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# Albert Lea Tribune

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**SPORTS:**  
 A.L. CLASSIC CHAMPIONS CROWNED

**OPINION:**  
 UNDER NEW CAMPAIGN, SPEEDERS WILL HAVE TO PAY

## Manager finalists to be selected at start of July

### FINALISTS SLATED TO COME TO ALBERT LEA MID-MONTH

By Sarah Stultz  
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The Albert Lea City Council will meet July 1 to select finalists for the city manager position. Job applications were accepted through June 11, according

to Gary Weiers, a management consultant for David Drown Associates, whose company DDA Human Resources is conducting the search. Weiers said the company reviewed and ranked the applicants, and the top candidates were

chosen to move forward and complete a video interview and a work personality index with the firm. Next week, the council will review this information before meeting July 1, when it will narrow down the pool of candidates. Weiers said during those

discussions, candidates will be identified with an assigned number because names and other identifying information are not public until the finalists have been determined. Names of the finalists can be released once they are selected. Finalists will be interviewed in Albert Lea July 17 and July 18.

The council will determine what the interview process will include. Weiers said it is likely to involve a community event, interviews with department heads and an interview with the council. The vacancy comes after former City Manager Chad

See **MANAGER**, Page 7

## RODEOING IN NORTHWOOD



A rider is thrown from a bull Thursday during a rodeo at the Worth County Fair. See more photos on Page 11. COLLEEN HARRISON/ALBERT LEA TRIBUNE



Riders have to manage to stay on the bull for at least eight seconds for the ride to qualify for scoring.



Thursday's rodeo was put on by Rice Bull Riding Co.

## Survey indicates improving farm economy in 10 states

OMAHA, Neb. (AP) — Bankers surveyed in parts of 10 Plains and Western states are seeing improvement in the region's farm economy. The Rural Mainstreet survey released Thursday shows the survey's overall index rising from a stunted 48.5 in May to 53.2 this month. Any score above 50 suggests a growing economy, while a score below 50 indicates a shrinking economy. Creighton University economist Ernie Goss, who oversees the survey, says higher agriculture commodity prices and rebuilding from recent floods boosted June's index. Goss also noted that despite negative consequences from trade tensions and tariffs, nearly 7 of 10 bank CEOs surveyed support either raising or continuing the Trump administration's current tariffs.

## Winnebago Co. supervisor pleads not guilty to being drunk and armed at meeting

By Mary Pieper  
 Mason City Globe Gazette

A member of the Winnebago County Board of Supervisors pleaded not guilty Wednesday to misdemeanor charges of public intoxication and carrying a firearm while under the influence. Mike Stensrud, who police said showed up drunk and armed at a board of supervisors meeting the morning of May 21, is requesting a jury trial. Stensrud, 63, of Lake Mills told the Globe Gazette on May 22 that he had been drinking the day of the meeting. "When you screw up, you have to pay the consequences," he said. Stensrud said he went to treatment in January and had not had a drink until the morning of May 21. Stensrud, who had a 10-year career in the NFL from 1979-89 after attending Iowa State University, has served on the Winnebago

See **STENSRUD**, Page 7

## Alden-Conger district approves bid for new storage garage

By Sarah Kocher  
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ALDEN — The third priority will be the second to see progress as the Alden-Conger Public School District continues to check off facilities projects using surplus referendum funds. Through a survey, the community prioritized projects for the school to complete with approximately \$1 million. The top three identified by the survey were to renovate existing sports fields, repair and expand the elementary playground equipment and

build a three-stall garage with storage. Of that work, the elementary playground has already been completed. The funds were originally earmarked for school facility work in a referendum approved over three years ago. After work was complete, the district had almost \$1 million left to spend. In November 2018, voters approved repurposing those funds — rather than seeing a temporary tax break — for further projects. After hearing two bids June 10 for constructing the garage

and storage building, the school board awarded the bid to Ameribuilt Buildings Inc. for \$87,148. The garage will be a bit expanded from the 50-by-50-foot one discussed at a March school board meeting but is still close to the original footprint, Superintendent Brian Shanks said. According to Alden-Conger school board chairman Ryan Merkouris, the building will be a 40-by-64-foot building with a 15-by-64-foot lean-to on one side. The other bid was submitted by Pride Builders. Their estimate for a 50-by-60-foot building

was \$89,400. The building will be used for storage purposes — including storage of district vehicles, for the school's supermileage team and general storage for athletics. There is the potential for more still, Shanks said. "We have a lack of storage in this building, so there could be desks in there, there could be tables in there," Shanks said. Shanks said the hope is to have the construction complete before school begins or soon

See **GARAGE**, Page 7

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*O Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth! You have set your glory above the heavens. From the lips of children and infants you have ordained praise.*  
 — Psalms 8:1-2

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