

# SPORTS



# FINGERS CROSSED

Superstitions, tight bond have BSU feeling lucky ahead of NSIC Tournament

By Micah Friez The Bemidji Pioneer

f you ask Erin Becker, a share of the Bemidji State women's soccer team's success should be credited to her game day routine.

First, there's a Dunkin' Donuts run and a bowl of Cocoa Pebbles in the morning. Her hair is braided the same way, and she uses the same ponytail.

Somewhere in there, her mom sends a good luck Snapchat.

Becker's socks, shin guards and shoes go on - always right to left. Warmups always begin

at the same spot on the field. She passes with Sara Wendt and Emma Huelsnitz pregame, hugs Madisanne Dahl and shares a handshake with the coach.

**CROSSED:** Page B3 "A lot of my teammates

think I'm crazy," said Becker, who also has to sit on the right side of the bus before road games. "I'm probably the most



The Beavers celebrate with their NSIC regular season championship trophy after defeating Minnesota Crookston on Friday at Chet Anderson Stadium.

## **Unbeaten Beavers win NSIC** regular season championship

**By Micah Friez** The Bemidji Pioneer

turn next, all to the Beavers. mighty roar of team-

Bemidji women's

BEMIDJI — Allyson each other on Fri- up at the end of the title in program hismith held it high. day, but no one out- game." Smith held it high. day, but no one out-Then she passed it side the program was

mates around them. couple of years since State we last did it," Dahl soccer said. "All the hard players freely shared work in the past cou-

lar season champi- everything worth it clinched the second

The award was to Megan Dahl, who about to get their so rightfully earned ger things in life, did the same. Emma hands on it. This after an unbeaten more Mortensen took her thing belonged to the regular season within a strong confer- our world. But in our "It's been a long ence. No. 6 BSU fin-little world, this is ished it off with a important," Bemidji 5-0 win over Minnesota Crookston at Stone said. "It's hard Chet Anderson Sta-

onship trophy with to hold the trophy NSIC regular season

tory.
"There are bigthings going on in State head coach Jim

their NSIC regu- ple years... it made dium, which also UNBEATEN: Page B2

**FOOTBALL** 

## Jacks can't hold off Alexandria comeback for title

**By Christian Babcock** The Bemidji Pioneer

BEMIDJI — Some games have everything but the kitchen sink.

Friday's Section 8-5A championship between Alexandria and the Bemteam was one of them. But then it threw in the sink, and the countertops, and the cabinets. Oh, and an onside kick

struck zero in an impos-

for good measure.

sibly eventful fourth read Alexandria 43, Bemidji 35. But that told about one-thousandth of of the game to get us the story.

is that I never questioned just a couple plays here idji High School football their effort tonight," BHS head coach Bryan Stoffel said. "Their effort was fantastic. I thought lead in the final period they battled their butts off, and put themselves in a great position in the When the clock finally fourth quarter to win up a botched punt snap the game.

enough plays in that fourth quarter at the end past that finish line. We "What I told the boys were oh, so close. And and there put us in a tough spot."

Bemidji built a 35-21 on a Gemini Ellis touchdown run one play after Barrick Nelson picked and ran 73 yards to the FOOTBALL: Page B3

"What happened was Cardinals' 2-yard line. quarter, the scoreboard we just didn't make It seemed at that point, with 8:58 remaining in the game, that the Lumberjacks might have clinched the championship.

But, with three touchdowns in the final 2:48, the Alex offense didn't

Despite being stopped on fourth down on their next possession, the Cardinals forced a Jacks punt and marched down



Jillian Gandsey / Bemidji Pioneer

Bemidji junior Barrick Nelson (42) makes a 73-yard run after a botched punt snap in the second half against Alexandria in the Section 8-5A championship on Friday at Chet Anderson Stadium.



EXICAN EATS

LUMBERJACK
ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

## **Gemini Ellis**

Senior | Football

Gemini Ellis (1), a running back for the Lumberjacks, rushed for 287 yards and three touchdowns in Bemidji's 43-35 loss to Alexandria

**SCOREBOARD** 

**AREA SCHEDULE** WEDNESDAY, NOV. 10

College Women's Soccer

NSIC Tournament: Northern State at Be-

THURSDAY, NOV. 11

FRIDAY, NOV. 12

College Women's Soccer

## **CROSS COUNTRY** Bemidji girls take 13th at 'solid' state showing

By Micah Friez The Bemidji Pioneer

NORTHFIELD — The Bemidji High School cross country teams put a bow on the season Saturday, competing with the best of the best at the Class 3A state meet at St. Olaf College in North-

The Lumberjack girls grabbed 13th in the team standings, while Mia Hoffmann's showing of 35th place led all BHS individuals.

"I'm very proud of the kids," Bemidji head coach Ryan Aylesworth said. "Overall, it was a solid day. As they get done and look back on it, I think they'll realize that they had a pretty good day as a team. Hoffmann crossed the

finish line in 19:10.78, just missing out on allstate honors with a top-25 spot by 15 seconds. Nevertheless, she still recorded the program's best individual state finish since Sadie Hamrin was 24th in 2017.

"She was shooting for a little bit higher, and you come to the meet and it's very good com-petition," Aylesworth said. "I was very proud



The Lumberjacks huddle together near the starting line before the beginning of the Class 3A state meet on Saturday in Northfield.

lead for the girls."

54th and 95th, respectively, while Lauren Berg

and ended up in the team Addison Maish (153rd, 22:09.05) closed the Elsewhere for the team score. Also running Jacks, Josey LaValley for BHS were Aubrey (19:46.06) and Regan DeWitt (155th, 22:17.37) DeWitt (20:16.15) placed and Camille McDermott (160th, 26:21.63).

of where she finished (119th, 20:37.58) and competing," Aylesworth

said. "We placed about where I thought we were going to be at. ... We were seeded 14th, and we ended up in 13th and only a few points out of 12th. I was very proud of "They did a nice job of their efforts as a whole."

Bemidji tallied 303

points, squeezing in right between 12th-place Stillwater (297) and 14th-place Champlin Park (306). Edina won the team title with 75 points, while Section 8-3A produced the individual state champion in St. Michael-Albertville's Ali Weimer (17:42.81).

In the boys race, the two Lumberiack individual qualifiers finished within two seconds of each other. Carson Maish posted a time of 16:56.08 for 79th, while Bryce Kondos clocked a time of 16:57.73 to take 84th.

"They've been running together, training together, so I'm not surprised they were that close," Aylesworth said. "There were a lot of people, a lot of traffic, but they ended up pretty near each other. It was really close to their best times of the year, a couple seconds (off) for both of them, so it was a solid

Nick Gilles of Minnetonka won the individual championship with a time of 15:22.81, while Wayzata won the boys team title.

Micah Friez is the sports editor at the Pioneer. Readers can reach him at (218) 333-9789 or mfriez@ bemidjipioneer.com.

of offense in the first half. It

resulted in Brandon Alt touch-

down passes to Duncan-Bus-

by, Brendan Beaulieu and Malik

Williams, plus a 22-21 advan-

14th TD catch of the year, which

ties the single-season program

record. Alt also set single-sea-

son program records for com-

pletions (226) and passing

regular season at 1 p.m. Satur-

day, Nov. 13, against U-Mary at

NSU 7 14 76 — 34

First quarter — BSU TD, Duncan-Busby 4-yard catch

from Alt (Hoffer PAT), 7-0 BSU; NSU TD, Barnes 48-yard catch from Trautman (Eue PAT), 7-7; BSU TD, Beaulieu 15-yard catch from Alt (2-pt. conversion

Second quarter — NSU TD, Ingram 15-yard catch

Fourth quarter — BSU TD, Duncan-Busby 3-yard

catch from Alt (Hoffer PAT), 29-28 BSU; BSU TD, Harn 3-yard rush (Hoffer PAT), 36-28 BSU; NSU TD, No-

land 47-yard catch from Trautman (2-pt. conversion no

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Pioneer. Readers can reach him at (218) 333-

9789 or mfriez@bemidjipioneer.com.

– NSU TD, Brenton 3-yard rush (Eue

Chet Anderson Stadium.

Bemidji State 36, Northern State 34

BSU 15 7 014 - 36

NSU 7 14 76 - 34

Bemidji State finishes the

The Williams score was his

tage by halftime.

yards (3,221).

good), 15-7 BSU.

Third quarter — PAT), 28-22 NSU.

good), 36-34 BSU.

22-21 BSU.

men's poll (Nov. 8)

The USCHO.com Poll consists of 50 voters, including coaches and beat writers and sports professionals from across the country. The weekly poll is a production of USCHO.com.

Ranking, team, first place votes, record

Ranking, team, lirst place votes, record points, last week 1, St. Cloud, (42), 8-2-0, 989, 1 2, Michigan, (3), 8-2-0, 894, 3 3, Minnesota State, (2), 7-3-0, 871, 2 4, Minnesota Duluth, (1), 6-2-0, 839, 4 5, Quinnipiac, 7-1-2, 795, 6 6, Minnesota, 6-4-0, 727, 5

Others receiving votes: Michigan Tech 94, Bowling Green 89, Bemidji State 77, Connecticut 64, Lake Superior 46, Wisconsin 18, RIT 12, Arizona State 7, Northern Michigan 7, Rensselaer 5, Canisius 2, Colgate 2, Boston University 1, Clarkson 1.

points, last week

6 Minnesota Duluth. 4-4-0, 61, 6 6, Millies Duludi, 44-9, 61, 7, Boston College, 6-2-0, 54, 7 8, Quinnipiac, 10-0-2, 49, 8 9, Clarkson, 9-1-2, 39, 10 10, Harvard, 4-2-0, 14, 9

Others receiving votes: Princeton 7, Connecticut 6, Yale 6.

U-Mary 49. Minot State 31 Minnesota State 52, Southwest MN

**PREP SPORTS** 

Section 8-5A Championship Alexandria 43, Bemidji 35

**Boys Soccer** Class A State Championship (Nov. 6)

Class AA State Championship (Nov. 6)

Class 3A State Championship (Nov. 6)

Mounds View 3. Rosemount 2 **Girls Soccer** 

Class A State Championship (Nov. 6) Minnehaha Academy 4, Breck 2

Class 3A State Championship (Nov. 6)

Stillwater 1, Centennial 0

**FOOTBALL** 

## Beavers survive NSU's Hail Mary, clinch division crown

By Micah Friez The Bemidji Pioneer ABERDEEN, S.D. —

last-second Hail Mary hung in the air, so did the fate of the Bemidji State football team. Should the BSU defense come

down with it, the Beavers were one step closer to their first-ever NCAA Tournament berth. But if Northern State hauled in the touchdown, there went Bemidji State's playoff hopes in one fell

This single play had authority over the rest of the season's

"To be honest with you, I couldn't tell (what happened) on the last Hail Mary," BSU head coach Brent Bolte said. "It was nerve-wracking.'

Hopeful hands reached high for the descending spiral, and a stadium collectively held its breath until someone finally escaped the mad scrum with the football. It was defensive back Jake West, who held his prize high to show that his interception clinched the Beavers' 36-34 win in Aberdeen, S.D., on Saturday.

Bemidji State prevailed with

a fourth-quarter comeback that around the defender's head for up an eye-popping 417 yards protected the team's big-picand 5-0 in NSIC North Division next drive for a 36-28 edge. play, BSU clinched at least a share of the division crown and has the chance to win the overall conference championship this week.

"There's been some crazy moments throughout the course of the season," Bolte said. "But it's just finding a way to win and being a very gritty team. At the end of the day, put yourself in position to make some plays. It was the same recipe today.

The Beaver offense went kaput in the third quarter, allowing NSU to jump ahead 28-22. But the defense forced back-toback takeaways in the fourth Spencer Wehr and Hameed Oyedele interceptions against the team that leads Division II

> in turnover margin — to set up the offense for lategame strikes.

Dhel Duncan-Busby made go-ahead the touchdown grab early in the fourth when he reached

a 2-yard snag. Makaio Harn ture goals. Now at 8-2 overall added a 3-yard TD rush on the

The Wolves (7-3, 3-2 NSIC North) answered back when Hunter Trautman unleashed a bomb and hit Ben Noland for a 47-yard touchdown with 1:41 remaining. But the ensuing 2-point conversion attempt for the tie was an incomplete jump ball, preserving the Bemidji State lead. BSU soon had to punt, and a

perfect pooch kick gave Northern State the ball at its own 2 with 28 seconds left. A long pass got NSU to the 50 with five ticks to go, but Trautman's ensuing Hail Mary found the wrong body in the

end zone. 'Thankfully Jake

West came out with it. He said he caught it clean, BSU TD, Williams 5-yard catch from Alt (Hoffer PAT), 15-14 BSU; NSU TD, Olson 100-yard interception return (Eue PAT), 21-15 NSU; BSU TD, Williams 5-yard catch from Alt (Hoffer PAT), actually," Bolte said. "There were bodies all over him, but the official called it right

away. It was a wild ending, that's for dang sure."

The Beaver offense racked

at a time."

"Even in the locker room just now, kind of putting a wrap on this, there were a few players who talked about what's next," Stone added. "We want this to be the beginning, not the end."
No. 6 Bemidji State 5, Minnesota Crookston 0

BSU 2 3—5 First half — 1, BSU GOAL, Schilling (Becker, Wendt), 4'; 2, BSU GOAL, Wendt (Becker, Huelsnitz), 18'.

(Becker, Huelsnitz), 18'.
Second half — 3, BSU GOAL, Peterson (unassisted), 47'; 4, BSU GOAL, Huelsnitz (Peterson), 53'; 5, BSU GOAL, Dahl (French), 86'.
Saves — Stumbaugh (BSU) 0; Harber (BSU) 1; Frantzen (BSU) 0; Stempien (UMC) 16.

Micah Friez is the sports editor at the Pioneer. Readers can reach him at (218) 333-9789 or mfriez@ bemidiipioneer.com.

## UNBEATEN

From Page B1

to put into words, but yeah, it means a lot. All glory to God."

The Beavers (16-0-2, 13-0-2 NSIC) join their 2018 predecessors in summiting the Northern Sun standings. Eight members of this year's team were also part of that history, but the whole team can now fully grasp the significance of the feat.

"Coming in as a freshman, I didn't really realize how (much) the conference championship meant," defender Halle Peterson said. "Now as a junior, seeing it happen, it's such a big deal. We're so lucky to have this opportunity and be with the whole team."

Duncan-

a part of this team."

**Busby** 

Mason Schilling opened the scoring what proved to be the game-winning goal. The match was over by then, UMC 52-2 and boasted a 23-1 advantage in shots on goal.

Waiting 86 more minwas the agonizing part.

"When we scored victory all season. the first goal, all I was thinking was, 'Well, we still have almost a full it was really fun to take those last 85, 86 minto share the experience do it. It's just one game

Wendt Sara scored before halftime, turning on a blind swivfor BSU in the fourth el from the top of the minute, converting on 18-yard box and sending a screamer into the top left corner.

In the second half, as Bemidji State outshot Peterson made it 3-0 in the 47th minute off a header. Emma Huelsnitz (53rd minute) and Dahl (86th) added the icing utes before celebrating on the cake for the Beavers' largest margin of

Now, BSU sets its sights on what lies ahead.

game to play,'" Peter- "We're dreaming son said. "But honestly, big," Dahl said. "In a perfect world, we'd love to go all the way. And utes of the game after who knows? That can that first goal and have happen. We have the fun. ... It was really cool strength and ability to

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**CLASSIFIEDS** 

NSIC Tournament semifinals, TBA (at **Prep Girls Swimming and Diving** Section 8AA Meet prelims, TBA (in Sar

College Volleyball Bemidji State at Sioux Falls, 6 p.m.

College Men's Hockey Bemidji State at Lake Superior State

SATURDAY, NOV. 13 Prep Girls Swimming and Diving Section 8AA Meet finals, TBA (in Sartell)

College Football

Bemidji State at Southwest MN State

U-Mary at Bemidji State, 1 p.m. Prep Girls Hockey Bemidji at East Grand Forks, 2 p.m College Volleyball

College Women's Basketball Mayville State at Bemidji State, 5 p.m College Men's Hockey Bemidji State at Lake Superior State

**COLLEGE HOCKEY** 

**USCHO.com Division I** 

5, Guininpac, 1-12, 1-32

**USCHO.com Division I** women's poll (Nov. 8)
The USCHO.com Poll is compiled weekly and consists of 15 voters, including coaches and women's hockey writers from across the country.
Ranking, team, first place votes, record, points, leat work.

points, last week 1, Wisconsin, (15), 13-0-1, 150, 1 2, Ohio State, 10-2-0, 135, 2 3, Minnesota, 7-3-0, 118, 3 4, Northeastern, 8-2-1, 99, 5 5, Colgate, 11-3-0, 87, 4

**COLLEGE FOOTBALL** 

Saturday's Results Bemidji State 36, Northern State 34 MSU Moorhead 24, Concordia-St. Paul

State 0 Winona State 40, Upper Iowa 12

Friday's Results

Football

Southwest Christian 3, St. Paul Humboldt 0

Orono 1, Holy Angels 0

Class AA State Championship (Nov. 6) Mahtomedi 3, Benilde-St. Margaret's 1

**WOMEN'S HOCKEY** 

## Hogenson stops 56 shots as BSU ties top-ranked Badgers

**By Christian Babcock** The Bemidji Pioneer

MADISON, Wis. — The Bemidji State women's hockey team entered the



tender Hannah Hogenson recorded 56 saves, a new career high, to keep UW off the scoreboard.

The Badgers won the shootout 1-0 after a scoreless five-minute 3-on-3 overtime session and earned an extra point in the WCHA standings.

named the WCHA Goaltender of the Week, did Beavers' 38.

day, making save after athletic save to keep the vaunted Wisconsin attack off the scoresheet. The Beavers' defense killed multiple crucial period, including 39 seconds of 5-on-3 time.

UW finished o-for-3 on the power play while avoiding the penalty box itself.

Hogenson was the p.m. Friday, Nov. 19, at constant through it all, The Beavers dropped as the Badgers never Sunday's matchup 8-1 relented in their attack. as Hogenson, who was They recorded 107 total shots, nearly tripling the

UW did score one goal Hogenson was the in the second, but it was undisputed star of the called back for offsides game for BSU on Satur- after Bemidji State head coach Jim Scanlan challenged the no-call. Reigning USCHO play-

er of the year Daryl Watts posted the lone score in the shootout after overpenalties in the second time, sliding the only puck past Hogenson all afternoon.

The Beavers have a week off before returning to action against Minnesota Duluth at 3:01

the Sanford Center.
No. 1 Wisconsin 0, Bemidji State 0 (UW

First period — No scoring.
Second period — No scoring.
Third period — No scoring.
Overtime — No scoring. Shootout — UW wins 1-0. Saves — Hogenson (BSU) 56; Blair (UW)

No. 1 Wisconsin 8. Bemidii State 1

BSU 1 0 0 - 1
UW 2 6 0 - 8
First period - 1, BSU GOAL, Beebe (Myers, Hunt), 2:37; 2, UW GOAL, Woznewicz (Schneider, Nealey), 12:56; 3, UW GOAL, Schneider (Wozniewicz, Nealey), 14:52. Second period — 4, UW GOAL, LaMantia Second period — 4, UW GOAL, LaMantia (Pettet, Watts), 0:54; 5, UW GOAL, Watts (Kotlowski, Wheeler), 3:02; 6, UW GOAL, O'Brien (Wheeler, Wozniewicz), 4:35, 7, UW GOAL, Watts (Bowlby, O'Brien), 7:54, PP; 8, UW GOAL, Watts (Shirley, 7:54, PP; 8, UW GOAL, Watts (Shirley Edwards), 16:21; 9, UW GOAL, Schneide (LaMantia, Edwards), 17:05. Third period — No scoring. Saves — Baker (BSU) 12; Thompsor (BSU) 23; Blair (UW) 11; Kronish (UW) 2.

Christian Babcock is a sports reporter at the Pioneer, Readers can reach him at (218) 333-9787 or cbabcock@bemidjipioneer.com.



The Lumberjacks await their Section 8-5A championship runner-up trophy after falling to Alexandria 43-35 on Friday at Chet Anderson Stadium.

### **FOOTBALL**

From Page B1

to make it a one-touchdown deficit on Kristen Hoskins' directsnap touchdown run from 1 yard

Alexandria then attempted an onside kick. BHS couldn't corral it, and the Cardinals recovered and took over on Bemidji's 42-yard line.

"It's not over until it's over, and Alexandria proved that today by coming back," said Ellis, who rushed for 287 yards and three

touchdowns. Alex took full advantage of its fortune, marching down the field in 19 seconds of game clock and tying the game on a Will Heydt touchdown run. The Cardinals decided to go for two and con-

in once again to give them a 36-35 lead.

"To be honest, it just hurts," Ellis said. "We played as hard as we could. But in the end, we just couldn't (pull out the win)."

Alexandria added a late score after cornerback Teagan Pfeffer after cornerback Teagan Preffer intercepted Lumberjacks quarter-back Jack Larson deep in Bemidji territory. BHS got the ball back, down by eight points and needing only one score to tie, but a fourth-down intercept by Lieuter and the state of the state down interception by Hoskins sealed the outcome.

The Lumberjacks (6-4) also had to recover from setbacks in the first half, including a two-touchdown second quarter that gave Alexandria (6-5) a 21-14 lead. BHS answered with a score right before halftime, then added two more in the third quarter to take

verted, with Hoskins running it the double-digit lead. It just didn't result in a win on Friday night.

"That's the thing I told the boys, and that's the hard part about high school football, is that at some point it ends," Stoffel said. "And tonight just wasn't our night. I thought for sure it was going to be. I was expecting to

Second quarter — ALX TD, Hoskins 38-yard catch from Steffensmeier (Sansted PAT), 14-14; ALX TD, Heydt 2-yard run (Sansted PAT), 21-14 ALX; BHS TD, Luksik 13-yard catch from Larson (Peterson PAT no good), 21-

20 ALX.
Third quarter — BHS TD, Ellis 62-yard run (2-pt conversion good), 28-21 BHS.
Fourth quarter — BHS TD, Ellis 2-yard run (Peterson PAT), 35-21 BHS; ALX TD, Hoskins 1-yard run (3ansted PAT), 35-28 BHS; ALX TD, Hoskins 1-yard run (2-pt conversion good), 36-35 ALX; ALX TD, Hoskins 6-yard run (Sansted PAT), 43-35 ALX.

Christian Babcock is a sports reporter at the Pioneer. Readers can reach him at (218) 333-9787 or cbabcock@bemidjipioneer.com.

**BEAVER ROUNDUP** 

## **BSU** athletics dept. offers ticket deals for Saturday

**Pioneer Staff Report** sports@

bemidjipioneer.com

BEMIDII Bemidji State athletics department announced Tuesday another ticket deal for the weekend in BSU sports, where a number of fans can watch the Beavers for free.

In recognition of Veterans Day, fans who show a military ID at the ticket window will receive free admission for themselves and a guest to the Bemidji State football team's régular season finale at 1 p.m. on Saturday. Nov. 13, at Chet Anderson Stadium. The same deal also applies to see the BSU women's basketball team open the year at 5 p.m. Saturday inside the BSU Gymnasium.

Saturday is also Faculty/Staff Day at the university, so any member of the Bemidji State faculty or staff can show a BSU ID at the ticket window and gain free admission for themselves and a guest to the football and women's basketball

who purchases a ticket to the football game can show the ticket stub to gain free admission to the women's basketball game.

### Football up to No. 4 in Super **Region 4 rankings**

INDIANAPOLIS — The Bemidji State football team moved from No. 7 to No. 4 in the Super Region 4 rankings on Monday, setting the stage for a win-andin scenario against 4-6 U-Mary this Saturday at (42 first-place votes)

four regions will earn a spot in the NCAA top seed in each region receiving a first-round

The top three in the Marie, Mich.

rankings are Colorado School of Mines, Angelo State, and NSIC member Augustana. NSIC foes Minnesota Duluth and Sioux Falls also check in at No. 7 and No. 9, respectively.

An appearance in the NCAA Tournament would be the first in BSU program history. If the Beavers can maintain or improve upon their region ranking, they will even host a

playoff game.

Bemidji State will find out whether it has reached that plateau during the NCAA D-II Football selection show, which is set to air on NCAA.com at 4 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 14.

### Men's hockey drops from national poll after idle week

BEMIDJI — The Bemidii State men's hockey team dropped out of the USCHO Division I poll on Monday after an idle week, moving from No. 20, the last spot in the poll, to the unranked team receiving the third-most votes.

The Beavers (4-4, 3-1 CCHA) were passed by Northeastern and Additionally, any fan Ohio State, who rose from unranked to Nos. 17 and 18, respectively. Michigan Tech leads the teams receiving votes with 94, followed by Bowling Green State with 89. BSU received 77 votes.

Other CCHA teams represented in the poll include No. 3 Minnesota State, which received two first-place votes; Lake Superior State, which received 46 votes; and Northern Michigan, which received seven

No. 1 St. Cloud State Chet Anderson Stadium. and No. 2 Michigan Seven teams from the (three) round out the top three.

votes.

Bemidji State returns Tournament, with the to the ice to face Lake Superior State on Friday and Saturday, Nov. 12-13, in Sault Ste.

### **CROSSED**

From Page B1

superstitious. ... I don't know why I have them. It just makes me feel more ready."

Regardless of sanity, the most important question is whether or not it all works. "Yeah!" she

exclaimed. "We get the dubs." The No. 6 Beavers

can bank on Becker to carry the same lucky routine into the NSIC Tournament this week. "This year, we're

ready to make a program first," Becker said. "That's our goal, to win the championship.' BSU (16-0-2, 13-0-

2 NSIC) ran through its schedule unbeaten this fall to win the NSIC regular season championship. The title was the second in program history, but similar success in recent years has not led to playoff glory. Bemidji State

is making its 11th consecutive appearance in the conference tournament, but the Beavers have never reached the championship game.

Who: Bemidji State vs.

Stadium

When: 1 p.m. today

tourney this century.

when you have the chance to write your own story and maybe add a chapter or two that hasn't been there before," Bemidji State head coach Jim Stone said. "The kids are excited and the coaches are, too." The Beavers will reach

for new heights this season. Just as much as superstitions, the team's close-knit bond makes the history possible. "This team is

the closest one I've ever been on," said junior keeper Alyssa Stumbaugh, who hasn't allowed a goal in her last 363:54 in net. "It really feels like a sisterhood and a family. To be able to celebrate these accomplishments with this specific team



Northern State

What: NSIC Tournament quarterfinals

Where: Chet Anderson

Livestream: nsicnetwork. com/bsubeavers Twitter: @micahfriez

BSU is just 4-14-3 in the "It's always exciting

is amazing." "They have a great camaraderie," Stone



Jillian Gandsey / Bemidji Pioneer Bemidji State senior Erin Becker (11) gains possession of the ball in the first half against U-Mary on Oct. 29 at Chet Anderson Stadium.

that camaraderie, they're able to be competitive. That's pretty unique." The first test of the

added. "But even within

postseason comes at 1 p.m. today, Nov. 10, when the top-seeded Beavers host eighthseeded Northern State at Chet Anderson Stadium. The winner plays either fourth-seeded Minot State or fifth-seeded Concordia-St. Paul in Friday's semifinals,

while the championship

will kick off at 2 p.m. Sunday. "We want to break records here,"

want to do things that previous teams haven't done yet. We want to make a name for ourselves." And, with a little bit

Stumbaugh said. "We

of luck, BSU can make a run in the conference tournament and beyond. "Our goal this year

is obviously to make it further than we ever have before," Becker said. "We want to keep improving every game. Honestly, we just want

to be the best we can be.' Micah Friez is the sports editor at the Pioneer. Readers can reach

him at (218) 333-9789 or mfriez@

bemidjipioneer.com.

# Don't Delay

# OPT A NEW



Loki is a 6 month old male Short-Haired Gray Tabby kitty. He was born as a stray and well-taken care of before being brought to GRR. If you are looking for a fun and playful boy, Loki is the right kitty for you.

### Pepe Le Pew is a one year old male

Lab mix brought to us by the City of Bemidji pound. He is a vibrant pup full of playful energy. Pepe would make a great companion for someone who is able to give him a little training. Book an appointment on our website or give us a call today to meet him.



Volunteers make a huge difference in the lives of our pets! Why Adopt a Shelter Pet?

### Getting a "free" pet is not exactly free. Here is a list of services covered when you adopt a pet at Great River Rescue..

\$150-\$300 Spaying/Neutering • \$20-\$30x2 Distemper Vaccination

\$25-\$35 Bordatella Vaccination • \$15-\$25 Rabies Vaccination \$50-\$200 Flea/Tick Treatment • \$30-\$50 Microchip • \$310-\$670 Total Cost **Great River Rescue** 1612 Carr Lake RD SE · Bemidji, MN 56601 (218)751-7910 · director@greatriverrescue.com



Open Tuesday-Friday 12:30pm-5:30pm Saturday 12:30pm-4:30pm 802 Paul Bunyan Dr. S, Ste. 19

Bemidji, MN 56601