

Neenah News

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Review of city attorney raises questions

Rashid reinstated after police-led investigation

By Bethanie Gengler
NEENAH NEWS

An investigator in the city of Neenah's probe of City Attorney David Rashid disclosed details about a crime victim and drew conclusions that conflicted with a criminal investigation, according to recently released body camera footage.

Rashid, 62, was charged with felony sexual assault in April 2024 and the city placed him on paid administrative leave

the same day. He was reinstated in August 2024, following the Neenah investigator's review, which found "no violations pertaining to matters of the workplace," according to a press release issued by Mayor Jane Lang.



Rashid

The city's handling of the case has raised broader questions about transparency, conflicts of interest and municipal policies in situations where a city employee faces criminal charges.

City policies unclear

The city's disciplinary and grievance policy outlines potential actions for workplace violations but does not specifically address employees facing criminal charges. While the policy does not reference personnel investigations, it allows employees to be placed on paid administrative leave during internal reviews.

Human Resources Director Amy Fairchild said by email last month that "through the course of our personnel investigation and based on the information

SEE **Rashid review** ON PAGE 6

INSIDE



Senior Standout
Zephyrs' Schneider is an ace on the tennis court
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ATLAS

See what's happening in the Fox Valley
Inside



Neenah News

Candy for all

The Neenah-Menasha Labor Day parade was held Monday on a route from Curtis Reed Square in Menasha to downtown Neenah with marchers handing out candy to children watching along the way. The 42nd Annual Labor Fest sponsored by Fox Valley Area Labor Council followed the parade at the Neenah Labor Temple.

Fire Station 31 remodel project bids exceed \$6 million

City debates renovating or building new facility

By Bethanie Gengler
NEENAH NEWS

The city of Neenah is moving forward with plans to remodel Fire Station 31, but not without debate over whether the city should renovate the aging facility or build a new one.

The bids came back Aug. 26 at \$5.9 to \$6.8 million to remodel the fire station. The city budgeted \$3 million per year in

2025 and 2026 for the project in its 2024-2028 Capital Improvements Plan.

Neenah-Menasha Fire Rescue (NMFR) includes four stations: Station 31 on Breezewood Lane and 32 on East Columbian Avenue in Neenah, and 35 on First Street and 36 on Manitowoc Road in Menasha.

Station 31 was built in 1994 on six acres at the intersection of Breezewood and Tullar Road and has seen limited updates since. It initially included a training site for Fox Valley Technical College. When the college later vacated the building, the

space was remodeled for use as the city's Employee Health Clinic.

The station includes vehicle bays, offices, living quarters and fitness space. The clinic area holds exam rooms, offices and public facilities. The building is in need of major updates to deal with deficiencies ranging from cramped dorms and under-sized fitness space to outdated restrooms, lack of a gear storage room, and the absence of a decontamination area.

Alderman Bill Pollnow Jr. argued the Common Council should weigh new construction more seriously, pointing to past

studies.

A 2020 analysis by Five Bugles Design provided options for both remodeling and building a new station. Five Bugles noted advantages for building new if the city could repurpose or sell the current station, such as additional drive-through bays, modern decontamination zones and long-term energy efficiency. A 2023 study by Keller also noted that a remodeled Fire Station 31 may struggle to fully meet the demands of a modern fire station.

SEE **Station remodel** ON PAGE 5

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Corrections

It is the policy of Neenah News to correct all errors of fact. For correction information call 920-385-4512.

About the newspaper

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Library hosting antiques appraisal event

Neenah News

The Neenah Public Library will host an antiques and collectibles appraisal program featuring author and antiques expert Mark F. Moran starting at 11 a.m. Sept. 13.

Moran bought and sold antiques for more than 30 years, specializing in vintage folk art, Americana and fine art. He has been active as an appraiser of antiques and fine art for more than 20 years.

Pre-registration is required for an appraisal. Those wishing to watch without receiving an appraisal will be admitted as space allows. To register, contact Mehta Hess at hess@neenahlibrary.org or 920-886-6315.

Excluded items include all weapons, including swords and knives (though fold-

ing knives with advertising are accepted); traps (like leg-hold); Nazi memorabilia; coins and paper money; fine jewelry, including precious gems; and Beanie Babies.

Questions about objects can be submitted to Moran in advance to determine if they are appropriate. When in doubt, he said an email inquiry can often address questions. Moran can be reached by calling 715-281-5060 or emailing moranm1953@gmail.com.

Opinions of value are informal, and Moran said may not be used for insurance or charitable donation, which require a certified appraisal.

The program is made possible by the Friends of the Neenah Library and the Neenah Public Library Trust Fund.



Neenah Historical Society photo

Outdoor shopping

Fox Point Shopping Center opened to crowds in 1961. The outdoor shopping experience included National Food Store, Ford Rexall Drug Store, Gunderson Cleaners, Town and Country Studio, S.S. Kresge Co., Three Sisters, Big Shoe Store, House of Beauty, Fanny Farmer Candy Store and J.C. Penney.

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Calendar of events

Friday, Sept. 5

Riverside Players Theater presents Chicago, the Musical, 7 p.m., Riverside Park

Saturday, Sept. 6

Future Neenah Farmers Market, 8 a.m., Shattuck Park

Art Activity Day, 10 a.m., Bergstrom-Mahler Museum of Glass

Riverside Players Theater presents Chicago, the Musical, 7 p.m., Riverside Park

Sunday, Sept. 7

Riverside Players Theater presents Chicago, the Musical, 7 p.m., Riverside Park

Tuesday, Sept. 9

Riverside Players Theater presents Chicago the Musical, 7 p.m., Riverside Park

Wednesday, Sept. 10

Riverside Players Theater presents Chicago, the Musical, 7 p.m., Riverside Park

Thursday, Sept. 11

Brigade Open House, 4 p.m., 109 W. Columbian Ave.

Riverside Players Theater presents Chicago, the Musical, 7 p.m., Riverside Park

Friday, Sept. 12

Riverside Players Theater presents Chicago, the Musical, 7 p.m., Riverside Park

Saturday, Sept. 13

Future Neenah Farmers Market, 8 a.m., Shattuck Park

Future Neenah Ultimate Ladies Day, 9 a.m., DoubleTree Hotel

Fox Crossing Fire Department Open House, 10 a.m., Fire Station 40, 1326 Cold Spring Road

Fox Valley Out of the Darkness Walk for Suicide Prevention, 10 a.m., Memorial Park

Antiques Appraisal with Mark Moran, 11 a.m., Neenah Public Library

Author Christine Calhoun Meet and Greet, noon, Lyons Books, 127 W. Wisconsin Ave.

Riverside Players Theater presents Chicago, the Musical, 1 p.m., Riverside Park

Neenah-Menasha Intertribal Powwow, 2 p.m., Shattuck Park

Gord's Pub Annual Street Party, 5 p.m., Gord's Pub

Tuesday, Sept. 16

Nutman Sale, 10 a.m., ThedaCare Regional Medical Center-Neenah

Wednesday, Sept. 17

Nutman Sale, 9:30 a.m., ThedaCare Regional Medical Center-Neenah

Thursday, Sept. 18

Art After Dark: Renaissance Fair, 5:30 p.m., Bergstrom Museum of Glass

Neenah Neighborhoods: East Wisconsin Avenue, 6:30 p.m., Neenah Public Library

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Future Neenah celebrates a summer of music

Neenah News

Future Neenah held events over the summer organizers said were filled with music, community and fun.

While the weather occasionally challenged the Wednesday Evening Concert Series, groups still gathered to enjoy performances together, said Michelle Dunning, Future Neenah outreach and development coordinator.

She said a highlight of the season was celebrating the 20th anniversary of concerts at Shattuck Park on July 30.

“Thanks to our friends at Dairy Queen and Simplicity Credit Union, we recreated the sundae bar from our very first concert year — serving 1,000 sundaes to the community,” Dunning said.

The Out to Lunch Concert Series on Thursdays offered what Dunning said was a perfect way to enjoy lunch outdoors while soaking in great live music.

“The concert season opened with a bang and ended with an even bigger one in Downtown Neenah — starting with the Summer Kickoff Concert featuring The Glam Band and wrapping up with Boogie Downtown: Summer Sendoff featuring Boogie and the YoYoz,” Dunning said.

This year’s Back to School Boogie Downtown concert on Aug. 27 drew what Dunning said seemed like the biggest crowd yet, thanks to a new partnership with the Neenah Joint School District. Families enjoyed more than just music — over 3,000 boxes of Kleenex were handed out alongside bounce houses, a dunk tank,



Photo from Rankin Photography

Boogie and the YoYoz finished a summer of concerts in downtown Neenah with a back to school event Aug. 27.

a paint-by-number community mural, games, food and plenty of fun.

“It was truly the best way to close out the summer,” Dunning said.

But Dunning said the excitement doesn’t stop with the end of the summer. Future Neenah is gearing up for a packed fall and holiday season.

Scheduled events include Ultimate Ladies Day Sept. 13, Old Fashioned Saturday Oct. 4, Emily Bennett Pop-Up Art Show Oct. 14–15 at The Reserve, Future

Neenah Gala Nov. 15, A Very Neenah Christmas Dec. 5 and a new Neenah’s Very Merry Christmas Market Dec. 5-7.

The Illuminate Neenah downtown video projection will light up with a special History Month edition in September, followed by a spookier theme in October to match the Halloween Alley.

Find more information on all of these events and more at Futureneenah.org, including opportunities to sponsor and support the fall and winter events.



Photo from Neenah Arts Council

A community art project was painted during the Future Neenah summer sendoff concert Aug. 27. The project featured art designed by Emma Santiago and will be installed as part of Alta Alley once a few more steps are completed. Younger guests and families also painted rocks either to take home or add to Frank the Snake outside of Future Neenah’s office.

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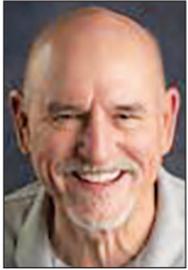
County waiting on campus building condition assessments

By Anya Kelley
NEENAH NEWS

Planning for the former UWO Fox City campus has reached a standstill as Winnebago County officials wait for building condition assessments to be completed.

After nearly two months into Winnebago County owning the 43 acres of the campus, Walt Ulbricht, secretary of the UW Education, Extension and Agriculture Committee, said during a committee meeting in August everything is still very tentative for plans going forward.

The campus consists of 43 acres of land, 18 of which are campus buildings. Ulbricht said assessments should have been completed a year ago to allow the county to measure the amount of money needed for repairs.



Ulbricht



Binder

County officials said there are some clear-cut assets on the campus. The community gardens and greenhouses are being considered for county-wide programming, the child care center, currently leased by the Menasha Joint School District, is helping to close the child care gap and there is a large communications and arts center consisting of two theaters and an art gallery that could be used.

Winnebago County executive Gordon Hintz is working to hire a management team for the communications and arts center to allow members of the public to rent the space for performances. The questions that remain for all those buildings are what their current conditions are and who is going to maintain them in the long term.

The campus also has a fieldhouse that community members have been asking to rent. Before the county can allow that, officials said the assessments must be completed, and repair costs will likely be high.

Steven Binder, chair of the UW Education, Extension and Agriculture Committee, said the county will determine whether buildings are worth saving or if a new building is more beneficial.

The UW Education, Extension and Agriculture Committee meets at 9 a.m. on the third Wednesday of each month in the James P. Coughlin Center in Oshkosh.



Submitted photo

Jewelers Mutual staff in Neenah handed out backpacks as part of the company's 2025 Impact Fund initiative to help students and families by providing back to school supplies.

Back to school donations made

Neenah News

Jewelers Mutual Group provided support to school districts, including the Neenah Joint School District, as students prepared to head back to school.

The company made donations as part of its 2025 Impact Fund to support school districts near four of its office locations in August in collaboration with Kids In Need Foundation and Neenah-Menasha Emergency Society. More than 4,000 backpacks and supplies were distributed to select schools in the Fox Valley, along with Dallas, Miami and Raleigh, NC.

"We recognize that back-to-school season can pose challenges for some families, particularly with regard to purchasing necessary supplies," said Scott Murphy, Jewelers Mutual CEO. "Our goal is to help reduce this burden within our communities, and we were privileged to collaborate

with the Neenah-Menasha Emergency Society and Kids In Need Foundation to support this important initiative."

Throughout last month, Jewelers Mutual employees delivered the backpacks and supply kits to selected schools in coordination with each school's back-to-school activities.

"We are incredibly grateful for Jewelers Mutual's support in helping local students start the school year with confidence," said Kris Rankin from the Neenah-Menasha Emergency Society. "Their generosity ensures that children in our community have the essential school supplies they need to succeed and feel prepared from day one."

For more information about Jewelers Mutual's Impact Fund and ways the company gives back to the communities and jewelry industry it serves, visit jewelersmutual.com/social-responsibility.

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Station remodel

FROM PAGE 1

Five Bugles estimated the cost of a new station at \$4.7 to \$6.8 million in 2020, about 30% more than renovating the existing facility, which was projected at \$3.9 to \$4.7 million. Costs are substantially higher today, five years later, due to inflation and rising construction expenses.

Fire Chief Travis Teesch said that based on comparisons to the new fire stations in Watertown and West Bend, building a brand-new fire station would cost about \$10.1 million, not including site acquisition and development. He added that NMFR is able to meet all the recommendations from the Five Bugles study through remodeling the existing facility.

At an Aug. 6 Common Council meeting, aldermen voted 6-3 against holding a special session to compare the pros and cons of new construction versus remodeling the station.

Mayor Jane Lang said the city will review bids and reconvene as a Committee of the Whole to discuss and solidify the decision to proceed with the renovation.

“Clearly this is a very big undertaking. I’m very excited for it,” she said.

The current plan is to remodel the station including a new roof, exterior walls, and a complete gut-to-framing rebuild of the fire station quarters. The remodel will take place alongside construction of a new training tower and storage building.

The \$1.2 million tower and storage building project is funded separately, with \$500,000 from the county’s Spirit Fund, \$200,000 from the state, and the remaining \$500,000 split between Neenah and Menasha under the cities’ cost-sharing formula.

Teesch said contracts, payments and

approvals for each of the projects remain separate.

“It’s really to maximize efficiency, reduce duplication of mobilization costs ... and it will help us ensure consistency across the work,” he said at the August council meeting.

The building has seen challenges with mold. Teesch said the walls will be removed and replaced with new walls that will have proper air gaps.

“The interior walls are going to be sealed off, so if there is ever a moisture problem again that gets in the walls, it’s not getting inside the station, it’s going to be forced to go to the outside,” he said.

Fire department staff will continue utilizing the station while renovations are underway.

“So that’s another beautiful thing about this project, if it was a standalone station, we’d probably have to move somewhere or bring in temporary housing for the crews,” Teesch said.

Staff will move to one side of the building while the other side is under construction. He said they’ll be displaced for about six months.

“The contractors or the architects that we’ve been working with, they can isolate the water, and they can isolate the sewer and power right to that side of the building ... and then we’ll move back over to the other side of the building once that remodel is done, and then they’ll shut off the water, power, electric to that other side of the building and start working on that,” he said.

He noted that residents won’t experience any disruptions in service.

“I think the residents will continue to be served well,” he said. “We’ll still be able to run out of that station, so the coverage won’t change. That site is big enough for whoever wins the contract to work there



Photo from Neenah-Menasha Fire Rescue

The current Neenah-Menasha Fire Rescue Station 31, top, is shown in comparison to a digital rendering of the remodeled station, bottom.

and not disrupt anything. There won’t be road closures. It will all go on very smoothly.”

Teesch said he plans to recommend awarding the contract to the lowest qualified bidder after vetting. The council is expected to deliberate on the project at its Sept. 17 meeting.

“This fire station is going to be serving the community for decades to come,” he said. “It’s essentially going to be brand new.”

Once the contract is signed, the contractor will have 330 days to complete the work, with construction expected to begin this fall.

Lithium-ion battery recycling at farmers market

Neenah News

Lithium-ion batteries can be recycled from 8 a.m. to noon the next three Saturdays – Sept. 6, Sept. 13 and Sept. 20 – at the Neenah Farmers Market in Shattuck Park.

First United Methodist Church Neenah-Menasha along with the Tri County Recycling Center are working with Redwood Materials to offer the service. With collections so far this summer at the Farmers Market, 58 pounds of batteries and lithium devices have been sent to Redwood Materials.

Rechargeable devices that can be recycled include laptops, smartphones, tablets, electric toothbrushes, power tool batteries, rechargeable vacuum batteries, wireless headphones and any other lithium-ion battery powered devices. Lithium-ion batteries will be taken separately or as part of the device they are in. If a whole device is brought to be recycled, Redwood said it will remove the batteries and the rest of the device will go to secondary recyclers.

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Rashid review

FROM PAGE 1

we have been able to ascertain to date, the city has not found any workplace violations or threats to the workplace given the information currently available.”

City officials have given conflicting descriptions of the investigation itself. The press release from Lang called it an “internal personnel investigation,” while the investigator’s report referred to it as an “internal investigation into the allegations against David Rashid on behalf of Mayor Jane Lang.”

Police Chief Aaron Olson clarified last month that the probe was not an internal investigation, but a personnel investigation directed by the city’s Human Resources Department. When asked about the discrepancy with the officer’s written report, Olson said the officer “misspoke.”

Former attorney connection

The tip that prompted the criminal charges and the city’s investigation came from an anonymous email sent in August 2023 to the Neenah police chief, mayor and three aldermen by Rashid’s predecessor, Adam Westbrook, who resigned from the city attorney position in July 2022. Rashid was hired to replace Westbrook as city attorney and started a month later.

Westbrook’s email accused Rashid of “domestic abuse and violence” toward his former wife. When questioned by Neenah investigators in May 2024, Westbrook said he received the information from Jacob Boudreau, a former Menasha dog groomer who had groomed dogs belonging to both Rashid and the alleged victim.

Westbrook also told investigators that the city appeared more focused on identifying the source of the anonymous email than on the substance of the allegations.

Separately, Westbrook, who was Outagamie County’s Human Resources Director, was arrested in February 2024 and pleaded guilty last September to a federal felony distribution of child pornography charge.

Westbrook is incarcerated at the Columbia County Jail while awaiting sentencing on Dec. 3 in connection to a child pornography ring that involved Boudreau and former Racine County Sheriff’s Deputy Preston Kite, who were both sentenced earlier this year to lengthy prison terms.

Appleton, Neenah probes

After receiving the anonymous email from Westbrook in August 2023, Neenah police referred the information to Appleton police, who conducted a criminal investigation. About eight months later, Rashid was charged with felony sexual assault for three alleged incidents that oc-

curred between 2017 and 2022 during his marriage. The case is being prosecuted by a special prosecutor from Portage County.

Separately, the city of Neenah also launched its own personnel investigation into Rashid’s workplace conduct, led by police investigator Craig Hoffer, which ran from early May through July 11, 2024.

Neenah News obtained the personnel investigation report in April 2025, after multiple open records requests which the city initially denied. Neenah Police also initially refused to release the report to Rashid’s attorneys and the prosecutor in his criminal case, but a December 2024 court order required the records to be turned over.

The personnel investigation report details Hoffer’s interviews or attempted interviews with 15 people, about half of them family members, past romantic partners and acquaintances of the alleged victim. Two aldermen were among those interviewed, but other elected officials or city staff who work with Rashid were not included in the report.

Last month, Neenah Police released body camera footage from the personnel investigation to Neenah News. The four recordings from three interviews are all the footage police provided in response to a records request for all body camera recordings from the investigation. The footage, which cost \$140 and took about three months to receive, offers a firsthand look at how the investigation was conducted.

Concerns of bias

During one of the investigator’s interviews, Westbrook said he had been told that Alderman Bill Pollnow Jr. claimed to have heard the police chief use a derogatory term to refer to the victim and suggested the investigator speak with Pollnow.

Pollnow, who was not interviewed during the investigation, told Neenah News last week that he personally heard Police Chief Olson use a derogatory term for the alleged victim at a city employee’s retirement party in April 2024, the same month Rashid was charged with felony sexual assault.

Olson denied the allegation, calling it “not true” and “defamation.”

Pollnow criticized the city for conducting the personnel investigation internally rather than turning it over to an outside agency.

“I think there’s a huge conflict of interest there. I’ve always felt that,” he said.

Pollnow also took issue with the city’s transparency, noting that aldermen were denied access to the personnel investigation report.

“We as aldermen have not been given (the report) officially,” he said. “We’re told we don’t have access to that, even though it’s been given to the press.”

Duplicate investigations

The city’s personnel investigation mirrored the criminal investigation.

“I am doing my own investigation to see if what (the alleged victim) is saying is accurate, inaccurate, whatever, and talking with everybody, basically doing the investigation over again just to make sure that before the city were to dismiss him, this isn’t just a pissed-off (redacted) that’s making things up and that kind of thing ...,” Hoffer said in footage.

In July 2024, Hoffer interviewed Kathie Boyette, who was an alderman at the time but did not seek re-election this spring. The interview lasted nearly three hours. In that time, Hoffer discussed details about the alleged victim, including the name of her employer, which was redacted in the body camera video, and her failure to report the alleged sexual assaults to her workplace.

Footage shows Hoffer taking further investigative steps. He suggested that Westbrook may have coached the alleged victim and asked Boyette to make a recorded phone call to Westbrook four times. Boyette did not make the phone call.

In the footage, Hoffer said that if investigators found Westbrook had influenced the victim, “that will clear the city of looking like idiots.” He also told Boyette what his report would conclude even as the investigation was ongoing.

“My report is going to read, I have come up with no other supporting evidence to say that he did this, and that from my training and experience in law enforcement, that I’ve never seen a case where charges were filed, where it was just a person’s statement with no other supporting evidence,” he said.

In his report, Hoffer wrote that the case was a “he-said, she-said” situation with no physical or circumstantial evidence to support or disprove the allegations. He concluded that, given the lack of supporting evidence, it was “extremely unlikely that David Rashid would be convicted of the charges that have been filed against him.”

Next step: trial scheduled

Rashid’s defense attorneys have twice submitted motions to dismiss the criminal case, considered by different judges, but both were denied. He’s due back in court Monday for a status conference. A three-day jury trial is scheduled to begin Jan. 21 in Winnebago County, with Green Lake County Judge Mark Slate presiding.

Olson declined to answer questions about the personnel investigation, directing inquiries to the city’s Human Resources Department. Fairchild said the city had no further comment beyond the initial release of information.

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11:00 AM: Welcome & Announcements
11:30 AM: Fox Valley Latin Dancers
11:45 AM: Salsa Manzana
1:15 PM: Pegasus
2:15 PM: Danza Azteca
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Sept. 8
 Stitching Group 1 p.m.
 Monday Matinee: The Ballad of Wallis Island 1 p.m.
 Short Story Night 7 p.m.

Sept. 9
 Adaptive Storytime (ages 0-6) 9:15 a.m.
 Toddle Time Storytime *with ASL interpretation* (ages 12-24 months) 10 a.m.
 Storytime for Everyone at Valley VNA (all ages) 10 a.m.
 Legal Assistance Clinic 4:30 p.m.

Sept. 10
 Baby Time Storytime 9:15 a.m.
 Musical Movers 10 a.m.
 Mah Jongg Meet Up 5:30 p.m.

Sept. 11
 Wee Read Storytime *with ASL interpretation* (ages 2 and up) 10 a.m.
 Open Chess 5:30 p.m.
 Family Activity Nights: LEGO Challenge--Animal Habitat 6 p.m.
 Ukulele Open Jam 6 p.m.

Sept. 12
 Library Closed for Staff In-Service All Day

Sept. 13
 Antiques Appraisal with Mark Moran 11 a.m.

Sept. 15
 Wild Child Adventure Storytime (all ages) 10 a.m.

Memory Cafe 1:30 p.m.
 Not Quite Cozy Mystery Book Club 6:30 p.m.

Sept. 16
 Adaptive Storytime (ages 0-6) 9:15 a.m.
 Toddle Time Storytime *with ASL interpretation* (ages 12-24 months) 10 a.m.
 Storytime for Everyone at Valley VNA (all ages) 10 a.m.
 Cookbook Book Club 6:30 p.m.

Sept. 17
 Baby Time Storytime 9:15 a.m.
 Musical Movers 10 a.m.
 Mah Jongg Meet Up 5:30 p.m.

Sept. 18
 Wee Read Storytime *with ASL interpretation* (ages 2 and up) 10 a.m.
 Open Chess 5:30 p.m.
 Ukulele Open Jam 6 p.m.
 History Program: Prohibition and the Temperance Movement in Neenah 6:30 p.m.

Sept. 19
 Fitness Friday: Balance and Strength 9:15 a.m.
 Chair Yoga 10:30 a.m.

Sept. 20
 Boosting Your Parenting Toolbox: Conscious Discipline Workshop 1.0 10 a.m.

Sept. 22
 Monday Morning Book Klatch 10 a.m.
 Wild Child Adventure Storytime (all

ages) 10 a.m.
 Lunch and Learn with Connected Fox Valley 11:30 a.m.
 Suburban Homesteading: Taste of the Harvest 6:30 p.m.

Sept. 23
 Adaptive Storytime (ages 0-6) 9:15 a.m.
 Toddle Time Storytime *with ASL interpretation* (ages 12-24 months) 10 a.m.
 Storytime for Everyone at Valley VNA (all ages) 10 a.m.

Sept. 24
 Baby Time Storytime 9:15 a.m.
 Musical Movers 10 a.m.
 Mah Jongg Meet Up 5:30 p.m.

Sept. 25
 Wee Read Storytime *with ASL interpretation* (ages 2 and up) 10 a.m.
 Open Chess 5:30 p.m.
 Family Activity Night: Sip and Seeds 6 p.m.
 Ukulele Open Jam 6 p.m.

Sept. 27
 Dragon Boat & Mooncake Festival 1 p.m.

Sept. 30
 Adaptive Storytime (ages 0-6) 9:15 a.m.
 Toddle Time Storytime *with ASL interpretation* (ages 12-24 months) 10 a.m.
 Storytime for Everyone at Valley VNA (all ages) 10 a.m.
 Strolling Photo Workshop with Photo Opp 6 p.m.
 Movie Talks: What's Up Doc? 6:30 p.m.



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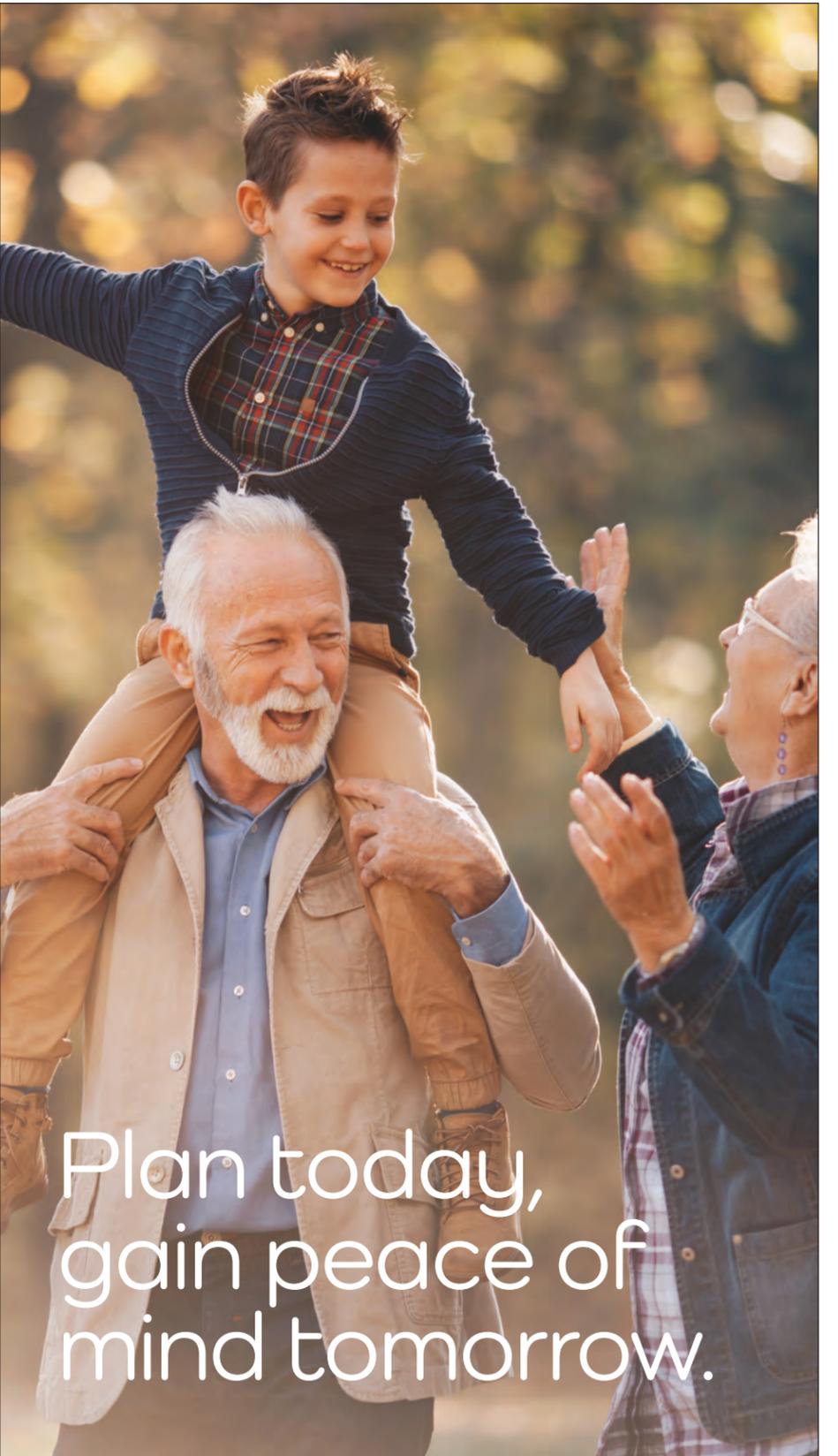
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Zephyrs' Schneider finds perfect fit on tennis court

By Steve Clark
NEENAH NEWS

After back-to-back state tournament appearances, Adel Schneider was feeling the grind of being a singles player.

It's not that the lifelong tennis player was thinking of turning her back on the sport she loved, but it seemed to be just getting tedious and repetitive and, well, it just felt like work.

"Tennis was becoming more of a chore with playing singles," Schneider said after a practice earlier this week. "It was like you're clocking into a job – that's the best way I can describe it."

So, after two years of playing No. 1 singles for the St. Mary Catholic girls team, Schneider switched over to doubles and teamed up with then-freshman Vivie Auth to form the Zephyrs' No. 1 tandem.

Plenty of success would follow, but more importantly, her level of enjoyment while being on the court skyrocketed.

"I think playing doubles brought more of the fun into it, especially playing with someone like Vivie. She helped bring the fun into it," Schneider said. "I think doubles is just interesting. It's a whole different realm and it's kind of what I needed."

Together, Schneider and Auth dominated the Division 2 doubles field, posting a perfect 27-0 record to reach the state tournament where they earned the No. 1 seed. Four straight-set victories later – the duo lost a total of nine games in the four matches – Schneider found herself standing on top of the awards podium as she and Auth won the state title.

It was a special experience over three days at Nielsen Tennis Center in Madison last fall and one that Schneider tried her best to soak in as it unfolded.

"I did soak it in but it's all kind of a blur at the same time," Schneider said. "Tennis

Senior Standout
Nicolet NATIONAL BANK

gets very robotic – always another point, always another shot so the matches kind of blur together. But I can vividly remember the actual point when we won. I remember the actual shot and everything and then turning toward Vivie and hugging her because I was so proud of us."

Schneider was glad to share the moment with Auth, her coaches as well as friends and family.

"It was incredible. I'm so thankful I got to play with Vivie and got the chance to do something like that," Schneider said. "Coach Lizzy (Auth) was such a great coach for us the whole season and gave us tips and pointers and she was just a really nice person. To have your friends and family there made the experience more special. You feel more accomplished."

Outside the obvious differences between playing singles and doubles, Schneider didn't have to change her game much but there were definitely some adjustments in switching to being a duo.

"The main thing I had to work on was the player connection, so when I see Vivie going over to the other side, I have to switch, too," Schneider said. "I think it's just more of a formation aspect and having different instincts. When you see a ball go up the middle, not letting it float past you but going out and attacking it. It's something you just can't learn, but you get it by playing matches."

Schneider said she and Auth were tested immediately as a doubles team, facing state-caliber opponents in their sea-



Neenah News

St. Mary Catholic senior Adel Schneider is a three-time state qualifier in tennis and last fall teamed with Vivie Auth to win the WIAA Division 2 state doubles title.

son-opening quad last year.

And when they came out with wins, Schneider knew they could be on the verge of something special.

"We realized that it really worked for us and worked for the team, too," Schneider said. "It was a pretty easy transition but it wasn't instant. It took Vivie and I some matches. We kind of had to jump in head-first but we acclimated quickly."

Schneider started playing tennis with her grandparents when she was three years old and took to the sport instantly. By the time she was the age for middle school, she was taking weekly lessons and watching her game grow.

She also had plenty of opponents to test her game against. While being home-schooled, Schneider would often take the court against her grandparents and their friends.

"I played with some senior citizens and they kind of whooped me pretty good," Schneider said. "I'm very thankful for my grandparents because without them I wouldn't be here today."

It was also at the age when Schneider realized that she wanted to focus even more on tennis and started playing against high school and college-age players to develop

SEE **Senior Standout** ON PAGE 11

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Defending state champion Rockets look to be strong again

Neenah News

Coming off a state-title winning season, the Neenah High School girls cross country team doesn't seem to have lost a step.

Despite losing No. 1 runner Mazie Olkowski to graduation, the Rockets return six of the seven runners from last year's state squad and will welcome an influx of young talent as the team will look to extend its reign one more year.

All of that experience – much of that group of returning runners also finished second at state in 2023 – should certainly be an advantage for the Rockets.

Cross Country PREVIEW

“I think it will be an advantage for us to have so much experience, especially come tournament time,” commented girls head coach Mike Heidke. “We have some great leaders who will help guide our younger runners and the team is very excited to get out and compete again.”

Neenah dominated last year's state meet finishing more than 60 points ahead of runner-up Wauwatosa East. However, many of the state's top teams will be returning the bulk of their lineups.

Of the top seven teams in last year's Division 1 state meet, only one will be losing multiple members of their state lineup and six of the seven will be returning their No. 1 runners. Neenah is the only team to lose its top state finisher from last year.

Heidke downplayed the pressure to become the first repeat Division 1 champion since Muskego won back-to-back titles in 2018 and 2019.

“I'm sure there will be some outside expectations to repeat,” commented Heidke.



Submitted photo

Neenah runners (from left) Eme Olkowski, Natalie Willes, Elsa Gruber, Maddie Schoonover and Natalie Schultz, were all part of the Rockets' state championship squad last season and give the team a strong nucleus to build around.

“But we are just focused on improving and will take one meet at a time.”

Neenah will have three runners returning that finished in the top 25 at the state meet last season, led by senior Elsa Gruber. Gruber has competed at the last three state meets and finished seventh overall at Wisconsin Rapids last season.

Junior Natalie Schultz placed 18th at the state meet last season, while fellow junior Maddie Schoonover placed 25th giving the Rockets a strong lead group.

Senior Eme Olkowski rounded out the state scoring runners from last season, while sophomore Izzy Malloy and senior Natalie Willes – who joins Gruber as a three-time state participant – were also on the squad.

That group will be bolstered by a trio of newcomers who will be vying for spots in the lineup.

Freshman Sam Zilm had the fastest time among all Rocket runners at the season-opening Jamie Block Invitational and will likely find a place in the lineup, while sophomore Elsa Weiland and freshman Lizzy LaPlant will also be contending for varsity spots.

In addition to extending its state reign, the Rockets will also be looking to capture another Fox Valley Association title.

The Rockets won the past two FVA titles and had five of the top 10 finishers at last year's conference meet.

The Neenah boys have won the past four non-COVID affected FVA championships and had an unprecedented performance at last year's meet grabbing the top six spots led by individual winner Zach Verhagen.

The senior is one of two returning varsity runners from last year's senior-dominated squad along with fellow senior Oliver Steiner, who placed fifth. Verhagen was the only returning runner on Neenah's team that finished 14th at the state meet.

SEE **Cross country** ON PAGE 11



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Prep roundup

FOOTBALL

Zephyrs blank Manawa for first win

St. Mary Catholic's defense forced four turnovers and the Zephyrs collected their first win of the season in a 20-0 victory at home over Manawa last Friday.

Mason Wagner, George Voss and Elliot Reichenbacher each had interceptions in the game for St. Mary Catholic and Alex Klinkhammer recovered a fumble as the Zephyrs shut out the Wolves for the second straight season.

Voss and Dominic Osgood led the defense with 7.5 tackles each, while Klinkhammer and Max Vosters led the team with 2.5 tackles-for-loss each.

Offensively, quarterback Maddox Dwyer finished 8-for-13 for 100 yards, including a 24-yard touchdown pass to Vosters.

Reichenbacher and Jacob Ernsting each added rushing touchdowns in the game for the Zephyrs, while Reichenbacher led the team with 58 yards rushing on 10 carries. Tarver Trinkner paced the team with six catches for 49 yards.

St. Mary Catholic was slated to open up Eastern Wisconsin Conference action on Thursday night at Valders. The game ended after deadline for this edition.

Rockets suffer close loss to No. 2 Warhawks

Neenah faced off against a top-five opponent for the second straight week but this time came up just short falling to second-ranked Arrowhead, 16-13, on the road last Friday.

Ashton Van Beek had a big game in the loss, rushing for 120 yards on 21 carries, while also completing 6-of-11 passes for 130 yards and a touchdown. Van Beek's touchdown pass went to Cooper Sieck, who finished with 127 total yards of offense on just nine touches.

Neenah was set to open Fox Valley Association play on Thursday against Appleton East. The game ended after deadline for this edition.

BOYS VOLLEYBALL

Rockets sweep Terrors in FVA opener

Neenah pulled out three close set wins to sweep Appleton West 26-24, 25-23, 25-21 in the Fox Valley Association opener for both teams.

Sam Keepers led a balanced attack for the Rockets with 10 kills, while Trebor Ricketts finished with nine kills and six blocks. Eli Yoder chipped in eight kills and four blocks, with Alex Locke and Sam Printz finishing with seven and six kills, respectively.

Cam Diekfuss dished out 37 assists in the win.

Neenah posted sweeps over Sun Prairie United and Madison Memorial as the Rockets opened the season 2-0 last week.

Neenah topped Sun Prairie 25-12, 25-19, 26-24 with six different players finishing with at least four kills in the match. Yoder led the team with eight kills, while Locke, Printz and Ricketts each added six.

Levi Steckling and Diekfuss each posted four aces in the match, while Steckling led the team with 18 digs and Diekfuss paced the team with 27 assists.

The Rockets then toppled Madison Memorial, 25-15, 25-23, 25-15 as Yoder and Ricketts each finished with eight kills and Keepers totaled seven.

Steckling led the team with 12 digs, while Yoder and Malachi Yang each had seven and Diekfuss led the team with 35 assists.

GIRLS VOLLEYBALL

Zephyrs collect title at Omro Invitational

St. Mary Catholic continued its strong start to the season by going 4-1 and winning the title at the Omro Invitational last weekend.

The Zephyrs beat Wautoma and Wild Rose in pool play and then scored a win over Eastbrook Academy in the semifinals. In the title match, St. Mary Catholic

topped Shawano, 25-16, 25-13, after falling to the Hawks in three sets in pool play.

The leading hitters for the Zephyrs were Autumn Crowe with 31 kills and Adele Brennan with 16 kills, while Emily Weiss and Sammie Weiss finished with 46 and 41 assists, respectively.

St. Mary Catholic also went 2-1 at its season-opening home quadrangular, beating Amherst and Random Lake, while falling in two close sets (27-25, 29-27) to West Bend East.

Crowe led the Zephyr hitters with 21 kills with Luci Nackers adding 12. Sammie Weiss paced St. Mary Catholic with 34 assists with Emily Weiss adding 32.

Rockets collect two wins at Homestead invite

Neenah finished 2-3 against top-level competition at the Homestead tournament last weekend.

The Rockets posted a 25-14, 25-16 win over St. Thomas More and also downed Lake Country Lutheran, 17-25, 25-23, 15-9. Two of Neenah's three losses at the event were in three sets.

TENNIS

Rockets roll past Terrors in FVA matchup

Neenah did not drop a game in three doubles matches as it picked up an easy 7-0 win over Appleton West last week.

Sydney Michalkiewicz and Rebekah Thomas won at the No. 1 doubles flight, while Evelyn Buss and Josie Kohlbeck teamed up for the win at No. 2 doubles. Rounding out the doubles pairings were Ava Motto and Cecelia Alexander at the No. 3 flight.

Celia Gentile at No. 1 singles and Lauren McDonald at No. 4 singles each posted 6-0, 6-0 wins with Ella Motto winning at No. 2 singles and Rachel Thomas posting a win at No. 3 singles.

Neenah opened the season earlier last week by going 3-1 at the Brookfield Central tournament posting wins over Muskego (7-0), De Pere (6-1) and Divine

Savior Holy Angels (5-2) while suffering a loss against Brookfield East (7-0).

The Rockets dropped only one game in the four singles matches against Muskego with Gentile, Ella Motto and McDonald winning by 6-0, 6-0 margins.

Thomas highlighted the win over De Pere with a 6-0, 6-0 win at No. 3 singles.

The victory over DSHA was keyed by a sweep of the doubles matches with Thomas and Michalkiewicz winning at the No. 1 flight, Kohlbeck and Buss earning a win at the No. 2 flight and Ava Motto and Alexander scoring a victory at the No. 3 flight.

St. Mary Catholic breezes to victory

Every flight won at least one set and the Zephyrs cruised to a 6-1 win over Roncalli/Two Rivers in an Eastern Wisconsin Conference dual meet last week.

Ella Chier at No. 2 singles and Kaylee Sommerfeld at No. 4 singles each dropped only one game in winning their matches, while the No. 1 doubles team of Vivie Auth and Adel Schneider also won 6-1, 6-0.

Halle Janssen also picked up a straight sets win at No. 3 singles, while the No. 2 doubles pairing of Nadia Alexander and Lorelai Miller as well as the No. 3 pairing of Bree Pauly and Elsa Rossmessl were also winners.

SOCCER

Fleege's hat trick fuels Rockets' victory

Kolton Fleege tallied a hat trick and Neenah scored three goals in each half en route to toppling Madison LaFollette, 6-1, in a nonconference match last week.

Jordy Banda added a pair of goals and Liam Sieck posted a goal and an assist in the win. Miles Henthaler, Pierce Hanson and Braulio Alvarado also registered assists in the win.

Hanson also finished with three saves to

SEE Prep roundup ON PAGE 11

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Submitted photo

Izzy Malloy (left) and Sam Zilm finished first in the sophomore and freshmen divisions, respectively, at the Jamie Block Invitational on Saturday.

Prep roundup

FROM PAGE 10

earn the win in goal.

Neenah was coming off a 2-0 win over Madison Memorial, with Trey White scoring a goal for the Rockets off an assist from Logan Claudio.

Neenah opened the Fox Valley Association season on Tuesday, playing to a scoreless tie with Hortonville.

St. Mary Catholic nets tie with New Holstein

Carlos Verhoff finished with a goal and an assist as the Zephyrs played to a 3-3 tie with New Holstein last week.

Dylan Brenn and Jacob Hall also scored for St. Mary Catholic, with Rhett Probst picking up an assist in the win.

Zachary Beyer finished with seven saves in net for St. Mary Catholic.

CROSS COUNTRY

Neenah dominates Jamie Block Invitational

Both the Neenah girls and boys cross country teams opened the season by taking the team titles at the Jamie Block Invitational last Saturday.

The Rockets finished a whopping 13 minutes ahead of second-place Plymouth the relay-style standings. Freshmen/sophomore and junior/senior races were run with results assembled for each class. The top five times combined for each team's total.

Neenah had the top two individuals in each of the races and posted the top three times in three of the four classes.

Freshman Sam Zilm had the fastest time of the meet with a time of 19:33.35 with Lizzy LaPlant and Olivia Landrath giving the Rockets the top three finishers in the freshman race. Izzy Malloy, Elsa Weiland and Audrie Blenker went 1-2-3 in the sophomore race with Elsa Gruber, Natalie

Willes and Eme Olkowski grabbing the top three spots, respectively, in the senior race. Neenah's Natalie Schultz posted the top time among the juniors, while Maddie Schoonover was second.

The boys race was much closer but the Rockets had the top overall time by 11 seconds over West Bend West.

Senior Zach Verhagen led the Rockets and won the senior division race, while Oliver Steiner finished fourth among the seniors. Neenah also had the top freshman in Elliott Drake.

Isaac Rangel in the sophomore race and Gideon Benner in the senior race each finished sixth.

Zephyrs finish seventh, ninth at T-Bird Invite

The St. Mary Catholic boys cross country took seventh place and the girls finished ninth among the 11 teams at the Iola-Scandinavia T-Bird Invitational on Tuesday.

Fritz Staner was the top finisher for either squad, placing 13th in the boys race. Ethan Auer placed 29th for the boys, followed by Brady DeLeeuw in 35th place, Leo Gruber in 55th place and Brandon DeBaal in 83rd place.

The St. Mary Catholic girls were led by the 28th-place finish of Claire Higgins with Claire Mislinski taking 45th. Audrey Weber and Alice Troian Mello were 55th and 56th, respectively, with the scoring runners for the Zephyrs being rounded out by Chloe Beckett in 84th place.

GOLF

Rockets come up short against Ghosts

Jordyn Brockman led Neenah with a 47 but the Rockets dropped a Fox Valley Association dual meet to Kaukauna, 182-193 at Ridgeway on Tuesday.

Lilly Quella and Paige Keck added 48s for the Rockets, while Adrienne Oitzinger chipped in a round of 50.

Hall of Fame induction tickets on sale

Neenah News

Tickets for the 2025 Neenah Joint School District Hall of Fame induction are on sale at the District Administration Building and online.

Five individuals will be honored for their contributions to the district. Those honored will be Tom Bachhuber, Rick Carlson, Ron Fedenko, Wayne Fetters and Kathy (Monard) Sahli. This is the 10th year of the event and brings the total number of members in the Hall of Fame to 61.

The event is set for 9:30 a.m. Sept. 27 at Bridgewood Conference Center. For the

first time, the event will feature a brunch. It will be followed by a brief interview with each of the inductees.

Tickets are \$30 each and will be on sale through Sept. 22. Tickets may be purchased in person at the administration building from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday or online at gofan.co/event/3985423?schoolId=WI17144. A fee will apply to online orders.

Those wishing to sponsor or purchase a table may contact Amy Gunderson at the administration building at agunderson@neenah.k12.wi.us or 920-751-6800 ext. 10102.

Senior Standout

FROM PAGE 8

her game.

"I was definitely not the strongest player in the group but I was definitely competitive with everyone," Schneider said. "That helped me amp up my game and totally transformed me as a player. So going into my freshman year, I had already been playing against high schoolers. So that prepared me well."

Schneider also played softball for the Zephyrs as a freshman and was an all-conference outfielder. She returned to the diamond as a sophomore, but last spring took a different approach.

At the urging of her friends, Schneider went out for track and was a sprinter for the Zephyrs.

"I knew it would help with my explosiveness but track is tricky. You go out there and you have one shot. You have to give it your all and that helped me with pressure in terms of tennis," Schneider said. "It was super fun and I had amazing coaches. I got faster and more explosive."

Schneider said she has participated in a wide array of sports growing up and into high school, but nothing compares to tennis.

Cross country

FROM PAGE 9

Seniors Gideon Benner, Jackson Holzheu and Brayden Willis are likely to be among the varsity candidates this season, while freshman Elliott Drake had a stronger performance at the season-opening meet and will likely grab one of the lineup spots as well.

St. Mary Catholic

The Zephyrs will have young rosters for both the girls and the boys squads and will look to improve as the season rolls on.

Leading the returning runners for St. Mary Catholic will be junior Claire Higgins, who qualified for the state meet as

"It's totally different from any other sport and I've always liked tennis because it is so challenging," Schneider said. "You have to have a lot of stamina physically but you also have to be strong mentally. It's so challenging but the feeling of winning a match when you didn't think you could or when you were down is an indescribable feeling. There is such gratification when you win a match because you put in so much work."

Schneider, who hopes to play tennis collegiately but hasn't made any decisions about her future, plans to win plenty more matches this season as she and Auth look to defend their state doubles title.

She knows the two will have a hefty target on their backs this season but there would be no better feeling to be back on top of the podium in Madison later this fall.

"It's super important to me (to repeat as state champs). You want to go out with a bang and that would be super cool for Vivie and I to do it," Schneider said. "I wouldn't be totally distraught if it didn't end up like I want, but I know Vivie and I will do everything we can to finish the best we can. I seriously believe we have upped our game from last year and with the goals I have for this season, I'm excited to see how it plays out."

an individual last season and finished 64th overall in the Division 3 girls race.

Senior Audrey Weber also returns to help the lead the squad, while sophomore Claire Mislinski and Alice Troian Mello were a part of the Zephyrs sectional lineup last season.

The Zephyr boys return their top runner from last year as well in senior Ethan Auer, while sophomore Brady DeLeeuw also returns.

Head coach Chad McCartney is also expecting freshman Fritz Staner to add to the team's lineup this season.

"The majority of our team is freshmen and sophomores," commented McCartney. "The beginning of the season will be a learning experience for many athletes as they compete at the varsity level for the first time."

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Kid Scoop

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Ice Cream Flavors



What's Your Favorite?

Each year, the International Dairy Foods Association asks people what their favorite ice cream flavor is. And nearly every year, **chocolate**, **vanilla** and **strawberry** are the top three flavors.

But sometimes another flavor snags a top spot. Circle every other letter below to see which one.

C B O V O L K T I N E F S W A J
N Y D Z C U R N E L A T M S

C O

Standards Link: Language Arts: Follow simple written directions.

Chocolate

Chocolate is made from the seeds of a **cacao tree**. The seeds are inside the cacao plant's fruit. Each fruit pod is about 10 inches long and is shaped like a football.



22	14	6	18	10
12	13	12	15	6
8	9	6	3	2
4	5	8	9	14
36	17	28	7	8
40	24	2	16	20

Tasty Treat

About how many pounds of chocolate does the average American eat every year? Color the odd-numbered spaces yellow and the even-numbered spaces brown to reveal the answer.



Aztec Legend: How People Discovered Chocolate

Read the legend, then number the pictures in order.

One ancient Aztec legend tells the story of Xolotl, the sun god, and his selfish desire to keep cacao beans hidden from humans.

Quetzalcoatl, the god of wisdom, wanted to share the beans. When Xolotl refused, Quetzalcoatl changed into a blue frog and led children to the cacao trees.

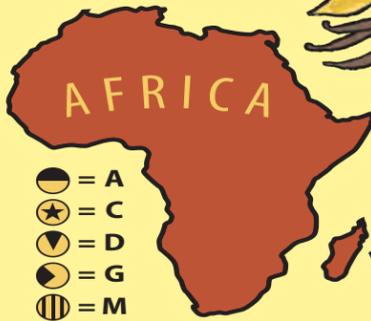
The children found the pods and brought them to their village.

The Aztecs used the cacao to create a chocolate drink with honey and became a powerful civilization.

They never forgot the importance of sharing and continued to leave chocolate under the trees for the little blue frog.



Vanilla



- = A
- ★ = C
- ▼ = D
- = G
- ⊕ = M
- = R
- ⊗ = S



Vanilla comes from the seed pod of a rainforest orchid. People have used vanilla for thousands of years as a flavoring, a perfume, a medicine and an insect repellent.

Use the code to find where most vanilla is grown.

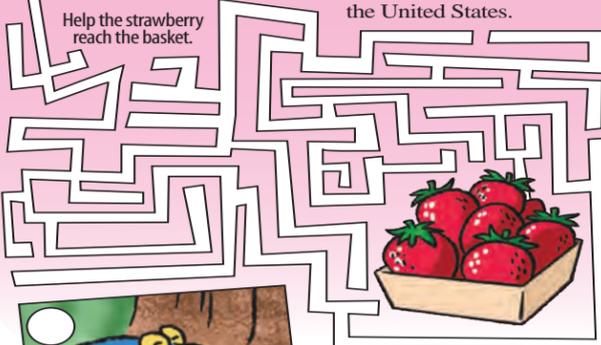
Strawberry

For thousands of years, people have gathered and eaten wild strawberries in the woods of Europe and North America.



Today, farmers grow tons of the popular berries.

Help the strawberry reach the basket.



Strawberry Fun Facts:

- Americans eat about eight pounds of strawberries per person each year.
- Strawberries have more vitamin C than oranges.
- California grows most of the strawberries eaten in the United States.

Extra! Extra! Tasty ABCs

Look through the newspaper for pictures and names of flavors and foods. Cut them out and put them into ABC order.

Standards Link: Language Arts: Place grade-level appropriate words in alphabetical order.

Kid Scoop Together

Read today's *Kid Scoop* page to find the answers to the questions below.

1. What are the three most popular ice cream flavors in the U.S.?
 - Orange, pineapple, and pickle
 - Strawberry, chocolate, and vanilla
 - Blueberry, strawberry, and chocolate chip
2. What is the name of the bean that people use to make chocolate?
 - Cacao
 - Chocolate
 - Coffee
 - Yumster
3. On average, how many pounds of strawberries per person do Americans eat in a year?
 - 8 pounds
 - 17 pounds
 - 55 pounds
 - 102 pounds
4. Where is most of the vanilla in the world grown?
 - Los Angeles
 - Manitoba
 - Antarctica
 - Madagascar



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Write On! Flavor Inventor

If your job was to invent new ice cream flavors, what would you come up with? What would you call your flavor? How would you advertise it?

Standards Link: Language Arts: Write descriptively using supporting details.

Kid Scoop Puzzler

We all scream for ice cream! Each of these treats below have an exact twin. Draw lines to connect each pair.



Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Follow simple written directions.

Double Double Word Search

- BERRIES
- CACAO
- CHOCOLATE
- DAIRY
- FROG
- FRUIT
- GROWS
- POD
- SEED
- SHARE
- SUN
- TREE
- VANILLA
- WILD
- YEAR

Find the words by looking up, down, backwards, forwards, sideways and diagonally.

A	B	Y	F	H	C	Z	Q	D	C
D	E	G	O	R	F	A	L	O	H
L	R	J	Z	N	U	S	C	P	O
V	R	H	O	X	T	I	Y	A	C
S	I	Y	S	R	Y	R	T	B	O
H	E	L	E	O	I	W	D	J	L
A	S	E	V	A	N	I	L	L	A
R	V	O	D	U	R	Y	I	Q	T
E	B	M	P	G	R	O	W	S	E

Standards Link: Letter sequencing. Recognize identical words. Skim and scan reading. Recall spelling patterns.

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