

# PEN CITY CURRENT

It's Black & White and Read all over

Monday, February 12, 2024 | 7 pages | Volume 8 • Issue 27



[www.pencitycurrent.com](http://www.pencitycurrent.com)

# Hounds send 4 to state

FMHS Senior Cory Arnett gets a hug from his mother after winning the heavy-weight division at Saturday's state qualifier in Bettendorf. Arnett will wrestle starting Wednesday in the tournament in Des Moines along with seniors Nolan Riddle, Ike Thacher, and Joe Hartman. Below, the Hounds' Ike Thacher tries to toss Bettendorf's Brayden Koester, the state's 5th ranked 190 lb. wrestler, to the mat.



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

## COMMENTARY



## Hound Dome was in rare form

The Hound Dome cracks me up. That place was packed Friday night to see the Fort Madison girls give No. 15 Keokuk all they wanted, and then watched the boys keep the Chiefs from an outright Southeast Conference title sticking them with a 57-41 loss.

The basketball was some of the best we've seen all year and that's at the right time with post-season for all four squads around the corner. That post-season environment could be a lot of fun this year with some really good teams in the area.

I think a Benda kid won the duck-chuck, a goofy contest where people buy rubber ducks and then throw the toys at a disc in the middle of the court. The kid threw the duck from the back of a student section that was literally destructive in support of their fellow Bloodhounds.

The Hounds students, anchored around one Hayden Segoviano, had fat heads on sticks of Bloodhound basketball players and lit up the pre-game introductions with cellphone light beams.

A Bloodhound player who likes to demonstratively indicate that the opposing players are "whining" about calls, got a warning from an official while he sat on the bench. Then immediately found the official and apologized when he got in the game.

Announcer Matt Rump has started a new tradition where he calls out the first name of the Bloodhound making a basket, so the student section can shout out the last name. It started with Hunter - CRESS-WELL, but has migrated to Carson RA-SHID and Leif BOE-DING. I think it only works with double syllable

See FRIDAY, page 3

## STATE WEDNESDAY: Class 3A wrestles in afternoon session this year

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG  
PCC EDITOR

BETTENDORF – Three years ago, Cory (CJ) Arnett started wrestling as a supplement to football workouts.

In his first year, he just missed going to state, finishing third in Class 3A. He just missed again last year when he finished fourth, both in heartbreaking finishes. On Saturday evening, the junior won the Class 3A Bettendorf State qualifier and will likely start next week's IHSAA Boys' State Wrestling Tournament as one of the top 20 heavyweights in the state.

Arnett edged Bettendorf's Aiden Lee by a very close 5-4 in the championship match. A match that was literally seconds away from slipping past the Hounds. Arnett scored all his points with less than 30 seconds left in the first two periods, the first on a rush takedown at the end of the

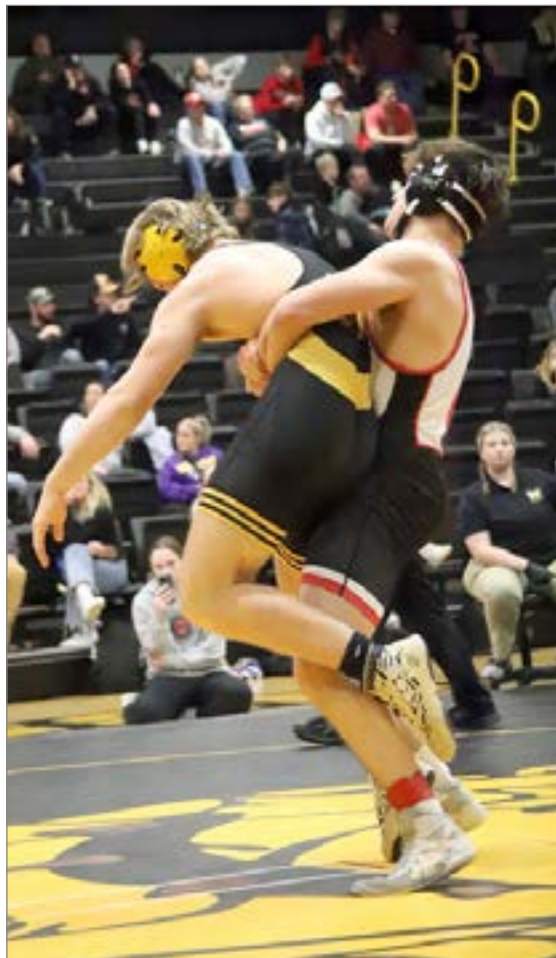
first period. The second on a reversal with just 12 seconds left in the second period for a 4-2 lead.

In the third period, Arnett chose a bottom start, and after a stalling warning, he slipped up and out of Lee's grasp for a 1-point escape and a 5-3 lead with less than a minute left in the match. The Bloodhound squared up and latched onto Lee again, but was being encouraged by Head Coach Ryan Smith to keep some space and make Lee be the aggressor.

Arnett couldn't get free of the Bulldog and with just five seconds left, Lee executed a hip throw and got Arnett on his back for two points, but the Hound was able to quickly get to his belly to avoid a near-fall as time expired.

Arnett wept as he came to the corner as the Bloodhound corner exhaled and the celebration began. He said afterwards that the

See DISTRICTS, page 8



## INDEX

Business Directory.....P.6  
CLASSIFIEDS.....P.6  
Complete Rental.....P.5  
Fort Madison Community  
Neighborhood Watch Groups.....P.3  
FROM THE FRONT.....Ps.3,8  
JDRE.org.....P.4  
Lee County Health Department.....P.5

LEE COUNTY NEWS.....P.3  
OBITUARIES.....P.2  
• Sally A. Fogle, 85  
• John L. Molzhon, 78  
• James R. Ricker, 70  
OPINION.....P.3  
Pen City Current.....Ps.5,6  
Pothitakis Law Firm, P.C.....P.3

Public Notices.....P.6  
Ron Davoo.....P.2  
Sonny's Super Market.....P.2  
Southeast Iowa  
Regional Medical Center.....P.4  
SPORTS.....Ps.4-5,7

## WEATHER

MON 12 Feb.....Chilly & clear, 47° F/ 27° F  
TUE 13 Feb.....Mostly sunny & chilly, 45° F/ 31° F  
WED 14 Feb.....Mostly sunny & cool, 51° F/ 35° F

## IOWA LOTTERY

DOUBLE PLAY 02/10.....12 15 32 50 64, Powerball: 15  
LOTTO AMERICA 02/10.....1 3 18 21 42, Star Ball: 8 All Star Bonus: 2  
LUCKY FOR LIFE 02/10.....13 15 27 31 40, Lucky Ball: 12  
MEGA MILLIONS 02/09.....17 22 29 46 69, Mega Ball: 1 Megaplier: 3  
PICK 3 MIDDAY 02/08, 02/09, 02/10.....8 9 3, 3 7 5, 0 0 5  
PICK 3 EVENING 02/08, 02/09, 02/10.....7 3 6, 4 9 1, 7 8 6  
PICK 4 MIDDAY 02/08, 02/09, 02/10.....0 8 7 1, 7 9 4 5, 2 0 7 8  
PICK 4 EVENING 02/08, 02/09, 02/10.....8 5 1 3, 7 1 9 4, 5 3 0 1  
POWERBALL 02/10.....27 28 34 37 44, Powerball: 8 Power Play: 2

## SUBSCRIBE

Scan the code to subscribe today  
Paid & Free Options Available!



# Obituaries

## OBITUARIES

### JAMES R. RICKER

James "Jim" Ronald Ricker, 70 of Hamilton, IL passed away Thursday, February 8, 2024 at Blessing Hospital in Quincy, IL.

He was born May 15, 1953 in Keokuk, IA the son of Ronald and Geneal Blain Ricker. He graduated from Keokuk High School with the class of 1971 and later attended Southeast Community College in Keokuk.



RICKER

He had been employed by Roquette in Keokuk for fifteen years, until his retirement and then worked at Deer Run Golf Course in Hamilton, IL, where he worked as the general manager of the club house.

Jim enjoyed riding his motorcycle, playing golf and working crossword puzzles. Jim was best known for his cooking and barbeque. He loved to make meals for his friends and family at Deer Run to enjoy.

He is survived by one son, Joshua Ricker (Jill), one granddaughter, Ella Ricker and one grandson, Maxwell Ricker all of Hannibal, MO. He is also survived by one brother, Philip Ricker (Frances) of Ashville, NC, one sister, Lori Ricker of The Colony, TX, one niece, Taya Ricker of New York, NY and one nephew, Alex Ricker of Goose Creek, SC, his significant other, Jackie Bodner of Keokuk and his mother, Geneal Ricker of Keokuk.

He was preceded in death by his father.

A Celebration of Life will be held at a later date.

Memorials may be made to Deer Run Golf Course.

The Vigen Memorial Home in Keokuk, IA is assisting the family with arrangements.

Online condolences may be sent to the family at [www.vigenmemorialhome.com](http://www.vigenmemorialhome.com).



We're thrilled to be **upgrading** our technology to serve our fantastic customers better!

As with all change, we will be going through some **growing pains**."

Active gift cards (cards with a balance) will no longer scan after our upgrade. Please **use your balance** or bring it in to **exchange it** for a temporary paper certificate by Friday, March 1<sup>st</sup>.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR BUSINESS

We appreciate you!



**319.837.6126**

327 5<sup>th</sup> Street, West Point, IA



## OBITUARIES

### SALLY A. FOGLE

Sally Ann Fogle, 85, of Hamilton, Illinois, passed away surrounded by her family on Wednesday, February 7, 2024, at Israel Family Hospice House in Ames, Iowa.

Sally was born on June 29, 1938, in Des Moines, Iowa, the daughter of David and Harriett (O'Hara) Bump. On January 3, 1959, she was united in marriage to Kenneth "Kenny" Robert Fogle in Des Moines. He preceded her in death on May 4, 2017.



FOGLE

Sally was a homemaker who also worked in the school system and as a certified nurse's assistant. She attended Cornerstone Church in Keokuk and was active in Bible studies and the Tri-State Women's Group. Sally enjoyed sewing and playing the piano at Montebello Nursing Home in Hamilton. She loved her dog Mollie, but most of all, she loved her family.

Sally is survived by three children: Bob (Yota) Fogle of Washington, Iowa, Jeanie (Greg) Musgrove of Ames, Iowa, and Tony (Megan) Fogle of Cedar Rapids, Iowa; her daughter-in-law Angie Fogle of Cedar Rapids; three sisters: Mary (Roger) Lowe of Salt Lake City, Utah, Cathie (Dave) Lange of Eldridge, Iowa, and Jeanie Hudson of Des Moines; two brothers: Pat (Mary Jane) Bump of Bondurant, Iowa, and David Bump of Springfield, Missouri; thirteen grandchildren and many great-grandchildren, nieces and nephews.

Sally is preceded in death by her parents, her husband Kenneth, and two sons Christopher and Rick Fogle.

A graveside service will be held at 2 pm on Tuesday, February 13, 2024, at Keokuk National Cemetery in Keokuk. Visitation will be held on Tuesday at DeJong-Greaves-Printy Funeral Home in Keokuk from 12 to 1:30 pm directly before the service. A procession from the funeral home to the cemetery will occur directly following the visitation. A celebration of life will be held on February 17th in Des Moines.

Memorials may be directed to the Israel Family Hospice House in Ames.

Tributes and condolences may be left at [www.printyfuneralhome.com](http://www.printyfuneralhome.com).

DeJong-Greaves-Printy Funeral Home of Keokuk is in charge of arrangements.

### JOHN L. MOLZHON

John Lawrence Molzhon, 78, of Montrose, IA, passed away at 2:46 p.m. on Wednesday, January 10, 2024 at his home. He was born on July 20, 1945 in Buffalo, NY, to Fred & Beryl Wilson Molzhon. He was the oldest of six siblings. He married Joan C. Arnold on June 21, 1987. She preceded him in death on July 16, 2019. He retired from Armour Dial with 20 years of service. He enjoyed fishing, gardening, cooking and especially his 1933 Plymouth.



MOLZHON

John is survived by: 2-sons: Sean Molzhon of Montrose, IA & Steve (Lisa) Molzhon of Patterson, MO; 2-step daughters: Cindy Postle of Montrose, IA & Terri (Chuck) Abell of Montrose, IA; 1-step son: Rodney Postle of Keokuk, IA; 4-grandchildren; 3-step grandchildren & 2-step great grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his parents and his wife.

Cremation has been entrusted to the care of King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory. No services are planned at this time. Online condolences to the Molzhon family may be left at the King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory website: [www.kinglynk.com](http://www.kinglynk.com).

Charles Vandenberg, Editor

(319).371.1670

charles.v@pencitycurrent.com

Lee K. Vandenberg, Sales Manager

(319).371.4125

lee.v@pencitycurrent.com

Copyright © 2023 by Pen City Current

All published materials are property of Pen City Current and cannot be used without express written permission.

PEN CITY CURRENT  
It's Black & White and Read all over

Member LION Publishers

[www.lionpublishers.com](http://www.lionpublishers.com)



Pen City Current, [www.PenCityCurrent.com](http://www.PenCityCurrent.com), and Pen e-Saver are products of Market Street Publishing, LLC. Pen City Current is published Monday through Friday mornings by 6AM.

Founded in 2016  
P.O. Box 366 | Fort Madison, IA

# Lee County News/From the Front

## Friday's getting fun at Hound Dome

**FRIDAY** - Continued from Page 1

surnames.

It's also cool to hear him call out Pen City Current 3-POINTER! But that's a result of a little quid pro quo and a donation to the Athletic Boosters. But it's fun nonetheless.

You knew the game was going to be good when a really good group of Keokuk kids came into the gym. You knew it was going to be even better when the Keokuk boys' conference title hopes were on the line, and it was proven that it was going to be really good when the student section collapsed the front row of the bleachers jumping up and down on them. No one was hurt fortunately as it was the very first row and they were standing on it. And jumping on it. With the frenetic pace of the game, it's lucky they held out until the second half.

School officials scrambled to prop up the broken bleacher while cheerleaders worked a dance routine in the foreground.

The place was packed and they ran out of Orange or Red Gatorade, the only flavor John Bohnenkamp will drink. He got water. Then I get a bag of popcorn for a couple bucks and this bag was loaded. It was not the typical white paper bags, it was a larger brown sack and had waaaaaay more popcorn than I'm used to. I hope it doesn't violate any rules but I let some people share in the extra popcorn that was handed out as the concessionaires ran low on just about everything. Head Coach Ryan Wilson declined saying that his throat gets sore enough yelling, he doesn't need salty popcorn. O'contraire mon frere. It's a known fact in the music industry that a little buttered popcorn actually coats the throat therefore allowing louder and, dare I say, more melodic sounds to be produced. Not that Coach Wilson can sing, or, maybe he can. Some weird sounds from Bloodhound locker rooms after games.

The crowd was crazy and it wasn't just loud and proud. You had your share of parents, fans, and Hound groupies that yelled at the Keokuk fans, the coaches, the players, the refs, and even each other.

It was Crimson and black chaos, mixed with a little purple and gray and it was one of the best nights of the fading winter.

There were even Holy Trinity kids in the stands, including Luke Hellige who broke HTC's boys scoring mark this week with 45 points. We got a dunk from sophomore Nolan Guzman. He did it on the other side of the gym from where your friendly neighborhood photographer was stationed. So... he owes me one.

It's always a joy to hit the Hound Dome and it always will be. The friendly faces and banter are a welcome reprieve from the quiet nights in the Pen City Current funhouse - But that's Beside the Point.

Chuck Vandenberg is editor and co-owner of Pen City Current and can be reached at [Charles.V@PenCityCurrent.com](mailto:Charles.V@PenCityCurrent.com).



Courtesy photo

The Fort Madison High School varsity show choir poses with their Grand Champion trophy at the Keokuk Power City Classic.

## Swingspan wins Power City Classic

KEOKUK - The Fort Madison varsity show choir returned to competition this weekend with a resounding victory at the Keokuk High School Show Choir Invitational, the Power City Classic.

On Saturday. Swingspan, under the direction of Taylor Stoddard along with Colin DePreist, the show band director, and accompanist Teri Welborn, defeated ten competing show choirs to claim the prestigious title of Grand Champions.

With their electrifying energy and seamless harmonies, Swingspan captivated the audience and garnered praise from the judges, securing additional accolades for Best Band and Best Choreography.

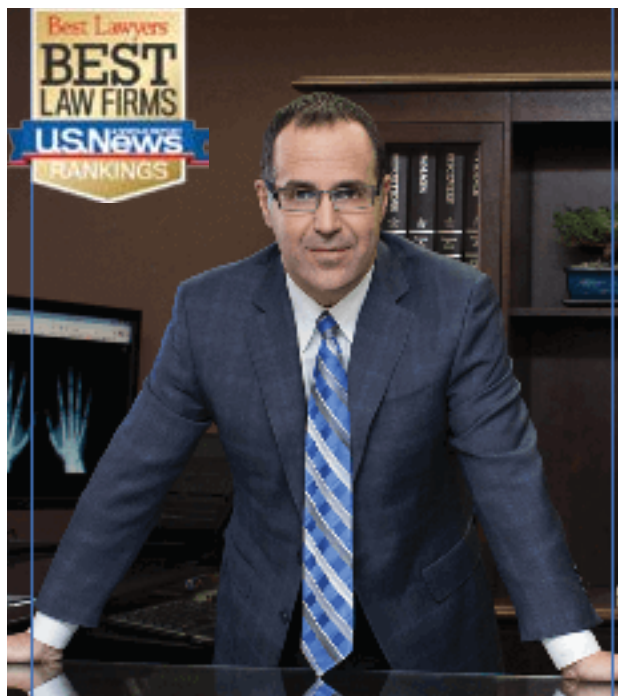
Not to be outdone, Fort Madison's junior varsity show choir, Crimson and Black, also directed by Stoddard, clinched the top spot in the prep division, surpassing schools classified in 4A.

The successes didn't end there. Fortissimo,

Fort Madison's Middle School show choir directed by Mr. Chris Meinert, showcased their talent by securing third place in the Middle School division, accompanied by a stellar performance from their show band led by Lisa Knipe.

With a collective participation of more than 120 students ranging from 7th to 12th grade, Fort Madison's show choir programs, inclusive of band and stage crew, exemplify dedication and excellence.

Looking ahead, Swingspan and Crimson and Black are set to compete in the Court of Champions competition in Wahoo, NE on February 17. Subsequently, they will grace the stage at Central's Show Choir Invitational on February 24. The season will culminate with the hosting of their own Stars in the Spotlight competition on March 2.



*Fighting to get you  
the compensation  
you deserve.*



# ACCIDENT & INJURY LAW

320 North 3rd Street, Suite 100, Burlington, Iowa 52601-0337  
1603 Main Street, Keokuk, IA 52632

[www.PothitakisLaw.com](http://www.PothitakisLaw.com)

**Do you have time -  
to help stop crime?**

Visit any of these Facebook pages to learn more about what the Neighborhood Watch Program is & how to start your own group or join an existing group!

**Join us today to help  
keep our communities safer!**



CAUTION

POLICE LINE DO NOT CROSS

**BLOODHOUND BASKETBALL**

# Bloodhounds play spoiler role in Southeast title chase

BY JOHN BOHNENKAMP  
PCC Sports

FORT MADISON - Fort Madison's boys basketball team spoiled its rivals' conference title hopes, thriving in the atmosphere of the largest home crowd of the season. "This is huge," senior forward Hunter Cresswell said after the Bloodhounds' 57-41 win over Keokuk on Friday night.

Huge is a good description of the win for Fort Madison, which ruined Keokuk's chance to grab a share of the Southeast Conference championship.

Huge is also a good description of the crowd that crammed into the Hound Dome. "Let's be honest — when's the last time you've seen this?" coach Ryan Wilson said. "The last time I saw the gym full like this was 2015 with (Miles) Wentzien, (coach Jon) Schmitz, that era. And really, it was the '90s before that. But this crowd was phenomenal."

"That might be the most packed I've seen this gym in my life," Cresswell said. "Even when I was little, maybe a couple of Miles Wentzien's games were like that. But this was up there."

"It was unreal. I'm super thankful, especially on my Senior Night, to have that kind of crowd. Last year, we weren't very good, so I don't blame people for not coming to our games. This year, I think we started to prove to people that we're pretty good, and we got some bigger crowds this year."

Fort Madison (10-7 overall, 7-3 Southeast Conference) outscored Keokuk (13-5, 7-3) 19-6 in the second quarter, closing the quarter with a 16-2 run that included a dunk by Nolan Guzman and a buzzer-beating 3-pointer from Julian Dear.

"Our guys just played together," Wilson said. "Played together, moved the ball. Played with a purpose tonight, played on a mission."

Keokuk, though, made a second-half run, getting to within 48-41 with 2:39 play on a basket inside by Jaxon Clark. But Cresswell, who left the game with an injury earlier in the half, would score the next seven points, with his 3-pointer with 1:46 to play pushing the Bloodhounds' lead back to double digits.

"I was pretty mad (after the injury)," said Cresswell, who led the Bloodhounds with 17 points. "Coming back and getting that three, that was pretty amazing."

The game avenged the Bloodhounds' 56-46 loss at Keokuk on January 31.

"That game on January 31 really hit our guys, and you could see that tonight," Wilson said. "We came ready to go."



Photo by John Lovretta/Special to PCC

Keokuk's Jaxon Clark goes up for a shot between Fort Madison's Dayton Lamar (hidden) and Hunter Cresswell (35) Friday night in Fort Madison.

Clark had 16 points to lead Keokuk. But the Bloodhounds held Brenton Hoard to just nine points and Diego Garcia to eight, with six of those coming in the second half.

"Realistically, we had to take away Jaxon," Cresswell said. "They don't really have any other options other than Diego (Garcia) and Brenton (Hoard). Diego did work tonight, he's the one that kept them in the game."

"We wanted to take the big guy away," Wilson said. "The thing is, we didn't let some of their other players get going."

Carson Rashid added 12 points for the Bloodhounds.

Wilson made sure to acknowledge that the crowd included members of Holy Trinity's boys basketball team. Wilson said Crusaders coach John Hellige reached out earlier in the day to tell him his players were coming.

"We had players from Holy Trinity here cheering us on, which was really cool," Wilson said. "Shout out to (John) Hellige for doing that. That's really cool. That's community stuff right there."

**GET BACK TO THE THINGS YOU ENJOY!**

It's time to call **ORTHOPEDICS at GREAT RIVER HEALTH**

Right care. Right place.

**Southeast Iowa Regional Medical Center**  
West Burlington Campus  
319-768-1000

**Southeast Iowa Regional Medical Center**  
Fort Madison Campus  
319-372-6530

**Henry County Health Center**  
Mount Pleasant Campus  
319-385-3141

Our orthopedic specialists will partner with you to develop a personalized treatment plan that fits your lifestyle.

Offering nonsurgical treatment options, and surgery when needed, their expert care will **get you back to the things you enjoy, pain free...** well maybe not the shoveling part!



Right place. Right care. Right here.  
[www.greatriverhealth.org/health-services/orthopedics](http://www.greatriverhealth.org/health-services/orthopedics)

## WARNING SIGNS OF T1D



- Headaches
- Weight Loss
- Blurry Vision
- Extreme Thirst
- Frequent Urination
- Increased Appetite
- Fruity Breath Odor
- Fatigue and Weakness
- Rapid Deep Breathing

# Sports

## LADY HAWKS HOOPS

# Mediapolis puts a cap on Central Lee girls' season

BY JOHN BOHNENKAMP  
PCC Sports

MEDIAPOLIS — There was a moment on Saturday night when Saturday's Class 3A girls basketball regional quarterfinal between Central Lee and Mediapolis felt like a November jamboree more than a February postseason game.

Central Lee trailed by 30 points in the second quarter when coach Taylor Hickey told her team to just stop for a few seconds as the players came up the court on offense. From the sidelines, she told them the play they were running, directed everyone where to go, and then the Hawks tried to execute it.

Central Lee got a good shot that missed, but it was a teaching moment for Hickey and her young team.

"For us, when I did that situation, we were trying to set up a certain play," Hickey said after the 67-23 loss to the Bulletes. "We were getting in a running match, where we were either missing shots or turning it over. So I wanted them to walk it up, stop, slow down, get it set up, show them we can score on offense, you just have to remember what you're doing. I set it up almost like you would in practice."

It's been that way a lot this season for Hickey, who had no seniors and only five juniors on the roster. The Hawks finished 6-16, and Hickey's message to the team after the game was to start working for next year.

"At some point, as I told the girls, it gets defeating," Hickey said. "It gets defeating looking up at the scoreboard knowing every time you shoot it's not going in. And so, for the girls who are young, it can be draining mentally."

The two teams had just played Tuesday night in the final game of the regular season, with Mediapolis (17-4) taking an 80-42 win.

The Hawks worked on breaking Mediapolis' pressure defense since that game, and Hickey thought their execution of what they had learned was fine. The problem for Central Lee was more the turnovers in the half-court game or the missed shots.

The Hawks were down 21-5 at the end of the first quarter and trailed 43-14 at half-time.

"Honestly, the first quarter, take out our turnovers, and I thought we were playing pretty well," Hickey said. "We had focused on their press the last couple of practices after facing them Tuesday, and honestly, the press didn't bother us. We did well with this new press breaker we had put in, staying calm. It was when we were in the half-court setting, when it was like, 'Oh my gosh, we beat it.' And then we didn't make the shots, or turned the ball over, and that's something we've been struggling with all season."

The season has been an education for the young Hawks, and Hickey wished she could do some more teaching in this game like she did with that second-quarter play.

"Oh, a hundred times tonight," she said.

It's been an education for Hickey, too.

"I'm learning as a coach," said Hickey, who finished her second year as head coach. "Maybe the first couple of weeks, we don't focus so much on getting in shape and skill development, we focus instead on press breaking, defense, and offense, because those are the things you need to get up to speed in your mind."

Freshman Lizzy Mason led Central Lee with 10 points. Taylor Jones had seven.

Haley Steffener led Mediapolis with 18 points. Hanna Wagenbach had 14 points.



Photo by John Lovretta/Special to PCC

Central Lee High School's Kenna Sandoval (32) and Haley Steffener (4) both go after the rebound during their Class 3A Region 1 game against Mediapolis High School, Saturday, February 10, 2024 at Mediapolis. Mediapolis won 67-23.

**SICK OF RISING PRICES?! US, TOO!!!**

**Complete Rental PRICE BEAT GUARANTEE**

Show us an advertised price or quote

**WE'LL BEAT IT BY 15%**

\*Not valid with any other discounts

5636 Avenue O, Fort Madison, IA • (319) 372-8105

Located right across the road from Jim Baier Ford in Fort Madison

*Touching the Community with Care*

**LEE CHD**

LEE COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT  
#3 John Bennett Drive, Fort Madison  
(319) 372-5225 . [www.leecountyhd.org](http://www.leecountyhd.org)

**Advertise in a brand new way.**

Reach thousands of potential customers each day & grow your business. Call today!

Lee (319)371.4125 • Chuck (319)371.1670

**PEN CITY CURRENT**  
It's Black & White and Read all over

## Classifieds/Public Notices

# PEN CITY CURRENT CLASSIFIEDS

### PUBLIC NOTICES

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
**Lee County, Iowa**  
**Board of Supervisors**  
**Agenda**  
**DATE: Monday,**  
**February 12, 2024**  
**MEETING**  
**CONVENING TIME:**  
**10:00 A.M. (CDT)**  
**LOCATION:**  
**933 Avenue H**  
**Fort Madison, IA**

**---AGENDA---**

Lee County Board of Supervisors  
 Feb 12, 2024, 10:00-11:30 AM (America/Chicago)  
 Please join my meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone.  
<https://meet.goto.com/835883661>

[com/835883661](https://meet.goto.com/835883661)  
 You can also dial in using your phone.  
 Access Code: 835-883-661  
 United States: +1 (872) 240-3311  
 Get the app now and be ready when your first meeting starts:  
<https://meet.goto.com/install>  
 If you would like to pose a question to the Board, please use the Chat feature and wait for the Chairman to address you. If you are participating by phone, please wait until everyone is done speaking before addressing the Board. Please keep your microphone muted to cut down on background

noise. If you are participating by phone, press \*6, this will mute your phone.  
 Pledge of Allegiance  
 Approve Agenda  
 Public Input  
 Consider Approval to Replace Open Position on Veteran Affairs Commission  
 Consider Approval of Change Order-Contract Language Modification-with Carl A. Nelson & Co. For Health/EMS Building  
 Consider Approval of Attachment to AIA Document with Carl A. Nelson & Co. For Health/EMS Building  
 Consider Approval of Resolution Setting Public Hearing to Bond for Ke-

okuk Ambulance Building  
 Consider Approval of Resolution Setting Public Hearing to Bond for Health/EMS Building  
 Consider Approval of Resolution Asking Iowa Legislators to Abolish 1848 Law Requiring Two Court Systems  
 Consider Approval of First Reading of Amended Automated Traffic Enforcement Ordinance  
 Consider Approval of New Section in Personnel Policy Regarding Salary Deductions for Exempt Employees  
 Consent Agenda  
 • Monday, February 5, 2024 Board Minutes  
 • Claims for Payment  
 • Tax Abatement Reso-

lutions (6)  
 Personnel Actions:  
 A. Step Increases (2)  
 Treasurer's Office  
 B. Step Increase - Sheriff's Office  
 C. Transfer from Part-time to Full-time - EMS Reports:  
 A. Treasurer's Report of Fees Collected  
 B. Auditor's Report of Fees Collected  
 C. Sheriff's Monthly Report  
 Commission or Committee Reports  
 Closed Session: 2 I. 5(i) To evaluate the professional competency of an individual whose appointment, hiring, performance, or discharge is being considered, when

necessary to prevent needless and irreparable injury to that individual's reputation and that individual requests a closed session.  
 Consider Approval of Promotion-Secondary Roads Adjourn  
**PUBLIC MEETING**  
**CITIZENS WELCOME**  
 Vision and hearing assistance available upon request  
 Contact Title VI Administrator  
 319-372-3705  
 County Website:  
[www.leecounty.org](http://www.leecounty.org)

# BUSINESS DIRECTORY

Call Lee at 319.371.4125 today to advertise!



**DODD**  
 PRINTING & STATIONERY  
 Est. 1977

Coffee Mugs  
 Posters Art Supplies  
**Printing**  
 Office Furniture  
 Trifold Brochures  
 Business Forms  
 Office Supplies  
 Vinyl Banners  
 T-Shirt Printing  
 Flyers  
 Photo Correction  
 Business Cards

621 Avenue G  
 Fort Madison, IA  
 319.372.2721  
[doddprinting.com](http://doddprinting.com)  
 ENJOY FREE DELIVERY TO FORT MADISON, KEOKUK, BURLINGTON & THE SURROUNDING AREAS!



Patrick Profeta  
 General Manager

**Keokuk Auto Credit**  
 We Tote the Note

No Credit Check Low Weekly Payments  
[www.keokukautocredit.com](http://www.keokukautocredit.com)

1728 Main  
 Keokuk, IA 52632  
 Office: 319-524-2334  
 Fax: 319-524-2373

**Follow Us**  
**@pencitycurrent**



**Dirty Dog Detailing & Boarding**

Grooming by appointment  
 Monday, Wednesday, Friday & Saturday  
 319-371-9044

2090 250th St  
 Denethan, IA 52625  
 Owners Barb Ball & Natalie Dauma  
 Family owned & operated

Over 31 Years  
 Combined Professional  
 Animal Experience

General Insects  
 Termites  
 Mice  
 Bed Bugs

**Cullen**  
 PEST CONTROL

**(319) 372-1060**

Toll Free 1-888-818-7378  
 Email: [cullenpest@hotmail.com](mailto:cullenpest@hotmail.com)  
[www.cullenpest.com](http://www.cullenpest.com)

Residential  
 Commercial  
 "Cause who needs bugs?"



**Surprisingly great rates right around the corner.**

Jess Sutcliffe, Agent  
 2623 Avenue L  
 Fort Madison, IA 52627  
 Bus: 319-372-5982  
[www.fortmadisoninsurance.com](http://www.fortmadisoninsurance.com)

I'm your one-stop shop for the service you deserve at a price you want. Call me for surprisingly great rates and Good Neighbor service right in your neighborhood.

Like a good neighbor,  
 State Farm is there.®

Individual premiums will vary by customer. All applicants subject to State Farm® underwriting requirements.

State Farm  
 Bloomington, IL  
 2001878



**Never Shiver. Don't Sweat.**



Just call

**Heat & Air Guy**

Ft. Madison: 319-372-4328  
 Burlington: 319-752-4328  
 All Areas: 877-380-4328

24 Hour Service • FREE Estimates • Servicing All Makes

[www.YourHeatAndAirGuy.com](http://www.YourHeatAndAirGuy.com)

Your Neighborhood Hardware and Rental Store!

**KEMPKER'S**  
 True Value RENTAL

1904 Avenue H Fort Madison | 608 S 9th St Burlington | 1405 E Washington St Mt Pleasant

Visit us online: [kempkerstruevalue.com](http://kempkerstruevalue.com)

**Got a news tip?**

Call Chuck  
**(319)371.1670**

or submit it online at [www.PenCityCurrent.com](http://www.PenCityCurrent.com)

Auto Detailing . Car Wash . Sign Rental

**Turbo Wash**

(319) 372-WASH (9274)  
 Fort Madison



Gift certificates available

Locally owned & operated

## From the Front

# Arnett, Riddle, Hartman, and Thacher qualify Saturday



Photos by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Junior Cory Arnett gets control of Bettendorf's Aiden Lee in the heavyweight title match in the 3A district qualifier at Bettendorf High School. Arnett would hang on for the win and the title and qualify for his first-ever state tournament.



### DISTRICTS - Continued from Page 1

emotion has been building for three years.

"This came from the last three years. Going back into the mat room, working hard day after day and night after night and I thank God that I was able to win tonight. This win is part of a great journey for me," Arnett said.

The junior just started wrestling three years ago as a freshman, the first time he ever got on a mat.

"Before I even knew what wrestling was, Coach Smith and his son Teague said I looked pretty athletic, and I should be wrestling for football. I said I'm only doing this for football so don't expect much out of me," he said.

"I went and instantly fell in love with it my first year."

Arnett said he heard the corner telling him to keep some space in the final moments of the championship match.

"I heard him and looked up and thought 'Damn, my arm's trapped and I can't do anything. So I just pressed him forward and he almost got me. I reached deep and was able to avoid that.'"

Arnett was one of four Bloodhounds that won a bid into the state tournament.

Seniors Nolan Riddle (157 lbs.), Ike Thacher (190 lbs.), and Joe Hartman (165 lbs.) all will be seeded in the tournament next week. Riddle and Thacher both earned 2nd place finishes, while Hartman had a shot at second but lost in a wrestleback after capturing 3rd place with a win over Burlington's Tanner Burchett.

Burchett opened with a quick takedown in the match but Hartman would roll out for an escape and then record his own takedown right at the horn for the first period. The Bloodhound would get another takedown in the second quarter and then survive a 2-point nearfall after starting on the bottom in third period that transitioned into a 2-point reversal with just 43 seconds left on his season to break a 4-4 tie.

"This is the best feeling in the whole world. I couldn't have done this without these guys. Coach Smith, Coach Doherty, Cowboy (Coach Danen Settles)," Hartman said.

The senior has been in the wrestling program since kindergarten, but didn't get to wrestle at districts last year after losing in a wrestle off at Fort Madison.

Hartman lost to top seeded Lincoln Jipp (42-3) of Bettendorf in the semifinals by pin, but Hartman put a scare into him at the end of the first period when he scored a reversal and a 3-point nearfall before the horn sounded. The Hound corner was yelling Jipp was stuck but didn't get the met slap with the wrestlers at the far side of the circle. Jipp went on to win the title at 165 lbs.

"Man I was so close to pinning that Bettendorf kid, just a couple seconds away. But no excuses, it's just really good to be here and now going to state," Hartman said.

He said his mentality now will be just to have fun in his final year.

"Throw it all out there, put it all on the line, and have some fun."

Riddle said he too is going to go into state with less nerves than he did last year where he almost finished on the podium, losing a very close match on Friday ending his run.

Riddle lost in the championship match to Iowa City High's Kael Voinovich, an Oklahoma transfer whose brother wrestles at Iowa.

Riddle had the early advantage, but a risky shot turned ugly as Voinovich turned the tables and got Riddle to the mat at the 1:22 mark.

"That last match I should've cut him again and worked another takedown because the first one came very easily. I'm usually pretty good on top, but..." he said.

Voinovich is the top-ranked wrestler at 157 in 3A. Riddle said he's ranked No. 2 in the country.

"I think I can beat him," Riddle said.

That may end up being decided on Friday or Saturday in Des Moines.

"Last year, I was really nervous. This year I'm just going to have fun and work my offense. Waiting around causes trouble."

Thacher, ranked 7th in the state in 3A, won his first match after getting a bye and then lost to 5th-ranked Brayden Koester of Bettendorf by fall in the second period.

After a scoreless first period, Koester opted to start the second period down. He scored an escape getting to his feet 20 seconds into the match, but then got a takedown 30 seconds later and scored the fall, ending Thacher's night with a 2nd place finish.

Head Coach Ryan Smith said Thacher wrestled Koester much better than at a tournament in Urbandale earlier in the year.

"Ike got beat but he wrestled better than he did at Urbandale. It was a match and I'm not going to fault him, I'd rather him be aggressive than not aggressive in that situation," Smith said.

Luke Vanderpool and Noah Swigart both had chances to advance to state but lost heartbreakers in the 3rd place consolation matches. At 120 lbs., Vanderpool had two 3-point nearfalls, but couldn't get the shoulders down, one in the first period and one in the third

Senior Joe Hartman smiles after getting a 3rd place finish in Bettendorf Saturday. Hartman's win gave him a wrestleback for a true second-place finish, but he came up short. His third place finish gives him an entry into the IHSAA boys state tournament beginning Wednesday in Des Moines.

with just 1:27 left against Iowa City High's Chris Davis. Vanderpool scored a 2-point reversal and a 3-point nearfall with 1:27 left in the second period, but Davis would score a reversal after being awarded a penalty point and then got a 2-point nearfall that turned into a pin. Vanderpool lost in the semifinals to Jake Knight of Bettendorf, the No. 2 ranked 120 lb. wrestler in 3A.

Swigart had the heartbreaker of the night up 8-0 in the third period against Clear Creek-Amana's Malachi Clement. Swigart had a nearfall and takedown in the first period to get to 5-0. He scored another takedown in the 2nd period and an escape to start the third, but with less than a minute to go in the match, Clement got Swigart off his feet for a takedown and then force the fall at 5:11.

Smith said the Hounds have been there before facing tough losses.

"I try not to have preconceived notions. Obviously, you watch guys all year - Ike and them, and they build up some good records. But sometimes you get a weight class that has other guys that have done the same thing," he said.

"The kid Nolan ran into was a transfer from Oklahoma whose brother wrestles at Iowa so he moved to Iowa City. One of those deals and we've seen that story before. But he took him down early on and that gave him a little confidence there.

"We just have to be better at situational things like that. In Nolan's match you get a comfortable lead, and I'm not saying you shut down, but take calculated risks and do it smart. It happens to all of us. Wrestling's been the source of some of the best highs, but some of the worst lows."

Coaching in his last district qualifier, Smith said he will probably be emotional after all is said and done.

"I'll probably shed a tear or two tonight talking to the guys.. I'll try not to, but I think I did last year, too."

Other wrestlers competing on Saturday were Cole Quittem (106), Brody Bolander (113), Tate Green (132), Tateum Schelich (138), Cade Goodrich (144), Rainer Johnson (150), Gavin Callahan (175), and Teague Smith (215). Smith had to take a medical forfeit after his semifinals loss wearing braces on both knees.