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STATE WRESTLING:

Complete stories and photos from every match this weekend from DM.

Continued on pages 7, 9 & 11-12

Sunday, February 19, 2017 | 12 pages | Volume 1 • Issue 52

STATE WRESTLING - ROUND 4 (FINALS) - SATURDAY NIGHT

Steffensmeiers earn medals at Wells Fargo

BY CHUCK **VANDENBERG**

DES MOINES - They'll both tell you it's not the results they wanted, and in the same breath with little emotion, they're proud of what they've accomplished.

Harlan and Ryan Steffensmeier, cousins born within a day of each other, will each take a podium spot Saturday night at the IHSAA State Wrestling tournament held in Des Moines' Wells Fargo Arena Thursday through Saturday.

Harlan took 3rd place in a physical match against Gabe Kjeldgaard of Council Bluffs. Steffensmeier had the match under control most of the



Bloodhound medalists

Harlan Steffensmeier, left, placed 3rd in the 138 lb division, and Ryan, right, placed 8th in the 113 lb division of the IHSAA State Wrestling Tournament held Thursday-Saturday in Des Moines at Wells Fargo

way until midway through the 2nd period Kjeldgaard wrenched Steffensmei-

Arena.

er's knee. The hold was broken up by the referees and Steffensmeier shook

it off and got back into the match at 6-0.

"It's a little sore right

now," he said. "I had my legs in and he would take my leg and pull it different directions. It doesn't feel injured its just a little sore right now. It hurts a bit."

Starting the third period, Steffensmeier again had the upper hand and was moving his opponent around the mat and seemed moments away from being able to pull Kjeldgaard in and lock his hands for a possible cradle, but Kjeldgaard was able to escape and roll on top of Steffensmeier, who found himself on his back. Kjeldgaard then created a wide base, with his back laying on top of Steffensmeier and had him almost pinned down sliding his feet and trying to keep Steffensmeier from es-

See **PODIUM**, page 13

Burn ban issued for Lee County

PROCLAMATION OPEN BURNING PROHIBITED

On February 17, 2017, the office of the state fire marshal received a request pursuant to Iowa Code 100.40(1) (1995) from Steve Cirinna, representing each fire department having all or part of their fire district within Lee County, that the state fire marshal prohibit open burning in Lee County. Upon investigation the fire marshal finds that conditions in Lee County are such that open burning constitutes a danger to life or property.

It is therefore ordered that no person shall engage in open burining in Lee County, effective February 17, 2017 at 3:00 p.m., except as specifically permitted by Iowa Code 100.40(3) until such time as Steve Cirinna, notifies the state fire marshal that such conditions dangerous to life or property no longer exists.

Notice is herby given that pursuant to Iowa Code 100.40(2) any violation of this proclamation order is a simple misdemeanor.

Scan the code to

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FM Partners entities hand out annual awards

BY CHUCK **VANDENBERG**

FORT MADISON - The Fort Madison Partners and the Fort Madison Daily Democrat honored six deserving local community members who've donated time and resources for the betterment of Fort Madison on Friday night.

At the Fort Madison Partners annual dinner entitled "Celebrating Milestones", Partners Director Tim Gobble addressed a full room of local people representing businesses, service groups, government and industries in and around Fort Madison.

Gobble said there are good things on the horizon for Fort Madison, but the community needs to stay active and integrate with each other to keep the wheels turning.

Rusty Andrews, Chairman of Fort Madison Main Street, honored Kelly Peters for her work on the Main Street Farmers' Market. Brenda Derr was also nominated.

Angie Budnik, the Fort Madison Chamber of Commerce chair, honored Angela King from Team Staffing in a new category called "Ambassador in Action". Budnik also honored Rachel Benda as Ambassador of the Year.

See **DINNER**, page 2



Let's Make A Deal

Maggie Guzman, center, presents Tony Baxter with his "Zonk" prize of a box of potato chips at the Fort Madison Partners Annual Dinner Friday night. At left is Fort Madison Chamber Chair and ad hoc game show host Angie Budnik.

Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC



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ObituariesP.3 James T. Fraune, 87, Revere, MO Gloria J. Lampe, 76, Donnellson Chellis W. Senf, 68, Knoxville

From the Front/Local News

Andrews get Democrat's Citizen of the Year award

DINNER - Continued from Page 1

Sandy Holtkamp and Matt Lafrenz were also nominated for that honor.

Gobble, on behalf of Fort Madison Economic Development Group, then gave the first-ever Community Development Award to Tony Baxter of Baxter Construction. Baxter encouraged those in attendance to keep giving of what they could because even the smallest efforts can make huge benefits. Jenny Steffensmeier, Michael Mohrfeld, and Bob Huffman, Jr. were also nominated for this award.

As is the tradition, the Daily Democrat presented the Citizen of the Year at the end the evening prior to the silent auction winner announcements.

Co-Publisher Bill Helenthal presented the award to Rusty Andrews citing his work on the Fort Madison City Council, Fort Madison Main Street, the Tri-State Rodeo, his work with the Charlie Korschgen Kiddie Parade and a multitude of other ventures. Linda Marshall and Lisa Nafziger were also considered for the honor.

Live auction items including a John Deere Classic Package, a St. Louis Cardinals package, a "Get Your Grill On" grilling package and a "Building Your Image" package were available at the event. Those items were donated by Mid American Energy/ Spirit Hollow/SCC, Shottenkirk The GM Giant/Air Choice One/Enterprise, Axalta Coating Systems/Fareway/Hope Real Estate/Kempker's True Value/Pinnacle Foods, and Devan Marie Photography/Atlas.

Attendees also were able to bid on over 30 silent auction items as well.



Ambassador in action

Angela King and Angie Budnik pose for a photo after King was awarded the Ambassador in Action award Friday.



Community developer

Tony Baxter of Baxter Construction speaks to guests at the Fort Madison Partners annual dinner Friday after receiving the Community Development Award from Partners Executive Director Tim Gobble.



Volunteer of the year

Kelly Peters is congratulated by Fort Madison Chamber President Rusty Andrews after being named the Fort Madison Main Street Volun-



Ambassador of the year

Chamber Chair Angie Budnik.

Rachel Benda is awarded the Ambassador of the Year by Fort Madison



Citizen of the year

Rusty Andrews goes to the microphone to speak after being presented the Daily Democrat Citizen of the Year Award Friday at the Comfort Inn & Suites in Fort Madison.





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FARM BUREAU FINANCIAL SERVICES

Local News/Obituaries



Celebrating two decades

The Fort Madison Chamber Ambassador Club visited Griffin Muffler and Brake Center Friday morning to congratulate them on celebrating 20 years in business. Nannette and Clark Griffin, owners, are pictured with their employees and members of the Chamber Ambassador Club.

OBITUARIES

GLORIA J. LAMPE

Gloria J. Lampe, 76, of Donnellson, passed away on Wednesday, February 15, 2017 at 9:55 PM at her home.

> She was born on January 5, 1941 in Ft. Madison, IA to Herbert and Marcella Baxter Ridgley. On November 8, 1958 she married Eugene H. Lampe at Sacred Heart Church in Ft. Madison. Gloria worked several clerical jobs for

various businesses in Ft. Madison. She was a member of Sacred Heart Church, Altar and Rosary Society and Daughters of Isabella. She also started the Chaplet of Divine Mercy where the rosary is recited in the afternoon. Gloria enjoyed painting, ceramics and quilting. She also made a detailed nativity scene for her home and also made nativities for her family members.

Survivors include her husband, Gene Lampe of Donnellson; a son, Gene (Cindy) Lampe, Jr of Carmel, IN; a daughter, Debra Grondziak of Jacksonville, FL; six grandchildren, Duane Grondziak Jr, Amber Grondziak, Kaitlyn Hayes, Matthew Lampe, John Lampe and Neil Lampe and one brother, Herbert Ridgley, Jr.

She was preceded in death by her parents.

The Memorial Mass will be held on Tuesday, February 21, 2017 at 10:30 AM at Sacred Heart Church with Rev. Mark P. Spring officiating. Burial will follow in Gethsemane Cemetery. There will be no formal visitation. Per her wishes, cremation has been entrusted to King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory.

In lieu of flowers, a memorial has been established for the American Heart Association and online condolences may be left at www.kinglynk.com





CHELLIS W. SENF

Chellis W. Senf, 68, of Knoxville, IA, died Sunday, February 12, 2017, in Des Moines, IA. He was born March 22, 1948 in Davenport, IA, to Mickie Brakeville & Dwight H. Senf. He had worked for the Santa Fe/ BNSF Railroad on the Bridge & Building Gang.

He is survived by 2 sons, Charlie Senf & Tony Senf, 1 daughter, Crystal Shores, 12 grandchildren, 1 great grandchild, 2 brothers, Danny Senf & Jim Cooper, 1 sister, DeeAnne Davolt of Ft. Madison, 4 nephews & 9

He was preceded in death by his mother, father, 1 sister and 1 brother.

Per his wishes, no services are planned. King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory is assisting the family with



OBITUARIES

JAMES T. FRAUNE

James T. Fraune, 87 of Revere, MO and formerly of Ft. Madison passed away on Thursday, February 16, 2017 at his home. He was born on March 21, 1936 in Ft.

Madison to Henry J. and Emma Wiggenjost Fraune. Jim graduated from Catholic Central High School in 1953.

He served in the US Army reserves and was seventeen months active duty for the 495th Combat Engineers, Company C at Ft. Madison.

He worked for Sieg Compnay, Engeman Hardware, Tool & Die Engineering Department at Sheaffer Pen Co and was chief engineer for Gleason Corporation. He was plant manager for twenty years at Dadant & Sons in Kahoka, MO. Jim served on the board of the Clark County Sheltered Workshop in Kahoka. He was a member of St. Martha Catholic Church in Wayland, MO and was a Grand Knight and 4th degree member of the Knights of Columbus in Ft. Madison. Jim was the string bass player in Doyle Hoyer's orchestra for thirteen years and enjoyed playing for many functions in the area in his later years.

Survivors include; one son, Jason Fraune of McKinney, TX; one sister, Helen Loving of West Point; one brother, Robert (Rose) Fraune of Waterloo, IA; several nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents; six sisters, Alice Fedler, Ruth Krogmeier, Viola Menke, Arline Walljasper, Louise Menke and Joan Fraune and one brother, Paul Fraune.

The memorial mass will be held on Monday, February 20, 2017 at 11 AM at Ss. Mary & Joseph Church with Rev. Mark P. Spring officiating. The family will meet with friends from 10 AM until the time of the service at 11. Cremation has been entrusted to King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory. A memorial has been established in his memory and online condolences may be left at www.kinglynk.com



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4 - Pen City Current - Sunday, February 19, 2017

Pen City Current - Sunday, February 19, 2017

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3 car garage • 3,723 sq. ft.

Splendor in the woods...with privacy...AND a view... AND an AMAZING home. Call today on this brick beauty perched atop a hill overlooking Ft. Madison with a view of the Mississippi River and almost 6 acres of ground. Offered are 3 bedrooms, 3 1/2 baths, a formal living & dining room, a large great room/kitchen/breakfast room combo and a study/den with beautiful cherry cabinetry & bookshelves lining the walls. All of this with STUNNING hardwood floors. This beautiful home offering top-of-the-line features throughout.

Listing #20160805 • \$460,000

DREAM HOME!



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 24×16 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



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

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

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 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.

front deck and enjoy the country scenery! In Farmington. **Listing #20163103** \$39,999

Large shop attached

to the garage and a

storage shed. Sit on the



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

> **Listing #20160368** \$59,900

corner lot.



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 yard, 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

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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.

\$25,500 **Listing #20162346** \$86,950



Brick rancher on Ave

E close to Old Settlers

Park, has full basement

mostly finished, picket

fence, newer windows,

Listing #20162502

\$88,900

2BR • 1.75BA

2 car garage

679 sq. ft.

6,500 sq. ft. lot

has purchased and

condition.

remodeled. Excellent

Listing #20164161

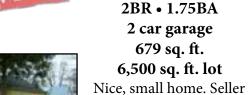
\$62,500

roof, etc.

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**





2BR • 1BA 2 car garage

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!

930 sq. ft.



Listing #20164279 \$38,500



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



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

Listing #20163423 •



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

amp service. Listing #20162574



STATE WRESTLING - ROUND 3 (SEMIFINALS) - SATURDAY MORNING

Harlan Steffensmeier advances to 3rd-place match

Saturday morning rematch has same result BY CHUCK VANDENBERG

DES MOINES - Fort Madison's Harlan Steffensmeier advanced to the third-place match in Class 3A 138 lbs at the IHSAA State Wrestling tournament at Wells Fargo Arena in Des Moines Saturday morning.

Steffensmeier, now 49-5 on the year, found himself in a rematch with Bryce Murano of Dallas Center-Grimes, who was 39-9 going into the match, Steffensmeier had beaten Murano on Thursday's first round in a 19-4

In a fairly evenly matched opening period, Murano got on the board first with take down, which Steffensmeier escaped quickly to put the match 2-1. With about 45 seconds left in the first period, Steffensmeier started to gain momentum keeping Murano on his back for the rest of the period. Steffensmeier had the up position to start the 2nd period and quickly pulled Murano to the mat and got his legs around him and had Murano under control before the pin was slapped at 38 seconds into the 2nd period.

Steffensmeier will now face Gabe Kjeldgaard, a junior out of Council Bluffs who is 42-8 through the tournament for 3rd place in the 138 weight class.

Steffensmeier beat Mason Morris by a 6-0 decision in round 2 during the Friday morning session, before losing to No. 1 ranked Triston Lara in a major decision 10-2 during the Friday afternoon session.



Different day, same result

Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

FM's Harlan Steffensmeier pushes Bryce Murano around in a 3rd round consolation match Saturday morning at the Wells Fargo Arena. Steffensmeier won by fall at 2:38 to advance to the 3rd-place match to be held before 2:15 today.

Ryan Steffensmeier moves on in 113 lb. consolation bracket

Junior gets Sat. morning pin

> BY CHUCK **VANDENBERG**

DES MOINES - In just a mere 90 minutes a wrestler at the Iowa state wrestling tourney can run a full spectrum of emotions from a loss to a big

Walking the lower halls of Wells Fargo Arena in Des Moines vou see the pain, emotion and celebration of wrestling at the **IHSAA State Wrestling** tournament as wrestlers advance through the tourney on the champion ship side or fight through the consolation bracket to reach 3rd place. One sees wrestlers embracing each other and some sitting in solace on the floor.

But the emotions don't end there. Fort Madison's Ryan Steffensmeier came off the mat after wrestling his first match in the consolation bracket with a look of pure joy, that just 90 minutes before had been one of disappoint

Steffensmeier had just pinned Carter Logue of

ment and concern.

Carlisle at the 1:08 mark to guarantee a minimum of 8th place in the 113 lb. bracket. He'll now face Kobey Pritchard of Indianola.

Pritchard is 43-6 on the year and is currently ranked 3rd in the state. That match will be a part of the afternoon session that begins at 2:50.

"My mindset was to get to my offense and I knew that a cradle would be a good thing to go for because I knew he had been caught in a cradle before," Steffensmeier said after

Steffensmeier was coming off a loss in his first match to top-ranked Drew Bennett in a 16-1 technical fall in the 3rd period.

"I thought my effort was there. He's a tough kid, I versed him before and he got the pin. I thought I wrestled ok, but here you gotta work for it."

Ryan's parents who were watching from section 209 were extremely happy for their son's progression through the bracket. "I'm just very happy for

him. I knew he'd have a tough time with Bennett, but this last match I didn't know what to expect. I'm just...happy," said an emotional Doug Steffensmeier.

I thought my effort was there. He's a tough kid, I versed him before and he got the pin. I thought I wrestled ok, but here you gotta

"

-Ryan Steffensmeier FMHS wrestler

work for it."

Ryan's mother Diane Steffensmeier said it was a relief.

"We're just so proud of him," she said. "It was such a heartbreaker for him last year not making state and finishing 3rd at district.

I know I was a little nervous in the first matching losing but that kid's a tough kid, but Ryan obviously came back and got the win and we couldn't be happier."

Ryan's cousin Harlan will also be wrestling in semi-final action in the 2:30 session facing Triston Lara, the No. 1 ranked 3A wrestler at 138 lbs.



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Ryan Steffensmeier pulls Carter Logue into the first of two cradles during Friday's consolation matches in the morning session. Steffensmeier won by fall with his second cradle at 1:03



Along for the ride

In a pinch

Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Steffensmeier positions himself to get a handle on Carter Logue in the opening seconds of his consolation match Friday morning. Steffensmeier pinned Logue guaranteeing a minimum of an 8th place finish in the tournament.



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

Multi-family Duplex





2BR • 1BA 1,144 sq. ft. Move-in ready with

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

\$42,500



3,625 sq. ft. lot many updates including

has original fireplace,

move in! **Listing #20161431**



ASSOCIATES

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

Listing #20162543 \$53,000

basement and 1 car



for your own personal touch!

\$74,900



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\$249,000

conditioned with 200

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PROFESSIONAL SERVICES





2017 State Wrestling

STATE WRESTLING - ROUND 2 (QUARTERFINALS) - FRIDAY MORNING

Steffensmeiers battle No. 1s at state tourney

BY CHUCK **VANDENBERG**

DES MOINES - FMHS' Ryan and Harlan Steffensmeier have both found themselves matched up against the No. 1 wrestlers in the state in their weight classes...and both from Fort Dodge.

In the first matches of the day Friday, Ryan found himself up against Drew Bennett of Fort Dodge at 113 lbs. Steffensmeier came into the match 28-11 and Bennett was 39-0 on the year. Bennett lived up to the bill with quickness and good mechanics, but Steffensmeier battled all three periods finally succumbing to a technical fall at 16-1 with just 33 seconds left in the match. Steffensmeier rolled and pitched several times being close to a pin but fought out of the position to avoid the fall.

Harlan, who won his quarterfinal match over

Mason Morris of Bettendorf, will now go up against Tristen Lara, also of Fort Dodge, in the semifinals. Lara comes into the match with a 42-1 record compared to Steffensmeier's 45-3. Lara has one both of his matches at the tournament by technical fall 16-1 and 19-2. Steffensmeier won his first match by 19-4 technical

Steffensmeier's match with Morris was a tangling and untangling with very few moments of the match on their feet. But Steffensmeier managed to keep position and hold Morris in clinches for most of the match and finally being able to stay in a top position for the last 60 seconds for the win.

Ryan will face Carter Logue, a sophomore from Carlisle in the 2nd round consolation to be played yet this morning.

The semifinal matches in 3A start at 2:30 this afternoon.



Hip grip

Harlan Steffensmeier gets a hip grip on Mason Morris in action Friday morning. Steffensmeier won 6-0 to advance to face No. 1 ranked Triston Lara in the semifinals at 3:30 p.m. Friday.

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Moving on

Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

In Friday State Wrestling action, FMHS' Harlan Steffensmeier (138) works Mason Morris of Dallas Center-Grimes to a 6-0 decision. Steffensmeier faced No. 1 ranked Tristen Lara of Fort Dodge in the semifinals.



Looking for an angle

Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

FMHS' Harlan Steffensmeier gets the upper position on Morris later in the match.





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2017 State Wrestling

STATE WRESTLING - ROUND 1 - THURSDAY MORNING

Steffensmeiers advance with wins



Almost pinned

FMHS junior Ryan Steffensmeier makes quick work of Keano Roberts of Bettendorf securing a fall in just :32. Steffensmeier faces Drew Bennett of Fort Dodge on Friday morning.

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG

DES MOINES - For FMHS junior Harlan Steffensmeier, the state wrestling tournament is, as Head Coach Ryan Smith said on Wednesday "old hat", but for his cousin Ryan, also a junior, the tournament is new and fresh.

Surrounded by the energy of Wells Fargo Arena and the smell of sweat, rubber and popcorn, Ryan Steffensmeier, wrestling at 113 lbs., got onto Mat 5 about 10 minutes into the start of the tournament. Thirty-two seconds later his day was over and he was on his way to the quarterfinals. Butterflies...check.

Harlan took a bit longer to get a technical fall over Bryce Murano of Dallas Center-Grimes, 19-4 sending him into the quarterfinals as well.

Ryan shot at freshman Keano Roberts of Bettendorf and lifted Roberts over his back from a squatted position and rolled him onto the mat and climbed on top. After a short ride, Steffensmeier slid to the side and got hold of Roberts left leg and pulled him up and cradled him for the pin.

"Umm, I was a little nervous, yeah. Being it was my first time I had a case of the butterflies," Steffensmeier said after the win. "But Harlan took me aside and talked me down and told me to just think one match at a time."

Steffensmeier said his game plan was to be aggressive.

"I wanted to get to my attack and then just go for the fall," Steffensmeier said. "Then just go rest."

Smith said he thought Steffensmeier was handling the jitters.

"We really thought he was good to go in that respect," Smith said. "Then he got out there and saw an opportunity and didn't give the kid a chance to do much."

Steffensmeier now faces the No. 1 ranked 113 lb. wrestler in the state in Drew Bennett of Fort Dodge. Bennett is 39-0 and sent Glenwood's Dalton Book to the consolation bracket with a fall at 1:12.

"That's a tough kid," Smith said. "We've seen him at a couple of tourneys and Ryan may have wrestled him in Independence. For sure he's a tough opponent." Steffensmeier said he's aware of Bennett.

"He's No. 1 in the state. He's a tough kid."

Harlan, wrestling at 138, ran up against Bryce Murano of Dallas Center-Grimes. Early in the match Murano took an arm to the face and the match was stopped at three separate times to address a bloody nose and clean up the mat.

But Murano kept the pressure on Steffensmeier, currently ranked 3rd in the state. Harlan nearly had Murano pinned early in the 2nd period, but Murano was able to squirm out. At that point, Harlan was up 11-3. After the third stoppage, Steffensmeier was able to rack up points quickly and getting the technical fall at the 4:24 mark.

Smith said Steffensmeier was off tactically at the outset, but then settled in and took advantage of his opportunities.

"He wasn't really using his feet very well," Smith said. "But after a couple minutes he was ready to go. He started scoring points and only gave up four points." Harlan said he was getting agitated with the stoppages, but was able to refocus.

The break-ups were making me a bit angry," he said. But once we got going his low singles were pretty good. But by the time we got into it I got it figured out."

Steffensmeier now faces junior Mason Morris of Bettendorf. Morris is 31-10 and recorded a 9-2 decision over Ryker Kurimski of Epworth. Steffensmeier and Morris have not gone head to head, but they have wrestled at tournaments together. Smith said they had an opportunity to see Morris at the Urbandale Invitational earlier this

Class 3A quarterfinals followed by 2nd round consolation matches will take place starting at 9 a.m. Friday. The semifinals and 3rd round consolation matches will take place during the afternoon session which starts at 2:30.

Third round consolation games and 3A finals take place starting at 10 a.m. Saturday with awards and presentations beginning at 5:45 Saturday.

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From the Front

STATE WRESTLING - ROUND 4 (FINALS) - SATURDAY NIGHT

Cousins conquer Wells Fargo: Harlan takes 3rd, Ryan 8th

PODIUM - Continued from Page 1

caping. With Head Coach Ryan Smith shouting "Get out of there, Harlan!" almost on command the junior rolled over on his belly and rode out the next 20 seconds for the win.

"There are defensive flaws. He was getting too close for my comfort," Smith said. "But he's good at that position and he knew what he was doing. But you don't take a chance when you're up by 8. So bail out.

"It was a solid match. He was a tough kid. That was a tough bracket for him and to finish 3rd after losing is a good sign for him. So he goes 7th as a freshman, 5th last year, 3rd this year so the plan is No. 1. next year. Yeah...so

we knew each other from that"

As far as following the pattern and shooting for the top spot next year...

"That's the plan," he said.

For the tournament, Steffensmeier defeated Bryce Murano, in a 19-4 technical fall at 4:24 in the first round on Thursday. Then on Friday beat Mason Morris 6-0 in the quarterfinals in the morning session.

He then ran up against No. 1 Triston Lara of Fort Dodge who scored a 10-2 major decision over Steffensmeier sending him to the third round consolation bracket where, again he beat Murano with a fall at 2:38 setting up the 3rd-place match with with both wrestlers getting to their feet quickly.

After a bit of a slap match, Steffensmeier moved Penrith around the mat and shot at him and was able to get on top, but Penrith lifted Steffensmeier off the ground and was able to spin him back to the mat and regain position and ride it out until the match ended.

"I thought it was a good match. It definitely didn't end the way I wanted it to. I think I worked hard and gave it everything I had," Steffensmeier said.

"He's beat me before, but by more than he did here. I thought...I mean he's a tough kid, good opponent and I respect him. But I'm gonna come back next year and get him."



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Ready for a roll

FMHS junior Ryan Steffensmeier works for a take down in Saturday's 7th place match. Steffensmeier lost the match to Jakey Pinrith of Cedar Falls 6-1 and finished in 8th place in 113 lbs. at the IHSAA tourney in Des Moines.

Steffensmeier started on Thursday with a win over Keano Roberts in a fall in just 32 seconds. Then he to ran into the No. 1 113 lb. wrestler in the state in junior Drew Bennett who was 42-1 going into the match. Bennett scored a 16-1 technical fall sending Steffensmeier into the consolation bracket where he faced Carter Logue a 27-15 sophomore. Steffensmeier recorded a fall at 1:08 to put him on the podium. Kobey Pritchard, 44-6 junior sent Steffensmeier to the 7th place match when he pinned the FMHS junior at 1:14 setting up the match with Penrith.



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

In control

Harlan Steffensmeier wraps ups Gabe Kjeldgaard in the 3rd place match for the 138 lb. weight class. Steffensmeier won the match 10-2.

he's on track."

Steffensmeier said he wasn't fearful of losing in the third, but he wasn't expecting that turn of events.

"I was a little concerned. But I've been in that position quite a bit," he said. "You just gotta be careful. You can't sit there... you have to keep moving and you have to keep him off your shoulder and keep him from holding you on that."

The two worked together in other wrestling formats so they were familiar with each other.

"We were on the team together and we're drill partners for Greco. Me, him and a couple other guys would switch off so Kjeldgaard.

RYAN STEFFENSMEIER GETS 8TH PLACE

In a rematch from the Urbandale Invitational this year, Ryan Steffensmeier was up against Jakev Penrith of Cedar Falls for 7th place. Penrith came into the match 34-14 as a sophomore. The match was close in the first period as Penrith got the first take down but Ryan was able to escape for a 2-1 deficit. But Penrith was able to ride Steffensmeier for most of the rest of the first period and the second period recording another take

down in the process.

The third period began

Smith agreed and said Steffensmeier now has an opportunity to move forward.

"He closed the gap from where he wrestled him about a month ago in Urbandale," Smith said. "He's on the podium and he'll get a chance now to climb the ladder as well. Great end to his season. He's come a long way through hard work."

Ryan said although he was upset with the finish, he has more to do.

"I thought it was a good tournament. My goal was just to get to state, but now I placed, so I reached past my goals so next year I can look to getting better and moving on," he said.

For the tournament,

