



# Pen City Current

Sunday, June 3, 2018 | 7 pages | Volume 2 • Issue 131

## FMHS Graduation 2018



Photos by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Seniors at the 2018 Fort Madison High School graduation ceremony move their tassels at the direction of senior class speaker Maddie Sadler on Saturday at the Fort Madison High School. Sadler told her classmates that they need to go out now and find their dream "home". Below, Chris Brown get a hearty congratulations from FMHS Principal Greg Smith.

## FMHS sends 127 seniors looking for dreams

**BY ASHLYN BUTLER**  
PCC Iowa State Intern

FORT MADISON - Ft. Madison school staff, district board members, and friends and family filled the bleachers of the Fort Madison High School gym Saturday as 127 students crossed the stage to handshakes and hugs from FMCSO officials.

The Fort Madison High School band played Pomp and Circumstance as the seniors, two-by-two, walked into the gymnasium. The Fort Madison Senior Ensemble and FMHS voices also performed the Alma Mater and a rendition of the song "I Live" later in

the ceremony.

Superintendent Erin Slater briefly addressed the students and said, "Today is about you as an individual...when you walk across this stage, feel honored...feel proud."

Madeline Sadler served as Senior Class Speaker and gave a speech addressed to her graduating peers. Sadler spoke about having "a word of focus" and for her this word is "home." She describes home as "a person, place, or thing that is always there to fall back on."

She concluded her speech with words of encouragement.

"Class of 2018 we fi-

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## Judge gives councilman deferred sentence

*Seidel's status on council still unclear; city seeking answers*

**BY CHUCK VANDENBERG**  
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON - A sitting Fort Madison City Councilman was granted a deferred judgment on Friday morning in North Lee County Court.

Travis Seidel, who represents the 3rd Ward on the Fort Madison City Council, pleaded guilty on March 30 to a Class C felony for selling narcotics within 1,000 feet of a school. The charge was filed against him on Dec. 8 when he was arrested at his home by the Lee County Narcotics Task Force on two counts of distributing hydromorphone.



SEIDEL

Lee County Attorney Ross Braden offered a deferred judgment in the case citing a lack of a criminal history in Seidel's record. The agreement places Seidel on probation for a period of five years. If the probation is completed satisfactorily per the agreement, no criminal record of the felony will be placed on Seidel's permanent record.

"The judge granted that deferred judgment because he has no real criminal history," Braden said. "With that comes five years of probation."

The question still remains as to whether or not Seidel can now remain on the council.

Section 69.2 (1)(f), of the Iowa Code reads: 1. Every civil office shall be vacant if any of the following events occur - f. The conviction of the incumbent of a felony, an aggravated misdemeanor, or of any public offense involving the violation of the incumbent's oath of office.

However Braden has contended that the deferred judgment creates a gray area at this point as to

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# FMHS 2018 Graduation

*Smith to graduates:  
"Go into the world and be good"*

## GRADS - Continued from Page 1

nally did it, now it's your turn to make your dream home a reality."

She also led the ceremonial switching of cap tassels from the right to the left side to represent the students officially leaving their high school career behind and entering the world of adulthood.

Fort Madison High School Principal Greg Smith, closed the ceremony by giving a final speech. He advised the students to "go into the world and be good."

"Remember the two most important days in your life are the day that you're born and the day that you find out why. It is time for you to find your why," he said.

Directly following the

ceremony, students filled the adjoining cafeteria to celebrate starting their next stage in life as well as take photos with friends and family who attended. Newly graduated senior Kaela Baker said, "I had a great year and I definitely enjoyed all the people that I got to see and I will miss them."

She plans to attend Iowa Lakes and eventually go to a four-year college to study theatre and the arts.

Sadler described her high school career as "busy" and plans to attend Alaska Pacific in the Fall to study Environmental Science.

As the graduating class of 2018 celebrated the ending of their high school career, they also

buzzed with the anticipation of what is to come.

Several seniors didn't participate in the ceremony due to requirements placed on them by school administration after being videotaped vandalizing school property as part of the traditional "Senior Prank". Those involved were initially barred from walking across the stage during the ceremony, but school officials reconsidered the ban in lieu of 20 hours of service to the district prior last week.

Pen City Current congratulates all of the Fort Madison High School Class of 2018 and wishes you all health, happiness and prosperity in all that you do.

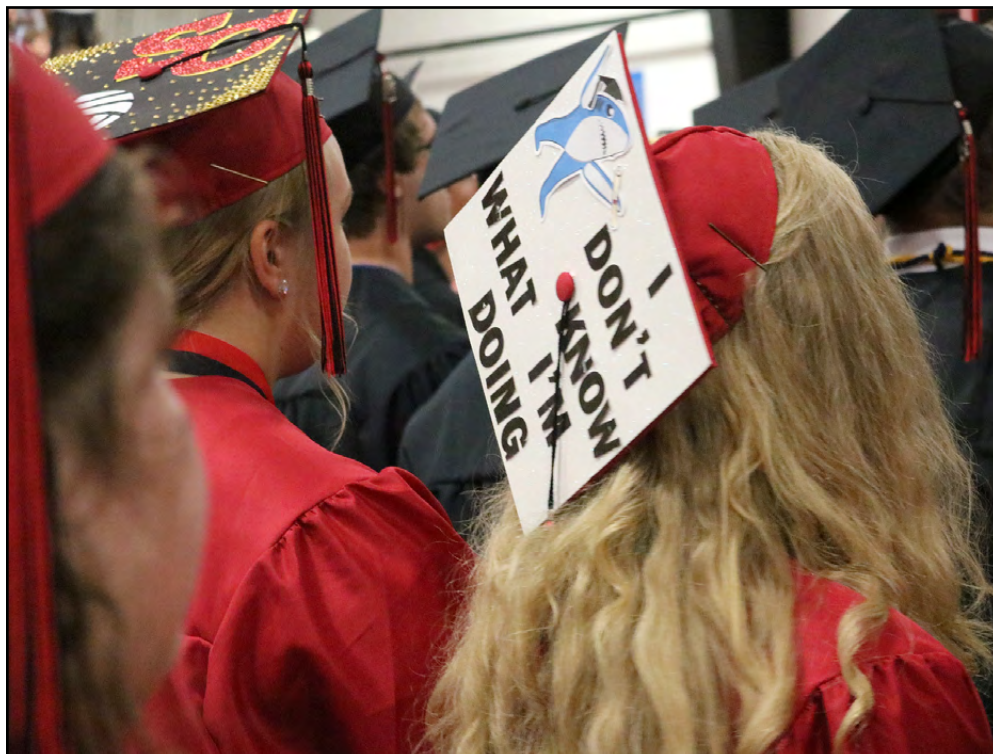


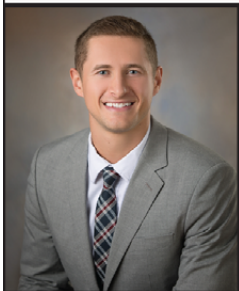
Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Seniors Leigh Johnson, left, and Kearstyn Johnson listen to presentations adorned with some nifty mortarboard work. Below, the graduates stand for the processional as all 127 seniors found their seats.



Senior Class Speaker Madeline Sadler gives her address to her fellow classmates at Saturday's commencement ceremony.

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Founded in 2016



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## From the Front/Lottery Numbers

# Mayor says council is reviewing legal advice

**SEIDEL** - Continued from Page 1

whether or not deferred judgments represent conviction.

“In some areas of Iowa legislation a deferred judgment is not a conviction, and in others it is,” Braden said. He reiterated that now the issue rests in the hands of the



RANDOLPH

Fort Madison City Council.

City Manager David Varley said nothing has been added to the agenda to address the issues.

“The code has language in it that a felon can’t sit on the council, but we don’t know where we’re at with that,” he said Friday. “The mayor and our attorney’s are reviewing the situation and doing research and then they’ll decide which way to proceed. But they

wanted to wait until after today.”

Mayor Brad Randolph said conversations are taking place about the issue.

“The City Manager and I have conferred with the city attorney (Robert Johnson) and with outside legal counsel about this situation and have received detailed advice,” he said. “The Council is in the process of reviewing that advice. Once they have done that, the Council will need to decide how to proceed given Iowa Code and Fort Madison Code. It would not be appropriate for me to comment further at this time.”

The Iowa Attorney General’s office in May said they couldn’t entertain an inquiry into the issue until a judge had ruled on the case and then someone from the city would have to request a review and interpretation of the code.



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# Lady Hounds sweep Wilton in doubleheader

*Girls snap 6-game slide with split at MP Thursday night*

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG  
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON - Senior Kamryn Bailey homered for the third time this year and Hounds put up 20 runs against Wilton Friday to snap out of a 5-of-6 losing stretch.

The Hounds have now won three straight after dropping six in a row to end the month of May.

Freshman Olivia Williams went 3-3 with an RBI in the opener to spur FMHS to a 9-6 win. Freshman Lauren Bailey went the first four innings giving up five runs all earned on seven hits, while fanning three. Jasmine Bass came in in relief and threw two innings giving up an earned run on two hits. Katelyn Dennis, just an eighth grader, buttoned up the win throwing nine pitches including a strikeout.

Trailing 5-0 going into the bottom of the fourth, Sadie Smithburg reached to start the bottom half and Dalyn Wondra doubled and the Hounds had runners and 2nd and 3rd with no outs. Sophomore Macee Featheringill laced a double of her own scoring Smithburg and Wondra. Featheringill advanced to third on a ground out and then came around to score when Bass grounded out to short. Both teams went 1-2-3 in the fifth and Wilton put up a run in the sixth before FMHS plated six in the bottom half of the sixth.

Wondra and Featheringill both singled to open the inning and then freshman Allison Helmick drew a walk to load the bases. Bass flew out to right to drive in Wondra and then Williams and freshman Kylie Cashman both singled driving in three runs to put the Hounds up 7-6. With Cashman on base, Kamryn Bailey sent the first pitch she saw over the fence for two more runs. Wilton got the next two Hounds out before Bass and Dennis came in a cleaned things up in top of the seventh.

In the second game, the Hounds shut things down after 6 with an 11-1 win. Powers went the distance giving up one run on seven hits and fanning seven. She also led the Hounds offensively going 2-for-3 with three RBIs, a home run and two runs scored. Williams and Smithburg both had two RBIs, with Williams coming on a homer in the sixth.

The Hounds split with Mt. Pleasant on Thursday, falling short in a comeback bid 2-3 to the Panthers in game one, before rolling to an 8-1 win in the night cap. Dennis took the loss in the opener.

William went 3-for-3 in the second game including a triple, a double and four RBIs. Powers got the win giving up just four hits on eight strikeouts.

The Bloodhounds dropped both games of a double header to Central Lee Wednesday night on the road.

The Hounds had started the season 1-3 with the only win coming in game one of a double header at home against West Burlington. After dropping both games of a double header to Washington on the road, the Hounds were hoping to take a couple games from the Lady Hawks.

But Central Lee 10-runned the Hounds in game one 14-4 in five innings. Powers went 3 for 3 with three singles and was thrown out at second trying to stretch a single into a double in the fifth inning. Sadie Smithburg was 2 for 2 with a double and run scored. Sophomore Dalyn Wondra was 2 for 2 with an RBI and a run scored. Sophomore Ivy Geerdes scored the other run for the Hounds.

Central Lee scored 12 runs in the first two innings. Daly Brisby scored three runs for the Lady Hawks, including scoring on a wild pitch in the bottom of the fifth inning to set the 10-run rule at 14-4.

Central Lee needed eight innings to get by the Hounds in the nightcap. Brisby and Sophie Woodley scored in the eight inning to put the game away for Central Lee. Kamryn Bailey went 3 of 5 with two RBIs and a run scored for FMHS.

The Hounds stay busy with a double-header Monday night in Fairfield.

## Crusaders get No. 1 Assumption in region 8 finals

*For second straight year, HTC tangles with top-ranked Knights on the road*

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG  
PCC EDITOR

WEST POINT - Holy Trinity will make the trek to Davenport Assumption Monday night to face the No. 1 Class 1A team in the state after knocking of Mediapolis in the semifinals of Region 8 district soccer action Friday night.

On a hot, sticky night at South Park, the Lady Crusaders jumped all over the Bullettes with the first goal coming with less than two minutes gone in the first period on an unassisted shot from freshman Claire Pothitakis.

"We started at hot as the temp, going from 0-100 in less than 90 seconds," said head coach Michael Sheerin. "Claire Pothitakis netted a lovely shot past the keeper to get us going and we stayed 'hot all night' and I'm not just talking about the temperature."

The Pothitakis onslaught continued after officials called for a water break due to the heat. Junior Elyse Pothitakis right off the break weaved through the defense for a pass to sophomore Nicole Pothitakis, who navigated a defender and drew out the Bullettes' goalkeeper to slide a shot past and into the net to put HTC up 2-0.

Senior Maya Rashid, who has scored in almost every game since returning from an injury suffered in the season's early going, scored unassisted about eight minutes later. But HTC kept the pressure on Mediapolis through the first half. Junior Taylor Boeding took a pass from classmate Emily Box and moved past the Mediapolis defense coming up to one-on-one with goalkeeper Sarah Conrad and slid one into the net for a 4-0 HTC lead with 4:34 remaining in the first period.

HTC goalkeeper Sam Pothitakis only had two saves on the night as Mediapolis was never able to get a concentrated run at the Crusaders' net.

Sheerin said the speed and pressure of Box, Madison Mohrfeld, Maille Sheerin and Ashlyn Haas kept the Bullettes at bay most of the night.

Pothitakis has not given up a goal in the last three matches.

Mohrfeld gave HTC a 5-0 lead with the first goal of the second half scoring unassisted from the left hitting in the top right corner, and then Elle Rashid got in on the action with an unassisted goal of her own to set the final score at 6-0.

Sheerin said junior Eryn Anderson was named player of the game by her teammates for her defense and middle field work.

"The girls played a much improved and well organized Mediapolis program from previous seasons," he said. "But our entire team put it all together tonight whilst enjoying the occasional water fight in between due to the excessive heat."

Assumption stands at 14-2 on the year with their only losses coming at the hands of Cedar Rapids Washington and Bettendorf. The Knights have allowed just five goals on the season including shutouts in both district games against Wapello and Bellevue Marquette outscoring those opponents by a combined 23-0. Senior Molly Gervase leads the Knights with 18 goals in just 13 games this season.

The game will start at 6 p.m. Monday at the St. Vincent Center Athletic Complex in Davenport.

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TUE 05 Jun \_\_\_\_\_

 Clear Skies  
High- 82.2° F | Low - 68.1° F

WED 06 Jun \_\_\_\_\_

 Light Rain  
High- 85.7° F | Low - 74.0° F

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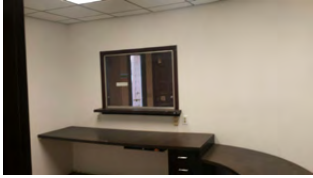
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