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SPORTS:

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Kokjohn scores 24 as Hounds beat up on Burlington.

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Pen City Current

HOLY
Trinity!
Crusaders
knock off
11-2 WB

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG PCC EDITOR

WEST BURLINGTON
- Holy Trinity boys' head
coach John Hellige jazzed
his starting lineup Tuesday night and the result
was music to his ears.

His Crusaders went into West Burlington and knocked off the 11-2 Falcons by one point, 46-45, Tuesday night in Southeast Iowa Superconference boys action.

"We went to a bigger lineup to start the game and create some scoring," Hellige said. "We started with Bailey (Merschman) and Jack (Stinson) and moved Cory to 1 and he played extremely well at the point.

Hopper led all scorers with 27 points including a long 3-pointer at the end of the third quarter.

"Cory's 30-footer at the end of the 3rd quarter was a huge momentum boost for us," Hellige said. "The kids were extremely focused. Nick (Pothitakis) converted a couple of huge free throws at the end."

The Crusaders were down by 2 at the first quarter and then by 6 at the half 27-21.

"We went into halftime down by 6 and then Connor (Conrad) came up to me at halftime and said he wanted to play," Hellige said. "I wanted to make sure he wasn't going to do anything to hurt his knee any more so we let him warm up and then he played the whole half.

See HTC, page 3

FM fire goes high tech on training

80% of cost was donated by community

> BY CHUCK VANDENBERG PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON - The Fort Madison fire department has a new tool that will simplify in-house fire extinguisher training.

At Tuesday's Fort Madison City Council meeting, Fire Chief Joey Herren had three firefighters on hand to demonstrate a new digital fire suppression training system that can be used for in-house training.

The new \$15,000 Bullex training system is a hightech digital system that has a digital display of different classifications and then a laser light from full-size battery operated



New toy

A Fort Madison firefighter works the new fire extinguisher training equipment now at the Fort Madison Fire Department. The digital board and laser extinguisher teach people how to correctly extinguish a fire. Lt. Neal Gathers is in the background.

fire extinguishers.

The extinguishers show a green laser circle on the digital board that shows a moving flame and then sensors indicate how efficient the digital circle is at putting out the flame.

"We did extinguisher training around the city for different groups and factories and always had to haul a pan around and have a live fire and created a mess where we were at. And they saw this project and asked to run with it,"

Herren said.

"Always had to have
nice weather and adxjust
for wind and then clean

"

We can do this in the winter. We can even do this inside."

-Lt. Neal Gathers, FM Fire Dept.

up the extinguisher foam and we saw this idea and thought it would be a nice thing to add to all the training we do in town," said Lt. Neal Gathers. "We can do this in the winter and even do this inside."

Eng. Chad Hannum said the new technology will making training cleaner, safer and more efficient.

"We saw employees that were hesitant, we're firefighters so we're used

See **TRAINING**, page 2

Roadside reboot would cost county \$200K

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG PCC EDITOR

MONTROSE - An effort aimed at re-energizing a county roadside maintenance program was a topic of discussion among supervisors on Tuesday.

At the regular meeting of the Lee County Board of Supervisors, the board heard from Jeff Chase, the Des Moines County Roadside superintendent, as to his department's approach to handling roadside vegetation in that county.

Chase appeared at the request of Margo Sprenger who is spearheading the effort in Lee County to bring back the county's Integrated Roadside Vegetation Maintenance program. Sprenger has been pushing the board to reinstate the program af-



Native weeds

File photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

The Lee County Board of Supervisors is considering reinstating a roadside vegetation program that would help native plants resurface in Lee County ditches.

ter seeing the county mow down a lot of Iowa native vegetation deep into the ditches. The program was cut in 2006 by the board under budget constraints.

"I don't think there was the interest or any real excitement at the end last time," Board Chairman Rick Larkin said. "It seemed like it just went on for a couple years and we had to make some budgets cuts to something that wouldn't effect our mandated projects. When we discontinued the program it saved us about \$100,000."

Chase said as the program developed in Des Moines County, the

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From the Front/Local News

Project would be administered by Lee County Conservation board

ROADSIDE - Continued from Page 1

cost of the program came down due to decreased fertilizer costs.

The Des Moines County roadside program falls under the direction of the roads department, where Lee County is considering having Lee County Conservation Board inherit the program. Lee County Engineer Ernie Steffensmeier, who oversees the secondary roads program in Lee County said he believes the program should be under the Conservation Board.

After the board meeting, supervisors went into on-going budget workshops and Tom Buckley, the Lee County Conservation Board director, gave his budget presentation. As an addendum to his budget proposal, Buckley included approximately \$200,000 to pay for the roadside program.

"You know.. you don't know. I'm cautiously optimistic, let's put it that way. I thought (the supervisors) were interested in what Jeff had to say," Sprenger said.

Buckley, who's retiring at the end of June, said there could be some cost savings through a program called the Iowa Living Roadway Trust Fund, but the budget he presented was reflective of what actual costs may be.

"A significant part of the first budgeting would be

the salary-and-benefits part for two people," he said. "And then I think the best approach, if the program is reinstated, would be to do a roadside inventory similar to what was done in 1989 so we we can figure out exactly what needs to be done and what problematic areas we have.

The budget included equipment costs and fertilizer and seed expenditures, but he said the Living Trust funds could help provide some additional seed, probably about an additional \$7,000 in seed.

"Hopefully the supervisors will feel that's affordable. It's always tough to add extra to the budget," Sprenger said. "I also like the idea that they were going to ask if they could work with Des Moines County on sharing some equipment. And Jeff is a wonderful resource person."

The idea to reinstate the roadside program was submitted to supervisors last year but was left out of the budget for 2016-

"Tom and Ernie both did request it last year. Hopefully, we're showing a few more citizens and government groups wanting this. If the supervisors would hear from people or people would give them a call and tell them they do agree with

Since I've talked to a couple of different people, they have some favorite spots they want to make sure they don't get mowed. The more of them I can find out about, we

> -Margo Sprenger County resident

the advantages of this program that would help too," Sprenger said.

can mark those."

"Since I've talked to a couple of different people, they have some favorite spots and they want to make sure they don't get mowed. The more of them I can find out about, we can mark those. Ernie was receptive to that idea and even suggested something like that. Those are very valuable and unique areas of the county and if people are aware of places where pheasants or quail are being seen, we can go a bit easier. We can do it in away that's least

disruptive."

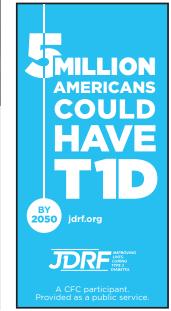
Sprenger said she is willing to speak with people concerned about the topic or people who have places they would like to have the county pay special attention to. She said she can be reached at 563-221-1788 for anyone who would like additional information on the program.

Buckley said the program started as a part of secondary roads and then became its own department with its own budget outside of roads and conservation. But an independent county auditor recommended that the program be absorbed into the Conservation board budget.

"There is an IRVM professional group within the state that is a good place to find out what is going on in the field and get some tips and tricks for what will make that program successful. This would allow the roadside manager to get involved in that education and that would be helpful," Buckley said.

He also said a truck could be inherited from the Conservation Board at a reduced cost of buying a vehicle. Buckley said he has already budgeted to trade out a vehicle and could transfer that instead and purchase a new vehicle for the board at a savings of about \$10,000.

Since 1990, the LRTF has funded more than \$17 million for research and demonstration projects, vegetation inventories, education and training programs, gateway land scaping, snow and erosion control, and roadside enhancements, according to the Iowa Department of Transportation.



Council has 1st reading on time change

TRAINING - Continued from Page 1

to it, but some people at the trainings wouldn't go near the live fire and this eliminates that," Hannum said.

He also listed 22 organizations that helped raised funds for the \$15,000 project. Herren said about \$12,000 of the cost came from donations and he said he had room in the budget to absorb the rest of the cost, but that donations could still be coming in.

Hannum also said the equipment can be used by remote or by an iPad which would allow companies who want employee training to put in a roster that would track the employee's performance on the computer.

Herren said because the project was funded privately, the cost of the training would virtually be eliminated. In other action;

- the council had the first reading of an ordinance to move the Fort Madison City Council meeting times from 7 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. The move would still require an additional two readings before becoming official.
- the council voted to approve a resolution to get bids, hold a public hearing and begin reconstruction of 15th Street from Avenue B to Ridgewood Road. The work is scheduled to begin in April and be reopened in
- the council voted to approve a 4th Street Combined Sewer Separation project as part of an EPA required project that will be done by city employees.
- the council voted to purchase a 3/4 ton and 1-ton pickup for the city water and sewer departments from Jim Baier Ford in Fort Madison at a cost of \$52,355.

City announces collection dates

FORT MADISON DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS 2017 RECYCLING & YARD WASTE COLLECTION DATES

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT <u>NEW GARBAGE</u> & RECYCLING/YARD WASTE ROUTES ALL GARBAGE, RECYCLING & YARD WASTE SHOULD BE SET OUT BY 6AM FOR PICK-UP. ALL CHANGES ARE EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2017

THURSDAY & FRIDAY GARBAGE ROUTES: Residents should be advised that your GARBAGE DAY MAY HAVE CHANGED. Included is a map with the garbage route dividing lines. A portion of Friday's garbage route will now be picked up on THURSDAY.

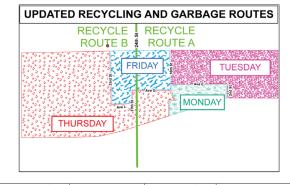
RECYCLING/YARD WASTE ROUTES:
The dividing line between Route A and Route B Recycling/Yard Waste Routes HAS CHANGED.

The new dividing line will be from North City Limits STRAIGHT DOWN 24^{TH} STREET to the South City Limits.

If you live EAST SIDE of 24th Street you will be on ROUTE A. If you live WEST SIDE of 24th Street you will be on ROUTE B

Included is a list of recycling and yard waste collection dates. Please note PICK-UP WILL NOW END PRIOR TO THE THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY. note that YARD WASTE

Holidays effecting trash, recycling and yard waste pick up will be posted on the City Website, or by calling $372-7700\,x$ 1.



Route A Recycling	Route A Yard Waste	Route B Recycling	Route B Yard Waste
Jan: 11, 25	Jan: 4 (CTPU),	Jan: 4, 18	Jan: 11 (CTPU)
Feb: 8, 22	Feb: No Pick Ups	Feb: 1, 15	Feb: No Pick Ups
Mar: 8, 22	Mar: 1, 15, 29	Mar: 1, 15, 29	Mar: 8, 22
Apr: 5, 19	Apr: 12, 26	Apr: 12, 26	Apr: 5, 19
May: 3, 17, 31	May: 10, 24	May: 10, 24	May: 3, 17, 31
Jun: 14, 28	Jun: 7, 21	Jun: 7, 21	Jun: 14, 28
Jul: 12, 26	Jul: 5, 19	Jul: 5, 19	Jul: 12, 26
Aug: 9, 23	Aug: 2, 16, 30	Aug: 2, 16, 30	Aug: 9, 23
Sep: 6, 20	Sep: 13, 27	Sep: 13, 27	Sep: 6, 20
Oct: 4, 18	Oct: 11, 25	Oct: 11, 25	Oct: 4, 18
Nov: 1, 15, 29	Nov: 8	Nov: 8, 21 (TUE)	Nov: 1, 15
Dec: 13, 27	Dec: No Pick Ups	Dec: 6, 20	Dec: No Pick Ups

Yard waste must be placed in biodegradable compost bags **ONLY**! The costs for the bags vary and can be purchased at Hy-Vee, Kempker's True Value & Huffman's Farm Home. Grass clippings, leaves, garden waste, brush and tree pruning's, bark, branches and flowers will be collected. There is no limit to the number of bags.

On January 4, Route "A" will have Christmas Tree Pick Up (CTPU). On January 11, Route "B" will have Christmas Tree Pick Up (CTPU).

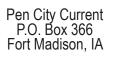
On Tuesday, November 21, Route "B" will have Recycling Pick Up due to the Thanksgiving Day Holiday.

The 2018 Recycling & Yard Waste Collection schedule will be mailed out to current water customers and on the City Website in December 2017. For further information please contact 372-7700 ext. 201.

The Pen City Current and www.pencitycurrent.com website are products of Market Street Publishing, LLC. The Pen City Current is published Sunday through Friday mornings.

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All Are Welcome Sundays 9am

Burlington Spring Grove United Methodist Church 4502 Summer Street, South of Burlington Pastor Sara "Jan" Garza Cell (319)371.1902

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Sports/For the Record

Conrad on court after knee injury

HTC - Continued from Page 1

Hopper scores 24 in win

And you know... I'd take Connor at 75% any time and that was big for us to have him there."

Conrad hasn't played in the past three games and was leading the team in scoring at about 18 points per game before bonking his knee last week.

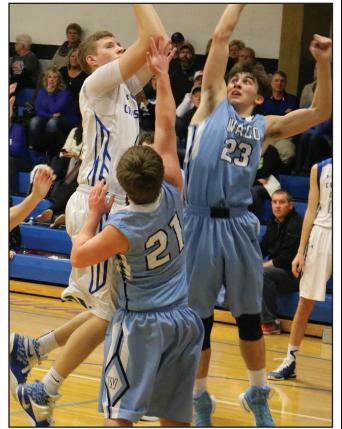
The Crusaders held a slim two-point margin starting the fourth period thanks to Hopper's 3-pointer. West Burlington could only muster three points in the period until the last minute when HTC held a 44-37 lead. In the last minute the Falcons put up 8 points to the Crusaders two, but the two were just enough as the Crusaders move to 7-6 on the year.

"This team has beat 6 teams we should have beat and we've lost to 6 teams that I thought we should have lost to. I've known since this summer what this team is capable of and they showed a little bit of that tonight," Hellige said.

Merschman was second on the team in scoring with 9, followed by Stinson and Connor Hellweg with 4 and Pothitakis with 2.

In the junior varsity game, the Falcons got the best of HTC 55-51 despite being tied at 51 with less than a minute remaining.

Reed Fehseke had 18 for HTC followed by Brant Holtkamp with 10 and Adam Rauenbueler with 9. Kyle Bredemeyer and Matt Hellige each had 5 points and Quentin Schneider had 4.



He's a Hopper

File photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

HTC senior Cory Hopper, above dumped in 24 as the Crusaders upset W. Burlington Tuesday.

Trends hold true for HTC girls

BY CHUCK
VANDENBERG

WEST BURLINGTON
- And the trend continues.
The HTC girls basketball
team's pattern of a win followed by a loss followed
by a win followed by a....
you get the picture.

But HTC ended up on the upside Tuesday night with a 57-36 win over West Burlington in Southeast Iowa Superconference action after a loss on Monday to Danville.

Head Coach Tony Johnson said the team worked the ball and got to the free throw line more in the win.

"Our free throws were much better tonight," Johnson said. "We played very well on defense and did well playing inside out on offense."

The Lady Crusaders jumped out to a quick 21-

10 first quarter lead and held a 28-20 halftime lead behind 14 points from Ali Randolph, her total point output for the night, which led Holy Trinity.

HTC continued to push the lead in the third quarter outscoring the Lady Falcons 11-6 in the third period and was up 39-26 and kept the pressure on throughout the fourth quarter for the win.

Emily Box was also in double figures with 12 points. Brett Schneider had 7, Taylor Boeding had 6 points, Ashlyn Haas and Madison Mohrfeld each chipped in with 5 points. Samantha Hoenig and Mya Lawlor each had three points and Avery Hopper added a bucket.

The Lady Crusaders are now on 7-8 on the season and play host to Cardinal on Friday as part of Homecoming activities.

For the Record

Fort Madison Police Report

01/13/17 - 10:41 a.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of larceny/theft in the 1700 block of 41st Street 01/13/17 - 1:25 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of vandalism in the 2400 block of Avenue H. 01/13/17 - 6:10 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a property damage accident in the 3400 block of Avenue L. 01/14/17 - 12:23 a.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of vandalism in the 1300 block of Avenue G. 01/14/17 - 4:29 a.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a burglary in the 2300 block of Avenue D. 01/14/17 - 6:31 a.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a property damage accident in the 1100 block of 24th Street. 01/14/17 - 4:23 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a hit-and-run accident in the 500 block of 8th Street. 01/14/17 - 8:38 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of larceny/theft in the 1700 block of 41st Street. 01/15/17 - 6:09 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a property damage accident in the 200 block of Avenue F. 01/15/17 - 11:34 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of vandalism in the 1100 block of Avenue I. 01/15/17 - 10:18 p.m. - Fort Madison Police arrested Jeremy Wayne Decker, 28, of

River Valley Rd., Fort Madi-

son, at the intersection of 34st

Street and Avenue L on charge

of driving while suspended. He was cited and released. 01/15/17 - 10:37 p.m. - Fort Madison Police arrested Karen Marie Decker, 52, Avenue O, Fort Madison, in the 2800 block of Avenue O on a warrant for probation violation. She was taken to the Lee County Correctional Center and jailed. 01/16/17 - 9:07 a.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of vandalism in the 1800 block of Avenue E. 01/16/17 - 11:15 a.m. - Fort Madison Police arrested Aaron Sessions, 23, of Tammy Lane on a charge of dog running at large. He was cited and released. 01/16/17 - 12:21 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of larceny/theft in the 4800 block of Avenue O. 01/16/17 - 4:27 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of vandalism in the 500 block of Avenue G. 01/16/17 - 5:26 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a hit-and-run accident in the 1800 block of Avenue G.

Lee County Sheriff's Report

01/14/17 - 5:50 a.m. - Lee County Sheriff's deputies responded to a one-vehicle accident on County Hwy 103. A vehicle driven by Marie Gillian Smith, 21 of Fort Madison was headed northbound on 103 and slid on the icy roadway and entered the east ditch. No citations or injuries were reported at the scene. 01/14/17 - 6:07 a.m. - Lee County Sheriff's deputies responded to a one-vehicle accident on Hwy 61. A vehicle driven by Kyle Lee Blind, 43,

of Fort Madison was headed southbound on Hwy 61 and slid on ice causing the vehicle to enter the median and northbound lanes of traffic. The vehicle rolled over coming to rest on all four wheels facing northwest in the east ditch of the northbound lane. No citations or injures were reported at the scene. 01/14/17 11:38 a.m. - Lee County Sheriff's deputies responded to a one-vehicle accident on 190th Street. A vehicle driven by Jose Chavez Sandoval, 28, of Las Vegas, Nev. was eastbound on 190th Street and slid on the ice and across the roadway entering the north ditch. No citations and no injuries were reported at the scene. 01/14/17 - 4:19 p.m. - Lee County Sheriff's deputies responded to a one-vehicle accident on 212th Avenue. A vehicle driven by Nicole Tiffany Newberry, 24, of Argyle, was headed southbound on 212th Avenue and slid on ice entering the ditch and came to rest on it's side. Newberry and a passenger in her vehicle Steven Cole Newberry, 24, of Argyle were transported by Lee County Ambulance to Fort Madison Community Hospital. No citations were issued at the scene. 01/15/17 - 2:32 a.m. - Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Jon Rubin Stewart, 25, of Keokuk on a warrant for serious assault at the Lee County Correctional Center. He was jailed.

1/15/17 - 6:29 p.m. - Lee County Sheriff's deputies responded to a one-vehicle accident at the intersection of Hwy 61 and 303rd Avenue. A vehicle driven by Jason Robert Aldridge, 39, of Fort Madison was northbound on 303rd Avenue and slid on an ice-covered overpass and struck the west side of the overpass. No injuries or citations were reported at the scene.

01/16/17 - 1:42 a.m. - Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Ada Jean Richards, 43, of Springfield, Ill., in the 2700 block of 340th Street, Keokuk, on a warrant for simple assault and criminal trespass. She was taken to the Lee County Correctional Center and jailed. She was later released on personal guarantee/paid fine.

01/16/17 - 8:27 a.m. - Lee County Sheriff's deputies responded to a one-vehicle accident on 280th Avenue. A vehicle driven by Joshua Lane Weeks, 30 of Fort Madison slid on ice on a right-hand curve causing the vehicle to roll onto its top. No injuries or citations were issued.

Fort Madison Fire Report

(Fort Madison fire does not list addresses on medical calls due to federal privacy regulations (HIPA)

01/16/17 - 1 medical call. 01/15/17 - 1 fire alarm-malfunction-no fire 01/14/17 - 1 burn permit violation; 3 medical calls. 01/13/17 - 3 medical calls

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Sports

Bloodhounds ride Kokjohn's 24 to win at Burlington

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG

PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON - The Fort Madison Bloodhounds got 24 points out of Treavor Kokjohn en route to a 61-45 victory in Southeast Conference boys basketball action Tuesday.

The Hounds have won 6 of the last 7 games with the only loss coming to 6th rated Mt. Pleasant a week ago.

The 24 is a season-high for Kokjohn and FMHS Head Coach Ryan Wilson said Kokjohn has the ability to have those performances every night.

"I think he was really close to a double-double with nine to 11 boards," Wilson said. "To start the game we set up a play for him and I think that really got him going the rest of the game," Wilson said. "He was strong with the ball and used his athleticism most of the night."

The Hounds came out of the game quickly with a 12-7 first quarter lead but then let the Grayhounds within two with less than a minute left in the half at 27-25. Wilson then had the Hounds run a set play to get junior Kaleb Cresswell free on the perimeter and Cresswell connected on a 3-pointer to re-establish the five-point lead.

The momentum continued in the third quarter as the Hounds built on Cresswell's 3 and ran out a 15-0 run before Burlington could get the ball in the bucket again. Cresswell finished with 14 points on the night followed by senior CJ Richardson's 10. The two are 3rd and 4th in the conference in scoring at 14.8 and 12.8 per game, respectively.

Fort Madison is averaging 50.1 points per game which is fifth in the conference, but is only allowing 40.8 points per game which is tops in the conference.

Kokjohn leads the Southeast Conference in rebounds at 9.3 per game. Wilson said Kokjohn could be one of the top players in the conference with outings like this.

"I think it's a confidence thing with Treavor," he said. "He's capable of playing this way every single night. Having confidence in himself will dictate what happens going forward."

Other Hounds scoring were Logan Rashid with 7 points, Alex Gully with 3, Sheymouhr Redd-Donald had two points and Lorenzo Riles had 1.

The Hounds move to 9-3 and the season and travel to John Wood in Quincy on Saturday.

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Lady Hounds drop 9th straight

PCC STAFF

BURLINGTON - The Fort Madison girls varsity basketball team suffered it's ninth loss in a row with a 46-36 loss at Burlington.

The loss moves the Lady Hounds to 3-11 on the year, but several players continue to put up decent numbers during the stretch and the Hounds have found themselves in just about every game they've played this year.

Fort Madison and the Grayhounds were tied at the end of the first quarter and then the Bloodhounds pulled ahead by two going into the lockerrooms at halftime 19-17. But the third quarter, which has been a curse for the Hounds in most games, did them in again as Burlington outscored FMHS 18-9 for a 35-26 lead going into the final period.

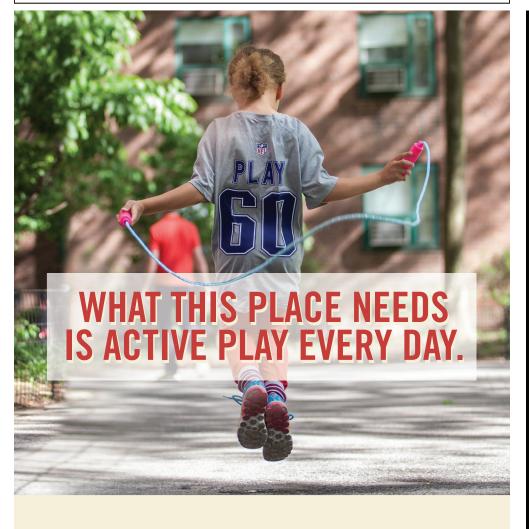
The Hounds were outscored 11 to 8 down the stretch to put the game away.

"We shot a dismal 13/40 from the field for 33% and 7/17 from the charity stripe," said Head Coach Charlie Knipe.

Mercedes Trimble led Fort Madison in scoring with 14 points going 3 for 3 from the 3-point line. Amber Dilsaver, coming off a 35 point performance against Monmouth-Roseville on Saturday scored 11 points and Mariah Trimble added 6 points. Dilsaver hauled in 13 boards followed by Mercedes Trimble with 5. The Bloodhounds were led in assists by Taylor Shannon with four to go along with her four steals and 2 points.

Emily Mitchell also scored 2 and Kamryn Bailey had one to round out the scoring for FMHS.

The Bloodhounds travel to Quincy, Ill., Saturday.



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Junior High/Kids Club Night this Thursday PCC STAFF Madison Athletics Hall of

FORT MADISON Hey...wanna see intensity
packed minute-to-minute,
second-to-second action?

Thursday night the FMHS wrestling team will play host to arch-rival Keokuk, while hosting their annual Junior High/Kids Club night.

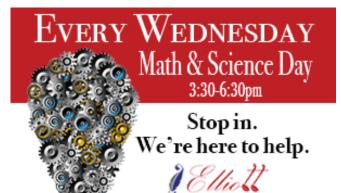
The Hounds will also be honoring Russell Weakley. The four-time state-place winner and two-time state champion former Bloodhound wrestler will be inducted in the Fort

Madison Athletics Hall of Fame prior to the meet. Weakley holds the school record for most career victories with 148.

The ceremony will take place at 6:30 p.m. prior to the junior varsity matches.

It's a great opportunity to show your support for the past, present and future of the FMHS wrestling program.

If you haven't seen FMHS wrestling, this is a great chance to get infected with this exciting sport and program.



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