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## City officer retires; council seat filled

### Scott Weber chosen for position left vacant by Lang

By Bethanie Gengler  
NEENAH NEWS

The Neenah City Council bid farewell to a longtime lieutenant who is retiring and welcomed a new alderperson to fill the District 3 position left vacant by Mayor Jane Lang's election at its meeting last week.

Neenah Police Department Investigations Lt. Pat Pedersen is retiring after 30 years and eight months of service. Police Chief Aaron Olson said Pedersen was hired in 1991 and will be retiring Tuesday.

During his time at the department, Pedersen spent 16 years as the school re-

source officer at Neenah High School. He also worked as a patrol officer, crime prevention officer, drug investigator, sergeant and lieutenant, and was assigned to the tactical and Honor Guard teams.



**Pedersen**

“While on the Honor Guard team, Pat was able to sing the national anthem at many events, including a Milwaukee Bucks game,” Olson said. “Pat has a positive attitude and energy that has been infectious throughout his 30-plus-year career and he will be missed by everyone at the Neenah Police Department and beyond.”

Pedersen was awarded the Hometown Hero First Responder of the Year Award from state Assembly District 55 last year. Lang also recognized Pedersen at the meeting for his service.

“I just think this is a remarkable accomplishment and we are incredibly proud of you and thankful for all that you've done for the city of Neenah,” Lang said. “We're just so grateful to you as a community and we appreciate all the years that you've served.”

The council also voted to appoint Scott Weber to Lang's vacant position, which runs until April, after hearing speeches from four candidates vying to fill the District 3 council position: Mellisa Stafford,

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Photo by David Hall

### Changing scene

Downtown Neenah is viewed from a drone last weekend with a crane in the background over a condominium construction project that is scheduled for completion in January.

## Youth Go a welcome bridge to kids' well-being

By Bethanie Gengler  
NEENAH NEWS

Brindyn Rogers is 11 years old and said he often gets bullied at school. His mom, Sarina Rice, said Brindyn sometimes has a difficult time making friends. His dad is mostly absent from his life.

So when he and his mom attended the open house at Youth Go last week, they were excited to find a place where Brindyn could make new friends and socialize without fear of being bullied.

Executive director Kelly Hicks said for more than 50 years Youth Go has provided a safe and supportive space for area youth like Brindyn.

“Not every kid has a place where they feel like they belong,” she said. “Not every kid has a great support system.”

Youth Go is a free nonprofit drop-in center for kids in fifth through 12th grade at 213 Nicolet Blvd. in Neenah.

Youth Go offers a range of resources and activities. They serve snacks and meals, provide positive adult role models for support,



Neenah News

Ana Flores (left) and Debi Flores shoot pool recently at the Youth Go club.

go on field trips and help young people apply to college.

The clubhouse has an area with couches for lounging, a kitchen, a large game room, an art room and a learning room. They have a washer and dryer for kids to use who may not have access to one at home.

Hicks said the goal of Youth Go is to pro-

vide a place for young people to spend their time after school in the evenings.

“For some kids it may be a place where they come and get help with homework or a place where they come when they get done with school until their parents get done with work,” she said. “For some of the kids, they'll tell you that this place becomes their second

home and the people here become their second family and so it is what they choose to make it.”

The organization was started in 1969 by the late Shirley Sarge-Lopas, a Doty Island resident. Recognizing the need for a service for area youth, she opened her home and started Youth Go.

In the early 1970s the organization moved into the basement of St. Thomas Episcopal Church on Washington St. in Menasha where it operated for about 20 years before purchasing the building in Neenah in the early '90s, where they currently operate.

Youth Go partners with United Way and contracted by the Winnebago County Department of Human Services. They're funded by grants, individual contributions and special events, including a haunted house in the fall and the Midwest Sunsplash Music Festival, which is returning to downtown Menasha July 22-23 after being canceled for the past two years due to the pandemic.

SEE **Youth Go** ON PAGE 7

# Neenah News

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# Neenah native back cooking on MasterChef

## Contestant returns with other top competitors

By Bethanie Gengler  
NEENAH NEWS

Neenah native and two-time MasterChef contestant Emily Hallock said her love of cooking began when she was very young.

"I genuinely don't know when it started because it was so early in my life," she said. "It is literally a part of me."

As a child, Hallock remembers standing on a chair in her mother's home in rural Neenah and helping in the kitchen by peeling potatoes and carrots, decorating holiday cookies and sneaking a bite of the forbidden raw cookie dough when her mom wasn't looking.

Hallock was a contestant on MasterChef Season 9 in 2018, where she placed 10th out of 24 finalists, chosen out of a pool of 40. The cooking show pits amateur chefs against each other to complete cooking challenges and survive elimination for a chance at winning \$250,000 and earning the title of MasterChef. The competition is judged by celebrity chefs Gordon Ramsay, Aaron Sanchez and Joe Bastianich.

Now, Hallock is back on the big screen as she competes in MasterChef Season 12, facing the top 40 competitors from the past 11 seasons. 20 of them will be awarded a white apron which signifies that they're moving forward in the competition.

Hallock, who was born at Theda Clark Hospital and was raised in the outskirts of Neenah, said her very first job was at Zuppas Cafe & Catering on South Commercial Street, where she started working when she was 15.

"It definitely gave me really good insight into how restaurants were run, how to work in a restaurant, but then also it gave me the opportunity to explore in the kitchen," she said.

In her down time at the restaurant, Hallock said she'd often recreate her favorite dishes, such as a special Asian style salad dressing that she liked.

"I worked at a restaurant where I had access to all these ingredients so what I would do is I would experiment and try to replicate the salad dressing for that so that I could then use it in the restaurant or even just back of house for the employees," she said.

Hallock said she utilized some of the skills she learned working at Zuppas during the MasterChef competition.

"It's a totally different story when you're preparing food for 10 people versus 100 people," she said. "So those were things that I then brought into the MasterChef experience from my experience at Zuppas."

After graduating from Neenah High School in 2008, Hallock attended Lawrence University in Appleton, with the hopes of becoming a scientist. She said she scratched her plans to become a scientist when she received a D in her first chemistry course.



Submitted photo

Emily Hallock has returned to MasterChef competition for its 12th season.

"I had never gotten a D in my entire school career," she said. "So I went back to the drawing board."

What she landed on was anthropology with a focus in food anthropology. At the time, the university didn't have a food anthropology class or program so Hallock said she did an independent study in food anthropology with a professor. Lawrence University now offers a food anthropology class to students, inspired by Hallock's interest.

Hallock graduated from Lawrence University in 2012. She spent several years in New Orleans where she worked at Commander's Palace, a fine dining institution.

"It gave me a really unique perspective and introduced me to different ingredients and different styles of cooking and different ways of doing things," she said.

Hallock now lives in Chicago with her two dogs where she works as a consumer insights manager. She said she regularly visits her mom in Neenah, where she likes to help with gardening.

"That's kind of my country retreat from this city lifestyle that I now have," she said.

Hallock was featured on the first audition episode of MasterChef Season 12, which premiered May 25 on Fox. The episodes air each Wednesday and are also available on Hulu.

Hallock made a crab and mascarpone tortellini in a lemon beurre blanc with seasoned crab salad as her audition dish.

"The dish oozes precision and gives us all a stern reminder how early you left this competition," chef Ramsay told her after tasting the dish, referring to the way Hallock was knocked out of Season 9. During that competition, Hallock was offered the chance to save herself from a cooking challenge or go head-to-head with another competitor of her choosing. Hallock chose to compete against Shanika Patterson, who she had butted heads with during the competition, and lost, knocking her out of the competition and putting her in 10th place

overall.

Patterson is also competing in Season 12 and both she and Hallock were awarded white aprons in the first episode, indicating they will continue in the competition.

"She was probably one of the people that I was hoping wouldn't be there," Hallock said. "But when I'm in the MasterChef kitchen I'm focused on what I'm doing and I'm not going to focus on what other people are doing because you don't have control over what they're doing."

Hallock describes her cooking style as modern global with a nod to her Wisconsin roots.

"Dairy runs in my veins," she said. "Growing up in Wisconsin, half of my diet is cheese, milk, cream, sour cream. Does it impact my style of cooking? Maybe not my style of cooking but is everything better with cheese on it? Absolutely."

She said she prepared for Season 12 the same way she did for Season 9, by using recipe flashcards. She also worked to expand her skills in the kitchen.

"I was catching up on different techniques like compressing things and foaming things and suvet and all of these different techniques so that I would be able to go in, walk into the MasterChef kitchen with more knowledge than when I left," she said.

Her decision to audition for the show was based on her curiosity of what competing in a television cooking show would be like.

"That's how I got into this entire experience that's turned into one of the most unique, transformative kind of experiences that I think I've ever had," she said.

Only time will tell how far Hallock will go in the competition, but even with a healthy dose of television appearances, she's keeping a level head.

"Even from Season 9 I never went into this experience going, 'I want to be on MasterChef and I'm going to win MasterChef,'" she said. "I'm not a celebrity, I'm just a normal person that happened to go on a cooking show."

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Photo by David Hall

## Local road funding announced by DOT

Neenah News

About \$149 million in state funding for 342 local road improvement projects were announced by the state Department of Transportation and Gov. Tony Evers last week, including Larsen Road in the Town of Neenah and portions of Winnebago County Trunks II and A.

The funding comes from six components of the Local Roads Improvement Program (LRIP) administered by the DOT. County and municipal projects with \$250,000 or more in total eligible costs could apply for up to 50 percent state funding under the discretionary component (LRIP-D) and up to 90 percent under the Supplemental component (LRIP-S).

Larsen Road will receive \$2,174,649 in LRIP funds toward its \$3,133,500 project cost. County II will get \$450,640 of the \$1,055,413 project cost while County A gets \$124,987 of the \$250,000 total cost.

The funded projects are to be completed over the next five years.

“So far, we have improved more than 1,700 miles of roads and nearly 1,300 bridges throughout our state, and today we’re making another major investment in the improvement of our local roads,” Evers said.

## All dressed up

Above are some of the more than 30 downtown creative scene tree beds stretching from The Plaza at Gateway Park to the library. Future Neenah’s Spring Fling project art installment runs through Sunday.

## Housing plan for Shattuck Middle School building to be shown to residents

Neenah News

A housing plan for the Shattuck Middle School building and property will be presented Tuesday evening to neighboring residents for community feedback ahead of the developer’s presentation to the

Board of Education set for June 20.

The 6 p.m. meeting will be held at Shattuck Middle School, where the regional development group that has specialized in historic building renovations will gain feedback on the project being proposed

for the property.

The city has looked at conceptual plans for the property but hasn’t been formally involved at this point.

The development group that has not been identified has expressed interest

in purchasing the property and school buildings built in the late 1920s that will be vacated when middle school classes are moved to the Tullar Road campus and the high school will move to its new location on County II.



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# Ice cream shop adds a little flavor to downtown

By Bethanie Gengler  
NEENAH NEWS

Here's the scoop: A new ice cream shop has opened up in The Marketplace downtown, bringing 16 frozen flavors to the Fox Valley.

Broken Tree Pizza, a wood-fired pizza shop that's operated in The Marketplace for seven years, is dipping into the ice cream business by opening Frozen Tree Ice Cream in the vacant space next door.

Broken Tree and Frozen Tree are both owned by Keith and Emily Schreiner. The couple lives in Neenah with their two children, Henry, 8, and Hailey, 11, and two dogs.

Keith said that navigating the world as a small business owner during the pandemic was challenging, but community support kept Broken Tree busy. With the addition of The Plaza at Gateway Park Neenah last year, which included an ice rink that saw more than 30,000 skaters its first season open, Keith said he saw an uptick in business.

"We love the fact that the ice rink has gone in and it has done a lot for business here," he said. "We definitely saw a big difference this past winter which is exciting ... and hopefully this winter it's going to be even better."

Keith said the addition of the ice rink has brought a new demographic of people visiting downtown in the winter, which convinced him that an ice cream and dessert shop could be a viable business year-round.

The Marketplace has not had a stand-alone ice cream vendor since Cherry On

Top closed in December 2015. Keith said when Cherry On Top closed, Broken Tree purchased its ice cream equipment.

In the past, Broken Tree has offered scoops of ice cream during the summer months. When space opened in The Marketplace this year, Keith said he jumped at the chance to run a stand-alone ice cream business.

After renovating the space, Frozen Tree had a soft opening in late May. They're offering Chocolate Shoppe Ice Cream, a popular super-premium ice cream out of Madison.

"You can find them all over the state and the area and Chocolate Shoppe is just a great product and people love it and they do a lot of really unique ice creams and fun ice creams that people like," Keith said.

Frozen Tree is only offering cones and dishes of ice cream right now, but as they get more equipment in they'll be offering sundaes, shakes and other items. Out of the 16 varieties of ice cream, half of the flavors will be regularly stocked and half will change as they bring in other popular varieties.

Keith's son rattled off a few of the available flavors: Blue Moon; Superman; Sticks and Rocks; It Just Got Serious. Henry was the very first customer at the ice cream shop. He recommended trying his personal favorite flavor: Ultimate Oreo.

The new shop is being managed by longtime Broken Tree employee Gretta Zellmer of Menasha. Zellmer has worked at Broken Tree since she was 15. She's now a student at Wisconsin Lutheran College in Milwaukee, majoring in management. Zellmer said managing Frozen Tree over



Neenah News

Frozen Tree Ice Cream manager Gretta Zellmer is shown recently behind the counter of the new shop downtown.

the summer has the added bonus of providing her with internship experience.

"It's such a vibe working in an ice cream shop," she said. "It's super fun. I love talking to customers and I like meeting new people so that's always great for me."

The shop is open from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m.

seven days a week.

"Downtown Neenah has had an ice cream shop for as long as I can remember," Keith said. "It's one of those little shops that you want every community to have in the downtown area and for us, it's a great addition."

## City council

FROM PAGE 1

owner of Fava Tea Co.; Timothy Jacobson, employed by Oshkosh Defense; Jeffrey Linski, employed by Allegiant Air; and Weber, employed by Phillips-Medisize.

District 3 Alderperson Todd Stevenson congratulated all candidates for applying.

"On behalf of the council and on behalf of the community, thank you to all four of you for putting yourself out there," he said. "It's truly a unique opportunity, but it is an exposure that you expose yourself and your family to and so we thank you for your interest in serving your community and I am proud of the quality of candidates that we have here this evening."

Weber is a Neenah High School graduate who grew up on Doty Island. He and his wife, Julie, raised four children here and

he serves on the Junior Achievement-Winnebago Area board of directors and on the Neenah-Menasha YMCA board.

"I think those experiences, as well, bring me a different perspective on how other governing types of bodies work and I think I can bring that perspective to the city council," Weber said at the meeting.

He said he's honored to be chosen.

"The other three applicants also had excellent presentations of their passion for the city of Neenah and their capabilities," he said. "As a lifelong resident of Neenah, I'm very much looking forward to serving on the council and helping to be a voice for the residents in the 3rd District and being part of the ongoing evolution of our great city."



Weber



Photo from Neenah Historical Society



## Garden walk

This undated photo shows women walking through the gardens of the Clark Home. The Home and Garden Club was a group through the YWCA and taught women about gardening, landscaping and floral design among many other topics.

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Photo from Legion Post 33

## Pregame ceremony

Neenah American Legion Post 33 presented the colors at Neenah Baseball's Summer Clash tournament last Saturday at Southview Park. Legion members are (from left) Bruce Schinke, Bob Borszich, Gene Greening and post Commander Mike Dart.

## K-C, Meijer continue neonatal care program

Kimberly-Clark's Huggies diapers and Meijer stores are partnering again this year to support neonatal intensive care unit families through Hand to Hold, a nonprofit organization that provides personalized care to parents through early intervention mental health support in English and Spanish.

For every box of Huggies diapers purchased now through June 18 in stores or at Meijer.com, the Huggies brand will donate \$2 to Hand to Hold up to \$60,000.

An estimated one in seven babies born

in the U.S. spends time in the neonatal intensive care unit.

In 2017, Huggies partnered with nurses and parents to create a special line of diapers and wipes for NICU babies and their delicate skin.

When babies need specialized medical attention, it can be traumatic to parents and disruptive to traditional parent-baby bonding, with those parents up to 30% more likely to experience perinatal mood and anxiety disorders.

For more information on Hand to Hold, visit [handtohold.org](http://handtohold.org).

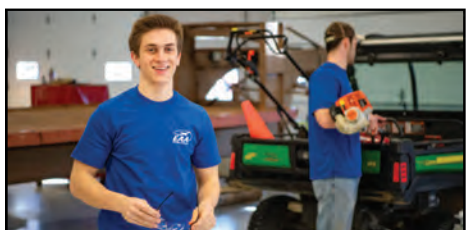
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# Calendar of events

- June 10**  
Friday Family Fun, 6 p.m., The Plaza and Globe Coffee
- June 11**  
Future Neenah Farmers Market, 8 a.m., Shattuck Park  
Doty Island Annual Rummage Sales, 8 a.m.  
Sailing Open House, 10 a.m., Riverside Park

- June 12**  
Backdraft Bike Tour, 7 a.m.
- June 15**  
Summer Kickoff Concert with The Britins, 6 p.m., 100 block of West Wisconsin Avenue
- June 16**  
Out to Lunch Concert, 11:30 a.m., Shattuck Park
- June 18**  
Udderly Euro Car Show, 3 p.m., Shattuck Park
- June 19**  
Summer Fun Run, 7 p.m., Memorial Park
- June 21**  
Neenah Community Band, 7 p.m., Riverside Park

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# Girl-powered giving opens young eyes to local needs

By Maureen Wallenfang  
FOR THE WOMEN'S FUND

What would you do if someone handed you \$200? Or \$10,000? The catch: You can't keep the money and must give it to a worthy cause.

The Women's Fund for the Fox Valley Region, a nonprofit dedicated to the advancement of local women and girls, gave a dozen area high school girls control of the purse strings to do just that. In the process, the girls learned about philanthropy and how giving could improve the lives of those around them.

"I never knew what the word philanthropy was," said Maddy, a 16-year-old sophomore participant from Neenah. "I found out there's more to life than sports. It helped me to be more focused on others."

"I assumed that just wealthy people could do that," said Alondra, a 17-year-old junior from Appleton. "But it was amazing to see that just \$200 could go a long way."

It's the 11th year the Women's Fund conducted this teen-centered program as a lesson in giving.

This year, girls came from seven high schools and each was assigned a mentor to lean on for advice through the four-month program.

With the \$10,000 grant, the group collectively decided that mental and emotional wellness was a top priority for their generation and was worth the investment.

"It's an area a lot of people struggle with," Maddy said.

"We came to the conclusion in our group that mental health is not something you take lightly and needs immediate attention," said Alondra.

The group reviewed grant applications submitted to the Women's Fund and ultimately



Submitted photo

Maddy (right) and Mallory took part in a Women's Fund program that was a lesson in giving.

mately voted to split the grant, giving two nonprofits \$5,000 each.

The recipients were Exceptional Equestrians' Mental Health Matters equestrian therapy program for mothers and daughters, and Ebb & Flow Connections Cooperative's Youth eCPR program that supports youth in emotional distress or crisis.

The teens tapped into a significant need by focusing on mental health, said Julie Keller, Women's Fund executive director. Specifically, the girls identified a gap in support for high school girls to take the first step to getting help with mental and emotional wellness outside of the therapeutic setting. They felt more support is needed to improve access and get assistance up front to build girls' capacity to

take up issues that are holding them back before they reach the stage of a mental health crisis.

"You're on to something," she told the group at its final meeting. "It's a unique and more preventative way of thinking about mental health and I was impressed with that. It's different from what we'd had in past groups."

Each teen was also in charge of disbursing a \$200 mini grant. Girls had the option to donate the money to a nonprofit or create a project with the money that could generate a larger donation for a specific cause.

In the process, the girls learned the community needs lots of things.

Maddy used her \$200 to buy blank can-

vas bags. She painted each bag and sold them through schools, her church and her mother's workplace, raising an astonishing \$5,000.

With that money, she bought 274 Build-A-Bear Workshop stuffed animals for children and teens admitted to the residential treatment program at Rogers Behavioral Health in Oconomowoc.

"They'll be given to kids admitted to inpatient residential care, the highest level of care. They're to provide comfort in a difficult situation," Maddy said.

Likewise, Alondra, the Appleton junior, used the seed money creatively. She bought fabric and made 14 blankets that she donated to Harbor House, a shelter in Appleton.

## District removes masking threshold for summer

Neenah News

Masks will be optional for summer school students throughout the summer after action by the Neenah Joint School District Board of Education at its Tuesday meeting to remove the 2% COVID case threshold.

During the school year, students were required to wear masks if 2 percent of their school enrollment had positive cases. The recommendation is based on low rates of COVID among students and the desire to begin shifting to a choice educational setting.

The board also approved allowing students to return to school on the sixth day after a positive test. Students will be required to wear masks for five days upon return, based on Centers for Disease Control guidelines.

In other action, teaching hires approved

for Aimee Stevens and Robin Wagner as elementary math interventionists, Shawna Smith and Amanda Strupp as elementary literacy interventionists, Mikayla Uchtyl and April Ellestad at the high school, Paige Eisen at Spring Road, Sarah Gallenberg at Washington and Sherry Gonwa at Lakeview.

Noncertified staff hires include Achraf Briki as a help desk technician, Jane Coenen as administrative assistant to the superintendent and Betsy Tesch in operations at Roosevelt/Alliance. Educational assistants hired include Wendy Good at Coolidge, Carolyn Janssen at Lakeview, Sarah Heller at Spring Road and Linda Dums at Horace Mann.

Resignations were accepted for Julie Guerin, Katy Massot and Jordan Wunderlich at Taft, Meghan Ray at the secondary level and Lisa Johnson at Roosevelt/Alliance.

# Summer

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## Youth Go

FROM PAGE 1

Hicks has been working at Youth Go for about 18 years and said the most difficult period of that time was during the pandemic, when they closed for three months.

“For so many of our kids this is the place where they find connection,” she said, “so to not be able to be open for them, it was really challenging.”

To continue serving young people during the pandemic, Youth Go offered virtual programming, Zoom hangouts and trivia. Some of the kids set up a virtual Youth Go within the Minecraft video game. They also started a food-sharing program from March 2020 through last December.

“Because we serve snacks and dinner here every day that we’re open, we had refrigerators and freezers in the pantry full of food that we knew we weren’t going to be using in the near future, so we gave it all to our families,” Hicks said.

Despite the challenges of the pandemic, Hicks said her experience at Youth Go has been rewarding.

“The thing that stands out to me the most is because I’ve been able to be here for a significant amount of time, I’ve maintained relationships and friendships with kids that have graduated and moved on and I’m really able to see the impact that this place can have on their lives,” she said. “We talk about the Youth Go family, to be able to continue to be a part of that for some of these kids, and to be invited to their college graduations and their weddings, it’s really an incredible thing.”

Youth Go employs nine full-time and four part-time employees.

“There are some staff members that came to Youth Go as kids,” Hicks said. “It’s just a really special connection because they’ve been where those kids are and they’ve grown up here, so it’s just really great to watch those relationships grow.”

Community outreach coordinator Alice Zarda has been at Youth Go for 21 years. Among the programs Zarda helps facilitate are a wide range of activities for youth that identify as LGBTQ.

“I would say at least 50% of the kids on a given night when you walk in the door are probably identifying as LGBTQIA+ somewhere,” Zarda said. “So that’s clear, that’s who is looking and needs us.”

Youth Go offers a SAFE (Students Advocating For Equality) Group, a SAFE Cafe and they’re hosting a Pride Party this Saturday.

“Every time you walk into Youth Go you should feel connected, welcome, affirmed and accepted, but that’s just a specific time that we offer young people,” Zarda said. “That’s where we’re seeing people bringing their kids from Sheboygan, from Wrightstown, from Seymour, because they’re so desperate to find support and they want the kids to feel a connection and a community and (that) they’re not alone.”

Last week, Youth Go welcomed the community to an open house to bring awareness to its services and programs. Kids played pool, skeeball and ping-pong during the event. Brindyn played on the piano and tried shuffleboard for the first time.

For Sarina and Brindyn, who live in Menasha, the open house was their first opportunity to learn about the programs offered.

“That’s great for these kids to come in and hang out with other people that they know,” she said, adding that her son could benefit from more interaction with children his age.

“Can I stay here tonight?” Brindyn asked.

Kids like Brindyn “just need a chance to develop friendships and figure out who they want to be in the world and have their creativity nurtured,” Hicks said. “This is just a place where they can come and be with positive people and be cared for and not have to be alone.”



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# O'Hauser disc golf throwing strong after 30 years

## Fox Crossing parks staff works with area club

By Dan Roherty  
NEENAH NEWS

Fox Crossing's only golf course may be of the disc variety but continues to be a popular fixture at O'Hauser Park as it marks 30 years hosting the steadily growing sport.

The park's disc golf layout, which doesn't take up the same kind of space as a standard ball course, continues to evolve



Terlap

with the combined help of parks staff and volunteer enthusiasts.

Established in 1992 under the leadership of Rich Martin, an early architect of Fox Cities disc golf who died earlier this year at age 76, the original course layout even had some

personal input from the sport's founder, "Steady" Ed Headrick.

O'Hauser has stayed among the top course layouts in the region thanks to a series of updates and care given to the park landscape. The sport's growth on the state and national level has been matched locally from the time O'Hauser opened as one of roughly a dozen in Wisconsin to almost 400 today at many city and county parks, school grounds and private locations.

"We are very blessed with great vision from Rich Martin many years ago and support from the Fox Crossing Parks Department," said John Terlap, one of the active leaders of the Appleton Area Disc



Neenah News

Players compete in the Raging River Open disc golf tournament held last month at O'Hauser Park.

Golf Club who administers the group's Facebook page that keeps players and volunteers informed.

Terlap, who has been playing disc golf since 1991 while working for Kimberly-Clark in Georgia, turned his earlier passion for ball golf into the cheaper but still competitive alternative. A member of the Wisconsin Disc Sports Association board of directors, he helps the group manage the state's disc golf tour with 20 tournaments a year and champions in about 15 divisions.

"We collect fees for these tournaments and turn that into donations for courses throughout Wisconsin," he said, with al-

most \$70,000 distributed so far this year to more than 100 locations and programs.

While O'Hauser has always featured as many as three tee pads per hole and a par challenge, it expanded its footprint in the park's wooded area some years before a major redesign in 2012 added extensive landscaping and erosion-control elements around the tee pads and basket areas.

Amanda Geiser has been Fox Crossing's parks and recreation director since 2016 when she took over the role from Neenah's current parks director Michael Kading, who also worked with Terlap and Martin on course needs. She said that kind of cooperation has made the course a good fit for the park and a destination for players.

"That is not my area of expertise, so that is where I definitely lean on John for suggestions on how to improve things. He's our eyes on the course," Geiser said. "He's a good liaison between our department and the disc golf community because he's essentially connected with everyone."

A disc golf advisory committee was formed late last year to hear everyone's voice on the direction of the course as it relates to the village park, which Geiser said will help take some of the organizational load off Terlap's steady efforts.

"We're incredibly lucky to have him out there," she said, "but I don't want to put the expectation on him that he needs to be doing everything."

Another major driver of course development has been revenue from players' fees, which came with the last major upgrade in 2012. At \$3 per day or \$25 annually, players benefit from the improve-

ments and upkeep as all the money goes into a dedicated disc golf account.

"It has transformed what we've been able to do out there," Geiser said, noting that annual pass purchases have about doubled in the past two years. "We definitely wouldn't be able to do what we do out there without the funds that come in from those daily and annual passes."

A new electronic kiosk in the works will take credit card payments for daily player fees along with the current cash envelope drop box. Annual passes can be purchased through Fox Crossing Parks and Recreation.

But the real currency behind the course's quality and competitive reputation has a lot to do with the combined efforts of volunteers and village park staff support.

"Before they went pay-to-play, the Parks and Rec Department did as much as they could within their budget," Terlap said. "Rich did a bunch of fundraising to help with new tee signs and the work to cut new fairways during the redesigns."

With those fees and village support, new baskets and landscaping have been funded in the last five years, most recently nine Mach VII baskets for a shorter layout more suited to beginners and family outings.

Terlap also credits the pay-to-play model for a decrease in garbage and vandalism. He said tree damage is mostly limited to normal wear and tear due to steady player traffic.

"We have had a recent rash of people

SEE O'Hauser golf ON PAGE 9

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# O'Hauser golf

FROM PAGE 8

snapping off the tops of buckthorn, but I think that is going to backfire because it comes back with a vengeance," he said.

Geiser also sees the value of a player-supported system through the fees and the club's organized approach.

"The golfers out there for the most part are really good at policing themselves. They want to see that course maintained to a high standard," she said. "They are very good at communicating with the other golfers and with our office if they see issues out there."

The club's Facebook page keeps players current on who's playing when, lost discs turned in and often returned to their owners, and any upcoming work projects and league play. The group stays updated on many courses in the Fox Valley region but helps influence specific design changes at O'Hauser, the new and expanding layout in the Town of Clayton, Plamann Park in Grand Chute, Grignon Park in Kaukauna, and at Winnebago County Community Park.

Terlap noticed added interest in disc golf during the pandemic as it was a sport that could still be enjoyed within health rules and regulations, and likely accounts for a share of the increased fee revenue.

"People are starting to realize that disc golf is a much easier and less expensive activity compared to ball golf," he said. "Also, it takes about a third of the time to play."

Disc golf clubs and courses promote the UDisc app, which can keep score on most any course nationwide, tracking throws and statistics, while finding and following events at the more than 13,000 courses it lists worldwide.



Neenah News

New Mach VII baskets were installed for the permanent short course.

Club organizers balance their efforts between encouraging new players and creating a competitive environment that draws some of the game's best players.

"We have worked in the past with the Fox Cities Convention & Visitors Bureau to bring tournaments to the area and we are looking for more opportunities in the future," Terlap said.

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# Rockets' run ends one win shy of state berth

By Dustin Riese  
NEWS CONTRIBUTOR

The Neenah softball team's late-season run came to a halt one game short of the state tournament as the Rockets fell to Oshkosh West, 4-3, in a WIAA Division sectional final at UW Oshkosh's softball field last Thursday.

It was the third time Neenah lost to Oshkosh West this season and kept the team from making its first state appearance since winning the 1995 state championship.

"I am very emotional right now, and just sad for how this ended," pitcher Morgan Harwood said. "To work so hard to get this far and come so close to making it to state only to lose is a tough pill to swallow, that's for sure. We now know what this feels like, and this will be used as motivation for us next season."

It was unlikely that the Rockets would even get to this point given their seventh-seed in the sectional and an opening round game against Oshkosh North, which had beaten them twice this season.

Yet, a win over the Spartans was followed by an upset victory over second-seeded Slinger and then Harwood's 19-strikeout gem in a 2-0 win over Watertown landed the Rockets in the sectional final, riding a five-game winning streak.

Neenah just couldn't hold off Oshkosh West to keep the ride going.

"The girls fought hard, and battled back after falling behind early," head coach Steven Gross said. "West is a very solid team, and we knew coming into this game it was going to be a battle. Unfortunately, someone had to lose, and we were the ones un-



Photo by Jim Koepnick

Neenah's Quinn Marochna pounds on home plate after scoring in the Rockets' three-run, fourth inning outburst against Oshkosh West in a WIAA Division 1 sectional final softball game at UW Oshkosh's softball field.

able to come out on top."

After falling behind in the first, Neenah grabbed the lead in the fourth innings when Piper Alberg plated a pair of runs with a double and then scored on a double

by Amara Kaminski for a 3-1 lead.

That stood until the bottom of the fifth inning when West regained the lead on a three-run home run by Braelee Jodarski.

Neenah threatened in its final two at bats but couldn't push the tying run across.

In the sixth, the Rockets got singles from Parker Zipperer Savannah Knuth and McKenna Herm but were held scoreless, while Neenah loaded the bases with nobody out in the seventh but came up empty again.

"The effort the team gave not only today,

but all week was amazing," Harwood said. "I couldn't have asked for anything more from my teammates. That is something I know I can count on as everyone on this team will give you 100% effort no matter what your role on this team is."

Harwood scattered seven hits and a walk, while striking out three and headlines a nucleus of players who will be returning next season with the experience of playing in a sectional final.

Neenah graduates just three seniors from its roster and could be a factor in the talent-rich Fox Valley Association next season.

"What a ride this season has been for our program," Gross said. "We have experienced the highs, lows and everything in between. This group of girls is absolutely amazing and resilient, and I wouldn't trade them for anything. The love, passion, and desire they have to not only play this game, but as teammates to one another can't be matched and that is something our program prides itself on. These kids come to work every day and they are not only amazing softball players, but even more amazing people."



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**WE CATER**

# Prep sports roundup

## GOLF

### Zephyrs' Lynch ties for fifth at state meet

Spencer Lynch turned in two rounds in the 70s at Blackwolf Run and finished in a tie for fifth place at the WIAA Division 3 State Golf Tournament earlier this week.

Lynch finished with a two-day total of 155 after rounds of 77 and 78. He finished tied with Newman Catholic's Connor Krach, one shot behind Cambridge's Nick Buckman.

Trey Oswald of Parkview was medalist with a total of 150.

Lynch opened his first round in rainy conditions on Monday with two bogeys but then rattled off eight straight pars before a birdie on the par-5 11th hole. However, he bogeyed four of his final seven holes to finish the first round 5-over.

In his second round on Tuesday, Lynch had seven pars on his first nine holes, starting on the back nine, and then picked up a birdie on the par-4, hole No. 1. He capped his round with three straight pars to finish his tournament.

The fifth-place finish was the best for a Zephyr golfer since Grant Boyson tied for sixth in 2018. Boyson also tied for sixth place in 2016.

### Callahan caps career with two rounds at state

Neenah senior John Callahan wrapped up his prep career by shooting a two-day total of 171 in the WIAA Division 1 State Golf Tournament at Blackwolf Run in Kohler earlier this week.

Callahan fired rounds of 85 and 86 and



Photo by Craig Hoffman

St. Mary Catholic's Spencer Lynch lines up a putt during the first round of the WIAA Division 3 state golf tournament at Blackwolf Run on Monday. Lynch finished in a tie for fifth place.

finished in a four-way tie for 72nd place among the 104 golfers. He was the first Rocket golfer to compete at the state meet since Sam Galloway in 2016.

The highlight of Callahan's state trip came on Tuesday, when he birdied the par

4, 341-yard 13th hole. He registered nine pars in his opening round and eight pars on Tuesday.

Eau Claire Memorial's Will Schlitz fired a second-round 69 to win Division 1 medalist honors with a total of 145.

## TRACK AND FIELD

### Relays lead Rockets at state track meet

The Neenah boys and girls combined to have four relays compete at the WIAA Division 1 state track and field meet in La Crosse last weekend, with the boys 1,600-meter relay earning the team's best finish.

The foursome of Charles Fredrickson Gage Ramos, Ethan Snider and Jack Monson finished in 11th place with a time of 3:27.38. The quartet was .21 seconds short of making the finals in the race.

The Rockets also finished 22nd in the 400-meter relay and 16th in the 800-meter relay but neither relay team advanced to the finals.

The girls 3,200-meter relay placed 24th overall.

Among Neenah's three individuals to compete at the state meet, Laura Tears had the best finish, placing 19th in the girls 1,600 meters. Isiah Lassiter finished 19th in the boys 800 meters, while Mazie Olkowski took 23rd in the girls 3,200 meters.

### Anderson eighth, Groppe 12th at state

Nolie Anderson finished eighth in the girls discus and Alexander Groppe was 12th in the boys 800 meters in representing St. Mary Catholic at the WIAA Division 3 state track and field meet held last weekend in La Crosse.

Anderson was one of only two fresh-

SEE **Prep roundup** ON PAGE 15



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# Talented Rockets take aim at team state foes

By Steve Clark  
NEENAH NEWS

It's another trip to the WIAA Team State Tennis Tournament for the Neenah High School boys program.

And this time, the Rockets are sporting a newly crowned state champion in its lineup

Sophomore Solomon Dunsirn is coming off an impressive run to the Division 1 state singles title and will help lead the Rockets into their 19th appearance at team state, which begins Friday at Nielsen Tennis Center in Madison.

"We are very lucky to have such a talented group of players. From top to bottom, I feel like we have a great group," Neenah head coach Kyle Falk said. "If we are dialed in and have energy, we are hoping to go the distance."

The Rockets are seeded third in the eight-team Division 1 field and will face Eau Claire Memorial in a quarterfinal slated to begin at 5:30 p.m. on Friday evening.

Brookfield East is the top seed for the tournament, which concludes with the semifinals and finals on Saturday. The other teams in the bracket are Middleton, Marquette, Madison West, Menomonee Falls and Notre Dame.

Since the WIAA adopted the team state format to decide its team champions in 1995, Eau Claire Memorial and Neenah have the most appearances with 23 and 18, respectively. However, the Old Abes have made it to the final match just once in all of those trips, while Neenah has played for the title seven times, including winning the 1995 state title.

There is a similarity between that 1995 champion and this year's squad. That was the last time Neenah had a player win the individual state championship, which is something Dunsirn did the past weekend.

Not only did Dunsirn win the title, but he did it in dominating fashion. The sophomore never dropped a set in his five matches and rolled past fifth-seeded Ethan Bo of Middleton, 6-2, 6-0, in the title match.

Dunsirn, who was seeded second, dispatched two other seeded players en route to the championship beating third-seeded Ethan Yu of Madison West 6-0, 6-4 and 10th-seeded Ian Connell of Middleton 6-2, 6-2. He dropped only

one game in his first two matches.

"I'm on cloud 9 for Solomon," Falk said. "Solomon found a totally different level of play and was so mentally focused. He was very much in the zone for the whole tournament."

Dunsirn, who finished one win short of medaling as a freshman last season, becomes the fifth Neenah player to win a state title. He joins Donald Vought (1946), John Whitlinger (1969-72), John Thomsen (1993) and Tom Chicoine (1995) as state-title winners.

Dunsirn wasn't the only Neenah flight to medal at the individual state tournament, though.

The No. 1 doubles team of Khaled Saleh and Nolan Kubiak finished fourth. The duo's two losses came to the eventual state champions and to the No. 1 seeded tandem and both defeats played into a third-set tiebreaker. The pairing won their first three matches at state in straight sets.

Neenah's No. 2 doubles team of Henry Werner and Satchel Moss collected straight-set victories over duos from Manitowoc Lincoln and Badger in the first two rounds before losing to sixth-seeded Andrew and Ryan LaBelle of Mukwonago 6-3, 6-1.

The Rockets certainly have some standouts at the top of their lineup but there is talent throughout the roster.

Daniel Murphy at No. 2 singles, Ben Kotchen at No 4 singles and the No. 3 doubles pairing of Leyton Daharsh and Jaxon King all won sectional titles, while No. 3 singles player Carl Hein finished second.

All seven flights know how to win big matches and that could be key when the tennis balls start flying.

"We put a lot of emphasis on the team element in our program, the team element of tennis," Falk said. "You are doing something constructive with your match and you bring everyone else on the team up."

Falk knows that all 10 players and seven flights will need to be on their game if the Rockets are going to be successful in Madison.

"No match is easy and you can't write any team off," Falk said. "We have to find the right mindset and just compete hard on every point. Hopefully we will be peaking at the right time."



Photo courtesy of Neenah High School Boys Tennis Facebook Page

The Neenah High School boys tennis team, pictured above after winning the Fox Valley Association title in May, will be making its 19th appearance at the WIAA Division 1 Team State Tournament this weekend in Madison.

# Zephyrs ready to make first trip to team state

By Steve Clark  
NEENAH NEWS

The top singles and doubles flights for the St. Mary Catholic boys tennis team enjoyed success this past weekend at the WIAA Individual State Tennis Tournament.

Now, it's time for the rest of the team to get a taste of the Nielsen Tennis Stadium.

Led by Wesley Auth and the doubles team of Grant Bergstrom and Felipe Gaztelu, the Zephyrs are heading to Madison for their first appearance at the Team State Tournament and head coach Tait Whitlinger is excited about seeing his whole group back on the court.

"I'm really looking forward to it and I'm super grateful that the whole team will get to experience the atmosphere," Whitlinger said. "I don't put expectations on players in situations. We just go out and play one match at a time."

St. Mary Central is seeded fourth among the four teams competing in the Division 2 field and will face top-seeded Brookfield Academy in a semifinal beginning at 9 a.m. on Saturday. Catholic Memorial and Aquinas will meet in the other semifinal and the two winners will play in the state final later Saturday afternoon.

"I'm really looking forward to it and I'm super grateful that the whole team will get to experience the atmosphere."

Tait Whitlinger,  
St. Mary Central boys tennis coach

Brookfield Academy was the state runner-up last year, while both Catholic Memorial and Aquinas were both in the state field. St. Mary Central may be the newcomer but Whitlinger believes the Zephyrs shouldn't be overlooked.

"I was always taught that it doesn't matter who is seeded where, when you start the match it is 0-0 and you work through it from there," Whitlinger said. "A huge part of performing is just handling those nerves and anxiety that can come from being on such a big stage. Sometimes it's more about being present and breathing than it is about forehands and backhands."

The Zephyrs' lineup for team state will be the same group it took to sectionals. At singles, Auth, Gonzalo Corraso, Juan Sebastian and Javier Ravina will take the court, while the St. Mary Catholic doubles pairings will consist of Bergstrom and Gaztelu, Michael Fairweather and Ethan Campbell and John Osland and Harry Bergstrom.

Of that entire group, only Auth claimed a sectional title, although the Zephyrs finished second at four of the remaining six flights and edged Xavier by a single point in the final team standings to earn the trip to Madison.

"I knew our guys could do it, but I knew it was going to be close," Whitlinger said. "Some things had to happen. Some guys from other teams had to lose and our guys had to win. There was definitely a sense of relief when Wesley won his (title) match and clinched it. It was exciting."

Auth, just a freshman, rode the momentum from his sectional title into the indi-



Photo courtesy of Lizzy Bergstrom Auth

The St. Mary Catholic boys tennis team celebrated its sectional title at Kohler recently. The Zephyrs earned the program's first trip to the WIAA Team State Tournament with the finish.

vidual state tournament where he went 4-1 and finished fifth.

He opened up with dominating wins over Aquinas' Joe O'Flaherty (6-0, 6-2) and Catholic Memorial's Matthew Ramthun (6-0, 6-0) before falling to fourth-seeded Dayne Lindow of East Troy, 6-2, 6-2. He bounced back with straight set wins over Owen Plate (6-3, 6-4) and Jaren Baltus (6-4, 6-1), both of Plymouth, to earn the state medal.

Bergstrom and Gaztelu posted a pair of wins at the individual state tournament, including a first-round 7-5, 6-4 upset of eighth-seeded Liam Houselander and Paul Yoon of New Berlin Eisenhower. The duo then beat Edgewood's Joe Powless and Hans Sprinkman 6-1, 6-2 before falling to the top-seeded pairing from University School.

The duo then lost in straight sets to a Catholic Memorial pairing in the consolation semifinals and were eliminated.

"I was very happy with the way they performed," Whitlinger said. "Anytime you can get guys into the quarterfinals and have someone on the podium, it's always a good tournament."

Not only will the trio have the momentum of the individual state tournament on their side, the experience of winning matches on the Nielsen Tennis Stadium courts should also be a plus.

"It gives them a belief that they do belong and that they can hang with the guys who are down there in Madison," Whitlinger said. "(Nielsen Tennis Stadium) is an electric place and a lot of history of great tennis has been played on those courts. To have our guys do well and go out and win some matches I really think it instills a belief within themselves, one that the coaches had prior to them going down to Madison."

Whitlinger, whose father also coached at St. Mary Catholic, is no stranger to playing in Madison having starred for Neenah High School in his prep days and admitted that it was "really cool" having Neenah represented at state by a pair of schools.

"Tennis in this area has a great history and a great tradition and to have both Neenah and SMC down there is pretty special," Whitlinger said. "All of the coaches at the racquet clubs in the area have a part in that. The Neenah Park and Rec system has a part to do with that. Tennis is in a good place here and hopefully that will continue."



ST. MARY CATHOLIC  
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St. Mary  
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## Good Luck at State!

### St. Mary Catholic Boys Tennis

#### D2 Kohler Sectional Champs

## Congratulations on a great season!



# Neenah's Jagoditsh selected to play in senior all-star game

By Tim Froberg  
NEWS CONTRIBUTOR

Mix energy and enthusiasm with a team-first attitude and a highly productive bat.

What you get is an all-star softball player like Madie Jagoditsh.

The Neenah infielder is one of the few area players selected to play Monday and



Jagoditsh

Tuesday in the Wisconsin Fastpitch Softball Coaches Association Senior All-Star Game at Woodside Sports Complex at Wisconsin Dells.

"MJ was such a great leader and teammate," said Neenah coach Steven Gross. "Her energy on and off the field was infectious. She was so fun to watch play and coach."

Jagoditsh was a four-year varsity starter and a key part of the Rockets' impressive turnaround. She was a starting second baseman her freshman season of 2019 before becoming a fixture at first base the past two seasons.

"Coming in as freshman wasn't bad at all for me," Jagoditsh said. "I had always played up a level on my travel teams and already had that connection with the older girls."

The Rockets went just 2-23 in Jago-

ditsh's freshman year at Neenah, but things changed after that. After the canceled 2020 COVID season, the Rockets posted an 18-9 mark in 2021 for their first winning season since 2013. This spring, Neenah went 14-12 and was a sectional finalist, finishing just one win short of the state tournament. The Rockets' deep tournament run ended last week with a tough 4-3 loss to Oshkosh West in a Division 1 sectional championship.

"Madie is a great softball player, but an even better person," said Gross. "She consistently put her team's goals before her own. She's been such a strong part of our team and will be greatly missed."

A left-handed contact hitter, Jagoditsh was a second-team all-FVA selection this spring. Her best season came her junior year when she landed first-team all-FVA honors after hitting a team-high .484 with nine RBIs and a .520 on-base percentage.

"She made adjustments both on the field and in the batter's box," Gross said. "She was one of the toughest outs in our lineup because of the adjustments she made. She made so many improvements since joining our program and starting her freshman year."

Jagoditsh has been playing softball since age 5. She's played travel softball during the non-school season for years with teams such as the Wisconsin Scorpions, Rhino, Suburban Athletics and Youth



Submitted photo

Madie Jagoditsh celebrates a hit during a game for the Rockets.

Sports of Menasha.

"My older sister (Dallas) played softball and I wanted to be like her - that's what got me started," Jagoditsh said. "What

## Senior Spotlight

I love about softball is you build such a super connection with your teammates, supporting one another, cheering one another along and just having a good time."

And Jagoditsh had plenty of good times on the field with the Rockets.

"I've played softball with girls like Parker (Zipperer), Abby (Wolf) and Amara (Kaminski) since way back in the elementary school," Jagoditsh said. "I'll miss our varsity coaches (Gross and John Zipperer), too. They always knew how to have fun and not take the game so seriously. That's why our players had such a good connection with each other - because we all had such a great connection with our coaches."

Jagoditsh won't be putting her glove away any time soon. She will attend Bryant and Stratton Junior College in Wauwatosa in the fall and be a member of the school's softball program.

"Their coach is a lot like our coaches at Neenah," said Jagoditsh. "He's super fun and has a really good record there. I've talked to some girls that have played there and they loved it."

Jagoditsh plans to study early childhood development.

"I baby-sit a lot and just love working with kids," she said. "I think that field will be a pretty good fit for me."

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# Prep roundup

FROM PAGE 11

men in the 16-thrower field in the discus and was the only freshmen to finish in the top 10. Her throw of 108-feet, 1-inch was 10 inches out of seventh place and about five feet short of making the podium. Malayna Rieck of Colby won the event with a throw of 126-8.

Groppe ran a time of 2:05.19 in his race, which was about two-tenths of a second faster than the time he ran at sectionals. Parker Schneider of Durand won the event with a time of 1:54.29.

## SOCCER

### Early goals sting Rockets against DSHA

Divine Savior Holy Angels scored twice in the first two minutes and took a three-goal lead into intermission before handing Neenah a 3-1 loss in a WIAA Division 1 regional final last Saturday.

Addie Fredrickson scored off an assist from Malina Schultz in the second half to get Neenah on the scoreboard, but that was as close as the Rockets would get.

The Rockets finished with five shots on goal, including four in the second half.

### St. Mary Catholic knocked out of tourney

The fifth-seeded St. Mary Catholic soccer team was knocked out of the WIAA Division 4 tournament with a 2-0 loss to fourth-seeded Sheboygan Lutheran/Sheboygan Christian in a regional final on Saturday.

No other information was available from the game.



Photos by Craig Hoffman

ABOVE: Neenah's Isiah Lassiter (right) keeps his pace while running the 800 meters at the WIAA State Track and Field meet last week. BELOW: Alexander Groppe (left) runs in the Division 3 800 meters.



# Marathon names new race director

The Community First Fox Cities Marathon Presented by Miron Construction has named Julie Johnson as its new race director.

Johnson has more than 15 years of experience planning and organizing events for the healthcare and festival industries. She most recently served as the director of marketing for Lifest, one of the largest Christian music festivals in the nation, and was in charge of its events in Wisconsin and Tennessee.

She has also held roles in business relations, project management and marketing communications.

Outside of her professional accomplishments, Johnson is an avid runner. She started running at age 40 and has since been committed to the sport.

"My first 5K was the Soleburner and then I kept increasing my distance more and more, building to a 10K, and eventually running the ThedaCare Half Marathon at the Community First Fox Cities Marathon weekend of events," Johnson said. "The Fox Cities Marathon is an incredibly unique race. I love how the entire weekend of events brings the community together in a way no other Fox Valley event can. To be a part of the planning and coordination is such an honor for me."

Johnson is an Appleton native who raised her own family in the area. She has a bachelor's degree in communication from the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point.

"We're so excited to bring Julie on board," said Amanda Secor, Community First Fox Cities Marathon spokesperson. "She brings so much experience in event planning and a passion for running and the Fox Cities community, making her the perfect fit for race director of the Fox Cities Marathon."

For more information on the Community First Fox Cities Marathon or to register in any of this year's races, visit foxcities-marathon.org.

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