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HONORS GALORE Webster City football players recognized/Page 9

# The Daily Freeman-Journal

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Friday, Nov. 4, 2022

Webster City, Iowa



## G'Day!

It's a great day to dig out a raincoat.

### Adoption celebration at Hamilton County Courthouse is Nov. 10

Four Oaks Foster & Adoptive Family Connections will hold an adoption celebration event at 9 a.m. on Thursday, Nov. 10, at the Hamilton County Court House, 2300 Superior St., Webster City. A total of five children will be joining their forever homes at the ceremony. The event is free and open to the public. National Adoption Month is held annually in November to raise awareness for the need and importance of foster and adoptive families across the nation. Throughout the month of November, local courts, judges, attorneys, adoption professionals, child welfare agencies and advocates come together to finalize the adoptions of thousands of children from foster care and celebrate all adoptive families. Four Oaks Foster & Adoptive Family Connections recruits, trains, licenses and supports foster and adoptive parents in four of the five HHS service areas across the state. For more information on services in the Hamilton County area, contact Pam Jones at 319-239-5905 or visit iowafosterand-adoption.org.

### Webster City Community Blood Drive is Nov. 10

The Webster City Community Blood Drive is Thursday, Nov. 10, at St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Church, 1000 Des Moines St., Webster City, from 12:30 to 5:30 p.m. Donors are needed and appointments are required. Call 800-287-4903 or visit: lifeservebloodcenter.org.



# A DIVIDED STATE.

## HERE'S WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT THE GUN RIGHTS AMENDMENT ON TUESDAY'S BALLOT.

By JANE CURTIS

If voters approve a proposed gun rights amendment to the Iowa Constitution when the polls close on Tuesday, Iowa would become the 45th state in the nation to enshrine the right to keep and bear arms in its Constitution.

The amendment is on side two of the ballot. Not everyone supports the amendment. That includes the Iowa Coalition Against Domestic Violence. It urges voters to reject the ballot measure. "The proposed changes to Iowa's constitution would undermine efforts to enhance

safety and make it harder to prevent violence," ICADV has said.

"This proposal does not simply add the U.S. Constitution's 2nd amendment to Iowa's constitution. Instead, it also requires judges to elevate gun rights over public safety every time, invites legal challenges to current law, and makes it harder to enact gun safety measures broadly supported by most Iowans."

The sticking point is the proposed amendment's language: "The right of the people to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed. The sovereign state of Iowa affirms and recognizes this right to be a fundamental individual right. Any and all restrictions of this right shall be subject to strict scrutiny."

When ICADV says "invites legal challenges" it is referring to the proposed amendment's use of the term "strict scrutiny."

"Strict scrutiny is the highest standard of review which a court will use to evaluate the constitutionality of governmental discrimination," according to the Cornell Law School's Legal Information Institute.

"Notably, the Supreme Court has refused to endorse the application of strict scrutiny to gun regulations, leaving open the question of which precise standard of review is to be employed when addressing the Second Amendment.

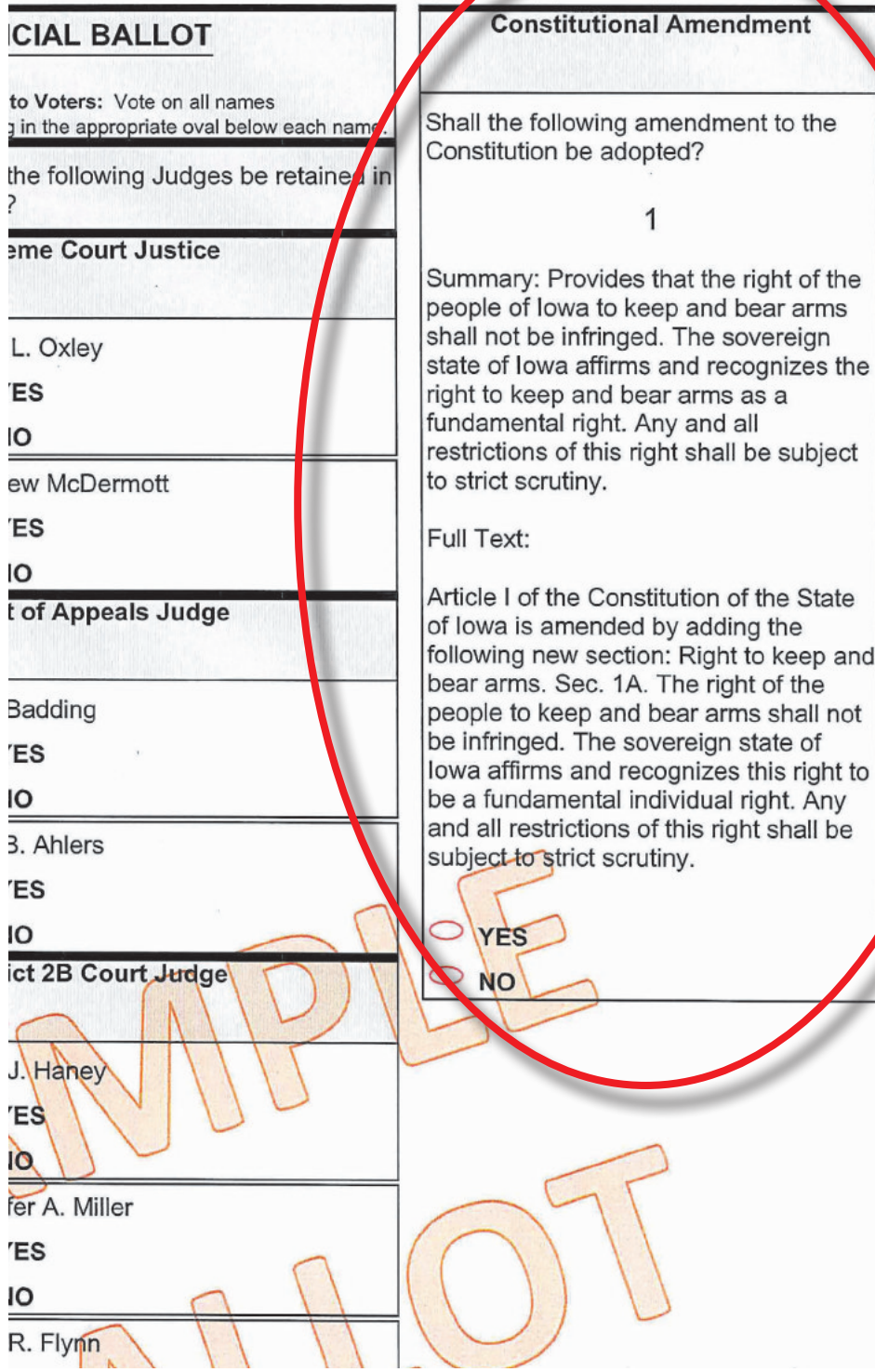
Marshall County Attorney Jordan Gaffney provided insight on what the "strict scrutiny" threshold might mean in court.

"It's a really high legal burden that you have. For a specific law or regulation to be upheld, there has to be what we call a compelling state interest. So the government has to have a compelling interest at stake for the particular law, and the law has to be narrowly tailored," he said. "The scope of the law has to be really narrow to justify regulating that particular compelling state interest."

More generally, he said, the proposed amendment would differ from the federal Second Amendment because the state amendment refers only to the right to keep and bear arms and does not include language about a well-regulated militia.

So far, support and opposition to the amendment, which will require a simple majority to pass, have mostly split along party lines, with gun rights groups and Re-

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## Nearly three-fifths of likely voters support gun rights amendment, poll finds

By ROBIN OPSAHL

Iowa Capital Dispatch

More than half of likely voters said they planned to support the gun rights constitutional amendment on the ballot in the Nov. 8 election, according to the most recent Des Moines Register/Mediacom Iowa Poll.

The majority, 58%, of likely Iowa voters said they plan to vote in favor of the proposed amendment, which would subject laws restricting firearms to high-

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Advertisement for KARL Chevrolet Buick GMC featuring a \$500 Cyber Cash offer on select vehicles, a Red Tag Event, and a QR code to claim the cash code. Includes contact information for Webster City, IA.

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