

The winner is ...
Lafayette holds fundraisers.
See Page 5.



Nicollet Public School holds homecoming coronation



Ruth Klossner

In a coronation like no other, the 2020 Nicollet High School homecoming king and queen were crowned Sunday, Oct. 25. Only parents and immediate family were allowed to attend. The coronation was livestreamed for anyone unable to be there in person. Returning to crown the new royalty was 2019 king Jon Mans, who crowned his brother, Riley. Marisa Arndt, the 2010 queen, crowned new queen Isabella Havemeier. As usual, coronation was the kickoff event for this week's homecoming activities — but those have been scaled back, due to COVID. Members of the homecoming court are, front: little attendants Kinley Hendrickson and Layne Olson. Back: junior attendants Marah Hulke and Dominic Rosin, senior attendants Kassidi Gomez and Nathan Duis, queen Isabella Havemeier, king Riley Mans, senior attendants Aubrey Arndt and Tyler Laven, sophomore attendants Ambria Hoffman and Justin Slater, and freshman attendant Dale Ehlenfeldt. Freshman attendant Luke Engel was unable to attend. RIGHT: Isabella Havemeier and Riley Mans were crowned 2020 Homecoming Queen and King.

Nicollet City Council discusses how to spend COVID-19 money

By Karen Fluegge
Ledger staff writer

The regular meeting of the Nicollet City Council was held by teleconference on Monday, Oct. 12. The mayor and all the council members were present along with City Clerk Vanessa Drill and Nicollet County Commissioner John Luepke. Vanessa Drill presented a couple of items that Darin Drill had received bids on that are eligible to be purchased using the CARES Act monies.

A 2020 pickup truck for \$35,362 was the bid, but that does not include

tax, title and license, said Mayor Fred Froehlich.

"This is about \$19,000 off sticker price because it is a state bid. This is a good deal and the truck could have good value when it is time to trade, in about eight or nine years."

Also presented was a \$11,812 bid for a cellular monitoring system for the two lifts and the water treatment plant. This would allow the maintenance people to monitor the lifts and water plant by cell phones from home or elsewhere. The cost would be \$60 a month, or \$720 annually.

"By purchasing this system now

with the CARES Act monies, at least we won't have to levy for it," Froehlich said.

A motion was made and approved to purchase the pickup truck and the cellular monitoring system/automatic readers for the bids that Darin Drill had received.

Vanessa Drill said that so far the city has spent \$5,319 out of the CARES Act funds. This does not include the two items for the city office: the wall and plexiglass for COVID protection for city residents and the city employees.

With these expenditures, the city will have spent approximately

\$53,000 of the CARES Act monies.

In other business

- The parking ordinance issue continued to be tabled.
- The council approved the regular meeting agenda, the minutes from the Sept. 14 regular meeting and the minutes of the special meeting Sept. 28. The Sept. 28 special meeting was held to set the Preliminary Levy and Preliminary Budget for 2021 as well as the Truth in Taxation Hearing date of Dec. 14.
- The following resolutions were approved: Resolution 09-28-20 Adopting the Proposed 2021 Levy

of \$492,674, and Resolution 09-28-20A Adopting the Proposed 2021 Budget.

• The bills for September to October, for \$53,793.41, were approved.

• The council approved the following in regard to the 1.88 acres for the Dollar General store which the state has approved for annexation: Resolution 10-12-20, A Resolution approving an amendment to the City of Nicollet Comprehensive Plan Map (changing Industrial to Commercial), and Ordinance No. 162, an ordinance amending the Nicollet City Zoning Map (changing

land from Industrial to Commercial on zoning map).

Resolution 10-12-20A Decertifying Individual Parcel within Tax Increment Financing District No. 1-8 was approved by the council. This is for the last parcel in School Estates.

Also approved were LG220 Permits for the American Legion Bingo Events for Nov. 14 and Dec. 12.

The next regular meeting is at 6 p.m. Monday, Nov. 9. A special meeting will be called in November to canvass election results as soon as they are received.

Raiders' loss to Cedar Mountain — after three overtimes — stings especially hard

By Ruth Klossner

It wasn't just the cold weather that stung Friday night. Even worse than playing in 20-something degree weather was the sting of losing in three overtimes — a game that could have been won in regulation.

The Raiders played well at times — and out-gained Cedar Mountain on the ground. But Nicollet missed too many opportunities and made too many mistakes, according to head coach Tom Murphy. There were wrong routes run, passes dropped, and blocks not made.

"We've had the 'drops' all year, so we came out in a run formation. We ran for 208 yards — I'm pleased with that," he said. "We didn't have a lot of long gain plays — we'd be just one block away. And, if we'd catch more balls. ..."

On the other side of the ball, Murphy said, "They found some weaknesses in our defense — they went after those spots."

Overall, Murphy noted that it was a team loss. "We had every opportunity to win. I told the kids that it should have been 20-0 at the half. This one stung, and it should. We didn't take advantage of opportunities. We gave it away."

The first quarter was scoreless, then each team scored a touch-

down in the second quarter. Cedar Mountain converted, making the halftime score 8-6.

Both teams scored, but did not convert, in the third quarter, the score stood at 14-14 going into the final period. Again, each team scored once, but didn't convert, making it 20-20, sending the game into overtime. The first two periods started with each team getting four chances from the 10-yard line. Both scored and converted in the first overtime, sending the game into the second overtime at 28-28.

That period was more of the same, making it 34-34 heading into the third overtime. This time, each team got one chance from the three-yard line. Cedar Mountain converted, but Nicollet's pass fell incomplete — giving the Cougars the win, 36-34.

Turning his thoughts to this week's game when Buffalo Lake-Hector comes to town, Murphy said, "It's week to week. We never know when it will be our last game. The big part will fall on our seniors — they have to figure out what they want. They have to step forward."

While it's a winnable game, Murphy said, "We have to look at ourselves. We'll focus on ourselves this week. We got beat by big plays Friday — we have to get better."

| GAME STATS | | | |
|-----------------------------------|---------|-------|--------|
| Nicollet Total Yardage: 339 | | | |
| Rushing: 208 yards | | | |
| | Carries | Yards | TDS |
| Nathan Duis | 24 | 161 | 2 |
| Riley Mans | 8 | 36 | 1 |
| Tucker Wills | 2 | 9 | |
| Tyler Laven | 1 | 8 | |
| Passing: 131 yards | | | |
| | Passes | Yards | TDS |
| Nathan Duis | 15/35 | 131 | 2 |
| Receiving | | | |
| | Catches | Yards | TDS |
| Tucker Wills | 2 | 50 | |
| Shane Stevenson | 6 | 43 | 2 |
| Riley Mans | 7 | 37 | |
| Dylan Willaert | 1 | 5 | |
| Defense | | | |
| | Tackles | Sacks | Int/FR |
| Riley Mans | 9 | | 2 Int. |
| Austin Gieseke | 7 | | |
| Tyler Laven | 6 | | |
| Nathan Duis | 6 | | |
| Owen Warrington | 4 | | |
| Tucker Wills | 3 | | |
| Seth Rosin | 3 | | |
| Shane Stevenson | 2 | | 1 Int. |
| Drew Grommersch | 2 | | 1 FR |
| Cedar Mt. Area Total Yardage: 293 | | | |
| 68 Rushing, 225 Passing | | | |

JV football

The Nicollet JV team played well in a 26-12 win Monday, Oct. 20 at Madelia.

The Raiders jumped out to an early 6-0 lead and held it until

See RAIDERS, page 8

CEDAR MT 36, NICOLLET 34 FRIDAY, OCTOBER 23

GAME SCORING

Nic. 2nd Qtr (9:48)—Shane Stevenson, 7-yd pass from Nathan Duis. 5-play, 37-yd drive started after good punt return by Riley Mans. PAT run failed. **6-0**

CM. 2nd Qtr (8:27)—Nick Freitag, 24-yd pass from Cade Schiller. 4-play, 64-yd drive. 2-pt PAT pass. **6-8**

Nic. 3rd Qtr (4:20)—Stevenson, 5-yd pass from Duis. 15-play, 58-yd drive. Mans 2-pt. PAT. **14-8**

CM. 3rd Qtr (2:17)—Caden Kleinschmidt, 9-yd run. 8-play, 54-yd drive. PAT run stopped. **14-14**

CM. 4th Qtr (10:23)—Freitag, 53-yd pass from Schiller. 5-play, 79-yd drive. 2-pt. PAT stopped. **14-20**

Nic. 4th Qtr (7:23)—Duis, 4-yd run. 7-play, 55-yd drive. 2-pt. PAT pass incomplete. **20-20**

Nic. 1st OT—Duis, 10-yd run. 2-play, 10-yd drive. Stevenson, 2-pt. PAT pass from Duis. **28-20**

CM. 1st OT—Schiller, 10-yd run. 2-play, 10-yd drive. Schiller, 2-pt. PAT run. **28-28**

Nic. 2nd OT—Mans, 10-yd run. 1-play, 10-yd drive. PAT pass failed. **34-28**

CM. 2nd OT—Freitag, 10-yd run. 1-play, 10-yd drive. Schiller, 2-pt. PAT run stopped. **34-34**

CM. 3rd OT—pitch from Schiller, 3-yd run. 1-play, extra point. **34-36**

(Nic. 3rd OT—Pass from Duis incomplete from 3-yd line.)



Ruth Klossner

Even with Cedar Mountain's Nick Freitag grabbing his facemask, Austin Gieseke got the tackle, stopping Freitag for a loss on the last play of the first quarter. Gieseke had seven tackles on the night.

Lady Raiders won against ML/GHE/T, but fell to Cleveland last week

By Ruth Klossner

The Nicollet girls picked up a 3-1 win over the Martin Luther/Granada-Huntley-East Chain/Truman Jaguars on Tuesday night but lost three straight two nights later at Cleveland.

After dropping the opener to ML/GHE/T 13-25 on a snowy Tuesday evening, the Raiders rebounded to win the next three.

"We came out a little less aggressive than we wanted the first game," coach Sue Boddy said. "Marah Hulke had some great

digs to keep the ball alive."

Kendall Robertson also helped to keep Nicollet in the game when she served five straight aces to bring Nicollet from 10-19 to 15-19.

The Raiders led all the way in the second game, by as many as 10 points early, then cruised to the 25-13 win. The third game was similar, through the Jaguars tightened things up a bit — getting to within five at 19-14 — with Nicollet winning 24-16.

"We came out more aggressive in the second game and had serving runs of four and

five in games two and three," Boddy said.

Game four was back and forth, with the Jaguars holding some early leads. It was tied at 16-16 before the Raiders went up 20-17, on the way to the 25-22 win.

Thursday's game at Cleveland was a different story. It was an odd feeling for the Raiders, as no Nicollet fans were allowed in the gym.

Though there were some short spurts, the Raiders dropped three straight.

"We lost our confidence. We didn't step up and want the ball," Boddy said. "I'm

hoping we came away learning some things from that match — like don't let the opponent take you out of your game, stay positive, and talk your way through it."

B-squad

The Raider B-squad picked up a pair of 2-1 wins last week.

Against ML/GHEC/T, Nicollet won the first two games, then played a third as there was time. Both wins were close, with the second going to 26-24.

"We did well adjusting to changes that

night," coach Mindy Kubesh said. "The girls kept up communication and played as a team."

MLGHECT Match: 25-21, 26-24, 9-15. Team leaders. Kills: Jasmine Wilking 13, Brooklyn Bode 6, Madi Rosin 5. Digs: Ambria Hoffman 9, Shannon Soost 2. Sets: Emma Drill. Serves: Madi Rosin 15/15, 5 aces; Hoffman 10/10, 1 ace; Maddy Kramer 9/9, 2 aces. Blocks: Jasmine Wilking. Serve Receive/Passing: Rosin, Hoffman.

See LADY RAIDERS, page 8