid was a true 182-pounder, very muscular and probably

See STATE on page C4

CLASS 1A STATE WRESTLING

## Baker feels good entering title bout

### West Sioux senior keeps his dream alive

BY SCOTT BYERS  
SBYERS@NWESTIOWA.COM

DES MOINES—West Sioux senior Mikey Baker went into the Class 1A state wrestling tournament as the top seed at 145 pounds and will get a chance to prove that seeding correct today (Saturday, Feb. 18) at the Wells Fargo Arena in Des Moines.

Baker won three bouts to improve to 35-2 on the year and advance to the state championship match. He will face the second-seed Don Bosco junior Kaiden Knaack in the final. Knaack is 36-5 on the year. The final session of the tournament is scheduled to start at 5:15 p.m. today.

Baker is the only Class 1A wrestler in N'West Iowa still in contention for a medal.

He was unbeaten going into the state semifinals last season but injured a knee during a 1-0 loss. Baker toughed it out and wrestled his last two matches in the consolation round but was decided in each to finish sixth. He had surgery on the knee, but the same injury was bothering him at the start of this season and he underwent a second surgery and missed about four weeks of action.

"He came into this tournament wrestling as well as I've ever seen



West Sioux senior Mikey Baker works on a reversal against MFL Mar-Mac senior Karter Decker in the Class 1A 145-pound state semifinals Friday in Des Moines. Baker earned a 5-3 victory. Photo by Roy Tucker

him. He had the challenge in December and you never know how that is going to go, but he came back strong," said West Sioux coach Mark Van Oort. "His dream of a state championship is still alive. He's very focused on accomplishing a life long goal."

Baker started this year's state tournament with a quick pin and a major decision. He did get

pushed in the semifinals, where he beat 13th-seeded Karter Decker of MFL Mar-Mac 5-3.

"We talked probably two weeks ago about how his strategy was going to work a lot from the neutral position," Van Oort said. "When you take them down and let them go it makes your take-downs basically worth just one point so you need a lot of them,

but Michael has a way in his transitions of finding an opportunity to take them to their back and make it a five-point move or get the fall."

That's exactly how it worked in the first two rounds. In the semifinals, there were some adjustments to make.

See FALCONS on C3

BOWLING



Hartley-Melvin-Sanborn sophomore Jack Mastbergen gets ready to roll in a Baker game for the Hawks at the state-qualifying meet Tuesday in Sanborn. Photo by Scott Byers

## Hawks earn spot in state tournament

### Mastbergen rolls 700 to win, Aaron also punches his ticket

BY SCOTT BYERS  
SBYERS@NWESTIOWA.COM

REGIONAL—Hartley-Melvin-Sanborn decided to become the host school for boys and girls bowling programs for the first time this season and saw that decision pay off Tuesday as the Hawks earned a spot in the boys state tournament.

According to Hartley-Melvin-Sanborn activities director Mark Peterson, the school had seen some of its students involved in bowling in the past when the school was combined with Sioux Central. That team competed in Class 2A. Hartley-Melvin-Sanborn invited Western Christian to join with the program it was hosting out of Locomotion Lanes in Sanborn this year, but it was classified as a 1A program.

The Sanborn facility was the host site for girls and boys state-qualifying meets, with the girls bowling on Monday and the boys on Tuesday.

The only other N'West Iowa program is hosted by West Sioux. That program includes bowlers from MOC-Floyd Valley and Akron-Westfield. The Falcons competed at in the Class 2A state-qualifying meets at Le Mars.

### Girls fall short

The team qualifiers for state are determined by a series of 15 Baker Games, in which teams use a five-person lineup to bowl each game, with bowlers each rolling one frame as the lineup rotates through. The top team in each state-qualifying meet advances to the state meet in Waterloo.

See HAWKS on page C5

## Swimmers contribute to team at state

While technically not a N'West Iowa team, the Sioux City Spartans swim team that took part in the Iowa High School Athletic Association state meet on Feb. 10-11 at the University of Iowa's complex in Iowa City did see plenty of participation from three N'West Iowa athletes.

Sioux Center juniors Kellen Dean and Hudson Vonk and MOC-Floyd Valley sophomore Carson Valentine were among the state qualifiers for the Sioux City squad, which

See BYERS on C4



SCOTT BYERS  
SPORTS EDITOR

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## SPORTS

## FRIDAY CLASS 2A REGION 2 GIRLS BASKETBALL SEMIFINAL

# Central Lyon fends off pesky Falcons squad

## Lions open second half with huge run

BY CHARLIE HILDEBRAND  
CHILDEBRAND@NWESTIOWA.COM

WEST SIOUX 5 13 6 12 - 36  
CENTRAL LYON 17 8 19 11 - 55

ROCK RAPIDS—Second-ranked Central Lyon had a slow start, due in part to a scrappy West Sioux team, but pulled away in the second half thanks to a tough defensive performance to earn a 55-36 win over the Falcons in the semifinals of the Class 2A Region 2 girls basketball tournament on Friday.

"The story tonight was definitely our defense," said Lions' coach Heather Grafing. "We've played every kind of team. We've played teams that have six-foot kids, we've played quick guards, we've played three-point shooting teams and these girls just show up and they get the job done."

Neither team scored the first three minutes of the game. Central Lyon broke the scoreless spell with the first seven points of the contest and led 17-5 through one quarter.

Central Lyon held a 21-9 advantage in the second frame, but Addi Dekkers sunk a three-pointer for West Sioux to trim the margin to 21-12 with 3:23 left in the half. West

Sioux's Mia Danielson later made a layup with around 1:30 remaining to make it 23-14. Addison Klosterbuer hit a jumper to stretch the Lion lead to 25-16 with around one minute to go. Danielson made a jumper with around 30 seconds left though and the Falcons trailed 25-18 at halftime.

"Their pressure gave us trouble, especially early on," said West Sioux coach Shad Coppock. "I thought as the first quarter went on, we started getting used to being pressured a little bit. We were stronger with the ball and were so patient offensively. Sometimes it took us 23 or 27 seconds to get the look we wanted, but we took it and we got it."

Grafing said running a 2-3 zone like the Falcons do slows the game down.

"One of the things we didn't want to do was rush our shots," she said. "Some of that was self-inflicted a little bit because we said if they're going to slow it down, we want to make sure that we're working for those inside shots."

Central Lyon opened the third quarter on a 10-0 run to stretch the lead to 35-18 with 4:09 left in the period.

"We knew they were going to come out with a good punch in the third quarter and they



Central Lyon senior Addison Klosterbuer takes a jumper as West Sioux senior Mia Danielson defends in a Class 2A Region 2 semifinal game on Friday in Rock Rapids. Klosterbuer scored 10 points in a 55-36 win for the Lions. Photo by Charlie Hildebrand

did," Coppock said. "They beat us by 13 in the third."

Grafing said her defense gave up a few too many easy passes inside in the first half.

"Our mentality coming out of halftime was we wanted to try to get three defensive stops in a row and then obviously turn that into our offense," she said. "Defensively, I have to go back to that because defense spurs our offense. To come out and give them another punch and establish ourselves again I thought was a huge momentum swing."

Cassie Koopmans made a layup for West Sioux to trim the margin to 35-20 with 3:35 left in the third quarter, but the Falcons never got closer than

15 the rest of the way. Central Lyon led 44-24 going into the final stanza.

West Sioux cut it to 48-33 in the fourth quarter, but the Lions outscored them 7-3 to close the contest.

Desta Hoogendoorn led Central Lyon with 18 points and added six rebounds.

"Desta Hoogendoorn did a fantastic job," Grafing said. "When we started getting her touches and getting into the interior of that 2-3, that's when things started to really go for us on offense."

Klosterbuer, a University of South Dakota signee, finished with 10 points and seven rebounds.

"Addi gave up a lot," Grafing

said. "She didn't score as much as she normally does, but she also didn't shoot as much as she normally does because she understood what we are trying to do. That just shows you the kind of player Addi Klosterbuer is too."

Afton Schlumbohm finished with nine points, seven rebounds and eight assists for the Lions.

Danielson finished with 15 points and five rebounds for the Falcons. Molly Hulshof had 11 points, six boards and four assists. Koopmans had six rebounds and five assists.

Central Lyon improved to 21-0 with the win and will play next against 10th-ranked and 20-3 Hinton in

the regional championship game on Wednesday in Sioux Center. The Blackhawks beat MVAOCOU 53-42 in the other regional game Friday night.

"We're going to enjoy tonight. We're going to relax tonight," Grafing said. "Tomorrow we'll figure out who won, and then we're going to figure out how to come out in that first quarter."

West Sioux ended its season at 10-13.

"This group of girls has just been terrific all year," Coppock said. "We lose four great seniors. I'm just so proud of them. I'm hoping our younger girls have watched how they've acted and what they've done."

## FRIDAY CLASS 2A REGION 3 GIRLS BASKETBALL SEMIFINAL

# Generals defense continues to roll in postseason

## Third-fewest points given up this season

BY SCOTT BYERS  
SBYERS@NWESTIOWA.COM

RIDGE VIEW 10 6 4 7 - 27  
SIBLEY-OCHEYEDAN 14 16 26 15 - 71

SIBLEY—Sibley-Ocheyedan put up an improved offensive performance and remained a dominant force defensively, ripping Ridge View 71-27 on Friday in the Class 2A Region 3 girls basketball semifinals.

The win put the third-ranked Generals into the regional finals for the second straight season. Sibley-Ocheyedan, 10-3, is set to face 14th-ranked Sioux Central, which is 17-6, at Spirit Lake at 7 p.m. Wednesday.

Last season, the Generals were upset by South Central Calhoun 54-51 in the regional final.

"It will be good that the girls can use last year's experience to grow," said Sibley-Ocheyedan coach Zach Wessels. "They know what to expect now going into it."

The third-ranked Generals struggled shooting in a second-round win over Emmetsburg on Wednesday, but had no such trouble on Friday against the Raptors. Sibley-Ocheyedan averages just over 59 points per game and easily surpassed that mark despite having a running clock for much of the second half.

"It works better when you make shots," Wessels said. "They were pri-



Sibley-Ocheyedan junior Olivia Hensch passes into the post during the third quarter against Ridge View on Friday in Sibley. The Generals won 71-27 over the Raptors in the Class 2A Region 3 semifinals. Photo by Rylan Howe

marily in a 1-2-2 or a 2-3 zone. They do play some man, but we didn't see

much of that. It helped when we were being patient and not just taking the

first shot that was there. We are better when we are trying to find open

teammates."

It did take a while for the Generals to warm up. The lead was only 14-10 after a quarter. They expanded it to 30-16 at the half.

"In the first quarter, they scored on some weird turnover things. We weren't being patient and we weren't reversing the ball," Wessels said. "In the second quarter and especially in the second half, we did that much better. We were doing a good job of getting a stop and then swinging the ball ahead. We were making good decisions in transition. It made the game a go-go-go type of thing, which is the way we want to play."

The Generals overran the Raptors in the third quarter, outscoring them 26-4.

Sibley-Ocheyedan held Emmetsburg to 19 points Wednesday, the lowest point total for a Generals opponent all season. The 27 points for the Raptors were the third-lowest surrendered by the Generals in a game this year.

"We are finding the right spots in our rotations and just doing the small stuff we want to do right," the coach said. "As the season has went along, the girls have really started to understand the principals of what we want to do."

Madison Brouwer led the Generals with 20 points. Bria Wasmund scored 17, Olivia Hensch tossed in 12 and Marissa Ackerman ended the game with 10.

# Western Christian's De Hoogh opens up with two quick pins

## FALCONS

Continued from page C1

"We knew he was a big-move-type kid. He had pinned the No. 4 kid and the No. 5 kid," Van Oort said. "For a 5-3 match, it was pretty lopsided. All three of his points were escapes we gave to him. We'd work the top and burn some clock on the edges, but if we were in the middle of the mat we let him up. It was perfect execution by Michael."

Baker's final opponent has been pushed to the full six minutes in every round. Knaack beat the 18th-seeded Danny Kinsella of Treynor 11-4, needed a sudden victory period to top seventh-seeded Keaton Moeller of Stormont 5-3, then beat third-seeded Nick Stienlage of Interstate 35 in the semifinal 5-2.

"They have seen each other at the youth level and that has gone well, but you can't take it for granted," Van Oort said. "You have to take the same approach."

West Sioux had two other state qualifiers.

Keegan McMillan was seeded sixth at 285. The junior survived a 9-7 win over 11th-seed Trenton Warner of Nodaway Valley.

McMillan challenged third-seeded Mac Ortner of Don Bosco before dropping a 3-0 decision, then got upset in the consolation bracket by 10th-seeded Aiden Salow of Maquoketa Valley.

"Keegan was a little tight in his first match. He gave up a takedown and near fall points right away, but he really controlled the rest of the match. He did a good job of staying active and got the job done," Van Oort said. "He wrestled the third seed really well. A takedown late in the first period was big in that one, but it was a heck of an effort. In his consolation he got caught with an ankle pick against a very athletic heavyweight. That one hurts, but this experience should be a catalyst for him next year."

Freshman Dustin Van Oort went 0-2 at 132. He was the 19th seed coming in. He dropped a major decision to

Wapsle Valley junior Easton Krall, then was pinned by 13th-seed Mark Gant of Hinton.

Coach Van Oort said a lack of experience was evident for his son in each of those matches. He said the first match saw him trailing 5-3 late in the second when he "forced some action that was unnecessary" and quickly fell behind 10-5. In the match with Gant, Van Oort was up 5-1 with 20 seconds left in the first period before getting pin.

"He went for the gusto when he didn't need to. It was a position we work on, but that's one you use when you are down three in the third period, not when you are up four in the first period," the coach said. "I don't know that I thought Dustin could medal here in his first year, but I felt like he could go 2-2. He knows he could have performed better, but he should be proud of his efforts in making the state tournament. I'm sure he's already thinking about next year."

Western Christian senior

Gavin De Hoogh got off to a big start at 220, but ultimately fell just short of earning a state medal.

De Hoogh, the 10th seed, was on fire on Wednesday, pinning both the 23rd-seeded Luke Schnieder of Alburnett and seventh-seeded Wyatt Hanna of Lake Mills in the first period.

"We came out guns blazing," said Western Christian coach Jesse Regalado. "Of course, with those first two matches we had a little time to get ready for it. We wrestled tough. When you get down here everyone you wrestle is tough."

De Hoogh lost to the second-seeded Interstate 35 senior Evan Foreman, in the quarterfinals. He then was eliminated in a heartbreaker Friday morning, dropping a 2-1 decision to 11th-seeded Jack Hiland of Bellevue.

"With the next two guys, the strategy was a little different," the coach said. "We lost to the number two guy, then the next guy we faced, we knew he wasn't going to do much. It

was going to be a slow paced match. We were executing the plan pretty well."

The difference in that match was De Hoogh giving up a point for stalling in the third period.

"We were on the edge of the mat getting pushed out," Regalado said. "That's a tough way to go out."

Sibley-Ocheyedan had one representative at state in freshman Dawson Beyer, who was the 19th seed at 138. He stayed close in his opening round bout against 14th-seeded Wyatt Hawkins of Logan-Magnolia before trying a high risk move late and getting pinned. He was decided by 20th-seeded Zach Harbison of Wapello in the consolation bracket.

"In the first match, I thought he outwrestled the kid throughout the whole match," said Sibley-Ocheyedan co-coach Nick Krogman. "He got into a couple of positions where we couldn't get a stalemate call and he eventually gave up points there and at the end he tried a big move and

got caught. The second kid was a longer kind of lengthy guy. Dawson has struggled some with those kind of guys this year, but he did a nice job. He got a takedown on him in the third and we decided to cut him and try to do it again, but he couldn't get another one."

### Class 1A State Tournament

#### NWest Iowa results

#### Sibley-Ocheyedan

**138: Dawson Beyer** (40-12) did not place. Pinned by Wyatt Hawkins (Logan-Magnolia) 5:22, received a bye, decided by Zach Harbison (Wapello) 5-2.

#### West Sioux

**132: Dustin Van Oort** (23-10) did not place. Major decision by Easton Krall (Wapsle Valley) 15-5, received a bye, pinned by Mark Gant (Hinton) 2:23.

**145: Mikey Baker** (35-2) wrestling in the finals. Received a bye, pinned Connor Casady (Materossdale-St Marys) 1:13, major decision by Indy Harbaugh (Lisbon) 14-1, decided by Karter Decker (MFL-Mar-Mac) 5-3.

#### Western Christian

**220: Gavin De Hoogh** (30-12) Pinned Luke Schneider (Alburnett) 1:49, pinned Wyatt Hanna (Lake Mills) 1:33, pinned by Evan Foreman (Interstate 35) 5:16, decided by Jack Hiland (Bellevue) 2-1.



## SPORTS

## Dean breaks Sioux City team record during meet

## BYERS

Continued from page C1

finished 13th in the team standings. The Spartans team, coached by Eric Hoak of Sioux City and based at Sioux City East High School, includes athletes from nine high schools.

Dean made the state meet in the 200-yard medley relay, performing the backstroke leg for the Spartans. He was also in the 200-yard freestyle, 100-yard backstroke and the 400-

yard freestyle relay.

Vonk made it in the 200-yard medley relay, performing the breaststroke leg in that event. He also was involved in the 200-yard individual medley, the 200-yard freestyle relay and the 100-yard breaststroke.

Valentine qualified in the 100-yard backstroke.

Dean set a team record that he later broke again in the 100-yard backstroke. His first record perfor-

mance of 52.98 seconds qualified him at 10th. He recorded a 52.70 second finish in the preliminary round at state, then broke the mark again in the finals, finishing 10th with a time of 52.13. In the 200 free he qualified with a time of 1 minute, 44.86 seconds which seeded him 10th. He swam a 1:45.21 in the prelims to make Saturday's final, where he finished 16th in 1:47.41.

Vonk improved on his seed in the 200-yard individual medley. He

qualified 15th with a time of 1 minute, 59.33 seconds. He lowered that time in the prelims, clocking in at 1:58.23. He then finished 13th in the finals with a time of 1:57.64. Vonk was seeded 12th in the 100-yard breaststroke with a qualifying time of 59.97 seconds. He touched in 59.72 in the prelims, then finished 14th in the final with a time of 1:00.12.

Valentine improved on his seed in his lone race. His qualifying time of 56.87 seconds in the 100-yard back-

stroke put him in as the 30th seed at state. He finished in 59.72 seconds at state which put him 29th, but was not quick enough to get him to the finals.

The 200 medley relay team that included Dean and Vonk came in seeded eighth and finished ninth.

The 200 freestyle relay, which included Vonk, was seeded 11th and finished 11th. The 400 free relay team that included Dean came in seeded 12th and finished 12th.

## Roos, Mulder will face off again in consolation round

## STATE

Continued from page C1

three or four inches taller than Jarrett. It was just a different style. One we haven't seen. They had a quite a few scrambles. At the end Jarrett was just inches away from a takedown that would have won it, but the kid showed good mat awareness and was also aware neither of them had a stall warning in the match, so he just went out of bounds and got it stopped. At that point, there were only six seconds left and you are looking a desperation attempt."

That dropped Jarrett Roos, who is 42-1, into the consolation final where he will meet a familiar foe in Boyden-Hull/Rock Valley senior Jace Mulder. Mulder is the ninth seed at the tournament and is 41-9. Jarrett Roos is 4-0 against Mulder. The last two meetings between Jarrett Roos and Mulder each went to overtime, with Jarrett Roos winning 4-2 in the sudden victory session each time.

"Why not? Hopefully facing him will bring a little extra motivation because you don't want a guy's one and only win against you to come in the state tournament," coach Roos said.

Sheldon-South O'Brien will be the only N'West Iowa team with more than one medal winner. Senior Coy DeBoer is wrestling for seventh place today at 152 pounds. DeBoer was the ninth seed in the tournament and carries a 43-4 record on the year. Three of those losses, including two in the state tournament, came against Humboldt senior Jase Goodell.

After losing to Goodell in his second match, DeBoer held on for a 7-5 decision over Red Oak's Adam Baier to stay in the tournament.

"Coy had a couple of matches where he came out on fire. He did against the Red Oak kid too, but in that one he got a couple of stall calls on him in the second period. I don't know that I've ever seen that from him in four years of wrestling," coach Roos said. "He was wrestling not to lose at that point and was lucky to get out with a win. I told him that's exactly what you can't do here."

Goodell later beat DeBoer to knock the Sheldon senior to the seventh-place match.

DeBoer is facing the seventh-seeded Aiden Flora of ADM (Monroe) in his placement match. DeBoer is a three-time state qualifier, but this will be his first medal.

"He looked completely different today. He gave a great effort. Unfortunately we couldn't get by the Humboldt kid," the coach said. "We did wrestle him better. Coy improved his game. He's worked his tail off and its paid off for him."

Mulder is the last man standing among a contingent of six Boyden-Hull/Rock Val-

ley wrestlers that made it to state. Mulder is 4-1 thus far in the tournament, with the only loss being to top-ranked and undefeated Burlington Notre Dame senior C.J. Walrath.

"Jace has had a great tournament. Walrath is outstanding. He's pretty much ran through the tournament," said Boyden-Hull/Rock Valley coach Jason Swets. "We told him not to hang his head after that one, to just keep moving forward, and that's exactly what he's done. His goal is to finish third now and he's stayed focused on that."

Swets said coming into the tournament he'd like to see Mulder and Jarrett Roos go at it again.

"We've been closing the gap on him each time and this is a chance to get him when it matters most," he said.

Five of the six Nighthawk wrestlers earned at least two wins at the state tournament.

"That great for those guys, especially our younger ones. Hopefully they can bring that experience back with them and use it to come back here next year and get a few more wins and get themselves on the podium," Swets said.

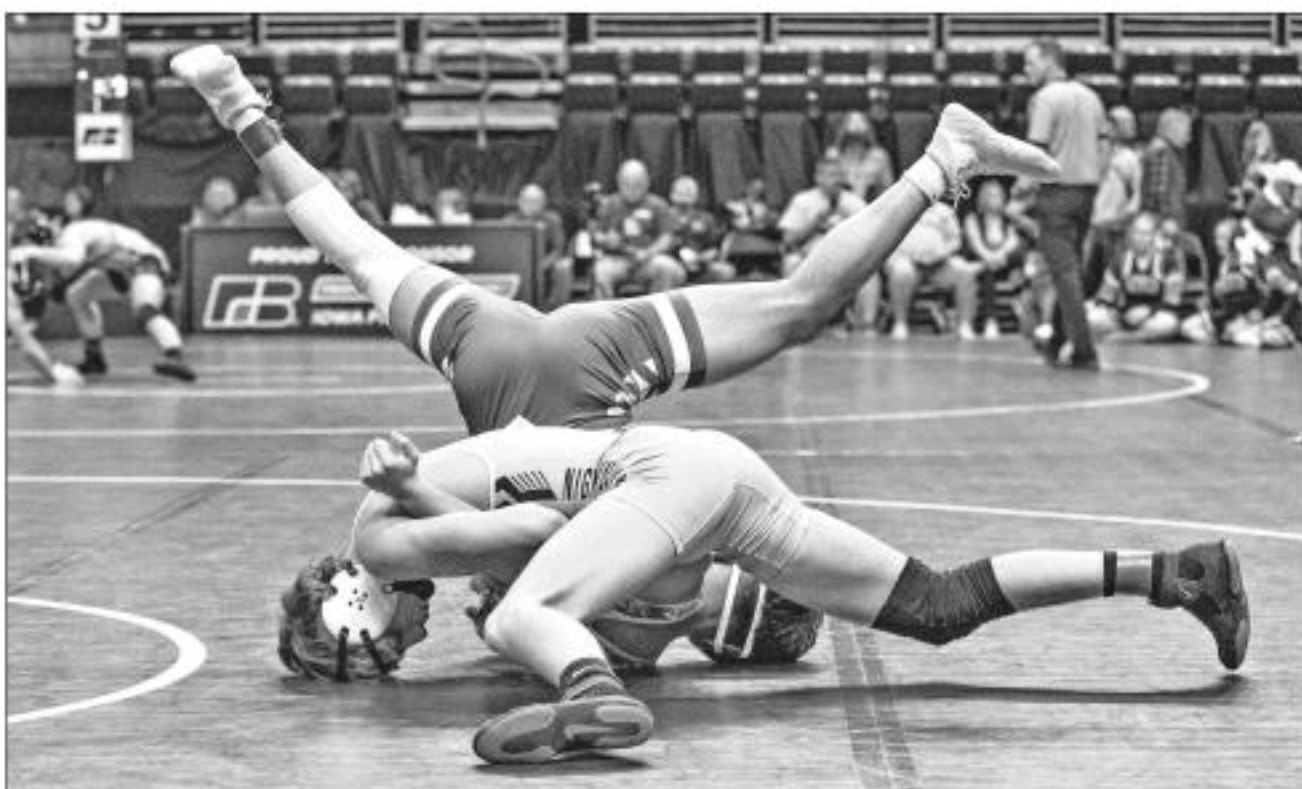
Senior Zach Strubbe and freshman Brock Mulder were each just one win away from a medal. Each of them lost a close decision in the blood round. Strubbe's was a tough one to take as he led nearly wire-to-wire until giving up a takedown in the closing seconds to Eduardo Garcia of Winterset.

"Zach was winning the entire match. With four or five seconds left that kid got a takedown and there wasn't time to get back out. That is a tough one," the coach said. "Zach has given a lot to this program and has poured it all back in to the younger guys. It's heartbreaking to see him fall short of his dream. Brock had himself a great tournament. He's got 40-plus wins and has only lost to highly ranked guys. He ran into a tough kid and couldn't get the takedown he needed in that last round, but he's going to use it for the better and come back ready to work."

Okoboji/Hartley-Melvin-Sanborn senior Noah Strantz and West Lyon freshman Ryan Bahnsen each outperformed their seeds to reach the seventh-place match in their respective weight classes.

Strantz was seeded 16th in the tournament at 160. He takes a 39-10 record into a match against the 14th seed, Garcia of Winterset. Garcia is 41-11.

"Noah's goal all through his high school career was to qualify for state. He's had some heartbreaking years where wrestlebacks didn't go his way. Last week when he won at districts you could see how much it meant to him," said Okoboji/Hartley-Melvin-Sanborn coach Nate Dau. "Now for him to get on the stand was awesome. When



Boyden-Hull/Rock Valley freshman Brock Mulder earns back points against Columbus-WMU senior Dante Zuniga in a first-round match in the Class 2A 145-pound bracket Wednesday at the state tournament. Mulder pinned Zuniga. Photos by Roy Tucker

he beat the kid from Creston today he outwrestled him in several positions."

The Pioneers qualified five for state. Four of them were seniors.

"To qualify all of your seniors is rare," Dau said. "I'm happy with all of those guys. Sam Pas will be remembered for the amount of work he has put in and how much he has improved. He's going to go on to do big things in whatever he chooses in life. I couldn't be more happy with the efforts from all of the guys."

Bahnsen was the 15th seed at 113 pounds. He is 47-8 on the year as he takes on the ninth-seeded freshman Carter Schmauss of Crestwood. Schmauss is 37-11 on the year.

"He'd like to be higher, but after a loss you always think you could have done a little better," said West Lyon coach Ben Caven. "It went all right, but he knows he could have done better."

West Lyon had three wrestlers at the state meet. Fellow freshman Evan Erpenbach nearly joined Bahnsen on the medal stand. He got a bye in the first round and ended up 2-2, with one of those losses coming in a sudden victory situation in the second round.

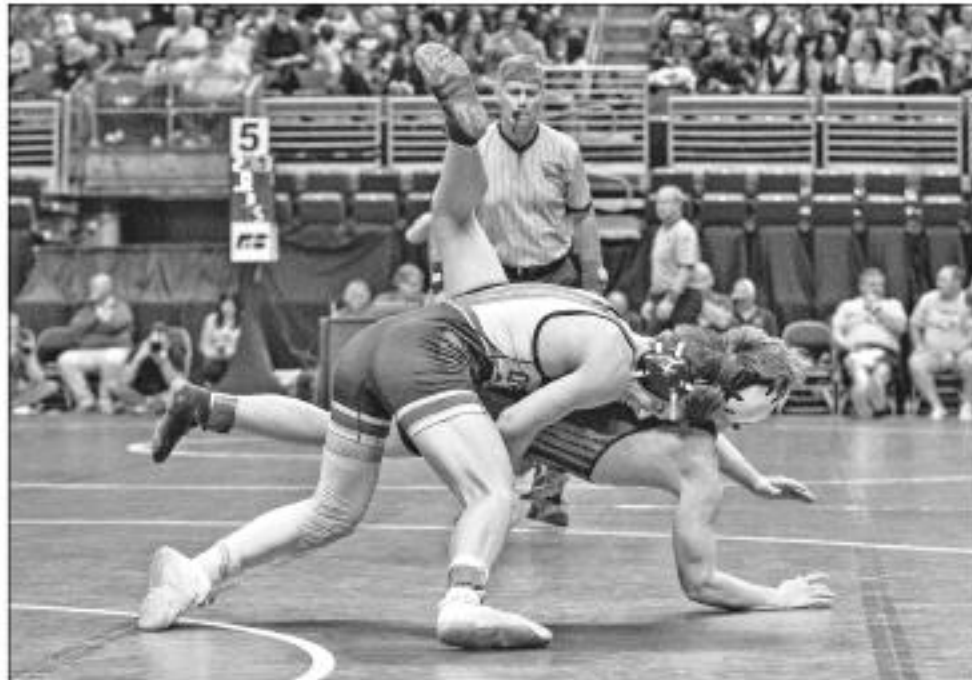
"It was frustrating. I thought the match was over and we ended up getting two stall calls in the last 10 seconds. I've never seen that in 30 years of wrestling," Caven said. "We were winning 7-2, but that kid was tough on top. We ended up giving up some back points and somehow fought back to our belly. It was just a weird scenario. The last kid he wrestled was tough. He was a little ball of muscle. We had a hard time moving him and getting to shots we normally get to."

Wildcat junior Emmitt Fleshman had one win in the tournament.

"They all wrestled well. It's a good learning experience for all of them and will make them better for next year," Caven said.

Sioux Center qualified two juniors for the state tournament and Kade Bauer and Jacques Zomermaand each made it to the blood round before bowing out.

"They both wrestled really well," said Sioux Center coach



Okoboji/Hartley-Melvin-Sanborn senior Noah Strantz returns Washington junior Chase Greiner to the mat Wednesday during a first-round bout in the Class 2A 160-pound bracket at state.

Aaron Schmidt. "It was one of those things where whatever was in front of them they just went after it. They did a great job of making adjustments and improving what they do. That was fun."

Bauer nearly pulled off an upset in the blood round. He was seeded 16th in the bracket. He had lost three times to fourth-seeded Bo Koedam of Sergeant Bluff-Luton already this season and got to face him again. He made it a nervous time for Koedam before dropping an 11-8 decision.

"It was a great match. He came out and went right at him," Schmidt said. "He was able to get to a number of things."

Each went 3-2 at the tournament. Schmidt noted in past years three wins would put you on the medal stand at state, but that wasn't the case this year with the brackets expanded to 24 wrestlers.

"It's a cliché, but what they both did best is they didn't look ahead at all. They didn't try to figure out the bracket," he said. "In fact, a lot of times they would ask, who do I wrestle? We'd go over a couple of things quickly, but for the most part they just went out and wrestled and did the things they do. Hopefully, this provides motivation for next year for them and for some of their teammates that were watching them."

Central Lyon/George-Little Rock brought four to the meet. Trevor Dieren made it to the blood round at 220. He was the only one of the Lions to earn a win. Dieren was 2-2 at state. His second loss was in a sudden victory situation against Clark Younggreen of Mount Vernon.

MOC-Floyd Valley qualified two wrestlers for the tournament. Irving Ramirez had the top performance, going 1-2 in Des Moines.

Class 2A State Tournament

N'West Iowa results

Boyden-Hull/Rock Valley

113: Gabino Vargas (34-13) did not

place. Decided by Tyson Moss (North Fayette Valley) 7-3, decided by Mack Morgan (Eagle Grove) 3-2, major decided by Riggo Bobadilla (Clarion-Goldfield-Dows) 13-4, decided by Dreylen Schweitzer (Canolf) 5-4.

145: Brock Mulder (46-8) did not place. Pinned Dante Zuniga (Columbus/WMU) 1:01, pinned by Tucker Stangel (Osage) 5:05, decided by Carson Miller (Fairfield) 4-2, pinned Alex Beatty (Forest City) 4:23, decided by Jackson Jaspers (Mount Vernon) 3-1.

160: Zach Strubbe (39-9) did not place. Major decided by Carson Kolbert (New Hampton/Turkey Valley) 10-1, lost by technical fall to Cole Buttkofer (Crestwood) 16-1 4:33, major decided by Chase Greiner (Washington) 9-1, major decided by Daniel Gorski (Knoville) 9-1, decided by Eduardo Garcia (Winterset) 4-3.

182: Jace Mulder (41-9) wrestling in consolation. Pinned Carson Bellamy (Winterset) 1:59, pinned Kayden Blunt (Charles City) 2:28, pinned by C.J. Walrath (Burlington Notre Dame) 3:01, pinned Brock Voyna (Creston/Orient-Macksburg) 1:50, decided by Kayden Blunt (Charles City) 7-8.

220: Reagan Maassen (33-14) did not place. Decided by Rhiett Schaefer (Davenport Assumption) 5-0, received a bye, decided by Cole Sigler (Anamosa) 5-0.

285: Jesus Garcia (34-17) did not place. Decided by Sean Zimmerman (Sergeant Bluff-Luton) 5-3, pinned by Korver Hupke (Independence) 3:2, decided by Maverick Kindred (Davenport Assumption) 2-0, pinned by Max Chapman (Creston/Orient-Macksburg) 1:49.

Central Lyon/George-Little Rock

126: Ragen Hasche (20-14) did not place. Major decided by Jerren Gilfe (Dubuque Wahlert) 9-1, received a bye, major decided by Jaydon Gargano (Humboldt) 11-1.

138: Lane Kruger (16-16) did not place. Pinned by Cade Korsma (Crestwood) 3:12, received a bye, decided by Payton Anderson (New Hampton/Turkey Valley) 6-2.

195: Evan Kruger (19-8) did not place. Pinned by Jacques Zomermaand (Sioux Center) 3:45, received a bye, decided by Ethan Wood (Mount Vernon) 4-0.

220: Trevor Dieren (24-5) did not place. Received a bye, decided by Mason Koehler (Glenwood) 4-0, pinned Trenton Kingrey (Knoville) 3:36, decided by Kai Malone (Columbus/WMU) 10-5, decided by Clark Younggreen (Mount Vernon) 3-1 sudden victory.

MOC-Floyd Valley

138: Irving Ramirez (29-15) did not place. Pinned by Payton Anderson (New Hampton/Turkey Valley) 2:36, received a bye, decided by Cade Korsma (Crestwood) 6-4, decided by Tucker Wheeler (PCM) 12-0.

152: Kooper Huss (34-13) did not place. Pinned by Chaz Graves (Knoville) 1:43, received a bye, pinned by Joshua Zeman (West Liberty) 1:51.

Okoboji/Hartley-Melvin-Sanborn

120: Dylan Jones (29-14) did not place. Pinned by Christian Ahrens (Creston/Orient-Macksburg) 3:32, received a bye, pinned by Isaac Wilson (Algona) 1:28.

152: Bryce Dodge (25-15) did not place. Major decided by Taran Weber (Charles City) 14-4, received a bye, pinned by Hunter Steffens (Sergeant Bluff-Luton) 4:31.

160: Noah Strantz (38-10) wrestling in consolation. Won by technical fall over Chase Greiner (Washington) 19-4 5:04, major decided by Dawson Bond (Red Oak) 9-1, decided by Carson Kolbert (New Hampton/Turkey Valley) 6-4, decided by Jereh Gallegos (Carroll) 4-3, major decided by Logan Peyton (West Delaware) 11-2.

170: Nathaniel Franklin (22-13) did not place. Pinned by Zaylon Ellington (Sergeant Bluff-Luton) 1:57, received a bye, pinned by Clay Saack (Appling-Parkersburg/Grundy Center) 3:11.

220: Sam Pas (37-9) did not place. Pinned Treyton Kingrey (Knoville) 1:59, decided by Rudy Papakee (South Tama) 12-5, pinned Nathan Graves (Southeast Valley) 1:46, decided by Drew Jackson (Crestwood) 8-2.

Sheldon-South O'Brien

152: Coy DeBoer (43-4) wrestling in consolation. Decided by Zeke Howen (Winterset) 6-2, pinned by Jase Goodell (Humboldt) 1:26, decided by Adam Baier (Red Oak) 7-5, decided by Triston Miller (Columbus/WMU) 8-4, pinned Chaz Graves (Knoville) 5:23, pinned by Jace Goodell (Humboldt) 2:51.

162: Jarrett Roos (42-1) wrestling in consolation. Received a bye, pinned Gage Allen (Humboldt) 3:27, pinned Zach Adelvrind (Dike-New Hartford) 1:07, decided by Brody Sampson (Ballard) 3-2.

195: Zach Brinkman (26-20) did not place. Pinned by K.J. Fry (Clarke/Murray) 2:26, received a bye, pinned by Cole Jeffries (Osage) 4:4.

285: Jack Long (26-19) did not place. Pinned by Max Chapman (Creston/Orient-Macksburg) 1:00, received a bye, pinned by Evan Sorenson (Atlantic) 2:46.

Sioux Center

132: Kade Bauer (35-11) did not place. Decided by Caden Greiner (Washington) 10-3, major decided by Kale Peterson (Greene County) 15-5, won by injury default over Kotton Keller (Sayre) 2:50, pinned Carter Lansen (Vinton-Shellsburg) 5:03, decided by Bo Koedam (Sergeant Bluff-Luton) 11-8.

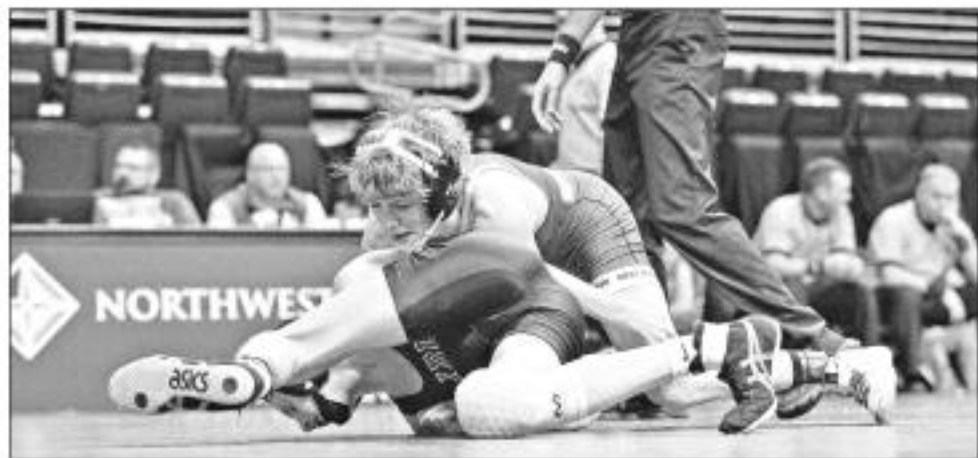
195: Jacques Zomermaand (32-16) did not place. Pinned Evan Kruger (Central Lyon/George-Little Rock) 3:45, major decided by C.J. Carter (Glenwood) 15-3, won by medical forfeit over Curtis Stender (Abingdon), pinned Ethan Peterson (Charles City) 2:59, lost by technical fall to Carter Snuck (Winterset) 19-2 5:23.

West Lyon

106: Evan Erpenbach (44-8) did not place. Received a bye, decided by Lincoln Schropp (Williamsburg) 10-8 sudden victory, major decided by Quinn Andriano (Van Meter) 15-5, pinned Judah Gurnell (Winterset) 5:55, pinned by Clayton Farnsworth (Mount Vernon) 1:28.

113: Ryan Bahnsen (47-6) wrestling in consolation. Major decided by Myles Beck (QABCIS) 15-4, decided by Colin Cassidy (West Liberty) 6-5, pinned Spencer Fink (Hartsville) 3:54, decided by Matt McCabe (Fairfield) 1-0, decided by Mack Miller (Eagle Grove) 7-3 sudden victory, decided by Dreylen Schweitzer (Carroll) 5-1.

195: Emmitt Fleshman (37-10) did not place. Decided by Sam Hosh (Centerfield) 6-1, decided by Will Ward (West Delaware) 10-4, decided by Ethan Peterson (Charles City) 6-4.



West Lyon freshman Evan Erpenbach tries to maintain control of Williamsburg sophomore Lincoln Schropp in a Class 2A 106-pound bout at the state tournament in Des Moines Wednesday.



## SPORTS

## H-M-S qualifies for state tournament in first year

## HAWKS

Continued from page C1

Hartley-Melvin-Sanborn's girls were third out of five teams in Sanborn on Monday.

"It was one of our better Baker games," said Hartley-Melvin-Sanborn coach Julia Meyer. "Being at home helps. As we went through the season the girls worked a lot on picking up their spares and just their basic fundamentals. As we went along, things started to click more."

Meyer said the Hawks had high hopes for some of their individual bowlers, but none were able to crack the top four at the tournament and advance to state.

"Nerves might have had a little bit to do with it," Meyer said. "Jordan Lux had been pretty good for us all season. She was toward the top of the list in high game and high series coming in. There were some pretty good bowlers on the teams we faced too. When you look back at the Baker games, OABCIG only beat us by 21 which is basically just picking up a couple more spares, but the team that won (Shenandoah) was quite a bit in front and they ended up getting three of their individuals in too."

Meghan Larson had the high individual series for the Hawks.

"It was a good learning experience for the girls," Meyer said. "We only have one senior and a lot of our girls are new bowlers who have only done it before this as part of a fun event. This was their first

time with it as a competitive sport. They made quite a bit of improvement."

Meanwhile in Le Mars, West Sioux finished sixth out of eight teams at the Class 2A girls state-qualifying meet.

The host Bulldogs won the team section of the event with a score of 3,203. West Sioux rolled a 1,779.

"We actually bowled better than our average going in," said West Sioux coach Brian Engleman. "Average wise, we were projected to finish eighth, but we beat a couple of those teams. As the year went on, we got better. The girls are young. Some of them don't even have their own equipment yet. I think some of the parents were waiting to see if they stuck with it, but they did. We don't graduate anybody and there is a lot of potential there."

In the Class 2A qualifier, eight individuals made it to state. It took a 560 series to make the cut. The Falcons' top finish came from Addysyn Ness, who totaled a 392. Ness is the lone junior on the Falcon squad.

"Hopefully she has a breakout senior year," Engleman said. "She just needs a little more work to fully understand some of the concepts and little adjustments you make in bowling and she can really do well."

## Banner day

Hartley-Melvin-Sanborn knew it had a shot coming into the Class 1A boys state-qualifying meet Tuesday in Sanborn and the Hawks did

not let the moment slip away.

The Hawks made school history by winning the team title. Hartley-Melvin-Sanborn bowled a 2,869 score in the 15-game series of Baker Games, finishing 200 pins ahead of runner-up Shenandoah.

The momentum carried over to the individual series as Jack Mastbergen took first with a 700 and Marcus Aaron took fifth with a 581, each earning a bid to state in the process.

"We had bowled a lot of good games during the season, but it didn't seem like we were all having good games together at the same time. We had a couple of Baker games we lost by just a couple of pins," Meyer said. "But we were bowling against mostly bigger schools in our conference, so we felt like we had a good chance here."

For a program in its first year together, the Hawks didn't lack experience either.

"We've got guys who have been bowlers since they were in first or second grade. We've got others who were junior bowlers or did it in middle school," Meyer said. "We have the ability. We just had to make sure our heads were in the game."

Hartley-Melvin-Sanborn was consistent in its Baker games according to Meyer. She said it was the team's best round of the season.

Mastbergen was dominant in the individual portion of the event. He had games of 245 and 275 on his way to his 700 series.

"He is very consistent. He's the one that has been bowling the longest. His dad and his uncles are good bowlers," the coach said. "He's learned a lot and knows a lot."

Meyer was happy for Aaron as well.

"It was good. He has bowled better than that before, but it was still good," she said.

Meyer was not totally surprised to see the Hawks earn a state bid.

"I always knew we had some good bowlers. I coached a lot of them in juniors," she said.

The team has not set goals for state as of yet.

"We haven't talked about it, but I'm sure they are already looking at the scores that qualified and seeing what we have to beat," Meyer said.

The West Sioux boys team is large in numbers but short on experience. Like the girls, the boys team took sixth out of eight teams at its qualifier, which was in Le Mars on Tuesday.

"We had a huge bunch of kids," Engleman said, putting that number at 36 on the squad. "Our varsity lineup fluctuated all year. We probably had 10 guys who bowled some varsity."

Senior Michael Swancutt, freshman Matthew Swancutt, senior Braden Huber and senior Andrew Brinkman have brought that lineup some stability.

"Those guys were locked on from the start, but some of our first year kids really came on," Engleman said.

Michael Swancutt was a state qualifier a year ago, but

couldn't repeat the feat this time. He had a 581 series. It took a 657 to get in as an individual.

"That part was a little disappointing that he didn't get to go back, but bowling is a sport where sometimes you are on and sometimes you are not," the coach said. "Maybe he was nervous being a senior and wanting to go back whereas last year he wasn't expecting it and just let it go. He seemed a little tight and things just weren't falling for him. We saw some guys hit the head pin square on and get a strike and then Michael had some where he was right in the pocket and got a split. He got some bad breaks, and there were some kids there that bowled well. There were a lot of high scores. He got behind and once you do that it is tough to come back."

The Baker games for the Falcons were the best team scores of the year.

"That's an accomplishment," Engleman said. "We've still got a way to go to reach where some of those programs are. I was encouraged that Marcus got third. That's a program about our size and I hope to see us get to that level too."

## Class 1A girls state-qualifier at Sanborn

Team results: 1. Shenandoah 2,436; 2. OABCIG 1,971; 3. Hartley-Melvin-Sanborn 1,950; 4. North Iowa 1,767; 5. Pocahontas Area 1,731.

Individual state qualifiers: 1. Sophie Hagen (NI) 546; 2. Jaylen Gray (SH) 529; 3. Hannah Stearns (SH) 521; 4. Taylor Davis (SH) 521.

## Hartley-Melvin-Sanborn individual results:

Kayanna Brower 100, 92, 109 - 301; Lasi Croatt 103, 123, 112 - 338; Destry Obeas 117, 118, 168 - 403; Annika

Ovemire 123, 83, 81 287; Meghan Larson 134, 138, 163 - 436; Jordan Lux 131, 140, 140 - 411.

## Class 2A girls state-qualifier at Le Mars

Team results: 1. Le Mars 3,203; 2. Council Bluffs Lewis Central 2,725; 3. MMCRU 2,718; 4. Fort Dodge 2,548; 5. Council Bluffs Thomas Jefferson 2,028; 6. West Sioux 1,779; 7. Sioux City West 1,570; 8. Sioux Central 1,451.

Individual state qualifiers: 1. Aleksha Oden (CBLC) 696; 2. Natalie Vanderlo (L) 629; 3. Bailey Gill (L) 645; 4. Anyssa Lumsden (FD) 587; 5. Kato Reed (CBLC) 577; 6. Faith Renshaw (CBLC) 576; 7. Emily Peters (L) 569; 8. Gabby Flores (FD) 560.

West Sioux individual results: Anya Sabalaukas 137, 125 - 385; Annalisse Elliott 82, 64, 85 - 231; Taegan Tracy 95, 124, 144 363; Sara Green 84, 124, 99 - 307; Madison Wilson 75, 122, 99 - 296; Addysyn Ness 152, 116, 124 - 392.

## Class 1A boys state-qualifier at Sanborn

Team results: 1. Hartley-Melvin-Sanborn 2,869; 2. Shenandoah 2,689; 3. OABCIG 2,636; 4. Sergeant Bluff-Luton 2,548; 5. North Iowa 2,081; 6. Pocahontas Area 1,222.

Individual state qualifiers: 1. Jack Mastbergen (H-M-S) 700; 2. Maddox Muston (SB-L) 663; 3. Alex Razez (Shen) 633; 4. Garner Steiner (Shen) 584; 5. Marcus Aaron (H-M-S) 581; 6. Karsten Knudson (NI) 572; 7. Hunter Echter (SB-L) 563; 8. Dylan Gray (Shen) 560.

Hartley-Melvin-Sanborn individual results: Dawson Nichel 205, 142, 198 - 545; Riley Russell 161, 188, 192 - 541; Drew Pirns 160, 172, 200 - 532; Marcus Aaron 206, 179, 196 - 581; Jack Mastbergen 245, 275, 177 - 700; Skylar Shaffer 202,

176, 134 - 512.

## Class 2A boys state-qualifier at Le Mars

Team results: 1. Le Mars 3,091; 2. Denison-Schleswig 3,058; 3. MMCRU 2,986; 4. Council Bluffs Lewis Central 2,902; 5. Emmetsburg 2,834; 6. West Sioux 2,674; 7. Sioux Central 2,435; 8. Sioux City West 2,410.

Individual state qualifiers: 1. Christian Schradeke (D-SI) 702; 2. Preston Cress (En) 695; 3. Carter Miller (MMCRU) 695; 4. Colby Fanning (MMCRU) 690; 5. Trevor Fischer (LJ) 683; 6. Easton Weckband (En) 668; 7. Caleb Hodtwaiker (CBLC) 664; 8. Caiden Highfitter (LJ) 657.

## West Sioux individual results:

Michael Swancutt 193, 175, 213 - 581; Matt Swancutt 200, 200, 156 - 556; Andrew Brinkman 194, 170, 156 - 520; Braden Huber 151, 167, 147 - 465; Jayson Stamer 134, 156, 167 - 457; Jeremiah Brugel 126, 135, 190 - 451.

## THURSDAY CLASS 1A DISTRICT 1 BOYS BASKETBALL

## Home court advantage plays factor as Jays get past Mustangs

## Last home game for coach Langel

BY CHARLIE HILDEBRAND

CHILDEBRAND@NWESTIOWA.COM

GEORGE L.R. 12 8 7 14 - 41

GEHLEN CATHOLIC 9 15 9 20 - 53

LE MARS—Gehlen Catholic leaned on its defense and won the final home game in coach Mike Langel's career with a 53-41 victory over George-Little Rock in the semifinals of the Class 1A District 1 tournament in boys basketball on Thursday.

Langel said he was happy with his team's defensive effort.

"I told the kids the first day of practice for this George-Little Rock team that we're going to have to win this on the defensive end," he said. "Our kids stepped up and did that so I was happy."

George-Little Rock co-coach Brian Luenberger said the atmosphere at the Gehlen Catholic gym was "electric."

"Home court advantage made a difference. Your records matter," he said. "It was a great atmosphere. It was standing room only and it was loud. Going in there and winning was going to be a tall task."

The Mustangs got off to a good start, leading 15-10 early in the second period.

"We came out and played well. We had the tempo of the game to our liking," Luenberger said. "We were able to get what we wanted against their man defense. We got the ball inside and we rebounded well. They switched to zone after that and it bothered us."

Gehlen Catholic used a 14-0 second quarter run to take a 24-20 halftime lead.

"About halfway through the first quarter I changed the defense up," Langel said. "I put Carter Kellen in about then and I think he really sparked us coming off the bench. They were beating us on the rebounds right away. We weren't getting the ball rebounded. They were getting second shots. That's one thing Carter can do very well. He goes in and rebounds."

Luenberger said the game changed a bit when Isaiah Johnson got in foul trouble in the second half. He ended up picking up his fifth foul with six minutes left.

"Defensively, we had been hedging hard on their screens and being physical with them. Until the fourth quarter, we did a pretty good job of limiting them in transition," he said. "Isaiah is our best on-ball defender. We really could have

used him against (Keaten) Bonderson. Once we couldn't use him there anymore because we were trying to keep him in the game as long as we could, Bonderson got loose a few times."

Bonderson led the Jays with 27 points. Drake DeRocher and Connor Kraft each scored eight. Bonderson and Kraft each pulled down six rebounds. Keaton Logan dealt out five assists. Bonderson had four steals.

"Our student body and our parents and everybody really got behind this team from the opening tip right down to the very end," Langel said. "I was very proud of closing out the season at home here with a win. Just happy about our fans coming out and supporting us and want to thank them for that."

Drew Denekas paced the Mustangs with 19 points and 13 rebounds. Tyler Greve scored eight points. Charlie Hamilton had eight rebounds and Matt Helkenn grabbed seven. Brandon Van Briesen had five assists. Johnson had three steals.

"It was a good, intense game," Luenberger said. "It could be the start of a good rivalry."

Gehlen Catholic improved to 19-5 and will play Newell-Fonda, which is 18-4, in the district final at Cherokee on Tuesday.

George-Little Rock ended its season at 11-11.

## Wolverines defense key in another win

SOUTH O'BRIEN 5 6 14 19 - 44

KINGSLEY/PIERSON 9 6 6 14 - 35

KINGSLEY—South O'Brien leaned on its defense and controlled the second half on the way to a 44-35 win over Kingsley-Pierson in the semifinals of the Class 1A District 1 boys basketball tournament on Thursday.

Wolverines' coach Kiley Yates said his team had an outstanding defensive effort to hold the Panthers to just 35 points and to 3-of-23 from three-point range.

"They won 17 games and had won 12 in a row," he said. "They run really good offense and have some really good skill players. To hold them to that number is pretty impressive."

The first half was a struggle on offense for both teams. Kingsley-Pierson led 9-5 through one quarter. Each squad scored six points in the second stanza, all six for South O'Brien came from Ben Woodall, and the Panthers led 15-11

at halftime.

"The first half, it was better than the 15-11 it looked like," Yates said. "I thought we got better shots than them, but didn't make them."

The Wolverines outscored the hosts 14-6 in the third quarter to take a 25-21 lead into the final frame.

"We got rolling in the third," Yates said. "Our defense kept it up."

Trailing 30-27 with about four minutes left in the game, Kingsley-Pierson had a steal and South O'Brien fouled. A Panther player then got a technical foul for taunting. Kingsley-Pierson made 1-of-2 free throws. The Wolverines made both free throws from the technical, then with possession of the ball, scored again to stretch the lead to 34-28.

Woodall led South O'Brien with 13 points and added five rebounds. David Bottjen finished with 11 points, seven rebounds and four steals. Boston Riedemann scored eight points. Willie Conley had five rebounds and eight assists. Hudson Coolman pulled down five boards.

The Wolverines improved to 16-7 with the victory and advanced to the district championship game for the seventh time in the last nine years, winning five of them.

"It's familiar ground for us," Yates said. "We have kids on the team that have played in this game. We'll see if we can have some success."

South O'Brien plays seventh-ranked and 20-2 Remsen St. Mary's in the district title game on Tuesday in Sioux Center. The Hawks won the first meeting 67-41 on Dec. 6 in Remsen and the second contest 69-62 on Feb. 4 in Paullina.

"We'll have to play our best to beat them," Yates said. "We'll get a plan together on both ends of the floor, have some good practices and be excited to play in Sioux Center. That's a great facility we've seen but haven't played in."

## Hawks land short in second half of loss

HM-S 10 16 13 6 - 45

REMSEN ST. M. 13 13 21 11 - 58

REMSEN—Hartley-Melvin-Sanborn fought and clawed with seventh-ranked Remsen St. Mary's and made the hosts work for it but lost 58-45 in the semifinals of the Class 1A District tournament in boys basketball on Thursday.

"I'm proud of how our guys battled against a really good Remsen St. Mary's team,"



Gehlen Catholic senior Keaton Logan tries to drive against George-Little Rock junior Micah Jumbuck during Thursday's Class 1A District 1 game. The Jays won 53-41. Photo by Allen Hamil

said Hartley-Melvin-Sanborn coach Naethan Hoaglund. "We were able to hang around for the majority of the game but just didn't have enough to come out on top."

St. Mary's led 13-10 through one quarter.

"Our defense was solid in the first half and we made them have to work for quality looks," Hoaglund said.

The hosts led late in the second frame, but Hartley-Melvin-Sanborn's Kooper Ebel hit a three-pointer at the buzzer to even the score at 26 going into halftime.

"I was really pleased with the effort we played with," Hoaglund said. "The first half was a back and forth battle. It felt like any time St. Mary's went on a little run our guys responded with big plays of their own."

The hosts scored the first six points of the third quarter and outscored Hartley-Melvin-

Sanborn 21-13 in the period to take a 47-39 advantage into the final stanza.

"We had a couple of opportunities to limit them but we didn't do a good enough job of securing rebounds and St. Mary's was able to capitalize," Hoaglund said. "We really struggled to contain St. Mary's on the defensive end in that third quarter. It seemed like they had us scrambling each possession and got really good looks."

St. Mary's closed the game with an 11-6 edge in the fourth quarter.

"We were within striking distance heading into the fourth quarter but St. Mary's put the clamps down defensively and we struggled to get good looks," Hoaglund said. "They made it really difficult to get Lance (Berends) going. Every time we looked to get Lance the ball they ran two, three, and sometimes four guys at

him and played him pretty physical."

Ebel finished with 22 points, five rebounds, three assists and two blocked shots. Berends had 15 points, 10 rebounds and two blocked shots.

"St. Mary's is a really good basketball team and for three quarters we gave them a good run for it," Hoaglund said. "We just weren't able to make enough plays in the end."

Hartley-Melvin-Sanborn ended its season with a record of 12-10.

"I'm thankful for our nine seniors and their leadership over the years," Hoaglund said. "I'm grateful for the relationships I've grown with them and for the opportunity to coach them."

"I'm proud of their accomplishments on and off the basketball court and so appreciative for who they are as people."



## SPORTS

## THURSDAY CLASS 2A DISTRICT BOYS BASKETBALL SEMIFINALS

# Vander Zee drops 40 in Lions victory

Central Lyon hot early against Boyden-Hull

BOYDEN-HULL 15 15 16 15 - 61  
CENTRAL LYON 32 17 15 21 - 85

**ROCK RAPIDS**—Junior Reece Vander Zee poured in a career-high 40 points to help boost top-ranked Central Lyon in an 85-61 Class 2A District 15 boys basketball win over Boyden-Hull on Thursday in Rock Rapids.

Vander Zee made 16-of-25 shots, including 5-of-6 three-pointers. He was 3-for-3 at the foul line.

"We would like to be a little more balanced scoring, but when one guy gets it going and the ball keeps finding him, that's how the game works," said Central Lyon coach Ben Gerleman.

Central Lyon won at Boyden-Hull 79-38 on Dec. 10 and downed the Comets in Rock Rapids 78-57 on Jan. 24.

The Lions led 32-15 after the first quarter.

"We came out and got off to a really fast start," Gerleman said. "We were able to get lots of buckets in transition and got some good looks early in possessions. We shot the ball really well in the first quarter. Reece got off to a really quick start."

Vander Zee hit four three-pointers in the first quarter alone.

"We knew they were going to score, but we would have liked to keep them in the 60s or low 70s," said Boyden-Hull coach Isaac Heyer. "They are a high-offense team and once we got down like that in the first quarter it made it tough."

"Reece had good games against us before. Nothing like that, but he still had an impact," Heyer continued. "He came ready to play and got it going right away. At halftime we switched up our matchups and did a little better, but he probably had almost 30 by then."

The coach said the Comets did have a good night at the other end.

"We played really good. We moved the ball, we set screens and we did a nice job of attacking the lane and getting to the hoop," he said. "We didn't back down even with the length and athleticism they have."

That let Boyden-Hull hang around for a little bit.

The Comets cut the lead to 12 multiple times in the third quarter and early in the fourth before the Lions pulled away again.

"Defensively we had a few break-downs in communication, but overall, it was a good night," Gerleman said. "Boyden-Hull as gotten so much better as the year has gone on. Coach Heyer has done a great job."

Zach Lutmer had 23 points, six assists, five steals and two blocks for the Lions.

Andrew Austin had 15 points and 11 rebounds. Josh Elbert had seven rebounds and six assists.

Carter Kleinwoterink led Boyden-Hull with 16 points. Blake Moser and Brock Fisher each scored 11, Kason Woelber had 10 and Nate Van Otterloo nine.

Central Lyon improved to 19-1 and will play West Sioux, which is 18-4, in the district final Tuesday at MOC-Floyd Valley in Orange City.

Boyden-Hull finished its season at 9-14.

## Bultman shot late lifts Falcons over Knights

UNITY CHRISTIAN 14 13 14 13 - 54  
WEST SIOUX 20 15 12 16 - 63

**HAWARDEN**—West Sioux staved off multiple runs by Unity Christian and made enough plays late to earn a 63-54 victory over the Knights in the semifinals of the Class 2A District 15 boys basketball tournament Thursday.

The Falcons led 20-14 through one quarter.

"We played really well," said West Sioux coach Jerome Hoegh. "We came out right off the bat and played extremely hard. We were very aggressive early on and got some good looks because of it."

The Falcons held a 15-13 edge in the second stanza and took a 35-27 lead into halftime.

"At half, we probably didn't play the best we could have defensively," said Unity Christian coach Cody Harskamp. "Offensively, we were a little impatient. We were more patient in the second half."

West Sioux's Mason Coppock hit a three-pointer at the buzzer to end the third quarter and entered the final stanza with a 47-41.

"We also allowed them to make some baskets at the end of quarters that were killers," Harskamp said.

Coppock picked up his fourth foul in the third quarter.

"That was definitely worrisome being without him for a lot of the time. We kept subbing him in on offense and subbing him out on defense," Hoegh said. "Brady (Lynott) stepped in for him at point guard. It was good seeing guys go through adversity with Mason in foul trouble and Booker (Walsh) fouling out."

Unity Christian cut the margin to two points once in the fourth quarter and to four points on four occasions, but never was able to tie the game or take the lead.

"We competed and we kept giving ourselves chances," Harskamp said. "It just seemed like we couldn't capitalize on that. The guys kept fighting back."

Coppock got a steal that led to an old-fashioned three-point play for West Sioux to stretch the lead to 58-51 with 1:10 left in the game.

The Knights drew a foul on the next possession and Stephen Schreurs made 1-of-2 free throws to trim the margin to 58-52, but the visitors never got any closer.

"They just kept going on nice runs and we kept holding them off and then going on ones of our own," Hoegh said. "I was happy we got the ball inside and got to the free-throw line."

Coppock led West Sioux with 18 points. Bultman scored 15 points and Walsh added 10. Lynott finished with six rebounds and six assists.

Braeden Bosma led Unity Christian with 20 points and nine rebounds. Tyce Van Beek finished with 14 points and five rebounds. Dylan Bosma scored 10 points. Jackson Vogel grabbed five rebounds.

West Sioux improved to 18-4 with the win.



West Sioux senior Booker Walsh tries to hit a shot inside as Unity Christian senior Trevor Wieringa defends during a Class 2A District 15 semifinal game Thursday in Hawarden. The Falcons won 63-54. Photo by Charlie Hildebrand

The Falcons play top-ranked and 19-1 Central Lyon in the district championship game on Tuesday at MOC-Floyd Valley High School in Orange City.

"We're looking forward to keep playing," Hoegh said. "I love coaching these guys and want to keep coaching them. Central Lyon is extremely good. We'll go compete and see what we can do."

Unity Christian ended its season at 12-11.

"We made progress throughout the season and I felt like we were playing some pretty good basketball at the end," Harskamp said. "We will definitely miss the seniors and their commitment, leadership and dedication they gave for four years. Now the younger guys have to put in the work to see if we can make the next step."

## Wolfpack doesn't forget, runs through Cherokee

CHEROKEE 9 10 5 9 - 33  
WESTERN CHRISTIAN 27 30 11 13 - 81

**HULL**—Fifth-ranked Western Christian wasn't messing around with Cherokee this year, crushing the Braves 81-33 in the semifinals of the Class 2A District 1 boys basketball tournament Thursday.

Last year, the third-ranked Wolfpack dropped a 64-63 decision to Cherokee in the district tournament after beating the Braves by an average of 42.5 points in two Lakes Conference games earlier in the season.

"We prepared well for this game," said Western Christian coach Derek Keizer. "The guys were focused and maybe a little extra motivated coming in."

The Wolfpack scored 13 of the first 15 points and led 27-9 through one quarter.

"We got off to a great start and maybe overwhelmed them a little bit," Keizer said. "We applied some pressure and were able to spread the lead real fast and never looked back."

Western Christian had an even bigger scoring advantage in the second period, outscoring the Braves 30-10 to increase the lead to 57-19 by halftime.

"They were sending everyone to the offensive boards and we knew if we could secure the first rebound we would have transition opportunities," Keizer said. "We definitely took advantage of that."

With a running clock in the second half, the Wolfpack outscored the visitors 11-5 in the third quarter and took a 68-24 lead into the final frame.

"It was a fun night for our seniors," Keizer said. "It was great to see Ashton Winterfeld play some great minutes. He came in the game and asserted himself right away."

Tate Van Regenmorter led Western Christian with 15 points. Karsten Moret scored 14 points and Winterfeld tossed in 12. J.D. Pettit grabbed five rebounds. Uchan Harberts handed out five assists.

The Wolfpack improved to 18-3 with the win.

Western Christian plays 13-8 Estherville Lincoln Central in the district championship game on Tuesday in Sheldon.

"Every win in the postseason is meaningful," Keizer said. "We will take this win and start preparing for ELC coming up."

## Big third quarter helps West Lyon beat Pioneers

OKOBOJI 9 12 8 14 - 43  
WEST LYON 17 12 27 13 - 69

**INWOOD**—West Lyon burst out of the locker room after halftime with a greater level of intensity at each end Thursday and took command of a 69-43 Class 2A District 2 boys basketball win over Okoboji.

The Wildcats opened their season with an 82-39 home romp over Okoboji and put up similar numbers in an 86-42 road win on Jan. 17.

West Lyon coach Aaron Johnson said the Pioneers took a different approach this time around.

"They came with a different look. They did a lot more dribble exchange stuff with a lot more penetration and when they did they were pretty shifty in the lane," he said. "We challenged our guys to be a little more on their toes in our 1-v-1 defense at halftime."

West Lyon led 14-2 early. The Wildcats led 17-9 after one quarter and 29-21 at the half.

"We came out slow and couldn't convert on the offensive end," said Okoboji coach Alex Spielman. "We settled down and made some shots to end the first quarter and into the second quarter."

Spielman said going into the game he figured offensive production would be critical for the Pioneers. The goal defensively was to hold West Lyon under its season average of 68 points and then see what they could do at the offensive end.

"We knew coming into the game we needed to score more points than our season average. We needed to score 60 to 65 points," he said. "We did a great job defensively. A key to our lack of scoring has been turn-

overs. Those turnovers also lead to easy points in transition. We knew we needed to either be under 12 turnovers or force them into more turnovers than they got from us."

Okoboji had 19 turnovers, 11 of them in the third quarter.

Johnson said the hosts were too passive at each end in the first half. They solved that problem in the third quarter, outscoring the Pioneers 27-8.

"In the first half we were setting screens to get open, but then we'd just pass it around the arc," the coach said. "We wanted to get it in the paint more. In the third quarter we did that and it led to some open threes, then we were able to get some good cutters to the basket."

Devan Van Wyhe had 20 points, eight rebounds and six assists for West Lyon. Darren Meyer had 18 points. Carson Hoogeveen and Bryson Childress each scored 11 points. Carson Hoogeveen had seven assists. Trevor Ciesielski had six assists.

"We were able to find a way to advance. It wasn't pretty, but we got it done," Johnson said. "We have to make sure we are ready to play each night. Right now a lot of it is between the ears."

Landon Duvall scored 12 points for Okoboji. Aidan Dahms had 10.

West Lyon improved to 17-4 going into a district final matchup with Emmetsburg that will be on Tuesday at Okoboji High School in Milford. The E-Hawks are 15-6 on the year.

Okoboji finished the year at 7-17. "This season we played over 10 players who had no varsity experience," Spielman said. "Turnovers and mental mistakes are expected of a group with very little experience. Okoboji has a bright future ahead and this season of change will pay dividends into the future of the program."

## Rockets close early but fall versus Emmetsburg

ROCK VALLEY 14 14 9 12 - 49  
EMMETSBURG 17 13 16 22 - 68

**EMMETSBURG**—Rock Valley's defense kept it in the game for a good part of the contest, but eventually some offensive woes were costly in a 68-49 Class 2A District 2 boys basketball tournament loss Thursday at Emmetsburg.

The E-Hawks led 17-14 after one quarter. Rock Valley trimmed at point off that advantage and was down 30-28 at the half.

"In the first half it was a good tournament game. It was back and fourth. In the second half we just struggled to score," said Rock Valley coach Wade Vander Maten.

As it was in Rock Valley's last two regular-season games, the foul line was a big factor and not in a positive way for the Rockets. Emmetsburg went 17-for-31 at the line. Rock Valley was 8-for-10.

"They were just a little more aggressive than we were the whole game. We only had two guys go to the line. They had six or seven," Vander Maten said. "We settled for jump shots at times. They are a good defensive team too. They have a lot of guards who are really quick and really skilled defensively. They pressed us a little, but we just had too many turnovers."

Rock Valley committed 17 turnovers and Emmetsburg had just six.

The Rockets were down 42-37 late in the third when the E-Hawks scored twice to push the advantage to nine. Vander Maten said Rock Valley was never able to muster a run in the fourth quarter.

"They made a little run and then you get to the point where we were fouling at the end," he said.

Bryson Zomer led the Rockets with 28 points, eight rebounds and four assists. Kaden Van Schepen scored 12 points.

Rock Valley ended the season at 9-13.

"Our kids played hard all year. I'm proud of the effort," Vander Maten said. "We had good senior leadership. It's a bummer when the season is done, but it was good. The kids were very coachable."



Central Lyon senior Zach Lutmer takes a shot over Boyden-Hull junior Blake Moser Thursday in Rock Rapids. The Lions won 85-61 over the Comets in the semifinals of the Class 2A District 15 tournament. Photo by Rylan Howe



Western Christian junior Tyler Mantel goes up for a layup attempt against Cherokee in the semifinals of the Class 2A District 1 tournament on Thursday in Hull. The Wolfpack routed the Braves 81-33. Photo by Scott Byers



## SPORTS

## WEDNESDAY CLASS 3A REGION 6 GIRLS BASKETBALL

## Unity Christian pulls away late against West Lyon

## Game rematch of 2021 state title tilt

BY CHARLIE HILDEBRAND  
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WEST LYON 13 9 12 15 - 49  
UNITY CHRISTIAN 10 17 15 22 - 64

ORANGE CITY—Class 3A 12th-ranked Unity Christian pulled away late in a defensive battle to take a 64-49 win over West Lyon in the semifinals of the Region 6 girls basketball tournament on Wednesday.

The contest was a rematch of the 2021 state championship game when the game was tied through three quarters and the Knights then won the fourth quarter 19-2 take the crown.

"West Lyon is an excellent team and they make you grind it out," said Unity Christian coach Jay Schuiteman. "It came down to us making plays and getting defensive stops. Our girls responded well, buckled down, played great defense and were able to convert on offense."

The Wildcats scored the first eight points of the game.

"We were playing well defensively," said West Lyon coach Ryan Brasser. "We were communicating on where Gracie Schoonhoven was and where their cutters were going."

West Lyon held a 13-10 edge through one quarter. However, Brasser saw some warning signs.

Emily Ter Wee picked up her second foul about midway through the first quarter. That changed what we can do offensively and got us a little out of rhythm," Brasser said.

Unity Christian outscored the Wildcats 17-9 in the second frame to go in front 27-22 at halftime.

"We struggled in the first half, especially offensively and being patient," Schuiteman said. "They force you into quick and tough shots. The second quarter, we were more patient. To be up five at half when we didn't play too well



Unity Christian sophomore Jady Hofmeyer takes a jumper as West Lyon senior Maddie Johnson defends Wednesday in Orange City. The Knights won. Photo by Charlie Hildebrand

was a definite blessing."

West Lyon tied the game early in the third quarter at 29 apiece, then went into a long scoring drought.

"Coming into the game I was hoping they would play us in anything but man," Brasser said. "I thought we could handle their 2-3 zone or their 1-3-1. They played man and they would come to double Emily on the block and they were still quick enough to get back and close out on the shooters."

Unity Christian made a three-pointer late in the period to stretch the lead to 42-31. Gianna Klarenbeek drilled a trey of her own at the buzzer for the Wildcats to trim the margin to 42-34 entering the fourth quarter. The Knights

had the lead up to 15 rather quickly in the final stanza.

"We were able to score a bit the rest of the way, but they did the same. We came in wanting to make someone besides Gracie beat us. They have enough athletes they were able to do that," Brasser said. "They had some of their role players step up. Overall, we did not play our best, but a lot of that had to do with Unity and what they were able to do to us with their defense."

In the final stanza, the Knights outscored the visitors 22-15.

"We were in attack mode the rest of the game," Schuiteman said. "Defensively, we were able to frustrate them, and that led to some easy buckets

and we widened the lead."

Jady Hofmeyer led Unity Christian with 15 points and added five rebounds. Gracie Schoonhoven finished with 12 points, nine rebounds and eight assists. Cassidy Dekkers had 12 points and five assists. Jaelye Woudstra scored 11 points.

Tyra Schuiteman, the daughter of coach Schuiteman, came off the bench and finished with nine points and five rebounds in her first game back from an injury.

"She gave us some good minutes and played within herself," coach Schuiteman said. "She added to what we've got going on. You never know how that's going to go when someone gets back. She's been out six weeks. She did some nice things for us and adds to how we've been playing down the stretch."

Klarenbeek led West Lyon with 18 points. Randi Childress scored nine points. Evy Knoblock grabbed six rebounds. TerWee handed out four assists.

Unity Christian improved to 18-5 with the win. The Knights play at Class 3A seventh-ranked Sioux Center in the regional championship game at 7 p.m. today (Saturday, Feb. 18). The Warriors beat Unity Christian 71-46 in a game on Jan. 21 in Sioux Center.

"I don't think they got our best game last time," coach Schuiteman said. "Anytime you get a chance to play again after not doing well the first time is nice. We'll have to play well and look forward to the challenge. That's what sub-state games should be."

West Lyon ended its season at 17-6.

## Warriors hold on in win over Spirit Lake

SPIRIT LAKE 10 19 9 9 - 47  
SIOUX CENTER 14 19 7 10 - 50

SIOUX CENTER—After suffering through heartbreaking losses in the regional semifinals the last two years,

seventh-ranked Sioux Center did enough late to earn a 50-47 win over Spirit Lake in the Class 3A Region 6 girls basketball semifinals on Wednesday in Sioux Center.

In 2021, the Warriors had the ball with a chance to win at the end of regulation at Sioux City Heelan, but got whistled for an offensive foul and eventually lost 48-43 in overtime. Last year, the Warriors missed a potential game-tying shot from half court at the buzzer against top-ranked Unity Christian in a 45-42 loss.

"Anytime you win in tournament time, it's a good feeling," said Sioux Center coach Doug Winterfeld. "It's a good feeling to get past that hurdle and advance into the next game."

The Warriors led 14-10 through one quarter. Sioux Center led by 10 points in the second stanza with less than three minutes left.

Spirit Lake's Addison Avery then scored on an old-fashioned three-point play.

Claire Turner then made a three-pointer for the Indians to quickly trim the margin to four points. The Warriors went into halftime with a 33-29 edge.

"We had spurts we played really well. Then we had spurts we played a little relaxed," Winterfeld said. "It's tournament time and you're going to have that. These games are going to be close."

Spirit Lake held a 9-7 advantage in the third quarter, cutting the deficit to 40-38 entering the final frame.

The Indians scored after an offensive rebound to trim the margin to 47-45 with around two minutes left in the game.

Kennedy Kooli canned a three-pointer to stretch the Sioux Center lead to 50-45 with 1:10 remaining.

"She came off the bench and had the confidence and took the shot and was able to make it," Winterfeld said. "That's something that we've talked about all season. It could be anybody out on the floor. That

was good for her and good for the team."

Spirit Lake's Taylor Schneider was fouled making a basket, but missed the ensuing free throw, to cut the deficit to 50-47 with less than a minute to play.

Sioux Center's Tatum Schmalbeck was fouled with around 10 seconds left but missed the front end of a one-and-one. Spirit Lake grabbed the rebound and took a timeout with 6.8 seconds left after crossing half court. The Indians attempted a three-pointer just before the buzzer but missed the mark.

"We defended the three," Winterfeld said. "That was the only thing that could hurt us to put it into overtime. The girls did a good job of making sure they were there and contested and didn't foul them to put them on the line."

Willow Bleeker led the Warriors with 11 points, 10 rebounds, five assists and six steals. Makailyn Vander Waal finished with 11 points, six rebounds and four assists. Margo Schuiteman scored 10 points. Makenna Walhof grabbed five rebounds.

"We made enough plays down the stretch and defended the last shot to tie the game," Winterfeld said. "We got out of there with the win and can move on and focus on the next team."

Sioux Center hosts 12th-ranked Unity Christian in the regional championship game at 7 p.m. today (Saturday, Feb. 16).

The Warriors beat the Knights 71-46 in the only other meeting between the two teams this season on Jan. 21 in Sioux Center.

"It should be a great environment and a great high school ballgame," Winterfeld said. "It's two teams that know each other really well and played earlier in the season. The atmosphere should be great. I expect we'll have a large crowd. It should be fun for the kids and the fans."

## TUESDAY CLASS 2A REGIONAL GIRLS BASKETBALL

## Generals stymie Emmetsburg with tough defense on the way to blowout

## Held E-Hawks to single digits in each quarter

BY SCOTT BYERS  
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EMMETSBURG 5 6 4 4 - 19  
SIBLEY-OCHHEYEDAN 10 14 13 15 - 52

SIBLEY—Third-ranked Sibley-Ocheyedan blanketed Emmetsburg well enough defensively that the occasional struggle on offense didn't matter and the Generals rolled to a 52-19 Class 2A Region 3 girls basketball win Tuesday.

"It definitely wasn't our night shooting even though we got some good looks we normally hit," said Sibley-Ocheyedan coach Zach Wessels. "But giving up five, six, four and four is generally a good way to go on defense."

The Generals defense had the E-Hawks so out of sorts it was hard to tell what they were trying to accomplish at times.

Wessels said good scouting paid off in that case as Sibley-Ocheyedan basically cut the head off the snake.

"They have three or four guards that can really get downhill. If you play them in man, they are going to run five-out motion and try to hurt you like that," he said. "We stayed in our 1-3-1 and our middle girls were really good at stepping in against the drives. We were able to take them out of what they wanted to do. We had good rotation defensively and were able to keep them away from the rim."

That proved helpful on a night when the Generals were just 3-of-17 from three-point range.

The Generals went deeper into their bench than usual in an effort to find some offense.

"There wasn't a specific reason we did that. I guess we did want to get some girls in there to get them that playoff feeling. We trust them," Wessels said. "They did well too. Keytin Elser had a tremendous game though some of that stuff was things that you don't see on the stat sheet. It's fun when you can play a lot of girls and they can all be a factor in a team win."

Wessels said it wasn't perfect, but he was happy to be moving on.

"Defensively, the girls did great," he said. "Offensively, we're confident we can hit those shots. Every playoff win

is a good win."

Madison Brouwer had 18 points, nine rebounds, five steals and three blocks for the Generals. Marissa Ackerman had 12 points and 10 rebounds. Bria Wasmund dealt out six assists and Olivia Hensch had four assists.

## West Sioux hangs on at end to take down Royals

WEST SIOUX 10 10 10 18 - 48  
MMCRU 16 2 11 18 - 47

MARCUS—West Sioux used a big run late and got a defensive stop to earn a 48-47 win over MMCRU in a Class 2A Region 2 tournament game in girls basketball Tuesday.

The Falcons trailed 16-10 through one quarter.

"That first quarter, they really came out and shot the ball well," said West Sioux coach Shad Coppock. "We missed on a couple assignments, but they were making them. We felt good to be down six with the way they shot the ball."

The Falcons then outscored the Royals 10-2 in the second stanza to take a 20-18 lead into halftime.

"The second quarter, our attention to detail was tremendous," Coppock said. "We didn't give up anything we didn't want to."

MMCRU held an 11-10 edge in the third period to trim the deficit to 30-29 entering the final frame.

The Royals opened the fourth quarter on a 10-0 run to go in front 39-30.

West Sioux trailed by eight with three minutes left in the game but used a 10-0 run to take the lead.

With the game later tied at 45, Molly Hulshof grabbed an offensive rebound and was fouled while scoring inside.

She made the free throw to give the Falcons a 48-45 lead with about 20 seconds left.

"Mia Danielson made a great move to get us a great shot. Molly's girl came over to help. Molly grabbed the offensive rebound, kept the ball high and finished," Coppock said. "It was a really nice play."

Kora Alesch scored on a layup for MMCRU to trim the deficit to 48-47 with about 10 seconds left.

"We designed everything to stop her and she still got 23," Coppock said.

The Falcons turned the ball over with less than five seconds left.

MMCRU got the ball into Alesch, but she never got a shot off.

"Serenity McMahon and Cassie Koopmans locked down Alesch on the final play and she wasn't able to get a shot off. They did a really good job," Coppock said.

Addi Dekkers made six three-pointers and led West Sioux with 18 points.

"Those threes were huge for us and we needed every single one," Coppock said. "To the average fan, they don't see how good her defense is. She was so good in the bottom part of our zone. It's not just her athleticism, but she uses her head."

Hulshof finished with 13 points and eight rebounds for the Falcons. Danielson grabbed 12 rebounds. Koopmans notched seven assists and five steals.

"Our girls are resilient," Coppock said. "They don't let negative plays affect the next play. They did that all night long."

MMCRU ended its season at 14-7

## Central Lyon cruises by Comets after slow start

BOYDEN-HULL 3 7 9 12 - 31  
CENTRAL LYON 8 17 24 21 - 70

ROCK RAPIDS—Second-ranked Central Lyon used its defense to ignite the offensive attack, starting a run late in the first quarter and rolling from there in a 70-31 Class 2A Region 2 win Tuesday against Boyden-Hull.

The game was scoreless for its first three-and-a-half minutes.

The Lions led 4-3 with one minute left in the first period.

"We tried to take away (Dest) Hoogendoorn in the post and we did a really good job of that to start out," said Boyden-Hull coach Nathan Alexander. "We were playing our game. We made them take tough shots. We turned it over a couple of times right at the end of the quarter and they got layups to make it 8-3."

The two buckets at the end of the quarter were a part of a 21-7 run that put the Lions ahead 25-10 at the intermission.

"Offensively, we started out a little slow. We ended the regular season playing a string of games close together, so that week off might have got us out of sync a bit," said Central



Sibley-Ocheyedan junior Zoe Ackerman races down the court against Emmetsburg in a Class 2A Region 3 game on Tuesday evening in Sibley. The Generals took care of business, winning 52-19. Photo by Scott Byers

Lyon coach Heather Grafing. "Some of our shots just weren't falling and we weren't as aggressive as we needed to be. After the first quarter, we got our rhythm back."

Alexander said the low scoring game was what the Comets were aiming for after falling 87-37 the last time they faced the Lions.

"The first half was good. We got good shots. We didn't make as many as we'd like, but we executed what we wanted to do on defense at a high level," he said.

Central Lyon heated up after intermission, scoring 24 points in the third quarter and 21 in the fourth.

The Comets' highest scoring period of the contest produced 12 points.

"I was extremely proud of our defensive effort," Grafing said. "For four quarters I felt like we made them work for the shots they got and we were able to force them into some turnovers."

Alexander said the low scoring for the Comets was due to a combination of factors.

"In the first quarter, we were just a little too excited," he said. "But their defense was a chunk of it too. They pressure the ball well. They caused some turnovers and they really tightened the clamps on Ashtyn Kelderman, who has been our leading scorer all season."

The unbeaten Lions had five players score at least eight points in the contest. Kaylee Fluit led the team with 15 points. Addison Klosterbuer had 14 and Afton Schlumbohm 10. Alexis Austin snapped down nine rebounds. Schlumbohm blocked two shots.

Boyden-Hull, which finished its season at 5-18, got 12 points from Avery Noble and 11 from Jenny Luevano. Luevano had eight rebounds. Ashtyn Kelderman had seven rebounds and two blocks.



## SPORTS

TUESDAY CLASS 1A REGION 4 GIRLS BASKETBALL

## George-Little Rock doomed by big run in second quarter

Squad trailed by just three after one frame

BY SCOTT BYERS  
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GEORGE-LITTLE ROCK	10	4	11	7	-	32
REMSEN ST. MARY'S	13	17	14	13	-	57

REMSEN—Fourth-ranked Remsen St. Mary's started an 18-0 run midway through the first half and made sure George-Little Rock was not a threat after that Tuesday, winning a 57-32 decision in the second round of the Class 1A Region 4 girls basketball tournament.

George-Little Rock coach Reid Geerdes said the game plan was simple enough — don't turn it over against the Hawks' signature full-court press. It was easy to say that and harder to do it. The Mustangs gave the ball up 29 times.

"They are incredibly athletic and they are long too. You don't really

see that part on film. They seemed a lot bigger in person," Geerdes said. "They did a heck of a job with that press. They are going to trap wherever they can get them. We didn't handle it. They hit a few outside shots, but lots of their points came directly off the press."

Even if you happen to break the press, the Hawks don't allow you to get settled into your offense.

"They get you sped up to the point where you just aren't comfortable," Geerdes said.

The Mustangs were able to hang close in the opening frame, but Remsen St. Mary's got a couple of buckets late to start a huge push. The Hawks led 13-10 after one quarter, but eventually scored 18 straight points. By the end of the half the lead was 30-14.

"Wyleigh Steenhoven hit a couple of threes for us in the first quarter. We got a couple of shots to fall,"

Geerdes said. "The second quarter was just really ugly. Lindsey Haken got in foul trouble and that didn't make it any easier for us."

The Hawks added three points to the lead in the third quarter.

"The second half was OK. We calmed down a little bit," Geerdes said. "It is just hard to simulate their press in practice because they are so athletic. It took us too long to adjust. We did come out with a little fire and tried to attack it harder in the second half."

Geerdes said the team got a little thinner and a little rattled after Steenhoven was hurt late in the third quarter and didn't return.

Haken had 13 points and eight rebounds for the Mustangs. Steenhoven finished with 10 points and seven rebounds. Kami Gerken issued four assists.

The Mustangs ended the season at 5-17 overall.



George-Little Rock freshman Lindsey Haken drives toward the basket against Remsen St. Mary's in the quarterfinals of the Class 1A Region 4 tournament on Tuesday evening in Remsen. The Mustangs lost 57-32. Photo by Allen Hamil

MONDAY CLASS 1A DISTRICT BOYS BASKETBALL

## Mustangs make difference on defense in victory over Royals

Team holds MMCRU to 11 points in first half

BY CHARLIE HILDEBRAND  
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MMCRU	9	2	12	13	-	36
GEORGE-LR	10	14	12	15	-	51

GEORGE—George-Little Rock didn't allow a field goal in the second quarter as its defense gave it room to work during a 51-36 Class 1A District 2 boys basketball win Monday against MMCRU.

George-Little Rock co-coach Brian Luenberger said while it helped the Mustangs had beaten the Royals 50-47 in last year's district tournament and again this year, when they won 48-37 on Jan. 12, there is always going to be a settling in period in the postseason. That took basically the whole first quarter, which ended with George-Little Rock up 10-9.

The Mustangs didn't exactly start the second period hot on offense, but the defense ended up making it the decisive point of the contest. The Royals made just two free throws in the period. George-Little Rock eventually scored 14 points to go up 24-11 at the half.

"We clamped down. One big part of it was our ability to box out. Last time we played them, they had 14 offensive rebounds and this time they only had four," Luenberger said. "We knew (Kyler) Bork was their best shooter. We gave him some special attention and he only had two points in the first half. Our communication on defense was phenomenal."

George-Little Rock went on an 11-0 run in the last four minutes of the first half.

"Brandon Van Briesen hit a couple of three-pointers in the second quarter that got us going and then in the second half we were able to establish Drew Denekas and Charlie Hamilton inside," Luenberger said. "Once we went in with that halftime lead, we knew what we needed to do. We were able to run the shot clock down and still get some good shots at the end of it. It was a solid performance. That's what you want to see in the tournament."

Denekas compiled 15 points and 10 rebounds for the hosts. Hamilton had 12 points and seven rebounds. Isaiah Johnson chalked up 10 points, five rebounds and five assists.

## Gehlen Catholic wins but coach wants to see more

WOODBURY CENTRAL	10	5	22	12	-	49
GEHLEN CATHOLIC	18	15	19	15	-	67

LE MARS—Gehlen Catholic won handily against Woodbury Central 67-49 in the opening round of the Class 1A District 2 boys basketball tournament on Monday but Jays' coach Mike Langel said there is still plenty of work to be done.

"We beat them pretty easily the first time and I think they had that in their mind," Langel said. "That and it being the first tournament game, I think we were off a couple ticks."

Gehlen Catholic beat the Wildcats 83-19 on Jan. 16 in Moville.

On Monday, the Jays led 18-10 through one quarter and stretched the lead to 33-15 by halftime.

Woodbury Central held a 22-19 advantage in the third quarter, cutting the deficit to 52-37 entering the final frame.

"We were sluggish and weren't playing team defense," Langel said. "The third quarter, we gave up 22. I felt that our defense has to get a lot better, and I think it will. I think it was just the fact we won the first one so easily and it being the first game of the tournament."

The Jays closed the game by outscoring the visitors 15-12 in the fourth quarter.



George-Little Rock junior forward Charlie Hamilton looks to make a pass to a teammate against MMCRU in the first round of the Class 1A District 2 tournament on Monday in George. Hamilton finished with 12 points and seven rebounds in a 51-36 win for the Mustangs over the Royals. Photo by Scott Byers

"In the fourth quarter, we kind of put it together," Langel said. "Defensively, I thought we struggled a little bit. Sometimes you win and move on. That's kind of what we did."

Keaten Bonderson made 16-of-26 field goals and led Gehlen Catholic with 34 points and four steals.

"He put the team on his back a little bit and brought them along," Langel said.

Drake DeRoche scored 11 points for the Jays. Gabe Wiltgen grabbed 11 rebounds, Ryan Augustine pulled down eight and Bonderson grabbed seven.

## Tigers unable to slow down offense of GTRA

TRINITY CHRISTIAN	7	16	21	16	-	60
GTRA	24	28	13	15	-	80

GRAETTINGER—Trinity Christian got off to a rough start and couldn't catch back up in an 80-60 loss to Graettinger-Terril/Ruthven-Ayrshire in the first round of the Class 1A District 2 boys basketball tournament on Monday.

"Overall, I was pretty proud of them," said Tigers' coach Zach Van Ginkel. "They played hard the whole time, even getting behind early. Initially, we weren't ready for the speed with which GTRA plays with."

The Titans jumped out to a 24-7 lead and increased the margin to 52-23 by halftime.

"They didn't miss," Van Ginkel said. "When the other team makes shots and we aren't closing out like we should, that's going to put you in a tough spot right away."

Trinity Christian played better in the second half, outscoring the hosts 37-28 in the final 16 minutes.

"We executed a little better in the second half," Van Ginkel said. "We got a few more transition looks. After

halftime, we went to more of a pressure system — not necessarily to try and create turnovers — but to keep them in front of us so they wouldn't beat us down the court. That seemed to be effective."

The 60 points for the Tigers were the most they scored since a 72-67 win over Stoudland Christian on Dec. 10 and the second most of the season.

Dustin Hoksbergen led Trinity Christian with 20 points, six rebounds and eight assists. Eli Klein finished with 17 points and seven rebounds. Drew Poppema scored 11 points. Peirce Groeneweg and Carter grabbed both five rebounds.

The Tigers ended the season with a record of 3-18.

"I'm proud of the guys and how hard they played," Van Ginkel said. "At one point, I know we were down by 32. I'm proud of how they competed all the way to the end."

## Wolverines take bite out of Harris-Lake Park team

HARRIS-LAKE PARK	8	10	15	10	-	43
SOUTH O'BRIEN	15	15	13	12	-	55

PAULLINA—South O'Brien controlled the first half and built up a big enough lead to earn a 55-43 victory over Harris-Lake Park in the opening round of the Class 1A District 1 boys basketball tournament on Monday.

The Wolverines led 15-8 through one quarter, then held a 15-10 edge in the second period to stretch the advantage 30-18 by halftime.

"We got off to a good start," said South O'Brien coach Kiley Yates. "We played well offensively, especially in the first half. We hit some big shots. Defensively, I felt good about what we got done."

Harris-Lake Park won the third quarter 15-13, narrowing the deficit

to 43-33 entering the final frame. South O'Brien closed the game out by outscoring the visitors 12-10 in the fourth quarter.

"We broke down a little bit defensively in the second half and they knocked in some threes," Yates said. "The (Caleb) Hemphill kid knocked down five of them. He's a good player. That's what kept them in the game."

Yates said the game came down to rebounds and free throws.

"Defensively, we did a very good job at rebounding the ball," he said. "They only had three offensive rebounds against us after having 18 the last time we played. In the second half, we just couldn't get them to miss as much. Another good thing was we only gave up four free throws. We didn't foul much. Those were two things we focused in on to limit them and we did a good job with that."

Boston Riedemann led South O'Brien with 18 points. David Botjen finished with 13 points and nine rebounds. Dain Moermond had nine points and six rebounds. Hudson Oolman notched six rebounds and four assists. Ben Woodall passed around four assists.

"Tournament wins, you take what you can," Yates said.

"You go celebrate the victory and enjoy it for another 24 hours and then go back to practice and focus on the next one."

## Hawks take flight early in triumph against Warriors

ALTA-AURELIA	7	19	10	11	-	47
H-M-S	27	18	15	14	-	74

HARTLEY—Hartley-Melvin-Sanborn jumped in front of Alta-Aurelia early and leaned on its defense in the second half to notch a 74-47 win over the Warriors in the opening round of the Class 1A District 1 boys basketball

tournament on Monday.

The Hawks soared early on and led 27-7 through one quarter.

"We got off to a really fast start right out of the gates," said Hawks' coach Naethan Hoaglund. "Our defense in that first quarter was exceptional. We competed really hard and contested everything. I thought Kooper Ebel fueled us defensively. He was able to apply some pressure and get some steals that led to run outs on the other end."

Alta-Aurelia trimmed the margin to 10 points in the second period, but the hosts ended the quarter on a 9-0 run — capped by an offensive rebound and putback from Keevyn Jacobsma — and entered halftime with a 45-26 advantage.

"That was huge for our momentum going into halftime," Hoaglund said. "We go from only being up 10 to being up 19 in what seemed like a blink of an eye and that was really important for us."

Hartley-Melvin-Sanborn outscored the visitors 15-10 in the third quarter to stretch the lead to 60-36 entering the final stanza.

"After that period in the second quarter where Alta Aurelia went on their run, we were much more consistent defensively and allowed things to flow offensively," Hoaglund said. "I was really happy with how we moved and shared the basketball."

Ebel finished with 22 points, eight rebounds and eight steals for the Hawks. Jacobsma had 20 points and eight rebounds. Lance Berends tallied 13 points and nine rebounds. Trenton Vollink handed out seven assists.

"Overall, I'm proud of how our guys competed," Hoaglund said. "They were able to set the tone early and never really looked back. I'm happy for them."



## SPORTS

## HOCKEY

## Sioux Center boys aim to finish regular season on streak

Storm nab two of three at home last weekend

BY SCOTT BYERS  
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SIOUX CENTER—The regular season is over for the Sioux Center girls hockey team, but the Storm boys still have some work left to do.

The boys team got two wins during a three-game home stand last week to improve to 5-13-0-1 on the year. Sioux Center is 10th out of 12 teams in the South Dakota Amateur Hockey Association standings. It gets a shot at the one team it fell to last week, unbeaten Sioux Falls 1, today (Saturday, Feb. 18) in Sioux Falls. The Storm is at Brandon Valley, 5-14 on the season, on Sunday. The regular season ends on Saturday, Sept. 25 in Sioux Falls against the Flyers 2 squad.

The Storm boys started a three-game home stand with a 4-2 win over

Mitchell on Friday.

Mitchell had a 29-23 edge in shots on goal but Sioux Center was more efficient, eventually pulling away for the win. The Storm never trailed. Tegan Doelman scored the first goal with assists from Graden Van Essen and Easton Van Den Berg. The Marlins scored less than four minutes later to tie it. The second period followed a similar pattern. Ethen Huebner scored for Sioux Center with Trey Knight and Dawson Leusink getting assists. The Marlins scored on a power play to tie it at 2-2. Sioux Center then put it away with two goals in a span of 1:34 early in the third. Van Den Berg scored on the power play with Doelman getting the assist, then Jake Bogen scored unassisted for the final tally. Luke Myers stopped 27 of 29 shots on goal for the Storm.

The Storm wasn't able to generate much of an attack on Saturday, getting just 12 shots on net in an 8-1

loss to Sioux Falls 1. The Flyers led 4-0 after one period, with Mason Schramm scoring three of those. The guests made it 5-0 before Tatum Van Den Berg scored for Sioux Center. The Flyers got two more goals in the second period and one in the third. Christian Richards was in net and made 29 saves on 37 shots.

Sioux Center then faced Sioux Falls 2 on Sunday and found much more success in a 4-1 win.

The Storm scored in the first period after a Flyer penalty, with Kaden Svoboda cashing in on the man advantage. Dawson Leusink got the assist. The Storm scored two more goals, one at even strength and one on a power play, in the second period. Van Essen got a goal with an assist from Van Den Berg. Van Den Berg then scored with assists from Van Essen and Bogen to make it 3-0. Sioux Falls scored midway through the third, but Doelman added an unassisted

tally at the 16:48 mark of the third to account for the final score. Myers was in net and stopped 30 of 31 Sioux Falls shots.

The Sioux Center girls finished seventh out of nine teams in the SDAHA standings with a 3-11-1-1 mark.

The girls team was on the road for its last weekend, starting with a 7-2 loss at Brookings on Friday. The Rangers scored the first four goals of the game, three of them in the first period. Sioux Center climbed back into the contest, getting a second-period goal from Corrine McCord with help from Amanda King. King then scored early in the third period with an assist to Carlee Lange to cut it to 4-2. Brookings then scored twice in a span of less than two minutes to restore the four goal advantage. The Rangers would add one more with less than four minutes left.

Sioux Center used Allison Moore and Victoria Pendergrass in net.

Moore stopped 29 of the 33 shots she faced. Pendergrass had seven saves on 10 shots. Sioux Center was out-shot 43-15 in the contest.

Moore was flawless in goal on Saturday in Watertown as the Storm took a 5-0 win. She stopped all 31 shots she faced. That was a major factor as the Storm had just a slight 40-31 edge in shots on goal.

Offensively, it was Faith Van Voorst that had a huge night for Sioux Center. After a scoreless first period, Van Voorst found the net twice in the second. The first was assisted by Camille McCord. The second goal was assisted by Kylee Reginnitter.

Van Voorst made it a hat trick early in the third period with Reginnitter and Camille McCord each getting an assist on the play. Geonella Ramirez scored with an assist from Amanda King. Van Voorst scored unassisted for her fourth goal of the game to account for the final score.

## MONDAY CLASS 2A DISTRICT BOYS BASKETBALL

## Painful way for Sheldon season to come to end

Orabs led Braves by 21 late in game

BY SCOTT BYERS  
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SHELDON 17 15 14 11 - 57  
CHEROKEE 6 15 14 27 - 62

CHEROKEE—Sheldon looked like it was on its way to breaking out of a late season slump, but a 21-point third quarter advantage didn't turn out to be enough in a 62-57 loss at Cherokee in the first round of the Class 2A District 1 boys basketball tournament Monday.

The Orabs finished 4-19 on the year. Sheldon dropped its last six games, all contests where the Orabs were within striking distance but could not finish on top.

"Six-straight coulda, shoulda, woulda type games where we played well enough to win but we didn't get it done," said Sheldon coach Eric Maassen.

Included in that run was a 57-44 loss to Cherokee on Feb. 4 in Sheldon. Minus one big surge that spanned the third quarter, the Braves only outscored the Orabs by four points in that one.

This time around, Sheldon led the host Braves 17-6 after one quarter.

"We had just seen them and that helped us prepare for some of the actions they like to run. We were able to load to the basketball, but really we just did a better job of stopping our own guy," Maassen said. "The help is built in, but we were stopping our own man instead of always relying on our teammates to help us do it."

Sheldon maintained the double-digit lead, going to the half up 32-21.

The Orabs started the second half on a 10-2 run. Sheldon's lead reached 21 points twice in the third quarter.

Cherokee started its rally late in the third and had the lead back down to 11 by the end of the period.

"Defensively, we struggled

from there. They got aggressive, almost out of control, going to the basket trying to come back. We didn't do as well at guarding our man," Maassen said.

The trouble continued to mount for Sheldon. Cooper Jansma and Noah Robinson each picked up their fourth foul.

Anthony Provost, who had injured a foot on Feb. 7 against Okoboji, lost mobility as the game went on. Sheldon went back to the zone, and Cherokee took advantage. The Braves eventually took their first lead of the game with just over three minutes left.

Cherokee was up 55-51 when Provost hit a three-pointer with about a minute and a half to play.

"That was a big shot," Maassen said. "Blake Radke got downhill and pitched it back to Anthony. We usually run that play the other way, but with Anthony's foot I wasn't sure if he could get downhill like that. After that we got a stop. We turned it over. Then we had a chance at a steal and a run-out. I thought we got fouled, but it didn't get called."

The biggest play of the game came on Cherokee's next possession and was an example of the tough luck the Orabs experienced during their season-ending slump. The Braves started to panic a little as the shot clock wound down. Sheldon nearly got the steal again, tipping the ball away. It ended up bouncing out to the top of the key where it ended up in the hands of Alex Kohn, who canned a three-pointer that made it a 58-54 lead for the hosts.

Sheldon then tried putting Cherokee at the line and the Braves obliged with three misses in the next six attempts. However, the hosts got the offensive rebound each time and eventually went up 62-54 before Radke hit a shot from just inside the half court line as time expired.

Radke led the Orabs with

19 points, eight assists and six steals. Provost finished with 16 points. Dreu Kolbeck added a dozen points.

## Rockets' accuracy dismisses Generals

S-O 5 10 6 15 - 36  
ROCK VALLEY 15 13 19 18 - 65

ROCK VALLEY—Sometimes the result of a basketball game is as simple as its most basic element.

That was the case Monday as Rock Valley made shots and Sibley-Ocheyedan did not, leading to a 65-36 win for the host Rockets in Class 2A District 2 boys basketball.

Rock Valley shot 49 percent from the field in the contest. Sibley-Ocheyedan converted at 24 percent.

"It played out somewhat the same as our regular season games," said Rock Valley coach Wade Vander Maten. "In the first quarter, we started well. They made a little bit of a run at us in the second quarter, then in the third quarter we came out and played really well. We just played with a lot more energy."

Rock Valley beat Sibley-Ocheyedan 54-40 on Dec. 6 and 68-52 on Jan. 20.

The Rockets led 15-5 after a quarter, 28-15 at the half and 47-21 after three quarters.

"The big thing is we just struggled to hit shots," said Sibley-Ocheyedan coach Brandon Bergfeld. "We both tend to play at the same tempo. I guess part of it might be the defense, so credit to them for that. To me, it seemed like at times instead of working the ball inside we settled for outside shots and we haven't shot the three ball well all year."

The Generals were 5-for-24 from beyond the arc.

Bergfeld said that circumvented what was a solid defensive effort in the first half.

"Only giving up 28 in a half is not bad. We didn't let their leading scorers get to the basket in the first half," he said. "In the second half they got more patient. They didn't force as much and hit a couple more outside shots. Our guys gave it their all the whole game. It wasn't an effort thing. They had more size and athleticism than we did and it was hard to match up."

Vander Maten said he saw more of what he wanted to see on the offensive end after intermission and it started with guard Ale Salazar pulling the trigger.

"It was good to see him being aggressive. When he does that, it is good for him and good for the team," Vander Maten said. "We had a good mix of jumpers and attacking the hoop. I guess balance would be the word offensively. We had a lot of different guys scoring and we're a better team when we do that."

Nine of the 12 Rockets that played found their way to the scoring column.

Salazar finished with 19 points. Ryan Strait scored 11. Bryson Zomer had eight rebounds, four assists and four steals. Brayon Gonzalez dished out five assists.

Sam Chambers scored nine points for the Generals and Javier Martinez contributed eight. Chambers had nine



Sheldon sophomore Cooper Jansma blocks a shot at the hoop Monday at Cherokee. The Orabs saw a large lead slip away during the second half of a district tourney loss. Photo by Roy Tucker

rebounds, two steals and two assists.

The Generals finished the season at 1-21.

## Turnovers, rebounds crucial for Pioneers

OKOBOJI 11 12 19 20 - 62  
RIDGE VIEW 7 16 17 14 - 54

HOLSTEIN—Okoboji went on two key runs in the second half and that was enough to push the Pioneers over the top in a 62-54 road win Monday over Ridge View in the first round of the Class 2A District 2 boys basketball tournament.

The Pioneers didn't trail after taking a 5-3 lead early, but never had a lot of cushion to work with either.

The lead was 11-7 after one quarter.

The Raptors tied it at 21 and it was 23-23 at the half.

"Credit Ridge View for never going away," said Okoboji coach Alex Spielman.

Okoboji went on a 9-2 run in the third quarter, but a technical foul against the Pioneers got it close again with Okoboji up 42-40 after three quarters. The Pioneer lead was 55-54 with under two minutes left, but the guests scored the final seven points of the game.

"We felt going into the game that the turnover battle and rebounding were going to be two key components to winning the game," said Okoboji coach Alex Spielman. "We won the turnover battle. The turnovers were 19-12, which led to 27 points for our team and only 10 for their team."

Okoboji held Ridge View to 32 percent shooting from the field, including 4-for-25 from three-point range.

Caleb Simington led Okoboji with 16 points. Jase Jostand netted 15 points, five rebounds and four assists. Josh Leman had 14 points.

Ridge View ended its season at 9-13 overall.

## Comets cut off best options for Hinton

BOYDEN-HULL 10 14 18 11 - 53  
HINTON 7 12 10 10 - 39

HINTON—Despite starting the tournament trail on the road against a Hinton team that was a couple of games over .500, Boyden-Hull coach Isaac Heyer felt pretty good about his team's chances Monday.

As it turned out with good reason as the Comets knocked off the Blackhawks 53-39 in the first round of the Class 2A District 15 boys basketball tournament. "We have been playing good basketball as of late," Heyer said of his squad, which was 7-13 in the regular season. "Especially good defensively. We've been able to win some games and stay in some others because of our defense."

Boyden-Hull centered that defense around slowing Hinton senior guards Carson Pierce and Beau DeRocher.

"Watching the film, those are the two guys you want to shut down," Heyer said. "You want to take away their shots at the rim."

Pierce finished with four points and DeRocher scored two.

The Comets led 10-7 after one quarter and 24-19 at the half. Boyden-Hull then took control by outscoring Hinton 18-10 in the third quarter.

"We had some chances to extend our lead more in the first half. We just fouled them a lot in situations where we could have avoided it," Heyer said. "We did a good job of coming out in the second half and being ready to go. We played with a lot of energy and focus."

Boyden-Hull found its best success by getting the ball into the paint.

"We shot the ball well in the second half," the coach said.

"We did a good job of trying to get to the rim and get some contact so we could get to the line."

Brock Fisher led Boyden-Hull with 12 points. Kason Woelber had 10 points. Carter Kleinwolterink finished with nine points and 12 rebounds.

## Knights turn away Rams in blowout

MVAOCO 2 7 9 6 - 24  
UNITY CHRISTIAN 23 17 9 14 - 63

ORANGE CITY—Unity Christian played stifling defense against MVAOCO and stonewalled the Rams 63-24 in the opening round of the Class 2A District 15 boys basketball tournament.

"We have been playing good basketball as of late," Heyer said of his squad, which was 7-13 in the regular season. "Especially good defensively. We've been able to win some games and stay in some others because of our defense."

The Knights raced out to a 23-2 lead through one quarter. "We got off to a good start in the first half," said Unity Christian coach Cody Harskamp. "We played well."

In the second period, the Knights outscored the Rams 17-7 to stretch the lead to 40-9 going into halftime.

"The guys came ready to play and were focused on what needed to be done offensively and defensively," Harskamp said. "They did that in the first half."

Each team netted nine points in the third quarter, keeping Unity Christian in front 49-18 entering the final frame.

Harskamp said he liked the way his defense played.

"We were connected and we did a good job of communicating," he said. "We finished off possessions by getting the rebound."

Braedan Bosma finished with 22 points and eight rebounds for the Knights. Tyce Van Beek had 15 points and 10 rebounds. Dylan Bosma recorded six rebounds and five assists. Jackson Vogel grabbed rebounds. Trevor Wieringa issued four assists.



Rock Valley senior Brayan Gonzalez looks to attack the defense on the fly during a first-round district tournament game against Sibley-Ocheyedan on Monday. Photo by Charlie Hildebrand



## NORTHWESTERN COLLEGE



## MEN'S BASKETBALL

Oct. 28	NWC 83, Valley City State 91
Oct. 29	NWC 79, Mayville 75
Nov. 11	Indiana Uni. East 73, NWC 101
Nov. 12	Wierbo 77, NWC 100
Nov. 19	NWC 90, Doane 101
Nov. 22	NWC 80, Midland 71
Nov. 25	NWC 89, Governors State 60
Nov. 26	NWC 102, Oak Hills Christian 71
Nov. 30	Briar Cliff 55, NWC 64
Dec. 3	NWC 55, Concordia 81
Dec. 7	NWC 89, Dordt 99
Dec. 10	Morningside 79, NWC 86
Dec. 29	NWC 94, Dakota State 61
Dec. 30	NWC 71, Bellevue 66
Jan. 6	Jamestown 57, NWC 65
Jan. 7	Hastings 63, NWC 74
Jan. 11	NWC 76, Mount Marty 69
Jan. 14	Midland 66, NWC 87
Jan. 19	NWC 89, Briar Cliff 100
Jan. 21	Concordia 65, NWC 79
Jan. 25	NWC 78, Morningside 74
Jan. 28	NWC 55, Jamestown 78
Jan. 30	Dakota Wesleyan 64, NWC 63
Feb. 4	Doane 52, NWC 94
Feb. 8	NWC 65, Dakota Wesleyan 62
Feb. 11	Mount Marty 67, NWC 90
Feb. 15	Dordt 87, NWC 88
Feb. 18	@Hastings

## WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Nov. 2	NWC 99, Bethel 54
Nov. 4	NWC 61, Tabor 39
Nov. 11	Dickinson State 48, NWC 75
Nov. 12	Trinity Christian 61, NWC 83
Nov. 16	NWC 87, Saint Mary 47
Nov. 19	NWC 81, Doane 70
Nov. 22	NWC 107, Midland 71
Nov. 26	Chadron State 59, NWC 88
Nov. 30	Briar Cliff 68, NWC 72
Dec. 3	NWC 72, Concordia 56
Dec. 7	NWC 55, Dordt 65
Dec. 10	Morningside 66, NWC 64
Dec. 20	Dakota State 80, NWC 64
Jan. 6	Jamestown 51, NWC 72
Jan. 7	Hastings 53, NWC 58
Jan. 11	NWC 80, Mount Marty 63
Jan. 14	Midland 51, NWC 84
Jan. 19	NWC 59, Briar Cliff 75
Jan. 21	Concordia 65, NWC 55
Jan. 25	NWC 93, Morningside 65
Jan. 28	NWC 67, Jamestown 70
Jan. 30	Morningside 73, NWC 64
Feb. 1	Saint Mary 59, NWC 83
Feb. 4	Doane 73, NWC 86
Feb. 8	NWC 41, Dakota Wesleyan 55
Feb. 11	Mount Marty 58, NWC 78
Feb. 15	Dordt 48, NWC 58
Feb. 18	@Hastings

## BRIEFLY

## CARLSON HONORED

KANSAS CITY, MO—Dillon Carlson, a senior guard on the Northwestern College men's basketball team, was named both the Great Plains Athletic Conference and the NAIA player of the week for games played between Feb. 6 and 12.

Carlson set a new career high in points twice. He scored 29 points in a 65-62 win against Dakota Wesleyan University then tossed in 35 during a 90-67 victory over Mount Marty University. Carlson set new career highs with eight three-pointers and 12 field goals against Mount Marty too.

For the week, Carlson averaged 32 points per game and made 50 percent of his field goals, including 55 percent from three-point range.

## SOFTBALL WINS FOUR

SIoux CENTER—Northwestern College won four games at the Dordt Dome Tournament on Friday, Feb. 10, and last Saturday.

The Red Raiders started with a pair of wins over Mount Mercy University on Friday. Northwestern won the first game 3-0 with Kameryn Etherington earning the win. Etherington pitched 6 1/3 innings and allowed five hits and one walk and struck out eight batters. Kate Kralik pitched the last 2/3 of an inning and didn't allow any base runners. Emily Strasser drove in two runs and Charli Bomgaars had an RBI.

Northwestern topped Mount Mercy 9-4 in the second game last Saturday with Ashtyn Billings earning the win. Billings pitched 3 1/3 innings and allowed one earned run, three hits and one walk. Chloe Gallegos went 3-for-3 from the plate with two RBIs. Jennifer Boeve went 3-for-5 with a triple and two RBIs.

The Red Raiders topped 11th-ranked Grand View University 11-2 last Saturday with Kralik taking the win. Kralik pitched 3 1/3 innings of relief and allowed no runs and two hits and struck out two. Maddie Kvatsek went 2-for-3 with a triple and three RBIs. Boeve went 2-for-4 with two RBIs. Etherington and Bomgaars had two RBIs.

Northwestern topped Peru State 4-3 in the second game last Saturday. Boeve doubled and drove in two runs.

The Red Raiders played a pair of games today (Saturday, Feb. 18) against Mayville State and Peru State starting at 2 p.m. in Sioux Center.

## WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

## Team makes plays late to top Defenders

Squad pulls away in last two minutes of contest

BY CHARLIE HILDEBRAND  
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HASTINGS, NE—Northwestern College won its last two women's basketball games, including one over a top-five team, and wraps up the regular season with a Great Plains Athletic Conference game today (Saturday, Feb. 18).

The Red Raiders, 19-8 overall and 14-7 in the league, are not ranked in the NAIA Coaches' Poll but are receiving votes. They play at Hastings College today at 2 p.m.

The Broncos 10-17 overall and 6-15 in the GPAC. Senior guard Allison Bauer paces the squad with 10.6 points per game. Freshman guard Mariyah Avila averages 8.5 points, 3.3 rebounds and 2.3 assists per contest.

## Lancers licked

The Red Raiders got off to a strong start and cruised to a 78-58 win over Mount Marty University in a GPAC game last Saturday in Orange City.

Northwestern had a 45-33 edge in rebounds, including 15-8 on the offensive glass. Defensively, the Red Raiders held the Lancers to just 22-of-60 shooting at a rate of 37 percent and 6-of-23 three-pointers at 26 percent.

"Our on-ball defense was very effective

and we did a great job holding them to one shot," said Red Raiders coach Kristin Rotert.

Northwestern opened the game on a 12-2 run that ended with a layup from Molly Schany with 6:40 left. Mount Marty trimmed the deficit to three points twice, lastly at 14-11 with 4:42 remaining. The Red Raiders stretched the lead back to double digits after Payton Beckman hit a jumper with 33 seconds to go, and the hosts led 23-13 through one.

The hosts extended the margin to 19 points three times in the second period, lastly on a jumper from Maren Nerem with 2:15 left to make it 38-19. The Lancers hit two three-pointers to close the quarter out but Northwestern still led 38-25 at halftime.

The Red Raiders opened the third quarter on a 6-0 run, capped by a layup from Schany with 7:24 left, to stretch the lead to 44-25. Mount Marty made two free throws with 2:36 remaining to trim the deficit to 53-41. Northwestern netted the final five points of the period and led 58-41 entering the final frame.

The Lancers cut the score to 14 points twice in the fourth quarter but never got any closer.

The Red Raiders ended the game with 23 assists and committed 11 turnovers compared to just nine assists and 18 turnovers for Mount Marty. Northwestern finished with 23 points off turnovers and the Lancers had just two.

"We utilized a few different full-court presses throughout the game that really disrupted Mount Marty in the open floor," Rotert said. "It created some turnovers for us and we were able to capitalize in transition. We also finished shots really well in the paint and found a good balance of perimeter jumpers and paint touches."

Maddie Jones nearly had a triple-double for the Red Raiders, leading the squad with 17 points, 10 rebounds and nine assists. Schany finished with 15 points and eight boards. Emilee Danner had 14 points and eight assists. Taylor VanderVelde contributed nine points and six rebounds.

## Dordt defeated

Northwestern played tough defense in its final home game of the regular season on fourth-ranked Dordt University and closed the game out strong to take a 58-48 GPAC win over the Defenders on Wednesday in Orange City.



Junior forward Molly Schany makes a pass to a Northwestern College teammate in a game with Dordt University on Wednesday in Orange City.



Taylor VanderVelde, a senior at Northwestern College, tries to drive around a Dordt University defender in a conference game Wednesday in Orange City. VanderVelde had seven points in a 58-48 win. Photos by Charlie Hildebrand

The Red Raiders scored the first nine points of the game, capped by a layup from Jones with 5:53 left in the first quarter. Dordt trimmed the margin to 13-8 on a layup with 1:30 remaining. Northwestern used a layup from Schany and a free throw from Jones to stretch the lead back to eight points at 16-8 with 1:02 to go. The Defenders scored the final points on a layup with 46 seconds left, trimming the margin to 16-10 going into the second stanza.

Dordt scored the first six points of the second quarter to tie the game at 16 with 5:39 left. VanderVelde was fouled with 5:10 remaining and made 1-of-2 free throws to put Northwestern back in front 17-16. Neither team scored the rest of the first half.

The Defenders tied the game twice in the third quarter, lastly on a layup with 1:58 left to make it 33-33, but never took the lead. Danner made a three-pointer with 1:20 left to stretch the Northwestern lead to 38-33. Dordt scored the final points of the period on a three-pointer, but Northwestern

still led 38-36 entering the final stanza.

Dordt tied the game again at 39 in the fourth quarter on a three-pointer with 9:00 left. The Red Raiders scored the next four points on layups from Schany to go back in front. The Defenders made a layup with 2:24 left to trim the deficit to 48-46. From there, Northwestern scored the next seven points and ended the contest on a 10-2 run. Schany made a layup and Jones sunk 4-of-4 free throws during the stretch.

Dordt held a 14-10 edge in offensive rebounds, but the Red Raiders outrebounded the visitors 42-31. A big part in that was the defense Northwestern played, limiting the Defenders to just 19-of-66 shooting at a 29 percent rate and 5-of-19 from three-point range at 26 percent.

Schany led the Red Raiders with 19 points and 12 rebounds. Jones had 19 points, nine boards and four assists. Danner finished with nine points and five rebounds. VanderVelde notched seven points and seven boards.

## MEN'S BASKETBALL

## Northwestern beats Dordt on Sterk hoop at horn

Junior sinks three on fadeaway shot

BY CHARLIE HILDEBRAND  
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HASTINGS, NE—Northwestern College won its fourth consecutive game in men's basketball, the most recent in dramatic fashion, and concludes the regular season with a Great Plains Athletic Conference game today (Saturday, Feb. 18).

The Red Raiders are 20-7 overall and 13-6 in the league. They play at Hastings College today at 3:45 p.m.

The Broncos are 14-13 overall and 7-12 in the GPAC. Freshman guard Reggie Thomas leads the team with 19.5 points and 4.2 assists per game. Senior guard Karson Ganseboom averages 16.3 points, 4.9 rebounds and 2.3 assists per contest. Junior guard Grady Corrigan nets 11.1 points per game.

## Lancers halted

After a tight first half, the Red Raiders ran away with the contest in the final 20 min-

utes to take a 90-67 win over Mount Marty University in a GPAC game last Saturday in Orange City.

Northwestern connected on 14-of-29 three-pointers at a 48 percent clip. The Lancers hit just 6-of-27 at a rate of 22 percent.

The Red Raiders shared the ball better too, finishing with 22 assists and just six turnovers. Mount Marty had only 10 assists and committed 12 turnovers.

Northwestern led for most of the first eight minutes of the game. Dillon Carlson hit a three-pointer to extend the lead to 19-12 for the Red Raiders with 13:29 left in the first half.

The Lancers used a 9-0 run and took a 21-19 lead on a jumper with 10:48 remaining in the first half. Mount Marty made a layup with 2:19 to go to stretch the advantage to 41-31. Northwestern scored eight of the final 10 points to trim the deficit to 43-39 by halftime.

"We did some good things right before halftime to cut into their lead," said Northwestern coach Kris Korver.

The Red Raiders opened the second half on a 12-0 run, capped by a layup from Grant DeMeulenaere, to go in front 51-43 with 17:40 left in the game. The Lancers scored on an old-fashioned three-point play to cut the deficit to 51-46 with 16:48 remaining. Northwestern scored the next eight points and stretched the lead to 59-46 on a three-pointer from Carlson with 12:50 to go. The visitors never got closer than 11 points the rest of the way.

"In the second half we played with much more urgency, spirit and focus," Korver said. "We were the aggressors in the second half."

Carlson made 8-of-12 three-pointers and led the Red Raiders with 35 points. Craig Sterk finished with 20 points and 10 rebounds. DeMeulenaere scored 10 points. Matt Onken had seven points, nine rebounds and five assists.

## Taking down Dordt

Northwestern led for less than a minute the entire game but led when it matters most thanks to a game-winning shot from Sterk that gave the Red Raiders an 88-87 GPAC win over rival Dordt University on Wednesday in Orange City.

Trailing 4-2, Sterk hit his first go-ahead three-pointer with 19:01 left in the first half to give Northwestern a 5-4 lead. The Defenders made a trey of their own with 18:12 remaining to go back in front 7-5. It was part of an 11-0 run to give Dordt a 15-5 advantage with 16:43 to go.

Northwestern cut the deficit to four points on four occasions, lastly on a three-pointer from DeMeulenaere in the last 30 seconds. Dordt was fouled shooting a three-pointer with less than a second remaining and hit 2-of-3 free throws to take a 44-38 edge into halftime.

The Defenders got the lead back out to eight points twice early in the second half, lastly on a pair of foul shots with



Northwestern College junior Craig Sterk takes a shot on Wednesday in Orange City. Sterk scored 22 points and hit the game-winner at the buzzer. Photos by Charlie Hildebrand

18:52 left in the game to make it 48-40. The Red Raiders used a 9-2 run to cut the deficit to 50-49 on a trey from Onken with 17:39 remaining. Northwestern stayed within seven points the rest of the game.

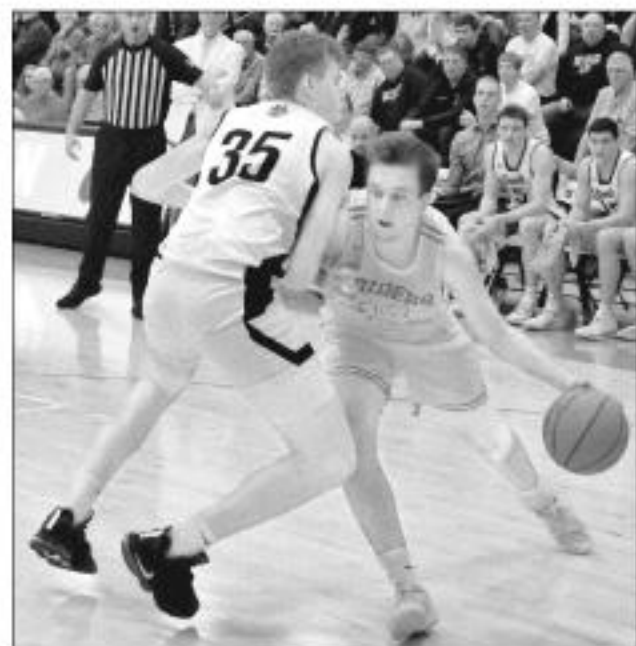
Dordt made two free throws with 2:27 left in the game to stretch the lead to 83-79. Northwestern got a layup out of Sterk, then Dillon Carlson tied the game at 83 with a bucket in the paint with 1:12 remaining. The Defenders hit a jumper with 46 seconds to go, putting the visitors back in front 85-83. Carlson made a layup for the Red Raiders with 36 seconds left to tie the game again at 85. Dordt hit a jumper with seven seconds left to put the Defenders back

on top 87-85.

Northwestern crossed half court, then took a timeout with one second left. On the inbounds pass, DeMeulenaere passed to Sterk who hid a fadeaway three-pointer at the buzzer to give the Red Raiders the victory.

For the game, Northwestern made 33-of-58 field goals at a rate of 57 percent, 14-of-23 treys at 61 percent and 8-of-10 free throws.

Carlson led the Red Raiders with 27 points and six rebounds. Sterk finished with 22 points and pulled down six boards. Onken had 15 points and six rebounds. Kaleb Booth scored nine points. Zach LaFave handed out four assists.



Matt Onken, a junior at Northwestern College, tries to beat a Dordt University defender to the baseline in a conference game Wednesday in Orange City. The Red Raiders won 88-87.



## DORDT UNIVERSITY

## MEN'S BASKETBALL

## Defenders fall to county rival Red Raiders

Squad plays final tilt of regular season today

BY CHARLIE HILDEBRAND  
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JAMESTOWN, ND—Dordt University saw its five-game winning streak get snapped by its county rival and must regroup for its final regular season game of the year today (Saturday, Feb. 18).

The Defenders, 21-6 overall and 13-6 in the Great Plains Athletic Conference, are not ranked but are receiving votes in the NAIA Coaches' Poll. They play at ninth-ranked University of Jamestown at 3:45 p.m. today.

Dordt no longer has a chance to win a share of the league title after losing on Wednesday. The Defenders can play spoiler for Jamestown though, who is in first place with a 15-4 record going into today. A Dordt win combined with a Morningside win over Midland would force the Jimmies to share the regular season title.

Jamestown is 23-4 overall. Senior forward Mason Walters leads the team

with 25.7 points and 9.6 rebounds per game. Junior guard Will Cordes averages 12.9 points per contest. Junior Guard Cole Woodford nets 12.8 points per tilt.

The Defenders lost to the Jimmies 93-90 in the first meeting between the two teams on Jan. 7 in Sioux Center.

"We will play well at Jamestown," said Dordt coach Brian Van Haften.

## Tigers tripped up

The Defenders controlled both ends of the floor on Senior Night and cruised to an 85-55 win over Doane University last Saturday in Sioux Center.

"Defensively, it was a real solid game for us," Van Haften said. "We held down their big two, (Brady) Timm and (Alec) Oberhauser extremely well.

Dordt limited the visitors to just 22-of-61 at a clip of 36 percent, including 4-of-24 from three-point range at 17 percent.

The contest was tied at 5 early. Dordt then used a 16-3 run, capped by a layup from Jackson Louscher, to go in front 21-8 with 11:23 left in the first half. The Tigers cut it to nine points twice in the first half after that but never got any closer. The Defenders led 41-21 at halftime.

Doane started the second half on a 5-0 run to trim the margin to 41-26 with 18:51 left in the game. Dordt then scored the next seven points, ending the run with a layup from Jacob Vis to stretch the advantage to 48-26 with 16:55 remaining. The Tigers never got within 20 points the rest of the contest.

The Defenders made 31-of-57 field goals at a 54 percent clip, along with 12-of-24 treys.

"It was just one of those nights offensively where everything went right for us," Van Haften said. "We were happy to celebrate Senior Night the right way and play a solid game."

Vis led the Defenders with 23 points, 10 rebounds and five assists. Bryce Coppock finished with 14 points and five boards. Lucas Lorenzen had 12 points and six rebounds. Trey Hinote scored nine points. Louscher and Luke Rankin tossed in eight points.

## Loss on buzzer-beater

Dordt led the vast majority of the game against Northwestern College but lost 88-87 on a shot at the buzzer



Lucas Lorenzen, a freshman at Dordt University, splits a pair of defenders on the way to the basket during a league tilt with Northwestern College Wednesday in Orange City. The Defenders lost 88-87. Photos by Charlie Hildebrand

in a GPAC game on Wednesday in Orange City.

"We played an excellent game," Van Haften said. "We had a good look in our eye and played toe to toe with Northwestern."

The Defenders briefly trailed 5-4 after a three-pointer by the Red Raiders. Dordt then went on an 11-0 run that ended with a layup by Vis to go in front 15-5 with 16:43 left in the first half. Northwestern cut the deficit to four points on four occasions, lastly on a three-pointer in the closing seconds. Coppock was fouled shooting a three-pointer in the final second. He made 2-of-3 free throws to give the Defenders a 44-38 lead at halftime.

Dordt never led by more than eight points in the second half, lastly at 48-40 after a pair of free throws from Vis with 18:52 left in the game. The Red Raiders trimmed the deficit to one point on six occasions, but couldn't get the game tied.

Vis made two free throws with 2:27 left in the game to stretch the Defender lead to 83-79. Northwestern

tied the game at 83 with a bucket in the paint with 1:12 remaining. Rankin hit a jumper off an assist from Vis with 46 seconds to go to put Dordt back in front 85-83. The Red Raiders made a layup with 36 seconds left to tie the game again at 85. Coppock hit a jumper with seven seconds left to put the Defenders back on top 87-85.

"Bryce did a great job of reading his ball screen to knock down a tough shot with seven seconds left in the game," Van Haften said.

Northwestern crossed half court and called timeout with one second remaining in the contest. Craig Sterk then caught the inbounds pass from Grant DeMeulenaere and hit a three-pointer at the buzzer to give the Red Raiders the win.

"They made a 30-foot fader to finish," Van Haften said. "It was a tough loss, but we will bounce back."

Coppock led the Defenders with 23 points. Vis scored 21 points and Lorenzen tossed in 20. Rankin finished with 12 points and five assists. Bleeker grabbed six rebounds.



Sophomore guard Luke Rankin takes a jumper during a Great Plains Athletic Conference game against Northwestern College on Wednesday in Orange City. Rankin scored 12 points.

## WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

## Dordt secures first league title in program history

Team saw winning streak end to NWC

BY CHARLIE HILDEBRAND  
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JAMESTOWN, ND—Dordt University lost for just the second time all season in women's basketball but secured its first conference title in program history too over the last week.

The Defenders, ranked fourth in the NAIA Coaches' Poll, are 25-2 overall and 19-2 in the Great Plains Athletic Conference. They have a three-game lead in the league with only one contest left.

Dordt plays at 19th-ranked University of Jamestown today (Saturday, Feb. 18) at 2 p.m. in Jamestown, ND. The Jimmies are 20-6 overall and 15-5 in the GPAC. Hannah DeMars leads Jamestown with 18 points and 10.2 rebounds per game. Senior guard Kia Tower averages 13.9 points and 2.8 assists per contest.

The Defenders played Jamestown on Jan. 7 in Sioux Center and won 72-70.

"It's a road trip, our longest of the year," said Dordt coach Bill Harmsen. "We'll play a really good team. We'll have to reboot ourselves quickly here in practice. I know our team is really looking forward to it. It should be a good game."

## Winning the trophy

The Defenders jumped in front of Doane University early and won 99-65 in Sioux Center to take the GPAC regular season championship, the first league title in program history.

Dordt finished the game with 24 assists compared to 13 turnovers. The Defenders also made 37-of-61 field goals at a 61 percent clip and 17-of-28 three-pointers at 61 percent. The 17 made treys to set a new program record.

"Those are the main two stats that stick out to me," Harmsen said. "Twenty three assists is a lot. Then when you make 17 threes, that certainly helps in the outcome. We were certainly dialed in. That was fun."

Doane made a three-pointer with 6:07 left in the first quarter to cut the deficit to 10-9. The Defenders then went on an 11-0 run, capped by a Hayden Heimensen three-pointer with 2:27 remaining, to stretch the lead to 21-9. Doane scored on an old-fashioned three-point play to narrow the margin to 21-11 with 2:12 to go. Dordt ended the quarter on a 10-2 run, capped by another trey from Heimensen with four seconds left, to push the lead to 31-14 by the end of the first quarter.

The Defenders outscored the Tigers 22-14 in the second frame. The Tigers never got closer than 17 points. Macy Sievers hit a three-pointer with one second left before halftime and Dordt took a 53-28 lead into the break.

"We really moved the ball well on them offensively. It was really fluid on Saturday," Harmsen said. "We shot the ball very well too. When the ball moves the way it did, it's



Dordt University senior Karly Gustafson attempts a layup late in the third quarter during a loss against Northwestern Wednesday in Orange City. Photo by Charlie Hildebrand

going to create good opportunities, not just at the basket but from the three-point line."

The Defenders controlled the third period too, outscoring the visitors 25-14. Keeping with the ending theme of the first two quarters, Dordt's McKenna Klecker made a three-pointer with one second left and the hosts led 78-42 entering the final stanza.

Harmsen said it was a special feeling to win the first conference title in school history.

"That's one of those experiences you want to share with all the women that have played at Dordt before," Harmsen said. "To be the first to do that, our team feels really good about that. To achieve a goal these kids set to accomplish early in the season, to do what with a week left is a

great accomplishment. Our assistant coaches put a lot of time in too to get that ready. It's fun to celebrate with all of Defender nation."

Karly Gustafson led Dordt with 18 points and six rebounds. Klecker made 5-of-6 three-pointers and scored 16 points. Sievers finished with 13 points, five rebounds and six assists. Gracie Schoonhoven had 12 points, five rebounds and four assists. Bailey Beckman tallied 11 points and five assists.

Dordt tied the game again at 39 in the fourth quarter on a three-pointer from Klecker with 9:00 left. The Red Raiders scored the next four points to go back in front. Gustafson made a layup for the Defenders with 2:24 left to trim the deficit to 48-46. From there, Northwestern scored the next seven points and ended the contest on a 10-2 run.

"It was just a rough stretch. We got some pretty good looks at the basket again but couldn't get anything to fall," Harmsen said. "Northwestern did a nice job executing down the stretch. When you don't shoot well, it can affect other parts of the game. I thought our kids were pretty focused after the first five minutes of the game. Sometimes the shots don't fall, and we had a night like that."

Beckman led Dordt with 13 points. Heimensen scored 10 points. Sievers finished with nine points and six rebounds. Schoonhoven pulled down 12 boards.



## MEN'S BASKETBALL

Oct. 28	Dordt 95, Maryville State 76
Oct. 29	Dordt 106, Valley City State 87
Nov. 1	Dordt 74, Dakota State 63
Nov. 11	Dordt 114, Viterbo 65
Nov. 12	Dordt 96, Indiana Uni. East 85
Nov. 16	Dordt 80, Morningside 85
Nov. 19	Concordia 87, Dordt 72
Nov. 22	Dordt 81, Briar Cliff 68
Nov. 25	Oak Hills Christian 62, Dordt 145
Nov. 26	Governors State 82, Dordt 113
Dec. 3	Dordt 94, Midland 93
Dec. 7	Northwestern 89, Dordt 93
Dec. 10	Dakota Wesleyan 74, Dordt 77
Dec. 31	Dordt 82, Mount Marty 73
Jan. 2	Presentation 75, Dordt 108
Jan. 6	Hastings 64, Dordt 97
Jan. 7	Jamestown 93, Dordt 90
Jan. 11	Dordt 74, Doane 97
Jan. 14	Briar Cliff 75, Dordt 82
Jan. 21	Midland 84, Dordt 102
Jan. 25	Dordt 66, Dakota Wesleyan 70
Jan. 28	Dordt 71, Hastings 61
Feb. 1	Morningside 89, Dordt 101
Feb. 4	Dordt 74, Concordia 71
Feb. 8	Mount Marty 88, Dordt 100
Feb. 11	Doane 55, Dordt 85
Feb. 15	Dordt 87, Northwestern 88
Feb. 18	@University of Jamestown

## WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Oct. 27	Presentation 48, Dordt 107
Nov. 1	Dordt 89, Dakota State 66
Nov. 8	Bellevue 53, Dordt 77
Nov. 11	Dordt 82, Trinity Christian 69
Nov. 12	Dordt 70, Dickinson State 46
Nov. 16	Dordt 88, Morningside 72
Nov. 19	Concordia 65, Dordt 76
Nov. 22	Dordt 81, Briar Cliff 75
Nov. 30	College of St. Mary 42, Dordt 79
Dec. 3	Dordt 84, Midland 63
Dec. 7	Northwestern 55, Dordt 65
Dec. 10	Dakota Wesleyan 66, Dordt 75
Dec. 31	Dordt 85, Mount Marty 53
Jan. 2	Grand View 49, Dordt 74
Jan. 6	Hastings 58, Dordt 79
Jan. 7	Jamestown 70, Dordt 72
Jan. 11	Dordt 66, Doane 71
Jan. 14	Briar Cliff 77, Dordt 87
Jan. 18	Dordt 81, College of St. Mary 46
Jan. 21	Midland 43, Dordt 90
Jan. 25	Dordt 81, Dakota Wesleyan 75
Jan. 28	Dordt 73, Hastings 55
Feb. 1	Morningside 67, Dordt 77
Feb. 4	Dordt 76, Concordia 69
Feb. 8	Mount Marty 58, Dordt 64
Feb. 11	Doane 65, Dordt 99
Feb. 15	Dordt 48, Northwestern 58
Feb. 18	@Jamestown

## BRIEFLY

## VOLLEYBALL WINS FIVE

SIoux CENTER—Dordt University went 5-0 in men's volleyball over the last eight days.

The Defenders won four total matches at the Jamestown Classic held on Friday, Feb. 10, and last Saturday in Jamestown, ND. They beat the University of California Merced 25-12, 21-25, 25-22, 25-23 in the first match on Friday. Caleb Kulesza finished with 17 kills and 10 digs. Brady Frost recorded 13 kills. Lukas Van Groningen served up 32 assists. Robert Piekarz notched 25 digs.

Dordt swept Kansas Wesleyan University in the second match on Friday 25-22, 25-19, 25-22. Kulesza tallied 12 kills and eight digs. Frost put up eight kills. Van Groningen handed out 30 assists. Piekarz logged 13 digs.

The Defenders topped St. Ambrose University 21-25, 25-22, 25-11, 25-16 in the first match last Saturday. Kulesza registered 15 kills and eight digs. Frost had 13 kills. Van Groningen passed around 32 assists. Piekarz recorded 15 digs.

Dordt swept Viterbo University 25-23, 25-22, 25-14 in its final match at the Jamestown Classic last Saturday. Frost led the squad with 13 kills and Kulesza added 10. Van Groningen dished out 35 assists. Piekarz tallied 12 digs and Andres Guzman had nine.

The Defenders hosted Morningside University on Thursday in Sioux Center and swept the Mustangs 25-16, 25-16, 25-11. Kulesza led Dordt with 11 kills. Van Groningen handed out 27 assists. Piekarz recorded 11 digs. Kulesza and Piekarz were each honored by the Great Plains Athletic Conference as the attacker and the defender of the week, respectively, for matches played between Feb. 6 and 12, the time frame when the Defenders played at the Jamestown Classic.

Dordt is 7-1 overall and 3-1 in the Great Plains Athletic Conference. The Defenders host Ottawa University today (Saturday, Feb. 18) at 5 p.m.

## HOCKEY ENDS SEASON

CHESTERFIELD, MO—Dordt University ended its hockey season with a 3-2 loss to the University of Nebraska in the semifinals of the Mid American Collegiate Hockey Association tournament on Friday, Feb. 10.

Zach Espenson and Lucas Van Berkel each scored goals for the Defenders.

Dordt ended its season with a record of 16-6-1.



Sophomore forward Janie Schoonhoven takes a shot inside against Northwestern College Wednesday in Orange City in a 58-48 loss.



## SPORTS

## MONDAY BOYS BASKETBALL

## Sioux Center gets aggressive to finish out win over Le Mars

## Frequent trips to line aid comeback

BY CHARLIE HILDEBRAND  
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SIoux CENTER 14 12 20 20 - 66  
LE MARS 12 19 13 10 - 54

LE MARS—Sioux Center used a huge run in the third quarter and then closed the game out with tough defense to earn a 66-54 win over Le Mars in a nonconference boys

basketball game on Monday to close the regular season.

"I'm proud of our effort and that we can go into a tough environment," said Warriors' coach Brian Schmalbeck. "Coach (Dave) Irwin for them, it was his last regular season home game so they were pretty amped up."

Sioux Center trailed 15-14 after a back and forth first quarter.

The Bulldogs outscored the

Warriors 16-12 in the second frame to stretch the margin to 31-26 going into the intermission.

"I was proud of our effort and the way we competed for the most part," Schmalbeck said. "Le Mars was a challenge defensively for us. We knew we'd have to be good with the basketball on offense."

Le Mars scored the first seven points of the third quarter to extend the advantage to

38-26. Sioux Center responded by ending the quarter with 20 of the final 26 points, including a 16-3 run to go in front 42-41, and entered the final stanza with a 46-44 advantage.

"We clamped down on defense," Schmalbeck said. "We switched some defenses and put some pressure on them and got some rebounds. Once we got the lead we were able to keep pulling away

there." The Sioux Center coach added that he was glad with how his team responded after falling behind by 12 points in the third period.

"There were some moments in the third it could have gone either way," he said.

Leading 61-54 with around 20 seconds left, Kylar Fritz was fouled and sent to the free-throw line. He made the first free throw but missed the

second, however, Cael Van Beek grabbed the offensive rebound and drew a foul. He made both free throws to stretch the lead to 64-54.

Fritz made 12-of-20 free throws in the contest and led the Warriors with 30 points and six rebounds.

Carson Bruhn finished with 12 points and six boards. Briggs Friedmann scored 10 points. Van Beek notched nine points and four assists.

## SATURDAY CLASS 3A REGION 1 GIRLS BASKETBALL

## Rockets run out of fuel in extra session

## Unable to close game during fourth quarter

BY SCOTT BYERS  
SBYERS@NWESTIOWA.COM

ROCK VALLEY 12 15 10 11 5 - 53  
SPIRIT LAKE 13 11 9 15 14 - 62

SPIRIT LAKE—Rock Valley was running low on fuel already, so when the Rockets were forced to an overtime period they crashed quickly in a 62-53 Class 3A Region 6 girls basketball loss at Spirit Lake last Saturday.

Spirit Lake led 13-12 after one quarter, but Rock Valley was up 27-24 at half and 37-33 after three quarters.

"Most of the game it was kind of back and forth, but it was one of those where we would go ahead by six or seven and then they'd come back and cut it to two," said Rock Valley co-coach Jordan TeGrootenhuis. "We had a lead in the fourth quarter. We just ran out of gas."

While many wouldn't think of it that way, the coach said it was inexperience that caused the fatigue. The Rockets used just six players — five sophomores and a junior.

"This was one of the first real big game situations our girls had been in as far as that kind of environment. The crowd was in it from the start," TeGrootenhuis said. "When you have that kind of buzz surrounding you the whole game, it has a way of draining you. You are redlining the whole game and then you get to the fourth quarter and your legs are a little heavier and you are breathing a little harder than you normally would. I am so proud of the girls because all year we've challenged them to empty the tank and they did that."

Rock Valley went 8-of-16 from the foul line, another sign of that fatigue and the pressure of the moment.

The Indians took a 48-46 lead with less than a minute left. With eight seconds remaining, Kavri Van Kekerix made a driving layup to tie the score. She was fouled on the play, but missed the free throw. Spirit Lake got off a highly contested desperation three-pointer at the end that missed the mark to send it into the extra session.

"Kavri made a great play. She was aggressive and got going downhill and made the shot," TeGrootenhuis. "It was just unfortunate we didn't make the free throw. With us being so gassed and them having all the momentum, overtime was going to be a huge challenge."

The Indians won the tip in over-

time and scored right away. Rock Valley didn't convert at its end, and Spirit Lake hit a three-pointer to take control.

"At that point you get into a little bit of desperation mode because you know they can drain the shot clock a little more," TeGrootenhuis said. "We ended up having to foul and they made them."

Tielyr Rozeboom scored 22 points for Rock Valley and Van Kekerix added 17. Miylie Zomer had 10 rebounds, five assists and two steals. Rozeboom pulled down six rebounds. Brynlie Zomer had six rebounds, three assists and two steals.

Rock Valley ended its season at 10-11 overall.

## Sioux Center shows its depth in topping Orabs

SHELDON 10 14 15 13 - 52  
SIoux CENTER 22 23 24 18 - 87

SIoux CENTER—Seventh-ranked Sioux Center was down one starter but Makallyn Vander Waal filled in like a seasoned veteran as the Warriors topped Sheldon 87-52 in the opening round of the Class 3A Region 6 girls basketball tournament last Saturday.

Vander Waal filled in for the injured Reagan Jansen and led the Warriors in points and rebounds.

"If we have an injury, we have kids right there and other players to step right into that role," said Sioux Center coach Doug Winterfeld. "Some years you never have an injury or anything happen and you wonder, but in a year like this when you lose one of your starters to that sort of injury and somebody can just step right in, that makes my job a lot easier."

The Warriors led 22-10 after the first quarter.

"I felt like they were trying to take our threes away, which was fine," Winterfeld said. "We had some really good penetration and kicks to our post players for easy buckets. That's something we haven't had most of the year, but it was good to see the girls adjust to it and make some really good plays."

Sioux Center held a 23-14 edge in the second period and went into halftime with a 45-24 lead.

That represented a big offensive half for the Orabs, who had averaged only 29.5 points per game in two regular season losses to the Warriors.

"We had more time to prepare specifically for them and to work on stuff that we knew we'd have to do better



Rock Valley sophomore Maya Netten drives into the lane past Spirit Lake sophomore Abby Scott last Saturday in Spirit Lake. The Rockets lost the tilt 62-53 in overtime in the Class 3A Region 6 tournament. Photo by Rylan Howe

against them," said Sheldon coach Sidney Baumgartner. "We had to be able to handle all the different defensive looks Sioux Center throws at you. They run a lot of different actions on offense, and we had to anticipate them and make sure we didn't get lost."

"Besides that, with it being the tournament, you get that extra sense of urgency and that helps too," she said.

The Orabs shot 33 percent overall and 24 percent from the three-point line during the season. Those numbers jumped to 43 percent overall and 41 percent from three-point range in the regional contest.

"We did the right things. Having 15 turnovers is a pretty low number for us," Baumgartner said. "We shot the ball when we were open, and we made shots."

The Warriors, who substituted frequently in the second half and sent 13 players into the game, won the third quarter 24-15 and entered the final frame with a 69-39 advantage.

"On defense, everyone was talking," Winterfeld said. "Our communication was awesome. We're playing some really good basketball now down the stretch."

All 13 players for Sioux Center scored. Vander Waal had 15 points in the first half. She made 11-of-14 field goals in the game and finished with 24 points and six rebounds.

"She played a heck of a game for us and was really dominant inside," Winterfeld said. "It was all around good."

Makenna Walhof scored 12 points. Willow Bleeker finished with 11 points and six assists. Cori Harald grabbed five rebounds. Tatum Schmalbeck dished out six assists and Maci Schmalbeck passed around four.

"We never gave up and that was good to see," Baumgartner said. "Sioux Center has a good opportunity to get to state. They are playing very good basketball right now. Going in, I figured we were going to have to play very well, and they were going to have to have a game that wasn't good for them in order for us to have a chance."

Claire Johnson led Sheldon with 23 points. Katelyn Grady issued seven assists. Abby Boone garnered seven rebounds.

The Orabs finished the year 3-19.

## Unity Christian rides hot shooting to top Okoboji

OKOBOJI 10 9 12 24 - 55  
UNITY CHRISTIAN 19 21 20 21 - 81

ORANGE CITY—Class 3A 12th-ranked Unity Christian got hot early and never cooled off in an 81-55 win over Okoboji in the opening round of the Region 6 girls basketball tournament last Saturday.

"It's always good to get that win and the first round under your belt,"

said Knights' coach Jay Schuiteman. "That's the first chance to have your season end. The girls came out and played with urgency."

Unity Christian led 19-10 through one quarter then stretched the margin to 40-19 by halftime.

"We came out aggressive and really got them on their heels," Schuiteman said. "It was good to see that. We continued to bring that in the second half too. We scored the first few buckets in the second half and just kept playing hard and doing well."

The Knights outscored the Pioneers 20-12 in the third quarter to increase the lead to 60-31 going into the final stanza.

Unity Christian came out really aggressive and we didn't respond right away. Gracie Schoonhoven was such a tough matchup for us," said Okoboji coach John Adams. "She played a great game for them, as did Cassidy Dekkers and Jady Hofmeyer. Lynnae Abrahamson hit some big shots for us to keep us in it for a while. Ava Packebush had a strong second half."

Unity Christian made 32-of-51 field goals at a 63 percent clip. Five out of nine Knights made at least half their shots.

"We shared the ball well. You look at the assists and they created for each other. Gracie, Jady and Cassidy all shot the ball well and did a good job at being aggressive. We had others that were efficient too. They did a good job at finding open people and knocking down the shots."

One of the highlights for Okoboji came at the defensive end, where Carly Carstens extended her single-season school record for charges taken to 20 by drawing two more.

"This senior group has given so much of themselves for this program and they did an outstanding job of leading us through the peaks and valleys of the season," Adams said.

Schoonhoven made 11-of-13 field goals for Unity Christian and finished with 32 points, six rebounds, five assists and two blocks. Hofmeyer made 8-of-12 field goals and had 18 points and eight rebounds. Dekkers sunk 7-of-13 field goals and contributed 18 points, five rebounds and four steals. Kortney Hofmeyer pulled down five boards.

Abrahamson led the Pioneers with 13 points and Packebusch scored nine. Zoey Holmes had six rebounds, three assists, three steals and two blocks.

Okoboji's 10-13 overall record included two six-game losing streaks and two five-game winning streaks.

## West Lyon takes control of contest in second half

MOC-FLOYD VALLEY 11 16 6 8 - 41  
WEST LYON 18 17 14 18 - 67

INWOOD—Class 3A 15th-ranked West Lyon was able to slow the pace of the game in the second half while

simultaneously keeping its scoring rate efficient during a 67-41 win over MOC-Floyd Valley in the opening round of the Class 3A Region 6 tournament last Saturday.

The Wildcats led for the bulk of the game, but the hosts weren't able to really get comfortable with the flow of the contest until well into the third quarter.

"In terms of scheme, in the first half MOC-Floyd Valley played really well," said West Lyon coach Ryan Brasser. "They hit some shots and the game got going faster than we would like. Credit them for having good ball movement. Makena Konz didn't play much for them in the first two games we played. We had to adjust to where she was at. MOC-Floyd Valley came out and played with a lot of energy. In the second half we did a better job of matching that."

West Lyon was up 18-11 after one quarter and 35-27 at half.

"I am proud of the way our girls battled against a very good and experienced West Lyon team. We kept things close until the middle of the third quarter, but then West Lyon's size and experience took over," said MOC-Floyd Valley coach Darbi Gustafson. "Offensively, we had a few of our bench players really give a spark in the first half to get us going. We moved the ball well and had good shot selection throughout the whole game. We valued the basketball and limited our turnovers, but we didn't get shots to fall in crucial times."

Gustafson said the Dutch also did what they could to stay with the Wildcats on the boards and limit their second chance points.

The Wildcat defense got more stingy after intermission, allowing just 16 second half points from the Dutch. West Lyon never scored less than 14 in a quarter.

"We buckled down on defense in the second half. We controlled the pace of the game better," Brasser said. "Emily Ter Wee had a great second half. She was making moves and getting to the rim to finish."

The Wildcats led 49-33 after three quarters. "Their size and physicality caused us problems late in the game and they were hitting shots down the stretch," Gustafson said.

Ter Wee finished with 26 points, nine rebounds, five assists and three blocks for West Lyon. Gianna Klarenbeek rang up 18 points and Evy Knoblock scored 15. Randi Childress dished out eight assists.

Madison Pottebaum scored 12 points to lead the Dutch. Konz and Maya Immecker each netted 10. Amanda Hulstein gathered six rebounds. Pottebaum offered three assists.

The Dutch finished at 7-15 on the season.

"I am proud of this team and think there is some real potential there," Gustafson said.



Sioux Center senior Makenna Walhof slides inside the defense of Sheldon senior Izzy Freeman last Saturday in the first round of Class 3A regional tournament play. The host Warriors won 87-52. Photo by Charlie Hildebrand



## SPORTS

## SATURDAY CLASS 2A DISTRICT 8 WRESTLING

# Nighthawks set program mark for qualifiers

Six bids 'awesome,' according to Swets

BY JUSTIN RUST  
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**SIOUX CENTER**—Fresh off winning the dual and tournament Siouxland Conference titles, Boyden-Hull/Rock Valley wrestling kept rolling at the Class 2A District 8 tournament last Saturday in Sioux Center.

While the Nighthawks did not win a district title, they still advanced six wrestlers to the state tournament, the most program has ever sent to Des Moines.

"Six is awesome. That's really exciting for our program," said Boyden-Hull/Rock Valley coach Swets said. "You hope to get every guy through, of course, but as a team, we were looking for five-plus. That was our goal at the beginning of the year. You always want more but we wanted more than five and we got more than five."

The Nighthawks had two district champions with Gabino Vargas at 113 pounds and Jace Mulder at 182. Brock Mulder at 145, Zach Strubbe at 160, Reagan Maassen at 220 and Jesue Garcia at 285 were all district runners-up.

Sergeant Bluff-Luton won the team district title.

Central Lyon/George-Little Rock sent four wrestlers to state and Sioux Center and MOC-Floyd Valley each advanced two.

Vargas started the Nighthawks championship round off in impressive fashion, pinning OABCIG's Myles Beck in 3:12 for the 113 title.

"He's a tough kid. He's experienced in matches like this," Swets said. "He just continues

to work on his craft and get better."

The Nighthawks next district title came when Jace Mulder faced Sergeant Bluff-Luton's Garrett McHugh. A locked hands call on McHugh tied the match in the third period and Jace Mulder got an escape with 20 seconds left for the 4-3 decision.

"That's a tough Sergeant Bluff-Luton kid that we saw at the beginning of the year and took a loss to. We really wanted that one before going into state so we could get a little bit of that confidence going into state," Swets said. "Huge match for him. He just continued to wrestle through all positions and came out on top."

Brock Mulder had to get through one of the few second-place wrestleback matches of the day. After losing the 145 title match to Sergeant Bluff-Luton's Ty Koedam, Brock Mulder got second with a 10-2 major decision over Ridge View's Conner Jacobson.

"My words to him before that match was to treat it like any other match," Swets said. "Just got out there and wrestle your match and that's exactly what he did and he came out with a win."

Strubbe lost his 160 title match by fall to Sioux City Heelan's Sir Brandon Watts but he didn't need a second-place wrestleback after pinning Sioux Center's Brodie Van Regenmorter in the semifinals.

"Zach wrestled a tough kid there in the finals and Zach is a kid that's put in a ton of time and has been deserving of this for a long time," Swets said. "It was great for him as a senior



Boyden-Hull/Rock Valley junior Gabino Vargas takes OABCIG junior Myles Beck back down to the mat during the 113-pound Class 2A District 8 championship match last Saturday in Sioux Center. Vargas won the district title by fall. Photos by Justin Rust

and he's somebody that has led this team the last couple of years, so it was good to see him get his goal of making it to state and now we try to get him on the podium."

Maassen lost a 4-1 decision in the 220 title match to Central Lyon/George-Little Rock's Trevor Dieren but his semifinal win over Sioux City Heelan's Naeron Bisse earned him runner-up.

"He has come a long way since he's been part of the program," Swets said. "He's worked really hard and has good size at 220. He's seen Dieren a few times this year and continues to close the game."

Garcia lost 7-4 to Sergeant Bluff-Luton's Sean Zimmerman in the 285 title match but he won by the same score of Central Lyon/George-Little Rock's Kayden Van Berkum in the semifinals to earn runner-up honors.

"Jesue is a unique heavy-weight. He's big but he's short. He's short and stocky and strong and fast," Swets said. "He's worked really hard this year. He came close last year and had a tough district. He's really worked on his technique and hit the weights hard and it

paid off."

Dieren was the lone district champion for the Lions.

"That's a kid he's faced quite a bit already and it was a match that they know each other pretty well," said Central Lyon/George-Little Rock coach Curtis Eben. "It was going to be a grind type of match and I thought that third period, he really grinded him out and he had that last takedown, which was big."

Evan Kruger lost by a 4-2 decision in his 195 semifinal but the Lion senior won his next two to get a wrestleback for second place with Ridge View's Tanner Edwards. Kruger won by an 8-5 decision to advance.

"I just felt like Evan was the better wrestler and that showed," Eben said. "He dominated that match. He gave up some takedowns because of the time left but he won. I'm proud of him and how far he's come."

Evan was one of two Krugers to make the state tournament. Lane Kruger made it to the finals at 138 and he went to overtime with MOC-Floyd Valley's Irving Ramirez, who got a takedown in the extra period for the 8-6 title win. Evan Kruger

didn't need a wrestleback, though, based on his semifinal victory.

"He was a four seed coming in and knocked off the one seed on the front side," Eben said. "He had a good day and he fought until to the very last overtime match he had. So overall, good day for him."

Ragen Hasche was the final qualifier for the Lions and he took Sergeant Bluff-Luton's Dalton Van Wyhe to overtime. Van Wyhe got a takedown in the extra period to win the 126 title. Hasche did not need a wrestleback to earn the runner-up spot.

"We take the kid to overtime and come up a little short on a takedown he kind of got stuffed on," Eben said. "But he got to the finals and is a two-time state qualifier, so really proud of him and where he's at."

While MOC-Floyd Valley is only sent two wrestlers to state with Ramirez and Kooper Huss at 182, two state wrestlers is two more than two years ago and one more than last year for the Dutch.

"Rome wasn't built in a day so little by little," said Dutch coach Preston Hoebelheirich. "We're getting there, we'll get there. The goal was always to bring multiple to state but we also want to bring guys down that are going to compete. That's the next step, getting two guys on the podium."

Hoebelheirich said Ramirez had a pretty good day.

"He's just started to click a couple of weeks ago," he said. "Ever since then, he's been rock solid."

Huss won his first two matches by fall to reach the finals against Sergeant Bluff-Luton's Hunter Steffans, who won by fall to claim the 152 title. Huss did not need a wrestleback to claim runner-up.

"Kooper is a funky wrestler. Before his match with the Heelan kid 'You've been doing this funky stuff for four years, so trust what you here,'" Hoebelheirich said. "He went out and trusted what got him to this point and he is on his way

to the state tournament."

Sioux Center had two wrestlers advance — Kade Bauer at 132 and Jacques Zomermaand at 195.

Zomermaand face Edwards in the title match and took control in the first period before getting the fall in 3:08 to claim the district title.

"He's just a sponge. He keeps soaking things up and continue to learn and grow," Schmidt said. "It's just a joy to have him in the room."

Bauer pinned his first two opponents to get to the title match against Sergeant Bluff-Luton's Bo Koedam.

Bauer lost the title match 6-0 and didn't need a wrestleback to advance, earning runner-up.

"Hats off to Bo, he's a really good wrestler and when you have two good guys go at it, those little things make a big deal," Sioux Center coach Schmidt said. "That's one of the things I appreciate about Kade is that he's going to go back and take a look at it. He's not going to dwell on it. He will figure out what he's got to do to make adjustments."

#### Class 2A District 8

**Team results:** 1. Sergeant Bluff-Luton 21-2; 2. Boyden-Hull/Rock Valley 16-5; 3. Sioux Center 13-4; 4. Sioux City Heelan 12-7; 5. Central Lyon/George-Little Rock 11-6; 6. MOC-Floyd Valley 7-9; 7. Ridge View 4-2; 8. OABCIG 1-9.

**N'West Iowa place winners (state qualifiers in bold):** 196: 3. Luis Tomas (BHRV) 22-16, 4. Bryce Oroszinski (SC) 20-22; 113: 1. Gabino Vargas (BHRV) 32-11, 4. Cameron Jurnas (CLGLR) 8-22;

120: 3. Andrew Boasna (MOC-FV) 24-21, 4. Santiago Estrada (SC) 5-22; 126: 2. Ragen Hasche (CLGLR) 20-12, 3. Angel Gasca (BHRV) 26-16; 132: 2. Kade Bauer (SC) 32-9, 3. Jayne Van Wyhe (CLGLR) 17-17, 4. C.J. Monroe (MOC-FV) 15-14; 138: 1. Irving Ramirez (MOC-FV) 28-13, 2. Lane Kruger (CLGLR) 18-14, 4. Logan Siebrecht (BHRV) 21-25; 145: 2. Brock Mulder (BHRV) 43-6, 4. Kole Hoover (SC) 30-13; 152: 2. Kooper Huss (MOC-FV) 34-11, 4. Landon Rzeboom (SC) 18-23; 160: 2. Zach Strubbe (BHRV) 36-7, 3. Brodie Van Regenmorter (SC) 33-15, 4. Sterling Haack (MOC-FV) 35-12; 170: 3. Reid Hulshof (SC) 31-8, 4. Isaac Van Beek (BHRV) 28-19; 182: 1. Jace Mulder (BHRV) 37-8, 3. Brendan Lambers (SC) 23-17, 4. Ethan Pedersen (CLGLR) 8-14; 195: 1. Jacques Zomermaand (SC) 29-14, 2. Evan Kruger (CLGLR) 19-8; 220: 1. Trevor Dieren (CLGLR) 22-3, 2. Reagan Maassen (BHRV) 33-13; 285: 2. Jesue Garcia (BHRV) 32-15, 3. Kayden Van Berkum (CLGLR) 11-4, 4. Adrian Hernandez (SC) 10-14.



Central Lyon/George-Little Rock junior Trevor Dieren stays on top of Boyden-Hull/Rock Valley senior Reagan Maassen during the 220-pound Class 2A District 8 championship match last Saturday in Sioux Center. Dieren claimed the title with a 4-1 decision.

## SATURDAY CLASS 2A REGIONAL GIRLS BASKETBALL

# Comets catch fire in second half of win

Wolfpack up early, hosts counter late

BY CHARLIE HILDEBRAND  
CHILDEBRAND@NWESTIOWA.COM

WESTERN 15 16 10 7 - 48  
BOYDEN-HULL 12 11 17 20 - 60

**HULL**—Western Christian forced Boyden-Hull to adjust its game plan, but the Comets were right there to take over when the Wolfpack cooled down and rallied to a 60-48 win in the opening round of Class 2A Region 2 girls basketball last Saturday.

Western Christian started the game out well, taking a 15-12 lead through one quarter and extending to advantage to 31-23 by halftime.

"Sadly, this game encapsulated a lot of how we have played this season — an inability to play a complete game," said Wolfpack coach Klay Byker. "We jumped out on them early, had a lead at the half, had a reduced lead going into the fourth and then we let up and went away from what worked for us throughout the earlier parts of the game."

Boyden-Hull coach Nathan Alexander said what worked for Western Christian early was not what he was expecting.

"They are really athletic so

our plan was to try to keep them out of the inside. In the first half they made a bunch of threes and eventually it made us have to extend our zone," Alexander said. "We had to get out and pressure them with our little sort of a half-court trap thing. That meant we really had to trust Elly Moret and Jenny Luevano to stay strong defensively inside and they both had a great second half."

Boyden-Hull led 40-38 before Western Christian banked in a three-pointer to end the third quarter. The 41-40 lead would be the last time the Wolfpack had the advantage as the Comets outscored the guests 20-7 in the final period.

"They hit that desperation three at the end of the third, but by then we had all the momentum," Alexander said. "In the fourth quarter we played well. We handled what we needed to handle. A big moment came when Avery Noble dribbled down and pulled up to hit a three at the top of the key with a little under six minutes left that put us up six. After that I was happy with our execution."

Ashtyn Kelderman paced Boyden-Hull with 19 points, seven assists and two blocks. Aubrey Marra scored 12

points. Noble tossed in 11 points and garnered five steals. Luevano tallied 10 points and six rebounds.

Aubrie Kookier led the Wolfpack with 12 points. Bentley Blied scored nine points. Stella Winterfeld finished with 10 rebounds, four assists, five steals and two blocks. Apiyo Harberts grabbed eight rebounds and Keana Wynja collected five.

Western Christian ended the season with a 3-19 record.

"We came into this year with little to no varsity experience, and we knew that this was going to be a tough year — but we showed resiliency in the face of adversity, and competed hard when it wasn't easy," Byker said. "We grew as competitors, and we will learn how to win the tough games that we lost this season."

#### Hawks see season end in Emmetsburg

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EMMETSBURG 14 12 14 12 - 52

**EMMETSBURG**—Hartley-Melvin-Sanborn stayed within striking distance but dropped a 52-38 decision to Emmetsburg in the opening round of the Class 2A Region 3 girls basketball tournament last Saturday.

The E-Hawks led 14-7 after

the opening quarter.

Each team scored 12 points in the second stanza, keeping Hartley-Melvin-Sanborn down 26-19 at the halftime.

"Emmetsburg had tough ball-pressure defense that we just didn't know what to do with," said Hartley-Melvin-Sanborn coach Jenni Van Otterloo. "We didn't get many outside shots off because of that, and in return, hurt our shooting game."

Host Emmetsburg held a 14-6 advantage in the third quarter, stretching the lead to 40-25 going into the final frame.

Hartley-Melvin-Sanborn outscored the hosts 13-12 in the fourth quarter but did not overtake the E-Hawks.

"We just couldn't get into a groove and find ways to score the ball," Van Otterloo said.

Abby Douma led Hartley-Melvin-Sanborn with 14 points and three blocks.

Kylee Schiphoff finished with 10 points. Moria Otto grabbed five rebounds.

Hartley-Melvin-Sanborn ended the season with a 3-18 record.

"Not exactly the way we had hoped to end our season," Van Otterloo said. "But, we look forward to working on some things in the offseason to get better next year."



Boyden-Hull junior Ashtyn Kelderman powers through the arm of Western Christian sophomore Makenna Fedders in a Class 2A Region 2 game last Saturday in Hull. Photo by Roy Tucker



## SPORTS

## SATURDAY CLASS 2A DISTRICT 4 WRESTLING

# Pioneers peak at good time, put five in state tournament

Orabs taking four and Wildcats get three bids

BY SCOTT BYERS  
SBYERS@NWESTIOWA.COM

ESTHERVILLE—The three N'West Iowa wrestling teams at the Class 2A District 4 tournament last Saturday in Estherville landed in the middle of the team standings, but that took a back seat to getting individuals to the state tournament.

Sheldon-South O'Brien, Okoboji/Hartley-Melvin-Sanborn and West Lyon finished third, fourth and fifth respectively in the team race. The Orabs put four wrestlers through to state, the Pioneers advanced five and the Wildcats got three bids.

For the Orabs, junior Jarrett Roos, who is ranked second at 182 pounds, and senior Coy DeBoer, who is ranked 12th at 152, each did as expected and pinned their way through their respective brackets at the district. It will be the third state tournament trip for each of them.

They will be joined by junior Zach Brinkman and freshman Jack Leng, who will making their first state trips. Brinkman finished second in the district at 195 and Leng was second at 285.

DeBoer and Roos left no doubt on their way to district titles.

"When you look at them and what they had, if they don't get through, something went really wrong," said Sheldon-South O'Brien coach Kory Roos. "With the skills they have and the work they put in, what they did was no surprise. I'd love to get Coy

some hardware down there. Jarrett's goal has always been to be wrestling on Saturday night. Last year he didn't quite get that far, but he's a very goal-driven individual, and he's really worked to get there. He's not going to look past anyone. He knows what he has to do."

The coach said realistically, Brinkman was hoping to get to second place in the district as West Lyon junior Emmitt Fleshman was the clear favorite at 195.

"It came down to Zach and the kid from Algona," he said. "I was on another match when that one was going on. I looked over and that one had been going back and forth. Then all the sudden you just see the light switch flip on with Zach. He got a little half reversal and put him to his back and got the fall. I can't be more happy for him."

The seeding meeting got interesting at 285. Roos said a lot of the debate surrounded Estherville Lincoln Central senior Jesse Christensen and Algona junior Cohen Reffer, who each had split during the regular season. The coaches ended up giving the top seed to Leng.

"He got into the championship and made a couple of mistakes. Then he had to go to the wrestleback. He had a lot of time to prepare for that one," coach Roos said. "I told him in a situation like that it comes down to how bad do you want it and how big is your heart."

The coach noted because the bout was the last of the day, all eyes were on Leng and Christensen.

"It was back and forth, but no scor-

ing in the first period. We put him down because if you get into a tie-breaker, first points scored matter," he said. "He hit a switch and put the guy right on his back. He's one of only two freshmen in the bracket at state to qualify at heavyweight."

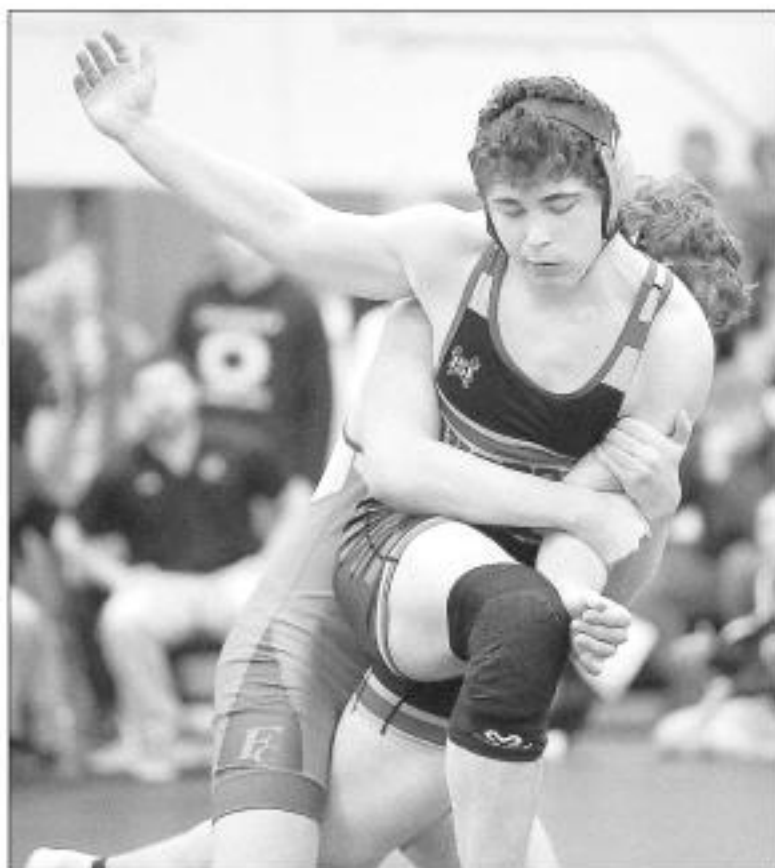
Okoboji/Hartley-Melvin-Sanborn put five in the finals, but won just one title. Sam Pas pinned his way through at 220.

Pioneers coach Nate Dau said there were quite a few nervous moments for the rest of the roster, but also a lot of elation.

"We were really pleased with the effort and resilience our kids showed in a lot of stressful situations," Dau said. "Our kids really started to feed off each other and we caught some momentum after Dylan Jones got a pin in the semifinals against an opponent who had beaten him earlier in the season. Dylan was also able to capture his 100th win in that match, which is an enormous achievement for any Iowa High School wrestler."

Jones at 120, Bryce Dodge at 152 and Noah Strantz at 160 did not require a wrestleback to wrap up second place. That was not the case for Nathaniel Franklin, who bounced back from a finals loss to unbeaten and third-ranked Kellen Moore of Forest City in the 170 final. Franklin wrestled for a true second against Colby Jennings of Algona and took a 9-6 decision.

"That was a very tense battle with a tough Algona wrestler," Dau said. "Sam and Noah have been our team leaders throughout the season and their hard work throughout their



Okoboji/Hartley-Melvin-Sanborn junior Ethan Wiersma tries to escape from Forest City freshman Hunter Sunkle in a 195-pound match at the Class 2A District 4 tournament last Saturday in Estherville. Photos by Ryan Howe

careers culminated with a trip to state. Bryce has been in our program since we adopted Hartley and has been behind some of our tougher kids, so he wasn't really able to crack the lineup until this season. Bryce sacrificed a lot to make the cut to 152 pounds and it paid off. He's had some really fantastic performances this season."

It was a bit of an all or nothing day for West Lyon, which had two district champs and one runner-up, but had only one other place winner in the lineup.

"We figured we'd get three or four guys through depending on how we wrestled," said West Lyon coach Ben Caven. "In a couple of weights the other teams had guys that were better than us that day. We got ourselves into a few tough situations. There is certainly room for improvement, but we did wrestle a lot of full matches and the effort was good."

Freshman Evan Erpenbach was unranked but pinned his way through the 106 bracket to improved to 42-6 on the year for the Wildcats. Freshman Ryan Bahnsen, who is ranked 12th at 113, placed second behind seventh-ranked Jacob Zabka of Algona and moved to 43-6 on the year.

"They put in the work this summer. They both did as much as they could," Caven said. "This is what happens when you do all that work in the offseason. You put what you learned to work. It's also going to help them at state. They've already seen it. They've wrestled the high-level

kids and got to know them. They've wrestled the best kids from other states. When you have that it makes the nerves go better and that's a big deal in wrestling. You can let your instinct and skill do the work."

Caven said junior Emmitt Fleshman endured a similar summer slate. Fleshman absolutely dominated the 195 bracket to move to 36-8 on the year.

"He looked good. They all did and they should. They've put in the work," he said. "I thought our conditioning put us a little bit ahead of everyone else. That allowed them to go out and show what they can do."

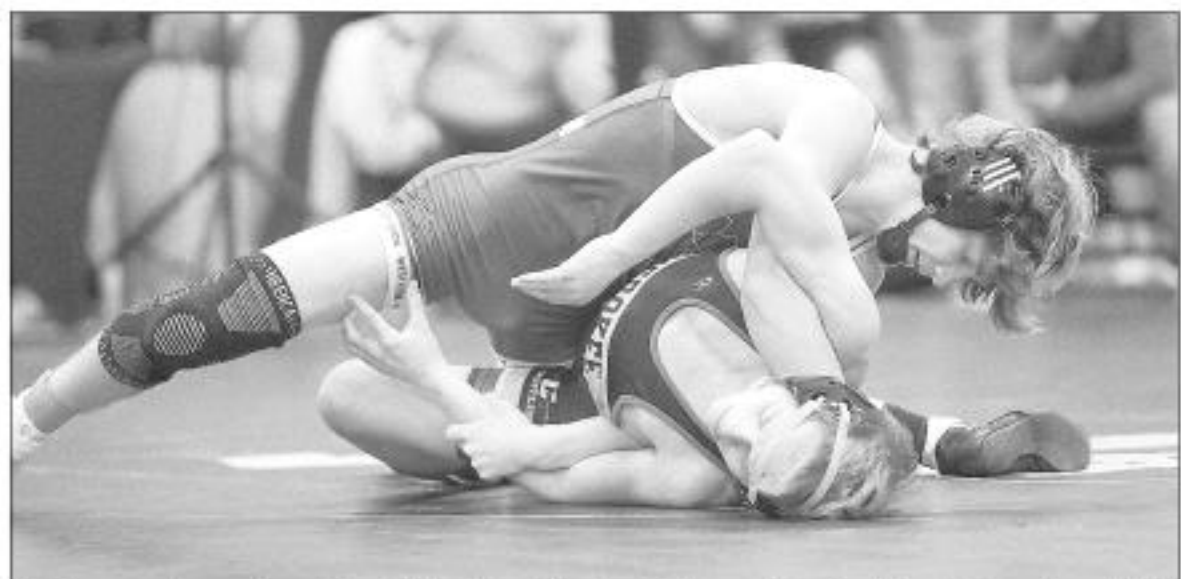
The coach said the Wildcats all have their goals set for Des Moines.

"We're all on the same page," he said. "We are going with a one match at a time attitude. Go as hard as you can and whatever happens, happens. You just have to find a way to score more points than the other guy."

#### Class 2A District 4

Team results: 1. Algona 235; 2. Estherville Lincoln Central 138.5; 3. Sheldon-South O'Brien 131; 4. Okoboji/Hartley-Melvin-Sanborn 130.5; West Lyon 89.5; 6. Forest City 87; 7. Spirit Lake Park 73; 8. Cherokee 64.

N'West Iowa place winners (state qualifiers in bold): 106: 1. Evan Erpenbach, (WL) 42-6; 3. Josh Holtmann (S-SOS) 35-6; 113: 2. Ryan Bahnsen (WL) 43-6; 120: 2. Dylan Jones (OkO/HMS) 21-12; 125: 4. Cole Cox (S-SOS) 9-28; 132: 3. Gage Blauwet (WL) 39-16; 138: 3. Brennan Baschke (OkO/HMS) 13-17; 4. Anthony Escobar (S-SOS) 9-11; 148: None; 152: 1. Coy DeBoer (S-SOS) 39-2; 2. Bryce Dodge (OkO/HMS) 26-13; 160: 2. Noah Strantz (OkO/HMS) 35-8; 4. Tyson Getting (S-SOS) 24-22; 170: 2. Nathaniel Franklin (OkO/HMS) 22-11; 182: 1. Jarrett Roos (S-SOS) 40-0; 4. James Gellerson (OkO/HMS) 30-20; 195: 1. Emmitt Fleshman (WL) 36-8; 2. Zach Brinkman (S-SOS) 26-18; 4. Ethan Wiersma (OkO/HMS) 20-18; 220: 1. Sam Pas (OkO/HMS) 35-7; 285: 2. Jack Leng (S-SOS) 26-17.



West Lyon sophomore Gage Blauwet tries to turn Cherokee freshman Carter Hautt in a 132-pound quarterfinal match at the Class 2A District 4 tournament last Saturday in Estherville. Blauwet claimed the match by technical fall.

## SATURDAY CLASS 1A DISTRICT 11 WRESTLING

# West Sioux makes it through struggles to earn second place

Trio heals in time to make it to state

BY SCOTT BYERS  
SBYERS@NWESTIOWA.COM

HULL—A season of struggle was capped on a high note for West Sioux as the Falcons took second in the Class 1A District 11 wrestling tournament last Saturday in Hull.

"It is the postseason and it felt like the postseason. We put our best wrestling on the mat. We peaked at the right time," said West Sioux coach Mark Van Oort. "We were in position to take six or seven guys. We put three in, but I'm happy with our guys."

"It's always bittersweet because you see guys have their season come to an end, but it's a time of celebration and you are happy for the guys advancing," he continued. "For me, the losses tend to hurt a little more and I probably don't celebrate the victories enough, but when the sun comes up the next day you look through and see so many highlights and you just keep moving forward."

West Sioux qualified three wrestlers for the state meet. All three dealt with serious injuries this season.

Freshman 132-pounder Dustin Van Oort suffered multiple injuries during a crash during a motocross race late in the summer and spent a good deal of time in the hospital before beginning his rehab. He missed the first six weeks of the season.

He was going to have to pull an upset to make it to state with two ranked wrestlers in his bracket. He did that will a pin of 10th-ranked Brand Beaver, a junior from Woodbury Central, in the semifinals.

"He was calm, cool, collected and well-prepared for that match," coach Van Oort

said of his son. "When that match was over, he didn't get overly excited. There wasn't a big celebration. He came over and gave me a high-five like he does after every match. He went out there expecting to win that match and he did."

Senior Mikey Baker started the year ranked first at 152 but was still hindered by a knee injury he suffered during the state tournament semifinals last season and had surgery for in the offseason.

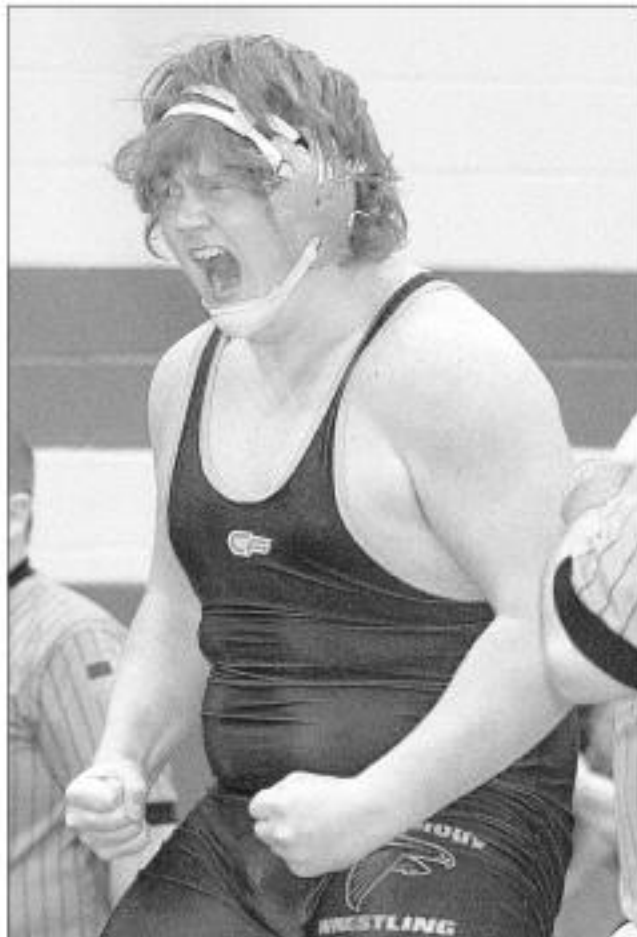
He had a second surgery in the middle of the season. When he came back, he was at 145 and eventually worked his way up to the top spot in that weight class.

"We made a hard decision in December when we decided he'd go under the knife again, but that helped put him in the position he is in now," coach Van Oort said. "It's exactly what we'd hoped for. He now has an opportunity to accomplish his goal. It was a big team goal for us going into the year for everybody to do what they could to help Baker in position to wrestle for a state championship."

Baker barely broke a sweat at districts, getting a bye that was followed by a first period pin in the semifinals. He didn't have to wrestle to win his final as Koele defaulted due to injury.

Junior Keegan McMillan was dominant at 285, pinning all three of his foes in the first period.

"Keegan battled through a shoulder injury that at one time looked like it was going to end his season," the coach said. "He ended up missing about four weeks, but an injury like that takes a mental toll for a heavyweight, especially one that wrestles his style. Then you have the physical part of that too, but he's back at 100 percent and looking



West Sioux junior Keegan McMillan celebrates his victory over Pocahontas Area senior Joseph Sanders last Saturday in Hull. The triumph gave him a ticket to state. Photo by Roy Tucker

great.

"That was one of the deepest heavyweight districts in the state. The seventh-ranked kid didn't even make it," he said. "Keegan stayed focused and got the job done. He looks state tournament ready."

It was a tougher day for the other two N'West Iowa teams at the meet as Sibley-Ocheyedan placed eighth and Western Christian ninth at the 10-team event. Each of those teams had one state qualifier.

Freshman Dawson Beyer qualified for the state tournament at 138 for Sibley-

Ocheyedan, placing second at districts to improve to 40-10.

"Dawson has wrestled hard all year. He's had this as a goal all year long and he earned it. He wrestled well. He made it through, and even that final was a really good match," said Sibley-Ocheyedan co-coach Nick Krogman.

Beyer got a pin in the first round, then won a decision in the semifinal before dropping a 6-4 decision to Tyler Orzechowski of Kingsley-Pierson in the final.

While a freshman saying state was his goal might seem

a little far fetched coming into the year, Krogman never doubted Beyer.

"I believed it. He puts in the time and effort all year around. He has a passion for it," Krogman said.

Krogman was hoping for three more in the state meet, but Michael Block and Jonathan Krogman each placed third and Kayne Julius was fourth. The top two finishers in each weight class at the district advance to state.

Block, a junior who was ranked seventh in the state, was the top seed at 285. He experienced how quickly you can lose your edge in the semifinals, getting thrown and pinned by Joseph Sanders of Pocahontas Area.

"He got into a double underhook with his chest out and just was not in good position," Krogman said. "There was no reason to do that. He needs to listen to his coaches. We told him not to do that. He needed to get to his offense. He ended up doing it and he was really upset at himself. He apologized to us. Unfortunately, that's just part of the sport."

Jonathan Krogman, a senior, was ranked to start the year, but broke his ankle against the top-ranked wrestler at 152 during the second event of the season. He did not come back until late January and ended up 11-3 on the year. He was in one of the tougher brackets of the district and ended up falling short in a 3-2 decision against Ryder Koele of Woodbury Central in the semifinals. That bout was tied 2-2 going into the third period. Krogman decided to let Koele up and try to take him down, but couldn't get it done.

"After it was 0-0 after the first period I didn't have a good feeling about it," said the coach, who is Jonathan Krogman's father. "He held back on

his offense. He did get in on a couple of deep shots he didn't finish. There were a couple of calls that didn't go his way, but you can't let the ref decide the match."

Western Christian senior Gavin De Hoogh was not ranked coming into the tournament, but he was the top seed in the bracket. He pinned Jesse Harvey of Kingsley-Pierson and Angel Barajas of Alta-Aurelia, each in the first period, to reach the final. There he outlasted Clayton Schroeder of Graettinger-Terril/Ruthven-Ayrshire in a 6-5 decision.

"Gavin has been consistent all year. He just went out and wrestled," said Western Christian coach Jesse Regalado. "He hasn't seen all the guys he wrestled, so it was a little different, but he's wrestled tough guys all year. I'm not surprised at all to see him do so well."

Regalado said the day in general was a big one for the Wolfpack program.

"This whole season as a step forward for our program. It starts with the families. They are the foundation," he said. "But it was definitely an honor to be able to host the district and a big positive for the sport at Western Christian."

#### Class 1A District 11

Team results: 1. Kingsley-Pierson 157; 2. West Sioux 140; 3. Pocahontas Area 126; 4. Woodbury Central 123.5; 5. Graettinger-Terril/Ruthven-Ayrshire 101; 6. Alton-Westfield 63.5; 7. Alta-Aurelia 75; 8. Sibley-Ocheyedan 64; 9. Western Christian 48; 10. Sioux Central 47.5.

N'West Iowa place winners (state qualifiers in bold): 106: 4. Aiden De Boom (WS) 9-15; 113: 3. Reid Persinger (WS) 24-15; 120: None; 125: None; 132: 2. Dustin Van Oort (WS) 23-8; 138: 2. Dawson Beyer, (S-O) 40-10; 145: 1. Mikey Baker, West Sioux, senior (32-2); 3. Jonathan Krogman (S-O) 11-3; 152: 4. Gavin Hensch (S-O) 16-18; 160: 3. Tyler Kennedy (WS) 29-14; 170: 4. Javier Mora (WS) 21-21; 182: 3. Seth Persinger (WS) 19-11; 195: 4. Lucas Koel (WC) 15-20; 220: 1. Gavin De Hoogh, (WC) 28-11; 4. Gibson Ross (WS) 17-14; 285: 1. Keegan McMillan, West Sioux, junior (29-3); 3. Michael Block (S-O) 44-4.



NEW AMPLIFY CURRICULUM  
IMPLEMENTS THE SCIENCE  
OF READING PRINCIPLES.  
— PAGE E3



A SECTION OF THE N'WEST IOWA REVIEW  
FOCUSING ON ACTIVITIES IN THE SIBLEY-OCHEYEDAN SCHOOL DISTRICT

# general orders



Sibley-Ocheyedan High School seniors Vivian Zepeda, Jaci Van Westen and Alejandro Bernal present a request for projects at the Koopman Kennedy & Feller law office in Sibley as the trio begins making contacts with businesses as part of the Center for Advanced Professional Studies. Photo by Sandra Jenson

## Business-focused program underway

Helps get students learn about careers

BY SANDRA JENSON  
SJENSON@NWESTIOWA.COM

SIBLEY—A new partnership is taking shape between the Sibley-Ocheyedan School District and the area business community with the launch a program with the Center for Advanced Professional Studies program this semester.

Seniors Alejandro Bernal, Jaci Van Westen and Vivian Zepeda signed up for the inaugural session led by agriculture teacher Justin Rottinghaus.

"We can think of it as we're setting the foundation for the classes," Van Westen said.

The business-focused pro-

gram can be offered throughout the school year, but Sibley-Ocheyedan has opted for its inclusion only during the second semester.

"It's giving them an opportunity to experience what's it's like in the business world before actually graduating high school," Rottinghaus said. "They're getting those career understandings of what are employability skills, what are employees looking for, how to dress business casual, stress management, how to give a handshake and finding your true passion."

As part of the Siouxland CAPS, based out of Sioux City, the students eventually will collaborate with other

See CAPS on page E6

BY SANDRA JENSON  
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## RAZZLE DAZZLE



Sibley-Ocheyedan High School junior Brooke Platt smiles as she helps lead Aaliyah Loeschen, Addison McDyer, Rylee Von Holdt, Kianna Cook, Brynna Loerts and Olivia Daiker through their dance performance Thursday, Jan. 12. Photo by Sandra Jenson

SIBLEY—Students in the Sibley-Ocheyedan School District start showing school spirit at an early age. High school cheerleaders and dance team members have organized clinics for students in grades K-8 over the past several years to make connections

with the younger students while having fun showing support for the Generals.

Dozens of students register for the events each year.

The cheerleaders start events out each fall with a clinic and performance during a home football game. Basketball season provides the

thrill of performing in front of a hometown crowd for each team.

After weather postponements for both squads, the dance students wowed the crowd on Jan. 12, followed by the cheer participants on Feb. 2.

See DANCE on page E2

◆ DANCE TEAM PUTS ON CLINICS FOR K-8 PUPILS ◆



## GENERAL ORDERS

# Younger students get cheerleading training

## DANCE

*Continued from page E1*

Dance coach Jennifer Croatt described the clinic process.

The team normally hosts the event after school on the night they perform, and the high school members complete most of the planning.

"The high school dance team divides into small groups. Each group chooses music and choreographs a dance for their age group," Croatt said. "They are also responsible for securing a practice place for their group in either the middle school or high school.

"Each high school dancer also chooses a job for after school, including riding the bus to the elementary school to collect younger clinic participants, waiting at the front door to check participants in and let them know where to go or waiting at their

designated table to watch the participants and take attendance."

Around the practice times are snacks and dinner, with the groups performing for each other as a dress rehearsal of sorts at the middle school.

"The younger kids are taught to cheer on the older kids and vice versa," Croatt said. "This is usually one of my personal favorites because they all seem to have so much fun with it."

The dancers don their uniform T-shirts before the students walk up to the high school to get ready to perform.

"I've seen some kids get pretty nervous in the past, but for the most part, dancing in a group gives them the boost of confidence they need to go in front of the large crowd," Croatt said.

The cheerleaders follow a little dif-



Sophomore Evie Chambers helps lead students in grades 2-4 through their cheerleading routine as they perform at halftime of the Sibley-Ocheyedan High School basketball game on Thursday, Feb. 2. Photo by Sandra Jensen

ferent rehearsal schedule, offering their clinic on the Wednesday prior to a Friday performance.

Practice day activities, however, are similar.

Students make the trek to the high school and spend about two hours practicing and enjoying a snack before it is time to leave.

Janaya Horstman experienced her

first year of clinics after joining the Sibley-Ocheyedan staff as a second-grade teacher and the cheerleading coach.

"It's actually quite a bit of work getting this organized," Horstman said. "I have to first find dates that work with the school and then find a time to send out the sign-ups to get the shirts ordered."

On the clinic day, the high school students assume the task of leading the cheers by also dividing participants into grade-level groups.

Horstman, too, noticed a positive energy as the events kicked off.

"The participants were very excited and couldn't wait to get started learning cheers and be with the older girls," she said.

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## GENERAL ORDERS

# New reading curriculum for grades K-8

## Amplify program challenges pupils

BY SANDRA JENSON  
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SIBLEY—The economics of supply and demand prompted a shift in reading curriculum that's proven to be a successful switch for Sibley-Ocheyedan School District students in grades K-8.

Instructional coach Lindsey Helmers said the district completes a curriculum review every six years for each subject area but does not necessarily replace materials each rotation.

The administration solicits samples of programs to review, and the teachers at each grade level look over the materials and provide their input. Best teaching practices are the focus, but other factors are considered as well.

"If we had stayed with the series we were with, we would not have been able to get materials to last us until the next review cycle," Helmers said.

The new Amplify curriculum implements the Science of Reading principles, which outline the importance of sci-

ence-based reading instruction and stress the importance of gaining background knowledge and foundational skills through engaging learning.

The program for students in grades K-5 is called Core Knowledge Language Arts, focusing on building a knowledge base and reading skills. Students transition to the English Language Arts portion of the curriculum by sixth grade.

### Challenging

"The beginning of the year was rough, because it was such a change," Helmers said. "It's always hard when you change a curriculum. You have to learn that curriculum all over again, so it's very time consuming."

To aid in the transition, professional development time on Wednesday afternoons was used for staff to work together on planning. Teachers also met online with staff from the Hartley-Melvin-Sanborn School District to compare first-year experiences with Amplify.

"We really encourage them to follow the curriculum the way it's written, and then next year, if you feel you need to change it just a little bit, it's

OK," Helmers said. "But we're not going to know if the program works if we don't follow it."

Each grade level needs 90-120 minutes to complete their reading instruction each day. Elementary students already used a 90-minute reading block, but several teachers added more time to their schedules designated for reading activities, speaking and listening, grammar, spelling, writing and morphology.

Teachers noticed that one of the more significant differences between Amplify and the former program is the promotion of more whole group instruction. Staff will make adjustments to continue to implement more small group activities within the curriculum model.

Helmers said they also noticed adjustments in subject matter, and that they do more listening and considerably more writing.

Knowledge units across the grades focus on crossovers with social studies and science topics such as the human body, astronomy, early world civilizations, animals and habitats, frontier explorers and historical events.

"All of these topics, the teachers, all of us, were a little skeptical — 'Are they really going to enjoy this?'" Helmers said. "They love the topics. There are very few times when the teachers have said, 'That unit got a little long' or 'That unit was a little hard for them.'"

She noted the Amplify program is designed to challenge the students.

"The material, a lot of it is at grade level or sometimes two years past, because you want it very rigorous and you want them really learning vocabulary," Helmers said. "You want everybody in that grade-level curriculum and then you want to support that so they can read."

### Innovation

Overseeing the process, working with the teachers if they need help and assisting with professional development time are the primary responsibilities of Helmers and literacy coach Emma Ose-land. They work with the lead team comprised of a teacher from each grade level.

The broader, more in-depth stories and accessory materials provide new options for creative learning.

"The whole series spirals, so they may hear about something in first grade and then they may hit that topic again in fourth grade," Helmers said. "You'll see those topics come around again and those skills are covered over and over."

Middle school social studies instructor Julie Schuller jumped at the chance to share knowledge about Mesopotamia that she teaches to her sixth-graders when she learned the second-graders read a story about the culture in the new materials.

Other activities tied into lessons included a visit to the fourth-graders by accordionist Joan Johnson, sixth-graders using interactive online programs to solve a mystery while studying Sherlock Holmes and fifth-graders imitating Michelangelo's painting process as he completed the Sistine Chapel



Second-grader Kolby Block attempts to sink a shot in the zigurat while sixth-grader Jazlin Acevedo monitors her group's station at the Mesopotamia Cultural Fair held at Sibley-Ocheyedan Middle School on Oct. 21. Photos by Sandra Jenson



Language arts instructor Kara Heyn guides sixth-grade language arts students through a mystery-solving program included with the Amplify curriculum at Sibley-Ocheyedan Middle School.

ceiling.

In their Mysteries and Investigations unit, language arts instructor Kara Heyn had her students use clues to make inferences, identify character actions and cite text evidence to solve mysteries.

"Now, we are bridging accurate map reading with social studies, which is what the Amplify curriculum is all about — combining reading and writing skills with a cross-curricular concept," Heyn said. "That is one thing that I do like about the new curriculum. The way it immerses them in the other subjects gives them a little more background knowledge in each area."

Another benefit she pointed out was access to digital, audio and book formats.

The upper grades can complete additional units called quests that are project based.

"It's more hands on, active

things that the kids can do," Helmers said. "There's a lot more student engagement and collaboration in that. The kids really enjoy them."

But no matter what reading curriculum the district uses, Helmers said the same important key to success remains: Encouraging students to practice reading and parents to read to their children.

"What I like about this curriculum is the opportunities students have to collaborate together in large groups, or small groups," said third-grade teacher Jenna Helmers. "Students enjoy working with each other and I find they are very engaged during small group time."

"Our brains and routines have definitely had to adjust to this very new curriculum. But like anything we do as teachers, we do it to the best of our abilities for the students in our classrooms."



## GENERAL ORDERS

# Outreach helps kids avoid peer pressure

## Aim: Prevent bullying and promote positivity

BY SANDRA JENSON  
S.JENSON@NWESTIOWA.COM

SIBLEY—Dealing with peer pressure can be difficult when students are encouraged by their “friends” to take part in negative behaviors such as lying, stealing or bullying.

A new outreach program aims to help students at Sibley-Ocheyedan Middle School navigate challenges common to this age group.

Middle school counselor Hannah Earll is partnering with Lutheran Services of Iowa to implement the Draw the Line/Respect the Line curriculum with the district's sixth-graders.

She is specifically working with April Howe, supervisor of community programs from the LSI office in Spencer.

“This program provides students opportunities to learn ways to prevent bullying and increase positive healthy relationships, respect, boundaries and communication skills,” Howe said. “The lessons emphasize refusal skills and limit setting in challenging situations for middle school students.”

After implementing the program at area schools, Howe presented the curriculum through in-person visits at Sibley-Ocheyedan Feb. 6-9.

“April reached out to our district to present this program that has been successful in surrounding counties to increase communication, healthy relationships and self-esteem to our youth at Sibley-Ocheyedan Middle School,” Earll said.

One activity that took center stage during the week was role-playing common social situations faced by students.

“There are four steps to saying ‘no’ to somebody,” Howe said. “Sometimes we just don’t know what to say.”

She shared the following tips to help end an uncomfortable interaction:

- Say, “No, I don’t . . .” with an



April Howe of Lutheran Services of Iowa discusses options with Sibley-Ocheyedan Middle School sixth-graders Emma Boeke, Henry Sarringar and Keegan Van Der Sloot as they practice how to react in a hard situation where they are asked by their peers to steal something. Photo by Sandra Jenson

explanation.

- Use body language and voice tone to express feelings.
- Change the subject.
- Walk away.

Earll and Howe divided the sixth-graders into small groups and gave each a different scenario to act out to show how they would react using the four steps discussed.

Differing degrees of enthusiasm and varying comfort levels showed in the students as they practiced and performed, but everyone tried to participate when their group presented.

Topics ranged from shoplifting and going to a party with alcohol to being pressured to date someone and lie to their parents.

The students also played Simon Says to learn about boundaries and know they do not have to do everything they are asked.

While this project is specifically geared to sixth-graders, Earll said there are opportunities down the road for additional programming presented by LSI to students in other grades.

“We have a great group of sixth-grade students, but middle school can just really be a tough time,” Earll said. “They’re navigating a desire to fit in and be included by their peers, so a lot of the concerns regarding peer pressure and creating more positive communication skills can be linked back to that.”

Even though the trial period was short, the leaders expressed a positive reaction to the program.

“The kids seem to really be enjoying it and learning a lot. I have been thrilled to see how engaged they continue to be, and how excited they are to participate each day,” Earll said.

This is one of three classroom sessions Earll has each day with middle

### FOR MORE INFO:

- To find additional materials on Lutheran Services of Iowa, visit [LSIowa.org](http://LSIowa.org) or check out the Facebook page.

school students. One-on-one meetings and small group sessions for students with specific needs fill the remainder of her schedule.

“So far this school year in our classroom settings we’ve covered lessons on things such as empathy, healthy friendships, conflict resolution, values, career exploration and stress management,” Earll said.

Similar topics will be addressed when another speaker comes for an assembly in March to talk about digital awareness issues such as cyberbullying and social media safety.

Howe is involved in the Community Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention program that supports and educates Iowa youth and teenagers on sexual health and pregnancy prevention to promote healthy and successful relationships.

The CAPP program offers a variety of evidence-based curricula dedicated to specific grade levels in Osceola, O’Brien, Buena Vista, Clay, Cherokee, Crawford, Emmet and Sac counties.

“We strive to empower, connect and provide tools to the youth to assist them in being successful in their everyday lives,” Howe said.

As one of Iowa’s largest human services agencies, LSI impacts thousands of Iowans annually through child abuse prevention, services for families and youth in crisis, services for people with disabilities, mental health services, foster care and adoption, and immigrant and refugee services.

# Program gets students in professional settings

## CAPS

*Continued from page E1*

participating area high schools which are Boyden-Hull, Cherokee, MOC-Floyd Valley, Sheldon, Sioux Center and West Sioux.

Van Westen said the class is getting her and her classmates in a more professional setting.

“We’re going to businesses around to see if we can find projects for us to do that are more along the lines of in a business environment, like proposing and designing websites, social media marketing, business expansion, those type of projects,” Van Westen said.

The students meet daily during the last two periods of the school day at the fire station in Sibley. It was a special deal with fire chief Ken Huls.

“The CAPS idea is designed to meet outside of the school environment to treat it more like a business aspect instead of a classroom,” Rottinghaus said. “They’re not advertising it for rent, but since we’re a school, he was willing to let us use the space.”

The trio developed a flyer about their proposals and began distribution on Jan. 17 as they introduced themselves at Sibley businesses.

Rottinghaus anticipates that for the first session, the group will need to start with some smaller projects, hopefully leading to bigger ones.

“We’re looking for projects that we can finish up in one semester,” he said. “The CAPS idea is to have one project during the three months.”

They are searching for more paperwork-based projects instead of task-orientated activities such as cleaning or stock work but acknowledge they will need to be flexible with options as they start partnerships with businesses.

“The goal is to have about eight or nine projects to choose from and then only choose one. Not to say that we won’t ever do those other projects,” Rottinghaus said. “The CAPS goal is to have one project for the whole, entire group for the entire semester. Then you go to an invitation showcase and present there.”

So far, most of the responses relate to website improvements for the businesses.

Additional assistance will come from the Northwest Area Education Agency through notebooks containing project ideas.

The first project statewide for 2023 was designing a statewide CAPS logo.

The group anticipates that most of the project work will be completed at the fire station, depending on client needs and the instructor’s schedule. Businesses interested in possibly partnering with the class may contact Rottinghaus at [caps@thegenerals.org](mailto:caps@thegenerals.org). He will have one of the students reply.

High school counselor Jillian Klingenberg meets with students at each grade level as they prepare their schedules for the upcoming school year.

“She shared that they were going to try CAPS this new year and explained what it was. I did it because it was new and I was like, it sounds cool, let’s try it,” Van Westen said.

Bernal was looking for courses to fill his schedule and was encouraged to participate by Van Westen.

Zepeda was convinced after more conversation with Klingenberg.

“She explained it to me, and it sounded like it’d be fun. You go out and you help businesses and see what they need done,” Zepeda said.

Knowing their fellow classmates also participate in school-to-career options or take college credit courses, they still were surprised that only three people signed up.

“I find it funny, because I feel like we’re the three people you would look at and be like, ‘Yeah, they wouldn’t do that.’ But here we are,” Van Westen said.

Some of the skills learned so far involve looking and preparing for a first job, positive presentations, monitoring social media accounts, setting up a LinkedIn account and making business cards.

They spend time at the start of each session on team-building questions and activities that also help them learn about their own strengths and personality traits.

“It’s been interesting,” Van Westen said. “I feel like for people who haven’t gotten a job during high school or want to get into that environment, it might help them a lot.”



# The South O'Brien SUN

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2023 | SECTION F

WEEKEND WEATHER



**SATURDAY**  
8% chance of precip **41°** / 22°



**SUNDAY**  
12% chance of precip **38°** / 18°



## ICE FISHING FUNDRAISER

Folks fished through the ice to raise funds for Camp Autumn on a sunny day last Saturday.

— SEE MORE ON F3

BY ALEISA SCHAT ASCHAT@NWESTIOWA.COM

# Bottom Dollar Diva

PHOTO BY ALEISA SCHAT



**P**AULLINA—When a family friend asked 16-year-old Chloe Gergen of Sutherland, if Gergen would take hundreds of donated gowns off her hands, Gergen was game. “She donated 500-plus dresses,” Gergen said. “Originally, I think she was finding them for girls in our community that can’t afford dresses. She would go out to consignment stores and find them, or people would

donate them. They just started piling up, and she needed to get them out of her barn.”

When the mantle was passed to Gergen, she, with the help of her mother, Brenda Collier, began looking for a space where the dresses could be displayed and made available at low prices to customers on the hunt for a gown that doesn’t break the bank.

See **DRESSES** on page F9

## SUTHERLAND TEEN OFFERS AFFORDABLE DRESSES FOR SPECIAL OCCASIONS



Bond steering committee member Heidi Farquhar speaks in support of the South O'Brien School District proposal Wednesday night in Sutherland. Photo by Elijah Helton

## South O'Brien campaigns in Sutherland for bond vote

Approval on March 7 would fund high school expansion

BY ELIJAH HELTON  
EHELTON@NWESTIOWA.COM

SUTHERLAND—The bond campaign is in session as South O'Brien School District leaders rallied for the nearly \$26 million proposal Wednesday night in Sutherland.

Superintendent Wade Riley spoke first to about 60 people who came to the R.L. Johannsen Center.

“We need to look toward the future, the longevity of our school district, and invest appropriately and rationally,” Riley said.

It was the second of three informational meetings on the massive expansion and renovation project. The first was held Feb. 1 in Primghar and the last will be March 1 in Paullina. The final meeting will begin at 6 p.m. at the 7-12 building and include a tour of the facility as it stands now.

Voters will decide Tuesday, March 7, whether to greenlight the property tax increase necessary for the project. The bond needs 60 percent approval to pass.

The major components of the potential project are mostly for the junior high/high school in Paullina. They include a new agriculture classroom and greenhouse, more space and equipment for trades programs, science classrooms and a gym. The elementary in Primghar would convert its current gym into an auditorium, which would be used for performing arts of all grade levels.

See **BOND** on page F10

## SUN SPOTS

### Paullina City Council to hold meeting Monday

PAULLINA—The Paullina City Council's next regular meeting is set for 5:30 p.m. Monday, Feb. 20, at the city hall. For more information, call the Paullina city office at 712-949-3428.

### Lenten Breakfasts for men to start March 1

PRIMGHAR—The Primghar Community Ecumenical Lenten Breakfasts will be held at United Church of Primghar each 7 a.m. Wednesday, March 1-April 5. All men and boys of the community are welcome.

### Poets urged to send in prose for publication

REGIONAL—Iowans of all ages are invited to submit poetry through Feb. 28, for the annual Lyrical Iowa Poetry Competition. There is no entry fee. Participants may submit up to five poems in any of seven categories for adults; students may be Iowa residents or attend a school in Iowa and may submit up to five in their division (grades K-4; 5-8; 9-12, college). Only one poem per person may be published. Rules are available at [www.iowapoetry.com/rules2023.htm](http://www.iowapoetry.com/rules2023.htm).

### Tea at Three is each Thursday at library

SUTHERLAND—Tea at Three is offered 3-4 p.m. each Thursday at the Gen. N.B. Baker Library in Sutherland. For more information, call 712 446-3839.

### NCC seeks nominations for outstanding grads

SHELDON—Northwest Iowa Community College in Sheldon is seeking nominations for the 2023 Outstanding Alumnus of the Year. Nominate a graduate who has done outstanding work in his or her industry; has done exceptional volunteer work, received a prestigious award or obtained some other notable achievement. Accomplishments may be of a personal or professional nature. Visit [www.nwicc.edu/alumnus-of-the-year/](http://www.nwicc.edu/alumnus-of-the-year/) for a nomination form. The deadline is March 3.



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**Publication:**  
Saturday, March 4

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City clerk Amanda Vanderhoff speaks during the Sutherland City Council meeting Monday, Feb. 6, at the R.L. Johannsen Center. Discussion included repairs at the library, the new ambulance and maintenance staffing. Photo by Elijah Helton



Repairs to the Gen. N.B. Baker Library are under consideration by the Sutherland City Council as the structure's foundation is cracking. The city decided to get quotes on projects costs after discussing the issue on Monday, Feb. 6. Photo submitted

# Sutherland council discusses library repair, more

## Also needs director for public works

BY ELIJAH HELTON  
EHELTON@NWESTIOWA.COM

SUTHERLAND—The Sutherland City Council discussed ongoing needs of the library, ambulance team and city staff the night of Monday, Feb. 6.

The Gen. N.B. Baker Library needs foundation repair.

Director Nancy Hill said cracks have been there for

years, but there is a risk of water damage in the future.

Council member Chase Cox already was familiar with the issue.

"Something would have to be done because you can feel the air coming through there. If air can come through, water can come through," Cox said.

It is hoped the project could be done in the next several months.

City clerk Amanda Vanderhoff said the timing of a budget amendment to pay for the

project will be tricky.

Pending state legislation could alter tax dollars available to municipalities and throw off the annual budgeting timeline. In a regular year, Sutherland would already be wrapping up its budget.

The council decided to get a quote on the library project from The Concrete Guys in Calumet before moving forward. Vanderhoff said she will contact additional foundation places.

"The more information we

have, we'll be able to make a better plan for what we need to do," Vanderhoff said.

Fire and ambulance chief Mark Shriver gave an update on the new ambulance the city recently bought from Sergeant Bluff Fire & Rescue.

The Sutherland vehicle was nearly ready for action as it received equipment updates in Sanborn. The main project was moving a Sutherland cot into the new ambulance.

The city decided in December to go relatively big on

the vehicle bid, putting up \$80,000.

The purchase also was a year ahead of schedule, but Shriver said his team liked the model and condition of the ambulance Sergeant Bluff put up for sale.

Vanderhoff also told the council that she has received no applications to replace Tony Larsen, the retiring city public works director.

Larsen's last day is scheduled to be May 31.

He is receiving part-time

support from Devon Jones on weekends. Jones is reading water meters and collecting water samples as well as plowing snow and other as-needed jobs. Vanderhoff and mayor Kay Gifford also are on call in case of an urgent problem.

An official vote was not needed, but the council unofficially approved the arrangement.

"Right now, I've got 101.75 hours of comp time," Larsen said. "I really don't need any more comp time."

# South O'Brien BUSINESS AND SERVICE DIRECTORY

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**TOURNAMENT WINNERS:***(Combined total length of five longest fish)***BLUEGILL**

1. Cole Budach, 42.5 inches
2. Grayson Hermstad, 41 inches
3. Mason Sexe, 40.5 inches

**CRAPPIE**

1. Brock Jones, 58.25 inches
2. Haden Stell, 53.75 inches
3. Chase Budach 50.5 inches

**BASS**

1. Daniel Babb, 40.5 inches
2. Ryder Parsons, 31 inches
3. Melody Collett, 29 inches

**KIDS' BIG FISH, GUIDED FISHING TRIP WITH SHANE AKIN**

- Henry Peters, 16.75 inches Bass

**SPECIAL CHALLENGE WINNERS:****SNOOK'S OF OKOBOJI ICE HOLE CHALLENGE**

- Candace Daniels

**LIONS CLUB CHALLENGE HOLE (EVERLY, HARTLEY, PETERSON):***(single biggest fish)*

- Harrison Daniels
- Gemma Halverson
- Harrison Daniels

**NORTHWEST BANK****LUNKER ACCOUNT CHALLENGE HOLE:**

- Heaviest bag: Ryan Pyle
- Heaviest single fish: Melody Collett

**NORTHWEST WEALTH MANAGEMENT:***(Guess the number of minnows in the investment tank)*

- Gary Gunntrson

**VALERO RENEWABLES OF ALBERT CITY AND HARTLEY CASTING CHALLENGE:**

- Victor Rodriguez

**COMMUNITY STATE BANK BASS CHALLENGE:***(Most number of bass caught, regardless of size)*

- Daniel Babb

**CITY VIEW FARMS AROUND THE WORLD CHALLENGE:***(Must have submitted at least one fish in all three tournament categories)*

- Daniel Babb

# Ice fishing event raises Camp Autumn funds

## Tournament draws 184 to drill holes in pond at site

BY ERIC HARROLD  
EHARROLD@NWESTIOWA.COM

SUTHERLAND—A gentle, but cool breeze was blowing around 10 a.m. following the completion of registration for Camp Autumn's annual Ice Fishing Tournament & Fundraiser last Saturday near Sutherland.

Most of the participants were down on the lake drilling holes and preparing to try their luck. With temperatures headed above 40 degrees for the day's high, there was a lot of energy and enthusiasm by those in attendance who appeared intent on shaking off the winter doldrums for a good cause.

All proceeds raised from the fundraiser will go toward scholarships for children to attend Camp Autumn, a therapeutic camp for youth.

Camp Autumn director Adam Lybarger said the total money raised between the event's sponsors and day-of donations was \$15,022.

"Very pleased with that," Lybarger said. "It was a record-setting number of attendees and a record-setting number of dollars raised."

While the growing participation is something Lybarger is pleased with, he was quick to point out the number of dedicated volunteers is what allows everything involved with putting on the fundraiser to flow smoothly.

"We could not put on an event like this without the help of our volunteers from the Iowa Great Lakes Fishing Club, Seasons Center, Camp Autumn," Lybarger said. "We're very grateful for their generosity which allows us to put on this event for the community and to raise funds to send kids to camp for the summer."

Stephanie Pohar, marketing and events coordinator for Seasons Center for Behavioral Health which operates Camp Autumn, tallied up the numbers about an hour after the close of registration on Saturday and confirmed participation in the fundraiser continues to grow.

"We had 184 registered participants, and that is certainly an increase over last year's number," she said.

While helping to park vehicles earlier that morning, Pohar noted a remarkable number of folks telling her they were coming to the event for the first time.

Several volunteers were on hand from the Iowa Great Lakes Fishing Club.

Dean Jacobsen of Arnolds Park, along with Denny Phillips and Rick Peterson of Spencer were busy shuttling folks back and forth between the lake and the parking area. They were all smiles and eager to assist those who came to enjoy some friendly competition with fellow anglers.



Nine-year-old Hudson DeGroot of Hospers waits as patiently as a youngster could for a fish to tug on his line during the Camp Autumn Ice Fishing Tournament & Fundraiser held last Saturday on the camp pond by Sutherland.

A couple of 9-year-olds, Hudson DeGroot from Hospers and Tad Miller of Rock Valley, demonstrated the focus and energy many young participants were channeling into ice fishing. DeGroot was sitting and waiting patiently for a bite while Miller was busy drilling a hole in the ice so he could wet a line.

Miller was one of those first-timers who came along with his grandfather.

"This isn't my first time ice fishing though," he said. "I like to go ice fishing back home."

It was a day for the young and the young-at-heart to enjoy the experience of ice fishing. Adults Daniel Babb of Sanborn and Candace Daniels of Spencer were beaming with their early-morning catches. Babb caught a 13¼-inch crappie, while Daniels caught a 7½-inch bluegill.

Mike and Joanna Bennett, along with their children Aiden and Annaliese, were proof people do not have to be from the Upper Midwest to appreciate ice fishing. The family moved to the Hawkeye State from Georgia nine years ago and have come to thoroughly enjoy ice fishing.

Annaliese contrasted her former home down south with her new home in Iowa with one simple observation. "You wouldn't dare get on the ice in Georgia," she said.

Lybarger would like to extend his appreciation to all 28 individuals, families, organizations, and businesses who supported the event in some way.



Six-year-old Nash Pullen of Spencer fishes as his dad, Ben, and their friend, Josh Toft of Royal, look on during the fourth annual Ice Fishing Tournament & Fundraiser for Camp Autumn, a therapeutic camp for children last Saturday. Photos by Eric Harrold

**BRIEFLY**

### Next Archery Open Range Night slated for Feb. 28 at Prairie Heritage Center

SUTHERLAND—O'Brien County Conservation will host Indoor Archery Open Range Nights 6-8 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 28, March 14 and March 28 at the Prairie Heritage Center southeast of Sutherland. All materials will be provided for the free activity in the basement of the facility. For more information, call 712-295-7200.

### Gen. N.B. Baker Library in Sutherland offers rock painting, puzzles, more

SUTHERLAND—A time for rock painting, puzzles, paint pouring and other activities are offered at 1 p.m. each Thursday at the Gen. N.B. Baker Library in Sutherland. For more information, call 712 446-3839 or e-mail genbakr@midlands.net.

### Bald Eagle Watch slated for March 4

SUTHERLAND—O'Brien County Conservation will host a Bald Eagle Watch 1-4 p.m. Saturday, March 4, at the Prairie Heritage Center southeast of Sutherland. For more information, call 712-295-7200.

### Sutherland council to meet on March 6

SUTHERLAND—The Sutherland City Council's next regular monthly meeting is set for 7 p.m. Monday, March 6, at the R.L. Johannsen Center downtown. For more information, call the Sutherland city office at 712-446-2243.

### Paullina City Council to meet March 8

PRIMGHAR—The Primghar City Council's next regular monthly meeting is set for 5 p.m. Wednesday, March 8, at the city hall. For more information, call the Primghar city office at 712-957-2435.

### Assistance available for heating home

PRIMGHAR—The Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program provides limited financial heating assistance to income-eligible utility customers Nov. 1-April 30. For more information and an appointment in O'Brien County, call Upper Des Moines Opportunity Outreach at 712-957-1023 in Primghar.

### 'Happy Hour for Kids' held in Primghar

PAULLINA—The Paulina Public Library offers "Happy Hour for Kids" 3-5 p.m. Wednesdays for children ages 5 and older. For more information, call the library at 712-949-3941 or follow its Facebook page for future programming details.

### Costumes available for rent at shop

PRIMGHAR—The Primghar Community Playhouse's costume shop, Unique to the Max, is open by appointment. For more information, call playhouse board members Betty Uittenbogaard at 712-899-8384 or Linda Towe at 712-229-8417.

### Sutherland Dinner Date offered daily

SUTHERLAND—Sutherland Dinner Date is offered at 11:30 a.m. Monday-Friday at the Willoway Complex. Attendees may eat in the dining room. People ages 60 and older may purchase a meal at a reduced price. To learn what each meal will be and to reserve one, call Peg Christensen at 712-577-7696 the day before. Also call to reserve a meal and have it delivered to homes within Sutherland city limits. New attendees will receive their first meal free. For more information, call Mark Cody, the executive director of the Willoway Complex, at 712-446-2599 or stop by his office at 409 Ash St, Suite 15.

### Native prairie seed packets available

SUTHERLAND—The Prairie Heritage Center near Sutherland has native prairie seed packets available. Each packet will come with planting instructions, will contain up to 80 species of native Iowa prairie species and will cover more than 100 square feet. The price is a suggested donation of \$4 per packet.

### Sutherland library holds Kids Saturday

SUTHERLAND—The Gen. N.B. Baker Library in Sutherland hosts Kids Saturday 9:30-11 a.m. on the first Saturday of each month. The program features fun things and crafts for youth. For more information, call 712 446-3839 or e-mail genbakr@midlands.net.

### Book club meets at Sutherland library

SUTHERLAND—The Gen. N.B. Baker Library Bookends book club meets at 6 p.m. the first Thursday of each month in Sutherland. For more information, call 712 446-3839 or e-mail genbakr@midlands.net.

### Adult Board Game Night held monthly

SUTHERLAND—The Gen. N.B. Baker Library in Sutherland hosts an Adult Board Game Night at 6 p.m. on the third Tuesday of each month. For more information, call 712 446-3839 or e-mail genbakr@midlands.net.

### Clothing ministry closed for season

SUTHERLAND—Sutherland United Methodist Church's clothing ministry, God's Closet, located inside an unattached garage at 307 W. First St., is closed for the season. For more information, call Gloria Rahbusch of Sutherland at 712-446-3419.



# Schools spending leftover funds on breakfast

First meal of the day free for rest of year

BY ELIJAH HELTON  
EHELTON@NWESTIOWA.COM

REGIONAL—The most important meal of the day is free for the rest of the year in the South O'Brien School District.

Superintendent Wade Riley said reducing the price of breakfast from \$1.50 to \$0 has been beneficial to students without taking too much of a bite out of the budget.

"It was just a nice way for us to provide our students with breakfast and try to get something in their bodies before they start a school day," Riley said.

Students have not been charged for breakfast since Dec. 5 at the elementary in Primghar or the 7-12 building in Paullina and they won't be through the end of the 2022-23 school year.

The South O'Brien school board made the decision after there was enough funding left over in the nutrition budget — which must be spent on school dining — to make breakfast free, at least for the rest of the year. Riley said the decision is expected to cost the district \$5,000-\$10,000.

"There's only so many things



Second-grader Brunlee Kreber selects a juice the morning of Feb. 1 in the breakfast line at South O'Brien Elementary in Primghar. Students of all grades can eat breakfast for free throughout the rest of the school year thanks to extra funding in the district's nutrition budget. Photos by Elijah Helton

that you can purchase with that money. One of things when the board made this decision, it was their hope to try to impact as many students as they can. There was an option to provide free breakfast, and we thought we were in a good spot with a lot of the nutritional things that we have," Riley said.

Elementary secretary Liz Reichle said more students have been coming through the breakfast line. There were about 75 students a day getting breakfast before it was free. Some days this semester, it has been nearly double that number.

"Now that they know that it's free, hopefully we can get more kids to eat the breakfast that we provide," Reichle said. "I know a

lot of kids don't get that at home. A lot of kids are coming to school after their parents have already gone to work, so I think that it's good for those kids."

Learning on an empty stomach can hinder learning at school. Riley and Reichle said free breakfasts help students academically as well as nutritionally.

"It does help those ones who may not have available breakfast options at home. They're at least getting something in their stomachs before they start their academic day," Riley said.

This is backed up by research that suggests that breakfast can help students focus and learn. A 2013 analysis at the University of Leeds in England covered 36

studies on the topic, concluding there are at least some benefits to having eaten before going to class.

"I know that it's a good thing for the kids. I know that the kids enjoy it," Reichle said.

Riley said the most popular breakfast is on Friday when doughnuts are regularly offered.

"Of course, it's a different option, it's something they don't get all the time," Riley said.

Sugar-frosted options are not the only thing students get. The regular schedule at South O'Brien has hot breakfasts on Tuesdays and Thursdays, including items such as breakfast burritos, waffles and breakfast pizza, with cold options on other days such as cereal and pastries. Every meal also comes with a choice of fruit, juice and milk.

There are about 560 students in the South O'Brien system with more than 100 regularly choosing breakfast at school. The early meal at the elementary runs 7:45-8:20 a.m. It runs longer at the junior high/senior high school, going 7:20-8:20 a.m.

Free breakfast is not a permanent policy, but Riley said the success of the last two months has convinced him to look at it in future years, although school boards make the final call on such decisions.

He said it will be a matter of money.

"It's a great idea if we can continue to sustain it," he said. "I just don't know if those funds are always going to be available to us. That's something that we'll have to evaluate as an annual basis."



Sixth-graders Chase Rodger and Collyn Harper enjoy their breakfasts Feb. 1 at South O'Brien Elementary in Primghar. The school district has decided to make the meal free for the rest of the school year.

# Scholarships available via county's 2023 Career Day

Two applicants to receive \$500 to assist in preparation for job

PRIMGHAR—The application acceptance period for the O'Brien County Career Day Scholarship has opened and will remain open through April 5.

In partnership with local businesses, O'Brien County Career Day awards two successful applicants with a \$500 scholarship to be used toward student loan debt, other educational expenses or expenses that assist in the preparation for their career or business in O'Brien County.

"Talented workforce recruitment is a strategic priority for O'Brien County Career Day," said O'Brien County Economic Development executive director Kiana Johnson. "The annual O'Brien County Career Day is a day set aside for high school sophomores, where they have the opportunity to explore the many careers available to them right here in O'Brien County. To expand on that initiative, we launched a scholarship program to assist in incentivizing our area's top talent to return or stay in O'Brien County."

To be eligible to receive the O'Brien County Career Day Scholarship in 2023, an applicant must:

- Have received or will receive a high school diploma or high school equivalency diploma 2017-23 from Sheldon, Hartley-Melvin-Sanborn, South O'Brien or MMCRU High School.

- Be or will be employed or self-employed in O'Brien County, and/or be or will be a resident in O'Brien County.

- Return the following year as a guest of honor to the O'Brien County Career Day.

Applicants may download the scholarship application and complete guidelines from <https://www.obriencounty.com/career-day/career-day-scholarship-2023>.

Applications must be submitted to Kiana Johnson, O'Brien County Economic Development executive director, P.O. Box 616, Primghar, IA 51245 or via e-mail to [ocedc@tcaexpress.net](mailto:ocedc@tcaexpress.net) by April 5.

"We are proud of our local talent," Johnson said. "O'Brien County educates many qualified individuals, and our local employers have many quality jobs available. Our goal with this program is to encourage those former students to consider coming back and/or continue to make O'Brien County their home and create or pursue the career of their choice locally."



Kiana Johnson

## FOR MORE INFO

- To learn more about O'Brien County Career Day or the scholarship, contact O'Brien County Economic Development executive director Kiana Johnson at 712-957-1313 or [ocedc@tcaexpress.net](mailto:ocedc@tcaexpress.net).

**FOR SALE**

THE CITY OF SUTHERLAND IS ACCEPTING BIDS FOR A 2004 FORD ECONOLINE AMBULANCE

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**JOB OPENING**

**City Maintenance Position - City of Sutherland**

The City of Sutherland is accepting applications for the City Maintenance position. The candidate must be licensed to operate the City water and wastewater systems within a year and have a CDL or the ability to obtain one.

**Duties include, but are not limited to:** meter reading, record keeping, general maintenance duties, snow removal, street maintenance, and mowing.

Wage based on qualifications.

We Will consider candidates up to a 15 mile radius. Applications can be picked up at the City office located at 110 Ash St or can be found on the City website - [sutherlandiowa.com](http://sutherlandiowa.com).

**Please submit applications to the City office.**

Resumes will be accepted until the position is filled.

**Come & Go Community Coffee for Carolyn Rohrbaugh's 80th Birthday**

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# THE South O'Brien High School Wolverine Roar



EDITOR:  
Samantha Wilbur  
ASSISTANT EDITORS:  
Makenna Rehder  
and Ede Oliver

Produced by the  
newspaper staff of  
South O'Brien High School

## Reader's theatre earns Division I at district speech competition

BY EDIE OLIVER

Eight students from South O'Brien High School competed at the district and state large group speech competitions in the readers theatre category.

The students had a successful season earning a Division I "excellent" rating at the district competition on Jan. 21 in Orange City and a Division II "good" overall rating at the state contest on Feb. 4 in Le

Mars.

"These kids are such a great group of people to work with," said speech coach Becky Lickiss. "I'm proud of the work they've done and their accomplishments this season."

The group's readers theatre performance was called "The Elf Rebellion." The story featured three rambunctious elves, a slightly slimy Santa and Oompa Loompas.

Three of the main char-

acters — Dipsy, Doodle and Sid — attempt to get fair compensation for their work, and Santa remembers what Christmas is all about.

Now that large group speech competitions are over, students are beginning to prepare for individual speech competitions.

The district competition will be held on Saturday, Feb. 25, at Okoboji High School in Mil-



Members of "The Elf Rebellion" cast posing after the large group district speech contest are (front, from left) sophomores Iverson Harms and Alex Grimm, senior Abby Stout, junior Chloe Gerger; (back) junior Edie Oliver and seniors Grant Wagner, Lydia Flinders and Laci Kenney.



South O'Brien High School senior Ashlyn Gimer is sworn into the Army National Guard.

## Gimer joining Army National Guard

South O'Brien High School senior Ashlyn Gimer was sworn into the Army National Guard on Friday, Feb. 3.

After graduation in May, Gimer will go to basic training this summer and then will be stationed at Camp Dodge in Johnston for three months of job training to become a 91D generator mechanic.

Gimer has been working toward this goal for the past couple of years.

## Dinner theatre tickets on sale

BY SAWYER HONKOMP & CAMDEN STEVENS

Tickets are on sale for the South O'Brien High School Dinner Theatre. The production "For Better or Worst" will hit the stage on Friday and Saturday, March 17-18, in East Gym at South O'Brien High School.

The performance this year is directed by Jessica Watkins, the Spanish teacher at South O'Brien.

Tickets are available at the high school principal's office and superintendent's office in Paullina.

For the meal and show, tickets are \$20.

For those who want to come for the show only, bleacher seating tickets



Junior Edie Oliver, sophomore Alex Grimm and senior Grant Wagner rehearse for South O'Brien High Dinner Theatre.

will be sold at the door the evenings of the shows.

The cost is \$5.

The meal is a barbecue-style dinner of pulled pork sandwiches, cheesy potatoes, baked beans, coleslaw, a

drink and dessert.

Members of the cast will serve the meal beginning at 6 p.m., with the show starting at 7.

This year's dinner theatre is based on a detective named Nick Noir,

played by Grant Wagner, and his secretary Selma, played by Alex Grimm, who work together to solve a million-dollar scandal.

Enjoy a night of comedy and a great meal at South O'Brien High School.



South O'Brien High School freshmen Kelsee Warnke and Avery Halverson lead transitional kindergarten and kindergarten dancers during their halftime performance of the boys basketball game between the Wolverines and Unity Christian High School on Tuesday evening, Jan. 24, in Paullina.

## Cheer and dance team conducts its winter camp

BY ALYSSA VAN BEEK & KARLEE WARNKE

The South O'Brien High School cheer and dance team held its annual winter dance camp on Tuesday, Jan. 24.

The dances learned at the camp were performed at halftime of the boys basketball game vs. Unity Christian High School that evening.

Forty-six girls participated in the camp from transitional kindergarten through sixth grade.

"It is important for the younger generation to get involved," said senior

cheer and dance member Jadyn Renken.

"It gets them excited for when they are in high school and are able to participate in the cheer and dance program."

The students taking part learned a dance that was choreographed by one of the 24 high school cheer and dance members.

The dance camp raised close to \$400, which helps with various expenses each year for state dance competition.

A camp also was held this year during the fall football season.



**POLL**  
Who do you want to win the Super Bowl and why?

■ **Freshman Dominic Rounds:** "I wish the Cowboys were in the Super Bowl."

■ **Sophomore Caleb Buenger:** "Chiefs, because I don't watch football, but the name sounds cool."

■ **Junior Elodie Wilson:** "Eagles, because they're the dirty birds."

■ **Senior Alex Spoo:** "Chiefs, because my family has always rooted for them."

■ **Mr. Beau Ruleaux:** "Eagles, because they represent the NFC."

■ **Mrs. Becca Miller:** "Chiefs all the way, because they are the best."



Rounds



Buenger



Wilson



Spoo



Ruleaux



Miller



Chas Biery passes the ball as Brian Sohn defends at the fourth annual South O'Brien Alumni Boys Basketball Game on Saturday, Feb. 4, in Paullina.



Brian Haden guards Daniel Haden as he tries to shoot while Dallas Jalas looks on at the fourth annual South O'Brien Alumni Boys Basketball Game held on Feb. 4.

# Fourth annual alumni basketball game

BY WHITNEY EINCK

Previous South O'Brien High School basketball players participated in the fourth annual Alumni Boys Basketball Game held on Saturday, Feb. 4.

The event took place after the varsity basketball games that afternoon.

The game brought in 43 alumni to play against each other in a tournament of six games (two games per team).

The outstanding turnout brought in more than \$1,000 for the South O'Brien Athletic Boosters.

This event has greatly increased in numbers since the first alumni game in 2019 which had just 28 participants.

The fundraiser provides a way for the alumni living near and far to give back to the basketball program.

Players came from six states to compete in the friendly competition.

Former South O'Brien players Nic Faust and Dallas Jalas, along with boys basketball coach Kiley Yates, organized the event again this year.



South O'Brien High School senior yearbook editor Sam Wilbur talks with senior Dante Johnson about the QR code feature.

# QR codes added to yearbook for 2023

BY ASHLYNN TIOSSEM & JALYSSA JOINES

A new feature in the 2023 South O'Brien High School yearbook will be QR codes where students can access slideshows with additional pictures that did not make it into the yearbook.

The yearbook staff came up with the idea when they were discussing ways to make this yearbook unique.

"It is a great interactive component of the yearbook that will provide more student photos from the year," said senior yearbook editor Sam Wilbur.

The 2023 South O'Brien High School yearbook is on sale for \$50 at [jostensyearbooks.com](http://jostensyearbooks.com).

The deadline to purchase 2023 South O'Brien High School yearbook is May 1.



Boston Riedemann signs to continue his academic and athletic career at the Morningside University in Sioux City between his parents, Eric and Jamie, and coaches Aaron Giese, Mark Fuhrman and DJ Lode stand behind him. He will play football.

# Boston Riedemann signs to play football with Morningside in role of wide receiver

BY JACOB VAN LITH & DANTE JOHNSON

After an outstanding performance in football, South O'Brien High School senior Boston Riedemann signed on Thursday, Feb. 2, to continue his academic and athletic career at the Morningside University in Sioux City.

The university is a member of the Great Plains Athletic Conference.

Riedemann chose Morningside because it was close to home and

has a rich tradition in football. He plans to play wide receiver and major in business.

Riedemann earned football all-district honors during his junior and senior years.

Along with football, he plays basketball and baseball and runs track at South O'Brien.

He also is involved in FCA and publications.

"I'm excited to be a part of a new team," Riedemann said.

"The event is a great way to bring the alumni back to the community," Faust said. "I had previous players mention that they hadn't stepped foot in the gym since they graduated."

The sponsors have remained the same

each year, including JW's Bar & Grill, O'Brien County Ag Supply and South O'Brien Insurance.

They are looking for more sponsors and committee members as the tradition continues.



# Fair board seeks funds for upgrades

**Aims to provide more enjoyable environment**

BY ERIC HARROLD  
EHARROLD@NWESTIOWA.COM

PRIMGHAR—The O'Brien County Fair Board is asking the county to help with the cost of remodeling its show ring to create a more enjoyable environment for those attending the fair and for other events held at the fairgrounds in Primghar.

Fair board president Darwin Gaudian and vice president Kevin Mars appeared before the O'Brien County Board of Supervisors at its Jan. 24 meeting to share their plans for some needed improvements.

"We were asking for \$42,000; we've been at \$37,900 for a long time," Gaudian said. "Our expenses are going up as you all know."

He said one previously dependable source of support, the city of Primghar, had indicated it would no longer be able to cover the cost of utilities.

"We don't get any help out of Primghar anymore," Gaudian said. "They've paid utilities since the 1950s, but they gave us notice they can't do that anymore. We're paying utilities now, which is \$7,500 annually. During the fair it is close to \$4,000 for that one month."

He said remodeling bathrooms in the administration building and improving lighting at the food court were upgrade costs included in the

general fair budget but not the cost of remodeling the show ring.

"We are going to remodel the show ring hopefully this fall," Gaudian said. "If you want to help us out on that above the \$42,000, we have \$50,000 down here on this loan/grant line on the income page. We'll either need you to help us out or we are going to have to go to grants or ask the public sector for that help."

He said \$42,000 is the cost of putting on the county fair alone.

"It's going to take \$50,000 to make this budget and capital work," Gaudian said. "There's \$61,000 in capital improvements included in the budget."

The 100th anniversary of the O'Brien County Fair will be in 2024. Fair board members were hoping to celebrate the milestone with the proposed upgrades and improvements for the show ring.

"We've done a lot of things for the exhibitors and the kids," Mars said. "Now we're looking at lighting and remodeling along with electrical, ventilation and shade for the outside to make things more pleasant for the general public to come and enjoy the fair."

Gaudian described the condition of the show ring and said it was simply time to address the effects of wear and tear over time.

"We've spent zero dollars on that show ring since I've been here," he said. "It's a fantastic building, but it's tired. The tin has faded. It's been hot



O'Brien County Fair Board members construct show pens prior to the start of the 2017 fair in Primghar. The board plans on upgrading the show ring with new lighting and a large ceiling fan to improve ventilation. Fair board president Darwin Gaudian and vice president Kevin Mars appeared before the board of supervisors on Tuesday, Jan. 24, to share details of the fiscal year 2023-24 budget and planned improvements to the show ring. Photo submitted

in there forever."

"How do you remedy that, air flow fans?" asked supervisor Dan Friedrichsen.

The installation of a 12- to 14-foot ceiling fan will allow the fair officials to shut off the smaller side units and cool the whole building, according to Mars, who said the state fairgrounds in Des Moines installed similar units.

"We've added 24 feet of roof on the end to increase the amount of shade," Gaudian said. "We were talking about building a porch out there, and somebody said, 'Let's just go taller and wider.'"

Rohwer asked if the Gaudian and Mars think the project will be about \$61,000.

"Roughly. Between there and \$100,000," Gaudian said. "That's

where we're at. We've got a little cash left over from last year, so that gives us a bit of a cushion over the \$61,000."

Rohwer then asked how much of the loan/grant line for \$50,000 is the fair board looking for from the county.

Gaudian said \$20,000.

"We can find the rest in other places," Mars said. "The county grant is coming up and that's \$10,000. We didn't ask for any last year, and we knew this project was coming up."

The grant Mars wants to apply for through the county is through the O'Brien County Community Foundation.

"They've been good to us over the years," Mars said.

He said some businesses such as

Valero and Cooperative Energy Company in the county have given the fair board some money. He thinks there is additional funding of a similar nature that can be pursued.

Gaudian, who also serving as Iowa State Fair Board president this year, thinks there is reason to think enthusiasm for the fair is high within the county.

"They weighed in 170 cattle this year, so that tells me the fair is going to be full," he said. "If the families have that interest in going and buying cattle, that tells me that they're interested."

Gaudian said six goat pens were built last year and a dog show also was held. Mars said he thinks the interest in poultry will be higher this year as well.



Anything and everything Primghar? Well maybe not quite, but certainly a lot of merchandise with the town's name inscribed across the front can be purchased at the Hometown Goods store located inside Primghar City Hall at 160 S. Hayes Ave.

## Primghar-related items available through city store

**Variety of products may be purchased**

BY ERIC HARROLD  
EHARROLD@NWESTIOWA.COM

PRIMGHAR—For just over a year, those with Primghar connections have a way to show off their pride for the community thanks to the city-owned Primghar's Hometown Goods store nestled in a corner of city hall.

The space just to the left of the entrance was going unused, and the idea of an outlet for Primghar merchandise was viewed as a way to make good use of it.

The store is owned by Primghar Improvements, an assemblage of locals promoting the city.

It began as simply a collaboration between city leadership and enthusiastic Primghar

residents, opening its doors in November 2021.

At the invitation of city administrator Carol Chicoine, Joan Roos and Brenda Harms got things rolling a little more than a year ago.

"We noticed there was a huge opportunity to provide a good dose of nostalgia and town pride," Roos said.

### AT A GLANCE

**Business:** Primghar's Hometown Goods

**Owner:** Primghar Improvements

**Address:** 160 S. Hayes Ave., Primghar

**Hours:** 8 a.m.-4:15 p.m. Monday-Friday

**Phone:** 712-957-2435

**Online:** Facebook



Kim Slaton, a Primghar native who now resides in Swansea, IL, looks at a commemorative water tower model for sale at the Hometown Goods store located inside the Primghar City Hall. The store is open Monday-Friday. Photos by Eric Harrold

"Primghar has always been a source of pride for its residents, and we wanted to make items that would bring a smile to their faces. We really got a lot of help from community members to put the whole thing together."

The store offers a wide variety of items with "Primghar" emblazoned on the front — sweatshirts, T-shirts, hats, cutting boards, drinkware, cookbooks, jars and platters.

"We had custom Primghar water towers for the holidays that were a big hit with the community," Harms said. "We are always open to suggestions for new items to fill the store."

Sisters Carla Wise and Pam Rieke create all the non-

apparel items, and through the help of a few partners who assist in creating custom items, Harms and Roos try to keep everything Primghar-focused.

With the store being located inside city hall, Harms and Roos are quick to credit city employees with handling the bulk of sales during the office's hours of operation, which are 8 a.m.-4:15 p.m. Monday-Friday.

"We are so grateful for our city hall workers for running the store during the day," Roos said.

Proceeds from the store are put toward community projects.

"We have been able to donate to the new updates

to the city park and have plans for a future donation to the Primghar Skating Rink," Harms said.

Primghar's Hometown Goods updates and new products are promoted via the store's Facebook page, the city newsletter and word-of-mouth.

"We have a strong following of loyal patrons that spread the word about new things," Harms said. "We get great business from returning town alumni that stop in to pick up gifts. We have even shipped items to Georgia and New York for former residents of Primghar."

When asked about what they get out of the time and energy they invest in the store,

Harms was quick to respond. "Seeing Primghar folks that have moved out of the area come back," Harms said.

"Most of them take advantage of the chance to take something back to where they live now that indicates their pride for where they grew up."

A recent afternoon provided such an instance when Kim (Schnack) Slaton made her way in to browse the merchandise on hand. Slaton grew up in Primghar but now resides in Swansea, IL.

After purchasing several apparel items and exchanging remarks with Roos and Harms, Slaton left to begin the trip back home with new Primghar gear to show off her hometown pride.



# Bottom Dollar Diva offering dresses for special occasions

## DRESSES

Continued from page F1

"Prom, especially, is a big milestone, and a lot of people think that they just can't go since they don't have a dress," Gergen said. "This is more affordable."

Instead of hanging forgotten in dark closets, hundreds of special occasion dresses are instead hanging on racks at a new brick-and-mortar shop, Bottom Dollar Diva, located at 134 N. Main St. in downtown Paullina.

The store is somewhat narrow and



A gown is displayed in Bottom Dollar Diva, a discounted shop opened by 16-year-old Chloe Gergen to make special occasion dresses accessible. Photo submitted



Bottom Dollar Diva is located at 134 N. Main St. in Paullina. Sixteen-year-old Chloe Gergen and her mother, Brenda Collier, secured a short-term lease to open the discounted special occasion dress shop. Photo by Aleisa Schat

spare, but the dresses, which are organized by color, create a rainbow of lace, organza and chiffon against neutral-colored walls. The logo on the glass door was designed by Gergen, who enjoys making art.

"When people come in, I basically just say, 'I don't have anything organized by size at the moment. I'm just going by color. So, you've just got to go through it,'" Gergen said.

Bottom Dollar Diva carries dresses in sizes 0-22, and because dress sizing is notoriously irregular across brands and styles, Gergen suggests shoppers sort through the dresses on display and try them on in the fitting room in the back.

"Dress sizes range — they can be unreliable. They can tell you that they're a size 18, but they fit a 20 or they fit a 14," she said.

For guests accompanying the dress shopper, there is a seating area with contemporary touches and a three-way mirror.

### Getting started

Gergen inherited Bottom Dollar Diva's large dress collection in August and hoped to secure a space to display them to customers by South O'Brien High School's Homecoming Week last fall. Gergen is a junior at the high school in Paullina.

"It just wasn't working out," she said.

Then Gergen and Collier found a short-term lease in Paullina, and they moved into their Main Street space in October.

At first, the store did not have a lot of foot traffic, and it took a while to

**AT A GLANCE**  
**Business:** Bottom Dollar Diva  
**Owner:** Chloe Gergen and Brenda Collier  
**Address:** 134 N. Main St., Paullina  
**Hours:** 4-7 p.m. Mondays and Thursdays and by appointment  
**Phone:** 712-363-8713  
**Online:** Facebook

get the word out about Bottom Dollar Diva, which is a registered business.

"I didn't get a Facebook page up until January, so I didn't have anybody come in from October to December — that was probably my first mistake," Gergen said. "But I'm also new — I'm only 16 — and I didn't really know what to do."

She realized she needed a marketing strategy. She created a profile for her business on Facebook, and she began making regular posts, some of which featured dresses worn by several of Gergen's high school classmates, who agreed to be models.

"It expanded pretty fast — it was kind of shocking," Gergen said. "My reach went up really fast, and I had like a 2.1K reach by the end of the first week. And that was just like people viewing it and sharing it."

On Facebook, "reach" is the measure of how many users see content posted on a particular page. Reach doesn't measure engagement — which registers in clicks, likes and comments — but it is a useful metric for business owners.

The dresses posted on Bottom Dollar Diva's Facebook page, and hanging in racks at the dress shop, are priced between \$25 and \$100. Gergen begins with the retail price of each dress on the rack, then she uses a formula to calculate its cost second — or third or fourth — hand.

"It's one-third of the retail price, and I take off 10 percent for each



Maddie Friedrichsen models one of Bottom Dollar Diva's discounted dresses for a Facebook post advertising the shop's inventory. She is a friend of Chloe Gergen, who opened the local shop in October. Photo submitted

flaw," she said.

If a dress still comes in over the \$100 threshold, she reduces the price further. For shoppers in search of an even more inexpensive option, dresses also are available for rent at half the price of purchase.

### New location

Bottom Dollar Diva's six-month lease will be up at the end of March, and Gergen and Collier recently secured a new location for the startup business. Gergen will move her inventory to 151 First St. SE in downtown Primghar, a space formerly occupied by On Edge Hair Salon, in early April.

Collier, who has provided the financial backing to get Bottom Dollar Diva off the ground, said she is excited to watch Gergen learn and grow as she tackles a new venture.

"I hope that this gives Chloe a sense of accomplishment and continued desire to help those in need," Collier said.

The move will give Gergen a chance to expand her inventory to include wedding gowns, which were donated by the same family friend

who passed along the prom and special occasion dresses for sale in Gergen's shop.

Gergen said she plans to keep charging as little as possible for the dresses in her shop — she simply needs to make enough to cover rent and overhead expenses to keep the operation viable.

"I have to be able to pay rent to stay open," she said.

Her open hours are limited, but she is willing to open the shop by appointment when needed. Many patrons come in by appointment on the weekends.

Gergen's new venture is a lot to fit into her already busy schedule, but she said it is worth it for the difference it can make in someone's life. She said recently, a young person in Spencer was able to get a dress from her shop to wear to a prom for students with disabilities.

"Her sister texted me after I gave her a dress, and she said, 'Thank you for making my sister feel like a princess,'" Gergen said. "That really meant a lot to me."

"I've had a lot of people say they're very thankful for me being here."

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**Maintenance Supervisor**  
1ST SHIFT

## BENEFITS

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## A QUICK LOOK BACK

Here are the top stories from The South O'Brien Sun 10 years ago:

### Moved by God

The Rev. Dr. Stephen Saville is no stranger to First Presbyterian churches. He has pastored at First Presbyterians in Oklahoma, Texas, Kansas and now Iowa. Saville began his pastoral position Feb. 1 at First Presbyterian Church in Paullina. "It's kind of a homecoming," Saville said. He graduated from Schaller High School in 1980 and was looking to get back to Iowa before he decides to retire. When the position opened in Paullina, he thought it was a way to come home after working almost 15 years in Liberal, KS.

### Big Bucks event 2013

Is the Big Bucks of Northwest Iowa event just for men? "No, no, no," said O'Brien County naturalist Charlene Elyea. "Women can hunt, and they sometimes have awesome hits. Everyone can come." The second Big Bucks event will take place at the Prairie Heritage Center near Sutherland. The inaugural event attracted more than 150 deer mounts and racks that people wanted to display, and more than 500 visitors came to see them.

### Cookies for sale again

The Girl Scout troops in the South O'Brien area have a new cookie offering this year. Mango Cremes are crunchy vanilla and coconut cookies with a mango-flavored creme filling. They are even healthy, enhanced with nutrients derived from fruits. However, it might take a while before this new cookie reaches the demand of the most popular flavors in the area — Caramel deLites and Peanut Butter Patties. Whatever your favorite flavor though, the approximately 45 Girl Scouts in the South O'Brien area will have them. Cookie manager Shelly McClaren ordered 500 cases with 6,000 boxes of cookies. With cookies on hand, people immediately get their treats.

### 2013 Little Miss & Mr.

Grace, gallantry and a solid knowledge of their hometown. That's what it takes to become Little Miss or Mr. Primghar. Eight boys and nine girls participated in the Quasiquicentennial Little Miss & Mr. Primghar Pageant and answered questions about the town where they live and about themselves. The three judges — Sharon Bates, Jean Unrau and Rhonda Vanden Hull — asked each of the participants five questions in private and one other question the contestants answered while on stage in front of an audience. Following an afternoon of talking to judges, the winners of the 2013 pageant were crowned: Annika Jensen and Grant Wagner.

### Lutheran Schools Week

When Brent and Becky Hustedt had to decide about where to send their first child to receive her education, they decided on Zion-St. John Lutheran School in Paullina. Nine-year-old Lydia now is in third grade and her 4-year-old sister, Chloe, is attending the affiliated preschool. "I really felt that if we could provide them this parochial education, they would gain so much more and be a more well-rounded individual," Becky Hustedt said. She loves it when Lydia comes home and talks about the Bible. "It's great that every day they can be bathed in the Word of God," Hustedt said. Principal Daniel Hoey said that the school provides its 70 kindergarten through eighth-grade students with not only a religious education but a strong learning environment in regular subjects like English, math and science as well. To celebrate Lutheran education, Zion-St. John will observe Lutheran Schools Week 2013, and Hustedt is chairperson of the Lutheran Schools Week committee.

# Another park ranger sought for county

Conservation director says extra help needed

BY ERIC HARROLD  
EHARROLD@NWESTIOWA.COM

SUTHERLAND—O'Brien County Conservation director Travis Scott knows what he wants in the next full-time employee — a park ranger.

But not everyone else at the Feb. 8 conservation board meeting agreed with Scott as hiring a conservation technician or a natural resource officer were mentioned.

Scott emphasized a ranger could handle situations involving domestic disputes or drug possession and is trained to discern potential violations, all assignments a non-law enforcement staff member is not trained to deal with.

He said there are more than 100 campsites in O'Brien County park and there can be more than 500 people in a park during peak visitation. He also mentioned concerns about hunting season trespass violations on private land adjacent to park lands.

Hiring a park ranger would likely cost the county more in annual salary than it would expend for a conservation tech. In addition to a higher salary for a ranger with experience, training and equipment adds expense. The cost to send a trainee to a law enforcement academy is



Operations supervisor Mark Wilson and conservation director Travis Scott are the only certified law enforcement officers with O'Brien County Conservation. Scott said having a third law enforcement officer during the summer would help to address domestic issues and park rules violations during peak visitation. Photo by Eric Harrold

## OTHER BUSINESS

The O'Brien County Conservation Board on Feb. 8 also approved:

- Host agreements for Mill Creek, Dog Creek, and Douma parks in 2023.
- The application for the O'Brien County Community Foundation Grant.
- A Wellmark grant application and request for American Rescue Plan funds for Tjossem Park.
- A rental contract agreement and proposed changes to cabin and bin rental policies.
- Proposed additions and modifications to park rules.

\$8,000 but upon completion of the training, the officer signs a prorated contract for four years of service that stipulates the individual must reimburse the county if he or she leaves before the end of the contract.

Board member Greg Burmakow expressed concern in having some-

one who was primarily tasked with mowing, plumbing and upkeep of the parks. He said getting someone with maintenance skills and then building them up to a ranger position might be the best approach.

"It's a lot easier to learn maintenance stuff with a hands-on approach than it is to learn natural resources management," said county operations supervisor Mark Wilson. "Hiring someone with a maintenance background and then expecting them to become natural resources managers with the passion it requires isn't likely to work."

Burmakow said someone hired as a ranger probably would not want to walk around and pick up sticks and was likely to move on to another job. Scott said he and Wilson perform routine maintenance such as mowing as do seasonal technicians.

Board member Kathy Luedke asked how to advertise the position to get someone with the mix of skills that would best help the parks.

Scott said people looking to advance might start out as a conservation technician and then move up into a ranger position, but unless they were highly motivated to work

in law enforcement, they would move on to other positions or eventually get promoted.

Rural Sheldon resident Claude Struve asked Scott and Wilson how many citations they had written. Scott said neither had written many citations, prompting Struve to suggest perhaps de-escalation training was more important than law enforcement certification.

Scott said he used de-escalation techniques five or six times last summer. Since he took over as conservation director in July of 2022, Scott said he could think of five instances of individuals who have been asked to leave the campgrounds.

Board member Jack Wallinga said he would bet most summer campers have a gun in their possession.

Board member Tom Konz emphasized hiring a tech or ranger with the best fit and skill set to the position.

Scott asked if everyone was OK with a conservation tech/ranger description with a hiring range of \$40,000-\$50,000.

The board approved a motion to advertise an open position for hire for a skilled technician/ranger within the suggested salary range.



South O'Brien School District superintendent Wade Riley speaks on his support for a proposed \$26 million bond Wednesday night in Sutherland. If OK'd on March 7, the project would expand and renovate the 7-12 school in Paullina with an emphasis on ag and trades education. Photo by Elijah Helton

# Bond would 'bring 21st century' to SOS district

## BOND

Continued from page F1

The eight-figure price tag is more cost-effective and timely in the long term, according to Riley. He said the school district has fallen behind its neighbors, which have newer facilities and are able to attract South O'Brien residents via open enrollment.

The superintendent argued enrollment challenges will grow with new school vouchers making it much cheaper for families to send kids to private schools.

"With the recent passing of Educational Savings Accounts in the state of Iowa, now is the time more than ever to better our district as district boundaries have been taken down," Riley said.

He also said the project is specific to South O'Brien's needs. The new

ag education and trades class spaces are tailored to what faculty have said they need.

"Our instructors have many great ideas to bring 21st century problems and projects into our curriculum but lack the space that makes this a reality," Riley said.

Residents at Wednesday's meeting had loads of reasons for supporting and critiquing the project. Many were about design details.

Matt Basye of FEH Design in Sioux City is the architect. Similar to Riley, he said the bond offers an opportunity to kill a full flock of birds with one stone. He said it was a major take-away from the two years of planning and research the school board has put into the plan.

"What I heard over and over again was it's important as a board and a community that we affect as many kids as we can with this project. We

want to touch as many kids as we can. That came up time and time again," Basye said.

The other top concern in Sutherland was the cost of the project. For that aspect of the bond, the district brought in Matt Gillaspie of Piper Sandler, a finance firm in Des Moines.

Gillaspie said the necessary taxes — which would increase about \$8 a month per \$100,000 of assessed property value — would keep South O'Brien lower than the state average and all bordering districts except Clay-Central Everly, which does not have a high school, and Alta-Aurelia.

"If you think that the project is valid, perhaps the cost to you in property taxes isn't that significant to cause you to vote 'no,'" Gillaspie said. "I'm not telling anyone to vote 'no' or 'yes.' I don't live here. I don't pay taxes here. I don't have that job."

Heidi Farquhar does have that job. Living on a farm near Sutherland, she has three children, one already a graduate of South O'Brien and two more in the high school. She also is a member of the bond campaign's steering committee.

Like many others who voiced their support Wednesday night, Farquhar emphasized how the new building would better prepare students for the agriculture and trades that are central to the N'West Iowa economy. Farquhar's oldest child, Jack, plans to come back to work the family farm once he finishes college. She said the bond project would be an investment in similar stories.

"I'm doing this for the future. I want a good school for my hypothetical grandchildren to attend some day," Farquhar said. "Someone paid for all of us to go to school. We now need to take our turn."



## COOK'S CORNER

## You'll cheer for these burritos

Super Bowl Sunday was this past week. Did any of you cook up some great meals or great appetizers?

Let's face it — I'm sure most of you did regardless of if you were going to watch the game or not! I enjoy tuning into the radio every year before the game and listening to how much food and what type is consumed. The pounds of guacamole amazed me every time.

We didn't have guacamole at our house for our party of two (well, four officially if you count the two dogs).

We are not fans of either team that played this year, by any means, but football at our house is on the TV no matter what.

That means I am left to endure many games that I



BY JONNA ROHRBAUGH

would prefer not to. Could I go to the basement or the bedroom? Well, yes of course, but I like to complain instead.

So, since we weren't cheering on either team — that meant we were just really excited for

the food. My husband had prepared a meat and cheese tray, and I made the most amazing thing. I honestly think it tops one of my best meals ever and I'm sharing it with you today.

Allow me to share a side story. My husband travels to Sturgis, SD, every year and made the discovery of Sweet Burritos. It's apparently a chain out west and many of them are in Utah. It's all he'd talk about on his return trips. They have food trucks in Sturgis and restaurants spread out across the West. I had been telling my cousin about this place when she was living in Utah at the time. The restaurant offered so many different types of burritos.

My cousin proceeded to tell me that she had a recipe for

something that sounded a little like what this restaurant offered. It was a sweet pork burrito recipe anyway. She provided it to me and about three or four years passed.

I finally gave this recipe a try and was simply so impressed. I instantly fell in love. It's a little lengthy with ingredients, but you can whip it up in no time. I cannot recommend this enough.

I did cheat a little bit and didn't make the rice only because I ran out of time. I used the packages of Uncle Ben's Cilantro Rice instead, but I do plan to make the recipe for the rice next time.

I hope you enjoy it as much as we did.

Remember to live, laugh and get in the kitchen!

## Sweet Pork Burritos

Jeanna Krepps, Los Angeles

1½ cans of regular Coke  
1 cup sugar  
7 ounces chipotle chili/adobo sauce  
1 medium pork loin or roast  
1 heaping teaspoon cumin  
1 heaping teaspoon ground mustard  
1 teaspoon minced garlic

Remove the chili pepper from the can. Blend all ingredients in a blender. Place pork in a Crock-Pot and cover with the prepared sauce. Cook on Low for 7-9 hours. See other directions listed below.

## Buttermilk Cilantro Dressing

½ cup buttermilk  
½ cup mayo  
½ cup sour cream  
1 cup chopped cilantro  
3-5 tomatillos  
5 green chopped onions, optional  
2 cloves garlic  
½-1 whole jalapeño pepper  
juice of a lime  
½ teaspoon salt  
¼ teaspoon cayenne pepper  
packet of Hidden Valley Ranch dressing  
Blend all ingredients.

(I used onion powder in mine as my husband does not like

onions.)

(I also removed the seeds from the jalapeño pepper, but you don't have to if you want more heat.)

## Cilantro Lime Rice

1 cup instant rice  
2 cups water  
3 cubes chicken bouillon  
½ teaspoon dried onion (optional)  
1 tablespoon oil  
¼ bunch cilantro, finely chopped

Cook rice with ingredients and add lime before serving.

(I used Uncle Ben's cilantro rice since I was in a hurry, and it also was good.)

Prepare black beans and set aside. Use flour tortillas and cover with shredded cheese if you'd like to. Add the pork, rice, beans and drizzle with the sauce. Roll up the burrito. Enjoy!



## BRIEFLY

## County government offers next message notifications

REGIONAL—O'Brien County residents can sign up to receive text message notifications from the county government by texting "OBSCNOW" to 91896. After the initial keyword is sent, users will receive a confirmation message asking them to reply "YES" to verify their intent to opt into the service. Message and data rates may apply, and message frequency varies. Users can text "STOP" at any time if they want to opt out of the notifications.

## Tables and chairs available for rent by Paullina chamber

REGIONAL—Need tables and chairs for an event? The Paullina Chamber of Commerce has fold-up tables and chairs available to rent for residents of the South O'Brien School

District communities. For more information about renting the equipment, call 712-260-5047 or 712-540-0132.

## Trust fund provides funding for home repairs in region

REGIONAL—The Northwest Iowa Regional Housing Trust Fund Inc. provides financial assistance to low- to moderate-income homeowners in making the necessary repairs to their homes. The financial assistance will be in the form of grants and low-interest loans. Applications may be picked up at any area city office or by contacting Kristin Larsen at 712-262-7225 Ext. 139.

## Iowans planning to dig are urged to call Iowa One Call

REGIONAL—Iowans planning to dig are urged to dial Iowa One Call at 811 or 1-800-

292-8989 to request utility location services. Iowa law requires that anyone digging call at least 48 hours in advance to have underground utilities marked. The service is free, but individuals who fail to call before digging are subject to civil penalties that may range \$1,000-\$10,000 per violation. For more information, visit [www.iowaonecall.com](http://www.iowaonecall.com).

## Primghar Ambulance Team seeking drivers and EMTs

PRIMGHAR—The Primghar Ambulance Team is looking to recruit drivers and emergency medical technicians. Those wishing to join need a valid driver's license and must be CPR certified. The organization will cover the cost of training new members and help them receive CPR certification. Those interested in joining or learning more information can contact any existing team member or call city hall at 712-957-2435.

## FOR THE RECORD

The following transactions recently have been filed at the O'Brien County Courthouse in Primghar:

## MARRIAGE LICENSES

Elijah Malachi Triana and Cheyenne Julia Solis.

## PROBATES

Daniel Alons, deceased; Myra Breuker, Norma Goels and Lois A. Postma, executors.

Winifred E. Mack, deceased; Cheryl Wernimont and Jim Wernimont, executors.

Irene L. Segelke, deceased; Janet Becker and Judy Riedemann, executors.

## DISTRICT COURT

Karen Ann King, Sanborn, possession of an open container of alcohol as a driver.

Kaylani Ann Mitchell, Sioux City, speeding.

Matthew Jonathon Gerdt, Bayfield, WI, dark window or windshield.

Kyle Andrew Hisken, Wilmar, MN, speeding; seat-belt violation.

Gregory Sean Richardson, Burnsville, MN, speeding.

Luis Lopez Lopez, Worthington, MN, speeding.

Madeline Marie Wankum, Milford, operating nonregistered vehicle.

Chase Matthew Fuhman, Paullina, seat-belt violation.

Gabriella Lee Carpenter, Royal, speeding.

Jacob Matthew Reiser, Sheldon, failure to provide proof of vehicle liability insurance.

Nevaeh Hope Vos, Des Moines, registration violation.

Christopher Michael Peters, Primghar, permitting unauthorized person to drive.

Pedro Ralios Pablo, Sheldon, driving while license under suspension; failure to use child restraint device.

Tyler Daniel McDonakk, Sanborn, restrictions on taking game — deer and turkey.

Charles A. Williams, Sheldon, operating nonregistered vehicle.

Valentin Ainam, Sanborn, no valid driver's license.

Joni Kay De Kok, Sheldon, speeding.

Charles Edward Helms, Sheldon, seat-belt violation.

Jose Armando Bauflista, Sheldon, no valid driver's license.

Jaclyn Elaine Daniels, George, operating nonregis-

tered vehicle.

Steven William Niles, Sheldon, seat-belt violation.

Mario Esau Martinez Niz, Sibley, speeding.

Yolanda Maria Ramirez Ramirez, Sibley, speeding.

Nicholas Allen Stettinichs, Ashton, registration violation.

Austin Jamon McKinny, Primghar, first-offense possession/purchase of alcohol under legal age.

Joshua Evan Moore, Osceola, violation of probation.

Seth Willis Woelber, Cherokee, second-offense operating while under the influence.

Justin Patrick Guy, Merrill, first-offense possession of a controlled substance — marijuana.

Joey Thomas McMath, Olivia, MN, speeding; following too close.

Abdinizak Noor Mohamed, Minneapolis, speeding; hours of service violation.

Jose Manuel Duenas Topete, Hawarden, speeding; failure to provide proof of vehicle liability insurance.

Juan Viltres Ramos, Louisville, KY, open container of alcohol as passenger.

Johnny Anthony Bandomo, Albert City, operation without registration card or plate.

Michah Roy Powers, Paullina, failure to maintain control.

Effie Lavinia Jackson, Archer, no valid driver's license.

Ethan Joshua Anderson, Sheldon, careless driving.

Scott Christopher Anderson, Otsego, MN, registration violation.

Aariona Renee Fennell, Sanborn, failure to use headlamps when required.

Tabatha May Cole, Hartley, first-offense person under 21 using tobacco/vapor product.

Evan Patrick Eilers, Sanborn, seat-belt violation.

Bryand Danny, Sheldon, first-offense operating while under the influence.

Michael William Stofferan, Sheldon, driving while license denied or revoked.

Walker Lee Hollenbeck, Archer, assault causing bodily injury or mental illness.

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## CORRECTIONS

■ The South O'Brien Sun welcomes comments and suggestions for stories and photographs as well as information about errors that call for a correction. Call 712-631-4840 or e-mail editor@iowainformation.com.

## DEATH NOTICES

Shirley Jones, July 18, 1949—Feb. 4, 2023

PAULLINA—Shirley Elaine Jones, 73, Paullina, died Saturday, Feb. 4, 2023, at her residence. Service was Thursday, Feb. 9, at Eldridge Family Funeral Home in Paullina. Burial was at Northlawn Memorial Park Cemetery in Spencer.

Orville Tewes, Sept. 16, 1930—Feb. 5, 2023

PAULLINA—Orville Alvin Tewes 92, Paullina, died Sunday, Feb. 5, 2023. Private family service will be held later. Family has invited all who can attend for lunch at noon today (Saturday, Feb. 11) to the Sutherland Fire Station. Burial will be at Pleasant View Cemetery near Hartley.

Randy Mews, Nov. 5, 1955—Feb. 10, 2023

SUTHERLAND—Randy Roger Mews, 67, Sutherland, died Friday, Feb. 10, 2023, at his residence. Service will be at 11 a.m. today (Saturday, Feb. 18) at Eldridge Family Funeral Home in Paullina. Burial will be at Liberty Township Cemetery near Calumet.

Wesley Schnack, Aug. 12, 1936—Feb. 13, 2023

PRIMGHAR—Wesley Hugo Schnack, 86, Primghar, died Monday, Feb. 13, 2023, at Prairie View Home in Sanborn. A celebration of life will be 11 a.m. Monday, March 6, at Grace Lutheran Church in Primghar. Burial will be later at Elkhorn Cemetery in Elkhorn, NE. Visitation with family present will be 10-11 a.m. Monday, March 6, at the church. Arrangements are under the direction of Eldridge Family Funeral Home in Primghar.

Lorena Byrd, July 29, 1934—Feb. 15, 2023

PRIMGHAR—Lorena June Byrd, 88, Primghar, died Wednesday, Feb. 15, 2023, at Prairie View Home in Sanborn. Arrangements are under the direction of Eldridge Family Funeral Home in Primghar.