



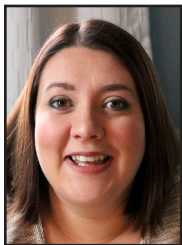
Pen City Current

Monday, December 12, 2016 | 6 pages | Volume 1 • Issue 1

Rung joins Current sales staff

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON - The Pen City Current is excited to announce that local resident Nissa Rung has



joined our team as a part-time sales representative. Rung will be servicing clients in the north Lee County area effective today.

She comes to the Current with more than four years experience in sales and marketing at the Fort Madison Daily Democrat and Bonny Buyer North.

The Current initiated a soft website launch last week and is now working to produce a 6-day weekly downloadable and viewable pdf version of the news, sports and advertising information from

See RUNG, page 2

Locals bring 50s glamour to OFP



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg

She just wants her two front teeth

Judy Milks, aka "Donna" brings her smoky version of "All I want for Christmas is My Two Front Teeth" to the stage Sunday afternoon for the Old Fort Players presentation of "A Taffeta Christmas". The event wrapped up its first weekend on Sunday with more shows this week.

2nd week of shows runs Thursday through Saturday

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON - You can watch football anytime, but there's something special about a cozy theater and some holiday music to break up a Sunday afternoon.

The Old Fort Players delivered this past weekend with holiday favorite melodies and a 50s sense of humor...all sponsored by "Galaxy Beauty Products" and the Dumont Television's "Hometown

Holiday Hoedown, as part of the OFP's "A Taffeta Christmas".

Locals Kelly Shields, Laura Archibald, Dawn Marie Eid and Judy Milks entertained Friday, Saturday and a rainy, cool Sunday as the Taffetas, a Muncie, Indiana female singing group on a small label playing local circuits and starring in the "occasional" movie.

OFP Board member Bob Britton said attendance has been good over the weekend and Sunday's crowd numbered in the

20s.

"We had a really good Friday, Britton said. "We were a bit slower on Saturday but we've had good numbers.

Musical accompaniment was provided by Virginia Watson on keyboards, Michael Haas on guitar and Dennis Dowell on a bass.

The gals sang songs of the holidays such as "I Saw Mommy Kissing Santa Claus" and "White Christmas", and did individual holiday medleys as well like "All I want for Christmas is My Two Front Teeth". However 50s garb and a "ginchie" line-

"We were a bit slower on Saturday but we've had good numbers."

- Bob Britton

up of other generational tunes like "Shrimp Boats" and Sugartime highlighted the afternoon. The "I Saw Mommy" tune was reinvented with a little pig latin to keep the audience leaning forward to track the tune.

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LCEDG attends Chicago summit

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

CHICAGO - A reciprocal agreement signed earlier this year coordinating economic development efforts of southeast Iowa counties got a boost this past weekend as part of a Chicago strategy session.

Representatives of the Lee County Economic Development Group, along with reps from Southeast Iowa Regional Planning Commission and Des Moines and Henry counties traveled to Chicago this week to participate in the Mid America Competitiveness Conference and Site Selector Forum hosted by the Mid America Economic Development Council (MAEDC) as part of the Reciprocal Marketing Agreement (RMA) signed by the counties this past May.

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Pen City Current launches e-version

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON - Fort Madison residents and businesses will have now have another option when it comes to how they receive their local news, sports and advertising information with the launch of a new 24/7 digital news product in North Lee County.

A local business couple very familiar to the news and advertising industry in Fort Madison have launched two new digital news products called the Pen City Current and www.pencitycurrent.com. The products are a



L. VANDENBERG

combination of a fresh up-to-the-minute website and a 6-day daily newspaper published in PDF format. Both products are offered to anyone with Internet access on a computer or other device such as a smartphone or tablet.

Former Daily Democrat Advertising Director Lee K. Vandenberg and former Publisher Chuck Vandenberg are in the middle of a soft-launch - effective Dec. 5, where the website is currently publishing live news complete with photography and videos.



C. VANDENBERG

"We wanted to do a hard launch on Dec. 12, but there is just so much news going on right now we wanted to try to help with that information process," Chuck Vandenberg said. "You've got breaking school referendum news, someone new possibly picking up the downtown rehab efforts and that's all important news to this community."

"We just weren't ready to be done helping this community move into the digital age

See CURRENT, page 2

From the Front

Current offers another option to message in north Lee County

CURRENT - Continued from Page 1

with regards to how we help disseminate news and advertising.” [Chuck] Vandenberg, who was publisher for a mere 10 months under the Brehm Communications company from February to November, has more than 15 years experience as a reporter and editor at various locations in Iowa, Illinois and Nebraska. He has been writing since high school – first as a stringer with The Hawk Eye in Burlington, then as a sports reporter and Sports Editor at the Western Courier during his college career at Western Illinois University in Macomb, Ill. Vandenberg has amassed several awards for writing and photography during his professional career.

“I started with the Daily Democrat back in 1995 as a news/sports guy, then moved to Nebraska as a city/crime reporter and then northern Illinois as a managing editor for 3 newspapers,” he said. “So we’ve been down this road before.”

Lee K. Vandenberg led the advertising and graphic design departments at the local paper for the past 12 years and was an account representative for five years before that. Her quarter century of experience in helping customers craft their message began at the Daily Democrat in the 1990s where she began work in the front office as a classified advertising representative and continued as account representative, classified and inside sales manager at newspapers in Nebraska and Illinois.

“Since beginning my career in the newspaper industry almost twenty-five years ago, I’ve never looked back. Working in this industry, serving readers and advertisers, grabbed hold of me and it’s been in my blood ever since. Now, with these new products, I’m looking forward. I’m excited to be able to offer business owners and managers products that are going to help them grow their business and connect with customers in ways that weren’t imaginable when I started my career.”

Chuck Vandenberg said the news hole will be very similar to any other digital formatting you’ve experienced. “I’m after a fully integrated North Lee County news hole. There’s even a place on our website where you can request a reporter come to a public event and we’ll do everything we can to get there,” he said.

“But we want this product to be customer friendly, very compelling reading and something that you can read over with a cup of coffee in the morning.”

“The newspaper industry is moving digital. All data backs that up, but there are still those that like the feel of a paper in their hands and there is a company in this community that will still provide that. We’re just trying to enter the digital framework for the current and younger generations that want their news mobile. It’s not so much competitive, but another option for people to get their information timely and in a format they desire, whatever that may be.”

He said residents are encouraged to visit the site, a value-based subscription service has been set up, but the goal was to get people the news for free. If they see a value in what we’re doing there are different levels of subscriptions available for purchase.

“We think people will like the name-your-price subscription option. It’s a great low-cost option for college kids or those who have moved away to keep tabs on their community. We’re just trying to gauge the value on that option.”

“We’re also going to be very heavy in the social media push,” Chuck Vandenberg said. “It’s very critical as younger people turn to digital news that the news they get is put together properly, based on fact and fully vetted. It’s worrisome to me as a parent to see where some of our young minds are being molded by unsubstantiated news stories. We need to make sure they have a local option that is rooted in fact and investigation, not just who said what first.”

Most news stories will be pushed to social media and up-to-the minute information will be found on Twitter, Facebook and other vehicles as the company comes together.

The publication will function as an all digital format with a simplified advertising structure. Typical packages will be all-inclusive packages that are one-time monthly payments and basically we can do whatever you want with your advertising...from posting web banners, to display ads to classifieds, help wanteds... anything. Instead of buying into this package or that, you get in on every-

“
But we want this product to be customer friendly, very compelling reading and something that you can read over with a cup of coffee in the morning.”

-Chuck Vandenberg

thing and we post it all. For one low monthly rate. Traditional one-time advertisements are obviously available as well, but we wanted the advertising to be simpler to handle, simpler to upload and reflect what you want in your package.

The new publication is also looking

to publish obituaries, real estate, help wanted ads milestones and auctions all in real-time and all as part of monthly ad-buys. For that you can literally have all your auctions listed for the month at your word count, the way you want it.

“We really want this to be a collaborative effort with the newsmakers, the advertisers, the community and the company. Just take a look, see how fresh this will be and that will be the true gauge of how successful we are.”

You can reach the Pen City Current at 319-371-1670 or 319-371-4125 or by email at editor@pencitycurrent.com and sales@pencitycurrent.com.

Auditions underway for next production

SHOW - Continued from Page 1

They even pulled in an “old cousin” from the group’s original days to help with one of the performances and found “their parents” seated in the Moose Hall that hosted the event. Another catchy part of the show addressed some questions posed from the “audience” and a ‘creepy’ guy in the back. But you’ll have to attend to hear anymore about that.

Sunday’s performance wrapped up the first weekend, but next weekend will offer another opportunity for residents to get out and see the show. The remaining shows all begin at 7:30 p.m. at the theater located at 725 Avenue G this Thursday through Saturday.

The production was produced and directed by Dennis Dowell who’s led two other OFP productions including “Have a Nice Day” and “A Thousand Clowns”. Lee County Bank was co-producer.

Auditions are also being conducted for the groups next play “If the Good Lord’s Willing, and the Creek Don’t Rise” set for February. Interested parties may contact the OFP office at 319-372-9559.

Rung “currently” available for calls

RUNG - Continued from Page 1

their website into one easy-to-access format.

Rung decided to join the Current after hearing and seeing the community’s reaction to the new product.

“While working with many business owners in this town I have seen the need for more digital presence,” Rung said. “Websites, social media, etc. are the future and I believe the products that we have to offer will only help our local businesses get the online exposure they need.”

“Having worked with Lee for more than 4 years and Chuck while he was with the Daily Democrat, I believe in this product they have created and I wanted to be a part of it.”

“We’ve known Nissa for many years as a professional who really has a passion for helping people make the best choices for their advertising dollar,” said Lee Vandenberg, sales manager at the Current.

“She understands that effective messaging is a mixed bag and has always approached her customers in that perspective. We certainly appreciate that philosophy as we join the media community in Fort Madison and north Lee County. Rung and her husband Jason live in Fort Madison with their son Davis.



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg

New beauty product

Laura Archibald or “Peggy” tells audience members of “Galaxy’s” new beauty product. Sleeping pills. Take two of these and the only thing up at night will be the moon. Dawn Marie Eid is to her right.

For the Record/Local News

GOBBLE: Agreement continues to open doors of communication

LCEDG - Continued from Page 1

Fort Madison Partners Executive Director Tim Gobble, who wasn't able to attend the conference, said the agreement has been a successful tool in marketing southeast Iowa.

"It opens the door for more communication between the entities. LCEDG and FMEDC work well together, but this continues to open doors with Burlington and Mt. Pleasant," Gobble said.

"It's a different level of communication we haven't had before. We just recently received a question asking do you have this available and if we're working with a client and they don't have something they can see if we have it."

Iowa Economic Development Director Debi Durham, along with other state Economic Development Directors, also provided insight on economic trends and executive thoughts on how the Midwest region can become more attractive for investment.

While in Chicago the Southeast Iowa group consulted with individual developers, highlighting our area's inventory of available land for development, co-location opportunities, and targeted industries that would benefit from our region's unique assets.

Through the RMA the three counties have a new framework for how to respond to regional inquiries and it empowers each individual organization to bring their strengths to

the table in promoting the region's significant sites.

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“
LCEDG and FMEDC work well together, but this continues to open doors with Mt. Pleasant and Burlington.”

-Tim Gobble
FM Partners,
Executive Director



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SPORTS

Steffensmeier records 4 pins at Mepo. Invite

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

MEDIAPOLIS - The Hounds' Harlan Steffensmeier recorded 4 pins en route to a first-place finish in the 138 lb. bracket leading the Hounds at the Mediapolis Invitational Saturday.

Six teams participated in the tournament on Saturday which is a smaller format than the Bloodhounds are used to.

"You know, compared to last week we were in a 25- team tournament, so this is a lot different and we weren't getting as many matches as we're used to. 195 was a good bracket for us," Head Coach Ryan Smith said Saturday.

"It was a good day for guys that got matches, but several guys didn't get matches," he said.

The Hounds' Harlan Steffensmeier rolled easily through the 138 lb. bracket which had five wrestlers. Steffensmeier took first in the division recording after downing Derek Beasley and Fairfield, Caden Benz of Mediapolis, Miles Burrows of Mid-Prairie and Caleb LaLonde of West Burlington/Notre Dame/Danville. Steffensmeier pinned LaLonde at the 1:18 mark...his longest match of the day.

"He's wrestling very well. Last weekend he was 8-1 with 7 pins. In the past he was getting technical falls, this year he's doing a great job of putting people on their back.

Elton Kruse and Ryan Steffensmeier both placed first on bye matches at 106 and 113 respectively.

At 120 Nathan Steffensmeier took 2nd place after falling to Cauy Massner of Mediapolis at the 4:42 mark.

At 126, Schuyler Schau suffered two pins in his first two matches but came back in the 3rd round with a pin of his own over Timothy Grepl at about 5 minutes.

Dalton Woolever lost a 7-5 decision in the first round, but rebounded in the second round with a 3-2 decision before falling to Duncan McCain of Mid-Prairie on a technical fall 25-10 at 132 lbs.



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg

Just one of the falls

Harlan Steffensmeier, wrestling for the Fort Madison 'Hounds at 138 lbs., gets Fairfield's Derek Beasley cradled prior to rolling him over for a quick pin Saturday at the Mediapolis Invitational. Steffensmeier was one of 4 Hounds to take first at the meet.

"It was a good day for the guys that got matches, but we had several guys that didn't get to wrestle today."

-Ryan Smith
FMHS Head coach

Jarrett Settles took 2nd at 160 after being pinned Brennan Swafford of Mediapolis.

Diego Lozano took first place at 182 after pinning Jacob Leonard at 1:12.

Sam Hayes dropped his first two matches of the day before coming back with a pin in the 195 bracket over Riley Silva of Mediapolis.

Alex Lauber was 1 of 3 for the day at 220. Lauber was slammed hard to the mat in his final match and after a medical timeout, and a subsequent time out for another unrelated injury, Lauber finished the match.

Heath Hoenig went 2 of 4 matches on the day after starting 2-0 at 285. Drake Fox of WB/ND/Danville one by a 1-0 decision in the last match of the day.

The Hounds travel to Mt. Pleasant on Wednesday and then host their own Invitational on Saturday.



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg

Ready to roll

At 195 lbs., FMHS' Sam Hayes goes on the attack against his opponent in an afternoon match. Hayes went 1-2 in his matches on the day and finished in 3rd place.



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg

Looking for a way out

The Hounds Dalton Woolever (132 lbs.) looks for an escape from Mediapolis' Reese Thornburg in morning action Saturday. Woolever lost in a 7-5 decision and went 1-2 in matches on the day.



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SPORTS

3s help Hounds keep Nikes at bay

Wilson still trying to find inside/outside balance from FM

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

BURLINGTON - Fort Madison Head Coach Ryan Wilson has been looking to strike a balance with his team all year...a balance of offense and defense, scoring and rebounding, inside and outside games. Balance, he says, leads to opportunities.

On Saturday night Senior guard CJ Richardson and junior guard Kaleb Cresswell took turns keeping Fort Madison on top of host Burlington Notre Dame as the Hounds never trailed en route to a 54-44 win at Notre Dame.

Richardson scored all his 13 points in the first half, including seven in the first six minutes to help push the Hounds to a 15-8 first quarter lead. Junior Elijah Barnes added a bucket and sophomore Logan Rashid hit a three pointer in the period as well. Notre Dame got six of their eight from junior Jett Tjaden who tied for game-high scoring for the Nikes at 13 with senior Jack Giannettino.

The Hounds played almost half the first quarter and most of the second without junior forward Treavor James-Kokjohn who got into foul trouble early with two.

Senior Austin Rose took over in the middle and scored out of the gate in the 2nd period to put the Hounds up 17-8. Richardson then hit consecutive 3s to push the Hounds lead to 23-10. The two teams traded buckets for the next three minutes and then it was Cresswell's turn to help keep the



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg

Hard to the hoop

Hounds Junior Treavor James-Kokjohn penetrates in the lane against the Nikes Saturday night in Burlington, James-Kokjohn got into foul trouble early on in the contest and stayed on the bench for most of the first half before catching fire in the fourth quarter to help put the game away 54-44.

balance. Cresswell hit a layup at the 4:25 mark to give the Hounds a 27-12 advantage and then connected on a three of his own with 1:40 left in the half, with James-Kokjohn still on the bench.

"We were in foul trouble early between Treavor, Barnes and Landon Bentley so we had to go a bit deeper on the bench," Wilson said after the game.

CJ had 13 in the first half. He really stepped up and played well and played well for us last night. He's coming

“
I gotta bring energy every night. I gotta score points. I gotta get rebounds, that's my role.”

-Treavor James-Kokjohn
FMHS junior forward

along. We need people like that to step in and fill the void.”

As for the foul trouble, James-Kokjohn said he had to play smarter. “He (coach) wants me to play smart. Coach wants me to be like a big spark. He says were gonna go as far as I take the team,” he said.

Kokjohn came out in the second half with renewed intensity and helped

See HOUNDS, page 6

Flu bug can't stop Crusaders in blow out win

HTC has one out sick; Hopper throws up 21 in 70-41 win.

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

ELDON - In today's vernacular "sick" can mean something great...or something.. well...sick.

With one senior out and another senior feeling the effects of an illness, the Crusaders boys basketball team would have thought Friday's test at Cardinal would have been a bit tougher. However HTC rolled over the hosts 70-41 in a blowout.

"We had one kid out sick, but we played great as team. We had a couple kids at 21 and 18 points but after that we were very balanced scoring," said Head Coach John Hellige.

Senior Cory Hopper, who continues to lead the Southeast Iowa Superconference in scoring, put up 21 points, but Hellige said he wasn't feeling well either.

"He was just getting over being sick, too, where he'd had a high fever and he just really stepped it up and fought through all that."

But it was the balanced attack and defense that really had Hellige in high spirits. The Crusaders gave up only 5 points in the first quarter and 14 in the second while putting up 40 of their own in the first half and had the game clearly in hand out of the gate.

"Our goal was to keep them under 40, and we gave up 41 so that's pretty good and we were able to play all the kids. That was important for us because those guys work their butts off all week at practice and its fun when they all get in and play.

The Crusaders opened their largest lead of the game at 29 points with just over a minute left in the third quarter. Behind Connor Conrad's 18 points the Crusaders never looked back.

"Connor gave us his usual full court, full throttle effort and Bailey Merschman played more of a post presence and used his size much better today, which is what I've been asking of him."

Hellige said despite the upside down score, the Crusaders still have some work to do in transition.

"We missed some shots early in transition..off turnovers. Not easy shots, but missed shots," he said. "We're not where we need to be. We've got to exhibit more poise and control in those situations."

Bailey Merschman had 10 points, Nick Pothitakis, Brant

See HTC, page 6



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg

Over the Barnes

In early action this year, HTC's Cory Hopper shoots over FMHS' Elijah Barnes. Hopper dropped 21 on host Cardinal Friday night.

SPORTS

HTC girls drub Cardinal, 3 players in double figures

Randolph leads balanced attack with 13 points

ELDON - The HTC Crusaders used a balanced scoring attack and some stingy defense to roll over host Cardinal of Eldon 62-26 Friday night.

Senior Ali Randolph led the HTC scoring with 13 points followed by sophomore Taylor Boeding's dozen and junior Madison Mohrfeld's 11.

HTC Head coach Tony Johnson played down the lopsided win but was happy that the entire team contributed to the win.

"We played well at times, but we need to clean things up on defense and rebounding," Johnson said.

HTC started slowly in the first quarter trailing 5-6 at the 4 minute mark, but the lid came off the baskets from that point forward with the Crusaders surging to a 6-point first quarter lead at 12-6 after holding Cardinal scoreless for about 7 minutes. Cardinal didn't get another point until a free throw with six minutes left in the first half and by that time HTC has sped out to a 20-7 lead. Cardinal would never get closer as HTC put up 33 first half points to just 17 from the hosts.

It was much the same in the second half as HTC

didn't look back wrapping up the third quarter with a 48-19 advantage.

The Crusaders only gave up 9 points in the second half in cleaning up the win.

"Every player contributed tonight offensively and defensively. We're a young team, still gelling and we will get where we want to be with hard work and focus.

Other scorers for HTC were: sophomore Mya Lawlor 6, junior Brett Schneider 5, sophomore Emily Box and freshman Ashlyn Haas 4, junior Samantha Hoenig 3, freshman Avery Hopper and senior Maggie Walker 2.

HTC plays host to Central Lee Tuesday night beginning at 6 p.m. for a varsity girls/boys doubleheader.

"
Every player contributed tonight offensively and defensively. We're a young team still gelling.
"

-Tony Johnson
HTC Head coach



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg

In for two

In early action this year, HTC's Brett Schneider drives the lane for a bucket. The Lady Crusaders dumped Cardinal 62-26 on Friday night

First half lead evaporates as Hounds fall to Nikes, 60-37



BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

BURLINGTON - If the first half was an indication of things to come, Fort Madison's varsity girls basketball team was going to give the Notre Dame Nikes all they wanted on their home floor.

The Lady Bloodhounds were able to dismantle a full zone press from Notre Dame for most of the game, a task they had struggled with at times early on in the season, and were able to get the ball inside off the transition scoring regularly throughout the first half.

The Nikes zipped to a quick 11-3 lead on a couple three pointers from junior Hailey Blythe and another from junior Anna Tillo. The Hounds crept back in the first quarter on some inside buckets from 6'1" junior Amber Dilsaver. Dilsaver scored inside at the 5:42 mark and then added another bucket and free throw off a foul on the shot at 3:27 to get the Hounds within a bucket. Junior Shannon Taylor connected on a short jumper with 2:17 left to tie the game at 13 and then Fort Madison went on a 7-4 run to end the first quarter up 20-17. Nike senior Johanna Myers who led all scorers with 24 on the night, was fouled by the Hounds Kamryn Bailey outside the three-point line and Myers converted two of the three free throws to end the quarter.

The Hounds continued to navigate the Nike zone press in the second quarter coming up with more points off the press. Senior Mercedes Trimble opened the 2nd quarter with a bucket to put the Hounds up 22-17. Fort Madison capitalized on the bonus in the 2nd quarter and converted 5-of-8 free throws over the next three minutes without a bucket to keep the

5-point margin.

But Notre Dame got buckets from Myers, Blythe and senior Emma Lynch to close the gap to just one at the end of the half 27-26.

Interim Head Coach Kent Bailey, who is filling for head coach Charles Knipe until next week, said the press didn't give the Hounds problems and actually opened up some opportunities. But in the third quarter turnovers plagued Fort Madison and the Hounds couldn't find a flow. The Hounds didn't convert a field goal in the third quarter and were almost held scoreless except for two free throws from senior Emily Mitchell with 19 seconds left.

"The third quarter they got hot and we missed about four shots that could have kept us in the game," Bailey said after the game. "We lost our composure a little bit. Didn't get a couple of calls we thought we should have and got into some foul trouble and that was it."

"I told the kids we handled the press well. But we got into the half court offense, they trapped and we should have gotten the ball to the open girl and we didn't do that very well tonight."

Notre Dame kept putting distance between themselves and their guests as they outscored the Hounds 16-8 in the final period on the shoulders of Myers who added six more. Fort Madison was plagued by turnovers for most of the fourth quarter.

Dilsaver led the Hounds with 10 points followed by Mercedes Trimble with 8, Brittney Harris had five points, senior Mariah Trimble and Taylor added 4 each, sophomore Braxtyn McGhghy and Mitchell each added two. Freshman Anna Kester and Bailey both added a free throw.

The Hounds fall to 3-3 on the season.

Post up

FMHS junior Amber Dilsaver posts up Notre Dame's Emma Lynch in Saturday's game. The Hounds fell 60-37, but held a 1-point halftime lead.

Kokjohn scores nine in 4th quarter

HOUNDS - Continued from Page 5

control the inside game before fouling out in the fourth quarter. He finished with 11 points.

Cresswell, who led all scorers on the night with 16 started the 2nd half on fire for the Hounds hitting three 3-pointers in the first four minutes, but the Nikes' Giannettino scored six points in the same span to keep the lead at 14.

A 3-pointer from Bentley with 40 seconds left in the third period proved to be a dagger for the Hounds as they went into the final period with a commanding 45-28 lead and the Hounds would need most of that cushion as Notre Dame outscored Fort Madison 15-9 in the last period.

James-Kokjohn took over in the last quarter scoring 9 of his 11 in the last 7 minutes.

"I gotta bring the energy every night. I gotta score points, I gotta get rebounds, that's my role."

But the balance is still on his mind as Wilson said he'd like to see more production inside the paint.

"I'd love to get them more touches. Now, how hard are they working and are our guards finding them and seeing them when they're open. That's probably debatable," he said. "I'm a firm believer that the inside game opens up the outside game. We have kids that can score we just need to get the ball where it needs to be."

Rounding out the scoring for Fort Madison, Rashid had 5 points, Barnes had 4, Bentley had 3, and Rose had 2.

The Hounds are 4-2 on the season and take on a Danville team ranked 9th in Class 1A on Tuesday with junior varsity action kicking off at 6 p.m.

Crusaders move to 3-2

HTC - Continued from Page 5

Holtkamp and Nathan Bredemeyer each had four points for HTC, Ben Tinguely and Collin Thornton each added three points, Matt Hellige had a bucket and Adam Rauenbuehler added a free throw.

The Crusaders are 3-2 on the season and host Central Lee Tuesday night.

In the junior varsity game, the score was almost as lopsided with HTC winning 65-26. Reed Fehseke knocked down 18 for the Crusaders to spark the win including three 3-pointers, Matt Hellige had 12 points and Brant Holtkamp added 11. Blake Crabtree had 9 points, Quentin Schneider and Kyle Bredemeyer each had 6 and Adam Rauenbuehler had 4 in the win.