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SPORTS:

Local junior high basketball teams get wins this week.

See page 5

Pen City Current Curre

CLASS 1A STATE VOLLEYBALL TOURNAMENT

Wapsie Valley ends HTC's run at semis

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG

CEDAR RAPIDS – To say it was an overachievement doesn't wipe away the sting of not making it to the state title match, but it would seem appropriate.

The Holy Trinity Catholic girls volleyball team bowed out of the Class 1A State Tournament Thursday night at the U.S. Cellular Center in straight sets 25-23, 30-28, 25-19 to 6-seed Wapsie Valley.

Head Coach Melissa Freesmeier said there was some speculation about this team's capabilities.

"This team had a lot of doubters in the beginning. They didn't think they had what it takes to get back to Cedar Rapids and they did it," she said.

"They got to the semis and fought and the proved they should be here."

The fight started early after trailing 4-1, junior Claire Pothitakis, who finished the night with a match-high 19 kills, found wood on back-to-back points. When Wapsie Valley's Lydia Imbrogno's attack went long it was knotted at four.



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Holy Trinity Crusaders Class 1A state semifinalists pose with their trophy Thursday night at the U.S. Cellular Center. Wapsie Valley cut the Crusaders' season short with a 3-0 win in the semis.

The Warriors would pull away again at 5-8, but HTC would go on a 4-1-run to tie it up at 9s when junior Katie Denning's block dropped on Wapsie Valley's side of the pink court.

The score would be littered with ties at 12, 13, 15, and 16. A Warrior attack went wide to knot things up at 20, but Pothit-

akis would slide in from the left and drill a shot across the front of the Warrior defense to give HTC its second lead of the match at 21-20.

The two teams would battle again to a 23-23 tie but Imbrogno would catch two kills from her outside hitter spots to end at 25-23.

The air seemed to have gone out of the sails in the second set with Wapsie Valley cruising to a 13-7 lead highlighted by Imbrogno's five kills. She also finished with 19 on the night. Sophomore Kassi Randolph and freshman Brooke Mueller both got kills to help spark at 4-1 run and get the Crusaders back within three at 13-10.

Wapsie Valley countered with a 4-0 run and then Imbrogno pounded a shot from mid court that found the floor between Rauenbuehler and Randolph for a 19-12 lead forcing an HTC time out.

A case of the yips hit the Warriors as senior Avery Hopper worked in a kill to close the gap to three. Two points later Pothitakis hit a shot right down the left hand line to tie it up at 20.

The next 10 points were a point-counterpoint affair with ties at every point through 28. Randolph got a solo block just right of center net to give HTC at 25-24 lead, but senior Kaci Beesecker hit a kill to tie it up again. Beesecker would get kills in between scores from Hopper and Mueller to keep the game tied.

See STATE, page 8

City expands safe zone for downtown building

Test Kitchen Education Foundation......P.8

Officials see further deterioration on west side of structure

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG

FORT MADISON – City officials increased a cordoned off area on 8th Street earlier this week for fear of partial crumbling of a structure on the corner of 8th and Avenue G.

The building, owned by attorney Bryan Humphrey, is dilapidated on the west side and is showing visible signs of deterioration and sagging.

The city had cordoned off just the

Jimmy Keenan.....P.8

parking spaces on the 8th Street side of the building for last few months. But on Tuesday they expanded that safety zone to include the entire street next to the building and north of the alley.

City Building Director Doug Krogmeier said Humphrey has been cooperating through his attorney and has an engineer hired to look into the structure

Krogmeier said the city had given Humphrey an Oct. 21 deadline to submit plans to remediate the deficiencies in the structure. Krogmeier said the city didn't receive those plans, but has since heard from an engineer who has indicated he will be on site Friday.

See BUILDING, page 5



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

City officials have expanded a street closure on 8th Street after additional settling of the building was observed this week. Toward the right in the photo, settling can be seen between the final three-story column prompting the closure.

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Local News

New LED lighting going up in Central Park



At right, Rich Mohrfeld with Morhfeld Electric, works on the wiring on one of the lighting posts in Central Park Thursday afternoon. The new lights are part of the upgrades from the Fort Madison Rotary Club's \$100,000 fundraiser this summer. The new fixtures have LED lighting that focuses the brighter lights down to the park grounds instead of out.



Photos by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Funding comes from Rotary's 100K in 100 days campaign

BY PCC STAFF

FORT MADISON - New period lighting that was part of the Fort Madison Rotary's effort to raise \$100,000 in 100 days, is being installed in Central Park.

The Fort Madison Rotary Club started the campaign in March with the hopes of raising \$100,000 to refurbish the band shell in Central Park, do some repairs to the Statue of Liberty replica, and beef up the park's maintenance fund. New lighting had been part of their improvement schedule.

The new lighting carried a \$30,000 price tag according to earlier reports for the need of funds. Maintenance and upkeep of Central Park is part of the Fort

Madison Rotary's community efforts.

The Rotary club allocated a portion for new park benches as well, but the lion's share has gone to revamping the band shell that had some serious founda-

The city, conducting some routine inspections on the band shell, identified termite damage in the foundation timbers of the structure.

Current expenditures from the fundraiser included \$6,000 to \$8,000 for repainting the band shell, \$30,000 for the new lights in the park, and at approximately \$12,000 to refurbish the Statue of Liberty replica. The remained of the funds will be used for upkeep and future maintenance including the benches.



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Obituaries/Scene Around Town

OBITUARIES

GEORGE HARRY REDD SR.

Pastor George Harry Redd Sr., 79 years, of Fort Madison, Iowa died at 9:58 pm Tuesday, November 12, 2019 at the Fort Madison Community Hospital, Fort Madison. He was born October 22, 1940 at Fort Madison, a son of Milton Eugene and Lucille Extine (Stewart) Redd. On August 23, 1980, he married Gwendolyn Diane Wilbon at St. Louis,

Missouri.



He was a lifelong resident of Fort Madison, and was a retired minister. Pastor Redd organized Holy Spirit Missionary Baptist Church in Fort Madison, Good Ground Church in Cedar Rapids, and Amazing Grace Ministries in New Boston, Iowa. He also pastored several other churches. He was always thinking about "doing for others" and mindful of other people. He was a member of the Second Baptist Church, Fort Madison, where he was saved, became a licensed minister and later ordained.

He is survived by his wife, Gwendolyn D. Redd, of Fort Madison, Iowa; three daughters: Misti (Paul) Burton, of Monmouth, Illinois; Beatrice Elizabeth Allen, of Atlanta, Georgia, and Natalie (David) Edwards, of St. Louis, Missouri; four sons: George Jr Warden, of Monmouth, Illinois, Demetrius (Lisa) Redd, of Lyons, Kansas, Timothy (Mayia) Redd, of Quincy, Illinois, John Redd, of Keokuk, Iowa; one sister, Extine Griffeth, of Burlington, Iowa; numerous grandchildren, great grandchildren, nieces, nephews and cousins. He was preceded in death by his parents, eight brothers: James D., William, Archie, Kenneth, Eugene, Melvin, Robert and Milton, Jr., seven sisters: Geraldine Baker, Lillian Robinson, Patricia Wallace, Shirlene Carter, Margaret Crider, Mary Coates, and one at infancy.

Visitation will be held from 10:00 – 11:00 am Monday, November 18, 2019 at the Second Baptist Church, Fort Madison. His funeral service will follow and begin at 11:00 am Monday morning at the church, with Pastor Timothy Redd officiating. Burial will be at Oakland Cemetery, Fort Madison. A memorial has been established, contributions may be made at the church or Barr Memorial Chapel, Fort Madison. Barr Memorial Chapel is honored to serve the Redd family and an online guest book can be found at www.barrmemorialchapel.com.



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
Lotto America ^{sм}	Wed & Sat	8:59 pm	10:00 pm
Pick 3 - Midday Pick 3 - Evening	Daily Daily	Noon 9:40 pm	12:20 pm 10:00 pm
Pick 4 - Midday Pick 4 - Evening	Daily Daily	Noon 9:40 pm	12:20 pm 10:00 pm



11/13

23 26 27 28 66 Powerball: 11 Power Play: 2



11/13 MID-DAY 442 **11/13 EVENING** 185



11/13

18 23 24 30 49 Star Ball: 4 All Star Bonus: 3



11/13 MID-DAY 5590 **11/13 EVENING** 5066

Pen City Current encourages you to play responsibly.



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Mike Culbertson, President & CEO of Lee County Bank, presented a check to Salvation Army Captain Linda Faye Jones, Food Ministry and Public Relations Assistant Donna Palmeter, and Major Leanna Tuttle to purchase 22 additional totes for the Weekend Food for Kids program. The additional totes will allow the Salvation Army to make a single trip to each school each week.

For the Record

Fort Madison Police Report

11/13/19 - 10:22 p.m. - Fort Madison Police arrested Jessica Kim Bower. 29, of Fort Madison in the 300 block of 12th Street on a warrant for failure to appear. She was taken to the Lee County Jail and held. 11/14/19 – 1:30 a.m. – Fort Madison Police arrested Shauna Lynn Ellingson, 25, of Fort Madison in the 300 block of Avenue G. on charges of possession of a controlled substance, possession of drug paraphernalia, and warrants for probation violation. She was taken to the Lee County Jail and held

11/14/19 - 2:22 a.m. -Fort Madison Police cited Michael Anthony Weldon, 29, of Fort Madison in the 300 block of Avenue G. on a charge of possession of a controlled substance. He was released upon citation. 11/13/19 - 9:24 a.m.

- Fort Madison Police responded to a report of larceny/theft in the 1800 block of Avenue A. 11/13/19 – 6:25 p.m. Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a hit and run in the 2600 block of Avenue L. 11/13/19 – 8:10 p.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a property

3400 block of Avenue L. 11/13/19 - 8:15 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a larceny/theft in the 4500 block of Avenue O. Those listed above are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law

Lee County Sheriff's Report 11/13/19 - No arrests/accidents.

Fort Madison Fire & Rescue Report

11/13/19 - Fort Madison firefighters responded to one medical calls, one false alarm.



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Current-Lee

CURRENT-LEE

LEE COUNTY – The following is a list of current events and happenings in Fort Madison and north Lee County as submitted to the Pen City Current.

Fort Madison Wine & Beer Walk

Glasses go on sale this Friday at River Rocks from 5 to 7 p.m. for \$10. The event will be held in downtown Fort Madison on Friday, Nov. 22 from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Backyard Birds

The Lee County Conservation will host a free birdwatching program on Saturday, Nov. 16 at the Heron Bend Conservation Center in Montrose. A naturalist will start the program at 9:30 a.m. and then bird watching and counting will be held. LCCB will provide binoculars. No pre-registration is required.

Memorial Turkey Shuffle

The annual Alice and Leo Schiller Memorial Turkey Shuffle will take place Nov. 28 beginning at 8:30 a.m. at Ernie and Cheryl Schiller's house 2224 204th Avenue just east of Donnellson off Hwy. 2. Visit the following link for registration http://livehealthyleecounty.org/index.php/community-events

Community Thanksgiving

The annual Community Thanksgiving will be held Nov. 28th beginning at 11:30 a.m. at Fort Madison High School. Dine in is available and carryouts are available after 12:30 p.m. Call 319-371-5706 between Nov. 18th and 25 for deliveries or to volunteer. You can also contact the chamber at 372-5471 or by email at chamber@fortmadison.com.

Holiday Window competition

Businesses are being encouraged to take part in the Fort Madison Partner's Holiday Window Display Competition. Decorate a window, send a picture, get likes on Facebook and the business with the most hits wins. Deadline to sign up is Nov. 27. Windows will go on Facebook starting Dec. 4 with voting from Dec. 4-11th. The winner will be announced Dec. 13.

Weekly Book Sale

Friends of the Fort Madison Public Library is holding a weekly book sales from 11 a.m to 1 p.m. on Thursday's at the Public Library.

Lighted Parade Float Work Nights

Float work nights for the annual holiday lighted parade are held every Monday starting Sept. 30 from 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. at 1200 Avenue I. Entrance is through the back. Call the Chamber at 319-372-5471 for more information.

Mistletoe on Main

This year's event will be held on Nov. 30, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in downtown Fort Madison. Shop local, and enjoy a day of Christmas cheer. Special treats, carriage rides, the North Pole Express and Santa!

PORT Ugly Sweater Fun Run

The annual fundraiser for the P.O.R.T. committee will be held on Dec. 1, 2019 at Baxter Sports Complex beginning at noon.

Enchanted Forest

The Fort Madison Chamber of Commerce's Enchanted Forest will be held in the Lee County Bank building following the Lighted Parade, and on Nov. 30 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. with Santa expected from 10 a.m. noon. The Forest will also be open on Saturdays Dec. 7, 14, and 21 from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. Businesses are encouraged to bring and decorate a tree for \$25.

Christmas Lighted Parade

The annual lighted parade will be held on Nov. 29 at 6:30 p.m. Call the Chamber at 319-372-5471 for more information.

Food Drive

The Keokuk Salvation Army is looking for donations to stock the Food and Soap Pantry from Nov. 1 -18th. Drop off locations locally include American Eyecare

Kensington events

The Kensington is offering Senior's Only Community Bingo on the second Wednesday of every month at 2 p.m. The event is free for seniors and cash prizes are awarded. Caregivers Connection is held the 4th Tuesday of every month at noon. Call 319-372-4233 to reserve your seat.



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From the Front/Sports

City officials eye future deadlines carefully

BUILDING - Continued from Page 1

"We've been in communication with his attorney and I've talked with the engineer and they are on board," he said.

Krogmeier said he could see the wall on the west side continuing to shift and from the outside it's clearly in trouble. But he didn't think the entire structure would come down.

"I don't believe that it will come down or even half



KROGMEIER

that building, but at some point what's right there is going to fall out and we don't know how many stories it goes," he said.

"It still looks to me like it would be contained within the columns, but you just don't know how bad it is. So we erring on the side of caution."

After the inspection that Krogmeier hopes happens with the engineer on Friday, he said the city would be expecting a report within a week and then conversations could be held to determine time-frames to get this situation resolved.

He said the city would then give direction as to corrective actions, but it will be up to Humphrey to make sure the work gets done.

If the city were not to receive reports and dialogue between the two were to stop, he said the city could, as a last result, file for an emergency abatement and contract the work themselves. The city would then have to put a lien on the property in hopes of recouping the expense of the repairs.

But he said right now communication has been good and that would be the city's last option after additional deadlines are in place.

"He's cooperating so far and has an engineer. So hopefully he makes the repairs and it all the works out," Krogmeier said.

5-DAY WEATHER FORECAST

Overcast

Overcast

Overcast

SUN 17 Nov -

MON 18 Nov -

TUE 19 Nov

High- 40.6° F | Low - 30.2° F

High- 40.0° F | Low - 32.7° F

High- 48.0° F | Low - 38.9° F

High- 47.7° F | Low - 41.5° F

High- 50.4° F | Low - 38.1° F

FM 7th graders pick up win

BY PCC STAFE

FORT MADISON – Julian Dear fired in 12 points to lead Fort Madison's 7th grade boys basketball team to a 26-25 win over Mt. Pleasant Tuesday night in the 'A' game.

Marcus Guzman and Aiden Mitchell each scored six points in the win. Caden Barnes added a bucket. Brody Cashman led the Hounds in rebounds with five and Mitchell hauled in four.

In the 'B' game, Mt. Pleasant won 30-10. Kenden Bowie led Fort Madison with six points, while Tatum Schelich and Kalib Heidbreder chipped in with two. Noah Swigart had three boards for the Hounds.

Fort Madison also lost the 'C' game 22-7 with Ethan Huffman leading the way with three points. Brady Wade had four rebounds for Fort Madison.

HTC 8th graders move to 4-0 on the year

BY PCC STAFF

FORT MADISON – Holy Trinity's 8th grade girls moved to 4-0 with a a couple wins earlier this week.

On Monday, the Crusaders knocked off Danville 31-9 with Natalie Randolph putting up 10 points to lead HTC. Mary Kate Bendlage added seven points, Reagan Holvoet pitched in with six points, and Taegan Denning had four.

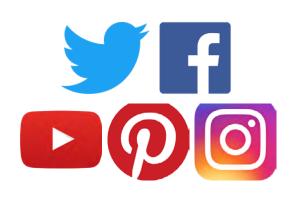
On Tuesday night the girls rolled to another win over Van Buren, 39-6, with Bendlage leading the way with 14 points. Randolph added 10, Jenna Hellman and Denning each fired in six points in the win.

The 7th graders moved to 3-1 with wins over Danville and Van Buren. On Monday Teagan Snaadt scored 11 points ahead of Isabella Callison with nine in the Crusaders 22-9 win.

On Tuesday the youngsters pitched a shutout over Van Buren with a 29-0 win. Callison and Anna Bendlage lead the way with 10 points each, and Snaadt added 11.

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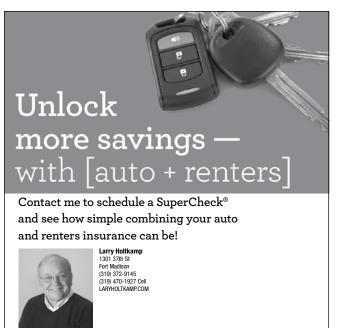
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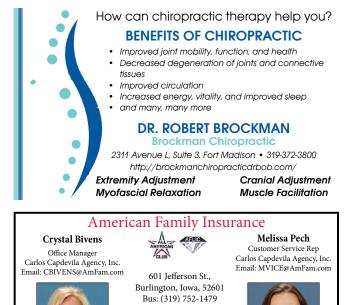
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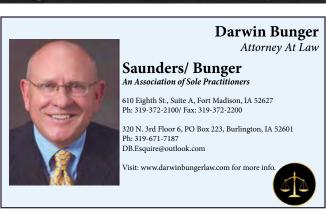
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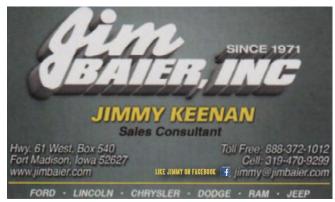
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Sports

Crusaders say good-bye to five seniors

STATE - Continued from Page 1



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

The Lady Crusaders hoist the trophy as a semifinalist after their threeset loss to 6-seed Wapsie Valley.

When an Imbrogno attack went long, HTC had a 27-26 lead, but she came right back on the next point of a Randolph serve and scored to tie it back up.

Pothitakis got a kill to give HTC its fourth set point, but Imbrogno had another answer. On the next point Imbrogno hit a laser that Randolph picked up off the dive but the ball bounced right over the net where freshman Kalvyn Rosengarten smashed it down for a

29-28 Wapsie lead.

The next attack from HTC would go long and the marathon affair ended 30-28.

"We started digging ourselves a hole," Pothitakis said. "We needed to get out of it and I think we fought really hard."

Freesmeier said one swing that goes the other way and the Crusaders would have played more volleyball.

"They never quit, and you know if one or two things change in game two who knows," she said.

"Wapsie is a great team and that will be a great match with whoever they get tomorrow night."

HTC had a 2-0 lead out of the gate in the third set, and the set went in waves from 1 to 3 point Crusader deficits. A Rosengarten attack would go off Hopper's fingertips and fall to the floor behind her for a 16-13 lead.

Holy Trinity would close the gap to two points on a Randolph scoring attack at 16-18, but Wapsie Valley would run out the clock on the Crusaders' year with a 7-3 run capped by a Becca Platte kill for the 25-19

win.

Pothitakis said the Crusaders had to start moving the ball away from the libero, McKenna Miller, who was keeping the Warriors in points.

"Hitting-wise we knew we couldn't go to the libero because she was picking up every single ball up, so going down the line and going across was most of the good shots we had to take," she said.

Freesmeier said the Warriors serve received very well, but the Crusaders got out of the gate a little flat.

"We started slow and in game one we missed opportunities and didn't do real well. Then we settled in and things went very well. They were an aggressive team and they were the better team tonight and you have to tip your hat to that," she said.

Senior Maille Sheerin said even though a shot at the championship would have been the ultimate goal, she thought the year was a success.

"Of course I wish we had made it to the championship and possibly win. That was a goal," she said

"But we got here and that's all that matters. We worked so hard to get here and that's most



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Freshman Brooke Mueller goes for a kill from the left side in the second set. The Crusaders erased a 7-point deficit in the set, but would fall 30-28 in a heartbreaker.

important.. how hard we worked every single person on the team put so much in and without that we wouldn't have gotten here." Freesmeier thanked the five seniors – Hopper, Sheerin, Nicole Pothitakis, Abbie Dingman, and Elle Rashid.











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