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Two officials resign after budget errors

Incorrect tax levy was reported to state

By MaryBeth Matzek
NEENAH NEWS

Two Winnebago County administrators resigned last month after making budget appropriation and tax levy errors related to the 2026 budget.

County Executive Gordon Hintz said the former directors of finance and ad-

ministration incorrectly reported the 2026 tax levy filing with the Wisconsin Department of Revenue. The Winnebago County Board of Supervisors approved a 2026 property tax levy of \$74,078,808, but a levy of \$74,228,116 was reported to the state.

"This was \$149,308 more than the amount authorized by the county board and the county executive," Hintz said. "This was clear negligence."

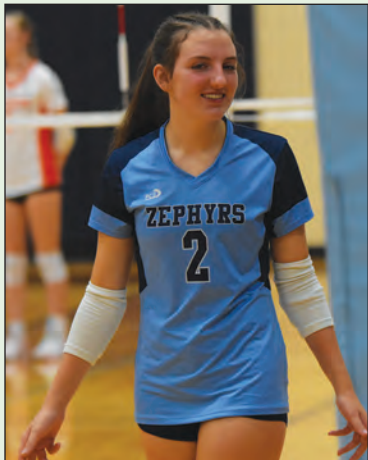
The issues were uncovered when Hintz

sought more details about tax property expenditures to share with the Personnel and Finance Committee. He said he wasn't getting the information he needed, and the numbers Hintz had "didn't add up."

On Aug. 3, he met with Director of Finance Paul Kaiser and Director of Administration Jamie Rouch and by the next day, the explanation for the discrepancies

SEE **Budget errors** ON PAGE 6

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Itsy Bitsy
McCauley anchors
Zephyrs defense
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Assembly seat
Candidates vie for
District 55 post
Page 10



Photo from St. Mary Catholic Schools

Anniversary remembrance

In honor of the 25th anniversary of September 11th, members of the Fox Crossing Police Department and Fox Crossing Fire Department were on the St. Mary Catholic Middle School campus Friday to greet students during drop off. The 9/11 anniversary was marked with other events throughout the area, including the first responders stair climb at Lambeau Field.

County board approves rule to create special committees

By MaryBeth Matzek
NEENAH NEWS

Issues sometimes come up that do not fall easily into a Winnebago County Board of Supervisors Committee's jurisdiction. When that happens, a special or ad-hoc committee is needed.

The Winnebago County Board of Supervisors voted Tuesday to create a new rule establishing and governing special committees.

Supervisor Conley Hanson, who introduced the rule, said there was no existing board rule addressing the creation of temporary committees, subcommittees and task forces. The new rule creates consistency and transparency, he added.

consistency and transparency, he added.

"The rule casts a very wide net to ensure it is broad enough to cover subcommittees, task force, ad-hoc task force, working groups, advisory panels, steering committees, advisory committees and review boards," Hanson said.

An approved board resolution can create the special committee. The committee will dissolve on its one-year anniversary resolution adoption date or when it issues its final report, whichever happens first. The committee will have no independent ability to bind the county or expend funds beyond any budgeted amounts and authorized by a county board vote.

The county board chair and county executive will appoint five or seven committee members from among people expressing interest.

The county board will vote to approve the committee members.

Supervisor Cullen Bettin introduced an amendment that would put the appointment of committee members in the hands of board supervisors. He said having the board chair and county executive appoint committee members was "aristocratic and doesn't allow for people with wider opinions."

The board chair and county executive have a good idea of who would be interest-

ed in participating on a certain committee, Hanson said.

"Without the streamline of having the county board chair or executive, I worry there will be a lot of back and forths" with finding people to serve on the committee, Hanson said.

"The county board chair is the best person in the room to know who would be best for the committee," Supervisor Jim Wise said. "We also get to approve who is on the committee."

Bettin's amendment was voted down. He also proposed an amendment lowering the number of committee members to three, which was also voted down.

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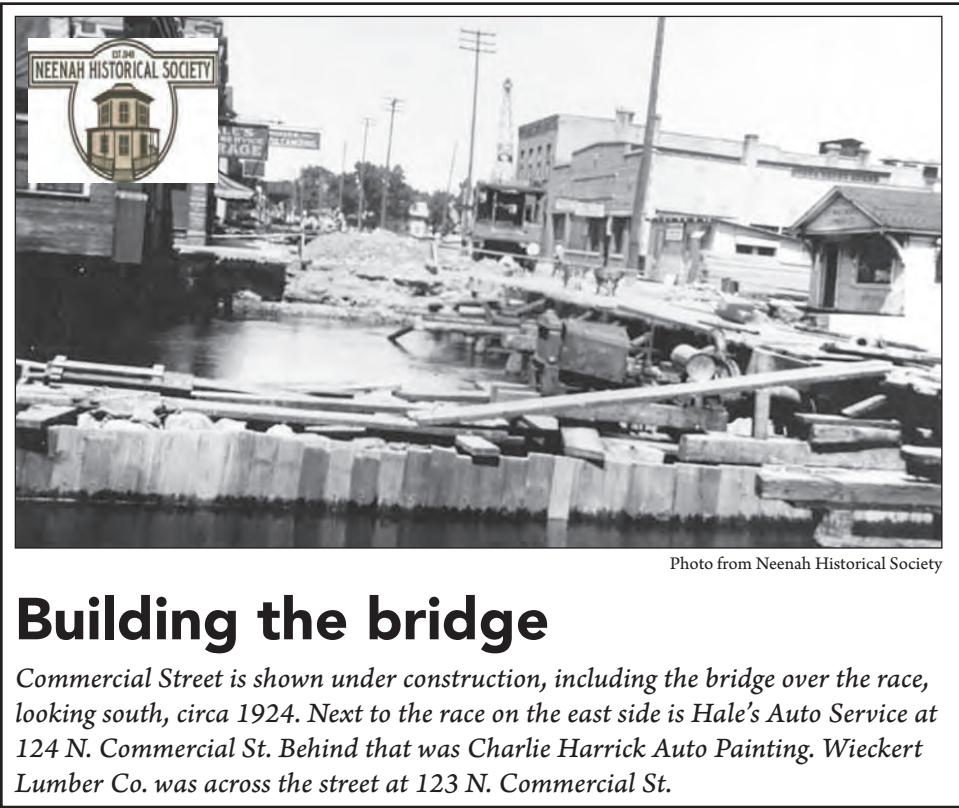
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Building the bridge

Commercial Street is shown under construction, including the bridge over the race, looking south, circa 1924. Next to the race on the east side is Hale's Auto Service at 124 N. Commercial St. Behind that was Charlie Harrick Auto Painting. Wieckert Lumber Co. was across the street at 123 N. Commercial St.

Carpenter joins Neenah News as business account executive

Neenah News

Katy Carpenter has joined the Neenah News as an advertising account executive for the Neenah and Fox Crossing areas.

Carpenter has been in the local newspaper industry for 20 years, with roles spanning across circulation, advertising and digital marketing.

In her new role, she is eager to bring



her experience to help local business-
es reach their audiences, grow their
brands and connect with the community
through thoughtful, effective advertising
solutions.

Carpenter looks forward to connect-
ing with local businesses, learning their
stories and finding creative ways to share
what makes each business unique within
the community.

Carpenter was born and raised in Osh-
kosh, where she currently resides.

She can be reached at 920-508-0119 or
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Calendar
of events

Friday, Sept. 18
Oktoberfest, 3 p.m., Lion's Tail Brewing
Neenah Police Benevolent Annual
Benefit Concert, 6 p.m., Best Western
Premier Bridgewood Resort and Hotel

Saturday, Sept. 19
Future Neenah Farmers Market, 8
a.m., Shattuck Park
Neenah Parks and Recreation Junk in
the Trunk, 8 a.m., City Hall Parking Lot,
211 Walnut St.
Fox Crossing Intergenerational STEAM
Workshop, 9 a.m., Fox Crossing Municipal
Complex, 2000 Municipal Drive
Neenah Animal Shelter Furry Flurry,
10 a.m., Batley's Grill and Bar
Author Michelle Schneider of "Pollie
Patootie" Meet and Greet, 11 a.m., Ly-
ons Books, 127 W. Wisconsin Ave.
Oktoberfest, noon, Lion's Tail Brewing
JRAAR After Dark: An Evening Market
and Community Night Under the Stars, 8
p.m., J&R Aquatic Animal Rescue

Wednesday, Sept. 23
Campfire with the Cops, 5:30 p.m.,
Memorial Park

Friday, Sept. 25
Team One Mile Community Event,
4:30 p.m., Shattuck Park
The Hallows, 6:30 p.m., Memorial Park

Saturday, Sept. 26
Future Neenah Farmers Market, 8
a.m., Shattuck Park
Neenah Historical Society presents
Havilah Babcock House Tours, 1 p.m.,
537 E. Wisconsin Ave.
The Hallows, 6:30 p.m., Memorial Park

Sunday, Sept. 27
Gold Star Family Luminary Event, 6
p.m., Shattuck Park

Friday, Oct. 2
The Hallows, 6:30 p.m., Memorial Park

Saturday, Oct. 3
Future Neenah Farmers Market, 8
a.m., Shattuck Park
Neenah Parks and Recreation Howl-
O-Ween, 9 a.m., Neenah Dog Park,
2122 Brooks Ave.
October Art Activity Day, 10 a.m.,
Bergstrom-Mahler Museum of Glass

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Oktoberfest returns with entertainment this weekend

By George Halas
NEWS CONTRIBUTOR

Lion's Tail Brewing in downtown Neenah will host its 11th annual Oktoberfest this weekend, starting this afternoon.

Festivities will begin at 3 p.m. today and at noon Saturday, concluding at 11 p.m. both nights.

"It's still fun and each year it gets a little bigger," said Lion's Tail founder Alex Wenzel. "Every year we try to add new things to make it more fun and more authentic, make it more like a Munich-style beer festival. We're not quite there yet but people do keep coming back."

Word of mouth has been an important factor in the growth of the festival, Wenzel said.

"Word of mouth is one of our best tools to tell people who we are," Wenzel said. "So many people don't know us, but they come out and they tell their friends who tell their friends. That is how we've succeeded over the years."

"It's rain or shine," he added. "Everyone can stay dry under the tents, so nobody has to worry about the weather. We're the first Oktoberfest in the area each year. We like to be first to get everyone in the mood."

Music is a big part of the tradition, he said.

"Our whole lineup is favorites from years past," Wenzel noted. "We have polka both days and rock 'n' roll both nights."

The music today includes polka courtesy of the Tom Schneider Band from 5 to 8 p.m. followed by honky tonk rockers Wire & Nail playing from 8:30 to 11 p.m.

Polka favorite Keith Gennerman gets the dancing started at 1:30 p.m. Saturday and will hold the stage until 4:30 p.m.

Cold Soda will serve up rock and favorites from 5 to 7:30 p.m. followed by That 90's Band from 8 to 11 p.m.

While Wenzel conceded that "we really don't make that much money from Oktoberfest," he pointed out partnerships with local nonprofits raise over \$10,000 for local charities.

"One fun thing is that our host-partner Neenah-Menasha Fireman's Association runs festival games all weekend," Wenzel said. "They have games like Wheel of Fortune and Hammerschlagen, which is a challenge game where you compete with your friends to drive a nail into a log with the fewest one-armed swings of a hammer. The winner wins a free beer."

"Another fan favorite is the Stein Holding contest," he added. "A contestant holds a one-liter stein, which weighs about five or six pounds, directly out in front of them for as long they can. We do this contest several times throughout the weekend."

The Neenah Wrestling Club is back to do the food court, Wenzel said. One new food offering this year comes courtesy of the Thunderbird Bakery in Oshkosh.

"It's a Kaiserschmarrn," Wenzel said. "It's an authentic German apple pancake that pairs great with beer."

The Boy Scout troop will be serving pretzels all weekend. The highlight for Wenzel is the beer.

"This is the first year that we will offer six German beer styles," he said, noting that Lion's Tail starts brewing the beers in March "low and slow" then ages them in cool storage tanks, which results in beers that are "exceptionally smooth, clear and clean drinking."

"Not a lot of breweries do it that way," Wenzel said. "Most breweries in America



Submitted photo

Lion's Tail Brewing in Neenah will be hosting its Oktoberfest celebration today and Saturday.

try to do a new beer every 14 days." Wenzel also said that all the beers will be available in the Lion's Tail bar on Sunday "for those running in the Fox Cities Marathon on Sunday as well as anyone else."

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Neenah Joint School District tabs employees of the year

Neenah News

Eight individuals and one team of staff members have been recognized as the Neenah Joint School District's Employees of the Year for the 2025-26 school year.

The group represents one individual from each of the district's employment categories. They were selected from the nearly 800 total employees of the Neenah Joint School District and were nominated by colleagues, parents and students.

Four teachers were selected, including Michelle Perry from the elementary level, Shelby McCauley from the middle school level, Ryan Walter from the high school level and Elissa Gasparick from the special

services area.

High School educational assistant Tracy McClowry was selected as the Educational Assistant of the Year and middle school administrative assistant Emily Babcock was chosen as the Administrative Assistant of the Year. District mechanic Todd Sommer was selected as the Operations/Maintenance Employee of the Year and Taft Elementary principal Karen Russell received the Administrator of the Year award.

The Team of the Year honor was awarded to the Tullar Elementary special education staff.

The Tullar Special Education team absorbed students from another school

during October 2025 due to staff challenges at another school. The staff quickly rearranged schedules and found coverage to assist students with some of the highest needs. They also worked to integrate some of the students into general education classrooms for the first time.

Members of the team are Joanna Boyle, Virginia Bruder, Jenna Collaer, Katie Diedrich, Alyssa Harris, Kaissee Koats, Rachel Kohler, Katy Kolgen, Brooklyn Komorowski, Eulalie Leiton, Kelly Popp, Rachel Schmidt, DaNay Stedjee and Alyssa Tourville.

Educational Foundation of Neenah honors 13 with teaching awards

Neenah News

The Educational Foundation of Neenah honored 13 Neenah Joint School District educators in its "Rocketing Ahead: Celebration of Education" Teaching Awards.

Each recipient receives a grant for classroom enhancements or professional development opportunities. The grants were created to recognize educators who have demonstrated innovative or creative classroom methods and who are involved in extra-curricular activities for their students and community.

Each school has at least one recipient of the award with two selections from Neenah Middle School and Neenah High

School.

Those honored include Sara Klawikowski (Alliance), Alyssa Lamont (Clayton), Marnie Schneider (Coolidge), Jamie White (Horace Mann), Corey Knudsen (Lakeview), Chelsea Germait (Spring Road), Crystal Schalliol (Taft), DaNay Stedjee (Tullar), Scott Dohms (Washington), Andrew Mayer and Hannah McLeod (Neenah Middle School) and Ryan Walter and Gabe Retzlaff (Neenah High School).

The Educational Foundation of Neenah, founded in 1986, is a nonprofit community-based organization with an all volunteer board of directors.

Packers Foundation awards annual grants

Neenah News

The Green Bay Packers Foundation has distributed \$1.6 million in annual grants to 402 civic and charitable groups throughout Wisconsin in its annual distribution of grants.

Of the Foundation's contributions, 42 grants – aggregating \$170,000 – were awarded to Brown County organizations. Additional grants, totaling \$1,430,000, were made to 360 other organizations around the state.

The groups in Winnebago County receiving grants include Casa Esther, Community Clothes Closet Inc., Day By Day Warming Shelter Inc., Habitat for Humanity of Oshkosh, HeadsUp Fox Cities, Journey Together Service Dog Inc., LEAVEN, Inc., Neenah-Menasha Emergency Society, Inc., Neenah Animal Shelter, Oshkosh Child Development Center, Inc., Oshkosh Kids Foundation Inc., Remarkable, The Lucky Foundation and Youth Go Corp.

Neenah-based nonprofit HeadsUp Fox Cities received a \$4,000 grant to support former foster youth who are at risk of becoming homeless or are already struggling with homelessness.

"Young people who leave foster care often face adulthood alone," said Sara Brown, HeadsUp Fox Cities executive director. "They carry a lot of pressure and often have few people to turn to for support. A safe place to live is one important step, but it's only the start of what many of these young adults need to thrive. This is what HeadsUp exists to do: help get these young people set up to thrive in adulthood."

Over the next 12 months, the grant from the Packers Foundation will support both the people and the resources that make the organization's work possible. It will help fund staffing for direct

participant services, including the Life Skills Coordinators who meet regularly with young adults and guide them through employment, education, budgeting, transportation, housing, everyday life skills and the unexpected challenges that come up along the way.

The funding will also provide direct support to participants, helping cover housing expenses, transportation, employment needs, educational materials, life-skills programming and other practical barriers that can stand between a young person and their goals.

"We are incredibly grateful to the Green Bay Packers Foundation for believing in this work and investing in young people in our community," Brown said. "Every young person deserves the opportunity to have a safe place to live, someone to call when they need help and the chance to build a life they're proud of. We're grateful to have partners who help make that possible."

This year's grant cycle focused on organizations that will direct the funds toward the need areas of animal welfare, homelessness and human services, with 58 grants going to animal welfare, 101 going to homelessness and 243 going to human services. While 53 of Wisconsin's 72 counties serve as the physical base for grant recipients, this year's funding will provide impacts to each county in the state through the multi-county support many recipient organizations provide.

The grants awarded by the Foundation are not recurring and must be used for the specific program or initiative for which the organizations applied.

To learn about where each organization will be focusing the grant dollars and for more information on the grant cycles, visit packers.com/foundation and navigate to Project/Program Focus Area.

Library hosts presentation on food noise

Neenah News

The Women's Health Empowerment series returns to the Neenah Public Library on the third Monday of each month.

This series focuses on topics concerning women's health, including changes a female's body undergoes during perimenopause and menopause. Everyone is welcome to participate and learn from both the experts and each other.

The first workshop at 6:30 p.m. Monday will discuss the connection between eating habits and lifestyle with Katelyn DeWitt, an integrative nutritional health

coach.

Food noise refers to those constant, intrusive thoughts regarding cravings, meals or the act of eating itself. This chatter often arises from various external factors, including stress, low self-esteem, personal issues and the influence of diet culture.

DeWitt will explain the concept of food noise, share techniques to silence one's inner critic and explore how one's relationship with food may mirror early childhood experiences.

This is a free event held at the Neenah Public Library; no registration is necessary.

Kids day features activities at farmers market

Neenah News

Saturday is Kids' Day at the Future Neenah Farmers Market.

Those attending the farmers market are invited to bring the whole family for an extra-fun morning at Shattuck Park

with a bounce house, games, face painting and several kid vendors selling their own homemade goods. Future Neenah says customers can come shop, play and support some of the youngest entrepreneurs.

The farmers market is from 8 a.m. to noon Saturday at Shattuck Park.

Downtown event offers chance to buy, sell items

Neenah News

Neenah Parks and Recreation is hosting a Junk in the Trunk event on Saturday evening.

Setup runs from 6:30 to 7:45 a.m., with shopping beginning at 8 a.m. The event will be in the City Hall parking lot at 211

Walnut St.

Organizers expect a busy weekend in downtown Neenah, with the Future Neenah Farmers Market and the Fox Cities Marathon taking place. They said it's the perfect opportunity for items to be seen and sold.

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Lighthouse closed

The Kimberly Point Lighthouse is closed as a preservation project has gotten underway. Construction is expected to be completed in late fall. A groundbreaking ceremony for the project was held Sept. 9.

Fox Cities Chamber launches speakers bureau to showcase local expertise

Neenah News

A new Speakers Bureau created by the Fox Cities Chamber has made it easier for businesses, nonprofits, community groups and others to find knowledgeable local speakers.

The bureau features Fox Cities professionals who are available to speak at meetings, conferences, classrooms, professional-development programs and community events.

“The Fox Cities is home to an incredible amount of knowledge, experience and innovation,” said Becky Bartoszek, President & CEO of the Fox Cities Chamber. “The Speakers Bureau gives our members the opportunity to share that expertise with others, to help them learn, grow, and succeed.”

Organizations can search for speakers across a variety of categories, including:

- Business and entrepreneurship
- Leadership and workplace culture
- Marketing and communications
- Workforce and talent
- Finance and professional services
- Health and wellness
- Community and economic development

Fox Cities Marathon events set for Neenah

Neenah News

The Fox Cities Marathon is taking place this weekend with some of the events happening in Neenah.

The 10K run/walk and 5K run/walk will be on Saturday at Riverside Park. Packet pickup and day of registration is scheduled from 7 to 8:45 a.m.

The 5K and 10K start time is 9 a.m.

The marathon, half marathon and relay

ment

Presentation topics include subjects such as using artificial intelligence in daily business operations, creating a stronger workplace culture, protecting an organization from cybersecurity threats, building a recognizable brand, improving employee retention and preparing the next generation of workers.

Organizations seeking a speaker can use the online directory to identify professionals whose expertise aligns with their audience and event. Speaking arrangements, including availability, presentation format and any applicable fees, are coordinated directly between the speaker and the requesting organization.

Chamber members interested in being included in the Speakers Bureau may submit their information through the Chamber’s website. Submissions should identify the speaker’s areas of expertise, suggested presentation topics, professional background and contact information.

To explore the Speakers Bureau or submit a speaker profile, visit foxcitieschamber.com/speakers-bureau.

marathon are scheduled for Sunday with the start line at the former UW-Fox Cities campus, 1478 Midway Road in Menasha.

The wheelchair and hand crank begin at 6:55 a.m. with marathon, half marathon open division and relay at 7 a.m. and half competitive walk division at 7:05 a.m.

The finish line will be at Riverside Park in Neenah.

For more information, go to foxcities-marathon.org.

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Budget errors

FROM PAGE 1

he received “set off an alarm.” By the end of the week, both Kaiser and Rouch resigned.

Looking closer at the financials, it was discovered three budget amendments adopted by the county board were not implemented using the specified funding sources. For the amendments, the board directed the costs be paid from the unassigned general fund balance.

Instead, the costs were charged to the highway and solid waste funds and the public health tax levy.

“Those were errors and should not have happened,” Hintz said.

In Winnebago County, Menasha and Appleton have their own public health

departments and do not pay the county public health tax levy. By using the county health tax levy instead of the general fund balance, Hintz said it shifted \$347,050 of costs away from Appleton and Menasha taxpayers to taxpayers elsewhere in Winnebago County.

Hintz will propose using \$347,050 of the unassigned general fund balance to offset the public health levy. That is intended to address the impact of the incorrect funding decisions going forward.

The additional \$149,308 levy reported to the state cost Winnebago County property owners 69 cents for every \$100,000 of property value.

On Tuesday, the Winnebago County Board of Supervisors ratified the \$74,228,116 levy that was actually reported and collected and amended the three affected budget amendments so the coun-

ty’s legislative record reflects how those expenditures were accounted for by the former directors of finance and administration.

“Taking this action reduces the county’s potential exposure to penalties associated with the discrepancy between the amount authorized locally and the amount reported to the state,” Hintz said.

Several changes will be made to prevent something like this happening in the future, Hintz said. For example, there will

be more than one person producing and verifying the final adopted budget.

In addition, he said the county will make changes to its hiring expectations with future directors of administration and finance expected to demonstrate core technical competencies to administer a county budget and financial system.

“I talked to the Wisconsin County Association, and they had never heard of something like this happening before,” Hintz said.



Photo from Neenah-Menasha Intertribal Powwow

Special gathering

The ninth Neenah-Menasha Intertribal Powwow brought community members together Saturday for a special gathering at Shattuck Park. It included an afternoon of culture, community, music and dancing. The event featured drums, a Men’s Fancy Dance Competition, an All Women’s Competition Dance, Indigenous arts and crafts, food vendors and community organizations.

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Health department provides info about cleanup protection

According to Winnebago Public Health, for many in the community, the process of returning home and beginning repairs is just getting underway. For those that are reentering a building that has only recently been structurally cleared, the health department said they should remember to take extra precautions to protect their health.

Significant storm damage can disturb materials that were previously safe, potentially creating hazards such as asbestos, lead dust or mold.

“We strongly encourage anyone entering or cleaning a damaged structure to wear proper protective equipment, including gloves, sturdy footwear, eye protection and an appropriate respirator when needed,” the health department said.

Key Points

Old homes may have hazards such as asbestos and lead. When cleaning up wear a well-fitting N-95 mask or respirator at a minimum, goggles and protective gloves. Personal Protective Equipment is

available for free at donation supply pick-up areas listed at winnebagocountywi.gov/990/Winnebago-County-Tornado-Event-Information.

Use Portable generators outside and at least 20 feet away from the home to avoid carbon monoxide poisoning and fires.

Ensure the mold cleanup is complete before reoccupying your home.

Clean non-porous items using hot water and non-ammonia detergent. Disinfect surfaces using no more than 1/2 cup household bleach per 1/3 gallon of water. Never mix bleach with ammonia or other cleaners.

Injuries, insect bites, tetanus

Storm debris can cause cuts, puncture wounds and other injuries. Clean wounds with soap and clean water as soon as possible.

Seek medical care for deep wounds, uncontrolled bleeding, embedded debris, animal bites or signs of infection.

Storms can churn up debris that displace spiders and other biting or stinging

insects. Wear a long-sleeved shirt, hat, long pants tucked into socks, gloves and boots when handling storm displaced items, stored boxes, or firewood and when cleaning out sheds, garages, basements, attics and crawl spaces.

Clean minor bites with soap and water, apply a cold pack, and seek immediate medical care if you experience severe pain, muscle cramps, breathing trouble, or a spreading skin lesion.

Not sure whether you are up to date on

your tetanus vaccine? Contact a healthcare provider or Winnebago County Health at 920-232-3000, or check vaccination records on the Wisconsin Immunization Registry at dhfswir.org/PR/clientSearch.do?language=en.

Recovery takes time, and safety should come first at every step. The health department team is here to provide residents support with information, guidance and resources as they navigate the days and weeks ahead.

Legal assistance clinic to help tornado victims

The Winnebago Free Legal Assistance Clinic will offer a special event at the Menasha Public Library for people with legal issues related to the July 27 tornado.

The Winnebago Free Legal Assistance

Clinic will be from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday.

Assistance will be offered on a first-come, first-served basis. Questions can be directed to winnebagolegalclinic@gmail.com.

Fox Crossing brush, branch collection site closed

Neenah News

A temporary brush and branch drop-off site for Fox Crossing residents at Wittmann Park is now permanently closed.

Branch and brush collection is now back to the normal process for all Fox Crossing residents. The village asks residents to re-

member to follow its regular chipping policy when placing brush at the curb.

The permanent Tree and Brush Drop-Off Site at 2000 Municipal Drive in Neenah remains open from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. seven days a week for Fox Crossing residents only.

Neenah News

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Oshkosh man knowingly violated restraining order

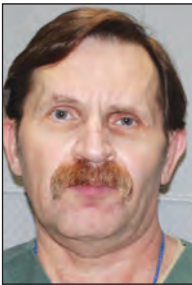
Neenah News

An Oshkosh man sent a threatening message to a Neenah woman who had an active restraining order against him.

Todd A. Hinz, 53, is back in custody in the Winnebago County jail after allegedly threatening to burn down a woman's house who is linked to a previous stalking case. Hinz told police he did it because he wanted to go back to prison.

Hinz is facing one felony count of stalking – previous conviction violent crime and misdemeanor counts of knowingly violating a harassment order and computer message-threaten/injury or harm.

Court documents allege Hinz sent a text message to the victim in the case that stated Hinz knows a man that would burn down the victim's house.



Hinz

Hinz is currently in custody at the Winnebago County Jail. Court Commissioner Eric Heywood set Hinz's cash bond at \$50,000 during an initial appearance hearing on Sept. 4. Court records show he was released from Oshkosh Correctional Institute (OSCI) on Aug. 25.

If convicted, Hinz could be sentenced to three years in prison followed by three years of extended supervision. All three counts he is facing have a repeater modifier, which means he could be sentenced to a longer sentence for being a repeat offender.

According to the criminal complaint, sheriff's deputies were dispatched to a Neenah-area home on Sept. 3 for a harassment complaint. Deputies arrived and spoke with the victim, who told them she has an active temporary restraining order (TRO) against Hinz.

The TRO was granted on Aug. 24 and was served to Hinz the following day.

The text was sent to the victim earlier that day and the victim said it was likely

from Hinz.

Law enforcement alleges the text said a man was going to burn down her house, make her pay and that "restraining orders will not stop me nor jail prison."

As part of Hinz's conviction in a 2019 stalking case, he was sentenced to seven years in prison and five years of extended supervision. A sheriff's deputy contacted Hinz's probation agent and confirmed the

Families invited to explore zines this weekend

Neenah News

Neenah artists Michelle Sharp and Emily Runnerstrom will lead an exploration of zines at the Neenah Public Library.

Families are invited to drop in between 1 and 3 p.m. Sunday in the Shattuck Room to learn more and have a chance to make their own zine. This program is suitable for all ages.

Zines are small books or magazines that are often made with only one cleverly folded sheet of paper. Zines are created by individuals or groups using a DIY approach, often sharing artistic expression or interest in a specific topic.

Sharp and Runnerstrom will show a few simple one-page book forms, and then

Library hosting Dragon Boat Festival on Sept. 26

Neenah News

The Neenah Public Library and L.E.A.P Cultural Community are organizing a Dragon Boat Festival.

The family-friendly event celebrating Chinese Dragon Boat races will be held at 1 p.m. Sept. 26 at the Neenah Public Library.

Bringing together elements of sport, cuisine and cultural heritage, this event is designed for families and patrons of all ages.

number the text came from is Hinz.

Hinz was located later that day walking along Jackson Street in Oshkosh. When deputies asked if he knew why they were looking for him, Hinz allegedly responded that he sent a message he shouldn't have.

Deputies reported Hinz was allegedly emitting the odor of intoxicants during the interaction. Hinz provided a preliminary breath test and the result was 0.091.

participants will have a chance to try their hand at making their own.

The program is a partnership with ZABA and Root & Runner Creative Space. The program was made possible by the Friends of the Neenah Library and the Neenah Public Library Trust Fund.

The Neenah Arts Council will also be offering zine making from 9 a.m. to noon Saturday at the Future Neenah Farmers Market. The arts council will provide materials to make a zine.

Participants in both events can bring their newfound interest in zines to the Fox Valley Zine and Book Arts Festival (ZABA) from 12:30 to 3:30 p.m. Oct. 4 at the Neenah Public Library.



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Local first responders climb stairs at Lambeau Field

Neenah News

First responders from the City of Neenah Police Department, Town of Neenah Fire Department and Fox Crossing Police Department last week were among those who climbed 1,300 steps or 110 floors at Lambeau Field.

The purpose of the event Saturday was to remember the first responders who made the ultimate sacrifice on September 11, 2001, and the many more firefighters who have lost their lives to job related injuries and illnesses in the 25 years since then.

Of the 2,977 victims killed that day, 421 were emergency workers who responded to the call, including 343 FDNY firefighters, 37 Port Authority police officers, 23 NYPD officers, 10 officers from other agencies and 8 paramedics.

Every step is a reminder of the cost of the profession and the people who put everything on the line to serve others. They come from different backgrounds, different professions, different departments, and different communities, but they share something that runs much deeper.

They look out for each other. They serve together. They carry the memory of those who came before them.

Fox Crossing Officer Joshua Biocic donned his duty gear at the 9/11 Memorial Stair Climb to reflect, remember, and pay tribute to those who gave their lives in service to others.

Biocic climbed while wearing the re-



Photo from Fox Crossing Police Department

Fox Crossing Officer Joshua Biocic donned his duty gear at Lambeau Field to reflect, remember and pay tribute to those who gave their lives in service to others.

minder badge of NYFD Firefighter Martin N. DeMeo who gave his life trying to save others.



Photo from Neenah Police Department

Neenah Police team members included from left to right Raven Bernice, Richie Bernice, Assistant Chief Jeff Bernice, Officer Kellen McCarthy, Officer Joe Benoit and Angie Benoit



Photo from Town of Neenah Fire Department

Members of the Town of Neenah Fire Department were among those participating Saturday in the 9/11 Memorial Stair Climb at Lambeau Field.

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Candidates compete for District 55 Assembly seat

Neenah News

Incumbent Nate Gustafson is being challenged by Alex Corrigan for the District 55 seat in the Assembly, which covers northern Winnebago County west of the Fox River and the western part of the county, including Fox Crossing, Omro and Winneconne.

Alex Corrigan

Age: 42
Occupation: Attorney and social worker
Highest level of education: Juris Doctor (J.D.) and Master of Social Work (M.S.W.)
Relevant experience: I'm a mom of four, an attorney and social worker. I currently serve as clerk of the Neenah Joint School District Board of Education, where I chair the Policy Committee. Before moving to Wisconsin, I worked in criminal defense and child advocacy. Most of my experience comes down to listening to people, figuring out where systems aren't working the way they should, and finding practical ways to make them work better.



Corrigan

Why are you running for the State Assembly? I love living here, and I want my kids to be able to build a life here someday if they choose to. I want them to have great public schools, clean water, affordable places to live and jobs that allow them to raise families of their own.
I'm also someone who really likes figuring things out. I like understanding

how systems fit together, why something isn't working, and where you can make a change that actually helps. Serving on the school board has shown me how often the things we're trying to solve locally connect back to decisions made in Madison. I want to bring that same curiosity and problem-solving approach to the Legislature — not assuming I already have every answer but doing the work to understand the problem and bring people together to solve it.

Whether it is groceries or gas, most families are concerned about rising costs. What could the Assembly do to help lower costs? Is there an initiative that you're currently working on that you will continue once you're elected?

With four kids, I feel rising costs every time I walk into the grocery store. The Assembly can't control every price, but it can look at the places where state policy adds to what families are paying—property taxes, childcare, utilities, housing and health care.

That's something I'm already working on through the school board. When the state doesn't adequately fund public education, especially special education, those costs don't disappear. They get shifted somewhere else — often to local property taxpayers or away from other things schools need.

I like looking at those connections and figuring out where we can make the system work better. I want to continue that work in Madison: adequately and predictably funding our public schools while looking across state policy for practical ways to lower the overall cost of raising a family in Wisconsin.

Nate Gustafson

Age: 31
Occupation: State Representative, 55th Assembly District; Sales advisor
Highest level of education: Associate's degree in Cybersecurity, Fox Valley Technical College

Relevant experience: State Representative for the 55th Assembly District (2023–present); former Winnebago County Board Supervisor; professional background in information technology, systems analysis and customer service.



Gustafson

Why are you running for the State Assembly? Winnebago County is my lifelong home, and I am running to continue serving as an accessible, responsive voice for our families and small businesses.

Effective public service means listening at the doors, understanding kitchen table realities and working across the aisle to deliver pragmatic, common sense results. I remain focused on practical local priorities: keeping taxes in check, safeguarding personal data privacy against emerging technology, protecting our lakes and rivers to be enjoyed for generations to come and standing shoulder-to-shoulder with family farmers against big utilities.

These aren't partisan issues — they directly impact our cost of living, water quality and community character. I will continue fighting to keep state government accountable and ensure the Fox Valley remains an affordable, safe and thriving place to live and raise a family.

Whether it is groceries or gas, most families are concerned about rising costs. What could the Assembly do to help lower costs?

Working families across our district feel the strain of rising everyday costs at the checkout line and the gas pump.
The Assembly can provide direct relief

by prioritizing responsible fiscal policy and returning surplus state revenue to taxpayers. We must focus on targeted income tax relief that allows middle-class families and small business owners to keep more of their hard-earned money. Additionally, the state should rein in unnecessary bureaucratic red tape and burdensome regulatory fees that inflate the cost of doing business, which inevitably gets passed down to consumers in higher retail prices.

By maintaining a balanced budget, practicing spending discipline in Madison, and supporting local supply chains and energy independence, the Assembly can foster a competitive business climate that curbs inflationary pressures and makes daily essentials more affordable for Fox Valley households.

Is there an initiative that you're currently working on that you will continue once you're elected?

I will continue focusing on three distinct initiatives: tech policy, water conservation and farmland preservation.

First, I am working to modernize state technology and cybersecurity oversight — leading discussions around artificial intelligence and establishing strict data privacy guardrails and accountability for surveillance tools, such as Flock safety cameras.

Second, I am advancing common-sense standards for wake surfing and wake-enhanced boating. Deep-draft artificial wakes churn up lakebed sediment, fuel toxic algae blooms and erode shorelines across our lakes and river systems. We need statewide depth and distance rules that protect aquatic ecosystems while respecting local control.

Third, I am fighting to protect our agricultural heritage by ensuring large utilities cannot bypass local input to pave over prime farmland with industrial solar projects. Energy diversification cannot come at the expense of our multi-generational family farms. We must protect local siting authority and support the farmers who sustain our communities.



Neenah News

Candidate forum

The League of Women Voters of Winnebago County and City of Neenah hosted a candidate forum for Assembly District 53 on Sept. 10 at Neenah City Hall. The three candidates hoping to take the seat currently held by Dean Kaufert, who is not running for reelection, were invited with Independent Rachael Dowling, left, and Democrat Becky Nichols, right, participating in the discussion. Republican David Daniels did not attend. The 53rd Assembly District includes the City of Neenah, most of Menasha, Fox Crossing east of the lake and part of Appleton's south side.

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Rockets ride balanced offense to easy FVA win

By Steve Clark
NEENAH NEWS

Neenah’s girls volleyball didn’t let Oshkosh North even get a whiff of momentum on Tuesday night.

The Rockets scored the first eight points of the match, led 16-3 at one point in the first set and carried that roll into the rest of the match in collecting a 25-9, 25-13, 25-17 sweep of the Spartans in a Fox Valley Association match at Neenah High School.

“I thought we really set the tone early,” said Neenah head coach Nate Leitermann. “We served really well and got all of our hitters involved early and I think that got us going.”

The Rockets, who improved to 3-0 in the FVA, trailed only twice the entire night – Oshkosh North scored the first point of the second and third sets for its only advantages – and at times overwhelmed the Spartans with their bevy of weapons at the net.

Ten different players finished with multiple kills for the Rockets and six totaled at least four kills in the match as Neenah showcased its balanced, powerful offense in the win.

Leah Oldenburg led the team with eight, followed by Lilly Romjue with seven. Brielle Brown and Elaina Kramer each had five and Paige Hoelzel and Riley Geschrei each had four.

“It’s so nice that we are so diverse. We always have such a big competition at the net. It keeps us in a good flow,” Kramer said. “I try to definitely feed off my team’s energy so much. All of my teammates are so great, so when they get a kill, it makes me just as happy as if I got one.”

North entered winless in the FVA this season and finished at the bottom of the conference last season and Leitermann was pleased with the approach his team took getting into the match.

“We talked in pregame about finding ways to stay engaged whether you were on the court or on the bench,” Leitermann said. “They know North has struggled but

they are not a bad team and they served well against us. I think our girls realized that and were up for a challenge.”

Neenah did struggle at times with some of the tough North serves – the Spartans finished with seven aces in the match – but Leitermann said that will be one area the team focuses on moving forward.

“I think serve receive is something we have to be better in and the girls know that,” Leitermann said. “We talked about it at the end that (North) is a really good serving team and you can’t take points off. As the weeks move on, it’s going to get harder and we have to be up to the challenge.”

The Rockets’ schedule will toughen up over the next couple of weeks, including a string of four straight road matches which started on Thursday night.

Neenah also has matches remaining against some of the other top teams in the FVA, including a showdown at Kimberly on Oct. 8.

“We’re definitely looking to the future but we want to make sure no matter who our opponent it, we are staying true to ourselves and coming out strong every night,” Kramer said.

A Kramer kill capped the match-opening outburst for the Rockets, which came on the serve of Finley Kelley and staked Neenah to the 8-0 lead. North rattled off three straight points before the Rockets responded with another eight-point run, highlighted by five kills from Romjue.



Kramer

Prep roundup

SWIMMING

Freestyle sweeps key victory for Rockets

Neenah swept the top three places in two different events and rolled to a 123-62 win over the Appleton East co-op team in a Fox Valley Association dual meet on Tuesday.

Both sweeps came in freestyle races as Bridget Bloomhuff, Ellen Farrell and Lilly Karr went 1-2-3, respectively, in the 50-yard freestyle, while Breleigh Mauer won the 100-yard freestyle, followed by Sophie Wypyszynski and Sophie Schabow.

The win in the 100-yard freestyle was one of four victories for Mauer, who also took first in the 200-yard individual medley, while also being a part of Neenah’s two winning relay teams. She joined Elizabeth Hang, Kirsten Brygger and Bloomhuff on the first-place 200-yard medley relay, while also winning the 200-yard freestyle relay along with Brygger, Aubrey Murwar and Farrell.

Hang also added wins in the 200-yard freestyle and 100-yard backstroke for the Rockets, while Brygger in the 100-yard butterfly and Sydney Hansman in diving also took first places.

Diver Meredith Buttron, Bloomhuff in the 100-yard butterfly and Brygger in the 100-yard breaststroke each finished in second place.

Neenah also took second in the 400-yard freestyle relay.

CROSS COUNTRY

Neenah girls dominate night race

The Rockets placed four runners in the top seven finishers and rolled to the team

title at the Neenah Nightfall Classic held last Friday at Winagamie Golf Course.

Neenah finished with a total of just 31 points to finish first among the 14 Division 1 teams. Green Bay Preble was second with 67 points, followed by Kimberly with 73.

Sam Zilm was the individual winner – by nearly a minute – to lead the Neenah contingent in the top seven.

Izzy Malloy finished in third place, Natalie Schultz was fifth and Lizzy LaPlant took home seventh, while Olivia Landrath rounded out the scoring runners for Neenah in 15th place.

The Neenah boys placed 13th among the 18 boys teams in the Division 1 field and were led by Drew Sabatke in 31st place.

Dylan Olson was the next Rocket finisher in 69th place, followed by Carson Finch in 80th place, Wyatt Gearhart in 97th place and Nolan Moore in 109th place.

In the Division 3 race, the St. Mary Catholic girls finished ninth and the boys were 14th at the meet.

Mya DeLeeuw led the Zephyrs with a 17th-place finish, followed by Claire Higgins in 25th place and Natalie Lee in 34th place. Clare Mislinski added a 76th place followed by Claire Lundgren in 97th place.

In the boys race, Fritz Staner posted a top-10 finish by taking ninth and Brady DeLeeuw was 13th, while the rest of the scoring runners for the Zephyrs were Leo Gruber in 124th, Brandon DeBaal in 131st and Anderson Homburg in 165th.

Higgins, Lee lead Zephyr runners

Claire Higgins finished fourth and Natalie Lee was fifth to lead St. Mary Cath-

SEE **Rockets win** ON PAGE 14

SEE **Prep roundup** ON PAGE 15

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Senior Standout is brought to you by:



McCauley digs role as St. Mary Catholic’s libero

By Steve Clark
NEENAH NEWS

Some athletes are just natural to a specific position and play it throughout their career.

St. Mary Catholic volleyball player Bitsy McCauley is not one of those.

The standout libero for the Zephyrs has played every position on the volleyball court at some point during her high school and club career before settling into the spot with opposite-colored jersey who stares down opposing hitters on a regular basis.

“Junior year is when I decided that passing is my specialty and I really wanted to pursue that,” McCauley said after a practice earlier this week. “Once I started playing libero, I was like I really enjoy playing this spot, so I want to stick with it.”

Although libero is a somewhat new thing in her life, the name Bitsy is not.

Her given name is Elizabeth but said that when she was born, her grandma started calling her “Little Bits.” That gave way to Bitsy shortly thereafter and the name has stuck ever since.

“At first when people hear it, they will be like I did not know it was Elizabeth or who is Elizabeth but no one calls me Elizabeth,” McCauley said. “If I have a teacher for the first time, they will usually call me Elizabeth but I just say, ‘I’m Bitsy.’”

In her first season as a libero, McCauley earned second-team all-conference honors in the Big East last year after leading the Zephyrs with 364 digs.

Senior Standout



She is on pace to surpass that number this season, and currently leads the team in that category and doesn’t mind getting on the back end of a rubber ball being driven at her by an opponent at up to 50 mph.

And there’s never any hesitation to get in the way to try to dig the ball up.

“I want to get digs because that’s the fun of the game,” McCauley said. “I try to just stop my feet to make sure that I’m planted so I can move easier and then I just hope my teammates are there for the block to get a touch so it’s easier to get up, too.”

McCauley also tries to get to every ball she can, even if it means diving across the floor or darting to all ends of the gymnasium.

“I really try my best to get to every ball and throw my body all over the place to get to it,” McCauley said. “I just like being able to get all of the hustle balls in. Any one can get to them but I feel like it’s the main reason I am on the court to hustle and put in all of my effort.”

Before settling in at libero, McCauley spent much of her early years in the sport as a setter before being switched to an outside hitter.

She even played some middle block-



Bitsy McCauley has played just about every position on the volleyball court during her time at St. Mary Catholic but has settled in as the team’s libero the past two seasons.



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er when needed during the club season – which was a bit of a mismatch for the 5-foot, 6-inch McCauley.

“(Other teams) probably thought I was easy competition and I wasn’t going to do anything,” McCauley said. “I really didn’t know what I was doing, but I tried my best. I would just try to get up in the air and try to get some swings. I got some kills and some block touches, too.”

McCauley actually credits her time as a setter and outside hitter for helping to prepare her to be a libero.

Since both positions will rotate through the back row, McCauley got plenty of work on serve receive, passing and digging. It’s also what helped lead her to where she plays now.

“During practice, we work a lot on passing, especially the outsides because you play a lot in the back row. You get a lot more balls to you,” McCauley said. “When we were doing that, my coaches said this could be useful for you and as I started doing it more in practice, I was like I want to do this.”

But she admits, she does miss unleashing spikes at opponents.

“I do miss hitting a little,” McCauley said. “Sometimes in practice I might take a few swings from the back row because I’m bored.”

McCauley was a freshman in the Zephyrs program when St. Mary Catholic played at the WIAA State Tournament in 2023.

She said that seeing the light blue and gold on the court at the Resch Center planted a seed for her and her classmates to strive for in the future.

“It was really fun to watch them. When they were at the Resch, I was like I real-

ly want to go there and play at state and win state,” McCauley said. “I know a lot of our goals (this year) are to make it far and hopefully get to state so we are just really working on it.”

McCauley has already played at a state tournament in the Resch Center, just in a different sport.

She was a starting guard for the Zephyrs basketball team that lost in the WIAA Division 4 state semifinals last winter.

“After last year, I really want to go back in something and win,” McCauley said. “It was really kind of tough on all of us. We really just want to win and go.”

In addition to playing volleyball and basketball, McCauley is also a standout soccer player for St. Mary Catholic.

McCauley enjoys playing all three sports and regards volleyball as her favorite of the three – for the most part.

“During basketball there will be some moments where I really love basketball and at times during soccer I will really love it, but I think that volleyball is my favorite,” McCauley said. “When I’m playing a sport, I feel like I’m having the best time of my life. When I’m not doing something, I get extremely bored so getting to play a sport at all times is a good thing for me.”

McCauley doesn’t plan playing any of her three sports collegiately, however, she isn’t ready to give up on competition.

“I may play intramurals in college, but (sports) is not what I am focusing on,” said McCauley, who hasn’t determined where she will be going next year. “I feel like sports will always be a part of my life though. I have done sports since I was really little and without them, I don’t know what I would do.”

Rockets hoping to rebound against Oshkosh West

By Steve Clark
NEENAH NEWS

The Neenah Rockets have lost to three teams who are ranked among the best teams in their respective divisions.

Arrowhead in Division 1 and Green Bay Notre Dame in Division 2 are both the No. 1 ranked teams, while Kaukauna – who handed the Rockets a 34-21 loss last week – is ranked sixth in Division 2 with its only loss of the year coming against Green Bay Notre Dame.

It's as tough of a schedule as any team in Wisconsin has played over the first four weeks of the season, but as well as Neenah has competed against those top teams, they still lost to all three.

And that means the Rockets are head-

ing into Friday's showdown at Oshkosh West in an unfamiliar position.

"Nobody likes to be 1-3. We are kind of bothered of where we are at right now," Neenah head coach Steve Jung said. "We're 1-3 and we didn't play well last week so we've got to get better."

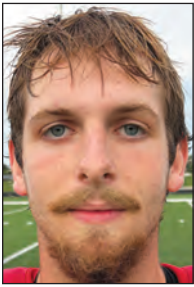
The tough record has had an effect on players who are used to cranking out win after win after win.

Neenah hasn't seen a start to the season like this since 2012, when the team lost its first seven games and finished 2-7.

"There is still a lot of confidence, but you can see some guys are down on themselves," said junior lineman Tyler Resch. "But it's our job as leaders to pick everybody up every day and make sure every-



Fox



Resch

Zephyrs aim to extend win streak, get payback against Vikings

By Steve Clark
NEENAH NEWS

St. Mary Catholic head football coach Rob Detterman didn't hide the fact that last season's 8-2 loss to Valders has been on the minds of his players this week.

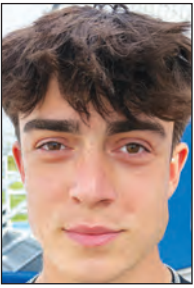
He's the one providing the reminders.

"If I said last year's game wasn't a part of the motivation for this week, I'd be lying," Detterman said with a wry smile. "There was a lot of disappointment with how that game went. It was a wake-up call for us too, but now it's time to show Valders what we're really made of or at least that's the kid's mindset right now."

The Zephyrs enter this week's rematch with the Vikings riding a three-game winning streak, coming off of last Thursday's 28-6 win over Chilton.

However, any hint of being a little too confident against a winless Valders team is erased by the reminders of how things went last season.

"We shouldn't have lost the game. We are coming back and we want them bad. We are coming for



Todd

Week 5 games

Fox Valley Association

(records reflect FVA games)

Neenah (1-1) at Oshkosh West (0-2)
Kaukauna (2-0) at Appleton North (2-0)
Appleton East (0-2) at Fond du Lac (1-1)
Kimberly (1-1) at Hortonville (1-1)

body is doing good and going 100 percent in every one of their reps. It's a competition to get better every day."

One win can quickly reverse any doubts lingering inside the players' helmets.

Neenah got a boost from a dominating win over Appleton East in Week 3 and are hoping for the same kind of outcome against the Wildcats.

"When we lost the first two games and then beat Appleton East, it was big for the morale for everyone. It was a great week for us," Resch said. "So we are hoping to

have another one of those and then just keep building on that."

In West, Neenah will be facing a team that is also 1-3 and has been shut out the last two weeks in Fox Valley Association games against Hortonville and Fond du Lac.

Oshkosh West's lone win came in Week 2 against rival Oshkosh North, when the Wildcats put up 21 points. Quarterback Carter Kufel, who led the Wildcats to the win over the Spartans, is expected to return after missing last week with an injury while the Wildcats defense has been solid in each of their games.

The Rockets, though, are less worried about what the Wildcats will bring to the table and more focused on fixing the issues on their side.

"We're mainly focused on ourselves," said junior defensive back Owen Fox. "We're 1-3. We're not doing any better

SEE **Neenah football** ON PAGE 14

them," said senior Dominic Todd. "I feel great about how we are playing right now.

I feel like we are growing into being a more consistent, more disciplined team and that's really going to help us in the big games."

The win over Chilton marked the third straight game that the Zephyrs held an opponent to less than 10 points, while the defense also scored a touchdown for the second week in a row

on Caleb Vogel's 25-yard interception return.

The strong play on the defensive side of the ball has been a big key to the Zephyrs' success.

"The defense is outstanding," Detterman said. "We have to give a lot of credit to Coach (Earl) Peterson for that. The defense has taken on his personality here at practice. They are aggressive, attacking and they are playing top notch."

St. Mary Catholic has been especially solid on the defensive line, which racked

SEE **Zephyr football** ON PAGE 15



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Rockets win

FROM PAGE 11

Neenah had another run of five straight points later in the set before kills from Kramer, Oldenburg and Brown got the Rockets to set point where Gloria Keith served an ace to close things out.

The Spartans were able to keep things close early in the second set but the Rockets eventually broke things open.

Neenah scored six straight points on Keith's serve to take a 16-7 advantage, before Hoelzel followed up a North point with two kills and a block to push the lead to double digits.

The Spartans got as close as eight points at 21-13 but Audrey Lindgren served out the final four points, which included a kill by Geschrei.

"We have a plethora of hitters and everyone contributes," Leitemann said. "It's fun to see everybody getting involved and everybody getting kills."

The Rockets varied their lineup in the final set but never trailed after a kill

from Anaysia Fox and an ace from Kelley helped Neenah take a 3-1 lead.

The turning point of the set came when Brown served the Rockets from a one-point lead to a 20-12 advantage – a stretch that included a spike and a couple of tips from Oldenburg, a dump set from Kelley, a kill from Tahlia Olongo and was capped by Brown's ace.

Sena Messner added an ace to help get the Rockets to match point, which was scored after a sideout when Brown's tip caromed off a North blocker and the Spartans couldn't return it.

Brown led the team with five aces, while Kelley and Keith each had three. Hoelzel led the team with four total blocks, while Lindgren posted a team-best 16 aces.

Kelley had 24 assists in the match with Messner adding 12.

"We told ourselves (coming into the match) that we just wanted to be true to ourselves and stay strong with what we know," Kramer said. "We just try to play as hard as we can no matter who the opponent is."

Neenah football

FROM PAGE 13

(than West). It's an even playing field right now and we have to play and not get in our heads and start to play sloppy just because they are struggling."

The Rockets also have a little added motivation.

Neenah entered last year's showdown against the Wildcats with a near-perfect record but found themselves needing a 14-point fourth quarter to pull out a 28-24 win

"It's a pretty heavy memory," Fox said. "We got in our heads that we're a great football team and they are not good. We got a sloppy mindset and we almost got embarrassed. We can't let that happen again."

Added Resch: "Oshkosh West took us through a wringer last year, let's not let that happen again. Let's show them what kind of a team we really are."

One of the keys for the Rockets will be avoiding an offensive lull that have stung them in the last two losses.

Against Arrowhead, the game was tied

at halftime before the Warhawks blistered the Rockets in the second half. In the loss to the Ghosts, Neenah allowed a 20-point second quarter which proved to be the difference in the game.

"We need to play consistent for the full 48 minutes and we needed every minute of that to beat them last year," Jung said. "We'll be ready for Friday night."

A strong opening quarter on Friday night would be a good place to start.

"It puts the energy so high for our team. If we get down, some guys might get down on themselves, but when we are up and doing our thing, doing our jobs, then it's super high energy for everyone," Resch said. "We know we can do this. We know it's just execution and when we execute, we are a really dangerous team."

And that's the type of team Neenah wants to be in the second half of the season.

"Getting a win, especially if we get the job done like we are supposed to, it could definitely be a confidence booster for our team heading in the upcoming week," Fox said. "We just have to start picking it up and bringing it now."

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Prep roundup

FROM PAGE 11

olic at the Jakubek-Willems Invite held at the Moore Running Ranch in Oshkosh on Tuesday.

Claire Mislinski (13th), Chloe Beckett (16th) and Mary Auer (20th) rounded out the scoring runners for the Zephyrs.

The St. Mary Catholic boys were led by Fritz Staner, who took fourth, and Brady DeLeeuw, who finished sixth. The other scoring runners for the Zephyrs were Leo

Zephyrs football

FROM PAGE 13

up 4.5 sacks last week and helped hold Chilton to less than four yards per carry on the ground.

“Our d-line I feel like is the best in the conference and maybe one of the best in the state. Things are clicking really well,” said junior Brennan Dupont. “Teams have been throwing a lot more (against us) so it’s giving us a lot more opportunities to get sacks. It’s pretty exciting.”

One of the reasons opponents are throwing more against the Zephyrs is because of how the offense is functioning as well.

Getting early leads and extending them has forced opponents to attempt more passes and St. Mary Catholic has seized the opportunity.

“We are turning other teams over and getting the ball back to our offense,” Detterman said. “It is just setting the tone for everything.”

The Zephyrs’ offense has been trucking along pretty well, too.

On the ground, Todd rushed for 91 yards and a touchdown last week and believes the rushing attack is doing well but still working out a few kinks.

“I think we are close to getting (to where we were last year),” Todd said. “Me personally, I need to strive to find that next level of aggressiveness. I’m still growing but it’s come a long way already.”

The better the Zephyrs can run the ball, the more it opens things up in the passing

Gruber in 30th place, Brandon DeBraal in 38th place and Anderson Homburg in 44th place.

TENNIS

Neenah racks up plenty of victories

The Rockets won a pair of Fox Valley Association dual meets in the past week, while also going 4-0 at their home tournament over the weekend.

Neenah dropped only two games in the seven matches in posting a 7-0 win over

Week 5 games

Eastern Wisconsin Conference

(records reflect EWC games)

St. Mary Catholic (1-0) at Valders (0-2)

Brillion (2-0) at Roncalli (1-1)

Kiel (2-0) at New Holstein (1-1)

Chilton (0-2) at Two Rivers (0-2)

game, too.

Quarterback Tarver Trinkner is completing nearly 60 percent of his passes this season and has thrown for five touchdowns with just one interception. He completed 8-of-13 passes last week, including a 91-yard touchdown to Dominic Osgood.

“If we can run the ball three plays in a row, the defense has to come up and gets sucked into the box,” Todd said. “That’s huge for us. We run it so they are anticipating a run and we can pass it, that’s big. We feel good about that.”

Getting a win on Friday and improving to being 3-0 in the Eastern Wisconsin Conference would be a step toward the conference title that the Zephyrs are eyeing.

Yet even though their biggest goals are going to be achieved somewhere down the road this season, the Zephyrs aren’t losing focus on what’s ahead of them.

“We have to take it week by week otherwise we are going to get ahead of ourselves,” Dupont said. “My freshman year we weren’t very good but ever since these coaches have come in, I just feel like something’s changed. It feels pretty good.”

Kaukauna on Tuesday after losing just three games total in a win over Appleton East last week.

Over the weekend, the Rockets picked up wins against Green Bay Notre Dame (5-2), Whitefish Bay (6-1), Homestead (7-0) and Arrowhead (4-3) as they hosted a tournament.

Three flights went 4-0 at the tournament for the Rockets. Celia Gentile won all four of her matches at No. 1 singles, while the No. 1 doubles pairing of Sydney Michalkiewickz and Rebekah Thomas as well as the No. 2 team of Ella Motto and Evelyn Buss also went 4-0.

Neenah also went 4-0 at No. 4 singles over the four dual meets with Megan Slabbert picking up two wins at the flight and Paige Vickman adding the other two wins.

JB Kennedy and Mollie Van Dyke won three of their four matches on the weekend at No. 3 doubles.

Zephyrs pick up three dual-meet wins

St. Mary Catholic faced off against a trio of Division 1 schools and won all three dual meets over the weekend,

The Zephyrs blanked La Crosse Central, 7-0, while also beating Sheboygan North and Cedarburg by 5-2 margins.

No. 1 singles player Vivie Auth won all three of her matches, while losing just five games combined. Norah Wroblewski also went 4-0 at No. 4 singles.

Also posting three wins were the No. 2 doubles team of Kieran Bergstrom and Scarlett Bergstrom and the No. 3 tandem of Laney Schmidt and Faith Bergstrom.

The No. 1 doubles team of Halle Janssen and Ella Chier along with No. 2 singles player Nadia Alexander were both 2-1.

BOYS VOLLEYBALL

Neenah sweeps past Oshkosh co-op team

Twelve different players registered at least one kill as the Rockets cruised to a sweep over the Oshkosh North/West co-op team.

Colin Martin, Cam Diekfuss, Ashton Olson and Trevor Rocketts each had five kills to lead the way for the Rockets, with Dylan McNamara and Alex Locke each adding four.

Dylan Zimmerman led the team with 11 assists, Ethan Sina led the team with five digs and Colton Kreger posted a team-high three aces in the win.

GIRLS VOLLEYBALL

Zephyrs remain unbeaten with sweep

St. Mary Catholic improved to 11-0 on the season after topping St. Mary Springs 25-18, 25-18, 25-16 on Tuesday.

Luci Nackers finished with nine kills and Rayna Brelage had six to lead the Zephyrs.

Adele Brennan totaled 13 assists in the win.

Rockets breeze to triumph over Terrors

Lilly Romjue finished with eight kills, while Cara Bosovic and Elaina Kramer each finished with six to lead Neenah to a 25-6, 25-10, 25-15 win over Appleton West last week.

Brown and Audrey Lingren each had three aces for the Rockets, while Lindgren also led the team with 11 digs.

Finley Kelley added 18 assists and Sena Messner had 10 for Neenah.

GOLF

Rockets down Cardinals in FVA dual meet

Lillian Quella led Neenah with a round of 44 as the Rockets bested Fond du Lac, 189-211, in a dual meet at Ridgeway Country Club.

Adrianne Oitzinger followed with a round of 47 with Alex Guden carding a 48 and Paige Keck and Leah Milske each shooting 50s.

Neenah also took fifth at the Sheboygan Invitational on Monday, finishing with a team score of 380.

The Rockets were led by Quella and Oitzinger, who each shot 89s at Town and Country Golf Course. Keck added a 92 for the Rockets, while Molly Jacquet finished with a score of 110.

Callan leads Zephyr golfers

Izzy Callan tied for fifth place overall with a round of 51 to lead St. Mary Catholic at a Bay South Conference mini-meet at Ridgeway Country Club earlier this week.

The Zephyrs finished with a 219, which landed them in fifth place.

Scarlett Reichenbacher and Ainslie Liddy each added scores of 53, while Amelia Virlee had a 62 and Brecken Britzke shot a 64.

SOCCER

Rockets can’t overcome early deficit in loss

Oshkosh West scored in the opening minute and then took a 2-0 lead later in the half and Neenah was unable to rally, falling, 2-1 on Tuesday night.

Ian Baetke scored the lone goal for the Rockets just before halftime with Evan Glennon picking up the assist.

The Rockets were coming off a 2-1 win over Sussex Hamilton last week with Kolton Fleege scoring both goals and Glennon and Cooper Christie notching assists.

Neenah also played to a 1-1 tie with Sheboygan North, with Baetke tallying the lone goal off an assist from Jordy Banda.

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CONSTITUTION DAY IS SEPTEMBER 17

CONSTITUTION DAY MYSTERY

Use the code to find the answers to the mystery questions on today's Kid Scoop page. You can also read the Constitution article below to discover the answers.

How many times has the U.S. Constitution been changed since 1791?

8 22 5 22 13 7 22 22 13

Philadelphia News

How many newspapers did Philadelphia have at the time of the Constitutional Convention?

7 22 13

Who established the first national Thanksgiving Day?

20 22 12 9 20 22
4 26 8 19 18 13 20 7 12 13

Is the U.S. Constitution the shortest written constitution of any major government?

2 22 8

What kind of gas fills the special cases that hold the original Constitution?

26 9 20 12 13

What streamed down Benjamin Franklin's face while he signed the Constitution?

7 22 26 9 8

How many signers of the U.S. Constitution were born in Ireland?

21 12 6 9

How many stars can you find on this page in 60 seconds? Have a friend try. Who found more?

CONSTITUTION CODE

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M
26	25	24	23	22	21	20	19	18	17	16	15	14
N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
13	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1





Kid Scoop Together:

PREAMBLE SCRAMBLE

The Preamble to the U.S. Constitution is the introduction to this important document.

Here is the Preamble scrambled. Cut out each part of the Preamble and paste it in the correct order on another sheet of paper.

to form a more perfect Union, establish Justice,

establish this Constitution for the

the common defence, promote the general

United States of America.

Welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty to

insure domestic Tranquility, provide for

We the People of the United States, in Order

ourselves and our Posterity, do ordain and

FASCINATING FACTS ABOUT THE U.S. CONSTITUTION

The U.S. Constitution has 4,400 words. It is the oldest and shortest written constitution of any major government in the world.

Since 1952, the Constitution has been on display in the National Archives Building in Washington, DC. Currently, all four pages are displayed behind protective glass framed with titanium. To preserve the parchment's quality, the cases contain argon gas and are kept at 67 degrees Fahrenheit with a relative humidity of 40 percent.

Because of his poor health, Benjamin Franklin needed help to sign the Constitution. As he did so, tears streamed down his face.

A proclamation by President George Washington and a congressional resolution established the first national Thanksgiving Day on Nov. 26, 1789. The reason for the holiday was to give "thanks" for the new Constitution.

As evidence of its continued flexibility and durability, the Constitution has been changed only 17 times since 1791!

At the time of the Constitutional Convention, Philadelphia was the most modern city in the United States. and the largest city in North America. It had a population of 40,000 people, 7,000 street lamps, 33 churches, 10 newspapers and a university.

Four of the signers of the Constitution (named Butler, McHenry, Fitzsimons and Paterson) were born in Ireland.

Extra! Extra! Spelling Challenge

Look through the newspaper and find the letters to spell each of the following words: Constitution Preamble Rights Amendments

Standards Link: Spelling: Spell grade-level appropriate words correctly.

Standards Link: History: Students understand historical events and democratic values commemorated by national holidays.

Kid Scoop Puzzler

The U.S. Constitution was written with a quill pen, a pen made from a feather. Can you find the two quill pens that match?



Standards Link: Investigation: Find similarities and differences in common objects.

Double Double Word Search

RESOLUTION
PREAMBLE
QUALITY
ARGON
REASON
LAMPS
QUILL
MAJOR
GLASS
TEARS
FACT
CASES
FACE
SIGN

Find the words by looking up, down, backwards, forwards and diagonally. Then look for them in this week's Kid Scoop stories and activities.

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

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

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Write On!

Play By the Rules

Write down three reasons it's important to have a set of rules in a board game.

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