



Pen City Current

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Duck hunters meet again over permanent blind issue



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Cade Harl, left, leads a discussion with area duck hunters at the Ivor Fowler Center in Montrose. Jeff Kurtz, the Democratic candidate for Iowa House District 83, and U.S. Rep. Dave Loeb sack were also on hand to listen to the conversation.

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

MONTROSE - Lee County duck hunters pulled out guns of a different sort Wednesday night when a group brought a sitting U.S. Congressman and a candidate for state office to hear complaints about the status of hunting in Lee County.

U.S. Rep. Dave Loeb sack stood in front of about 25 hunters at the Ivor Fowler Center in Montrose Wednesday, along with Jeff Kurtz, the Democratic candidate for Iowa's District 83 house seat in November. Kurtz is opposed by Jeff Reichman of Keokuk on the Republican side.

Loeb sack said the issue was a local issue and he didn't have any standing, but said he has supported hunting efforts on the national scale and wanted to show his support for the group.

"We've been hearing about this issue, but for me to hear from them directly is why I'm here," Loeb sack said. "I'm not going to weigh in on it as it's a local issue, but I do support our hunters. I do everything I can for Ducks Unlimited and Pheasants Forever and

all those groups. It's good for me to hear from these groups as it reinforces my support for them as hunters."

Loeb sack said preserving hunters' rights and making sure they have land to hunt on is part of Americans' culture and history.

Kurtz said he was happy to see movement and a cordial discussion on the issue.

"My take is that we moved. That's what we wanted to do," he said. "For one thing, the county controls most of this and we'll do what we can. We can't solve everything in one meet and we'll take one bite of the apple at a time. But I think we had a little bit of movement."

Kurtz said he was moving around during the day with Rep. Loeb sack and ran into a woman who had her social security cut about 18% which had a huge impact on her livelihood.

"This is important, I understand that, and we've made some movement which is great. But let's keep things in perspective," Kurtz said.

Nathan Unsworth, the director of the Lee County

See **BLINDS**, page 3

No active leads in Tuesday search for man with gun

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON - Fort Madison police spent about an hour Tuesday morning looking for an unidentified man with a gun in the central part of the city.

A LeeComm dispatcher sent police to the 2300 block of Avenue L, where a call had come in about a man with light brown, longer hair walking on Avenue L toward Pizza Hut carrying a pistol with a long barrel.

Police Chief Tim Sittig said at different times one to three officers including the Fort Madison School Resource Officer were in the neighborhood and surrounding areas looking for the man.

"We were on the scene for about an hour looking for him. If he was out

there and intended to do harm, we wanted to get to him before that could happen," Sittig said.

The incident prompted Fort Madison Community School District to place Richardson Elementary School on a lockdown during the search. Sittig said police were not at the school, but were out looking for the suspect after the building was secure. He said it doesn't appear there was any threat directed at the school.

He said no other active reports have come in, and officers were unable to locate or identify the subject.

"We cruised the area and did stop-and-contact with people in the vicinity, and we couldn't ascertain who he was or where he disappeared to," Sittig said. "Our reports don't indicate if the suspect was young or old."

Prison to hold fall tour

BY PCC STAFF

FORT MADISON - Iowa State Penitentiary announced Wednesday morning that another tour date for the Historic Iowa State Penitentiary facility has been set for the fall.

Public tours will once again be available on Saturday, Oct. 27th. Visitors can choose from the morning session that runs from 9 a.m. to noon or choose the afternoon session from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Visitors can pick the self-guided option and arrive any time during your chosen time frame or choose to have a tour guide. All tours must be completed by the end of the chosen timeframe.

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Advertiser Index

Classifieds	P.5
Fort Madison Mexican Fiesta	P.4
Great River Regional Waste Authority	P.6
Lee County Health Department	P.3
Professional Services	P.5
Quarry Creek Elk & Bison Co.	P.2
Relay for Life of North Lee County	P.3
Test Kitchen Education Foundation	P.4
Tony Fullenkamp Edward Jones	P.2
Your Heat & Air guy	P.4

News Index

Area News	P.3
From the front	P.3
Lottery Numbers	P.6
Sports	Ps.2,4,6
Weather	P.2

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WB-ND to take a run at Hounds Friday

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON - One would think facing a West Burlington opponent that was just drubbed 0-44 at home last week would give the Fort Madison Bloodhound football team a reason to take a breath.

But Head Coach Tony Shiffman said taking the Falcons for granted will hurt the team's goal of going 1-0 each week. Mediapolis held the Falcons to just 57 yards of total offense in the shutout on Friday. And even that statistic doesn't give Shiffman reason to think this Friday's 7 p.m. tilt with West Burlington will be anything less than competitive.

"I think that score's more of a testament to Mediapolis than a negative against West Burlington," Shiffman said. "They're young but (Coach Jay Eilers) was prepared for that. Against that flexbone, we have to play assignment football and not make mistakes."

Shiffman said the Falcons' strength is their defense with some good size linemen and a really solid linebacking corp. But if you get in their secondary, they've got some sophomores. The Falcons feature senior Tanner Snodgrass at quarterback and senior running back Reese Richards. Drayton LaVeine, who's playing his first year of football as a sophomore, had 39 yards last week. Austin Mixer anchors the Falcon defense from a linebacker spot and had 14 total tackles last week.

"Snodgrass will be a player, the Mixer kid's tough, and Richards runs hard," Shiffman said.

The Falcons only threw two passes on Friday without a completion.

The Hounds on the other hand spread the ball to 11 different offensive players, including senior quarterback Lennon Barker, in the win over Central Lee.

Wideout Dom Frantz led the Hounds with 132 yards officially on five receptions. Shiffman said he was happy that Frantz saw the reward from the work he'd put in all summer.

"Coach (Derek) Doherty and I were joking with him Monday - he's one of those football players that when he puts the pads on he looks about 10 times more athletic than when he doesn't have his uniform on. He's worked hard and I'm glad he had the success he did last week," Shiffman said.

Barker officially threw for 304 yards on 21 of 35 passing with no touchdowns and no interceptions. Barker did score twice off tackle on 2-yard dives. After the game, Barker said he needed to work on his timing as several receivers had throws go just over their fingertips.

Shiffman said the coaches saw that on film and it's a matter of adjusting to live play.

"It's one of those things where you're going on air on Tuesday and Thursday, but it's tough to get your timing down when there's someone in your face. But we did some work on that."

Kaeli Maestro and Diego Lozano are sharing time carrying the football, with Maestro getting the starting nod last week. Shiffman said he's fine with the duo sharing the load as it keeps Lozano, who also starts at linebacker, a bit fresher.

"With Diego going both ways, it's a lot better to bring him in off the bench as the second hitter than trying to wear him down."

Lozano, who averaged just over eight yards per carry,

scored on a 10-yard touchdown in the third period after having to bounce outside to the right, made contact, and then spun out of a tackle and headed to the endzone. Maestro ended with 42 yards on nine carries.

"He had a couple really good runs and broke a 20-yarder," Shiffman said of Lozano. "He could take that spot back by the end of the year, but it's great to have options. Last year we just fed Alex Gully the ball."

The Hounds had 12 different players make solo tackles against the Hawks and had 40 assists. Shiffman said that reflects the Hounds swarming to the ball on each play. He said the team rarely goes with live hitting in practice.

"It's just those guys getting to the football. It's an effort thing and when the lights are a little brighter, they're gonna get to the ball a little better. I look at a lot of successful teams that don't ever hit in practice. It's something when you get to 2A and 3A football in Iowa and you only got 50 kids in the programs and 30 dressing, you just can't beat the snot out of these kids."

He said players like Sam Hayes and Danen Settles never leave the field unless it a kickoff.

PLAYERS TO WATCH

WEST BURLINGTON

- #26 T.Snodgrass 6'-2" 197" Sr. QB
- #28 D.LaVeine 5'-11" 205lb Jr RB
- #52 A.Mixer 5'-10" 180lb Jr LB
- #18 A.Hoffman 6'-0" 180lb So.RB/QB
- #73 T.Graham 6'-3" 285lb Sr OL/DL

HOUNDS

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

See **HOUNDS**, page 6

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High- 73.8° F | Low - 65.1° F

FRI 31 Aug Heavy Intensity Rain
High- 76.0° F | Low - 70.7° F

SAT 01 Sep Moderate Rain
High- 73.1° F | Low - 57.1° F

SUN 02 Sep Light Rain
High- 73.1° F | Low - 68.6° F

MON 03 Sep Moderate Rain
High- 84.2° F | Low - 74.6° F

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From the Front/Area News

Agreement in jeopardy as hunters air concerns

BLINDS - Continued from Page 1

Conservation District, attended the meeting, but declined to speak at the gathering and said he was just there to listen to the concerns.

The group decided to set a date for the next meeting on Sept. 26 at the Ivor Fowler Center to discuss the concerns individuals have as has to why the current agreement won't work.

A committee comprised of duck hunters, advocates, Unsworth, and a representative of the Lee County Conservation Board, met for about six months and hammered out a compromise agreement that allowed permanent duck blinds on the river. The board had indicated that 2017 would be the last year of permanent blinds because the board said hunters were not following regulations. They also said the Iowa Department of Natural Resources does not allow permanent blinds on any state property.

Shirley Hoenig, who was on the committee, said the agreement fell apart because conservation staff picked 12 locations for permanent blinds that were not conducive to good hunting locations and therefore didn't execute the agreement in good faith.

"They're crappy spots, plus it's rough out there. Shallow water is good for hunting because that's where the ducks want to land," Hoenig said. "They want all these boat blinds and they say a boat blind is fair to everyone. But I say how's that fair to everyone when not everyone can afford a \$17,000 boat blind. Those boats are expensive."

She said the committee reached an agreement where the district would allow 12 blinds and the conservation staff picked the locations.

"When they did that, I thought - I've been meeting with this group since November and we finally made a decision in May. I've wasted... wasted every Wednesday that I went to those meetings and spent two or three hours," Hoenig said.

Billy Burchett, a hunter from Montrose, said he has one of the places that the hunters are upset about but didn't take part in the lottery drawing in June which determined who got what location.

"The reason we didn't draw was that there is a \$250 charge and there are four pages of stipulations and if you violate anything you surrender your money. And we had to have it out by the end of the season and often we don't see the ducks until the end," Burchett said.

Burchett said the other sticking point is that the hunters helped pay for the county's land and now they can't hunt on it.

"It was purchased with funds we all pay for out of our habitat stamp money," he said. "It's like saying 'Hey, boys, let's all go in on something, everybody pitch in \$25.' Then I go buy it and then I say 'I've got it's mine and you can't use it. So that left a bad taste in my mouth.'"

Lee County Conservation areas ready for dove season

BY PCC STAFF

LEE COUNTY - Dove season begins this Saturday in Iowa. Lee County Conservation would like to remind area hunters that LCC has several dove fields prepared for the season. This year, Sugar Creek Bottoms, Turkey Run Wildlife Area, North Heron Bend, and Amborn-Pagin all provide opportunities for dove hunting. Each area contains sunflowers, wheat, or a combination of the two.

Dustin Johnson, Wildlife Management Assistant for Lee County Conservation, hopes the fields will produce results for hunters. "Considering the dry weather, the sunflowers and wheat turned out great to excellent on many areas," Johnson said. "I would recommend concentrating on the areas with sunflowers first and then trying the areas with only wheat like Amborn-Pagin as the season progresses."

Dove hunters will have limited access to North Heron Bend on Saturday, Sept. 1st due to a youth dove hunt being held on the property. The area will open to all hunters in the afternoon following the youth event.

For questions about dove hunting and other hunting opportunities on Lee County Conservation areas, please call the Lee County Conservation Office at (319) 463-7673.

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Sports

Lady Hounds roll Panthers in home opener

Pumphrey, Hutson lead FMHS over Panthers

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON - After a tough Saturday tournament where the FMHS girls volleyball team played six matches in one day, the Hounds looked fresh in a three-set win over Mt. Pleasant Tuesday at home.

Fort Madison knocked off Mt. Pleasant 25-11, 25-6, 25-21 in front of a rowdy student section in the first conference game of the year for both teams.

The third game got close after Head Coach Kent Bailey began subbing in some of the younger girls, but eventually went back to the starters when things were headed for a fourth game.

"I did not want to go to a fourth game," Bailey said. "It was hot in here and it's one of those nights where kids can cramp up and I was hoping we wouldn't do that. Our young kids played well and I was hoping they could finish that up, but unfortunately they didn't."

The first game was close through the first seven points as the teams got settled in with the Lady Hounds taking a 4-3 lead. Then senior libero Josie Pumphrey got hot from behind the line and took Fort Madison on a nine-point run featuring back-to-back kills from Kaeli Hutson at 8-3 and 9-3. The run continued with Braxtyn McGhghy putting down a set

from sophomore Lauren Bailey to give the Hounds a 14-3 lead.

"I've been really practicing a lot in gym to get a high velocity serve and get more speed on it," Pumphrey said of her success at the line. "I've also been working on my float serve because it's harder to pass than the top spin, so I've been working on that."

The Panthers would only cut the lead to seven at 17-10 after a Hound defensive error forced Bailey to call a time out. The message was received loud and clear as Fort Madison went on an 8-1 run to get the first game. Olivia Williams served seven straight, including an ace, out of the timeout.

Mt. Pleasant wouldn't get very far into the second game. With the Hounds leading 3-1 early on, junior Jillian Wiseman hit a kill long to let the Panthers get within one at 3-2, but then Pumphrey put some distance between the two spurring a 10-0 run. Senior Jassmine Bass had three kills in the run.

Bass finished with 16-17 hitting and eight kills on the night. She said last weekend's tournament helped the girls bring energy, and said some work on net play during the preseason has helped her confidence.

"This weekend was pretty good for us. I think it helped us today," Bass said. "I think Mike Davis has helped us a lot in practice on blocking and closing and squeezing our shoulders and I think that's helped a lot this year."



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

With the Hounds up 14-4 after Pumphrey's run, The Hounds would get two more kills from Bass on the way to stretching the lead to 23-5. An errant service by the Panthers' Lindy Vantiger closed out the game.

Fort Madison jumped out to a 14-7 lead quickly in the third set getting an ace from Hutson and two from junior Gracie Pumphrey. Bailey started bringing in some of the younger players for action, but four errors in five points allowed Mt. Pleasant to come back to an 18-16 deficit and Bailey rotated the starters back in over the next few points.

The Panthers would hang around at 22-18 and 23-21, but a Wiseman klll put Fort Madison up 24-21 and then the Panthers' Sadie Carrasco hit a ball long to end the night for Mt. Pleasant.

Bailey said the Hounds brought the quicker uptempo style of play from Saturday's tournament in Bondurant to the home court.

"This weekend helped us prepare, and we learned to play a quicker tempo from playing up there," he said. "Our kids came in and played focused and were

ready to play on our home court in front of our fans. We had a great fan base tonight."

Josie Pumphrey finished with 23-25 from the service line with six aces. She also had 11 digs to lead FMHS. Bailey had 27 assists which was tops for the Hounds. Hutson was 21-22 hitting with 12 kills and 10 digs. Wiseman had nine kills and tied Bass for the team lead with two blocks on the night.

Bailey credited the back row with keeping the offense moving.

"I thought our back row did a great job passing the ball and covering the floor, and made Lauren's job easier setting the ball. And then our hitters took care of it," he said.

The varsity squad is now 4-3 overall and 1-0 in the conference. The junior varsity won their match 25-13, 25-13 and are 1-0 on the year. The freshmen won 25-16, 25-18 and are 2-0 on the season. The varsity travel to Quincy for a Saturday tournament and the freshmen play in the Mount Pleasant tournament on Saturday.

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Sports/Lottery Numbers

Shiffman wants to keep spreading the ball around

HOUNDS - Continued from Page 1

“They know how to play and they know how to play tired. But we’ve got good depth to be able to give breathers. For the most part I think we did that, we saw some holds when the kids got tired, but I thought they performed well.”

Junior Quentin Schneider led the Hounds in tackles with five solo, four assists, and a sack.

“Last year as a sophomore he just wasn’t quite ready,” Shiffman said. “But he was a stud Friday. And that’s another good thing. You gotta kid like Quentin Schneider, and we have enough talent and depth at the wide receiver spot that we don’t have to start him there anymore. He can come in and give a break, but we’ve got enough guys that he doesn’t need to play both ways. And we need him on defense way more than we need him



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

The Hounds’ Harley Pennamon plays pass defense in the 2nd quarter of last Friday’s win over Central Lee.

on offense.”

Shiffman said the only casualty other than cramps may be senior Harley Pennamon who tweaked his knee and may not go this week.

“Again, we’re trying

to go 1-0 for the week. If we execute the way we should’ve on Friday it can be a W for us, but I’m not going to say it will be an easy win by any stretch because they’ll be well-coached and ready.”



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Pick 4 - Midday	Daily	Noon	12:20 pm
Pick 4 - Evening	Daily	9:40 pm	10:00 pm



8/28
3 20 33 34 41
Mega Ball: 20
Megaplier: 3



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