



HUSKIES SECOND AT STATE

The Jackson County Central volleyball team finished second at the Class AA state tournament to cap a 29-win season.

Stories, B1



JACKSON COUNTY PILOT

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2021

131ST YEAR/ISSUE 46



The dome of the Jackson County Courthouse and the Lady Justice statue on its top have a new look following months of restoration work earlier this year.

PHOTOS BY JUSTIN LESSMAN

A dangerous, deadly week on area roads

Three killed and seven injured in consecutive-day vehicle crashes

by JUSTIN R. LESSMAN
Publisher

It was a dangerous — and deadly — past week on local and area roadways.

Three people were killed and seven others injured in motor-vehicle crashes that happened in and around Jackson County on consecutive days last Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday. Three additional people were injured in a two vehicle-crash in Jackson County on Monday.

Lorraine Reimers, 85, of rural Lakefield was killed in a one-vehicle crash last Wednesday in southern Jackson County. Mariah Nelson, 29, and a 1-year-old male juvenile, both of Jackson, died in a two-vehicle collision just south of the Jackson County line this past Saturday. All others sustained varying degrees of injuries, the bulk of which are being described by authorities as “non-life-threatening.”

Crash in the curves

Reimers was killed when the 2005 Buick Park Avenue she was driving entered the east ditch off the County Road 4 curves near the intersection of 430th Avenue shortly before 1 p.m. on Nov. 10.

Jackson County Sheriff Shawn Haken said Reimers was traveling north on County Road 4 when the vehicle entered the ditch, sustaining heavy damage. Reimers was pronounced dead at the scene.

The Lakefield Ambulance Service and Lakefield Fire Department assisted at the scene.

Two killed, four hurt

Nelson and a 1-year-old male were killed and four others injured in a two-

See **DEADLY** on **A3**

BEFORE & AFTER

Courthouse has whole new look after months of restoration work

by JUSTIN R. LESSMAN
Publisher

Restoration work on the exterior of the historic Jackson County Courthouse is complete, and the end result is a whole new look for the 112-year-old building.

Work began in June in on the courthouse's exterior, and scaffolding encircled the courthouse tower and dome for much of the summer as crews with Roseville-based Building Restoration Corp. worked to replace the painted metal dome top with new copper and restore the Lady

See **NEW LOOK** on **A2**



This historic Jackson County Courthouse has a new look following completion of an \$820,000 restoration project.

Community Thanksgiving returns

by JOSHUA SCHUETZ
Staff Writer

Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Jackson will host a community Thanksgiving dinner this year, resuming the tradition after its cancellation last year due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Church secretary Pam Tracey said this year's event will be a blended dine-in and drive-through event.

“This year, we're doing dine-in, takeout, delivery and drive-through,” Tracey said.

Prior to the dinner, peo-

ple can gather together to worship at 10:30 a.m. Serving begins at 11:30 a.m. and runs through 1 p.m.

Freewill donations will be accepted at the dinner. Tracey said the church plans to use the money to reinvest in community organizations.

“We really want to give

back to the community this year,” she said.

“It's a freewill donation, so people can drop off a check or cash when they get their meal.”

Classic Thanksgiving turkey with gravy and mashed potatoes make up the core of the dinner menu, but pie will also be available for dessert.

If you go ...

What: Community Thanksgiving dinner
When: Thursday, Nov. 24, 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Where: Our Savior's Lutheran Church

Another local lost to COVID-19

by JUSTIN R. LESSMAN
Publisher

The death of another Jackson County resident has been attributed to COVID-19, the 16th local lost to the disease since the onset of the pandemic.

The Minnesota Department of Health reported the death last Thursday morning. MDH stated the victim was a Jackson County resident between the ages of 70 and 74 years.

It's the fifth Jackson County death reported within the last six weeks and comes as the county marks 15 consecutive

weeks of double-digit weekly caseload increases after 14 consecutive weeks of single-digit — or no — increases. Twenty-two new cases of COVID-19 were reported in Jackson County from Nov. 10 to Nov. 16, five more than the week prior.

The county's double-digit weekly caseload increase comes as the number of locals vaccinated against COVID-19 continues to increase. As of this past Sunday, 5,131 locals — 54.6 percent of Jackson County residents 5 years of age and older — had received at least one dose of COVID-19 vaccine. Of

those 5,131, 4,903 — 52.2 percent of the county's population of those 5 years of age and older — have received the number of shots required for maximum efficacy, what the MDH terms a “completed vaccine series.”

In terms of the county's population as a whole, 51.5 percent have received at least one dose, while 49.3 percent have received a completed vaccine series. More than 86 percent of locals 65 years of age or older have received at least one dose; close to 85 percent have received a completed

See **COVID** on **A2**



PHOTOS BY JUSTIN LESSMAN

IN CONCERT

Above: Mackenzie Bass is all concentration during the sixth-grade band concert at the Jackson County Central Middle School last week. Left: Alex Pritchard and Riley Peterson lend their voices to the sixth-grade choir during last week's middle school concert in Lakefield. For more photos from the concert, see B8.



WEATHER

This week

Table with weather forecasts for Thursday through Wednesday, including conditions like 'Partly Cloudy' and 'Mostly Cloudy'.

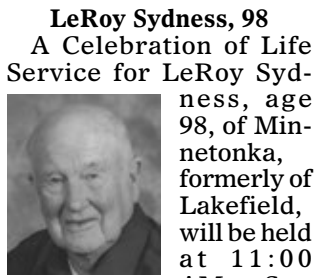
LAST WEEK

Table showing weather data for the last week, including dates from Tuesday, November 9 to Monday, November 15.

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DEATHS



LeRoy Sydness, 98 A Celebration of Life Service for LeRoy Sydness, age 98, of Minnetonka, formerly of Lakefield, will be held at 11:00 AM on Saturday, November 20th, at the LaCanne Family Funeral Home in Windom, with Pastor Paul Nelson officiating.

Funeral arrangements are under the care of the LaCanne Family Funeral Service in Windom. Memorials are preferred. Condolences and memories of LeRoy can be sent online to: www.lacannefuneralhome.com.

LeRoy Monroe Sydness, son of Roy and Mabel (Teig) Sydness, was born June 12, 1923, on the family farm in Jackson County, Minnesota. He was baptized and confirmed at Belmont Lutheran Church in rural Jackson.

LeRoy married Mildred Goede from Jackson on September 16, 1945, at the Methodist Church in Jackson, MN. LeRoy's primary time went to the family and the farm, in addition to being very involved in the community.

LeRoy passed away peacefully on Sunday, November 14th at his residence in Minnetonka, Minnesota. He was 98 years old. LeRoy is survived by four children, Alice Rasmussen of Waconia, MN, Janet Washington of Boston, MA, Kari (Mark) Anderson of Mooresville, NC, and Rebecca (David) Liebl of Eden Prairie, MN; eight grandchildren Jeffrey, James, Jeremy, Jonathan, and Jared Rasmussen, Ivy Kristin Washington, Ryan, and Eric Liebl; eight great-grandchildren Derek, Kristi, Kaitlyn, Corinne, Gretchen, Anna, and Jacob Rasmussen, Blake Anderson; a sister-in-law Gladys Marzahn of Burnsville, MN.

Board, was Director on the Jackson County DAC, and helped establish a home for special needs adults in Lakefield. He served on the Bethlehem Lutheran Church Council, taught Sunday School, was a member of the Crop Association, grew Certified Seed, and was Superintendent of Crops at the Jackson County Fair in 1953.

He retired from farming after 45 years in 1986 and then took a Carpentry Class at Jackson Vocational Technical School. He enjoyed making chests of drawers for his grandchildren along with many cribbage boards that his family still enjoys.

LeRoy was preceded in death by his parents, his wife Mildred, son Jon, grandson Christopher Anderson, sister Clarine Sporer, son-in-laws Jory Rasmussen, and Willie Washington. BLESSED BE HIS MEMORY. Jackson County Pilot November 18, 2021

DEATH NOTICE

Alice Herrig, 59

Alice Herrig, age 59, of Jackson, Minnesota, passed away at her residence, on Wednesday, November 10, 2021. A visitation will be held at Osterberg Funeral Home in Jackson, on Friday, November 19, 2021, from 3:00 to 4:30 p.m. with a prayer service at 4:30 p.m. led by Pastor Steve DeKok.

In lieu of flowers, memorials are preferred. Condolences may be sent to the family at www.OFH.care.

Jackson County Pilot November 18, 2021

COVID: Another lost

Continued from A1

vaccine series. As of this past Sunday, 164 locals between the ages of 12 and 15 had received at least one vaccine dose; 151 had received a completed vaccine series; 21 locals between the ages of 5 and 11 had received at least one dose.

Despite the increasing vaccination rates, the county remains behind the state as a whole in terms of percentages of residents vaccinated. As of this past Sunday, 68.1 percent of Minnesotans 5 years of age and older had received at least one dose of vaccine, while 63.9 percent had received a completed vaccine series.

percent fully vaccinated; 96 percent of Minnesotans 65 years or age or older have received at least one dose, with 92.7 percent fully vaccinated. Statewide, more than 174,000 people between the ages of 12 and 15 have received at least one dose; nearly 158,000 are fully vaccinated. More than 44,200 children between the ages of 5 and 11 have received at least one dose; 131 are fully vaccinated.

COVID-19 is a viral respiratory illness caused by a novel coronavirus first identified in late 2019. Since the first case of COVID-19 was reported in Minnesota on March 6, 2020, the state has notched nearly 858,000 cases of the illness and tallied more than 9,000 deaths.

NEW LOOK

Continued from A1

Justice statue, performed tuck-pointing and window repairs and did some additional masonry and painting work.

Lady Justice was replaced atop the dome late last month, and the scaffolding came down, bringing the nearly \$820,000 project to an end.

The courthouse was built in 1919 at a cost of \$117,435.22.

FINES

- State of Minnesota Alvarez Collazo, Xavier E., Windom, Speed \$140.00, Driving after revocation \$200.00. Ambrosio Santos, Verdugo M., Huron, S.D., Speed \$140.00, No Minnesota driver's license \$100.00. Beenken, Dustin J., Sibley, Iowa, Speed \$130.00. Boernsen, Kendall J., Hartley, Iowa, Speed \$130.00. Brian, Micsuihya S., Harrisburg, S.D., Speed \$140.00. Byrd, Marshall K., Sioux Falls, S.D., Speed \$130.00. Carlisle, Stephen R., Sparta, Wis., Speed \$130.00. Cox-Longchamps, Cynthia D., Sioux Falls, S.D., Speed \$130.00. Cumiskey, Evan W., Jackson, Speed \$130.00. Espinoza, Moses R., South Sioux City, Neb., Speed \$140.00. Freking, Alana M., Lakefield, Speed \$150.00. Gadisa, Tedros, F., Des Moines, Iowa, Speed \$130.00. Gaydon, Madalyn T., Blue Earth, Speed \$130.00. Geier, Skyler A., Rochester, Speed \$140.00. Geurtz, Erica J., Fairmont, Speed \$130.00. Gonzalez, Yael J., Madison, Wis., Possession of fraudulent driver's license \$290.00. Credit for time served: 3 days. Graham, Christopher L., West Bend, Wis., Speed \$140.00. Hanson, Dalton N., Windom, Speed \$130.00. Harris, Tershera, Rock Island, Ill., No Proof motor vehicle insurance \$290.00. Hart, Timothy M., Victoria, Speed \$140.00. Huddleston, Denise C., Algonquin, Ill., Excess speed in work zone \$390.00. Jenkins, Jeffrey L., Brewster, Unsecure load \$150.00. Knudten, Joseph L., Jackson, Speed \$140.00. Tires extending beyond fenders \$50.00, Window tint-medical exemption out of compliance \$50.00. Madrid, Jason C., Sioux Falls, S.D., Driving after suspension \$290.00, No insurance owner \$200.00, Seat belt required - driver and passengers must use \$25.00. Madsen, Sandra J., Okabena, Speed \$150.00. McCloud, Jack L., Egan, S.D., Seat belt required - driver and passengers must use \$115.00, Cracked windshield \$40.00. Musgier, Sheldon D., Elk River, Speed \$130.00.

- Myers, Harry C., Cottonwood, Calif., Hands-free law-engage in cellular phone or video call \$140.00. Nordean, Ross O., Minnetonka, Speed \$150.00. Ortiz Febres, Jonathan, Heron Lake, Speed \$150.00, Child Passenger restraint system - improperly worn/used \$50.00. Peters, Dean R., Marine On Saint Croix, Speed \$140.00, Driving after revocation \$200.00. Pout Neyail, Kong T., Des Moines, Iowa, Speed \$130.00. Roesier, Devin L., Jackson, Speed \$150.00. Ross, Billie J., Estherville, Iowa, Speed \$390.00. Ruiz Perez, Samuel, Wiconna, Miss., Speed \$230.00, No Minnesota driver's license \$100.00. Slotten, Craig L., Monticello, Wis., No motorcycle endorsement \$40.00, Display plates of another vehicle \$190.00. Solorzano Cervantes, Adrian, Byers, Colo., Leaking load \$50.00, Operated CMV without CDL that meets standards of State or jurisdiction of domicile, CMV - No current medical certificate in possession, Wrong class/no endorsement, \$190.00. No same or similar. Do not operate a motor vehicle without the correct endorsement. Steckler, Kevin J., Garretson, S.D., Speed \$390.00. Stevens, Caden J., Albert Lea, Speed \$130.00. Vrosh, Sarah L., Minneapolis, Speed \$150.00. Weeding, Jordan M., Loretto, Speed \$130.00. Jackson County Sheriff's Office. Cookes, Anthony D., Spirit Lake, Iowa, Driving without a valid license for vehicle class or type \$190.00. Etchason, Blake E., Jackson, Third degree driving while impaired, \$1,115.00. Credit for time served: 5 days. Complete Chemical Assessment and follow all recommendations. No mood-altering chemicals. Random testing. Attend MADD Impact Panel. Remain law-abiding and no other violations of the law. May have credit for up to \$200 of fine for out of pocket costs for assessment or treatment. Fisher Addison N., Lakefield, Speed \$150.00. Hicks, Justin A., Kansas City, Mo., Operate Motor vehicle under influence of alcohol. \$650.00. Credit for

time served: 1 day. Complete Chemical Assessment and follow recommendations. No mood-altering chemicals. Random testing. Attend MADD Impact Panel. Remain law-abiding. Holm, Zachary S., Jackson, Second degree driving while impaired with alcohol content 0.08 or more within 2 hours. \$715.00. Credit for time served: 4 days. Complete Chemical Assessment and follow recommendations including discharge report. No mood-altering chemicals. Random testing. Attend MADD Impact Panel. Remain law-abiding. Ingvall, Shane M., Estherville, Iowa, Third degree driving while impaired - test refusal. \$1,115.00. No alcohol/controlled substance use with the exception of prescribed medications. Random testing. Chemical dependency evaluation/treatment, follow recommendations. Attend MADD Impact Panel. Obey all laws. Pay a penalty assessment of \$1000.00. Lopez-Barolon, Cristian J., Worthington, Speed \$130.00. Lynn, Logan J., Jackson, Speed \$230.00, Expiration of drivers license - over 21 \$100.00. Martin, Robin L., Seattle, Wash., Speed \$130.00. Ramadoss, Vijayasanakar, Sioux Falls, S.D., Speed \$150.00. Schmidt, Barbara, Jackson, Speed \$130.00. Heron Lake Police Department. Haberman, Adrian W., Heron Lake, Speed \$150.00. Reyes-Ramirez, Lucia, Madelia, Damage to Property -3rd degree - public safety motor vehicle, Credit for time served: 20 days. \$590.00. Chemical dependency evaluation/treatment, follow recommendations. Psychological evaluation treatment. Sign releases of information as directed. No Alcohol/controlled substance use with the exception of prescribed medications. Random testing. Pay restitution, according to a certificate filed within 30 days. Remain law-abiding. Minnesota Department of Natural Resources. Brown, William B., Farmington, Enter WMA posted close to trespass; enter or use WMA during closed hours. \$240.00. Take or possess pheasants in closed season \$150.00.

SHERIFF'S REPORT

Suspension. Deputies responded to a domestic disturbance in rural Lakefield. After investigating, a 32-year-old male from Lakefield was arrested for probable-cause domestic assault. Nov. 7. Deputies responded to a domestic disturbance in the county. After investigating, a 40-year-old female was arrested for probable-cause domestic assault. Deputies responded to the Super 8 Motel in Jackson for a report of the odor of marijuana in a hallway. A deputy conducted a traffic stop on Highway 60 near Heron Lake. A 19-year-old driver from Sioux Falls, S.D., was cited for speed - 91 miles per hour in a 70-mph zone. A deputy conducted a traffic stop on I-90 at Jackson. After investigating, a 46-year-old female driver from Minnesota was arrested for fifth-degree controlled substance possession. Nov. 8. Deputies responded to a robbery in Jackson. Anthony Hemphill, 25, of Jackson was arrested and jailed on charges aggravated robbery, first-degree burglary, fifth-degree assault with two prior convictions, theft of a motor vehicle and fleeing a peace officer on foot. Hemphill appeared in court Nov. 10. Bail was set at \$150,000 with conditions, or \$400,000 without. Nov. 9. Deputies assisted the Jackson Ambulance with a medical call. A deputy responded to a trespass issue. Nov. 10. A deputy investigated a possible harassment restraining order violation. Deputies responded to a fatal motor vehicle accident on County Road 4 in the curves at the intersection of 430th Avenue. Lorraine Reimers, 85, from rural Lakefield, was travelling north on County Road 4 in a 2005 Buick Park Avenue. The vehicle entered the east ditch and sustained heavy damage. Reimers was pronounced dead at the scene. The Lakefield Ambulance, Lakefield Fire Department and Warmka Towing assisted at the scene. Deputies responded to a domestic disturbance in West Heron Lake Township. A deputy investigated a report of a non-sufficient-funds case at a Jackson business. A deputy responded to a neighbor dispute in Jackson. Nov. 11. A deputy transported a 43-year-old male from Reading from the Nobles County Jail to the Jackson County Jail for a warrant. The Jackson County warrant was issued for felony DUI. Deputies assisted the Heron Lake Police Department with a fraudulent case investigation.

A deputy conducted a traffic stop on County Road 34 west of Jackson. As a result, a citation was issued for speed. A deputy conducted a probation check in Jackson. As a result, a 59-year-old male from Jackson was arrested for a probation violation for failure to abstain. Deputies responded to a domestic disturbance in the county. Nov. 12. A deputy assisted the Minnesota State Patrol with a jackknifed semi on Highway 60 near Fortune Transportation. A deputy responded to a minor accident at the Jackson Post Office. Dispatch forwarded a report of another jackknifed semi on Highway 60 near Brewster. A deputy assisted the Minnesota State Patrol with a jackknifed semi on I-90 near Jackson. Dispatch forwarded a report of a semi off the road but partially blocking the right lane of Highway 60 west of Wilder. A deputy assisted the Minnesota State Patrol with a one-vehicle rollover on Highway 71 about two miles south of Windom. Minor injuries were reported. A deputy responded to a vehicle in the ditch on 790th Street near 520th Avenue. A deputy assisted the Minnesota State Patrol with a vehicle in the median on Highway 60 near Fortune Transportation. While the tow operator was tending to this vehicle, another vehicle traveling west on Highway 60 spun out and struck the rear of the tow truck causing damage that prevented it from towing the first vehicle from the median. A second tow truck had to be called to the scene to now tow two vehicles. Heavy damage was sustained by the vehicle that struck the rear of the tow truck. The Windom Fire Department had to be called to the scene to slow the traffic that was leaving the Windom city limits. A motorist on I-90 called 911 to report that a motorist was driving too slow in I-90. Deputies responded to a report of a straight truck that spun out on 550th Street near 830th Avenue that was blocking both lanes of traffic. A deputy overheard traffic of a three-vehicle accident on Highway 60 west of Windom. One of the vehicles left the scene and continued westbound. A deputy located the vehicle a short time later near Wilder. Witnesses reported there was only one occupant in this vehicle that left the scene. The deputy found the driver's seat empty and a male in the passenger's seat. When asked where the driver of the vehicle was, the passenger said he did not know. The passenger did not have a driver's license and, based on witness statements, was clearly the driver of the vehicle.

Jackson Cemetery Association. MONUMENT SALES. Hwy. 71 S., Jackson, MN 847-3623. This Newspaper is Recyclable.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Jackson-built applicator receives prestigious national recognition

The new Jackson-built Fendt Rogator 900 Series Applicator is the recipient of a prestigious AE50 Award from the American Society of Agricultural and Biological Engineers.

Each year, ASABE selects only 50 products from the agricultural, food and biological industries to recognize for remarkable innovation, significant engineering advancement and effect on their markets. In addition to the new Fendt Rogator, six other AGCO Corp. machines received the award.

“The AE50 Awards are among our industry’s highest achievements and AGCO is very proud to be honored again this year with ASABE’s recognition,” said Brad Arnold, senior vice president of product management at AGCO. “While these awards span multiple AGCO brands, they represent a singular dedication to the farmer-first focus that guides every brand and employee at AGCO. These high-quality, smart solutions are designed to provide exceptional outcomes for our customers and enable more sustainable, efficient, and profitable operations.”

The AE50 Award program is sponsored by Resource, the membership publication of ASABE, to emphasize the role of new and redesigned products and systems in bringing advanced technology to the marketplace. The awards will be presented during ASABE’s Agricultural Equipment Technology Conference in February 2022.

C & B Operations expands offering with recent Spirit Lake acquisitions

C & B Operations — a family-owned business that operates 37 John Deere dealerships in Minnesota, South Dakota, Montana, Wyoming, Iowa and Idaho, including in Jackson — has purchased Okoboji Indian and Okoboji Motorsports in Spirit Lake, Iowa.

Okoboji Motorsports offered Polaris off-road vehicles, including the RZR, Ranger, General and Sportsman; Polaris snowmobiles; the Sling-shot; and Genuine Scooters. Okoboji Indian exclusively offers the entire lineup of Indian Motorcycles. C & B Powersports will continue to offer all these products and will add John Deere compact tractors, lawn mowers, ZTrak mowers, Gators, compact tractors and utility tractors.

With the acquisition, Okoboji Motorsports and Okoboji Indian will undergo a name change in 2022 to become C & B Powersports. Peter Burwell, C & B’s chairman and CEO, said the new name reflects the mission of C & B, which is to exceed customers’ expectations by providing the highest quality products, parts, accessories, and customer support; to create an environment that provides all employees the opportunity to grow and contribute to the long-term success of the business; and to continually focus on sound business management to ensure the company’s continued presence in rural America for customers and communities in which they live.

“We are very excited about our new partnership with Polaris and Indian as we continue to bring brands with the highest levels of quality to our customers,” Burwell said. “We also believe that bringing John Deere turf and utility products to the Spirit Lake area demonstrates C & B’s commitment to that strategy.”

Local bank accepting applications for '21-'22 junior herdsman project

Local youngsters are encouraged to apply for the 2021-2022 junior herdsman project through Security State Bank of Jackson and Heron Lake.

Application deadline is Dec. 1.

Every year, Security State Bank selects two seventh- or eighth-grade recipients from each branch location to participate in its junior herdsman project. Each recipient receives five bred heifers to use until June of their senior year. Throughout the project, each participant will track and submit accurate records of expenses and income, as well as provide a summary of activities annually. At the conclusion of the term, recipients will return the equal value of the cattle.

Security State Bank began the junior herdsman project in 2013 and has since awarded more than 200 bred heifers to more than 40 recipients.

Those interested in applying for the junior herdsman project are encouraged to visit or call Security State Bank in Jackson or Heron Lake.

Downtown business is local outlet for tickets to Opry Christmas show

A downtown Jackson business is the local outlet for tickets to the 2021 Opry Christmas Jackson Style live musical extravaganza, which returns for its 12th year this December after taking last year off due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Tickets for reserved seating to the two Dec. 4 shows are available now at Colleen Anderson Insurance Agency on Jackson’s Main Street or by calling 847-3891 or 847-2009.

Prospective entrepreneurs invited to apply for '22 business challenge

Prospective entrepreneurs are encouraged to apply for the Jackson Business Challenge.

The challenge is a three-phase competition that seeks to attract new businesses to downtown Jackson by offering a prize package worth \$20,000. Applications for the 2022 Jackson Business Challenge will be accepted through Dec. 31.

The 2022 Jackson Business Challenge will follow the same guidelines as the 2019 and 2020 programs. The program aims to fill empty buildings in downtown Jackson and attract entrepreneurs to the community. The contest will consist of three rounds — business concept, detailed business plan and oral presentation.

Dave Schmidt, Jackson-based community and business development specialist with Community and Economic Development Associates, said the Jackson Business Challenge will look at the viability of applicants’ business plans, as well as how they will enhance downtown. Entrepreneurs and current business owners in and out of Jackson are encouraged to apply. Complete details and applications are available online at cityofjacksonmn.com/jbc.

Jackson man faces charges in connection with alleged robbery

by JUSTIN R. LESSMAN
Publisher

A Jackson man faces a litany of criminal charges after allegedly breaking into the apartment of an 84-year-old local woman, taping her mouth shut and wrists together and stealing money and her car prior to being apprehended by authorities following a brief chase.

Anthony Hemphill, 25, was arrested Nov. 8 on charges of aggravated robbery, first-degree burglary, fifth-degree assault with two prior convictions, theft of a motor vehicle and fleeing a peace officer on foot. Hemphill appeared in court last Wednesday morning. Bail was set at \$150,000 with conditions, or \$400,000 without conditions.

Jackson County Sheriff

Shawn Haken said deputies responded to a report of a robbery at around 10:30 a.m. Monday. An 84-year-old female reported a male forced his way into her apartment. Once inside, the male allegedly taped her mouth shut, taped her wrists together and stole her cellphone and \$60 in cash from her purse. The male suspect allegedly told her not to scream and that he was not going to hurt her, but the victim stated she was screaming for help the entire time anyway. The suspect also allegedly took her vehicle keys from inside the apartment and stole her 2009 Chevrolet Impala, which was parked in the parking lot.

Haken said the victim reported she was able to cut the tape off her wrists, remove the tape from her mouth and call 911.

Haken said a few minutes later, a state trooper observed the 2009 Impala parked at the Family Dollar store in Jackson. A male matching the description of the robbery suspect exited the store and entered the stolen vehicle. The trooper initiated a traffic stop on the vehicle, which had moved only a few feet in the parking lot. There was a brief conversation between the driver and the trooper. The driver then reportedly fled on foot to the north of the Family Dollar store continuing into the Circle Drive area of Jackson where the trooper lost sight of the male.

Haken said a perimeter was set up by multiple deputies and residents in the area were informed of the situation. About an hour into the search for

the male, the sheriff said, a resident on Circle Drive called 911 and reported seeing a male matching the description of the robbery suspect crawl out from under the deck of a neighboring residence on Circle Drive. A nearby deputy reportedly observed the same male then crawl under a pickup in the driveway at the same residence described in the 911 call. The vehicle was then surrounded, and the male was arrested. The neighborhood was informed of the arrest and that the public safety threat no longer existed.

In addition to the Minnesota State Patrol, the sheriff’s office was assisted by the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources and the Windom Police Department K-9 Unit.

DEADLY: A dangerous week on local roads

Continued from A1

vehicle collision just south of the Minnesota state line shortly before 11:30 a.m. on Nov. 6.

The crash took place at the intersection of Highway 71 and A15/120th Street in Dickinson County, about two miles south of the Minnesota-Iowa border.

According to results of an investigation conducted by the Iowa State Patrol, Nelson was driving a 2008 Hyundai Accent eastbound on A15/120th Street while Allen Weinzetl, 63, of Jackson was driving a 2011 GMC Sierra southbound on Highway 71. Troopers say Nelson failed to stop at the posted stop sign, and the Sierra collided with the driver’s side of the Accent. Both vehicles ended up in the ditch southeast of the intersection. Weinzetl sustained injuries in the crash, as did 6- and 5-year-old juvenile passengers from Jackson and Teresa Chonko, 58, of Jackson, who was also a passenger in one of the vehicles.

Troopers said all but Chonko were wearing seat belts at the time of the crash. They added the 6- and 5-year-old, along with Weinzetl, were saved because of their seat belts.

The Jackson County Sheriff’s Office and Dickinson County, Iowa, Sheriff’s Office assisted at the scene.

One-vehicle rollover

Two people were injured in a one-vehicle rollover in northern Jackson County shortly before noon this past Friday.

Sarah Hitchcock, 51 of Spencer, Iowa, and Ashley L. Parada, 23, both sustained what troopers with the Minnesota State Patrol termed “non-life-threatening” injuries when the vehicle in which they were traveling left a snowy and icy Highway 71 near milepost 25 in Christiania Township and rolled into the ditch.

According to results of an investigation conducted by the Minnesota State Patrol, Hitchcock was driving a 2007 Toyota RAV4 southbound on Highway 71 when the rollover occurred. Parada was a passenger in the vehicle, as was Christopher J. Hitchcock, 26, of Jackson, who was uninjured. Sarah Hitchcock and Parada were treated for their injuries at the Windom Area Hospital. Troopers said all three were wearing seat belts.

The Jackson County Sheriff’s Office, Cottonwood County Sheriff’s Office, Windom Police Department and Windom Ambulance Service assisted at the scene.

A tough turn

A Jackson woman was injured in a two-vehicle collision just north of the Jackson County line shortly before 2 p.m. last Thursday.

Judy A. Cihak, 74, sustained what troopers termed “non-life-threatening” injuries when the vehicle she was driving collided with another at the intersection of Highways 60 and 71 in Windom.

According to troopers, Cihak was westbound on

Highway 60 in a 2018 Ford Escape attempting to turn left onto Highway 71 when the vehicle collided with a 2015 Chevrolet Silverado pickup being driven eastbound on Highway 60 by Richard C. Andersen, 55, of Watertown.

Cihak was treated for her injuries at Windom Area Hospital. Andersen was uninjured. Troopers said both were wearing seat belts at the time of the collision.

The Cottonwood County Sheriff’s Office, Windom Police Department, Windom Fire Department and Windom Ambulance Service assisted at the scene.

Semi vs. pickup

Three people were injured in a semi-pickup crash on Highway 60 near Heron Lake at around 1:40 p.m. on Monday.

Kevin L. Bates, 45, of Le Mars, Iowa, along with Brett G. Jaspersen, 35, of Canby and Katelyn M. Ulrich, 21, of Lafayette, sustained what troopers with the Minnesota State Patrol termed “non-life-threatening” injuries in the crash, which happened at milepost 28 near the intersection of Highway 60 and County Road 24.

According to results of an investigation conducted by the state patrol, Bates was eastbound on Highway 60 in a 2019 Kenworth semi when it collided with an eastbound 2014 Chevrolet Silverado pulling a trailer. Bates, Jaspersen and Ulrich were treated for injuries at Windom Area Hospital. The driver of the Silverado, a 17-year-old female, was uninjured. Troopers said all but Jaspersen were wearing seat belts at the time of the

Things take turn for the worse — and the weird — as wintry weather hits

The county’s first taste of winter weather last week spawned a flurry of motor-vehicle crashes — some of which bordered on the bizarre.

Semis had a tough go of it this past Friday morning, as deputies with the Jackson County Sheriff’s Office and troopers with the Minnesota State Patrol were kept busy responding to reports of jackknifed rigs — three on Highway 60 and another on Interstate 90 near Jackson. Passenger vehicles didn’t fare much better, with a one-vehicle rollover reported on Highway 71 north of Jackson shortly before noon, and another vehicle in the ditch just west of Jackson shortly after noon.

Things took a turn for the worse — and weird — in the afternoon.

At around 12:40 p.m., a local sheriff’s deputy assisted the state patrol with a vehicle in the median on Highway 60 southwest of Windom. While the tow truck operator was tending to this vehicle, another vehicle traveling west on Highway 60 spun out and struck the rear of the tow truck, causing damage that prevented it from towing the first vehicle from the median. A second tow truck had to be called to the scene to now tow two vehicles. The Windom Fire Department had to be called to the scene to slow the traffic leaving Windom city limits.

Shortly after 2:20 p.m., a local deputy overheard word of a three-vehicle accident on Highway 60 west of Windom. One of the vehicles reportedly left the scene and continued westbound. A deputy located the vehicle a short time later near Wilder. The deputy found the driver’s seat empty and a male in the passenger’s seat. When asked where the driver of the vehicle was, the passenger said he did not know. The passenger did not have a driver’s license. Based on witness statements indicating the fleeing vehicle had only one occupant, the deputy decided the passenger was clearly the driver of the vehicle.

And then, at around 3:40 p.m., a deputy assisted the Minnesota State Patrol with a report of two vehicles in the ditch on Highway 60 west of Windom. A caller reported to Jackson dispatch an aggressive driver passed a vehicle and then spun out into the ditch. The vehicle that was passed also spun out and ended up in the ditch. While a tow truck was attempting to remove those vehicles, a third vehicle approached the scene coming from Windom and spun out, doing a 360, which was witnessed by the deputy. That vehicle came to rest partially in the median and nearly hit the back end of a parked state patrol squad car that was trying to slow traffic for the tow operator. It also needed to be towed from the median.

crash.

The Jackson County Sheriff’s Office, Heron Lake Police Department, Heron Lake Fire Depart-

ment, Heron Lake Ambulance Service and Windom Ambulance Service assisted at the scene.



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OPINION



PILOT EDITORIAL

Do your part to keep yourself, and others, as safe as possible

Things aren't looking good as we enter the most dangerous driving season of the year.

The days are getting shorter, the deer are getting bolder and the weather is getting colder. Visibility is reduced, potential hazards are many and road conditions can go from good to bad in a matter of seconds.

The view in our rearview mirror as we stand on this precipice of change is not great. A flurry of motor-vehicle crashes in and around Jackson County over the last week killed three locals and injured 10 others. The worst of the crashes happened in broad daylight, did not involve deer and — with the exception of one — took place on dry roadways.

Unfortunately, the story is similar across the state, nation and even world. Minnesota is currently on pace to record the most traffic deaths since 2007. The number of motor-vehicle crashes across the country and world is also up in 2021, resulting in more injuries and deaths, many due to excessive speed and lack of seat belt use.

We can't change what happens around the world, across the country, throughout the state or even among our friends and neighbors right here in Jackson County. But we can all make sure to do our parts to help keep ourselves and others as safe as possible as we travel.

Buckle up. Drive at safe speeds. Pay attention. Drive sober.

Take extra care at night, at dusk and dawn and when wintry weather hits.

Be safe out there. Please.

Value our freedom and liberties

Most books we read are easily forgotten and, if not, nonetheless have no great effect upon our person or views. A few, which we read in moments of vulnerability or out of interest, stick with us and have a great effect on our ways of thinking.

I wish I had read Alexander Solzhenitsyn's "The Gulag Archipelago" earlier — much earlier — than I did. I just picked it up and am only partway through the first volume (there are three, with a total length of more than 2,000 pages). It has provided a great deal of food for thought especially given the times in which we find ourselves.

Many people on the far left and far right tacitly assume societies with more powerful governments have greater social solidarity and less

loneliness, that plague of modernity. Right-wing admiration for nationalist regimes like that of Hungary and leftist admiration for socialist countries like Cuba both illustrate this fact. And why not? Authoritarian countries are awash with propaganda saying as much. And we Americans believe it far more than do the people living under those regimes. There were more devoted Marxists in the average American university faculty lounge than in any Soviet village throughout the history of that country — and there is good reason for that.

Throughout his work, Solzhenitsyn not only shows us the sheer suffering experienced by those who lived through the gulags, but also the psychological misery and social rot that permeated the whole of

society during the Stalin era. In an authoritarian or totalitarian country, nobody knows who's an informer and the slightest faux pas might serve as cause for a trip to the labor camps. People, thus, have to lie about everything, because to tell the truth about anything — even their own thoughts to their own families — might mean their destruction. And so, in any society like this, those who rise to power are those who either truly believe all the lies (fanatics) or have simply mastered the art of lying and backstabbing most effectively (cynics).

What lessons does "The Gulag Archipelago" have to teach us? I think one good takeaway is it is freedom and liberty both individual and collective we must value most. The freedom to say what you wish, go where you wish

and live without fear of a sharp knock on your door is the greatest treasure we as Americans have. Solzhenitsyn shows what happens when a society devalues freedom for other values. A nation that sacrifices freedom for equality or safety will end up oligarchic rather than egalitarian and dangerous for every citizen living under its banner.

It's a lesson worth remembering.



We all must play our parts in ensuring safe responses at vehicle collisions

Question: I heard something about "Crash Responder Safety Week." Can you provide more information about that?

Answer: Crash Responder Safety Week ran Nov. 8-14. The goal was to reach out to all emergency responders, drivers and passengers to educate them in how to play their parts in ensuring safe responses at crash scenes. Crash scenes can be dangerous, and it's in everyone's best interest — from emergency responders to passing motorists — to have the scene cleared quickly and safely.

Whether you are responding to a crash, involved in a crash or passing by a crash, we all need to do our part to be sure that everyone makes it home safely.

For those working on or along the road, wear

your high visibility vest or apparel, implement traffic control, work in the shadow of the blocking vehicle, never turn your back to traffic and maintain situational awareness.

For those of you behind the wheel, slow down and move over. Your life and the lives of others depend on it.

The days are getting shorter and the nights longer as we approach winter, but throughout the year this has been a dark year when it comes to traffic deaths on Minnesota roads. We've surpassed 415 deaths on our roads and are on pace to have the most fatalities since 2007. The numbers aren't just statistics. Each of those deaths represents someone who is a spouse, a child, a brother, sister, friend, coworker and neighbor. Lives are

forever shattered by their loss. For employers, crash fatalities and serious injuries mean not only the loss of a friend and colleague, but of loss of valued talent and expertise.

We're not alone here in Minnesota. Across the United States and even around the world, we've seen a startling increase in traffic crashes, resulting in injuries and fatalities, particularly due to excessive speed and lack of seat belt use.

Help keep emergency responders safe and help keep yourself and other motorists safe. Don't become a statistic. You are important — to your families, friends, colleagues and everyone. If you drive, your time on the road is the most dangerous part of your day.

You can avoid a ticket

— and a crash — if you simply buckle up, drive at safe speeds, pay attention and always drive sober.

If you have any questions concerning traffic-related laws or issues in Minnesota, send your questions to Sgt. Troy Christianson, Minnesota State Patrol, at 2900 48th St. NW; Rochester, MN 55901-5848. Or reach him at Troy.Christianson@state.mn.us.



READERS WRITE

Not connecting the dots

To the editor:

I'd like to respond to Tamera Engbarth's Nov. 11 letter regarding the COVID-19 vaccine.

I don't understand why she brings up Robert Willner and AZT in an anti-vaccination letter. AZT was found to curtail the DNA of viruses and was used decades ago in the hope of curtailing the DNA of the HIV/AIDS virus. It was what they had to work with at the time. It was just the start of finding the combination of drugs that now, decades later, allow people with HIV to survive

and live longer and better. Willner was stripped of his medical license because he prescribed treatments that were not proven or had not been tested.

And then she brings up Anthony Fauci, and declares he is a criminal.

And then she declares there is no flu or colds today, just COVID-19 and its variants.

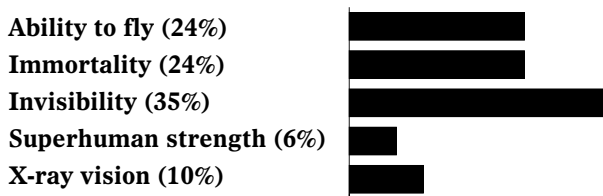
And then she declares she knows what God is going to do.

I wonder how.

Rosemary Schaffer
Windom

LAST WEEK'S ONLINE POLL

Q: If you could pick a superpower, which would you choose?



Source: Jackson County Pilot Website

THIS WEEK'S ONLINE POLL

Q: Cranberries with your turkey?

Vote online at jacksoncountypilot.com.

<p>U.S. Sen. Tina Smith 720 Hart Senate Office Building Washington, DC 20510 (202) 224-5641</p>	<p>State Sen. Julie Rosen 95 University Ave. W. Minnesota Senate Bldg, Room 2113 St. Paul, MN 55155 (651) 296-5713 sen.julie.rosen@senate.mn</p>	<p>State Rep. Rod Hamilton 277 State Office Building St. Paul, MN 55155 (651) 296-5373 rep.rod.hamilton@house.mn</p>
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		<p>State Rep. Bjorn Olson 375 State Office Building St. Paul, MN 55155 (651) 296-3240 rep.bjorn.olson@house.mn</p>

CONTACT YOUR REPRESENTATIVES

EDITORIAL POLICY

The Jackson County Pilot welcomes letters to the editor. Letters must include the writer's name, as well as address and phone number for verification purposes. Letters should be brief, up to 300 words. The editor reserves the right to determine whether material submitted for publication shall be printed and the right to edit as needed. Submit letters in person at the Jackson County Pilot office, mail them to 310 Second St. in Jackson or email them to editor@livewireprinting.com The deadline for letters is Monday noon. All submissions become the property of the Jackson County Pilot and may be published or otherwise used in any medium.

<p>JACKSON COUNTY PILOT 310 Second Street • Jackson, MN (507) 847-3771 • jacksoncountypilot.com Published Weekly on Thursday USPS 271880 Periodicals postage paid at Jackson, Minnesota</p>	<p>— OPINIONS —</p> <p>The Jackson County Pilot welcomes letters to the editor. Letters must include the writer's name, as well as address and phone number for verification purposes. Letters should be brief, up to 300 words. The editor reserves the right to determine whether material submitted for publication shall be printed and the right to edit as needed. Submit letters in person at the Jackson County Pilot office, mail them to 310 Second St. in Jackson or email them to editor@livewireprinting.com The deadline for letters is Monday noon. All submissions become the property of the Jackson County Pilot and may be published or otherwise used in any medium.</p>	<p>— PILOT STAFF —</p> <p>Justin R. Lessman justin@livewireprinting.com Publisher Dan Condon danc@livewireprinting.com Sports Editor Joshua Schuetz joshuas@livewireprinting.com Staff Writer</p>
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JACKSON COUNTY PILOT

News from years gone by

10 years ago
Nov. 24, 2011

Tea it up for health
Dec. 5

Supporting a healthy Jackson community is as simple as sitting down for tea this Christmas season.

The Jackson Health Care Foundation will host its sixth — and final — Christmas Tea fundraiser Dec. 5 at the Jackson Golf Course. Tickets are available for seatings at noon and 6 p.m.

Mary Ruyter, Sanford Jackson Medical Center CEO, encourages both those who have faithfully attended and those who have never been to come to tea.

Rate increase, capital credit payout top Federated agenda

Despite a rare rate increase that will take effect Jan. 1, 2012, Jackson-based federated Rural Electric still boasts some of the lowest-cost electricity in the nation and today is in a position to not only better serve its customers, but also to return nearly a half-million dollars in capital credits to them.

Obituaries: Annette L. Sowles, Marilyn "Mary" Fae Kielblock

20 years ago
Nov. 22, 2001

Staffing shortage affecting JMC

The lack of a surgeon and the shortage of one physician are beginning to take their toll on the Jackson Medical Center.

Since Craig Malvey's departure in August and the loss of a surgeon a few months ago, JMC's patient numbers have continued to lag behind last year's census.

But there's hope. At the regular meeting of the JMC Hospital Board, CEO David Hove reported the outlook for the facility is good, with family practitioner Amir Awan set to join JMC in February and a Fairmont surgeon possibly beginning duties in Jackson in the next few weeks.

'Christmas is for Kids' kicks off giving campaign

The "Christmas is for Kids" campaign, organized by Stella Garber and Joyce Beseke, is now under way for the 2001 holiday season.

Gifts are needed for infants through age 14, both boys and girls.

Obituaries: Bettymarie D. Stearns, Frances A. Aschman, David G. Roben, Etta E. Zweifel

30 years ago
Nov. 21, 1991

County farmer among the best

Adrian Schumacher of Heron Lake is tops in his field.

The 21-year-old farmer was named American Star in Agribusiness at the 64th National FFA Convention in Kansas City, Mo., last week. He received a \$2,000 cash award and will participate in an international agricultural experience program in Europe for achieving one of FFA's top honors.

County well on its way to reaching recycling goals

Jackson County's mandatory recycling program is well along in its goal to reduce solid waste.

The amount of waste that otherwise could have had to be landfilled was cut by 18 percent last year, according to the county's first report to the state on local recycling efforts.

The report covers the period from July 1, 1990, through this past June 30 — and came during the time when mandatory recycling programs were launched by the county and several communities, including the city of Jackson.

Obituaries: Herman Knutson, Robert Brennan, Bertha Halsten

40 years ago
Nov. 19, 1981

School and pool dedication is Sunday

For three hours on Sunday the Jackson community will celebrate the dedication of its newest facilities, the high school and attached swimming pool.

The more formal portion of the celebration will begin at 2 p.m. in the high school gymnasium. The dedication program will be less than an hour and consist of remarks by the mayor, chairman of the school board and Minnesota Commissioner of Education John Feda, as well as others.

Concerns surface at Good Sam

Local state Rep. George Mann, DFL-Windom, met with Bill Brown, administrator of the Good Samaritan Home, last Thursday.

The meeting provided an opportunity to discuss concerns the home might have and to update legislation affecting nursing homes.

Obituaries: Lucille Moeller, Charlotte Vos, Henry O. Lee

50 years ago
Nov. 17, 1971

JHS senior band concert Friday night

The 68-piece concert band of Jackson High School will present its first concert of the season Friday at 8 p.m. in the high school auditorium.

The band will perform music of a lighter nature at this concert. Numbers to be performed include, "Motown Portrait," "The Now Explosion" and "Bridging the Gap."

Group sends 1.5 tons of glass to Shakopee

One-and-one-half tons of glass was trucked to Shakopee last Saturday by the A.W.A.R.E. group of Jackson.

John Cirhan, driving a truck donated by the city, made the delivery.

Obituaries: Catherine Hassing, William Musegades, Howard Leach, Margaret Leach

Area faith and worship schedule

Belmont Lutheran Church
Rural Lakefield,
Pastor: Eunice Woodberry
Sunday, Nov. 21: 10:30 a.m.
Worship Service
Wednesday, Nov. 24: No activities
Call the church office for updates or leave a message for the pastor. Join us for worship on our Facebook page.

Bethlehem Lutheran Church
401 7th Ave. N., Lakefield
Pastor: Andrew Schensted
Saturday, Nov. 20: 12 noon
First Communion Day Session - Fall
Sunday, Nov. 21: 9:15 a.m. Sunday School; 10:30 a.m. Worship Service with First Communion

Church of the Good Shepherd
311 Sverdrup, 847-2504
Fr. Jonathan Fasnacht - Pastor
Thursday, Nov. 18: 8:30 a.m. Mass, St. Joseph, Lakefield
Friday, Nov. 19: 8:30 a.m. Mass, Good Shepherd, Jackson
Saturday, Nov. 20: No Mass, Good Shepherd, Jackson; 5 p.m. Mass, St. Joseph, Lakefield
Sunday, Nov. 21: 8:30 a.m. Mass, Good Shepherd, Jackson; 10:30 a.m. Mass, St. Luke, Sherburn
Please join us 20 minutes before Mass to say the Rosary

First Baptist Church
921 Hills Ave., 847-2369
Pastor: Nathan Janzen
Youth & Family Pastor: Thor Kurtz
Thursday, Nov. 18: 4:30 p.m., Elder Led Prayer Group
Sunday, Nov. 21: 9 a.m. Upper Room Prayer/Worship Service; 10 a.m. Grateful Hearts Worship Service, no Children's Church; 11:30 a.m. Grateful Hearts Meal; 4 p.m., LeMay Connect Group
Wednesday, Nov. 24: 1 p.m. Release Time
Thursday, Nov. 25: 4:30 p.m. Elder Led Prayer Group

Grace Lutheran Church
Spirit Lake, 712-336-2446
Thursday, Nov. 18: Grace to Go online
Saturday, Nov. 20: 4 p.m. Worship Service

Sunday, Nov. 21: 10 a.m. Worship Service In-Person and Facebook Live
Tuesday, Nov. 23: 7 p.m. Thanksgiving Eve - Eve Service
Messages may be heard at our website: gracelutheranspiritlake.org. All services can be viewed Facebook Live or YouTube.com until further notice.

Salem Lutheran Church
500 N. Hwy., 847-3861
Pastor: Eunice Woodberry
Sunday, Nov. 21: 9 a.m. & 6:30 p.m. Worship Service
Monday, Nov. 22: 4 p.m. Bible Study; 9 p.m. Bible Study via Zoom
Wednesday, Nov. 24: No activities. 5:30 p.m. Thanksgiving Eve Worship Service
Call the church office for updates or leave a message for the pastor. Join us for worship on our Facebook page.

Our Redeemer Lutheran Church
101 Kimball Ave., 847-3693
Pastor: John Schuetz
Sunday, Nov. 21: 9 a.m. Worship Service; 8:30 a.m. LLL Pie Sale/Silent Auction; 10:15 a.m. Education Hour
Monday, Nov. 22: 12 noon December Newsletter Deadline; 3:45 p.m. Confirmation (7/8)
Tuesday, Nov. 23: 8:30 a.m. Quilting Workshop
Wednesday, Nov. 24: 6:30 p.m. Thanksgiving Eve Worship Service with Holy Communion
Worship services streamed at 9 a.m. on our Facebook page.

Our Savior's Lutheran Church
614 Logan, 847-2856
Thursday, Nov. 18: 8 a.m., Men's Study; 1-7 p.m., Blood Drive; 2 p.m., Martha Circle - Pines
Saturday, Nov. 20: 5 p.m. Worship Service with Holy Communion
Sunday, Nov. 21: 8:30 a.m. Worship Service with Holy Communion and on KKOJ 1190 AM; 9:30 a.m. Congregation Forum
Tuesday, Nov. 23: 8 a.m., Women's Bible Study
Thursday, Nov. 25: 10:30 a.m. Community Thanksgiving Worship Service; 11:30 a.m. Community Thanksgiving Dinner

Worship will be streamed via Facebook & Twitter at 8:30 a.m. on Sundays or you can listen on KKOJ 97.7 FM/1190 AM.

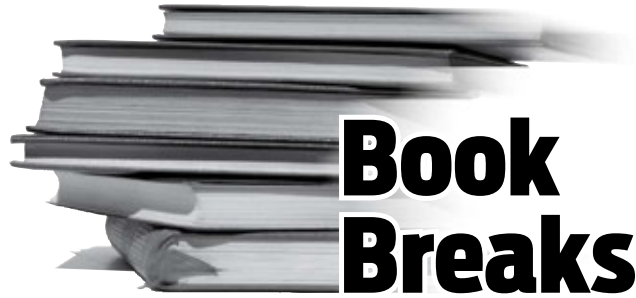
Trinity Ev. Lutheran Church
Sioux Valley, 839-3086
Pastor: Pastor Jacobsen
Thursday, Nov. 18: 12 noon Newsletter Deadline; 1 p.m. LWML at Trinity; 6 p.m. Evening Circle at Trinity
Friday, Nov. 19 to Sunday, Nov. 21: IDW SYG at Des Moines
Sunday, Nov. 21: 9 a.m. Divine Service at Trinity; 10:15 a.m. Sunday School at Trinity; 10 a.m. Sunday School at Concordia; 10:45 a.m. Divine Service at Concordia; 5:30 p.m. Confirmation at Trinity
Pastor Jacobsen is doing live Bible Study Devotions on Facebook weekday mornings at 9 a.m. They will also be available for viewing afterwards at any time there or also on our YouTube site.

Trinity Lutheran Church
Alpha, 236-7165
Pastor: Rick Bremseth
Sunday, Nov. 21: 9 a.m. Fellowship; 10:15 a.m. Worship Service
Live stream videos and links can be found on Trinity's live stream page.

Union State Line Lutheran Church
Petersburg, 847-2068
Pastor: Nancy Isaacson
Sunday, Nov. 21: 9:30 a.m. Sunday School; 10:45 a.m. Worship Service
Holy Communion is celebrated on the first Sunday of the month.

United Methodist Church
900 North Highway, 847-2681
Pastor: Russ Steele
Sunday, Nov. 21: 10:30 a.m. Worship Service; 6 p.m., Embrace Jackson
Monday, Nov. 22: Pastor Russ in Jackson
Tuesday, Nov. 23: Pastor Russ in Lakefield.
Wednesday, Nov. 24: Pastor Russ in Jackson. 10 a.m. Bible Study; 6 p.m. Youth Group

<p>Osterberg Funeral Homes Jackson 507-847-3300 Lakefield 507-662-6464</p>	<p>ASA AUTO PLAZA Your hometown family dealer 507-847-3153 800-788-6415 Hwy. 71 North, Jackson, MN www.kemna.com</p>	<p>The power of a truthful witness</p> <p>As Jesus, the resurrected Messiah, went to heaven, he appointed an unlikely group of people as his witnesses. The religious leaders of Jerusalem recognized "they were uneducated and untrained men" (Acts 4:13). But to their surprise, they "observed their confidence ... and were amazed, and began to recognize them as have been with Jesus."</p> <p>The powerful effect these men had has changed our world today. What made the difference? Jesus had promised, "You will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses..." (Acts 1:8). They were not merely passing on their own version of history or their worldview of preference. They were filled with the Holy Spirit, whom Jesus also called "the Spirit of Truth" that would "convict the world" and "guide you into all the truth" (John 16:8, 13). As they were commanded and threatened not to speak any longer to any man in Jesus' name they replied, "We cannot stop speaking about what we have seen and heard" (Acts 4:20). They understood there was an enemy out to silence the truth, hide the Messiah and hinder the message of forgiveness, life and hope found in the person and work of Jesus. They knew it was God's plan for Jesus to face extreme opposition, and to be crucified and resurrected. It was also his plan to raise up witnesses to carry this message to the ends of the earth. And it was his power that would go with them to convict, enlighten, empower and transform lives of all who would believe in Jesus the crucified and risen Savior.</p> <p>"There is salvation in no one else." Trust in him and don't be afraid to humbly, but confidently, proclaim the truth.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Nathan Janzen Pastor, First Baptist Church of Jackson</p>	<p>Only Lawn Care & Landscaping Jackson, MN 847-2613</p>	<p>Jackson Sports, LLC Industrial Parkway Jackson, Minnesota 507-847-3977 • 1-888-299-8151</p> <p>POLARIS Think Outside</p>
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Book Breaks

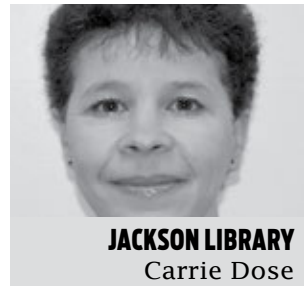
HOLIDAY FEST GINGERBREAD HOUSE CONTEST
The Jackson library, Friends of the Jackson County Library and the Jackson Area Chamber of Commerce are hosting a Gingerbread House Contest during Holiday Fest. Entries will be accepted at the Jackson library beginning Monday, Nov. 29, and will be accepted through Friday, Dec. 3, at p.m. Voting by the public will take place on Saturday, Dec. 4, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Jackson library. Prizes will be awarded in six age categories — preschool, kindergarten through second grade, third through fifth grade, sixth through eighth grade, ninth through 12th grade and adult. Make plans to stop in the library and vote as part of your plans for Holiday Fest on Saturday, Dec. 4!

SHARING TREE
Share the holiday spirit with those in need. Stop in the library and choose a tag with a child's request off of the sharing tree. Purchase the wish item for the child and bring the unwrapped gift back to the library on or before Dec. 8. Make this holiday merry for a child in the community! This project is sponsored by United Community Action Partnership.

READING BUDDIES NEEDED
The library is looking for volunteers who are willing to commit a half-

to one hour of time per week reading with an elementary-age student as part of a reading buddies program offered to interested second- and third-grade students. You will be paired up with the student and will meet at the library one time per week. The child will read to you or you can share reading. Many of the students are working toward their Accelerated Reading goals. All ages of volunteers are welcome, from eighth grade on up. This is a great opportunity for high school students to get some community service volunteer hours. Substitute readers are also needed. The program will run from January through May 2022. If interested or for more information, please call Carrie Dose at the library at 847-4748.

MONTHLY MOVIE EVENT FOR ADULTS
The November adult monthly movie event will take place on Friday, Nov. 19, at 1 p.m. The November movie being shown is "Murder on the Orient Express." The movie — starring Kenneth Branagh, Penelope Cruz and Willem Dafoe — is the story of Hercule Poirot, the best detective in the world, who decides to travel on the Orient Express. The train accidentally gets stopped because of a small avalanche. Little did he know a murder was planned and that a person on this train was capable of committing such crime. Popcorn will



JACKSON LIBRARY
Carrie Dose

be served. Registration is not needed.

BEDTIME STORY HOUR
A bedtime story hour event will take place on Thursday, Dec. 9, at 6:15 p.m. in the library meeting room. Children and families are welcome to attend. The story hour will feature stories, rhymes, music, a craft and a snack. Children may come in pajamas with their favorite bedtime buddy or blanket. Registration is requested. Call 847-4748.

LITTLE TYKES STORYTIME
Little Tykes Storytime takes place Mondays from 10 to 10:45 a.m. Story time features theme-based stories, fingerplays, music, dance, games, play and a craft. Toddlers and preschool children are welcome. This is a great opportunity for social interaction, as well as experiencing some early literacy skills. Registration is requested for first-time attendance. Call 847-4748 to register or for more information.

BOOK DISCUSSION
"The Nickel Boys" by Colson Whitehead will be discussed on Monday, Dec. 20, from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. in the library meeting room. This is a great opportunity to get out and meet new people and have fun discussing a book. Call the library at 847-4748 to reserve a copy of the book.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

JHS CLASS OF 1970

Members of the Jackson High School Class of 1970 gather for their 51-year class reunion earlier this fall at the Jackson Golf Club. Classmates on hand include (front, from left): Tim Petrick, Marilyn (Vacura) Gilman, Bev (Oskerson) Holmgren, Cheryl (Viet) Brooks, Mary (Simmons) Gregware and Jane (Wolf) Kimball. Middle: Dale Schley, Ed Willett, Ilene (Bute) Ruskell, Jean (Resch) Hintz, Martha (Herman) Cummings, Pam Jensen, Linda (Bunderle) Bennett, Patty (Carter) Sandbo, Randy Sparks, Loretta Felber and Kathy (Slinger) Vrchota. Back: Dave Hepp, Tim Skarda, Marcia (Samp) Bahr, Jim Resch, Tim Tyrell, Dave Rosenbrook, Janet Florine, Steve Heaverlo, Wayne Walter, Cathy (Strube) Buxengard, Myles Opheim, Mike Christophel, Brent Chozen, Nick Veverka, Cindy (Werner) Erickson, Betty (Koffron) Koehne, Allan Moffitt, Mary Jane (Krebs) Turnbull, Nancy (Hibma) Snedecker, Carol (Hansen) Bulfer, Craig Pavelko, Alan Erickson and Kelly Knutson.

Diggers discuss Christmas, bowling parties



The monthly meeting of the Delafield Diggers 4-H Club took place Sunday, Nov. 7, at 5:30 p.m. at St. Peter Lutheran Church. In new business, members discussed the December Christmas party and January bowling party. This meeting was the Halloween party for the club with a costume contest, party games and a potluck meal with all families. The food and nutrition talk was presented by Braden Yonker on the effects of drinking soda every day. The project talk was presented by Kenzie Johnson on the planter of succulents she took to the fair this past year. The next meeting will be on Dec. 5 at 5:30 p.m. at St. Peter Lutheran Church near Lakefield.

Ethan Koster, reporter

Livewires decorate Santa's House, make cards



The Middletown Livewires 4-H Club met for its monthly meeting on Sunday, Nov. 7. The club started at Santa's House near downtown Jackson to decorate it for the upcoming Christmas season. Then, it continued the meeting at Salem Lutheran Church in Jackson. The meeting was called to order by President Rachel Mohr. In unfinished business, the club discussed catering for the recognition banquet, as well as setup and takedown of the event. New business included discussion of the club bowling and pizza night. The club was reminded about 4-H sign up online, the Federation board meeting and the volunteer meeting update. Club members then made cards for veterans and troops in the military and had refreshments. The meeting was then adjourned.

Abigail Mohr, reporter



Birthday wishes and anniversary greetings go out to the following this week:
Nov. 18: Happy birthday to Nathan Herrig, Dustin Pronk, Matthew Ringkob, Spencer Fischer, Renee Bordwell. Anniversary wishes go to Jerrod and Cynthia Simons.
Nov. 19: Happy birthday to Bailee Fischer,

BIRTHDAYS • ANNIVERSARIES

Deb Buschena, Thor Kurtz, Jacob Hawn.
Nov. 20: Happy birthday to Kathy Fransen, Amanda Gay, Brandon Halverson. Anniversary wishes go to Lucas and Staci Beseke, Dennis and Debra Hampel, Jeff and Rhonda Stephens.
Nov. 21: Happy birthday to Molly Hunt, Chad Mekosch, Jessica Kluever, Karen Voss, Justin Warmka.
Nov. 22: Happy birthday to Ginger Streiff, Kenneth Kruse, Cassandra Scott, Jacob Stade, Levi Bannister, Natane

Sadusky, Steve Koehne, Joyce Groshens, Destiny Schley, Kyle Schley, Genesis Benjamin. Anniversary wishes go to Gregory and Megan Tusa.
Nov. 23: Happy birthday to Terry Hummel, Ron Thurmer, Carol Neal, Kasey Pronk, Stephanie Beranek. Anniversary wishes go to Bernie and Janice Stubbe.
Nov. 24: Happy birthday to Jeff Oldenberg, Greg Stevermer, Kirbee Mulder, Natalie Nelson, Judy Olsen, Landon McCormick.

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PHOTO BY JOSHUA SCHUETZ

Local farmer William Pell is featured in the latest edition of the Farm Market News, a regional ag publication reaching more than 18,500 rural households and businesses across the tri-state area.

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Local farmer featured in regional ag publication

A local farmer is featured in the latest edition of the Farm Market News, a regional ag publication reaching more than 18,500 rural homes and businesses across the tri-state area. William Pell is the subject of the Meet Your Neighbor feature in the Nov. 15 Farm Market News. In the article, the 20-year-old talks about his interest in agriculture, his education and his dream of farming full time in Jackson County. The Farm Market News is delivered free of charge to 18,700 rural homes and businesses across 15 counties in southern Minnesota, northern Iowa and eastern South Dakota and is available for free pickup at cafes and coffee shops throughout the coverage area. Extra copies are available for free pickup at the offices of Livewire Printing Co. in downtown Jackson and the Lakefield Standard in downtown Lakefield. The Farm Market News may also be read for free by article online at jacksoncountypilot.com and lakefieldstandard.com and in its entirety online at farmmarketnews.com.

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Jackson campus leading the way in system-wide energy-efficiency gains

The Jackson campus of Minnesota West Community and Technical College is leading the way in helping the colleges and universities of Minnesota State make significant gains in energy efficiency over the last decade.

Through strategic efficiency efforts, including energy-efficiency improvements to facilities and improvements in space utilization, the colleges and universities of Minnesota State were able to achieve an average reduction of energy use intensity of more than 19 percent per square foot between 2009 and 2020. Minnesota State operates 28.5 million square feet — the equivalent of 593 football fields — of classrooms, labs, offices, residence halls, athletic facilities and more.

“Minnesota State, and its board of trustees, are committed to principles of environmental sustainability in the operation of our campuses and their academic and student support programs,” said Devinder Malhotra, chancellor of Minnesota State. “We are proud of the progress our colleges and universities have made to improve energy-use efficiency and reduce carbon dioxide emissions, and we look forward to continuing our efforts to

do even more to protect Minnesota’s environment and natural resources.”

The reduction was achieved as a result of strategic efficiency efforts that have been ongoing since 2009. The strategies include the use of efficiency-related facilities planning guidelines, design and construction standards shaped by the Minnesota SB 2030 Energy Standard and B3 Guidelines and energy conservation and procurement procedures that strive to reduce dependence on fossil fuels and provide long-term stewardship of campus and community resources.

One example of a project that applied these strategies is the Powerline Technician Training Facility at the Jackson campus of MnWest, which achieved significant overall operational savings through a renovation of the existing facility. MnWest was recently recognized with the Best of B3 award for year-over-year energy savings at its Jackson campus, realizing a 7 percent overall energy reduction.

“Minnesota West has made substantial investments in all areas of energy efficiency, including geo-thermal heating and cooling systems on two of our campuses, LED

lighting retrofits both indoors and outdoors on all campuses, along with ongoing building automation systems maintenance and upgrades to allow us the ability to schedule all components of our systems to be scheduled on and off as classes and events allow for maximum efficiency for HVAC and lighting systems,” said Gordon Heitkamp, director of college facilities at MnWest.

Another mechanism campuses have used to gain efficiency in operations is the Guaranteed Energy Savings Program, administered by the Minnesota Department of Commerce. Since 2014, two colleges and one university covering 3 million square feet of building space have participated in the program, saving a combined \$800,000 per year.

More than 80 percent of Minnesota State campuses saw an overall reduction in energy use intensity per square foot from 2009 to 2020. Minnesota State is now working toward goals set by executive order for Minnesota’s cabinet-level government agencies to reduce overall energy use intensity 30 percent by 2027 based on an adjusted 2017 baseline.

Brinks, Benda, Hendricks win Lions Peace Poster Contest

Jackson County Central Middle School eighth-grader Clara Brinks won the 2021-2022 Lions Peace Poster Contest jointly sponsored by the Jackson and Lakefield Lions clubs. Fellow eighth-graders Rylee Benda and Katelyn Hendricks took second and third place, respectively.

This year’s theme, “We Are All Connected,” attracted many posters that featured converging colors or puzzle pieces, along with traditional peace symbols and the flags of various nations. The winners were judged by the members of the Jackson Lions Club last week based on originality, artistic merit and expression of the theme.

There were 25 posters created by seventh- and eighth-graders, and they are now on display at the



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Clara Brinks (center) is the winner of this year’s Lions Peace Poster Contest. Runner-up is Rylee Benda (left) and third place belongs to Katelyn Hendricks (right), presented by Jackson Lions Club Peace Poster Chairman Ryan Brinks (back). The posters are on display at the Jackson Center for the Arts.

Jackson Center for the Arts through the end of the calendar year.

Brinks is the daughter of Ryan and Jody Brinks, Benda is the daughter of

Chad and Amanda Benda and Hendricks is the daughter of Molly Williams.



PHOTO BY JOSHUA SCHUETZ

TRAINING TIME

Attorney, writer and voting rights advocate Kim Crockett (right) leads an election integrity training seminar last month at the Jackson library.

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Pay rate is \$15/hr. for EMRs and \$20/hr. for EMTs.

Licensure/Certifications: •High school diploma or equivalent •MN driver's license with a clean driving record •BLS Provider and CPR certification Licensed NREMT Emergency Medical Technician or MN EMSRB EMT certification. MN EMR Certification required for EMR's. The City will pay for certifications.

Comfortable working conditions: The Fire/Ambulance Hall was built in 2012 and offers private bedrooms, shower, dayroom with TV and computer, full kitchen, and a fitness room.

For an application, please contact: Jackson City Hall, 80 W. Ashley St. at 507-847-4410 or the Ambulance Service, 305 Sheridan St., at 847-5306 or www.cityofjacksonmn.com.

Questions about the position can be directed to Chris Burban, Jackson Ambulance Director by calling 507-847-5306 or e-mailing jackson.ambulance@cityofjacksonmn.com

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JCC VOLLEYBALL



PHOTO BY DAN CONDON

Members of the Class AA runner-up Jackson County Central volleyball team are (front, from left): Taylor Post, Sydney Osterberg, Sadie Voss, Georgianna Wenzel and student manager Victoria Murdock. Back: Head coach Deidre Wierson, assistant coach Janet Haren, Elise Paplow, assistant coach Krista Nelson, Emma Haren, Erin Gallagher, Sarah Anderson, Brittany Arduser, Peyton Hanson, Andria Benson, Alexis O'Reilly, Maci Farmer and athletic trainer Caitlin Place.

Huskies finish second at state

JCC wins first set, but Mainstreeters rally to win title

by DAN CONDON
Sports Editor

With a dominant first-set win over Sauk Centre in the Class AA championship match Saturday afternoon at the Xcel Energy Center, it looked like the Jackson County Central volleyball team was on its way to a third state championship.

But a few changes by the Mainstreeters and too many errors by the Huskies allowed Sauk Centre to win the next three sets to top the Huskies.

JCC won the first set 25-13 before the Mainstreeters — named after

clair Lewis' 1920 novel "Main Street" — won the next three 25-21, 25-17 and 25-19.

"I'm proud of this team," JCC head coach Deidre Wierson said. "We fought hard this whole season. They've always trusted and been coachable. That's why we're here where we're at today. It's not the outcome we wanted, but they fought."

Senior Sadie Voss said playing in the state championship match was something of which she and her teammates had long dreamed.

"It's always been my dream to make state, let alone be in the finals, so I'm very proud of this team and I couldn't ask for better coaches and teammates," she said.

JCC finishes the season with a record of 29-7.

Huskies come out on fire

After Sauk Centre scored the first point of the match, the Huskies started to dominate. JCC scored five straight points — including three on Voss kills — to lead 5-1, then soon took a 13-6 lead with a 4-0 run.

Back-to-back kills by Georgianna Wenzel gave the Huskies a 15-8 lead and two more Wenzel kills made it 18-11.

Wenzel had two aces down the stretch and Voss had a trio of kills as the Huskies cruised to a first-set win.

"The first set, I don't think we really made very many errors that set," Wierson said. "I think we had the control throughout that

whole set. Everyone was just on fire, really."

Streeters come back

Sauk Centre head coach Jim Klaphake said he challenged his team after the first set and it responded to win the next three.

"I talked to them about how we were going to come out and play and that was not it," he said. "I said, 'They just punched us in the mouth. Now how are we going to react?'"

The Streeters scored the first four points of the second set, but the Huskies rallied. Two kills by Voss cut the deficit to 8-5, then after a Sauk Centre point, the Huskies scored five straight to lead 10-9.

Emma Haren had two kills during the run and

See **FINALS** on B3



Inside...



The 2021 Jackson County Central volleyball team is celebrated with four pages of coverage from the Class AA state tournament.

Huskies top Panthers in semis

by DAN CONDON
Sports Editor

The Jackson County Central volleyball team led Mounds Park Academy 24-19 in the second set of the Class AA state quarterfinals this past Friday at the Xcel Energy Center and was a point away from taking a commanding 2-0 lead in the match.

The Panthers rallied to score seven straight points to win the set, but the Huskies weren't deterred.

JCC won the next two sets for a 3-1 victory to advance to the state championship.

See **SEMIS** on B4



PHOTO BY DAN CONDON

Jackson County Central volleyball players celebrate a point against Mounds Park Academy during the Huskies' four-set semifinal victory.

Hot start: Huskies open state with sweep

by DAN CONDON
Sports Editor



PHOTO BY DAN CONDON

Georgianna Wenzel (left) and Peyton Hanson high-five during Jackson County Central's quarterfinal sweep of Annandale.

The state tournament could not have started any better for the Jackson County Central volleyball team last Thursday against Annandale.

The fourth-seeded Huskies scored the first eight points against the fifth-seeded Cardinals and went on to sweep Annandale by scores of 25-15, 25-14 and 25-19.

The experience of playing in the state tournament was even better than senior Sadie Voss imagined.

"It was great," she said. See **SWEEP** on B4

Eagle girls drop hockey opener

Windom Area scored first, but Minnesota River tallied the next four goals in a 4-1 win over the Eagles Monday night in the season opener for both teams.

Presley Dockter gave the Eagles a 1-0 lead with just less than seven minutes left in the first period with an unassisted goal and Windom Area kept that lead into the first intermission.

Minnesota River tied the game just more than five minutes into the game, then took the lead five minutes later and doubled

it five minutes after that. Minnesota River sealed the win with a goal late in regulation.

Maple River outshot Windom Area 36-21 in the game and was good on both of its power-play chances. Windom area was scoreless on two power-play opportunities.

Kaylie Baerg stopped 32 of the 36 shots she faced.

Up next

The Eagles host Luverne tonight (Thursday) and Austin Sunday before playing at Waseca Tuesday.

Winter sports are firing up for JCC athletes

Practice has started for four teams and two more are set to start next week

Some winter sports teams have played games already, some have started practicing and some are yet to begin practicing.

The Windom Area girls' hockey team — which includes players from Jackson County

Central — began practicing at the beginning of the month and had its first game Monday night. The Eagles are back on the ice again tonight (Thursday) against Luverne and host Austin Saturday.

The JCC gymnastics team started practicing last week and girls' basketball started this week — as did Windom Area boys' hockey. Wrestling and boys' basketball begin practicing on Monday.

The JCC girls' basketball team opens its season Nov. 30 at Murray County

Central. Its home and Big South Conference opener is Dec. 2 against Redwood Valley.

The JCC wrestling team has its first competition of the season Dec. 4 with a tournament at Glencoe-Silver Lake. The first home event for the Huskies is a triangular with Luverne and Redwood Valley Dec. 7.

The Windom Area boys' hockey team opens its season Dec. 2 at Waconia and has its home opener Dec. 4 against Austin.

The JCC gymnastics

team opens the season Dec. 3 at St. James. That's the first of seven straight road competitions for the Huskies, who don't compete at home until hosting the Sweetheart Invitational Jan. 15, 2022.

The last team to have its season begin is the JCC boys' basketball team, which plays for the first time Dec. 7 at Luverne. The Huskies host St. Peter Dec. 14 for their first action on the home hardwood.

SPORTS
CALENDAR

Thursday, Nov. 18
GH vs. Luverne

Friday, Nov. 19
No events

Saturday, Nov. 20
GH vs. Austin

Sunday, Nov. 21
No events

Monday, Nov. 22
BBB - Practice starts
WR - Practice starts

Tuesday, Nov. 23
GH at Waseca

Wednesday, Nov. 24
No events

BSC STANDINGS

VOLLEYBALL

West Team	BSC	All
Marshall	6-0	33-2
JCC	5-1	29-7
Luverne	3-3	19-7
Pipestone	3-3	17-12
Redwood	2-4	7-16
Windom	1-5	17-12
Worthington	1-5	15-15
East Team	BSC	All
St. Peter	10-0	19-7
New Ulm	8-2	14-10
Waseca	5-5	8-16
Fairmont	3-7	9-15
St. James	3-7	6-16
BEA	1-9	2-24

SECTION 3AA
STANDINGS

FOOTBALL

Team	All
Pipestone	11-1
JCC	7-4
Redwood Valley	7-3
MN Valley Lutheran	5-5
LCWM	2-7
Sibley East	1-8
Windom	1-8
St. James Area	0-9

Get sports updates as they happen on Twitter @PilotSports

Thanksgiving training is in full effect

During last week's snowfall, I could not help but think it really was beginning to look a lot like Christmas. It was. Apparently, Mother Nature is too into the American commercialism and is overlooking Thanksgiving!

Yet, for me anyway, I feel like I am doing a lot of beginning. For example, with Thanksgiving only one week away, I am beginning my weight training. I want to look good for our guests.

However, my weight training is not at the gym, but at the supper table. I am training my body to withstand the inordinate Thanksgiving food intake I soon will be ingesting. And hopefully digesting.

I am finding out it is hard work getting fat. It is not just a matter of convincing your stomach it can stretch a little further than the OSHA guidelines said it can safely stretch.

You also have to train your eating arm so it can withstand hours of plate-to-mouth movement all while holding a piled-high fork. I have seen some eaters getting "eating elbow" from lack of proper arm training.

I do not want to chance getting it and having to take a break from eating. I mean, Christmas is in a month and "eating elbow" recovery is at least six weeks. Longer if you need surgery.

You also have to train your eyes to see more than you can eat. How can you overeat if you only see, and thereby take, what you can eat? A good set of eyes will convince your brain you can handle a larger food intake. They let you pile your plate higher and deeper.

You also have to train for speed. The faster you

can shovel the turkey and dressing in, the more you can pack in before your brain realizes enough is enough and it is time to shut down.

Slow eaters just cannot eat as much as a fast eater. For one, by the time the slow eater is done savoring the flavor of his or her plateful, there is no food left at the buffet; all the fast eaters have hit the buffet five, six times. The fast eaters know they can savor the flavor later with each burp.

Luckily for me, I do not have to do any special nap training. I get enough practice year-round. Nap training has become my new normal. I am still working on using the TV's remote in my sleep. I am getting pretty good at it; once in a while I even change to a good channel.

Thanksgiving training is not my only beginning. I am also, finally, beginning to put up my Christmas decorations. I like to have them up by now, but Thanksgiving training got in my way. That and work.

I am hoping by the time you read this I will have most of my decorations up, but as I type this I have yet to begin. Knowing I have to begin is one-half the solution. So, in a way, I am half done.

I prefer to do my exterior illumination when it is warm. In fact, in early October the thought crossed my mind to put them up. But not wanting to be judged by the "It is way too early for Christmas decorating" committee, I let that thought pass on through.

It went in one ear and out the other, detour free. The only thing blocking its path was a pound or two of earwax. I maybe should have worn earplugs because it was a

good thought.

Especially since I could have been decorating in shorts and a T-shirt instead of a parka and long johns. Plus, sound travels faster and farther in cold, dense air than warm. Which means more people would hear my cussing out every tangled string of lights. Or at my "hard to decorate" Black Hills spruce evergreen. That tree takes longer than the other two combined.

It was cheering we could hear as the Jackson County Central volleyball team was playing in the state tournament this past week. What a great showing for our JCC program as the Huskies finished in second place!

Congratulations to the girls on their excellent season!

With fall sports winding down, the winter sports are beginning their training for the upcoming competitive season. Seventh- and eighth-grade girls' basketball was scheduled to start last week and seventh- and eighth-grade boys' basketball and wrestling are scheduled to start Monday.

As I have decorations to put up and Thanksgiving training to do, I had best close for this week. Until next week, start your own training regimen to prepare yourself for cheering on our athletes. Go, Huskies!



WIDE WRITE
Stephen A. Condon

twitter
@PilotSports

Nov. 13, 4:16 p.m.
JCC wins the first set of the Class AA championship match 25-13 over Sauk Centre.

Nov. 12, 10:39 a.m.
HUSKIES ARE HEADED TO THE FINALS!
The JCC volleyball team beats Mounds Park Academy to advance to the Class AA championship match. Set scores were 25-21, 24-26, 25-13 and 25-14.

Nov. 12, 9:22 a.m.
A solo block by Maci Farmer and thunderous kill by Georgianna Wenzel give JCC their final two points in a 25-21 win over MPA in the first set.

Nov. 11, 11:22 a.m.
JCC senior Sadie Voss recorded the 1,000th dig of her career against Annandale. She got her 1,000th career kill earlier this season.

Nov. 11, 10:08 a.m.
STATE SWEEP!
JCC sweeps Annandale in the Class AA state quarterfinals and will play in the semifinals Friday at 9 a.m. Set scores: 25-15, 25-14, 25-19

Nov. 11, 9:02 a.m.
JCC scores the first five points to lead Annandale 5-0 in the first set.

Nov. 9, 9:28 p.m.
JCC senior Sadie Voss and junior Maci Farmer have both been named to the Class AA all-state volleyball team.

Follow for more updates

ATHLETES OF THE WEEK



Names: Jackson County Central volleyball team
The week that was: The Huskies made it to the Class AA state finals, beating Annandale in the quarterfinals and Mounds Park Academy in the semifinals before losing to Sauk Centre. It's the first trip to the state tournament for the Huskies since 2003.

Coach's comments: "This team worked hard to achieve its goals," Deidre Wierson said. "As coaches, we are proud of their determination, work ethic and heart of the game. Most of all, we are proud of their teamwork. Their season progressed as they took small steps to improve. They played some great volleyball to conclude their season at state and represented the Husky jersey with pride. Thank you to the seniors and thank you to this team for experiencing a dream into reality."

Athletes of the week sponsored by:

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HL-O CORNER

Four HL-O students playing for girls' hockey team

Four Heron Lake-Okabena students are playing for the Windom Area girls' hockey team this season.

Competing for the Eagles this winter are Madelyn Schumacher, Elly Bang, Marena Bang and Marissa Becker.

The Eagles opened the season Monday night, losing 4-1 to Minnesota River. They're back on the ice tonight (Thursday) with a game against Luverne.

Windom Area hosts Austin Saturday and plays at Waseca Tuesday during a busy beginning portion of the season.

Coyote girls open hoops season next week

The Heron Lake-Okabena/Fulda girls' basketball team opens its season next week and the Coyote boys kick off their campaign the next week.

The HL-O/F girls started practicing last week and have their first game Friday, Nov. 26 against Clinton-Graceville-Beardsley. That game is in Wabasso as part of a tournament, as is a Nov. 27 game against MACCRAY.

The Coyotes play their first eight games on the road before finally playing Truman/Martin Luther/Granada-Huntley-East Chain in Okabena on Dec. 16. The first game in Fulda is Dec. 17 against Murray County Central.

The Coyote boys will begin practicing Monday. Their first action is also at a tournament in Wabasso, coming on Dec. 3 and 4 against opponents not yet known.

The HL-O/F boys also play their first several games on the road and don't have a home game until 2022.

After six road games in December, the Coyotes host Canby in Fulda on Jan. 4, 2022. The first four home games are in Fulda before the next four take place in Okabena. The first game in Okabena is Jan. 27, 2022, against Edgerton.

The Winter Sports Preview, which will feature the HL-O/F boys' and girls' basketball teams, as well as Windom Area hockey teams, will be in the Dec. 2 newspaper.

Fall Sports Review coming next week

The Fall Sports Review will be in next week's edition of the Jackson County Pilot and Lakefield Standard.

Included in the special section will be recaps of the Heron Lake-Okabena boys' and girls' cross country teams and the HL-O/Fulda football and volleyball teams.

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LEAGUE BOWLING SCORES

Tuesday night men

Team standings: Phillips Agency 21-11, New Fashion Pork 16-16, Junction 86 13-15, Bowlers Inn 12-20

High game: Tony Phillips 212, Tony Jorgensen 205, Jerrod Schubert 199

High series: Tony Jorgensen 561, Jerrod Schubert 544, Doyle Svoboda 529

Wednesday night men

Team standings: Schaap Sanitation 20-12, FCA 19-13, S&J Cleaning 19-13, Elness Livestock 17-15, Pocket Pounders 11-21, Left Overs 10-22

High game: Doyle Svoboda 246, Terry Hansen 234, Ben Clark 211

High series: Doyle Svoboda 635, Terry Hansen 564, Ben Clark 552

Thursday night women

Team standings: 9th Ave Salon 25-7, Lakefield Savings Bank 18-14, Split Personalities 14-18, Bipolar Rollers 14-14, Pampered Chicks 13-19, Rubis Farms 12-20

High game: Sarah Thompson 194, Kris Porath 175, Penny Raia 168

High series: Sarah Thompson 479, Penny Raia 477, Kim Nelson 453

Friday night mixed

Team standings: Habben 13-3, Jorgensen 12-4, Miller 10-6, Potter 10-6, Elness 8-8, Kocak 5-11, Gerdes 3-13

High game men: Shawn Gerdes 223, David Miller 207, Brian Kocak 184

High series men: Brian Kocak 533, Wally Habben 488, David Miller 480

High game women: Jordin Elness 179, Lisa Kocak 163, Jenni Jorgensen 149

High series women: Lisa Kocak 451, Jordin Elness 411, Bobbi Habben 388



HUSKIES RUN ALL OVER CARDINALS IN COMEBACK WIN

One year ago, Nov. 19, 2020

The Jackson County Central football team was scoreless at the half and trailed Fairmont by a touchdown before outscoring the Cardinals 22-0 in the second half of the regular-season finale. JCC got on the board when Payton Handevit recovered a fumble that led to a 5-yard touchdown run by Will Freking. Levi Lindley ran in the conversion for a lead the Huskies never gave up. Travis Rogotzke threw a 65-yard touchdown pass to Damian Meyer-Andre before Lindley sealed the win with a touchdown run. JCC ran for 3-4 yards in the win, with Lindley gaining 169 yards on 30 carries. Matt Haley and Meyer-Andre intercepted passes.

EIGHT HUSKIES EARN DISTRICT HONORS

Five years ago, Nov. 24, 2016

Eight Jackson County Central football players have been honored by the South Central White District, with six earning first-team honors. Seniors Ryan Christopher, Matt Strom, Easton Bahr, Nico Feroni, Chris Gumto and Darrius Johnson are all first-team all-district players. Juniors Ethan Lindley and Jacob Tvinnereim have been named to the honorable-mention team. The Huskies won the district title, going undefeated during the regular season.

VONOHLEN NAMED WWC WRESTLER OF THE WEEK

10 years ago, Nov. 24, 2011

JCC graduate and Air Force Academy junior Cole VonOhlen has been named the Western Wrestling Conference wrestler of the week for the sixth time in his career. VonOhlen opened the season by winning the Hokie Open at Virginia Tech. He went 5-0, winning with two falls, a technical fall and two decisions. He then won the UNK Holiday Open in Kerney, Neb., going 3-0 with a technical fall and fall. VonOhlen is ranked eighth in the nation at 149 pounds.

PRIBYL HONORED, FELL WRAPS UP CAREER

25 years ago, Nov. 21, 1996 - Jackson County Pilot

Rochester Community and Technical College sophomore and 1995 Jackson High School graduate Paul Pribyl has been named as an all-conference defensive end. Pribyl recorded 34 solo tackles and 37 assists this fall as RCTC advanced to the state championship game. Another JHS graduate, Liz Fell, wrapped up her volleyball career at Gustavus Adolphus College at the MIAC tournament. Fell missed some time this season with a knee injury, but recorded 115 kills. She's the eighth Gustie to record at least 1,000 career kills, finishing with 1,078. Fell was named honorable-mention all-conference this season.

LINDSAY VOSS IS ALL-STATE

25 years ago, Nov. 21, 1996 - Lakefield Standard

Heron Lake-Okabena-Lakefield senior Lindsay Voss is reaping the benefits of seven years of hard work at the game of volleyball. Voss, a senior hitter, was named to the Class A all-state volleyball team. She helped HLOL win a school-record 27 matches and their sixth consecutive Red Rock Conference title. In her four years on varsity, the Bullets were 100-15-1 and didn't lose a single conference match. She's the third all-stater to play for Carolyn Hummel, joining Rhonda Barber and Jenni Rademacher.

Voss, Farmer reach milestones, earn honors

by DAN CONDON
Sports Editor

Jackson County Central senior Sadie Voss and junior Maci Farmer both reached a major milestone at the state tournament, both were named to the Class AA all-state team and both were named to the Class AA all-tournament team.

Voss recorded the 1,000th dig of her career in the quarterfinals against Annandale and Farmer recorded the 1,000th set assist of her career — and season — the next day in the semifinals against Mounds Park Academy.

To reach the milestones at the state tournament makes them even more special, JCC head coach Deidre Wierson said. “That’s definitely a cool experience,” she said. “Any point you hit that milestone it’s something they should be proud of. To do it at state is an added experience.”

Both racked up huge numbers during the tournament to be named to the 10-player all-tournament team.

Voss finished the tournament with 68 kills, 72 digs and six ace serves. Farmer racked up 136 set assists, 33 digs and six kills in the tournament and was 31-for-33 serving with three aces.

Another major milestone for Voss

Voss is in rare company by recording 1,000 career digs, becoming just the sixth JCC player to do so since season stats were kept starting in 2001.

She’s in an even smaller group of players who have 1,000 career digs and kills, joining Alaina Wolff, Kaylee Burmeister and Whitney Burmeister.

Voss finishes her career with a school-record 1,419 kills — 301 more than any other player — and ranks



Left: Sadie Voss makes a pass during Jackson County Central’s quarterfinal win over Annandale. Voss recorded the 1,000th dig of her career in the win. Right: Maci Farmer picks up the 1,000th set assist of her career on this set to Emma Haren in a win over Mounds Park Academy.



PHOTOS BY DAN CONDON

aged for fifth with 1,056 digs.

“I wasn’t sure I would get it this year, but thankfully we made it to state so I got some more games,” Voss said of getting to 1,000 digs.

She said digs aren’t the most glamorous part of volleyball, but they are a huge key to winning.

“A kill is definitely a lot more exciting — blocks are, too — but without digging, they’ll keep scoring,” she said. “I’m really happy; it’s a huge accomplishment.”

Wierson said it’s Voss’ work ethic and love of the sport has helped her become so talented.

“She has been an amazing volleyball player for this program,” she said. “She started at a young

age and had a love for the game. That is a true testament to hitting these milestones. She’s able to show younger players that when you are dedicated to something you’re going to achieve some big dreams and milestones.”

It’s Voss’ athletic ability and knowledge that helped her reach the 1,000 mark in two categories.

“It says a lot about her as an athlete because that’s really hard to achieve,” Wierson said. “The determination and the knowledge of the game that she has developed has helped her achieve this.”

Farmer achieves a first

Farmer is the first JCC player to record 1,000 set assists in a single season since stats were kept in

2001 — immediately following Angie Hummel’s four-year run as JCC’s setter. That’s a rare feat in a program that has had at least one setter who has gone on to play college volleyball every year except one since the school was formed in 1997.

“She definitely would be in the top players as far as setters go in this program,” Wierson said.

Farmer played in the back row last year and didn’t record her first set assist until this season. Now, she’s already at 1,065 — the most in a single season and seventh on the career chart.

Her willingness to play another position last year and still be ready to set this year impressed Wierson.

“She’s an all-around

great athlete,” she said.

“I always had her planned to be setting. We teach our players all aspects of the game because you never know what will mesh well with a team. This year, she proved she could help the team out by setting, so I think that came with her being dedicated and committed to the program and team.”

Farmer said she loves the face she can control so much of the action as the team’s setter.

“I like taking control of the game — knowing who I should set it to, who’s on,” she said.

And having players like Voss and company to set to make the job a bit easier.

“I can just set them and they can adjust really well to my sets and they hit it

good and hard,” Farmer said.

Voss said Farmer’s quickness and endurance make her a force on the court.

“She never lets a ball drop,” Voss said. “She doesn’t get tired. When we were in the hotel room, she ran three miles on Thursday afternoon. She never runs out of energy.”

Getting to 1,000 set assists is a great feeling, Farmer said, but she knows her teammates deserve plenty of credit.

“I couldn’t have done it without my teammates,” she said. “It takes a good pass and good hit to get a set assist. I’m just so thankful for them.”

FINALS: Huskies finish second

Continued from B1

then added another to give the Huskies an 11-10 lead.

Sauk Centre answered with five straight points to lead 15-11 and then took an 18-12 lead.

Voss had a pair of kills as part of a 3-0 run to cut JCC’s deficit in half, but the Streeters later led 23-19.

Haren and Peyton Hanson picked up back-to-back kills to keep the Huskies alive in the set, but the Mainstreeters scored the final two points to even the match.

Wenzel said during that second set, she knew the Streeters were for real.

“I think we all came into this match ready to go,” she said. “We all knew what was at stake. We were like, ‘We made it to the end; let’s go and get first place.’ And then once things started going, we were doing really good. Toward the second set, people were like, ‘This team’s here to play; it’s not going to be the other teams from our section or other teams here where we could get them down at the beginning and they won’t come back.’ This team, they were able to come back and they were able to get us into predicaments where we couldn’t get out of it.”

Klaphake said his team’s ability to slow Voss (No.

10), Haren (No. 15) and Wenzel (No. 17) and the rest of the hitters turned the tide in the championship match.

“We had to get to 10, we had to get to 15,” he said. “We had to get ourselves a little bit more ready to block. We had to carry our hands a little higher, get a little quicker when we were jumping and also shadow No. 17. No. 10, we had to get two girls on No. 10. She’s a heck of a player. We had a game plan for that in set one, but it just didn’t work out that good. After that we settled down and did pretty good.”

Wierson said adjustments by the Mainstreeters were effective, and the Huskies weren’t able to pass the ball as well after the first set.

“They made a lot of adjustments with their block and were able to continue to get over to our hitters faster,” she said. “Our goal was to run our fast offense and we were able to do that, but I would say in the second, third set we couldn’t control the ball as well on our side of the net.”

Voss said the blocking of the Mainstreeters — particularly 6-foot, 2-inch middle hitter Victoria Jennissen and 5-foot, 11-inch middle hitter Emma Kittle-

son — made things tough.

“That’s a bigger block, so you’ve got to change where you’re hitting because you can’t just hit straight into the block or they’ll block it,” she said. “Your teammates have to tell you what’s open and choose some different spots.”

Sauk Centre takes control

After losing the second set, JCC jumped out to an early lead in the pivotal third set and led most of the way.

A kill by Hanson and kill and block by Voss gave JCC a 5-1 lead and the Huskies led 10-7 after a kill by Haren.

Voss put the Huskies ahead 12-9 with a kill and Hanson made it 13-11 with a kill of her own. Kills by Taylor Post and Haren each put the Huskies ahead by one point after the set was tied, but the Streeters went on a run to win the set.

After Haren’s kill gave JCC a 16-15 lead, Sauk Centre scored six straight points to lead 21-16. Hanson recorded a block to end the run, but the Streeters scored the next four points to win the set and take a 2-1 lead.

“Momentum shifts can happen like that,” Wierson said, snapping her



PHOTOS BY DAN CONDON

Ellese Paplow (from left), Sarah Anderson, Andria Benson, Brittany Arduser, Erin Gallagher and head coach Deidre Wierson cheer following a point against Sauk Centre in the Class AA championship match.

fingers, “Sometimes with a timeout, sometimes with a big power hitter who comes and gets a kill or maybe even you go and get a block; that’s a huge change.”

Streeters win state

Klaphake said he didn’t want his team to have to go to a fifth set with the Huskies and it didn’t as the Mainstreeters took control of the fourth set early, withstood a JCC rally and then finished off the win.

“When we ended that third set and going into set four, it was like, ‘OK, we’ve got to get one more. We’ve got to play well,’” he said. “We certainly don’t want to get to set five, a short set to 15.”

Sauk Centre scored the first four points of the set, but JCC quickly answered with a 5-0 surge to lead 5-0.

Voss got a kill during the run and Hanson had a kill and block, which all came with Ellesse Paplow serving. Hanson gave the Huskies a 10-9 lead with a kill later in the set, but the Streeters answered with six straight points and eventually turned that into a 10-1 run to lead 19-11.

An ace serve by Paplow and kill by Voss got the Huskies within six points, but the Huskies trailed 22-15 late.

A Voss kill, Wenzel ace, Voss block and Hanson kill accounted for a 4-0 run to give the Huskies hope, but the Mainstreeters scored the next three points to finish off the win.

“It kind of went back and forth, but sadly they got the upper part of the deal,” Wenzel said.

After a nearly flawless first set, the Huskies weren’t as sharp on first contact — serving and serve receive — the rest of the way.

“A lot of their serves were deep and those are hard to defend,” Voss said. “Some of them were floats. They’re a really good serving team, so give them

credit for that. If you don’t get a good pass it’s hard to run a good offense.”

Voss has double-double

Voss finished with 22 kills and 26 digs. Haren and Wenzel each had 10 kills. Wenzel added 15 digs and was 19-for-19 serving with three aces. Haren had five digs.

Farmer recorded 50 set assists, six digs and two ace serves. Post had four kills and four digs and was seven-for-seven serving.

Hanson had six kills, Sydney Osterberg had seven digs, Andria Benson had two digs and Ellesse Paplow was 13-for-14 serving with an ace.



Emma Haren (left) gets a hug from her mom and coach, Janet Haren, while Georgianna Wenzel gets a hug from assistant coach Krista Nelson following Jackson County Central’s second-place finish at the Class AA state tournament.



Georgianna Wenzel stuffs a kill attempt by Sauk Centre.

SEMIS: Farmer reaches milestone in win

Continued from B1

“The message was to just continue to play our game,” JCC head coach Deidre Wierson said. “I’d say our seniors have done a fabulous job on leading this team and keeping them calm, cool and collected and so that’s the piece that keeps driving us.”

Huskies rebound quickly

Letting a seemingly insurmountable lead slip away could’ve been catastrophic for the Huskies, but they quickly rebounded in the third set.

“I would say the girls have really grown mentally throughout the game of volleyball,” Wierson said. “This is a huge game of mental toughness and to be able to control the controllables on your side of the net.”

The Huskies scored the first three points of the third set and jumped out to a 5-2 lead to quickly put the disappointment of the second set behind them.

“I just tell everybody we just need to relax, have fun and play our game because if we get too tense we get nervous and we make errors and unforced errors,” Sadie Voss said.

“Everyone knows what they did wrong,” Georgianna Wenzel said. “It’s just a matter of going back and fixing it and forgetting it. We know how to play. It just didn’t come out our way, so that third set we were like, ‘OK, we were down so let’s get back up and show them we’re not down and we’re here to play and we want to go to that final game.’”

Voss recorded kills for three of JCC’s first seven points of the set, then got another for a 9-6 lead.

Back-to-back kills by Emma Haren put the Huskies ahead 11-7 and the match really changed a few plays later when MPA standout Lola Pilon got hurt with JCC leading 13-7.

“That was their best player, in my opinion, as far as who was really killing it with serve receive,” Wierson said. “We were trying to keep the ball away from her.”

Voss said seeing an opponent go down is tough, but the Huskies needed to keep playing.

“We felt terrible for her,

but we just had to play our game, one by one and try to focus on our side of the net,” she said.

“When you lose one of your top players, everybody’s more concerned about Lola and justifiably so,” MPA coach Jeff Kunze-Hoeg said. “She’s a phenomenal athlete. To lose her at that point in the match, it’s obviously going to be a shock.”

Maci Farmer recorded the 1,000th set assist of her season and career on a kill by Haren, which gave the Huskies a 14-8 lead. Haren followed with an ace serve and, a few plays later, Wenzel recorded a block for a 17-9 lead.

Three kills by Voss, a block by Haren and an ace from Voss helped finish off the important third set.

Huskies advance to finals

A 4-0 run early in the fourth set gave the Huskies a 5-2 lead they never relinquished.

Peyton Hanson had two kills during the run, which also included a Voss kill and Wenzel ace.

Voss, Farmer, Taylor Post and Haren each recorded a kill to build the lead to 9-6. A Haren ace and Hanson kill pushed the lead to 11-6 before Wenzel got a kill for a 13-7 advantage.

Two more kills by Voss pushed the lead to 16-8 and Hanson capped a long volley with a kill for a 17-11 lead.

A Voss kill and ace, plus a Post block and Farmer ace gave the Huskies a 22-13 lead.

Andria Benson picked up a kill for a 23-13 lead and the Huskies quickly scored the final two points to advance to the finals.

“I’m just super excited for these girls,” Wierson said. “They’ve worked extremely hard on and off the court. I’m really proud of

my coaches, just proud of the community for being here and supportive.”

Wierson said making it to the finals after narrowly missing qualifying for state many times as a player and coach is pretty incredible.

“I was in their jersey at one point in time and we didn’t quite make it, but it’s really a blessing to come back and represent Jackson County Central and bring these girls to everyone’s dream,” she said.

Voss said that dream has been on her radar for a long time.

“Unreal,” she said. “It’s been my dream since I was little, so I’m so happy. I’m so proud of this team. I love my team; they’re awesome.”

Wenzel said going to the finals in the team’s first trip to state since 2003 is pretty amazing.

“It’s really awesome, especially being 18 years,” she said. “That’s almost as old as we are.”

Huskies overcome slow start in first set

In the quarterfinals against Annandale, JCC scored the first eight points. In Friday’s semifinals, the Huskies allowed the first four points.

The Huskies struggled on serve receive during the first couple points before improving.

“They have really good float serve,” Voss said. “I just told people who were struggling to relax and focus because if you get tense, you’re going to do it again. You just have to shake it off and be like, ‘I want the ball.’ Get in a good mindset, be positive and lift yourself up.”

Wierson said the Huskies’ approach of quickly moving on helped them overcome the start.

“We talk about three seconds,” she said. “You

have three seconds to think about the last play and then you need to move on because the ball’s coming right back at you. If you continue to think about it the ball’s going to find you.”

The early deficit didn’t last long as the Huskies answered the slow start with a 9-1 run to lead 9-5.

Wenzel had two kills and a block during the run, Voss had two kills and Hanson had one.

The set was eventually tied at 13, but a dump set by Farmer gave the Huskies a 14-13 lead and they never trailed again in the set.

Back-to-back Voss kills made the lead 21-17 and another kill by Voss put the Huskies up 23-19.

The Panthers scored the next two points to get within two and had a perfect set to Pilon with a chance to get within one, but Farmer blocked the kill attempt for a point and Wenzel hammered a kill for the set’s final point.

Panthers steal second set

MPA led early in the second set, but the Huskies scored eight straight points to build a 15-10 lead. Haren served an ace during the run and Hanson, Wenzel and Voss each had a kill.

The Panthers answered with three straight points to get within two, but JCC went on a 6-2 run to build a 21-15 lead. Voss had three kills during the stretch and added another for a 23-18 lead.

Hanson had the Huskies on the brink of a set victory with a kill for a 24-19 lead before the Panthers scored the next seven points to steal the set.

“I think toward the end there we ended up just missing out on serve receive,” Wierson said. “That libero is a nice player for them and she just really picked apart our serve receive and we just couldn’t execute to finish.”

Kunze-Hoeg said winning that second set gave his team confidence, especially after it upset top-seeded Southwest Christian in the quarterfinals.

“Having won that second game, it brought back memories of yesterday’s



PHOTO BY DAN CONDON
Emma Haren works around a defender during Jackson County Central’s semifinal win over Mounds Park Academy at the Class AA state tournament.

match that, ‘Hey we can stay with them, we can stay with them. Now we just need to be patient and play it point by point,’” he said.

Serve receive the key

Kunze-Hoeg said he knew JCC would be able to swing up front. He said a big key to the Huskies’ success was their serve receive.

“Shoutout to Jackson County Central; their serve receive was phenomenal,” he said. “They were passing dimes the entire match. Very different than yesterday’s match with Southwest. Southwest, we took them out of system constantly with our serves. With Jackson, it was a totally different story. When a team’s in system, it can use any of their hitters and they’ve got a few.

Everybody plays

Farmer topped the 1,000-career set assist plateau against the Panthers

and finished with 53 in the win. She also had three kills and a block and was nine-for-nine serving with one ace.

Voss hammered 32 kills in the win and added a team-high 21 digs. She also had a trio of ace serves.

Hanson had 11 kills and two blocks and Haren had eight kills, a team-high three blocks and two digs. She was also 20-for-23 serving with three aces.

Wenzel picked up seven kills and added 15 digs and two blocks. She was 16-for-18 serving with an ace.

Post had two kills and three digs and was 17-for-18 serving. Alexis O’Reilly recorded 18 digs and had four assists and Sydney Osterberg had two digs.

Andria Benson had two digs and one kill, Elise Paplow was two-for-two serving and Erin Gallagher had a dig as all 13 Huskies got playing time.

SWEEP: JCC beats Annandale

Continued from B1

“On the court I was like, ‘This is so much fun.’ We just played great volleyball.”

Senior Georgianna Wenzel summed up playing at state

“One word to describe it: Awesomesauce,” she said.

‘Ready to go’

Emma Haren started the state tournament with a kill and then an ace serve. Peyton Hanson and Taylor Post followed with kills before a Hanson block. After a Cardinal error, Hanson recorded back-to-back kills for an 8-0 lead.

“I think it just really helped us build our momentum going into the whole match,” JCC head coach Deidre Wierson said of the hot start. “The girls were ramped and ready to go.”

Voss said the strong start propelled the Huskies the entire match.

“It gives us a lot of energy,” she said. “It’s always good to start off strong and it sets the tone for the rest of the match so it was really important to get a good lead.”

Annandale coach Michelle Macalena said the slow start might have been due to nerves.

“I think we were nervous and ended up not passing well and chasing after things,” she said. “Kind of made errors we haven’t made in a while — probably since preseason.”

Wierson said if her team had any nerves, they went away with the early lead.

“I think it’s huge just for the jitters of it all, too, to just calm yourself,” she said. “I thought the girls were really focused in, but just being in a new environment and we haven’t been here since 2003, so it’s our first time here as players

and coaches. I think that really helps them refocus into mentally what needs to be done in order to play your best.”

The Cardinals answered with four straight points after JCC’s hot start, but never got any closer than four points in the set.

A kill and block by Wenzel gave JCC a 10-5 lead and back-to-back kills by Voss and Haren gave the Huskies a 14-7 advantage. Voss followed with an ace, then kills by Haren and Wenzel stretched the advantage to 17-8.

Voss recorded a pair of kills late as the Huskies finished off the opening set.

Voss, Wenzel, Haren, Hanson and Post kept the Cardinals guessing all match long.

“We run the triangle with some of our power hitters, so that was a goal so we could run quick,” Wierson said.

“I think, typically, our block has been better than it was today,” Macalena said. “Jackson County, they ran a quicker offense and I think it took a little while to figure that out.”

Macalena said the slow start was too tough for her team to overcome.

“It was pretty tough,” she said. “When you go out and lose 15-25, if you don’t give them that 8-0 you’re right there with them. That slow start killed us.”

Slow start to second set no problem for Huskies

The second set didn’t start as well for the Huskies as they trailed 3-1 early. But then they got rolling and never stopped.

Hanson had a pair of kills during the early 5-0 run that turned the 3-1 deficit into a 6-3 lead.

A pair of kills by Voss

and one from Haren put the Huskies ahead 10-5.

Two Wenzel kills and a Haren block made the lead 14-8 and Taylor Post got a kill to cap a long rally that included a diving save by Voss for a 15-9 lead.

Annandale later scored three straight points to cut JCC’s lead to 16-13, but the Huskies ended the set on a 9-1 run. Voss had a kill and ace during the run and Maci Farmer had two kills.

Wierson said the Huskies’ goal of keeping the Cardinals out of system worked well during the match.

“We have a unique offense where we can run fast when we’re in system, so our goal was to come out hard with our serve and get them out of system,” she said. “They had some stellar players on the outside and right side and that No. 13 in the middle. So if we could push them out of system with our aggressive serve, then that was definitely going to help us.”

Huskies finish off sweep

After winning the first two sets, Wierson said it was important to not give the Cardinals any momentum by letting them win the third set. A strong start and finish ensured Annandale wouldn’t get back in the match.

“We’ve had matches throughout the season where we’ve kind of relaxed and settled in and so that was a lot of the message in our time-outs,” she said.

The set was tied at two and four before the Huskies took the lead for good on a Voss kill.

Kills by Voss and Farmer helped the Huskies build a 12-6 lead, but the Cardinals scored three straight points to cut the lead in



PHOTO BY DAN CONDON
Peyton Hanson (left) and Taylor Post block a shot during Jackson County Central’s quarterfinal win over Annandale.

half.

Annandale clawed back to get within a point at 19-18 before the Huskies ended the match on a 6-1 run.

Voss had three blocks during the run, including the one that ended the match. Alexis O’Reilly had an ace serve during the streak.

Macalena said the Huskies deserve a lot of credit for forcing the Cardinals into tough situations.

“Jackson County Central, they were tough,” she said. “They served aggressively. Nothing away from them; I just wish we would’ve played better.”

Voss gets 1,000th dig

Voss had a team-high 25 digs in the match and recorded her 1,000th career dig during the third set. She added a team-high 14 kills and was 13-for-14 serving with two aces.

Hanson had seven kills and a team-high three

blocks. Haren finished with six kills, two digs and one block and was 15-for-16 serving with an ace.

Wenzel finished with five kills, seven digs and two blocks and was 14-for-16 serving.

Farmer dished out 33 set assists and added nine digs and three kills. She was good on all nine of her serves.

O’Reilly was 11-for-12 serving and had 15 digs. Sydney Osterberg had four digs in the back row.

Post finished with one kill, one block and six digs and was seven-for-eight serving. She bounced back nicely from the section finals, which Wierson said wasn’t a surprise.

“As a senior leader, she did a great job coming back into the match here,” Wierson said. “She really worked on making sure things were going smooth and also coming off the net, being able to be that off

blocker, defense and transition. Once we have all of our hitters coming in hard on transition, that really pulls the block, so it leaves open shots for our hitters. So I’m super proud of her as a senior leader and these other seniors leaders together as well to keep tying this team together.”

The Huskies combined for seven blocks in the match, which limited the Cardinals to just 21 total kills.

“We blocked, I think, the best we’ve blocked almost all season, so I’m very proud of the girls on that,” Wierson said.

The Huskies were 69-for-75 serving in the match. They had just four aces as a team, but kept the Cardinals scrambling all match.

“Any time you push the ball out of system, it’s harder to execute all three of your hitters so that was our goal with our aggressive serving,” Wierson said.

St. Peter ladies help keep turkey supper traditions alive

by JOSHUA SCHUETZ
Staff Writer

Every year, volunteers from St. Peter Lutheran Church near Lakefield get together to prepare their annual turkey supper, a time-honored tradition at the church.

People from all around the county come to share in the fellowship and joy of the event, which this year took place this past Wednesday.

But it requires a lot of work, and Marianne Burmeister would know it. She works with a group of older ladies in the kitchen during the days before the supper to prepare pies, stuffing and a slew of other goodies for the meal.

"We've been doing the dinner since around 1978," Burmeister said. "I've actually been chair of the event a few times."

Burmeister has worked the supper through thick and thin — and she's got the stories to prove it. Back when people used to cook the turkeys in their homes — no longer possible due to the sheer number of birds they order each year — a power outage once caused massive issues for the multitude of chefs.

"They had to get really creative back then," Burmeister said.

They still have to get creative now, and the process is nothing if not involved. Planning starts in spring, when turkeys are reserved and dishes are compiled so ingredients can be located.

"Everything has to be lined up with the grocery stores," Burmeister said. "We make a list of who has

what jobs, which is usually put out in September, and all the supplies are brought down well ahead of time."

Burmeister and a group of older ladies have the job of making the stuffing and dressing for the turkey — a duty they've held for years. That work is usually done in the church basement.

It's an event that brings people of all ages together to see it succeed.

Burmeister's daughter, Nichole, served as event co-chair this year and the church youth assist with delivering and transporting food during the event itself. For the congregation, the event brings old and young together to share work, fellowship and friendship.

More than that, it brings the community together. Even after the COVID-19 pandemic forced the supper to move to a drive-through model of service, the guests number in the hundreds. This year alone, St. Peter had 720 people show up. The record is more than 800 in a single year.

The sheer number of turkeys ordered — and other foods besides — means preparing the supper requires larger facilities than just the church kitchen. Historically, the ladies cooked the turkeys at the Hi-Lo Restaurant, formerly owned by Syd and Nadine Malchow, who attend church at St. Peter.

That tradition still held this year, as Jim and Tresa Hussong, who recently purchased the restaurant, offered the use of the facility to the ladies and even helped them purchase



Doris Anschutz (left) Lois Kraft prep one of the many pumpkin pies served at the St. Peter Lutheran Church turkey supper last week.

PHOTOS BY JOSHUA SCHUETZ

some supplies.

"They helped us out a lot," Burmeister said.

Other local folks, organizations and businesses pitched in as well.

As it turns out, it takes a community to make the supper just as much as it takes a community to enjoy it. That's something Burmeister cherishes, from the time spent with her friends in the kitchen each year, to the way people from around the area step up to help the church out.

"We really want to thank everyone else who helped us out this year," Burmeister said. "We truly couldn't do what we do without them."

Marianne Burmeister plays an integral role in the annual St. Peter Lutheran Church turkey supper, which this year served more than 700 people.



Caroline Bosshardt (left) and Kathy Kraft work the kitchen ahead of the St. Peter Lutheran Church turkey supper, which took place last week.



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ITC Midwest conducting aerial line research this month

ITC Midwest will conduct aerial research of high-voltage transmission structures and lines throughout Jackson County and the whole of south-central Minnesota during mid-November, weather permitting.

This research work is being conducted for ITC Midwest by the University of Iowa Technology Institute.

The research is centered on LiDAR, or Light Detection and Ranging, which is a remote sensing method that uses light to measure distances from objects to the ground to create a three-dimensional data set. In this case, the University

of Iowa Operator Performance Laboratory will research the use of LiDAR technology to accurately map ITC Midwest's electric transmission system. The resulting system will help ITC Midwest maintain a safe and reliable electric transmission grid and facilitate repairs following storms.

The aerial research will cover the company's rural lines in areas surrounding the community of Lakefield, as well as Adrian, Albert Lea, Fairmont, Lamberton, Owatonna, Sherburn, Springfield, Windom and Worthington. The flights will be con-



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Aerial research of high-voltage transmission structures and lines throughout Jackson County will be conducted this month using a PZL Mi-2 twin-turbine helicopter with dark green and tan camouflage paint. The aerial research will be conducted at low altitudes of 300 to 400 feet.

ducted using a PZL Mi-2 twin-turbine helicopter with dark green and tan camouflage paint. The aerial research will be conducted at low altitudes of 300 to 400 feet to ensure research integrity. This is normal procedure, so there is no cause for alarm if a low-flying helicopter is sighted near transmission lines during the timeframe indicated above.

ITC Midwest LLC is a wholly owned subsidiary of ITC Holdings Corp., the nation's largest indepen-

dent electricity transmission company. ITC Midwest operates more than 6,600 circuit miles of transmission lines in Minnesota, Iowa, Illinois and Missouri, and holds utility status in Wisconsin. ITC Midwest is headquartered in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, and maintains regional operating facilities in Lakefield and Albert Lea, as well as in Dubuque, Iowa City and Perry, Iowa.

Commissioners hear of broadband plans

by JOSHUA SCHUETZ
Staff Writer

The Jackson County Board of Commissioners on Tuesday heard from Federated Rural Electric regarding plans to apply for a state grant to expand broadband in rural north-west Jackson County.

Federated General Manager Scott Reimer said the co-op wants to build out fiber to the home in rural Jackson County, adding the Heron Lake area is a good place to start because it was not put up for auction in the Federal Communications Commission's Rural Digital Opportunity Fund reverse auction.

The move comes on the heels of controversial behavior by two companies, Nextlink and LTD Broadband, which mopped up large swaths of territory at the auction, including most of Jackson County. LTD in particular has been accused of failing to acquire the proper licensing in states it has bid to build in, resulting in it being kicked out from those states and being unable to build out commitments in those areas.

"They've been denied in several states because of

that," said engineer Chris Konechne, who is working with Federated on the grant. "Minnesota will be the last shoe to drop because they were founded here."

Surveys have indicated an interest among the roughly 201 people who might be served by the project and Reimer said the application is the next step in Federated's broader goal of building out fiber Internet service in all areas of Jackson County that lack it.

Up to \$520,000 could be funded through the grant.

In other business, the board approved a request from Jackson County Engineer Tim Stahl to apply for a Highway Safety and Improvement Program grant to help the county fund a major project on County State Aid Highway 29, just outside of Alpha. The intersection of CSAH 29 and 34 was the site of a car crash earlier this that killed two people.

If the grant is approved and funded, the county will install a roundabout at that intersection in addition to previous actions taken, such as larger signs, rumble strips and additional signage. The total amount being requested is \$500,000.

"We've had success with this grant — which is a federal grant — in the past," Stahl said. "This application is coming along well."

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PHOTOS BY JUSTIN LESSMAN

TAKING THE STAGE

Above: Jessah Janzen plays flute during the sixth-grade band's performance at the Jackson County Central Middle School concert last week. Left: Adie Lariviere mans the tenor saxophone during the sixth-grade band's performance. Below: Jonah Espey and Nadia Worthington sing in the sixth-grade choir. Bottom: Tatum Larsen and Angela Baez sing during the concert.



PHOTOS BY JUSTIN LESSMAN

A HEROES' SALUTE

Above: Local veteran Jim Siefkin addresses the crowd gathered for last week's Veterans Day program at the Jackson County Central Middle School in Lakefield. Below: Pleasantview Elementary School student Micah Espey sings and claps along to a patriotic song during the program.



PHOTOS BY JOSHUA SCHUETZ

IN REMEMBRANCE

Above: Isaac Somnis sings in honor of veterans past and present, including his late grandfather, during last week's Veterans Day program at the Jackson County Central High School. Right: Taylor Post places a rose on the POW-MIA table during the program.



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Education Minnesota-JCC honors milestone teachers

During American Education Week, Education Minnesota-Jackson County Central honors JCC teachers who have attained milestone years of service in 2021.

American Education Week runs Nov. 15-19.

JCC teachers notching five years of service this year include Mackenzie Henning, Katie Hanson, Kim Paulson, Dustin Pautsch, Janet Haren, Ronald Helmich, Scarlet Thorston and Sarah Theesfeld. Those with 10 years of service include Staci Morrell, Brittany Brennan, Aline Wilking and Brittany Rogers.

Brittan Pohlman has notched 15 years of service, while Darcy Snyder and Rhonda Schmidt each have a quarter-century under their belts. Thirty-year veterans include Shirley Anderson and Kerri Rose,

while Sandra Nunez marks her 35th year of service.



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A SEASON TO CELEBRATE

Huskies reach milestones, make memories during trip to the Class AA state finals

The 2021 season for the Jackson County Central volleyball team is one to be celebrated.

From four straight wins to open the season, to a 10-match winning streak, to a pair of seven-match winning streaks and all the way to the Class AA state championship match, the season was one to remember.

There were milestones — 1,000 kills, 1,000 digs and 1,000 set assists.

There were tournament titles — first the Carolyn Hummel Invitational, then the Section 3AA championship.

There were a few losses — of course there would be with the schedule the Huskies played. There were far more wins — 29 to be exact, which ranks third in school history.

There were celebrations — for points, for wins, for the first trip to state in 18 years.

There were smiles — from players, coaches, families and fans.

There were gold medals — earned after a sweep in the sub-section finals and then following a spirited comeback in the section finals.

And there were silver medals — something to be incredibly proud of and proof hard work and a commitment to the team pay off.

And, most importantly, there are memories — of time spent together on and off the court, of hearing the pep band play the school song, of hearing fans chant and cheer, of accomplishing a goal set long ago.

As head coach Deidre Wierson put it: “It totally has been a dream of all these players. To be able to live it is a lifetime of memories to treasure.”



PHOTOS BY DAN CONDON

Hands raised in celebration is a common sight for the Jackson County Central volleyball team, as is the case at the Class AA state tournament as Alexis O'Reilly (from left), Taylor Post, Sadie Voss, Emma Haren, Georgianna Wenzel and Maci Farmer celebrate a big point. Below: Members of the JCC volleyball team, including Brittany Arduser (center), celebrate the final point in a semifinal win over Mounds Park Academy.



Above: Jackson County Central volleyball players celebrate after a block by Taylor Post (second from left) in the state semifinals. Right: Seniors Sadie Voss and Georgianna Wenzel embrace after qualifying for the state finals. Below: Else Paplow (from left), Sydney Osterberg, Sarah Anderson and Andria Benson celebrate a big point in the quarterfinals against Annandale.



Above: The Jackson County Central volleyball team celebrates its Class AA quarterfinal win over Annandale. Left: Alexis O'Reilly (left) gets a hug from assistant coach Krista Nelson after a win over Mounds Park Academy.



Above: Sarah Anderson waves to the crowd during pre-game introductions at the Class AA state tournament. Below: Sydney Osterberg makes a pass during the state finals. Bottom: Peyton Hanson hammers a kill against Annandale in the state quarterfinals.



PHOTOS BY DAN CONDON

SCENES FROM STATE

Above: Jackson County Central fans cheer for the Huskies after their semifinal win sent them to the Class AA state finals. Bottom left: There was plenty to smile about at the state tournament, as evident by the look on the faces of Maia Reed (left) and Carson Schneekloth. Bottom right: Elizabeth Sathoff is joined by several other JCC fans in cheering on the Huskies at state.



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TOURNAMENT MEMORIES

Top left: Sadie Voss hammers a kill during the Class AA state quarterfinals against Annandale last week at the Xcel Energy Center in St. Paul. Above, middle top: Bailey Finck's sign says how a lot of others also feel. Above, middle bottom: Georgianna Wenzel celebrates a big point in Jackson County Central's quarterfinal win over Annandale. Top right: Maci Farmer sets the ball to Emma Haren at the state tournament. Voss and Farmer were both named to the all-tournament team. Below right: Zach Rasmussen leads a group of JCC students in a cheer at the Xcel Energy Center. Bottom right: JCC head coach Deidre Wierson is all smiles after the Huskies beat Annandale in the Class AA quarterfinals. Bottom left: The JCC pep band plays ahead of the team's semifinal win over Mounds Park Academy.



Above: Emma Haren hammers a kill against Sauk Centre in the Class AA state finals. Right: Maci Farmer (second from right) celebrates after her 1,000th career set assist.



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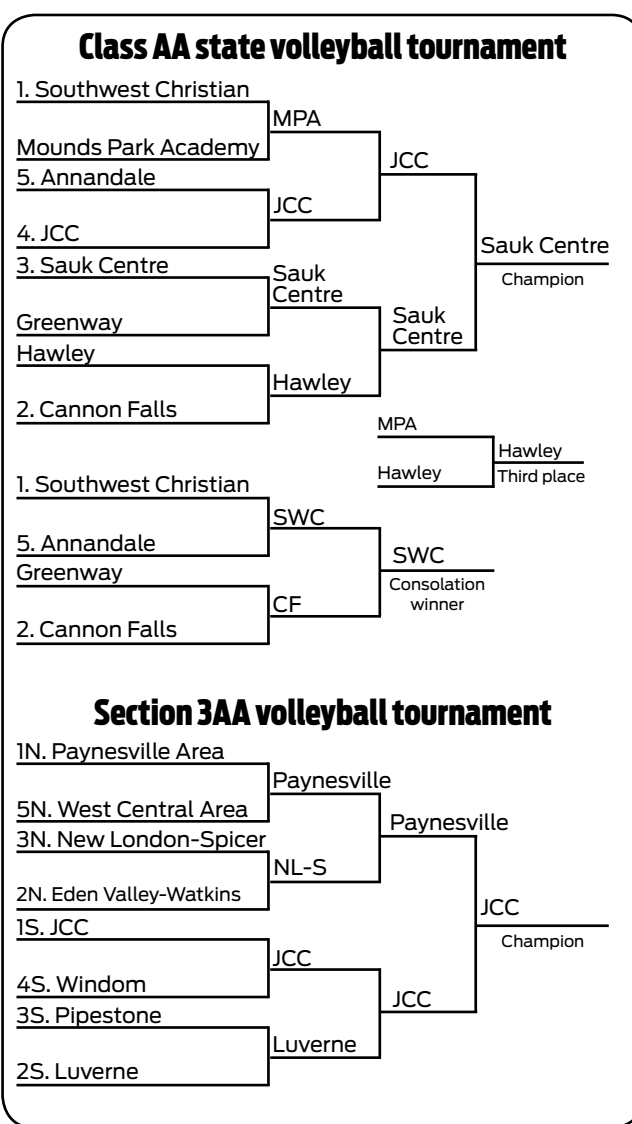
Members of the Class AA runner-up Jackson County Central volleyball team are (front, from left): Taylor Post, Sydney Osterberg, Sadie Voss, Georgianna Wenzel and student manager Victoria Murdock. Back: Head coach Deidre Wierson, assistant coach Janet Haren, Elese Paplow, assistant coach Krista Nelson, Emma Haren, Erin Gallagher, Sarah Anderson, Brittany Arduser, Peyton Hanson, Andria Benson, Alexis O'Reilly, Maci Farmer and athletic trainer Caitlin Place.

PHOTO BY DAN CONDON

2021 JCC Huskies volleyball results

Date	Opponent	Result	Score
8-28	St. James	W	3-0
8-31	HL-O/Fulda	W	3-0
9-2	Spirit Lake	W	3-1
9-7	Redwood Valley	W	3-0
9-14	Marshall	L	1-3
9-16	Sioux Falls Christian	L	0-3
9-18	Westbrook/WG	W	2-0
9-18	Worthington	W	2-1
9-18	Rochester John Marshall	W	2-0
9-18	New Ulm	W	2-0
9-18	HL-O/Fulda	W	2-1
9-21	Windom	W	3-1
9-23	New Ulm	W	3-0
9-24	Barnesville	W	2-0
9-24	Norwood-Young America	W	2-0
9-25	Concordia Academy	W	2-0
9-25	Southwest Christian	L	1-2
9-25	Caledonia	W	2-1
9-30	Pipestone	W	3-1
10-4	St. James	W	3-0
10-5	Luverne	W	3-1
10-11	Martin County West	W	3-0
10-12	Worthington	W	3-0
10-15	Caledonia	W	2-0
10-15	Prior Lake	L	0-2
10-16	Eden Prairie	L	0-2
10-16	Rochester Century	W	2-0
10-16	Sioux Falls Roosevelt	L	1-2
10-18	Fairmont	W	3-0
Section 3AA tournament			
10-29	St. James	W	3-0
11-1	Windom	W	3-0
11-4	Luverne	W	3-0
11-6	Paynesville Area	W	3-2
Class AA state tournament			
11-11	Annandale	W	3-0
11-12	Mounds Park Academy	W	3-1
11-13	Sauk Centre	L	1-3

Overall record: 29-7



2021 JCC Huskies volleyball team

No.	Name	Position	Height	Year
1	Maci Farmer	S	5'7"	11
2	Taylor Post	OH	5'8"	12
3	Elese Paplow	S	5'4"	10
5	Erin Gallagher	DS	5'5"	11
6	Brittany Arduser	MH/RS	5'9"	11
7	Alexis O'Reilly	DS	5'4"	11
8	Peyton Hanson	MH	5'10"	11
9	Sarah Anderson	OH	5'8"	11
10	Sadie Voss	OH	5'10"	12
14	Sydney Osterberg	DS	5'2"	12
15	Emma Haren	MH	5'10"	10
17	Georgianna Wenzel	RS	5'10"	12
18	Andria Benson	OH/RS	5'10"	11

Head coach: Deidre Wierson
Assistant coaches: Krista Nelson and Janet Haren
Student manager: Victoria Murdock



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