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LOCAL COMMUNITY-DRIVEN NEWSPAPER SERVING ALL OF WASECA COUNTY

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Home opener



The Waseca Fire Department flew a gigantic flag over State Street for 9/11.

New tanker on the way

Grant buying new fire equipment

September 12, 2022—City of Waseca

The City of Waseca is proud to announce that the Department of Homeland Security has awarded \$278,852.38 in federal funding through its fiscal year 2021 "Assistance to Firefighters Grant." The purpose of the program is to support public health and safety while also protecting firefighting personnel against fire and fire-related hazards. The department will use the grant to purchase a new tanker/tender to replace the 1977 tanker currently in use.

"We are very excited: This is the largest grant our department has ever received," said fire chief Jason Forshee. The Waseca Fire Department has applied repeatedly without success in the past to replace the old tanker. So far this year, Homeland Security has granted only two vehicle replacement awards in the state of Minnesota.

The new tanker/tender will be outfitted with a single axle chassis and a 2,500-gallon tank. It will have enclosed drop tank storage with the ability to empty water from the rear, passenger, or driver's sides. The vehicle will have an automatic transmission, ensuring all firefighters will be able to drive it. It will be outfitted with an Automated External Defibrillator (AED).

Forshee continued, "I'd like to thank several people who helped write this grant and/or gather information for the application: Brian Voss, Charlie Rohwer, Jon Kahnke, Craig Youngberg, and our finance director Alicia Fischer. I'd also like to thank Fire Service Specialist Jared Rozeboom for his help."

The Waseca Fire Department is proud that it protects an initial response area which includes over 12,000 residents in an area spanning more than 142 square miles. This initial response area consists mainly of residential homes, businesses—including the largest manufacturing facility in the region—farming operations, and wild lands.

* * *

Waseca Marching Classic Saturday

Noon - Parade on State Street
9 a.m.-1:30 p.m. - 16th Annual Classic Car Show at Club 57

5:30 p.m. - Classic Field Show at High School Football Field. (Gates open 3:30 p.m.): Field Show Awards 8:30 p.m. Fireworks display to follow.

A word from The Word

We must help the weak and remember the words of the Lord Jesus, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'

Acts 20:35

A lively time

Annual St. Ann's Fall Festival

By MICHAEL ROY
Publisher

It was a beautiful weekend for St. Ann Catholic Church in Janesville to hold its annual St. Ann Fall Festival. Although it was a little chilly and wet for the golf tournament at Prairie Ridge Golf Course on Friday, September 9, Mother Nature provided great weather for the rest of the festival.

Among the many events were live and silent auctions, a meat raffle, and a money raffle. Out of 500 tickets sold, purchasers had ten chances at a \$50 cash prize, five chances at \$100, and eight chances at \$500.

Several community members

were present throughout the festival enjoying the fun games for the kids, the food trucks located between the church and parish center, the live music provided by Generation Gap and In a Bind, and bingo. Miss Janesville 2022 Ava Appel and her attendant Ariana Aguilar helped out with bingo on Saturday evening.

Fellow parish member Patti Heitkamp expressed gratitude on the church's Facebook page to everyone who helped make St. Ann's Fall Festival a success. "We especially thank the young kids who helped all weekend."

Festival continued on 5



VOLUNTEERS — Among the many volunteers at the St. Ann Fall Festival this past weekend were, from left, Mary Wickenhauser, and Ben, Tim, and Kristi Burns.



LEARNING TOGETHER: A group of Can Do Canines participants at Waseca's Federal Correctional Institution just prior to the dogs' graduation. Photo provided by Can Do Canines

Service dogs in training at FCI

By MELISSA DUNN
Staff Writer

What's one way to begin a service dog's training? Send it to prison.

Can Do Canines, the largest provider of assistance dogs in Minnesota, has partnered with the Federal Correctional Institution (FCI) in Waseca since 2011 to provide the first phase of training for twelve of its dogs at a time. Over the past 11 years, inmates at FCI Waseca have trained more than 100 dogs for the non-profit association headquartered in New Hope.

According to Caren Hansen, Communications Manager with the organization, most of the dogs are labrador retrievers or lab mixes about three months old. The animals stay at the institution for six months before moving on to about two years of specialized training elsewhere. Those who complete their programs successfully will be given at no cost to individuals with life-altering conditions such as diabetes, hearing impairment, seizures and autism.

FCI Waseca is one of four Minnesota institutions Can Do Canines

partners with, and according to Hansen, is the only "puppy prison" with female inmates. Matt Levisay, a recently retired correctional counselor at FCI Waseca, says he volunteered back in 2010 to begin "Prisoners Assist With Service Dogs" (PAWS) at the site. "Twelve years ago there were not a lot of prison programs to call and ask questions about how to do things," he recalls. Now the PAWS program at Waseca regularly fields questions from other institutions.

To be selected as a "handler," an

inmate submits a request to join the PAWS program. The numerous applications are screened for discipline history, background animal cruelty issues and knowledge about dogs; a GED or high school diploma is required.

During their training at FCI, all the dogs live in the same space with their inmate handlers. At night, each "bunks" in a cell with two inmates; a baby gate in the doorway prevents

Canines continued on 3

Soapbox smiles

By ELI LUTGENS
Publisher

"Good American, clean fun," Kevin Clemons said at the fourth annual Waseca Masonic Lodge Soapbox races.

Normally an August event, the races had been delayed to September 10 because of rain, and barely escaped yet another delay, with spotty rain and threatening clouds throughout the first part of the day.

In a "soap box derby," racers pilot small, unpowered vehicles capable of building up speed while being steered down a ramp. The Masonic Lodge's course, built by Mark Wolff and fellow members of the "pit crew," consisted of two sloped lanes, each lined on both sides by hay bales.



Grand Champion Violet Hughes

About 10-15 racers aged 6-16 took part in competitive heats Saturday afternoon. Drivers alternated among 10 or so vehicles built by volunteers and sponsored by local businesses. Two racers at a time were seated in the box-shaped cars, shown where the brake was, and released down the ramp on the count of three, with keeping the vehicle rolling straight as their main objective.

Two-year veteran racer Violet



Indie Hughes admires the trophy her sister Violet took home during the 4th annual Freemasons Soapbox races.

Hughes, roughly 10 years old, took home the huge grand champion trophy. Her younger sister Indie also took part in the race.

After the competitive rounds,

"fun" rides took place for another hour or so.

Smiles continued on 6



Joe Fritz

Second home

Fritz marching band volunteer for many years

By AMELIA ROESSLER
Staff Writer

Joe Fritz has owned a house in Waseca for a long time, but he has also had a "second home" for the past 35 years: the Waseca Bluejays marching band.

Fritz started out in St. Cloud at the city's Cathedral High School, then moved to St. Cloud State for the first two years of schooling, taking courses for his future career in electrical engineering. He decided to further that training at North Dakota State University. After graduating, he found a job in Chicago with Motorola; it wasn't until a friend told him about an opportunity in Waseca that he moved here. Fritz started working for EF Johnson in Waseca in 1972; at that time he bought the house where he still lives today.

Working for EF Johnson for 20 years, Fritz started out as engineer number nineteen. This was an impressive position according to Fritz, who claims that engineers at that time were given the same level of prestige as doctors. When Fritz left EF Johnson, there were 500 engineers on staff. Across his career, Fritz worked for EF Johnson, Itron, ABC Telecommunications, and Calahan, all while continuing to live in Waseca.

When Fritz retired from Calahan in the late 1970s, he was approached by a former coworker and asked whether he wanted to go see a high school band concert, the annual indoor concert put on by the Waseca Marching Jays. The friend's son was a drummer. Fritz found the show entertaining and inspiring.

It wasn't until 1988 when Fritz actually got involved with the band and the marching band. Fritz's wife, Gerri, got a call from the home economics teacher who had been working on the marching band uniforms and asked Gerri to take some home to be shortened. Fritz went to the high school with his wife. "We walked into the band room and the room was completely full," Fritz recalls, "There were 100 kids sitting in the chairs and Mr. [Butch] Dufault was working with the kids."

When Fritz entered, he was asked by Dufault to wait until they were done, so Fritz and his wife waited and watched the process. "While we were sitting there I remember thinking to myself very consciously, 'There's 150 high school kids in this room and they are absolutely focused on that speaker. Something is going on here that is really good,'" Fritz remembered. While Fritz was sitting in the band room that day in 1988,

Fritz continued on 3



Compostings

by Al Batt

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I became traffic

ECHOES FROM THE LOAFERS' CLUB MEETING

The Labor Day traffic on I-70 to Denver was terrible.

How terrible was it?

Whenever I got my speed up to 3 mph, I yelled, "Wheel!"

DRIVING BY BRUCE'S DRIVE

I have a wonderful neighbor named Bruce. Whenever I pass his drive, thoughts occur to me. I enjoyed a good, warm meal fresh from the toaster. I didn't have time to eat as much as I'd liked. A little bit is better than nada. You can't always have the whole enchilada. I needed a new Etch A Sketch for work. I headed to Best Buy because it was on the way to elsewhere. Best Buy began as the Sound of Music in 1966 and had nine stores in Minnesota. On June 14, 1981, a tornado hit its largest and most profitable store in Roseville. That store held a "Tornado Sale" of the damaged and excess stock in the battered store's parking lot, promising "best buys" on everything. Sound of Music made more money during the four-day sale than it did in a typical month. People liked the "Best Buy" prices. Company founder Dick Schulze wrote this about the tornado, "It was the worst thing that could happen to us. It was the best thing that could happen to us."

A friend drives an electric car. When he bought it, part of the deal was that he'd get free charging for as long as he owns the car. That has turned into a sweet deal. My trusty vehicle drinks gas. When I buy gas, approximately 60% of my money goes toward crude oil according to the U.S. Energy Information Administration. The rest goes toward refining (17%), distribution and marketing (11%), and state and federal taxes (12%). Gas stations make a net profit of less than 2% per gallon of gas sold. So smile at anyone working at a gas station. They could use it.

I used some of that gas driving east on I-70 to Denver on Labor Day. The traffic was inescapable. I wasn't stuck in traffic. I was traffic. Leonard Bernstein said, "To achieve great things, two things are needed: a plan and not quite enough time." I told myself that as it took me 3 1/2 hours to go 84 miles. It was easy to keep up with traffic when it wasn't moving. When I'd freed myself from my discomfort zone on a highway made up of dead ends and got to Denver, it was 99°.

I'VE LEARNED

Tall people sleep longer.

There is no law saying you have to be offended by everyone you don't agree with.

To never ask a knitter, "Do you know what that's going to be when it's finished?"

It's time for me to get my annual flu shot. Elvis Presley gave Americans a gift beyond his music in 1956. He received a polio vaccine on live TV (The Ed Sullivan Show). Thank you, thank you very much, Elvis.

No one should be ashamed of driving the speed limit.

NATURE NOTES

September is the month of red leaves, ripe fruits and relocating birds.

After perching like an undertaker, a turkey vulture became one with the wind. I saw a vesper sparrow whose molt made it look as if it had been mugged. Who can see enough chickadees? Not me. I'm caught in the gravitational pull of the tiny, habituated feeder bird. The same goes for butterflies. I see a few monarch butterflies moving across a lake near me every month they're flying, but the numbers flying over water increase during migration. Monarch populations in Minnesota peak in late August and early September as resident butterflies are joined by those from farther north.

I paused my walk to marvel at the beauty of a black-and-yellow Argiope. This orb weaver is called a corn spider, zipper spider, writing spider, golden garden spider, yellow spider, yellow garden spider, golden orb weaver, scribbler spider, yellow-and-black garden spider, McKinley spider and Argiope aurantia. A male courts a female by plucking at her web. Initially, webs are placed in areas sheltered from the wind, but as spiders age, they prefer higher web placement. After mating, the female deposits egg sacs on her web. The eggs hatch in late summer or fall and the hatchlings overwinter in the sac, not leaving it until spring. Juveniles disperse by ballooning, releasing silk that catches wind currents. Females die in a hard frost and males after mating.

There are so many dead animals on the road, I have to remind myself not to become calloused by their abundance.

MEETING ADJOURNED

Take time away from being offended to be kind.

Tennis moves to 9-2

There was a rare loss to Big South Conference East-leading St. Peter for the Waseca High School girls' tennis team. Other than that, it was nothing but success.

The Bluejays, who defeated New Prague on Tuesday, Sept. 6, were swept by St. Peter Thursday before bouncing back with wins over Albert Lea on Monday and Fairmont Tuesday.

Left coach Kyle Collins' crew with a record of 9-2 overall and 1-1 in the conference.

Waseca 5, New Prague 2

Cece Huttemier dominated the No. 1 singles match 6-2, 6-1 for the Bluejays, who got hard-fought wins at No. 2 singles by Sarah Haley (7-5, 6-4) and No. 4 singles by Lauren Drexler (3-6, 6-3, 6-0). Mia Kanewischer and Addie Pfeifer rallied to win 4-6, 6-2, 6-1 at No. 1 doubles while Miranda Breck and Maddy Benson won in three sets at No. 2 doubles, 7-5, 2-6, 6-3.

The Waseca junior varsity lost 8-0.

St. Peter 7, Waseca 0

The Saints showed the Bluejays why they're atop the conference standings, although Waseca was close in several matches.

Drexler took her opponents to three sets before falling 7-6 (3), 2-6, 10-7. Sarah Robbins and Break lost 7-5, 7-6 (5) at No. 1 doubles. Kanewischer and Pfeifer fell 1-6, 7-6 (5), 10-5 at No. 2 doubles.

The Saints won in straight sets at No. 1, 2 and 3 singles and No. 3 doubles.

The Bluejays' JV team was edged 3-2. Addie Bomsta and Elizabeth Roessler were double winners in doubles.

Waseca 6, Albert Lea 1

The Bluejays blew out the Tigers, who play in the Big Nine Conference.

Waseca swept the singles.

Robbins won 6-0, 7-5 at No. 1, Huttemier cruised 6-0, 6-0 at No. 2, Haley dominated 6-1, 6-2 at No. 3 and Takya Schoenroch prevailed 6-1, 6-2.

Breck and Benson eeked out a win at No. 2 doubles, 5-7, 6-4, 11-9. Paige Dufault and Drexler won 6-4, 6-1 at No. 3 doubles.

Waseca's JV won 7-1-1. Doubles winners were Roessler and Bomstra, Vivian Mader and Ashton Jenzen, Pearl Moore and Tallyn Kaput, Maddie Larrabee and Esme Pierce, Jenzen and Pierce, Moore and Kaput. Singles winners were Mader, Larrabee and Paola Sandoval.

Waseca 4, Fairmont 3

It was the first conference victory in two years for the Bluejays, who again again swept the singles, with Robbins rolling 6-3, 6-4, Huttemier winning 6-1, 3-6, 6-3, Haley prevailing 6-3, 6-1, and Schoenroch sweeping 6-2, 6-3.

The Cardinals took the doubles matches in straight sets.

The match was 3-3 and came down to Huttemier.

The Bluejays' JV squad lost 5-2. Mader and Pierce won at doubles, as did Dufault and Drexler.

This Vikings season feels different

This past weekend was fantastic. How fantastic? The Minnesota Vikings defeated the Green Bay Packers.

I get pumped for the return of football every season. The summer air gives way to the cool and crisp autumn, the grills at the games are extra smoky, the aroma of hot dogs and burgers lingers in the air, and the fans are loud. It's an enjoyable part of the year.

With the excitement of football's return comes the nearly reflexive cringing when it comes to the Vikings. Every year, we hype ourselves as a dangerous team with a ton of talent. And almost every single year since the Minneapolis Miracle, we have fallen far short of expectations. This season I started out with some pessimistic realism. "It will probably be another underwhelming year."

But this time, it feels different.

Justin Jefferson played out of his mind and had around 150 yards of receiving in one half. We were up 17-0. But then Green Bay scored a touchdown and made the score 20-7 in the third quarter. And the defense wasn't looking that great. I was bracing for another collapse. My mom



Well, like I said...

by Michael Roy

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even said, "Every single year, we come out guns blazing in the first half. Then we get lazy in the second half."

However, I thought to myself, "This time, it's different."

And it was. We added another field goal to our score and didn't allow any more points.

The best part about the game? Because of it, we now lead the NFC North. Detroit lost its game against the Eagles, and the Bears won against San Francisco. But we have the tiebreaker because our win was within the division.

I expect Justin Jefferson to have the best season of his career so far with new Head Coach Kevin O'Connell coming from the Super Bowl Champion Los Angeles Rams. But I

was not expecting him to have a near 200-yard performance out of the gate, especially against Green Bay.

I thought there were going to be a lot of growing pains (there were some on the defense), but relatively speaking, we played a well-balanced game.

And to think, the start of hockey is only two months away. Man, do I love sports!

I will admit, when it comes to covering sports again, it's been taking a bit to get used to it. After not doing it for nearly two months, I forgot how busy I get while sports are happening during the school year. It can add about ten hours to my time card.

But there isn't anything more fun than walking into the school I graduated from six years ago and seeing

all the fans get loud. Janesville-Waldorf-Pemberton looks like it will have a good volleyball team this year. And while the cross country teams might not obtain gold again after losing about 75 percent of last year's roster, it is good to see some of the young talents making their way into varsity.

As much as I used to dislike basketball, I am excited for that to start up again. Well...let me rephrase that. I can't wait for high school basketball to start up again. I tried watching the NBA, and that's just not my thing...not yet, anyway.

But JWP basketball? Yes. The boys went from a four-win season in 2020-21 to a 15-11 record last year. That's a pretty good jump. And girls' basketball has been improving, too. But first, let's get through the fall. I'm already busy covering sports. No need to jump ahead.

This week in music

On September 12, 2003, the music world lost a legend. Country star Johnny Cash died of respiratory failure at the age of 71. During his career, Cash hit the US Top 40 singles chart twelve times.

If your mother says she loves you, check it out

Is it just me, or does anyone else get a random philosophical moment in their life or in their day? I feel like the famous statue "The Thinker" as I sit at my desk looking out the window at the clear blue sky with wispy hints of clouds. My recent philosophical musings have been something along the line of how fast life moves.

I don't know about you, but I have many examples of how my life has changed just in the week or so that I have been at school. I have rearranged my class schedule so that I can feel comfortable with my workload (sometimes honor students think they can handle more than they realistically can). I have applied and will interview for a staff reporter position at the school newspaper, the MNDaily. I have started working out on a consistent basis. I have joined the pep band. The list moves on with something new every day, for example discovering the loss of my bike tire (What a morning that was, walking down to the garage and seeing my back bike tire just gone because someone had stolen it. I would have been late to class because of the 30-



To Be Determined

by Amelia Roessler

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minute walk, except for the fortunate appearance of the bus halfway through). So no more bike at school.

Just think about it, though. For those with kids or grandkids in school, doesn't it feel like just yesterday they were starting kindergarten with their cute little first-day-of-school outfits which they posed in so Mommy or Daddy could take their picture? I'm not criticizing or making fun of that—I had to do it, too. Let me tell you, some of those outfits don't need to be repeated.

But for me it feels like just yesterday that I was starting off as the new kid in the high school building, or was finally able to drive myself to school. It does not feel like I'm start-

ing year two of college. I guess this is what being an adult feels like.

Speaking of school, I know Eli wants to know what my classes are like so I'll tell you a bit. I'm taking two journalism classes right now, as well as an anthropology and a psychology class. As can be expected, my journalism classes are my favorite. In one of them, my professor told us that he is practically our editor, which I think is cool. We get official press passes from the Hubbard School of Journalism and will have to go out into the field and do some reporting. On top of that, we also have to start and publish our own blog about current news events. To be honest, it is kind of daunting

thinking that I will have to go out and report here at the University of Minnesota, which covers a huge area and has many moving parts. But I guess that's how the job goes.

That same professor is a political journalist and does not let us forget that our main job is to pester people and keep the people in power accountable. He talks about how reporters have to be persistent and sometimes annoying; That will be difficult for me to embrace. If you know me, you know that I don't like to be a bother. After that topic, we were talking about how journalists have to be skeptical. My professor said there's a famous saying in the profession: "If your mother says she loves you—check it out." I guess it warns news writers to be skeptical but not cynical. I don't know. What I DO know is that my mother does love me and I'm not going to check that out, sorry professor.

My Determination: "You can't stop change any more than you can stop the suns from setting." —Shmi Skywalker, The Phantom Menace

A weekend of satisfying surprises

This week I was coaxed into another speaking engagement, this time for the Waseca Exchange Club. Sally Takala can be very—maybe even too—persuasive.

So much so, she managed to book two speakers for the one-hour meeting. No worries though; we simply both spoke.

Oh, and we were treated to a delicious lunch at the Bar on Main.

Kelly Boeddeker, executive director of Waseca Area Caregivers Services spoke first and delivered some compelling facts. I was surprised to learn that, thanks to the "baby boomers" generation, the number of "aging" or elderly Waseca residents is expected to rise considerably between now and about 2030. This means that the agencies and services provided for elderly residents will experience heavier and heavier use through the rest of the decade.

Kelly talked about a myriad of other things, including how simply landing one's feet from heel to toe while walking can prevent falls, and how important it is to senior health to remain fluid while rising to a standing position from being seated. She offered several demonstrations.

Also, Kelly is the mother to the finance of one of my cousins. I just thought I would add that. Small world.

Speaking of small worlds, the other night I inadvertently attended a Catholic Men's night. I am not Catholic, but I am Christian. I was visiting my friend and neighbor Matt when he told me he was hosting the event and invited me to stay.

The night included a visit to the Ward House for continued conversation. After we had been there talking for a few hours, I noticed a fellow across from me with a Roeker Farms shirt. "Wait, are you Jessica's brother?" he asked. "You know we're



STAR GAZING

by Eli Lutgens

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cousins, right?"

Yup. "I'm related to half of Waseca."

In an earlier column, I almost included some information about my extensive family but later decided to remove it. When I told my father that, he was disappointed. So here I am, trying again.

My grandmother on my dad's side was one of 13, while my grandfather was one of five: both families are from this area. My dad, of course, grew up in Waseca.

The previous time I almost wrote about this was at the end of the Braves' baseball season. Kelvin Nelson is my cousin.

My great-great-grandparents were Albert and Anna Lutgens, who moved to Deerfield Township in Steele County in 1927. (My dad said his only memory of his grandpa Albert was him sitting at the table and, "If he pounded the table to start the evening prayer, everyone went silent immediately.")

Albert and Anna had twins Esther and Lester.

Lester married my grandma Milly; Esther married Herbert Prippner and the couple raised six children, one of whom, Stanley (and Paulette), parented Robin, who married Braves manager Blake Nelson. They parented Kelvin.

I have several memories of visiting Esther growing up. She was a sweet, kind lady.

At one of my first Braves games this year I ran into Robin, who brought her dad Stan along to the

game. We talked for a long time.

Since opening up shop in Waseca I have lost count of the number of relatives I have had the pleasure of reuniting with. It's special.

Meanwhile, my news adventures were also plentiful this week.

Friday was football in the rain. My first experience being rained on—poured on—during a sporting event. It was cold. I do not recommend it.

Saturday was full of events in Waseca. A church sale and soapbox races. I ran into an old classmate from high school and also stumbled into an event run by the Free Masons of Waseca. I wasn't intending to cover soap box races, but I accidentally drove past the bake sale. In true

reporter style, when I saw a lot of people gathered in one place I had to investigate. I'm glad I did. You can learn more about my Saturday by reading through this issue.

On Sunday I made a point of finishing my writing and other newspaper tasks as quickly as possible so I could enjoy the Vikings game. Let me admit, "enjoying" the game is not how I would have phrased it in advance; I have learned to keep my expectations low when it comes to the purple. How pleased I was to be wrong this time.

My Monday night, Sept. 12, was capped off with a going away party/meeting for Waldorf City Clerk DeeAnn Britton. It was heartwarming to see the smiling faces and hear the kind words shared among those in attendance.

All in all, I have no complaints about this week. I love what I do.

Stay kind. Stay warm. Oh, and brace for winter: Fall is here, and that means cold weather is on its way.



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Waseca School Donations



Waseca United Women in Faith members Linda Griffin and Shelly Scholljegerdes presented Waseca elementary and intermediate schools with checks of \$300 each last Thursday, Sept. 8. Elementary Principal Ben O'Brien accepted the check for Hartley Elementary school, with Intermediate Principal John Huttemier and Family Services Coordinator Jim Packard accepting their check.

Funds will go toward providing a heathly snack cart at Hartley, an angel fund for children who need lunch at the Intermediate school, smart bus tokens for after-school programs, and after-school tutoring.

■ Canines
from Page 1

wandering (if the dogs were so inclined). Levisay admits that having a dog crate or kennel in the cell makes a small space smaller, but says the handlers do not mind.

He describes the training regimen as a 24-7-365 commitment. The inmates get up in the morning, take their dogs out to a designated walk area, then feed them breakfast. After a short rest, dog and handler usually go out to recreation for a walk and maybe a little training. Then they return to their housing unit where they will interact like any typical dog and owner. Inmates train the dogs on and off throughout the day. They can go back out to recreation during different times for more exercise. During the day and evening, dogs are taken out at predetermined movement times. At nighttime, dogs go out at scheduled intervals—barring an emergency. After a couple of months, dogs are usually housebroken and do not need to go out overnight.

Can Do Canines sends a trainer to the institution to work with puppy/trainer pairs one day a week for two hours of class. During the rest of the week, inmates who have been in the program prior to the current year, known as “seniors,” provide daily assistance. The dogs are trained by inmates in basic obedience and some generalized assistance skills (such as “park” - lying under a chair to be out of the way). Inmates also teach basic mobility skills including retrieving items, opening doors, and hitting handicap buttons.

Levisay speculates that handlers benefit just as much from the interactions as the dogs do—if not more. “Some inmates have never had anything to care for before or someone/something to be responsible for. Inmates learn how to work together within the group, and how to show inmates not in the group what their dog is capable of. They also have to learn patience.

“When the dogs leave it is always a tough day. Inmates have become very close to their dogs and really hate to see them go,” Levisay says. “There are a lot of tears and it is very quiet for a couple of days, but trainers are also happy and proud their dogs are going to the next step of the training process.

“Everyone benefits from this program,” claims Levisay. “The people who get the fully trained dog at no charge at the end get a life-changing friend and partner to make them more independent. The inmates get a marketable skill, that hopefully upon release will lead to a fulfilling job and decrease the chance of them returning to prison. The institution gets a group of puppies that change the whole atmosphere. When the dogs are there it is just a different feel. People love to see the dogs—staff and inmates alike. Their presence makes everyone a little happier. There are not a lot of feel-good things in prison.”

Levisay says he has had several inmates leave Waseca and go on to do great things with animal training. “One inmate got a job at a kennel. After her employer saw her skills as a trainer, she was given the opportunity to start a rescue branch of the kennel. She is now in charge of all the animal rescues for them. She also makes good money offering private training to individuals in their homes.”

The retired counselor says he also benefited from PAWS: “Watching the inmates thrive in this program was awesome. I got the pleasure of attending graduations: Meeting the people the dogs are given to is very gratifying. I walked up and met people expecting to shake hands and instead ended up getting a hug and a huge thank you for what we do. It was well worth all the time and effort.

“Before my retirement, I got the pleasure of assisting numerous institutions (state and federal) in getting their programs started. That was just as gratifying, having our system become known as a standard for dog programs in the Bureau.”

Meet your neighbor, Stacey

Name: Stacey Schroeder

Town: Waseca

Age: 47

Family: Husband Tim, 4 kids, and two dogs

Occupation: Cosmetologist at Kroegers Konzept

Hobbies: Reading, fishing, kayaking

My dream vacation would be: One where I don't have to plan it or pay for it, just come along.

The best thing about small town living is: The sense of community as a whole—we truly get to know our neighbors and participate.

Last Good Book I Read: *The Housekeeper* by Natalie Barelli

Favorite TV show: I don't watch TV

Favorite Food: Smoked tri-tip

All Time Favorite Movie: *Overboard*

Favorite Sports Team: Minnesota Twins

Favorite musical artists: Dolly Parton

My favorite activities when I was growing up: Riding my bike to the library

My biggest pet peeve: People being rude, negative, or unkind

The best advice I've ever received: This too shall pass.

If I could have lunch with any one person, living or dead: Amelia Earhart

Something about me that would surprise people: While I love to fish, I do not like to eat them. At all.



Stacey Schroeder loves to fish. But when it comes to eating them, someone else can take one for the team.

Showing that I'm paying attention

It's the third week of classes here in Winona and at least for me, things are busier than ever! It's a good busy though- I'm managing my course load well and excelling in my on-campus work opportunities. For example, lately I've been assigned to the deli area a lot for my cafeteria duties and I'm getting so in touch with my work that when I see people walking around Saint Mary's, I remember their sandwich order. That's one benefit of being on a campus this size: there are only so many people at a small, private college. But remembering people's favorite fixings at least shows I'm paying attention. Maybe Janesville's Subway should've considered my job application last summer more seriously. Really, though, I'm grateful they ignored me, thus steering my career toward professional news writing.

Though my schedule now dictates



Looking in the Mirror
by Jonah Stafford
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that I can't invest time to write more than my weekly columns, what I've become a part of with the Waseca County Pioneer is truly something special! A new newspaper starting in the Year of our Lord 2022 is almost unheard of, and the Pioneer is already becoming quite the hit in our community. I can't wait to see the ways it will continue to grow over this next year while I'm away!

I recently completed the first draft of my first public relations writing assignment. It's a how-to guide on a

task that my professor wouldn't otherwise know how to complete. Mine is a bit more unorthodox than those my peers are working on: instead of teaching a skill like canoeing or cooking, I am making a strategy guide for online clothing shopping. Unconventional uses of assignment prompts is what I live for; I almost always get the green light to pursue those impulses because my instructors know that I'll deliver.

Another exciting piece of coursework for me right now is my first

graphic design project. It's a pop-up greeting card designed using Adobe Illustrator. Although I'm not as tech savvy as I thought I was, I'm figuring it out. Illustrator is no Canva, but I've started work on a card that is both creative and pretty simple. I'm using a pink/red color palette to make a tourist-y “Viva Las Vegas” card with a sliding cutout of a playing card in the middle. The graphic design component hasn't been overly challenging, but the construction part intimidates me, even though I was an origami enthusiast in my elementary school days.

Those are just a few of the school-related things occupying my mind lately! I'm really dedicated to all of my classes and to the other facets of my campus life. I just know I'll go somewhere great. I only have to wait and see!

■ Fritz
from Page 1

he started talking to Todd Dufault, a helper at the time. When Fritz asked young Dufault what was going on in the room at the time, Dufault responded, “It's the marching band.” Dufault explained what the marching band was and how it puts together field shows. He then invited Fritz to tag along at a practice.

“Well, I ended up getting involved and started working with the band kids. I have been at it ever since.” Fritz remembers the first year, being the “cheerleader” for the musicians and working with them while they marched. That first year was the first-ever Classic competition; Fritz recalls cheering on the clarinets in the back of the parade block as they marched from the old Dairy Queen to the Library. The next year Fritz drove the equipment truck containing the props and such used in the field show.

The year after driving the truck, Fritz started the woodwind sectionals in the summer, calling kids to see if they wanted to come practice. Then

Butch Dufault resigned and Kim Cosens took over. At that time, Fritz was working at Itron and the workload was too much to also volunteer with the band, so Fritz stepped back from the band for almost ten years.

At a coincidental meeting at McDonald's in 2009, Fritz ran into Todd Dufault. After a little conversation, Dufault mentioned that there was a new director for the band, Matt Gullickson, and that they needed people on the field to help clean the field show. That next Tuesday, Fritz drove down to a practice. “I walked out on the field for the first time and I looked around and there were 79 kids. That included guard and percussion,” said Fritz, explaining his shock as he had left the band with 150 kids strong many years ago. “I kept waiting for the rest of them to come out from behind the building or something,” he said. So Fritz got back involved with the band, helping Gullickson, then Sam Boerboom, and now director Devon Lawrence.

In 2014 Fritz retired from his working career and marched his way into many volunteer hours for the band. As a person who had played a couple of instruments and been in marching band in high school, Fritz wasn't exactly qualified to help stu-

dents fix their marching step or their playing style in the beginning, but by participating he learned what he needed to learn. Fritz was an engineer, and as he put it, “it's not ego—it's confidence. I have no qualms about tackling things.”

When Fritz started volunteering with the band, he started out working the sound system and then coached the woodwinds in sections and during sectionals to work on their music. As a beginning director at the time, Fritz wasn't familiar with the podium, but learned quickly. He knew from being a hockey coach that being a drill sergeant with the kids can be unsuccessful and that it is best to get the students to understand why they're doing something.

Over time, Fritz has learned and been involved with nearly every element of the band. From directing, to manning the sound system, to working on prop design, to teaching kids how to march. Fritz does it all.

The band isn't the only thing Fritz has volunteered with. Also on his list are Habitat for Humanity, 15 years for local civil defense, and amateur radio. Fritz knows that having his “finger in different areas” means that he's been around a long time, but he tells people that he's a relic—“I'm

just old.”

Every year Fritz ends the marching season intending to give it another go in the spring when the band gets going again, but every year he asks himself if he will still be able to do it. Fritz plans to help the band as long as he is physically capable of doing so, saying that it would be nice to have someone working with him to learn and pass on some of the things he's learned but he knows it's unlikely he'll find someone who would want to stick around for 35 years like he did. “I could give up the prop design, I could give up working on any of the music stuff. But not working with the kids would be the toughest part for me,” Fritz claims.

Fritz speculates that volunteering is a dying thing but encourages people to just try it if they can. “Everyone talks about time,” Fritz says, “but it doesn't have to be a lot of time. Even an hour twice a week is very helpful.” He encourages people to be positive and look on the bright side, especially while volunteering. As a student once said, you just need to “Beat Waseca,” which is the marching band's motto.

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OBITUARIES

Mark Steven Manthe

Mark Steven Manthe, age 74, of rural Waseca was called to his Heavenly home on September 9, 2022.

Mark was born on November 26, 1947, in Mankato to Elmer and Frieda (Precht) Manthe. He attended Waldorf-Pemberton High School where he graduated with the class of 1965. Following his education, Mark enlisted into the United States Air Force and honorably served his country from 1966-1970. During his time in the service Mark was stationed in England and South Carolina where he worked as an engine jet mechanic. On June 20, 1967, Mark married his high school sweetheart, Joan Roesler in Wells, Minnesota. Together they raised two children, Angela and Justin and made Waseca their lifelong home. In 1975, Mark began furthering his education at the University of Minnesota – Waseca Campus where he studied business.

Mark was a natural salesman working for Wick and Morton Buildings and eventually owning his own business Allied Overhead Doors, in Mankato. He worked various sales jobs, up until his “retirement”. More than any other job, Mark was most proud of owning and operating Manthe Garage Doors alongside his son. Their work banter and inside jokes were legendary.

Mark had a love for his faith, family, and Chevy cars. Mark enjoyed working on projects, and spending time at the family cabin in Nisswa. Mark was known for his quick wit and dry sense of humor. He always had time for a joke, story, song or to make a new friend over a cold one. If you’ve met him once, you’ve known him for a lifetime. He will be missed as



Mark Manthe

a loving husband, father, grandpa, friend, and businessman. He was a member of St. Paul Lutheran Church where he served as a choir member and Trustee.

Mark is survived by his loving wife of 55 years, Joan of Waseca; children: Angela (Todd) Andrist of Brainerd, and Justin (Cindy) Manthe of Waseca; grandchildren: Elizabeth, Alexander, Samuel, Michael (Katherine), Mark, and CJ; great grandchild, Adelyn; siblings: Maxine (Willis) Schoeb, David (Angie) Manthe, John (Ellen) Manthe, Duane (Marilyn) Manthe, Bruce (Laura) Manthe, Mona (Jack) Eustice, and Jane (Robert) Lau; brothers-in-law: Richard (Mary Moore) Roesler, and Alan (Susie) Roesler; as well as many nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

Preceded in death by his parents; Elmer Manthe and Frieda (Lloyd) Simon.

Funeral Services were held on Wednesday, September 14, 2022 at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Waseca with Rev. Bob Lund officiating. Interment was at Woodville Cemetery in Waseca.

Fond farewell

DeeAnn Britton retires

By ELI LUTGENS
Publisher

Someone in the Waldorf City Council must enjoy the TV show “The Office” because, for the second time in three months, there was cake for everyone in attendance Monday night, September 12, at the community center.

Or, more likely, DeeAnn Britton is well loved and highly regarded, since both instances of cake were for her. The first occasion was her birthday, the second, her final council meeting.

Every seat in the community center was full as Britton officially passed the torch she carried for nine years as Waldorf City Clerk. Tears, hugs, cards, a plaque, and many photos were shared before, during and after the meeting.

“You’ve been an awesome council to work for,” Britton said before adjournment. “I’ll miss you guys.”

“We’ll miss you,” council



Wishing Waldorf City Clerk DeeAnn Britton farewell during her final council meeting were council members, from left: Kevin Lines, Mayor Rob Wilkening, Jay Longenecker, Clerk Britton, Carrie Ferch and Melissa Sorbo.

Photo by Eli Lutgens

members responded.

The new clerk is local Waldorf resident Sherri Sandry who has been in training the last several months.

“I have no doubt she’ll do an awesome job,” Britton said after the meeting.

As for how she will keep busy during retirement, Britton smiled through the tears, “Canning tomatoes. Spending time with the grandkids. Traveling. Taking care of the pink school house.

“In a small town we get to know

each and every one of us. We have a closer bond.

“I’ll see you at church,” Britton told 49-year Waldorf resident JoAnn Kelling. “I’m not going far.”

Positivity noticeable around the district

By MELISSA DUNN
Staff Writer

At the September 8 Waseca school board meeting, teachers Sue McKay and Andrew Hopkins of the district’s Teacher On Special Assignment (TOSA) mentor program shared a summary of their work. A TOSA is someone who has been serving as a classroom teacher, but steps away from that role to handle other duties within the school district.

In the case of Hopkins and McKay, those “other duties” are to serve as mentors to any teachers who are in their first, second, or third year in the profession. Hopkins, a high school social studies teacher for the past 6 years, is a mentor for the first time: McKay, an elementary teacher for more than 30, has been in the position for the past few years. The two told of their work and explained that it is made possible by a partnership between the school district and Minnesota State, Mankato. Under the arrangement, college students who hold their teaching licenses are placed in classrooms, freeing district-employed teachers to work elsewhere. The college student receives pay through MSU, allowing the dis-

WASECA SCHOOL BOARD

trict to expand its services without incurring additional cost.

Along with early-career staff members, Hopkins and McKay also mentor the “replacement” teachers, known as “fellows.” In addition to their pay, fellows receive graduate credit from MSU.

Superintendent Eric Hudspith emphasized how valuable the partnership with MSU is to Waseca Public Schools. “We have hired every fellow we have had a position for in the last several years. This is a terrific way to show them how great Waseca is, and to keep teacher candidates around,” Hudspith said. “The University makes the placement, [for the teacher candidates] but we want to be the priority placement for the candidate if we can.” Hopkins shared that he entered the district as a teaching fellow and that the experience was extremely positive. Teaching fellows may also step in to fill the vacancy created by the teacher who moves into the three-year TOSA position. When asked why they left their class-

“We are supporting students and they are choosing us.”

— Waseca Superintendent Eric Hudspith

rooms, both Hopkins and McKay stated they feel it is important to give back to the teaching profession.

During Monday’s meeting, Hudspith also reported that maintenance projects have reached completion, and almost all open positions have been filled with the exception of the School Age Care (SAC) after-school program. “The high school kids who work at SAC leave for their activities, so if we could manage to fill those, we could take several more families from the waiting list.” A few more projects are in the planning phase, including installing a camera and buzzer at the Performing Arts Center door off of the student parking lot at the high school. “Anyone who needs to enter the building after school starts currently has to walk all the way around the building to the front door,” Hudspith explained. “This [new place to request entry] should make it easier.”

Hudspith shared enrollment

numbers: currently, the district has 1,789 students, 22 more than last year at this time. “We are supporting students and they are choosing us,” he stated. “We should be proud we are the right choice for families at the same rate as before the pandemic.”

“Positivity is noticeable in all the buildings,” he also reported, saying he sees genuine smiles from staff and students. He told of a recent visit to Hartley Elementary where he was confronted by a small group of students. “Who are you?” demanded one. “What do you do?” asked another. Hudspith said he was happy to explain his job to the young students. Upon learning a bit about the superintendent’s role as a decision-maker for the school, one of the students asked, “What happens if you die?”

Taken by surprise, Hudspith could only respond, “Hopefully that doesn’t happen for a while.”

Good Game Open House



Good Game Gaming Center held an open house September 13 and 14 to introduce itself to the community. The new venture, brainchild of Jon Berg, began with a better businesses contest sponsored by the Waseca Area Chamber of Commerce.

Among the several dozen people who attended were Matthew Pavelko (above), who enjoys gaming, and his father Mike Pavelko.

Several dozen people attended Tuesday evening. A “grand opening” event will be held in the future. The center is currently open for business; players are invited to come test their skills and play some games!

Preliminary levy set to 13.3 percent

By MICHAEL ROY
Publisher

At its Monday, September 12, meeting, the City of Janesville successfully lowered its preliminary tax levy from its initially anticipated 22 percent increase down to 13.3 percent. During a previous meeting, council members had directed city staff to reduce the levy increase to between twelve and fifteen percent. “We decided to work toward bringing it down somewhere in the middle,” stated city administrator Cliff Rogers.

He reminded the council that insurance numbers wouldn’t be finalized until around Thanksgiving. “We usually have to wait until then to know what they will be. In a perfect world, they would go down a little bit.”

Rogers expressed gratitude to city staff for helping find ways to reduce the city budget, the foundation for the tax levy amount. “They do fantastic work,” he praised. “I wouldn’t be able to do it all by myself.”

The council happily approved the preliminary levy. Final numbers will be available in December when the

city submits its budget to the Waseca County Auditor.

Other Business

The Janesville council approved pay estimate number five for the city’s 2022 street and utility improvement project. The estimate totaled \$404,610.04 for work completed through September 2. Council members also approved deferring assessment for a property along Grove Street. Street and utility taxes from the current project will not have to be paid on the property either for the next 30 years or until the house is sold.

“Generally, those who are over a certain age or are disabled qualify for the deferred assessment,” Rogers explained.

Other business items included approving election judges, canceling the September 26 meeting due to lack of staff availability, and moving the Monday, October 10, council meeting to Tuesday of the same week due to the Columbus Day holiday.

Reports

Janesville Utilities Manager Nate

JANESVILLE CITY COUNCIL

Zimmerman updated the council on steps the power plant is taking to address the substation which caused power outages throughout the summer.

“We spent a substantial amount of time on budgeting,” Zimmerman elaborated. “We wanted to figure out what the big picture will look like and get the plant a sustainable future.”

What may delay things a bit is the delivery of new electric meters. “They have been kicked back until April 2023,” Zimmerman explained. “Quite frankly, I wouldn’t be surprised if those get kicked back even further.”

The city is moving forward with maintenance work on the water

tower. Sandblasting of the interior started last Saturday, September 10. Zimmerman reports that the water tower will be back in service 7 to 14 days after coating and water tests are complete.

Most of the new residential water meters have been installed around town. Only about 100 customers remain, according to Zimmerman. “A lot of those left unfinished are plumbing issues and lack of complying. But overall, we’re pretty happy with where we are.”

Those who don’t comply soon will be charged additional fees and may have their water shut off. “We’ve been told that we’re going to need teeth to get everyone to comply,” Zimmerman stated. “Of course, we don’t want to shut anybody off. But we will if we have to.”

The meeting adjourned at 7:28 p.m.



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Shirts were among the prizes given to those walking in TEAM Academy's 11th annual Walk-a-Thon.

Stepping in time

Rain dampens walk, but not spirits

By TRISTAN JENSEN
Editorial Assistant

Friday, September 9, 2022, TEAM Academy held its eleventh annual Walk-a-Thon, despite the day's rainy weather. The event was a success, raising over \$1,000 for new recess equipment for the school.

Students collected donations from family and friends beginning on the first day of school September 6 until the day of the event, making the promise to participate for the full length of the Walk-a-Thon on Friday afternoon. Unfortunately, the hour-long walk was cut twenty minutes short as the rain got too heavy to stay outside. All teachers and staff at the school walked with the students to encourage them and promote active lifestyle choices.

In addition to helping the school, participants were eligible for individual awards. For every \$5 the students raised, their name was placed on another ticket in a prize drawing. Throughout the

length of the walk, names were called to announce prizes such as keychains, drawstring bags and t-shirts. The grand prize, awarded at the end of the event, was a brand-new bicycle. The 2022 winner of the bike drawing was Keeva R., a kindergartener. She will receive her bike soon – after one of the appropriate size is acquired. This is standard practice for the bike drawing, as TEAM Academy is a K-6 school and the winner could be any age.

The money raised each year goes toward fulfilling a wish list created by physical education teacher Jalea Priebe. Much of it goes to replace equipment which has worn out over the past year – such as balls that go flat or pop and cannot be repaired. There are often larger purchases as well. Last year, the school got new tetherball poles. This year Priebe hopes to install a "buddy bench," a place where children who are looking for someone to play with during recess can meet.



The Mankato Symphony Orchestra gave their second annual "Symphony on the Prairie" concert at Benson Park in North Mankato 6 p.m. on Saturday evening, Sept. 10.

Symphony on the Prairie

By MELANIE PILTINGSRUD
Staff writer

The Mankato Symphony Orchestra gave their second annual "Symphony on the Prairie" concert at Benson Park in North Mankato 6 p.m. on Saturday evening, Sept. 10.

Though the weather had everyone nervous as the day began, the clouds parted and sunny skies had spectators turning up in short sleeves to hear what guest conductor Manny Laureano referred to as the Symphony's celebration of America.

The set began with the "Star Spangled Banner" with the ever poignant words of Francis Scott Key, and ended with an encore: "Stars and Stripes Forever" by John Philip Sousa. In between, the concert focused on American composers, with selections from Leonard Bernstein's West Side Story, Jerry Bock's Fiddler on the Roof, and a medley of John Williams' movie themes, including Star

Wars, Jaws, and Superman.

There was one exception to the list of American composers. Laureano, who is normally at home as conductor of the Minnesota Orchestra, conducted the famous Egmont Overture by Ludwig van Beethoven, composed as incidental music to a play by Johann Wolfgang von Goethe. Laureano explained that, as Beethoven was alive during the American Revolution, he felt that the composer was sympathetic to the American struggle for independence.

Laureano, with 50 years of experience as a musician, spoke highly of his experience with conducting the Mankato Symphony Orchestra. The audience would agree with the sentiment about the low-key event, where food vendors even provided the opportunity for those in attendance to munch pizza as they listened against the backdrop of wildflowers and prairie grass. In the conductor's words "It was a gas!"



A total of 156 campers took part in the 32nd annual Waseca Fellowship of Christian Athletes Junior Sports Camp at Waseca High School from August 2-4.

Serving youth

32nd Annual FCA Sports Camp

By ELI LUTGENS
Publisher

The 32nd annual Waseca Fellowship of Christian Athletes Junior Sports Camp was held August 2-4 at Waseca High School. A total of 156 campers picked one sport each day for three days, choosing among football, baseball, wrestling, volleyball, soccer, tennis, track, golf, hockey, softball, basketball, or gymnastics. Essentially, if it's a sport, it was an option for boys, girls, and some coed events.

The camp serves young athletes who want to develop their skills in sports and strengthen their relationship with Jesus Christ. Adult leaders at the event included more than a dozen of the area's best high school coaches. Each day featured influential area speakers, among them Shane Streich, via video, and former Wasecan, Nicollet Head Coach and

2022 Softball state champion Bri- anne (Ruedy) Eldred, and Scott Bryant.

Streich, a 2015 graduate of Waseca and multiple time state champion in track and field and cross country, recently earned a North American, and United States record in the 1000 meter indoor running professionally for the Atlanta Track Club. During his youth, Streich was a regular camper and active member of Waseca FCA.

The camp's theme this year was "EVERY" Ephesians 1:3, "Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ."

Those responsible for organizing this event are too numerous to count. This year's directors, who have directed for the past six years, were Barry and Stacey Dufault. For the first 26 years the directors were John



The theme of the annual FCA Sports camp was "EVERY" Ephesians 1:3. Of the nearly 200 people present throughout the week- end, 32 were volunteer high school staff, and more than a dozen others.

and Lori Hanson. Serving as a direc- tor for all 32 years is John Conway.

"Please give all the credit to our in- credible volunteers," Conway re- quested. "And praise God!"

FCA puts on various camps throughout the summer. The organ- ization's next big event is "Fields of Faith" on October 12, a national FCA gathering at which athletes take to the field to share their faith journeys.

Other events include Courts of Praise, and one in the works, Dia- monds of Discipleship. As events come about, those interested are en- couraged to check with their local huddles and/or the FCA website.

During the school year, the central focus is on local campus huddles meeting weekly or biweekly. Those interested can join by going to Min- nesotaFCA.org.



Father Brian Mulligan riding past the church on an electric unicycle



MUSIC —Generation Gap, a duo of Rod Scheitel and grandson Carter Quast, were one of two acts to play at St. Ann's Fall Festival Saturday, Sept. 10. The other act was trio In a Bind.



B-52 — Mike Cahill calls one of the first bingo numbers of the night at the St. Ann Parish Center.

Festival

from Page 1

Heitkamp acknowledged the Burns family who typically help run the event each year. "Their ded- ication is appreciated," she stated.

Other people she credited for helping out at the fall festival were parish members Angela Adams,

Bridgett Strauss, Judy Ready, Karen Dimler, Tony Sachol, Mike and Katie Cahill, Faith Ryan, Chris Ryan, Kelly Heitkamp, Jenny Adams, and the Golf Committee.

"It's always so much fun being able to do this every year," St. Ann parish member Judy Ready stated.

Ben Burns, who also helped run the festival, shared Ready's sen- timent. "We are blessed to have such a great community here at St. Ann Catholic Church.



4th annual soapbox races



Emma Sather's car went off course immediately during the "fun" races following the competitive portion of the 4th Annual Freeman's Soap Box races.



Brady Carrol announced this was his "final race" prior to his last performance. He is assisted by Matthew Hughes.



Grand Champion Violet Hughes



Ryan Dewees prepares to race down the track

Waseca Class of 1954 Reunion



Members of the Waseca Class of 1954 met at Oscar's Restaurant in Waseca for their 68th class reunion Saturday, Sept. 10. Those pictured above include Virginia Minske, Diane Bluhm, Patty Wuger, Barbara Bourassa, Marlis Keane, George Winegar, Willard Kormann, Irene Kormann, Beverly Guse, Melvin Strand, Ramona Wilkening, and Darlene Prestegard. Prestegard shared that it's been tradition for the Class of 1954 to meet as often as possible. She is hopeful they can hold their 70th class reunion in two years.

\$10,000 benefit
Hunter Frank Memorial Ride

By TRISTAN JENSEN
Editorial Assistant

The Hunter Alexander Frank Memorial Ride and Benefit Dinner, held September 10, 2022, raised \$10,500 to support the chosen charity, Wounded Warriors Family Support. Maggi and Brandon Flores extend their thanks to all of the businesses and individuals that helped with or donated to the event. Next year, the Floreses plan to host the third annual Hunter Alexander Frank Memorial with even more exciting features than this year's. The 2022 benefit will officially be known as the second annual event, with the first being a smaller ride which Brandon Flores arranged last year, and which inspired the creation of the benefit event.

The memorial ride the afternoon of September 10th consisted of twenty-five motorcycles and six cars. Chad Frank, father to Hunter Alexander Frank, drove behind the "pack" in his truck with his motorcycle strapped into the bed, to leave a seat for Hunter. Each time the riders stopped, photos of Frank and a pair of his boots were set up in the truck bed, and the same was on display outside the Waseca American Legion during the evening. During the riders' last stop, at Woodville Cemetery where Frank is buried,



The motorcycle reserved for Hunter Alexander Frank during the memorial ride, displayed with his photos and his boots.

Frank's sister Indya Frank revved the bike's engine for him. This was followed by all the riders revving their engines together unprompted, paying their respects to Frank in a unique way which moved members of his family to tears. "I was overwhelmed with emotion basically the entire time," says Brandon Flores about the people who came to honor his brother with him. "Every time I glanced into my rearview mirror and saw all of those headlights I was filled with a sense of camaraderie and purpose. Talking to people at every stop showed that nothing but support made it really special."

The silent auction featured 81 items and accounted for just under half of the total funds raised. Several big-ticket items were sold, including quarter- and half-cows of beef, electric guitars, and several firearms, but Maggi Flores notes that many of the items large and small sold for more than their value, contributing heavily to the auction's success. "It was a very generous community," she said.

The rest of the funds raised came from the 180 tickets sold, registration fees for the ride, and cash donations, with donations being the largest single source after the auction. On September 15, Brandon Flores rode his

motorcycle down to Omaha, Nebraska to meet with CEO and President of Wounded Warriors Family Support, Kate McCauley, and personally present her the check. After working closely with both Floreses throughout the organization of the event, McCauley adjusted her schedule to be able to personally meet Brandon that afternoon. Regarding McCauley's personal attention, Brandon Flores said, "It feels otherworldly and I hope that this is the start of a great relationship for years to come."

■ Smiles

from Page 1

The annual event raises money typically earmarked for a good cause or specific local charity. This year, however, the Masonic Lodge will be using the \$3,500 received from its many sponsors toward repairs of its own roof.

The 10 or so cars supplied for the race are often used for more than one year. Pantheon computers, whose vehicle has been the fastest in previous events, unfortunately was unavailable this year. "Such a neat thing! It gets bigger

every year," Abby Clemons, wife of volunteer Kevin, said of the event. "It's fun for the whole family, people of all ages."

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IN 1997 — The Waseca swim team was coached by Dawn Pratt, who was in her first year as coach. Letterwinners, front row: Kelly Wilder, Krystal Larson, Shanda DeRaad, Theresa Eustice, Amanda Johnson and Dayna Hanson. Back row: Kristian Eneuoldson, Lisa Rosenthal, Leah Rosenthal, Shannon Frisk, Rachel Ryan, Sarah Shaffer, Jenny Swanson, and Kris Rup.

Argus archives

100 Years Ago (1922)

-The county agent has already received several orders for picric acid, the new war explosive which is being used in blasting stumps and rocks. Orders for five hundred pounds or more have been received and several others have spoken in regard to placing their order for some of this material. It costs the farmer 12c a pound.

-Herbert Sponberg won first at the State Fair with his Duroc pig. Hazel Sheldon won second with her Guernsey calf and Pearl Lewer won ninth with her Holstein calf.

-Mrs. Gertrude Barrett of Morgan hill, Calif., after an absence of many years, is visiting her former home and the scenes of her childhood. She was born at the old town of Janesville many years ago and is the daughter of the late Henry Waterbury who formerly resided there. Many years ago the family removed to California and this is her first occasion to return and take the opportunity of renewing former friendships and acquaintances.

75 Years Ago (1947)

-An invitation extended the University of Minnesota by Mrs. Lillian Wyman. Waseca school nurse, has resulted in the assignment of the Mobile Speech Clinic to Waseca County the week of September 8, the first step of the unit is its itinerary of this year. The unit traveled 15,500 miles last year, completing a survey of five counties. There were 58,594 tests administered to 27,513 school children.

-Age Needn't Be a Handicap: Henry Boettcher is the third generation to operate a Deering binder on the Boettcher farm near Albert Lea. The machine was bought for \$105 I 1897 and is still going strong. At 88 years of age Thomas Bailey is still making violins in his Garden City home near Mankato, continuing a hobby taken up when he was 14.

-While snooping' around the old burg, it has come to the knowledge of the Argus Pencil-Pusher that it is better to be silent and be thought a fool than to speak up and remove all doubt.

50 Years Ago (1972)

-The 1947 graduating class of St. Clair High School had a reunion at the Colony Supper Club in Mankato August 19. This class of 1947 was the 25th commencement of St. Clair High. This reunion marks the 40th year that St. Clair has had a high school.

-Dave Arnold, son of Mr. and Mrs. Cyril Arnold, and Ron Frank, son of Mr. and Mrs. Jack Frank, are among approximately 100 grinders who reported this week to the St. John University's preseason football training camp. Coach John Gagliardi, whose record of victories at St. John's has ranked him among America's winningest coaches, said he is faced with the major task of rebuilding the Jay backfield this year. "We graduated our starting quarterback and half-backs," he said, "and we've been wiped out of fullback because Gary Eustice just had surgery on a knee injured playing softball this summer."

-The Golden Bears showed the effect of a year of seasoning here Friday night as they romped past Waldorf-Pemberton 22-0 in the opening game of the season. Almost the same group of players could manage only one win last season, a 40-0 season-end shutout over Ellendale. The Colt victory Friday marked the second shutout in a row for the Bears defensive unit.

25 Years Ago (1997)

-A new smiling face has joined the staff at Trinity Lutheran School. Janesville native Cheri Barbknecht is teaching pre-kindergarten at Trinity. Currently she teaches 4-year-olds three days a week. Beginning in October, she will also teach 3-year-olds two days a week.

-The Janesville-Waldorf-Pemberton School District started this school year with many new faces. The district tried six new staff members. In addition, four current staff members have moved. The elementary school welcomed Sharyn Miller, kindergarten; and Jane Balow, primary. Coming to the middle school this year were Robert Swanson, seventh and eighth-grade science/seventh-grade math' Brandy Klingel, local music; Amy Arndt, family services coordinator; Clarice Anderson, fifth grade; and Dave Beaty, who, in addition to serving as the elementary principal, will be teaching two sections of eighth-grade science. Joining the high school were William Hahne, high school principal; Virgil Pilcher, industrial/technology; Mary Muedeking, language arts; and Fauniece Witt, media center coordinator for the district.

Waseca archives

Waseca Herald, 1922

-A number of local businessmen who are interested in beautifying Clear Lake ordered a weed cutting machine and have it at work this week cutting the dense growth of weeds which grow in certain parts of the lake. The marching, which is priced at \$550, is operated by a gasoline engine and will cut a five-foot swath at depth of five feet below the surface of the water.

-The public schools and the Sacred Heart parochial school opened Tuesday with a very large enrollment. There are 725 enrolled in the public schools, of whom 225 are in the high school. This is 25 higher than in any previous year. The enrollment at the Sacred Heart school is also higher than usual. Sister Elaine is superiors this year and Sister Assisi is in charge of the musical department.

-Herman Nigg and Rude Sitta have purchased the L. W. Larson lunch room and confectionary. The deal was closed this afternoon and the new proprietors will take immediate possession. It is their intention to conduct the place much the same as it has been in the past. Mr. Larson will remain in the city, and will go into the Crispst business, both wholesale and retail. He will also carry a full line of candles and serve lunches. He will either occupy the Trowbride building next to Germo & Mace's grocery or the building just west of the Crystal.

Waseca Herald, 1947

-Two horses owned by Dr. H. M. McIntire of Waseca won over the weekend when they raced at Mason City, Iowa, in the Northern Iowa State Fair harness races. Bourbon Abbey, chestnut trotter, took all three heats in the free for all pace and trot while Cassandra, another trotter of Dr. McIntire's won all three heats In the 2:17 trot.



IN 1997 — Ryan Papke and Nathaniel Born assemble spacecraft during Extended Day at Hartley Elementary School. Children chose from a variety of activities including housekeeping, a puppet theater and projects the staff coordinated each week.

-Mrs. Lillian McGreevey of Waseca received a bachelor of science from the College of Education, University of Minnesota, last Thursday along with 810 students who were graduating. Mrs. McGreevey is a resident of New Richland and teachers in the New Richland schools this year.

-A letter from Germany the latter part of August arrived at the Fred Block residence at 615 Second Avenue NE and came from an uncle from whom the family had not heard for many years. The letter was from Ernest Block of Kiruburg, Germany, which is near Hanover, and he was last heard from in 1912, when Fred Block Sr. passed away. He is now over 70 years of age and despoits himself in good health with a daughter grown up and married to a school teacher. He stated in the letter that he had moved from Ginsburg to Kiruburg when he was bombed out during the war.nett sharing headline honors.

Waseca Daily Journal, 1972
-“I had 17 seniors graduate, and I

lost 19 of my 22 starts,” reported Janesville football coach George Tuvey. “Would you say that’s rebuilding?” The Golden Bears will almost be starting from scratch with only three starters returning from a year that played over .500 ball in 1976 with a 5-4 record. Anchoring the offense will be junior center Dave Keeley and senior quarterback Bob Holler. The lone returning defensive player will be senior Toby Yard, who will be playing in the secondary for his fourth year.

-Last season New Richland-Hartland had the kind of season every football coach and player dreams about. They were 12-0, winners of the Gopher Conference football championship - and, not incidentally, were the State Class C Champions. But last year is in the past, and on paper the 1977 squad may, at first glance, look to be more of a nightmare. New Richland lost 19 of 22 starters. Included among that number is the entire Cardinal offense. “It was a strictly senior crew [last year],” coach Jim Simser reported.

-Parking meters in the City of

Waseca may soon be a thing of the past. The Retail Promotion Division of the Waseca Area Chamber of Commerce today approved a recommendation by the city’s parking committee to remove all meters in the city for a six-month trial period. The recommendation will be presented to the City Council tonight.

Waseca County News, 1997
-What a difference a year can make. Last year, the New Richland-Hartland-Ellendale-Geneva football team rode the running of Dan Rout to a 39-6 thumping of Waterville-Elysian-Morristown. It took a year, but revenge was sweet for the Buccaneers. WEM blanked the Panthers 33-0 in Waterville Friday to open the 1997 gridiron season.

-Maple River appears to be the perfect first-game opponent for the Janesville-Waldorf-Pemberton football team. After pounding the Eagles 46-0 a year ago, JWP shut them out again to start the 1997 season. The Bulldogs pulled away from a 7-0 halftime lead to take a 27-0 victory in Mapleton.

Star archives, New Richland

100 Years Ago (1922)

Though the game played by New Richland on Sunday, previous to taking on Albert Lea, was a farce, it was rot without its good points, since the boys got all the errors and hookworm out of their system. On Labor Day at Albert Lea they played a stellar game of ball, and the contest was a thriller with brilliant plays sparkling from all angles of the diamond. Altho Weeks had pitched the day pervious he was in good form and like a sharp shooter, put the ball where he wanted it on every delivery. His form was indeed rare for he got nine hits, eleven strikeouts and didn't walk a man.

The New Richland community will keenly feel the loss of one of its prominent families when on October first, Rev. I. C. Campbell and family will leave for Spring Valley, Minn., to make their future home. Rev. Campbell and family came to New Richland the fore part of June, 1917, but was known here previous to that time, having had charge of a church at Freeborn, Minn., and on several occasions having delivered sermons here. With the exception of five months during the winter of 1918-19, which time they resided in Chicago, they have lived her continuously since 1917. During this period of over five years Rev. and Mrs. Campbell have become such a part of the life and welfare of the community that it will be hard to see them go.

Saturday morning Wm. Utpadel started to fill his silo. Everything worked alright until Charlie Steele unloaded the seventh load. Then it happened. It seems that a hatchet and bit brace were used in the corn field to make some repairs on the corn binder. Now the hatchet and bit brace found their way home on a load of bundles that were being hauled by Leo. Utpadel. Whether Leo knew of the hatchet and brace being on his load is not known. But W. C. Ginapp knew after the hatchet came through the feed rollers into the knives. In the twinkling of an eye \$95 was the price of the extras the machine required after the noise and tractor stopped. The silo filler is an IHC, and these are built of boiler steel instead of cast iron, and that's the reason that no-

body was hurt, as this steel bends instead of breaks.

An Otisco township boy, Herbert Sponberg won honors at the State Fair this week when his Duroc pig entry took first premium over all other entries. The competition was keen and winning the coveted prize is considerable of an honor. Other winners among the junior exhibitors are Hazel Sheldon 2nd with Guernsey calf and Pearl Lewer ninth place with Holstein calf. The Freeborn county entry took first place in the Guernsey calf contest.

75 Years Ago (1947)
-The first day of school at New Richland found three hundred eighty one pupils enrolled in the high and grade school, an all-time record. The first grade had the largest enrollment in the elementary grades with 36 pupils. The average elementary grade enrollment is about 28 pupils in each of the six grade rooms. In the high school there were 211 pupils present on Tuesday. The ninth and eleventh grades top this division with 45 pupils enrolled in each of those grades. Approximately 200 pupils are transported by the five buses.

The registered Holstein bull, “Winebrook Laddie Ormsby Barta” owned by Otto Tesch of Waldorf is a consistent winner and won the following awards at fairs this year: First senior yearling at Steele County Fair. First senior yearling and grand champion at the Freeborn County Fair. Earlier this year he was first senior yearling at the South Central Minnesota Black and White show at Garden City.

-Eighteen Waseca County 4-H club members attended the State Fair this past week under the supervision of C. F. Murphy and Mrs. Doris Wyman, extension agents. Project work of nine other 4-H'ers was on exhibit. Six girls participated in the demonstration contests in the various homemaking projects. Those five participating who won blue ribbons were as follows: Mavis Armstrong – Bells of St. Mary's – health; Dorothy Lind – Iosco Livewires – clothing; Vera Amundson – Iosco Livewires – silent bread; Lola Kanne and Ardis

Saufferer – Thrifty Peppers – foods.

-An important business change in New Richland took place Sept. 1 when the large business interests of the M. N. Johnson Mercantile Co. were transferred to the Allen Mercantile Co. Ethan Allen, who for the last nine years has owned a third interest in the Johnson Mercantile Co. has now assumed the sole ownership and management and has changed the name. During his nine years' residence here, Mr. Allen has shown himself interested in the general welfare of the village. He has been president of the Sportsmen's Club and of the Businessmen's Club and thus far during this year has served as village recorder. He served two years during the last war in the navy and was in the far east.

50 Years Ago (1972)
-The FFA General Livestock judging team from New Richland-Hartland high school scored only one point behind the top team, New Ulm in State Fair competition, Thursday, August 31. New Ulm had the top score of 815 and the locals' score was 814. The next team was New York Mills with 807. There were 76 teams in competition.

-Four members of the Waldorf-Pemberton FFA chapter exhibited livestock and swine at the Minnesota State Fair. Lynn Ewald showed the champion and reserve champion Shorthorn in the FFA division. Lynn also was awarded the champion herdsman trophy. Lynn exhibited four beef animals and took two firsts, a second, and a third. Lyle Roesler exhibited a pen of market hogs. He placed third out of 90 pens and in the individual market hog class he placed ninth out of 270 market hogs. Debbie Hoffmann showed a four-year-old Jersey cow and took a third place. Martin Tesch exhibited three dairy animals in the Holstein division and placed third, sixth and seventh in classes of approximately twenty animals in each class.

-The Cardinals ran over Dodge Center, 30-8 in the opening game of the 1972 football season. They dominated the play in the first three quarters, building up a lead of 30-0.

A number of underclassmen were given a chance to play in the fourth quarter when Dodge Center scored their only touchdown.

25 Years Ago (1997)
-A 1995 graduate of New Richland-Hartland-Ellendale-Geneva High School, Ann Bakken, recently completed a summer internship on the island of Java West, in the city of Bandung, Indonesia. She is the daughter of Richard and Mary Bakken of rural New Richland. Majoring in cross cultural studies for the medical profession at Toccoa Falls College, Toccoa, Georgia, Ann plans to continue her education at Winona State University to earn a degree as a registered nurse. “I plan to get a nursing degree and then go overseas,” Ann said.

-Six area Luther League members and one counselor were among the thousands attending the 1997 ELCA Youth Gathering in New Orleans, Louisiana, July 23-27. “River of Hope” was the theme for the 1997 gathering. Those attending were Evan Berg, Jason Johnson, Ryan Paulson, Amber Schroeder and counselor Ranae

-Berg, LeSueur River Lutheran Church; Brian Johnson, Vista Lutheran and Jessica Perry, trinity Lutheran, all in the New Richland area.

-Interest in environmental improvements on Minnesota farms is strong among farmers themselves, if response to the new federal Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) is any indication. The program is designed to encourage practices such as providing wildlife habitat, using grassed waterways, installing manure management facilities and capping abandoned wells. EQIP was established in last year's federal farm bill to provide a single, voluntary conservation program for farmers, according to Tim Koehler, assistant state conservationist with the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). It combines four conservation programs that existed under previous farm bills into one comprehensive scheme.

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The Pastor's Column

Finding time

By PASTOR KEN ANDRS

My back porch is a great place to sit and rest in the evening; my front porch is great in the morning. The hardest part is slowing down enough to sit down and enjoy it. There always seems to be some chore or activity to take care of, so slowing down and sitting on the porch doesn't happen as much as I would like.

In Genesis 2:2-3 God establishes a day of rest. "2 By the seventh day God had finished the work he had been doing; so on the seventh day he rested from all his work. 3 And God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, because on it he rested from all the work of creating that he had done."

There is an unhealthy struggle in our world where we try to fill up every single minute with work or activities. Even when we try to rest we find ourselves distracted by the plans for the next day and next week. There is a lot that we do with our days and nights, but why can't we find time to rest?

The rest that God gives is a transformative one. It changes our worries to hope, and our concern to faith. Rest is being still before God, it is understanding that He brings hope, it is a growing of faith that an-

ticipates God's action. Rest is more than ceasing from work, it is a firm foundation of faith in God that seeks to understand and do His will.

God commands us to rest in the 10 commandments, He gives us an example of how He rested and encourages us to rest through our faith in Him. How do we get to the point where we can find actual rest? I would suggest that you take purposeful time each day to practice. Sit on the porch, sip slowly on your iced tea, and talk to God about your struggles.

It is a slow change that takes intention and purpose. First, slow down—realize that God wants you to rest. Second, focus on God by reading your Bible, listening to worship music, or just praying. Now do that every day.

Once we get comfortable resting in God, we can do it for longer and more purposefully. We can cease striving and rest in knowing God. Psalms 46 says, "10 'Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth.'" In our rest God continues to move and we are able to praise Him for His work in this world.

Understanding sin

By SANTIAGO RAMIREZ

I need the reader to remember some points from the last column since, as the title indicates, this is a second part.

We all see the world through our glasses. We call this, Cosmivision.

-We are all children of our days. How we understand/see the East and the West is nothing more than our reality. The reality with real repercussions.

-East and West understand the world in particular ways. Honor-Shame; Guilt-Innocence, respectively.

-We are faced with the question: how do we perceive sin? Which cosmivision is right about this perception?

I am convinced that the way we act is directly conditioned by how we understand sin, whether we are aware of this or not. Hence, I find capital importance in talking about such a complex subject as sin.

For several weeks now, and in particular, since I wrote the first part of COSMOVISION AND SIN, I have been asking myself which of what we know as the Ten Commandments did Adam and Eve break? At the same time and getting a bit contemporary, the question derived another: which [contemporary] sin separated them from God? These questions are undoubtedly born from my present, a present in which, sadly, we are much lighter to point out and condemn than to redeem and embrace.

Returning to the questions, I find no answer in Exodus 20, where our famous decalogue of commandments is located, which among other things, I understand as a rational way on God's part to protect us, following the ten commandments, timeless besides, is a way to let myself be loved by my creator who knows me and knows better than me what is good for me. But as usual, we are not talking about that, so let's go back to what concerns us today; the closest answer I find to our western way of seeing the world lies in Genesis 2-3, and it forces me (as I heard it hundreds of times) to understand the fruit of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil as sex in its negative form.

So, a summary of today's column is the sin Adam and Eve committed: lying down without getting married (?).

This conclusion is a bad joke and a feeble attempt at sarcasm, but the

unfortunate thing is that I think many times, our conclusions as a church are this sad.

In listening to men of God, I have learned from Genesis 2-3 a few things that I would like to share:

1. That the knowledge of good and evil was outside of the human being (2:17).

2. That God as creator said they should not eat it makes me think that the knowledge of good and evil exceeds human beings.

3. Thousands of years later, we human beings are the same, and the problems are the same. On the one hand, we do not obey God, either because the serpent speaks to us (which is a perfect excuse) or because we think we are so clever that we can get away with it; on the other hand, we still do not know how to handle good and evil, we are dead.

4. That lying, adultery, murder, greed, lasciviousness, and addictions, among others, are nothing more than manifestations of sin. And here, it is necessary to remember sin as disobedience, rebellion, and a heart condition.

Having defined sin as a rebellion against God, as a [erroneous] condition of the heart, we can return to the beginning of this second installment of the column where I said that I am convinced that how we understand sin conditions our way of acting.

When we understand sin itself as one of its manifestations, we tend to solve it in the same way; I explain with an example: it is easy to believe that the solution for a person who has gambling problems is not to give him more money, but is that really the solution? I hope we all share that the problem is more profound and lies in the heart, just like each of our struggles. Jesus knows this very well; I invite you to review Matthew 5 and the times Jesus says: You have heard that it was said... But I tell you... Jesus appeals to the condition of the heart over the actions. I read between the lines; I see they are politically correct, but what about their heart?

There is still much to be said, the conversation is still open, and a new dilemma looms at the end of this installment: does right action lead to right thinking, or does right thinking lead to right action?

Will there be a third installment? There will be a third installment.



UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH - Volunteers at Faith United Methodist Church helping run their annual fall sale, from left: Sherry Scholljegerdes, Edy Barber, Roberta Walker, Linda Griffin, Mary Stauffer, Karen Firch, Nancy Tollefson, and Sandy Voshell.

Faith United annual fall sale Event continues next week

By ELI LUTGENS
Publisher

The first weekend of Faith United Methodist Church's Autumn Fest Sale on Saturday, September 10 was a success. More than 15 volunteers including the "United Women in Faith" group coordinated the event which raises funds for church mission projects.

"The money is for a good cause," says congregation member Robert Walker. "It helps a lot of people." Walker mentioned mission trips and charities which assist women and children.

The four-hour sale featured dishes, furniture, antiques and other items donated by congregation members; all unsold offerings will be available again on September 17 for half the price. A particularly pop-

ular part of the event is the bake sale: "Sometimes people can't be here or donate items so they bake," member Sherry Scholljegerdes explains. "The first thing to go are the cookies."

Homemade items included cookies, breads, cakes, muffins, and pies, all prepared by the church ladies.

"And I'd like to thank John Schultz for all his help setting up today," Walker added.

Although church volunteers couldn't pinpoint an exact number of attendees, they joked they wanted to count but lost track: the first weekend of the annual event raised at least several hundred dollars.

Next weekend, Saturday Sept. 17 from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. will be the last day of the sale.



SHOPPERS - Kristen McKay and her mom, Michelle, were shopping for office chairs and other goodies Saturday afternoon during Faith United Methodist Church's Autumn Fest Sale.

Attend the Church of your Choice!

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507-835-2235
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4TH STREET EVANGELICAL CHURCH
605 4th St NE, Waseca
507-201-7293 (Pastor Andrew Isker)
Worship Sundays 10 a.m.
* * *

FAITH UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
801 4th Ave NE, Waseca
507-835-3167
Worship Sundays 9:30 a.m.
* * *

CHRIST THE KING LUTHERAN CHURCH
309 6th St NE, Waseca
507-835-9176
Worship Sundays 9:30 a.m., Wed. 6:30 p.m. (for the summer)
* * *

ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH
401 3rd Ave NE, Waseca
507-833-1703
Sundays 9:00 a.m.
* * *

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH
314 4th Ave NE, Waseca
507-835-2647
Worship Sunday 9:00 a.m.
* * *

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
503 2nd Ave NE, Waseca
507-835-4548 (office email: 1cwaseca@hickorytech.net)
Worship Sunday 10 a.m.
* * *

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH
300 E Elm Ave, Waseca
507-835-1709
Worship Sunday 9 a.m.
* * *

SACRED HEART CATHOLIC CHURCH
111 4th St NW, Waseca
507-835-1222
Worship Saturday 5:15 p.m., Sundays 8:00 and 10:00 a.m., weekdays 8:30 a.m. Tues., Wed. and Fri., 7:00 a.m. Thurs.
* * *

REAL LIFE CHURCH
620 W Elm Ave, Waseca
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507-607-8245
Sundays 9 and 10:30 a.m.
* * *

CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST LATTER-DAY SAINTS
1001 9th Ave SE, Waseca
507-835-4640
Sacrament meeting 10:00 a.m.
* * *

GRACE BAPTIST CHURCH
1221 8th St SE, Waseca
507-835-2213
Sunday worship 10:45 a.m., 6:00 p.m.
* * *

CHRISTIAN ASSEMBLY
900 14th Ave SE, Waseca
507-833-1082
Sunday Worship 10:00 a.m., Sun Evening 6:00 p.m., Wed. evening 6:30 p.m.
* * *

ST. PETER EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
New Richland, Minnesota
Rev. Scott Williams, Pastor
Sunday - 9 a.m. Sunday School, Choir and Choir; 10:30 a.m. Worship
Monday - 1 p.m. Quilters
Wednesday - 7 p.m. Worship
* * *

ST. PETER EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
Otisco, Minnesota
Rev. Scott Williams, Pastor
Thursday - 6:30 p.m. Soup & Study
Sunday - 8:45 a.m. Worship
* * *

TRINITY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
New Richland, Minnesota
Pastor Mary Iverson
Sunday - 9 a.m. Sunday Worship, Sunday School; 10 a.m. Coffee
Monday - 9 a.m. Quilting
Wednesday - 6:15 p.m. Confirmation; 7 p.m. Council meeting
* * *

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL
New Richland, Minnesota
Pastor Pamela Jensen
Sunday - 10 a.m. Worship
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LESUEUR RIVER LUTHERAN CHURCH
New Richland, Minnesota
* * *

Pastor Dan Kordahl
Sunday - 9 a.m. Worship; 9:30 a.m. Sunday School
Tuesday - 8:30 a.m. Quilting
* * *

VISTA LUTHERAN CHURCH
New Richland, Minnesota
Pastor Dan Kordahl
Sunday - 10:30 a.m. Worship
* * *

VISTA EVANGELICAL COVENANT CHURCH
New Richland, Minnesota
Brian Schanil Pastor
Sunday - 10 a.m. Worship; 9 a.m. Sunday School
Tuesdays: The Shepherd's Robe Ministry, 1-3 p.m., 6-8 p.m.; Bonfires and Yard Games, 6 p.m. until dark
* * *

ALL SAINTS' CATHOLIC CHURCH
New Richland, Minnesota
Father Brian Mulligan
Saturday - 5 p.m. Mass
* * *

FIRST LUTHERAN
Missouri Synod
Waldorf, Minnesota
Rev. Michael Mathews, pastor
Sunday - 8 a.m. Worship; 9:10 a.m. Sunday School & Bible Class
* * *

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH
Freedom Township
Sunday - 9 a.m. Worship
* * *

ZOAR UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Pastor Ava Adams-Morris
Waldorf, Minnesota
Sunday - 9 a.m. Worship
* * *

ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC
Waldorf, Minnesota
Father Brian Mulligan
Sunday - 8 a.m. Worship
* * *

TRINITY LUTHERAN
Wilton Township
Rev. Larry Sipe, Pastor
Sunday - 10:30 a.m. Worship
* * *

THE CHURCH of JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS
* * *

Brad Donner, Branch President
Waseca, Minnesota
www.lds.org
Sunday - 10 a.m. Sacrament Mtg.; 11:20 a.m. Sunday School
Wednesday - 7 p.m. Youth Activities, ages 12-18
* * *

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
412 N. Main Street, Janesville
Pastor Brian Johnston
Wednesday, Saturday - 6:30 p.m. Worship
Sunday - 8:15 a.m. Worship, 9:15 Worship w/bible Class, 10:30 a.m. Worship
* * *

JANESVILLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
401 N. West St., Janesville
Pastor Kathy King
Sunday - 8:15 a.m. Worship
* * *

BLOOMING GROVE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
43089 180th St., Morristown
Pastor Kathy King
Sunday - 10:45 a.m. Worship
* * *

ST. ANN CATHOLIC CHURCH
307 W. 2nd St., Janesville
Father Brian Mulligan
10 a.m. - Mass
* * *

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH
300 Owen St., Janesville
Interim Pastor
* * *

ST. JOHN EVANGELICAL CHURCH
Alma City, Minnesota
Vacancy
Sunday = 1 p.m. Worship
* * *

TRINITY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
Smiths Mill, Minnesota
Vacancy
Thursday - 7:00 p.m. Worship
Sunday - 8:30 a.m. Worship
* * *

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In memoriam



Dr. Kendall Gerdes, age 81 passed away at his home in Portland, Oregon, on July 28, 2022. Ken graduated from Waseca High School in 1958 and will always be remembered for biking from Denver to Waseca for his 50th class reunion.

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Location: From Hollandale, MN, Half mile west on State Hwy. 251 then one mile south on 825th Ave

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				1 7pm Bingo	2 VJ Day Meat Raffle 5:30pm	3
4	5 LABOR DAY	6	7 6pm Bar Bingo	8 7pm Bingo	9 Meat Raffle 5:30pm	10 Private Event
11 All you can EAT Breakfast 8:00am to Noon Your Host VFW Honor Guard	12 7pm Post & AUX Meeting	13 BURGER NITE 5-7pm	14 6pm Bar Bingo	15 7pm Bingo	16 National POW/MIA Recognition Day Meat Raffle 5:30	17 Private Event
18 AIR FORCE (USAF) Birthday 1947	19	20 BURGER NITE 5-7pm	21 6pm Bar Bingo	22 7pm Bingo	23 Meat Raffle 5:30pm	24 Private Event
25 All you can EAT Breakfast 8:00am to Noon Your Host Caregivers of Waseca	26	27 BURGER NITE 5-7pm PAC ACT INFO. By Christopher Hinton VSO Waseca County 5:30 pm	28 6pm Bar Bingo	29 7pm Bingo	30 Meat Raffle 5:30pm	

HOURS of Operation.

Sun. - Mon. Closed
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Thur. - 1pm to close
Fri. - Sat. - 11am to close

POST & AUX Meeting 7pm club open 6pm MEMBERS only. Mn gambling license number 00385



HUMBLED — The NRHEG football team lost 27-6 to defending state champion Mayer Lutheran Friday, Sept. 9 in New Richland. From left: Andrew Phillips (29) on his way to 140 yards rushing; Ethan Thompson (42) makes one of his 17 solo tackles; Lukas Loverink (21) and Sam Olson (9) combine to stop Jack Grimsley, who ran for 217 yards; Aiden Deyle (47), gets to the quarterback.

Pioneer photos by Chris Schlaak

Defending state champs dismantle Panthers

By JIM LUTGENS
Sports Editor

The NRHEG Panthers didn't play that bad. Their opponent was just that good. It made for an ugly final score.

Defending state champion Mayer Lutheran came to town and handed the Panthers a 27-6 setback in their football home opener in New Richland Friday, Sept. 9.

"It's not the result we were looking for," said NRHEG coach Marc Kruger. "But the effort was there."

It just wasn't enough on this rainy night against the powerful Crusaders, who ran 75 plays to the Panthers' 41, outgained them 375-135 in total yards (including 269-117 rushing) and led 27-0 before NRHEG finally scored in the fourth quarter.

It sent the Panthers to a second straight defeat.

"I think if we would of played like this last week we would beat Kenyon-Wanamingo," said Coach Kruger. "This is a very stout defending state champ team we played."

There were some bright spots for the home

team, namely 140 yards rushing and a touchdown for senior Andrew Phillips.

"That was nice to see," said Kruger.

Ethan Thompson had a monster game on defense, recording 17 solo tackles and one assist. Unfortunately, many of those tackles came after big gains as Jack Grimsley gashed the Panther defense for 217 yards rushing and two touchdowns on 35 carries.

"They had a solid game plan and we did not handle the run well," said Kruger.

That was apparent from the outset. After a three-and-out by the Panthers, the Crusaders methodically went 65 yards on 10 plays - seven of them Grimsley runs - culminating with a fourth-down 8-yard touchdown pass from Levi Hahn to Mason Neitzel. Marcus Rupp added the PAT kick.

The Panthers' next offensive series ended on fourth down, and Mayer Lutheran followed with a five-play, 50-yard drive ending with a 2-yard touchdown run for Grimsley. The big play was a 31-yard pass from Hahn to Blake Aurich. The PAT kick failed.

The Panthers' next possession produced a

first down, but they punted as the first quarter ended. The Crusaders blocked it, taking over on the NRHEG 35-yard line.

Seven plays later, Justus Schimanski scored on a 1-yard touchdown run. Rupp kicked the PAT.

The Crusaders drove deep into Panther territory before stalling on fourth down late in the second quarter. The Panthers took a knee at their 8-yard line for the final play of the first half.

Mayer Lutheran picked up where it left off in the third quarter, taking the kickoff and driving 53 yards in seven plays, with Grimsley scoring on a nifty 19-yard run. Rupp added the PAT.

Phillips broke free up the sideline for 25 yards on the Panthers' ensuing play, but that drive ended on fourth down at the ML 35.

About midway through the fourth quarter, Phillips provided the biggest highlight of the night for the home team, starting left and cutting back right, splitting and outrunning defenders for a 70-yard touchdown run. A two-point conversion try was no good.

Another fourth-quarter highlight for the Panthers was a 17-yard pass completion for Alden Dobberstein to Jaylin Raab. For the night, Dobberstein was 3-for-16 for 18 yards and no interceptions.

"It was a tough start for us," said Kruger. "They were able to do a lot to us, and we just were not able to do enough on offense. We need to face adversity and turn around and go 1-0 next week."

The Panthers play at Janesville-Walдорf-Pemberton Friday, Sept. 16 at 7 p.m.

Total plays	75	41
Rushing	60-269	25-117
Passing	8-15-0	3-16-0
Passing Yds.	106	18
Total offense	375	135
Fumbles-lost	0-0	1-1
Penalties	8-70	4-20
Third down	6-14	3-10
Fourth down	2-5	0-5
Turnovers	0	1
Time of poss.	33:49	14:11

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

Rushing - NRHEG: Phillips 19-140; Thompson 1 - 4; Dobberstein 5 - 19; ML: Grimsley 35-217; Shimanski 13-50; Hahn 12-2

Passing - NRHEG: Dobberstein 3-16-0, 18; ML: Hahn 8-15-0, 106

Receiving - NRHEG: Raab 1-12; Thompson 2-6; ML: Neitzel 3-48; Aurich 1-31; Grimsley 3-14; Clark 1-13

Defense: Thompson 17 tackles, 1 assist; Deyle 6 tackles, 2 assists; Misgen 6 tackles; Phillips 5 tackles, 1 assist; Raab 4 tackles, 1 assist; Schlaak 4 tackles, 1 assist; Loverink 4 tackles, 1 assist; Olson 3 tackles, 2 assists; Howe 3 tackles, 1 assist; Prigge 3 tackles; Ihrke 2 tackles; Degen 1 tackle

ML	13	7	7	0	—	27
NRHEG	0	0	0	6	—	6
First Quarter						
ML - Neitzel 24 pass from Hahn (Rupp kick)						
ML - Grimsley 2 run (kick failed)						
Second Quarter						
ML - Shimanski 1 run (run failed)						
Third Quarter						
ML - Grimsley 19 run (Rupp kick)						
Fourth Quarter						
NRHEG - Phillips 71 run (run failed)						
	ML		NRHEG			
First downs	25		7			

WHS Spikers keep it close

Bluejays fall 3-2 to Rochester Lourdes, 3-1 to St. James

By MICHAEL ROY
Publisher

The Waseca volleyball team's ability to keep games close has kept them in some tough matches. But after defeating St. James 3-1 at home, the start of a five-game road trip began with a 3-0 loss to Blue Earth Area.

Waseca 3, St. James 1

It was a long night for St. James Area as they visited the Bluejays Sept. 6. Waseca showed capabilities on offense, leaning on junior Aliyah Taylor and senior Kloe Wadd to lead the production. After senior Avery Madsen served two aces in a row, the Lady Jays extended their lead until eventually winning the first set 25-14.

Taylor would not be denied getting points for her team, especially in the second set. Although the Saints were within four early, Waseca ran away with it, 25-13.

It looked like an early night for the Jays, but St. James found a new fire and stormed ahead 18-11 in the third set. Although Waseca looked poised

for a comeback, the Saints were one step ahead. Whenever the Jays tied it and threatened to take the lead and end things, the visitors responded by breaking the tie. After about five minutes of back and forth, St. James finally broke the cycle, taking the third set 32-30.

Waseca kept toe-to-toe with the Saints in the fourth set and did just enough to end things with a 25-23 score. Senior Riley Ruedy scored the game-winning point with a light volley.

Taylor and Wadd combined for a total of 28 kills. Siri Kuhns led in assists with 40, while senior Haylee Sommers led in digs with 26. Avery Madsen ended her night with four aces and a block.

BEA 3, Waseca 0

The result of the following game at Blue Earth Area Sept. 8 proves that the final score of a game never tells the whole story.

The Buccaneers weren't as dominant as the score suggests. Waseca made them earn every point and at worst were a few points behind.

The problem was they were unable to finish, resulting in losses in all three sets. They fell 27-25, 25-23, 25-25.

Individually: Assists: Kuhns 26, Ruedy one; Kills: Taylor 13, Ruedy eight; Blocks: Megan Kanewischer and Madsen one each; Digs: Haylee Sommers 22 and Ruedy 14; Aces: Takara Slattery three, Ellie Hoehn and Ruedy one each.

Lourdes 3, Waseca 2

Waseca traveled to Rochester Lourdes Monday, Sept. 12. This matchup pushed the Lady Jays to their limits. They won the first set 25-23, but the Eagles struck back hard in the second set with a 25-13 victory and a decisive 25-18 victory in the third set.

Although it looked like Lourdes was going to coast to victory with a four-set win, Waseca took the following set with a dominant 25-15 win. It was down to the final set.

Whether it was home-court advantage or the relentlessness of Lourdes, Waseca ended up taking the loss in a close final set, 16-14.



WITHIN REACH — Although the past week brought three losses, the Waseca High School volleyball team kept it close in each. Above from left: Siri Kuhns, Kloe Wadd, Riley Ruedy, Takara Slattery and Ellie Hoehn celebrate a point. Below: Aliyah Taylor prepares to pass as Haylee Sommers (2) and Erika Bowers (3) look on.

Pioneer photos by Michael Roy

Kuhns led in assists with 37 while Sommers tallied two.

Individually in other stats: Kills: Taylor 15, Ruedy 12; Blocks: Madsen five, Wadd four; Digs: Sommers 19, Ruedy 12; Aces: Erika Bowers and Madsen 2 each, Aliyah Taylor one.

The Bluejays, 4-6 overall and 2-2 in the Big South Conference, faced West Lutheran Thursday and take on St. Peter Tuesday, Sept. 20.



HOME OPENER — The NRHEG volleyball team dropped its home opener 3-0 to WEM last Thursday, two nights after winning a nonconference match by the same score. At left, Hallie Schultz executes one of her 15 assists vs. WEM; at right, Bree Ihrke (8) on the attack.

Pioneer photos by Chris Schlaak and Eli Lutgens

NRHEG Spikers fall to WEM

By ELI LUTGENS
Publisher/Editor

After defeating GHEC-T-ML last Tuesday in three sets (25-7, 25-22, 25-12), the NRHEG volleyball team fell in its home opener to Waterville-Elysian-Morristown 3-0 (25-13, 25-23, 25-21) Thursday.

The Panthers' only lead at any point until game three came on the opening point of a lopsided loss in game one. The Buccaneers went on a 5-point run before the Panthers called a timeout. The Panthers got the score to within 9-7 before the Bucs went on several more runs.

In game two, the Panthers fell behind early trailing 14-5. With several short runs, the Panthers clawed back into it. They score five straight to make it 22-20, eventually getting to 24-23 before WEM ended it.

With Tayler Schmidt serving, the Panthers scored the first five points of game three The Buccaneers, however, rebounded scoring five straight, followed by 5-2 run.

The Panthers kept it close, trailing 18-17, before scoring four out of the final five points, falling 25-21.

"It was a tough loss," first-year Panthers coach Ashley Tolzman reported. "We got off to a slow start in game 1 but were able to get back into the match at the end of the second game and third game. WEM did a great job of

finding the holes in our defense. Our tip coverage was lacking and we made simple mistakes. Overall we beat ourselves but we have a lot of things we can learn from this game."

Individually for the Panthers: Hallie Schultz 15 assists, 1 block, 3 digs; Tayler Schmidt 3 kills, 1 block, 6 digs; Erin Jacobson 4 kills, 3 blocks, 8 digs; Bree Ihrke 4 kills, 3 blocks, 1 dig; Faith Nielsen 1 kill, 2 digs; Sarah George 1 kill, 4 blocks; Bailey Ihrke 5 kills, 2 blocks 4 digs; Sidney Schultz 7 digs.

Traveling to GHEC-T-ML, the Panthers dominated.

"The girls came out strong in the first game with a stellar offense," Tolzman said. "The second game we struggled with our defense and made several mistakes. The girls fought for every single point and came back to win. The third game we made less mistakes and played our game again."

Individually: Hallie Schultz: 2 kills, 18 assists, 5 blocks, 1 dig; Schmidt: 1 kill, 2 blocks, 3 digs; Grace Wilkenson: 2 digs; Jacobson: 7 kills, 4 digs; Bree Ihrke: 5 kills, 1 assist, 5 blocks, 2 digs; Nielsen: 2 digs; George: 3 kills; Madison Murray: 1 assist, 2 blocks; Tatum Smith Vulcan: 1 dig; Bailey Ihrke: 5 kills, 2 blocks, 1 dig; Sidney Schultz: 1 assist, 6 digs.

Bulldogs fall to SC/ML

JWP to host NRHEG Friday

By **MICHAEL ROY**
Publisher

After traveling to Loyola High School during its homecoming week, the Janesville-Waldorf-Pemberton football team lost to the St. Clair/Mankato Loyola Spartans 24-8 Friday, Sept. 9.

The game started dry, but neither team could get it done in the first quarter. Although the JWP defense did its best to keep the Spartans in check, a handful of penalties killed drives for the Bulldog offense and helped extend the drives for the Spartans, who took a 7-0 lead early in the second quarter.

The rest of the second quarter brought with it the heaviest rain of the night. During the downpour the Loyola scoreboard malfunctioned and it took a few minutes for the home team to fix the problem.

Despite more penalties aiding the Spartans, the Bulldogs stopped them in the red zone on third down six minutes in. The stalled drive resulted in Spartans' kicker Simon Morgan



STILL LOOKING — The JWP football team is still looking for its first win after a 24-8 setback to St. Clair/Mankato Loyola Friday, Sept. 9 in Mankato. At left, the Bulldogs' Ryan Kronbach (11) goes up for a pass while the Spartans' Garrett Mills and Dylan Blount (5) defend. At right, JWP defensive end Michael VanRavenhorst (55) applies pressure on quarterback Jake Sizer (9).

Pioneer photos by Michael Roy

making a field goal to put his team up 10-0.

After a wet first half, a light mist stuck around for the latter half. With a few splash plays, the Spartans found the end zone again via a rushing touchdown by Brandon Meng. However, they hiccuped when Bulldog defensive back Kelton Erler came down with an interception on the PAT try.

The Bulldogs' only touchdown came from the scoring opportunity after a pick by Morsching. After methodically making their way down the field, senior quarterback Karson Lindsay connected with junior wide

receiver Ryan Kronbach in the end zone for the touchdown. Ryder Thissen ran for the two-point conversion, making it 17-8.

Although JWP was nearly successful at another scoring opportunity, Loyola called game when they padded their nine-point lead with another successful touchdown run by Meng.

"St. Clair/Loyola is always a tough team to play," JWP coach Jeff Wagner stated. "We just couldn't overcome the penalties this time."

The JWP football team will have its first home game of the season against New Richland-Hartland-El-



lendale-Geneva on Friday, Sept. 16 at 7 p.m.

First Quarter

No scoring

Second Quarter

SCL: Jake Sizer runs the ball from the 2-yard line. Alex Kruse attempts the point after. Extra point is good.

SCL: Simon Morgan attempts a 34-yard field goal. It's good.

Third Quarter

SCL: Jake Sizer hands the ball off to Brandon Meng at the 7-yard line and he runs for a touchdown. Morgan kicks the PAT.

SCL: Sizer runs the ball from the 8-yard line to the end zone. Morgan kicks the PAT.

Fourth Quarter

JWP: Karson Lindsay drops back to the 18-yard line and completes a pass to Ryan Kronbach. Ryder Thissen runs for a two-point

conversion.

Passing

JWP: Karson Lindsay, 6/27, 110 yds, TD.

SCL: Jake Sizer, 3/10, 17 yds.

Rushing

JWP: Ryder Thissen, 7 att., 14 yards. Karson Lindsay, 2 att., 7 yards. Lucas Morsching, 1 att., -1 yard.

SCL: Sizer, 8 att., 37 yards, 2 TDs. Brandon Meng, 24 att., 159 yards, TD. Eli Kruse, 7 att., 63 yards.

Receiving

JWP: Nolan Morsching, 2 rec., 63 yards. Ryan Kronbach, 2 receptions 19 yards, TD. Ryder Thissen, rec., 16 yards. Ethan Born, 1 rec., 12 yards.

SCL: Simon Morgan, 1 rec., 7 yards. Mason Stoffel, 1 rec., 2 yards. Josh Kann, 2 rec., 8 yards.



THE SKID STOPS — The Waseca High School boys' soccer team won two straight after starting the season with five losses. Above left, the Bluejays' Logan Heyer (6) vs. Mankato Loyola. At right, Raul Castaneda (1).



Pioneer photos by Michael Roy

Waseca soccer boys snap skid, win two straight

After foiling Fairmont 3-1, Bluejays hold on to defeat Mankato Loyola 3-2

By **MICHAEL ROY**
Publisher

After facing five straight losses to begin the season, the Waseca High School boys' soccer team turned things around last week, earning two straight wins against Big South Conference opponents.

The first win was against Fairmont Tuesday, Sept. 6. The boys were the hosts, and they used that to their advantage.

Throughout the first five games of the sea-

son, the Bluejays allowed an average of about 4.5 goals a game. In the match against the Cardinals, they only allowed one goal. Offensively, the boys got three goals, the most they had scored in a single game this season.

The following Thursday, Sept. 8, the Bluejays hosted St. Clair/Mankato Loyola. Mason Jes opened things up for the Bluejays offense with a score 17 minutes into the game. A few minutes later, Alex James kicked one in to extend Waseca's lead to two. Loyola snuck one

past goalie Eduardo Gallegos Jr. less than 12 minutes before halftime.

It looked like overtime was inevitable. But Waseca's Israel Nelson finally got one past Loyola and broke the tie with five minutes left in the game. The Bluejays held on to win 3-2, notching another win in the Big South.

Another conference opponent, Marshall, visited Waseca at noon on Saturday, Sept. 10. The boys looked to extend their two-win streak and take another victory. However, the Tigers made

sure that didn't happen.

The Bluejays were only able to earn one goal while Marshall tallied four. It snapped Waseca's winning streak at two.

With the two wins and loss last week, the boys' soccer team is 2-6 (2-4 in-conference). They traveled to St. Peter Tuesday, Sept. 13 and hosted New Ulm the following Thursday.

JWP volleyball team rebounds to sweep Nicollet

By **MICHAEL ROY**
Publisher

In the last matchup within a four-game home stand to start the season, the Janesville-Waldorf-Pemberton volleyball team lost to Bethlehem Academy 3-0.

Faribault BA 3, JWP 0

JWP played a competitive first set and even held a lead against a vaunted Cardinals team.

"BA is a very strong team," coach Jessica Keenan stated. "Our girls were ready to take on the challenge."

However, the Cardinals showed why they were a dominant squad in the Gopher Conference when they retook the lead and finished the start-

"As I said earlier this season, we're expecting our growing pains."
— Coach Jessica Keenan

ing set with a decisive 25-17 victory. "We started off strong and fought hard throughout," Keenan said. "But we lost the energy and strength in our next two sets."

Bethlehem Academy overwhelmed the Bulldogs in the following sets, sweeping 25-12 and 25-9.

"Bethlehem Academy plays a much quicker offense than we have been used to seeing," Keenan ex-

plained. "That was an adjustment we just weren't able to overcome. As I said earlier this season, we're young, and we're expecting our growing pains, and last night was one of those nights. The girls learned a lot in the game, and are ready to put what they've learned to the test on Monday vs Nicollet."

Individually: Brielle Bure 2 aces, 12 digs; Aubrey Weedman 1 ace, 1

kill, 1 block, 3 digs, 11 assists; Raquel Fischer 1 kill, 2 digs; Jessa Westphal 7 kills, 2 blocks, 2 digs; Claire Walz 2 kills; Nevaeh Weimert 1 kill, 1 dig, 3 assists; Paige Walz 2 kills; Isabelle Rider 1 dig; Lilly Strauss 5 digs; Lexie Dahlberg 3 digs.

JWP 3, Nicollet 0

The Bulldogs had a fantastic bounce-back victory against Nicollet Monday, Sept. 12. It was their first road game of the season, but it didn't affect how the girls played at all.

"We were much better prepared in this game," Keenan said.

JWP took the first two sets easily with scores of 25-18 and 25-14. But

the Raiders clawed their way back into it. The girls rode on the back of Weedman, who had one of the best nights in her varsity career with 19 aces.

Her efforts helped the team stave off Nicollet and end it early by a score of 25-23.

Individually: Bure 1 ace, 8 digs; Westphal 1 ace, 12 kills, 1 block; Weedman 2 aces, 19 aces, 1 block; Rider 3 aces, 1 kill; Dahlberg 1 ace, 1 kill, 6 digs; Strauss 5 kills, 1 block; Fischer 9 kills; Paige Walz 1 kill; Weimert 5 assists, 4 digs; Ali Olson 7 digs; Claire Walz 1 block.

WHS CC teams run at TCU

Girls 5th, boys 19th

By **MICHAEL ROY**
Publisher

The Waseca cross country team was one of 29 schools at the Tri-City United Gerry Smith Invitational on Thursday, Sept. 8. Unlike the last meet, the sizes of schools were a little more diverse, ranging from schools like Mound-Westonka to United South Central. Waseca was one of the bigger schoolst.

The girls placed 5th out of 21 schools with 151 points. Mound-Westonka took first place, with Belle Plaine, Waconia, and Visitation Catholic beating Waseca.

Senior Ella Dufault placed fifth with a time of 20:15.95. Less than a minute later, sophomore Callie Dufault placed 10th in 21:07.81. Stella Omtvedt rounded out the top 20 runners, placing 12th with a time of 21:15.56. Other finishers were Kya Hoof (59th, 24:02.42) and Melanie Krueger (73rd, 24:59.54).

The boys had more trouble and stiffer competition to face. Out of 29 teams, they placed 19th with 490 points. Belle Plaine took first with 48 points.

Waseca's best runner was senior Joe Feldkamp, who placed 36th in 18:39. Sophomore Tristan Godwin cracked the top 100, placing 94th in 20:06.86. Other finishers: Addison Sampson (109th, 20:34.56), Tyler Jellum (113th, 20:49.15), and Cade Calbow (138th, 21:30.76).

The Bluejays competed Thursday, Sept. 15 in the 10-team Hutchinson Invitational.

WEM-JWP CC teams struggle at Hayfield

By **MICHAEL ROY**
Publisher

The WEM-JWP cross country team has had to go through plenty of growing pains this season, missing some of their top runners from last year. Both teams struggled at Oaks Golf Course near Hayfield Tuesday, Sept. 6.

Ten teams raced in the meet. It was a rough day for WEM-JWP. As co-head coach Jonathan McDonough put it, there wasn't "a whole lot to talk about at the varsity level."

Out of nine qualifying teams, the boys placed last with Pine Island taking first. The girls fared a little better with a sixth-place finish. Plainview-Elgin-Millville took first in the girls' 5,000-meter race.

Leading the boys was Alexander Kleve, who did just enough to make the top 40 with a time of 21:58.75. Out of 61 racers, Carter Hoehn placed 52nd (23:22.71), David Lamp 54th (23:58.76), Ivan Pratt 55th (24:25.70), and Carson James 56th (24:40.27).

MaKenzie Westphal was eight seconds shy of a top-10 finish and settled for 13th (24:16.78). Freshman Kwynn Krause joined Westphal in the top 20 with her 18th-place finish (25:01.68) with Madison Kunst taking the 20th spot (25:03.26). Other runners were Faith Olson (33rd, 26:57.1), Ashlin Keyes (43rd, 28:45.76), Maddie Huess (52nd, 31:59.98), and Lydia Huelsnitz (60th, 38:56.43).

Some highlights from the junior varsity teams included eighth-grader Wyatt Jans taking fourth place in the boys' race (9:09.01), and the girls' team having three place within the top 10. They were Madalyn Miller (10:53.41), Ashlynn Wolff (10:54.59), and MaKaela Westphal (10:56.2).

WEM-JWP traveled to Daly Park near Mapleton Thursday, Sept. 15.



DIFFICULT TASK — As if facing Marshall wasn't enough, the Waseca High School football team had to contend with a driving rain most of the night Friday, Sept. 9 in Waseca. From left: Bluejay linebacker Nate Engel-Mueller (33) closes in on Marshall quarterback Tyler Maeyaert (1); Waseca quarterback Oliver O'Brien drops back to pass while Jose Mixteco runs his route; Waseca linebacker Max Neaves (4) applies pressure to Maeyaert while Mason Eickhoff attempts to block. Pioneer photos by Eli Lutgens

Marshall nips Bluejays, 8-7

Waseca travels to TCU Friday

By ELI LUTGENS
Publisher/Editor

It was a typical football game between perennial powerhouses. In the end, predictably, only one point separated the two.

In a driving rain, the Waseca Bluejays were edged in their home opener 8-7 by Class 4A Marshall Friday, Sept. 9. The winning score came in the fourth quarter, and the Tigers converted a pass to convert a daring two-point conversion.

"We need to study better," Waseca coach Brad Wendland told his players. "We need to be better disciplined, play smarter and develop more maturity."

The night started well for the Jays. Their young defense, which boasts eight new starters from a year ago, forced an opening-drive fumble, ending a 10-play drive. The turnover, caused by Max Neaves, set up the Bluejays on their own 33-yard line.

Oliver O'Brien and the Jays went to work quickly, with O'Brien scrambling for 34 yards up the left sideline on the first play. Three plays later, Christian Rodriguez zig-zagged to his left through an open hole from 24 yards out. Neaves added the PAT kick midway through the first quarter.

The Tigers then marched 12 plays before stalling on a fourth-and-short at the Jays' 26-yard line.

In Waseca's second drive, O'Brien again had a fantastic scramble of 32 yards, first going left, then cutting back across the middle, ending on the right sideline. With rain starting, however, two plays later O'Brien fumbled the handoff and Marshall recovered deep in its own territory.

The teams traded possessions two more times in the first half. Marshall was forced to punt twice. The Jays had one more long drive of 10 plays, ending on a fourth-down sack deep in Marshall territory with two minutes remaining.

It was 7-0 at halftime.

Things could not have started worse for the Jays in the second half as they fumbled the opening kickoff. Marshall recovered, but did not score as Damerius Russell intercepted Tyler Maeyaert's third-down pass. Russell's return put it at the Waseca 40. The Jays proceeded to again march down the field, but again came up short. This time under downpouring rain, a nine-play drive ended on a fumble from with just under six minutes to play in the third quarter.

The two teams traded punts on their next possessions, which both included multiple dropped passes and lost footing as both teams struggled with the sloppy conditions.

With a 1:41 remaining in the third quarter, the Tigers finally capitalized. With good field position at their own



BEFORE AND AFTER — At left, Waseca's Christian Rodriguez (38), Brendan Brown (71), Max Neaves (4) Kyle Ahlschlager (5) and Shane Engel-Mueller (75) lead the team on the field at the start of the game — before the rains came. At right, a soaked Waseca coach Brad Wendland. Pioneer photos by Eli Lutgens

48-yard line following a 27-yard punt, hampered by the rain. Marshall started with an 11-yard run to the right on a fake reverse. Runners looked like they were going in slow motion as they tried to keep their footing. The next play was fumbled, but recovered by Marshall. But two of their next three plays, a 20-yard run and a 15-yard run, set up the Tigers at the 4-yard line. A quick run by Mason Eickhoff produced Marshall's lone touchdown of the night. Still in the downpouring rain, the Knights made a daring play call. On a play action pass, Maeyaert dropped back about 10 yards before lobbing a pass over three pursuing defenders to wide-open fullback Gavin Schaefer.

The teams traded possessions over the final 10 minutes of the game with the Jays getting three possessions and the Tigers two. The Bluejays' only real threat was ended on a great sideline interception at Marshall's

43-yard line with three minutes remaining.

Wendland, whose team evened its record at 1-1, counseled the Bluejays to look in the mirror after the loss.

"So maybe we didn't deserve this one," he told his players. "How you guys handle this right now is going to determine where this season goes. If you point fingers at this and that, then that'll be that. We can be better at the end of the year. Everyone needs to look at themselves. Now you know how you don't win a football game. You can learn a lot from failure. We're not mad at you, but we expect better from you. We need to give Marshall credit. They were physical."

"This will humble us," O'Brien told teammates.

Wendland said some changes are in order for this Friday when the Bluejays travel to Tri-City United "We're probably going to make a

number of changes after tonight," said Wendland. "You learn more from losing than you do winning. We talked about how the most physical team would win, and I'm not sure that was us tonight."

Wendland said the players didn't have a good week of practice and repeatedly emphasized the need for discipline.

"I believe in these kids," he said. "I know they'll react better."

	M	WAS
First downs	17	8
Rushing	37-110	30-189
Passing	7-15	3-8
Passing Yds.	78	25
Penalties	4-40	5-40

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

Rushing - WAS: O'Brien 13-112; Rodriguez 11-53; Neaves 3-18; Mixteco 2-7; Damerius Russell 1 —1; M: Eickhoff 11-37; Brownlee 12-35; Maeyaert 9-25; Nwakama 4-8; Wing 1-5

Passing - WAS: O'Brien 3-8, 25; M: Maeyaert 7-15, 78

Receiving - WAS: Damerius Russell 1-19; Thompson 1-8; Rodriguez 1—2; M: Nwakama 1-36; Wing 1-11; Condezo 2-10; Brownlee 1-9; Abdi 1-8; Wallen 1-4

Defense: WAS: N.Engel-Mueller 6 tackles, 3 assists; Garza 5 tackles, 1 assist, 2 sacks; O'Brien 5 tackles; Neaves 5 tackles, 1 assist, 1 sack; Ellis 4 tackles, 3 assists; Brown 1 tackle, 4 assists; Thompson 2 tackles, 1 assist; Damerius Russell 2 tackles, 1 interception; Deron Russell 2 tackles; Ohnstad 1 tackle, 1 assist; Robran 1 tackle, 1 assist, 1 sack; S.Engel-Mueller 1 assist, 1 fumble recovery



STILL UNDEFEATED — The Waseca High School girls' soccer team remained undefeated in the Big South Conference with three victories. From left: Khloe Fuller (7), Gabriela Lopez (23), Evelyn Nydegger (3) and Ella Krautkremer (8) Pioneer photos by Chris Schlaak

Waseca girls' soccer team stays unbeaten in Big South

By MICHAEL ROY
Publisher

The Waseca High School girls' soccer team remained undefeated in the Big South Conference this past week with wins against conference opponents Fairmont, Mankato Loyola, and Marshall.

The last time the girls played Fairmont was at home. It was a close game with the Bluejays barely skirting past them with a 3-2 victory. This time, however, it wasn't

even close.

Aside from one goal, the Cardinals were silent most of the game Tuesday, Sept. 6. Waseca rode their winning streak momentum to steal a 5-1 win on the road.

The game at Mankato Loyola the following Thursday was much closer. The Crusaders took the lead early, but Waseca struck back with a pair of goals. Both offenses were relatively quiet the rest of the game with the Bluejays going into the weekend with another victory under

their belt.

It was dicey at first for Waseca as they were set to play Marshall on Saturday, Sept. 10. The night before, heavy rain made the field wet, muddy, and created pools of water. It made conditions unfit for a soccer game.

"We ended up playing in New Richland," head coach Kyle Tomlinson explained.

The field they ended up playing in didn't make much of a difference. Waseca still played a dominant game on

both sides of the ball, coasting to a cool 2-0 win.

While remaining undefeated in the conference, the girls extended their win streak to seven. They took on more Big South opponents this week, hosting St. Peter on Tuesday, Sept. 13 before traveling to New Ulm the following Thursday. They will host Worthington for a rematch Tuesday, Sept. 20.