



Pen City Current

Thursday, April 25, 2019 | 16 pages | Volume 3 • Issue 101

Bill would apply soft cap to property tax

Legislation also puts retirement funds with general funds

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

LEE COUNTY – A bill that is currently in front of the Iowa House of Representatives is proposing to limit the amount governmental agencies can

bump property taxes annually.

The bill, House File 773, imposes city and county property tax and fund balance limitations beginning in fiscal year 2021, which is July 1, 2020.

The bill would remove current property tax levy rate limits for general funds and county general and rural funds and replace it with a potential 2% annual cap. Cities and counties would be able to increase that rate under certain circumstances, but only by passing a resolution.

Then taxpayers could gather signatures to force a vote on the increase.

The move also would limit city's general fund ending balances to 25% the funds budgeted expenditures.

According to the state's Legislative Services Agency, the bill would directly impact county and city budgets, but not directly impact any other local level of government including schools and townships.

Lee County Supervisor Rick Larkin

said the new structure could have a serious impact on county revenues and services.

Lee County Budget Director Cindy Renstrom put together an estimate of the financial impact over the four fiscal years from 2021-24.

Renstrom's figures indicate the county will lose \$400,203 over four years in its General Basic Fund and an additional

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County delays action on Argyle shed

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

MONTROSE – County officials have delayed the sale of county shed and a parcel of land in Argyle while county officials compile more information on the property.

At Tuesday's Lee County Board of Supervisor's meeting, a move to set a public hearing to sell the shed owned by the county, and a parcel of land that is actually owned by the Argyle Sanitary District.

The board of supervisors serves as trustees of the sanitary district.

Ron Burchett, a resident of Argyle has been pushing the county to sell the property to him. Burchett contends he has been mowing and keeping up the property for the past 12 years, allegedly without the knowledge or authorization of the county.

Burchett said the county has been moving forward as selling the property as one bid, and now they want two sealed bids.

"I don't know...who's responsible here if I have a heart attack. I'm serious, I mean, I know it's all politics, but..." Burchett said. "The thing of it is, I'm not getting paid to come up with these questions. I'm just trying to, let's just say again, beautify America a little bit and help me out, and trying to get the horse out of your pen. And again, I don't know if you knew it even existed."

Supervisor Rich Harlow told Burchett to hang in there because county government moves slowly.



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

The county's maintenance shed in Argyle has been a source of contention recently and supervisors are prepared to sell the property, but delayed a public hearing while additional information on assessments and E911 signage was obtained

"Hang in there just a little bit longer, better days are coming," Harlow said.

Board chair Gary Folluo said it was important that the county do things correctly.

"After further investigation, as I stated, the county attorney was still working on it and it has to be sold separately," he said.

"We're administrators for the water district, the water district owns the property and the



FOLLUO

county owns the shed, so it has to be disposed of by both entities."

The property will be sold by sealed bid at a future meeting. Folluo said they were waiting on additional information from the county assessor's office on what the property is worth, and he preferred to have that in hand before setting a date for the hearing.

Lee County Auditor Denise Fraise provided an assessment figure on Wednesday. The as-

See SALE, page 2

Kingsley offers space for prom pictures

PCC STAFF

FORT MADISON – Kingsley Inn manager Chi Eastin is inviting those attending Fort Madison High School prom to shoot their pictures at the Kingsley Inn due to flooding along the scenic riverfront.

"Due to the flooded riverfront, The Kingsley Inn is opening their doors for students to take prom pictures on Saturday, April 27 from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.," Eastin said.

She said seniors will have access to the Courtyard, Club Room, stairways and The Guest House on the 3rd Floor. No guest other guest rooms will be open for pictures and no reservations are required.

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Obituaries/From the Front

OBITUARIES

IVA S. McCARL-GEMMING

Iva S. McCarl-Gemming, 66, of Fort Madison, IA, passed away at 3:20 a.m. on Wednesday, April 24, 2019 at the Great River Hospice House in West Burlington, IA.



McCARL-GEMMING

She was born on February 16, 1953 in Fort Madison, IA to Marvin A. & Genevieve R. Tory McCarl. She did sewing and also worked at different factories over the years. She enjoyed sewing, spending time with her dog, Snickers & was very dedicated to her friends.

Iva is survived by: 3-children: Suzanne, Michael & Nicholas; 6-grandchildren; 1-great granddaughter & 1-sister: Nina Klesner. She was preceded in death by her parents & 1-son: Robert.

Cremation has been entrusted to King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory and no services are planned. Online condolences to Iva's family may be left at the King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory website: www.kinglynk.com.

Pen City Current obituary policy

The Current runs obituaries one time at no charge to funeral homes and they run the day they are submitted in most cases. They are also run as submitted by the funeral homes.

OBITUARIES

CHARLES S. ABELL, III

Charles S. Abell III of Keokuk, passed away peacefully surrounded by his loving family on Friday, April 12, 2019 in Birmingham, AL.

Born in Keokuk on January 25, 1935, the son of Charles S. Abell and Helen Cameron Abell, Chuck attended Keokuk Schools, Marmion Military Academy and the



ABELL

University of Iowa. He was the descendent of families who came to Keokuk the latter half of the 19th Century. Chuck served in the U.S. Military from 1956 - 1959.



Survivors include his wife of fifty-eight years, Jane Foggy Abell, and three children, Charles

S. Abell IV (Terri) of Keokuk, Michael Cameron Abell (Beverly) of Birmingham, AL and Heather Gorham (Doug) of Keokuk. Grandchildren are Lindsay Abell (fiancé, Charley Young) of Quincy, IL, Nicole Miller (Dr. Dalton Miller) of Iowa Falls, Taylor Jobe, Makayla Stair, Teddi Gorham, and Katie Gorham all of Keokuk and Brent, Brock, Bret, and Morgan Brashier of Birmingham.

He was preceded in death by his parents and son, John Cooper Abell.

Chuck was very active in civic affairs. He served on the Keokuk City Council for fourteen years in the capacity of Councilmen-at-Large, Finance Chairman and Mayor pro-tem. In the 1960's he was co-chair of a successful effort to change the form of government in Keokuk from the Commission Form to the Mayor Council Form. He also served on the first Southeast Iowa Regional Riverboat Commission, the State Central Bank Board of Directors, the Grand Theater Commission, the Grand Theater Foundation Board, Keokuk Area Hospital Board of Directors and the Eighth Judicial District Department of Correctional Services for Community Accountability.

Chuck was the plant manager for the Keokuk Griffin Wheel Plant and retired in 2000. Prior to the Griffin Wheel Company, he worked for C.S. Abell and Son Electrical Contractors, Cameron Joyce Construction Company, Army Engr. Corp and the Keokuk Steel Casting Company.

In retirement, Chuck enjoyed getting away in the winter months and spent many happy weeks on St. George Island, FL. He and his wife, Jane, also traveled extensively in the United States, Europe, the Middle East, Australia and New Zealand. He enjoyed hunting, bicycling, golf and hiking. Chuck particularly enjoyed his weekly golf outings with "the Geezers", Nick Daskalos, Bob Kemp and Mike Kearns. They never kept score and always stopped at 11:30 for lunch. In his early years, Chuck showed American Saddle Bred Horses competing in equestrian, three gaited and five gaited classes.

Those who knew Chuck Abell recognized he was a selfless man who dearly loved his family, friends and Keokuk. The essence of Chuck was not to think of yourself first, but to think of others.

A visitation will be held at Vigen Memorial Home in Keokuk on Saturday April 27 from 1 - 3 p.m. A Celebration of Life will be held on Sunday, April 28th from 4 - 7 p.m. at the Smokin' Gun Hunting Lodge and Event Center in Hamilton, IL.

In lieu of flowers memorial gifts may be directed to the Grand Theater or the John Abell Wrestling Camp Award at Keokuk Senior High School.

On-line condolences may be sent to the family at www.vigenmemoiralhome.com.

Board OKs sheriff, roads, and admin contracts

SALE - Continued from Page 1

assessment shows the land is worth \$2,310 and the structure is valued at \$3,210 for the first property located at 1808 294th Street. The second property is located at 1806 294th Street and has been assessed at \$920.

There will also be a public showing of the properties on Friday from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. Those with questions are encouraged to contact the auditor at 319-372-3705 or the Lee County Engineer Ben Hull at 319-372-2541.

Hull also told the board there is no E911 signs on the property and Folluo said that, too, had to be addressed before the property is sold.

Folluo said he wanted the assessment out to the public before the hearing was set.

"Once again let's get all the stuff together that we need," Folluo said to Fraise before discussion moved.

In other action the council:

- approved contracts with Secondary Roads, the Administrative Union and the Sheriff's Union.
- approved changes to the personnel policy pay grid
- approved the health insurance premium chart for the next fiscal year.
- approved several pay increases in the health department and secondary road.

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Pen City Current
Founded in 2016



P.O. Box 366 | Fort Madison, IA

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Pen City Current and www.pencitycurrent.com are products of Market Street Publishing, LLC. Pen City Current is published Sunday through Friday mornings.

Local News/Lottery Numbers

United Way's RSVP looking for volunteer gardeners

Submitted article

FORT MADISON – RSVP/United Way of the Great River Region is seeking Community Garden Volunteers.

Do you like to garden and work outdoors? Do you like to plan, plant and harvest food?

We are seeking volunteers who will plant, cultivate, and harvest our Community Garden (garden is located at 2606 Avenue L, Fort Madison, Iowa behind Hy-Vee).

Must enjoy working outside, gardening and harvesting. May require some bending, stooping and lifting of 10 lbs. or less...Times: 1 hour, 2 times per week. If interested and for more information, please call – Tammy at 319-372-8043.

United Way of the Great River Region supports non-profit organizations and agencies that provide programs addressing needs in health, education and financial stability to residents in Clark, Hancock, and Lee Counties.

United Way of the Great River Region serves all of Lee, Hancock, and Clark Counties. All donations are tax-deductible.

Bill changes where local IPERS funds are budgeted

773 - Continued from Page 1

\$73,609 in it's Rural Basic fund.

"These are the figures of how it will effect Lee County starting 2021. You can see the decrease in revenue that this legislation will demand if it passes," Folluo said.

Folluo said all employees and county officials and residents should be contacting their legislators and let them know how you feel about the bill.

"It's a party thing right now and the majority party brought it out and I don't know if their intent is to pass it or not. But they can make changes to it all through the session," Larkin said.

The bill would also combine public employees pensions with the general fund, a move IPERS supporters says is a backdoor attempt at tinkering with Iowa Public Employees Retirement System.

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Pick 3 - Midday	Daily	Noon	12:20 pm
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Pick 4 - Midday	Daily	Noon	12:20 pm
Pick 4 - Evening	Daily	9:40 pm	10:00 pm



4/23
7 24 30 48 67
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Sports

Lampe wins 100 hurdles, Schneider takes two events

BY ETHAN LILLARD
PCC SPORTS

KEOKUK – Fort Madison’s boys track and field team placed second out of the seven boy’s teams that competed at the Keosippi Relays Tuesday at Keokuk High School, finishing with 94.33 team points. Mount Pleasant took first as a team on the men’s side with a total of 180 team points.

Fort Madison’s girls tied for ninth out of ten teams on the girl’s side with 74 total team points. Mount Pleasant’s girls also took first with 200 total team points.

Schneider, Hellige lead boys

Fort Madison’s Quentin Schneider was the lone Hound to find himself atop the leaderboards in his respective events.

Schneider started his day by taking sixth in the 100-meter dash for a single team point. He followed up with two first-place performances. Schneider’s first gold of the day came in the 400-meter run, finishing with a time of 53.52 for 10 points. Garrett Hannum took fourth in the same event for four more points.

Building on that momentum, Schneider then took first in the 400-meter hurdles with a time of 58.42 for ten more points, adding 21 total points to the team score by himself.

“Quin ran pretty good,” Fort Madison Co-Head Coach Mike Schneider said. “He also PR’d in the 100 with an 11.7 good for 6th.

“We are a young team. Our depth helps fill events and place in stuff... (Matt) Hellige ran well. He PR’d in the two mile.”

The Bloodhounds top distance runner in Hellige also found his name atop the leaderboards in two events, but just missed first in both, falling to West Hancock’s Miles Sheppard in both events.

Hellige placed second in the 3200 meter run with a time of for 9:58.01 for eight team points, and added on eight more in the 1600 placing second again to Sheppard with a time of 4:39.13.

“A couple of summers ago we ran some 5K’s together,” Hellige said about his familiarity with Sheppard coming into Tuesday’s meet. “I knew he was a really good runner and was going to be the person to beat tonight.

“This year I really wanted to break 10 minutes. That’s the goal I set at the beginning of the year ... That’s what I did today.”

The only other event that saw the Hounds crack the top two was the shuttle hurdle. Fort Madison placed second out of the two teams competing in the event with a time of 1:11.99 for eight points.

The Hounds medley and relay events added on 24 more points to the team total before it was all said and done.

Fort Madison took third in the boys 800 sprint medley with a time of 1:41.46 for six team points and took



Photo by Ethan Lillard/PCC

Fort Madison senior Olivia Williams takes off from the blocks held by freshman Raquel Schneider in a relay Tuesday evening at the Keosippi Relays in Keokuk. The girls finished ninth overall.

fifth in the 4×100-meter relay for two team points. The Hounds collected six more points with a third-place finish in the 4×400-meter relay with a time of 3:38.10. Fort Madison’s 4×800 took third place with a time of 10:19.18 for six more points, while the 4×200 team placed fourth with a time of 1:37.00 for four points.

The Bloodhounds top thrower in Ethan Deacon chipped in five more points. Deacon placed sixth in the shot put for a single point, but was able to put four more on the board in the discus with a final throw of 115-00.

Isiah Miller placed fourth for the Hounds in the 110-meter hurdles with a time of 18.40, while Gage Fullenkamp placed one behind in fifth and added two more team points. Andrew Schaefer placed third in the 200-meter dash for Fort Madison with a time of 24.06, adding on six team points, bringing the Hounds a second-place team finish.

The boys next meet is this Thursday at Waco High School.

Lampe captures first in 100-hurdles for girls

It was very close, but Fort Madison’s Reyna Lampe walked away with the gold in the 100-meter hurdles Tuesday, besting Mount Pleasant’s Karsyn Lamm by .02 seconds with a 16.96 time.

“Reyna’s win was good for her confidence,” Fort Madison girls Head Coach Brian Mendez said. “It’s important that

her fastest races are in the SEC championships and the state qualifying meets (District meet). Running her fastest time of the season thus far, coupled with the win at Keokuk is a positive move in the right direction for Reyna.”

Raquel Schneider also took top honors, taking first in the 400-meter hurdles with a time of 1:14.65 for 10 more points. Katie Dennis was the last of the Hounds to collect a first-place finish, taking first in the 1500-meter run with a time of 5:37.14.

Claire Hellman picked up the next best finish for Fort Madison Tuesday, placing third in the 3000-meter run with a time of 13:16.30 for six points, while Lauren King finished right behind in fourth with a time of 13:23.96 for four more points. Hellman also took fifth in the 1500 for two points, while King took sixth in the 800-meter run for one point.

The girls 4×100-meter relay team also collected a bronze medal, finishing the race with a time of 1:16.93. Fort Madison’s distance medley team also took third with a time of 4:55.55 for six more points.

Three more fourth-place finishes helped to bolster the Hounds’ overall team score on the day.

Aleaya Klesner placed fourth in the 400-meter dash with a time of 1:11.49 for four points. Fort Madison’s 800 sprint medley placed fourth with a

See **TRACK**, page 6



Photo by Ethan Lillard/PCC

Fort Madison’s Isiah Miller clears a hurdle in the 110-meter high hurdles at Tuesday’s Keosippi Relays. Miller took fourth with a time of 18.40.

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we'll be right back!

Pen City Current will not publish an e-Edition Sunday, April 28 through Wednesday, May 1 so we can attend the wedding of a family member on the east coast.

The e-Edition will resume on Thursday, May 2.

Thank for reading!



Sports

Holy Trinity boys overcome physical Columbus squad

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

WEST POINT – It took an extra hour to get started, but the Holy Trinity Catholic boys’ soccer team was raring to go in a 2-0 shut out of Columbus Tuesday night at South Park.

In a physical game from the outset, the Crusaders took advantage of some serious midfield ball skills from freshman Mitchell Pothitakis and senior Audrae Vincent, to offset play from the bigger Wildcats.

Vincent would get the scoring started at the 21-minute mark of the first half when he booted a grounder off a penalty kick after he was tripped up charging the net. Vincent slid the ball left and low past a diving Columbus’ Bryan Miranda to put HTC up 1-0.

Senior Audrae White puts on a move at midfield in the Crusaders 2-0 win over Columbus Tuesday night. HTC is now 6-4 on the season and travels to Highland on Thursday night.

Vincent was in one-vehicle rollover on Chalk Ridge Road just hours before the start of the game and it was uncertain if he would play. He sustained minor cuts, but no serious injuries in the incident.

Senior Blake Crabtree was busy all night preserving the shutout. Columbus had three shots on goal in first 10 minutes of the game, but deflected them all.

Senior Adam Rauenbuehler kept pressure on the offense end. Rauenbuehler, who took nine shots on the night, had a free kick just two minutes into the match, that sailed easily to the goalkeeper.

With 4:21 left in the first half, Pothitakis would score what would be the final goal of the night.

Miranda hit a wobbly clearing kick out of the box that landed short in front Pothitakis, the freshman pivoted to the right about 30 feet from the goal and launched a high shot at the goal.

The Wildcats’ goalie was out of position and had to back pedal, but Pothitakis shot went over his head and found the middle of the back of the net.

Pothitakis said he just took a shot off the bad clear, but didn’t think it would go in.

He said he hopes the winning continues.

“We’re doing pretty good, We have a really good coach and our defense is what really helps us. We have really good forwards too, so hopefully we can keep winning,” he said.

Head Coach Ryan Culbertson said it was a physical game.

“It got worse as it went along. But my kids handled it pretty well for the most part. They started pushing back a bit and I had to pull them back before we got some cards,” he said.

“I knew it would be a physical, hard game to win, but I’m proud of my boys. They came out and worked hard and got the win.”

He said the Crusaders defense worked the game plan well.

“The defense played phenomenal tonight. Real solid, they definitely frustrated their forwards,” Culbertson said. “We knew #10 could only go right so we pushed to keep him off his right and make them shoot outside



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Senior Blake Crabtree reaches for a shot in Tuesday night’s 2-0 shutout of Columbus. Crabtree had 10 saves on the night and has 93 on the season good enough for sixth in the state overall, 3rd in Class 1A

shots. Blake scooped up a lot, too.”

Sophomore Chandler Rung had three shots on the night, Senior Ryder Brune had two shots, junior Jason Rees, Pothitakis and Vincent all had one shot each.

The Crusaders take their 6-4 mark on the road Thursday to Highland.

No. 1 Charoenkul, Lady Trojans down Fort Madison

PCC STAFF

FAIRFIELD – The last time Fort Madison’s girls tennis team faced Fairfield, the Bloodhounds were swept on their home court 9-0. Tuesday the Hounds took to the road to face Fairfield on their home court.

The results were much better for Fort Madison this time around, with the Bloodhounds No. 3 – No. 5 five players all collecting singles wins in the Lady Trojans 6-3 win.

At No. 3, Zoe Ramatowski defeated Nellie Higdon 9-7. At No. 4 Kirklynn Nafziger came away with an 8-2 victory over Abby Schaefer. The last girl to pick up a win for Fort Madison was Lily Cadwallader at No. 5, defeating Tess Paton to the tune of 8-4.

Again facing two of the better players in the state, Lanie Kuntz came up short against Anatta Charoenkul in an 8-1 loss, while Fairfield’s Yana Gaskel swept Larissa Ferrill 8-0. Alyse Schmidt put up a fight at No. 6, but dropped her match to Destiny Gridley 8-4.

Fort Madison wasn’t able to collect any more wins in doubles action, as the combo of Gaskell and Higdon took the 8-0 win against the duo of Ferrill and Kuntz. Charoenkul and Schaefer bested Ramatowski and Nafziger 8-1. Cadwallader and Schmidt put up a good fight against Fairfield’s Paton and Gridley forcing a tiebreaker, but Paton and Gridley gritted through the extra court time, coming away with the 7-2 tiebreaker victory.

“We are moving the right direction as a team,” Fort Madison Head Coach Jeremy Swink said. “Again, Fairfield is one of the toughest team around, and tonight we gave them a good battle. I believe it was their closest match all season.

“We still have some things we need to work on, most importantly being our offense. We need to seek out more opportunities to be aggressive and charge the net. Too many times we are stuck in our defensive mindset and let our opponents beat us to the punch. That, on top of a few strategies tweaks, and we will be in good shape.”

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For the Record/Sports

For the Record

Fort Madison Police Report

04/22/19 – 1:48 a.m.
 – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of vandalism in the 1800 block of Avenue A.
 04/22/19 – 1:49 p.m.
 – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a larceny/theft in the 300 block of Crescent Lane.
 04/22/19 – 2:51 p.m.
 – Fort Madison Police arrested Renee Alice Kimbrough, 52, of Fort Madison in the 4100 block of Avenue O, in Fort Madison, on a charges of interference with official acts and public intoxication. She was taken to the Lee County Jail and held.
 04/22/19 – 6:06 p.m.
 – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a property damage accident in the 3400 block of Avenue N.
 04/23/19 – 1:38 p.m.
 – Fort Madison Police arrested Daymeon

Jayshawn Virgil, 18, of Fort Madison at the police department on two warrants for violation of probation. He was taken and held at the Lee County Jail.
 04/24/19 – 4:38 a.m.
 – Fort Madison Police arrested Joshua Paul Vantiger, 35, of Pontoo-suc, Ill., in the 2400 block of Avenue L, on a warrant for failure to appear out of Des Moines County. He was taken to the Lee County Jail and held.
 04/24/19 – 4:04 a.m.
 – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a larceny/theft in the 100 block of Crescent Lane.
 04/24/19 – 7:16 a.m.
 – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a property damage accident in the 2500 block of Hwy. 61.

Lee County Sheriff's Report
 04/22/19 – no ac-

tivity to report
 04/23/19 – 4:03 p.m.
 – Lee County Sheriff's deputies responded to a one-vehicle rollover in the 2500 block of Chalk Ridge Road. A vehicle driven by Audrae Allen Vincent, 17, of Fort Madison, lost control and exited the roadway to the left and overturned landing upright. Vincent was cited for failure to maintain control and he suffered a minor cut to his hand.
 04/24/19 – 12:53 a.m.
 – Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Joshua Tyler Wilson, 33, homeless, at the sheriff's department on charge of violation of probation. He was taken to the Lee County Jail and held.
 04/24/19 – 6:53 a.m.
 – Lee County Sheriff's deputies cited Travis Earl Nelson, 40, of Donnellson, at the sheriff's office on a charge of operating a vehicle

while intoxicated. He was released upon citation.
 04/24/19 – 7:33 a.m.
 – Lee County Sheriff's deputies responded to a one vehicle accident on Hwy. 61. A vehicle driven by Mekale Abay, 44, of Winnipeg, Miss., struck a stop sign pulling into an industry drive. No citations or injuries were reported.
Those listed above are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

Fort Madison Fire & Rescue report

04/21/19 – Fort Madison firefighters responded to one medical, one burn complaint, one false alarm.
 04/22/19 – Fort Madison firefighters responded to four medical calls,
 04/23/19 – Fort Madison firefighters had no calls.

Wade shoots 84 at Osky

PCC STAFF

OSKALOOSA – Out of the 15 teams that competed at the Oskaloosa Invitational Tuesday, Fort Madison finished 12th with a combined team score of 362. Nevada won the meet with a team score of 298.

Will Simpson of Pella was the top medalist, finishing his 18-hole round with a 72.

Senior Tommy Wade was just four strokes off from finishing inside the top 20 at the meet, carding an 84 for the Hounds' best round on the day. Wade shot a 46 on the front nine and improved to a 38 on the back.

Junior Blake Algrim didn't finish far behind Wade, carding an 88. Algrim shot one stroke better than Wade on the front nine, carding a 45 before finishing with a 43 on the back nine.

Tyler Wade had the third best score for Fort Madison Tuesday, finishing his day with a 92. Logan Rashid was fourth best with a 98, while Brandon Keester shot a 104 and Max Slater shot a 108.

PRs continue to fall for Hound runners

TRACK - Continued from Page 1

time of 2:08.01 for four team points as well, and the 4x400-meter relay team placed fourth with a time of 5:01.52 for six points.

The Bloodhounds picked up four more points thanks to a sixth-place finish in the discus by Dalyn Wondra and a fifth-place finish in the 4x100.

"Every time we pull up to a meet we focus on running best race to date," Mendez said. "We were fortunate to have two strong wins along with PRs with Reyna and Raquel in Keokuk, but all of our kids have been working hard these past few meets to chip away at their race times. We've been pleased."

Complete results from the Relays can be found at this link. <https://www.pencitycurrent.com/keosippi-relays-results-and-scores/>.

The girls next meet is this Thursday at Waco High School.

5-DAY WEATHER FORECAST

THU 25 Apr



Moderate Rain
 High– 66.5° F | Low – 50.0° F

FRI 26 Apr



Clear
 High– 60.8° F | Low – 49.8° F

SAT 27 Apr



Moderate Rain
 High– 59.5° F | Low – 38.8° F

SUN 28 Apr



Light Rain
 High– 54.4° F | Low – 49.4° F

MON 29 Apr



Heavy Intensity Rain
 High– 52.4° F | Low – 50.6° F

[OpenWeatherMap](#)

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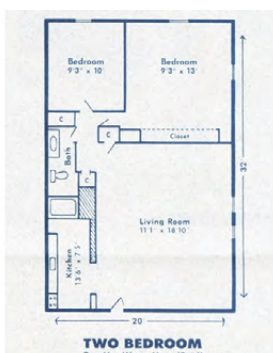
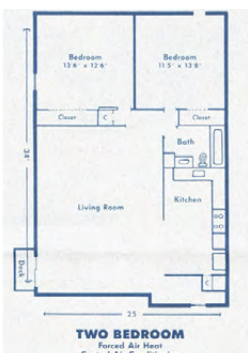
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Sports

Pothitakis gets 3rd hat trick

BY CHUCK
VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

WEST POINT – Claire Pothitakis scored another hat trick, her third of the season, and Sam Pothitakis threw a shut out in the net as Holy Trinity moved to 6-1 on the year with a 4-0 win over Columbus in a late night affair at South Park Tuesday night.

The game was played in a rare switch putting the girls under the lights as the boys took the pitch first, starting an hour late after a referee failed to show up for the meet and a replacement had to be located.

The Lady Crusaders started knocking on the door early and often with Pothitakis and Nicole Pothitakis launching a couple shots early on that were deflected by Columbus' keeper.

But at the 26:16 mark of the first half, Claire Pothitakis, who's third in goals in the state in Class 1A and fifth overall with 14, pushed a shot in from the center to open up the scoring.

She said the team's defense is stout and and passing has improved which is opening up scoring opportunities in the front.

"Our defense and midfield passing is allowing me to get access to the goal," Pothitakis said after the game.

"This all starts with our defense, which is playing great, and moving to the

midfield where we can get some through balls and charge up."

At 18:56, Pothitakis would get her second goal of the night from the right side at the north end of the field, and neither team would be able to find the net the rest of the half.

Senior Taylor Boeding about got in the scoring with 10:43 left in the half, when Pothitakis slid a pass on the ground from the left side into the box about five feet center in front of the goalie, but Boeding got under the ball and popped it straight up over the goal.

Opening the second half with the ball in south part of the field Pothitakis set up about 20 feet off the end line and launched a left-footed crossing pass to the center of the box, that faded to the left and slipped into the net high right above the keeper.

Pothitakis said that was an "oops" goal.

"I was looking for Taylor (Boeding) coming in from the other side. I'm naturally right-footed, but I can kick with the left so I sent it in and it just faded left and went in the net," she said.

Head Coach Michael Sheerin said Pothitakis is a giving player and wants the whole team involved.

"Seriously, she could score six goals a game, but it's important to her for the whole team to succeed and she shares the ball very well," he said.



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Senior Elyse Pothitakis advances the ball in the second half of the Lady Crusaders' 4-0 shutout of Columbus Tuesday night at South Park. The Crusaders move to 6-1 on the year with the win.

Holy Trinity would score their final goal when junior Ashlynn Haas had a free kick from about 22 feet left of center. Columbus set up a wall and Haas drilled it off the shoulder of one of the Wildcats, causing the ball to pop up and sail over the head and right of the keeper for a 4-0 lead.

The Crusaders had 14 shots on goal, including two each from Nicole Pothitakis and Lulu Zhang. Boeding, Elle Rashid, Elyse Pothitakis, Haas, Mya Lawlor, Eryn Anderson, and Taylor Crabtree all had shots on goal.

Holy Trinity travels to the Burlington this weekend for the coveted, and loaded, Adidas Tournament of Champions, where 500 soccer players from five states throughout the Midwest will descend on the Rec Plex Friday and Saturday.

The Crusaders start with Pekin, Illinois on Friday at 1:30 p.m. on Field 5. Also in the bracket is Burlington Notre Dame, Lockport High of Lockport, Ill.; Olathe North, of Olathe, Kan.; Richwoods High, of Peoria, Ill.; Homewood-Flossmoor, of Flossmoor, Ill.; and Pewaukee High of Pewaukee, Wis.



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