

A BLAST OF COLOR



Colorful run is part of Suring Labor Day fun
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In the grand finale of the Back the Track 5K run/walk, participants douse themselves with one last blast of Suring High School purple-and-yellow color. The annual race is part of Suring's four-day Labor Day Celebration..

WARREN BLUHM | NEW MEDIA

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Systemwide outage continues to affect HSHS and Prevea.

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Wolf River Basketry Guild continues an ancient tradition at monthly gathering.

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River Island Golf Club celebrates 60th anniversary

Oconto Falls' River Island Golf Club marked its 60-year anniversary Aug. 20 when 104 golfers participated in a nine-hole scramble. More than 135 people attended the dinner, fellowship and music afterward.

Four teams tied with a 31 (four under par), with the winning team determined by a count back from No. 9. The winning team was Darin, Cary, Mitch and Hannah Meyer.

Hole events and basket raffles were sponsored by members and local businesses from the Oconto Falls area.

The anniversary planning committee included Kevin Williams, Justin Jaeger and Mick Carroll.

Carroll provided a history of the River Island Golf Club.

It all started in 1939, when Wisconsin-Michigan Power Company donated the land, known as "The Flats," around the Oconto River to the City of Oconto Falls. The city was to use the land for recreational purposes only.

In September 1960, an initial meeting of the board of directors for Oconto Falls Golf Club took place at the residence of Eugene Behling.

Original board of directors consisted of President Behling, Vice President Armin Kuehl, Secretary Robert Shellman, Treasurer Bill Larson and members-at-large Howard Eslein Sr.,

Harold Shufelt and W.D. Larson.

Behling hired the services of golf architect E.L. Packard of LaGrange, Illinois, to design the course. Packard was also the architect of Brown County Golf Course in Green Bay. The original layout by Packard was an 18-hole course.

Construction on nine holes began Jan. 14, 1961. Also in January of that year, Barb Nickel organized the Woman's Auxiliary of Oconto Falls Golf Club. This group of women put on trout boils and other events to help raise funds for the construction of the new golf club.

Over the next two years, the course was constructed by the men and women of Oconto Falls and the surrounding area. Local businessmen and other residents provided equipment, funds and manpower to clear the land and construct a golf course.

Those honored with the inaugural Emil Behling Award for their outstanding service to the construction of the new course were Ralph Metzler, Allen Tisch, Merdon Drews and Wilfred Larson.

On June 1, 1963, River Island Golf Club opened. The name of the course was provided by Dot Fundenberg, based on the island hole, No. 7.

Following the overview of the history of River Island Golf Club, three original members along with a

longtime member were recognized and given a framed photograph of the course with a gift certificate.

Barb Nickel, along with her husband, John, were original members during the construction phase of the course. Barb Nickel was very active in the Woman's Auxiliary, which later became the Ladies League. She was also the club historian. Several of Barb Nickel's scrapbooks were on hand with pictures, newspaper articles and club literature from 1961 through the late 1970s.

Barb Nickel, along with Dot Fundenberg, Mrs. Robert Rodgers and Bruce Blom started the Junior League in 1966. Formed to teach young children the etiquette, rules and techniques of golf, the league started with 54 golfers captained by the high school golf team.

Lowell "Buzz" and Sylvia Kamke were original members during construction. Buzz Kamke provided his original certificate - #7 - of the Oconto Falls Golf Club.

In the early 1960s, Buzz and Sylvia Kamke lived on a farm in Spruce. He would drive his tractor into Oconto Falls to work on the construction of the course after his farming chores were done. Both were active with Men's League and Ladies League, respectively. He was a former board member and assisted in running the

Men's League for years. At 90 years old, Buzz Kamke continues to golf on the Monday afternoon Senior League and Wednesday Men's League with his sons and son-in-law.

Jackie Bredeson and her husband, Ron, were original members from the opening of the course in 1963. Jackie Bredeson has been instrumental with the Ladies League.

Stu and Joan Anderson moved to Oconto Falls in the fall of 1964 and joined River Island in 1965. That spring, Stu Anderson along with Bruce Blom started the Oconto Falls High School boys golf team. Anderson continued to coach this team into the 1990s. The Andersons were active members in the Men's, Ladies and Junior Leagues. He is a former board member and continues to assist in the Men's League to this day. His original golf team includes a few golfers who still are active at the club: Dan Boettcher, Skip Schmidt, Butch Vorpal, Frank McGuan, Tom Pocket, Larry Lemorande, Mike Larson, Mark Sheffel, Mike Bauman and Steve Anderson.

Others were also recognized: Vic Peterson, the longest serving manager of the club who continues to work as the course superintendent; and Ruth Schulz, a member since the mid-1960s who continues to participate on Ladies League.

Family fun for Little Suamico Days



Kids were given an opportunity to wield a real fire hose courtesy of the Little Suamico Fire Department. WARREN BLUHM | NEW MEDIA



Bounce houses, face painting and other children's activities supplemented the playground at Little Suamico Recreation Park for a day. WARREN BLUHM | NEW MEDIA

OCONTO COUNTY
TIMES HERALD



(USPS 402-780)

Published weekly

by **NEW Media Inc.**

d/b/a The Oconto County Times Herald

Periodicals postage paid at

Oconto Falls, WI 54154

Phone

920-848-3427

Office

420 N. Chestnut Ave. Suite C,

Oconto Falls, WI 54154

Hours by appointment only

Member, Wisconsin Newspaper Association

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to:

420 N. Chestnut Ave. Suite C, PO Box 184,

Oconto Falls, WI 54154

Publisher

Greg Mellis

gmellis@newmedia-wi.com

Editor-in-chief

Kevin Passon

kpasson@newmedia-wi.com

Retail advertising

advertising@newmedia-wi.com

Obituaries

obits@newmedia-wi.com

Classifieds/legal notices

classifieds@newmedia-wi.com

Community garden grows quickly

Plots are available for 2024

By **WARREN BLUHM**
News Editor

They didn't cut the ribbon at the new Oconto Falls Community Garden until Aug. 28.

"We were busy planting and weeding, and now harvesting," said Sarah Schindel, nutrition educator with the University of Wisconsin Extension, as people walked among the huge vegetable garden behind the Oconto Falls Area Ambulance Service garage.

About 20 groups and individuals worked plots this spring and summer in the new community garden, which held an open house around the ribbon-cutting ceremony. Schindel said the garden is a community success story.



Performing the ribbon-cutting duties at Oconto Falls Community Garden on Aug. 28 are: from left, Don Hitte, Kingdom Come Food Pantry; Patrick and Angie Ahlgrom, Oconto Falls Area Ambulance; Sarah Schindel, University of Wisconsin-Extension; Emily Macha, Nurse's Nook; and Walter Taylor, Oconto Falls High School.

WARREN BLUHM | NEW MEDIA

Last fall, Schindel enlisted the help of organizations as diverse as Nurse's

Nook, Kingdom Come Food Pantry, the Oconto Falls School District and

the ambulance service to organize the garden. HSHS St. Clare Memorial Hospital donated the green space.

"It's a good way to give back to the community," said Chris Brabant, president and CEO of the hospital, who attended the inaugural event. "It's a great opportunity that benefits the pantry, the schools and people who otherwise would be unable to have their own garden."

Walter Taylor, agriculture teacher at Oconto Falls High School, has been using the community garden as an extension of his classroom.

"They enjoy coming out here, working with the dirt, communing with the land," Taylor said, of his students.

Plots are available for the 2024 growing season. Interested gardeners should email OcontoFallsCommunityGarden@gmail.com or call 920-846-2662.

Peshtigo man charged with sex with minor teens

Case involves at least three different Oconto County girls

By **WARREN BLUHM**
News Editor

A Peshtigo man is being held in lieu of \$50,000 cash after he was charged with allegedly having sexual relations with young teenage girls, sometimes while threatening them.

Zachary Andrew Zastawniak, 23, appeared in Oconto County Circuit Court on Sept. 1 to answer to 17 felony charges in all — three counts of child enticement for sexual contact, three counts of second-degree sexual assault of a child, four counts of felony bail jumping, two counts of soliciting a child for prostitution, two counts of using a computer to facilitate a sex crime, two counts of threats to communicate derogatory information and one count of trafficking of a child.

Judge Jay Conley adjourned his initial appearance until Sept. 14.

According to the criminal complaint, authorities were contacted regarding a 14-year-old girl who said a man was "making threaten-

ing comments to her over social media." She told an Oconto police officer that she had sent him explicit photos previously, and he was threatening to post them online if she didn't meet up with him for a sexual encounter.

Since she had blocked him on Instagram and Snapchat, the girl was unable to show any of the social media conversations they had exchanged, according to the complaint. But she did say that her best friend, a 15-year-old, was also talking to the man and suggested talking with that girl.

When police interviewed the 15-year-old, she told officers that

they had met for sex at a local hotel room on June 28, the complaint said. The girls only knew him by his social media user names, but police were able to identify him as Zastawniak using the hotel's records. The 14-year-old later acknowledged she also allegedly had a sexual encounter with him at the hotel.

In early August, as detectives were gathering information about Zastawniak, they learned a 15-year-old girl in North Fond du Lac was also in contact with police about being exploited for nude photos by the same Instagram user, and Oconto Falls police reported they were talking with a 16-year-old girl

about alleged sexual contact with the Peshtigo man.

The bail jumping charges stem from a 2018 case. Online court records indicate that Zastawniak was charged in Brown County Circuit Court with child sexual exploitation by a person younger than 18 — he was 17 at the time. In 2020, he entered into a four-year deferred prosecution agreement, meaning the defendant can avoid a felony conviction if he satisfies the conditions of the agreement, which include not reoffending. The case was scheduled to be reviewed in February.

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Heimerls feted as Suring grand marshals

Married 59 years,
they have been
active in community
all their lives

By **WARREN BLUHM**
News Editor

Ray and Helen Heimerl have been an integral part of the Suring community throughout their lives, and for that lifetime of service they were honored as grand marshals of the village's 93rd annual Labor Day parade on Sept. 4.

The couple married in June 1964 and raised four children. They now have 11 grandchildren and three great-grandchildren, said How Town Chairman Bill Bartz Jr., who introduced the Heimerls in a short ceremony after the parade at Veterans Memorial Park.

In addition to his supervisory role at Nu-Line Industries, which manufactured hundreds of thousands of protective baby gates over the years, Ray Heimerl served on many boards — including the Suring School Board and St. John Lutheran School Board. He was a church elder and trustee and building committee member. Bartz said Heimerl also helped get the village's day care building built.

Helen Heimerl is secretary of the Suring Area Historical Society, active in promoting the society and its museum. Her favorite activities include bowling and swimming at the family cottage on White Lake, but family and faith are most important to her, Bartz said.

He concluded by citing a family motto attributed to the Heimerls' granddaughter, Allie: "Take what you git, and don't throw a fit."

Ray Heimerl thanked the community and noted that he worked with Bartz for many years at Nu-Line and some of those community projects.

"We got along very well — the only time we didn't get along well was when he disagreed with me," he joked. "Outside of that, we got along real good."

He handed the microphone to his wife, who said, "All I've got to say is, praise the Lord and give God the glory."

The hourlong parade and an afternoon festival at Veterans Memorial Park concluded the annual four-day Labor Day Celebration in Suring. Activities ranged from a library book



Helen and Ray Heimerl are honored after the Suring Labor Day parade for their many years of service to the community.

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Santa Claus always makes the Suring Labor Day parade a stop in his pre-Christmas publicity campaign.

WARREN BLUHM | NEW MEDIA



Pulaski High School marching band members break ranks and interact with the audience during their performance of "Take Me Home, Country Roads" after the Suring Labor Day parade Sept. 4.

WARREN BLUHM | NEW MEDIA

sale to the fire department's chili cook-off — won this year by Amy Wolf — to Saturday night fireworks.

Suring runners Back the Track in color



Celebrating the end of the Back the Track 5K color run — and showing the effects of several colorful encounters — are Ginger Gerndt, Birdee Cramer, Georgia Gerndt and Bunny Cramer.



Runners have a little unsanctioned fun with the color packs after finishing the Back the Track 5k color run Sept. 2.



Teagen Engel gets support from the Suring Eagle as she rounds the corner of Groninger and Knapp streets. Engel was the top female finisher with a time of 23:22.



Hailey Spates, left, and Sophia Zeeman, both Landstad 4-H members, wait Aug. 31 for their turn to go into the arena of the Coliseum with their goats. The pair have been raising these goats for 18 months but have shown at the Shawano County Fair for the past 10 years.

LEE PULASKI | NEW MEDIA

Plenty of animals, exhibits highlight county fair



A crossbred pig owned by Autumn Nowak of the Angelica 4-H feels right at home lying on a bed of wood shavings Aug. 31 at the Shawano County Fair.

LEE PULASKI | NEW MEDIA



A pair of bantam ducks owned by Christopher Maroszek of the Tri-County 4-H settle down for the night Aug. 31 at the Shawano County Fair.

LEE PULASKI | NEW MEDIA



A pair of sheep rest among the wood shavings at the Shawano County Fair. Both are mature ewes owned by Faith and Jenna Possbr with the Tiger Tribe 4-H.

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Systemwide outage affecting HSHS, Prevea

Still no timetable from company for restoration

By **KEVIN PASSON**
Editor-in-chief

HSHS St. Clare Memorial Hospital in Oconto Falls is among the six Wisconsin hospitals affected by a systemwide outage that is affecting all clinical and administrative applications and most phones and internet in the state and Illinois.

The outage also has hit Prevea Health, which partners with HSHS hospitals in Wisconsin. MyChart/MyPrevea communication is also down.

"Hospital Sisters Health System (HSHS) and Prevea Health became aware of a system outage that has temporarily taken offline virtually all operating systems," according to a website set up by the hospital system to address the issue.

HSHS was first made aware of the outage Aug. 27.

"We are continuing to follow existing protocols for system outages, including taking steps to minimize

disruptions and ensure high quality, safe patient care," according to the website.

The main line for each HSHS Wisconsin hospital is now working. Anyone trying to reach an inpatient at HSHS St. Clare Memorial Hospital and who does not have a personal cellphone can call 920-846-3444.

In addition, the Prevea Health main phone line at 920-496-4700 continues to work as well; however, those calling may experience delays or connectivity issues.

Patients who have appointments should still show up as scheduled.

"We acknowledge this outage is causing inconvenience for some patients and that services may take longer to schedule or receive," according to the website. "We are grateful to our caregivers, colleagues and physicians, who are doing everything possible to ensure we can continue to serve our community while we work diligently to

resolve the outages."

"We are well trained to take care of our patients' needs until the issue is resolved."

HSHS said it mobilized its incident command protocols and downtime procedures and engaged "outside experts" to determine what happened.

"We are continuing to follow existing protocols for system outages, including taking steps to minimize disruptions and ensure high quality, safe patient care," the website said.

Officials have not described the issue as a cybersecurity attack. It

was unclear if any patient or employee data or confidential company data was compromised in any potential breach.

"We are continuing to look into this issue," the site said.

According to hospital officials, nearly all HSHS hospital and clinic locations remain open, although specifics were not provided.

When the matter will be resolved remains unknown.

The website for hospital system updates is www.hshsupdates.org.

kpasjon@newmedia-wi.com

Cowles gets conservation policymaker award

Sen. Robert Cowles, R-Green Bay, recently received the 2023 Lake Michigan Champion of Conservation Policymaker Award from the Lake Michigan Stakeholders.

"I am proud to accept the Lake Michigan Stakeholders' Champion of Conservation Policymaker Award," Cowles said in a press release. "All

of the bodies of water in Northeast Wisconsin — from Lake Michigan to the smallest ponds and streams — are vital environmental resources for our communities. Working hard to conserve these wonders of nature ensures that generation after generation can continue to discover their beauty and importance in our ecosystem."

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Federal policies restrict public land access

It's been no surprise to gun owners that President Joe Biden has gone after firearms and their owners on multiple fronts. There is ample evidence that he would love to ban ownership of American Sporting Rifles (AR-15s and clones mistakenly called "assault rifles," which are among the most popular semi-automatic rifles in the United States) and has used his Bureau of Alcohol, Firearms, Tobacco and Explosives (ATF) to ban pistol braces in an about-face from the previous ATF ruling that they were fine for civilian use.

Biden and other gun-hating liberals apparently have given up on the previous liberal dream to ban handguns. This is probably because the public has generally accepted concealed carry of handguns in all 50 states, with Nebraska becoming the 27th state to legalize constitutional or permitless carry (any resident age 21 or older with no criminal record can carry a handgun without a permit). Nebraska Gov. Jim Pellen signed the bill into law in April, and it becomes effective Sept. 10.

In recent weeks, Biden has turned his attention to hunting, hunter education in schools and even archery instruction. All hunters should be aware of these attacks to the sports we hold sacred, especially us Wisconsin hunters.

After a vast expansion of public access to federal lands for hunting, fishing, hiking and more under the Trump administration, Biden is looking to not only undo some of this access, but ban hunting guides on Bureau of Land Management (BLM) land.

The BLM and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service that oversee many federal lands are changing definitions of conservationism through a newly proposed Public Lands Rule, according to a recent FOX News story.

Experts say rule changes would prohibit commercial use of guides and outfitters on these lands, effectively banning the long-accepted practice. The ban would prevent public access to these lands for most hunters and anglers, according to Kerrie Cox Romero, executive director of the New Mexico Council of Outfitters and Guides.

Another Wildlife Service practice aims to ban lead ammunition on eight public hunting areas, requiring copper-only bullets and non-lead fishing tackle by September 2026.

Because of the limited availability of all-copper bullets, this could prove



Ross Bielema
Columnist

another way to restrict hunters from these lands, according to the International Order of T. Roosevelt — an organization working to preserve hunting, fishing and trapping. Because of various regulations and restrictions, 2 million sportsmen have walked away from these sports in recent years, according to Luke Hilgemann, executive director of the IOTR.

This rule is not "following the science," according to the National Shooting Sports Foundation.

"In fact, it is ignoring the need for scientific evidence in order to advance an anti-gun and anti-hunting agenda," said Lawrence Keane, senior vice president of the NSSF.

The Biden administration in November 2022 settled a lawsuit with the Center for Biological Diversity after the Trump administration expanded hunting and fishing on federal lands. The settlement included taking steps to "protect wildlife harmed by expanded hunting and fishing on national refuges," according to the FOX News story.

Most of us hunters and anglers would argue that sportsmen keep wildlife populations in check and our tightly regulated sports do no harm to any species. In fact, these regulations and our conservation dollars from excise taxes on hunting and fishing equipment have helped expand populations of elk, wild turkeys, deer and other species, in addition to providing habitat for non-hunted species.

Meanwhile, sportsmen and legislators are working to reverse a twisting of language in a bill signed into law by Biden last year that will prohibit federal funding of any hunting, trap shooting or archery programs in schools.

The Bipartisan Safer Communities Act signed into law by Biden last year amended the 1965 Elementary and Secondary Education Act funding to prohibit giving funds for any program that provides training in the use of a dangerous weapon, according to a story by Free Range American.

Although some schools use Pittman-Robertson funds (an excise



A volunteer instructor helps a Clintonville School District student to shoot a bow during last fall's Badges and Bullseyes archery program at Clintonville Bow Hunters Club range. School archery programs can't be federally funded under recent changes signed last year by President Joe Biden. This year's Badges and Bullseyes program is set for Oct. 4 at the club.

ROSS BIELEMA

tax on firearms and ammo) to pay for hunter education, archery and trap shooting programs, this latest twist in long-standing ESEA policy bans using those funds for such programs. Sarah Martinez, a Department of Education official, noted that hunter ed, archery, wilderness safety and other courses that use firearms, bows or anything that can be considered "technically dangerous weapons" can't be funded under ESEA.

Here is a link to one of many stories on this anti-sportsman effort by the Biden administration: <https://freerangeamerican.us/biden-kills-school-archery-programs>.

Here's a list of the 116 Wisconsin high schools that have trap shooting teams, including Shawano, Oconto, Clintonville, New London and many other area schools: <http://wiclaytarget.com/teams>.

In response, the Protecting Hunting

Heritage and Education Act has been introduced in Congress to reverse this funding ban. At least 24 attorneys general have endorsed it (Wisconsin's has not). Supporters argue that teaching responsible and safe hunting and archery will lead to fewer accidents.

It's sad that in the name of supposedly protecting the public from mass shootings, Biden has chosen to attack hunting, fishing and archery. I don't recall any attack committed by someone armed with a trap gun, bow or fishing rod. Why don't we go back to the tried-and-true concept of punishing people for breaking the law and letting law-abiding Americans remain armed so they can protect themselves from those released without posting bond or those paroled multiple times?

Ross Bielema is a freelance writer from New London and owner of Wolf River Concealed Carry LLC. Contact him at Ross@wolfriverccw.com.

GUEST COLUMN

Say bye to summer by grilling local meat

It is a time to get together with family and friends, fire up the grill and enjoy one last cookout or campfire before fall sets in. While it's not easy to bid farewell to the summer grilling season and all that comes with it, fall also gives us a lot to look forward to, including Green Bay Packers football and a host of social gatherings centered around the sport.

It is always exciting to root for Wisconsin's favorite professional football team as they devour their opponents week after week. Just as commendable are Wisconsin's other packers — the more than 500 meat processing facilities that are located across the state. These businesses work tirelessly year-round to keep Wisconsin's meat industry thriving and provide protein-rich snacks and meals to consumers.

In the same way the Packers utilize the talents of their roster, the state of Wisconsin, too, continually invests in its strengths, which is evidenced by the \$10 million in funding Gov. Tony Evers allocated to create the Meat

Randy Romanski
Guest Columnist



and Poultry Supply Chain Resiliency Grant Program in 2022. This program, funded through the American Rescue Plan Act, allowed Wisconsin meat processors to apply for grants of up to \$150,000, with a goal of increasing processing capacity and building critical infrastructure in the meat industry.

In his 2023-25 budget, Evers and the legislature agreed to \$2 million in funding over the biennium for the Meat Processor Infrastructure Grant Program. This grant program will provide \$1.8 million in grant opportunities for meat processors in the 2023-24 biennium, and \$200,000 over the 2024-2025 biennium. Thanks to

these programs and the improvements in resiliency and infrastructure that result from them, we are starting to see increased throughput and expanded capacity at meat processing facilities across the state.

DATCP's Meat Talent Development Program is another initiative making positive changes in Wisconsin's meat industry. This year, eight campuses within the Wisconsin Technical College System launched meat training curricula, with more courses being offered this fall.

One such program is the Humane Handling Institute, a first-of-its-kind training curriculum offered by the University of Wisconsin-River Falls focusing on humane livestock handling, stunning and equipment maintenance. Together, these programs are helping bolster the meat industry's workforce and are fostering our state's next generation of meat processors.

According to DATCP's Division of Food and Recreational Safety, 15 new meat processing businesses have be-

come licensed in Wisconsin over the past year. If not for the investments of the governor and the meat processors putting those dollars to good use, we would not be where we are with this growth. These hardworking and passionate processors are helping the industry keep up with consumer demand. They are doing this while producing a wide array of goods, ensuring consumers will have a wide selection of quality artisan meats to choose from for their next Packers party, family dinner or campout.

As we head into fall, I encourage all Wisconsinites to support your local producers and processors by stocking up on a variety of meat products to enjoy throughout the holiday weekend and beyond. After all, what is a summer celebration in Wisconsin without a juicy brat, burger, steak, rack of ribs or hot dog to enjoy? Sit back, relax and eat up, Wisconsin.

Randy Romanski is the secretary of the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection.



OPINION PAGE POLICY

NEW Media welcomes letters from its readers and wants to publish as many as possible. Letters should be no longer than 400 words and must be typed. The editor reserves the right to edit letters for accuracy, brevity and clarity. Please avoid personal attacks. Only one letter per writer will be published in a 14-day period, and letters from new writers will be considered first over more frequent participants. Longer pieces of up to 800 words will be considered

for guest columns. All columns require a head shot of the author. All opinion pieces must be signed by the author, and an address and telephone number must be included for verification. Anonymous opinion pieces will not be published under any circumstances. The best and most expedient way to send letters is by email to news@newmedia-wi.com. Put "letter to the editor" in the subject line and send the text in the body of the email.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Grandfather clause gets Suring alum support

To the editor:

I emailed a letter to Suring School Board President David Lally requesting that the board take action to approve a grandfather clause recommended by the WIAA and endorsed by Dr. John Rabe. This clause would allow my son, Trent, to finish his athletic career as a dual sport athlete.

Rabe has been involved in Suring athletics for over 75 years. Rabe is a former athletic director at Suring and is the second inductee into its Student Hall of Fame. He is a former professor of health, physical education, recreation and coaching at the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater. Rabe feels that once athletes were able to start an activity, they should be allowed to finish what they have started. If this was a pilot program, the athletes should be able to complete if they follow guidelines and have the desire to finish.

I'm asking the school board to take wise counsel of a loyal Suring Eagle and the grandfather clause recommended by the WIAA.

I ask how many people have had something taken away from you based on nothing you have done and how did it make you feel? People, believe it or not, have called me selfish for wanting my son to be able to be the best he can be.

The current superintendent at Suring Public School told me by phone in March that if Trent was younger he would have recommended for Trent to open enroll to a district that allowed for dual sports. Believe it or not, people have suggested this option for years, but Trent is loyal to his school and would never open enroll. Also, I have no desire to run my kid all around for something he can do in my own district.

Mike Van Den Elzen, Suring

Basketry guild practices ancient traditions

Members include longtime weavers, with many eager to teach lost craft to other people

By **LYNN ZAFFRANN**
Correspondent

The Wolf River Basketry Guild will celebrate its 30th anniversary in October, supporting local charities while keeping alive the art of basket weaving.

According to archaeologists, basket-making traditions began more than 10,000 years ago in North America. The Wolf River Basketry Guild is a quiet, but vibrant, crafting and social community in the Shawano area, following the same ancient traditions to craft traditional and contemporary baskets. One unique feature to basket-making is that there are no machines that can duplicate the weaving process. All baskets are hand-made, from the high-end to the dollar store varieties.

Mary Conradt is the current guild president. This is her third turn in the role. She's been a member for about 20 years and has been active in the guild, sharing her knowledge of the art of basketry.

"I taught through Shawano Community Education for eight years, but then the numbers were dwindling, so I couldn't fill classes," Conradt said, noting she was teaching two classes per semester.

Some of the current guild members came from Conradt's classes.

"The best part is, Mark and Joann Hendrickson were two of my students. They are now very active in the guild," she said.

Mark Hendrickson gave up his guild president role to Conradt in January and is now the historian, while Joann Hendrickson is the guild's treasurer. The Hendricksons live in Wausau.

There are no current classes being offered in the immediate Shawano area. Guild meetings are held monthly at the Shawano Masonic Center, 2324 E. Richmond St., Shawano. A business meeting is held, along with a demonstration by a member showing how to weave a particular basket.

Current guild members are accomplished basket weavers, coming from numerous locations in the state. At guild meetings, members learn advanced techniques of the craft and have the opportunity to craft different basket types as dem-



Mary Schwarz, left, from Green Bay demonstrates how to start to weave an elbow basket at the Aug. 26 meeting of the Wolf River Basketry Guild held at the Shawano Masonic Center. Lois Chabalowski looks on while a new technique is demonstrated. The elbow basket is a version of an historic Choctaw Indian basket.

LYNN ZAFFRANN

onstrated each month.

Mark Hendrickson said the guild has members from Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota and even Nebraska.

"If someone wants to join us for a day and try it out, that's kind of how my wife joined the guild, and then she enlisted me to come along," he said.

The couple gravitates toward Nantucket style basketry over molds, black ash basketry, some with molds and some freelance styles. Hendrickson processes local black ash logs into basket-making supplies. Black ash is unique among

all trees in North America in that it does not have fibers connecting the growth rings to each other. This is essential for basket making.

At a meeting held Aug. 26, Mary Schwarz from Green Bay demonstrated how to make an elbow basket. She brought a completed basket to show the finished project. Schwarz then demonstrated how to start this type of basket, using a technique that was new to some of the members. Schwarz distributed kits to members that included everything needed to duplicate the elbow basket, so they could start

working on making the baskets during the rest of the meeting.

After the demonstration, Schwarz observed a few of the members who were assembling materials to start weaving their baskets. Sue Johnson from Green Bay was working on her version of the elbow basket, and Schwarz stopped by to answer questions about the techniques she had demonstrated. Johnson used a template that was part of the packet of materials and directions that Schwarz had provided.

While laying out the reeds of



JoAnn Lewis, former secretary and president of the Wolf River Basketry Guild, holds up her version of an elbow basket. Lewis, from Oshkosh, shared that the monthly meetings let other basket weavers get together to have fun and socialize.

LYNN ZAFFRANN

the basket bottom on top of the included the template, Johnson noted, "We don't usually have that, that's different. We usually have patterns."

Schwarz showed her how to squeeze the reeds together to fit the template for the bottom of the basket.

While working on crafting her basket at the meeting, Lois Chabalowski from Menasha said that guild members come from all over the area and beyond.

"There was the Milwaukee Guild that was very active, and they disbanded, because they couldn't get officers," Chabalowski said. "Everyone's at the point where they don't want to make a commitment."

Chabalowski said that if she didn't finish her basket at the meeting, she could take it home to complete. She pointed to the basket that Schwarz had brought for her demonstration and said, with a smile, "Hopefully it will look that that, in the end."

Chabalowski said she's made about 50 baskets since she started weaving.

"I've been weaving a long time, but I don't weave consistently," she said. "I usually just weave at meetings. And then we have Mary Conradt. She has a group that meets once a month in Clintonville at a coffee shop that has a back room. So, we weave there and we buy lunch from them, and they're happy and we're happy."

JoAnn Lewis from Oshkosh, who

served as guild secretary for 20 years and president for five years, has a treasure trove of memories about the guild.

"It's just a matter of getting together and having fun," she said. "We've done projects for the community. We've made baskets for the homeless shelter, for breast cancer survivors and did Easter baskets for kids at a local church. We fill the baskets with small items."

"We've done baskets for the women's shelter, also," Hendrickson added.

The guild sponsors two basket-making workshops each year. The first one is held in April and is for members only. The fall workshop is held in September.

This year's event will be held Sept. 22-24 at Wolf River Lutheran High School, W7367 River Bend Road, Shawano. Three nationally-known weavers will teach attendees how to make various styles and types of baskets at the event. Participants come from all areas of the state, and even from outside Wisconsin.

Registration for this popular annual event is closed, but non-guild members can visit the workshop on Sept. 23 from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., where hand-crafted baskets can be seen and basket-weaving supplies from various vendors will be available for sale.

Visit the guild's website at www.wolfriverbasketryguild.com for more information about the organization.

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Metallica gives NWTC \$100K in scholarships

Metallica Scholars Initiative has awarded Northeast Wisconsin Technical College \$100,000 in scholarships to make college possible for students pursuing high-wage careers.

The goal of the initiative is to support students looking to fill workforce shortages in skilled careers. Celebrating its fifth year, MSI was created through the rock band's philanthropic foundation, All Within My Hands, and the American Association of Community Colleges as an opportunity to build sustainable communities through quality workforce training. Today, MSI supports 42 colleges and more than 6,000 students nationwide to pursue

high-paying careers in growing fields.

"The Metallica Scholars Initiative is so important to us because we are seeing results. Five years in, with the help of community colleges across the country, we are helping people fill these essential jobs which require skills and training. We are so proud and grateful that we can facilitate this program," said Lars Ulrich, Metallica.

Up to 100 NWTC students are eligible to receive a \$1,000 scholarship toward programs in health sciences, construction, transportation, human services and manufacturing.

"NWTC is honored to be a part of the Metallica Scholars Initiative and

join this collaborative partnership to transform, strengthen and inspire lives through higher education," said Crystal Harrison, NWTC foundation director. "This generous contribution paves the way for our students to explore high-paying, in-demand careers that will positively impact their lives and community. This is more than just a donation; it's a gift that keeps on giving."

NWTC is one of the three colleges from Wisconsin joining the MSI roster. The applicants are competitively selected from a pool of applicants from across the country to transform the futures of students in their communities.

"The Metallica Scholars Initiative is a strong and cooperative assemblage of the nation's best community colleges, creating a supportive climate for participants to communicate directly and share best practices. As a result, our Metallica Scholars leave the program well-trained and confident," said Peter Delgrosso, All Within My Hands executive director.

These newly added colleges join 31 veteran institutions that were invited to continue in the program and to help play an important role in guiding the success of the new colleges.

NWTC students can apply for the scholarship at nwtc.edu/scholarships.

WHAT'S HAPPENING

FRIDAY, SEPT. 8

KESHENA: Kehtekaewak Farmer's Market, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. College of Menominee Nation, N172 State Highway 47-55.

LENA: Dairy Fest, 6-10 p.m., St. Anne's Parish, 221 E. Main St. Truck pull 6 p.m., fireworks at dusk.

SATURDAY, SEPT. 9

SHAWANO: FRESH Project Farmers Market, 8 a.m. to noon, Franklin Park, 235 S. Washington St. More than 45 local food and craft vendors.

LENA: Dairy Fest, St. Anne's Parish, 221 E. Main St. Stampede 5K run/walk 8 a.m., parade 10:30 a.m. Petting zoo, pony rides, face painting, bouncers, food vendors, free ice cream, live music.

OCONTO: Summer Vendors Market, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., 516 Brazeau Ave. Local creators and crafters, food available. Last market of the season.

BONDUEL: Patriots Day Community Walk, 10 a.m., Bonduel Fire Department, 207 S. First St. Walk 2,200 steps representing 110 stories of the Twin Towers led by firefighters in their fire gear. Presentation recognizing community service members of police, fire, EMS, military. Food provided.

SHAWANO: Empty Bowls Caring Hearts Sale Fundraiser, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., SAM25, 105 E. Richmond St. Purchase a hand-painted, ceramic bowl and soup-to-go along with baked goods, includes a tour of the shelter renovation and new clinic and programs, silent auction. Serving chili, chicken noodle and chicken dumpling soup. \$8-\$12.

OCONTO: Machickanee Players 40th anniversary open house, 1-6 p.m., Park Avenue Theatre, 408 Park Ave.

BIRNAMWOOD: Sip and Succulent Ladies Night Out, 6-9:30 p.m., Schairer's Autumn Acres, 194 Western Ave. Pumpkin succulent making and wine tasting. RSVP in advance to Karen at

715-573-8397 or by messaging the farm on Facebook, with the date you will be attending. \$45 includes all supplies and six wine tastings; appetizers and other items available separately. Must be 21 to attend. Saturdays through September and 1-4:30 p.m. Sept. 10.

WITTENBERG: Concert by Indigenous, 6:30 p.m., Ho-Chunk Gaming, N7198 U.S. Highway 45. Doors open 5 p.m., free admission. Opening performance by Drab.

SUNDAY, SEPT. 10

SHAWANO: Zurko Outdoor Flea Market, 7 a.m. to 4 p.m., Shawano County Fairgrounds, 990 E. Green Bay St. Admission \$2.

SHAWANO: Custom and Classics Car Show, 8 a.m. to 2 p.m., Shawano Lake County Park, W5791 Lake Drive. Registration 8-10 a.m., awards 2 p.m. DJ, food and beverages on site provided by Shawano Amvets, bucket raffles and 50/50.

CHASE: Chase Stone Barn Craft Sale, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., 8246 County Road S. About 90 vendors, doughnut truck, burgers and brats, live music.

BIRNAMWOOD: Sip and Succulent Ladies Night Out, 1-4:30 p.m., Schairer's Autumn Acres, 194 Western Ave. Pumpkin succulent making and wine tasting. RSVP in advance to Karen at 715-573-8397 or by messaging the farm on Facebook, with the date you will be attending. \$45 includes all supplies and six wine tastings; appetizers and other items available separately. Must be 21 to attend.

MONDAY, SEPT. 11

WITTENBERG: Chamber of Commerce Golf Outing, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Maple Hills Golf Course, N6621 Cardinal Lane. Registration 9 a.m., shotgun start 10 a.m., dinner 3 p.m., prizes and social time. \$50 per person, \$200 per team includes nine holes with cart, dinner, raffle ticket and drink coupon. Call Angie at 715-250-1995

or email johnson1995.aj@gmail.com.

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 13

CECIL: CoVantage Cares Fore Our Communities Golf Event, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Golden Sands Golf Club, 300 Nabor Road. Registration 9 a.m., shotgun start 10 a.m. Four-person scramble, \$80 per person includes 18 holes, cart, lunch and 19th Hole Event. The 19th Hole Event includes hors d'oeuvres, silent auction and prizes. For information, email morgan.teal@covantagecu.org or call 920-720-2572, ext. 5324.

NAVARINO: Wednesday Walks No. 9-11 a.m., Navarino Nature Center, W5646 Lindsten Road. Call 715-758-6999 or visit navarino.org to register.

THURSDAY, SEPT. 14

KESHENA: Beading Vibes Only, 2-5 p.m., Omaeqnomenewak Wetohkatikamek Center, W2908 Tribal Office Loop Road.

FRIDAY, SEPT. 15

KESHENA: Kehtekaewak Farmer's Market, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. College of Menominee Nation, N172 State Highway 47-55.

SHAWANO: Pass, Punt and Kick, 5:15-6:15 p.m., Shawano High School, 220 County Road B. Shawano Optimist Club Tri-Star Football Skills Competition. Open to all boys and girls ages 8-13. Registration deadline is 6 p.m. Awards and door prizes 6:15 p.m.

SATURDAY, SEPT. 16

WITTENBERG: 90th Anniversary Celebration, 7:30 a.m. to dusk, Nueske's Applewood Meats, 1390 E. Grand Ave. Farm-fresh pancake breakfast, live children's entertainment, old-time photography, live music, helicopter rides, camel rides, food trucks, classic cars, vintage displays, ping pong ball drop, fireworks show. Nonperishable food and cash donations for Feeding America will be collected.

SHAWANO: FRESH Project Farmers

Market, 8 a.m. to noon, Franklin Park, 235 S. Washington St. More than 45 local food and craft vendors.

BONDUEL: Founder's Day, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., downtown. Over 160 crafters lining the streets, Amish buggy rides, baked goods, handmade items, food court, live music, kids entertainment, petting zoo, free parking.

OCONTO: Elks Fly-In, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., J. Douglas Bake Municipal Airport, 2883 Airport Road. More than 30 planes of all types, as well as more than 200 classic automobiles, on static display. Local craft vendors; food, beverages and desserts from local nonprofits and restaurants, radio-controlled electric planes, World War II-era military encampment, children's area featuring face painting, a bungee-bounce experience and balloon artist.

NAVARINO: Walk, Stretch and Reflect on the GRACE Trail, 10 a.m. to noon, Navarino Nature Center, W5646 Lindsten Road. One mile, 10 gentle stretches, and 5 questions. Guided by Jaime Lee from Crazy Heart Yoga. \$20 per person. Space is limited. Sign up at Shawanopathways.org.

LAKEWOOD: Festi-Fall, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., downtown. Over 30 vendors featuring handmade items such as jewelry, rugs, jams, paintings, photos, ceramics, wood carving and more. Artist demonstrations, food trucks, wine tasting.

BIRNAMWOOD: Schairer's Autumn Acres, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Corn maze, pumpkin patch, wagon rides, petting zoo, live music and special features. Every weekend through Oct. 31.

KESHENA: The Rally Car Show, noon, Menominee Casino Resort, N277 State Highway 47-55. The Rally cruise will leave the Iola Car Show grounds at 10 a.m., with final destination being Menominee Casino Resort parking lot around noon. Free show, open to the public.

Waltzing into the next world recalled

Jon and I recently visited my youngest sister, Sharon, and her husband, Randy, who have a second home in Wilton in southwestern Wisconsin. This tiny iconic town lies in what is called the Driftless Area, because glacial ice didn't grind the land flat. Though the typography is far different from the Wisconsin Northwoods, Wilton is like Townsend in that tourism is the major part of its economy. One main reason is that it's on the Elroy-Sparta Bike Trail and near the Kickapoo River where rafting, canoeing and kayaking are king.

It's breathtakingly beautiful — rolling hills dotted with picturesque farms, many tilled by Amish farmers who get around in buggies pulled by perfectly groomed horses. Men and boys are clad in bib overalls, blue cotton shirts and straw hats. Women and girls wear simple white blouses and long black skirts, their hair carefully tucked under pretty white bonnets. Many offer wares at shops and roadside stands.

Naturally, the place is teeming with tourists in summer, city folks who come for the slow pace, friendly faces, wholesome food and one-of-a-kind artwork and souvenirs. Sorry, there's one commodity you won't find at any Amish businesses — alcohol. If that's what you're after, take a scenic drive to St. Mary's Distillery, about 20 minutes



Kathleen Marsh
Columnist

west of Wilton. The Distillery offers a variety of distinctive and delicious drinks served in Mason jars, made with brandy or rum produced in the basement. Though prices range from \$8-\$14, business is very brisk.

Did you ever go somewhere and the place activates long-buried memories? As we sampled the brandy, I looked out a huge picture window on a postcard-perfect scene. Suddenly, I was transported to my childhood days in the tiny town of Sherwood, populated mostly by people of German descent.

My ancestors, German immigrants, came to America before the Civil War. My formative years were lived in a distinctly German culture. Mom cooked German dishes; we said "gesundheit," and "Ach du Lieber Gott." As teenagers, my pals and I recited: "Eins, zwei, drei, vier. Who's gonna buy the beer?" (No one; we were all underage.)

My father's side originated in

Bavaria. Jon and I went there in 1992; it immediately felt like home. If I'd known how to sprechen sie Deutsch, I could have stayed there forever. Put Bavaria on your bucket list — best German food, best German architecture, best German beer (King Ludwig Dark) and best German tavern in the world, the Hofbrauhaus in Munich.

My mother's people came from Heiligenstadt, formerly in East Germany. When Mom and I took a bus tour through Germany in 1993, we planned to rent a car and take a side trip there.

The road had been abandoned decades earlier — essentially a "you can't get there from here" dynamic. I soothed her disappointment by treating her instead to a concert that included polkas.

Polka music is special; it gets your hands clapping and toes tapping, but ya know hey der once, you just have to get out and dance. Like most kids in those days, I learned to polka at a wedding reception, this one at VanAbel's in Hollandtown. I was 10, shyly hiding behind Mom when suddenly, my uncle grabbed my arm and dragged me onto the dance floor, saying, "Follow me."

Before I knew what was happening, we were doing the polka. I was a sturdy little girl, but he started swinging me around like a rag doll. I hung on for dear life. Finally, I relaxed and "fol-

lowed" him. Once you get the rhythm, you never forget how to polka.

The rest of that night is a blur, but I vividly recall one other scene. My parents were dancing a "slow one." Public displays of affection were verboten; I had never seen them hug, much less kiss. I knew little about their courtship, only that Mom was wearing a blue dress the night they met, and that their first dance was to the "Blue Skirt Waltz." The way they glided around the floor was way beyond romantic.

I was still lost in that memory as we headed back to Wilton. It suddenly came to me that it was at Sharon and Randy's wedding in 1986 when I last saw my father. We had danced to "Wooden Heart," a German song I will always love. How could I know that night that Dad would waltz into eternity a few weeks later? Mom died the day after Christmas in 2004, taking her last breath as the German version of "Silent Night (Stille Nacht)" was playing on the radio.

I like to think of them in heaven, entwined in each other's arms and dancing to the "Blue Skirt Waltz" because, like some memories, love is eternal.

Kathleen Marsh is a lifelong educator, writer and community advocate. She has published eight books, four on the history of Townsend, where she and husband Jon are happily retired on the beautiful Townsend Flowage.

Shawano County libraries pushing cards

September is Library Card Sign-up Month, a time when Shawano County Library joins the American Library Association (ALA) and libraries nationwide to remind parents, caregivers and students that signing up for a library card is the first step on the path to academic achievement and lifelong learning.

To sign up for a library card or

to learn more about the library's resources and programs, visit shawanolibrary.org.

This year, Library Card Sign-Up Month will be celebrated with free giveaways, drawings and fine amnesty. Anyone interested can stop at the nearest Shawano County Library location — which includes Shawano, Birnamwood, Bonduel, Mattoon,

Tigerton and Wittenberg — with a picture ID and proof of current address to open a library account.

While visiting the library, patrons can enter a drawing for a gift card to a local business. Winners will be selected at the end of September.

The library will be offering its first fine amnesty period through

Sept. 30. At any point during the month, patrons can turn in their overdue items without paying a fine.

Since 1987, Library Card Sign-up Month has been held each September to mark the beginning of the school year.

For information, contact the library at sha@shawanolibrary.org or 715-526-3829.

Public comment period open for wolf management plan

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) is seeking public comment on proposed permanent wolf rules relating to gray wolf harvest regulations.

The public comment period is open through Sept. 15. A virtual public hearing on the proposed rule will be held Sept. 12 at 4 p.m. The public can provide verbal comments on the draft rule at the hearing. Registration will take

place at the hearing by completing a hearing appearance form. Pre-registration is strongly encouraged for those who plan to speak during the hearing.

Pre-register at ScottR.Karel@wisconsin.gov.

The DNR will accept written comments on the proposed rule by U.S. mail, email or online. The public can review the rule and make comments online.

Written comments on the proposed rule will be accepted until 11:59 p.m. Sept. 15. Comments can be mailed to Department of Natural Resources, Attn: Scott Karel, P.O. Box 7921, Madison, WI 53707-7921 or emailed to DNRAAdministrativeRulesComments@wisconsin.gov

Using the regular rulemaking process, the rule proposal will achieve two primary objectives.

First, it will codify provisions of an emergency rule, EmR 1210, which went into effect Aug. 18, 2012. Non-statutory provisions of 2011 Act 169 state that this emergency rule remains in effect until a permanent rule takes effect.

Second, it will implement recommendations from and update regulatory text in consideration of a new wolf management plan.

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Teacher Taylor Lohff helps new kindergarten student Rylea Cumberland during Sacred Heart Catholic School's Back to School Night on Aug. 23. With a 90% student attendance rate for the night, families came to drop off school supplies, meet teachers, sign up for volunteer hours, enjoy the back-to-school photo booth, meet the school's new Partners in Education team, enter prize raffles and attend an all-school assembly.

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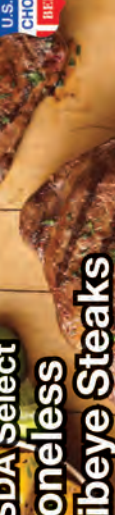
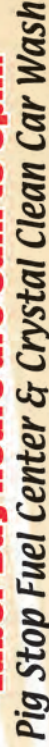
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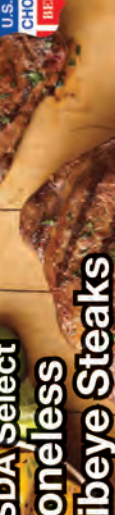


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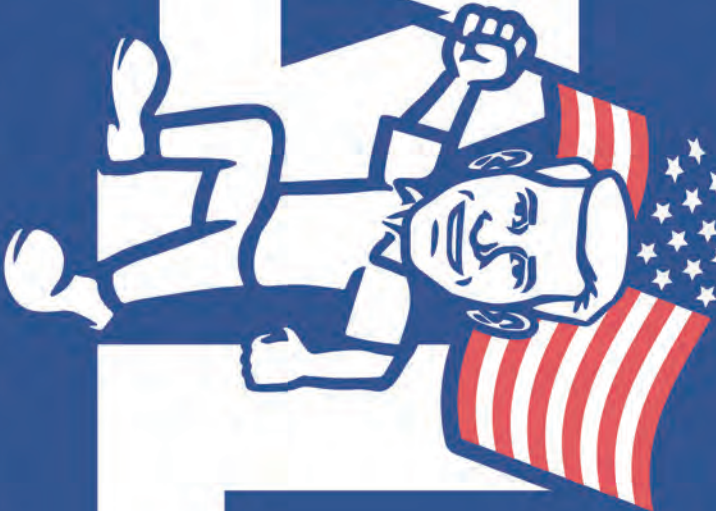
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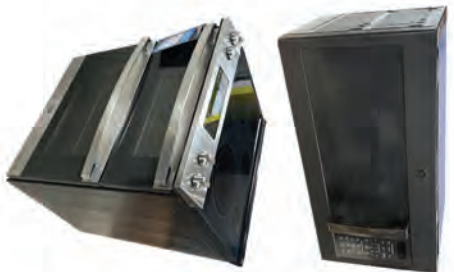
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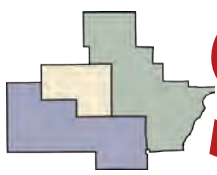
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Shawano lands in middle of the pack at the Heart of the Valley meet

By **DUSTIN RIESE**
Correspondent

The Shawano Hawks golf team was back on the links Sept. 1 as they participated in the annual Heart of the Valley Metro meet at High Cliff Golf Course in Sherwood. With the initial day of this event getting rained out in August, Mother Nature cooperated on Friday as it was an absolutely perfect day for golf.

Known to be a challenging course that tests players mentally and physically, the Hawks put together a good day on the links Sept. 1, finishing with a team score of 171 to land them in seventh place overall. That was good for a middle-of-the-road finish as they finished just three strokes behind the sixth-place Appleton East squad and nine strokes from cracking the top four.

"This meet is meant to be a good team building meet," coach Dean Kugler said. "The girls had to work together as partners, help each other out as a team and had to figure out a way to work through some challenging lies that we typically don't see."

Unlike most invites or meets where it is every golfer for herself, this one was set up as more of a partner type of match as each team played in pairs. The first nine holes were the typical scramble style with a shotgun start, with the second nine holes becoming a best ball where everyone plays from the best shot. Leading the way for the Hawks were Sophia Eggert and Maddie Moesch, as they finished with a score of 80.

Both of these girls put forth a great effort all match long and made several big shots to help set them up with better positions on the short game. Had it not been for a couple of bad bounces on holes 16-17, they would have cracked the mid-70s and put themselves in a position to be one of the top overall teams for the day.

Next was the pairing of Braylyn Babino and Audrey Holston, who finished their round with a score



Braylyn Babino, pictured, and her Shawano teammate Audrey Holston finished their round with a score of 91 as the pair participated in the annual Heart of the Valley Metro meet at High Cliff Golf Course in Sherwood on Sept. 1.

DUSTIN RIESE

of 91. Like the team of Eggert and Moesch, Babino and Holston had some tough bounces throughout the round that hampered some of their potential scores on certain holes. Still, it was a good day for this group as they refused to give up and played the course as well as possible, with the wind being a significant factor.

The final team for the Hawks was the pairing of Alli Johnson and Lily Glysch as they capped off their day with a combined score of 98. Granted, they wanted to finish a little higher up in the standings; yet any time that an entire team can crack the 100-stroke mark on a challenging course is something to build on.

With the bulk of the golf season set to get underway and the conference meet season set to begin, the Hawks will look to build off this showing going forward. Results aside, this was an important day for the Hawks and their team as they needed to get familiar with this course. Should they have a few players advance in the postseason, this is a course they will see again, and Kugler knows the familiarity that they received will only help them when it matters later.

"We have a lot of things to improve upon as a team, but there is also plenty of time to get better," he said. "Once we get into the regional round of competition, should we have some of our girls qualify for

sectionals, this is the course that will host the sectional round of competition. Having them have a chance to get out there today and get a good feel for the course is going to be a huge advantage over other teams later in the season."

Appleton North took home the Heart of the Valley title with a team score of 150, with Kaukauna coming in second at 153 and Xavier landing in third with a score of 155. Those were the only three teams to crack the 160 stroke mark as Neenah took fourth at 162, Kimberly fifth at 164, Appleton East sixth at 168 and Shawano seventh at 171. Kaukauna, Appleton West and West De Pere rounded out the top 10 with three more Kimberly teams finishing 11-13.

Pulaski blanks Menasha, ties West De Pere

By **DUSTIN RIESE**
Correspondent

The Red Raiders of Pulaski couldn't have asked for a better start to their week as they trounced the Menasha Blue Jays in non-conference action 13-0 on Aug. 29.

Pulaski jumped out to an early 3-0 lead in the first 15 minutes and never looked back as they built up a 7-0 lead by the half. Zach Brodhagen (assisted by Nolan Pratt) opened the scoring in the first minute with Ben Uelmen (Donovan Holderness) making it 2-0 in the seventh minute and Maddox McKeefry (unassisted) in the 15th minute.

Pulaski continued to make things look easy as AJ Schenk picked up a pair of goals in the 22nd and 28th minutes, Nathan Jossie in the 26th minute and Holderness adding the seventh goal at the 40-minute mark. The second half was more of the same as Pulaski tacked on six additional goals in the first 18 minutes to end the game via the mercy rule. Hudson Schultz had two of those goals, as did McKeefry to complete his hat trick. Schenk

added an additional goal, with Austin Marchand (Nathan Maroszek) adding the final goal in the 58th minute.

Pulaski 3, West De Pere 3

Goals were clearly not an issue this week for Pulaski as they scored 16 times across two games. After scoring 13 in their game against Menasha, they also managed to put up three against West De Pere while playing them to a 3-3 draw on Aug. 31.

West De Pere got out to a two-goal lead in the first half off goals from Johan Hernandez and Jonathon Romatowski, as things were looking bleak for the Red Raiders early on. With one minute remaining in the first half, Zach Valeria cut the deficit in half to make things 2-1 at the break.

The second half was a tale of two halves as it was the Red Raiders striking first. Brodhagen and Schultz combined to score twice and only two minutes apart as the Red Raiders took their first lead of the night, 3-2, just eight minutes into the half. Not even a minute later, Tyler Kowalczyk took it upon himself to tie things up as his unassisted goal made things

3-3. Pulaski keeper Josh Roth had three saves, with Cooper Nimmer picking up 12.

Wausau East 2, Shawano 1

Goals were tough to come by for Shawano this week, as they dropped a pair of non-conference games.

First, was a trip to Wausau East on Aug. 29 where the Lumberjacks came out victorious 2-1. Warner Beyer and Kody Popelka found the back of the net for the Lumberjacks. Drake Herm and Anderson Schmidt picked up the assists in that one, but Shawano was unable to find the breakthrough goal to tie things up.

Kody Popelka scored Shawano's only goal.

Green Bay Southwest 2, Shawano 0

Much like their game earlier in the week, goals were tough to come by as the Hawks couldn't find the net in a 2-0 loss to the Trojans. Jenson Troup and Mason Hermes had both goals for the Southwest team, who took an early 2-0 just nine minutes into the match. After that, it all came down to the goal tending, and Andrew Vanden

Huevel was outstanding.

Not only did Vanden Huevel keep his team in it, but he did so by coming away with 19 saves as the Trojans were pestering him in goal all night. Even with a pair of losses, coach Andrew Brooks loves the direction his team is going as they continue to push toward conference play.

"We have a pretty young team compared to last year, with only three players returning with extensive varsity minutes," he said. "This group has shown the ability to work hard, and (they) have been very coachable thus far. If those things continue, we should be in line for a great season."

Amherst 9, Bowler/Gresham 1

It's amazing how fast momentum can change in a game. After playing the Falcons tough most of the night, all it took was two mental breakdowns for the Falcons to take a competitive match up and flip it into a one-sided affair.

Amherst scored four times in the first half and five times in the second. Bowler/Gresham scored its only goal in the second half.



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Bonduel football team notches first win

By **DUSTIN RIESE**
Correspondent

Fox Valley Lutheran 42, Shawano 20

Still in search of their first win, the Hawks had no answers for Fox Valley Lutheran's running game as Jack Egan ran all over the Hawks' defense, culminating in a 42-20 win Aug. 31.

Egan had 178 yards on 28 carries while picking up three scores to lead the way for the Foxes' offense. Egan scored his first TD in the first on a one-yard run before adding two more in the second half.

When it comes to the Hawks and their offense, this was their best offensive showing of the season thus far which is a positive. Jerzey Brockner led the offense with 42 yards on 11 carries while also connecting for 161 yards through the air. Sixty-three of those yards went to Dylan Hodkiewicz, who hauled in a 35-yard touchdown in the third quarter to put the Hawks on the board. Brocker tossed for an additional 49-yard pass to pull Shawano within 16-12, only to have the Foxes end the game with 26 unanswered points.

Shawano's final score came on a four-yard run by Brocker and a successful two-point conversion in the fourth quarter.

Grantsburg 36, Oconto Falls 20

It took three weeks for the Panthers to drop their first game as they fell to Grantsburg 36-20 on Aug. 31.

The big problem in this one for the Panthers was their inability to contain Brock Matheny, who tossed for 175 yards and two scores. Eighty-six of those yards went to Marcus Michel who had one score, while Trenton Johnson picked up 68 yards and another score. That was a big reason why the Panthers fell behind 12-0 early and were never able to climb back into the game.

Not only did Grantsburg's passing game give the Panthers some issues, but so did the running game as Gavin Rossow added 103 yards. Oconto Falls managed to do a great job clawing back into the game, but the end result didn't matter as the Panthers dropped their first game of 2023.

Emerich Skarbon made the score 12-6 with a one-yard TD run in the second quarter.

Down 18-6 at the half, Wyatt Laughrin scored in the third quarter, and the two-point conversion was

successful to bring Oconto Falls closer at 18-14.

A kickoff return for a touchdown and field goal put Grantsburg up 28-14 going into the fourth quarter.

Alex Haines ran in for another Oconto Falls TD in the fourth quarter, but the Panthers couldn't get over the hump to tie or win the game.

Gillett 51, Sevastopol 30

If you like offense, then this was the place to be Aug. 31 as Gillett took down Sevastopol on the road 51-30.

This was all about the passing game as the duo of Jesse DeBauche and Ben Matczak were impossible to stop as they hooked up three times in the first half from 30, 20 and 38 yards out to build an early 21-0 lead. DuBauche finished the night with 360 yards passing and four TDs.

While Matczak had three TD receptions, Brandon DuBauche lit up the stats sheet as he hauled in a game high 216 yards and another TD reception. Gillett needed every one of those yards as the Pioneers did an excellent job to pull within 35-24, only to see the Tigers pull away late for the three-score win.

Lena/St. Thomas Aquinas 34,

Oneida Nation/NEW Lutheran 6

Another week and another win for Lena/St. Thomas Aquinas as they opened up a massive 34-0 lead before cruising to a win Aug. 31. Calvin Peters and Ty Shallow set the tone as the duo combined to rush for more than 200 yards and three scores on the ground. Peters also tossed for 60 yards and another score as the Lena offense remains tough to stop.

Bryce Liebrecht led the way for Oneida Nation with 86 yards on 14 carries, including a fourth-quarter score. Apart from that, the Oneida offense didn't have much of anything going, which has been a theme two weeks into the season. Peters and Shallow combined for all five of the Lena TDs as Shallow opened the game with a 19-yard TD run before adding a 43 yarder later.

Peters began his big day with a 23 yard pass to Logan Graef before punching it in from one yard out. Graef also added a second TD to his name in the second half scoring from 58 yards out on the ground to cap off a big win.

Gibraltar 35, Suring 32

In one of the better 8-player games of the week, it was the

Vikings of Gibraltar holding on to defeat the Suring Eagles 35-32 on Aug. 31. Michael Pecans had a great day passing the ball for Suring, completing five of his six passes for 163 yards. Ninety-two of those yards went to Jake Cornell on two receptions, with Michael Bailey adding the rest of the yards and receptions.

The Vikings also had an impressive showing in the passing game with Brandon Sitte as he hauled in eight receptions for 126 yards, including 48 yards on a first quarter TD that saw the Vikings open up an early 7-0 lead. Pecans had the answer for Suring, running it in from 22 yards out while a two-point conversion made things 8-7.

That was only the beginning of what was a big night for Pecans as he threw for three scores including two in the fourth to help lead the Suring comeback effort. Unfortunately for the Eagles, their effort would go to waste as Sitte picked up a pair of fourth-quarter scores of his own to help the Vikings hold on for the win.

Wittenberg-Birnamwood 47,

Nekoosa 0

Perhaps the most impressive team in the early part of the season could be Wittenberg-Birnamwood. Not only are they off to a 3-0 start, but they have done so with three dominating victories thus far.

On Sept. 1, the Chargers continue to be led by an impressive ground attack that is led by Braeden Groshok and Bryson Schmid. Nathan Waupekenay has also been a key reason for the Chargers' success, as his ability to make plays with both his arm and legs have led to a ton of points in three weeks.

Pulaski 35, De Pere 30

You could make a case that the best winless team in the state was Pulaski, as they dropped a pair of challenging games to open the season. Looking to secure their first win of 2023, it was the Red Raiders locked into a shootout as they held off FRCC rival De Pere 35-30 on Sept. 1. The Red Raiders relied on a rushing attack that was led by Logan Schultz and his three scores as they rushed for nearly 300 yards. Spencer Hakes added 97 more yards as the Pulaski offense went with what they do best to score points.

When it comes to De Pere and their offense, the arm of Easton Arendt was nearly the difference as he threw for 303 yards and four

touchdowns. Three of those scores went to Hayden May, who racked up 157 yards on nine catches with those three scores. May caught the game's first score from six yards out before adding a 30-yard TD reception in the second and a 27-yarder in the fourth.

The turning point of the game came in the third quarter as the Red Raiders outscored the Red Birds 21-0. Hakes opened the scoring in that quarter with an impressive 55-yard scamper while Schultz added scores of two yards and 41 yards. Schultz would add his third and final TD in the fourth as Pulaski came from behind and would hold off the Red Birds 35-30 to secure their first win of 2023.

Bonduel 20, Sturgeon Bay 19

Another team that was searching for its first win was Bonduel, and the Bears did what they had to secure their first win of 2023. Whether on the ground or through the air, the Bears made things happen as a 14-point fourth quarter was just enough for Bonduel to secure the win Sept. 1.

Following a scoreless first quarter, it was the Clippers who found the scoreboard first as a 42-yard TD run put Bonduel in a 6-0 hole, which held going into the half. Once the second half got rolling, a bit more urgency by the Bears offense had Dylan Hillsburg plowing in from three yards out to tie things up 6-6.

It was in the fourth when all of the fireworks started as both offenses seemed to be catching their groove. Bryce Pitzak put the Clippers back on top 13-6 as he hauled in an 83-yard TD pass. Pitzak led the way for the Clippers with six receptions for 137 yards and a score as the Sturgeon Bay passing attack gutted the Bears defense for 334 yards. Immediately following that score, it was time for the Bears' passing game to get things done as Cade Johnson found Noah Weier for 35 yards to make things 13-12. Bonduel would end up converting on a two-point try that proved to be crucial later on.

Already with one passing touchdown, Sturgeon Bay added a second TD pass later in the fourth as the Bears found themselves trailing 19-14 late. Leave it to the ground game and Hillsburg to change all that as he capped off a 44-yard night with his second TD of the game, which proved to be the difference in the Bears' 1-point win.

Gresham wins 3 at Owen-Withee Quad

By **LUKE REIMER**
Correspondent

The Gresham girls volleyball team won all three of its matches during the Owen-Withee Quad at Owen-Withee on Aug. 29.

Gresham defeated Owen-Withee in its first match that went three sets, 20-25, 24-14 and 15-13. Emily Jensen re-

corded 11 service points, while Maddie Haffner recorded eight service points and nine digs.

Gresham defeated Rib Lake in its second match of the quad in three sets, 17-25, 25-17 and 15-11. Jensen scored nine service points.

Gresham defeated Chetek-Weyerhauser in its third match of the quad in two sets, 25-10 and 25-17. Lexi Badd-

moccasin-Barnes led the Hawks with ten service points and ten assists.

Suring vs. Crivitz

Suring defeated Crivitz in five sets at Suring. After dropping the first two sets, Suring won by scores of 18-25, 21-25, 25-23, 26-24 and 15-7.

Lena vs. Gillett

Lena defeated Gillett in four sets at

Lena, winning 20-25, 25-23, 25-11 and 25-13.

Bowler vs. Menominee Indian and Bowler vs. Faith Christian Academy

Menominee Indian defeated Bowler in three sets, winning 12-25, 25-16 and 26-24. Bowler defeated Faith Christian Academy in two sets, winning 27-25 and 25-12.

Shawano shuts out GB Southwest singles players

By **LUKE REIMER**
Correspondent

Shawano went perfect in its Aug. 28 singles matches against Green Bay Southwest at Green Bay Southwest.

Adison Moesch defeated Green Bay Southwest's Brianna Martinson in two sets, 6-3 and 6-2.

Ireland Setterman defeated Green Bay Southwest's Ella Crowley in two sets, 6-0 and 6-0.

Rachael Carroll defeated Green Bay Southwest's Jaisa Vanden Houten in two sets, 6-1 and 6-0.

Brynline Boyles defeated Green Bay Southwest's Robyn Wallenfang in two sets, 6-0 and 6-0.

Green Bay Southwest won two out of the three doubles matches.

Green Bay Southwest's Ella Van-

den Houten and Bail Wery defeated Shawano's Samantha Martzke and Natalee Jung in two sets, 6-1 and 6-0.

Green Bay Southwest's Ayana Russell and Emerson Krings defeated Shawano's Ashley Hanssen and Rylee Trochil in three sets, 4-6, 7-5 and 10-8.

Shawano's Katie Weiland and Maddigan Bakeberg defeated Green Bay Southwest's Maddy Beres and Amy Montiejand in three sets, 6-3, 5-7 and 10-7.

Pulaski vs. Bay Port

Bay Port defeated Pulaski by a score of 6-1, winning all four singles matches and two doubles matches Aug. 29.

Bay Port's Karlie Schock defeated Pulaski's Ruth Krause in two sets, 6-0

and 6-1.

Bay Port's Allie Brosteau defeated Pulaski's Isabella Skalecki in two sets, 6-2 and 6-3.

Bay Port's Marisa McAllister defeated Pulaski's Alya Grotluschen in three sets, 5-7, 6-7 (4) and 14-12.

Bay Port's Callie Schuette defeated Pulaski's Addison Heezen in two sets, 6-1 and 6-1.

Bay Port's Mira Matuszewski and Hannah Ernest defeated Pulaski's Sarah Johnson and Josie Steeno in two sets, 6-1 and 6-1.

Bay Port's Tia Gaffney and Ava Therriault defeated Pulaski's Hailey Jansen and Aubrie Schluessler in two sets, 6-2 and 6-1.

Pulaski's Alyssa Eggert and Linde Lemerond defeated Bay Port's Alyssa Wettstein and Abby Wells in three

sets, 2-6, 6-4 and 10-6.

Notre Dame vs. Pulaski

The Pulaski girls tennis team dropped all seven matches to Notre Dame on Aug. 31. The Red Raiders dropped four singles matches and three doubles matches.

Shawano vs. New London

The Shawano girls tennis team defeated New London by a score of 5-2 at New London on Aug. 31.

The Hawks won all four singles matchups, with Setterman defeating New London's Samantha Hoerth in two sets, 6-0 and 6-0. The Bulldogs won two out of the three doubles matches, with Katie Weiland and Bakeberg defeating New London's Madison Simenson and Addison Marsh, 6-2 and 6-0.

Shawano places second at conference matchup

By **LUKE REIMER**
Correspondent

Shawano finished second, while Bonduel placed sixth out of seven teams during a Bay Conference matchup in Seymour on Aug. 29.

While Xavier won the meet with

a score of 184, Shawano was close behind, scoring 194. Bonduel scored a combined 253 on the day.

Junior Sophia Eggert had the lowest score out of all teams, shooting a 40. Junior Gabi Krause had the lowest score for Bonduel, shooting a 59.

Fox River Classic Conference

Mini Meet 3

Pulaski finished fifth out of eight times in an FRCC matchup with eight teams competing Aug. 29.

Bay Port took home the win with a combined score of 339.

Notre Dame and Green Bay Preble followed behind with scores of 346 and 356, respectively. Pulaski finished with a score of 379.

Senior Vivien Ninham led the Red Raiders with a score of 83, which was tied for fourth best on the day.

AMATEUR BASEBALL

Antigo/Polar wins BABA title on walk-off homer

By **NEW MEDIA STAFF**

Antigo/Polar won the Badger Amateur Baseball Association Grand Championship on a AJ Kirsch walk-off home run. Kirsch's homer gave Antigo/Polar a 4-3 win over Scandi-

navia on Sept. 3 in Antigo.

Kirsch, Jed Weix, Isaac Bixby and Will Kubeny all finished with two hits for Antigo/Polar. Kubeny homered among his hits, while Weix doubled.

The grand championship was a

rematch from 2022, with Antigo/Polar also winning that contest.

Bixby also was the winning pitcher.

Gus Turner-Zick led Scandinavia with two hits. Jesse Dickert and Jason Steinbach each doubled. Ben

ONLINE

Visit www.bababaseball.com/index.html for up-to-date standings and statistics from the BABA.

Lee took the loss on the hill.

Shawano, Oconto Falls place in top 10 at invite

By NEW MEDIA STAFF

Shawano had two runners in the top 10 and Oconto Falls had one in the boys varsity cross country De Pere Invite on Aug. 31 at UW-Green Bay.

Ethan Onesti placed third in in 16:30.2, and teammate Will Chelberg was fifth in 16:40.8. Ben Adams of Oconto Falls placed sixth in 16:48.8.

Gillett's Bradyn Wendorff ran to an 18th-place finish win 17:32.1.

Parker Marshall of Pulaski had a time of 18:04.7 for 39th place, one spot in front of Shawano's Josiah Kuehl's 18:05.4. Pulaski's Augustine Daniel was 42nd in 18:09.4.

Shawano's Andon Chelberg finished in 47th place with a time of 18:22.6. Pulaski's Novak Dayne was 56th in 18:36.1, and teammate Arden Gillen was 61st in 18:42.8. Quinn Olson of Shawano had a time of 18:51.4 for 66th place, and Pulaski's Peyton Yaw was 73rd in 19:01.8.

Oconto Falls' Griffin Kapke placed 82nd in 19:12, Shawano's Trevor Schwartz was 89th in 19:17.8, and Pulaski's Thomas Murphy was 100th in 19:35.7.

Other competitors included Brent Laluzeme of Oconto Falls, Connor Chelberg of Shawano, Isiah Holtz of Oconto Falls, Scott Heroux of Gillett, Dayne Groth of Pulaski, Nash Stage of Gillett, Ben Peterson of Gillett, Chase Anderson of Gillett, Enrique Stange of Pulaski, Emerson Rice of Oconto Falls, Braxton Rajkovich of Oconto Falls, Gillett's Zander Davis and Oconto Falls' Landon Timm.

Placing in the top 10 for the girls were Shawano's Lilly Guenther in ninth in 20:07.9 and Bailey Hendricks in 10th in 20:19.7.

Teammate Grace Chelberg was 16th in 20:47.7, with fellow Hawk Maci Beyer in 24th in 21:21.4. Olivia Stedl of Pulaski was 25th in 21:23.3, and Hailey Delzer of Oconto Falls had a time of 21:28.5 for 28th place.

Shawano's Adalyn Barkley was 53rd in 22:01.3, followed closely by Oconto Falls' Brooke Hadkewicz in 55th place in 22:03.7 and fellow Panther Hannah Ludermann in 58th place in 22:09.8.

Emma Meissner of Oconto Falls placed 72nd in 22:35.6, with teammate Maddy Przybyski in 97th in 23:22.9 and Shawano's Anabelle Schroeder in 99th in 23:25.4.

Other runners were Gillett's Hope Soper, Oconto Falls' Josie Holtz, Oconto Falls' Ava Hodkewicz, Oconto Falls' Madkenzie Lotto, Lena St. Thomas Aquinas Academy's Adrena Rabas, Gillett's Sophie Limberg, Gillett's Maggie

Kaczmarek and Gillett's Lily Hansen.

Green Bay Preble

Bonduel placed fourth out of six teams at Green Bay Preble on Aug. 31.

Ben O'Brien led the Bears with a fourth-place finish in 17:43.1. Joining him were Race Anvelink in 16th at 19:17, Gage Anderson in 28th at 20:50.7, Oliver Chitwood in 31st at 21:19.3 and Joah Dworniczak in 36th at 22:19.4.

Garrett Anderson also competed and finished in 37th place in 23:33.6.

T-Bird Invite

Wittenberg-Birnamwood sophomore Rory Salveson finished in first place and teammate Nora Bushman (freshman) placed fifth in Iola-Scandinavia T-Bird Invitational on Aug. 29. The cross country meet featured a 5,000-meter run.

Salveson finished with a time of 19:26.5, and Bushman's time was 20:55.4.

There were 118 girls competing. Sophomore Mariah Wondra of Bonduel placed eighth in 21:20.7, and teammate junior Teagan Engel was 14th in 21:58.2. Also in the top 20 was Bonduel senior Joselyn Bohm at 19th in 22:56.4.

Other local competitors in the top 50 and times included Bonduel senior Ashlyn Kurey, 25th place, 23:18.7; Wittenberg-Birnamwood freshman Gabrielle Time, 26th, 23:23; Bonduel sophomore Ceirra Schnell, 30th, 23:39; Bonduel junior Hailey Berg, 31st, 23:53.9; Oconto senior Elizabeth Finger, 48th, 26:04.6; and Wolf River Lutheran freshman Violet Buchholz, 49th, 26:08.6.

Other local competitors included Bonduel junior Taylor Rank, 72nd; Bonduel junior Seidy Blandon, 80th; Oconto sophomore Willow Burke, 84th; Marion freshman Bella Conover, 87th; Oconto sophomore Harper Burke, 89th; Oconto sophomore Jorgie Runnerstrom, 98th; Wittenberg-Birnamwood junior Ava Hegewald, 99th; Marion junior Bridget Much, 103rd; Oconto senior Gracie Simon, 104th; Wittenberg-Birnamwood junior Jayden Zeinert, 105th; Oconto senior Hayden Beekman, 106th; Oconto senior Alex Hyland, 108th; Oconto senior Sydney Christopherson, 112th; Wittenberg-Birnamwood senior Amelia Bessert, 113th; Oconto senior Savannah Brill, 115th; and Oconto freshman Emily Aerts, 118th.

Bonduel senior Ben O'Brien led the local boys with a fourth-place finish with a time of 17:13.7. There were 137 boys competing.

Menominee Indian freshman Ryan

Corn placed 14th with a time of 18:30.6, while teammate senior Julius Kaquatosh was 29th in 19:35.9. Wittenberg-Birnamwood senior Joey Seegmiller placed 32nd in 19:50.3, edging out Bonduel junior Race Anvelink, who placed 33rd in 19:52.4.

Another five local runners placed in the top 50. They were Gresham/Bowler senior Bryson Nelson, 36th, 20:03.7; Oconto junior Garrett Goetsch, 41st, 20:22; Wittenberg-Birnamwood sophomore Jonas Bushman, 42nd, 20:25.1; Menominee Indian junior Francis Delabrau, 43rd, 20:30.3; and Bondel freshman Oliver Chitwood, 49th, 20:43.

Other local runners were Menominee Indian sophomore Anikohsach Corn, 51st; Bonduel sophomore Griffin Uelmen, 53rd; Oconto senior Jackson Martin, 54th; Oconto junior Owen Bryzozowski, 57th; Oconto junior Daniel Alwin, 59th; Oconto junior Carter Kohc, 60th; Wittenberg-Birnamwood senior Ian Salveson, 63rd; Wittenberg-Birnamwood junior Hayden Miller, 65th; Bonduel freshman Gage Anderson, 67th; Oconto junior Trenton Hartman, 68th; Menominee Indian junior Barron Waupoose, 69th; Wittenberg-Birnamwood freshman Milo Salveson,

72nd; Bonduel junior Ben Reisner, 73rd; Wittenberg-Birnamwood junior Taras Guk, 77th; Marion senior Jesse Trebus, 78th; Wittenberg-Birnamwood freshman Carson Meronk, 79th; Bonduel freshman Joah Dworniczak, 83rd; Wittenberg-Birnamwood freshman Dalton Fletcher, 88th; and Marion sophomore Tristan Herro, 98th.

Finishing outside of the top 100 were Wittenberg-Birnamwood freshman Marty Nowinsky, 101st; Wittenberg-Birnamwood freshman Max Kasprak, 110th; Bonduel freshman Garrett Anderson, 113th; Bonduel freshman Garrett Klosterman, 117th; Menominee Indian freshman Tony Corn, 122nd; Wittenberg-Birnamwood senior Dustin Yaeger, 124th; Oconto sophomore Dalton Bastian, 126th; Menominee Indian sophomore Dennis Bear, 130th; Marion freshman Adam Liethen, 134th; and Gresham/Bowler sophomore Matthew Freitag, 136th.

As a team, the Bonduel boys were sixth, Menominee Indian was seventh, Oconto was 11th and Wittenberg-Birnamwood was 12th. For the girls, Bonduel placed third, with Wittenberg-Birnamwood in eighth and Oconto in 13th.

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AUTO RACING

Westphal wins to cement Mighty 4 title

Whitman, Teske, Frank, VanStraten also win track titles

By NEW MEDIA STAFF

The Shawano Speedway racing season concluded with Championship Night on Sept. 2, with Tanner Westphal, Travis VanStraten, Gunner Frank, Jeffery Teske and Johnny Whitman winning track titles.

Westphal, Kyle Frederick, Troy Springborn, Jake Carpenter and Mike Mullen won feature races on the final night.

Westphal won the Mighty 4 feature race to seal up a title in the division. He moved up five spots during the

race to earn the top finish.

Dalton Nelson, Chad Halterman, Clint Malueg and Austin Pingel rounded out the top five in the feature race. Westphal won the title by eight points over Nelson. Brad Wedde took third. Calvin Stueck finished fourth, while Alexis Michonski was fifth overall.

VanStraten won the IMCA Stock Car class by 30 points, the largest margin for any champion. He moved up seven spots to finish second in the final feature race.

Frederick moved past four drivers to take first in the feature. Brekken Kleinschmidt, Vern Stedjee and Dan Michonski capped the top five.

Frederick finished second in the final standings, while Dylan Stedjee was third. Dan Michonski took fourth, and Vern Stedjee was fifth.

Frank won the Late Model class by

14 points. He was not part of the field on Championship Night.

Springborn started on the front row of the feature and went on to finish first. Ron Berna claimed second, while Brett Swedberg was third. Derek Janke and Andy Karl filled out the top five.

Karl landed second in the final standings, with Berna in third. Joel Bennett took fourth, while Todd Frank was fifth.

Teske finished 11 points higher than any other driver in the IMCA Sport Mod division. He moved up seven spots and placed fifth in the final feature race.

Carpenter moved past 10 cars to earn to top finish in the feature race. Logan Fleischman was second, JJ Vanderloop third and Mason Woods fourth.

Fleischman also took second in

the final standings. Jerry Vanderloop grabbed third. Tyler Sobiesczyk and Travis Rhoades rounded out the top five.

Whitman won the IMCA Modified division in what was the tightest finish of the speedway's five classes. He scored 487 points, edging Konnor Wilinski at 483 points. Whitman placed third in the final feature race, moving past 12 cars to do so.

Mullen started the race in third and went on to win the feature, while Jayden Schmidt took second. Jason Czarapata and Wilinski rounded out the top five.

Jordan Bartz came in third in the final standings. Jerry Wilinski took fourth, while Marcus Yarie was fifth.

All results and point standings can be found at www.myracepass.com/tracks/1874.

Genskow, Miller too much for White Lake/Elcho

By DUSTIN RIESE
Correspondent

Coming off a loss to open their 2023 8-player season, Marion/Tigerton was back on the field Friday for a matchup against White/Lake Elcho. As expected, this was another high-scoring affair, but one that Marion/Tigerton controlled from the second quarter on.

All it took was a massive second quarter that saw Marion/Tigerton score 22 of their 48 points and an offense that put up 36 points in the first half. That was more than enough to pull a victory as Marion/Tigerton improves to 1-1 on the season with their 48-28 victory on Sept. 1.

"All week during practice, we talked about having each individual do their job on the field," coach Micah Schwantes said. "They did just that and more tonight as we played a tremendous game."

If the first quarter was any sign of what was to come, this was going to be an offensive shootout as both teams came out on fire offensively. After White Lake grabbed an early 8-0 lead following a short run, it was the passing game of Braxton Genskow that got

the offense going as he completed 16 of his 26 passes for 205 yards and five TDs, with 118 of those yards going to Parker Miller.

Not only did Miller come down with eight receptions, but four of those receptions were for touchdowns, as the White Lake defense seemingly had no answers for him. The duo hooked up for a 13-yard TD midway through the first to tie things up 8-8 before connecting on a 42-yard gain later in the quarter to make things 14-14 after one. Their second TD came after White Lake connected for a long TD pass of their own, as neither defense was able to settle in early on.

Once the second quarter got underway, the Marion/Tigerton defense made some adjustments; they not only shut the White Lake/Elcho offense down, but their offense continued to inflict damage. While Miller may have been the primary focus of the game, Jackson Krohn made his presence known with two receptions for 26 yards — including a go-ahead 24-yard TD in the second to put Marion/Tigerton up 22-14. Marion/Tigerton then saw its lead cut to 22-20 after another TD run from White Lake/Elcho kept

things close before the offense closed out the first half with a flurry.

Already with three TD passes under his belt, Genskow hooked up two more times with Miller before the end of the half to stretch the Marion/Tigerton lead out to 36-20 after one half of play. Unlike the first half where the offense was the story, it was much more of a defensive battle the rest of the way as 20 total points were scored in the second half. Eight of those points came from White Lake/Elcho, as another TD run in the third made things 36-28 as they refused to go away. That is something that Schwantes wants to fix in the weeks ahead, as his team had a tough time stopping the run.

"Credit White Lake for being able to run the ball as well as they did," he said. "They are a very physical team and did a nice job setting the tone early in both halves. Thankfully our guys found ways to adjust in each half to get back on track. That is something we need to get better with defensively if we want to reach the level we expect to this season."

Looking for the knockout blow in the fourth quarter, it was time for Marion/Tigerton to show off their

ability to run the football. Look no further than Genskow. Not only did he have 205 yards passing with his five scores, but he added another score on the ground by taking one in from 40 yards out to make things 42-28. Genskow also led the team in rushing with 162 yards on 23 carries, as he had more than 360 yards of combined offense with six TDs.

Miller also had a massive game, as he had more than 200 all purpose yards and five TDs of his own; 86 of his yards came on the ground off just four carries — including his 67-yard burst late in the fourth quarter to extend the Marion/Tigerton lead to their biggest margin of the game, 48-28. Those would be the final points of the night for either side as Marion/Tigerton picked up their first win of 2023 in dominating fashion.

"I am very happy with our performance on the field tonight," Schwantes said. "Sure, we weren't perfect, but no one is going to play a perfect game this early in the season. I couldn't have asked for much more from our kids tonight as they took what we were discussing in practice and put it to use on the field, and the results showed."

"I couldn't have asked for much more from our kids tonight as they took what we were discussing in practice and put it to use on the field, and the results showed."

MICAH SHWANTES, Marion/Tigerton football coach

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trailer, snowmobile trailer (bad deck), SS
milk tank, Pallet

racking, Craftsman toolboxes, tons of
wrenches, sockets, and
more tools, chainsaw, blower, 24'
extension ladder, pallet jack,
used 22.5 tires, wheel barrow, cement
tools, Jeep doors,

3 phase cord, Cat Cutter mounted on
trailer, carpet stretcher,
Shrink wrap system, variety of AC
components, Large SS freezer
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washer, hose reel, tool cart,
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Suring delivers clean sweep of Tigerton in volleyball action

By **DUSTIN RIESE**
Correspondent

The Suring Eagles couldn't have asked for a much better opening to their 2023 volleyball season as they continue their hot start. After dropping their season opening match in straight sets, the Eagles have responded with three straight match victories — including a straight-set win over Tigerton on Aug. 30 — to move to 3-1 on the season.

While the straight-set win is always nice, one has to look a little deeper to see just how dominant the Eagles actually were in victory over Tigerton. Not only did Suring dominate most sets, but they didn't concede more than 16 points in any of those three sets, which paved the way to a dominating win.

Coach Carly Hanson loved the way her team came out and sent a message during the entire match.

"I am extremely proud of the girls' effort from start to finish," she said. "They came out focused and managed to minimize our mistakes while capitalizing on theirs. This

was a complete team effort."

A match may not be decided in the first set, but a team can certainly set the tone for what is to come the rest of the night. The Eagles did that and more as they conceded a couple of early points before sinking their teeth in and taking complete control. At one point, it looked like they would run the table as the Tigers were searching for answers, only to fall in the first set 25-8.

"That was one of our best sets this season," Hanson said. "It's not too often when you can get on a run like we did and make it hold up. We were in complete control from the start, and the girls made sure they weren't going to let Tigerton back into the set. If we can play like that on a nightly basis, we are going to be tough to beat."

The second set was no different as the overall balance of the Eagles continued to give the Tigers fits across the board. Even with McKenzie Hoffman and Aaliyah Lederhaus having some success at the service line with three aces, the

Owls refused to crack as their front line continued to dictate the tempo of the game.

Even with the Tigers hanging around a bit longer than expected, Suring eventually got back into their game as Claire Pommerich, Bailey Stuart and Tessa Losurdo started to contain the Tigerton offense to gain momentum on their own end. That helped the Eagles pull away as they took a 2-0 match lead with a 25-13 set two win.

In what was a win-or-go-home set for the Tigers, Suring knew they had to keep focused as Tigerton was going to come at them with everything they had.

Tigerton continued to rely on several perfectly placed serves, but Lillian Welch and Samantha Suehring started to get involved up front as they combined for nine kills, with most of them coming in that final set. For the first time all match, it seemed like the Tigers had control of a set as Suring was in a much tougher battle this time around.

Mashya Seefeldt, and Autumn Degrave did a phenomenal job play-

ing in the middle as they managed to stop any momentum the Tigers had to help the Eagles settle in to their offense. Once that happened, it was the presence of Pommerich, Stuart and Losurdo on the outside as they continued to find holes in the Tigers defense from the front line.

Just when it looked like the Eagles were about to pull away again, Tigerton battled back as they didn't want things to end without at least trying to force a fourth set. However, good teams find ways to battle through adversity and win and Suring is a good team. Whether it be the mental toughness of the seniors or the great overall play from front to back, the Eagles took the Tigers' best shots from start to finish and managed to finish off what they started, 25-16, to sweep the Tigers.

"We have steadily improved every match, and that is all you can ask for," Hanson said. "The goal throughout a season is to get better with every match. We have been able to do that, and it is something we would like to continue as the season goes on."



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THE MONTH IN BRIEF: As seen in seven clues

by S.N.

ACROSS

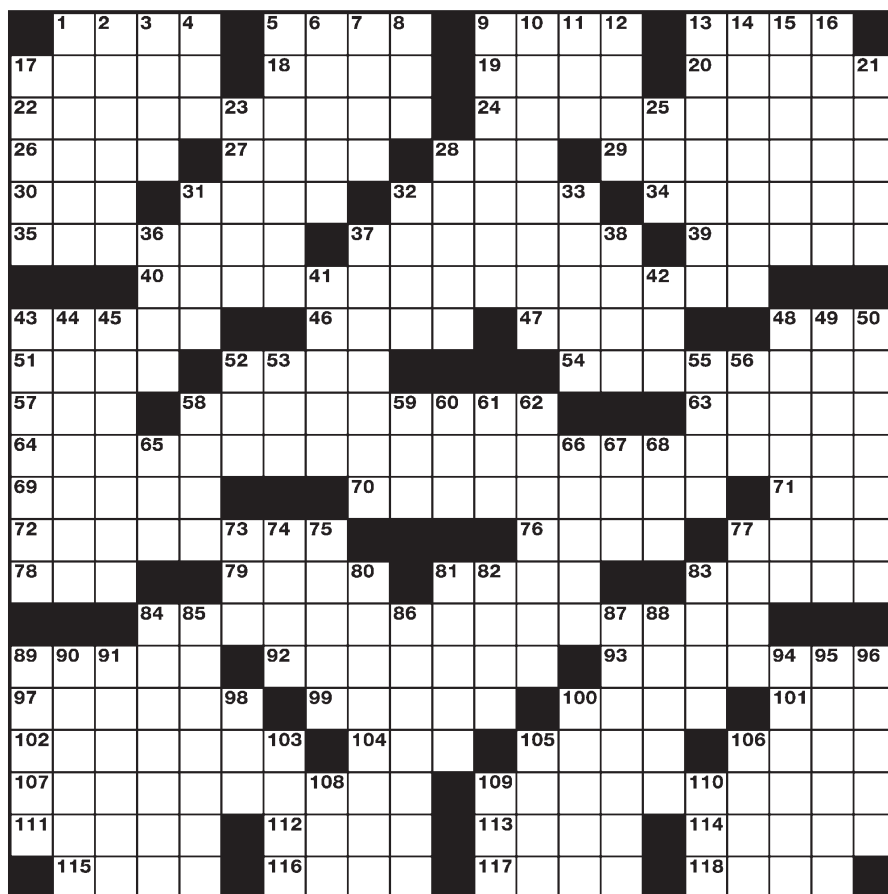
- 1 Ivy League athletes
- 5 Very dark
- 9 Numbered rds.
- 13 Egg-grading agcy.
- 17 Deceptive motion
- 18 Cry out for
- 19 Make more comfortable
- 20 Crooks, to cops
- 22 Wearable with a noSEpiece
- 24 Lab device with a noSEpiece
- 26 Give sparingly
- 27 URL intro
- 28 Grp. of atoms
- 29 Organization's subgroup
- 30 Mexican gold
- 31 Black-and-white musical targets
- 32 Perk up
- 34 Gave the OK
- 35 FDR program
- 37 Immense
- 39 Successful dieter
- 40 PerSEPhone, in Greek mythology
- 43 Liqueur flavoring
- 46 Make sharper
- 47 High-end department store chain
- 48 Perch for a tot
- 51 Recuperate
- 52 Verbally insincere
- 54 Italian cheese
- 57 4/15 addressee
- 58 Skilled with 31 Across
- 63 Tree-shaded spot
- 64 GiuSEPpe Verdi's Shakespearean operas
- 69 Online commerce
- 70 Picnic pastimes

- 71 Big Apple campus
- 72 Wood for some pencils
- 76 Wished undone
- 77 Sonnet, for example
- 78 Suffix for stock
- 79 One of the dwarf planets
- 81 Spotted
- 83 Inferno author
- 84 Popular seasonal houSEPlant
- 89 Cold season sound
- 92 Stunt flyer
- 93 Works hard
- 97 Points of view
- 99 Diameter fractions
- 100 Silent signal
- 101 Story line's progression
- 102 Smuggler of sci-fi
- 104 Craving
- 105 Bull or buck
- 106 Fondue cheese
- 107 What a mouSEPad's wrist rest improves
- 109 Best Actor Oscar winner for SEParate Tables (1958)
- 111 Black Panthers cofounder
- 112 Petty clash
- 113 Notion: Fr.
- 114 Adjust as necessary
- 115 Small número
- 116 Pop star Perry
- 117 Tinker (with)
- 118 Suburb of Phoenix

DOWN

- 1 Pal of Pooh
- 2 Go into hiding
- 3 Bus Stop playwright
- 4 Major MO airport
- 5 Fashionable now

- 6 Homes in branches
- 7 Don't discard
- 8 PGA distances
- 9 Erasure
- 10 Final parts
- 11 PC bailout button
- 12 Feudal toiler
- 13 High-end
- 14 Word on stadium tickets
- 15 Star Wars workers
- 16 Place side by side
- 17 Made a meal of
- 21 Man from Madrid
- 23 Still to come
- 25 W. Hemisphere alliance
- 28 British bishop's hat
- 31 Casino ball game
- 32 The Sphinx, mostly
- 33 Muslim veil
- 36 Minimally multiple
- 37 Quarter, colloquially
- 38 Salad slice, for short
- 41 Horned safari beast
- 42 Subj. for recent immigrants
- 43 Impossible dream
- 44 Filled with fizz
- 45 Abundant flow
- 48 Neighbor of Israel
- 49 So far
- 50 Bottle with a 96 Down
- 52 "Vamoose!"
- 53 -di-dah
- 55 Free ticket
- 56 Creative pursuit
- 58 Brazilian soccer great
- 59 Beach house view
- 60 Special attention, for short
- 61 Category
- 62 "You're right!"



- 65 Pen brand
- 66 Regional animals
- 67 Reliable pro
- 68 Was winning
- 73 German article
- 74 Song for a basso
- 75 Person awakening
- 77 Days gone by
- 80 Pound resident
- 81 Colleague of Salk
- 82 Actor Morales
- 83 Twilight time
- 84 Instrument panel
- 85 Knee-slappers
- 86 Humble nature
- 87 Tex-Mex pods
- 88 In perfect pitch
- 89 Cookout residue
- 90 Bordeaux wine
- 91 Parking place for planes
- 94 Caterpillars, for instance

- 95 City SW of Buffalo
- 96 Bouquet
- 98 -mo video
- 100 Ocean motions
- 103 Major Siberian city
- 105 Crafted
- 106 _ your time (be patient)
- 108 Brewpub designation
- 109 Lit slightly
- 110 '70s war zone

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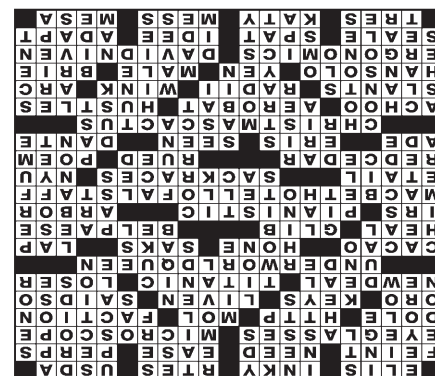
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2022 PRESIDENTS AWARD

Operation Christmas Child underway

Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child is underway at Grace Lutheran Church, according to local coordinator Ellen Pritzlaff.

Needed items to fill 300 shoe boxes include basic school sup-

plies, bars of soap, wash cloths, hair brushes, toothbrushes, socks, small toys, any item suitable for children ages 2-14. No candy, liquids, toothpaste or war items will be accepted. There is a designated collection tote located next to the church office door for donations, which can be dropped off at any time.

Worldwide Operation Christmas Child shoe boxes represent God's love for each child. Samaritan's Purse requests new items, not used. All monetary donations help to fill the shoe boxes.

Shoe box packing parties at Grace Lutheran, 501 S. Main St.,

Oconto Falls, will start the week of Nov. 6. Last year, a total of 1,033 boxes gathered from individuals, churches, and organizations were collected, loaded and shipped.

For information, contact Ellen Pritzlaff at 920-362-5752 or epritzlaff@hotmail.com.

NOTICE FOR ANNUAL DISTRICT MEETING Pulaski Community School District [Sec. 120.08 (1)]

Notice is hereby given to qualified electors of the Pulaski Community School District, that the budget hearing and annual meeting of said district for the transaction of business will be held in the Ripley Auditorium at the Pulaski High School on the fourth Wednesday of September, being September 27, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. A copy of the proposed 2023-2024 budget can be viewed on our website <https://www.pulaskischools.org/business/district-budget>. Dated this 31 day of August 2023,

Sara Mangold/District Clerk

WMAXLP

ATTENTION TOWN OF SENECA RESIDENTS

On **Saturday, September 9, 2023** the Town will be offering free disposal of electronics to all Town of Seneca residents. From **9 am to Noon** - **Please no "early" drop offs**. A waste container will be parked at the Town Hall parking lot. **Proof of residency will be required**. Electronics accepted are TV's, VCR's, Microwaves, DVD Players, Computers and computer components. **No large appliances or items containing Freon accepted**.

R. Raymond Rigsby, Clerk

Posted: August 23, 2023

Tilleda Post Office
Seneca Town Hall
The Wright Place Bar & Grill

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PULASKI COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT BUDGET 2023-2024

GENERAL FUND	Audited 2021-22	Unaudited 2022-23	Budget 2023-24
Beginning Fund Balance	10,505,516.33	10,881,272.57	10,361,424.81
Ending Fund Balance	10,881,272.57	10,361,424.81	10,361,424.81
REVENUES & OTHER FINANCING SOURCES			
Transfers-In (Source 100)	13,333.88	10,044.66	0.00
Local Sources (Source 200)	11,781,652.80	11,517,624.25	14,579,790.00
Inter-district Payments (Source 300 + 400)	1,960,180.00	1,832,320.00	2,008,555.00
Intermediate Sources (Source 500)	20,827.35	53,489.03	25,890.00
State Sources (Source 600)	31,042,341.25	31,903,721.14	33,951,912.00
Federal Sources (Source 700)	1,817,920.39	2,410,623.64	1,994,254.00
All Other Sources (Source 800 + 900)	242,164.42	528,103.16	103,000.00
TOTAL REVENUES & OTHER FINANCING SOURCES	46,878,420.09	48,255,925.88	52,663,401.00
EXPENDITURES & OTHER FINANCING USES			
Instruction (Function 100 000)	21,277,699.06	21,909,653.31	24,013,483.00
Support Services (Function 200 000)	15,603,758.88	17,099,217.78	18,578,795.00
Non-Program Transactions (Function 400 000)	9,621,205.91	9,766,902.55	10,071,123.00
TOTAL EXPENDITURES & OTHER FINANCING USES	46,502,663.85	48,775,773.64	52,663,401.00

SPECIAL PROJECTS FUND	Audited 2021-22	Unaudited 2022-23	Budget 2023-24
Beginning Fund Balance	419,342.55	492,995.74	543,639.70
Ending Fund Balance	492,995.74	543,639.70	0.00
REVENUES & OTHER FINANCING SOURCES	8,261,211.26	9,086,974.32	9,073,324.00
EXPENDITURES & OTHER FINANCING USES	8,187,558.07	9,036,330.36	9,616,963.70

DEBT SERVICE FUND	Audited 2021-22	Unaudited 2022-23	Budget 2023-24
Beginning Fund Balance	1,016,907.14	885,899.64	705,691.60
Ending Fund Balance	885,899.64	705,691.60	1,732,353.60
REVENUES & OTHER FINANCING SOURCES	1,897,058.13	72,537,185.46	5,813,367.00
EXPENDITURES & OTHER FINANCING USES	2,028,085.63	72,717,393.50	4,786,705.00

CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND	Audited 2021-22	Unaudited 2022-23	Budget 2023-24
Beginning Fund Balance	2,044,693.72	1,891,949.87	69,927,218.51
Ending Fund Balance	1,891,949.87	69,927,218.51	46,657,218.51
REVENUES & OTHER FINANCING SOURCES	321,000.18	70,472,628.07	2,330,000.00
EXPENDITURES & OTHER FINANCING USES	473,744.03	2,437,359.43	25,600,000.00

FOOD SERVICE FUND	Audited 2021-22	Unaudited 2022-23	Budget 2023-24
Beginning Fund Balance	601,420.31	1,242,682.12	1,660,463.98
Ending Fund Balance	1,242,682.12	1,660,463.98	1,410,463.98
REVENUES & OTHER FINANCING SOURCES	2,980,833.49	2,333,716.11	2,200,000.00
EXPENDITURES & OTHER FINANCING USES	2,339,571.68	1,915,934.25	2,450,000.00

WNAXLP

COMMUNITY SERVICE FUND	Audited 2021-22	Unaudited 2022-23	Budget 2023-24
Beginning Fund Balance	94,729.54	178,122.89	191,299.64
Ending Fund Balance	178,122.89	191,299.64	107,166.64
REVENUES & OTHER FINANCING SOURCES	989,636.65	1,047,977.96	1,136,527.00
EXPENDITURES & OTHER FINANCING USES	906,243.30	1,034,801.21	1,220,660.00

PACKAGE & COOPERATIVE PROGRAM FUND	Audited 2021-22	Unaudited 2022-23	Budget 2023-24
Beginning Fund Balance	0.00	0.00	0.00
Ending Fund Balance	0.00	0.00	0.00
REVENUES & OTHER FINANCING SOURCES	51,608.00	34,542.00	0.00
EXPENDITURES & OTHER FINANCING USES	51,608.00	34,542.00	0.00

Total Expenditures and Other Financing Uses

ALL FUNDS	Audited 2021-22	Unaudited 2022-23	Budget 2023-24
GROSS TOTAL EXPENDITURES -- ALL FUNDS	60,489,454.56	135,952,134.39	96,337,729.70
Interfund Transfers (Source 100) - ALL FUNDS	5,102,283.48	5,165,133.72	5,491,173.00
Refinancing Expenditures (FUND 30)	0.00	70,642,755.00	0.00
NET TOTAL EXPENDITURES -- ALL FUNDS	55,387,171.08	60,144,245.67	90,846,556.70
PERCENTAGE INCREASE - NET TOTAL FUND EXPENDITURES FROM PRIOR YEAR		8.59%	51.05%

PROPOSED PROPERTY TAX LEVY

FUND	Audited 2021-22	Unaudited 2022-23	Budget 2023-24
General Fund	11,396,982.00	10,926,489.00	14,136,375.00
Referendum Debt Service Fund	136,434.00	2,025,000.00	4,244,991.00
Non-Referendum Debt Service Fund	1,437,639.00	1,435,264.00	1,430,976.00
Capital Expansion Fund	265,000.00	265,000.00	581,689.00
Community Service Fund	597,960.00	627,858.00	722,307.00
TOTAL SCHOOL LEVY	13,834,015.00	15,279,611.00	21,116,338.00
PERCENTAGE INCREASE --		10.45%	38.20%
TOTAL LEVY FROM PRIOR YEAR			

ENERGY EFFICIENCY EXEMPTION

§ 121.91 (4) (a) Revenue Limit Exemption for Energy Efficiencies-Evaluation of the Energy Performance Indicators

Name of Qualified Contractor	H&H		
Performance Contract Length (years)			3
Total Project Cost (including financing)			\$ 9,695,745
Total Project Payback Period			10
Years of Debt Payments			10
Remaining Useful Life of the Facility			37 years
Prior Year Resolution Expense Amount	Fiscal Year	2022-2023	\$ 1,081,275
Prior Year Related Expense Amount or CY debt levy	Fiscal Year	2022-2023	\$ 1,081,275
Utility Savings applied in Prior Year to Debt	Fiscal Year	2022-2023	\$ 30,412
Sum of reported Utility Savings to be applied to Debt			\$ 30,412
Savings Reported for 2023			
Specific Energy Efficiency Measure or Products	Project Cost Including Financing	Utility Cost Savings	Non-Utility Cost Savings
Energy efficiency and capital improvement projects at District facilities and grounds, including HVAC upgrades, lighting, electrical, water system and building envelope improvements and repairs, kitchen upgrades, and acquisition of related equipment	\$ 9,695,745	\$ 30,412	\$ 208,941
Entire Energy Efficiency Project Totals	\$ 9,695,745	\$ 30,412	\$ 208,941

OBITUARIES

Rose M. Carlson, 86, of Gillett, found peace early Saturday morning, Sept. 2, 2023, at her home surrounded by her family, following a short battle with cancer.

Rose was born March 16, 1937, in Sheboygan, daughter of the late William and Rose (Richter) Grunow. On Nov. 2, 1984, she married Carl Carlson in Shawano County. He preceded her in death on Feb. 5, 2011. Rose was employed at the Plywood in Gillett and then with Linwood in Mosling.

She liked to play on her iPad, tend to her flowers, do word searches and put together puzzles.

Rose made a diamond art picture for all of her children. She was a 56-year member of Bethel Lutheran Church, where she enjoyed sewing quilts and serving at funerals.

Rose is survived by her children and their spouses, Gordy and Kim Carlson, Oconto Falls, Julie and



Tim Nischke, Krakow, Cheryl and Frank Schroeder, Cecil, Ann and Jim Schultz, Dale and Kathy Carlson, Lee and Renee Carlson, all of Gillett; 13 grandchildren, Michael (Christina) Carlson, Lisa (Bret) Schaal, Eric (Heather) Nischke, Keith Schroeder, Kevin (Kim) Schroeder, Kurt (special friend Amanda) Schroeder, Brian (special friend Michelle) Schultz, Beth Schultz, Brad (Kim) Schultz, Jennifer (Brandon) Kempf, Daniel (Angela) Carlson, Tommy Carlson, Willy Carlson; four step-grandchildren, Keith and Michelle Flynn, and Jason and Lisa Flynn; 24 great-grandchildren, Dante (special friend Tori) Carlson, Cody and Elizabeth Carlson, Alissa and Ash-

ley Nischke, Kaitlyn (Taylor) Bailey, Karissa (special friend Brice) and Karter Schroeder, Kody and Kayla Schroeder, Kennedy and Karl Schroeder, Patrick Schultz, Nicholas and Landon Schultz, Colton and Gunner Schultz, Kallie, Nathan, Haley and Olivia Christensen, Josephine and Vivienne Carlson, and Everett Worden; five step-great-grandchildren, Aiden, Aubrey and Ainsley Flynn, Kade and Magnus Flynn; three great-great-grandchildren, Raelynn and Brooklyn Bailey and Aria Carlson.

She is further survived by a sister: Mary Ann Lampe; a sister-in-law: Irene Grunow; nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

She was preceded in death by her parents, William and Rose Grunow; one great-grandson, Wyatt Schaal; an infant son: Daniel Charles Carlson; five brothers: William, Karl, Gerald, Ronald and Fred-

erick; eight sisters: Irene, Betty, LaVerne, Dorothy, Delores, Carol, Shirley and Brenda.

Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 9, 2023, at Bethel Lutheran Church, N6955 County Road BB, Cecil. Officiating at the service will be Rev. Keith Sorlie with burial to follow at Wanderers Rest Cemetery, Gillett. Visitation will be held at Bethel Lutheran Church on Saturday morning, Sept. 9, 2023, from 9 a.m. until the time of service at 11 a.m.

The Kuehl Funeral Home, 108 E. Main St. Gillett, is assisting the family with funeral arrangements. Expressions of sympathy and memories may be shared with Rose's family on her tribute page at www.legacycarepartners.com.

The family would like to extend a special thank you to Unity Hospice, and also to Dave and Cameron for everything you did for Mom.

Janette M. Probst

Janette M. Probst, 81, of Oshkosh, passed away on Tuesday, Aug. 29, 2023, in Neenah.

Eberhardt-Stevenson Funeral Home and Crematory, Clintonville.

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Map of businesses



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For qualifications, expectations and to complete the application, go to the Oconto County Public Health website at www.ocph.info or contact:

Oconto County Health & Human Services
501 Park Ave • Oconto WI 54153
(920) 834-7000 • ochs@co.oconto.wi.us

Applications must be submitted online and must be received prior to 4:00 p.m. CDT, Monday October 2, 2023.



Augie - Augie is a 5 year old pit shepherd mix looking for a home. Augie has a love for toys and fun. He is a rather independent dog who would prefer to be the only dog in his future home.



Dexter - If hounds are your breed, Dexter will be perfect for you! He enjoys playing with other dogs at OAHS. Dexter is happiest when he is able to roam the outdoors.



Foxy - Meet Foxy. She is a young energetic dog who will enjoy an active lifestyle. She can be a funny quirky girl. She is looking for a Heeler experienced adopter who can give her structure and build her confidence.



Mo - Say hello to Mo! She is a friendly, playful dog who is great at making new people. She loves her playtime outdoors and going for walks with staff/volunteers. She would do great camping and joining you on all your adventures. If you would like to meet Mo please contact us!



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OCONTO COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT

Proceedings of Aug. 31

• Sarah Irene DeBenedetto, 40, Oconto, waived her right to a preliminary hearing and pleaded not guilty to possession of methamphetamine, possession of narcotic drugs and misdemeanor possession of drug paraphernalia, in connection with an incident that allegedly occurred Aug. 3. Judge Michael Judge scheduled a plea hearing for Sept. 12.

Proceedings of Aug. 30

• Cannon Edward Verkuilen, 29, Kaukauna, waived his right to a preliminary hearing and pleaded not guilty to possession with intent to deliver amphetamine or methamphetamine and misdemeanor possession of cocaine, in connection with an incident that allegedly occurred Aug. 7. Judge scheduled a preliminary hearing for Oct. 12.

Proceedings of Aug. 29

• Robert T. Albert II, 51, Oconto,

waived his right to a preliminary hearing and pleaded not guilty to possession of methamphetamine, possession of narcotic drugs, maintaining a drug trafficking place, and misdemeanor charges of disorderly conduct and possessing THC, drug paraphernalia and illegally obtained prescription drugs, in connection with an incident that allegedly occurred Aug. 7. Judge scheduled a bail/bond hearing for Sept. 8 and a pre-trial conference for Oct. 12.

• Michael K. Berck, 51, Green Bay, waived his right to a preliminary hearing and was bound over on charges of the manufacture and delivery of psilocybin, possession of a firearm by a person convicted of a felony, manufacture and delivery of THC, maintaining a drug trafficking place, possession of THC (second or subsequent offense), possession of amphetamine/THC/psilocin (second or subsequent offense),

and misdemeanor counts of criminal damage to property, disorderly conduct and possession of drug paraphernalia, in connection with an incident that allegedly occurred July 25. Conley scheduled arraignment for Sept. 14.

Proceedings of Aug. 28

• A March 26-28 jury trial was scheduled for Cody John Krueger, 36, an Algoma man currently serving time at Green Bay Correctional Institution, on charges of attempted first-degree intentional homicide, armed robbery and first-degree recklessly endangering safety, in connection with an incident that allegedly occurred in Oconto on Sept. 3, 2021. Krueger is also awaiting trial on two counts second-degree recklessly endangering safety, fleeing an officer and misdemeanor driving while his license was revoked, in connection with his arrest a week later on Sept. 10, 2021. Judge scheduled a status

conference for Jan. 29.

• Bond was set at \$50,000 cash for Kelly S. Urbanek, 61, Oconto, after he was charged with two counts of repeated sexual assault of the same child and one count of first-degree sexual assault of a child younger than 13. Judge adjourned his initial appearance until Sept. 14.

• Shannon R. Tuchscherer, 50, Gillett, pleaded no contest to theft in a business setting, in connection with an incident that occurred Jan. 10. Conley scheduled sentencing for Nov. 20 and ordered a pre-sentence investigation.

• Patricia Lu Denny, 57, Green Bay, pleaded no contest to two counts of felony bail jumping and misdemeanor counts of possession of THC and resisting or obstructing an officer, in connection with an incident that occurred Sept. 25, 2020. Judge scheduled sentencing for Oct. 24 and ordered a pre-sentence investigation.

SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

Aug. 31

Deputies responded to 57 incidents, including suspicious activity on County Road T in the Town of Doty, threatening on County Road I in the Town of Stiles, trespassing on Lake Shore Lane in the Town of Mountain, an animal bite on West Slope Lane in the Town of Stiles, fire on Sunset Bay Lane in the Town of Townsend, a death investigation in the Village of Suring, seven traffic stops, two traffic hazards, one traffic offense, four citizen assists, five miscellaneous traffic incidents, one welfare check; three 911 hangups and three open lines; three crashes, two involving deer.

Aug. 30

Deputies responded to 46 incidents, including property damage on East Main Street in the Village of Suring, suspicious activity on state Highway 32 in the Town of Breed, suspicious activity on Molitor Road in the Town of Little River, a disturbance on County Road S in the Town of Little Suamico, a disturbance on Hilbert Road in the Town of Chase, suspicious activity on County Road S in the Town of Little Suamico, four traffic stops, two traffic

hazards, one traffic offense, two citizen assists, two miscellaneous traffic incidents; two 911 hangups and four open lines.

Aug. 29

Deputies responded to 57 incidents, including squad damage near state Highway 32 and Moody Lake Circle in the Town of Breed, suspicious activity on County Road BB in the Town of Gillett, theft on East Frontage Road in the Town of Abrams, a wanted person on Arbutus Avenue in the City of Oconto, an internet crimes against children report in the Village of Suring, trespassing on County Road S in the Town of Little River, internet fraud on Cross Road in the Town of Little Suamico, intoxication on Farnsworth Avenue in the City of Oconto, a noise disturbance on Melissa Boulevard in the Town of Little Suamico, suspicious activity on Little River Road in the Town of Little River, a drug investigation in the Village of Suring, three traffic stops, three traffic hazards, two traffic offenses, one citizen assist, five welfare checks; one 911 hangup and one open line; two crashes, one involving deer.

NOTICE OF JOINT REVIEW BOARD MEETING REGARDING THE 2022 TID ANNUAL REPORT FOR TAX INCREMENTAL DISTRICTS (TID) NUMBER 2 AND NUMBER 3 IN THE CITY OF GILLETT, WISCONSIN

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the City of Gillett will hold a Joint Review Board (JRB) meeting on October 4th, 2023, at 4:00 p.m. at the Gillett City Hall, located at 150 N. McKenzie Ave. The purpose of this meeting is for the JRB to review the TID Annual Report for TIDs 2 and 3. The meeting is open to the public. Copies of the TID Annual Report(s) are available for review in the Clerk's office located at the Gillett City Hall, 150 N. McKenzie Ave. and will be provided upon request. Arrangements for either inspection or receipt of a copy of the annual report may be made by contacting the City Clerk, 150 N. McKenzie Ave, Gillett, WI; phone 920-855-2255.

Dated this 22nd day of September 2023

Chelsea Anderson

Clerk

Publication Date: September 22, 2023

WNAXLP

Oconto Falls Public Schools BUDGET PUBLICATION - 2023-24

GENERAL FUND 10	Audited 2021-22	Unaudited 2022-23	Budget 2023-24
Beginning Fund Balance	2,738,061	2,858,745	3,524,523
Ending Fund Balance	2,858,745	3,524,523	3,524,523
REVENUES & OTHER FINANCING SOURCES			
Local Sources (Source 200)	10,398,935	8,708,477	8,785,451
Inter-district Payments (Source 300 + 400)	1,200,093	1,110,342	1,077,320
Intermediate Sources (Source 500)	12,299	30,647	11,444
State Sources (Source 600)	13,898,597	14,855,736	15,695,655
Federal Sources (Source 700)	1,445,409	1,729,723	1,171,544
All Other Sources (Source 800 + 900)	203,841	188,402	243,300
TOTAL REVENUES & OTHER FINANCING SOURCES	27,159,176	26,623,326	26,984,714
EXPENDITURES & OTHER FINANCING USES			
Instruction (Function 100 000)	10,444,434	10,272,122	11,087,689
Support Services (Function 200 000)	10,462,853	10,277,462	10,197,034
Non-Program Transactions (Function 400 000)	6,131,206	5,407,965	5,699,991
TOTAL EXPENDITURES & OTHER FINANCING USES	27,038,492	25,957,549	26,984,714

SPECIAL PROJECTS FUND 21, 27	Audited 2021-22	Unaudited 2022-23	Budget 2023-24
Beginning Fund Balance	335,960	372,283	454,481
Ending Fund Balance	372,283	454,481	467,128
REVENUES & OTHER FINANCING SOURCES	4,458,710	4,769,316	5,448,939
EXPENDITURES & OTHER FINANCING USES	4,422,387	4,687,118	5,436,292

DEBT SERVICE FUND 38, 39	Audited 2021-22	Unaudited 2022-23	Budget 2023-24
Beginning Fund Balance	65,932	62,474	164,305
Ending Fund Balance	62,474	164,306	857,705
REVENUES & OTHER FINANCING SOURCES	874,870	38,867,333	3,752,302
EXPENDITURES & OTHER FINANCING USES	878,328	38,765,501	3,058,902

CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND 41, 46, 49	Audited 2021-22	Unaudited 2022-23	Budget 2023-24
Beginning Fund Balance	1,723,738	3,095,752	40,961,935
Ending Fund Balance	3,095,752	40,961,935	30,034,435
REVENUES & OTHER FINANCING SOURCES	1,372,013	39,076,646	1,180,500
EXPENDITURES & OTHER FINANCING USES	0	1,210,463	12,108,000

FOOD SERVICE FUND 50	Audited 2021-22	Unaudited 2022-23	Budget 2023-24
Beginning Fund Balance	121,632	391,807	315,349
Ending Fund Balance	391,807	315,349	254,944
REVENUES & OTHER FINANCING SOURCES	1,249,117	942,240	895,251
EXPENDITURES & OTHER FINANCING USES	978,942	1,018,698	955,656

COMMUNITY SERVICE FUND 80	Audited 2021-22	Unaudited 2022-23	Budget 2023-24
Beginning Fund Balance	95,941	136,028	171,024
Ending Fund Balance	136,028	171,024	171,024
REVENUES & OTHER FINANCING SOURCES	224,211	236,242	283,000
EXPENDITURES & OTHER FINANCING USES	184,124	201,247	283,000

Total Expenditures and Other Financing Uses			
ALL FUNDS	Audited 2021-22	Unaudited 2022-23	Budget 2023-24
GROSS TOTAL EXPENDITURES -- ALL FUNDS	33,554,419	71,840,575	48,826,564
Interfund Transfers (Source 100) - ALL FUNDS	3,648,176	2,959,411	3,188,366
NET TOTAL EXPENDITURES -- ALL FUNDS	29,906,243	68,881,164	45,638,198
PERCENTAGE INCREASE -- NET TOTAL FUND EXPENDITURES FROM PRIOR YEAR		130%	-34%

PROPOSED PROPERTY TAX LEVY			
Levy Summary	Audited 2021-22	Unaudited 2022-23	Budget 2023-24
General Fund	10,268,499	8,397,407	8,592,776
Referendum Debt Service Fund	0	3,960,000	3,701,752
Non-Referendum Debt Service Fund	874,783	49,050	49,050
Capital Expansion Fund	20,000	20,000	20,000
Community Service Fund	129,000	100,000	160,000
TOTAL SCHOOL LEVY	11,292,282	12,526,457	12,523,578
PERCENTAGE INCREASE -- TOTAL LEVY FROM PRIOR YEAR		11%	0%

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lb

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\$9.99 ea
2.5lb

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lb

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2/\$3
1pk

Clementines


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3lb Bag

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lb

Wisconsin Russet Potatoes


\$2.49
5lb Bag

Prairie Farms 2%, 1%, or Skim Milk


\$3.29
Gallon

Sweet P's Frosted Sugar Cookies


2/\$4
Asst Variety
13.5oz

McCain Frozen Potatoes or Onion Rings


2/\$7
**Asst Variety
14-32oz**

Daisy Cottage Cheese


\$2.49
**24oz
2% or 4%**

Prairie Farms Sour Cream


\$2.29
16oz

Brew Pub Stuffed Crust or Chicago Style Deep Dish Pizza


\$8.99
**Asst Variety
25.10-33.75oz**

Crav'n Wheat Thins


2/\$3
**Asst Variety
8-9.1oz**

Kellogg's Funables Fruit Snacks


2/\$6
**8oz
Asst Variety**

Coffeemate Coffee Creamer


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**Asst Variety
32oz**

Post Assorted Cereal


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GREEN & GOLD EXPRESS

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2023

PACKERS BEGIN 2023 SEASON



**A LOVE
AFFAIR**
QB's play could
determine outcome

Green Bay Packers quarterback Jordan Love (10) is tackled by Seattle Seahawks cornerback Artie Burns (23) in the first half of a preseason NFL football game on Aug. 26 in Green Bay.

MIKE ROEMER | THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



When the Packers beat the Bears 28-19 on Dec. 4, 2022, it was the team's 787th win, one more than the Bears. By the time the last regular season game was played, Green Bay had amassed 790 wins, while Chicago remained at 786.

GREG MELLIS | GREEN & GOLD EXPRESS

Packers look to extend record of most NFL wins

Green Bay is 4 games ahead of longtime record-holding Bears

By **KEVIN PASSON**
Green & Gold Express

When the Green Bay Packers open the 2023 season Sunday, they will have another chance to extend their lead over the Chicago Bears as the winningest team in NFL history.

When the Packers beat the Bears 28-19 on Dec. 4, 2022, it was the team's 787th win, one more than the Bears. By the time the last regular season game was played, Green Bay had amassed 790 wins, while Chicago remained at 786.

The Packers finished the regular season with an 8-9 record. They went

5-4 at home and 3-5 on the road. The Bears finished the regular season with a 3-14 record. They went 2-7 at home and 1-7 on the road.

The first matchup in this rivalry came in 1921, when the then-Chicago Staleys (a name that would change to the Bears a year later) shut out the Packers 20-0.

Many Hall of Fame players have been on the field for both franchises since that first game; however, the one constant has been Chicago holding the record for most all-time wins in NFL history.

After the Packers won that fateful game in December, it was the first time since 1920 the Bears no longer sat at the top of the list as the team with the most victories.

Chicago built up its victory count over several decades — from the 1940s through their Super Bowl

performance in the 1980s. But, under the quarterback leadership of Brett Favre and Aaron Rodgers, the Packers roared back in the past 30 years to even the score — and then grab the lead.

Going into Week 1, the Packers also hold a 105-95 record over the Bears.

The Bears, one of two charter members of the NFL still in existence, have played more games (1,452) and have more ties (42) than any team in the league's regular season history. The Packers, founded a year later, have the most wins at 790. The other charter member, the Arizona Cardinals, have the most losses at 790.

The Dallas Cowboys hold the highest regular season win-loss percentage (.574), with a 550-408-6 record through the end of the 2022 season. The Tampa Bay Buccaneers maintain

GAME VITALS

GREEN BAY PACKERS AT CHICAGO BEARS

WHEN: 3:25 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 10

WHERE: Soldier Field

TV: FOX

RADIO: Flagship WRNW-FM Milwaukee - 97.3; Packers Radio Network includes WIXX-FM Green Bay - 101.1, WRLO-FM Antigo - 105.3, WLST-FM Marinette - 95.1, and WSAU Wausau - 550 AM and 95.1 FM

THE SERIES

Packers vs. Bears All-time, regular season: 105-95
Last meeting, regular season: Dec. 4, 2022. Packers 28, Bears 19

the lowest regular season win-loss percentage (.404), holding a 299-442-1 record through 2022.

Green Bay has the second-highest percentage at .571. In their 1,418 games played, the Packers have a record of 790-590-38.

kpasson@newmedia-wi.com

BEAT The Expert



Week 1 Games: Sunday, Sept. 10



Luke Reimer
New Media

Detroit @ Kansas City...Thurs., Sept. 7
Tampa Bay @ Minnesota
Dallas @ New York Giants
Buffalo @ New York Jets...Mon., Sept. 11

Tie Breaker Game:
Green Bay @ Chicago

**Watch
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Each
Week's
Winner**

Weekly Standings

	Weekly Record	Overall Record
Luke Reimer, New Media	0-0	0-0
Tim Murphy, New Media.....	0-0	0-0
Kevin Passon, New Media.....	0-0	0-0
Bill Huber, New Media	0-0	0-0
Shane Senn, Senn Insurance	0-0	0-0
Robert Buss, Buss Automotive.....	0-0	0-0
Walsh Dental	0-0	0-0
Moede & Sons Plumbing	0-0	0-0
Shawano Health Services.....	0-0	0-0
Iverson's Piggly Wiggly	0-0	0-0
Jim Wiegand, Tower Clock eye Center	0-0	0-0



Jim Wiegand
Tower Clock
Eye Center

This Week's Picks:

Kansas City
Minnesota
Dallas
Buffalo

Tie Breaker Game:

Final Score: Green Bay 24 @ Chicago 17



Robert Buss
Buss
Automotive

This Week's Picks:

Kansas City
Minnesota
New York Giants
Buffalo

Tie Breaker Game:

Final Score: Green Bay 28 @ Chicago 17



Shane Senn
Senn
Insurance

This Week's Picks:

Kansas City
Minnesota
New York Giants
New York Jets

Tie Breaker Game:

Final Score: Green Bay 17 @ Chicago 20



Staff
Walsh Dental
Shawano

This Week's Picks:

Kansas City
Minnesota
Dallas
Buffalo

Tie Breaker Game:

Final Score: Green Bay 24 @ Chicago 17



Staff
Shawano
Health Services

This Week's Picks:

Kansas City
Minnesota
Dallas
New York Jets

Tie Breaker Game:

Final Score: Green Bay 24 @ Chicago 21



Moede & Sons
Plumbing
Shawano

This Week's Picks:

Kansas City
Minnesota
New York Giants
New York Jets

Tie Breaker Game:

Final Score: Green Bay 21 @ Chicago 10



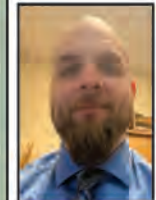
Staff
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Piggly Wiggly

This Week's Picks:

Kansas City
Minnesota
New York Giants
New York Jets

Tie Breaker Game:

Final Score: Green Bay 21 @ Chicago 17



Jacob Westendorf
New
Media

This Week's Picks:

Kansas City
Tampa Bay
Dallas
Buffalo

Tie Breaker Game:

Final Score: Green Bay 27 @ Chicago 20



Luke Reimer
New
Media

This Week's Picks:

Kansas City
Tampa Bay
New York Giants
New York Jets

Tie Breaker Game:

Final Score: Green Bay 21 @ Chicago 10



Tim Murphy
New
Media

This Week's Picks:

Kansas City
Minnesota
Dallas
Buffalo

Tie Breaker Game:

Final Score: Green Bay 13 @ Chicago 27



Kevin Passon
New
Media

This Week's Picks:

Kansas City
Minnesota
Dallas
Buffalo

Tie Breaker Game:

Final Score: Green Bay 24 @ Chicago 13

KEYS TO THE GAME

Young players' performance will win or lose game

By JACOB WESTENDORF
Green & Gold Express

The oldest rivalry in the NFL renews again on Sunday as the Green Bay Packers will take on the Chicago Bears to kick off the 2023 season.

It's a new era in Green Bay. Aaron Rodgers, self-proclaimed owner of the Chicago Bears, is in New York.

Enter Jordan Love. The Packers famously spent a first-round pick on Love three years ago. After starting one game, but otherwise waiting on the bench, Love is set to become the team's starter.

Chicago likely breathed a sigh of relief as Rodgers exited the division to head out east. After an offseason spending spree, and a blockbuster trade that netted them wide receiver DJ Moore, there is optimism in Chicago for the first time since 2018 when they last won the NFC North.

Regardless of the outcome of this game, there will be no shortage of takes. If Green Bay wins, there will be a collective groan in Chicago who had hoped the Packers' reign of terror over them had ended.

If the Packers lose, there will be plenty of talking head shows proclaiming the Jordan Love era to be a failure.

The answer, as always, will not be known for quite some time.

Here are the keys to the Packers coming away with a victory to start the season.

Packers defense vs. Bears run game

The Chicago Bears have a bit of a transition going in their backfield for 2023. David Montgomery is gone after signing in Detroit. Khalil Herbert and D'Onta Foreman will hold down the fort until rookie Roschon Johnson is ready to contribute.

In addition to their backfield, the Bears have the legs of Justin Fields at their disposal. For all the questions about Fields' arm, those questions do not exist about his legs. Fields ran for 1,143 yards a season ago.

He's as dynamic as any quarterback when he takes off to run.

The Packers run defense is one of the biggest questions about their team going into 2023. They were 31st in the NFL in Football Outsiders' Defensive DVOA against the run last year. They're the worst run defense in the NFL since Brian Gutekunst took over as general manager.



Quay Walker (7) makes a tackle against the Chicago Bears in a 2022 game.

GREG MELLIS | GREEN & GOLD EXPRESS

This offseason, the Packers jettisoned Dean Lowry and Jarran Reed. Both players started a season ago.

They did not add anyone of significance in free agency. The earliest draft pick they used was on Colby Wooden in the fourth round.

Help for Kenny Clark will need to come in the form of organic growth from T.J. Slaton and last year's first-round pick Devonte Wyatt.

Preseason football yielded some promising results, but there are more challenging things ahead — starting with the Bears' dynamic ground game.

Jordan Love vs. early jitters

One of the themes of Jordan Love's preseason was a slow start, followed by a strong finish. The Packers scored once on their opening drive in the preseason, but it was largely due to an unsportsmanlike penalty that gave the Packers a free 15 yards. That drive ended with Jordan Love not completing a pass, and an Anders Carlson field goal.

This will be Jordan Love's first start as the preferred starter in Green Bay. It'd be natural for the quarterback to be extra juiced up before the game starts.

Brett Favre used to say he needed to get hit in order to get settled

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into a game.

Maybe that'll be the case for Love. Maybe it'll be something different.

Regardless, the Packers' margin for error is smaller than it has been with a new quarterback under center. That's just the way things are now. Love will need to shake off those jitters early.

Matt LaFleur will need to help get him settled in.

The formula against Chicago will be to get ahead early and force Fields to beat you with his arm. If Love can shake off jitters early, he could get them out to an early lead.

Packers ground game vs. Bears run defense

For as much conversation as there is surrounding the Packers' run defense, Chicago's might be in the same boat.

They'll be breaking in new starters on the defensive line and struggled last year to stop the run. The first meeting between the two teams saw the Packers pile up 203 yards and average a whopping 5.3 yards per carry.

With Love, the Packers could look to lean on their run game early in the season. Even if Love weren't a first time starter, this could be a team to follow a formula like that against anyway.

Aaron Jones and AJ Dillon combine for one of the better running back duos in all of football. Both players will be motivated as they're entering what in essence are contract

years. Dillon's contract is actually expiring. Jones' contract has an easy out after 2023.

Combine all of those factors together, it could be a big day on the ground for the Packers.

Packers young players vs. first NFL game

Like Love, nerves for the players around him would be natural. The Packers are incredibly young.

The oldest player on the team is David Bakhtiari. He's 31. That's not even old in football terms.

Their offense is going to be led by receivers whose eldest statesmen are second year players. Christian Watson and Romeo Doubs represent the veterans of the current cast of pass catchers.

Luke Musgrave and Jayden Reed are going to be playing in their first NFL game. Malik Heath could get snaps for what would be his first game.

Tucker Kraft is going to get snaps. It's his first NFL game. That's a significant portion of the passing game that is making its NFL debut.

Youth can lead to rookie mistakes. A recent example would be Heath getting the nod to run with the starting unit during the team's final preseason game. He was flagged for a false start on the first play.

Youth and growing pains are going to be a theme of the season.



Stopping Bears quarterback Justin Fields will be a priority for the Packers defense.

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10 things to look for in 2023 Packers

By JACOB WESTENDORF
Green & Gold Express

A new season is here. The Green Bay Packers will be set to start their season against the Chicago Bears at Soldier Field.

They'll finish their season against the Chicago Bears at Lambeau Field. The 15 games in between will tell a story unlike any we've seen in the last 15 years.

After nearly a decade of being considered a top contender for the Super Bowl, the Packers are not considered a favorite.

The good news for them is the NFC North is wide open with no clear favorite. The Minnesota Vikings, last year's champion, let go of some trusted veterans who have helped them in recent years.

The Chicago Bears spent a boatload of money this offseason, but they were the worst team in the NFL a season ago. Can they improve enough to win the division after winning just three games last season?

The Detroit Lions are the division favorite but have been synonymous with failure since 1957. For all the hype they've received coming off their 2022 season, they still only finished 9-8, which followed a 1-7 start.

The Packers have plenty of storylines to follow them, despite not being a Super Bowl favorite. Here are 10 things to keep an eye on:

1. Jordan Love

Let's start with the obvious, shall we? Jordan Love will be the first quarterback not named Brett Favre or Aaron Rodgers to be the team's preferred starting quarterback since 1991 when it was Don Majkowski.

Love, by all accounts, has taken charge in the locker room and become a leader of the team. His teammates have all been publicly supportive.

The Packers gave him a contract extension that represents a short-term commitment. If Love plays well in 2023, they could look to extend his deal well beyond the 2024 season when his contract expires.

Love's training camp had more ups than downs, but it was rocky at times. That can be expected during the season as well. There will be some highs and some lows. The hope for the Packers is that he doesn't make the same mistake twice. Love didn't turn the ball over once in the



Green Bay Packers wide receiver Christian Watson (9) tries to catch a pass while defended by Seattle Seahawks cornerback Michael Jackson (30) and safety Joey Blount (35) during a preseason NFL football game Aug. 26 in Green Bay. The Packers won 19-15.

JOE ROBBINS | AP

preseason, something that has been an issue in any extended playing time he'd received prior to this point.

That'll be a big point of emphasis for Love as he grows into the team's starter.

2. David Bakhtiari

David Bakhtiari is back in Green Bay. After a complex knee injury wiped out all but two quarters of the 2021 season, Bakhtiari played 11 games a season ago. He missed the first two games of the season due to the same knee injury, but after that only missed one more due to his knee.

The other three games he missed were due to a surprise appendectomy that wiped him out of three games.

When he did play, he was David Bakhtiari, which is to say one of the best players in the league at his position.

Bakhtiari didn't give up a sack in the 11 games he played. He's back with Elgton Jenkins to form one of the best left sides of the offensive

line in all of football.

He'll be on an unorthodox regimen in terms of practice. He was used sparingly during training camp. That'll continue into the season.

Bakhtiari joked that teammates are calling him "The Lamborghini," meaning they only take him out on Sundays.

Bakhtiari's practice participation might be limited, but if that keeps him active on Sundays, it's worth it.

3. Joe Barry's Last Stand

Joe Barry's defense was supposed to carry the day a season ago. The Packers' offense was going to try and find its way after the loss of Davante Adams. The defense was supposed to pick up the slack.

That didn't come to fruition. The defense was inconsistent at best, below average at worst.

Those struggles came despite having seven first-round picks on that side of the ball.

They added another this offseason

with outside linebacker Lukas Van Ness being selected with the 13th overall pick in April's draft.

Despite the struggles from a season ago, Barry survived a below average season.

In turn, Matt LaFleur stuck his neck out for the man he hired after they were spurned by former Wisconsin defensive coordinator Jim Leonhard.

If the defense fails this season, it's hard to imagine Barry keeping his job. They have plenty of talent, but talent alone doesn't lead to good performances.

The Packers need to be more consistent on that side of the ball.

4. New Dynamic Duo

The Packers are committed to a youth movement on offense. Despite Allen Lazard and Randall Cobb following Aaron Rodgers to the New York Jets, the Packers didn't add a veteran receiver in the offseason. Instead, they're relying on Christian Watson and Romeo Doubs to serve as the veterans in the room.

Doubs had a nice start to the season before hitting the rookie wall at the end of last year.

Christian Watson's season was essentially the opposite of Doubs'. Watson's season started with a drop on national television that would be replayed for weeks on end. He would struggle with injuries before breaking out in a big way at the halfway point of the season against the Dallas Cowboys.

His three touchdowns that day started a strong finish to the season where he would catch seven touchdowns in four games. By the end of the year, he was the team's top receiver.

Rookie Jayden Reed had a nice camp, but the Packers are relying on Watson and Doubs to help stabilize the passing game while the rest of the offense tries to catch up.

5. Rashan Gary's return

Rashan Gary has come a long way from draft night. He wasn't a popular draft pick. He hardly played as a rookie.

He's progressively gotten better since getting drafted. After the release of Za'Darius Smith, it was time for Gary to step up as one of the best players on the defense. Gary's season ended in early November with a torn ACL.



Romeo Doubs

with a torn ACL.

Before the injury, Gary was a wrecking ball for the defense. He had six sacks in the eight full games he played. He was the only edge defender in the NFL who was in the top 10 of ESPN's pass rush win rate, and run stop rate.

He could have been on his way to being a NFL Defensive Player of the Year candidate prior to the injury.

Gary is back. He was removed from the PUP list in training camp, and will play Week 1. LaFleur says he'll be on a pitch count early, but just his presence makes the Packers' defense so much better.

Ron Wolf used to talk about players who tilt the field in the direction of the team they play for.

Gary is one of those players. His presence cannot be understated.

Gary is also in the final year of his contract. Getting his contract extended is a likely priority with the Packers' front office.

6. Can They Stop The Run?

Fans likely still have nightmares of Raheem Mostert running wild against the Packers in the NFC Championship Game following the

2019 regular season. Mostert ran for a record-breaking 220 yards and four touchdowns that day.

The Packers haven't gotten much better since then. Since Brian Gutekunst took over as general manager, they're the worst team in the NFL defending the run. They were 31st in the NFL last season in Football Outsiders' Defensive DVOA.

They are replacing two starters with young players. Colby Wooden and Karl Brooks were the only outside additions to the defensive line. Both were picked on the third day of the draft.

Devonte Wyatt and TJ Slaton will be relied on heavily to take big jumps playing next to Kenny Clark.

Clark and defensive line coach Jerry Montgomery have said that stopping the run starts with a mindset.

If that is the case, the Packers will need a full mental makeover after the last four seasons. Their pass rush could be lethal, if they can get opposing teams in obvious passing situations.

That starts with stopping the run, something they haven't been good enough at.

7. Ground Game

Aaron Jones and AJ Dillon both return for what are in essence, contract years. Jones took a pay cut this offseason to stay with the only organization he has ever known.

Jones has been one of the most productive running backs in football since the Packers drafted him. The issue, if anything, has been he's been underutilized throughout his career. His contract has one more year on it but will likely be addressed in the offseason. If he looks like the same player, he could be an extension candidate.

Dillon is entering a contract year. After a promising second season, Dillon was disappointing in the first half of 2022. He turned it on toward the end of the season, but he has not been the bruising force that Gutekunst was hoping he'd be when he selected him with the 62nd overall pick in the 2020 NFL Draft.

Both players will be key factors in the offense this season. Last season, the two combined for 1,891 yards and nine touchdowns. That touchdown number will likely rise, especially for Jones as he only had two last season.

The team will likely heavily lean on these two backs as they break in a new starting quarterback.

8. Luke Musgrave

Musgrave represents the biggest investment the Packers have made in a tight end since they drafted Bubba Franks in 2000 with a first-round pick.

Of the 13 rookies from the Packers' 2023 draft class, Musgrave has been the most impressive. He stepped in as the starting tight end from the first day of OTA's in May and has not looked back.

He has clearly been a focal point of the passing game in practice and preseason games. He took every snap with Jordan Love during preseason games. He is the unquestioned starter at a position where the Packers have been starved for talent.

With the lack of veteran support, and rookie classmate Tucker Kraft struggling, it's possible that Musgrave could challenge Jermichael Finley's franchise record of 61 receptions set in 2012.

That would be unprecedented at a position that typically takes players awhile to adapt. The opportunity is there. The talent is there. It's up to Musgrave to capitalize on the situation.

9. Youth Movement

Bakhtiari is the oldest player on the team. He's 31. With an average age of 24.9 years, the Packers are the youngest team in the NFL since the 2017 Cleveland Browns.

They're asking youth to rule the day in some big spots. Obviously Love is going to be one of the big keys to the season, but how the rest of the year goes might depend on how quickly young players adapt to an NFL season.

If you exclude the running backs, the Packers' top four pass catching options are all second-year players or younger. The team is asking a lot of its young players.

Gutekunst said the goal wasn't necessarily to be young, but to be athletic and fast.

They've achieved both. Now it's up to the young players to grow up fast.

10. Walker's Maturity

Quay Walker was the 22nd overall pick and the largest investment the Packers had made in an inside linebacker since drafting AJ Hawk fifth overall in 2006.

His season had its ups and downs. At times, he showed his ability that caused Gutekunst to fall in love with him. Other times he showed that he was a rookie going through growing pains.

On two very specific occasions, Walker showed he had some growing up to do. Getting kicked out of one game can easily be dismissed as a one-time mistake, but the second time it happens, it's a troubling trend.

Walker fell into that trend at the end of last season when he was ejected from the team's season-ending 20-16 loss against the Detroit Lions for shoving a trainer.

LaFleur was noticeably furious during and after the game.

It was an unfortunate ending, because Walker was really coming on strong to end his rookie season.

Going into his second season, Walker appears to have grown from that situation. He told reporters earlier in camp that he had to give himself grace to move on from what happened a season ago.

The reality is that Walker is a first-round pick, and the team expects a lot out of him. He's been the player calling the defense with De'Vondre Campbell sidelined during the preseason. He is one injury away from being that player in games that count.

With his reputation, opposing teams are going to try and egg Walker on to get him to do something that could hurt the team.

Walker's maturity will be put to the test early and often. He'll need to continue to show that he's moved past his mistakes as a rookie and grow into the player the Packers think he can be.

Packers rebuild with solid draft picks

By LUKE REIMER

Green & Gold Express

In the first draft for the Green Bay Packers in the post-Aaron Rodgers era, the team looked to supplement pieces it lost in the offseason, while building for the future.

With Jordan Love taking over from under center, a similar thought in past drafts was asked: How early will Green Bay draft a pass catcher to help its quarterback?

In years past, the Packers fan base has loudly expressed its desire to give Rodgers some help on the offensive side of the ball early in the draft. While general manager Brian Gutekunst did not necessarily oblige then, it was obvious that the plan was to get Love help in the 2023 NFL Draft.

"We had a great three days, and I feel really good about," said Gutekunst. "I am just really, really excited about what we were able to do."

That help had to wait until the second day of the draft though, as Green Bay selected Iowa edge rusher Lukas Van Ness with the team's 13th pick. Van Ness figures to play immediately on the defensive line, as the status of Rashan Gary, coming off a torn ACL, is still up in the air. Van Ness has proven his versatility on the defensive line, as he has lined up at five spots (A-gap, B-gap, over the tackle, outside of the tackle and off the ball) in his Iowa career.

With the selection of Van Ness, the Packers have now chosen a defensive player with 12 out of their last 13 first-round picks — the lone exception being Love.

In the second round of the draft, Green Bay addressed its glaring need of pass catchers. Coming into the draft, the Packers wide receiver room consisted of five players, none of whom have been on the team longer than one year.

The first pass catcher off the board was Oregon State tight end Luke Musgrave. With tight ends Rob Tonyan Jr. and Mercedes Lewis signing with the Bears, Musgrave expects to slot into that starting position and will be relied upon immediately.

The Packers matched Musgrave with another pass catcher using their second pick of the second round on Michigan State wide receiver Jayden Reed. In Reed's senior season, he recorded 55 receptions



Green Bay Packers linebacker Lukas Van Ness (90) pursues a play on defense during a preseason NFL football game against the Seattle Seahawks on Aug. 26 in Green Bay. The Packers won 19-15.

JOE ROBBINS | THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

for 636 yards and five touchdowns. What instantly stands out about Reed though is his speed. Running a 4.45 second 40-yard dash at the NFL combine, Green Bay looks like it has its starting slot receiver to partner with Christian Watson and Romeo Doubs.

Pass catchers did not stop there, as Green Bay followed up its two second-round pick selections by selecting South Dakota State tight end Tucker Kraft in the third round. Kraft is expected to fill more of a

blocking role at the tight end position.

"I don't know that I have been a part of a draft where we have drafted two tight ends," said Packers head coach Matt LaFleur. "That is exciting — both of those guys are big, physical and fast, so I thought we did pretty well right there."

Virginia wide receiver Don-tayvion Wicks was the next pass catcher selected. Adding depth in the receiver room, Wicks' big-play ability gives LaFleur an intriguing



General manager Brian Gutekunst.

GREG MELLIS | GREEN & GOLD EXPRESS

athletic piece, even though he probably won't make an impact immediately. Green Bay ended its draft in the seventh round with yet another pass catcher, Grant DuBose from Charlotte.

Looking to fill other positions of need, Green Bay continued to beef up its defensive line with the selections of Auburn's Colby Wooden and Bowling Green's Karl Brooks. Green Bay also addressed its defensive backfield, drafting Iowa State's Anthony Johnson Jr. and Kentucky's Carrington Valentine.

The Packers selected Central Michigan running back Lew Nichols III with one of the team's seventh-round selections, to add more depth to the team's deepest position group. Nichols led the NCAA in rushing in the 2021 season, with 1,848 rushing yards.

Green Bay rounded out its 13-player draft with taking two positions to possibly replace Green Bay Packers legends. Needing a quarterback, Green Bay selected Penn State's Sean Clifford in the fifth round and Auburn kicker Anders Carlson in the sixth round. Carlson is the brother of current Las Vegas Raiders kicker Daniel Carlson.

"It is going to going to create great competition — I think we have great opportunity on our roster, so I liked it," said Gutekunst on his draft. "That was one of our goals, to add some pass catchers and skill players. You never know how it is going to fall, but it fell good for us."

GREEN BAY PACKERS ROSTER

Player	#	Pos	HT	WT	Age	Exp	College
Jaire Alexander	23	CB	5-10	196	26	6	Louisville
Zayne Anderson	39	S	6-2	206	26	1	BYU
David Bakhtiari	69	T	6-4	310	31	11	Colorado
Karl Brooks	94	DL	6-3	296	23	R	Bowling Green
De'Vondre Campbell	59	LB	6-4	232	30	8	Minnesota
Anders Carlson	17	K	6-5	219	25	R	Auburn
Kenny Clark	97	DL	6-3	314	27	8	UCLA
Sean Clifford	8	QB	6-2	218	25	R	Penn State
Brenton Cox Jr.	57	LB	6-4	250	23	R	Florida
Josiah Deguara	81	TE	6-2	238	26	4	Cincinnati
AJ Dillon	28	RB	6-0	247	25	4	Boston College
Romeo Doubs	87	WR	6-2	204	23	2	Nevada
Rasul Douglas	29	CB	6-2	209	29	7	West Virginia
Kingsley Enagbare	55	LB	6-4	258	23	2	South Carolina
Rudy Ford	20	S	6-0	210	28	7	Auburn
Rashan Gary	52	LB	6-5	277	25	5	Michigan
Malik Heath	18	WR	6-2	213	23	R	Mississippi
Justin Hollins	47	LB	6-5	248	27	5	Oregon
Elgton Jenkins	74	G/T	6-5	311	27	5	Mississippi State
Anthony Johnson Jr.	36	S	6-0	205	23	R	Iowa State
Aaron Jones	33	RB	5-9	208	28	7	Texas-El Paso
Caleb Jones	72	T	6-9	370	24	2	Indiana
Tucker Kraft	85	TE	6-5	259	22	R	South Dakota State
Dallin Leavitt	6	S	5-10	195	29	5	Utah State
Jordan Love	10	QB	6-4	219	24	4	Utah State
Isaiah McDuffie	58	LB	6-1	227	24	3	Boston College
Luke Musgrave	88	TE	6-6	253	23	R	Oregon State
Josh Myers	71	C/G	6-5	310	25	3	Ohio State
Royce Newman	70	G/T	6-5	310	26	3	Mississippi
Yosh Nijman	73	T	6-7	314	27	4	Virginia Tech
Keisean Nixon	25	CB	5-10	200	26	5	South Carolina
Matt Orzech	42	LS	6-3	245	28	4	Azusa Pacific
Jonathan Owens	34	S	5-11	210	28	5	Missouri Western
Jayden Reed	11	WR	5-11	187	23	R	Michigan State
Sean Rhyan	75	G	6-5	321	22	2	UCLA
Jon Runyan	76	G	6-4	307	26	4	Michigan
Darnell Savage	26	S	5-11	198	26	5	Maryland
Ben Sims	89	TE	6-5	250	23	R	Baylor
T.J. Slaton	93	DL	6-4	330	25	3	Florida
Preston Smith	91	LB	6-5	265	30	9	Mississippi State
Zach Tom	50	OL	6-4	304	24	2	Wake Forest
Samori Toure	83	WR	6-1	191	25	2	Nebraska
Carrington Valentine	37	CB	6-0	189	21	R	Kentucky
Lukas Van Ness	90	LB	6-5	272	22	R	Iowa
Quay Walker	7	LB	6-4	241	23	2	Georgia
Rasheed Walker	63	T	6-6	324	23	2	Penn State
Christian Watson	9	WR	6-4	208	24	2	North Dakota State
Daniel Whelan	19	P	6-5	216	24	R	UC Davis
Dontayvion Wicks	13	WR	6-1	206	22	R	Virginia
Emanuel Wilson	31	RB	5-11	226	24	R	Fort Valley State Univ.
Eric Wilson	45	LB	6-1	230	28	7	Cincinnati
Colby Wooden	96	DL	6-4	273	22	R	Auburn
Devonte Wyatt	95	DL	6-3	304	25	2	Georgia
Reserve/Injured							
Tyler Davis	84	TE	6-4	252	26	4	Georgia Tech
Tyler Goodson	39	RB	5-9	197	22	1	Iowa
Broughton Hatcher	43	LS	6-4	242	23	R	Old Dominion
Tarvarius Moore	30	S	6-1	200	27	6	Southern Mississippi
Lew Nichols	32	RB	5-10	220	22	R	Central Michigan
Luke Tenuta	78	T	6-8	314	24	2	Virginia Tech
Reserve/Physically Unable to Perform							
Eric Stokes	21	CB	6-0	194	24	3	Georgia

CHICAGO BEARS ROSTER

Player	#	Pos	HT	WT	Age	Exp	College
Tyson Bagent	17	QB	6-3	213	23	R	Shepherd
Andrew Billings	97	DL	6-1	311	28	7	Baylor
Josh Blackwell	39	DB	5-11	180	24	2	Duke
Khari Blasingame	35	FB	6-0	233	27	5	Vanderbilt
Larry Borom	75	OL	6-5	333	24	3	Missouri
Jaquan Brisker	9	DB	6-1	200	24	2	Penn State
Ja'Tyre Carter	69	OL	6-3	311	24	2	Southern
Chase Claypool	10	WR	6-4	238	25	4	Notre Dame
Dylan Cole	55	LB	6-0	240	29	7	Missouri State
Nate Davis	64	OL	6-3	316	26	5	Charlotte
Gervon Dexter Sr.	98	DL	6-6	312	21	R	Florida
Tremaine Edmunds	49	LB	6-5	250	25	6	Virginia Tech
T.J. Edwards	53	LB	6-1	242	27	5	Wisconsin
Dan Feeney	67	OL	6-4	310	29	7	Indiana
Justin Fields	1	QB	6-3	228	24	3	Ohio State
D'Onta Foreman	21	RB	6-0	235	27	5	Texas
Trenton Gill	16	P	6-4	219	24	2	N.C. State
Kyler Gordon	6	DB	6-0	200	23	2	Washington
Rasheem Green	94	DL	6-4	279	26	6	USC
Khalil Herbert	24	RB	5-9	212	25	3	Virginia Tech
Elijah Hicks	37	DB	5-11	200	23	2	California
Travis Homer	20	RB	5-10	202	25	5	Miami
Eddie Jackson	4	DB	6-0	206	29	7	Alabama
Jaylon Johnson	33	DB	6-0	196	24	4	Utah
Quindell Johnson	26	DB	6-2	208	23	R	Memphis
Roschon Johnson	30	RB	6-0	225	22	R	Texas
Braxton Jones	70	OL	6-5	310	24	2	Southern Utah
Jaylon Jones	31	DB	5-11	190	25	2	Mississippi
Justin Jones	93	DL	6-3	309	27	6	North Carolina State
Velus Jones Jr.	12	WR	6-0	200	26	2	Tennessee
Khalid Kareem	52	DL	6-4	268	25	4	Notre Dame
Cole Kmet	85	TE	6-6	260	24	4	Notre Dame
Mercedes Lewis	84	TE	6-6	265	39	18	UCLA
Darnell Mooney	11	WR	5-11	173	25	4	Tulane
DJ Moore	2	WR	5-11	210	26	6	Maryland
Yannick Ngakoue	91	DL	6-2	246	28	8	Maryland
Lucas Patrick	62	OL	6-3	313	30	7	Duke
Nathan Peterman	14	QB	6-2	225	29	7	Pittsburgh
Zacch Pickens	96	DL	6-4	300	23	R	South Carolina
Domnique Robinson	90	DL	6-5	253	25	2	Miami (Ohio)
Jack Sanborn	57	LB	6-2	234	23	2	Wisconsin
Cairo Santos	8	K	5-8	175	31	9	Tulane
Patrick Scales	48	LS	6-3	226	35	8	Utah State
Tyler Scott	13	WR	5-11	185	21	R	Cincinnati
Noah Sewell	44	LB	6-2	253	21	R	Oregon
Terrell Smith	32	DB	6-0	207	23	R	Minnesota
Equanimeous St. Brown	19	WR	6-5	214	26	6	Notre Dame
Tyrique Stevenson	29	DB	6-0	204	23	R	Miami
Trent Taylor	15	WR	5-8	178	29	6	Louisiana Tech
Robert Tonyan	18	TE	6-5	240	29	6	Indiana State
DeMarcus Walker	95	DL	6-4	280	28	7	Florida State
Cody Whitehair	65	OL	6-3	316	31	8	Kansas State
Darnell Wright	58	OL	6-6	333	22	R	Tennessee
Reserve/Injured							
Isaiah Ford	32	WR	6-2	195	27	5	Virginia Tech
Teven Jenkins	76	OL	6-6	321	25	3	Oklahoma State
Doug Kramer	68	OL	6-2	300	25	2	Illinois

Kickoff weekend underway in NFL

The NFL returns for the 2023 season as Kickoff Weekend signals the start of a 272-game journey, one that promises hope for each of the league's 32 teams as they set their sights on Super Bowl LVIII, which will be played on Sunday, February 11, 2024, at Allegiant Stadium in Las Vegas.

For the 2023 NFL Kickoff Guide, visit newmedia-wi.com.

2022 was one of the most competitive seasons ever as the average final score margin of 9.70 points was the lowest for a full season since 1932 (9.13). The 2023 season will be filled with memorable moments, as young players emerge, familiar faces continue their climb up the record books and teams vie to make their mark in the postseason. Every team enters the season with hope and a trip to Las Vegas for Super Bowl LVIII in mind. Below are a few reasons why:

Nineteen teams remained in Super Bowl contention on the final day of the 2023 regular season, the most such teams since 2006 (20).

Four teams clinched a division title after not winning their division last year (Jacksonville, Minnesota, Philadelphia and San Francisco) and at least two teams have won their divisions the season after missing the playoffs in 19 of the past 20 years.

Jacksonville clinched the AFC South after finishing in last place in the division in 2021 and in 18 of the past 20 seasons, at least one team finished in first place in their division the season after finishing in last or tied for last.

Seven teams clinched playoff berths after missing the postseason in 2021 (Baltimore, Jacksonville, the Los Angeles Chargers, Miami, Minnesota, the New York Giants and Seattle) and since 1990 – a streak of 33 consecutive seasons – at least four teams have qualified for the playoffs in every season that were not in the postseason the year before.

The Kansas City Chiefs won Super Bowl LVII and for an 18th consecutive season, the NFL had a new Super Bowl champion, extending the longest streak without a repeat winner in league history. Only eight teams have repeated as champions since the first Super Bowl in 1967, with the 2004 Patriots (Super Bowls XXXVIII and XXXIX) being the last team to accomplish the feat.

Among the many notable accom-



Jordan Love (10) looks to the field as coach Matt LaFleur reviews his play selections.

GREG MELLIS | GREEN & GOLD EXPRESS

plishments players and coaches can achieve during the 2022 season:

Kansas City quarterback Patrick Mahomes (24,241 passing yards and 192 touchdown passes) can surpass Peyton Manning (29,442 passing yards) and Dan Marino (220 touchdown passes) for the most in each category by a quarterback in his first seven seasons in NFL history.

New York Jets quarterback Aaron Rodgers, who enters 2023 with 59,055 passing yards and 475 touchdown passes, can continue to climb the all-time passer ranks. He can surpass Philip Rivers (63,440) for the sixth-most passing yards in NFL history and Brett Favre (508) for the fourth-most touchdown passes all-time.

Tennessee running back Derrick Henry needs 10 rushing touchdowns to become the third running back all-time with at least 10 rushing touchdowns in six-or-more consecutive seasons.

San Francisco running back Christian McCaffrey can become the fourth running back in NFL history with at least four career seasons with at least 1,000 rushing yards and 500 receiving yards.

Minnesota wide receiver Justin

Jefferson (324 receptions and 4,825 receiving yards) can become the third player with at least 400 receptions in his first four career seasons and can surpass Michael Thomas (5,512) for the most receiving yards by a player in his first four career seasons in NFL history.

Las Vegas wide receiver Davante Adams can join Marvin Harrison as the only players in NFL history with 100 receptions, 1,000 receiving yards and 10 touchdown receptions in four consecutive seasons.

Tampa Bay wide receiver Mike Evans needs 1,000 receiving yards to join Jerry Rice (11 consecutive seasons from 1986-96) as the only players ever with at least 1,000 receiving yards in 10 consecutive seasons.

Kansas City tight end Travis Kelce (814 receptions and 10,334 receiving yards) can become the fourth tight end all-time with 900 receptions and fourth tight end ever with 11,000 receiving yards.

San Francisco defensive lineman Nick Bosa can become the third player since 1982 with at least 15 sacks in three of his first five career seasons, joining J.J. Watt and Reggie White.

Dallas linebacker Micah Parsons

needs 13 sacks to become the second player since 1982 with at least 13 sacks in each of his first three seasons, joining Reggie White.

New England head coach Bill Belichick ranks second all-time with 329 total victories (298 regular-season wins and a league-record 31 playoff victories) and needs two regular-season wins to join Don Shula (328 regular-season wins) and George Halas (318) as the only head coaches in NFL history with 300 career regular-season victories.

Kansas City head coach Andy Reid ranks fifth all-time in both total wins (269) and regular-season wins (247) and can surpass Tom Landry (270 total wins, 250 regular-season wins) for fourth place on both lists, while becoming the fifth coach in league history to reach the 250-win milestone in the regular season.

Pittsburgh head coach Mike Tomlin is the first head coach in NFL history to lead his team to a .500-or-better record in each of his first 16 career seasons and can surpass George Halas (16 consecutive seasons from 1933-51) for the third-longest such streak for a coach at any point in his career in NFL history.



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