



Shawano's Joey Sperberg scores on Ashton Henning's bases-clearing double in a Bay Conference win over Menasha on April 18 in Shawano.

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HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL

Big inning powers Shawano to Bay win

Henning's big hit caps 5-run 4th inning

By **MORGAN RODE**
Sports Editor

The Shawano Community High School baseball team used a five-run fourth inning to rally past Menasha for a 5-3 Bay Conference win on April 18 in Shawano.

Shawano fell behind 3-0 after three innings in the cold and snowy contest. The Hawks let a couple scoring opportunities slip by in the opening innings and appeared on their way to doing so again in the fourth after a popout for the second out.

An infield single from Jacob Polzin extended the inning and loaded the bases for Shawano. It was the third batted ball in the inning that didn't leave the infield, as juniors Jacob Landon and Deacon Carroll each reached on infield errors earlier.

A wild pitch while senior Zac Jurmu batted allowed all three runners to move up a base, with Landon scoring. Jurmu walked to re-load the bases.

A dropped third strike allowed senior Carson Popp to make it to first and the other baserunners to move up another base, with Carroll scoring. That play also led to a pitching change for Menasha.

Junior Ashton Henning greeted the new hurler with a booming double off the wall on the first pitch he saw. Polzin, Jurmu and a fired-up senior courtesy runner Joey Sperberg scored on the play to give the Hawks a 5-3 advantage.

"I knew I had it in me, I just had to be confident in myself," Henning said of the clutch hit. "I know that I'm a hitter who needs to attack and can't get far behind in the count, so that's what I did and it panned out for me."

From there, Sperberg and senior Andrew Popp were able to seal up the win for the Hawks.

Sperberg pitched scoreless fifth and sixth innings before walking the first two batters in the seventh. Popp came in and struck out the first batter he faced. He then induced a ground-ball, with interference called at second base, which resulted in a double play and end to the ballgame.

"I had a lot of confidence. They were chirping from the dugout, we were chirping from our dugout. There was, I guess, a lot of bad blood in a



Shawano's Carson Popp squares to bunt during the team's win over Menasha on April 18 in Shawano.

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way. I just knew I couldn't let us lose right there after all the stuff I said," said Popp.

"I came in, I struck out the first kid and my confidence was going a lot. And then I had a wonderful play by both Ashton and Bryce (Popp) and it saved us the game right there."

Henning started the game for the Hawks, working the first four innings with snow falling around him. He surrendered three runs on three hits and four walks, but struck out eight batters.

"It definitely made it harder," said Henning of pitching in the adverse weather. "The mound was a little slippery so just staying focused and trying my best and doing what I can to help the team out is what I had to do."

Jurmu led the team at the plate, finishing with three hits, a walk, a stolen base and a run scored. Junior Michael Metcalf-Grassman walked twice for Shawano.



Shawano's Zac Jurmu leads off second base during the team's conference win over Menasha on April 18 in Shawano.

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HIGH SCHOOL SOFTBALL

Aggressiveness helps Hawks claim nonconference win at home

Shawano swipes 13 bases in win over Clintonville

By **MORGAN RODE**
Sports Editor

The Shawano Community High School softball team used aggressive baserunning to overwhelm Clintonville and ease to a 13-7 nonconference win on a cold and snowy day April 18 in Shawano.

The Hawks were credited with 13 stolen bases in the contest. The aggressive approach also led to a few defensive mistakes from Clintonville, which helped Shawano pull away for the victory.

It was a back-and-forth contest in the opening innings. Clintonville scored once in the top of the first before Shawano responded with four runs in its half. The visitors added two runs in the second, but the Hawks countered with three.

Clintonville closed the gap with two more runs in the third and another run in the fourth before Shawano took complete control with a five-run fourth. Each team added a run in the fifth to cap the scoring.

"After going back and forth and the high score, we realized that we really needed to settle down, get on base, put the bunts down, make sure we had smart running," said Shawano senior Margo Gull. "We knew that, 'Yeah, it's going back and forth, but we want to win. So we gotta push and then settle in.'"

Gull was at the head of Shawano's offensive attack. She singled, tripled and walked in the contest, and she scored each time she got on base. Gull also stole two bases.

"I think we were able to see the ball really well tonight," said senior Isabel Daniel. "We've been struggling a little bit on that. But the pitches were coming in at a speed that we liked, so we were able to make good contact."

In Shawano's four-run first inning, eight batters came to the plate. Sophomore



Shawano's Braylyn Babino makes a throw to first base during the team's nonconference win over Clintonville on April 18 in Shawano. MORGAN RODE | NEW MEDIA

more Braylyn Babino had the lone hit, scoring senior Brianna Wright and sophomore Abby Bystol. Another run scored on a wild pitch before aggressive baserunning helped the Hawks swipe home on a stolen base.

In the second, Bystol singled in Gull for the first run. Wright and Bystol later scored after Clintonville miscues.

In the fourth inning, it was Gull, Wright, Bystol, Babino and Daniel who scored for the Hawks. Gull tripled to open the fifth before scoring on a wild pitch for the team's 13th run.

Gull, Wright and Bystol, the team's No. 1, 2 and 3 hitters, each scored three runs. Bystol stole two bases, and Wright added one. Bystol finished with two RBIs.

Senior cleanup hitter Elizabeth Kary wasn't credited with a hit in the contest, but she ended up driving in three runs.

Along with her two-RBI hit, Babino swiped two bases. Sophomore courtesy runner Aubrey Holsten also had two stolen bases, while Daniel led the team with three. Sophomore Macey Krueger had the other stolen base.

For all the baserunners Shawano put on during the contest, it only left six on base. The Hawks only struck out five times.

Babino and Bystol teamed up in the circle for the Hawks. Babino worked the first four innings before Bystol pitched the final three.

Babino earned the win after surrendering six runs (four earned) on seven hits and five walks. She struck out six batters. Bystol allowed just one hit and a run while striking out three.

HIGH SCHOOL SOFTBALL

Chargers' patience pays off in conference win

Witt-Birn pulls away from Menominee Indian

By **MORGAN RODE**
Sports Editor

The Wittenberg-Birnamwood High School softball team didn't post a lot of run-scoring hits, but it took advantage of walks and aggressive baserunning to pull away for a 12-5 Central Wisconsin Conference-East Division win over Menominee Indian on April 19 in Wittenberg.

Witt-Birn ended up walking 11 times and stealing nine bases in the contest. A couple timely hits and extra bases and runs scored on passed balls helped the team score in each of the first five innings to build a comfortable lead.

After junior pitcher Jami Wendler struck out the side in the top of the first, Witt-Birn scored once in the bottom half. Junior Halle Beversdorf walked with one out before stealing second and moving to third on a passed ball. Senior Jadalynn Davids singled her home.

"We were smart on the bases. When we got walks, we were very smart and we stole bases," said Davids. "When we did get good hits, we got RBIs."

Witt-Birn batters walked two more times in the inning to load the bases, but Menominee Indian junior pitcher Aniya Peters induced a line-out to end the frame.

Menominee Indian tied the game in the second when sophomore Gabriella Wayka scored on a single from sophomore Jacie Chevalier, but Witt-Birn came back with two runs in its half of the inning.

Sophomore Camryn Miller made it to third after a dropped third strike and error to open the inning before scoring on a passed ball. Junior Lauren Bessette followed with a walk and then stole second before Beversdorf walked with one out. Senior Kaylee Schram later walked to load the bases.

The next batter, freshman Evelyn Fletcher, also thought she walked, and every runner moved up a base as Fletcher trotted to first, but it was only ball three. Fletcher had to come back to the plate, but the other three



Wittenberg-Birnamwood's Halle Beversdorf, right, slides safely into home as Menominee Indian's Ashlee Corn catches the ball during a conference game on April 19 in Wittenberg.

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Wittenberg-Birnamwood's Jami Wendler pitches during the team's CWC-East win over Menominee Indian on April 19 in Wittenberg.

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runners were granted the extra base, with Beversdorf scoring to make it 3-1.

After Wendler stranded runners at second and third base in the third, the Chargers tacked on five runs in their half to take control.

Witt-Birn junior Kiara Deruchowski tripled to open third frame and scored two batters later after a bunt single from Miller. Bessette then plated junior Gwnneth Groshek on an infield single before Miller scored on a Wendler groundout.

Beversdorf kept the rally going with another infield single, scoring Bessette. After stealing second and moving to third on a passed

ball, Beversdorf scored on a Davids' groundout.

Witt-Birn added a single run in the fourth, again with Deruchowski leading the charge. She singled with one out before stealing second. She ended up scoring after two passed balls.

"Oh, it felt awesome," said Deruchowski on playing the team's first home game and picking up the win. "This is only our second time on the field (outside) and I think we did pretty good. Being home, we had our home fans here cheering for us and hearing people cheer for you makes you feel better and want to win."

Despite the large deficit, Menomi-

nee Indian didn't fold. The Eagles scored twice in the fifth frame.

Peters got things started with a walk before moving to third on a double by junior Ashlee Corn. Peters scored on a groundout from senior Alexis Wilber and Corn crossed home after a wild pitch.

The Chargers got the two runs right back and added a third tally in their half of the fifth. Davids plated Beversdorf on a single before she and Schram scored on a Deruchowski single.

After a meeting at the pitching circle, Peters induced a groundout to end the inning and extend the game. She also tossed a scoreless sixth to force the game to the seventh, where the Eagles tacked on their final two runs.

Again, it was Peters who got things started with a walk. She moved to second on a single from Corn before both players moved up on a groundout. Senior Shauna Madosh plated both runners with a two-out single.

"We've been working hard all season and I think it really showed today even though the score wasn't what we thought it would be," said Peters. "But I think we're getting better and we still have room to improve."

Wendler pitched all seven innings for the Chargers, while Peters went the distance for the Eagles. Wendler struck out 12 batters, while Peters had five strikeouts.

HIGH SCHOOL TRACK

Witt-Birn girls, Lena/STAA boys 2nd at invitational

Suring girls claim 3rd

By NEW MEDIA STAFF

The Wittenberg-Birnamwood girls and Lena/St. Thomas Aquinas Academy boys co-op each turned in second-place finishes at the Rosholt Back the Track Invitational on April 22 in Rosholt.

The Witt-Birn girls scored 108.5 points, behind only Loyal's 118.5. The Suring girls claimed third with 99 points, while Lena/STAA took sixth with 55 points.

On the boys side, Lena/STAA's 92.83 points trailed only Pacelli's 106.33. Suring took sixth with 70 points, while Witt-Birn was seventh with 63 points.

Witt-Birn

Reese Rogowski had three first-place finishes to power the Witt-Birn girls team. She won the 100-meter dash in 13.16 seconds, 200 in 26.99 seconds and 400 in 1:00.75.

Kaydence Burclaw was the top finisher in the girls discus with a throw of 89 feet, 3 inches.

Placing second was Allison Linke in the 300 hurdles (53.51) and Layla Huffman in the discus (85-7). Taking third was Jalynn Horacek in the long jump (13-10), 100 hurdles (18.67) and triple jump (31-8), and Faith Resch in the 100 (14.05).

On the boys side, Connor Groshek won the long jump (17-6¾), while Simon Schairer was the top finisher in the 400 (53.91). Schairer also took second in the triple jump (40-8¾).

Craig Wendel claimed third in the 800 (2:15.28) and joined Schairer, Will Peters and Trevor Schmidt on the 4x800 relay team that was third in 9:39.36.

Lena/STAA

Sam Marquardt won the 100 dash

ONLINE

Full results from the invitational can be found at www.athletic.net.

in 12.3 seconds for the Lena/STAA boys' top individual finish.

Marquardt, Max Beyer, Lane Whiting and Josh Kristof teamed up for first in the 4x100 relay after posting a time of 47.03. Whiting took second in the 100 (12.46), and Beyer was second in the high jump (4-10).

Sidney Sylvester finished third in the triple jump (39-7½). He joined Braeden Neta, Logan Shallow and Bryce Kittredge on the 4x200 relay team that took third in 1:45.04.

For the girls co-op, Eva Brooks, Kali Fischer, Natalie McNurlen and Karli Fischer formed the second-place finishing 4x100 relay team (58.39). Brooks was second in the high jump (4-10), while McNurlen took second in the long jump (14-1½).

Placing third was Emily Peters in the pole vault (7-6) and Samara VanArk in the 3,200 (15:55.6).

Suring

Christine Sleeter and Olivia Noack led the Suring girls to the strong finish. Sleeter won the high jump (4-11), while Noack was the first to cross the finish line in the 800 (2:38.76).

Sleeter placed third in the 400 (1:08.91), while Noack took third in the 1,600 (6:05.04).

Chantelle VanDenElzen, Kate Mahoney, Georgia Gerndt and Claire Pommerich teamed up for a second-place finish in the 4x800 relay (11:59.65).

Placing first for the Suring boys was Trent VanDenElzen in the high jump (5-2) and Jeremy Hensel in the pole vault (11-6).

Hensel claimed third in the 200 (25.03) and 400 (55.8), while VanDenElzen was third in the 110 hurdles (20.33) and 300 hurdles (50.37).

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HIGH SCHOOL SOFTBALL

Gillett/Suring rallies for wild win over STAA/Lena

Hornets trailed 11-0 early on

By **MORGAN RODE**
Sports Editor

The Gillett/Suring softball co-op rallied from an 11-run deficit and eventually earned a 16-15 walk-off win over St. Thomas Aquinas Academy/Lena in a Marinette & Oconto Conference battle on April 21 in Gillett.

STAA/Lena looked to be in complete control after a five-run first inning and six-run second, but Gillett/Suring scored four times in its half of the second to begin its comeback march.

The visiting co-op tacked on two runs in the third before Gillett/Suring tallied three runs in its half to make it a 13-7 game. The hosts answered STAA/Lena's one run in the fourth with six of its own to get within one, and then grabbed the lead with two runs in the bottom of the fifth.

STAA/Lena tied the contest at 15 with a run in the top of the seventh, but the first four Gillett/Suring batters reached in the bottom half to walk it off.

The final half inning began with well-placed hits from Bailey Stuart and Autumn Dryja, with both hits sneaking past the shortstop.

After Emma Kristof was intentionally walked to load the bases, Madison Vandeveldt strolled to the plate. She attacked the first pitch, chopping the high pitch toward second base. The throw to the plate was late, as Bailey slid in safely to cap the wild game.

"I was definitely praying a lot," said Vandeveldt of the seventh inning at-bat. "I went up to bat and I was like super nervous and I didn't know what kind of pitch was going to be thrown, but I was confident that no matter what it was, I was going to hit it, and hit it in the field. I was very nervous and excited all at the same time."

The walk-off winner capped a big game for Vandeveldt. She posted three hits and two walks, drove in two runs and made just one out in the contest.

A big reason STAA/Lena walked Kristof to get to Vandeveldt was because Kristof had delivered all game for the hosts. Kristof walked and singled once and doubled twice to drive in seven runs.

"I feel like we kept our heads up and stayed positive throughout the whole game," said Kristof on the team's comeback win. "We never gave up on ourselves."

Stuart, Kylie Kallies and Morgan Dryja all scored three runs for Gillett/Suring, while Autumn Dryja and McKenzie Chesterfield crossed the plate twice each.

It was walks that helped STAA/Lena grab the early lead and allowed Gillett/Suring to creep back into the game. Each team walked 15 times in the contest.

Kristof and Autumn Dryja pitched for the hosts, with Dryja earning the win after working the final five frames. She struck out eight batters over that time.

Kristof and Vandeveldt both believe the comeback win was not only a confidence booster as it was the team's first win this spring, but also one that would help the team should they fall behind in coming games.

"We can be confident no matter what the situation is," said Vandeveldt.

While it was a tough loss to swallow for STAA/Lena, the team believes it too can take away plenty of things from the contest.

"We scored a lot of runs, so we know we can hit the ball and score runs, but we just have to cut down on the amount of runs that the other team is scoring so that we can come out with a win," said STAA/



Gillett/Suring's Autumn Dryja pitches during the team's Marinette & Oconto Conference win over STAA/Lena on April 21 in Gillett.

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STAA/Lena's Melanie Cops swings at a pitch during the team's M&O matchup with Gillett/Suring on April 21 in Gillett.

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Lena's Chaela Rabas.

Rabas and Sydney Hayward each drove in a pair of runs for the visitors, while Breanna Koslowsky had three RBIs.

Hayward reached base four times, which helped her score three times.

"I thought we all were able to get our hits together at the same time," said Rabas. "We haven't been hitting well and we finally all were able to hit consistently in the same innings, and I thought that's how we got our big lead."

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HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL

Gillett/Suring cruises to conference win

Hornets use 2 big innings to pull away

By **MORGAN RODE**
Sports Editor

The Gillett/Suring baseball co-op rolled to a 14-4 Marinette & Oconto Conference win over St. Thomas Aquinas Academy in five innings on April 21 in Gillett.

Gillett/Suring used a seven-run second inning to grab the lead and then finished off STAA with a six-run fourth frame.

“As a team, we’ve been practicing a lot with our hitting. We’ve been in the gym for most of our practices, so we had to hit weighted balls. We get a lot of practice with pitchers, so we’re able to hit the ball really well,” said Gillett/Suring’s Mikey Pecanas.

Pecanas was just one of several co-op players to finish with big games at the plate. He drove in three runs, including two in the second inning, while finishing with two hits and a walk.

Taron Haak also had a clutch hit in the second inning and finished with three RBIs on a hit and walk while also scoring twice.

Austin Vande Corput set the table for the hosts from his leadoff spot in the batting order. He tallied two hits and two walks, drove in a run and scored a team-high three times.



Gillett/Suring’s Austin Vande Corput looks on after delivering a hit for the hosts in a Marinette & Oconto Conference win over St. Thomas Aquinas Academy on April 21 in Gillett.

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Brady Kristof had a two-RBI single in the fourth frame, and finished with three RBIs on two hits while also scoring once.

Ryan Pensis drove in the team’s first run and ended the contest with two RBIs, three hits and two runs.

Quinn Thomson and Colton Peters each scored twice for the hosting Hornets. Carter Whisman reached base twice and scored a run for the co-op.

Gillett/Suring showed great plate discipline, walking eight times

and striking out just three times. The co-op was also aggressive of the basepaths, stealing nine bases. Cody Schrank had two of the steals.

Along with his big day at the plate, Pecanas also started at catcher and helped guide three co-op pitchers to a strong afternoon.

Keegan Rattin started for Gillett/Suring and got the first eight outs. He allowed two runs on two hits while striking out four.

Rattin was appreciative of the team’s early lead.

“We’ve never really had a lead like that before, so obviously it felt pretty great,” said Rattin, who also thanked his teammates for playing strong defense behind him. “I was able to relax a little more and throw nicer pitches.”

Ethan Lally came on in relief and ended up picking up the win after working 1 1/3 innings. He allowed three hits but no runs, while striking out a pair.

Dalton Fidler finished off the win for Gillett/Suring, getting the final three outs.

Pecanas said the team could still use more work on fundamentals, so the little things don’t burn the team in the coming weeks and games, but added, “if we keep playing as hard as we do, play good defense like we always do, we’re going to be a pretty good team by the end of the season.”

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HIGH SCHOOL TRACK

Gillett boys, girls lead area teams at invitational

By **NEW MEDIA STAFF**

The Gillett Secondary School boys and girls track and field teams turned in the top finishes during the Antigo Peterson Invitational on April 21 in Antigo.

The Gillett boys placed fourth with a team score of 73. Menominee Indian came in eighth with 28 points.

On the girls side, the Gillett girls took sixth with 61½ points. Menominee Indian came in seventh with 46 points, while Tigerton was 10th with 10 points.

Gillett’s Carleigh Kaczmarek won the girls 3,200-meter run with a time

of 12 minutes, 49.84 seconds. Ryann Wagner placed third in the event in 13:01.82.

Kaczmarek, Kasey Hansen, Angela Mosconi and Lily Hansen teamed up for a top finish in the 4x800 relay (11:27.85). Reece Franti, Bella Matczak, Shae Stage and Ava Woodke formed the third-place finishing 4x200 relay (2:17.12).

Cheyenne Krueger finished second in the pole vault (7-6) for Gillett, while Alaina Herzog claimed third in the 100 hurdles (19.25).

Connor Hanson won the 800 in 2:13.4 to lead the Gillett boys team. Alex Peterson finished second in the

3,200 (10:06.13), while Ben Matczak was second in the pole vault (9-6). Jesse DeBauch placed third in the pole vault (9-0) and triple jump (33-4).

Hanson, Alex Peterson, Evan Peterson and DeBauch formed the top-finishing 4x800 relay (8:51.1).

The Menominee Indian girls 4x200 relay team of Alexis Zhuckahosee, Alezaha King, Cali Shawano and Rainelle Waukau placed first in 1:55.59. Shawano also placed second in the 100 (13.44) and third in the 200 (27.96).

Emma Komanekin finished second in the 300 hurdles (54.1).

ONLINE

Full results from the invitational can be found at www.performancetiming.com.

On the boys side, Asenex Turney placed fourth in the shot put (38-5½). Gregory Turney, Barron Waupoose, Ja’Shua Dodge and Francis Delabrau teamed up for fourth in the 4x200 relay (1:45.62).

Tigerton’s top finishes came from Elizabeth Robbins and Mary Kreklow.

Robbins placed sixth in the 200 (29.18) and seventh in the 100 (14.17). Kreklow took seventh in the 1,600 (7:14.26) and 3,200 (15:43.74).

HIGH SCHOOL TRACK

Gresham/Bowler teams place in top 3 at conference meet

Robbins leads Tigerton, while Much has Marion's top finish

By NEW MEDIA STAFF

The Gresham/Bowler track and field teams each turned in strong finishes at the Central Wisconsin Conference-Small Division Pre-Conference Meet on April 19 in Plainfield.

The boys co-op scored 79 points and tied Pittsville for second place, behind only Wild Rose's 124 points. The girls co-op scored 104 points and placed third.

Tigerton and Marion also scored points on the girls side. Tigerton placed seventh with 28 points, while Marion had 14 points and took ninth.

The Gresham/Bowler girls 4x100-meter relay team placed first with a time of 58.16 seconds. Hannah Cerveney, Willow Demaskie, Jemy Reedy and Ireland Jensen formed the team.

Valarie Cerveney was the top finisher in the girls shot put. The Gresham senior had a top toss of 32 feet, 7¾ inches.

ONLINE

Full results from the meet can be found at www.athletic.net.

Emmitt Kietlinski led the Gresham/Bowler boys with first-place finishes in the high jump (6-2) and long jump (19-7). Bryson Nelson took first in the 3,200 (12:42.08).

Placing second for the Gresham/Bowler girls was Maddie Haffner in the 3,200 (14:43.38), Hannah Cerveney in the 300 hurdles (56.98) and Valarie Cerveney in the triple jump (30-3). Demaskie, Jensen, Hannah Cerveney and Valarie Cerveney teamed up for second place in the 4x200 relay (2:01.93).

Haffner also placed third in the 1,600 (6:41.37). Jensen took third in the high jump (4-2), while Hannah Cerveney was third in the long jump (14-2).

Back on the boys side, Kietlinski took second in the triple jump (40-7) to cap a big day. Zach Ziemer finished second in the discus (105-11). Ziemer claimed third in the shot put (32-6), with Nelson third in the 1,600 (5:43.22).

Tigerton's top individual finishes came from Elizabeth Robbins. She placed third in the 100 (14.16) and 200 (29.35).

Bridget Much led Marion with a third-place finish in the 100 hurdles (24.2).



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ATHLETE PROFILE: COOPER UELMEN

Bonduel senior golfer off to strong start

Bonduel High School golfer Cooper Uelmen has enjoyed a strong high school career, and he's hoping his senior season is his best yet.

Last spring, Uelmen guided the Bears to sectionals as a team. Uelmen just missed out on qualifying for state as an individual.

Uelmen is off to a strong start this spring. He led Bonduel with an 18-hole round of 85 to help the team place first at Weymont Run Country Club on April 21. He finished second on the team with a nine-hole total of 47 when the team placed first at Maple Hills Golf Course on April 22.

Q: When did your interest in golf begin?

A: My interest in golf began when I was in freshman year when I wanted to try something different than baseball, which I played for a while before. I just started swinging, and it's easy to get hooked.

Q: What is your favorite part about the golf season?

A: I love the rides to and from the courses, especially after a good round. The atmosphere is just so fun, and I like having a group of my friends around to have a good time.

Q: What has golf taught you over the years?

A: Golf has taught me a lot about patience and controlling my emotions. If you're golfing and you lose control, you'll struggle even more. You need to keep a cool head, and that's something that applies to life itself — not just golf.

Q: You plan on golfing at UW-Stevens Point next year, and I'm wondering if you'd like to prove anything in your final high school season?

A: I'd like to prove to everyone that you can do anything if you put your mind to it. When I first started three years ago, I was shooting 60, 70 over par in each round. Now, I'm shooting around 6-10 over par each round.



Bonduel's Cooper Uelmen follows through on a shot during a match on April 23, 2021, at Pine Hills Golf Course in Gresham.

FILE | NEW MEDIA

That's a huge improvement in that short of time. I hope to prove to not just myself but everyone that by working hard, you can accomplish anything you put your mind to.

Q: How did you prepare for the golf season?

A: I prepared for this season by hitting balls into a net, either at my house or at Golden Sands Golf Course. I also added a few new clubs to the bag and took lessons from my boss (Jim Acker) at the course.

Q: Being a multi-sport athlete, how did your other sports get you prepared for the golf season?

A: I only participated in cross-country this year, but I feel like it helped me keep in shape as well as being able to handle pressure, mainly because of state cross-country.

Q: Before a meet starts, do you or the team have any routines or rituals you go through?

A: Mainly, I'll have my team hit a

routine of shots on the range and the green. Too often, I'll see players on other teams only hit driver, and that's one of the worst things you can do. It doesn't get you ready at all compared to a good routine. Putting and chipping are, in my opinion, the most important part of the game. I like to emphasize practicing on that.

Q: What's your key to being able to consistently put up strong rounds?

A: Just keeping a cool head helps me shoot consistent. Letting yourself go is when you see your strokes rack up fast. Finding my groove is when I really feel good about my game.

Q: What's your favorite memory of competing on the Bonduel boys golf team?

A: My favorite moment of my golf career is easily playing with some of the people I've met. Some of the rounds can just be so incredibly fun you almost forget you're competing

AT A GLANCE

Athlete: Cooper Uelmen
Sport: Golf
School: Bonduel High School
Year: Senior

against them.

Q: Favorite movie, TV show and musical artist?

A: Movie — "Happy Gilmore." TV show — "Breaking Bad." Music artist — AJR.

Q: Name one thing about yourself that not many people know.

A: Something people don't know about me is I've spent more money on my golf bag than my car.

Q: What are some things you hope to accomplish after graduating high school?

A: I hope to get a job at a PGA course someplace down south with my business degree. I also hope to help lead my golf team at point to a decent record and a few wins.



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ATHLETE PROFILE: MARGO GULL

Shawano softball senior soaking up final memories

Shawano Community High School softball player Margo Gull enjoyed a big junior season in 2021 and is off to another strong start in her senior campaign this spring.

Gull made the Bay Conference first team unanimously as a junior after posting a .400 batting average, scoring 17 runs, driving in 11 runs and stealing 14 bases. She also was named to the District 2 large school list put out by the Wisconsin Fastpitch Softball Coaches Association.

She's off to another successful start this spring from her leadoff spot in the batting order.

This past week, Gull had two hits, two steals, one walk and three runs scored in a nonconference win over Clintonville on April 18. In a 3-1 win over Xavier on April 22, the senior center fielder walked once, stole two bases and scored a run.

Q: When did your interest in softball begin?

A: My interest in softball began when I was in second grade. Ever since then the love of the game has always stuck with me, and it will for a lifetime.

Q: What is your favorite part about the softball season?

A: My favorite part of softball season is bonding with my teammates and making new friendships. I enjoy going out to eat with the team after games.

Q: What has the game of softball taught you over the years?

A: The game of softball has taught me how to be a leader and a responsible individual. Along with that, it has shown me how to work hard and stay dedicated to what I love doing. It also helped me learn to work with others and push them to do their best.

Q: After a big junior season, what individual goals do you have for this spring?

A: A big goal I have set for myself is beating the school record for stolen



Shawano's Margo Gull rounds the bases during the team's nonconference win over Clintonville on April 18 in Shawano.

MORGAN RODE | NEW MEDIA

bases. I would also like to make the All-State Senior Softball Team. I want to play my best every minute I am on the field so I can enjoy my last season of softball.

Q: As the season continues on, what are the team's keys to success?

A: My team's key to success is trusting one another and knowing we will succeed with what we are doing

on the field. We always stick together and support each other, no matter what the outcome is.

Q: How did you prepare for the softball season?

A: I prepared for the softball season by attending open gyms and worked on my slap hitting. Last summer, I made sure to play summer ball so I could get more playing time. I also stayed active by working out on

AT A GLANCE

Athlete: Margo Gull
Sport: Softball
Positions: Centerfield
School: Shawano Community High School
Year: Senior

my free time.

Q: As a senior, how do you lead the rest of the team?

A: I make sure to set good examples on and off the field. I want my teammates to know I can be someone who they can come to if they have a problem. I help the team stay focused because now, being a senior, I realize how fast the seasons go, and I do not want the underclassmen to miss out on any given opportunities.

Q: Before a game starts, do you or the team have any routines or rituals you go through?

A: Before every game we always jam out to music, and it gets us excited and ready to win.

Q: What's your favorite memory of competing on the Shawano softball team?

A: My most valuable memory on the Shawano softball team was beating New London 3-1 and advancing to regional finals last season. I remember all the fans coming to support us and how high the energy was throughout the entire game.

Q: Favorite movie, TV show and musical artist?

A: Movie — "Dog." TV show — "Friday Night Lights." Musical artist — Taylor Swift.

Q: Name one thing about yourself that not many people know.

A: I have been playing the violin since sixth grade.

Q: What are some things you hope to accomplish after graduating high school?

A: I am attending Marquette University next fall as an undecided business major.



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AUTO RACING



IMCA Modified drivers get lined up for a heat race in front of a packed grandstand at Shawano Speedway on April 23 in Shawano.

MORGAN RODE | NEW MEDIA

Springborn coronation highlights season opener

Wilinski, Frederick, Besaw and Pingel also victorious

By **SCOTT J. OWEN**
Special to NEW Media

A stout field of 119 cars signed in to kick off the 2022 racing season at Shawano Speedway on April 23.

Troy Springborn scored a Dirt Kings Tour win in the Late Model division. Konnor Wilinski, Kyle

Frederick, Ryan Besaw and Austin Pingel also started their seasons in victory lane.

Springborn was crowned as "Dirt King" with his victory in the 50th feature event for the WABAM Dirt Kings Tour. Springborn charged to an early lead and held off a charge from Nick Anvelink for the win in the Spring Thaw in Memory of Larry Colburn 25-lap late model feature.

Brad Mueller, Brett Swedberg and Justin Ritchie completed the top five.

Wilinski took the win in a caution-plagued IMCA Modified feature.

Wilinski wrestled the lead from

early race leader Mike Wedelstadt on lap four and would fend off the charges of Wyatt Block and Jared Siefert en route to victory.

Lucas Lamberies raced from his 17th starting sport to finish fourth. Andy Karl completed the top five.

In IMCA Stock Car action, Tyler Wendt led lap one before succumbing to Chucky Forstner.

Forstner looked strong early on before a lap 12 caution wiped out his lead. Frederick cracked the proverbial whip on lap 13 as he went from fourth to the lead. Forstner faded as Frederick held off Trent Nolan, Jeremy Christians and Travis Van

ONLINE

Full results and more information can be found online at www.shawanospeedway.net.

Straten over the closing laps.

In the end, it was Frederick with the win, followed across the finish line by Nolan, Christians, Van Straten and Brett Wenzel.

Dylon Waldvogel jumped out to an early lead in the IMCA Sport Mod feature. As Waldvogel built his lead, Besaw and Cory Kemkes battled for second.

Besaw eventually moved ahead of Kemkes near the midpoint of the



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Nick Anvelink (15), Troy Springborn (81), Justin Ritchie (70), Adam Janke (87) and Ron Berna (66) round turns one and two during a Late Model heat race on April 23 at Shawano Speedway in Shawano. Springborn went on to win the feature race later on.

race. Once he got to second, Besaw began to steadily gain ground on Waldvogel. Besaw finally made the pass for the lead on lap 17 and would not look back.

Tyler Sobiesczyk fought his way to second in the closing laps. Kemkes held on for third. Waldvogel had to settle for fourth, while Max Oreskovich finished fifth.

The Mighty 4 feature looked like it would be a virtual cakewalk for former track champion Lucas Hacker. He grabbed the lead at the drop of the green flag and quickly began to pull away from the rest of the field.

With about five laps to go though, Pingel began to close the gap on Hacker who had built up nearly a full straight away lead. On the final circuit of the race Pingel finally caught Hacker and made the pass for the win.

Hacker crossed the finish line in second with an expiring engine. Tanner Westphal, Brad Wedde and Carl King completed the top five.

Racing will continue April 30 with trophy night as last year's champions and Rookies of the Year will be honored.



Mighty 4 driver Alexis Michonski rounds the track in a heat race at Shawano Speedway on April 23 in Shawano. Michonski placed 12th in the feature race to cap the night.



Larry Karcz Jr. (36) and Tyler Wendt (76) battle for position during an IMCA Stock Car heat race at Shawano Speedway on April 23 in Shawano. Wendt would later place eighth in the feature race, while Karcz Jr. took 11th.

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HIGH SCHOOL HIGHLIGHTS

By NEW MEDIA STAFF

BASEBALL

Lena 15

Elcho 2 (5 inn.)

Lena rolled to a nonconference win over Elcho on April 23 in Lena.

Logan Shallow drove in four runs on four hits and also scored four runs to power Lena offensively. He had two doubles and two triples.

Lane Whiting finished with two runs scored and three RBIs on two hits, while Logan Graef had three RBIs on two hits and three runs scored. Reed Hosking drove in two runs on two hits and also scored twice. Tyler Shallow chipped in three hits and scored twice.

Josh Kristof, Wyatt Dean and Graef all pitched for Lena, with Kristof earning the win after working an inning. Dean struck out two batters in an inning, while Graef struck out six over three frames.

Gresham wins a pair

Gresham earned nonconference wins over Florence (15-5) and Gillett/Suring (5-3 in eight innings) on April 23 in Gillett.

Against Florence, Austin Sperberg drove in two runs on two hits and scored four runs. Belasaire Vele drove in a pair on two hits and scored three times, while Corbin Welch had two RBIs, two hits and two runs scored.

Lukas Pecore earned the win on the mound after striking out eight Florence batters. Jack Haffner earned the win against Gillett/Suring after striking out seven batters.

Wesley Thiex led Gresham at the plate against Gillett/Suring with three hits and three RBIs. Bryson Nelson drove in two runs.

Shawano 9

West De Pere 6

Shawano moved to 4-1 on the season and in Bay Conference play after toppling West De Pere on April 21 in Shawano. The Hawks built an 8-0 lead in the first three innings and then held on late.

Ashton Henning led Shawano with three hits and two RBIs. Braedyn Kowalkowski also had three hits, while Carson Popp finished with two hits and two runs.

Andrew Popp earned the win on the mound after allowing one runs across five innings. Jacob Polzin got the next four outs before Henning sealed up the win by getting the last two outs.



Shawano's Abigail Rabideau looks on after kicking the ball during the team's win over Little Chute on April 22 in Shawano.

MORGAN RODE | NEW MEDIA

Gresham 8

White Lake 7

Gresham clipped White Lake in a Central Wisconsin Conference-North Division clash on April 21 in Gresham.

Lukas Pecore drove in four runs on three hits, including a two-run homer, to power Gresham offensively. Austin Sperberg had three hits and three RBIs.

Sperberg also earned the win after striking out six batters over four innings.

Witt-Birn 11

Manawa 1 (6 inn.)

Wittenberg-Birnwood rolled to

a CWC crossover win over Manawa on April 19 in Manawa. The Chargers scored six runs in the second inning to run away with the game.

Pierson Potrykus, Ian Salvesen, Ben Wesolowski and Max Fraaza each drove in two runs for Witt-Birn. Potrykus and Wesolowski tallied three hits each, while Mason Mevarden, Carter Herb and Salvesen had two each.

Kaden Schmidt, Salvesen and Potrykus each scored two runs. Wesolowski stole two bases.

Calvin Scheurer earned the win on the mound, striking out five batters and allowing just one run over

ONLINE

More highlights can be found at www.newmedia-wi.com.

four innings. Potrykus and Max Kersten worked a scoreless inning each.

Marion 16

Manawa 6

Marion eased past Manawa in a CWC-North matchup April 18 in Manawa.

Nick Malueg and Jackson Krohn each tallied three hits to lead Marion at the plate. Krohn drove in three runs and scored four times, while Malueg had two RBIs and two runs scored.

Jack Van Kooy added two hits and scored three runs for the Mustangs. Jaden Stuhr drove in five runs.

Ryan Malueg picked up the win on the mound after working three innings, surrendering three earned runs and striking out five batters. Stuhr pitched three innings, striking out three and allowing two earned runs. Nick Malueg worked the final inning, striking out two batters.

GIRLS SOCCER

Shawano 10

Antigo 0

Shawano cruised to a nonconference win over Antigo on April 23 in Antigo.

Abigail Rabideau led Shawano with a hat trick, scoring off assists from Kloie Boyles and Adison Moesch. Goalie Brynlie Boyles made one save to post the shutout.

Faith Lammers netted two goals off assists from Trinity Popelka, who later scored off an assist from Kaylee Rindt. Popelka also assisted on Rachael Cooper's first varsity goal to cap the scoring.

Caitlyn Moede scored once off an assist from Anne Carrier, while Kylie Teetzen netted a goal after an assist from Jenna Ainsworth. Ginger Eggert scored an unassisted goal for her first varsity score.

Pulaski 10

New London 0

Pulaski eased to a nonconference victory over New London on April 22 in New London.

Allie Jarock, Gianna Logue and Sarah Johnson each scored two goals in the first half to help Pulaski to a 6-0 lead. Ellie Mangold, Mia Naumann, Bella Logue and Julie Truckenbrod scored once each in the second half.

Laci Lemke, Brianna Kapla, Bella Logue and Naumann all were credited with assists.

Shawano 6 Little Chute 0

Shawano rolled to a nonconference win over Little Chute on April 22 in Shawano. The Hawks scored three goals in each half.

Caitlyn Moede netted the first goal off an assist from Abigail Rabideau in the 20th minute. Adison Moesch scored in the 33rd minute off another assist from Rabideau before Rabideau scored in the 35th minute off a corner kick.

Trinity Popelka got into the scoring action in the second half. She netted a goal in the 42nd minute off an assist from Caitlyn Moede and then scored again in the 51st minute off an assist from Evony Perez. Adrienne Rekow scored her first varsity goal in the 75th minute, with Ginger Eggert assisting.

SOFTBALL

Tigerton 12

NL/WVL 8

Tigerton earned a CWC-North home win over Northland Lutheran/Wisconsin Valley Lutheran on April 21. Bethany Jobe finished with two

hits, four RBIs and two runs scored to power Tigerton. Elizabeth Stueck and Angel Welch drove in two runs each.

Skyler Hauser scored three runs for the Tigers. McKenzie Hoffman and Maycee Carlson each scored twice. Carlson stole three bases, while Abby Swartz, Hauser and Hoffman had two each.

Hauser pitched all seven innings, striking out three along the way.

Shawano 3

Xavier 1

Shawano knocked off Xavier in a tight Bay clash on April 21 in Shawano.

Margo Gull, Brianna Wright and Abby Bystol scored Shawano's runs. Isabel Daniel led the team with two hits.

Braylyn Babino earned the win in the circle, striking out nine while surrendering just three hits and no walks.

BOYS GOLF

Bonduel takes 1st again

Bonduel earned a first-place finish for a second straight day after posting a team score of 189 at a Central Wisconsin Conference meet on April 22

at Maple Hills Golf Course in Wittenberg. The meet was called after about 14 holes were complete, so the scores for the first nine holes were doubled for conference purposes.

Jake Dreyer led the way for Bonduel with a nine-hole round of 43. Cooper Uelmen fired a 47, Reece Stoltenow a 49 and Colin Margelofsky and Reed Luepke each shot 50s.

Wittenberg-Birnamwood tied for third with a score of 210. Calvin Scheurer (49), Nolan Fraaza (50), Owen Schultz (55), Joey Seegmiller (56) and August Barke (59) formed the team.

Marion took eighth with a score of 234, with Isaiah Gueths (53), Sam Gueths (56), Quinn Tolan (61), Owen Spiegel (64) and Kasey Roethle (67) filling out the lineup. Menominee Indian/Gresham placed 10th with a score of 256, with Corbin Welch (54), Dugan Webster (59), Trentyn Harrison (67) and Vincent Fish (76) forming the four-golfer team.

BOYS TENNIS

Shawano splits pair of matches

Shawano earned a 4-3 win over

Green Bay Preble while losing 6-1 to Kaukauna during a triangular on April 23 in Green Bay.

Leo Liu and George Buerman picked up No. 1 singles wins on the day for Shawano. George Buerman and Tristan Sheldon (No. 1), Tristan Tetting and Isaac Welander (No. 2) and Seth Williams and Ryan Buerman (No. 3) all earned doubles wins.

Shawano vs. Green Bay Preble — Singles: No. 1: Leo Liu S def. Isaac Fagre, 6-3, 3-6, 11-9; **No. 2:** Ian Hoppe G def. Josh Bergmann, 7-5, 7-6, 12-10; **No. 3:** Vikram Khot G def. Benjamin Langlois, 6-3, 6-2; **No. 4:** Bentley Soukhaphaly G def. Scott Baller, 6-0, 6-1. **Doubles: No. 1:** George Buerman-Tristan Sheldon S def. Jack Gannon-Chou Vang, 6-3, 6-1; **No. 2:** Tristan Tetting-Isaac Welander S def. Arturo Solis-Gonzalez-Caleb Umentum, 6-2, 3-6, 12-10; **No. 3:** Seth Williams-Ryan Buerman S by forfeit, 2-0, 2-0.

Shawano vs. Kaukauna — Singles: No. 1: George Buerman S def. Henry Wolfe, 7-6 (6), 6-1; **No. 2:** Vincent Terry K def. Tetting, 2-6, 6-2, 10-6; **No. 3:** Justin Sprangers K def. Ryan Buerman, 6-1, 6-0; **No. 4:** Hayden Kihl K def. Williams, 6-1, 6-0. **Doubles: No. 1:** Zach Voet-Hayden Kihl K def. Liu-Bergmann, 6-4, 4-6, 10-4; **No. 2:** Wes Boucher-Stueber Xavier K def. Sheldon-Welander, 6-0, 6-1; **No. 3:** Jack VanEpern-Evan Corrigan K def. Mason Sparks-Langlois, 6-2, 6-3.

COLLEGE HIGHLIGHTS

By NEW MEDIA STAFF

Winona State University

Wittenberg-Birnamwood High School graduate Maddy Pietz earned a first-place finish in the 100-meter dash while running for the Winona State women's track and field team at the Phil Esten Challenge from April 21-23.

Pietz posted a time of 12.03 seconds in the finals, nearly 0.2 seconds faster than her time in the preliminary race.

UW-Platteville

Pulaski grad Kayla Lipsey competed in the heptathlon during the Meet of Champions on April 22-23 while representing the UW-Platteville women's track and field team.

Lipsey placed fifth overall with a total of 3,433 points.

Her top finish came in the 100 hurdles, placing third with a time of 16.33 seconds. Lipsey placed fourth in the long jump (4.86 meters), 200 dash (28.13 seconds) and javelin throw (24.89 meters).

Lipsey placed sixth in the high jump (1.36 meters) and seventh in the 800 (2:51.71) and shot put (6.77 meters).

UW-Eau Claire

Mitch Stegeman, a Suring graduate and current track and field athlete for UW-Eau Claire, placed second in the

decathlon during the Phil Esten Challenge on April 21-23.

Stegeman finished with 6,659 points, with the top finisher at 6,743 points.

He won the discus competition with a top throw of 38.17 meters. Stegeman placed second in the 110 hurdles with a time of 15.67 seconds.

Stegeman placed third outright in the javelin throw (45.67 meters) and shot put (11.35 meters), while tying for third in the high jump (1.82 meters) and pole vault (4.55 meters). He came in fourth in the 100 dash (11.36), fifth in the 400 (52.22) and long jump (6.3 meters) and sixth in the 1,500 (4:52.86)

UW-Stout

Pulaski grad Kevin Ruechel won the shot put during the Phil Esten Challenge on April 21-23 while competing in three events for the UW-Stout men's track and field team.

Ruechel's top throw in the shot put was 17.61 meters, 1.72 meters ahead of the second-place finisher.

He also placed fifth in the discus (43.58 meters) and 12th in the hammer throw (47.02 meters).

College of Lake County

Menominee Indian graduate Jamison Besaw recorded two outs while pitching in a win for the College of Lake County baseball team on April 21.

Besaw allowed one run on two hits

and a walk in the frame.

Concordia University

Bonduel grad Derrick Folkman placed 13th in the 1,500 while running for the Concordia men's track and field team during the Green and White Invite on April 24.

Folkman posted a time of 5:06.47.

St. Norbert College

Lena graduate Kennedy Marquardt and Oconto Falls graduate Emily Gonnering each competed in multiple events for the St. Norbert women's track and field team during the St. Norbert Invitational on April 23.

Marquardt was on the first-place finishing 4x400 relay team that had a time of 4:11.08. Individually, she placed fourth in the 400 (1:03.55).

Gonnering claimed third in the javelin throw (28.12 meters) and sixth in the hammer throw (34.69 meters). She also placed eighth in the discus (31.98 meters) and 13th in the shot put (9.25 meters).

Oconto Falls grad Mason Sefcik, Witt-Birn grad Simon Stewart and Bonduel grad Noah Beilfuss all pitched for the St. Norbert baseball team last week.

Sefcik earned the win after working 5 2/3 innings against Concordia on April 23. He allowed one run on five hits and four walks while striking out one batter.

Stewart worked 3 1/3 innings in a

loss to Benedictine on April 22. He allowed three runs (two earned) on three hits while striking out one.

Beilfuss got an out during a second loss to Benedictine on April 22. He allowed a hit and walk in the frame.

UW-River Falls

Shawano grad Jewel Waupekenay played in four games for the UW-River Falls softball team last week.

Waupekenay singled, walked and scored twice in a win over UW-Stout on April 19. She tallied a hit, two RBIs and scored once in another win over Stout that day.

Waupekenay singled in the team's loss to Eau-Claire on April 21.

UW-Whitewater

Bonduel graduate and UW-Whitewater women's golfer Jessie LaBerge tied for 69th while competing as an individual during the UW-Whitewater Spring Fling on April 23.

LaBerge fired a round of 99 to earn her finish.

UW-Stevens Point

Menominee Indian grad Guadalupe Corn posted distances in two field events while representing the UW-Stevens Point women's track and field team during the Phil Esten Challenge on April 21-23.

Corn placed 31st in the shot put (10.95 meters) and was 47th in the discus (27.37 meters).



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