



# Pen City Current

Monday, October 2, 2017 | 9 pages | Volume 1 • Issue 235

## Sheriff's dept. uses Facebook to find hot spots

**BY CHUCK VANDENBERG**  
PCC EDITOR



WEBER

LEE COUNTY - The Lee County Sheriff's office is giving everyone in the area a chance to slow down in an effort to beef up efforts to make county highways safer.

Not only is the department rotating speed indicator signs throughout the county, now they are actually asking the public about the best places to put deputies for enforcement.

Lee County Sheriff Stacy Weber said the department has polled people in the past, but this time they've received a large number of responses using Facebook.

"Normally what we do, and we've never really done it using social media, but we've asked people where they want to see us," Weber said. "This week we just decided to ask on social media where people would like to see us doing directed patrols."

He said directed patrols are stationary radar, following buses to monitor motor-

ists obeying traffic arms, and that kind of enforcement.

He said there were six on staff the other day including himself and they went out and hit every place that was listed on the Lee County Sheriff's Department Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/Lee-County-Iowa-Sheriffs-Office-1630841777222635/>

Visits to the sheriff's face book page show daily photos of where the Sheriff's department is taking radar that day.

And Weber said he's not worried about people knowing where they are. He said it's a motorist safety issue with a focus on saving lives.

"We saw the response was awesome," he said. "So we just made a list that day. There was six of us and we split it up and we went out and hit every spot they asked us for. One guy was asking for specific times and the times he was asking for didn't work out, but we got everywhere."

He said he can't give people any more warnings than pictures of where they are. It's a similar process to big cities that

See **PATROLS**, page 2



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Lee County Deputy Tommy Oberman issues a citation to a motorist in Denmark as part of the department's direct patrol activities Sunday evening. Lee County Sheriff Stacy Weber has begun using Facebook for citizens to request where they'd like to see this type of patrol being done.

## Childress gives new meaning to "tune up" with body tuner

I met Michael Childress at an Art-in-the-Park in Ft. Madison. His display was set up across from mine with a group of artists called Artist Trax Studio. We were both displaying metal art, however, mine was the rusty-junk kind, his was shiny, brushed aluminum. Michael Childress stands in front of his Body Tuning Table which he built. The pa-

### EMPTY NEST

BY Curt Swam



tient lies on the table, Michael gets under it, and plays musical notes on four piano wires attached to the underside of the table. The vibrations and musical notes make for quite a unique massage. His largest piece didn't look like art to me. It looked more like

a bed, a bed made of brushed aluminum. Art is in the eyes of the beholder. I noticed he invited passersby to lie down on the bed, then he would get under the bed and perform some type of massage, a musical, vibrating

See **SWARM**, page 3

## We need to think about the 'social' in "social media"

There was some Facebook chatter over the weekend from a sitting city councilman about the Fort Madison football team not being on the field for the national anthem Friday at Solon.

First and foremost, I've gotten to know head coach Tony Shiffman pretty well over the past four months.. Any question to his, or that football team's, inclinations should have triggered a phone call...at minimum...to a school official before posting something that incendiary, especially five weeks from an election. This incident amounted to officials controlling the schedule for when teams take the field before a game. Fort Madison wasn't on the field when the national anthem was played, but, as is the case in most games, the away team and sometimes the home team just hasn't taken the field yet.

For the record, I asked Shiffman in week 2 about the team carrying the American flag onto the field for the Central Lee game. I wondered if it was some type of 9-1-1 tribute or something. I had just never seen it before and thought it was a thoughtful, patriotic move.

To put this whole thing to rest, Shiffman's response was the ultimate in patriotism. "It's just something we wanted to do. This is such a great country."

That team didn't sit out of the National Anthem Friday. Facebook is viral and instantaneous and must be given that consideration.

See **POSTS**, page 2



C. VANDENBERG

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## From the Front Page

### Sheriff using Facebook for patrol locations

**PATROLS** - Continued from Page 1

will actually have morning news programs tell motorists where they are.

"I think this fair way of warning them," he said. "There'll be no excuses. We've even told them we were going to be in the area. Bigger cities will do this to. The bottom line is we've gotten complaints and we're going to have a car there and you'll get a citation of you're speeding."

"This effort goes hand in hand with what the department is trying to do, which is increase awareness so people pay attention to driving habits without us writing tickets. If they get used to seeing us, they'll do all the things they're supposed to do. We don't write a lot of tickets, we really don't. It's more of a contact thing to let them know they need to pay more attention to what they're doing."

Weber said he's also working regularly with the Iowa Department of Transportation to look at high incident intersections and get signage or other precautionary measures in place that will reduce the frequency of incidents in the county.

"When we find trouble areas, I try to work with Bob Porter with the DOT in our area. We've had at least one meeting with the DOT regarding working traffic so we can slow the rate of the fatalities," he said.

One such intersection is where the old Hwy 394 and Hwy 218 intersect just south of Donnellson. Weber said he's had a car pull out in front of him while he was in his sheriff's vehicle because they just didn't see him.

"I just got a call from DOT regarding that intersection. We've been monitoring it to figure out why there have been so many incidents there and to see what we can do to improve it. Most of the time people tell us they don't see cars coming, so we're looking at improved signage, a flashing red light maybe or caution signs. They put that on and off ramp in and they've had issues there."

Weber said the department is using whatever tools are the most successful to keep motorists safe while the department continues to do the other jobs on their plates.

"I think it's just a shift from where we were to where we're going," he said. "We've managed to keep up with the civil papers and all the other jobs we have like running the jail, transportation, etc. All those things are getting done and we're still being effective and responsive to complaints of citizens to help stop or prevent things from happening," he said.

### Social media is consumption for policy makers

**POSTS** - Continued from Page 1

The post from Councilman Brian Wright was pulled down in less than an hour Wright posted "WOW" and then asked if it was true that the Fort Madison team wasn't on the field for the anthem and hoped it wasn't true. The Hounds weren't on the field for the anthem, because they were instructed to not be on the field at that time, a usual and customary protocol. Wright, however issued an apology within the hour after clarification was made to him via the post.

The post prompted responses from Shiffman and assistant coach Derek Doherty explaining the situation...and then triggered a lot of replies to Wright's post as well as Doherty's and Shiffman's. Wright's quick apology thanked Doherty for the clarification.

"It takes a bigger man to admit wrong and apologize. In the case of the Bloodhound football team supposedly not coming out for a national anthem, I was wrong and apologize. I posed what happened supposedly and asked for clarification. I got clarification. Thank you to the Hounds for supporting our national anthem!" - Wright posted about 30 minutes after the original post.

This was not an supposition. It was an assumption

for which, it seems, several people are to blame.

The apology was absolutely the right thing to do, but how many of Councilman Wright's 1,832 friends read that post and drew a conclusion? Several posts scolded Wright for not looking into the situation a bit more carefully before posting. Wright compared the reaction to reactions Donald Trump gets with his Tweets on a daily basis. Rep. Dave Loebsack and many legislators have asked for Trump to stop Tweeting because it's damaging to America's image and reputation.

But this is the very reason why this issue of how people are conducting themselves during the national anthem, manifested by the media or not, is such a hot issue right now. It's extremely emotional for almost everyone and quick reactions sometimes are ill-advised. Wright is very visible on Facebook and has used it on several occasions to gauge the city's reaction to issue after issue. In this case, emotions ran high again. Shiffman's here to teach and build a football program and odds are he won't be derailed, but the lesson maybe in bit more caution before asking a question in front of 1,800



plus readers. I certainly have to respect the 3,000 plus we write for.

We have problems in this country for sure. I don't know if my daughter with Type 1 diabetes will have health care in the state next year. I really don't. That things a mess. North Korea, Russia and even China pose dangerous threats. Our treatment of one another is precarious, and I say that because just yesterday I saw men holding doors for other men and people helping people with groceries and people saying hello to each other at businesses and football games. People are inherently good.

But that's in my little corner of southeast Iowa. When I visited my daughter in New York City, it was different..cold. You could hold a door but probably not a good idea to start a conversation - Midwestern style - with a stranger in a park. A bit uncomfortable on their end...mostly because you're interrupting an

important text session, but probably because they expect you stick to your own in that environment.

I don't know folks... we're all Americans and we filter information daily based on our beliefs, our emotions and our experiences. My experience and belief is that we're a country of freedoms and choices. That's what has us as the envy...and scourge... of many others countries. Our veterans have fought and died for our freedom's and at times, yes, for the actual red, white, and blue fabric that hangs from our office buildings, ball-parks, schools and homes. And this country does a horrible job taking care of veterans by the way. I just read an article about a staffer at the Iowa City VA office who quit due to poor working conditions, was denied unemployment benefits and then won them on appeal, specifically because of the working conditions. We have to do better

I recite the Pledge of Allegiance., I sing the national anthem sometimes quietly in a small crowd, sometime louder in bigger stadiums (you do not want to hear me sing) and sometimes to myself... and my hat comes off and my hand covers my heart every time. But not because it's a law. It's not. It's a choice. It's my choice. And the freedom to make that choice is what we've been fighting for for the past 242 years.

Speaking of emotional issues, Tom Rinaldi, a reporter for ESPN, took time on College Game Day Saturday to have the fans gathered at the Game Day location wave, through the ESPN camera's to the children in the Stead Family Children's Hospital on the campus of the University of Iowa. This just keeps getting better and better.

But that's Beside the Point.

### 5-DAY WEATHER FORECAST

MON 02 Oct



Clear Skies

High - 83.9° F | Low - 74.0° F

TUE 03 Oct



Light rain

High - 85.1° F | Low - 71.6° F

WED 04 Oct



Heavy Rain

High - 65.1° F | Low - 57.2° F

THU 05 Oct



Heavy Rain

High - 59.1° F | Low - 58.1° F

FRI 06 Oct



Heavy Rain

High - 69.6° F | Low - 53.6° F

[OpenWeatherMap](#)



### IOWA LOTTERY WINNING NUMBERS

#### Lotto Drawings

Game	Draw Days	Sales Cutoff Time	Approx. Drawing Time
Lucky for Life®	Mon & Thu	8:30 pm	9:38 pm
Mega Millions®	Tues & Fri	8:59 pm	10:00 pm
Powerball®	Wed & Sat	8:59 pm	9:59 pm
Hot Lotto®	Wed & Sat	8:18 pm	9:40 pm
Pick 3 - Midday	Daily	Noon	12:20 pm
Pick 3 - Evening	Daily	9:40 pm	10:00 pm
Pick 4 - Midday	Daily	Noon	12:20 pm
Pick 4 - Evening	Daily	9:40 pm	10:00 pm



10/1 MID-DAY  
7 7 5  
10/1 EVENING  
1 6 2



10/1 MID-DAY  
4 0 5 1  
10/1 EVENING  
8 5 9 4

**Pen City Current encourages you to play responsibly.**



## Obituaries/From the Front Page

# New tuning bed has big potential

**SWARM** - Continued from Page 1

massage. My curiosity was aroused. I sidled over for a closer look. Michael is quite friendly and articulate. He invited me to lie down on his Body Tuning Table for a massage. What the heck? There was a pain right between my shoulder blades from all the lifting of my heavy sculptures. Actually, there is some degree of pain in my back most of the time and I'm a great user/abuser of ibuprofen. Michael got under the bed and began twanging on four piano strings he has stretched on the underside of the bed. A musical vibration came up through the structure and through my body. It seemed to focus on the tight muscles between my shoulder blades. He twanged a long, low note that trilled off into a sharp trill. The pain in my back followed the vibrating note up and out of my body. I looked up into the leaves of a tree which the bed was under. I was so relaxed that I dozed off into a heavenly, peaceful trance. Michael offered his strong, masseur arm to aid me in sitting up. The

pain between my shoulder blades was gone. It is still absent today, over a week after his "body tuning." I had to know more. Michael Childress invented and built this Body Tuning Table. He is a welder at a local manufacturing facility in Ft. Madison, a former massage therapist, and a member of a band. He knows how music and vibration/massage can work together to change moods and alter the physical body. Every human body has a frequency that can vary depending on circumstances. He finds that frequency, plays to it, and massages it. He came up with the idea of combining vibrating musical tones with massage after his massage table broke down and he had to repair it. Voila! The Body Tuning Table. He has applied for a patent for his invention and is looking for an investor to help him get started in manufacturing these Body Tuning Tables. Actually, as with most inventors, he has many ideas for inventions swirling in his head.



I'm going to go out on a limb here and put him in the category of American inventors such as Edison, Ford, and the Wright brothers. I have read biographies of these famous inventors and there are a lot of similarities. Like Edison, Childress has an unquenchable thirst for discovery and knowledge. Ford built his first internal combustion engine in his and his wife's kitchen. The Wright brothers were bicycle mechanics. The Wright brothers' father was a Bishop of the Church of the United Brethren in Christ. Childress' father was a Bishop of the Pentecostal Church and also an inventor. Ford and Childress hail from Michigan, a veritable hotbed for inventors. Like Edison, Ford and the Wright brothers, Childress is self-taught. Who knows where

Michael Childress and his Body Tuning Table will be a year from now or twenty years from now? He sees applications for his device in relieving the symptoms of Alzheimer's and Parkinson's Disease, help in dealing with mental illness, depression, and schizophrenia. If you can change the mood of a person, help them to feel better, relieve stress and pain, whether it be a knee or the mind, you have given them a gift. Childress' goal is to help people. Right on, Michael Childress. You are limitless within your limits. His email address is [Gemstonewhisperer222@gmail.com](mailto:Gemstonewhisperer222@gmail.com). Have a good story? Call or text Curt Swarm in Mt. Pleasant at 319-217-0526, email him at [curtswarm@yahoo.com](mailto:curtswarm@yahoo.com) or find him on Facebook. Curt's stories are also read at 106.3 FM in Farmington.

### OBITUARIES

## FRANCES E. BESSER

Frances E. Besser, 93, of Glendale, AZ and formerly of Ft. Madison passed on September 27, 2017 in Glendale, AZ.



BESSER

She was the daughter of John and Clara Holtkamp and wife of Melvin Besser. Frances was a member of Sacred Heart Church, Altar and Rosary Society and the FMCH Auxiliary. She enjoyed playing cards with her card club of many years.

Survivors include five children, Bob, Carol, Donna (Mike), Anita (Jerry) and Brenda; a brother, Clarence (Rae) Holtkamp; two sisters in law, Burnita Hammes and Burnita Besser; brother in law, Bill (Joyce) Hammes; numerous grandchildren and great grandchildren; several nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents, husband and an infant brother.

The funeral mass will be held at 10:30 AM on Saturday, October 7, 2017 at Sacred Heart Church with Rev. Joseph Phung officiating. The family will meet with friends from 9 AM until 10 AM at King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory. Burial will be in Soldiers' Circle, Oakland Cemetery.

A memorial has been established for Arc of King County of Seattle, Washington or Hospice of the Valley, Glendale, Arizona and online condolences may be left at [www.kinglynk.com](http://www.kinglynk.com).

## Lee County Health Department - 2017 FLU CLINIC SCHEDULE

<b>10/3</b> Twin Oaks Apts. Denmark 8:30am-10:00am	<b>10/12</b> Mississippi Terrace Keokuk 8:30am-10:00am	<b>10/18</b> Donnellson Public Library 11:30am-1:30pm	<b>10/26</b> LCHD (#3 John Bennett Drive) Ft. Madison Noon-5:30pm
<b>10/5</b> Deer Meadow Keokuk 8:30am-9:30am	<b>10/12</b> River Terrace Keokuk 8:30am-10:00am	<b>10/19</b> Eagle Bluff Apts. Ft. Madison 9:00am-10:00am	<p><b>Please bring your Medicare card with you to the clinic.</b></p> <p>Private Pay cost \$25</p> <p>Any questions please call (319)372-5225</p> <p><a href="http://www.leecountyhd.org">www.leecountyhd.org</a></p> <p><b>LEE CHD</b></p> <p><b>f LIKE us on Facebook</b></p> <p>TOGETHER WE CAN STOP THE FLU</p>
<b>10/10</b> Hotel Iowa Keokuk 8:00am-9:00am	<b>10/12</b> United Methodist Church Donnellson 10:30am-11:30am	<b>10/19</b> Heritage Center Keokuk 10:00am-Noon	
<b>10/10</b> Hillview Village Ft. Madison 10:30am-12:30pm	<b>10/12</b> Trinity United Methodist Keokuk Noon-4:30pm	<b>10/19</b> Rose Michael Gardens Ft. Madison 1:00pm-2:30pm	
<b>10/10</b> West Point Public Library 1:00pm-3:00pm	<b>10/16</b> Montrose Public Library 8:00am-11:00am	<b>10/24</b> Parkview Apts. West Point 10:00am-Noon	



## Public Notices/Classifieds

### PUBLIC NOTICES

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
**Lee County, Iowa**  
**Board of Supervisors**  
**Regular Meeting**  
**Agenda**

**DATE: TUESDAY,**  
**October 3, 2017**  
**MEETING**

**CONVENING TIME:**  
**9:00 A.M.**

**LOCATION:**  
**North Lee Office**  
**Building, 933 Avenue H,**  
**Fort Madison, IA 52627**

Public Input  
 Consider Approval of  
 Contracts for South Lee  
 Courthouse Roof Replace-  
 ment

Consider Approval of  
 Possible Change Orders for  
 Tuck Point Project at South  
 Lee Courthouse Consider  
 Approval of Digital Data  
 Applications (2)

Consider Approval of  
 Third Reading of Summary  
 Amendment to Code of Or-  
 dinances Consider Approval  
 of Tax Suspension Notices  
 (2)

Consider Approval of Tax  
 Abatement Resolution

Personnel Actions:  
 A. Step Increase-Health  
 Department

Reports:

A. Manure Management  
 Annual Update for Tony  
 Mertens in Cedar Township  
 Commission or Commit-  
 tee Reports  
 Adjourn

**PUBLIC MEETING -**  
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Pledge of Allegiance  
 Approve Agenda  
 Consider Approval of  
 Tuesday, September 26,  
 2017 Board Minutes  
 Consider Approval of  
 Claims

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## Executive Director



United Way of the Great River Region which serves Lee County in Iowa, Hancock County in Illinois and Clark County in Missouri is seeking an Executive Director to manage all aspects of a non-profit organization dedicated to improving lives in the area of health, education and financial stability.

Under the direction of the Board of Directors, the Executive Director is responsible for all administrative, fund-raising, fund distribution, operations, donor and community relations of the organization. The Executive Director is also responsible for developing key external and internal collaborations, partnerships, relationships and grant writing which include the Board of Directors, community partners, leaders and staff. The Executive Director will manage full-time and part-time staff as well as multiple volunteers with various responsibilities as aligned with the UWGRR strategic plan. College degree with major in business, management or marketing is encouraged. Non-profit experience, particularly with United Way a plus.

This is a full-time salaried position. Salary is negotiable. Benefits include vacation and sick pay. United Way of the Great River Region is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Send letters of application and resumes to:  
**Pam Bierwirth, UWGRR President**  
[pam-bierwirth@hotmail.com](mailto:pam-bierwirth@hotmail.com)  
or PO Box 251, Keokuk, IA 52632  
Deadline for application is September 30, 2017

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**3032 Avenue E • Fort Madison**  
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**15 15th Street • Fort Madison**  
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**1031 Avenue G**  
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**721-723 Avenue D**  
4BR • 3BA • 2 car garage  
*Listing #20166346*



**307 9th Street**  
2BR • 2BA  
*Listing #20166492*



**2709 Avenue M**  
2BR • 2BA • 2 car garage  
*Listing #20166516*



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4BR • 2BA • 1 car garage  
*Listing #20166382*



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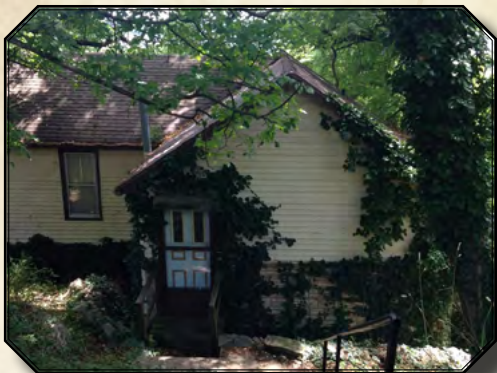
**604 Avenue E**  
4BR • 2BA • 1 car garage  
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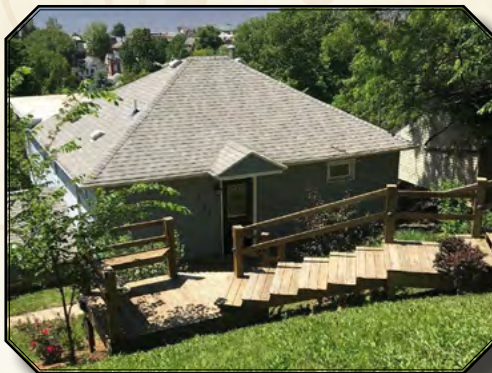
**2160 Grand Venture Avenue**  
3BR • 4BA • 3 car garage  
*Listing #20165295*



**620 34th Street**  
2BR • 2BA • 3 car garage  
*Listing #20165503*



**536 Avenue C**  
2BR • 1BA  
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**530 Avenue C**  
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*Listing #20166051*



**3569 Hwy 16, Wever**  
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*Listing #20165958*



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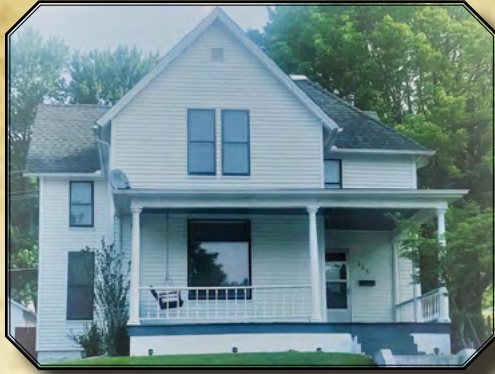




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**2002 Avenue G**  
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Listing #20166517



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Listing #20165899



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Listing #20166461



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**307 South 5th Street, Farmington**  
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**403 10th Street**  
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Listing #20166615



**211 Main Street, Montrose**  
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Listing #2014279



**1315 Avenue E**  
3BR • 1BA • 1 car garage  
Listing #20164148



**4613 Avenue L**  
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Listing #20163423



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**Sports**

# HTC goes 4-2 at Urbandale Invite; wins consolation bracket

*Junior Emily Box goes over 1,000 kills in career with HTC*

**BY CHUCK VANDENBERG**  
PCC EDITOR

URBANDALE - The Holy Trinity Crusaders went into what some consider the toughest tournament of the year and came away winning the consolation bracket after going 1-2 in pool play and finishing 4-2 overall.

HTC, rated 7th in the latest Class A rankings lost to Hinton, ranked 10th in Class 2A in the first match of pool play 6-21, 13-21 before beating Des Moines Lincoln 21-8, 21-13. The Crusaders then faced tournament champion West Des Moines Valley, ranked 2nd in Class 5A, and lost 8-21, 13-21.

That would be the last time the Crusaders would lose on the day as the motored to win the consolation bracket with a win over Southeast Polk 23-25,

25-22 and 15-8 in the tiebreaker. Then HTC downed Dallas Center-Grimes 25-19, 25-16 before winning the bracket by downing Ames 25-14, 25-16.

During the Ames match, Crusaders' junior Emily Box went over 1,000 kills for her high school career. On the day, Box had 49 kills on 119 attacks and went 49-50 serving with six aces and 49 digs to lead the team. Eryn Anderson had 10 kills on 59 attacks for the day and was 40-43 serving with five aces and 35 digs.

Maya Rashid, HTC's predominant setter had 93 assists in the day's 13 games. She also served 39-40 with eight aces and had 31 digs.

Sam Hoenig was 45-47 serving with one ace, had 12 digs and was 4 of 21 at the net.

Taylor Boeding was 29 of 89 hitting with 21-of-25 serving and two aces. She also added 40 digs from the back row and three blocks on the day. Elyse Pothitakis was 38-40 serving with four aces and 38 digs. Madison Mohrfeld was 8 of 28 hitting and had seven digs.

The Crusaders take their 24-5 record to 5th-ranked New London (28-3) on Thursday for a key matchup with the Southeast Iowa Superconference rival.



BOX



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

HTC's Emily Box (3) and Maya Rashid (19) attempt a block in action earlier this week against Danville. The duo helped lead HTC to a 4-2 record at Saturday's prestigious Urbandale Invitational including winning the consolation bracket.

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