

HAPPENING IN HULL

Community to celebrate Sesquicentennial as well as Summerfest. See ACCENT

THE N'WEST IOWA

REVIEW

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TAKING FLIGHT

BY ELIJAH HELTON
EHELTON@NWESTIOWA.COM

SHELDON—A new aerial method for spraying crops is ready for liftoff. Drones, remote-controlled and unmanned, are on the threshold of taking over many of the pesticide and fertilizer jobs that aren't easy for traditional crop dusters or field sprayers. "We're keeping an open mind and going down this great big adventure of agriculture in the 21st century," said AgState agronomist Brandon Fischer. AgState demonstrated how a drone works to a group of a couple dozen farmers Wednesday morning at a cornfield northwest of Sheldon. Tyson Kester is the co-op's agriculture technology services leader, which he said is just a fancy title for finding cool new stuff. He's been interested in farming drones for a while, finally getting his hands on one in the spring. "It won't replace planes, but we're already seeing people using drones in lots of places," Kester said. The prime candidates for drone spraying are areas that farmers already know are tricky such as:

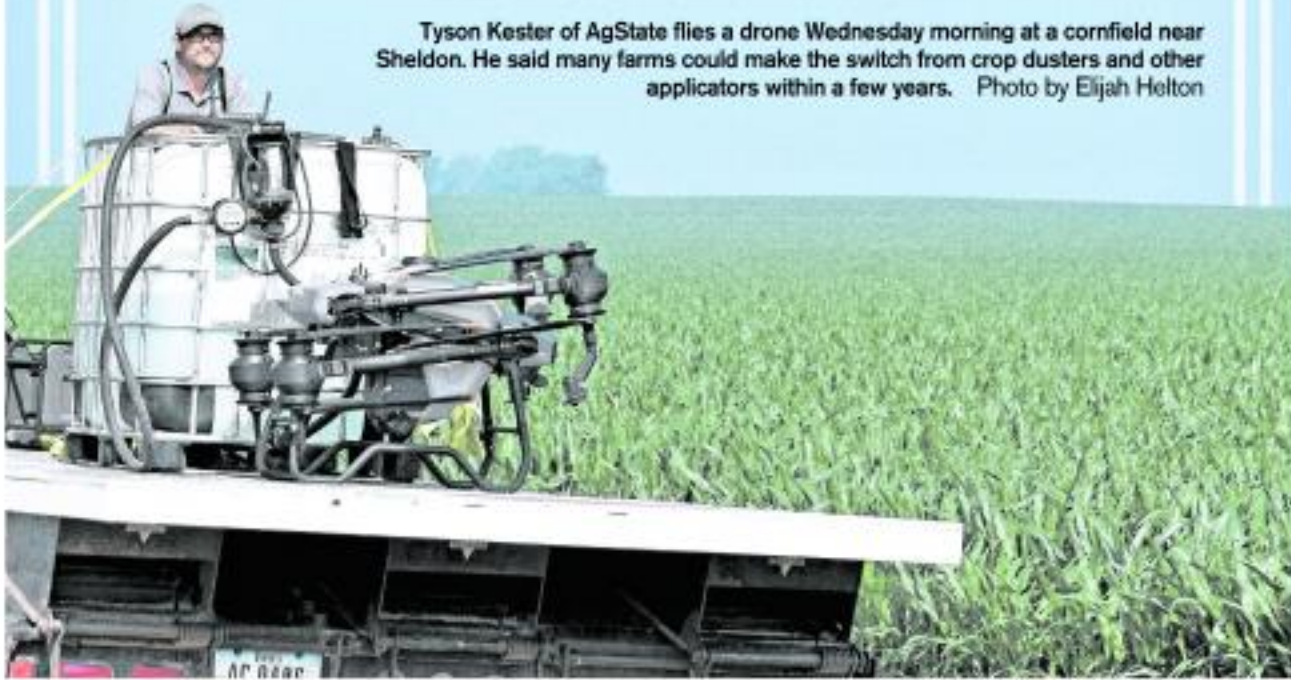
- Irregularly shaped fields.
- Neighboring tree lines and

See DRONES on page A11



DRONES MAY SOON BE SPRAYING CROPPFIELDS

Tyson Kester of AgState flies a drone Wednesday morning at a cornfield near Sheldon. He said many farms could make the switch from crop dusters and other applicators within a few years. Photo by Elijah Helton



U.S. Sen. Joni Ernst (R-Iowa) gets ready to roll a bowling ball at Locomotion Lanes in Sanborn during a visit to the community Tuesday afternoon. Photo by Eric Harrold

Ernst bowls through area, pins down business ideas

Tours Sanborn's downtown area

BY ERIC HARROLD
EHARROLD@NWESTIOWA.COM

SANBORN—U.S. Sen. Joni Ernst (R-Iowa) mixed pleasure with the business on her tour of Sanborn on Tuesday afternoon with a stop at Locomotion Lanes.

After greeting owner Bert Van Dam, Ernst signed a bowling pin for Van Dam's son, Jeremy.

And then the pressure was on as Jeremy handed

Ernst a pair of bowling shoes and a ball.

Her first attempt did not go so well as the ball rolled off into the gutter.

"Oh well," Ernst said, before promptly being handed another ball.

The second attempt had a vastly improved result as all, but two pins fell, and the gathering of about 40 people inside the bowling alley erupted with cheers.

Ernst earlier made her first stop at Sanborn's city

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WEEKEND WEATHER:
SATURDAY HIGH: 83 LOW: 58
SUNDAY HIGH: 88 LOW: 65
CHANCE OF PRECIP: 10% CHANCE OF PRECIP: 6%

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IN THE MARKET FOR EETEN GOOD

Farmers markets have become increasingly popular in N'West Iowa in the last decade, some of them adding new features like food trucks and live music. But it is the vendors who show up each week who are the market's beating heart. Here are the stories of three vendors selling different sorts of local goods at markets across the region.

Vendors offer unique mix of veggies, snacks

BY ALEISA SCHAT
ASCHAT@NWESTIOWA.COM

REGIONAL—Darla Eeten has been tending vegetables in the same plot of Iowa topsoil for more than 40 years.

"Ever since I was a little girl — I mean, I thought everybody grew

gardens," the 66-year-old said. "You didn't buy vegetables in the store — you just ate what you grew."

A single mother, she raised five children on her small historic farmstead north of Boyden, owned first by her great-grandfather when he retired and located three miles from where Eeten grew up.

"I raised five kids on garden

See VENDORS on page A5



Darla Eeten of Boyden pulls weeds in her four-acre garden patch at her farmstead in rural Boyden. GoodEetens Produce Farm produces chemical-free and naturally grown produce. Photo by Aleisa Schat

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NEWS

BY ELIJAH HELTON EHELTON@NWESTIOWA.COM

BUGGING OUT

KIDS CATCH CREEPY-CRAWLIES AT LYON COUNTY CONSERVATION CAMP

INWOOD—Curious children connected with copious creepy-crawlies for a county conservation camp at Lake Pahoja Recreation Area.

Bugscouts — as the kids were called during the two-day program — wrapped up Thursday as the final day camp Lyon County Conservation hosted this summer at the park northwest of Inwood.

Naturalist Emily Ostrander shared her insect-pertise with the few dozen campers ages 7-8.

"It's a key or a gate to the outdoors when you can get them excited about something. That's the fun thing about younger kids, they're pretty easy to excite," Ostrander said.

The day camp slate at Lake Pahoja



Lyon County naturalist Emily Ostrander shows off one of the rhino beetles from her personal collection Thursday morning during the Bugscouts camp at Lake Pahoja Recreation Area northwest of Inwood. Photos by Elijah Helton

featured 17 camps for elementary age students. The 5- and 6-year-olds had "SLIME" which covered all kinds of natural gooey phenomena. Those

ages 9, 10 and 11 got a survival-style program, learning more advanced outdoor skills.

"They seem to like it. Usually, they come when they're younger, and I have them through the whole system," Ostrander said. "Our camps fill up within a few hours of being released."

Bugscouts spent much of Wednesday inside. Highlights included a lesson on the difference between insects and other bugs and making collection jars.

Those jars got plenty of use Thursday with time set aside for kids to roam and capture creatures for their collection. Even with small, cheap nets, some of them surprised Ostrander by managing to scoop butterflies and dragonflies.

A white whale of sorts for many of the participants, bugscout Elin Kopp nabbed several of the spectacular specimens.

"I don't really like bugs except for stuff like butterflies and dragonflies. I had fun catching them too," Kopp said.

Other activities included a basic introduction to entomology. Studying insects starts with classification, and Ostrander had her campers try it with plastic toys.

Some students grouped them by color, others chose wings versus unwinged organisms, others sorted by type.

Ostrander did not expect the kids to completely grasp taxonomy, but she said giving them the opportunity could spark their interest and imagination.

"We always try to make it somewhat educational," she said.

The naturalist also showed some of her own collection to the kids.

"Do you think I went to Africa to get this? No, I just went to Newton Hills," she said of the park near Canton, SD.



Elin Kopp pins a dragonfly she caught onto her bug collection board Thursday at Lake Pahoja Recreation Area. Kopp joined 33 other bugscouts during the Lyon County Conservation's insect-themed day camp.

“It's a key or a gate to the outdoors when you can get them excited about something. That's the fun thing about younger kids, they're pretty easy to excite.”

Emily Ostrander

LYON COUNTY NATURALIST

"You don't have to go far to find cool stuff."

Bugscout Jack Reckert learned about his new favorite bug during the presentation.

"I like rhino beetles because they look tough," Reckert said.

Ostrander said another benefit is that the bugscouts get to take their lessons home and give them something active to do during their summer break.

"The more we get video games or TV things, it's harder to excite kids in that age range. The younger we start them, the better, so we can overcome that and have them as lifelong nature lovers," Ostrander said.

"Sometimes we get to a certain age, and we just stop, but if you can get them enthralled at this young age, it's pretty fun."



Owen Glanzer, one of the bugscouts this summer at Lyon County Conservation, chases butterflies Thursday morning at Lake Pahoja Recreation Area near Inwood. It was the bugscouts final day camp of the summer at the park.

DeNeui pens children's book to memorialize her grandson

Tells story of a day in Griffin's fun life

BY ALEISA SCHAT ASCHAT@NWESTIOWA.COM

RUSHMORE, MN—Laurie DeNeui knows grief. She also knows there is beauty in telling stories in the wake of grief.

DeNeui lost her 4-year-old grandson, Griffin Engelkes of Little Rock, when he was struck by a pickup four years ago. In honor of his memory, she published her first children's book, "Inside, Outside, All-Around Love," illustrated by Santhya Shenbagam R., based in England, and published by Sunsational Publishing in Palm Coast, FL, in January.

"It was healing — and it was how I had to stay connected to him," the 61-year-old DeNeui said. "When Griffin died, my heart splintered into a million pieces. I had a very special relationship with him. He was funny — big heart."

Griffin, the son of Hannah and Nate Engelkes, was a book lover.

"The reason the book came about is because he loved me to read to him," DeNeui said. "He was on my lap all the time, and we were reading. We were talking about pictures, and we were talking about the book. Griffin had this special love for books."

It was a love he shared with his grandmother, a retired sixth-grade teacher who taught for two decades in the Worthington School District in Minnesota.

DeNeui remembers when Griffin and his older brother, Gibbon, would visit her and her late husband Terry's house in Rushmore, MN. DeNeui would lie in bed with Griffin on one side of her and Gibbon on the other.

"I'd lie in bed with Gib and Grif, and we'd tell stories — that's how we went to bed," she said.

The stories she told featured two princes, representing the two boys. Each prince inhabited a different imaginary world, so DeNeui told each grandson different sorts of stories. Gibbon was a farmer who liked to dream about



Laurie DeNeui holds her recently published children's book on a bench that memorializes the short life of her grandson, Griffin Engelkes, who died at the age of 4 in 2019. The bench is located in the strider bicycle park in Little Rock established in Griffin's memory. Photo by Aleisa Schat

cornfields and tractors. Griffin liked to imagine a world full of cotton candy.

"Sometimes, we'd sleep in the big bed, and sometimes we'd sleep in the tent in the living room — it was just whatever they wanted to do," DeNeui said. "They were best friends. They did everything together."

Today, Gibbon is 9 years old; Griffin would have been 8. Their brother, Gus, who was born eight days before Griffin died, just turned 4. Their little sister, Greylea, is 1.

First book

DeNeui began writing the story that would become her first children's book at the encouragement of her husband, who died in a motorcycle accident in August.

"I've always been one with words. I love to write," she said. "My husband, he was the one that said, 'Laurie, why don't you write a book?' So, I started, not knowing what I was doing."

She worked on the book for two years, fine tuning phrases and looking for rhymes, trying her best to find some joy in the middle of her grief.

"It was scribble and go, scribble and go, then try again," she said. "I actually sent parts of it to my teacher



Two-year-old Griffin Englekes of Rock Rapids smiles as he poses during a family photo session in 2017. Englekes was killed in a tragic accident when he was 4 years old. Photo submitted

friends, and I said, 'Read this. What do you think?' They would give me some ideas, and it just gradually came about."

The book, which tells the story of a day in Griffin's young life, employs repetition of a phrase DeNeui often used with her children and grandchildren: "I love you naughty."

"I used to say it to my children all the time, and then I'd say it to Gibbon and Griffin," DeNeui said.

In "Inside, Outside, All-Around Love," the mother character, representing Hannah, uses the phrase to remind Griffin that she loves him —

no matter what.

"I wanted it to be kind of funny, and I needed rhyme and repetition because that's what kids remember," DeNeui said.

The book features hand-drawn illustrations that depict Griffin as his smiling, blond-haired self — playing with LEGOS in his living room, climbing trees in his yard, tooling around on his strider bike, his dog two steps behind.

"Everything in here is exactly like Griffin — this is what his room looked like," his grandmother said, pointing to a page.

DeNeui worked closely with

TO PURCHASE:

"Inside, Outside, All-Around Love" is available for purchase through Amazon and Barnes & Noble. Author Laurie DeNeui will be selling books at a vendor event 10 a.m.-5 p.m. July 29-30 at the Little Rock Community Center. She also will be at the Little Rock Corn Show Vendor Fair 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Aug. 26.

the illustrator for more than a year to evoke the world Griffin inhabited with his family in Little Rock.

"She knew what his room looked like, and the rest I just described — and she used her own creativity," DeNeui said. "It's just — it's everything. I love it."

Donate Life

DeNeui's book came out in January and she said all the proceeds will go to Donate Life America, a nonprofit organization dedicated to raising the number of organ, eye and tissue donors in the United States.

"That is probably what I'm most proud of — after Griffin passed away, his parents donated his heart," DeNeui said.

Griffin's mother, who volunteers as an emergency medical technician, is a registered nurse and former nursing home director.

His father is a volunteer firefighter. They understand the nationwide need for pediatric donors.

"There are so many children that need donations, and who wants to think about that? When you have a child die — it's just beyond comprehension," DeNeui said.

There are 1,900 children on the national transplant waiting list. More than 500 children waiting for a donor organ are between 1 and 5 years old.

"It's really ironic that Griffin's heart was donated — because that was the biggest part of him," DeNeui said.

In memory

DeNeui's book is not the only memorial to Griffin's short life. Before it was published, the Million Dreams

Lending Library was established in 2020, another memorial to Griffin's love for books.

"Right after Griffin died, my husband and I and some very special friends and colleagues got a shed — a big shed — and we made a lending library," DeNeui said.

The structure, which has lights installed by Terry, sits near the DeNeui's Rushmore home, located at 210 Fourth St. It is brimming with donated books for children and adults, toys and games.

"We have outdoor games, we have DVDs, we have school supplies that people can just take," DeNeui said. "I really wouldn't call it a lending library — it's a free library."

Along with the lending library, Griffin's family, friends and community also raised more than \$30,000 to create a "strider bike park" in Little Rock, in honor of Griffin's love for his red strider bike.

A strider bike is a bicycle without pedals that teaches children to balance.

At the intersections of the park's miniature streets, there are street signs with names representing Griffin's favorite things.

"He loved Santa Claus, and he loved — loved — cake," DeNeui said.

There is "Jack Jack Rd," a nod to the tiny superhero in the Disney film "The Incredibles," and "Hulk Smash Ave." and "Santa Claus Dr."

"Every street are things he loved," DeNeui said.

The strider bike park is adjacent to the old city park in Little Rock. If members of the Engelkes family look out their living room window, they often can see kids pedaling their bikes or tricycles in Griffin's park.

More books

DeNeui has several more books in progress, but she said her first book will always be her dearest.

"When that was completed, I hugged it — because I said I would do this for Griffin, and it was done," DeNeui said. "It was a complete work of a grandma to her grandson — great love."

"Great, huge love."

NEWS

O'Brien supervisors opt to not reappoint Konz

Motion fails to get to voting process

BY ERIC HARROLD
EHARROLD@NWESTIOWA.COM

PRIMGHAR—The O'Brien County Board of Supervisors did not reappoint chairman Tom Konz to the county conservation board at its meeting on Tuesday.

Supervisor Dennis Vanden Hull motioned to reappoint Konz, but the motion failed to receive a second and died.

Prior to the vote, supervisor John Steensma said he had received texts and phone calls to not reappoint Konz.

Supervisor Dan Friedrichsen said he had one phone call and one e-mail against Konz's reappointment. He said six individuals called him "questioning" the reappointment, and he received four phone calls in favor of reappointment. He said he also had three face-to-face conversations with people in favor.

Supervisor Tim Overmire said he received phone calls in support and opposed to Konz's reappointment.

Konz did not submit an application for reappointment to the conservation board, an informal policy requirement implemented by the supervisors for open positions on the conservation board following Konz's appointment in 2021 to complete the remainder of the term of Royd Chambers of Sheldon, who resigned due to plans to move out of the area.

OTHER BUSINESS:

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

■ Adopted a resolution approving and authorizing the appointments and annual base salaries of 23 deputies, assistants and clerks for the elected offices of county for the 2023-24 fiscal year. Figures reflect that eight sheriff's office deputies receive a 6 percent pay increase and the other 15 employees receive a 3.5 percent pay increase.

■ Approved a road closure for Wilson Avenue from 350th Street to 360th Street due to grading, four miles southeast of Hartley. The road closing shall remain in place until work is completed.

■ Appointed the county auditor as the lawful custodian of public records for the supervisors.

Conservation board member Dan Verrips submitted an application prior to his initial appointment, but he did not submit one last year for his reappointment. Supervisors discussed the need for a policy governing the requirement of applications for all board positions across the county.

The discussion then moved to whether a public notice should be published announcing open positions on county boards in general, not just the conservation board.

"If you're going to do this process, you probably want to get the word out," said county auditor Barb Rohwer. "I can put it on the website, but do you want to put it in the papers?"

"Probably so," Friedrichsen said.

Supervisor Nancy McDow-

ell asked for the application form for the appointment of conservation board members to be moved to the county's website. Vanden Hull said he would contact those who previously submitted applications to see if they still had interest in serving on the conservation board.

Overmire said he, like McDowell, would like to give other candidates the opportunity to express their interest in a position on the board.

One member of the audience, Patty Vollink of Sanborn, questioned the timing of delaying Konz reappointment and said his leadership was needed with the department in a state of transition between directors.

Conservation volunteer Mary Hicks of Ashton responded to Vollink's comments and said the other



O'Brien County engineer Scott Rinehart requests a road closure for grading at the supervisors' meeting on Tuesday. The supervisors have been seeking to fill the engineer position that will become open when Rinehart was scheduled to retire on July 5; however, the county reached an agreement with Rinehart for him to continue working through March 1. Photo by Eric Harrold.

board members would work with interim director Mark Wilson as necessary to accomplish the work of the department.

Friedrichsen said Konz had been active in the time he has served on the board, helping to run the parks during a transitional period in 2021 and volunteered time and the use of his personal equipment. He said Konz has planted food plots and helped with education programs in a volunteer capacity.

"Will we get that kind of

commitment from another candidate?" Friedrichsen asked.

McDowell said considering the controversy over Konz, giving others the chance to apply for the position and having Konz submit an application would enable the supervisors to choose the best candidate from among the applications submitted. She also noted some potential candidates said they were unable to find the application form.

The supervisors decided to require applications for the

board position held by Konz through June 30 be submitted by 4 p.m. July 21, with a decision to be made at the July 25 meeting. Board positions are for five-year terms. The application is available for download on the county website at www.obriencountyiowa.gov.

Rohwer also was directed to publish an advertisement calling for applications for the conservation board seat to be submitted to her office at P.O. Box 380, Primghar, IA 51245 or by e-mail to brohwer@obriencountyiowa.gov.

Trio arrested following robbery in Orange City

Three were combative, face numerous charges

BY JEFF GRANT
JGRANT@NWESTIOWA.COM

ORANGE CITY—Three people face charges for burglary, trespassing and interference with official acts for incidents Tuesday, June 27, in Orange City.

The arrests of 38-year-old Isidro Maldonado of Orange City, 20-year-old Camdyn Lee Wilson of Orange City and a 17-year-old female from Rock Valley stemmed from them being told by law enforcement about 4:35 p.m. that day that they were not allowed at a residence on the 400 block of Colorado Avenue Southwest in Orange City, according to the Orange City Police Department.

The residence owner called law enforcement about 6:35 p.m. to say the three individuals had returned and were causing a disturbance.

Maldonado entered the residence, went upstairs with the other two individuals, and destroyed a bedroom door, according to court documents.

When law enforcement arrived, Maldonado resisted arrest and had to be physically subdued by being taken to the ground, where an officer sat on

him until he calmed down.

Maldonado was charged with second-degree burglary, first-offense trespassing and interference with official acts.

Wilson punched an officer in the side of the head and continued to fight against him when the officer attempted to restrain him.

Wilson was charged with second-degree burglary, first-offense trespassing, assault on persons in certain occupations resulting in bodily injury and interference with official acts resulting in bodily injury.

The juvenile female grabbed the owner of the residence by the hair, threw her to the ground and hit her multiple times.

The juvenile shoved an officer when police attempted to arrest Maldonado. She also kicked an officer and spit in a Sioux County Sheriff's Office deputy's face.

The juvenile was charged with first-degree burglary; first-offense trespassing; three counts of assault on persons in certain occupations, including one resulting in bodily injury; and interference with official acts resulting in bodily injury.

No contact orders were issued against Maldonado and Wilson with the residence owner.

LAW & ORDER

INFORMATION SOUGHT ON ORANGE CITY HIT-AND-RUN

ORANGE CITY—The Orange City Police Department is seeking information on a hit-and-run accident that occurred about 6 a.m. Monday, June 26.

A 2007 Mazda 5 van was traveling north on the 400 block of Delaware Avenue Northwest when it struck the rear of a north-facing 2019 Ford pickup owned by Douglas Mills of Fulton, IL.

The van did not stop, and its driver is unknown.

No injuries were reported.

The pickup received an estimated \$20,000 damage.

Anyone with information on the accident is asked to contact the Orange City Police Department at 712-707-4251.

WOMAN IN DOON ARRESTED FOR INTOXICATION, POT, MORE

DOON—A 60-year-old South Sioux City, NE, woman was arrested about 8:30 p.m. Tuesday, June 13, in Doon on charges of public intoxication, first-offense possession of a controlled substance — marijuana, possession of drug paraphernalia and interference with official acts.

The arrest of Julie Lynn Leitschuck stemmed from a medical alert button pressed at a residence in Doon, according to the incident report from the Lyon County Sheriff's Office.

The caller stated her daughter was at her house, yelling and cursing at her and getting violent.

The medical alert call center contacted Lyon County dispatch, and a deputy was sent to the address on the 300 block of Fifth Avenue.

The deputy found Leitschuck talking

to another individual in the street.

The caller reported that before the deputy arrived, Leitschuck yelled at the children across the street and told them someone was going to run them over.

"She was clearly very agitated and smelled strongly of marijuana. She did not listen to instructions," according to the incident report.

Leitschuck eventually sat down on a bench, where she showed the deputy a marijuana pipe and a glass bottle containing marijuana that she said she had just been smoking.

Leitschuck refused to comply with the deputy's requests, and when told she was going to be arrested, she resisted by pulling away and attempting to get into her vehicle.

The report stated it took two deputies "an extended amount of time to wrestle her arms into the handcuffs" and secure her in a patrol vehicle.

Additional marijuana also was found in Leitschuck's vehicle.

SEX OFFENDER IN INWOOD TO JAIL FOR FALSE HOME INFO

INWOOD—A 39-year-old man who claimed to be an Inwood resident was arrested about 9 p.m. Tuesday, June 13, on Lyon County warrants for failure to comply with sex offender registry requirements — second or subsequent offense and sex offender providing false information — second or subsequent offense.

The arrest of Christopher James Driesen stemmed from him registering that he was living at a residence on Maple Street in Inwood on June 4 when it was determined on June 12 that he had never lived at that address, according to the incident report from the Lyon

County Sheriff's Office.

Driesen was outside the required five-business day window to register a new address as a registered sex offender and his whereabouts were unknown, so a warrant for his arrest was issued June 13.

He turned himself in to authorities the same day.

HARTLEY RESIDENT TO JAIL FOR THEFT OF ALCOHOL

HARTLEY—A 62-year-old Hartley man was arrested about 5 p.m. Thursday, June 15, on an O'Brien County warrant for fifth-degree theft.

The arrest of Rene Richard Samaniego stemmed from an incident about 5:45 p.m. Friday, June 9, at Hartley Junction, according to the Hartley Police Department.

Video surveillance shows Samaniego entering the liquor department and wandering around, at one point grabbing a 750-milliliter bottle of Five O'Clock Vodka and placing it on a separate shelf opposite of the front registers.

He then walked around some more before going back to that bottle and placing it inside his pants.

Samaniego then walked to the registers outside of the liquor department and turned in lottery tickets.

The cashier confronted him about the bottle, and after she walked away, Samaniego placed the bottle on the counter behind some things.

Once she returned and walked away again, he placed the bottle back into his pants and exited the store, according to the incident report.

The bottle of vodka was valued at \$7. A warrant for Samaniego's arrest was issued June 14.

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NEWS

LAW & ORDER

Farmers get glimpse of drone frontier

DRONES

Continued from page A1

beekeepers' hives' locations.

Sites for windmills and other towers.

Parcels next to city limits.

Jake Walgenbach farms outside Granville. He knew nothing about drones coming into Wednesday, but he immediately could see where it could be useful on his land.

"That would be a good thing for my alfalfa application. I got a couple small fields surrounding a tower," Walgenbach said.

His son, Merrick, has been into drones as a hobby for years and came along to the demonstration. He graduated this year from Gehlen Catholic High School in Le Mars and already had an idea to get certified for commercial drones.

"They got these sensors on them where they can go around obstacles and stuff," Merrick said.

Obstacle detection and avoidance was another selling point Kester mentioned. Pilots can chart the course beforehand, and the drone will automate most of the steering itself.

"They're pretty much completely autonomous," Kester said. "There's nothing we really have to do besides the landing and the takeoff. They pretty much follow the path."

Some of the spectating farmers jested about the sci-fi-esque technology as being out of this world.

One aspect that is not quite ready for the Space Age, at least for now, is the certification process. The AgState presenters said the regulating bodies in charge such as the Federal Aviation Administration are backlogged for months on applications.



Tyson Kester of AgState shows how his drone controller works to rural Granville farmers Jake and Merrick Walgenbach on Wednesday outside Sheldon. AgState hosted the morning demonstration to showcase how drones can spray fields, which the co-op predicts will become a major trend in coming years. Photo by Elijah Helton

Even Kester wasn't yet certified to drone-spray farm chemicals, which is why the demo only applied water.

Without the red tape and with background knowledge in pesticide, fungicide and fertilizer, Kester said a farmer could be ready to fly with about 40 hours of training.

Most of the lessons he learned were from videos online.

Farmer Kevin Mars said he does not think he would fly a drone himself but would be interested in hiring someone to do it for him. He owns a tree-lined pasture south of Pautonia where crop dusters don't want to fly.

"It's definitely cool. I haven't seen anything like this before," Mars said. "That's what we were just talking about, which fields it would be practical on and which fields it

wouldn't be practical on that I farm. I can see the practicality of it on weird-shaped fields like this."

Ross Cox has land north of Sheldon and also was impressed and sees a future where drones are the go-to for a lot of farmers like him.

"It's one of those things like when auto-steer came out. I don't know if I need it now, but you've got to keep up. Things change. There's precision planting, and now you have precision spraying," Cox said.

Kester said drones will not supersede planes or field sprayers any time soon. A plane can cover about 2,000 acres in a day and top-of-the-line drones can do about 800 acres.

The model on show Wednesday was the Agras T40, built by Chinese company DJI, priced at about \$20,000. It takes up a 10-by-10-foot

space and is about 2.5 feet high. It weighs 110 pounds without a payload.

The T40 can spray a 30-foot radius of either wet or dry chemicals.

Like other up-and-coming electric vehicles, one big hump to get over is battery life. Kester said the technology has made major strides in just the past few years, but there still is a lot of recharging and reloading in current models.

Fischer told his AgState members that drone spraying is set to take off and become a common site within a couple years. The only question for him is where and how the robots will be useful.

"If we're not trying stuff, we're falling behind," Fischer said. "This is a good opportunity to try things, see what sticks and what doesn't."

UNRESPONSIVE DRIVER TO JAIL ON OWI CHARGE IN ROCK VALLEY

ROCK VALLEY—A 23-year-old Rock Valley man was arrested about 12:35 p.m. Wednesday, June 21, on charges of first-offense operating while under the influence and driving while his license was denied or revoked.

The arrest of **Edwar Edalgo Castro** stemmed from a report of an unresponsive male in a running 2002 Toyota Highlander at 920 18th Ave., according to the Rock Valley Police Department.

Rock Valley Ambulance personnel entered the vehicle to check on the welfare of the driver, Edalgo Castro.

When Edalgo Castro regained consciousness, he was assessed by ambulance personnel and a doctor who responded to the scene.

Edalgo Castro refused medical treatment. He had bloodshot/watery eyes, impaired balance, slurred speech and the odor of an alcoholic beverage.

Edalgo Castro admitted to consuming tequila and feeling the effects of the alcohol he had consumed, according to the incident report.

SANBORN MOTORIST JAILED FOR OWI AFTER STOP IN SHELDON

SHELDON—A 53-year-old Sanborn woman was arrested about 11:35 p.m. Friday, June 16, in Sheldon on a charge of first-offense operating while under the influence.

The arrest of **Marie Caroline Rohrs** stemmed from the stop of a 2011 Buick Lucerne for erratic driving and speeding on Highway 18 near the Highway 60 expressway overpass, according to the Sheldon Police Department.

Rohrs had bloodshot/watery eyes, dilated pupils, impaired balance and failed field sobriety tests.

She admitted to using methamphetamine earlier in the day, according to the incident report.

A drug recognition expert evaluated Rohrs and determined she was impaired.

WOMAN IN ALTON ARRESTED ON CHARGE FOR DOMESTIC ASSAULT

ALTON—A 21-year-old Alton woman was arrested about 3:20 a.m. Wednesday, June 21, on a charge of first-offense domestic abuse assault.

The arrest of **Chloe Akea Peters** stemmed from a report of a disturbance at a residence at 1011 Sixth Ave. in Alton, according to the Orange City Police Department.

Officers determined Peters assaulted another household member, according to the incident report.

O'Brien County supervisors OK insurance premium increases

Construction costs provided as reason

BY ERIC HARROLD

EHARROLD@NWESTIOWA.COM

PRIMGHAR—O'Brien County will spend more than \$58,000 more for property and liability insurance for the 2023-24 fiscal year than it did in 2022-23.

The option the county board of supervisors approved during its June 20 meeting was \$432,994 compared to last year's figure of \$374,810.

The figure reflects a rate increase of roughly 4 percent from last year. The removal of a margin clause and the supervisors' decision to increase the replacement cost of the courthouse from \$16.6 million to \$24.6 million added \$7,723 to the total.

The option also included an increase in blanket coverage from about \$30.8 million to \$49.4 million.

Tom Fuoss, an agent representing Perspective Insurance in Sheldon, appeared before the supervisors to present the coverage options offered by EMC Insurance in Fairmont, MN.

Fuoss said the increase in property and liability coverage reflected rising construction costs coupled with increasing property values. He said costs associated with building including materials, equipment and labor costs have all gone up.

Supervisor Dan Friedrichsen, who is employed

OTHER BUSINESS:

The O'Brien County Board of Supervisors on June 20 also approved:

Temporarily closing Vine Avenue from 500th Street to 510th Street, four miles south of Sutherland, for patchwork.

A pay rate increase for food service worker Karen Postma from \$20 to \$22.36 per hour, and for part-time communications operator Samantha Kooker from \$24.50 to \$27.54, effective July 1.

with Neal Chase Lumber in Primghar said, "Yes," when Fuoss nodded at him and said those rising building costs were largely the cause of increasing premiums.

Increases in exposures, including property values and workers' compensation experience, were the other major factors. The county's property value increased by about \$11 million over last year's figure.

Fuoss said it would be a challenge to rebuild the courthouse for \$24 million.

"Public buildings are hard

to build," he said. "You can't build this building like it is."

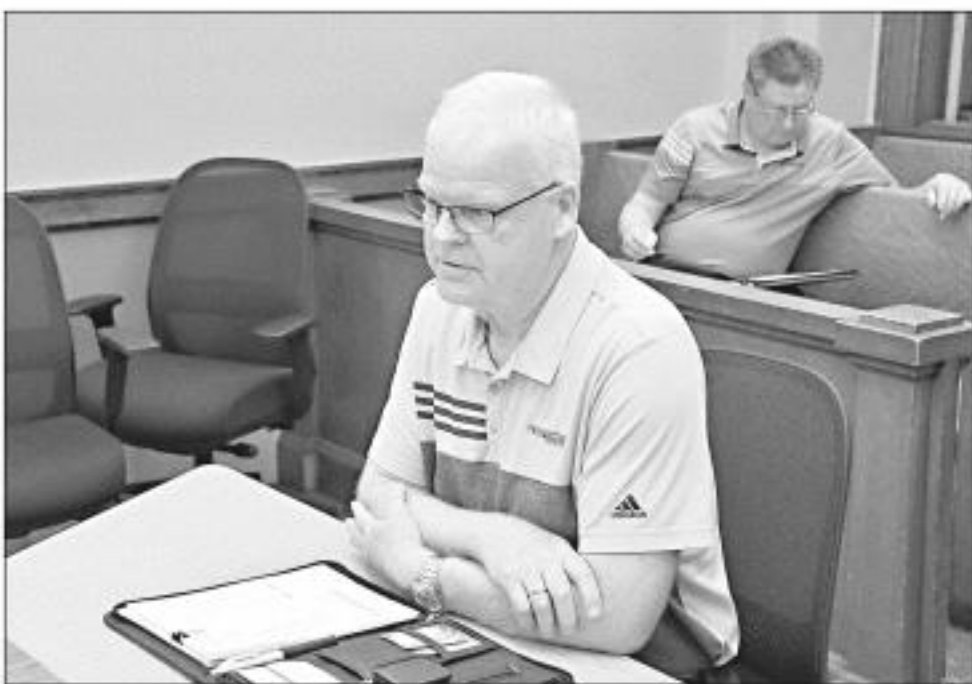
The major threats to county property discussed were catastrophic weather, fire and vandalism. Friedrichsen said for an event like a massive tornado, the Federal Emergency Management Agency would

be coming in.

"I don't even want to think about what it would take to come to that amount," he said. "It would be horrible in this country."

Fuoss said the hits taken by reinsurance companies has forced companies like EMC to

increase their costs for protection. Reinsurance companies are a third party that pays part of an insurance companies claims beyond amount, providing stability to the insurance market and making coverage more affordable and accessible.



Tom Fuoss with Perspective Insurance in Sheldon appears before the O'Brien County Board of Supervisors on June 20 in Primghar to present property and liability insurance coverage options for the county for the 2023-24 fiscal year. Premiums increased again. Photo by Eric Harrold

Advertisement for Fireworks City of Sheldon. Includes title 'FIREWORKS CITY OF SHELDON • NOTICE', a list of six rules regarding fireworks use, and contact information for Sheldon.

LEGAL PAULLINA CITY COUNCIL MINUTES 06/19/2023. A detailed record of council meetings including agenda items, motions, and resolutions.

Table with columns: VENDOR, REFERENCE, AMOUNT. Lists various vendors and their associated costs, including utility bills, insurance, and other services.

OPINION

REVIEW EDITORIALS

Declaring our freedom Protect rights Jefferson described

It's America's founding document, the announcement of our existence. The Declaration of Independence, approved by a vote of the Continental Congress on July 4, 1776, is the most important government record in American history.

"The unanimous Declaration of the thirteen United States of America, when in the course of human events, it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bands which have connected them with another, and to assume among the powers of the earth, the separate and equal station to which the Laws of Nature and of Nature's God entitle them, a decent respect to the opinions of mankind requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to the separation.

"We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness."

Those are the first two paragraphs of the declaration, drafted largely by Thomas Jefferson, the second vice president and third president of the United States. Jefferson was one of five men named to a committee to write it, along with John Adams of Massachusetts, Roger Sherman of Connecticut, Benjamin Franklin of Pennsylvania and Robert R. Livingston of New York. They reviewed his work, and Adams and Franklin offered some changes before it was presented

to the full assemblage.

They made modifications and deletions, which irritated Jefferson until his dying day — on July 4, 1826, the 50th anniversary of the creation of our nation. Adams, once his friend, then a bitter rival and finally a friend again, died on the same day, a truly remarkable event.

On the obelisk marking his grave at his beloved Monticello, Jefferson ordered these words be carved, ignoring his service as president:

"Here was buried Thomas Jefferson

Author of the Declaration of American Independence
of the Statute of Virginia for religious freedom

& Father of the University of Virginia."

Jefferson was far from a perfect man, but he perfectly captured the concept of freedom and individual rights when he drafted the declaration. For that alone, he stands as a great American.

The Declaration of Independence, along with the Constitution and the Bill of Rights, are preserved and protected at the National Archives Museum in Washington, D.C. While it's important to retain these original documents, we must secure in our hearts and in our government their true meaning and import.

Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness are indeed values we must cherish and strive to always provide to our citizens. That's why the Fourth of July is the most important date on the American calendar and why we mark it with a burst of pride and freedom.

Weird world of crime

Law enforcement faces odd cases

Members of law enforcement deal with so many traumatic events, from fatal car crashes to house fires to murders. They have to be ready for virtually anything when they sign in to start their shift.

They sometimes contend with some downright weird stuff. People, often impacted by mental illness, alcohol, drugs or a combination of those three, are capable of truly odd behaviors.

We reported on a few recently.

On June 13, a 32-year-old rural Melvin man was weaving in and out of traffic about three miles west of George, according to the Lyon County Sheriff's Office.

Deputies had to deal with an uncooperative man, who tried to get out of county jail after he was arrested. But that was just a starter, the first course in a menu of odd crime.

On June 15 — remember that date — a rural Granville resident was arrested on a serious and deeply disturbing charge: assaulting his mother.

When an O'Brien County Sheriff's Office deputy took him into custody, the individual said he "pushed his mother because he believed that she was an alien," according to the incident report. His mother confirmed that she had been attacked. In the wake of a Sheldon woman being

killed, and her son charged in the murder, this is a troubling trend.

The individual tried to walk away from the deputy, and even after he was handcuffed, he continued to resist. A Sioux County deputy, an Orange City police officer and the O'Brien County deputy suffered injuries to their hands during the arrest.

That's just part of their day. Remember that when you see a man or woman in uniform.

A 36-year-old Sibley man was arrested on a pair of warrants on June 15. The man, along with a female friend, is accused of going dumpster-diving for air conditioner parts at Fred's Hunting & Heating in Sheldon on June 1. He had been warned to stop two days earlier, but that sweet scrap metal lured him back.

This last one really takes the fruitcake. A 25-year-old Sioux Falls, SD, man was arrested by a Lyon County deputy on June 15 after reports of a nude individual riding a bicycle northwest of Larchwood. The man appeared to be under the influence of some substance, according to a sheriff's office report. When asked to identify himself, he said he was "Abraham Lincoln." If so, he was missing the stovepipe hat, among other clothing. We have to wonder if the deputy replied, "Honest, Abe?"



Rewarded for Iowa nice

My mother often told me when I was growing up that if I was nice to someone, they would be nice in return.

I had to laugh to myself, recently, when I remembered how that bit of advice got Connie and me a weekend upgrade to the bridal suite of one of the most expensive hotels in New York City.

Like most of you, Connie and I often heard of how badly New Yorkers treat visitors. But during two unrelated visits to New York, we learned that being nice can result in wonderful opportunities.

The first experience was 35 years ago when Connie surprised me with an extended weekend visit to New York City to celebrate our 25th wedding anniversary. The trip was especially exciting since I only learned a few weeks earlier that she'd been setting money aside for months to finance the trip.

It was a wonderful experience. We attended three Broadway musicals, ate at the Carnegie Deli on the Green, rode a tour bus to the Statue of Liberty, and visited the Empire State Building, Macy's flagship store and other tourist sites.

Because it was October and the off-season, Wanda Stratman at Travel World in Sheldon was able to get us a favorable room rate at the Le Meridien Hotel close to Central Park and Carnegie Hall.

Our plane was delayed landing in New York. Then, when we arrived at the hotel's check-in desk, we found the area crammed full of fuming, complaining guests waiting to be assigned their rooms.

A convention's closing luncheon had run overtime and many of the departing guests were late getting out of their rooms. The housekeeping staff was having a difficult time cleaning those rooms for new occupants.

Many of those standing in line in the reception area had plans for the evening and were anxious to check in, clean up and get on their way. The desk clerk was getting frustrated trying to keep everyone happy.

After more than an hour, the guests ahead of us were finally taken care of and Connie and I found ourselves face-to-face with the person at the desk.

"I suppose you're upset too," the clerk said without even looking up from his paperwork.

"No," I responded. "My wife



PETER W. WAGNER
PUBLISHER

and I are here to celebrate our 25th wedding anniversary, and we're thankful to just be in New York City."

"You're 25th wedding anniversary?" the desk clerk said. "That's a huge milestone. You deserve more than a plain, single room. I'll upgrade you to the bridal suite at no additional charge for your entire stay."

And he did, simply because we were the only ones in the line that afternoon who didn't shout at him or act upset.

New Yorkers get a bad reputation for being rude to tourists. I think the opposite may be true. Tourists, too often, are rude to New Yorkers. Connie and I found this to be true again on a later visit to the Big Apple.

This time we had flown in so I could speak at a press association convention. But after the event, we stayed on a few days to see some sights and attend more Broadway shows. One evening we even made dinner reservations at Windows on the World restaurant.

This was before the two terrorist attacks on New York's Twin Towers and when the famous Windows on the World restaurant, at the top of the North Tower of the World Trade Center, was still open to the public. It permanently closed after the first attack, when terrorists parked a truck filled with explosives in the lower-level parking garage in 1993. One of the restaurant employees was killed in the explosion when he was working in the area checking on supplies for the kitchen.

Our evening started out with a small setback. The driver of our cab attempted to take a shortcut through a gas station parking lot to avoid a red light. He was caught doing so by the NYPD and we were pulled over for 20 minutes while he received a ticket and a severe reprimand.

When we finally arrived at Windows on the World, we ran into the same situation as we'd seen years earlier at the Le Meridien Hotel. There was a huge crowd gathered around the reservation desk insisting it was well past their reservation time and they

had waited way too long to be seated.

One heavyset, expensively dressed woman was especially loud and obnoxious. She kept reminding the manager that she was a very important customer and that she was not getting the service she deserved.

Being from the Midwest, and not used to such squabbles, Connie and I stood quietly at the back of the room and watched in wonder.

Slowly, the restaurant manager got the situation under control, assigning tables as they became available and offering free drinks at the bar to those willing to wait to be seated.

But the loudly complaining women, unwilling to take just any table, demanded the one she had reserved at one of the windows looking out on the Manhattan Skyline. Eventually, she was convinced to wait in the bar until it was available.

Eventually, only Connie and I were left in the reception area. The manager, seeing us standing in our corner, asked if we were upset, too.

When I replied that we were fine and were willing to wait until a table was open, the three of us began to visit.

His son, the man proudly told us, had just graduated from architectural school and had relocated to Washington state. There he had joined the architectural firm designing and overseeing the building of a multimillion-dollar mansion for Bill and Melinda Gates.

As journalists, Connie and I found the story interesting, and we listened while the gentleman continued on about his son and the many unique features of the Gates home.

Then, as he talked, a server came by to tell the manager the table was finally ready for the heavyset, complaining, woman.

"Really?" responded the manager. "I don't like that woman. She is way too pushy. Give that table to this nice young couple here and put that ornery woman in one of the booths up high in the risers."

And that is how Connie and I ended up eating a wonderful meal in front of a huge window high above Manhattan.

Peter W. Wagner is the founder/publisher of The N'West Iowa REVIEW. He lives in Sibley and may be reached at pwo@iowainformation.com.

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NEWS

Sioux County supervisors finalize rural housing plan

New regulations limit residences on farmland

BY ERIC SANDBULTE
ESANDBULTE@NWESTIOWA.COM

ORANGE CITY—The Sioux County Board of Supervisors on Tuesday gave the final approval for a resolution that aims to protect farmland from overdevelopment by better defining parameters for issuing building permits.

With its first reading held after a public hearing on Tuesday, the board of supervisors waived the second and third readings.

Originally presented during the May 31 board of supervisors meeting, the changes were proposed to protect the county's farm ground.

"About 97 percent of the unincorporated portion of the county is agriculture. That's our lifeblood. Sioux County is one of the more productive counties in the nation in terms of ag sales, about \$2 billion the last couple of years. That doesn't happen by accident," said zoning director Shane Walter.

"We are doing our part by protecting the ground that we have so we can protect our way of life, and that's incredibly important. We want to get that right. We want to make sure the language is clear not only for our applicants but also our board members and myself."

The original ordinance allowed the issuance of a building permit to construct a house on less than 35 acres of what's considered nonfarmable land if one of these three conditions are met:

PROMOTIONS:

Sheriff Jamie Van Voorst introduced three new deputies and announced four promotions within the sheriff's office at Tuesday's Sioux County Board of Supervisors meeting.

The new deputies are Jake Harmelink of Orange City, Gage Klein of Ireton and Zach McKee of Hawarden. Klein and McKee are on the waitlist for the fall Iowa Law Enforcement Academy or else will attend it at the first of the year.

McKee already has some background in psychology, which Van Voorst plans to utilize as part of his work.

"We're first going to teach him how to be a cop, but then Zach has indicated he wants to pursue some advanced training in mental health, which is really exciting," Van Voorst said.

Promoted to the rank of lieutenant are Justin De Bruin and Caleb Haverdink, and promoted to the rank of sergeant are Brad De Kam and Chad Van Ravenswaay.

■ At least 75 percent of the site contains soil unsuitable for agricultural operations.

■ The site is an irregularly shaped lot that — because of its area, size or shape — has limited potential for



Sioux County Zoning director Shane Walter discusses recommended changes to building permit rules, which aim to protect county farmland, on Tuesday. The board of supervisors gave its final approval. Photo by Eric Sandbulte

agricultural production.

■ At least 75 percent of the site contains slopes greater than 9 percent and/or there are trees covering 75 percent of the site.

Walter had said what constitutes "soil unsuitable for agricultural operations" was rather subjective and the criteria could benefit from more precise language.

The approved changes have the

new criteria listed as:

■ At least 75 percent of the site has a nonirrigated capability class of 3 or greater or has a crop suitability rating of 40 or below and has no history of agricultural uses in the previous five years and eight of the last 10.

■ The site is an irregularly shaped lot that — because of its area, size or shape — has limited potential for agricultural production and has no

history of agricultural uses in the previous five years and eight of the last 10.

■ At least 75 percent of the site contains slopes greater than 9 percent and/or there are trees covering 75 percent of the site and it has no history of agriculture uses in the previous five years and eight of the last 10.

The definition of land ag uses are defined as crop production, agricultural animal husbandry, horticulture, viticulture/viticulture and pasture or Conservation Reserve Program land when held or operated in conjunction with other primarily agricultural uses.

These changes put it on the permit applicant to prove that the land in question would qualify.

Walter would continue to enforce the ordinance and handle fees for violations.

"I respond to complaints when there are complaints," he said. "I try to be aware of what's happening in the county and that comes through a number of ways. Board members often inform me. That's partly why we appoint board members from various locations within the county, so they can see what's going on. And often, folks will call and visit about what's going on next door to them. We get a lot of that."

The county is able to fine the landowner if they begin to build without the needed permit, doubling the fee of the building permit. The usual fee for a building permit is \$2 per \$1,000 of total construction cost. Additionally, Walter can issue a fine of up to \$750 per infraction, with each day constituting a new infraction.

NCC signs off on changes to online class-sharing structure

Legal shifts will not affect academics

BY ELIJAH HELTON
EHELTON@NWESTIOWA.COM

SHELDON—The Iowa Community College Online Consortium is updating more than its software.

The digital course sharing group has been restructured to put it on stabler ground in case of a major economic move.

Northwest Iowa Community College, a founding member of the ICCOC, signed onto the decision at its board of trustees meeting June 12 in Sheldon.

"The ICCOC stands on its own. It does not envision it would need to invoke this, but legal said you have this in place. It's carefully worded so that none of the colleges have to make up any shortfall or anything like that," said NCC president John Hartog.



Northwest Iowa Community College president John Hartog speaks about how the Iowa Community College Online Consortium, of which NCC is a member, has restructured at the June 12 trustees meeting in Sheldon. Photo by Elijah Helton

The board unanimously approved the decision. The consortium became

its own legal entity in 2022. Before then, it was run under Southeastern Community

OTHER BUSINESS:

The Northwest Iowa Community College Board of Trustees on June 12 also:

■ Increased total employee compensation by 5.13 percent. More than half the raise goes toward health insurance and other benefits. Operations and finance director Brian Nash said premiums have been trending up faster than salary rates in recent years. He also noted NCC is the last Iowa community college to offer medical coverage for employee families.

■ Received a construction update from Nash. The college's two main summer projects are on schedule to be completed before the fall semester starts. Sioux Hall will be the fifth on-campus housing complex. Thunder Cafe will be the remodeled and renamed dining area.

College in West Burlington. The move toward independence also was made to clear up future liability.

The ICCOC includes NCC, SCC and four other Iowa community colleges.

"The presidents asked lots of questions," Hartog said. "We're always averse to this

kind of thing. We don't want to unnecessarily loosen the purse strings and so forth. But after we talked it all through, this had to be happening anyway."

Founded in 1999, the ICCOC was an early adopter of online learning.

The group works by shar-

ing resources of its member schools, giving students access to more courses and materials than any one school could provide.

For example, an NCC student may be taught by an SCC professor with classmates from the other schools. It also is commonly used with high school pupils concurrently enrolled in a college course.

Textbooks are made available digitally, saving students money.

About 50,000 seats are filled annually in more than 2,800 classes.

"With what our students are able to receive with that tuition, it's amazing," Hartog said.

"There is a whole armada of software solutions that help them stay on track and tutoring services, alerts if they're not attending class and whatnot. It has helped NCC and the other colleges to increase our success rates."

LAW & ORDER

ORANGE CITY DRIVER TO JAIL FOR OWI, SPEEDING

ORANGE CITY—A 49-year-old Orange City man was arrested about 10:20 p.m. Saturday, June 17, on charges of first-offense operating while under the influence and speeding.

The arrest of Jamie Lee Verduin stemmed from the stop of a 2015 Ford F-250 pickup for speeding on the 200 block of St. Paul Avenue, according to the Orange City Police Department.

He had bloodshot/watery eyes, impaired balance, slurred speech and the odor of an alcoholic beverage and failed field sobriety tests. Verduin admitted to having a few beers in Alton, according to the incident report.

TWO DRIVERS HURT IN ACCIDENT NEAR SIBLEY

SIBLEY—Two people were injured in a two-vehicle accident about 4:25 p.m. Sunday, June 18, on Highway 9 near the Highway

60 expressway interchange northeast of Sibley.

Twenty-five-year-old James Tyler Morgan of Belleville, MI, was driving west on Highway 9 when he attempted to pass numerous west-facing vehicles waiting to turn south onto the Highway 60 expressway, according to the Osceola County Sheriff's Office.

Morgan's 2022 Chevrolet Silverado pickup struck a 2014 GMC Acadia driven by 54-year-

old Angela Irene Rodenburgh of Sioux Center midway through her turn south.

The two drivers were transported by the Osceola County Ambulance to Osceola Regional Health Center in Sibley.

Morgan was cited for unsafe passing; reckless driving; passing too near a bridge, intersection or railroad; passing contrary to a highway sign or marking; and failure to reduce speed to a reasonable and proper rate.

The two vehicles were totaled.

SIBLEY MAN ARRESTED FOR STRANGULATION

SIBLEY—A 22-year-old Sibley man was arrested about 10:50 p.m. Saturday, June 17, on a charge of domestic abuse assault impeding flow of air/blood.

The arrest of Mario Esau Martinez Niz stemmed from a 911 call from a woman who said she had been assaulted by him at 512 10th St. in Sibley, according to the

Osceola County Sheriff's Office.

The woman said Martinez Niz had pulled her hair, slapped her in the face three times and choked her. The woman had a red mark on her right cheek and neck and her upper right lip was swollen and bleeding.

Martinez Niz admitted to the allegations, according to the incident report.

A no contact order was issued against Martinez Niz with the woman.

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NEWS

Hope Haven reps share concerns during Ernst's visit

Care, immigration and wages named as issues

BY GEORGIA LODEWYK
GLODEWYK@NWESTIOWA.COM

ROCK VALLEY—U.S. Sen. Joni Ernst (R-Iowa) left her visit to Hope Haven in Rock Valley on Tuesday with "wonderful ideas when it comes to legislation" after hearing questions regarding health care, immigration and wages.

Hope Haven, one of Iowa's largest disability service and advocacy centers, welcomed the senator and discussed concerns brought forward by community members, Hope Haven clients and employees.

One of the first came from registered nurse Brenda Godbersen, who has worked at Hope Haven for more than 17 years. Godbersen said lack of insurance coverage and low payouts make it nearly impossible for her clients to see a dentist. Omaha, NE, and Iowa City are the closest places their clients can receive dental care, and some have not been able to see a dentist for more than five years.

"Why are we allowing something like that to happen?" Godbersen asked the senator. "Dental care affects so many other things within the body. It affects the heart; it affects the brain and that is a huge thing for us."

Ernst said the Dental Association has addressed the issue as well.

Rock Valley development director Dave Miller asked about immigration reform policies, an issue he said is especially relevant to his community, whose population is 28 percent

Latino.

Ernst spoke in support of Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals, known as DACA. She also referenced a conversation she had with a DACA recipient, who said her mother, an immigrant lacking permanent legal status, should be an American citizen.

"Her mother fled a country. That was a country not of law and order. That's why her mother left," Ernst said. "I don't want to see the United States become a place where we don't respect law and order."

An additional immigration question addressed Hope Haven direct-support professional employees who earned medical degrees in their home country but now, despite their education, cannot work as a doctor or nurse.

Ernst highlighted the Doctors of Community Act, which allows each state 30 slots for foreign-born individuals to enter the medical field.

The senator's Hope Haven visit was part of an annual 99-county tour. She also toured one of Hope Haven's 50 community living homes. She said her time with the women of the home "made her day."

"These are wonderful people working in our communities, living in our communities, and we need to ensure that they are included in our activities. And I think that absolutely is something worthy of our federal government support," Ernst said.

Following her visit to the home, Ernst hosted a question-and-answer session in the cafeteria, introduced by Hope Haven chief executive officer Matt Buley and employee Brett



Hope Haven chief executive officer Matt Buley and U.S. Sen. Joni Ernst (R-Iowa) address those gathered at facility in Rock Valley. The senator made several stops throughout N'West Iowa on Tuesday. Photo by Georgia Lodewyk

Ruby, who was a former Hope Haven resident.

Buley explained Hope Haven's mission and care for more than 1,000 people through community living facilities, employment and mental health programs in three different states. Buley thanked Ernst for her support and spoke against a new rule from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid that requires 80 percent of funds to go toward direct-support professional employees.

Buley said this creates problems for Hope Haven as its largest expense is not staffing. As part of their international ministries, Hope Haven sends

more 3,000 wheelchairs around the world each year. It also is home to Double HH Manufacturing, a Rock Valley company which employs many Hope Haven clients. Because of these unique needs, Buley said this makes Hope Haven different from many other care facilities, and it already pays \$15 an hour to its direct-support professional employees, putting them "ahead of the pack nationally."

"I don't need CMS telling us where to spend our money," Buley said.

Ruby spoke of his journey with Hope Haven. Growing up, Ruby was bounced around 25 different group

and foster homes. When he became a client of the organization in 1986, he found community through traveling and singing with the Hope Haven Gospel choir and attending Faith Reformed Church. Today Ruby works as a member of the custodial staff at Hope Haven.

Ernst said stories such as Ruby's are examples of the importance of Hope Haven's mission.

"There is a good outcome for them and many of them will not have to be shuffled from home to home as Brett was but have something to look forward to in their adulthood," Ernst said.

Family Health Chiropractic receives small business award

ERNST

Continued from page A1

office for a brief introduction with town officials and then made her way across the street to Associated Milk Producers Inc. to visit with company leadership.

Plant manager Steve Voss shared with Ernst the company's concerns of being short on labor and the challenge of employee retention.

Ernst's visit to AMPI comes when President Joe Biden's administration is facing some backlash from Republicans for proposed changes by the U.S. Department of Agriculture in late March about what milk can be offered in elementary and high schools.

The proposed change has two alternatives for the 2025-26 academic year. The first would allow flavored milk such as chocolate milk at school lunch and breakfast for high school students only. Elementary and middle school students would be limited to fat-free and/or low-fat unflavored milk. The second would be to maintain the current standard that allows all schools to offer fat-free and low-fat milk, flavored and unflavored, at school lunch and breakfast. Added sugars



U.S. Sen. Joni Ernst (R-Iowa) signs a bowling pin for employee Jeremy Van Dam of Locomotion Lanes in Sanborn on Tuesday afternoon. Ernst also visited Sanborn's city offices, Associated Milk Producers Inc., Sanborn's Carnegie Hall and Family Health Chiropractic. Photo by Eric Harrold

in flavored milk would be limited. Schools currently must offer

fat-free and/or 1 percent low-fat unflavored milk as part of school breakfasts and lunches.

Schools also may offer fat-free and/or 1 percent low-fat flavored milk as an option.

The USDA did an analysis of the current requirements with the data showing flavored milk is the leading source of added sugars in both the school lunch and breakfast programs. Chocolate milk contains about double the sugar content as unflavored milk.

Input and feedback is still being sought by the USDA about the two alternatives.

AMPI co-owner John Westra said milk is the one liquid that can sustain life for someone who has no other sustenance because of its high-water content and the fat, sugar and protein it contains.

Ernst said she has had communications with Biden's administration encouraging the USDA to reconsider its efforts to remove flavored milk from elementary school menus.

Westra said state regulations allowing small dairies with a maximum of 10 cows to sell unpasteurized milk were a source of concern.

The Iowa Legislature in the last session passed a law allowing Iowans to buy unpasteurized milk beginning today (Saturday, July 1).

The Iowa State Dairy Association and Iowa Dairy Foods Association were against the bill because harmful bacteria

can remain in unpasteurized or raw milk.

Westra said small dairies selling raw, unpasteurized milk are not regulated as heavily as larger dairy businesses like AMPI, and if something bad happens, it goes against the entire dairy industry.

He said if the small operations were allowed to sell raw milk, then larger producers should be allowed to as well.

The senator then visited Sanborn's Carnegie Hall, a former Carnegie Library transformed into an event center and suite, before her last stop at Family Health Chiropractic where she presented owner Stacy Carlin with a Small Business of the Week Award.

Her award is part of Ernst's plan to recognize a small business in all 99 of Iowa's counties.

Family Health Chiropractic was announced as for the award winner for O'Brien County on June 20.

"It is important to hear about how small businesses got started, and find ways to not just survive but thrive," Ernst said. "First impressions are very important when you bring outsiders in, which draws new businesses, residents, and visitors to a community."

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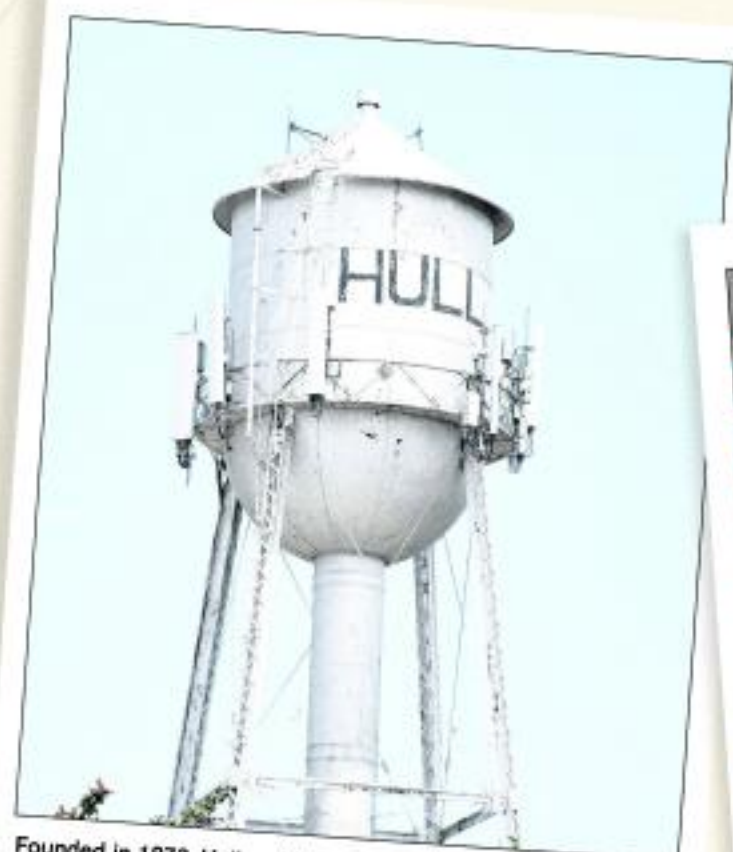
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HAPPENING

BY GEORGIA LODEWYK
GLODEWYK@NWESTIOWA.COM

IN HULL



Founded in 1873, Hull and its 2,400-plus residents are celebrating the town's 150th anniversary. Photo by Georgia Lodewyk



Known as "the parade at which the most candy is thrown out," the annual Hull Summerfest popular tradition is scheduled to start at 10 a.m. Saturday, July 8, traveling along Fifth and Main Streets. File photo

HULL—The city of Hull has reached an important milestone: 150 years in the making.

The N'West Iowa town was founded in 1873.

To celebrate its sesquicentennial, Hull residents have planned events that honor its rich history and will help the community look toward its future.

Most of the events will be similar to Hull's annual Summerfest, including "the parade at which the most candy is thrown out" down Fifth and Main streets on Saturday, July 8. Other events continued on from past years include Family Fun Night hosted by Bright Start day care on Wednesday, July 5, cruise night on Friday July 7, and a kids' carnival the following afternoon.

"Instead of adding a lot of new, we're ramping up what we already do," said Kelsey Wielenga, who was hired by the city in March to help plan the special sesquicentennial.

Wielenga said many events will receive a special upgrade. For example, Saturday's kids' carnival includes five food trucks and a vendor fair. Bright Start's family fun night added a fast-pitch softball game for community members. Wielenga said the game is an homage to a popular fast-pitch team Hull was home to in the past.

Some new events also grace the

itinerary. At 9 p.m. on Saturday, July 8, Hull will host a street dance featuring the Missouri-based group Soulroot. Also on Saturday, the Hull Historical Museum will lead wagon-guided tours for guests to discover what Main Street would have looked like in the 1950s. Tours from Ride the Sky Helicopters also provide additional entertainment on Friday and Saturday.

The Hull Sesquicentennial follows a busy Fourth of July holiday. But Wielenga said that for those who come out for Summerfest activities, it will be well worth it.

"This event will be something people won't want to miss out on," she said.

Rich history

The first home in Hull was a two-room log cabin.

During a time when many settlers were making their homes out of sod, Webster Merrill chose to build a log cabin just 10 years after the land was surveyed in the 1860s. Throughout the next decade, Merrill and his family were joined by more settlers, and a small community was born.

Life on the plains was far from easy, and early settlers battled the elements. Bouts of disease and typhoid fever sometimes fell upon families. Harsh winters rendered wagons useless, and sleighs were built and used to get supplies from the nearby towns of Orange City and Le Mars. The settlers made their way through crops, producing corn, wheat and oats.

In 1873 and 1874, swarms of locusts destroyed miles of crops in the area, bringing famine that would affect the homesteaders for years. In July of 1874, the wind brought so many locusts that the settlers could see the sky turn black as they sat in church on Sunday.

Railroad arrives

J.G. Patterson, Hull's original namesake, arrived in the community in 1878.

A railroad big shot for the Chicago, Milwaukee, St. Paul and Pacific Railroad, Patterson wanted to bring the railroad to the settlers, which would revolutionize their trade, transportation and entire way of life.

Although Patterson died in an accident before he was able to see the vision carried through, the track was completed in November of 1878, and the railroad company named the town "Pattersonville" in his honor.

The railroad transformed Pattersonville. The town soon became home to a hotel, four general stores, two grocery and drugstores, three boarding houses, a hardware store, three saloons and a boot and shoe shop. Many street names, chosen after trees like maple, elm, and chestnut, are still the same today.

By 1886, it was well known that there was another town in Iowa named Pattersonville, and the Sioux County Board of Supervisors voted to change the name. Many in the town admired Republican Iowa politician John A.T. Hull. As a Union Army veteran with interests in banking and agriculture, he was endeared to the small Pattersonville community. By the time residents elected their first mayor, George Ireland, the name was changed to "Hull."

Growing community

Over the past century and a half, Hull has been home to military

See HULL on page B3



The Hull Historical Museum features a wealth of items recalling the community's 150 years. The town originally was named "Pattersonville." Photo by Georgia Lodewyk



Typically open 1-4 p.m. each Wednesday, the Hull Historical Museum will be open 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturday, July 8, for the Sesquicentennial. Photo by Georgia Lodewyk

COMMUNITY TO CELEBRATE SESQUICENTENNIAL AND SUMMERFEST

ACCENT

COMMUNITY TO CELEBRATE 150 YEARS

HULL

Continued from page B1

companies during the Spanish-American War and World War I, Red Cross groups, and dozens of churches and family businesses.

The town was no stranger to hardship; fires along Main Street in 1924 and the 1930s devastated many small businesses. But the town also is known for its celebrations, especially the Fourth of July. Early Hull schools were rural, country schools, many with one teacher and all grades in one building. But the small schools just outside the town did not reflect Hull's growing community.

The school district now known as Boyden-Hull began in 1879, supported and constructed by community members. In 1894 and 1916, the school expanded along with the town and by 1968 the public school included a two-story building and an athletic field.

Hull also became home to a preparatory school in 1886. In 1919, the name was changed to Western Academy, which brought students from Iowa, Minnesota, South Dakota and Montana. What started with only 40

students that met in a main street house is now Western Christian High School, with more than 290 students.

Hull's legacy as a center for education continues, with two elementary schools and three high schools.

Iconic business scene

Over the past 150 years, Hull has become home to some of N'West Iowa's most recognizable businesses.

The Foreign Candy Company, started by Western Christian German teacher Peter De Yager, was formed following a class trip to Germany in 1976. After they toured a Gummy Bear factory, De Yager asked his students to write "thank you" cards. The company responded by sending 10 cases of gummy bears.

De Yager's class sold the cases to the Hull community as a fundraiser for future class trips, and the idea for The Foreign Candy Company was born. Now, The Foreign Candy Company's Hull headquarters remains an innovative worldwide distributor of candy.

Pizza Ranch began right on Hull's Main Street in 1981 by the then 19-year-old Adrie Groeneweg, with the vision of making pizza locally available to the Hull community. Now, the chain has more than 210 locations in 15 states.



The outlet store for The Foreign Candy Company attracts numerous visitors to Hull annually to buy its variety of sweet treats. Photos by Georgia Lodewyk

Some businesses remain in Hull's history, including the Farmer's Cooperative Creamery in 1914, headquartered in Hull and a producer of butter and ice cream. People knew "Hull Brand" ice cream and butter from their iconic green-and-yellow labeling. In 1917, Farmer's Cooperative Creamery sold

its ice cream recipe to Wells Blue Bunny in Le Mars and "Hull Brand" ice cream ceased to exist.

Hull's century and a half long history is something groups continue to preserve and cherish, especially in light of the 150th anniversary celebration.

The Hull Museum, run by the Hull Historical society, includes a collection of some of the oldest memorabilia from Hull right on Main Street. The collection includes school memorabilia, kitchen appliances, an old post office station and a military collection. History books from Hull's Centennial in 1973 are available for purchase for \$25 during the week of Summerfest. The museum, normally open 1-4 p.m. Wednesday, will have extended hours so those attending the celebration can see Hull's history up-close.



Western Christian High School is one of three high schools based in Hull, the others being Boyden-Hull and Trinity Christian.



Pizza Ranch was founded in Hull in 1981. Its corporate office has since moved to Orange City, but a restaurant remains downtown.

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OBITUARIES

James "Jim" Rosenboom

March 26, 1949—June 22, 2023

PRIMGHAR—James "Jim" Rosenboom, age 74, of Primghar, passed away on Thursday, June 22, 2023, at his home in Primghar.

Service will be 11 a.m. today (Saturday, July 1) at the United Church of Primghar, with Pastor Mike Cooper officiating.

Burial will be at Pleasant Hill Cemetery with military honors by the Chateau-Thierry Post of the Primghar American Legion.

Visitation with family present will be 10 a.m. until the time of the service at the United Church of Primghar.

Arrangements are under the care of the Eldridge Family Funeral Home in Primghar.

James Carl Rosenboom, the son of John and Fern (Weaver) Rosenboom, was born March 26, 1949, in Sheldon, Iowa. He made his home with his family north of Sheldon, Primghar, Walcott, and Iowa City, Iowa, before returning to Primghar, Iowa. Jim graduated with the Primghar High School class of 1967. After high school he attended General Motors mechanic school. He entered the United States Marine Corps on May 6, 1969, serving until his discharge on May 5, 1971. Jim served in Vietnam at Da Nang for one year attaining the rank of Corporal and received for his service in Vietnam the National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Service Medal,



Rosenboom

and the Vietnam Campaign Medal. Upon his discharge he returned to Primghar and was employed at the Bendix Corporation in Worthington, Minnesota. On Aug. 26, 1973, he was united in marriage to Rhonda Norbohm at the United Methodist Church in Primghar. After their marriage, the couple settled in Primghar where Jim was employed for 28 years by GTE Telephone Company as a repairman until his retirement in 2004. The couple made their home in Primghar and the summers were spent at Lake Okoboji. Jim passed away on Thursday June 22, 2023, at his home in Primghar reaching the age of 74 years, 2 months, and 26 days.

He was a member of the United Church of Primghar. He enjoyed spending time with his family, going on walks and watching the sunsets with Rhonda. Lake Okoboji and fishing were also his favorite things to do.

Jim is survived by his wife of almost 50 years Rhonda Rosenboom of Primghar, Iowa; two children, son Nicholas (Kelley) Rosenboom of Muscatine, Iowa; daughter, Ann Marie (Lucas) Rich of Denver Colorado; three grandchildren Emma and Tyler Rosenboom and Sloan Rich; one sister Myrna (Rodney) Heilmensen of Primghar, Iowa; and other relatives and many friends.

He was preceded in death by a son, Mark Rosenboom in 1985, and his parents, John and Fern Rosenboom.

Eldridge Family
Funeral Homes

Henrietta Kamstra-Roetman

Aug. 10, 1927—June 26, 2023

HOSPERS—Mrs. Henrietta Kamstra-Roetman, age 95, of Sheldon, formerly of Hospers, was called home to the loving arms of Jesus on Monday, June 26, 2023, at the Sanford Health Sheldon Senior Care Center in Sheldon.

A visitation with the family present will be held 10-10:30 a.m. Friday, July 7, at the Community Center in Hospers.

There will be a funeral service at 10:30 a.m. Friday, July 7, at the Community Center, with the Rev. Paul Van Maaren officiating.

Interment will follow the service at the Newkirk Cemetery.

The Oolman Funeral Home in Hospers is in charge of arrangements.

Henrietta Mae was born on Aug. 10, 1927, in Alton, the only child born to John and Jennie (Roelfson) Kamstra. She was raised on farms near Hospers and Newkirk and attended Lynn Independent Grade School. In 1945, she graduated from Newkirk High School. After her father's passing, she and her mother made their home in Hospers. During her working years, Henrietta was employed as a clerk at Council Oak Grocery, Hasting Photography, Hospers Savings Bank, and Wolf Department Store, as well as faithfully caring for her mother.

Henrietta met and fell in love with Albert Roetman through Albert's sister Clarine. On Oct. 21, 1981, they were married at the Little Brown Church, in Nashua, Iowa. Through their marriage, Henrietta became stepmother to Vickie June Bromley, Lois McCalman,

and Cliff Chadwick, step-grandmother to Jason and Jennifer Bromley, and stepgreat-grandmother to George, Amelia, Bruce, Crissalyn, and Delvia Zimmer, as well as Logan and Sonya Bromley.

During her marriage to Albert, the couple enjoyed traveling between California and Iowa. After Albert's passing, she became a world traveler to destinations like Holland, Israel, and Europe. Henrietta relished her trips through the meticulous scrapbooks and photo albums she created after each one. She later moved to the Christian Retirement Home in Sheldon before becoming a resident of Sanford Sheldon Care Center. Henrietta had been a member of the Hospers Presbyterian Church and a current member of First Reformed Church of Sheldon.

She is survived by a stepdaughter, Vickie (Randy) Bromley; two stepgrandchildren, Jason (Lauren) Bromley and Jennifer (Daniel) Zimmer; seven stepgreat-grandchildren: sister-in-law, Annabelle Bartling; and nieces and nephew, Connie Roghair, Wanda Joltz, Deanna Van Riesen, Sheila Marra, Laura Westphalen, and Terry Bartling.

She will be sorely missed and was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, Albert; stepdaughter, Lois McCalman; stepson, Cliff Chadwick; sisters-in-law and brothers-in-law, Clarine and Les Van Breek and Dorothy and Willard "Whip" Oldenkamp; and mother-in-law, Dena Hulst.

You are invited to leave a message of condolence, print a memorial folder, and view a recording of the service at www.oolman.com.

OOLMAN
FUNERAL HOME

Mary "Ginny" Clarey

April 15, 1922—May 12, 2023

SIBLEY—Mary Virginia "Ginny" Clarey, 101, Orange City, formerly of Sibley, died Friday, May 12, 2023, at Prairie Ridge Care Center in Orange City. Service was Wednesday,

May 17, at Holman Township Cemetery in Sibley. There will be a public celebration of life at 11 a.m. Saturday, July 8, at the First Baptist Church Fellowship Hall in Sibley.

Michael Floen

April 14, 1943—June 22, 2023

SIOUX CENTER—Michael Francis Floen, 80, Sioux Center, died Thursday, June 22, 2023, at Crown Pointe Care Center in Sioux Center.

He will host a celebration of life service at a later date. Arrangements are under the direction of Memorial Funeral Home in Sioux Center.

Les Van Engen

July 26, 1949—June 26, 2023

REMSEN—Les Van Engen, age 73, of Remsen, IA, passed away at Happy Siesta Health Care Center in Remsen on Monday, June 26, 2023.

A memorial service was held on Thursday, June 29, at the First Reformed Church in Sheldon, IA, with Pastor Paul Van Maaren officiating. Organist was Luann Donkersloot. There was a Musical Tribute by Pastor Paul Van Maaren of "Jesus Loves Me." Songs of Praise were Processional "Standing On The Promises" and Recessional "Victory In Jesus."

Interment was at Roseland Cemetery near Sanborn.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Village Northwest Unlimited in Sheldon.

The Sanborn Funeral Home was in charge of the arrangements.

Leslie "Les" Van Engen, son of Abraham "Abe" and Dorothy (Vogel) Van Engen, was born on July 26, 1949, in Sheldon, Iowa. Growing up, Les lived on the family farm with his parents, and he and his dad enjoyed going to many farm sales.

In 1982, after his parents had both died, Les moved



Les Van Engen

to Village Northwest Unlimited in Sheldon, Iowa. He loved living and working at the Village for almost 40 years.

One of his favorite jobs involved traveling to several area towns to collect pop cans. Wherever Les went, he was known for his friendly smile and helpfulness.

At the Village, Les played on the volleyball and basketball teams.

He also competed in the Special Olympics, where he received many medals and ribbons.

When he started having health issues in 2021, Les moved to Happy Siesta Nursing Home in Remsen, Iowa. He adjusted well and soon considered it his retirement place. On Monday, June 26, 2023, he passed away there at the age of 73.

Those left to cherish his memory are his sisters-in-law, Betty Vande Brake of Orange City, Iowa, and Jo (Art) Franken of Sheldon, Iowa, and several nephews and nieces.

He was preceded in death by his parents; brothers, Adrian, Dale, and Gerald "Joe"; sister, Verna Jean Van Der Zwaag, and her husband, Jake; sister-in-law Sandy Van Der Zwaag; and brother-in-law Mick Vande Brake.

Sanborn Funeral Home

Bonnie Weaver

Feb. 27, 1951—June 24, 2023

SHELDON—Bonnie J. Weaver, age 72, of Arnolds Park, Iowa, and Sheldon, Iowa, died peacefully Saturday, June 24, 2023, at Sanford Health Sheldon Senior Care Center surrounded by her loving husband,



Weaver

daughters and dog, Griffin. Memorial services will be held at 11 a.m. Monday, July 3, at the Faith Community Church in Sheldon, Iowa with Joe Ledvina and Rev. Kevin Gingerich officiating.

Private burial will take place at a later date in the Lakeview Garden Cemetery at Okoboji, Iowa.

All memorial funds will be donated to Pups for Patriots.

Arrangements were under the direction of Jurens Funeral Home in George.

Bonnie J. (Boster) Weaver was born Feb. 27, 1951, at Mason City, Iowa.

She was the daughter of Daniel and Delores (Austin) Boster.

Bonnie Weaver grew up in Sheldon, where she attended Sheldon High School and graduated in 1969.

Bonnie Weaver was united in marriage to Michael L. Weaver on June 3, 1977,

at Coralville, IA, and they enjoyed "the good life."

Bonnie loved traveling across the United States with Michael and their dogs in their motor home.

She also loved designing homes, the arts, playing Mahjong, cooking, spending time with family, friends and celebrating every occasion.

Bonnie was employed as an OWI Secretary for Johnson County Sheriff's Office, Dispatcher for the Iowa State Patrol, owner of Daffodil's Bridal and owner of Rome Grinding Solutions in Sheldon, IA.

Bonnie Weaver was survived by husband, Michael of 46 years; her daughters and their husbands, Chelsey and Jason Klatt of Sioux Falls, SD; Kelley and Jesse Newgard of Pocahontas, IA; and Kate and Ryan Van Maasdam of Spirit Lake, IA; her grandchildren which she lovingly referred to as The Magnificent 7: Hailey Justi, Chase Boeve, Ellie Boeve, Annie Klatt, Abbie Boeve, Jack Jongerius and Christian Jongerius.

She was preceded in death by parents, Daniel and Delores Boster; her infant sister, Becky Sue Boster; and her mother- and father-in-law, Kenneth and Shirlene Weaver.

Funeral Home

Thelma Aberson

Aug. 5, 1936—June 23, 2023

ORANGE CITY—Thelma Aberson, 86, Orange City, died Friday, June 23, 2023, at her home.

Service was Tuesday, June 27, at First Reformed Church

in Orange City. Burial will be at Nassau Township Cemetery near Alton.

Arrangements are under the direction of Oolman Funeral Home in Orange City.

Shirley Cain

Oct. 20, 1935—June 24, 2023

SCOTTSDALE, AZ—Shirley Ann Cain, 87, Scottsdale, AZ, formerly of Hawarden, died Saturday, June 24, 2023, at home.

Service was Friday, June 30,

at Trinity Lutheran Church in Hawarden.

Burial was at Grace Hill Cemetery in Hawarden, under the direction of Porter Funeral Home in Hawarden.

Arthur Andringa

Dec. 16, 1943—June 28, 2023

SHELDON—Arthur Clair Andringa, 79, Sheldon, died Wednesday, June 28, 2023, at his home.

Graveside service was Fri-

day, June 30, at East Lawn Cemetery in Sheldon.

Arrangements were under the direction of Jurens Funeral Home in Sibley.

ANNIVERSARY



Glenda and Lee, 1958



Glenda and Lee, 2023

Holtrops to observe 65th anniversary

FULDA, MN—Andrew "Lee" and Glenda Holtrop of Fulda, MN, have been blessed with 65 years of marriage and want to share their blessings by celebrating with all of their family,

relatives and friends.

Please join Lee and Glenda for an open house scheduled for 1:30-4 p.m. Saturday, July 8, at the Fulda Legion Hall in Fulda, MN.

BIRTHS

■ **Keyli Hernandez Alvarez**, daughter of Filimon Hernandez Santis and Doysi Alvarez Alvarez of Sibley, was born Wednesday, June 21, 2023, at Sanford Sheldon Medical Center.

■ **Warren Aiden Julius**, son of Julius O Masita and Chepngetich Mary of Sanborn, was born Monday, June 26, 2023, at Sanford Sheldon Medical Center. He has two brothers, Wistan and Auden. Grandparents are Christopher Masita of Kenya and Joyce Masita of Kenya.

■ **Hallie Jo Van Engen**, daughter of Cody and Madison Van Engen of Ocheyedan, was born Monday, June 26,

2023, at Sanford Sheldon Medical Center, weighing 8 pounds, 1 ounce, and measuring 21 inches. She has three brothers, Jax, 8; Cash, 7; and Kolt, 2. Grandparents are Ron and Shari Van Engen of Sibley and Ron and Jan Hoffman of Remsen.

■ **Isla Amari Peterson-Medina**, daughter of Clint Peterson and Danielle Medina of Sheldon, was born Tuesday, June 27, 2023, at Sanford Sheldon Medical Center, weighing 7 pounds and measuring 20 inches. She has a brother, Elijah. Grandmother is Cathie Peterson of Rock Rapids. Great-grandmother is Betty Rachuy of Rock Rapids.

■ 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.

Submit engagement, wedding, birth and anniversary announcements; obituary notices; and more. Please

submit a vertical photo with your engagement and wedding announcements.

Please submit a head shot photo with your obituary submissions.

If you have questions, call 712-324-5347 Ext. 4 or 1-800-247-0186 or e-mail editor@iowainformation.com

OOLMAN
FUNERAL HOME

Donna Obbink

July 8, 1931—June 28, 2023

SIOUX CENTER—Donna Mae Obbink, 91, Sioux Center, died Wednesday, June 28, 2023, at Crown Pointe Care Center in Sioux Center.

A celebration of life service will be 2 p.m. Monday, July 3, at Bethel Christian Reformed

Church in Sioux Center. Burial will be at Memory Gardens Cemetery in Sioux Center.

Visitation will be 1-2 p.m. Monday at the church.

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

CHURCH

Live in harmony with one another. Do not be proud, but be willing to associate with people of low position.

— Romans 12:16



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 Greving. Saturday: 5 p.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. 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 Sweers. 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 Greving. Sunday: 8 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

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 Greving. Sunday: 10 a.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 Stoop. 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. Stephan Begnerus. 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.

INWOOD

BETHLEHEM LUTHERAN (ELCA), 302 N. Oak St. Pastor Sue Sinclair. Sunday: 9:30 a.m. Worship.

CHRISTIAN REFORMED, 302 E. Madison St. Rev. Adam Eisenga. Sunday: 9:30 a.m. and 6 p.m. Worship.

FIRST REFORMED, 414 North Oak St. Rev. Rob Horstman. Sunday: 9:30 a.m. Worship.

NEW LIFE ASSEMBLY OF GOD, 709 S. Douglas St. Pastor Larry Wanamaker. Sunday: 10 a.m. Worship.

OUR SAVIOR'S LUTHERAN (LCMC), 2065 Birch Ave. Pastor James Koller. Sunday: 10:30 a.m. Worship.

LESTER

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN, 510 Dove Ave. Sunday: 10:30 a.m. and 1 p.m. Worship. Wednesday: 7:30 p.m. Worship.

BETHEL REFORMED, 2314

150th St. Rev. Steve Meester. Sunday: 9 a.m. Worship.

SEEDS OF FAITH COMMUNITY, 408 Main St. Pastor Brent Eliason. 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.

MAURICE

REFORMED, 410 Main St. Rev. Jeremy Van Genderen. Sunday: 9:30 a.m. Worship.

MAY CITY

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN (LCMS), 6665 Frederick Ave. Rev. Richard Millbrandt. 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.

MERIDEN

OAKDALE FREE, 1207 450th St. Tyler Stauffer, senior pastor. Sunday: 9:30 a.m. Worship.

MIDDLEBURG

FREE GRACE REFORMED, 3630 370th St. Pastor 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 Millbrandt. 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 Millbrandt. 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 Pofert. Sunday: 10:30 a.m. Worship.

FAITH LUTHERAN (Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod), 710 Eighth St. SE. Rev. Thomas Batchelder. Sunday: 9:30 a.m. Worship.

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

FIRST REFORMED, 420 Central Ave. NW. 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 Booy. 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 (LCMS), 101 E. Bertha St. Rev. Don Meyer. Sunday: 9:30 a.m. Worship.

PRIMGHAR

CHURCH OF CHRIST, 200 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. Berick 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.

ROCK RAPIDS

UNITED CHRISTIAN, 110 S. Greene St. Pastor Corilee Boer. Sunday: 10:15 a.m. Worship.

CHRISTIAN REFORMED, 303 S. Bradley St. Rev. Doug De Groot. Sunday: 9:30 a.m. Worship.

FAITH BAPTIST, 704 S. 12th Ave. Rev. Jeff Poppinga. Sunday: 9:30 a.m. Worship.

FIRST REFORMED, 512 S. Union St. The Rev. Steve Van Wyhe. Sunday: 9:30 a.m. Worship.

HOLY NAME CATHOLIC, 1108 S. Carroll St. Rev. Sunny Dominic. Sunday: 8:30 a.m. Mass.

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN (ELCA), 409 S. Third Ave. Rev. Matthew Polsdofer. Sunday: 9 a.m. Worship.

PEACE LUTHERAN (LCMS), 902 S. Carroll St. Rev. Alex Slotter. Sunday: 10:15 a.m. Worship.

THE RANSOM, 610 S. Third Ave. Sunday: 9 a.m. and 10:45 a.m. Worship.

UNITED METHODIST, 302 S. Carroll St. Rev. Travis Remme. Sunday: 9:30 a.m. Worship.

ROCK VALLEY

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

COMMON PLACE, 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 Sweers. Sunday: 10:30 a.m. Worship.

ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC, 1821 14th St. Sunday: 9 a.m. Mass.

TRINITY CHRISTIAN REFORMED, 2020 Eighth St. SE. Rev. Henry Lengkeek, senior pastor; Rev. Stanley Groothof, associate pastor. Sunday: 9:30 a.m. and 6 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 REFORMED, 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. Interim Pastor Kris Lien. 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; 3 p.m. Comunidad Cristiana Worship.

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 Kevin Lardy. Sunday: 10 a.m. Worship.

FAITH COMMUNITY, 506 Eighth St. Rev. Kevin Gingerich. Sunday: 8:30 a.m. Traditional Worship; 11 a.m. Modern 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.

THE PENTECOSTALS OF SHELDON, 322 Ninth St. Pastor Douglas Enger. Saturday: 5:30 p.m. 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: 9 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 Wittmer. Sunday: 10:30 a.m. Worship.

THURSDAY SOFTBALL

Dutch come up smiling after ride

Game swings back to guests near end

SIOUX CENTER—In a preview of a postseason game next week, MOC-Floyd Valley outscored Sioux Center 14-11 in a Siouxland Conference softball slugfest Thursday.

"Tonight was a roller coaster," said Dutch coach Jennifer Boeve. "It was all hands on deck and with the heat, a lot of girls were put in positions that they maybe weren't the most comfortable in."

MOC-Floyd Valley plated three runs in each of the first two innings to jump out to a 6-0 lead. The Warriors notched four runs in the bottom of the second to cut the deficit to 6-4.

The Dutch scored twice in the top of the third to stretch the lead to 8-4, but Sioux Center notched four runs of its own in the bottom of the frame to tie the contest at 8.

MOC-Floyd Valley added a run in the fourth. The Warriors then tallied three in the fifth to take an 11-9 advantage.

"We started out down 6-0.



MOC-Floyd Valley junior Tierney Huss slides into second far ahead of the throw on Thursday in a Siouxland Conference battle with Sioux Center. There was plenty of action around the bases as the Dutch topped the Warriors 14-11. Photo by Dan Wolfswinkel

Instead of folding, we put four across and had the lead at one point," said Sioux Center coach Karl Schmalbeck. "We

put the ball in play and that was a positive. We battled."

The Dutch scored twice in the sixth to tie the game at

11. MOC-Floyd Valley pushed three runs across in the seventh for the final margin.

"Our toughness continues to

get tested every game, and it's great to play teams like Sioux

See **DUTCH** on page C4

THURSDAY BASEBALL

Hawks still level above Wolfpack

Western tests itself against powerhouse

REMSSEN—Western Christian's regular season ended on a sour note with an 11-0 loss to Class 1A third-ranked Remsen St. Mary's in a nonconference baseball game on Thursday.

"Faced a tough team," said Wolfpack coach Logan Cline of the 25-2 Hawks.

Western Christian held the hosts scoreless in the first frame. St. Mary's plated four runs in the second.

After a scoreless third inning, the Hawks plated seven more runs in the fourth to end the game.

On the hill, Tayjen De Jong pitched 3 1/3 innings for the Wolfpack and allowed 10 runs, four of them earned, on seven hits in the loss. He walked three batters and hit two.

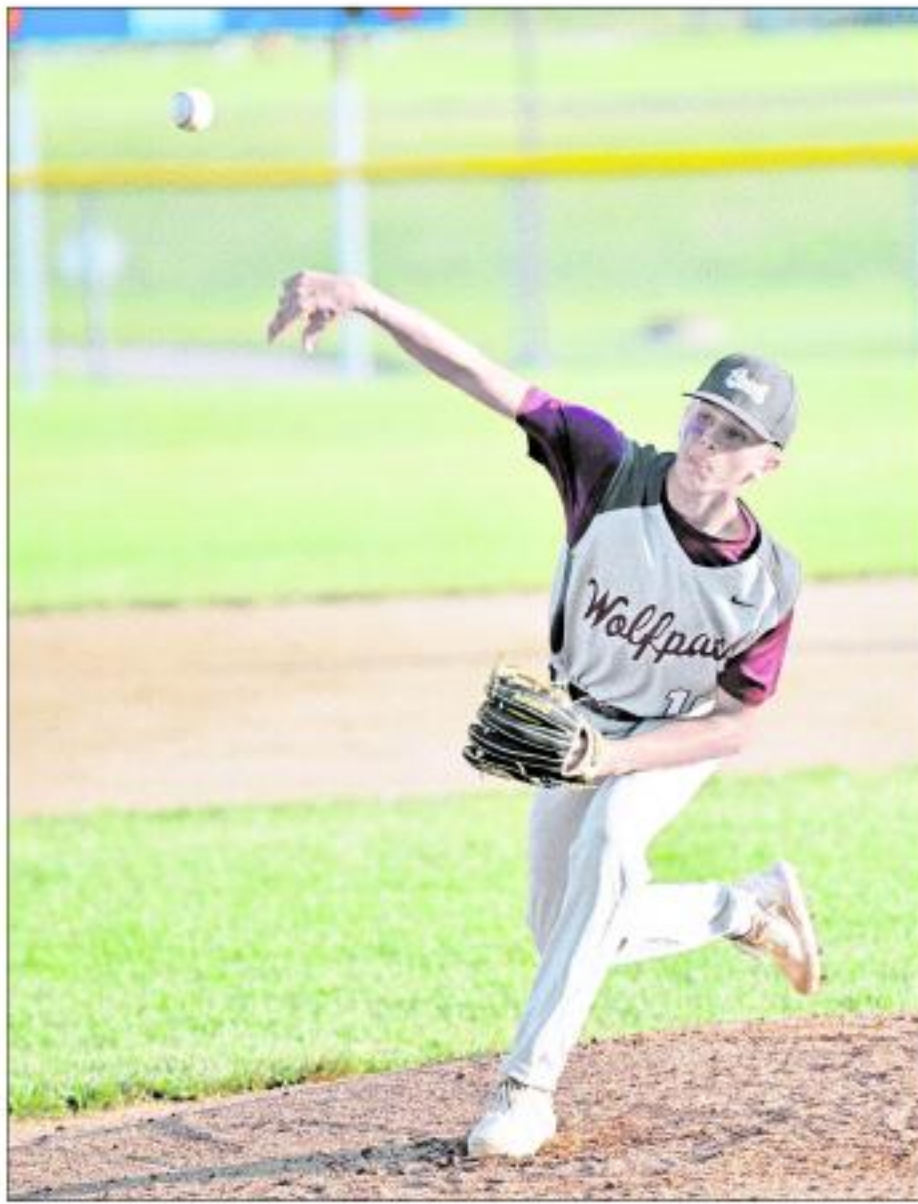
"Tayjen De Jong started on the mound and only gave up four earned runs," Cline said. "He did a good job getting guys to put the ball in play and pitched well."

Austin Hall, Cowan Van Kley and Chase Veerbeek had the only hits for Western Christian.

"Offensively we were able to work some counts," Cline said. "Austin Hall, Chase Veerbeek, and Cowan Van Kley were all able to get hits against a good pitcher."

Western Christian ended the regular season with a record of

See **WESTERN** on page C3



Western Christian freshman Tayjen De Jong lets go of a pitch Thursday at Remsen St. Mary's. The young hurler gave up just four earned runs against the Class 1A third-ranked Hawks but errors hurt the Wolfpack in an 11-0 nonconference loss. Photo by Allen Hamil

THE N'WEST IOWA REVIEW

ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

MACY WESTRA

WENT 5-FOR-8 IN TWO GAMES LAST WEEK AFTER RETURNING FROM INJURY WITH TWO DOUBLES, A HOME RUN AND FIVE RBIS WHILE HELPING THE WOLFPACK GO 2-0.

Which feeling is better in softball, throwing out a runner trying to steal second or driving in a run? Throwing out a runner trying to steal second.

What's the most common quote or phrase you hear from your coach? "Gun her, Macy!"

If you could pick any song to be your walk-up music, what song would you pick? "Back in Black" by AC/DC.

Do you have any superstitions before or during a game? I don't wear batting gloves during a game and always use the same bat.

What brand of glove is your favorite? Mizuno.

Aside from your own, which Iowa high school has the best softball uniforms? Spirit Lake.

Where is your favorite place in N'West Iowa to eat? The Roadhouse in Orange City.

What's your favorite app on your phone? TikTok.

On a hot summer day, what is your favorite thing to drink? A cold tropical dream'r BUBBLR.

If you could travel anywhere on the planet, free of charge, where would you want to go? I would go back to the Netherlands.

If you could have any superpower, what would you want? Teleportation.

If you were stuck on a desert island with a working TV and could only watch two movies the entire time you were there, what two movies would you pick? "10 Things I Hate About You" and "Top Gun: Maverick"

If you had your own personal action figure, what two accessories would it come with? Sunscreen (SPF 50, at least) and a bat.

THIS WEEK'S ATHLETE SPONSORED BY

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WESTERN CHRISTIAN | SENIOR SOFTBALL

Search is on for new athletic director at Dordt

Dordt University is looking for a new person to head up its athletic department while the Northwestern College Athletic Department recently announced a pair of promotions.

Dordt director of athletics Ross Douma has been named president of Avail Academy, a K-12



Christian school with locations in the metropolitan area of Minneapolis and St. Paul, MN.

Douma has been at Dordt since 2009, when he joined the staff as the men's basketball coach. He held that post for nine seasons. He was the associate athletic director for three years before becoming the director of athletics in June of 2017.

"It has been a privilege to serve at Dordt University for the past 14 years," Douma said in a news release. "I am grateful the Lord has allowed me the opportunity to

be part of an authentic Christian learning community that strives daily to prepare and equip young people for kingdom service. I am indebted to the Dordt campus community, the Sioux Center community, and Defender Nation for graciously supporting me during my tenure at Dordt."

Douma was the athletic director of the year in the Great Plains Athletic Conference in the 2021-22 school year.

Dordt has a strong relationship with Avail

See **BYERS** on page C3

We'll mark our calendar for you!

SUBMIT YOUR EVENTS FOR NEXT MONTH!

DROP OFF Iowa Information, 227 Ninth St., Sheldon, IA

MAIL The N'West Iowa REVIEW, Elizabeth Myers, P.O. Box 160, Sheldon, IA 51201

E-MAIL emyers@iowainformation.com

online Go to www.nwestiowa.com/calendar to see local up-to-date events and promote your own!



SPORTS

Vonk and Sinnema earn promotions at Northwestern College

BYERS

Continued from page C1

Academy and the schools have worked out a fall timeline for the leadership transition. Dordt has also already started with the search process for a new person as director of athletics.

At Northwestern College, Erica

Vonk has been named the Senior Woman Administrator for Red Raider athletics and Patrick Sinnema was promoted to the position of associate athletic director for facilities and operations.

Vonk will have various administrative duties in the athletic department including being a member of the athletic leadership team, reviewing

the EADA report, budget review, disciplinary meetings, and serving on select search committees.

Vonk, who teaches in Northwestern's business department, is a member of Christian Business Faculty Association (CBFA) and serves as the director of Northwestern's Center for Innovation & Leadership. She serves as an assistant coach

with the Sioux Center Seahawks youth swimming program and is an administrative official for USA Swimming. She is a certified lifeguard and has some experience participating in triathlons and open-water swimming competitions.

Sinnema has served at Northwestern as assistant athletic director for facilities since the summer of 2021

and is on the Northwestern athletic leadership team.

He's been actively involved in the planning stages of the Bultman Center Phase II renovations with the aim of bringing together a first-class football locker room, meeting space and offices, and a refresher on the already existing locker rooms in the Bultman Center.

Wolfpack hope tough tilt helps in postseason

WESTERN

Continued from page C1

4-13. The Wolfpack plays Central Lyon today (Saturday, July 1) in the opening round of the Class 2A District 1 tournament at 7 p.m. in Rock Rapids.

Lions stay hot and take down Falcons

HAWARDEN—Central Lyon registered double digit hits for the second night in a row and pushed at least one run across in six of the seven innings Thursday, ending its regular season with a 17-8 nonconference baseball win at West Sioux.

Each team was going deep into its pitching staff with the district tournament starting Saturday and the batters took advantage.

"In the grand scheme of things, this loss means nothing," said West Sioux coach Dustin Houlton. "On the other hand, I strongly dislike having the five seniors play their last game ever at home with this being the memory."

Central Lyon scored three runs in the first and three more in the second to go up 6-0. West Sioux got five in the bottom of the second and one in the third to tie it at 6-6.

The Lions went into a full sprint around the bases in the next two innings, scoring five in the fourth and four in the fifth to make it 15-6.

"They helped us out a bit, but we did pound the ball again," said Central Lyon coach Jerry Pytleski. "It was fun for the guys. I saw more smiling faces out there. We had some nice at-bats. We're doing better at focusing on getting it up the middle and not yanking everything. We were more patient at the plate, but we were still aggressive when we needed to be."

West Sioux scored its last two runs in the bottom of the fifth. Central Lyon scored once in each of the last two innings.

"We left too many plays on the field and gave way too many free passes and extra outs," Houlton said. "Quite frankly, it seemed like Central Lyon wanted it more than we did."

Matthew Dieren had two hits, including a double, drove in three and scored twice for the Lions. Matt Elbert had three hits and two runs. Reece Vander Zee hit two triples, drove in three and scored four times. Liam Vander Zee had two hits, two RBIs and two runs. Simon Konechne and Jayson Huygens each drove in two runs.

Monte Delfs got the pitching win. He threw 4 1/3 innings, allowing five hits, walking two and striking out four. Liam Vander Zee threw 2 1/3 before Dieren got the last out.

"We made three errors in the one big inning that cost my

2023 SUBSTATE BASEBALL

■ CLASS 3A SUBSTATE 1

Bishop Heelan

7 p.m. Friday, July 7, at Sioux City, West

Boyd-Hull/Rock Valley

Spencer

7 p.m. Friday, July 7, at Spencer

Spirit Lake

7 p.m. Friday, July 7, at MOC-Floyd Valley

MOC-Floyd Valley

7 p.m. Friday, July 7, at MOC-Floyd Valley

Sioux Center

7 p.m. Friday, July 7, at Sergeant Bluff-Luton

Sergeant Bluff-Luton

Le Mars

7 p.m. Friday, July 7, at Sergeant Bluff-Luton

7 p.m. Monday, July 10, at TBD

7 p.m. Monday, July 10, at TBD

7 p.m. Wednesday, July 12, at TBD

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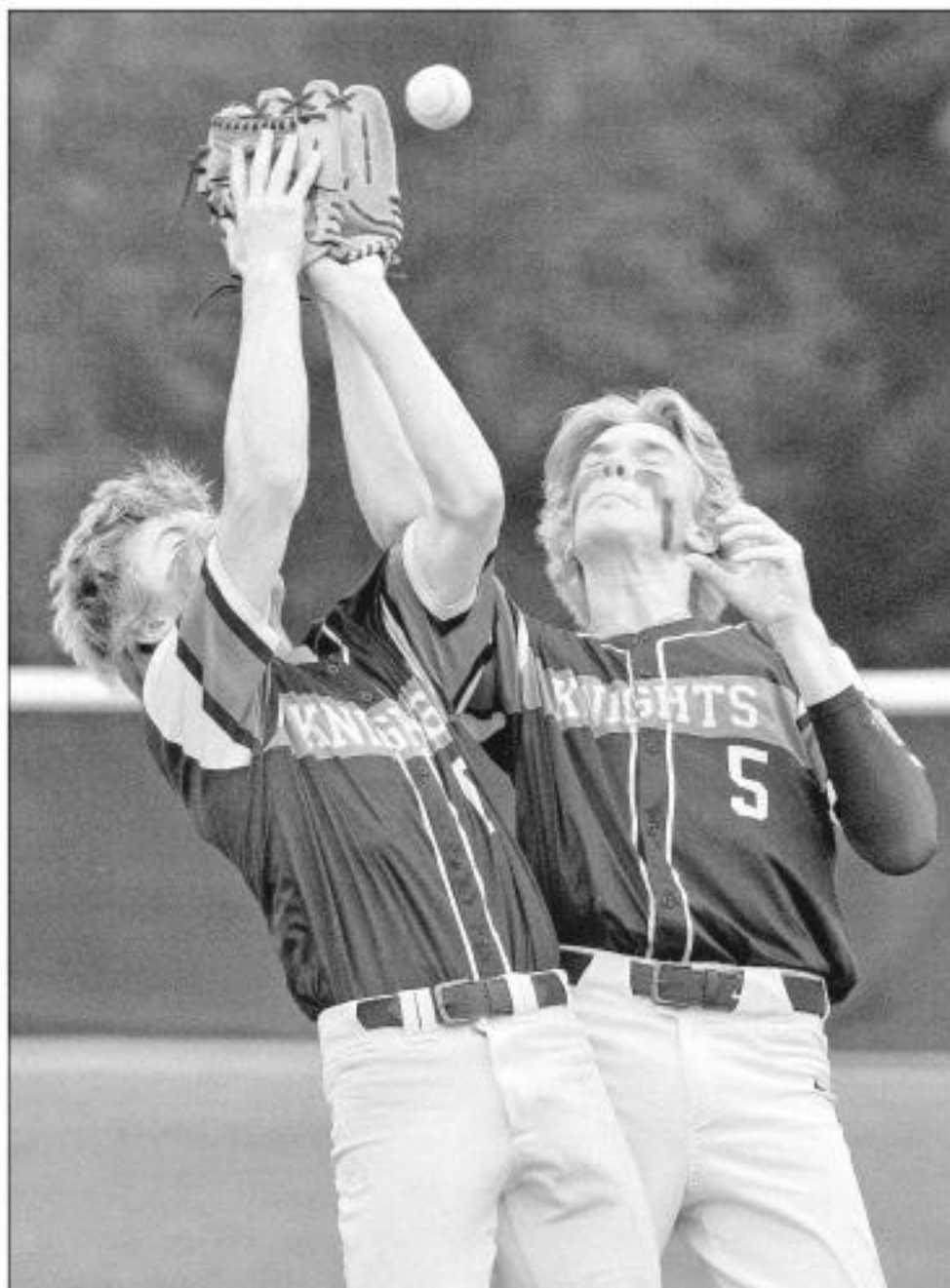
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Unity Christian freshman Dylan Bosma and sophomore Graden Van Essen reach for a pop fly during a game on Tuesday in Orange City. The Knights hosted Hinton Thursday and after giving up the lead in the top of the fifth notched the final three runs in a 5-4 win. Photo by Roy Tucker

walks. Brennan Baschke took the loss in relief.

Knights finish strong and topple Hinton

ORANGE CITY—Unity Christian played well under pressure as the game was in the balance from start to finish on Thursday, but the Knights earned a 5-4 nonconference baseball win over Hinton.

"That was a big win for us," said Unity Christian coach Skyler Wheeler. "Hinton has played well as of late. We were in a tough spot and a tough schedule. It was nice to win against a good team."

Unity Christian put up two runs right away in the opening inning.

Hinton came back with a run in the second and one in the fourth to tie it. The Blackhawks then took the lead with two in the top of the fifth.

The Knights had the answer in the bottom of the inning, scoring three times to retake the advantage.

"Wyatt Hulshof, who is not regularly in our lineup, he put a ball in play and got to second. We put two bunts down that helped us manufacture some runs," Wheeler said. "We had a first and third situation to get a run across. We didn't do anything crazy but did the small things, and that's what won us the game."

Unity Christian's pitching

staff took over from there. The Knights didn't surrender any earned runs. Austin Wieringa went five innings and gave up three hits, walked two and struck out five. Braeden Bosma came in and slammed the door with two perfect frames. He struck out one.

"We were very competitive on the mound. At the plate, we woke up a bit and were able to get some runs across," Wheeler said. "We battled hard and played hard. As a coach, that's all you can ask your kids to do."

Dylan Bosma had a hit, two runs and one RBI for Unity Christian. Hulshof and Ethan Van Ginkel each had a hit and scored a run.

Late push falls shy in setback for Jays

FONDA—Class 1A 10th-ranked Gehlen Catholic tested itself with a road game to end the regular season and had a comeback fall short in a 4-3 loss to Newell-Fonda in nonconference baseball on Thursday.

"Going into the postseason here, it's better to play these type of games," said Jays' coach Loi Kraft. "You always want to come out on top. Hopefully the kids learned they have to get ready because the games are going to get harder and harder."

Gehlen Catholic led 1-0 after

getting a run in the second inning.

The Mustangs — who are unranked but are receiving votes in Class 1A — scored once in the third, twice in the fifth and again in the sixth to go in front 4-1.

"We waited until the seventh to try and make a rally and it was too little too late," Kraft said.

In the seventh, Zayne Weiland hit a leadoff single and David Begnoche was hit by a pitch to put runners on first and second. Jake Bogen then hit an RBI single to cut the deficit to 4-2. Two batters later, Gabe Wiltgen hit a sacrifice fly to trim the margin to 4-3. A lineup ended the game.

"We quit watching good pitches go by," Kraft said. "One of the things I talked to them after the game. We can't miss those. You get yourself into a bad count and then we're down and don't hit it hard."

Connor Kraft pitched four innings for the Jays and allowed three runs on six hits in the loss. He didn't walk any batters and struck out five.

Begnoche drove in one run for Gehlen Catholic. Weiland was 2-for-3 from the plate.

The Jays ended the regular season with a record of 19-5. They play Siouxland Christian in the opening round of the Class 1A District 16 tournament today (Saturday, July 1) at 7 p.m. in Le Mars.



West Sioux freshman Blake Wiggins dives in an attempt to tag Central Lyon freshman Liam Vander Zee during a nonconference baseball tilt Friday in Hawarden. The Lions scored the first six runs of the contest. The Falcons plated the next six to even the score in the bottom of the third, but Central Lyon outscored the hosts 11-2 the rest of the way and won 17-8. Photo by Katie Anderson

SPORTS



Carli Siebrandt, a sophomore at Sioux Center, waits on a pitch from senior Makenna Walhof on Thursday during a Siouxland Conference softball game against MOC-Floyd Valley in Sioux Center. The Warriors rallied from a 6-0 deficit to take an 11-9 lead but dropped the contest 14-11.

Final push lifts MOC-FV to win against Warriors

DUTCH

Continued from page C1

Center who make us up our game," Boeve said.

Sioux Center finished with seven errors in the game compared to the Dutch's four.

"We knew going in we'd need to play some great defense," coach Schmalbeck said. "Seven of the 14 runs were earned. That tells you the seven errors behind Makenna (Walhof) didn't help us."

Alyson Leusink started in the circle for MOC-Floyd Valley and allowed six earned runs on 15 hits in a no decision. She walked five batters, hit one and struck out three. Addy Leusink tossed the final two innings and allowed no runs on two hits to get the win.

"Kasee Huss and Addy Leusink came up big for us," Boeve said. "They're two kids who are always about the team and will do whatever is asked of them. The game knows who has the heart and has earned the right to be confident in the big moments."

Carolynn Meines went 3-for-5 from the plate with two RBIs for the Dutch. Kady Hoekstra was 2-for-5 with a double and two RBIs. Kasee Huss went 2-for-5 and drove

in two runs. Aubrey DeShaw hit an RBI triple and drove in two total runs. Alyssa Vortherms went 2-for-5 with an RBI. Tierney Huss was 2-for-3.

Walhof pitched a complete game for Sioux Center and allowed seven earned runs on 13 hits in the loss. She walked three batters and struck out five.

Adison Brantsen went 4-for-5 with a two-run double for the Warriors. Tatum Schmalbeck was 3-for-3 with two walks. Walhof was 2-for-5 with a three-run triple. Kinley Kamerman hit a two-run double. Jordan DeWeerd drove in two runs. Margo Schuiteman had one RBI.

The two teams play again in the opening round of the Class 3A Region 1 tournament on Thursday at 7 p.m. in Orange City.

Knights can't stave off Blackhawks late

ORANGE CITY—Unity Christian bounced back after falling behind early to take the lead but gave up one big inning late in the contest during a 5-4 loss to Hinton in a nonconference softball game on Thursday.

The Blackhawks got runs in

each of the first two innings to go in front 2-0.

"We came out a little flat and they were able to jump on us early," said Knights' coach Travis De Jong.

Unity Christian scored once in the third to cut the deficit to 2-1.

The Knights plated three runs in the fifth, highlighted by a leadoff, solo homer from Ella Poppema, to take a 4-2 advantage.

"We did a good job of settling down and were able to take the lead in the fifth but we couldn't hang on," De Jong said.

Hinton responded with three runs in the sixth to retake the lead at 5-4 and held the Knights scoreless in the seventh.

"They had some timely hits in the sixth," De Jong said. "We had girls on in the sixth and seventh but couldn't get them around."

Unity Christian's Paige De Boom pitched a complete game and allowed four earned runs on nine hits in a losing effort. She walked two batters in the contest.

Poppema went 2-for-2 and was the only Knight with multiple hits. Ruby Zylstra drove in two runs. Brielle Reitsma had



Alyson Leusink, a freshman at MOC-Floyd Valley, goes through her pitching windup against Sioux Center during a Siouxland Conference softball game on Thursday in Sioux Center. The Dutch scored the final five runs of the contest and got a 14-11 win. Photos by Dan Wolfswinkel

one RBI.

One rough inning dooms Wolverines

PAULLINA—South O'Brien jumped out to a big lead early but let Cherokee back in the game and ultimately lost 13-11 in a nonconference softball game on Thursday to close the regular season.

The Wolverines led 4-0 through one inning.

Cherokee got a run in the top of the second, but South O'Brien scored five times in the bottom of the frame to increase the lead to 9-1.

"It was kind of like two different games," said Wolverines' coach Heather Struve. "We were ahead 9-1 through two innings. I felt like we just

let up and let them get back in it. It was a disappointing loss."

The Braves scored twice in the fourth to cut the deficit to 9-3.

South O'Brien got a run in the fifth, but Cherokee erupted for nine runs in the top of the sixth to take a 12-10 lead.

"We had four errors in that inning out of six total," Struve said. "A couple of them were in the outfield, so that's never good."

The Wolverines notched a run in the bottom of the sixth to cut the deficit to 12-11, but Cherokee added a run in the top of the seventh to push the margin to 13-11.

With two outs and no runners on, South O'Brien's Payton Farquhar and Maddie Johnson singled and

advanced a bag to put runners on second and third. The game ended with a pop-up and no runners scoring for the Wolverines.

South O'Brien's Shay Hatting pitched 5 2/3 innings and allowed three earned runs on six hits in the loss. She walked five batters, hit one and struck out four.

Marissa Ebel drove in three runs for the Wolverines and Reese Farquhar had two RBIs. Brooklyn Edwards, Payton Farquhar and Jinger Nieuwenhuis each had two hits.

South O'Brien finished the regular season with a record of 9-16. The Wolverines hosted Gehlen Catholic on Friday in the opening round of the Class 1A Region 1 tournament after the press deadline.

WEDNESDAY WAR EAGLE CONFERENCE SOFTBALL

Tigers pick up offense and run by Hartley-Melvin-Sanborn

Trinity Christian plates final 11 runs of game

BY CHARLIE HILDEBRAND
CHILDEBRAND@NWESTIOWA.COM

HULL—Hartley-Melvin-Sanborn took an early lead but Trinity Christian regrouped and controlled the rest of the game in an 11-3 win on Wednesday in a War Eagle Conference softball contest.

"Little rocky start, but that was quickly silenced," said Tigers' coach Dave Van Egdom. "We played pretty well on both sides of the ball."

Five of the first six batters for the Hawks reached base in the top of the opening inning as they jumped in front 3-0.

"Bats were hot at the start of the game and everything started to fizzle and we couldn't get it back," said Hartley-Melvin-Sanborn coach Stephanie Bronstad.

Trinity Christian scored three in the second to tie the game. The Tigers then plated six runs in the third, highlighted by a two-run triple from Makiah De Jager, to go in front 9-3.

"We had some big hits to tie it at 3 and then really took it to them in the next inning," Van Egdom said. "We had a lot of good two-strike hitting and two-out hitting. I was really happy with how it turned out."

The Tigers added two runs in the sixth for the final margin.

"We saw (Kourtney) Dekker from Sheldon the night before and worked on some stuff in batting practice the morning of and that helped," Van Egdom said. "We did have 12 strikeouts before the night was over, but it was what we did between the strikeouts that worked. We didn't let that sink our ship."

Trinity Christian's Maesa Clevring pitched a complete game and allowed three runs on four hits to earn the win. She walked two batters, hit one and struck out six.

"Maesa started a little rough and it was a bit uncharacteristic of her," Van Egdom said. "She gave up two of her four hits in the first. She really calmed down and did what we always ask of her, throw strikes and let the defense work behind her."

Karyn Uittenboogard went 2-for-3 from the plate for the Tigers with two RBIs. Madelyn Vis was 2-for-3 with



Trinity Christian sophomore Karyn Uittenboogard reaches first base ahead of the throw to Hartley-Melvin-Sanborn junior Abby Otto during a War Eagle Conference tilt Wednesday in Hull. The Tigers won 11-3. Photo by Roy Tucker

two doubles and one RBI. Avery Van Maanen drove in one run.

Gracie Knobloch pitched six innings for the Hawks and allowed four earned runs on eight hits in the loss. She walked two batters, hit one and struck out 12.

"Gracie stayed strong on the mound while Trinity hit the ball hard but defensively we rattled," Bronstad said.

Delaney Murphy drove in two runs for the Hawks. Abby Kunzman had one RBI.

Knights lean on defense and pitching for victory

ORANGE CITY—Unity Christian took it to Akron-Westfield early on and never let the Westerners recover in a 5-1 win on Wednesday in a War

Eagle Conference softball game.

"Our girls are playing with a lot of confidence right now," said Knights' coach Travis De Jong.

Unity Christian scored once in the first and again in the second to go in front 2-0.

The Knights then plated three runs in the third, highlighted by an RBI double from Haley Hofland, to stretch the lead to 5-0.

"We had some timely hitting early," De Jong said. "We did a good job of limiting strikeouts, and we did a good job of being aggressive on the base paths."

The Westerners got a run in the sixth to cut the deficit to 5-1 but never got any closer.

Unity Christian's Paige De Boom pitched a completed game and allowed one run on six hits to earn

the win. She walked three batters, hit one and struck out two.

"Paige threw another really good game," De Jong said. "Our defense backed her up again."

Ruby Zylstra doubled and drove in a run for the Knights. Addison Liston and Ella Poppema each had one RBI.

Gehlen Catholic hangs with Hinton but loses

HINTON—Gehlen Catholic kept it close with Hinton but couldn't generate enough offense in a 3-1 loss to the Blackhawks in a War Eagle Conference softball game on Wednesday.

"Last night was a very good game," said Jays' coach Victoria Smithson.

Each team got one run in the first inning. Neither squad scored again for the next three frames.

Gehlen Catholic's Kennedy Sitzmann played shortstop for an injured Haley Lubben. Smithson said the switch may have ultimately led to better team defense.

"The girls we forced to communicate to get her comfortable and it helped a lot," she said.

Hinton scored twice in the fifth.

"There was a girl that hit a home run in the fifth," Smithson said. "After that, it was a battle to try and get those runs back. We held them for the most part."

Gehlen Catholic stats were not available at the press deadline.

Falcons grounded early in setback to St. Mary's

REMSEN—West Sioux couldn't put much other offense together against Class 1A sixth-ranked Remsen St. Mary's and ultimately dropped a 10-0 decision to the Hawks in six innings on Wednesday in a War Eagle Conference softball game.

"Against a sixth-ranked team in Iowa, I think we played well," said Falcons' coach Kaitlyn Lockhorst. "They had some really good hits and made some good plays. We lasted six innings and I think that is a win against a really good team."

The Hawks plated two runs in the first inning, two in the second and three in the third to jump in front 7-0.

"They got a hold of Elsie's pitches and just smashed them. Elsie (Westergard) was doing a good job of throwing strikes last night, but they just were on speed with her and stayed back to rip the ball," Lockhorst said.

After a scoreless fourth frame, St. Mary's added two runs in the fifth and one in the sixth.

"Going six innings with a really good team was a positive thing that I had mentioned to them at the end of the game," Lockhorst said. "I know it's not always easy to look at it that way, but finding the things that make them a better team is important."

Westergard pitched 2 1/3 innings for the Falcons and allowed seven runs, five of them earned, on six hits in the loss. She walked two batters and struck out two.

Mia Danielson, Hannah Ver Mulm and Addison Westergard had the only hits for West Sioux.

SPORTS

WEDNESDAY SIOUXLAND CONFERENCE BASEBALL

Sioux Center flaunts offense in win over Sheldon

Orabs score early on then cool off

BY SCOTT BYERS
SBYERS@NWESTIOWA.COM

SHELDON—Sioux Center put up a big inning early, and then after giving up one hit, cruised the rest of the way to a 15-3 win over Sheldon in five innings on Wednesday in a Siouxland Conference baseball game.

"Almost everyone in our lineup had a hit," said Warrior coach Chase Rozeboom. "We did it from the top of the order to the bottom. Offensively, we took advantage of mistakes and put up a lot of runs."

Sioux Center tallied five runs in the top of the first inning. Sheldon got three in the bottom of the frame to cut the deficit to 5-3.

"We came out offensively ready to go," Rozeboom said. "We started with a hit batter and got going on the bases. We put up five runs right away. We didn't slow down offensively much after that."

The Warriors added two runs in the second, five in the third and three in the fourth for the final margin.

"Credit to Sioux Center," said Sheldon coach Nick Huff. "They hit the ball hard and they're always trouble on the bases."

Sheldon's only runs came when Damon Van Beek and Caleb Huff got on base in front of a three-run homer by Tyson Getting. That would be the Orabs' lone hit of the game.

Adam Henrich pitched 4 2/3 innings for the Warriors and allowed two earned runs on one hit to get the win. He didn't walk any batters and hit two.

"Early on, he was getting behind in the count. That's how he gave up the home run," Rozeboom said. "After that, he got ahead early in counts. He's been solid in the strike zone all year and continued to do that again."

Aidan De Jager drove in two runs for Sioux Center. Luke Lane went 2-for-3 with an RBI. Kole Hooyer hit an RBI double. Luke Dykshorn, Karson Gesink, Henrich and Kyle Te Stroete each drove in one run.

Getting pitched 3 1/3 innings and gave up eight runs, five earned. He allowed seven hits, walked two and hit three batters. C.J. Richards gave up seven runs in 1 2/3 innings, but only two were earned. He gave up two hits, talked one, hit three batters and struck out one.

Wildcats cruise past George-Little Rock

LARCHWOOD—Spencer Ver Meer silenced the George-Little Rock bats and West Lyon got the offense going in the second inning and kept the runs coming in a 10-0, five-inning Siouxland Conference baseball win Wednesday



Adam Henrich, a senior at Sioux Center, goes through his pitching windup against Sheldon during a Siouxland Conference baseball game at Sheldon on Wednesday. Henrich helped the Warriors top the Orabs 15-3 in five innings. Photo by Dan Wolfswinkel

against George-Little Rock.

West Lyon coach Koury Kramer said the only trouble Ver Meer got into all day happened right away.

"They had first and second right away in the first inning, but we got out of it," the coach said. "After that Spencer got into a groove."

The Wildcats got four runs in the second inning. They added two in each of the following frames as the contest was ended by the mercy rule after five.

"George-Little Rock has a good group. They keep improving," Kramer said. "We got up on them and then we just stayed consistent offensively."

West Lyon had eight hits in the contest. Ryer Crichton had two hits, one run and one RBI. Mason Ver Meer had a hit and two runs. Spencer Ver Meer had a hit and two RBIs.

"Honestly, the pitching wasn't the issue today," said George-Little Rock coach Ben McCray. "A few too many free bases by walking too many batters, but the pitchers did their jobs. Costly errors and great hitting by West Lyon led to the lopsided score. Outs have to be valued more by our fielders to keep us around in the ballgame and give us a chance to win."

Brandon Van Briesen had the only hit for the Mustangs.

"The bats were really quiet," McCray said. "Our guys love to hit, but we have to find a way to get more offense. Part of that is West Lyon is a really good team with great defense and great pitching. However, we have to work the count better and hit the ball. At times this year we had looked dominant at the plate and we also have had dry spells where we struggle to score runs."

Spencer Ver Meer walked two and struck out nine in earning the pitching win for the Wildcats.

Spencer Sprock pitched the first three innings for George-Little Rock. He gave up five hits, walked four, hit one batter and fanned four. Tyler Grieve pitched the final two innings in relief.

Dutch take care of business quickly

ROCK VALLEY—MOC-Floyd Valley ambushed Boyden-Hull/Rock Valley two innings in a row before ending Wednesday's Siouxland Conference baseball game in the sixth inning with an 11-0 win over the Nighthawks.

MOC-Floyd Valley coach Brian Wede said it looked like it might be a pitchers' dual

after a scoreless first, but that turned out to not be the case. The Dutch scored five times in the second and four more in the third.

"In the first inning, (Noah) Leusink was good. He was around the zone," he said. "Then we started with a couple of hits and walks to load the bases. We got the order flipped and the top half came up with a couple of extra-base hits and they made a big error. Every pitcher they brought in was good early. It took us a few at-bats to get to them."

Boyden-Hull/Rock Valley coach Brett Moser said Leusink had some soreness in his arm that began in the second innings.

"We got into a tough position and let it snowball," he said. "When Noah said his arm was sore we needed to get someone in there quick and we weren't really ready. The other thing was, the first time through our order we weren't ready to hit. Their guy worked quick and was in the zone, so we'd be down 0-1 or 0-2 right away. Later in the game we got more aggressive early in counts."

MOC-Floyd Valley starting pitcher Jackson Van Den Bosch was perfect through five innings. He struck out nine batters. He gave up a hit and

a walk in the sixth before giving way to Carson Jager, who walked one batter but struck out three in his one inning of work.

"This week we have some pitchers who need to get some work in, so I was glad Jackson made it easier on me. I didn't want to pull him when he had a perfect game," Wede said.

The Dutch scored their final two runs in the top of the sixth. "We did sort of settle in. We made some good plays in the infield in the last few innings and our pitchers threw strikes," Moser said. "We competed decently well."

Nik Wede was 3-for-4 with two doubles and a triple for MOC-Floyd Valley. He drove in one run and scored once. Blake Aalbers singled, doubled, scored three times and drove in one. Kaleb Koerselman had a triple, a single, and an RBI. Brooks McCarty doubled, scored twice and drove in one. Austin Coolman had a hit, a run and two RBIs.

Ike Van Der Brink and Nathan Van Otterloo had hits for the Nighthawks.

Leusink gave up three hits, walked two and struck out two. Jackson Harman gave up five hits, walked two and struck out one in two innings. Alic Salazar threw 2 2/3 innings and gave up five hits.

Lions light up board against Generals

SIBLEY—Central Lyon bombarded Sibley-Ocheyedan with a barrage of base hits Wednesday on its way to a 15-4, five-inning Siouxland Conference baseball win.

The Lions finished the game with 17 hits as a squad.

"We hit the ball. We really did," said Central Lyon coach Jerry Pytleski. "We did what we didn't do the night before. We kept our heads down and watched the ball hit the barrel. We had several guys with multiple hits. Everyone was on board. We kept adding on until the game was over."

Sibley-Ocheyedan had planned to use several pitchers to give everyone work in advance of the district opener on Saturday. For a staff that has issued an extreme amount of walks this year, there was some solace in the damage mostly coming on batted balls.

"Well, that is more run than giving up the walks," said Sibley-Ocheyedan coach Nate Vos. "There was no way we were going to field a lot of those balls. They hit a lot of line drives. A lot of singles."

Central Lyon also shined in the field when it mattered most.

"Their kid threw strikes and they made like five great plays on us," Vos said. "We'd get someone on and they'd make a diving stop. The bottom of the order hit but the top gave us nothing."

Pytleski said third baseman Jayson Huygens stood out.

"Cooper (Altman) did a nice job on the mound, but our defense was outstanding," he said. "Jayson made some great diving stops on that hard surface in Sibley. At times it looked more like a goalie making those stops. We made a couple of good plays out there."

The Generals' leader was hoping for more from his club.

"It was our Senior Night and there were a lot of people at the ballpark because of that," he said. "It was kind of a let-down. We just can't find any consistency."

Matthew Dieren was 3-for-3 with five RBIs for the Lions. Ryan Chase had three hits, three runs and one RBI. Matt Lebert had three hits and three runs. Altman had two hits, three RBIs and a run. Liam Vander Zee had two hits and an RBI.

Altman pitched all five innings and scattered six hits. He walked one, hit three batters and struck out one.

Riley Getzel and Javier Martinez each had a hit, a run and an RBI for the Generals. Martinez' hit was a double. Regan Crichton had a hit and an RBI. Carter Vos had a hit and scored a run.

Martinez, Dalton Wingate, Dawson Renner and Cole Dykstra all took a tum on the bump for the Generals.

WEDNESDAY BASEBALL/SOFTBALL

Western Christian pulls away versus Cherokee

Hosts let Braves crawl back before mercy rule

BY CHARLIE HILDEBRAND
CHILDEBRAND@NWESTIOWA.COM

HULL—Western Christian overcame one bad inning with a huge frame of its own on the way to an 18-8 win over Cherokee in a five-inning nonconference softball game on Wednesday.

"Tonight was a strange but solid win," said Wolfpack coach Andrew Van Nieuwenhuyzen.

Western Christian led 3-0 after one frame and extended the lead to 4-0 through two.

The Braves scored twice in the top of the third to cut the deficit to 4-2. The Wolfpack tallied four runs in the bottom of the frame to push the lead to 8-2.

Cherokee notched six runs in the top of the fourth to even the contest at 8. Western Christian scored two in the bottom of the frame to go back in front 10-8.

The Wolfpack then ended the game in the bottom of the fifth with eight runs, highlighted by a two-run double from Brea Van Kley and a three-run double by Jocelyn Oostenink.

"We'll definitely have to look at ways to avoid that big inning, but

overall I loved the way our girls fought," Van Nieuwenhuyzen said.

Van Kley pitched 1 1/3 scoreless innings of relief for the Wolfpack on one hit to earn the win.

She walked one batter and struck out two.

Aidyn Schemper went 4-for-4 from the plate for Western Christian. Aubri Fedders didn't have any hits but drove in four runs. Oostenink was 2-for-5 with two doubles and four total RBIs. Van Kley went 3-for-4 with three doubles and three total RBIs. Keana Wynja was 2-for-4 with a double and two RBIs. Makenna Fedders and Jaelyn De Jong were 2-for-4 with an RBI. Megan Vander Pol drove in a run.

Wolfpack put plenty of runs up but can't close

HULL—Western Christian led going into the final regulation inning but gave up two big frames and lost to Cherokee 16-13 in nine on Wednesday in a nonconference baseball game.

"It seemed like neither team could stop each other from scoring and we ended up playing nine innings," said Wolfpack coach Logan Cline.

The game was tied at 2 through one inning, then Western Christian



Western Christian senior Jaelyn De Jong connects for an RBI single against Cherokee during a nonconference softball game on Wednesday in Hull. The Wolfpack blew an early lead but still won 18-8 in five. Photo by Roy Tucker

scored three in the second to go in front 5-2.

Cherokee outscored the hosts 4-2 in the third inning but the Wolfpack still led 7-6.

Western Christian got two runs in the fourth and the Braves notched three in the fifth to even the contest at 9.

The Wolfpack scored three in the bottom of the sixth to take a 9-6 advantage. It didn't last long. Chero-

kee plated three in the seventh to send the game to extra innings.

Neither team scored in the eighth. The Braves tallied three in the top of the ninth. Western Christian got one in the bottom of the frame but couldn't get any closer.

Hunter Holland pitched 3 2/3 innings for the Wolfpack and allowed seven runs, four of them earned, on seven hits in the loss. He walked three batters, hit three and struck out three.

Western Christian's Leyton Roetman went 2-for-5 from the plate with a double and four RBIs in the game. Chase Veerbeek drove in two runs. Holland was 3-for-3 with one RBI. Blake Bonestroo went 2-for-3 and drove in one run. Cowan Van Kley was 3-for-3 with a double. Noah Jansma went 2-for-3.

"Our entire lineup did a good job attacking pitches and hitting the ball hard," Cline said.

SPORTS

WEDNESDAY SIOUXLAND CONFERENCE SOFTBALL

Warriors scoop up win over Sheldon

Sioux Center starts off slow then catches fire

BY SCOTT BYERS

SBYERS@NWESTIOWA.COM

SHELDON—After a slow start, Sioux Center put three big innings together and let Tatum Schmalbeck and the defense take care of the rest in a 12-0 win over the Orabs in five innings on Wednesday in a Siouxland Conference softball game.

"They did a great job," said Warrior coach Karl Schmalbeck. "It took them a little bit to get started."

The game was scoreless through two innings. Sioux Center notched three runs in the third, highlighted by a two-run triple from Makenna Walhof, to get on the board.

"We were more disciplined at the plate and it was the second time through the order," coach Schmalbeck said. "We had better timing on the ball."

The Warriors plated six runs in the fourth to stretch the lead to 9-0.

Sioux Center added three more runs in the fifth, highlighted by a two-run double by Adison Brantsen, for the final margin.

"They had some big innings and we couldn't get out of them," said Sheldon coach Jessica Stofferan.

According to Sioux Center's stats, Tatum Schmalbeck pitched a no-hitter with one walk and five strikeouts. Sheldon had two hits in its own stats.

Tatum Schmalbeck went 2-for-4 from the plate with a double and two RBIs for the Warriors. Brantsen was 2-for-3. Walhof drove in three total runs. Alivia Johnson went 2-for-3 with two RBIs. Margo Schuiteman was 2-for-4 and drove in one run.

Macy Jager and Katelyn Dykstra had the only hits for Sheldon.

"We put the ball in play, but it was right at them," Stofferan said.

Tori Elgersma pitched 4 2/3 innings for the Orabs. She gave up 11 runs, 10 earned, on seven hits and six walks. She struck out four. Riley Ball gave up two hits before recording the final out.

Boyden-Hull/Rock Valley tops MOC-Floyd Valley

BOYDEN—Boyden-Hull/Rock Valley put together a massive game offensively, but still needed to get one more run across in the bottom of the seventh Wednesday to pull out an 11-10 win over MOC-Floyd Valley in Siouxland Conference softball.

The win was the seventh in the last eight outings for the Nighthawks and kept their slim hopes of gaining a share of the conference title alive. Boyden-Hull/Rock Valley trailed West Lyon by one game in the standings with each team having one game left.

"After the past couple of nights and games we've had, this team continues to leave me speechless," said Boyden-Hull/Rock Valley coach Kaitlyn Van Der Zwaag. "I love this

team and can't wait to see where they will go."

MOC-Floyd Valley seemed to be in command early. The Dutch scored four runs in the first. The Nighthawks got two in the second, but the guests got four in the third to go up 8-2.

The hosts got all of that back and more in the bottom of the inning, scoring seven times to take a 9-8 lead. The Dutch tied it right away in the fourth.

After a quiet inning and a half, Boyden-Hull/Rock Valley got a run in the sixth. MOC-Floyd Valley again had a quick response, tying the game in the top of the seventh. However, the Nighthawks scored quickly in the bottom of the seventh to end it.

"Neither team would say they played their best softball tonight, but both teams showed a lot of grit," said MOC-Floyd Valley coach Jennifer Boeve. "It was awesome to see both teams push each other to be better. In an 11-10 game, you realize that we have to play a little more attention to detail, but at the end of the day, we're proud of the fight that was shown in the game."

The hosts ended up with 20 hits.

"I am so proud of every individual on this team," Van Der Zwaag said. "Whether they are a starter or non-starter, every girl knows her role and they are ready to go when called upon."

Avery Noble was 4-for-4 with a double, a walk, four RBIs and a run. Rylee Bomgaars was 4-for-4 with a run and an RBI. Jenny Luevano was 3-for-4 with a home run, a walk, two RBIs and two runs. Raya Van Beek, Kavri Van Kekerix and Maya Netten each had two hits. Keilani Maae drove in two runs and Cameron Halbur scored twice.

Noble pitched 2 2/3 innings and gave up seven runs, four earned. She surrendered five hits and two walks. Van Beek went the rest of the way and gave up two earned runs on four hits and a walk. Van Beek struck out two.

Kady Hoekstra was 3-for-3 with three runs and an RBI for MOC-Floyd Valley. Tierney Huss had two hits, two RBIs and one run. Lily Fleming doubled and drove in two. Alyssa Vortherms scored twice.

Keaton Van Kekerix walked five and struck out two in a complete game in the circle.

Generals earn marks in victory over Central Lyon

OCHEYEDAN—Sibley-Ocheyedan seniors Alayna Wingate and Jadyne Jensen each hit significant career milestones as the Generals finished off the regular season Wednesday with an 8-3 Siouxland Conference softball win over Central Lyon.

Wingate was the winning pitcher, allowing eight hits, walking two and striking out nine. In the process she passed the 600 strikeout mark for her career. She entered the postseason with 604.



Sioux Center sophomore Kinley Kamerman fields a ball at third base against Sheldon during a Siouxland Conference softball game on Wednesday in Sheldon. The Warriors won 12-0 in five innings. Photo by Dan Wolfswinkel

Jensen picked up her 100th career hit.

In a matchup of two teams that were scheduled to face each other again on the same field in the regional tournament on Friday, neither team scored in the first three innings. The Generals broke that string with three in the fourth.

"It was a close game coming into the fourth. Then our girls got their bats going," said Sibley-Ocheyedan coach Alme Elser.

Each team scored twice in the fifth frame. Central Lyon cut to 5-3 in the top of the sixth, but the Generals got three in the bottom of the inning. "We played a good, solid game," said Central Lyon coach Kelly Weiler. "They just had some timely hits. Gabby (Rasmussen) pitched a good game for us."

Elser said the veteran Generals squad stayed focused when the game was on the line.

"I was proud of the girls for battling through some adversity throughout the game," she said. "I was glad to be able to walk off the field with a win."

Grace Saylor had two hits, one run and one RBI for Sibley-Ocheyedan. Becca Woelber doubled, singled, and drove in one. Wingate had a triple and two RBIs.

McKenna Metzger was 2-for-2 with a walk, a run and an RBI for the Lions. Shelby Stettinichs had two hits, one run and one RBI. Kaylee Fluit had a hit and a run and Rasmussen had a hit and an RBI.

Rasmussen allowed nine hits, walked five and struck out three.

Different venue but same Wildcats beat Mustangs

LESTER—Class 3A 10th-ranked

West Lyon scored nine runs in the opening inning and put a quick end to the game Wednesday, topping George-Little Rock 12-0 in three innings of Siouxland Conference softball.

The win clinched at least a piece of the conference title for the Wildcats with one game left in the regular season.

It was the first time the West Lyon varsity team had hosted a game in Lester.

"There was a lot of energy because of that," said West Lyon coach Jeremy Childress. "There were a lot of people there, and a lot of them were people you don't normally see at our games. You always want to play to your level. In that situation in particular, you don't want people that have never seen you play before leaving thinking you aren't that good."

The first two George-Little Rock batters drew walks off Wildcats' starting pitcher Jersey Hawf. She allowed only two more base runners after that.

"The defense helped get her out of that first inning. We talk all the time about not letting that leadoff girl on and she did it in two of the three innings, but it was nothing her defense couldn't get her out of," Childress said.

The Wildcats followed up the big first inning with two runs in the second and one in the third.

"West Lyon hit the ball well," said George-Little Rock coach Dawn Gisolff. "Defensively, we had minimal errors. We weren't able to get the bat on the ball this game."

Gianna Klarenbeek was 2-for-2 with two RBIs and a run for West Lyon. Randi Childress singled, doubled and scored a run. Maddie

Johnson had a home run, four RBIs and two runs. Leah Blauwet was 1-for-1 with two runs and an RBI. Alexis Schreurs had a hit and scored a pair of runs.

Kami Gerken pitched 2 2/3 innings for the Mustangs. She gave up four hits, walked four and struck out two. Hayden McAlpine also appeared in the circle for the guests.

Okoboji's offense halted in loss against GTRA

MILFORD—Okoboji slowed down a Graettinger-Terril/Ruthven-Ayrshire team that had been scoring a lot of runs lately, but the Pioneers got in their own way offensively at times and fell to the Titans 5-1 Wednesday in nonconference softball.

The guests came in having scored double digit runs twice in their last four games and got on the board right away with a run in the top of the first. The Titans got two more in the third, one in the fifth and one in the seventh.

"I felt like our defense made good efforts to keep the game within reach for us," said Okoboji coach Kate Perrin. "We made some nice plays to get a few key outs."

Okoboji had a few scoring chances, but was struggling to cash in. The Pioneers only run came in the bottom of the seventh.

"We did get runners on base with opportunities to score, but couldn't manage to get key hits when we needed them," Perrin said.

The coach pointed out the Pioneers took themselves off the bags at times as well.

"We made some pretty big mental mistakes running the bases that really hurt our efforts," she said.

TUESDAY BASEBALL

Jays lean on stout defense and pitching to conquer Knights

Weiland and Kraft allow zero runs

ORANGE CITY—Class 1A 10th-ranked Gehlen Catholic bounced back from a tough loss the night before with a 2-0 victory over Unity Christian in a War Eagle Conference baseball game on Tuesday.

The Jays lost to Class 1A third-ranked Remsen St. Mary's 11-1 the night before.

"You come off a loss like that, you wonder how they are mentally," said Gehlen Catholic coach Lou Kraft. "The boys are pretty focused on going back and playing baseball. That's what they did."

The Jays got one run in the third inning and another in the fourth for the final margin.

"We took advantage of a couple situations. We just need to barrel the ball up," Kraft said. "We had a few hits, but they weren't hard hits. There are some things as a team we have to get better at in the next few days."

Zayne Weiland pitched 4 1/3 shutout innings for Gehlen Catholic and allowed two hits. He walked one batter and struck out three. Connor Kraft tossed the final 2 2/3 innings and allowed one hit. He fanned seven.

"Zayne did a good job controlling the game," coach Kraft said. "He did it without Keaton Logan behind the plate. They talked, Zayne and Kaden Hanks at catcher. They got on the same page. We kept



Gehlen Catholic senior Connor Kraft dives back to first base ahead of the tag by Unity Christian sophomore Graden Van Essen in a War Eagle Conference baseball game on Tuesday in Orange City. The Jays won the defensive battle 2-0. Photo by Roy Tucker

it simple and you could see Hanks getting more confident throughout the game."

Unity Christian's Dylan Bosma pitched six innings and allowed two runs on four hits in the loss. He walked three batters and struck out four.

"Dylan Bosma came ready to play," said Knights' coach Skyler Wheeler. "He threw

phenomenally on the mound. He pounded the strike zone and held a good lineup at bay. On the other side, we just didn't show up."

Offensively, Bosma went 2-for-3 from the plate and was the only player for either team with multiple hits.

"We had nothing going for us offensively," Wheeler said.

"Dylan had two of our three hits and put together tough at bats. But when you go up there without a purpose, it's hard to score runs."

South O'Brien can't close door on GTRA

PAULLINA—South O'Brien led after each of the first six

innings of the game but let Graettinger-Terril/Ruthven-Ayrshire claw its way back into the game and lost to the Titans 10-9 in a nonconference baseball game on Tuesday.

"We played OK to start," said Wolverines' coach D.J. Lode. "Then we got a little undisciplined and took our foot off the gas. That's what let them

crawl back into the game."

South O'Brien led 3-2 after the first inning and stretched the edge to 4-2 in the second frame.

The Wolverines outscored the visitors 5-1 in the third to extend the advantage to 9-3.

"We had some good at-bats," Lode said. "We were patient at the plate. When we did get a pitch to hit, we hit it hard somewhere. We couldn't continue that the next four innings."

The Titans notched two runs in the fourth, one in the fifth and two in the sixth but still trailed 9-8.

Graettinger-Terril/Ruthven-Ayrshire got two runs in the seventh and scored the go-ahead run on a passed ball.

"When they put the ball in play, that shouldn't give us issues, but we had a few throwing errors and dropped a pop-up," Lode said. "It let them stay in the game instead of us putting our foot down like we should have."

Camden Stevens pitched 1 1/3 innings for the Wolverines and allowed two runs, none of them earned, on no hits in the loss. He walked four and struck out one. Dain Moermond started on the hill and pitched 5 1/3 innings with eight runs, three earned, on eight hits. He walked three and struck out seven.

South O'Brien's Gabe Moermond went 2-for-4 from the dish with an RBI. Brady Riedemann and Ben Woodall each drove in one run.

SPORTS

WEDNESDAY WAR EAGLE CONFERENCE BASEBALL

Trinity Christian picking up its play at good time

Tigers tough on hill in win over Hawks

BY CHARLIE HILDEBRAND
CHILDEBRAND@NWESTIOWA.COM

HULL—Trinity Christian used tough pitching performances from Alec DeBoer and Luke De Jong to win its second consecutive baseball game, a 5-2 victory over Hartley-Melvin-Sanborn in War Eagle Conference play on Wednesday.

"Everything is starting to click. Defense, offense and pitching, all three phases have been playing well the past few games," said Tigers' coach Logan Cleveringa. "It's good to see what the guys can do when they have confidence. Overall, I'm, pretty happy with how we played."

Trinity Christian lost to the Hawks 10-0 on June 1.

"Last time, we were missing Alec DeBoer," Cleveringa said. "That can play a factor with leadership in the field and in the dugout. We're playing better than we were last time, physically and mentally. We're just playing better."

The Tigers plated two runs in the second inning to get on the board first.

Hartley-Melvin-Sanborn got a run in the top of the fourth to trim the deficit to 2-1.

Trinity Christian added two runs in the fifth and another in the sixth to stretch the lead to 5-1.

The Hawks got one run in the seventh and had another base runner on third, but the game ended with a caught fly ball in center field.

"DeBoer threw really well. He limited our extra chances and they didn't have any errors," said Hawks' coach Jeremy Gloden. "They made the plays when they had opportunities and limited our base runners and that was the deciding factor. Credit them. Coach Cleveringa has them



Trinity Christian freshman Luke De Jong reaches to scoop up a grounder before throwing to first on Wednesday during a 5-2 victory over Hartley-Melvin-Sanborn. Photo by Roy Tucker

playing well at the right time."

DeBoer pitched 4 2/3 innings for the Tigers and allowed one run on two hits to earn the win. He walked one batter, hit one and struck out eight. Luke De Jong tossed the last 2 1/3 innings and gave up one run on three hits. He didn't walk any batters and struck out two.

"They just attacked. They tried to get ahead early and limit walks," Cleveringa said. "When we did have hitters in two-strike counts, if they could squeeze a strike in great, but otherwise they trusted the defense behind them to play well."

Luke De Jong went 2-for-3 from the plate with one RBI for Trinity Christian. Evan De Jong and Breck Brummel each drove in one run. Levi Maasen

went 2-for-4. DeBoer doubled. Hartley-Melvin-Sanborn's Tanner Tesch pitched six innings and allowed three earned runs on six hits in the loss. He walked two batters, hit three and struck out four.

"Tanner was solid for us on the mound," Gloden said. "He gave us a good six innings. After last night's doubleheader, we needed him to go the distance. He pitched well. He gave up a few free base runners, but for the most part kept us in it."

Trenton Vollink went 2-for-3 for the Hawks.

Jays capture piece of conference title

HINTON—It took nine innings, including a big extra-base hit to even send the game

Class 3A	Class 2A	Class 1A
1. Western Dubuque	1. Van Meter	1. MC Newman
2. North Polk	2. Mid-Prairie	2. Kingsley-Pierson
3. CB Lewis Central	3. Beckman (Dyersville)	3. Remsen St. Mary's
4. Marion	4. Esther, Linc. Cent.	4. Lynnville-Sully
5. ADM (Adel)	5. Underwood	5. Don Bosco
6. Knoxville	6. Carroll Klemper	6. North Linn
7. Dubuque Wahlert	7. Cascade	7. West Harrison
8. Dav. Assumption	8. West Marshall	8. Burlington ND
9. Beldard	9. New Hampton	9. Lisbon
10. SC Heolan	10. Pleasantville	10. Gehlen Catholic

Source: Iowa High School Baseball Coaches Association

to extra frames, but Gehlen Catholic beat Hinton 9-8 in a War Eagle Conference baseball game on Wednesday to win a share of the league title.

Jays' coach Loi Kraft said he wasn't immediately aware of his team's conference title.

"Somebody said that last night and it didn't even dawn on me. We'd been so focused on playing baseball," he said. "Now that I know that, it's pretty awesome. I'm happy for the team, school and program."

The league championship is the first for Gehlen Catholic since 2014.

"I haven't been too focused on the conference," Kraft said. "It's been game by game and it's worked out."

Hinton scored the first run of the game in the bottom of the third.

The Jays notched three runs in the fourth, highlighted by a two-run triple from Ryan Augustine, to take a 3-1 advantage.

Hinton got one run in the fifth to cut the deficit to 3-2.

Gehlen Catholic scored three in the top of the sixth to push the lead to 6-2. The Blackhawks countered with six runs in the bottom of the frame to take an 8-6 advantage.

"Just a rough inning. It's baseball," Kraft said. "Carter

Kellen did his best there when he came in to throw. They got some timely hits from guys we weren't expecting to hit the ball. It happens."

Augustine hit a two-run double for the Jays in the top of the seventh to tie the game at 8 and send it to extra innings.

"He's a big strong kid. He got up there and had a great approach," Kraft said. "You could tell he was looking for his pitch and timed it out. I thought it was gone. It went a long ways but stayed in the park."

After a scoreless eighth inning, Jake Bogen drew a bases-loaded walk in the ninth to push across the go-ahead run for Gehlen Catholic.

The Jays held the Blackhawks scoreless in the bottom of the frame to secure the win and the league title.

"It was a whole team effort, that's coaches included," Kraft said. "There were a lot of things moving. David Begnoche started and reentered. The coaches did a great job staying on top of things. It was a great team effort all the way around."

Begnoche pitched a total of six innings and allowed one run and three hits to get the win. He walked four batters and struck out 11.

Augustine went 2-for-4 from the plate for the Jays. Zayne Welland was 3-for-4 with two RBIs. Carter Kellen went 2-for-4 with a double and an RBI. Begnoche doubled.

Falcons can't find way home in loss

REMSEN—West Sioux stayed within striking distance early against Class 1A third-ranked Remsen St. Mary's but couldn't get the big hit it needed in a 7-0 loss to the Hawks in a War Eagle Conference baseball game on Wednesday.

"Going into the game we knew we were going to have to play well to beat them," said Falcons' coach Dustin Houlton. "Defensively we got off to a good start, unfortunately we couldn't make enough plays."

St. Mary's scored twice in the second inning, twice in the fourth and three times in the sixth for the final margin.

"St. Mary's is well coached and has a lot of experience," Houlton said. "In a game where I went in knowing our pitchers would be on pitch counts, I couldn't have asked for better outings from the two pitchers."

Mason Coppock pitched 3 2/3 innings for West Sioux and allowed four runs, three of them earned, on five hits in the loss. He walked one batter, hit one and struck out two. Carter Van Wyhe tossed 2 1/3 innings of relief and allowed three runs on five hits. He hit two batters and struck out two.

"Mason and Carter pitched excellent against one of the best hitting teams in the state of Iowa," Houlton said. "When the opponent has a season average around .400 you know they are going to put the bat on the ball. You just have to make plays."

Coppock, Van Wyhe and Blake Wiggins had the only three hits for the Falcons.

TUESDAY BASEBALL

Roth clears bases with crucial hit for Generals

Sibley-Ocheyedan gets six in seventh to win

LAKE PARK—Thomas Roth smashed a three-run double to help Sibley-Ocheyedan rally from a five-run deficit in the seventh inning to stun Harris-Lake Park 9-8 Tuesday in nonconference baseball.

Each team got a run in the first. The Generals' run was unearned, while the Wolves scored on a homer by Caleb Hemphill.

"That didn't phase Conner (Beltman) at all," said Sibley-Ocheyedan coach Nate Vos. "He understands that guys are going to hit it once in a while."

The Wolves got a run in the third. Sibley-Ocheyedan took a 3-2 lead in the top of the fourth. The Wolves answered with five in the bottom of the inning and another in the fifth to go up 8-3.

"We had an inning where we were trying to do too much again," Vos said. "They got five on a couple of errors, a couple of walks, a couple of hits. I told the guys we just have to play baseball. When we keep the walks and errors down we are fine."

Three of the Generals last four wins have featured huge innings late in games and this would be one of them.

After two walks to start the seventh, Regan Crichton hit an RBI single on an 0-2 count. Another walk was followed by two outs. David Poppen then drew a bases-loaded walk to bring in a run and cut it to 8-5. Roth was down to his last strike when he cleared the bases with a double to tie the game. Riley Getzel followed with an RBI single to bring in the go-ahead run.

"Thomas has been a little down on himself for the last week or so, but that should boost him back up again. It came off the bat hard and ended up hanging up a little," Vos said. "We had made some running changes to get some faster kids on the bases and that worked out. Once we got the lead, I knew we could play defense for one inning. We've just got to get started earlier. We can't keep doing this."

Kayne Julius had two hits and a run for the Generals. Roth had a hit, three RBIs and two runs. Getzel had a hit and two RBIs. Poppen had a hit, an RBI and two runs.

Beltman threw 3 1/3 innings. He gave up two hits and walked three.

Carter Vos pitched 1 2/3 frames. He gave up three hits, one walk and struck out two. Julius got the win. He walked one and struck out two in two innings.

Lions, Mustangs end up even in doubleheader

GEORGE—Central Lyon rode its ace to the win in the first game, but the home team came back with some clutch hitting in the nightcap as the Lions and George-Little Rock split a Siouland Conference baseball doubleheader on Tuesday.

The first game belonged to Reece Vander Zee as the Lions posted a 5-0 shutout.

The junior had committed to play football at the University of Iowa during a visit over the weekend, but didn't seem distracted by all that hype. Instead, he pitched six innings and allowed just three hits and a walk. He struck out 14 batters. Meanwhile, at the plate Vander Zee smashed a two-run homer during the Lions' four-run third inning.

"He threw well again and also got us going with the bats," said Central Lyon coach Jerry Pytleski. "Hopefully he's ready now to take on Western Christian on Saturday in districts. He was blowing them away, but he also hadn't thrown in a while with being gone and stuff, so he wanted to work on some of his pitches."

Central Lyon scored its other run in the fifth.

"Reese was an unstoppable force," said George-Little Rock coach Ben McCray. "I knew our only hope was to get him out of the game and make something happen against a relief pitcher. We had a little contact from our bats in the seventh inning, but couldn't get any runs across."

The Mustangs coach was happy with his own starting pitcher, Brandon Van Briesen.

"He has really settled in as a lead on the mound this year," he said. "He locates his pitches well and gets opponents to give us opportunities to make plays in the field. If we can play solid defense behind him, we will be a much tougher out in the tournament than our record indicates."

Van Briesen pitched six innings and gave up five hits and a walk. He struck out five.

Simon Konechne was 3-for-3 with a double, two runs and an RBI for the Lions. Ryan Chase had two hits and a



Sibley-Ocheyedan senior Thomas Roth slides past Harris-Lake Park sophomore Bowden Barnhart across home plate Tuesday in Lake Park. Roth had the key hit as the Generals won 7-6 over the Wolves. Photo by Ryan Howe

run. Matthew Dieren had a hit and an RBI. Liam Vander Zee had a hit and a run.

Drew Denekas hit a double for George-Little Rock. Collin De Leeuw, Charlie Hamilton and Jack Krull had the other hits.

George-Little Rock rebounded in game two, winning its second game of the season by taking a 7-5, eight-inning decision.

Central Lyon was up 2-0 before George-Little Rock scored four in the third. The Lions got one in the fourth, but the Mustangs scored in the fifth to make it 5-3.

"Jack Krull was the key to this game," McCray said. "He only gave up four hits and didn't walk a batter in six innings. Really, since our first win of the season on June 15, only the MOC-Floyd Valley doubleheader games have all been tight games that have come down to the final out."

The Lions nearly came up with a rally. The guests had two runs in and the winning run in scoring position in the seventh when the final out was recorded.

George-Little Rock answered in the eighth. Denekas doubled to start the inning. Tyler Greve hit the go-ahead RBI single. Micah Jumbuck was hit by a pitch. Eventually the bases were loaded on an intentional walk to Max DeBoer, then Gannon Rockman singled in a run to account for what would be the final score.

"This gives us our confidence as we finish out the regular season and look toward postseason play," McCray said. "I'm really excited about how

the guys are playing defensively. We are playing our best baseball behind Jack and Brandon, which gives us a chance to compete."

Pytleski said despite putting five runs on the board, it was the Lions' offense that was lacking.

"We are not hitting as well as we did early in the year," he said. "We're trying to do too much. I can't ask for much more pitching wise. We just aren't watching the ball hit the bat right now. We had a lot of pop outs. We just couldn't put things together."

Rockman had three hits, a run and an RBI for the Mustangs. Hamilton had two hits, one run and one RBI. DeBoer and Denekas each had a double and a run. Jumbuck doubled and was hit by a pitch.

Krull hit one batter and struck out five in his six innings on the hill. Denekas went two innings and gave up two runs on two hits and two walks. He struck out two in earning the win.

Jayson Huygens pitched five innings for the Lions. He gave up five runs on six hits, two walks and a hit batter. He struck out two. Maverick Horstman took the loss. He gave up two runs on four hits, three walks and three hit batters in three innings. He fanned three.

Dieren singled, doubled and drove in a run for the Lions. Reece Vander Zee had a hit and two RBIs. Matt Elbert had a hit and two runs. Chase doubled and scored a run.

Sioux Center rides arm of Bruhn in close victory

SIoux CENTER—In a battle of

left-handed pitchers, Sioux Center's Carson Bruhn threw a little bit better during a 3-2 win over Spirit Lake in a nonconference baseball game on Tuesday.

"Overall, it was a really well played game by both teams," said Warriors' coach Chase Rozeboom. "There weren't any errors for either team. Each team had a lefty on the mound and pitched well."

Sioux Center took a 1-0 lead in the bottom of the third on an RBI single from Luke Lane.

Spirit Lake tallied a pair of runs in the top of the fifth inning to go in front 2-1.

The Warriors had just one hit in the bottom of the sixth but scored twice, going in front 3-2 on a bunt for a single by Karson Gesink that scored a run.

"The guy on the mound was throwing well, so you can't stack hits on top of each other. We had to find ways to manufacture runs," Rozeboom said. "We executed a squeeze bunt really well and that ended up being the difference in the game. I'm pleased with how we played and competed the whole game."

Bruhn pitched a complete game for Sioux Center and allowed two runs on four hits to earn the win. He walked two batters and struck out seven.

"Carson threw really well for us," Rozeboom said. "He limited his walks and we played good defense behind him. As he's done, he got better as the game went on."

Kole Hooyer went 2-for-3 for the plate for the Warriors. Kyle Te Stroete drove in a run.

SPORTS

TUESDAY SOFTBALL

Sibley-Ocheyedan runs up big inning on Wolves

Generals get out in front by big margin

LAKE PARK—Sibley-Ocheyedan sent 11 batters to the plate in the opening inning to set the tone and blasted Harris-Lake Park 11-1 Tuesday in a nonconference softball game that ended after five innings.

The Generals had six hits, a hit batter and two walks in the first inning, scoring seven runs. Marissa Ackerman started the scoring with a two-run single. Sofia Hisek later laced a two-run double and Alayna Wingate drove in two with a single.

"After our loss the night before it was good to see the girls come out from the start and play ball up to their potential," said Sibley-Ocheyedan coach Alme Elser. "We got our bats going early. However, they gradually became stale. We would like to keep them firing on all cylinders throughout the game."

The Generals scored three in the second. Becca Woelber drove in two with a single and Jaden Jensen hit an RBI double. Sibley-Ocheyedan added one in the fifth on another RBI double by Jensen.

The first inning alone was enough support for Wingate, who allowed only an unearned run in the fourth. She gave up two hits, walked two and struck out seven.

"Alayna had a good night in the circle and her defense did a good job of standing behind her," Elser said.

Jensen was 4-for-4 with two doubles, two RBIs and a run. Hisek singled, doubled, drove in two and scored once. Woelber had two hits, three RBIs and two runs. Ackerman had two hits, two RBIs and a run. Wingate had two hits and two RBIs. Keytin Elser singled, doubled and scored twice.

Mustangs celebrate first Siouxland win

GEORGE—George-Little Rock won for only the second time since ending a sharing agreement with Central Lyon last season, beating its former partner in the first game of a Siouxland Conference softball doubleheader Tuesday at George.

The Mustangs took a 3-2, nine-inning win over the Lions in the first game of the event. It was George-Little Rock's first conference win since going on its own and its first win of any kind since June 7 of last year.

The hosts nearly made it a sweep, but Central Lyon squeezed out a 4-3 win in game two.

"The biggest difference was we didn't make as many errors," said George-Little Rock coach Dawn Gisolf. "In the first game we only made three errors in nine innings and in the second one we made two in seven innings."

Central Lyon led 1-0 after

two innings in the first game. George-Little Rock scored a run in the fourth and took the lead with one in the fifth. The Lions tied it in the seventh, forcing extra innings. Neither team got a run in the eighth. In the George-Little Rock ninth, the Mustangs had two runners reach on Central Lyon errors. Tori Storm was walked intentionally to load the bases. Kami Gerken then hit a hard shot down the third base line that was misplayed for an error, allowing the winning run to score.

"Errors in the first game cost us," said Central Lyon coach Kelly Weiler. "We were flat. We were making errors when they were on base. You can't have six errors in a game and think you will be OK."

Gisolf said it was the first time anyone on her team had been in an extra inning game.

"That was the most exciting part," she said. "All of them kept up their stamina and determination. They kept their heads up and worked hard to field their positions and hold them."

Central Lyon left nine runners on base in the first game.

"We were making good contact with the ball," Weiler said.

Hayden McAlpine had two hits and two runs for George-Little Rock. Tori Storm had a single, a double and a walk. Gerken had a hit and an RBI. Emily Winkel had a hit.

Storm pitched four innings and gave up one run on one hit and five walks. She struck out seven. Gerken got the win, going five innings and allowing four hits and four walks. She struck out four.

Riley Weiler had two hits and a walk for Central Lyon. Shelby Stettinichs and Kaylee Fluit each had a hit and an RBI.

Ella Jager threw eight innings and gave up eight hits and three walks. She struck out five.

In the second game, the Lions scored a run in the third and one in the fourth. George-Little Rock got one in the fourth. Each team scored twice in the seventh.

"Our girls played great defense keeping the errors low. The errors weren't costly except for the last one in the second game," Gisolf said. "That was one I believe is my fault. Our third baseman listened to me. She was ready to throw to first to get the out but I yelled second and she reset to throw to second. By that time the lead runner was on second."

Central Lyon still stranded seven runners on base, but Weiler said the team looked better.

"The girls responded well and had a little more fire in them for that game," she said. "Gabby (Rasmussen) pitched a great game."

Rasmussen pitched all seven innings and gave up four hits and a walk. She struck out six.

Riley Weiler had two hits and two runs. One of those

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hits was a double. Fluit had a double and an RBI. Rasmussen had two hits, one run and one RBI. Maddie Huisman had a hit and drove in two.

Storm had a hit and a run for the Mustangs. McAlpine, Carly Koerselman and Winkel each had one hit.

Storm pitched three innings and gave up one run on two hits and two walks. She struck out three. Gerken threw four frames and gave up three hits, walked two, hit one batter and struck out two.

Gisolf said the Mustangs are getting to where they need to be at tournament time.

"The girls played well. They have been working hard for this and finally our cards were able to fall into place," she said. "I continue to be proud of them for continuing to push through all season."

Orabs find offense during later innings

HULL—Sheldon heated up as the game went on Tuesday, adding to an early cushion and posting a 9-3 nonconference softball win at Trinity Christian.

The Orabs got a pair of runs in the second inning. Trinity Christian got one in the third. Sheldon opened up the margin with three runs in the fourth and one in the fifth to make it 6-1. The Tigers got one in the fifth. Sheldon got a three-run homer from Peyton Dekker in the sixth. Trinity Christian had a run in and two in scoring position in the seventh when the game ended.

"We got hits all through the lineup and swung at some good strikes," said Sheldon coach Jessica Stofferan. "I was proud of how the kids came out and put the ball in play after a couple of tough games with our bats being quiet."

Tiger coach Dave Van Egdom said his team did get things on defense.

"Sheldon just hit the ball a ton," he said. "From the top to bottom of their lineup, they probably all had a couple hits. They hit it well."

Katelyn Dykstra was 3-for-4 with a double, one run and one RBI for the Orabs. Dekker was 2-for-4 with three RBIs and two runs. Reese Strouth and Paige Weber each had two hits, one run and one RBI. Tori Elgersma doubled, scored a run and drove in one.

Kourtney Dekker pitched five innings and got the win. She allowed two hits, walked two and struck out six. Elgersma pitched two innings. She walked three and struck out four.

"Dekker that threw for them, she threw it hard," Van Egdom said. "It's probably harder than we've seen lately. We need to shorten our swings with a



Sibley-Ocheyedan senior Jadyn Jensen heads back to third base during a scramble against Harris-Lake Park on Tuesday in Lake Park. Jensen went 4-for-4 with two doubles, two runs batted in and a run scored as the Generals won 11-1 against the Wolves. Photo by Rylan Howe

2023 SOFTBALL STATE RANKINGS

Class 3A

1. Williamsburg
2. Dav. Assumption
3. Mount Vernon
4. Davis County
5. Estherville LC
6. Dubuque Wahlert
7. Saydel
8. Charlton
9. Solon
10. West Lyon
11. Benton
12. Albia
13. Greene County
14. Grinnell
15. West Liberty

Class 2A

1. IC Regina
2. Van Meter
3. Central Springs
4. Lisbon
5. Interstate 35
6. West Monona
7. Cascade
8. Missouri Valley
9. Wilton
10. North Union
11. Sioux Central
12. Northeast
13. Osage
14. Waterloo Columbus
15. Wapsie Valley

Class 1A

1. Marionsdale SM
2. North Linn
3. Southeast Warren
4. Newell-Fonda
5. Wayne
6. Remsen St. Mary's
7. Clarksville
8. Sigourney
9. FD St. Edmond
10. Logan-Magnolia
11. Earthen
12. Twin Cedars
13. MC Newman
14. Griswold
15. Exira-EHK

Source: Iowa Girls High School Athletic Union

faster pitcher. We got too little too late."

Makiah De Jager pitched five innings for the Tigers and allowed six runs on 11 hits in the loss. She walked two batters and struck out one.

Kerstin Brummel doubled and drove in two runs for Trinity Christian.

Wildcats use bunt to spark crucial frame

AKRON—A bunt single broke the ice for West Lyon in the sixth inning Tuesday and the Class 3A 10th-ranked Wildcats flashed their power bats after that, overtaking Akron-Westfield for a 3-1 nonconference softball victory.

The only run in the first five innings came on a solo home run by Josie Jacobs of Akron-Westfield in the third.

"Our pitchers did a great job as they have all year. If you combine Madi (De Jong) and Jersey (Hawf), they lead Class 3A in ERA," said West Lyon coach Jeremy Childress. "Madi threw well. She just left one pitch over the middle. Jersey came in and was very effective."

West Lyon's hitters had not been until the sixth. Randi Childress got the inning started with a bunt single. The Wildcats then ripped three straight doubles to score three runs.

"We had faced Sibley's pitcher the night before and the girl Akron threw gave us a very different look. It took us a while to adjust," coach Childress said. "Randi knew we had struggled to hit the ball hard around them, so she was just looking to get on. The girls really feed off each other like that. Randi has been a great leader and the girls really respond to her."

Randi Childress singled, doubled and scored a run for West Lyon. Evy Knoblock had a double, a run and an RBI.

Hawf had a hit, a run and an RBI. De Jong had a hit and drove in a run.

De Jong got the win. She pitched five innings and gave up a run on two hits, one walk and one hit batter. She struck out three. Hawf threw two perfect innings and struck out one.

Warriors respond to pressure at-bats

SIOUX CENTER—Sioux Center won with a run in the bottom of the seventh for the second consecutive game on Tuesday, this time taking a 4-3 win over Spirit Lake in nonconference softball.

"It was nice to be in another high-pressure situation and to see how they would respond to that," said Warrior coach Kari Schmalbeck.

Sioux Center scored once in the first, third and fifth innings to go in front 3-0.

Spirit Lake scored on an error in the sixth then hit a two-run single in the top of the seventh to even the contest at 3.

"I'm not super happy about giving up two runs in the top of the seventh," coach Schmalbeck said. "But to come back and scratch one out in the bottom of the seventh was fantastic."

In the bottom of the seventh, Tatum Schmalbeck hit a two-out single for the Warriors and advanced to second on a walk by Adison Brantsen. Margo Schuiteman then hit a single that allowed Schmalbeck to score from second to end the game.

"Margo, she just hit it hard right back to the pitcher and it ricocheted off her leg," coach Schmalbeck said. "I sent Tatum from second and we took advantage of it. I thought it was worth the risk and it worked out."

Tatum Schmalbeck pitched a complete game for Sioux

Center and allowed two earned runs on six hits to get the win. She walked five batters and struck out three.

On offense, Tatum Schmalbeck — who hit a walk-off homer in the last game during a 6-4 win over Sioux City Heelan on Friday, June 23 — went 3-for-4 from the plate with three runs. Schuiteman was 2-for-3 with a double.

"Tatum had a lot of confidence at the plate and Margo stepping up in that pressure situation was huge for us," coach Schmalbeck said. "We're still working on things top to bottom in our lineup but we're making progress."

Drama runs high as Nighthawks prevail

HOLSTEIN—Boyden-Hull/Rock Valley charged back to tie the game in the seventh inning and then kept the runs coming, eventually picking off Ridge View 10-9 in nine innings of nonconference softball Tuesday in Holstein.

"All I could say after the game was how proud I was of the girls," said Boyden-Hull/Rock Valley coach Kaitlyn Van Der Zwaag.

The Nighthawks went up 2-0 with single runs in each of the first two innings. The Raptors scored three in the second and one in the third. Boyden-Hull/Rock Valley got one in the top of the fourth, but Ridge View scored two in the bottom of the inning to lead 6-3.

The guests kept the game alive with three runs in the top of seventh, scoring three times. The Nighthawks kept that momentum and scored three more in the eighth, but gave it back by allowing three in the bottom of the inning.

Boyden-Hull/Rock Valley got one in during the top of the ninth and held off the Raptors in the bottom of the frame.

"The game was back and forth all nine innings and the girls powered through all nine innings," Van Der Zwaag said. "We had some clutch hits. It came down to our last strike. This team can and will do big things."

Jenny Luevano was 4-for-5 with a double, two RBIs and a run. Kavi Van Kekerix homered, doubled, drove in four and scored twice. Avery Noble and Rylee Bomgaars each had two hits, one run and one RBI. One of Noble's hits was a double. Raya Van Beek singled and doubled.

Noble pitched 5 1/3 innings. She gave up seven runs, but only two were earned. Noble allowed six hits, walked two and struck out six. Van Beek gave up two runs in 3 2/3 innings, though she did not allow a hit. She walked five and struck out two.



Margo Schuiteman, a sophomore at Sioux Center, tags out a Spirit Lake runner during a nonconference softball game on Tuesday in Sioux Center. Schuiteman went 2-for-3 from the plate with a double and helped the Warriors earn a 4-3 win against the Indians. Photo by Dan Wolfswinkel

SPORTS

TUESDAY SOFTBALL

Knights put it all together to top Gehlen Catholic

De Boom holds visitors at bay with pitching

ORANGE CITY—After a slow start, Unity Christian put up a pair of three-run innings to pull away from Gehlen Catholic for a 7-1 win on Tuesday in a War Eagle Conference softball game.

"Offense, defense and pitchers were really good," said Knights' coach Travis De Jong. "We were much more comfortable at the plate and had much better swings."

Unity Christian led 1-0 after the first inning.

Neither team scored the next two frames. The Knights then plated three runs in the fourth to stretch the lead to 4-0.

Gehlen Catholic got on the board with a run in the top of the sixth, cutting the deficit to 4-1. Unity Christian tallied three runs in the bottom of the frame for the final margin.

"We played well. My girls, they all seem to be heavy hitters," said Jays' coach Victoria Smithson. "They're hitting them with just enough time for the outfield to get under it and catch them. I'm not upset at them offensively, but we need to focus on base hits and not doubles, triples and home runs."

Paige De Boom pitched a complete game for the Knights and allowed one run on four hits to earn the win. She struck out four batters and didn't walk any.

"Paige did a good job of mixing locations and keeping them off balance and defense backed her up," De Jong said.

Unity Christian's Brielle Reitsma drove in two runs. Ella Poppema went 2-for-3 from the plate with an RBI double. Autumn Bousema was 2-for-3 with an RBI. Cassidy Dekkers drove in a run. Summer Schouten went 2-for-3.

Gehlen Catholic's Addison Konz pitched a complete game and allowed five earned runs on five hits in the loss. She walked five batters and struck out four.

Larissa Pohlen went 3-for-3 with a triple for the Jays.

"She finally got her bat back," Smithson said. "She'd struggled the last few games. That was a breakthrough for her to get her confidence back going."

Western Christian puts Eagles away early on

LAWTON—Western Christian used a big frame to put the game away early and routed Lawton-Bronson 14-2 in a four-inning nonconference softball game on Tuesday.

"Tonight was another good team win for us," said Wolfpack coach Andrew Van Nieuwenhuyzen said. "Going into the game, we were challenging the girls to build on the momentum we had after yesterday's win and put together two well-rounded games in a row."

Western Christian beat Spencer 9-5 on Monday.

On Tuesday, the Wolfpack tallied two runs in the second. Western Christian added three runs in the top of the third to stretch the lead to 5-0.

The Eagles notched two runs in the bottom of the third to cut the margin to 5-2.

Western Christian plated nine runs in the fourth for the final margin.

"Though tonight wasn't quite as clean as last night, we definitely got the job done," Van Nieuwenhuyzen said. "Hopefully, we can do the same



Unity Christian eighth-grader Addyson De Boom catches a pop fly for an out during a War Eagle Conference softball game against Gehlen Catholic on Tuesday in Orange City. The Knights scored the first four runs of the contest and played tough defense behind senior Paige De Boom on the way to a 7-1 victory over the Jays. Photo by Roy Tucker

thing tomorrow and roll into the playoffs on a nice winning streak."

Breya Van Kley pitched all four innings for the Wolfpack and allowed two runs on five hits to earn the win. She walked two batters and struck out seven.

Offensively, Van Kley went 2-for-3 from the dish with two RBIs. Makena Fedders and Jocelyn Oostenink doubled and drove in two runs. Aubri Fedders, Aidyn Schemper, Megan Vander Pol and Autumn Wolfswinkel each had one RBI.

Wolverines drop contest to 12th-ranked Rebels

PAULLINA—South O'Brien struggled with errors early and dug too deep of a hole in a 14-4 loss in

five innings to Class 2A 12th-ranked Sioux Central in a nonconference softball game on Tuesday.

The Rebels tallied nine runs in the top of the first inning.

"It was kind of two games in one, the first inning and then the rest of the game," said Wolverines' coach Heather Struve. "We gave them nine unearned runs in the first inning and had three errors. We should have been out of it quick with no runs scored."

South O'Brien got one run in the bottom of the first.

The Wolverines outscored the visitors 2-1 in the second frame but still trailed 10-3.

Sioux Central notched two runs in the third, one in the fourth and one in the fifth to stretch the lead to 14-3.

South O'Brien got a run in the bottom of the fifth for the final margin.

Shay Hatting pitched one inning for the Wolverines and allowed six hits in the loss.

South O'Brien's Jinger Nieuwenhuis went 2-for-3 with a double and an RBI. Karlee Warnke doubled and drove in two runs. Payton Farquhar was 2-for-3.

"We hit the ball," Struve said. "When we hit it, we hit it hard. They have some good pitchers that are pretty fast, so I was glad to see that."

West Sioux falls back quickly during setback

SIoux CITY—West Sioux couldn't escape from an early deficit and dropped a 15-5 decision to River

Valley in six innings on Tuesday in a nonconference softball game.

"It wasn't our best performance," said Falcons' coach Kaitlyn Lockhorst. "We hurt ourselves a lot last night and it's unfortunate because I think we could have competed with them."

River Valley scored twice in the first inning and five times in the second to build a 7-0 advantage.

"Too many walks again that led to big hits and errors or not doing things right to get out of the inning," Lockhorst said. "It seems usually if one thing goes wrong there is a few things that follow. We need to be mentally tough and push forward not letting one continue to another to give teams those big innings."

West Sioux plated four runs in the top of the fourth, highlighted by an RBI double from Mia Danielson, to cut the deficit to 7-4.

"Everyone was hitting the ball hard," Lockhorst said. "They had a few bobbles and we capitalized on it, but then unfortunately the bottom of that inning we let them have those runs right back."

The Wolverines notched four runs in the bottom of the fourth to stretch the lead to 11-4.

West Sioux got one run in the top of the fifth to cut the deficit to 11-5. River Valley scored twice in the bottom of the fifth and twice in the sixth to end the game.

Elsie Westergard pitched 5 2/3 innings for the Falcons and allowed 14 hits in a losing effort. She walked nine batters in the game and struck out one.

West Sioux's Addison Westergard went 2-for-3 from the plate. Cassie Koopmans, Shauna Salker and Hannah Ver Mulm each finished with one RBI.

Hartley-Melvin-Sanborn gives up one bad inning

HARTLEY—Hartley-Melvin-Sanborn battled with Graettinger-Terril/Ruthven-Ayrshire early but gave up one huge inning in a 15-5 loss to the Titans in five innings on Tuesday in a nonconference softball game.

"We just need consistency on the mound, bats and defense every game," said Hawks' coach Stephanie Bronstad.

Hartley-Melvin-Sanborn trailed 2-1 after one inning. The Hawks plated three runs in the top of the second to take a 4-2 lead.

The Titans got on run in the bottom of the second and two in the third to take a 5-4 advantage.

The Hawks scored once in the top of the fourth to even the contest at 5. Graettinger-Terril/Ruthven-Ayrshire then plated eight runs in the bottom of the frame to take a 13-5 lead. The Titans added two runs in the fifth to end the game early.

Hartley-Melvin-Sanborn's Kinsey Schirmer pitched 3 1/3 innings and allowed six hits, six walks and four hit batters in the loss. Kamryn Ebel tossed the final 1 1/3 innings and allowed two earned runs on three hits with two walks and one hit batter.

"Kinsey struggled on the mound," Bronstad said. "We hit the ball well and defensively played well but just couldn't pull it off. Kamryn came in to finish the game and did what we needed her too."

Ebel went 2-for-3 with an RBI for the Hawks. Gracie Knobloch, Frankie Mohnie and Schirmer each drove in a run.

MONDAY BASEBALL/SOFTBALL

Western Christian atones for earlier setback against Spencer

Big inning helps push hosts to win

BY CHARLIE HILDEBRAND
CHILDEBRAND@NWESTIOWA.COM

HULL—Western Christian won its third consecutive softball game on Wednesday, riding two big innings to a 9-5 win over Spencer in a nonconference contest.

The victory avenged a 12-2 loss to the Tigers on June 12.

"This was a really big win for us," said Wolfpack coach Andrew Van Nieuwenhuyzen. "Spencer beat us pretty badly earlier this year, so we knew going in that we'd have to play well to beat them here. Our girls came out firing on all cylinders."

Western Christian tallied three runs in the second inning to get on the board first.

Spencer plated three runs in the top of the third to even the contest at 3. The Wolfpack got a run in the bottom of the third to go back in front 4-3.

The Tigers added a run in the top of the fourth to tie the game at 4. Western Christian countered with five runs in the bottom of the inning to retake

the lead at 9-4.

Spencer got one run in the top of the sixth but never got any closer.

"This was one of our most complete games all season, and I'm hopeful the momentum from this game will stick with us as we navigate this week and move into the post-season," Van Nieuwenhuyzen said.

Jaelyn De Jong pitched five innings for the Wolfpack and allowed four runs, two of them earned, on nine hits to get the win. She walked one batter and struck out one.

Western Christian's Keana Wynja went 3-for-4 from the plate with a double and two RBIs. Breya Van Kley was 3-for-4 and drove in two runs. Megan Vander Pol went 2-for-3 with two RBIs. De Jong was 2-for-4 and drove in two runs.

"Our pitchers threw strikes, our defense made plays and our hitters took advantage of mistakes all night long," Van Nieuwenhuyzen said.

Wolfpack can't hold on to lead in loss

HULL—Western Christian



Western Christian senior Cowan Van Kley dives to make a catch in left field during a nonconference baseball game against Cherokee on Wednesday in Hull. The Wolfpack played tough defense early on against Spencer in another nonconference contest on Monday in Hull, but the Tigers rallied with five of the final six runs and defeated Western Christian 5-2. Photo by Roy Tucker

led early but gave up one big inning late in a 5-2 loss to Spencer in a nonconference baseball game on Monday.

"The game yesterday was just a good baseball game," said Wolfpack coach Logan Cline. "Both sides played well."

Western Christian got a run in the third inning and held a

1-0 lead through four innings. The Tigers scored once in the fifth to even the contest at 1. They plated three runs in the top of the sixth to take a 4-1 lead.

In the bottom of the sixth, the Wolfpack scored once to cut the deficit to 4-2 but could not get any closer.

"They had one more good

swing than us that led to a three-run homer," Cline said. "If you take away that one pitch, it would be even."

Western Christian's Austin Hall pitched six innings and allowed four runs, three of them earned, on five hits in the loss. He walked four, hit three and struck out one.

"He did a good job of mak-

SPORTS

MONDAY SIOUXLAND CONFERENCE BASEBALL

Pioneers answer Nighthawks' rally

Okoboji gets final flip in momentum of game

BY SCOTT BYERS
SBYERS@NWESTIOWA.COM

MILFORD—Boyd-Hull/Rock Valley made its way back after giving up a big inning early, but Okoboji jumped right back in front and stayed there the rest of the way Monday in a 6-3 Siouxland Conference baseball win over the Nighthawks.

The guests got off to a solid start, scoring a run in the top of the first. The Pioneers returned fire with three in the bottom of that inning.

"We were able to swing it a little bit in the first," said Okoboji coach Andy Wolf. "We had four hits in that inning."

Boyd-Hull/Rock Valley scored a run in the second and one in the third to tie the score.

"We competed. We played hard. We just made a few too many mistakes to get the win," said Boyd-Hull/Rock Valley coach Brett Moser. "We left a lot of guys on base all night. We had some good at-bats, but we just couldn't get that one big hit to break an inning open."

Okoboji got that in the fourth, with all the action coming with two outs. Akron Jostand walked and scored on a Roy Blankers double. Logan Duvall then got an RBI single to make it 5-3.

"That was huge. It was a big flip in the game," Wolf said. "It put us in a good spot, but they had traffic in every inning. We were able to keep scoring and we played good defense. We made the plays when we had to."

Wolf was pleased with how Landon Duvall responded when runners were on base. He earned the pitching win, giving up four hits, walking two and hitting one batter in five innings. He struck out eight.

"We've seen a lot of growth in our young pitchers," he said. "They are figuring out you don't have to strike everybody out. Teams are going to get their hits. If we don't walk people and make them hit it, we'll be OK."

Jostand pitched an inning and gave up three hits and a walk, but no runs. He struck out two. Tyler Netsch pitched an inning. He walked one and struck out two.

Moser thought the Nighthawk hurlers were fine as well.

"In the first inning they had three of their hits just die in the infield and we just weren't able to make plays on them," he said. "That happens. We did a decent job defensively. Okoboji just continued to make plays and in the end they made more plays than we did."

Colton Beyer pitched four innings for Boyd-Hull/Rock Valley. He scattered eight hits, walked two and struck out eight. Alec Salazar finished up in relief.

Landon Duvall was 2-for-3 with a walk, a double, two runs and two RBIs. Brennan Baschke had a single, a double, and an RBI. Netsch had a single, a double and a run.

Luke Myers was 3-for-3 with a double and two RBIs for the Nighthawks. Tyce Van Beek had two hits. Beyer and Kahle Weber each had a hit and a run.

Orabs make Dutch work, but hosts still earn win

ORANGE CITY—MOC-Floyd Valley scratched out enough offensively to make it work and used three pitchers to handcuff Sheldon in a 6-1 Siouxland Conference baseball win in Orange City on Monday.

The Dutch got a run in the first and two in the second. Sheldon scored its run in the third to cut it to 3-1.

"We played good baseball," said Sheldon coach Nick Huff.

MOC-Floyd Valley scored a run in the fourth. It got its last two runs in the sixth.

"Sheldon battled. (Anthony) Courtney mixed it up on us. He'd get behind 2-0 and then drop a couple of breaking balls on us to get back in the count," said MOC-Floyd Valley coach Brian Wede. "He was around the zone enough we had to be swinging and



Okoboji eighth-grader Asa Jacobsen slides safely into third base against Boyd-Hull/Rock Valley on Monday in Milford. The Pioneers won 6-3 over the Nighthawks in a Siouxland Conference contest. Photo by Rylan Howe

we just had a lot of trouble squaring up the ball. A lot of our hits came with two outs so it was tough to get a big inning."

The Dutch got nine hits off Courtney in 5 1/3 innings. He only gave up five runs and never more than two in an inning. Courtney fanned just two batters, but the Orabs made just one error in the field.

"We were short a couple of our regular players," Huff said. "Some new faces got in there for us tonight."

Nik Wede got the pitching win for the Dutch. He went 4 2/3 innings, allowing one hit, walking two and hitting one batter. He struck out six. Kaleb Koerselman pitched 1 1/3 innings and gave up one hit, one walk and one hit batter. He struck out two. Braden Konz gave up a walk and struck out one in one inning on the bump.

"Nik threw enough breaking ball strikes that they had to be ready to swing," coach Wede said. "He and Kaleb didn't get work last week so we wanted to make sure they got some action."

Carson Jager had three hits, two RBIs and two runs for the hosts. Nik Wede singled, doubled and drove in two. Kooper Huss singled, doubled and scored twice. Brooks McCarty hit a solo homer. Kael Arends had a hit and an RBI.

Caleb Huff and Kolton Roos had

the hits for Sheldon. Roos scored the run. Damon Van Beek had the RBI.

McKenney breezes past Generals in short game

SIBLEY—West Lyon ace Corey McKenney threw a five-inning no-hitter and the Wildcat offense made sure he'd have a short night in a 14-0 Siouxland Conference baseball win Monday at Sibley-Ocheyedan.

After a scoreless first inning, the Wildcats got six runs in the second. Ryer Crichton started it with a single and Mason Ver Meer was hit by a pitch. Three more singles and three walks helped fuel the outburst.

"The guys had a good approach. Sometimes it's hard in those situations where the pitcher is not throwing many strikes, but the guys did a good job," said West Lyon coach Koury Kramer. "That inning was a combination of walks and hits and in our other big inning we had a lot of hits."

The Wildcats made it 8-0 with two in the third, then scored six more in the fourth.

"We're trying to figure out who to pitch on Saturday," said Sibley-Ocheyedan coach Nate Vos. "Three of the five guys we pitched threw pretty well. The two you would expect to did not."

Meanwhile, McKenney walked just

one batter and struck out seven.

"He's pretty good. I'll give him that," Vos said. "I think the only three ball count he had all night was the guy he walked. We did hit the ball some, but we never hit it very hard."

Kramer said McKenney looked like he's zoning in as the postseason draws near.

"Corey looked like his old self. He was locked in and attacked the zone," the coach said. "He had all his pitches working and our defense made the plays. We've still got to get better though. It happens all the time at every level. Anyone can get beat. You have to make the plays, make the pitches and execute at the plate every night."

Gage Blauwet had two hits, two RBIs and three runs for West Lyon. Spencer Ver Meer had two hits, three runs and one RBI. Ryer Crichton had two hits and two runs. Tate Hawf had a hit, three RBIs and two runs. Carter Ver Meer had a hit and three RBIs.

Sibley-Ocheyedan used five pitchers in the contest. Dawson Renner went one inning and took the loss. He gave up three hits, walked one, hit one batter and struck out one. Riley Getzel was the only Generals pitcher to come out unscathed. He allowed two hits and struck out one in 1 1/3 innings.

Carter Vos was the only player to reach base for the Generals.

MONDAY SIOUXLAND CONFERENCE SOFTBALL

Boyd-Hull/Rock Valley turns to defense to defeat Okoboji

Most of offense is produced in third

BY SCOTT BYERS
SBYERS@NWESTIOWA.COM

MILFORD—Boyd-Hull/Rock Valley had one explosive inning offensively and played one of its better games in the field of the year, blanking Okoboji 7-0 Monday in Siouxland Conference softball.

Avery Noble authored the shutout in the circle for the Nighthawks. She allowed three hits, walked two and struck out three. The Nighthawks made one error defensively.

"Tonight was one of the best defensive nights I have seen all season," said Boyd-Hull/Rock Valley coach Kaitlyn Van Der Zwaag. "Okoboji had runners on and we were able to get out of some big situations because of our defense."

The Nighthawks got six of their runs in the third inning.

"Our girls continued to pass the bat and trust one another to be successful," Van Der Zwaag said.

Boyd-Hull/Rock Valley added a run in the fifth.

Okoboji coach Kate Perrin said the Pioneers were good defensively other than the third inning.

"In that inning we had a couple of errors on routine plays that allowed runners to get on," she said. "Boyd-Hull/Rock Valley took advantage, having a couple of nice hits after that to score some runs. Defensively, we got better after that inning, though we still left some plays on the field that we should have made."

The coach said the offense ran cold for the hosts.

"We didn't have much for scoring opportunities," Perrin said. "We left a few kids on base but couldn't get any hits to move them around. We need to focus on getting our timing down. We have been pretty far ahead of the ball, which is preventing us from having solid hits."

Jenny Luevano hit a home run, a single, drove in three and scored once. Noble had a single, a double, a run and an RBI. Raya Van Beek, Kavri Van Kekerix and Rylee Bomgaars each had a single, a double and a run. Cameron Halbur



Boyd-Hull/Rock Valley sophomore Maya Netten tracks down a fly ball from Okoboji on Monday in Milford. The Nighthawks won 7-0 over the Pioneers in league play. Photo by Rylan Howe

doubled, walked and drove in one run. Keilani Mae had a hit, a run and an RBI.

Mattie Hagedorn, Brynn Ness and Maggie Bergeson had the hits for Okoboji.

Bergeson did the pitching. She allowed 12 hits, walked two and struck out five.

MOC-Floyd Valley speeds by Sheldon

ORANGE CITY—MOC-Floyd Valley got its offense moving early and never stopped in a 10-0, five-inning win over Sheldon on Monday in Siouxland Conference soft-

ball.

The Dutch got four runs in the first. It started with a hit batter and an error. Aubrey DeShaw drove in both runners with a single.

From there, the Dutch used a fielder's choice, two walks and a Sheldon error to add two more.

MOC-Floyd Valley scored two more in the second and two in the third. The hosts went scoreless in the fourth, but were right back at it in the fifth as Sheldon could retire just one batter before the Dutch scored twice to end the game.

"We played great softball. I'm proud of how our girls continue to bring energy even though our schedule has been tough the last few weeks," said MOC-Floyd Valley coach Jennifer Boeve. "I'm proud of how our girls sprint around the field and the bases."

"They came out and hit right away," said Sheldon coach Jessica Stofferan. "Playing from behind is hard when our bats haven't been there lately."

Sheldon had just three hits.

"We just couldn't get anything going offensively," Stofferan said.

DeShaw singled, doubled

and drove in three. Carolyn Meines had two hits, four runs and one RBI. Kady Hoekstra had a single, a triple and two RBIs. Lili Fleming had a hit and scored three times.

Keaton Van Kekerix walked none and struck out three in earning the pitching win.

"Keaton did a great job of throwing strikes and making competitive pitches when she was ahead," Boeve said.

Reese Strouth, Katelyn Dykstra and Jager had the hits for Sheldon. Jager was the only team member to advance as far as second base. The Dutch retired the last 10 Orab batters of the game in order.

Elgersma pitched three innings and took the loss. She gave up five hits, walked four and struck out two. Kourtney Dekker pitched 1 1/3 innings. She allowed two runs on two hits and two walks.

Wildcats get timing right late in contest

OCHEYEDAN—Class 3A 10th-ranked West Lyon created just a crack in the Sibley-Ocheyedan defenses in the fourth inning and then broke all the way through after that on its way to a 10-2 Siouxland Conference softball win Monday in Ocheyedan.

Sibley-Ocheyedan scored a run in the first after having its first two batters of the game reach base.

West Lyon finally got something going in the top of the fourth and tied the score, only to see the Generals go up 2-1 in the bottom of the frame.

West Lyon coach Jeremy Childress said trailing for more than half of the contest didn't seem to bother the Wildcats.

"This team plays at the same level all the time. That's one of the things that has allowed us to have success this year," he said. "(Alayna) Wingate is a good pitcher and unique from others. It always takes us a while to adjust to her. In the past we haven't been able to until it was too late."

The Wildcats got the offense uncorked in the fifth, scoring five times.

"Leah Blauwet executed a great bunt that gave us first and third," Childress said. "From there we had three hits and a walk to get runs on

the board. Great at-bats by our girls during that inning. In the past, we have watched too many good strikes early in the court. Starting in the fifth, we were aggressive early in counts."

Sibley-Ocheyedan coach Aime Elser, who is filling in while Keith Swenson is ill, said the one bad inning seemed to take all the wind out of the Generals.

"We didn't have the energy we needed to try to make a comeback," she said. "We have been plagued by one bad inning most of the season. I had not seen that in our last few games."

Elser said there isn't much time left to fix the issue.

"We need to turn our ship around and get it moving in the right direction," the coach said. "We will grow from this loss and move forward to the next game."

West Lyon scored twice in the sixth and twice in the seventh.

Childress said the two-pitcher system the Wildcats have went with for a lot of the year worked well again with Jersey Hawf taking the first five innings and Madison De Jong finishing.

"Jersey had a slow start but settled in and pitched great after that," he said. "Madi De Jong has a knack for coming into games and throwing well. We made a couple of defensive plays that were pretty special. Evy Knoblock and Katelyn Berentschot each stood out defensively and had key outs during the game."

Knoblock was 4-for-4 at the plate with a double, a home run, five RBIs and two runs. Randi Childress was 2-for-4 with a double, a home run, three RBIs and two runs. Gianna Klarenbeek singled, doubled, scored twice and drove in one. Hawf and Braylyn Childress each had one hit and two runs.

Hawf gave up three hits, two walks and struck out five in five innings. De Jong gave up one hit and one walk in two innings. She struck out three.

Marissa Ackerman doubled and scored a run for the Generals. Madison Marco had a hit and an RBI.

Wingate gave up 11 hits, walked two and struck out 11.

SPORTS

SATURDAY BASEBALL: PRANGE CLASSIC

Long trip ultimately pays off for MOC-Floyd Valley

Dutch take two games over tough opponents

BY SCOTT BYERS
SBYERS@NWESTIOWA.COM

DES MOINES—MOC-Floyd Valley capped a long nine-game week by playing a pair of games in the Prange Classic at Grand View University last Saturday in Des Moines.

The Dutch won both contests against some stout competition.

MOC-FV 6, Solon 2

MOC-Floyd Valley freshman Brooks McCarty relished the chance to face one of the most potent offenses in Class 3A and limited the damage during a 6-2 win over Solon.

Solon entered the day leading Class 3A in stolen bases and was second in runs. MOC-Floyd Valley ranks third in the class in runs, so many figured on a high scoring game.

McCarty had other ideas.

"Brooks was efficient enough to get through six innings, which was big for us given the number of games we've played this week. Thomas (Vandermyde) did what he needed to do in the last inning," said MOC-Floyd Valley coach Brian Wede. "The top three guys in their lineup are Division I recruits. (Blake) Timmons is going to North Dakota State, (Brett) White is going to Baylor and their catcher has several offers and hasn't decided yet. To only allow one hit to those three guys combined is pretty good."

McCarty gave up two hits, walked three, hit one batter and struck out five in six innings. Vandermyde hit a batter and struck out one in his one inning of work.

The Spartans scored in the opening inning. Each team got a run in the fourth. MOC-Floyd Valley tied it with one in the fifth. The Dutch then

scored four times in the seventh.

"They had a similar schedule to what we did. They had played eight games and had used a bunch of pitchers and they were at the end of their bullpen," Wede said. "At the end they threw an eighth-grader that hadn't pitched all year. We hit the ball well all day though. They just made a couple of good catches and we hit some balls right at them."

Kael Arends was 2-for-3 with a double, a walk and two RBIs for the Dutch. Blake Aalbers had two hits and a run. McCarty had two hits. Kooper Huss had a run and an RBI.

MOC-FV 9, W-SR 5

The Dutch used team speed and the depth of their lineup to pile up runs in their second game of the day, a 9-5 win over Waverly-Shell Rock.

MOC-Floyd Valley scored five runs in the second inning and one in the third.

"We played some small ball and put a lot of pressure on them. We had four or five bunt plays that helped us get off to a quick start," Wede said. "The six through nine guys in our order were really good the whole day. We did a nice job of putting up a crooked number early."

The coach said it was the pitching of Kooper Huss that inspired the team.

"He nearly had an immaculate inning in the top of the first. He needed 10 pitches to get three strikeouts. It was pretty dominating," Wede said. "That was an emotional pick up for us. After that everyone was going and just had the attitude that we're going to do this. We're going to finish."

He said Huss threw a little harder than he typically does, which led to a shorter outing. He said Blake Aalbers, the third of three Dutch pitchers, picked the team up when he came in.

"Kooper faded pretty fast and

Thomas came in again and was a little shaky," Wede said. "Blake came into a tough situation with a couple of runners on. The game was still in hand, but guys were starting to get a little more nervous about it."

The Go-Hawks scored twice in the fifth, but the Dutch got three in the bottom of the inning. Waverly-Shell Rock got three in the sixth before Aalbers closed the door.

Huss got the win, throwing 4 2/3 innings and allowing two runs on four hits and two walks. He struck out five. Aalbers threw the final 1 2/3 and allowed no hits or walks. He struck out three.

Nik Wede was 2-for-2 and was hit by a pitch. He drove in two runs and scored once. Austin Oolman tripled, drove in one and scored three times. Carson Jager had a triple, two RBIs and two runs. Arends had two hits. Huss had a hit and an RBI, as did Aalbers.

MONDAY WAR EAGLE CONFERENCE BASEBALL

Falcons get going early but can't maintain pace during setback

Westerners bounce back for triumph

BY CHARLIE HILDEBRAND
CHILDEBRAND@NWESTIOWA.COM

HAWARDEN—West Sioux gave up one big inning and couldn't bounce back in a 9-2 loss to Akron-Westfield in a nonconference baseball game on Monday.

The Falcons tallied two runs in the first inning and had a runner on second with one out. Two consecutive ground-out ended the frame and kept West Sioux from adding to its total.

"We got off to a fast start and were putting the ball in play most of the night, just couldn't get anything going," said Falcons' coach Dustin Houlton.

The Westerners got on the board with a run in the top of the second, but West Sioux held a 2-1 lead for the next two innings.

Akron-Westfield then tallied five runs in the fifth and went in front 6-2.

"We had the one dreadful inning where errors snowballed," Houlton said. "Late in the year, we have got to get rid of the big innings taking place. For the most part, the guys battled against a solid A-W team."

The Westerners added a run in the sixth and two in the seventh for the final margin.

West Sioux's Avery Millikan pitched five innings and allowed six runs, one of them earned, on five hits in the loss. He walked four batters, hit two and struck out four.

Offensively, Millikan, Karsen Van Oort, Carter Van Wyhe and Blake Wiggins had the only hits for the Falcons.

Hawks take down South O'Brien twice

PAULLINA—Hartley-Melvin-Sanborn made plays late to take both games of a baseball doubleheader against South O'Brien on Monday.

The Hawks had one big inning late in the first game, a War Eagle Conference contest, and won 8-1.

South O'Brien, the visiting team in the opening game, got a run in the top of the first inning.

"We played OK," said Wolverines' coach D.J. Lode. "We just had the fifth inning get away from us. We struggled to make the outs that we needed and to keep us in the game."

After two scoreless frames, Hartley-Melvin-Sanborn scored once in the fourth to even the contest at 1.

The Hawks then plated seven runs in the fifth.

"We took advantage of some base hits, errors and free bases," said Hawks' coach Jeremy Gloden. "That was kind of the deciding inning, that bottom of the fifth."

Hartley-Melvin-Sanborn's Jacob Cates pitched 6 2/3 innings and allowed no earned runs on one hit to get the win. He walked two batters, hit one and struck out 17.

"He settled in, attacked the zone and kept hitters off balance," Gloden said. "He throws harder than a lot of guys. He couldn't finish because of the pitch count. I was pleased with how he attacked the strike zone."

Evan Eilers went 2-for-3 from the plate with a double for the Hawks. Trenton Volink



West Sioux freshman Blake Wiggins throws a pitch during a game on Wednesday, June 21, in Hawarden. The Falcons faced off with Akron-Westfield in a game on Monday played in Hawarden but lost against the Westerners 9-2. Photo by Katie Anderson

"I was happy how we responded. It can be easy when they take the lead to get down. We did a good job responding with three runs of our own to bring the fight to them and let them know we were ready to play that night."

Logan Cleveringa TRINITY CHRISTIAN COACH

was 2-for-4. Tanner Tesch and Tyson Tessum each drove in two runs. Cates had one RBI.

South O'Brien's Trevor Fiddelke tossed five innings and allowed eight runs, four of them earned, on seven hits in the loss. He walked two batters, hit one and struck out two.

Boston Riedemann and Damian Villarreal had the only two hits for the Wolverines.

Hartley-Melvin-Sanborn got two runs late in the second game, a nonconference contest, and topped South O'Brien 6-4.

The Hawks, the visitors in game two, tallied two runs in the first inning.

South O'Brien got a run in the second to cut the deficit to 2-1. Hartley-Melvin-Sanborn plated two runs in the third to stretch the lead to 4-1.

The Wolverines notched three runs in the fourth to tie the contest at 4.

"We had a few good at-bats," Lode said. "We strung a few hits together. We advanced on a few singles and then a couple errors, which helped us."

South O'Brien nearly added a run in the sixth. With a runner on and two outs, Dain Moermond hit a double to the

right field fence. Hartley-Melvin-Sanborn's Ethan Diehm threw to Tessum in the field, who then threw home where Cates tagged out Ben Woodall to end the inning.

"That was a huge play," Gloden said. "If we don't make that, they're up 5-4."

In the seventh, Tessum hit a leadoff triple and later scored on a passed ball to give the Hawks a 5-4 lead. They added another run on an error for the final margin.

"In a game of inches, those two plays helped swing the game in our favor," Gloden said. "Tyson went out and got final three outs. I was happy of how we battled."

Hartley-Melvin-Sanborn's Jack Mastbergen went 2-for-4 with a double and an RBI. Evan Eilers drove in two runs. Bradley Van Beek had one RBI.

Tessum tossed 2 2/3 shutout innings of relief for the Hawks with two hits and struck out five batters to earn the win.

"I was happy we threw a lot of strikes and made them put the ball in play," Gloden said. "Overall, a good night of baseball for us."

Woodall pitched 4 1/3 innings for the Wolverines and allowed one earned run on five hits in the loss. He walked

the deficit to 6-1. The Rebels added two runs in the fifth to make it 6-3 but never got any closer.

"It made it closer than I would have liked, but it's nice to get a win—especially when driving an hour to get there," Wheeler said.

Unity Christian's Graden Van Essen pitched four innings and allowed three runs on four hits to earn the win. He walked four batters and struck out four.

Braedan Bosma tossed three hitless and scoreless innings of relief for the Knights. He walked three batters and fanned five. Offensively, Bosma was 2-for-4 with a double and two RBIs.

"At the plate, he did a better job with pitch selection and got aggressive early," Wheeler said. "On the mound, he was a little wild but was able to reign it in and get some strikeouts."

Unity Christian's Jonah De Jong and Austin Wieringa each drove in a run.

Trinity Christian gets win against Wolves

LAKE PARK—Trinity Christian surrendered its early lead but quickly jumped back in front and topped Harris-Lake Park 4-2 in a nonconference baseball game on Monday.

"We played pretty well," said Tigers' coach Logan Cleveringa. "The past couple weeks, I've been saying we have to find a game where we put all three phases together. That happened last night."

Trinity Christian got on the board first with a run in the top of the second inning. The

Wolves countered with two runs in the bottom of the second to go in front 2-1.

The Tigers plated three runs in the top of the third to retake the lead at 4-2. Alec DeBoer hit an RBI triple and Cleveringa said that helped spark the frame.

"I was happy how we responded," Cleveringa said. "It can be easy when they take the lead to get down. We did a good job responding with three runs of our own to bring the fight to them and let them know we were ready to play that night."

Trinity Christian's Evan De Jong pitched 6 2/3 innings and allowed two runs on two hits to earn the win. He walked two batters and struck out seven.

"He attacked well. He had a few walks in the second inning, but then didn't have any the rest of the game," Cleveringa said. "He did his best to limit his pitch count. He had a competitors' mentality. He struggled a bit at the plate, but he didn't bring that to the mound. He stayed mentally strong."

Mattias Vis went 2-for-3 from the plate with three RBIs for the Tigers. Luke De Jong was 2-for-3.

"We played good defense and put the bats on the ball," Cleveringa said. "Everything clicked. It was an exciting night."

Gehlen Catholic grounded in rematch

REMSEN—Class 1A 10th-ranked Gehlen Catholic couldn't beat Remsen St. Mary's for the second consecutive time this season, falling to the third-ranked Hawks 11-1 in six innings on Monday in a nonconference baseball game.

The Jays won the first game this season against St. Mary's 5-3 on May 30.

"We did some uncharacteristic things," said Gehlen Catholic coach Loi Kraft of the game on Monday. "We walked seven and only gave up six hits. You give them free bases, it's going to get those runs in. As a team, we have to learn to play those tough games."

The Hawks scored three times in the first inning and six in the third to jump out to a 9-0 lead.

"You give a team like that a little momentum and it's hard to stop them. We didn't respond real well with our bats," Kraft said. "We had a couple hard hit balls that went right to them. (Collin) Homan made some good plays on the mound that if it got past him, it would have went into the gap. Kudos to him."

Gehlen Catholic got one run in the top of the fourth to cut the deficit to 9-1. The Hawks added one run in the bottom of the fourth and another in the sixth for the final margin.

Brandon Gengler pitched the first two innings for the Jays and allowed six runs on four hits in the loss. He walked three batters, hit two and struck out two.

Carter Kellen, Jaxten Kramer and Dylan Poeckes had the only hits for Gehlen Catholic in the contest.

"It's gut check time this time of year," coach Kraft said. "You have to get ready for districts and you want to play teams like that to expose things and get you ready for district play."

SPORTS

MONDAY WAR EAGLE CONFERENCE SOFTBALL

West Sioux can't keep up against Westerners

Akron-Westfield starts game out hot

BY CHARLIE HILDEBRAND
CHILDEBRAND@NWESTIOWA.COM

IRETON—West Sioux dug a deep hole and avoided a mercy rule loss to Akron-Westfield for a while but ultimately dropped a 14-3 decision in six frames on Monday in a non-conference softball game.

The Westerners jumped out to a 5-0 lead in the top of the first inning. After a scoreless second frame, they added six runs in the third to make it 11-0 and another in the top of the fourth to push it to 12-0.

"In our pre-hitting huddle, I said we need at least one to keep playing, and they got two. Then the next inning I said the same thing and they got one more," said West Sioux coach Kaitlyn Lockhorst. "So the grit and perseverance was great to see at the end of the season, especially going into postseason."

Molly Hulshof hit a two-run homer to cut the margin to 12-2.

"Molly is definitely hitting the ball hard," Lockhorst said. "It's good to see."

Cassie Koopmans hit an RBI single in the bottom of the fifth for West Sioux to trim the deficit to 12-3.

Akron-Westfield plated two runs in the sixth for the final margin.

Elsie Westergard started in the circle for the Falcons and gave up five runs in one inning to get tagged with the loss.

Hulshof went 2-for-3 and was the only West Sioux batter with multiple hits.

"Definitely need to work on getting things going earlier and stopping runs earlier in the game to stick with teams," Lockhorst said. "But like I said, seeing the girls be able to come up with runs when needed is huge."

Hawks split twin bill versus Wolverines

PAULLINA—County rivals Hartley-Melvin-Sanborn and South O'Brien split a pair of close softball games in a doubleheader on Monday.

The Hawks won the first game, a War Eagle Conference contest, 7-5.

The Wolverines got a run in the top of the first inning, but Hartley-Melvin-Sanborn countered with four in the bottom of the frame — highlighted by a two-run single from Delaney Murphy.

"We had one error on the second batter. If we get that out, they score no runs," said South O'Brien coach Heather Struve. "We gave them that one though and they scored four. That was a tough start."

The Hawks, the home team in the first game, added one run in the third and two in the fourth to stretch the lead to 7-1.

South O'Brien scored once in the fifth and sixth frames to cut the deficit to 7-3. The Wolverines plated two runs in the seventh and had runners on first and second but ended the game with a strikeout.

"We tried to chip back at the end," Struve said. "We just couldn't get enough base runners on. (Gracie) Knobloch was throwing hard and we were swinging at the high ones."

Knobloch pitched a complete game and allowed four earned runs on six hits to get the win. She walked three batters and struck out 12.

"Gracie pitched strong on the mound," said Hawks' coach Stephanie Bronstad.

Murphy went 2-for-3 from the plate for Hartley-Melvin-Sanborn. Knobloch, Alexis Grover and Abby Kunzman each drove in one run.

Shay Hatting pitched five innings for the Wolverines and allowed seven runs, one of them earned, on four hits in the loss. She walked seven batters, hit one and struck out four.

South O'Brien's Jinger Nieuwenhuis was 2-for-3 and Maddie Johnson was 2-for-4. Karlee Warnke hit an RBI double. Marissa Ebel drove in a run.

The Wolverines won the second game, a nonconference contest, 6-3.

Hartley-Melvin-Sanborn, the visitor in the second contest, notched two runs in the first inning but didn't score in the next three.

"We played a lot better on defense. We didn't bunch up the errors at least," Struve said. "Errors are going to happen, but we can't bunch them up with two or three in an inning. H-M-S had an early lead. We kept our composure and just kept playing."

South O'Brien tallied three runs in the third to go in front 3-2.

The Hawks tied the game at 3 in the top of the fifth, but the Wolverines tallied a run of their own in the bottom of the frame to retake the lead at 4-3.

South O'Brien added two insurance runs in the sixth for

the final margin.

Brooklyn Edwards pitched a complete game for the Wolverines and allowed two earned runs on eight hits to get the win. She walked two batters, hit one and struck out eight.

"She did a great job of keeping it around the zone," Struve said. "The change was working for her. It was probably her best night of the year pitching."

Nieuwenhuis went 2-for-3 for South O'Brien with two RBIs. Johnson drove in two runs. Reese Farquhar and Alyssa Van Beek each had one RBI.

Hartley-Melvin-Sanborn's Kamryn Ebel pitched six innings and allowed six runs on four hits in the loss. She walked nine batters, hit four and struck out three.

Murphy went 3-for-3 from the plate for the Hawks with two RBIs. Abby Otto drove in a run.

"Our bats were decent and our girls played good defense," Bronstad said. "We need to keep focusing on the bats as we get closer to tournament time."

Tigers take bite out of Harris-Lake Park

LAKE PARK—Trinity Christian put up plenty of runs and avenged a loss from earlier in the season with a 12-5 win over Harris-Lake Park in a nonconference softball game on Monday.

"That was a fun game," said Tigers' coach Dave Van Egdorn. "We had contributions from every player in every aspect of the game."

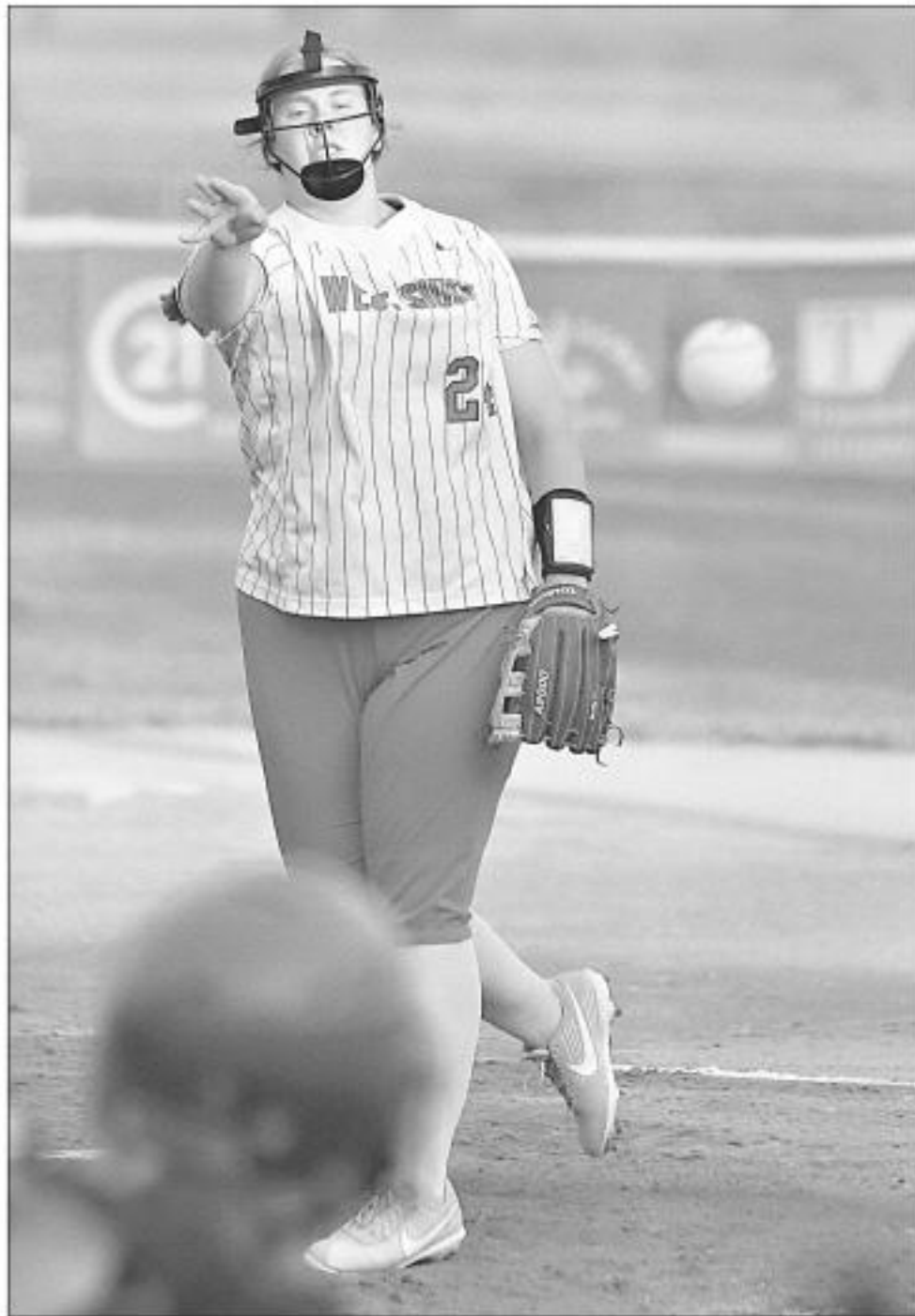
Trinity Christian tallied three runs in the second inning. The Wolves plated three in the third to even the contest at 3.

The Tigers plated three runs in the fourth and three in the top of the fifth to go in front 9-3. Harris-Lake Park got a run in the bottom of the fifth to cut the deficit to 9-4.

Trinity Christian scored three in the top of the sixth to push the margin to 12-4. The Wolves added a run in the seventh but couldn't get any closer.

"We took advantage of some of their walks," Van Egdorn said. "We had some great two-out hitting and great two-strike hitting. With runners in scoring position, we have to get hits with two outs. That's devastating to the other team."

Maesa Cleveringa pitched a complete game for the Tigers



West Sioux pitcher Molly Hulshof tosses a pitch during a game against Akron-Westfield Monday in Ireton. The Falcons started slow and lost to the Westerners 14-3. Photo by Katie Anderson

and allowed three earned runs on nine hits to get the win. She walked one batter and struck out five.

Trinity Christian's Avery Van Maanen went 4-for-4 from the plate with three RBIs. Kerstin Brummel and Karyn Uittenboogard each drove in two runs. Makiah De Jager went 2-for-4 from the plate with an RBI. Allison Mooy drove in a run.

"We had a lot of nice contributions up and down the lineup," Van Egdorn said. "It's great to see that, this time of year especially."

Knights win with De Boom shutout

GALVA—Runs weren't easy to come by for Unity Christian in a road game at Ridge View, but the Knights used a big game from Paige De Boom in the circle and found enough offense for a 1-0 win over the Raptors in a nonconference softball game.

De Boom tossed a three-hit shutout for Unity Christian

with no walks and struck out four batters.

"Paige did a really good job of changing speeds to keep them off-balance," said Knights' coach Travis De Jong. "They were very aggressive at the plate and put the ball in play. Our defense was very good."

Unity Christian plated the lone run of the game in the second inning.

Addyson De Boom was hit by a pitch and moved to second on a passed ball. Addison Liston hit a one-out single to move De Boom to third. Liston then stole second and Addyson De Boom scored on the throw to second.

"We really struggled to put the ball in play but were able to scratch a run early," De Jong said.

The Knights only had two base runners the rest of the game. Ridge View had just four base runners after the second inning.

Brielle Reitsma had the only other hit in the game for Unity Christian.

Gehlen Catholic falls versus St. Mary's

REMSEN—Gehlen Catholic stayed within striking distance early but gave up one huge inning to Class 1A sixth-ranked Remsen St. Mary's in a 12-0 loss in four innings on Monday in a nonconference softball game.

The Hawks plated two runs in the first inning and one in the second to go in front 3-0.

St. Mary's then erupted for eight runs in the third to stretch the lead to 11-0. The Hawks added another run in the fourth for the final margin.

"We had solid defense," said Gehlen Catholic coach Victoria Smithson. "Then it was just one inning with a couple errors and a down fall from there."

Kennedy Paulson pitched four innings for the Jays and allowed 13 hits in the loss. She walked three batters and struck out three.

Isabel Lammers and Larissa Pohlen had the only two hits for Gehlen Catholic.



Okobojo junior Emma Graves throws to first Monday in Millford. The Pioneers lost 11-0 to Sioux Central last Saturday as the host of the tournament. Photo by Rylan Howe

SATURDAY SOFTBALL: OKOBOJI TOURNAMENT

Okobojo and H-M-S can't put offense together in pair of losses

Neither team able to push across any runs

MILFORD—It took so long for the skies to clear and the ground to dry that a long day became short for the two N'West Iowa teams involved in the Okobojo Invitational softball tournament last Saturday.

Each team was supposed to play twice, but the morning rain pushed back the start time of the tournament far enough that it was determined no consolation game would be played. That was bad news for Okobojo and Hartley-Melvin-Sanborn as each struggled in the opening round.

S Central 11, Okobojo 0

Sioux Central scored five runs in the opening inning and Okobojo never mounted much of a threat as the Rebels took an 11-0, five-inning win.

The Rebels led 6-0 after two innings.

"In those first two innings it was a bit of a combination of them hitting the ball well and us making some mistakes on the field that kept them batting longer," said Okobojo coach Kate Perrin.

The Pioneers managed to hold the guests scoreless for one inning, but Sioux Central was back at it in the fourth with three runs. The Rebels added two more in the fifth.

Okobojo had some runners on, but didn't do anything with them. "Our bats have been really



Hartley-Melvin-Sanborn junior Delaney Murphy connects on a pitch last Saturday against Graettinger-Terril/Ruthven-Ayrshire last Saturday in Millford. The Hawks lost the game 17-0. Photo by Roy Tucker

struggling," the Okobojo coach said.

Amy Martin and Maggie Bergeson each had two hits for Okobojo. Alyana Hesse hit a double.

GTRA 17, H-M-S 0

Hartley-Melvin-Sanborn's stayed in the game early with Graettinger-Terril/Ruthven-Ayrshire early because of its pitching but gave up two big innings late in a 17-0 loss.

The Titans scored two in the first inning but couldn't reach home again for the next three frames.

Graettinger-Terril/Ruthven-Ayrshire added a run in the fifth but still led just 3-0.

The Titans then tallied four runs in the sixth and 10 in the seventh.

Hartley-Melvin-Sanborn had eight errors in the contest. Gracie Knobloch pitched a complete game for the Hawks and allowed three earned runs on 15 hits in the loss. She walked two batters and struck out 10.

Knobloch, Kamryn Ebel, Morgan Grooters and Abby Otto had the only hits for Hartley-Melvin-Sanborn.

SPORTS

SATURDAY SOFTBALL: DUNKERTON INVITATIONAL

Rain makes long trip a little shorter for Wildcats

Championship game canceled due to storm

BY SCOTT BYERS
SBYERS@NWESTIOWA.COM

DUNKERTON—Class 3A 10th-ranked West Lyon didn't get a chance to finish what it started at the Dunkerton Invitational last Saturday, but coach Jeremy Childress was thankful the Wildcats got some work done during the trip.

"After being rained out four consecutive years, we finally got to play some games in Dunkerton," he said. "There were rain and lightning delays throughout the day. They

finally canceled the tournament right before the championship game was about to start. We would have played Charles City in that game."

WL 4, MFL-MarMac 0

The Wildcats piled all of their offense into one inning and Madison De Jong threw up blanks as West Lyon defeated MFL MarMac in a game that was cut short due to lightning.

West Lyon scored all four of its runs in the first inning.

The Wildcats only managed four hits in a game that was stopped after five innings.

"The hitters struggled a little bit

adjusting to seed so hits were hard to come by but we were able to manufacture some runs," Childress said.

De Jong threw a no-hitter in five innings of work. She walked two and struck out seven.

West Lyon made one error in the field.

"Madi De Jong did a great job," Childress said.

West Lyon's batters struck out only once. The Bulldogs made three errors.

Jersey Hawf doubled, scored a run and drove in one. Madison Johnson had a hit, a run and an RBI. Gianna Klarenbeek had a hit and an RBI. Evy Knoblock had a hit and scored a run.

WL 7, New Hampton 0

West Lyon had to play all seven innings in the semifinal round, but its pitching staff registered its second shutout of the day in a 7-0 win over New Hampton.

Jersey Hawf had a little more traffic to work through than De Jong had in the first contest.

She allowed three hits and walked three. Hawf struck out six batters and the Wildcats played flawless on defense.

"Jersey Hawf pitched another great game in the circle and overall it was a great team performance," Childress said.

West Lyon scored a single run in

each of the first three innings.

The Wildcats were able to extend the fifth inning for a while, scoring four times in the frame to account for the final tally.

"The bats came to life a little bit and we were able to put a few more runs on the board," the coach said.

West Lyon had six hits, with no one getting more than one.

Knoblock, Hawf and Braylyn Childress each hit a double. Hawf scored twice. Knoblock and Braylyn Childress each had two RBIs. Klarenbeek had a hit, a walk, two runs and an RBI. De Jong had a hit, two RBIs and a run. Randi Childress had a hit, a walk and a run.

SATURDAY SOFTBALL: WESTWOOD TOURNAMENT

Trinity Christian starts out late, finishes its day with blowout

Jays, Wolverines drop two at event

BY CHARLIE HILDEBRAND
CHILDEBRAND@NWESTIOWA.COM

SLOAN—Trinity Christian was the only N'West Iowa team to win any games at the Westwood softball tournament last Saturday.

Gehlen Catholic and South O'Brien went winless at the event, which was delayed from starting for two hours because of weather.

WW 6, Trinity 4

Trinity Christian started well but couldn't maintain the advantage in a 6-4 loss to Westwood in the first game on Saturday that started around 10:15 a.m.

The delay to the event may have helped out the Tigers more than any other team. Trinity Christian lost a road game in 10 innings to South O'Brien the night before.

"We were glad to get a couple extra hours. We didn't have to leave home until 8:30 instead of 6:30," said Tigers' coach Dave Van Egdom. "The girls came pretty well ready to play. We were ready to go. Just didn't quite get enough of what we needed."

The Tigers got one run in the first inning and two in the second to go in front 3-0.

"We put the bat on the ball and manufactured a few runs," Van Egdom said. "We got some things working for us."

The Rebels got a run in the third and Trinity Christian added one in the top of the fourth to make it 4-1.

Westwood plated three runs in the bottom of the fourth to even the score at 4. The Rebels added one run in the fifth and another in the sixth for the final margin.

Makiah De Jager pitched six innings for the Tigers and allowed four earned runs on nine hits in the loss. She walked six batters and struck out three.

Trinity Christian's Maesa

Cleveringa and Keahna Heynen went 2-for-3 from the plate with an RBI.

"We played very good defense and put the bat on the ball for the most part," Van Egdom said. "We just didn't get enough to win the game."

Trinity 11, L-B 0

Trinity Christian built an early advantage and then slammed the door shut on Lawton-Bronson with a big inning at the end to win 11-0 in five frames.

"We played good defense and our pitcher threw strikes," Van Egdom said. "Those are two of the big factors we're working on right now."

The Tigers notched two runs in the first inning and three in the second to jump in front 5-0.

Trinity Christian then finished the game with six runs in the fifth.

"We found the holes," Van Egdom said. "We put the bat on the ball and took advantage of walks. There were a couple errors that gave us a boost too."

Brooke Meyer pitched a two-hit shutout for the Tigers with one walk and struck out five batters.

"Brook Meyer had her first start of the year," Van Egdom said. "She threw really well and the defense did the work behind her."

Kerstin Brummel and Heynen each went 3-for-4 from the plate with three RBIs for Trinity Christian.

"When their number was called, they put the bat on the ball and got it done," Van Egdom said.

Rena De Boer, Allison Mooy and Julia Van Maanen each drove in a run.

WM 11, Gehlen 1

Gehlen Catholic couldn't get much going against Class 2A sixth-ranked West Monona in the first game for the Jays and lost 11-1 in five innings.

"It took a while for us to wake up," said Gehlen Catholic coach Victoria Smithson.

The Jays briefly led 1-0 in the top of the first inning. The Spartans countered with five runs in the bottom of the frame to go in front 5-1.

West Monona added four runs in the fourth and two in the fifth for the final margin.

Gehlen Catholic's Addison Konz pitched 2 2/3 innings and allowed six runs on four hits in the loss. She walked one batter and struck out one.

Haley Lubben, Larissa Pohlen and Emerson Schmidt had the lone hits for the Jays. Pohlen had the only run.

K-P 13, Gehlen 5

Gehlen Catholic hung with Kingsley-Pierson early on but gave up too many big innings on the way to a 13-5 loss in the second contest for the Jays.

The Panthers led 1-0 through one inning then added three runs in the top of the second to stretch the lead to 4-0. Gehlen Catholic got a run in the bottom of the second to trim the deficit to 4-1.

Kingsley-Pierson plated four runs in the top of the third to extend the advantage to 8-1. The Jays scored again in the bottom of the frame to cut the margin to 8-2.

Gehlen Catholic notched two more runs in the fourth to make it 8-4.

The Panthers scored once in the fifth and four times in the top of the seventh to push the lead to 13-4. The Jays added a run in the bottom of the seventh for the final margin.

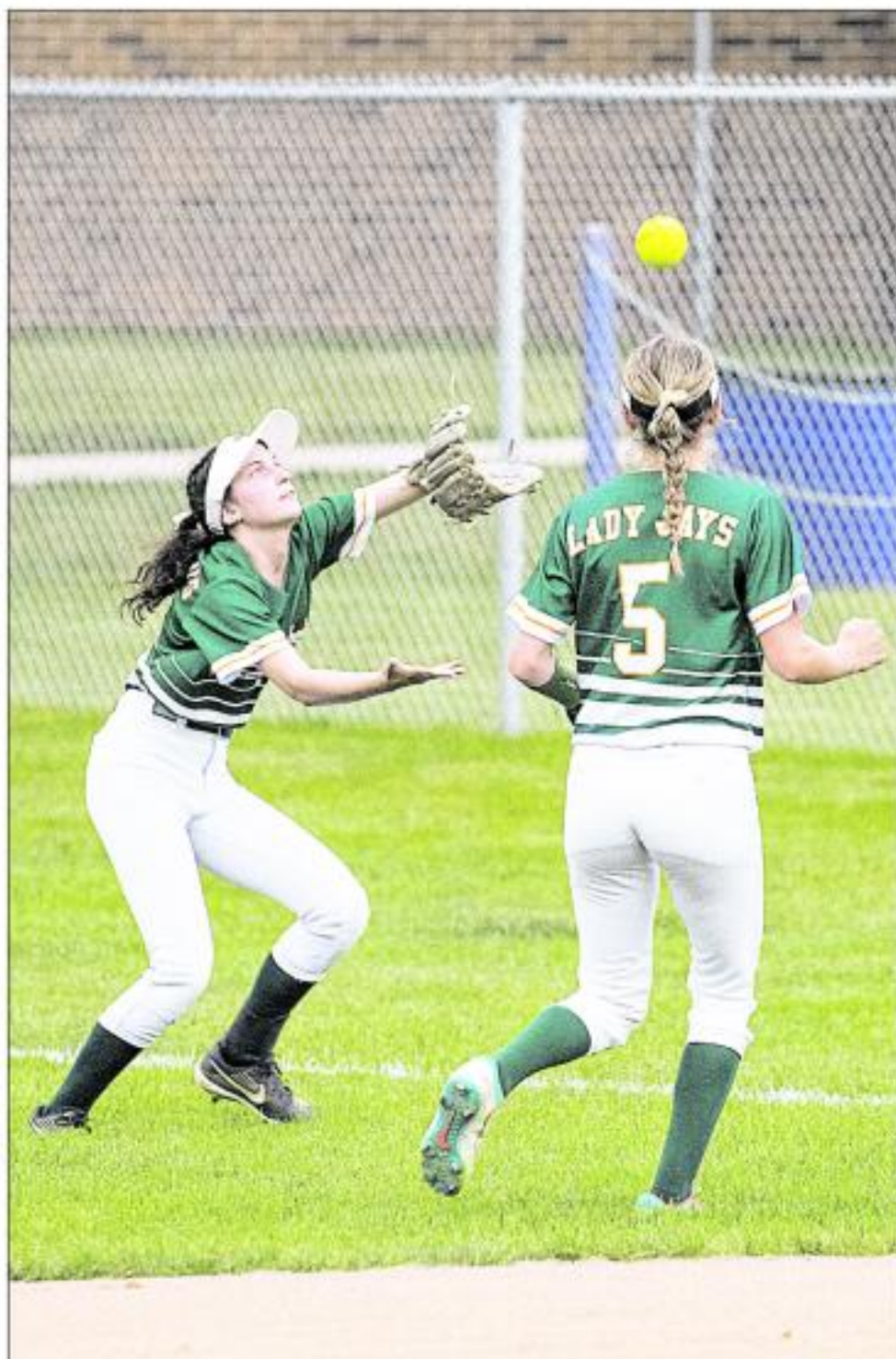
"They played well," Smithson said. "Our defense is good. Our offense, we're hitting the ball right to players. It's a little too easy for the other team."

Konz pitched 3 2/3 innings for Gehlen Catholic and allowed five runs on four hits in the loss. She walked one batter and struck out one.

Pohlen went 3-for-4 from the dish for the Jays with a double and two RBIs. Lubben was 3-for-4 with a solo homer. Schmidt doubled.

WM 16, SOS 2

South O'Brien struggled to



Gehlen Catholic sophomore Ellie Arens catches a fly in right field during a game at Unity Christian on Tuesday. The Jays played twice at the Westwood Invitational last Saturday, starting with a loss to West Monona squad and followed by a loss to Kingsley-Pierson. Photos by Roy Tucker

slow down West Monona in a 16-2 loss in three innings.

"They're definitely ranked from a reason," said Wolverines' coach Heather Struve. "One through nine, there isn't a lot of let up."

The Spartans scored five in the first inning and five in the second to build a 10-0 lead.

"Their pace of the game, they can slap and hit for power. We were a little hesitant coming into the slap when

we knew they could smack it right at you," Struve said. "It was tough for us defensively. We didn't make tons of errors. They just put it in places where we couldn't do anything about it."

The Wolverines got two runs in the top of the third to cut the deficit to 10-2. West Monona plated six runs in the bottom of the third to end the contest.

South O'Brien's Brooklyn Edwards pitched all three

innings and gave up 10 hits in the loss.

Maddie Johnson went 2-for-2 from the plate for the Wolverines with a double and an RBI.

"Maddie Johnson went 2-for-2 against a really good pitcher," Struve said. "That was nice to see. Otherwise, we didn't hit the ball a ton."

K-P 12, SOS 7

South O'Brien seemed to be in a good place after a huge inning but gave up two big frames after that in a 12-7 loss to Kingsley-Pierson in a four-inning game.

"I don't know what the heat index was, but it was probably the hottest game we've played all year," Struve said. "Coming off a 10-inning win over Trinity, we came out flat and didn't play with a lot of energy."

After a scoreless first inning, the Wolverines plated seven runs in the top of the second.

"The second inning we played really well. Then they switched pitchers and we just hit it right at them or fly balls and couldn't get any more," Struve said. "The bad thing was we gave up seven runs that inning, so it was a long second inning."

The Panthers scored five in the third for the final margin.

Edwards pitched 1 1/3 innings for South O'Brien and allowed four earned runs on three hits in the loss. She walked two batters and struck out one.

Johnson hit a two-run homer for the Wolverines.

"Usually when she does it, it's the first pitch she had of the inning," Struve said. "They had a deeper fence than regulation, so it was a pretty good hit."

South O'Brien's Abby Nelson drove in two runs. Karlee Warnke and Alyssa Van Beek each had one RBI.



Trinity Christian sophomore Kerstin Brummel slides safely into second as the throw gets by Harley-Melvin-Sanborn junior Kinsey Schirmer on Wednesday in Hull. The Tigers played two games in the Westwood Invitational last Saturday, falling to the tourney host in the first game before blasting Lawton-Bronson in the second.

The South O'Brien SUN



PAULLINA GEMBOREE

Eleven-year-old Sydney Billick has fun with a huge bubble coming her way from Special K's the Bubble Clown last Saturday.

— SEE MORE ON D8

SATURDAY, JULY 1, 2023 | SECTION D

WEEKEND WEATHER

SATURDAY
24% chance of precip **81°/60°**

SUNDAY
10% chance of precip **86°/63°**

BY DESIGN



Rona Frank of Paullina receives some help dividing her board up into squares from Deidre Welch of Hartley during a Barn Quilt Class offered June 19 at the Gen. N.B. Baker Library in Sutherland. Photo by Eric Harrold

SUTHERLAND—The artistic talents of some area residents were on display as they designed a Midwest masterpiece in the form of barn quilts at the Gen. N.B. Baker Library in Sutherland.

The quilts were on a smaller scale than most as the boards were 2 feet by 2 feet in size.

Participants had the option of getting their boards free of charge at Neal Chase Lumber in Primghar if they agreed to display their finished product at the upcoming O'Brien County Fair in Primghar.

Thirteen people showed up for the second of two sessions on June 19 with their boards painted and primed. They

were greeted by Deidre Welch, who is better known as one of the co-owners of Grounded Coffee & Junk in Hartley, along with her husband, Kelly.

Deidre Welch said she last led a barn quilt class about 20 years ago. Librarian Nancy Hill

See **QUILT** on D10

CREATIVITY DISPLAYED DURING BARN QUILT CLASS

BY ERIC HARROLD EHARROLD@NWESTIOWA.COM



The Paullina Emergency Services Golf Tournament returns Saturday, July 15. Proceeds go toward a new Paullina Emergency Services Building. Photo submitted

Golf event to raise funds for Paullina emergency services

New building in need for crews

BY ELIJAH HELTON
EHELTON@NWESTIOWA.COM

PAULLINA—The fire and ambulance crews in Paullina are taking another swing at fundraising for their new station.

Tea time for the third annual Paullina Emergency Services Golf Tournament is 9:30 a.m. Saturday, July 15.

Registration for a team costs \$200.

Fire chief Ryan Harper said earlier this week he already has 10 teams signed up. The event is limited to 18 teams of four golfers.

"The first two years, we maxed out teams," Harper said. "We definitely are having good attendance."

Those looking to sign up to play or sponsor the event

See **FUNDS** on D10

SUN SPOTS

July 4 Fly-In Breakfast at airport in Paullina

PAULLINA—The Caledonia Ramblers and G&W Feeders 4-H clubs will serve pancakes and sausage 7-11 a.m. Monday, July 4, during the annual Fourth of July Fly-In Breakfast at the Paullina Municipal Airport.

Volunteers needed for Prairie Heritage Center

SUTHERLAND—Volunteers are always welcome to help at the Prairie Heritage Center southeast of Sutherland 1-4 p.m. Saturdays or Sundays. Whether it is one time or many, the O'Brien County Conservation Board appreciates all would volunteer. A volunteer schedule can be found on the Volunteer tab at <https://prairieheritagecenter.org>.

Paullina City Council to hold meeting on July 3

PAULLINA—The Paullina City Council's next regular meeting is set for 5:30 p.m. Monday, July 3, at the city hall. For more information, call the Paullina city office at 712-949-3428.

Sutherland City Council will hold meeting July 3

SUTHERLAND—The Sutherland City Council's next regular monthly meeting is set for 7 p.m. Monday, July 3, at the R.L. Johannsen Center downtown. For more information, call the city office at 712-446-2243.

Parkinson's disease focus of virtual series

REGIONAL—Iowa State University Extension and Outreach will host a virtual educational series "A Journey Through Parkinson's disease," on Zoom 10-11 a.m. Thursdays, July 13, July 20 and July 27. The programs will include interactive lessons, discussions, and activities about Parkinson's disease, its effects and possible treatments. There is a no fee to participate. For more information and/or to register, visit www.extension.iastate.edu/humansciences/parkinsons.

Grassley internships offered to collegians

REGIONAL—Internships are available for college-age Iowans in the offices of U.S. Sen. Chuck Grassley (R-Iowa) in Washington, D.C., Cedar Rapids, Council Bluffs, Davenport, Des Moines, Sioux City and Waterloo Aug. 28-Dec. 15. Applications are due Friday, July 14, and available at www.grassleysenate.gov/services/internships and in Grassley's Iowa offices. For more information, contact Tyler Henningsen at tyler_henningsen@grassleysenate.gov or call 202-224-3744.

NEXT ISSUE:
Submissions deadline:
5 p.m. Monday, July 10
Publication:
Saturday, July 15

Submit story ideas and briefly notices to
editor@iowainformation.com
or **712-324-5347** Ext. 4.
www.nwestiowa.com

Iowa DNR avian ecologist offers advice on bird feeding

Makes suggestions on ways to attract more, species diversity

REGIONAL—Bird feeding is among the most popular pastimes in the country, enjoyed by an estimated 57 million people who spend roughly \$4 billion annually on seed, baths and feeders, books and binoculars.

Whether attached to decks, hanging in the backyard or off the front porch, Iowans enjoy watching birds come and go from their feeders all year long.

Anna Buckardt Thomas, avian ecologist with the Iowa Department of Natural Resources, said beginning bird feeding is easy and including different types of feeders and a bird bath will increase bird use and species diversity.

"Birds eat different foods and in different ways. For example, woodpeckers attach to trees and approach the food vertically, so suet feeders will attract woodpeckers, nuthatches and chickadees," she said. "Tube feeders with black oil sunflower or thistle seeds will attract finches. Platform feeders will bring in blue jays, cardinals, and sparrows that like to eat standing on the platform."

For do-it-yourselfers, Buckardt Thomas said slice an orange or clementine in half and place it in a suet feeder, on a nail or specially designed feeder to attract grosbeaks and orioles in the spring and summer. Soaking raisins or currants overnight, then patting dry before placing in a feeder, will attract cedar waxwings, orioles, and gray catbirds. Bluebirds prefer meal worms.

Nectar feeders attract hummingbirds, and the nectar can be made at home by bringing four cups of water to a boil then stirring in one cup of white cane sugar — and only white cane sugar — until dissolved, then allow to cool. Do not add any coloring. Hummingbirds will be attracted to the feeder itself, not the color of the liquid inside. Also consider planting native flowers are a natural hummingbird feeder.

Buckardt Thomas said she rotates the type of food seasonally, with fruits and nectar preferred during the late spring and summer months, and seeds and suet during the colder months, but used by birds all year long.

Other birds, like warblers, do not use the seed but will come for water.

Provide a shallow birdbath set close to the ground, in the shade if possible. Birds will drink from it and splash around in it. Replace the water and clean the birdbath with a 10 percent bleach solution once per week.

Maintaining bird baths and feeders is important to prevent mold and diseases from causing health issues among the feathered visitors.

Clean the feeders once per month with the bleach solution and make sure the feeder is dry before filling with seed. Buckardt Thomas also recommends cleaning the ground underneath the feeders periodically to prevent mold. Nectar feeders should be emptied and cleaned with soap and hot water or the bleach solution every three days or so.

"If you see birds not moving like normal, or see something like conjunctivitis, remove the feeders and wash them and keep them down for at least a week to reduce the spread of any diseases," she said. "That will help to prevent congregating birds in close proximity and spreading disease."

Feeders can be hunting grounds for bird-eating predators, including Cooper's and sharp-shinned hawks and house cats.

"It's part of nature, but it can be shocking to see a hawk take a bird off the feeder, but if you can, try to enjoy the experience. If it bothers you to have hawks around, you can pull the feeders for a while, and they will move on," Buckardt Thomas said. "Domestic house cats are the number one human-related cause of bird deaths in North America, accounting for an estimated 1-3 billion bird deaths each year. The cats are just doing what they are designed to do, but if you plan to attract birds to your yard, make sure the birds are safe, and keep your cats indoors."

Birds cannot see glass but see the reflection of the outdoors or of themselves or other birds, often causing them to collide with the window. To help avoid collisions or to minimize the impact, place anti-collision stickers, tapes or cordson the window, put the feeder either near the window so if they hit it, they will not be going too fast, or far away so they can avoid it.



AgriVision Equipment Group hosts a Customer Appreciation Lunch and Open House on Friday, June 23, in the new shop addition at its location at 5671 460th St. on the east edge of Paullina. The 13,500-square-foot addition was completed on June 9. Photos by Eric Harrold

AgriVision shows off shiny new shop

Addition will allow business to expand service offerings

BY ERIC HARROLD
EHARROLD@NWESTIOWA.COM

PAULLINA—An estimated 230 people attended AgriVision Equipment Group's annual Customer Appreciation Lunch and Open House to dedicate a new shop addition at its Paullina store on Friday, June 23.

Folks steadily made their way through the front entrance and drifted back to the shop where the smell of freshly grilled steak, burgers and hot dogs lured them to the newest portion of the building being showcased.

Lunch was served in the new shop addition that will increase the capacity of the business to better serve its growing customer base.

Eyes peered around at the new features while conversation centered on recent rainfall amounts and the hope that enough will fall in the coming weeks.

The 13,500-square-foot addition completed on June 9 enabled AgriVision's Paullina location to add onto its existing overhead crane and created enough space for another overhead crane to run the length of the shop.

The supplier of products from John Deere Ag & Turf Equipment, John Deere Compact Construction Equipment, Unverferth Manufacturing Company Products and Demco Products has experienced a lot of growth in the last six years, and the increased business means a need to add employees.

In that six-year period, the Paullina site nearly doubled its workforce, going from 16 to 31 team members that include technicians, parts workers, sales representatives and service managers. The new expansion will create space to accommodate another six technicians.

"We have several students in both high school and college that are going to come on full time with in the next three years, and this will allow us room for them and allow us to add more techs in the future," said manager



Some of the estimated 230 people attending AgriVision Equipment Group's Customer Appreciation Lunch and Open House enjoy the food served on Friday, June 23, at its store location in Paullina. The event provided an opportunity for customers to see the new shop addition that will allow the company to bring on more technicians for service and repair.

Rich Frerk.

While sales numbers are critical to Frerk and other AgriVision leaders, the service end of the business is a significant component of its growth. As more products are added, the demand for maintenance and repair of implements and accessory equipment will only increase.

A new partnership between Dordt University in Sioux Center and AgriVision was announced that will lead to students completing a two-year associate degree program in agriculture service technology.

Frerk, like other store managers with the company, is looking forward to seeing new service technicians come from the new program, which will help the company to expand the services offered for the product lines it carries.

The extra space resulting from the shop addition will go a long way toward accommodating that growing demand for service. The new service area will be a technician's dream come true as it will offer a climate-controlled environment.

A couple of farmers who live south of Paullina pointed to the advantages the shop addition has for the business so many are dependent upon to supply the equipment and service.

"Just the extra space that allows them to service machinery in a reasonable time and keep guys going will be a benefit," said Bruce Godbersen.

"It's nice to have a dealership close by so that you don't have to run 20-30 miles for parts and service," said Steve Recker.

BRIEFLY

Primghar City Council's next regular monthly meeting slated for 5 p.m. July 12, at city hall

PRIMGHAR—The Primghar City Council's next regular monthly meeting is set for 5 p.m. Wednesday, July 12, at the city hall. For more information, call the Primghar city office at 712-957-2435.

Blood drives will be held July 10 in Sutherland, July 12 in Primghar and on Aug. 9 in Paullina

REGIONAL—LifeServe Blood Center of Sioux City will hold a blood drive 12:30-4:30 p.m. Monday, July 10, at the R.L. Johannsen Center in Sutherland; 1:30-5:30 p.m. Wednesday, July 12, at the Primghar Community Building; and 12:30-4:45 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 9, at the American Legion

Community Center in Paullina. Appointments are required by visiting liveservebloodcenter.org or calling 1-800-287-4903.

'Diurnal Raptors of Iowa' presentation July 19 at Prairie Heritage Center near Sutherland

SUTHERLAND—O'Brien County Conservation will host a "Diurnal Raptors of Iowa" presentation 10-11:30 a.m. Wednesday, July 19, at the Prairie Heritage Center southeast of Sutherland, followed by a "Combat Birding-Avian Research with U.S. Army Corps of Engineers along the Upper Mississippi River" presentation 12:30-2 p.m. The presentation is part of the Building Better Birders Workshops and will be conducted by Kelly McKay with BioEco Research and Monitoring Center. For information, visit buildingbetterbirders.com or call naturalist Lindsey Craig at 712-334-0670.

Behavior of students discussed

Talk of supports and interventions

BY ELIJAH HELTON
EHELTON@NWESTIOWA.COM

PAULLINA—The South O'Brien School District Board of Education got its final report card of the academic year Monday and discussed its marks on student behavior.

Among multiple approvals and renewals to finish putting 2022-23 in the books, the board focused on its ongoing project to overhaul its interventions and supports for elementary students. The new system centers data tracking to notice and respond to behavioral problems.

Superintendent Wade Riley has served as interim elementary principal since November. He said the numbers confirm what many educators know instinctively. Most behavioral problems stem from a small number of students.

"It's pretty typical in education: Our top 13 students for behavior made up well over half," Riley said.

In February, the district hired Jean Steen to be the principal next year at the PK-6 school in Primghar. Her

contract officially starts today (Saturday, July 1), and Riley said she is set up for success given the work that has already been done.

Tracking the details of behavioral referrals and incidents is another factor. At South O'Brien, the most problematic day is Monday — instead of Friday, which surprised Riley — and there are spikes around recess and lunchtime.

"Unstructured time is when some of our poor choices tend to happen," Riley said.

This is all under the umbrella of Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports. PBIS is a popular approach, especially for younger grades, as a way to incentivize a more constructive learning culture.

Some educators have critiqued PBIS for its top-down structure, but Riley and board members said South O'Brien has seen success with it.

"Learn from our mistakes so we don't make them again. That's our goal with behaviors. We really try to focus on learning from those. We talk through those things. What are some solutions? How could we have done things differently?" Riley said.

Steen said the system was a

OTHER BUSINESS

The South O'Brien School District Board of Education on Monday also:

- Purchased the updated preschool curriculum from Creative Curriculum. The company is the same as before, but the new system is web-based. The board opted to sign on for three years, totaling \$17,111.

- Renewed its cafeteria milk deal with Prairie Farms of Sioux Falls, SD, instead of switching to competitor Kemps of Le Mars. The bid from Prairie Farms was about 2 cents cheaper per carton.

- Approved minor changes to preschool, elementary, high school and coach handbooks.

selling point for her, given her experience teaching at Wayne Elementary in Nebraska, her previous job.

"PBIS was something that Wayne did for their school-wide, Tier 1 behavioral management. That was exciting to see that South O'Brien has implemented that," Steen said.

More than a third of the school year's incidents recorded fell under "defiance/insubordination/noncompliance." The second-most common behavior, about one-fifth of total incidents, was disruption.

Riley said the school tries broader solutions to the issue, not only relying on individual

sit-downs.

"We had an all-school assembly. 'What is disrespect?' We talked to them, gave them examples," he said.

Similar to the misbehaving Monday trend, the heaviest month for incidents was January. Riley said coming back from winter break plus the season's snow days made it difficult for some students to settle back into a routine.

"Most of the kids aren't being malicious. It's not like, 'Oh, I want to get in trouble today.' That's not the case," he said. "They're reacting to something that has happened to them. With our discipline, we can hopefully eliminate that."



Superintendent Wade Riley speaks at the South O'Brien School District Board of Education meeting. Doubling as interim elementary principal for much of 2022-23, he presented end-of-year behavioral statistics. Photo by Elijah Helton

PLACES OF WORSHIP DIRECTORY



Bethel Lutheran Church
502 S. Ash St., Sutherland
Pastor Brett Witmer

SUNDAY: 9:15 am: Sunday School & Adult Bible Class; 10:30 am: Worship



Church Of Christ Sutherland
203 S. Oak St., Sutherland
Pastor John Erickson

SUNDAY: 9:30 am & 10:30 am: Worship
10:30 am: Sunday School



United Methodist Church
214 W. Second St., Sutherland
Pastor Dave Morris

SUNDAY: 9:30 am: Worship - Larrabee
9:30 am: Sunday School - Sutherland
10:30 am: Worship - Sutherland



Christ Community Church
280 First St. N.E., Primghar
Pastor Cory Grimm

SUNDAY: 9:30 am: Worship
10:30 am: Fellowship



United Church of Primghar
465 Heritage Park Rd., Primghar
Pastor Mike Cooper

SUNDAY: 9:00 am: Worship followed by Fellowship & Sunday School



Grace Lutheran Church
390 N. Rerick Ave., Primghar
Interim Pastor

SUNDAY: 9:30 am: Worship
10:30 am: Sunday School during school year



Church Of Christ Primghar
280 First St. N.W., Primghar
Pastor Mike Cooper

SUNDAY: 9:15 am: Adult Sunday School & Coffee Time; 10:00 am: Worship



First Presbyterian Church
103 W. Groesbeck St., Paullina
Pastor Rev. Sheryl Puderbaugh

SUNDAY: 8:30 - 10:00 am Free breakfast;
9:00 am: Sunday School; 10:30 am: Worship



Zion Lutheran Church
101 E. Bertha St., Paullina
Pastor Don Meyer

SUNDAY: 9:30 am: Worship
10:30 am: Adult Bible Class & Sunday School



St. John Lutheran Church
5092 480th St., Germantown

SUNDAY: 9:00 am: Worship
10:00 am: Bible Study



Zion United Church of Christ
110 W. Third St., Calumet
Mike Peterson

SUNDAY: 9:30 am: Worship

*Worship the Lord
with Gladness.
Come before Him,
singing with joy.*

-Psalm 20:35

The sponsors of this page are pleased to present this monthly listing of church services.

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Cattle producers urged to monitor health of pastures

Low rain totals of last few years have impact

BY ERIC HARROLD
EHARROLD@NWESTIOWA.COM

PAULLINA—A Pasture Walk held Thursday evening, June 22, at Dustin Puhmann's 34-acre unit southeast of Paullina attracted 23 participants eager to glean some new information to help improve the health, longevity and productivity of their pastures during times of drought.

It's a simple formula. Less moisture means less forage which means lower forage production for cattle producers.

With the low precipitation levels in recent years, area cattle producers are finding both the quantity and quality of their forage is declining, and therefore, fewer or lighter animals are being produced for market each year.

The U.S. Drought Monitor map for Iowa published on June 22 showed much of the western half of the state to be experiencing moderate to severe drought conditions. Most of O'Brien, Lyon, Osceola, and Sioux counties have been in moderate drought conditions for the past nine weeks.

For the northwestern corner of the state for the month of June, the area is 0.6 inches behind or 85 percent

of normal, according to Tim Hall, hydrology resources coordinator for the Iowa Department of Natural Resources. He said the area is about 6.5 inches behind or 80 percent of normal precipitation levels for the year.

Beth Doran, beef field specialist for Iowa State University Extension and Outreach in Orange City, coordinated the Pasture Walk.

Prior to the walk, burgers were cooked up and served hot off the grill on Puhmann's property courtesy of the O'Brien County Cattlemen's Association and O'Brien County office of ISU Extension.

Puhmann shared some details of what he has done since purchasing the property in 2020, when the coronavirus pandemic took off. He took advantage of social distancing measures and was able to fence for five days a week.

He listened to podcasts about rotational grazing and other topics to make cow/calf operations more profitable. He worked with the Natural Resources Conservation Service to create a cost-share plan for cross fencing to divide his pasture into four units to facilitate rotational grazing. Distributing grazing pressure during times of lean moisture has allowed him to keep cows on the pasture except for a couple of periods of extreme dryness that have



Beth Doran, beef field specialist for Iowa State University Extension and Outreach in Orange City, encourages participants on the Pasture Walk on June 22 to monitor pasture condition closely while drought conditions persist. The event was held at Dustin Puhmann's 34-acre property located southeast of Paullina. Photos by Eric Harrold

occurred since he began grazing the property three years ago.

Puhmann has his four seven- to nine-acre paddocks on a seven-day rotation but would like to rotate more frequently in the future.

"On my grazing journey, I'd like to go to moving cows every three days," he said.

His 22 cow/calf pairs get their water from the tile-fed creek that meanders through the pasture, where he mostly controls unwanted weeds through spot-spraying.

Puhmann said his goal is to have four to six inches of forage height remaining when cattle are moved from one paddock to another.

"You don't want to graze them lower than four inches or you will take away the solar factory of the plant, and continued overgrazing will eventually damage root systems as well," Doran said.

In a drought, Puhmann said producers would be wise to graze down to four inches and then move the cattle off a unit. Supplemental feeding was another option he mentioned when fresh forage is in short supply.

Doran encouraged producers to rethink how they conceptualize their

grazing operations. She said many producers tend to think more about cattle than the forage available to them.

"I want you to think about forage, because it's going to impact those cattle," she said.

Doran also talked about timing of grazing and how putting cattle out to pastures consisting primarily of cool season grasses too early can catch up with producers, especially in dry conditions.

"Too soon on the front end means possibly not enough left toward the end of the grazing season," she said.

Doran pointed out cattle are like people in at least one respect: They don't find all plant and grass species available to them to be equally attractive. Her analogy was a comparison between a stalk of celery and a candy bar to somebody looking for something tasty and high in calories.

She said one thing that can lead to heavier grazing and more cattle trails in some parts of a pasture is proximity to water, and that moving water sources — when feasible — will better disperse grazing animals throughout a pasture.

A final point made by Doran was in reference to the recovery period

needed by a pasture following a grazing period. She said what is usually a 30-day recovery period under conditions of normal moisture can turn into 45 days or more in a drought.

Leah Ten Napel, an Extension field agronomist based in Le Mars, spoke on the topic of pasture fertilization and weed control. She said the fertilizer should be applied based on the results of soil testing.

She encouraged a multipronged approach to weed infestations, including the use of goats and mechanical treatment in addition to chemical application.

Ten Napel said producers should be mindful of the fact haying removes phosphorus and potassium from a pasture, whereas grazing keeps more of these minerals on the site.

Andrew Koehlmoos, district conservationist with the Natural Resource Conservation Service in Primghar, spoke briefly about cost-share programs the federal agency can offer to cattle producers to install fencing for practices like rotational grazing. He also provided grazing sticks for measuring forage height and talked about foraging categories and controlling fescue.



Dustin Puhmann, host for the Pasture Walk, points to an area near his creek where cattle seem to preferentially graze relative to other areas.

Extension research site to hold annual Farm Field Day July 12

Corn rootworm event also slated

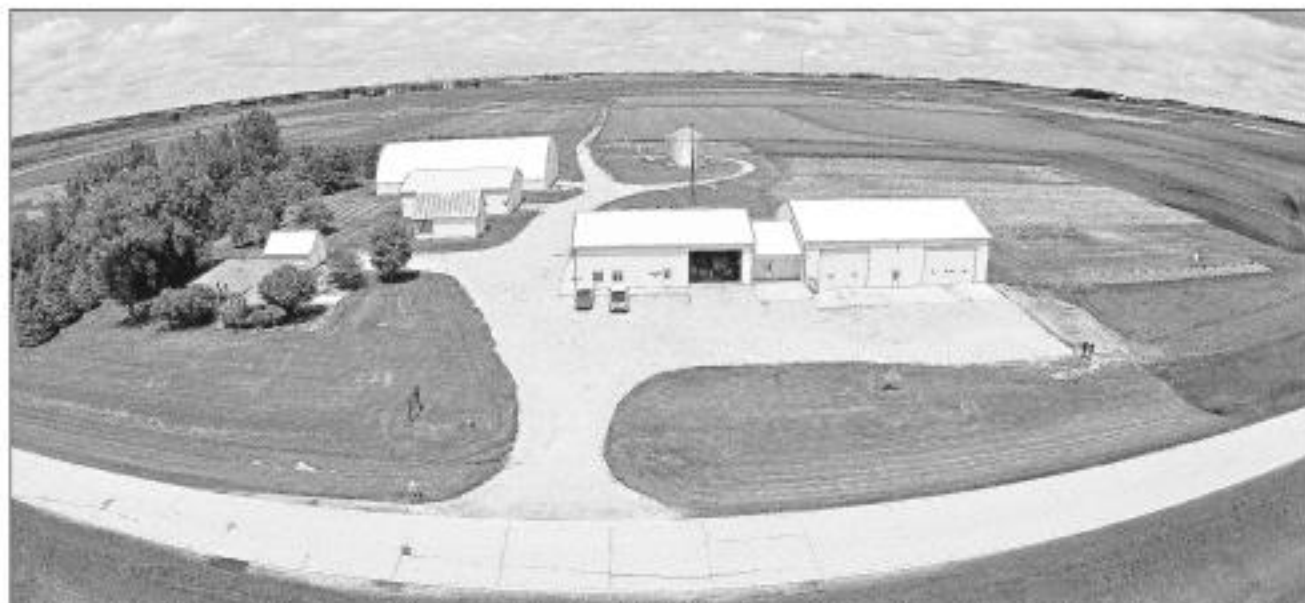
CALUMET—The annual Iowa State University Extension and Outreach Northwest Iowa Research Farm Field Day will be held 9:30 a.m.-noon Wednesday, July 12.

For the second year, an optional Corn Rootworm Field Day will follow lunch at 1 p.m.

The farm is located southwest of Sutherland at 6320 500th St., about two miles south of Calumet and a quarter mile east of Highway 59 on O'Brien County road B62.

The field day will focus on timely topics, including updated phosphorus and potassium guidelines, weather forecasts, Mesonet tools and how drought impacts area soils.

"Farmers and agronomists can plan for a full day of learning at the Research Farm," said Gentry Sorenson, field agronomist with Iowa State University Extension and Outreach. "We are offering



The Iowa State University Northwest Research and Demonstration Farm is located southwest of Sutherland at 6320 500th St., about two miles south of Calumet and a quarter mile east of Highway 59 on O'Brien County road B62. Photo submitted

two field days in one day in an effort to maximize education and networking time."

Registration opens at 9 a.m., with the program beginning at 9:30 a.m. with "Updated Phosphorus and Potassium Guidelines," led by Antonio

Mallarino, Extension soil fertility specialist.

Following Mallarino, in-field learning will address:

- "Weather Forecasts and Mesonet Tools," led by Iowa Environmental Mesonet representative Daryl Herzmann.

- "Soil Changes Across the Landscape: How Drought Impacts Northwest Iowa Soils," led by Amber Anderson, assistant teaching professor at Iowa State University in Ames.

- "Timely Agronomic Topics

of the 2023 Growing Season," led by Gentry Sorenson and Leah Ten Napel, Extension field agronomists.

At the completion of the morning field day, a complimentary noon lunch will be served.

Following lunch at 1 p.m., the Corn Rootworm Field Day will begin.

ISU entomologists Erin Hodgson and Ashley Dean will provide in-field education using a corn-on-corn demonstration plot.

"The demonstration plot will have non-Bt rootworm corn, SmartStax corn and SmartStax Pro corn with the new RNA-i trait, all with and without insecticides," Sorenson said. "Roots will be rated so everyone can see the differences in person."

Attendance at the morning and/or afternoon field day is free and open to the public. Registration is not needed.

Complimentary morning refreshments are sponsored by Security State Bank, with lunch sponsored by O'Brien County Ag Supply, J&K Insurance, C-S Agrow, and 5th Gen Ag.

For more information, contact field agronomists Gentry Sorenson at 641-430-6715 or gentrys@iastate.edu or Leah Ten Napel at 712-541-3493 or lre@iastate.edu.



Five-year-old Lincoln Crouch of Primghar, with his parents, Kimberly Davenport and Cory Crouch, enjoys his moment of fame as the grand marshal for the 2023 Cobblestone Days parade in Primghar. While the youngster has battled cancer for the past two years, his spirit and positivity have been an inspiration to others in the community. Photos by Eric Harrold



Youngsters enjoy a table full of paints on Saturday, June 17, during Cobblestone Days in Primghar.



Landon Sietstra of Sheldon and Bob Rush-ton of Primghar enjoy a round of play during the Bags Tournament on Saturday, June 17, during Cobblestone Days 2023 in Primghar.

Darrel "Big D" Van Engen of Primghar drives a John Deere lawn mower from AgriVision Equipment Group in Paullina on Saturday, June 17, as part of Cobblestone Days 2023.

Primghar celebrates Cobblestone Days



Gary Lansink of the Primghar Fire Department pitches candy to waiting youngsters during the annual Cobblestone Days parade on Saturday morning, June 17, in Primghar.



Vendor Greta Postma of Sheldon finds a couple of takers for strawberry rhubarb pie and cherry coffee cake in Tony and Becky Tjossem of Paullina during Cobblestone Days 2023 on Saturday, June 17.

Shiny vehicles line the downtown O'Brien County Courthouse square at Cobblestone Days Car Show on Saturday, June 17. Darin Logan, who organized the 2023 show, said there were about 70 entries spanning 10 categories, most of which were classic cars.



Kersten Crews of Paullina paints the face of 7-year-old Makiah Matthews during the Party in the Park portion of last Saturday's Paullina Gemboree festivities.



Kelle Weise of Paullina gets a rib to sample from Barry Sandbulte of Ireton at the Paullina Fire Department's Rib Cookoff at the city park during the 2023 Paullina Gemboree last Saturday.

Sun shines for fun time at Paullina Gemboree



A kayak race gets underway during Paddler Olympics on the lake at Mill Creek Park in Paullina last Saturday. The event was part of the Paullina Gemboree activities. Photos by Eric Harrold



Special K's the Bubble Clown's giant bubbles were a big hit with the kids in Paullina last Saturday during the Party in the Park.



A military truck representing the Northwest Iowa Chapter of the Vietnam Veterans of America makes its way along the parade route during the Paullina Gemboree last Saturday.



A couple of youngsters aboard the Wolverine Wrestling entry in the Paullina Gemboree parade soak onlookers last Saturday.

New laws create year-round season for raccoons

No license required to shoot and trap critters

REGIONAL—Changes have arrived regarding the way Iowans can hunt and trap raccoons, and how farmers can deal with raccoon depredation issues.

Raccoons were the focus of a bill approved during the 2023 Iowa legislative session, allowing landowners or tenants to dispatch raccoons causing damage to their agricultural property, outside of the city limits. Landowners may shoot or trap raccoons using cage or dog-proof traps. A license is not required, and

landowners do not need to notify the Iowa Department of Natural Resources before shooting or trapping.

The bill was signed into law by Gov. Kim Reynolds and becomes effective today (Saturday, July 1).

The other related change relaxes the rules for hunting and trapping

raccoons for everyone.

The new rules, developed by the DNR and approved by the Natural Resource Commission of the DNR, allows for year-round hunting and trapping of raccoons on private land.

While the raccoon season will be continuously open, during the time of year outside of the fur harvester

season, only firearms, cage traps or dog-proof traps are legal methods of take. During the fur harvester season, trappers may use other lawful traps normally allowed during the trapping season. Hunters or trappers pursuing raccoons on private land they do not own are required to have a valid fur harvester license.

O'Brien County 4-H seniors reflect on their experiences

Share highlights and offer advice

PRIMGHAR—O'Brien County is home to 14 senior 4-H members.

As they enter their post-high school endeavors, these recent graduates look back upon their years in 4-H and what they enjoyed most.

Seniors took a minute to reflect on a beloved memory or share advice for younger 4-H members as they round out their time in O'Brien County 4-H.

Joseph Billings

Joseph Billings is a nine-year member of the O&O Kids 4-H Club. He is the son of Kent and Jamie Billings of Hartley.

"My favorite 4-H memory is winning beef of merit with my steer off of my first heifer," Billings said. "My favorite part of 4-H is watching new members get involved and work with livestock. Some advice I have for younger 4-H'ers is don't be afraid to ask questions and be involved. Find a good mentor; it can be a family member, a friend, or a neighbor."

Kourtney Dekker

Kourtney Dekker is a nine-year member of the Western Workers 4-H Club. She is the daughter of Kirk and Tina Dekker of Sheldon.

"My favorite 4-H memory is showing my Grand Champion steer at the Governor's Charity Steer Show at the Iowa State Fair in 2022," Dekker said. "My favorite part of 4-H is showing livestock and meeting a lot of new friends throughout the years. Some advice I have for younger 4-H'ers is to have fun, get involved with your 4-H club, and try new projects."

Bryce Dodge

Bryce Dodge is a nine-year member of the G&W Feeders 4-H Club. He is the son of Mark and Sara Dodge of Hartley.

"My favorite 4-H memory is bringing in a couch table for a woods project to the county fair and it went on to the state fair," Dodge said. "My favorite

part of 4-H is making friends with new people and learning new skills, and some advice I have for younger 4-H'ers is to try everything you can. New experiences aren't always bad. They will lead to new memories and possibly unlock new skills."

Whitney Einck

Whitney Einck is a nine-year member of the Center Farmers 4-H Club. She is the daughter of Tony and Heather Einck of Primghar.

"My favorite 4-H memory is when I modeled on stage for fashion review in fourth grade for the first time with my best friend and we couldn't stop laughing," Einck said. "My favorite part of 4-H is getting to show off you hard work that you've spent with your animals and projects at the fair and spending the week with your friends. Some advice I have for younger 4-H'ers is to try everything before you count yourself out."

Payton Farquhar

Payton Farquhar is a nine-year member of the G&W Feeders 4-H Club. She is the daughter of Ryan and Heidi Farquhar of Sutherland.

"My favorite 4-H memory is when Bob Steinkamp gave me a hug after selling my 4-H pigs for the first time," Farquhar said. "My favorite part of 4-H has been showing my pigs, and some advice I have for younger 4-H'ers, try all different kinds of projects to find your interests."

Morgan Grooters

Morgan Grooters is a nine-year member of the O&O Kids 4-H Club. She is the daughter of David and April Grooters of Sanborn.

"My favorite 4-H memory is staying at the fairgrounds during fair," Grooters said. "My favorite part of 4-H is doing good in the ring and seeing the little 4-H kids showing for the first time. Some advice I have for younger 4-H'ers is don't be afraid to try a new animal to show."

Dante Johnson

Dante Johnson is a nine-



Kourtney Dekker of Sheldon walks her steer, Lt. Kernel, down the pathway to the Livestock Pavilion at the Iowa State Fair for the Iowa Governor's Charity Steer Show on Aug. 20. Dekker said it was her favorite memory of her years in 4-H. Photo submitted

year member of the G&W Feeders 4-H Club. He is the son of Darin and Jenny Johnson of Sutherland.

"My favorite 4-H memory is going to the Plunge (into 4-H) camp all three years with my friends," Johnson said. "My favorite part of 4-H is spending time at the fair with friends, and some advice I have for younger 4-H'ers is to never be afraid to try new things in different project areas. Trying new things helps you grow as a person and 4-H'er."

Brayden Meyer

Brayden Meyer is a nine-year member of the Caledonia Ramblers 4-H Club. He is the son of Mike and Kristi Meyers of Hospers.

"My favorite 4-H memory is hanging out with friends and family in the beef barn and having water fights," Meyer said. "My favorite part of 4-H is showing cattle and having a great 4-H leader, and some advice I have for younger 4-H'ers is don't be afraid to try new things and have fun."

Dain Moermond

Dain Moermond is a nine-year member of the G&W Feeders 4-H Club. He is the son of Josh and Becca Moermond of Sutherland.

"My favorite 4-H memory is having water fights in the

wash rack and representing the O'Brien County Fair as fair king," Moermond said. "My favorite part of 4-H is showing swine, and some advice I have for younger 4-H'ers is don't be afraid to try out lots of different project areas. You never will know if you will like something unless you try it."

Leo Sells

Leo Sells is a nine-year member of the Caledonia Ramblers 4-H Club. He is the son of John and Lauri Sells and the late Jennifer Sells of Granville.

"My favorite 4-H memory was competing at the Western National Roundup 4-H Meats contest back in January," Sells said. "We got fifth as a team, and I got 16th individually. My favorite part of 4-H is it's a good time with all the people, animals, and activities going on, and some advice I have for younger 4-H'ers is to work hard and make sure to take good care of your animals."

Abby Stout

Abby Stout is a nine-year member of the Highlanders 4-H Club. She is the daughter of Doug and Joleen Stout of Primghar.

"My favorite 4-H memory is showing sheep and rabbits with my brother," Stout said. "My favorite part of 4-H is showing projects and hang-

ing out with my friends at the fair, and some advice I have for younger 4-H'ers is don't be afraid to try something new and pick a project outside of your comfort zone."

Colton Vande Brake

Colton Vande Brake is a four-year member of the Western Workers 4-H Club. He is the son of Ben and Ranae Vande Brake from Sheldon.

"My favorite 4-H memory is helping my sister show her first year," Vande Brake said. "My favorite part of 4-H — I enjoyed being treasurer. The last year we have had several high school-age kids and it is fun to connect with everyone on a different level. I love my goats and am excited to show them. Some advice I have for younger 4-H'ers is don't think you can't come back if you take a year off. Don't be scared to try something new, show a new animal or run for leadership. You will enjoy it and be successful and surprised in the end."

Grant Wagner

Grant Wagner is a nine-year member of the Highlanders 4-H Club. He is the son of Tom and Holly Wagner of Primghar.

"My favorite 4-H memory is my calf escaping during the fair," Grant said. "My favorite part of 4-H is meeting new

people, and some advice I have for younger 4-H'ers is to get involved with many different opportunities. You will learn many things and be a better person because of it."

Samantha Wilbur

Samantha Wilbur is an eight-year member of the Highlanders 4-H Club. She is the daughter of Michelle and Randy Sohn of Primghar and Jason and Kris Wilbur of Paulina.

"My favorite 4-H memory is participating in the clothing event at the state fair," Wilbur said. "My favorite part of 4-H is getting to be a mentor for younger kids and helping them in their 4-H journey. Some advice I have for younger 4-H'ers is don't be afraid to try something new. It might turn out to be one of your favorite things to participate in."

It is evident that the memories made, fun had, and lessons learned in 4-H will remain with these graduates for years to come. They all saw the benefit in trying many new things and developing life skills, a key component of the 4-H program.

For more information on the O'Brien County 4-H program, contact the Iowa State University Extension and Outreach in Primghar at 712-957-5045 or xobrien@iastate.edu.

BRIEFLY

County conservation to host kayaking at lake at Mill Creek

PAULLINA—O'Brien County Conservation will offer an opportunity to kayak 10 a.m.-noon Saturday, July 15, at the lake at Mill Creek Park in Paulina. Learning about the lake while paddling with a ranger or naturalist. Funds for four new kayaks

were provided through a Resource Enhancement and Protection Conservation Education Program grant.

Highway 10 west of Paullina closed for bridge replacement

PAULLINA—Highway 10 west of Paulina will

be closed for a bridge replacement until Thursday, Nov. 16, weather permitting, according to the Iowa Department of Transportation.

While the roadway is closed, motorists will be detoured around the work zone using Highway 143/Nettle Avenue and 500th Street (B62) and Redwing Avenue (L48) south of where the work is being done.

Sutherland library hosts rock painting, puzzles, paint pouring

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 information, call 712-446-3839 or e-mail genbakr@midlandsnet.

DEATH NOTICES

Margaret Grimberg,
Aug. 3, 1933—June 18,
2023

PAULLINA—Margaret Ann Grimberg, 89, Paullina, died Sunday, June 18, 2023, at Orange City Area Health System. Service was Friday, June 23, at Zion Lutheran Church in Paullina. Burial was at Prairie View Cemetery in Paullina, under the direction of the Eldridge Family Funeral Home in Paullina.

Paul Jensen, Sept. 18,
1925—June 20, 2023

SUTHERLAND—Paul Bernhardt Jensen, 97, Marcus, formerly of Sutherland, died Tuesday, June 20, 2023, at Heartland Care Center in Marcus. Service was Friday, June 23, at Eldridge Family Funeral Home in Paullina. Burial was at Waterman Cemetery in Sutherland, with military honors presented by Sutherland American Legion Post 152.

James "Jim" Rosenboom, March 26,
1949—June 22, 2023

PRIMGHAR—James "Jim" Carl Rosenboom, 74, Primghar, died Thursday, June 22, 2023, at his home. Service will be 11 a.m. today (Saturday, July 1) at United Church of Primghar. Burial will be at Pleasant Hill Cemetery with military honors by the Chateau-Thierry Post of the American Legion in Primghar. Visitation with family present will be 10-11 a.m. today at the church. Arrangements are under the direction of Eldridge Family Funeral Home in Primghar.

Crafters display barn quilt creativity

QUILT

Continued from page D1

talked her into helping instruct those who signed up.

The basement rooms of the library offered a cool escape from outdoor temperatures that were approaching 90 degrees, so folks seemed more than happy to be playing inside and letting their creative juices flow.

There were several new enthusiasts in the group as only three out of the 13 who participated had previously made a barn quilt.

It is a little misleading to think someone can just plop down with a blank slate and get on with the business of painting a board. There are decisions to be made, according to Welch, who knows the process well at this point.

"Deciding on a pattern is one of the



Beth Fuhrman of Paullina and her daughter, Grace, work on their boards during a Barn Quilt Class offered June 19 at the Gen. N.B. Baker Library in Sutherland. The colorful finished product will show each designer's creativity and individuality.

hardest things, and then getting the pattern sketched onto the board, and deciding on the color," she said.

A few participants like Rona Frank of

Paullina had a more original design in mind that was not based on a pattern of various shapes but rather a bright red cardinal.

Beth Fuhrman of Paullina seemed to know what she was getting into. She showed up to the class along with her daughter, Grace, looking to enjoy an evening of mother-daughter fun.

Fuhrman said she helped her son, Chase, with an 8-foot-by-8-foot quilt made for a 4-H project when he was in sixth grade. Chase and his brother, Jacob, then worked together on a 4-foot-by-4-foot front-and-back design for their grandmother, Pat Fuhrman, who lives in Sutherland.

"There was a lot of erasing and remeasuring," Beth Fuhrman said, recalling the challenge of her son's first quilt. "It's a very slow process."

Although this was the first time a barn quilt class has been offered at the library, if popularity is any indication, it will not be the last. Little working space was left as every table was covered by the works in progress.

Participants reassembled on Monday,

June 26, to continue working on their boards.

A few were able to finish the task, but others have a way to go.

According to the website americanbarnquilts.com, the beginnings of affixing artistic renderings in the form of wood quilts go back more than 300 years when central European immigrants from Germany, Austria and the Netherlands began making barn quilts in the state of Pennsylvania.

Paint was expensive in those early days of quilt making, but the decorative designs also served a utilitarian purpose as travelers could be given a pattern description to look for on their journey to a particular destination or household.

By the early 1900s, the colorful and often original designs were replaced by advertising signs, which offered the incentive of payment for the right to promote products.

Things have come full circle, so once again, a ride through the countryside reveals the sides of barns adorned with a personal touch of creativity.



Wendy Koch of Sutherland looks over her artwork as a participant in a Barn Quilt Class held at the Gen. N.B. Baker Library in Sutherland. Photos by Eric Harrold

Paullina fire, ambulance crews seeking new, larger building

FUNDS

Continued from D1
can call Harper at 712-630-0014.

Paullina Golf Club will provide food following the fairways and fores.

"I am definitely not a golfer," Harper said. "But somebody brought up, 'Let's try a golf tournament,' and it's taken off really well."

Proceeds for the tournament go toward the new Paullina Emergency Services Building.

The long-awaited project is still in development, but Harper reported some progress on the new home for his 27-member department.

"We'll have our property, hopefully, by the end of the year," he said.

Some previous prospects for the new building have fallen through, Harper said, but he is optimistic about the next attempt.

There still is a long way to go until fundraising reaches the green. The chief said project probably would be at least three more years before breaking ground.

"The biggest battle we've had so far is finding property for the size of the building. Paullina is pretty much landlocked," Harper said. "Our goal is to be able to post our



It's a tight squeeze just about everywhere at the Paullina Fire Department including equipment parking, and replacing the station is being pursued. Funding from the Paullina Emergency Services Golf Tournament will help out. Photo by Elijah Helton

property by the end of the year so people can see this is where the home is going to be."

The current station has sev-

eral problems.

The foremost issue is the building on Commerce Street has simply run out of room.

Storage is maxed out. It is dif-

icult to hold meetings and training inside. Even the fire trucks cannot fit.

Newer models of firefighting vehicles are too tall for

the 10-by-10-foot doors at the garage. It's an issue many other smaller Northwest Iowa departments have run into, leading them to rebuild like

AT A GLANCE

What: Paullina
Emergency Services
Golf Tournament

Who: Open to anyone

When: 9:30 a.m.
Saturday, July 15

Where: Paullina Golf
Club

Registration: \$200 for
team of four

Contact: Ryan Harper
at 712-630-0014

Online: Facebook

Paullina is hoping to do.

Specifics are not settled yet, but Harper said the new building will double the space, including a drive-through garage, a wash bay and plenty of extra room for gear.

Recent Paullina emergency services fundraisers have gone toward the building, including last Saturday's rib cookoff. After the July 15 golf tournament, first responders will be off major benefit events until the annual chili feed in December.

While he won't play through the course himself, Harper said he is looking forward to spending the day at the club.

"We're excited," he said. "It's always a great event and a lot of fun."

