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INSIDE TODAY:

Fort Madison Chamber continues visits to member businesses.

See pages 2 & 7

Friday, February 24, 2017 | 9 pages | Volume 1 • Issue 57

"

Advisory board wants \$8.20 minimum wage

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG PCC EDITOR

KEOKUK - A committee of seven people representing north and south Lee County are recommending an 95-cent increase in the state minimum wage.

Meeting at the Keokuk Labor Temple, after about an hour of discussion with owners of child care centers and a member of an Iowa labor organization, the group decided to have the Lee County Attorney Ross Braden draw up a resolution that would be submitted to the Lee County Board of Supervisors for consideration.

Two supervisors, Matt Pflug and Don Hunold, were a part of the com-

PFLUG scenarios be called

mittee rec-

ommend-

ing the

increase.

"cliffs" that exist by raising the minimum wage incrementally to where it results in a net loss for people in the county who are on state aid for food, child care, etc.

"We have to be careful here. We need to do something, but we can cause some havoc on what we have," Hunold said.

Whitney Wagaman, owner of Rosie Posie Child Development Center told the committee that raising the minimum wage would result in her families possibly not



being able to afford child care.

She said that pushing the wage even to \$8.50 an hour would knock some people out of state aid and it would be more difficult to afford child care because they make an additional \$50 or so a week, but could potentially lose \$130 a week in state aid.

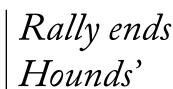
Currently I have two employees right above minimum wage - high schoolers. I have some at 8.25 to \$9.00 and some that are \$10 and up to \$11 and whatever is left I pay to myself. My concern with raising the minimum wage is my private pay families. Those families that pay out of pocket for multiple children. I'm going to be forced to raise my rates and what's the impact on them?"

"I'm also concerned about me raising rates. I have to receive the same amount of money from We have to be careful here. We need to do something, but we can cause some havoc on what we have."

> -Don Hunold Lee County Board Supervisor

DHS and 65-70% are getting child care assistance. \$1,900 per month is the maximum they can make and meet eligibility requirements and that is

See WAGE, page 7



SEASON BY CHUCK VANDENBERG PCC EDITOR

MT. PLEASANT - Basketball can be a game of moments.

Fort Madison's boys basketball team had most of their moments Thursday night in the first half, while Mt. Pleasant found their moments at starting with about two minutes left in the third quarter en route to a 62-51 win stopping the Bloodhounds' season.

With 1:55 left in the third period Johnathon Ita converted a running jumper from about eight feet to give the Panthers their first lead of the game. The Fort Madison Bloodhounds had contained the conference's top scorer in Brady Sartorius to six points in the first half...had contained a 6'9" Tom O'Conner and had leads as big as 11 points against, depending on what ranking sheet you're looking at, top 5 team in Class 3A. For 22 1/2 minutes the Bloodhounds were the better team.

And if you pull back

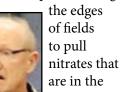
HTC senior takes nitrate project to symposium

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON - A science project that looks at helping reduce the amount of nitrates entering natural waterways has a Holy Trinity Catholic students prepping for a state symposium.

Maggie Walker, a senior at HTC, has recently comthe practical uses of her experiment, Walker said it could be put to use without a lot of additional planning.

"This could work with a biodegradable liner treated with the sodium polyacrylate and place it along





pleted a science project where she used a super absorbent sodium polyacrylate to pull unfriendly nitrates from soil before precipitation can push the nitrates from the soil and into water tables and natural waterways. She will be presenting her findings at the University of Iowa on March 6.

When questioned about

SCHILLER soil from leaving into nearby waterways," she said. Walker presented her project to a cafeteria with about 40 people and students on Wednesday night. HTC Science Instructor Ernie Schiller said the presentation will serve as practice before presenting the project

Next: U of Iowa

Maggie Walker presents her project looking at the effect of sodium polyacrylate on nitrate absorption.

at the Southeast Iowa Superconference Science Fair coming in March and a science symposium at Iowa State University in April. "Sodium polyacrylate is super absorbent and will pick up the nitrates as water flushes them off the

Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

See SYMPOSIUM, page 7

three turnovers and a couple of questionable calls, the Bloodhounds had a real chance to come out of this game district champs. But that's why you play all four quarters.

A turnover in the front court by Landon Bentley early in the fourth quarter and loose ball turnover by See **DISTRICTS**, page 9

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Scan the code to Subscribe today

Business

SWM recognizes employee milestones

PILOT GROVE – Steffensmeier Welding and Manufacturing, Inc. of Pilot Grove has recently recognized several long-time employees for their hard work and dedication to the company's goals. Employees honored are:

- DJ Menke 20 years
- Russell Holtkamp 16 years
- Jeff Bell 16 years
- Mark Hymes 12 years
- Jake Smith 5 years



Steffensmeier Welding and Manufacturing, Inc. was founded in 1982 by Ben Steffensmeier who worked with small local farmers and businesses that needed welding done. The company offers high-quality laser-cut, machined, welded, and fabricated products, and employs more than 20 people working with a large array of businesses within the state of Iowa.

For more information about Steffensmeier Welding and Manufacturing, Inc., call (319)469-3961 or visit their website at <u>www.steffweld.com</u>.



Member businesses thanked by FM Chamber

PCC STAFF

FORT MADISON – Members of the Fort Madison Chamber of Commerce visited five member businesses today as part of their #ChamberStrong campaign to personally visit every Chamber member to thank them for their membership. Today's visits included Thomas Klann State Farm, Jim Scott Automotive, Sub Arena Sandwich Shop, McDonald's, and King-Lynk Funeral Home and Crematory.

Members have access to various networking opportunities throughout the year, professional development opportunities, use of the Chamber facilities, use of the Chamber bulk mail permit, workshops, and more. For more information about becoming a Chamber member, visit their website at <u>www.ftmadison.com</u> or call the office at (319) 372-5471.



Photo by Lee K. Vandenberg/PCC

Thomas Klann State Farm is #ChamberStrong



Jim Scott Automotive is #ChamberStrong

See #ChamberStrong, page 7



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Share your Business News

Do you have news about your business you'd like to share? New products or services, employee promotions or new employees, markets or workshops attended, milestones, awards received, etc.? Send it to us for publication in an upcoming issue!

Send it to Chuck Vandenberg, Editor - editor@pencitycurrent.com

Obituaries/Opinion

OBITUARIES

STEPHEN M. CANNADAY

Stephen M. Cannaday, 72, of Fort Madison, died at 10:04 a.m. Thursday, February 23, 2017, at The Madison.

Arrangements are pending with King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory.

OPINION

Public workers deserve respect, not scorn

I woke up about 3 a.m. to a siren in the distance. I thought to myself: Car accident? Fire? Medical emergency? Somebody needs help right now! I also knew that siren meant skilled public servants were on the way to do just that.



BOLKCOM

I went back to sleep knowing that Iowans enjoy excellent local and state services that make Iowa and life as we know and enjoy it possible. This is all now under threat.

The gutting of Iowa working collective bargaining law last week by legislative Republicans, Governor Branstad and Lt. Governor Reynolds will begin a decline in public services and our schools as the best people find both respect and better pay in the private sector and fewer people decide public service is a respected career choice. It won't happen overnight. But the seeds are now in the ground.

Our trained, skilled and educated public servants make it possible for businesses to profit and communities to prosper. Here is a short list of some of the things that some politicians are taking for granted:

The inspection that made your home and workplace safe to occupy; a glass of clean water, running the dishwasher, washing the car; great schools and educated citizens; garbage, recycling and leaf pick up; snow plowing and road salting; street design, repair and maintenance; libraries, parks and pools; recreational trails and bike lanes; flood and tornado disaster relief; driver's licenses; voter registration and clean elections; marriage licenses; birth and death certificates; restaurant and hotel pool inspections; 911, police, fire, emergency medical help; crime investigation; prison guards and community corrections; community planning; airport safety; controlling infectious disease and food born outbreaks; controlling air and water pollution; nurses and doctors; researchers and of course, brushing your teeth and flushing the toilet.

Iowa public servants deliver. They have chosen to work for public employers because in exchange for their contribution, they are afforded a stable work environment, decent wages and health and retirement benefits. This has allowed our cities, counties, school districts, community colleges, public universities and the state attract and retain some of the smartest people to serve us.

Why in the world have Republicans who now control all of state government become so mean-spirited and disrespectful of our skilled and dedicated public employees that do the hard work day and night? The bad news is that they are not done. They now intend to destroy the pension system public employees have paid in to and earned.

When you hear the next siren in the distance, be proud that we have trained public servants on the way to help. These workers are our neighbor and friends. They are taxpayers. They deserve respect and thanks, not scorn.

> Joe Bolkcom, State Senator Iowa City, Iowa



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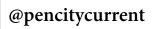
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and MORE!

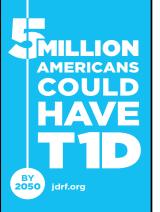
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3 car garage • 3,7

Splendor in the woods...with p AND an AMAZING home. Ca beauty perched atop a hill over with a view of the Mississip 6 acres of ground. Offered ar baths, a formal living & dinin room/kitchen/breakfast room den with beautiful cherry cabi lining the walls. All of this wit wood floors. This beautiful h the-line features throughout. Listing #20160805













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rivacy...AND a view... all today on this brick rlooking Ft. Madison pi River and almost e 3 bedrooms, 3 1/2 g room, a large great combo and a study/ inetry & bookshelves h STUNNING hardome offering top-of-

• \$460,000





3 car garage • 1,635 sq. ft. Amazing cedar log sided home in a quiet and private setting, a well-appointed guest house, and 26x32 metal building. The main home offers beautiful hardwood flooring with a awesome open floor plan. Enjoy summer evenings on the nice walk-out patio area. This is a dream home!!! Listing #20161863 • \$299,000





3BR • **2.50 BA** • **2 car garage** • **2,400 sq. ft.** • **10,150 sq. ft. lot**

Lovely tri-level home on a quiet cul de sac offering numerous upgrades. There are 3 bedrooms and 2 1/2 baths, a large living room, dining room and open kitchen with newer stainless steel appliances and a breakfast bar. Newer windows, HVAC, new floor coverings on main and lower level and freshly painted throughout. The large backyard is completely fenced and has a 24 x 16 patterned concrete patio. Don't miss out on this wonderful family home.

Listing #20163404 • \$167,500



4BR • 3BA • 2 car garage • 1,349 sq. ft. • 9,160 sq. ft. lot

From the inviting entrance to the serene back yard, you will enjoy it ALL and everything in between!!!! This very well maintained 4 bedroom, 3 bath home has everything your family will need to call this Home. There is a beautiful screened porch and a deck off the back of the house, all overlooking a meticulously landscaped large yard. Call today on this amazing home situated on a quiet, safe cul de sac!!!

Listing #20163339 • \$164,900



3 BR • 2 BA • 2 car garage • 1,168 sq. ft. • 0.54 acres

Lovely family home comfortably situated at the end of a cul de sac, where you can enjoy the woods and the privacy! There is an inviting deck off the back of the home overlooking the woods and beautiful vinyl fencing. There are newer mechanicals and a newer roof, 2 fire-places and lots of storage!! Don't miss out on this beauty.

Listing #20163951 • \$139,000

BEAUTIFUL PERIOD HOME



3,119 sq. ft. • 14,500 sq. ft. lot From the period wrought iron fencing to the amazing stained oak staircase...from the impressive arches to the large wrap porch, this beautiful turn of the century (20th) home offers all the beauty and elegance of that era. This is a beautifully appointed home with all the modern conveniences. There is an extra large lot for your family to enjoy!!

Listing #20162159 • \$164,000



5BR • 2.50BA 2 car garage 2,834 sq. ft. 14,868 sq. ft. lot

Amazing family home on a large corner lot in Farmington, IA. 2 fireplaces, beautiful woodwork, a beautiful open front porch, a large yard and an oversized garage!!

Listing #20164117 \$127,500



3BR • 3BA 2,754 sq. ft. 3,550 sq. ft. lot Gorgeous, turn-key home with large patio minimum maintenance. UPDATES GA-LORE!!! Practically perfect in every way, this 1841 home includes the latest improvements while keeping its Victorian charm.



Listing #23006122 \$99,999



2 car garage • 2,527 sq. ft.

UNIQUELY beautiful 9.38 river bluff acreage. This home boasts many updates including complete master suite, heat and A/C, Septic system, deck, roof & gutters, flooring, and the list goes on. This private property includes fenced in barn area for animal lovers, mature fruit trees plus trees have been dropped for a beautiful panoramic river view that will last for years! Owner also plans to leave a John Deer mower and new snow blower!!

Listing #20162733 • \$269,000

4 BR • 1.75 BA • 3 car garage • 2,052 sq. ft. • 8,700 sq. ft. lot

Beautiful 4 bedroom home with large rooms, recently redecorated and ready to move into. This home features stainless steel appliances, main floor laundry, eat in kitchen and formal dining room, main floor office or bedroom, open staircase, large living room and big bedrooms. Newer roof, siding and gutters on house. 24' X 36' insulated garage and workshop, plus carport. Large wrap porch great location near Old Settlers Park.

Listing #20163776 • \$129,500

3 BR • 1 BA • 1 car garage • 1,248 sq. ft. • 0.37 acres

Well-kept ranch on a beautiful, large corner lot in West Point, IA. New wooden privacy fence surrounding the entire back yard. There is also an attached garage and storage shed. A large wooden deck leads to the front door where you can sit and enjoy those beautiful Iowa summer sunsets! PLUS a covered deck in the back for those rainy days. This house is a rare find.

Listing #20164234 • \$119,900

We'd love to help you find your dream home!



2BR • 1BA 2 car garage 868 sq. ft. 7,000 sq. ft. lot PRICE REDUCED! Rare opportunity to own a renovated home at a great price!! Large, shaded yard and a 2 car garage. Located in a nice neighborhood on a corner lot. Seller is motivated and offering a 1 year AHS Home Warranty!

Listing #20163035 \$52,000



2BR • 1.50BA 2 car garage 1,366 sq. ft. 3,300 sq. ft. lot Immaculate, well-kept ranch has family room with fireplace on the main floor, finished Rec Room, 2nd laundry room, 1/2 bath, and storage room with shelving all in the basement. All windows are vinyl replacement. Listing #20162507

\$109,900





2BR • 1BA 2 car garage 1,330 sq. ft. 7,250 sq. ft. lot REDUCED BY \$13,100! Affordable with lots of potential!!! Nice size kitchen with breakfast bar plus dining area, spacious living room w/fireplace. Sits on a corner lot.

Listing #20160368 \$59,900



HO



3BR • 1BA 1 car garage 928 sq. ft. 1,087 sq. ft. lot Very nice maintenancefree home by Lincoln School with a 75 X 145 fenced vard, nice patio, fire pit and child's play set! Some very nice built-ins, some original hardwood flooring, full basement including laundry area. Also find extra parking, garage and carport area on the paved alley.

Listing #20164148 \$72,500

5BR • 1.75BA 1 car garage 1,904 sq. ft. 1,903 sq. ft. lot Great family home on large corner lot in the middle of Ft. Madison. Large living / dining area with original craftsman woodwork and built-ins, 14 x 22 garage on the alley with 2 additional storage sheds. Nice front porch, rear deck, and a great sunroom on the East. Listing #20162346 \$86,950



3BR • 1.50BA 1,460 sq. ft. 3,625 sq. ft. lot Reasonably priced home has had new doors installed, new bathroom fixtures, and freshly painted. With it's vinyl siding and fenced rear yard, its ready for your family!!

Listing #20162025 \$25,500





2BR • 1BA 2 car garage 930 sq. ft. 7,280 sq. ft. lot This 2 bedroom home in Montrose has been a rental property and sells as is. Priced way below assessed value to sell quickly! Listing #20164279 \$38,500





2BR • 1.25BA 1,119 sq. ft. 0.17 acres

Brick rancher on Ave E close to Old Settlers Park, has full basement mostly finished, picket fence, newer windows, roof, etc.

Listing #20162502 \$88,900



2BR • 1.75BA 2 car garage 679 sq. ft. 6,500 sq. ft. lot Nice, small home. Seller has purchased and remodeled. Excellent condition. Listing #20164161 \$62,500



Land 50.82 acres 2,213,719 sq. ft. Ideal 50 acre m/l parcel to develop. Close to new 4-8 Middle School and Baxter Rec Plex. TREMENDOUS DEVELOPMENT OP-PORTUNITY. Listing #20162779 \$559,020





R



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ASSOCIATES

2BR • 1BA 1 car garage 733 sq. ft. 9,116 sq. ft. lot Country living in the city! Large fenced lot with garden including blackberry bushes, grapes, rhubarb, and asparagus, along with apple and peach trees. Large shop attached to the garage and a storage shed. Sit on the front deck and enjoy the country scenery! In Farmington. Listing #20163103

\$39,999

Multi-family Duplex 2,672 sq. ft. 7,250 sq. ft. lot Income property. Potential for \$875/month income or more. Sideby-side duplex with 2 - 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartments. West side has a long term renter and east side is vacant. Listing #20162154 \$49,500



2BR • 1BA 1,144 sq. ft. 3,625 sq. ft. lot Move-in ready with many updates including kitchen WITH appliances, fresh paint, newer electrical (100 AMP breaker), new water lines at street and more! The home is clean as a whistle and ready to move in! Listing #20161431 \$42,500

2BR • 1BA 1 car garage 1,224 sq. ft. 7,250 sq. ft. lot A house with character! Wrap-around porch, original hardwood in formal dining room/living room combo, main floor laundry, nice size eat-in kitchen including appliances, dining room has original fireplace, basement and 1 car garage. Listing #20162543 \$53,000



3BR • 1.75BA 1 car garage 888 sq. ft. 9,450 sq. ft. lot RARE RANCH with large fenced back yard and attached garage! Updated windows and kitchen, newer HVAC and water heater. Family Room in the basement. Just waiting for your own personal touch!

Listing #20163423 • \$74,900



Land 14.65 acres 638,514 sq. ft. Just outside city limits, perfect for housing development or small farm for horses or small livestock, over half tillable. City water is available. 30' X 60' building is totally insulated, heated and air conditioned with 200 amp service. Listing #20162574 \$249,000

From the Front/Business

Membership has its benefits

#ChamberStrong - Continued from Page 2



Sub Arena Sandwich Shop is #ChamberStrong

Photo by Lee K. Vandenberg/PCC



McDonald's is #ChamberStrong

Photo by Lee K. Vandenberg/PCC



Iowa House bill could make whole deal moot

WAGE - Continued from Page 1

one child. They can't make anymore than that to receive assistance. I have families that struggle to make copays and families that struggle to pay out of pocket. My daily rates are just shy of \$27 a day, so I try to stay as affordable as possible, but it's going to impact my families pretty hard. They're not going to get paid anymore when the wages get raised. Those that pay out of pocket are gonna be the ones that take the brunt end of it."

"We need to do something here," Pflug said. "We're staying under the \$8.22 that's that cliff you're talking about. But it gets us in there and that's the key. At the end of the day we know \$8.20 is not a livable wage."

Robert Cale, who's been helping organize the effort told Wagaman increasing the wage would help get people off subsidies.

"You're subsidized in two ways. Your employees are getting subsidies and your families are getting subsidies. If you're not wiling to pay enough for your workers to be off state aid, why should the tax payers subsidize your business? If those wages were higher in Lee County we can get some of those people off state aid and stop subsidizing your business.

"By raising the floor of the lowest paid workers in Lee County I think that's a positive."

Tracy Leone, organizer of the Iowa Federation of Labor suggested if

Leone also mentioned House Study Bill 92 currently being considered in the Iowa House of Representative that would make it illegal for cities and counties to set their own minimum wage. She encouraged the panel and the county to move on the wage before the legislature takes up the bill.

"The bill will actually make it illegal to set a wage higher than the state minimum. And they don't have a bump in there as it is. We thought they might set a new minimum wage with that bill, but it's not in there. It basically removes Home Rule," she said.

"One other thing we have to consider, and it's a big thing, is if the county passes this, but if a city doesn't adopt it, the county just screwed themselves."

Leone said cities can still establish their own wage outside of the county, similar to Solon who set a lower wage than Johnson County.

"I was at the hearing where they set the lower standard and there were business after business after business there saying they already pay higher wages because they value their employees," Leone said. The only company that went in there to lobby for the lower wage was Dairy Queen. A large corporation that employees teenagers or exploits them, whatever you want to say. The city then waived the 2nd and 3rd readings of the ordinance

"

We need to do something here. We're staying under the \$8.22 that's that cliff you're talking about. But it gets us in there and that's the key. At the end of the day we know \$8.20 is not a livable wage."

> -Matt Pflug Lee County Board Supervisor

and passed the lower wage right there. You can be sure all of those councilman will face a challenge during the next election. Two have already resigned.

"If Keokuk just wanted to do this they could but I think Mayor Marion said he supports an increase. Fort Madison could do it but they would do it at their own peril and this is an election year. Three months before they're up for election. Would you vote for a guy that did that?"

The committee agreed to meet again next Wednesday at the Lee County Sheriff's office to review the resolution before submitting it to the

King-Lynk Funeral Home and Crematory is #ChamberStrong Photo by Lee K. Vandenberg/PCC

Wagaman raised her prices \$10 per week and a private-pay family makes \$60 more per week with an increased wage they are still \$50 ahead for the week.

I make insurance simple.



See how I can help you protect your family, home, car and business. Larry Hollkamp 1301 37th St Fort Madison, IA

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Supervisors.

The Path to Success Regins at Holy Finity Catholic Schools February 27th at 6:30 p.m. Round-Up March 3st (Call for an appointment) For more information, call 319-837-6131 x106 Early Childhood Center Open Houses PreK (Fort Madison) - April 6th from 5:00 - 7:00 Preschool (Fort Madison) - March 16th from 5:00 - 7:00 Preschool (St. Paul) - April 11th from 5:00 - 7:00 For more information, call 319-372-6428

www.holytrinityschools.org



From the Front

Panthers use late run to end Hounds' season at districts

DISTRICTS - Continued from Page 1

Kaleb Cresswell moments later started the unraveling. Treavor James-Kokjohn drove to his right around Kieran Kohorst and Kohorst moved with Kokjohn around to the baseline when play was stopped on an offensive charge call. The unraveling continued. Austin Rose was bumped by O'Conner in the air on a five foot jumper with no whistle.

But Wilson kept the loss in house.

"We got impatient... played in a hurry, panicked a little bit and at the end of the 2nd and 3rd quarters we weren't very good," he said. "We're up 11 with 1:20 to go in the half and go in up by six. We just got a little impatient, a little careless, and it came back to get us."

The Hounds came out of the gate convinced this game would be different than the other two conference games when the Panthers won both games by an average of 31 points.

Kokjohn connected on a 3-pointer to open the scoring for both teams. Sartorius countered with a pull up jumper from the corner of the lane, then the Hounds went on a 9-2 run highlighted by five points from CJ Richardson. Sartorius again hit a short jumper to break up the run, but Cresswell countered with a 12-footer from the right to push the FM lead to 12-5 with 2:15 left in the first quarter. O'Conner then stepped out and connected on a 3-pointer to close the gap to two 12-10. Senior Landon Bentley converted the back-end of two free throws and sophomore Logan Rashid penetrated and scored on a drive with a foul. He missed the freebie to give the Hounds a 15-10 lead at the end of 1.

Bentley then started the 2nd quarter with a running bucket in the land from eight feet to start another 11-5 run for the Hounds that ended with a Richardson jumper to give the Hounds a 26-15 lead. Ita then tried to pull the Panthers back to single digits as he scored nine of the Panthers next 11 points including unanswered back to back buckets with about four minutes left in the half to close the gap to seven. Kokjohn answered with a put-back bucket to push the lead back to nine. Ita answered and Bentley hit a trey with 1:20 left to give the Hounds a 10 point lead. Fort Madison stopped the Panthers on the next possession and Kokjohn was fouled at the other end converting the front end of the one-and-one to push the lead to 11. But Jordan Magnani hit a 3 on the next possession, the Panthers held on the next possession down the floor and Magnani hit again before the end of the half to cut the lead to six at half.

"Mt. Pleasant wants you to play fast....that's what they want. They're used to playing that way and we weren't. We give up four rebounds in the first the half and they scored on all four. If we keep that 11 point lead and we don't turn the ball over three times we're up 15-20 at halftime against the 3rd rated team in the state. The kids played hard and we did what we wanted but you take three minutes out of this game and we have a real chance at winning."

The Hound shooting went chilly in the third period as Sartorius began to heat up. O'Conner started the



No look

Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Senior CJ Richardson pops a no-look pass on a fast break in second half action Thursday in the Hounds 62-51 loss in the District 11 finals.

scoring in the second half with an easy bucket inside, Kokjohn converted and was fouled converting the free throw, but the Panthers got a trey from Magnani and a bucket from Sartorius to close the gap to two at the 5:22 mark. Kokjohn hit another three pointer to give the Hounds a five point lead. Then Sartorius scored eight points coupled with a bucket from O'Conner and Ita and the Panthers were in business with a six-point lead going into the fourth quarter.

The Panthers moved out to stop the long-distance shooting of the Hounds and Cresswell and Richardson were able to score on driving layups, but the Hounds found themselves scrambling to foul and the Panthers converted 10 of 11 free throws in the final three minutes to ice the game.

"Their intensity rose and ours plateaued. But I'm proud of the way we played today," said Richardson after the game. He gave solid advice to next year's Bloodhounds after the game.

"Just keep putting in the work and believing in yourself because everyone saw how much we grew this year."

Senior Austin Rose said the game is a system and the Hounds dropped that system momentarily.

"It's all just a process really. We got down in a little slump. If we would have been playing our best earlier this year this probably would have been better tonight," he said. "They got us in rush mode, we turned the ball over... took bad shots and they just capitalized on that."

Kokjohn said he regretted not playing up to Wilson's expectations all year.

"Our last three games we really played the best basketball all year. I wish we would have done that earlier in the year..listened to our coaches a little more," he



Jumper

Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

FMHS junior Kaleb Cresswell pulls up for a short jumper in the second half of the Bloodhounds' loss Thursday night in Mt. Pleasant.

said. "They rushed us quite a bit. We needed to limit our turnovers and run our offense. But that's the No. 3

HTC projects showcase knowledge

SYMPOSIUM - Continued from Page 1

fields," she said. "Land is treated with nitrates as part of the fertilization process, but it's not so good for our waterways. If you put this in the form of a liner it could help pull the excess from the fields."

She said there is nothing currently in use right now, but she would like to look into the cost effectiveness as part of future studies she performs.

"This is based on a project I started last year and expanded on this year. In the future I'd like to look deeper at practical uses and the cost efficiencies of working with this type of environmentally healthy idea," she said.

Walker showed students test tube samples as part of her video diary of the project and pointed out the different colors of the water as reflective of the amount of nitrates in the tubes and how the sodium polyacrylate helped reduce the amounts in the tubes.

The project was just one of many projects on display at HTC on Wednesday night. Other projects included looking at pH levels in saliva and the direct or indirect impact on hemoglobin A1c numbers in diabetic and non-diabetic studies, how proteins can effect blood glucose if consumed prior to carbohydrate ingestion, which toothbrush cleans your teeth better and stereotypes in criminal identification. Students will take their projects to conference and regional competitions set for later this spring. team in the state."

Wilson said he was proud of how the team played down the stretch but said he hopes the younger kids coming up pay attention to what happened.

"We played well the last two three weeks. I wish...I hope... these younger kids see how well we played during that stretch. We have to have this kind of play all 24 games of the year," he said.

"Richardson played varsity three years and two years as a starter. He doesn't question you, he just does his job. Pound for pound that kid would go against an O'Conner all day every day. That's just how the kid is," Wilson said. "I'm proud of all three of these seniors, there's a lot of emotion wrapped up in that. I got emotional just walking over here. You always question yourself. What could I have done different...did I call the right timeouts. These are special kids, there's just something about them and it made it a little difficult. It's tough to talk about and it's gonna be tough to talk about at awards night... We had 'em."

The final scoring for the Hounds were Kokjohn with 17, Richardson with 11, Cresswell with nine, Bentley with eight, Rashid and Riles each had two points.