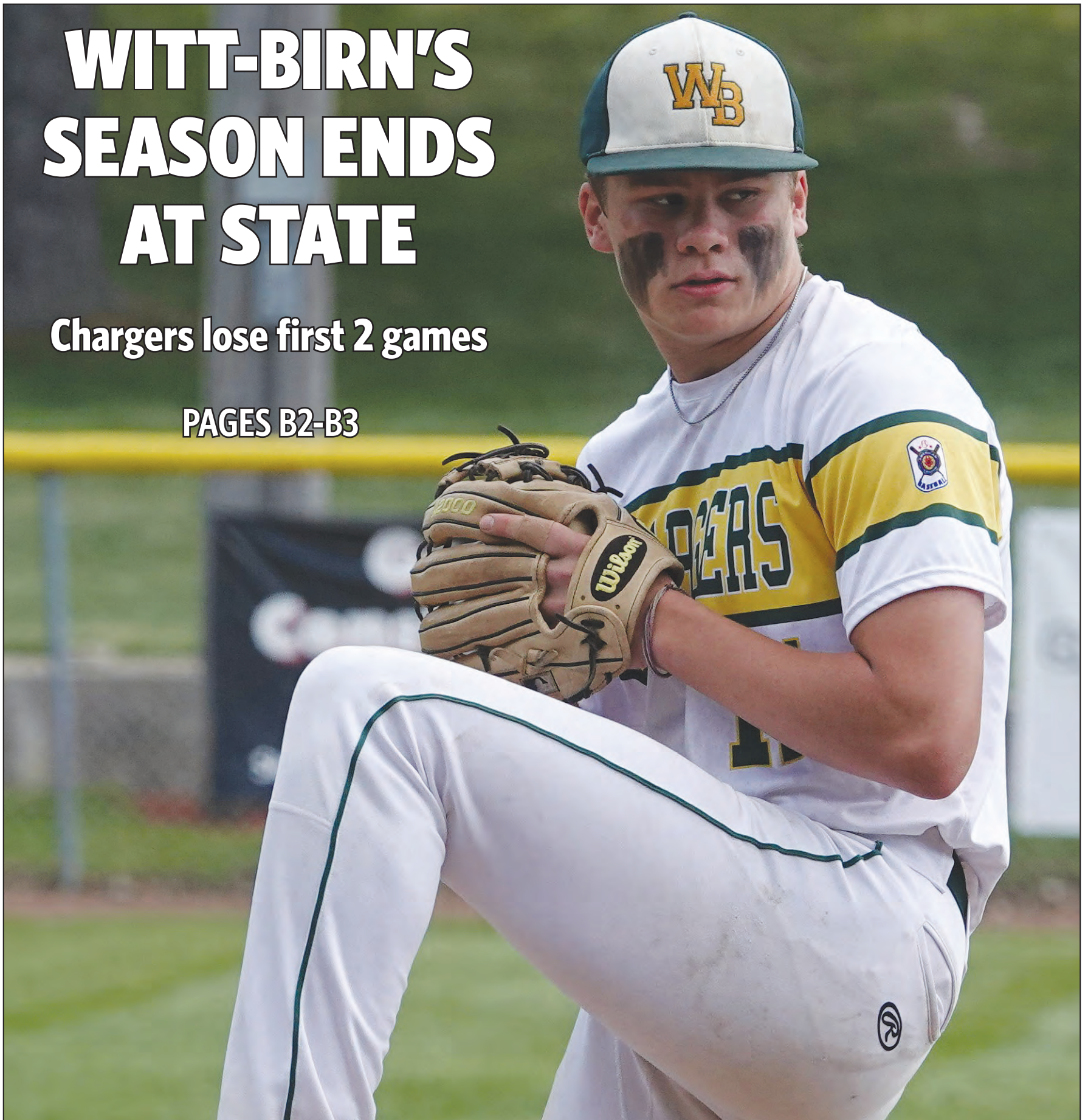


WITT-BIRN'S SEASON ENDS AT STATE

Chargers lose first 2 games

PAGES B2-B3



Wittenberg-Birnhamwood's Nathan Waupekenay pitches during the team's state game against Altoona on July 29 in Viroqua.

MORGAN RODE | NEW MEDIA

LOBOS TOURNAMENT, B4 • FALLS NAMES BOYS HOOPS COACH, B8 • SHAWANO GIRLS SWIM COACH HIRED, B10

LEGION BASEBALL

Witt-Birn finishes 0-2 at state

Chargers unable to get offense going

By **MORGAN RODE**
Sports Editor

The Wittenberg-Birnamwood Legion baseball team struggled to get its bats going during two Class A State Tournament games on July 29-30 in Viroqua.

Witt-Birn was defeated 10-0 by Altoona on July 29 and 3-1 by Prairie Du Chien on July 30.

"I think it was a great experience getting to play with the best at state," said Witt-Birn coach Jason Rieck. "Think the younger guys will be hungry to get back and watching the quality of ball down there, I think they will put in that much extra work to make another trip if given the opportunity. We have some really good players returning next year."

The Witt-Birn, Altoona game had the looks of a pitcher's duel through three innings.

Altoona grabbed the lead in the fourth, taking advantage of a Witt-Birn error. Altoona blew the game open in the fifth inning with four runs and then ended the game by scoring five times in the sixth to reach the 10-run rule.

Nathan Waupekenay pitched the first five innings for Witt-Birn before Pierson Potrykus worked the sixth. The duo combined for nine strikeouts, with Waupekenay tallying seven of them.

While both guys threw the ball pretty well, it was the team's lack of production at the plate that really hurt.

Witt-Birn was held to one hit in the contest and had just five baserunners reach.

Logan Thiex was hit by a pitch in the first inning for Witt-Birn's first baserunner of the contest. Chase Krull reached on an error in the second.

Bryce Zorowski singled in the third but was caught stealing later on. Ian Salvesen also walked in the frame.

Zorowski was also the team's final baserunner to reach, making it to first on an error in the sixth.

"Their pitcher was good, probably one of the best that we've faced all year and he kept our kids off balance. He threw a good changeup and I don't think a lot of our guys have seen a good changeup," said Rieck.



Witt-Birn's Ian Salvesen, right, swings at a pitch during the team's state game against Altoona on July 29 in Viroqua.

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Witt-Birn's Chase Krull follows through on a swing during the team's state game against Altoona on July 29 in Viroqua.

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"He got ahead of everybody.

"I thought Nate really did a good job for the first 4 2/3 (innings) but the one difference was their pitcher got ahead every batter and when you have multiple pitches that you can throw for strikes, that's a big difference there."

Because of pitch count restrictions, Witt-Birn's Logan Thiex — who pitched three times at regionals,

including the regional title game win against Marathon — couldn't take the mound until the second game of state.

Things got off to a shaky start for Thiex and the Chargers after Prairie Du Chien scored twice in the first inning, but Thiex settled in after that and gave his team a chance to rally.

Thiex ended up pitching all seven innings, allowing the third

run in the seventh. He struck out three batters and was pounding the strike zone all game.

"I thought I pitched really good today," said Thiex. "I felt like I had a good groove when I was on the mound, and people made plays behind me. There was some pitches I missed spots and they produced hits off of them.

"PDC has a well-rounded team. All of them can hit and they did it the whole game. What else do you expect out of a state route team?"

Rieck said that's the best Thiex has pitched all summer and that he deserved the win instead of the loss.

"Being able to catch for Nathan and Logan at the state tournament was a great experience," said Zorowski. "They both pitched their best games of the season and were spot on. They couldn't have pitched better."

Witt-Birn was limited to four hits in the contest, but also had three batters draw walks and another reach on an error.

"Everyone who pitches at state is going to be good, but he was beatable," said Rieck of the PDC starter. "We just hit the ball right at people. Bats came to life in the seventh but just a little too late."

Ben Wesolowski belted a home run to left-center field to lead off the seventh for Witt-Birn.

Krull reached on an error with one out before Potrykus singled with two down to bring the winning run to the plate. David Gauderman pinch hit for Witt-Birn, but flied to right field to end the contest.

Zoromski walked to lead off the first for the Chargers, but was eventually stranded at second. Austin Worzalla walked to lead off the second, but a double play wiped out the threat.

Carter Herb drew a walk with one down in the third before Zoromski replaced him on a fielder's choice. Zoromski wasn't able to advance past first.

Wesolowski singled with one down

in the fourth before being erased on another double play grounder. Herb led off the sixth with a double but never advanced any further.

Despite the tough showing at state, Witt-Birn was proud of the run it made and thankful for the memories made along the way.

"Being able to be a part of this team has been an amazing ride, and finally in my last year of playing we were able to make the state tournament," said Zoromski. "I had a great feeling about this year about being able to make the state tournament and we were able to live up to the hype."

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Witt-Birn's Austin Worzalla makes a throw to first base during the team's state game against Altoona on July 29 in Viroqua.

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AMATEUR BASEBALL

Hofa Park wins Shawano Lobos Tournament

Panthers top Cecil in championship game

By **MORGAN RODE**
Sports Editor

The Hofa Park Panthers won the Shawano Lobos Tournament that ran from July 25-29 after defeating the Navarino Rangers, Lobos and Cecil Mudhens.

Hofa Park opened the tournament with a 9-1 win over Navarino on July 25 before rolling to a 16-2 win in five innings over the Lobos on July 27. Hofa Park topped Cecil 7-3 in the championship game on July 29.

In the championship game, Eli Frank hit a grand slam in Hofa Park's four-run fourth inning. Robert Schuettpelez, Marcus Hornacek and Frank scored two runs each for the Panthers.

Schuettpelez earned the win after allowing two runs over five innings, helping him be named the tournament's MVP. Frank struck out four batters and allowed an unearned run over two innings.

The Panthers scored nine runs in the first inning and seven in the third to roll past the Lobos.

Gavin Rusch drove in three runs on four hits and scored twice to lead Hofa Park at the plate. Brinton Anderson, Luke Zablocki, Alex Brodhagen and Eric Dorn drove in two runs each. Schuettpelez, Hornacek, Anderson, Zablocki, Dorn, Zach Asher and Ty Myers scored two runs each.

Mike Delgado earned the win on the mound after striking out four batters over five innings.

Hofa Park scored in four of the six innings it batted in its win over Navarino.

Caden Czyzewski, Hornacek, Rusch and Myers drove in two runs each for the Panthers. Czyzewski and Hornacek both scored two runs.

Rusch earned the win on the hill, striking out seven and allowing an unearned run over five innings. Hornacek worked two scoreless frames to seal up the win.

Before its championship game loss to Hofa Park, Cecil topped the Shawano Lakes 9-3 on July 26 and the Bonduel Broncos 9-3 on July 27.

Against the Lakers, Cecil's Grant Bouche, Tucker Bouche and Jacob Polzin all tallied multiple hits at the plate. Cole Anderson earned the win after striking out eight batters over 5 1/3 innings. Isaac Banker started and

FYI

More photos from the tournament can be found on the NEW Media Inc. Sports Facebook page.

got the first five outs.

Jacob Springborn took the loss on the mound for the Lakers.

In the Mudhens' win over Bonduel, Cecil scored nine runs in the opening inning.

Noah Beilfuss led Cecil with four hits, while Tucker Bouche, Grant Bouche, Polzin, Garrett Engel, Jordan Boldt and Jake Sager all finished with multiple hits. Isaac Boldt was the winning pitcher, striking out six over four innings before Tucker Bouche worked the final three frames.

Noah Weier, Adam Frost and Luke Kostreva all posted two hits for Bonduel, with Weier also scoring twice. J.C. Reinke pitched all seven innings, striking out four along the way.

In the Mudhens' title game loss, Sager led the team with two hits and a RBI. Kenny Casper scored two runs and got on base twice. Ben Lee took the loss, while Noah Beilfuss also pitched.

Bonduel opened the tournament with a 4-3 win over the Lakers on July 25. Frost drove in two runs, while Reinke drove in a run on two hits and a walk. Kostreva was the winning pitcher after working all seven innings.

Crew Weisnicht led the Lakers with two hits. Dan Buettner took the loss on the hill after pitching 3 1/3 innings.

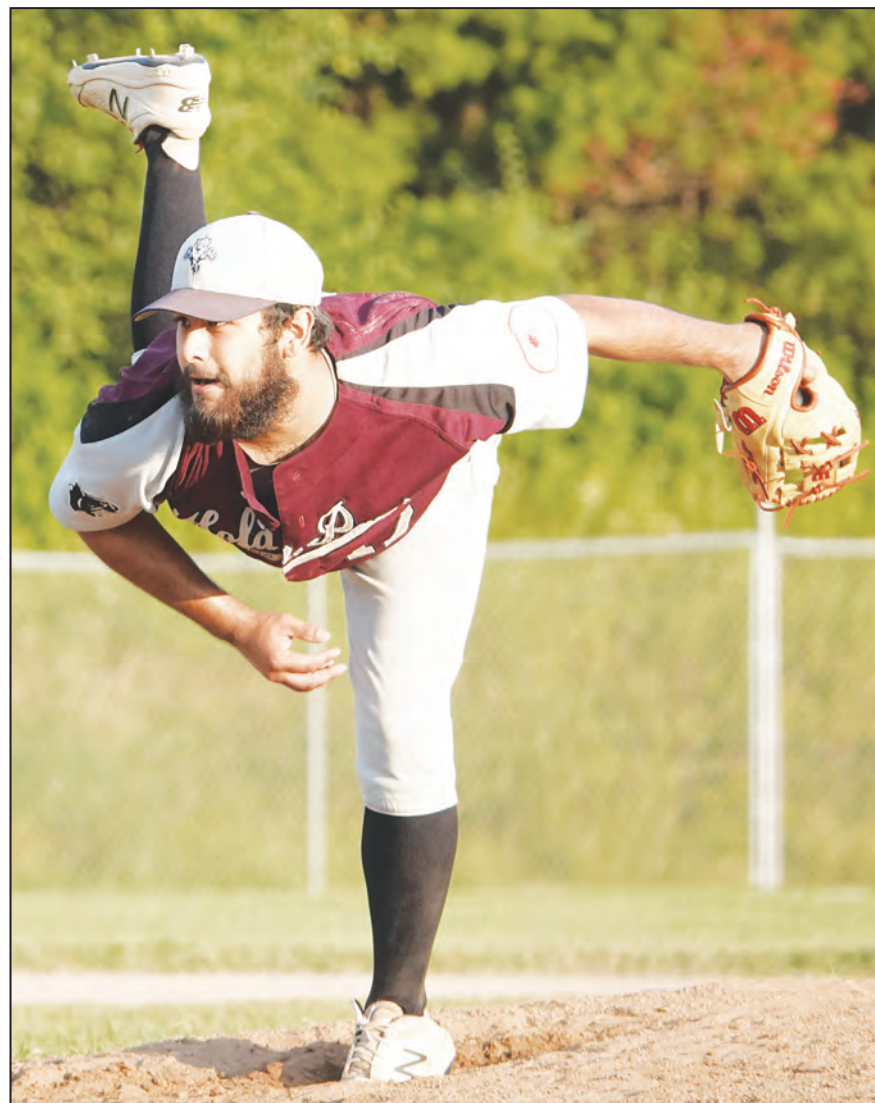
Navarino defeated the Lobos 7-4 on July 26 after losing to Hofa Park at the start of the tournament.

Kyle Finger drove in Austin Deiter for Navarino's run against Hofa Park. Spencer Dauphinee took the loss on the mound after working four innings before Matt Krause pitched the final two frames.

Navarino fell behind 2-0 early on against the Lobos, but eventually led 7-2 after a four-run first and three-run second inning.

Tyler Rosin drove in three runs on two hits for the Rangers, while Brock Smejkal and Brett Krull added two hits each. Deiter earned the win after pitching six innings, with Smejkal working the seventh.

Chase Henning homered among his two hits, drove in three runs and scored twice to lead the Lobos against Navarino. Luke Krueger was the losing



Hofa Park's Mike Delgado pitches during the team's tournament win over the Shawano Lobos on July 27 in Shawano.

MORGAN RODE | NEW MEDIA



Hofa Park's Robert Schuettpelez bats during the team's tournament game against the Shawano Lobos on July 27 in Shawano.

MORGAN RODE | NEW MEDIA

pitcher, while Kasey Kristoff and Brad Bartz also pitched for Shawano.

Hunter Hoffman and Carson Popp tallied two hits each for the Lobos

against Hofa Park. Popp was the losing pitcher.



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PRO FOOTBALL

Packers linebackers share thoughts on season

Campbell helping Walker become integrated into NFL

By **LUKE REIMER**
Reporter

Green Bay Packers linebackers De’Vondre Campbell, Rashan Gary and rookie Quay Walker talked about how they are preparing for the season and listed some goals that they want to reach after participating in the first three days of training camp.

“The first couple days of training camp have gone well,” said Walker. “It can be better, like always. I am just trying to take in everything of what it means to be a pro.”

Walker noted that the first three days of training camp have helped him loosen up and become integrated into the NFL.

“I am trying to get everything situated and just trying to calm down,” said Walker. “It is nice to get the jitters out and just run as much as I can.”

Campbell, who is coming off of a season that saw him selected as a First Team All-Pro, said he has been doing what he can to help integrate Walker into the NFL.

“I try to give him as much advice as I can, but a lot of things that you learn in the NFL, you learn through experience,” said Campbell. “The more reps he gets, the better. We are going against the best in the business with Aaron (Rodgers) — if you can play well against Aaron, then there is no one that he can’t play well against.”

Walker echoed Campbell, saying that he is trying to learn as much from the veterans as he can.

“I have learned a whole lot from De’Vondre,” said Walker. “I have learned different techniques, different coverages and why we do certain things.”

Campbell added that playing against Rodgers in practice, gives the defense practice against different throws and different schemes.

“The looks that he gives us, the throws that he can make, and the situations that he puts us in gives us invaluable experience,” said Campbell.

In regards to what he wants to accomplish this year, Campbell kept it simple.

“I just want to get better than



Green Bay Packers wide receiver Sammy Watkins prepares for a catch during individual drills on July 29.

LUKE REIMER | NEW MEDIA

we were last year,” said Campbell. “I know that we finished as a top-10 defense and I think that we can continue to take another step forward. We aren’t making any expectations or predictions — we just want to keep getting better.”

With players like Jaire Alexander, Darnell Savage, Adrian Amos, Kenny Clark and Campbell, among other players, Campbell said that there is still room for improvement in order to play at the best of the team’s abilities.

“We still have a lot of work to do,” said Campbell. “It is still early in training camp, but I think that we are heading in the right direction. We have all of our guys here, we are battling every day and we are getting great looks, so we just have to keep taking it day-by-day and let the chips fall where they may.”

In terms of goals for himself, Walker said that he does not set goals.

“I stopped setting goals after college, because once you reach that goal, you could probably go further with it,” said Walker. “I don’t re-

ally believe in individual goals, but of course I have team goals. I am trying to get respect from everyone and show that I am a guy that can be trusted day in and day out.”

Walker finished saying that he has noticed a difference in practice between the University of Georgia and the Green Bay Packers.

“We are much more relaxed here,” said Walker. “The tempo that I see is much more different here than in college.”

In his press conference, head coach Matt LaFleur noted his excitement for Rashan Gary this season.

“Rashan is a tone-setter,” said LaFleur. “He has the capability to wreck practice. He is relentless, plays with a great motor and with great energy.”

LaFleur noted that the energy that Gary brings to practice rubs off of on other players.

“He makes everyone around him better,” said LaFleur. “One of the important things is to make sure our offensive line does not lose confidence against a great player like that.”

Gary echoed the words of Camp-

FYI

More photos from Packers training camp can be found at www.newmedia-wi.com.

bell and Walker saying that a goal of his right now is to continuing improving day by day.

“I am just trying to get comfortable,” said Gary, talking about how he is practicing without pads and without hitting other players. “I am just trying to tell coaches and players what I am seeing and trying to give them the best that I can.”

He noted that young offensive linemen are asking for tips on how they can improve.

“I am trying to bring the young guys along and the older guys along,” said Gary. “I am trying to help them learn what it means to be a Green Bay Packer.”

In terms of personal goals for the season, Gary said that he keeps them to himself.

“I keep them between me and the Lord,” said Gary.

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AUTO RACING



Benji LaCrosse (54), Clint Forstner (64C) and Jason Rogers (37) complete laps in an IMCA Stock Car heat July 30 at Shawano Speedway.

LUKE REIMER | NEW MEDIA

Yarie, Mullen, Vanderloop, Anvelink, Westphal win features

By NEW MEDIA STAFF

Marcus Yarie, Mike Mullen, JJ Vanderloop, Nick Anvelink and Tanner Westphal picked up feature wins July 30 at Shawano Speedway.

Yarie won the IMCA Modified feature after starting in first. Jared Siefert, Johnny Whitman, Anvelink and Mullen rounded out the top five.

Whitman moved up eight spots

during the race, while Mullen moved past seven cars.

Mullen won the IMCA Stock Car feature after starting in fourth.

Travis Van Straten started in first and finished second. Benji LaCrosse moved up a couple spots to claim third. Trent Nolan and Nick Buckarma filled out the top five.

Vanderloop made his way past two cars to win the IMCA Sport

Mod feature race.

Tyler Sobiesczyk and Jeffery Teske maneuvered past four and seven cars to claim second and third, respectively. Dustin Wudstrack came in fourth, with Max Oreskovich in fifth.

Anvelink started in second before winning the Late Model feature.

Brett Swedberg and Taylor Schefler also moved up a spot each to

claim second and third, respectively, in the race. Ron Berna moved up four spots to take fourth, while Siefert came in fifth.

Westphal worked past nine cars to emerge as the winner of the Mighty 4 feature.

Calvin Stueck got past six cars to take second. Carl King, Lucas Hacker and Alexis Michonski rounded out the top five.

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Marion pair excited for college opportunities

Scheef, Gueths staying in state

By **MORGAN RODE**
Sports Editor

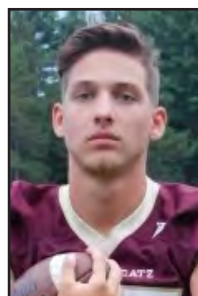
Marion High School graduates Ethan Scheef and Isaiah Gueths are ready to take their athletic talent to the college level.

Scheef is set to play football for Lakeland University, while Gueths golfs for Northland College.

Scheef said his recruitment process was a lengthy one.

"I had to work my butt off being that I was at such a small school. I honestly have to thank my coaches and my parents for helping with that process," said Scheef.

"I just remember sitting down for hours sending my film off to at least 50 colleges and sending long emails to each one of them. Lakeland was the school that made me feel at home. Coach (Colin) Bruton has made me feel like I belong there



ETHAN SCHEEF

— he took me in the moment I got there and it just felt right. I love it there, it's a beautiful place and I have yet to meet someone I don't like."

Gueths' recruitment process wasn't as complex, but it was still time-consuming process.

"It started sometime in winter, one afternoon I got a text from the Northland golf coach. My mom wanted to make sure it was legit and told me to ask my high school golf coach. He confirmed it was legit. Then we kept texting until I met him up at the campus."

Along with football, Scheef played basketball and baseball for the Mustangs. His passion was always football, so that's the sport he wanted to keep playing.

He expects to play quarterback at Lakeland and has already been



ISAIAH GUETHS

introduced to a majority of the team.

"So far I've met my coaches and the senior QB as well as some other football players they are all great people," said Scheef. "I know that I won't

be a starter right out of the gate, but I'm there to work my butt off and I want to take over the starting job."

While becoming a college starter is Scheef's next goal, his long-term goal is even bigger.

"My biggest goal is to make it to the big leagues — sounds like a long shot from a small town kid but I'm there to work harder than anyone else," said Scheef, who made the Central Wisconsin Conference 8-player second team as a quarterback and linebacker as a senior. "I'm excited to get to college and play at the next level."

Academics played a role in Gueths' decision to attend Northland College, as the school had his degree. Being able to continue playing golf at a college close enough for his family to keep watching him was another bonus.

"I am honored to continue playing golf at the next level," said Gueths. "I am excited to keep improving my golf game and to be a part of Northland's golf program."

Gueths already has an idea what to expect for the coming season, as the coach sent him a practice plan.

Gueths was the Mustangs' top golfer in CWC action this past spring. He came in 18th in the conference, capping a memorable senior season.

"Senior year was filled with fun practices with my teammates, coaches, and the staff at Glen Cairn Golf Course," said Gueths, who also mentioned late night golfing with teammates as another moment he wouldn't forget.

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HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL

Steve Rickert taking over Oconto Falls boys team

New coach hoping to give program stability

By **MORGAN RODE**
Sports Editor

Steve Rickert will look to provide the Oconto Falls High School boys basketball program with stability after being named the head varsity coach.

The boys basketball team started last season under first-year coach Aaron Zepnick, but it was interim Todd Skarban who ended the year as the coach.

Since Kirk Hirst resigned after the 2018-19 season, Gary Regal and Joe Bebeau also coached the boys team.

Rickert has several years of basketball coaching experience, all in Illinois. He coached at the middle school level starting in 2004. He coached freshmen and sophomores

and was also a varsity assistant for six seasons. He also was a varsity girls coach for a couple seasons.

After coaching in Illinois for several years, he's hoping to do the same in Oconto Falls. While he is new to the area, there's plenty of familiar faces on the coaching staff.

"Continuity plays a critical role in the success of a program, and we're very fortunate that the other three coaches on the staff are all returnees from last year," said Rickert. "We're all 100% focused on getting this program to where we believe it can be. We also know that getting to that point is a process and we're committed to doing the necessary work now and in the years to come."

Oconto Falls athletic director Jerry Moynihan said Rickert will serve as the high school's special education teacher.

"We are very excited to have our boys basketball coach in the building to help build our program," said Moynihan. "His daily contact with our athletes will be able to build a program on a daily basis through-

out the school year. He is a former principal in his previous job, and we are looking for him to be a great leader for our program."

While the team won't start playing games until the winter season, Rickert already has an idea of the talent he has at his disposal.

"Prior to our participation in summer league, the only thing I had to gauge the team was last year's win/loss record. I have been encouraged to observe considerable talent at each level in our program. I'm confident that if every member of this program does their part, we're going to begin stacking successes," Rickert said. "I believe great things are on the horizon for Oconto Falls basketball, this season and beyond, and I am honored to be a part of it."

In terms of his coaching philosophy, Rickert has things that pertain to the program and things that are more game-oriented.

"First and foremost, everyone in the program needs to understand that it is a privilege to represent our school and our community,"

said Rickert. "With this privilege comes responsibility. We must commit to putting in the time and work necessary to be properly prepared for each game, we must conduct ourselves in a manner that demonstrates high levels of character, and we must be all-in on with a team-first mentality. These qualities should manifest themselves both on and off the court."

"As it relates specifically to my game philosophy, my expectation is that each time we step onto the court, we will be confident in our preparation and we will expect to be successful. We won't be out-hustled, we won't back down from a challenge, we will play at our tempo, we will limit mistakes and we will display high level basketball IQ. If we meet these expectations, then win or lose, we can walk off the court with a sense of pride."

Oconto Falls finished the 2021-22 season with a 2-23 overall record. The Panthers went 0-18 in North Eastern Conference.

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BABA HIGHLIGHTS

By NEW MEDIA STAFF

East-West Division

Tigerton 3

Caroline 0

Tigerton blanked Caroline in a July 29 matchup in Tigerton.

Paul Sellner shut down the Caroline bats and earned the win on the mound. Jack Yeager was dealt the loss.

Jayden Sivertson led Tigerton at the plate with three hits, with Justin Sivertson adding in two hits.

Neil Hoffman tallied two of Caroline's five hits.

Little Falls 5

Gresham 2 (10 inn.)

Little Falls earned a thrilling 10-inning win over Gresham on July 31 in Gresham.

Kyle Finger hit a three-run home run in the 10th inning to put Little Falls ahead.

Finger also earned the win on the mound. Paul Murphy was the losing pitcher.

Joe Ejnik, Lukas Pecore and Josh Foreman each recorded two hits for Gresham.

Neopit 4

Marion 2

Neopit doubled up Marion on July 31 in Marion.

Walker Miller earned the win on the mound for Neopit, while Marion's Jaden Stuhr took the loss.

Ray White led Neopit at the

ONLINE

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

plate with two hits.

Mitch Elandt, Nick Schoen and Nate Reynolds each had two hits for Marion.

Tilleda 13

Leopolis 7

Tilleda picked up a win over Leopolis on July 31 in Tilleda.

Brad Bartz led Tilleda at the plate with four hits, while Landon Kroening added three hits. Adin Brei, Stephen Reinke, Adam Strassburg and Jay Brei all chipped in two hits apiece.

Zach Fehrman was the winning pitcher, while Andrew Kristof took the loss.

Trae Moede had three hits for Leopolis. Nate Laude and Thomas Kazik each tallied two hits.

Clintonville wins by forfeit

Clintonville earned a forfeit win over Shawano.

Shawano could not field a valid rostered team.

Northern Division

Elderon 8

Eland 3

Elderon defeated Eland on July 31 in Eland.

Mike Lehman tallied three of Elderon's 11 hits, while Bryce Zoromski added two knocks.

Casey Kerstner earned the win on the mound.

Blade Niewandomski took the loss but led Eland with three hits. Alex Bembenek and Jeremy Jensen chipped in two hits each.

Antigo/Polar 11

Wittenberg 3

Antigo/Polar topped Wittenberg on July 31 in Wittenberg.

Jed Weix homered twice among his three hits to lead Antigo/Polar at the plate. Logan Doering and Mason Gray had two hits each.

Noah Cole, Zach Urquhart and Will Urquhart each had two hits for Wittenberg.

Aniwa 8

Hatley 3

Aniwa earned a win over Hatley on July 31 in Hatley.

Nolan Hoppe was the winning pitcher, while Simon Stewart took the loss.

South Central Division

Green Lake 1

Plover 0

Green Lake edged Plover on July 29 in Green Lake.

Maddox Poock drove in the game's lone run. Green Lake's Hunter Netzler and Codi Behm had two hits each.

Derek Zamzow pitched a complete game to earn the win, striking out six along the way.

Gregg Trudell suffered the loss

on the hill.

Scandinavia 7

Plover 4

Scandinavia picked up a win over Plover on July 31 in Scandinavia.

Jason Steinbach recorded three hits for Scandinavia, with Hunter Lodzinski and Braden Hunkins each adding two hits and two RBIs.

Landon Moe was the winning pitcher, with Sterling Lutz picking up the save.

Kevin Jastromski tallied three hits for Plover. Wyatt Blaskowski and Steve Petit each had two hits, while Zach Hintz took the loss on the mound.

Green Lake 17

Weymont 7

Green Lake rolled to a lopsided win over Weymont on July 31 in Weymont.

Hunter Netzler led Green Lake at the plate with three hits and four RBIs, while also scoring three runs. Devin Marine homered among his two hits and drove in four runs, with Lane Sobieski homering and driving in two.

Klayton Kranz picked up the win for Green Lake.

Trevor Wetzel was the losing pitcher, but he drove in two runs on two hits at the plate. Jacob Doede and Andrew Wildner also had two hits each.

RECREATION SCOREBOARD

GOLF	
River Island Men's League	
Team	Points
Hillberg Electric	9 1/2
Oconto Falls Lions	8 1/2

Senn Insurance	8
Heyrman Printing	7 1/2
DTD Trucking	7 1/2
River Island Golf Course	7 1/2
Piggly Wiggly	6 1/2

J Just Investments	6 1/2
JTI Trucking	6
McDermid Corp.	6
Jones Funeral	5 1/2
Steffens Roofing	5

Scores in the 30s: Dave Dudra 32, Timm Grady 34, Frank Griner 34, Doug Yahnke 36, Nate Brauer 36, Ben Pytleski 36, Jeff Pytleski 37, Stu Anderson 37, Mark Huberty 38, Bryan Pytleski 38, Glen Meyer 38, Bucky Salschieder 38, Shane Senn 39, Matt Steffens 39, Peanuts Hanek 39.

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HIGH SCHOOL SWIM

Mellissa Reed named new Shawano girls coach

She was assistant for team last year

By **MORGAN RODE**
Sports Editor

Mellissa Reed was named the new girls swim coach for the Shawano Community High School team.

Bonduel is also expected to have a couple of girls swim this coming season, so Shawano and Bonduel will be a co-op.

While there's been some turnover with the team's coach over the past couple seasons, Reed is actually a familiar face in the swim program at Shawano. She's been involved with the girls and boys teams for six years. She started as a coach for the



MELLISSA REED

Shawano Sting-rays Swim Club, helping run the computer system for the club. She was also a board member for the club as a parent of a swimmer.

Reed served as the boys varsity assistant coach during the 2020-21 season. She then held the same role for the girls team this past season before serving as the interim head coach for the boys team at the end of its season.

"We are grateful to Mellissa for stepping up and agreeing to coach our girls swim team this fall," said Shawano activities director Joel Wondra. "Her past involvement with the team,

her involvement in the club program, and her strong organizational skills and care for the kids will allow her to effectively lead our program."

Reed is hoping her involvement with the swim teams the past few years will help provide some stability to the program.

"I have known most of these girls since their years swimming in club as younger swimmers," said Reed.

While the season begins in the fall, Reed has already begun leading the team.

"During our summer camp at the end of June, I talked to our young ladies a little about my philosophy and hopes for the team," said Reed. "I truly believe that due to uncertainty with coaching and COVID, our team needs to bond and build a team effort philosophy. Swimming

takes a lot of dedication and hard work. I want our swimmers to learn to deal honorably with success and failure because they will experience both of these at some point during swim and life.

"As a varsity swim team, swimmers swim individual events and relay events and all of these events culminate in our team's final score, so team effort is imperative. I expect our swimmers to support each other and give their best to create a positive environment. Always give it your best, set goals for yourself to achieve, yet take it one day at a time."

Shawano placed sixth at the Bay Conference Championships last season under first-year coach Robyn Bartal.

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Speedway raises over \$23K for childhood cancer

By **LUKE REIMER**
Reporter

The Shawano Speedway held Racing for a Reason, an event which saw the organization raise \$23,891 for Child Life Services on July 30.

Since Racing for a Reason started 12 years ago, the Shawano Speedway has raised over \$224,000 for Child Life Services of St. Vincent in Green Bay.

The event was started after former Shawano Speedway's promotions and operations manager Brad Luepke's son, Reed, was diagnosed with leukemia.

"It actually feels really good to put this on to raise money for cancer," said Linda Springborn, who was on the committee for Racing for a Reason. "We went out collecting donations and everyone was very receptive towards it. Mostly everyone that asked donated and we got a good turnout."

With Luepke recently leaving the speedway, Springborn said it was important to keep the event going.

"Brad had started it to benefit childhood cancer," said Springborn. "We felt that even with Brad leaving, we wanted to continue hosting

this event, as the proceeds go to a big cause. We just wanted to keep this going."

Springborn said that almost everything with the event stayed the same as previous years, noting that the only thing that was different was the limited amount of time that the organization had to put the event together.

"We had five weeks to get everything ready," said Springborn. "Normally, they start right away after the event for the next year. Unfortunately, we lost our promoter, so we just made a committee and got it done."

She added that Racing for a Reason

is often one of the most attended events that the speedway puts on.

"It is a big one," said Springborn. "I think that part of raising money has to do with that."

In terms of reception to the event, Springborn said that visitors have given very positive feedback.

"I received messages from quite a few people that said they wanted to make a donation and thanked us for keeping the event going," said Springborn. "We plan to continue this in the future."

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DAIRYLAND LEAGUE HIGHLIGHTS

By **NEW MEDIA STAFF**

Bonduel 5 Cecil 1

Bonduel took down Cecil in a July 31 matchup in Cecil. Bonduel scored once in the second inning and four more times in the third.

Chase Reinke earned the win for Bonduel after pitching all nine innings. He struck out four batters along the way.

Chase Reinke also tallied four of the team's 11 hits. Jack Reinke tallied two hits, while Adam Frost drew three walks.

Jacob Polzin was the losing pitcher after working three innings. Noah

Beilfuss tallied two of the team's four hits.

Waupaca 5 Navarino 4

Waupaca edged Navarino on July 31 in Navarino to remain two games up in the Dairyland League standings.

Navarino is now 2-11 on the season.

Pulaski 16 Shawano 6 (7 inn.)

Pulaski rolled to a win over Shawano on July 31 in Pulaski.

Pulaski tallied 15 hits in the contest, with Ethan Bemowski and Logan Hochevar both hitting home runs.

Joel Vandehei, Easton Vertz and Cody Pangrazzi all pitched for the

FYI

More details on Dairyland games can be found by visiting teams' Facebook pages.

victorious Reds. Vertz earned the win.
**Hortonville 10
Hofa Park 0**

Hortonville blanked Hofa Park on July 31 in Hortonville.

Brett Kramer and Will Salaman each homered for Hortonville, with Kramer driving in four runs in the contest.

Colan Trembl earned the win after working 7 2/3 innings and striking out 11 batters.

Gavin Rusch had both of Hofa Park's hits. He was dealt the loss on

STANDINGS

**Waupaca 12-1
Bonduel 10-3
Pulaski 9-5
Hortonville 8-4
Shawano 7-5
Nichols 4-9
Cecil 3-10
Hofa Park 3-10
Navarino 2-11**

the hill.

Nichols 7 Hortonville 6

Nichols edged Hortonville on July 30 in Nichols

The win pushed Nichols to 4-9 this summer.

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