



# Pen City Current

Friday, Sept. 28, 2018 | 7 pages | Volume 2 • Issue 220

## HTC project ahead of schedule

*Thursday morning hoist puts 46-ton wall with cross on northern face of \$6 million elementary school*



**BY CHUCK VANDENBERG**  
PCC EDITOR

WEST POINT - Construction crews with SG Construction out of Burlington hoisted a 46-ton slab of concrete and metal into place on a chilly Thursday morning as the sun peaked over the houses south of the square in West Point.

It took a five-story hydraulic crane and another smaller crane to pick the two-story wall off a truck bed and swing it into place. As the wall was lifted into place and about 50 people stood on street corners watching the work, the morning sun lit up the cross that was



Photos by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Construction crews from SG Construction of Burlington lift and install a 46-ton three-story concrete pre-fabricated wall Thursday morning to what will be the new \$6 million Holy Trinity Catholic Elementary School in West Point.

embedded in the precast wall. Video of crew lifting the slab into place can be found at <https://youtu.be/9D51-byb4a9A>.

Dennis Menke, who chaired the committee that is raising funds for the construction of the building said crews are head of schedule.

"Right now there about two weeks ahead of schedule," Menke said. "We hope to keep it that way."

The building was constructed out of prefab two-story concrete walls that are shipped in on flat bed trucks and then lifted with the larger hydraulic crane into place where they are anchored with metal grips and then will be welded into place later in the construction.

Menke said he didn't know when the roofing would start but he said that work would take at least a couple

See **SCHOOL**, page 3

## Chase through city ends with stolen vehicle

**BY CHUCK VANDENBERG**  
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON - A late Tuesday night chase led Fort Madison police officers to an abandoned stolen vehicle.

At approximately 11:30 p.m. Tuesday, an officer attempted to pull over a vehicle in the 800 block of 14th Street for expired plates. According to Police Chief Tim Sittig, the vehicle slowly began to pull away from the officer and then accelerated and led them on a chase with speeds hitting lower 40s and into the 50 mph range through city streets.



SITTIG

"They hit about 50 and were running stop signs through the area of the 800 block of 14th Street and 1100 block of Avenue H," Sittig said. "We tried to get in front of them and stop it, but we were unsuccessful and then lost sight of the vehicle a short time after."

He said officers then canvassed the area and discovered the vehicle abandoned in an alleyway and impounded the car.

When officers contacted the owner of the plates on the vehicle, they discovered that the plates belonged on a different car in Donnellson and the owners had not discovered until then, that their plates had been stolen.

"We're continuing to follow up on the theft and we have some people of interest, but no suspects yet," Sittig said.

The area has seen a rash of stolen vehicles in September, but Sittig said those vehicle have all been accounted for and we're juveniles taking cars that had keys left in them. He said those cases have been wrapped up and those arrested are now in the juvenile court system.

## Area restaurants team up with local United Way

BY PCC STAFF

KEOKUK - United Way of the Great River Region is excited to announce Restaurant Days. During the month of October, a variety of area restaurants have graciously agreed to donate a portion of their day's receipts to United Way of the Great River Region to go directly to our Fall 2018 Campaign.

See **FUNDRAISER**, page 3

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## Scene Around Town/Weather

# United Way to get part of October restaurant sales

**FUNDRAISER** - Continued from Page 1

The United Way is asking residents to support the restaurant of their choosing and part of the bill will go back to the United Way. Karen Thie, executive director of the UWGRR said additional restaurants may be joining the promotion so residents should check the most updated calendar on the United Way of the Great River Region's Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/UW-GRR/>.

"We are so excited to have so many generous establishments in our 3 county service area." Thie said. "What a great way to raise money for a great cause. Get together with your family and friends to enjoy a meal and help others at the same time! Be sure to keep an eye on our Facebook page for updates and reminders."

Twelve Lee County restaurants are partici-

pating: Fort Worth BBQ, Beef, Bread & Brew, V's Restaurant & Brew Pub, Hawkeye Restaurant, Java River Coffee House and Bakery, Dr. Getwell's, McDonald's, and Wendy's and Pizza Hut in Keokuk; Buffalo 61, Cottage Café and The Palms in Fort Madison. They are joined by Hotel Nauvoo in Nauvoo, El Camino Real and Hamilton Family Restaurant in Hamilton representing Hancock County.

If you are interested in having your restaurant participate and it's located in Clark, Hancock or Lee county please contact Karen Thie at United Way of the Great River Region at 319-524-4504 or by email at [director@united-waygrr.org](mailto:director@united-waygrr.org).

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



## FMHS Royalty

Sheymouhr Redd-Donald and Braxtyn McGh-ghy were named Fort Madison High School's 2018 Homecoming King and Queen at Thursday's rally in Central Park. The Hounds face Fairfield in Friday night's Homecoming game.

Photos by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC



# New school taking shape in West Point

**SCHOOL** - Continued from Page 1

of weeks, and then electricians and plumbers would be able to get in the building and start on that portion of the work.

The \$6 million project kicked off with a private fundraising campaign in January of 2017 and will completely replace the elementary learning spaces and cafeteria. The new building is being built right next to the current gymnasium on the southwest corner of 4th and Avenue C in West Point.

In January, the committee indicated they were about \$250,000 short of the needed funds to complete the project. The funds to build the school have come completely from private donations and commitments to the project.

## 5-DAY WEATHER FORECAST

<b>SUN 03 Sep</b>	Scattered Clouds High – 61.5° F   Low – 41.6° F
<b>MON 04 Sep</b>	Moderate Rain High– 51.3° F   Low – 49.0° F
<b>TUE 05 Sep</b>	Light Rain High– 74.0° F   Low – 57.9° F
<b>WED 06 Sep</b>	Clear Skies High – 79.5° F   Low – 69.4° F
<b>THU 07 Sep</b>	Light Rain High– 77.5° F   Low – 65.9° F

[OpenWeatherMap](#)

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**Sports**

# Hounds looking to end three-game slide

**BY CHUCK VANDENBERG**  
PCC EDITOR



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

**FORT MADISON -** Last year a winning season for the Bloodhound football team may have hinged on a homecoming game against a 1-5 Fairfield team on Oct. 7.

But prior to game time, the Hounds learned that they would be without their top running back in Alex Gully, who was suspended for the game after running into some legal troubles. And then a special teams injury to No. 2 running back Diego Lozano forced him from the game and turned what should have been an even game, into a lopsided 33-6 loss by the Hounds.

Head Coach Tony Shiffman is hoping Fort Madison can shake it's 2-3 record, put another "W" the win column, and set a pace for the clubs' first winning season since 2010. But to do that the Hounds will have to find a way to cage

The Hounds' Diego Lozano breaks away for a 35-yard touchdown in last week's fourth quarter of a 49-6 loss to 3rd-ranked Solon. The Hounds are looking to get back in the win column on Homecoming Friday.

the Trojans' 6'2" 240lb senior Tristan Waugh, who can dominate play on both sides of the ball.

Fairfield features a tandem at running back with Waugh, who has 498 yards and eight touchdowns on 100 carries. Waugh also is averaging 39 yards per reception, but has done the damage on just five catches out of the back-

field for 195 yards. The other back, junior Leone Gichure has 414 yards on 67 attempts and a couple of TDs.

Waugh also leads the team in tackles from his defensive line position with 30 on the year including seven for losses and four sacks.

"He was their best player last year and he's their best player again

this year. He's a good physical athlete," Shiffman said. "I think he's all-district in most sports he plays. He's a big, physical runner, and a good defensive lineman"

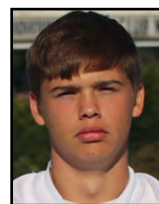
Waugh had 328 yards in ruining the Bloodhounds' homecoming last year, included four touchdowns on a whopping 52 carries.

"You gotta know where

## HOUNDS PREVIEW

he's at all times. We definitely underestimated him last year and he made us pay. We're hopefully better prepared for him this year. We'll be ready," Shiffman said.

FMHS junior Diego Lozano will surely be spying Waugh out of the backfield. Lozano has 37.5 tackles on the season including 11 for loss and three sacks. Junior Romeo Maestro leads the team with four sacks



BARKER

and junior Quentin Schneider is second on the team in tackles with 25.



LOZANO

Shiffman said the Trojans don't do a lot five step drops on offense.

Senior signal caller Carson Crile has completed just 29 passes on the season

### PLAYERS TO WATCH

#### FAIRFIELD

- #16 C. Crile 6'4" 200lb Sr. QB/OLB
- #44 T. Waugh 6'2" 240lb Sr. RB/DL
- #6 L. Gichure 5'7" 170lb Jr. RB/S
- #33 L. Kooiker 6'2" 160lb Jr. WR
- #23 C. Jones 6'0" 160lb Jr. RB/ST

#### HOUNDS

- #2 Redd-Donald 6'-2" 175lb Sr. WR/DB
- #12 L. Barker 5'-10" 180lb Sr. QB
- #7 D. Lozano 6'-2" 215lb Jr. RB/LB
- #3 Q. Schneider 6'-1" 180lb Jr. DE
- #1 M. Mosena 5'-7" 160lb Jr. WR
- #57 D. Settles 5'-10" 245lb Jr. OL/DL

for 463 yards and three scores.

"There gonna try to run it and run it and throw play-action. They don't do a lot of straight up drop-back passing, but they're tough. That's what they want to do is run it."

Junior Landon Kooiker leads the Trojans in receiving with 240 yards and a touchdown, but Crile has hooked up with eight different receivers on the year, so the Trojans can spread it around a bit.

See **PREVIEW**, page 7

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## Classifieds/Sports

# Hounds getting most production through the air

**PREVIEW** - Continued from Page 4

But the Hounds know a little about spreading the ball around, too. Senior quarterback Lennon Barker, who sat the second half of last week's 49-6 loss to No. 3 ranked Solon, has close to 1,000 yards through the air this year and has hooked up with eight different receivers for a couple of scores. Seniors Dom Frantz and Sheymouhr Redd-Donald each have more than 200 yards in the air. But juniors Michael Mosena and Parker Denning, and senior Trey

Kuntz each have more than 100 yards. The Hounds have struggled a little with a run this year. Only 25% of the FMHS offense has come via the rush, but Shiffman said that's a by-product of different athletes in the skill positions and depth on the line. "We knew we'd be like that this year. We knew this would be a pass-to-set-up-the-run year, whereas last year we ran to set up the pass. That's just the way we were built," he said. "It's not that

we've changed our offense as a whole per se, but we've got an over-abundance of receivers and we don't have a lot of depth on the offensive line. So we need to get it out to our athletes in open space."



SHIFFMAN

The Hounds have run the ball 112 times including quarterback sacks and have passed the ball 170 times, which represents a 40/60 split in run to pass

“They’ve gotta get over the three-year murderers row we just had. We still have every opportunity to finish on a high note and a winning record.”

-Tony Shiffman  
FMHS Head Football coach

be better, but it could be worse, too,” he said. Shiffman has said since the first day of practice last year, that the program has to overcome the mental fatigue of seven straight losing seasons. He said once they come out of that funk, gets some wins and have some success, the program will grow.

“I’ve talked with many coaches who say the second year is harder than the first,” he said. “It is a mental thing. They’ve gotta get over the three-game murderers row we just had. We still have every opportunity to finish on a high note and a winning record.”

The Hounds and Trojans square off at Richmond Stadium starting at 7 p.m.

plays. Most of the Hounds on offense switch over and play defense and Shiffman said that dynamic, although not uncommon, causes problems in 3A schools with limited players. “The middle stretch of the schedule you saw more one-way guys on the other teams. But it’s more that they have more depth. So if say a Clear

Creek quarterback plays corner too, if he needs a breather he can get one. We’re still trying to get our numbers up and it’s one of those things that your trying to get a culture shift and get people to buy into the program.” But he said he’s happy with the numbers the program has halfway through his second year. “I’m happy where we’re at with numbers. It could

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