

Rainforth named spotlight soccer player of the year | PAGE B1



Osawatomie to enshrine first hall of fame class | PAGE B2



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Winter storm blankets Miami County in ice, snow

STAFF REPORT

The first winter storm of 2025 began with freezing rain and sleet Saturday, Jan. 4, and continued with powdery snow and blizzard-like conditions Sunday, Jan. 5.

The storm created hazardous driving conditions in Miami County and throughout the Kansas City region over the weekend.

Miami County Undersheriff Matt Kelly said that between noon on Saturday and 9 p.m. on Sunday, the Miami County Sheriff's Office responded to 56 weather-related calls for service.

Those calls included five injury accidents, which were later determined to be non-injury reports, 13 non-injury accidents, and 38 motorist assists, including vehicles in ditches, vehicle slide-offs, stranded motorists, and vehicles on the side of the roadway.

During that time, the communications division received a total of 161 calls for service, Kelly said. The heaviest call volume occurred between noon



Gene Morris / Miami County Republic

Deputy Luke Angermayer with the Miami County Sheriff's Office responds to a call of a large truck in a ditch on 255th Street near Hillsdale on Sunday, Jan. 5. No one was injured. The driver left the truck after an attempt to pull it out with his pickup truck failed.

and midnight on Saturday.

"Fortunately, no serious injuries were reported despite the challenging weather conditions," Kelly said. "To ensure quick response times, several fire departments staffed their fire stations, and EMS was

readily available for assistance. The sheriff's office worked closely with the Miami County Road and Bridge Department to help identify the most hazardous roadways and have salt trucks respond to those locations.

It was all hands on deck at the sheriff's office during the storm.

"To manage the high call volume, extra staff were assigned to both the patrol and

SNOW / PAGE A3

Audit reveals safety concerns at Osawatomie State Hospital

BY BRIAN MCCAULEY

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OSAWATOMIE – A performance audit of the Osawatomie State Hospital outlines a variety of safety concerns at the facility.

The 51-page document highlights issues with physical security, fire training, lack of effective policies and management, and a failure to address safety and security problems when they arise, among other concerns.

The audit was authorized by the Legislative Post Audit Committee in April 2024 at the request of local state legislators, including Rep. Samantha Poetter Parshall, Sen. Caryn Tyson, Rep. Carrie Barth, Rep. Fred Gardner and Sen. Molly Baumgardner.

The results of the audit were released in December.

The objective of the audit was to determine if the state hospital adequately ensures the safety and security of its staff.

Auditors surveyed staff to better understand their opinions on the culture and environment at the state hospital, and auditors also visited the facility and reviewed policies and procedures and documentation of physical security measures.

AUDIT / PAGE A2

Rockers Pharmacy closes its doors in Paola

Nate Rockers expresses frustration with pharmacy benefit managers

BY BRIAN MCCAULEY

bmccauley@cherryroad.com

PAOLA – It wasn't business as usual at Rockers Pharmacy on Monday, Dec. 30.

Just one day before the business closed its doors for good, there were signs all throughout the pharmacy that the end was near.

Shelves were stripped bare except for a few lonely items scattered about.

The once lively soda fountain station was shut down.

Even the Rockers Pharmacy name was missing from the exterior of the building at 304 Baptiste Drive in Paola.

And owner Nate Rockers was spending extra time with each customer who walked through the door, many of whom were seeking a conversation along with their final prescription refills.

They wanted to know why the family-owned business that has been a staple in the Paola community for 15 years was closing for good.

Rockers was more than happy to explain the problems with a reimbursement system that he believes is making it almost impossible for independent small-town pharmacies to survive.

Rockers said it's a complex issue, but the primary problem is with pharmacy benefit managers (PBMs) that determine how much pharmacies are reimbursed for medications they purchased from wholesalers to distribute to customers.

Rockers said three large PBMs – CVS/Caremark, Express Scripts and Optum Rx – control over 80 percent of the pharmacy benefits in the United States.

CVS/Caremark is a subsidiary of Aetna and the CVS Health Corporation that owns the CVS Pharmacy retail chain, Express Scripts is a subsidiary of Cigna, and Optum Rx is a subsidiary of UnitedHealth Group.

Rockers said there is no legislation preventing PBMs from reimbursing their own pharmacies more than local drugstores for the same drug.



Brian McCauley / Miami County Republic

The shelves at Rockers Pharmacy were bare on Monday, Dec. 30, as the business prepared to close for good at the end of the year.

"They restrict your ability to utilize the pharmacy of your choice and then underpay us for pharmacy service if they do allow you to fill at your pharmacy of choice," Rockers stated in a message the business posted on its Facebook page announcing its closure at the end of the year. "Their monopolistic and predatory practices are driving up the cost of healthcare for

everyone." Rockers said insurance company reimbursement models have become so aggressively low that, in 2024, more than 70 percent of the prescriptions filled at Rockers Pharmacy were below the pharmacy's cost to dispense.

"We have watched as the pharmacy industry has changed significantly over the past 15 years," Rockers

said in the statement. "It has gotten dramatically worse over the past five years."

Rockers said the issue is compounded by the fact that insurance companies can manipulate copays to direct customers away from small, independent pharmacies, while paying other pharmacies larger amounts on the back end.

"There's nothing

transparent or clean about this industry," Rockers said.

Rockers said he's spoken out about the issues for years and has been a vocal advocate for the importance of local pharmacies.

He's disappointed, though, that there has been no significant legislation passed to regulate the PBMs and level the playing field for all pharmacies.

A good start, he said, would be to require some sort of pharmaceutical explanation of benefits, similar to what patients receive for medical claims. That way, customers could actually see where all the money is going.

Rockers has tried to take action himself. In 2018, he and three other rural Kansas pharmacists created their own pharmacy benefit manager called Oread Rx to try and change the system.

In the end, though, Rockers saw no other option but to close the doors of his small-town pharmacy for good.

ROCKERS / PAGE A2



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ROCKERS

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“We have truly enjoyed serving this community,” Rockers said in the statement. “We will continue to cherish the relationships we’ve formed with each of our patients, many of whom have become like family.”

Rockers Pharmacy opened in 2009 inside the old Miller Pharmacy building at the corner of Peoria and Pearl streets on the northeast corner of Paola’s Park Square.

In 2014, the business moved to its expanded Baptiste Drive location. Community members enjoyed the drive-thru and new features, such as the vintage soda fountain station.

In 2015, Rockers Pharmacy was named the Business of the Year by the Paola Chamber of Commerce.

Rockers, who graduated from Paola High School, said he will miss the customers the most. He and his coworkers would often recognize their vehicles when they pulled up and already be pulling their prescriptions when they walked in the door.

When he posted the announcement about Rockers Pharmacy closing on social media, Rockers received a flood of comments



Brian McCauley / Miami County Republic

The soda fountain was a popular feature at Rockers Pharmacy in Paola, but it was shut down on Monday, Dec. 30, as the business prepared to close for good at the end of the year.

from local residents and customers lamenting the loss and expressing their love for the local pharmacy.

“It means you did something

right,” Rockers said.

As for the future, Rockers said he doesn’t have any immediate plans. He just wants to take some

time off and absorb what has happened. But he’s also preparing to go down a new road.

“I’m 46 years old, and for the

first time in 30 years, this may be an opportunity to start a new career outside of healthcare,” Rockers said.

AUDIT

Continued from A1

“We saw evidence of inadequate physical security processes in multiple areas including door checks and tracking facility keys,” the audit report states. “We also saw staffing challenges with high turnover, numerous vacancies, and costly overtime. Finally, we saw evidence of workplace culture issues like not setting clear policy expectations, not collecting and using data to monitor staff safety risks, and not taking appropriate disciplinary actions when made aware of safety incidents.”

The report did highlight evidence that current management may be making some improvements.

“Survey responses from current staff were more positive than responses from former workers,” the audit report states. “The current superintendent also demonstrated an interest in improving some of these areas through actions like reporting staff who did not meet expectations, committing to a comprehensive audit of facility keys, and exploring alternative options

for providing fire response resources on the campus.”

The audit report includes a detailed response from Osawatomie State Hospital Superintendent Ashley Byram, who said action has already been taken to improve safety and security for staff and patients.

“In general, we agree with the audit recommendations and have proposed actions which are consistent with the recommended policy and procedural changes,” Byram said in her response letter. “Our management team, with the support of the Kansas Department for Aging and Disability Services, has focused on improving the staff culture at OSH and Adair Acute Care.”

Regarding physical security, Byram said policies will be adjusted to ensure vacant buildings are also being monitored. She also said safety and security have moved from a patrol-and-respond approach to a zone approach for daily monitoring.

Regarding the auditor’s report that staff does not have a complete and accurate accounting of all keys, many of which are missing, Byram said that in 2022, the leadership team



File photo

Ashley Byram is the superintendent of Osawatomie State Hospital, and she said the facility is already working to address safety concerns mentioned in a recent performance audit.

discovered that the person responsible for assigning keys was not signing keys in and out.

As a result, the hospital implemented a key audit for staff and buildings and identified keys that had been missing for several years.

“Given the size of the campus and the complexity of rekeying, a work group has been formed to determine the best course of action moving forward,” Byram said. “Secure key boxes, like those used at Larned State Hospital, are being considered.”

Byram’s letter includes a table that lists a number of recommendations and accompanying corrective actions.

Cara Sloan-Ramos, director of communications for the Kansas Department for Aging and Disability Services (KDADS) that oversees management of the Osawatomie State Hospital, also released a statement regarding the audit.

“We recognize the trust placed in us to care for some of Kansas’ most vulnerable individuals,” Sloan-Ramos said. “That is why the agency promptly reviewed concerns and took steps to address the findings outlined in the Legislative Post Audit’s report regarding Osawatomie State Hospital (OSH).”

“The report acknowledged the unique challenges and safety risks associated with operating a psychiatric hospital. Even with those

realities, our actions reflect our unwavering dedication to improving conditions at OSH while fostering a culture of transparency, accountability, and continuous improvement. KDADS is committed to working collaboratively with state leaders, community stakeholders, and hospital staff

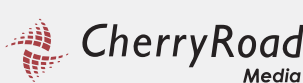
to ensure we meet the highest standards of care and safety.

“We will continue to work with our staff and partners to address challenges head-on to build a stronger, safer environment for everyone at Osawatomie State Hospital,” Sloan-Ramos said.



File photo

The leadership team at Osawatomie State Hospital is working to address a variety of safety concerns highlighted in a 51-page performance audit authorized by the Legislative Post Audit Committee.



Jeremy Gulban
Publisher

THE MIAMI COUNTY REPUBLIC

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SNOW

Continued from A1

communications divisions," Kelly said. "While some response times were extended due to the weather, the sheriff's office was able to respond to all calls and provide assistance to those in need."

More freezing rain and sleet fell Sunday, along with a few inches of powdery snow. Areas to the north received larger snow totals.

In addition to slick highways and side streets, visibility deteriorated quickly Sunday, said Deputy Luke Angermayer with the Miami County Sheriff's Office.

"Visibility is just crazy," he said during an afternoon patrol Sunday. "Visibility was a quarter-mile earlier this morning, and it is less than 100 yards now."

The Miami County Sheriff's Office, Paola Police Department and Kansas Highway Patrol urged people to stay home unless it was an emergency.

"Luckily, it sounds like people have heeded the warning and are not getting out," Angermayer said Sunday. "We have not seen a lot of cars on the road. The sheriff's office ran a lot of calls last night with a lot of vehicles in ditches. Towing companies have done a good job of getting them out."

The Miami County Sheriff's Office received calls about vehicles off the roadway and in ditches.

"We have been checking the vehicles to make sure

no one is stranded," Angermayer said. "We are marking vehicles with caution tape so we know they have been checked."

Snow which started falling Sunday morning has improved the traction on roadways, but they were still very slick, Angermayer said.

"The snow actually helps give you some traction," he said.

Firefighters responded to a house fire on Old Kansas City Road and 244th Street on Sunday.

Firefighters from Johnson County were first on the scene, running a hose to the back of the house to spray water into a crawl space.

City and county crews were busy treating streets for the ice and plowing snow.

Jacob Walker opened Circle C Cafe in Paola to serve first responders who were out working Sunday morning, offering a cup of coffee and a free meal.

A Paola couple contacted the Miami County Sheriff's Office about donating blankets. Angermayer picked them up and took the blankets to the warming station.

"It is nice to see when things like this happens, the community comes together to do whatever they can for each other," Angermayer said. "I had a cup of coffee at Circle C this morning. That was a nice way to start the day."

Church services were canceled Sunday throughout Miami County.

Even with the ice and freezing temperatures, the hill near the dam at



Gene Morris / Miami County Republic
Firefighters from Johnson County run a hose to the back of a home on Old Kansas City Road and 255th Street on Sunday, Jan. 5, before spraying water into a crawl space.



Gene Morris / Miami County Republic
Despite the ice and freezing temperatures, the hill near the dam at Hillsdale Lake proved to be popular for some sledding Sunday, Jan. 5.



Gene Morris / Miami County Republic
Miami County Sheriff's Office Deputy Luke Angermayer collects blankets to donate to children from a Paola couple during his patrol Sunday, Jan. 5.



Circle C Cafe / Facebook
First responders enjoyed a cup of coffee and hot breakfast at Circle C Cafe on Sunday, Jan. 5, thanks to the generosity of Jacob Walker at Circle C Cafe in Paola.



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Haddock named Paola USD 368's Elementary Teacher of the Year

BY BRIAN MCCAULEY
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PAOLA – Karla Haddock loves to encourage her kindergarten students at Cottonwood Elementary to be creative.

One of her favorite projects involves each student drawing a picture of themselves. Thanks to Design 4 Sports in Paola, Haddock is even able to turn the images into a shirt that she will cherish as a lasting reminder of her students.

It's just one of the many ways Haddock works to establish lasting relationships with her students.

"I want to win them over," Haddock said. "I want them to know I'm on their side."

Haddock's passion for her job has not gone unnoticed. Her peers nominated her to be Paola USD 368's Elementary Teacher of the Year, and she learned last fall that she had won the honor.

Haddock said it feels good to be honored with the award, especially because she knows how many stellar teachers she works with.

"We have an amazing staff," Haddock said.



Brian McCauley / Miami County Republic

Karla Haddock, a kindergarten teacher at Cottonwood Elementary, is Paola USD 368's Elementary Teacher of the Year.

Haddock started in Paola USD 368 as a fifth-grade teacher at Sunflower Elementary in 2016 after moving to Paola from Colorado, where she taught first grade and kindergarten for nine years.

She quickly moved to Cottonwood Elementary, where she enjoys being a member of the kindergarten team.

She particularly loves teaching students the building blocks of how to read. Her favorite moments are working with them one-on-one and celebrating their "aha" moments.

It brings back memories

for Haddock, who taught her own children how to read.

"The entire house was labeled," Haddock recalls.

Making connections with students is a priority for Haddock, and she said there is nothing more rewarding than having them return and tell her how she made an impact on them.

That happened recently when one former student returned before graduating from high school and presented Haddock with an Impact Award.

"It's a lot of fun when they come back," Haddock said.

Starks named Paola USD 368's Secondary Teacher of the Year

BY BRIAN MCCAULEY
bmccauley@cherryroad.com

PAOLA – Tim Starks' favorite moment as a band director is when he's conducting during a performance and facing all of his students.

During a live performance, he said, music provides a rare moment of complete engagement.

"In today's world, students' lives are filled with distractions — phones, social media and constant demands on their attention," Starks said. "But during a performance, all of that fades away. They are fully present, and we're all 100 percent focused on creating music together."

Starks said he loves helping his students develop a passion for music. He knows the benefits extend far beyond learning how to play notes.

"They learn life skills," Starks said. "They learn teamwork, discipline, work ethic and the pursuit of excellence."

Starks is the band director for both Paola Middle School and Paola High School, and he recently was recognized by his peers by being nominated to be Paola USD 368's



Brian McCauley / Miami County Republic

Tim Starks, who is the band director for Paola Middle School and Paola High School, is Paola USD 368's Secondary Teacher of the Year.

Secondary Teacher of the Year. He found out last fall that he won the award.

Starks said he is honored, and it shows that the school district values the importance of the arts. He also said a band director is represented by his students, so he shares the award with them.

"This is a compliment to you guys," Starks told his students.

Starks grew up in Bonner Springs and attended Kansas State University. He and his wife, Bethany, have two children — Eli and Trinity.

Starks joined Paola USD

368 in 2018 and taught band for 15 years before that. He loves showcasing the band at sporting events, and he has put an emphasis on making sure the band performs not only at football games but also boys and girls basketball games.

"I think we create a lot of atmosphere," Starks said. "The teams feed off it too."

Starks learned he had won the Teacher of the Year award during a homecoming pep rally in which his band students were performing.

"It made the moment that much cooler," he said.

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Antioch Community Baptist
– 22668 S. Waverly Road, Spring Hill. 913-884-8144. www.antiochchurchspringhill.com. Sunday Worship 10:45 a.m.; Sunday School (adult & children) 9:30 a.m.; Children's Church 10:45 a.m.; Wed. Dinner 5:30 p.m.; Wed. Service 6:30 p.m. Jack Smith, Pastor.

Endless Mercy Baptist
– Paola Community Center, 905 E. Wea St., Paola. Bible Study Sunday 9:30 a.m.; Worship 10:30 a.m.-noon. Ron Osborn, Pastor. 913-208-3585.

First Baptist
– 207 E. Wea, Paola. 913-557-0239. www.firstbaptistpaola.com. Sunday School for all ages 9:15 a.m.; Worship 10:30 a.m. Nursery and Praise Kids available. Dr. Joel Schroeder.

First Mt. Olivet Baptist Church
– 301 E. Miami, Paola. Sunday Service - 9:45 a.m. - 10:45 a.m. Mark Smith, Pastor.

CATHOLIC

Holy Trinity Catholic
– Church and School, 501 E. Chippewa, Paola. 913-557-2067. htchurch@holyltrinitypaola.org. Masses Sat. 5 p.m., Sun. 8 & 10 a.m. Rev. Joe Sellas.

CHRISTIAN

Paola Christian
– 302 E. Peoria, Paola. 913-294-3284. Worship Services Sun. 10 a.m.

LUTHERAN

First Lutheran
– 401 E. Piankishaw, Paola. 913-295-3476. www.firstlutheran-paola.org. Worship 9 a.m.; Sunday School & Bible Study 10:15 a.m. Rev. Christian Schultz, Pastor.

Trinity Ev. Lutheran
– 34868 Block Road, Paola. 913-849-3344. www.trinitylcms.org. Sunday School & Bible Class 9 a.m.; Worship 10 a.m. Rev. Joshua Woelmer.

METHODIST

Paola United Methodist
– 209 S. Silver, Paola. 913-294-3475. www.paolaumc.org. Worship Services 9:30 a.m.; Faith Studies for all ages 8:15 a.m.; Thrift Shop Sat. 9:00 a.m.-Noon. Reverend Maria Penrod.

Plum Creek Global Church
– 319th & Plum Creek Road, Paola. Sunday School 9:45 a.m.; Worship 10:45 a.m.

PRESBYTERIAN

Hillsdale Presbyterian
– 22875 W. 255th St., Hillsdale. 913-783-4416. Worship 9:05 a.m.; Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Nursery Provided & Children's Church. Rev. Laurie Johnston, Pastor.

Lighthouse Church
– 1402 E. 303rd. www.paolalighthouse.com. 913-294-2400. Sunday School 9:00 a.m.; Worship 10:00 a.m. Nursery Provided & Children's Church. Rev. Kirk Johnston, Pastor.

NONDENOMINATIONAL

Friendship Faith Ministries
– Full Gospel Nondenominational Spirit-Filled. 602 W. Shawnee, Paola. 913-294-2575. www.facebook.com/friendshipfaith. Church Service Sun. 10 a.m.; Adult & Youth Bible Study Wed. 7 p.m. Apostle LeRoy McConico Jr.

Living Proof Church – 32401 Harmony Rd., Paola. 913-937-7312.

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First Christian Church
– (Disciples of Christ) 602 N. First St., Louisburg. 913-837-4760. www.fcclouisburgks.org. Sunday school (in person & Zoom) 9:30 a.m.; Worship 8:30 & 10:30 a.m.; Live streaming for 10:30 a.m. on our website. Rev. Deana Perdue, Pastor.

CATHOLIC

Immaculate Conception Church – 606 S. Elm, Louisburg. 913-837-3787.

INTERDENOMINATIONAL

Faith Chapel
– 841 N. Metcalf, Louisburg. 913-837-2108. www.myfaithchapel.com. Celebration Service 10 a.m.; Nursery, Children's Church 10 a.m. Family Night Wednesday: Free Meal 5:30 p.m.; Classes for All Ages 6:30 p.m.; Real Student Ministries Sun. 6:30 p.m. Jon Clayton, Pastor

Rutlader Outpost Cowboy Church

– 33607 Metcalf Rd., Louisburg, KS 66053. 913-594-2908. Email: rocowboychurch@gmail.com. Facebook | Youtube@RutladerOutpostCowboyChurch. Worship Services Every Tuesday 7 p.m.; Bible Study Thursdays 6:30 p.m.

NONDENOMINATIONAL

The Porch Community Church
– 305 S. 2nd St., Louisburg. 913-837-3787.

OSAWATOMIE ASSEMBLY OF GOD

Cross Point Church
– 112 Main St., Osawatome. Worship Service 9 a.m.

BAPTIST

Faith Baptist Church – Brown & Retan, Osawatome. 913-755-2300.
First Baptist – 8th & Brown, Osawatome. 913-755-3483.
Victory Baptist – 212 E. Main, Osawatome. 913-755-4678.

CHRISTIAN

Church of Christ, Fontana
– 101 S. Lincoln. 913-849-3570. Worship 9 a.m.; Sunday School 10:10 a.m. Instrumental.

Fontana Christian
– 38333 Hedge Lane, Fontana. 913-937-6456. www.fontanachristianchurch.org. Sunday School 9 a.m.; Worship 10:30 a.m.; Adult & Youth Sun. Bible Study 5:30 p.m. Pastor: Chris Shultz.

METHODIST

First United Methodist
– 504 Pacific Ave., Osawatome. 913-755-4774. Sunday School 9:30 a.m.; Worship 10:35 a.m.; Rev. Hyun Ju Gil.

NAZARENE

Nazarene Church – 513 15th St., Osawatome. 913-755-2750.

WESTLEYAN

Osawatome Wesleyan Church
– 406 4th St., Osawatome. 913-755-3453.

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Letter to the Editor



Rob Roberts

Dear Editor,

Thank you for the honor of serving you as Miami County Commissioner!

As I mark the end of this chapter and reflect on this moment, it is both humbling and bittersweet, as I am filled with gratitude, reflection, and hope.

First and foremost, I want to give all the glory and thanks to my Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ! Without His guidance, strength, and grace, I would not have been able to walk this journey.

Every decision I made, every challenge I faced, and every success we celebrated was made possible because of His unwavering presence in MY life. The Bible reminds us in Proverbs 3:5-6 to trust in the Lord with all our heart and do not lean on our own understanding; but in all our ways, acknowledge Him, Jesus and He will make our paths straight. That truth has carried me through these 32 (16 with Miami county and 16 with Paola city) years of community service.

To all the elected officials I have had the privilege of serving alongside and the incredible staff who work tirelessly behind the scenes, Thank You for your partnership and dedication to the citizens of Miami county. It has been an Honor to work alongside individuals who share a commitment to making Miami County

a better place. I am deeply grateful for your professionalism, support, and shared vision.

To our Citizens, Thank You So Much for the privilege of serving you. It has been an Honor of a lifetime to represent your Voices, advocate for your needs, and work to create opportunities for Miami County to thrive. Your trust and encouragement over the years have meant more to me than words can express.

To my family, especially my wife Marilyn and Daughter Sara, who have stood beside me throughout this journey, I am forever grateful. Your prayers, love, and patience gave me the foundation to serve wholeheartedly.

As I step away from public office, I look forward to what God has planned for this next season of life. I am reminded of Jeremiah 29:11, which assures us of His plans to prosper us, give us hope, and provide a future. While my role may change, my commitment to Miami County and my faith in God's guidance remain steadfast.

My advice to our elected officials is put your trust in God's word, Proverbs 3:5-6 to trust in the Lord with all your heart and do not trust your own understanding; but in all your ways, acknowledge Him, Jesus and He will make your paths straight.

Thank You So Much once again for the opportunity to serve, for your trust, and for your support. May God continue to bless our county, its leaders, and our people abundantly.

With deep gratitude and faith,
Bonnie Rob Roberts
Paola

Obituaries

HELEN WEBSTER

Helen Lucille Webster, age 80, passed away December 30, 2024, at the Overland Park Regional Hospital. Visitation is Friday from 6 to 8pm at the Dengel and Son Mortuary with services Saturday, 2pm at the First Lutheran Church in Paola with burial at the Paola Cemetery.

Helen was born on December 22, 1944, in Paola to Bernard Lee Hayden and Florette Alvina Debrick Hayden.

She attended the Paola public schools and graduated from Paola High in 1963.

After graduation she helped her parents in their drive in restaurant called J's Footlong until she got a job in Kansas City, Missouri working in Merchant Produce Bank. Throughout her life Helen has worked hard at two and sometimes three jobs just to make ends meet.

On June 7, 1970, Helen was united in marriage to William Lloyd Webster Jr. They had a wonderful 36 years of marriage. To this marriage they were blessed to adopt Helen's three great nieces and nephew.

Helen was very active in her church. She was secretary for several years to the church voting assembly, a Sunday school teacher for 1st and 2nd graders for 15 years, sang in the church choir, played in the hand chimes choir, always had a good ear to sit and talk and listen about God. Helen was baptized on January 28, 1945, and confirmed March 22, 1959, in the First Lutheran Church of Paola. Helen was also active in the community being assistant Girl Scout Leader over 11 years. After 5 years she retired from USD# 368 in March of 2007 due to her husband's health, but still remained driving for the school bus driver First Student Company, going to different activities, especially varsity football, volleyball, and wrestling matches. Her hobbies were fishing, and crocheting. She was also for many years a Foster Grandmother.

She is preceded in death by her parents, husband, sister and other extended family members.

Survivors are her three children, Danielle Alvina Mock, Christina Lea Provolt, and William Benjamin Webster., Three nieces , Rebeca Kirkpatrick, Florette Lucille Bigger, and Oleaha Dodson, step children, Carol Thompson, William Ronnie Webster, Mark Webster, Greg Webster, and Timothy Webster and many grand, great, and great great grandchildren.



ERNEST M. (SPARK) DIVINEY NOVEMBER 12, 1946 TO JANUARY 1, 2025

Spark Diviney passed away peacefully at his home in Paola, Kansas on the night of January 1, 2025 surrounded by the voices of his loving family, the smell of chocolate chip cookies baking and the sound of the blues playing. He will be missed for his kindness, his gentleness, his great wisdom and especially his sharp wit. He was loved and respected by everyone who knew him.

The patriarch of his much loved blended family, the "old gunslinger" is survived by his wife of 36 years Gerri Diviney, his sons Kirk (Tracy) Diviney and Michael Diviney, his daughter Adrienne (Dennis) Hernandez, his sister Patricia Diviney and grandchildren Ashley (Jeremy Willard) Diviney, Samantha Diviney, Julia (Tyler) Vincent, Lauren (David) Fulk, Nicholas Hernandez, Ian Bilardo, Aidan Bilardo and River Enderle, as well as his great-granddaughter Elena Diviney-Willard. Along with his family, he was loved and will be missed by those to whom he served as a father figure and wise counselor throughout his life.

Cremation. No service. A Celebration of Life will be held on or around Father's Day in June 2025, the date, time and location to be announced later.



LOIS DOLLAR

Lois Marie Dollar age 78 of Osawatomie, KS lost her battle from complications after a stroke on December 23, 2024 at Spring Hill Care and Rehabilitation Center.

Lois was born May 25, 1946 in Paola, KS. She was the eldest of five daughters born to James F. and Theresa M. (Stifter) Dalton. She attended Lane High School and graduated with the last class in 1964. Lois then continued her education for one year at Wichita State University and then she attended Emporia State University earning her bachelors in education and master's degree in counseling.

In 1968, Lois started working for USD 368. She taught 4th grade, 6th grade science and was a counselor. After 39 years, she retired in 2007. Lois then started doing message therapy out of her home. Along with her sisters, she also took care of her mother.

August of 2008, Lois and Dale Dollar were united in marriage at the Holy Trinity Catholic Church in Paola, KS.

She was a member of the Holy Trinity Catholic Church and the Alpha Delta Kapa Sorority.

Lois was preceded in death by her parents. Survivors include; husband Dale of the home, sisters; Janice (Wayne) Doman of Winchester, KS, Marsha (Steve) Scherman of Lane, KS, Linda (Scott) Burkdoll of Princeton, KS and Anita Thoele of Lane, KS. She is also survived by numerous nephews, nieces, great nephews and nieces, her colleagues and sisters of ADK.

No services are scheduled at this time. Memorial are to Always & Furever Midwest Animal Sanctuary 23595 W 223rd St, Spring Hill, KS 66083.

Library presentation to feature Louisburg author

BY BRIAN MCCAULEY
bmccauley@cherryroad.com

LOUISBURG – Louisburg author Ted Bolerjack will lead a historical presentation Tuesday, Jan. 14, at the Louisburg Library.

The presentation, titled "Cowntown to Metropolis: The Transformation of Kansas City During the Gilded Age," will begin at 6 p.m. at the library, located at 206 S. Broadway St.

Bolerjack will delve into the history of Kansas City that inspired his recently

published novel, "Shadow Beneath the Bluffs."

Attendees will learn what life was really like in the late 1800s and learn about the vibrant, gritty world of the West Bottoms, according to a news release.

Following the presentation, Bolerjack will hold a book signing for attendees.

"As a local author, I am deeply honored to have the opportunity to share my work and connect with our community," Bolerjack said.

COWTOWN TO METROPOLIS
The Transformation of Kansas City During the Gilded Age

Discover the fascinating history of Kansas City's transformation during the Gilded Age as Miami County author Ted Bolerjack shares intriguing details uncovered while researching his latest novel, *Shadow Beneath the Bluffs*. Explore what life was really like in the late 1800s and learn about the vibrant, gritty world of the West Bottoms.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 14, 6:00 pm at Louisburg library

Submitted image

Louisburg author Ted Bolerjack will speak at the Louisburg Library on Tuesday, Jan. 14.

Remembering Ethel Josephine Hunt

The future is unknown and limitless. We live in the present for only a second, and the past is what has already happened.

Great things have happened in the past, and notable people have done good things for Miami County. Ethel Hunt was one of those people.

Born in October 1901, she was the daughter of Frank and Nellie Kiser. She grew up on a farm in Middle Creek Township. Her early schooling was at Beaver Creek Grade School. She went on to Paola High School and graduated in 1918.

After high school, she spent some time as a clerk in the Miami County



Vincent Thorpe

draft office during World War I and later as a statistical clerk in the social Welfare office of Miami County.

She later became a stenographer for the law office of Charles Meuser. She married W.W. Hunt, a local dentist, in 1922, and they had one daughter.

Ethel was active in many things. In 1921,

she helped organize the Business and Professional Women's Club in Paola. She was also very active in the Paola High School Alumni Association.

In November 1940, she was elected clerk of the district court in Miami County, and she held that office until 1969. During that time, she served as the assistant to the clerk of selective for World War II. She spent many hours as a volunteer at Miami County Hospital and was a charter member of the hospital auxiliary.

Mrs. Hunt was a charter member of the Miami County Historical Society and served as the director for 10 years. She established the genealogical

library in the museum.

She suffered a stroke in 1985 and had to limit her activities to working at home. The Paola Free Library gave her 43 years of newspapers to work on. She spent 3 years clipping and cataloging items. She also typed tombstone inscriptions in 50 Miami County cemeteries over a 10-year period.

Her extensive file of records is at the Miami County Historical Museum for people wanting to search their roots.

Ethel died in 1994, and she is resting in the Paola Cemetery.

Vincent Thorpe is treasurer of the Miami County Historical Museum



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Kreiser, Goode named Louisburg Teachers of the Year

BY BRIAN MCCAULEY
bmccauley@cherryroad.com

LOUISBURG – Lindsay Kreiser and Angela Goode were named Louisburg USD 416's Teachers of the Year.

Kreiser, who teaches fifth grade at Broadmoor Elementary, was named the Elementary Teacher of the Year.

Goode, who teaches English at Louisburg High School, was named the Secondary Teacher of the Year.

"Mrs. Goode and Mrs. Kreiser are very deserving of this nomination by their peers," Louisburg Superintendent Brian Biermann said. "They are examples of Wildcat greatness in our school district. We are super proud of them and wish them the best as they move forward in the application process."

Both teachers will now compete in the Region 3 regional competition April 6.

Biermann shared some comments about each teacher submitted by colleagues.

"Mrs. Kreiser is an exceptional teacher who fosters a nurturing and inclusive classroom environment, earning the affection of



Submitted photo
Angela Goode, who teaches English at Louisburg High School, is Louisburg USD 416's Secondary Teacher of the Year.

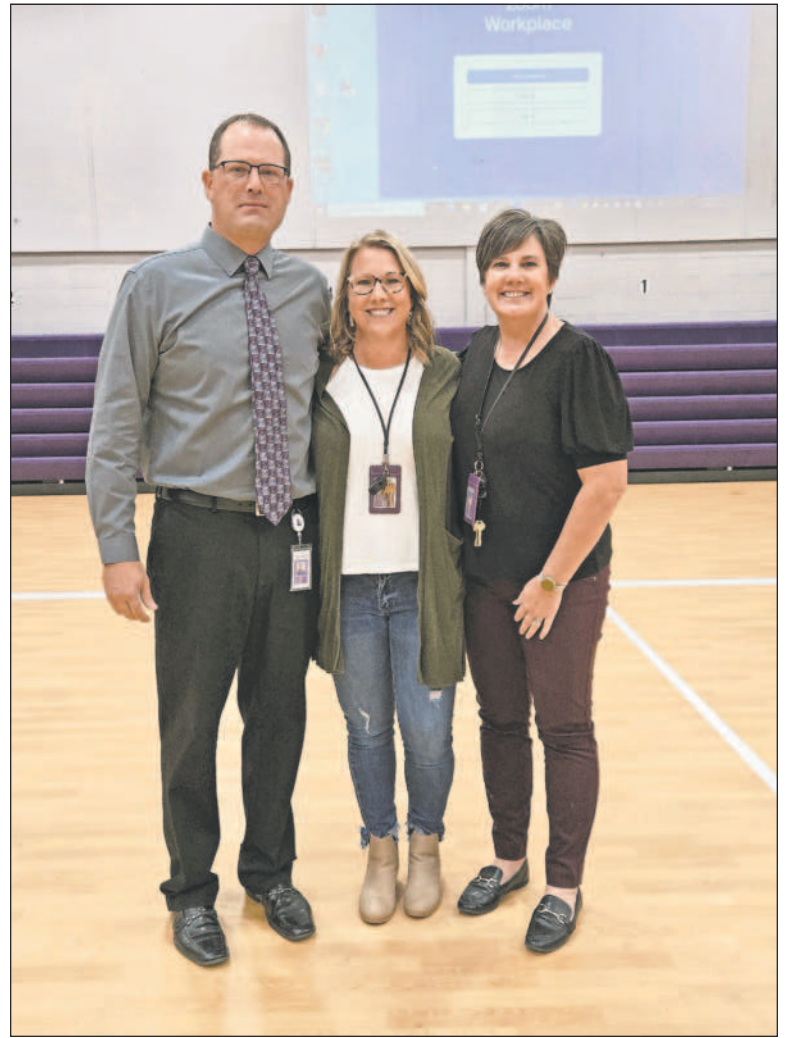
both her students and parents," one colleague said.

"Mrs. Kreiser deserves recognition for being a teacher who inspires and who makes a positive impact with her students and colleagues," another colleague said.

"Mrs. Goode is the embodiment

of an effective teacher," one colleague said. "She motivates all of her students to achieve."

"Mrs. Goode puts a lot of her heart and soul into her teaching that makes students want to come to school," another colleague said. "She is the epitome of Wildcat Pride!"



Submitted photo
Lindsay Kreiser (middle), who teaches fifth grade at Broadmoor Elementary, is Louisburg USD 416's Elementary Teacher of the Year. She is pictured with Superintendent Brian Biermann (left) and Principal Cindy Apple.

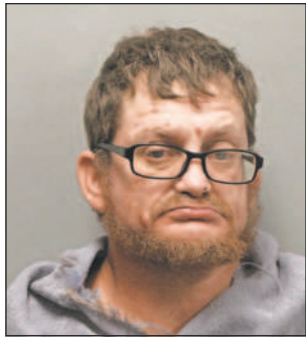
Osawatomie man arrested on drug charges

BY BRIAN MCCAULEY
bmccauley@cherryroad.com

OSAWATOMIE – A months-long drug investigation involving multiple people led to the execution of a search warrant and arrest of an Osawatomie man on Thursday, Jan. 2.

Osawatomie police officers executed a narcotics search warrant at the residence of 801 Ninth St. at about 12:30 a.m. Thursday, according to a news release from the Osawatomie Police Department.

Leading up to the search warrant, patrol officers conducted a traffic stop on a vehicle traveling in the 500 block of Brown Avenue. During the stop, Osawatomie's K-9 handler deployed his narcotics K-9,



Miami County Sheriff's Office
Dallas Dwayne Wilson

which gave a positive alert for narcotics within the vehicle, according to the release.

After completion of the vehicle search, one of the three individuals inside the vehicle was taken into custody. He was identified as Dallas Dwayne Wilson, 44, of Osawatomie.

After a brief interview, officers applied for and

received a search warrant for Wilson's residence at 801 Ninth St.

Upon completion of the search, Wilson was transported to the Miami County Jail where is being held on charges of distribution of methamphetamine, distribution of methamphetamine within 1,000 feet of a school, possession of marijuana, possession of drug paraphernalia, and no drug tax stamp affixed, according to the release.

Osawatomie Police Chief David Stuteville said in the release that it is an ongoing

investigation, and other arrests are expected to follow.

The release also states that the police department soon will be forwarding other completed cases involving Wilson to the Miami County Attorney's Office

for review. The additional cases include multiple charges relating to possession, sales and distribution of methamphetamine.

"The Osawatomie Police Department would like to thank our community

members for being vigilant and reporting what they believe to be drug activity," Stuteville said in the release.

"With the assistance of the public and diligent work of the officers, we are making a noticeable difference."



File photo

Osawatomie police officers arrested an Osawatomie man on drug charges after executing a search warrant on Thursday, Jan. 2, and more arrests are expected.

LIVESTOCK PRICES

Prices paid for cattle at Paola Livestock Auction on Nov. 22nd, 2024

STEERS		
Weight	Average	High
300 - 399 #	\$299.00	\$312.50
400 - 499 #	\$326.00	\$390.00
500 - 599 #	\$308.00	\$327.00
600 - 699 #	\$270.00	\$287.50
700 - 799 #	no test	
800 - 899 #	\$245.50	\$248.50
900 - 999 #	no test	

HEIFERS		
Weight	Average	High
300 - 399 #	\$280.00	\$320.00
400 - 499 #	\$267.50	\$300.00
500 - 599 #	\$267.00	\$290.00
600 - 699 #	\$234.00	\$263.75
700 - 799 #	\$239.00	\$250.50
800 - 899 #	\$232.00	\$240.00
900 - 999 #	no test	

BULL CALVES		
Weight	Average	High
300 - 399 #	\$300.00	\$370.00
400 - 499 #	no test	
500 - 599 #	\$255.00	\$290.00

BUTCHER COWS		
Yielding		
High Yielding	\$117.00 to	\$130.00
Medium	\$100.00 to	\$116.00
Low Yielding	\$77.00 to	\$99.00

BUTCHER BULLS		
	From	\$137.00 to \$161.50

>> CROP PRICES

	Last Week	This Week
Corn	\$4.18	\$4.15
Milo, ct	\$3.96	\$3.93
Soybeans	\$9.40	\$9.42
Wheat, hard	\$5.05	\$4.89
Wheat, soft	\$4.57	\$4.39

Quoted by Beachner Grain on Monday afternoon.
CH-3040570

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SPORTS

B1 ♦ Wednesday, January 8, 2025 ♦

Tri-County Spotlight Soccer

Rainforth scores six goals in three-game playoff run for Broncos

BY GENE MORRIS

emorris@cherryroad.com

SPRING HILL – Jackson Rainforth was a forward who simply could not be stopped this season.

Rainforth, a Spring Hill senior, was double and triple teamed in front of the goal and still found a way to score.

He was elusively quick. In front of the goal, he had another gear all-together and simply flew past defenders.

When it was time to take the shot, he had a rocket that surprised more than a few keepers.

Rainforth was named the Tri-County Spotlight Boys Soccer Player of the Year.

“I am extremely grateful to be recognized in this way,” Rainforth said. “I am thankful the Lord allows me to play this sport I love so well.”

Going out as a league and regional champion was special, Rainforth said.

“This season was like none other I had been a part of,” he said. “We knew we were good, but we didn’t know what we could achieve. We



File Photo

Spring Hill senior forward Jake Rainforth dribbles past a Piper defender on his way to scoring one of three goals in a 6-1 victory. Rainforth led Spring Hill to a co-Frontier League championship and a Class 5A regional title.

all had a goal in mind.

“Slowly we started winning more and more games, and we realized our potential and how far we could truly make it,” Rainforth said. “Going as far as we did is something no other Spring Hill team has done in Class 5A.”

Rainforth moved from

center back to forward this season. It turned out to be not only a great move for Rainforth, but also the entire program, Spring Hill coach Eric Swartz said.

“Jake was such an amazing player for us this year,” Swartz said. “He was the key to our attack and a headache for the other

team’s back line.”

Rainforth was a first-team Spotlight selection at forward. He was a first-team All-Frontier League selection, receiving the most votes of any player in the league.

As the stakes got higher, Rainforth, like the great ones do, elevated his

game, Swartz said.

“Jake is a special player to have up front,” Swartz said. “His size and physicality is a huge component to his game. Once he gets in front of the defender, there isn’t a defender we have found that can win the ball from him.

“Not only is he strong and fast, but he has great footwork on the ball to get him out of tight areas on the field to put himself in better opportunities in front of goal,” he said. “He is truly a special player.”

Rainforth said while the award recognizes him, it is something the team accomplished with him.

“I can’t take full credit for any of my goals,” he said. “There was usually an assist leading to my goals from my teammates who trusted in me to go and put the ball in the net.”

Rainforth helped lead the Spring Hill Broncos to a co-Frontier League championship this season. He also guided them on a postseason run that ended with the Broncos one win away from playing in the

state tournament.

After losing in the first round of the playoffs two years in a row, Spring Hill would not be denied in a home game against Piper. Rainforth had a hat trick, scoring three goals with an assist in a 6-1 victory.

He put two more goals in the back of the net in a 4-1 victory against De Soto in the Class 5A regional championship.

Facing rival St. James in the state quarterfinals, Rainforth scored a goal in a 3-2 loss.

Rainforth scored six goals in his final three games for the Spring Hill Broncos, ending the season as the co-Frontier League champions and Class 5A regional champions. The Broncos were 14-4-1 on the season.

“Thankfully, I put together a good string of games at the very end of our season,” Rainforth said. “That will be something I will never forget.”

Rainforth scored a team-leading 25 goals for the Broncos this season. He added 15 assists.

Eighteen area players named to All-Frontier League Soccer Team



File Photo

Paola midfielder Cruz Guzman darts past a defender, setting up a scoring chance. Guzman was an honorable mention all-league selection.



Submitted Photo

Louisburg forward Colton Blue dribbles past a defender. Blue was a first-team all-league selection at midfield.



File Photo

Spring Hill midfielder Aiden Odell passes the ball during a playoff game against Piper. Odell was a first-team all-league selection.

BY GENE MORRIS

emorris@cherryroad.com

SPRING HILL – Eighteen area soccer players, including nine members of the co-champion Spring Hill Broncos were named to the All-Frontier League Soccer Team.

The state tournament came early for the Spring Hill soccer team, facing state-power St. James in the Class 5A quarterfinals.

Spring Hill ended its season with a tough 3-2 loss against St. James. The Spring Hill Broncos, the co-Frontier League champions, fell to 14-4-1 on the season.

Senior forward Jack Rainforth, senior back Zach Brueckner, and sophomore midfielder Aidan Odell were first-team all-league selections.

Colton Blue, a Louisburg senior, was a first-team selection at forward.

Rainforth, the leading vote-getter in the league, scored 25 goals and

added 15 assists.

Brueckner had four goals and four assists for Spring Hill.

“Brueckner was arguably the best center back in the state this year,” Spring Hill coach Eric Swartz said. “He was strong when going up against attackers and knew when to take the ball away from them. Brueckner never lost an aerial duel. He was a crucial player for our defense these past four years.”

Odell pushed the attack from the midfield. He scored 12 goals with 13 assists.

“Odell was one of the most skilled players in the league,” Swartz said. “He was smart on the ball. He knows where he is trying to play the ball early in his progression to set up our attacking phase.”

Colton Blue, a Louisburg senior, was a first-team selection at midfield. Blue had 10 goals, including five game-winning goals, and 10 assists.

“Colton Blue has been the ‘drill sergeant’ of our program,” Louisburg coach Bobby Bovaird said. “He is a powerful leader who commands respect by setting the example, being vocal and lifting up his teammates. He led the team in nearly every stat column, proving his dedication on and off the field.”

Spring Hill senior back Seth Oberkrom earned second-team honors. He had two goals and two assists.

“Oberkrom is a high-flying defensive player who loves to get in the attack for us too,” Swartz said. “He always has energy to do his responsibilities for our team and is an incredible defender.”

Louisburg senior forward Emmett White was a second-team selection. White had nine goals with three assists. He was a two-time Louisburg Wildcat team captain.

“Emmett White has shown resilience and

commitment, playing through a serious injury since the fourth game,” coach Bovaird said. “Missing only one game this season, he inspired his teammates with his selflessness and grit.”

Spring Hill senior back Jovany Aguirre, senior wing Seth Lovitt, senior back Parker Simon, junior back Ryan Rhoades and senior goalie Kaden Applegate were honorable mention selections.

Aguirre scored five goals and added seven assists. Lovitt had three goals and three assists. Simon had one assist. Rhoades scored four goals with one assist.

Applegate posted nine shutouts on the season.

Spring Hill was one win away from playing in the state championship tournament. Two years ago, Spring Hill lost in the first round of the state playoffs. This time, the Broncos won a regional title and advanced to the round of eight in the state

quarterfinals, coming up one goal short.

“This team was really special,” Swartz said. “I truly believed we had the talent on this team to play in the state championship game. It is a hard one to swallow.”

Spring Hill had not won a playoff game since 2020, and the regional crown was the program’s first since 2018.

“You could tell this group of players was focused when we started back in June,” Swartz said. “They had their goals set high so they had something to strive for and wanted to make this year really special.

“Having 11 seniors on this team meant many of them wouldn’t play competitive soccer again, so they were very motivated to push as far as they could this season,” he said. “Five of these seniors have been with me on varsity since they were freshmen, so they have a lot of experience together.”

Owen Marsh, a Louisburg junior, was an honorable mention selection at forward. He scored 12 goals with four assists.

“Owen Marsh built on a strong sophomore season by elevating his play, learning when to pass and when to take the shot himself” Bovaird said. “This unselfish approach has led to a season-high goal count, showing the results of his team-focused mindset.”

Paola Panther Cruz Guzman, a sophomore midfielder, was an honorable mention selection. Guzman scored five goals and had one assist.

“Cruz was a leader on and off the field,” Paola coach Trevor Gallagher said. “He is a hard worker and helped control the defense and midfield. As a sophomore, he was named team captain. He was also our leading goal scorer on the team.”

Sawyer Holdsworth, a

Osawatomie to enshrine first hall of fame class Friday

BY GENE MORRIS
emorris@cherryroad.com

OSAWATOMIE – The 1966 state championship football team and six individuals will be enshrined in the Osawatomie High School Athletic Hall of Fame’s inaugural Class of 2025 on Friday, Jan. 10.

Joining the 1966 Osawatomie Trojans state championship football team are coach Bill Freeman, Lynn Dickey, Derrick Jensen, coach Rodney Madden, Jeremy Isenhower and Tayler Soucie Llewellyn. The hall of fame induction ceremony will take place between the Osawatomie varsity girls and varsity boys basketball games at Mac Steele Gymnasium.

The Osawatomie High School Athletic Hall of Fame was recently formed

to recognize individuals and teams who have made a significant impact at the school.

The purpose of the Osawatomie Athletic Hall of Fame is to keep the traditions and history alive and to give future Osawatomie programs a standard of excellence that is expected in the community.

The Osawatomie 1966 undefeated state championship team was 9-0 with two shutouts. The team was led by coach Bill Freeman and quarterback Lynn Dickey.

Freeman coached the Trojans from 1965 to 1973. He was 59-23-1. Freeman, the school’s first wrestling coach, was with the program from 1970-74 with six state qualifiers and two state medalists. He also coached the track team and won three league titles.

Dickey holds the single-season record for touchdown passes with 32. He played collegiate football at Kansas State University. Dickey was drafted by the Houston Oilers in 1971 and finished his career with the Green Bay Packers.

Jensen won two Super Bowls with the Oakland Raiders. He blocked a punt for a touchdown in Super Bowl VIII. He led the state in rushing his senior year with 2,113 yards and 24 touchdowns.

Madden played for the University of Kansas football team. He coached Osawatomie football and track. He was track coach of the year in 2010. Madden coached 25 individual state track champions. He led the girls to second place in the state in 2003 and the boys

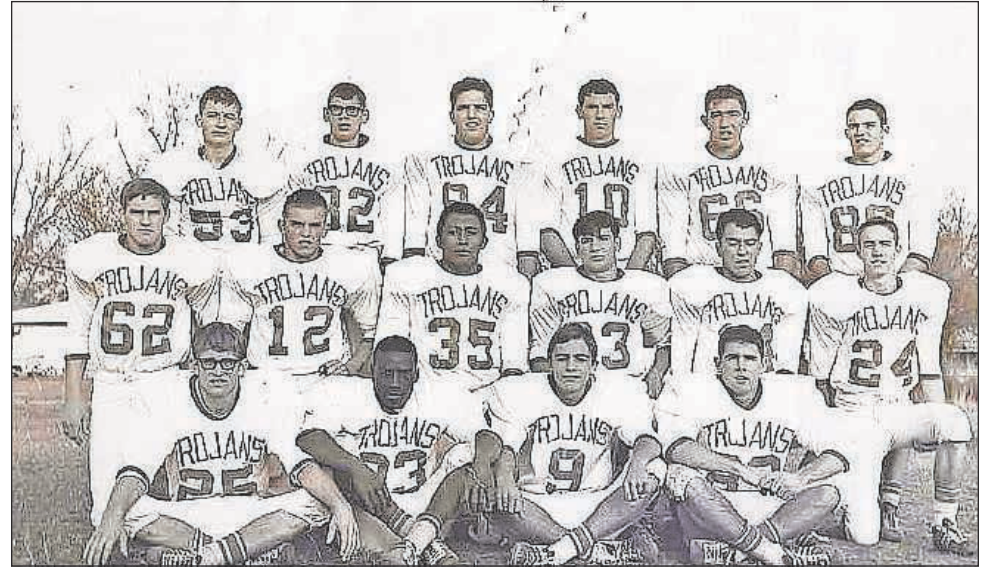


Photo Courtesy of Osawatomie High School Yearbook

The Trojans 1966 undefeated state championship team will join the Osawatomie Athletic Hall of Fame on Friday, Jan. 10. The 2025 class, the first to be inducted, also features six individuals.

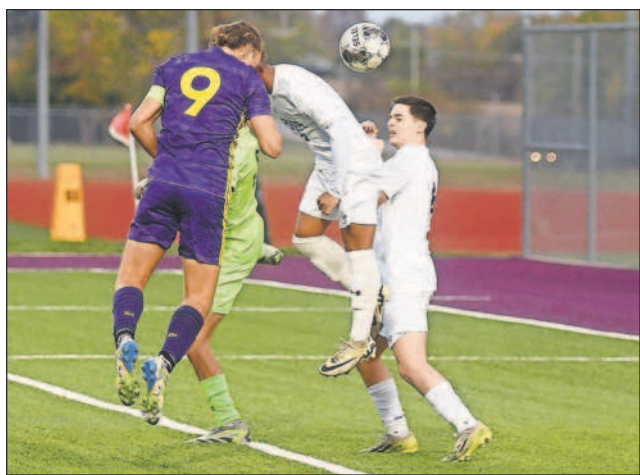
program to third in state in 2010.

Isenhower hit .493 his senior year with the Osawatomie Trojans, clubbing 11 homers and driving in 30 runs. He set 11 records

at Neosho Community College and was drafted by the Philadelphia Phillies in 2002.

Soucie Llewellyn was a two-time All-Big 12 Conference selection in

volleyball. She won three state titles and three regional titles in track in high school. She scored 830 points and had 1,056 rebounds in her high school basketball career.



File Photo

Spring Hill back Zach Brueckner goes up for a head ball for the Broncos. He was a first-team all-league selection.



File Photo

Spring Hill winger Seth Lovitt prepares to cross the ball for the Broncos. He was an honorable mention all-league selection.



File Photo

Emmett White drills a shot past two defenders on a scoring chance for the Louisburg Wildcats. White was a second-team selection at forward.

SOCCER

Continued from B1

Paola junior, was honorable mention at midfield. He had two goals and an assist.

“Sawyer is a very hard worker,” Gallagher said. “Every day he would show up and put in max effort to get better. He provided a lot of offensive opportunities this season.”

Ayden McArthur, a Paola freshman, earned honorable mention honors at midfield. He had one goal and six assists.

“Ayden is a great player who shows a lot of promise at a young age,” Gallagher said. “His speed on the field sets him apart from others. He can quickly move past defenders and create opportunities for his team. He created most of our offense this season.”

Louisburg freshman forward Brody Bovaird was an honorable mention selection at forward. Bovaird set up a lot of the assists fed to the strikers for goals.

“If assists to assists were a stat, Brody Bovaird would lead by far,” coach

Bovaird said. “He is a play-maker on the wing, a combining speed and unselfishness to set up opportunities. His quiet leadership and determination to fight for every ball makes him a spark every time he is on the field.”

Jacob Brown, a Louisburg senior, was an honorable mention selection at midfield. Brown scored three goals.

“Jacob Brown has been like a second assistant coach, often talking strategy, formations, and practice ideas with me,” Bovaird said. “His

knowledge has been key to our success, and as a senior leader. His input mid-game is invaluable.”

Ethan Sharp, a Louisburg senior, was an honorable mention at defense. Sharp helped lead a defense that posted five shutouts.

“As a captain and cornerstone of our defense, Ethan Sharp’s leadership on and off the field has been indispensable,” Bovaird said. “He’s been a vocal and steady presence from our summer training to game day, anchoring our backline with confidence.”

Frontier League Soccer

First Team
F - Jake Rainforth, Spring Hill, SR

BACK - Zach Brueckner, Spring Hill, SR

MID - Colton Blue, Louisburg, SR

MID - Aidan Odell - Spring Hill, SO

Second Team

F - Emmett White, Louisburg, SR

BACK - Seth Oberkrom, Spring Hill, SR

Honorable Mention
F - Owen Marsh, Louisburg, JR

MID - Cruz Guzman, Paola, SO

MID - Sawyer Holdsworth, Paola, JR

BACK - Jovany Aguirre, Spring Hill, SR

WING - Seth Lovitt, Spring Hill, SR

MID - Ayden McArthur, Paola, FR

Back - Parker Simon, Spring Hill, SR

Back - Ryan Rhoades, Spring Hill, JR

F - Brody Bovaird, Louisburg, SO

MID - Jacob Brown, Louisburg, SR

D - Ethan Sharp, Louisburg, SR

G - Kaden Applegate, Spring Hill, JR



File Photo

Sawyer Holdsworth of Paola dribbles the ball down the wing. Holdsworth was an honorable mention all-league selection.



File Photo

Paola freshman midfielder Ayden McArthur sprints down the line on an attack for the Panthers. He was an honorable mention selection.

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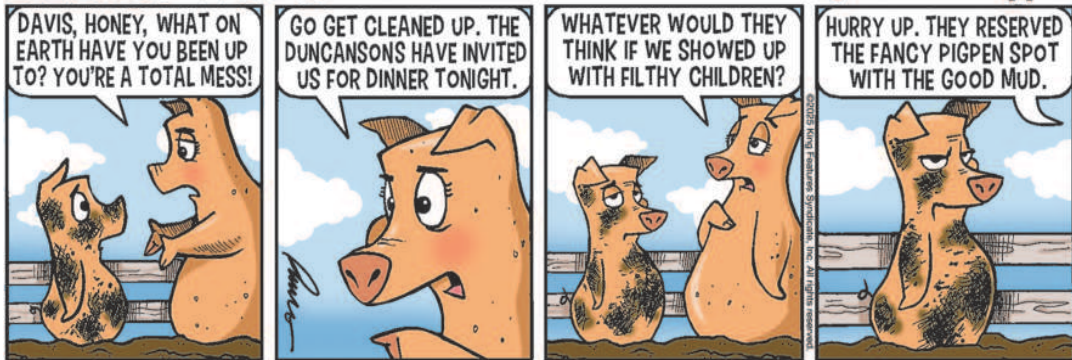
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Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps



Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas



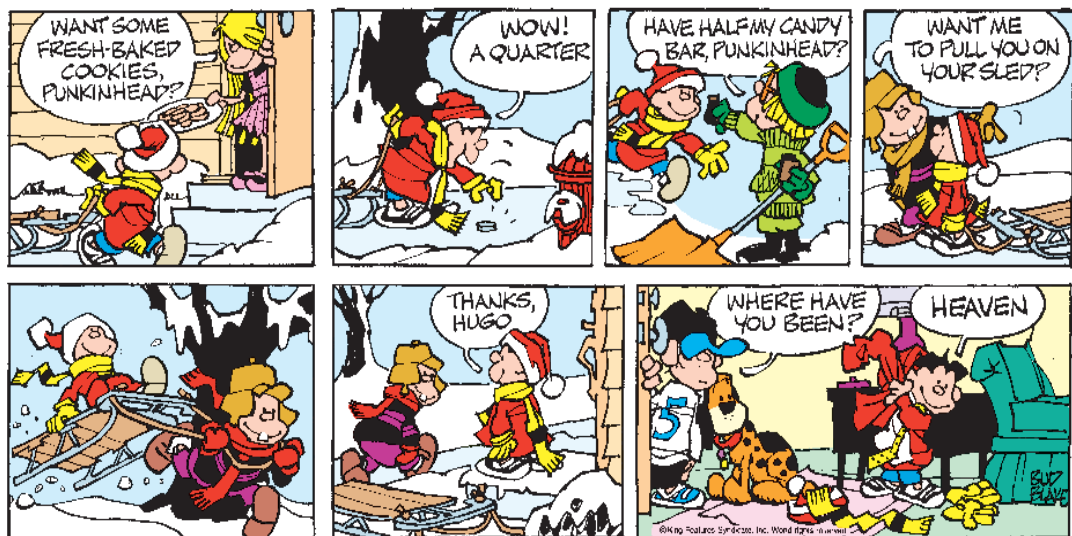
The Spats

by Jeff Pickering



TIGER

by BUD BLAKE



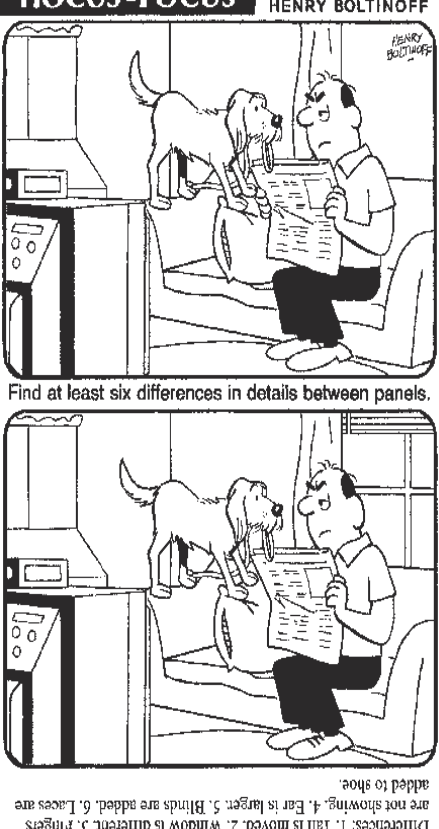
OLIVE

By Emi Burdge



HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTIHOFF



Just Like Cats & Dogs

by Dave T. Phipps



CryptoQuip

This is a simple substitution cipher in which each letter used stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Solution is accomplished by trial and error.

Clue: M equals B

HPCY YOCZ-XWZWTQE MCTTDOT
 VDBPY JWVO QWZDXO MO
 HTCQQDAB CTWLAE C XTDVO
 JXOAO? XWTEWA MZLO.

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SCRAMBLERS

Unscramble the letters within each rectangle to form four ordinary words. Then rearrange the boxed letters to form the mystery word, which will complete the gag!

Fury: GEAR

Mystery: GEMANI

Grimace: COWLS

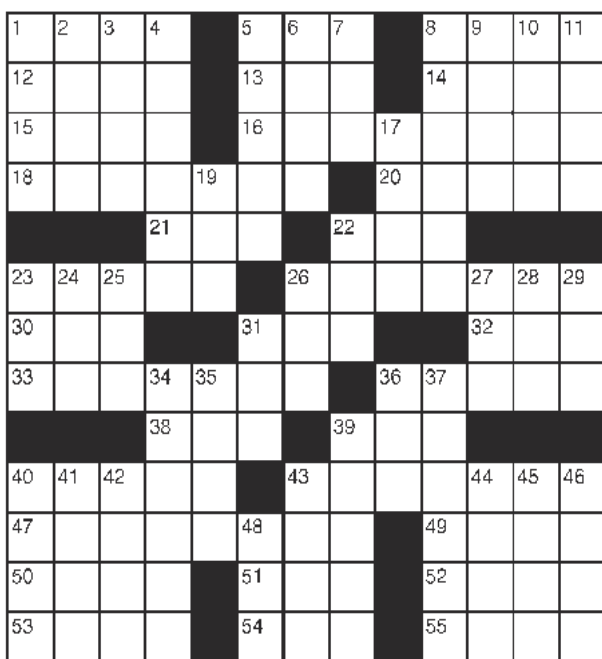
Chaos: AMBLED

TODAY'S WORD

King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Screen star Lamarr
- 5 Abrupt turn
- 8 Wild party
- 12 Half a sextet
- 13 Equi-
- 14 Tennis great Arthur
- 15 Crystal-tapping sound
- 16 Solicit
- 18 Funnel-shaped bloom
- 20 Herrings' cousins
- 21 Squealer
- 22 Chemical suffix
- 23 Montana city
- 26 Scare badly
- 30 Buckeyes' sch.
- 31 Tibetan bovine
- 32 "Ulalume" writer
- 33 Dress store section
- 36 Broadway duds
- 38 Cat doc
- 39 Life story
- 40 Madonna role
- 43 "Cutie," e.g.
- 47 Peevish
- 49 Actor Jannings



- 5 "No —!" ("Sure thing!")
- 51 Quibble
- 52 Sandwich option
- 53 "Auld Lang —"
- 54 Away from SSW
- 55 Ladies of Spain (Abbr.)
- 5 "Hush!"
- 6 On the Aegean, say
- 7 Inherited
- 8 Tub user
- 9 China setting
- 10 Not barefoot
- 11 Coop group
- 17 "— it Romantic?"
- 19 Scot's refusal
- 22 "A spider!"
- 23 Jazzy style
- 24 Exploit
- 25 Boy king
- 26 Mas' mates
- 27 Wall St. debut
- 28 Dandy guy
- 29 "You bet!"
- 31 However
- 34 ICU hookup
- 35 Pond duck
- 36 In shape
- 37 Hermits
- 39 Davis of "Jezebel"
- 40 Actor Omar
- 41 Quite
- 42 Lay — the line
- 43 Nabokov novel
- 44 Love god
- 45 "— 18" (Uris novel)
- 46 Right angles
- 48 Raggedy doll

DOWN

- 1 URL opener
- 2 Toledo's lake
- 3 Force
- 4 Dairy case buy

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Weekly SUDOKU

	6		3		8	7		
2		3				6	1	
	8		6		9		2	
			7	3	9			
			8	6				5
3			5	2	7			
6				7	8			
5	7		3				1	
4	2			9				

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦♦

- ♦ Moderate
- ♦♦ Challenging
- ♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

WORD LADDERS

Can you go from BLAME to STARE in 6 words? Change one letter for each rung in the ladder.

BLAME

STARE

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Trivia test

by Fifi Rodriguez

- TELEVISION: Which popular spinoff series originated with the drama "Breaking Bad"?
- HOLIDAYS: What is another name for Three Kings Day, celebrated on Jan. 6?
- LANGUAGE: What does the Latin phrase "bona fide" mean?
- MOVIES: In the movie "Babe," what kind of animal is the title character?
- MEASUREMENTS: How many grams are in a kilogram?
- GEOGRAPHY: Which strait separates Saudi Arabia from Africa?
- SCIENCE: What are the three layers that make up the Earth?
- FOOD & DRINK: Which breakfast food is associated with the retro series "Stranger Things"?
- MEDICAL: What is the common name for musca volitans?
- LITERATURE: Which poet wrote a six-volume biography of President Abraham Lincoln?

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- 10. Carl Sandburg
- 9. Eye floaters
- 8. Eggo waffles
- 7. Crust, mantle and core
- 6. Bab-el-Mandeb
- 5. 1,000
- 4. Pig
- 3. "Good faith"
- 2. Epiphany
- 1. "Better Call Saul"

Answers

LEDGE

- 1. Rage
- 2. Enigma
- 3. Scowl
- 4. Bedlam

SCRAMBLERS

- SLAKE, STAKE, STARE
- BLAME, FLAME, FLAKE

Answer

WORD LADDER



Solution time: 23 mins.

Answers

King Crossword

4	2	8	5	1	9	6	7	3	
5	7	9	3	8	6	2	1	4	
6	3	1	4	2	7	8	5	9	
3	1	6	9	5	2	7	4	8	
7	9	4	8	6	3	1	2	5	
8	5	2	1	7	4	3	9	6	
1	8	7	6	4	5	9	3	2	
2	4	3	7	9	8	5	6	1	
9	6	5	2	3	1	4	8	7	

Answer

Weekly SUDOKU

What teal-colored barrier might some police be wrapping around a crime scene? Gordon blue.

CryptoQuip

Miami County boys win home swim meet

BY GENE MORRIS
emorris@cherryroad.com

OSAWATOMIE- The Miami County swim team defended its pool, winning the home opener.

The team posted 39 personal best times during the meet Wednesday, Dec. 18.

All three relay teams struck gold in the meet.

The Louisburg 200 and 400 freestyle relay teams swam state qualifying times.

Colin Brown, Andrew Jamison, Noah Sharp and Colton Prettyman won the 200 freestyle relay.

Prettyman, Jamison, Sharp and Brown swam to the title in the 400 freestyle relay.

Brown placed first in the 200 individual medley and the 100 freestyle with state qualifying times.

Landen Terflinger placed first in the 100 backstroke with a state qualifying time. He was runner-up in the 100 butterfly with a state consideration time.

Prettyman placed first in the 100 butterfly with

a state qualifying time. He won the 200 freestyle with a state consideration time.

Jamison won the 100 breaststroke with a state qualifying time. He placed first in the 50 freestyle with a state consideration time.

Brock Delmez placed first in the 500 freestyle and fourth in the 50 freestyle.

Sharp was second in the 100 freestyle and 200 freestyle.

Tag Solberg was runner-up in the 100 backstroke. He placed fourth in the 100 freestyle.

Philip Hebert placed third in the 200 freestyle and third in the 50 freestyle.

Bennett Mendez was fourth in the 100 backstroke and fifth in the 100 freestyle.

Sam McMains placed fourth in the 100 breaststroke.

LJ Kerr was fifth in the 100 breaststroke and sixth in the 100 freestyle.

Aiden Turner placed fifth in the 500 freestyle.

Nic Terblanche was sixth in the 50 freestyle.

Hayden Thomason

placed seventh in the 50 freestyle.

The Miami County boys swim team placed third in the Topeka Invitational with 30 new personal best times.

Terflinger, Sharp, Terblanche and Brown won the 400 freestyle relay.

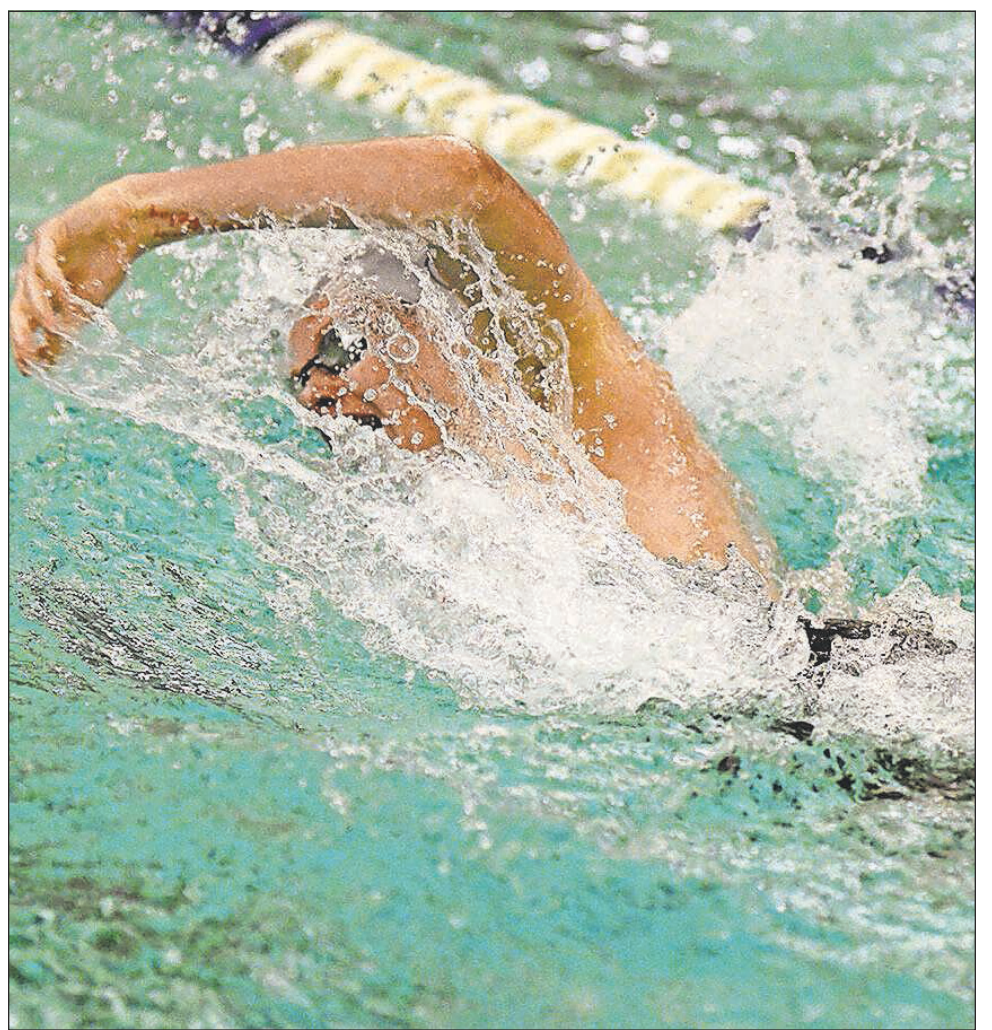
Prettyman, Terflinger, Terblanche and Brown placed second in the 200 freestyle relay.

Brown placed first in the 200 freestyle and won the 100 backstroke. He swam state qualifying times in both events.

Prettyman won the 50 freestyle and was first in the 100 breaststroke. Brown turned in state qualifying times in both events.

Sharp was runner-up in the butterfly and backstroke. He swam state consideration times in both events.

Terflinger placed first in the 100 freestyle with a state qualifying time. He was fourth in the 200 individual medley with a state consideration time.



File Photo

Colin Brown swims the freestyle for the Miami County boys swim team. Brown placed first in the 200 individual medley and the 100 freestyle with state qualifying times at the home opener Wednesday, Dec. 18. He also swam legs on the first place 200 freestyle and 400 freestyle relays.

Johnson wins title at KC Stampede



File Photo

Brock Johnson sets up a pin move for the Paola Panthers. He won the 138-pound title during the Kansas City Stampede two-day tournament at Bartle Hall.

BY GENE MORRIS
emorris@cherryroad.com

KANSAS CITY, MO. - The Paola Panther wrestlers placed 16th in a field of more than 90 teams during the Kansas City Stampede at Bartle Hall.

Paola, ranked second in the state in Class 4A, posted 101 team points during the two-day tournament held Friday, Dec. 20, and Saturday, Dec. 21.

Brock Johnson, 17-0, won the 138-pound title for the Panthers. Johnson was 6-0 with two pins, a technical fall and two major decisions.

Johnson defeated

Maddox McArthur of Buford High School (Georgia) by injury default in the championship match.

The two-day, 97-team tournament featured schools from Alabama, Arkansas, Colorado, Iowa, Nebraska, Oklahoma, Texas, Wisconsin, Missouri and Kansas.

Bryson Rockers, 15-3, placed fifth at 126 pounds. Rockers was 5-2 with three pins and a major decision.

Other results were:

Carson Martin, 11-6, was 4-2 at 285 pounds. Martin had four pins.

Kaiden Powell, 13-3, went

3-2 with a pin and a major decision at 132 pounds.

Hagen Blanck, 13-2, was 2-2 at 144 pounds. He had one pin and a decision.

Brody Latto, 9-6, was 2-2 at 157 pounds. Latto had one pin and one decision.

Max Worden, 11-4, was 2-2 at 190 pounds. He had two pins.

Sawyer Blue, 11-3, was 1-2 at 106 pounds.

Bodhi Shay, 11-3, had a record of 1-2 at 150 pounds. He had one pin.

Chevez Neely, 4-4, went 1-2 at 165 pounds.

Elijah Younger, 7-6, was 0-2 at 175 pounds.

Former Frontier League all-stars playing volleyball at Washburn University

BY GENE MORRIS
emorris@cherryroad.com

TOPEKA - The Washburn University volleyball program is a who's who of former All-Frontier League all-stars.

Washburn features Spring Hill standouts Jalyn Stevenson and Keilah Rivers, Corinna McMullen of Louisburg and Paola's Taryn Marcum.

Stevenson is a senior outside hitter. She has 307 digs, 296 kills, 53 blocks and 31 aces. Stevenson is a four-time All-MIAA Volleyball Team selection, All-MIAA Scholar Athlete and All-MIAA Academic Honor Roll.

Stevenson was honored this season for topping 1,500 points and 1,000 kills. She was a four-year member of the Spring Hill Lady Broncos volleyball team. Stevenson was named the Tri-County Spotlight Volleyball Player of the Year her senior season.

Stevenson is majoring in entrepreneurship and innovation. She is the daughter of Chris and Melissa



Taryn Marcum

Stevenson.

Rivers is a freshman outside hitter. She had 47 kills, 36 digs and 14 blocks.

She helped lead the Spring Hill Lady Broncos to fourth place in the Class 5A state tournament her senior year.

Rivers was first-team All-Frontier League and earned All-State honors. She helped lead Spring Hill to four straight league titles. Rivers is the daughter of Jess and Jared Rivers.

McMullen is a junior setter. She played 101 sets for Washburn University this season. She had 640 assists and 242 digs.

She was recognized this



Corinna McMullen

season for reaching 2,000 assists in her collegiate career.

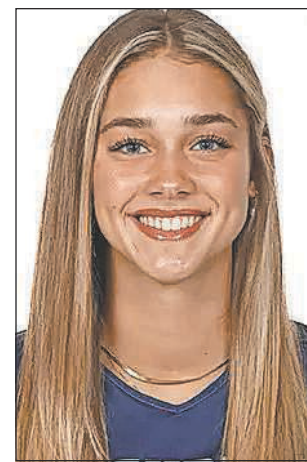
McMullen is a two-time MIAA Academic Excellence Award winner, two-time MIAA Scholar



Keilah Rivers

Athlete and two-time MIAA Honor Roll.

She was first-team Tri-County Spotlight and All-Frontier League all four years. She was first team KVA Eastern Kansas her



Jalyn Stevenson

senior season. She was named to the All-Academic Team four years in a row, graduating with a 4.0.

McMullen is majoring in secondary education. She is the daughter of Scott

and Sarah McMullen of Louisburg.

Marcum is a freshman libero and defensive specialist. She missed part of the season with an injury.

She was a four-year member of the Paola Lady Panther volleyball program, starting three seasons.

Marcum helped lead the Lady Panthers to the state tournament her junior season. She had 379 digs her senior season, topping the 1,000th dig mark for her high school career. Marcum was first-team All-Frontier League at libero her junior and senior seasons.

She is the daughter of Chris and Cadi Marcum.

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Miami County Time Capsule

125 Years Ago (1900)

Walter Buck has the prettiest run-about wagon ever brought to Paola. The vehicle is a Frazier, with steel wheels and cushion tires.

100 Years Ago (1925)

It certainly is astonishing what wonders are performed at college now. Some boys go away with perfectly slick sheik haircuts and come back with marvelous marcel. It is true some of them do not even have to go to college to achieve such a miracle.

Isn't prohibition a wonderful thing? It is such a relief to know that at Christmas and New Year's there will be no evidence of liquor and that small boys in town will not grow up thinking that liquid refreshment is necessary for a good time.

The Christian Endeavor Society of the Spring Ridge Church staged a contest rabbit hunt Tuesday. The game of the winning team went to the Salvation Army of Kansas City. William Skeens and Bert Sherar were captains of the opposing teams. 64 men were chosen. Only 44 brought game in for the count. Three hawks and 588 rabbits were brought in for the count. Bert Sherar's team won the contest with one hawk and 318 rabbits. William Skeens was the champion hunter and won the prize, a handsome Scofield Reference New Testament and Psalms.

Crossword puzzles are far exceeding the popularity of Mah Jongg. They are not near as complicated and can be worked by most any age above six and with one to six people.

This newspaper seems to have a hard time deciding whether bobbed hair is or is not going out. All one needs

to do is observe the heads of all girls from two to eighty. Some have long hair, the rest have shingles, dutch bobs, short bobs, every kind of bob, and even most of the few who decided to let theirs grow out have yielded again to the scissors.

Frank W. Sponable reports that the Miami County National Bank is now in its 50th year. Our deposits are over \$2,224,000, bigger than ever before and an increase of near a quarter million dollars since consolidation with Peoples National Bank last July.

75 Years Ago (1950)

Ken Larimore, John Lyder, Jr., Chuck Wilson and Jerry Burgess started Sunday morning by plane for the Sugar Bowl. They got as far as Ft. Worth and couldn't get clearance into New Orleans, so they turned around and flew back to Dallas where they saw the last quarter of the Cotton Bowl game on Monday. On Wednesday they were still waiting for clearance to return to the Paola-Osawatomie airport.

J. B. Bailey will have the new 1950 DeSoto on display at the Bailey Motors showroom Tuesday. The new 1950 Plymouth will be on display Thursday at Bailey Motors.

Saturday the new 1950 Chevrolet will be unveiled locally at the Bill Peuser Chevrolet Co. As special equipment this year Chevrolet will have a power-glide automatic transmission, with a 128 horsepower 6 cylinder engine.

Now on display at the Heger Motor Co. Is a 1950 Buick Roadmaster sedanette. The Roadmaster now has a 152 horsepower straight 8 motor with Dynaflo drive

transmission, and the interior is spacious and gracious.

Tuesday evening the board of education of Paola schools reelected G. E. Watkins as superintendent of schools for a term of two years. Mr. Watkins took the position two years ago and during his administration the new high school has gotten under way.

A novel cigarette club has been formed by Sterling Carpenter, Harold Theno, Kelly Dunlap, and Kenneth Slack. Each member pays \$5 to join. Membership entitles one to smoke not more than 12 cigarettes a day. For each cigarette smoked over the 12 allowed, the member must pay \$1 into the club treasury. If he wants to chain smoke again, he can buy out for a \$25 fee which goes into the treasury.

Directors of a new Southeast Kansas Farm Management association elected Marvin B. Clark, county farm agent of Miami County, as field supervisor. The new association, which is a project of Kansas State college, is the sixth to be formed in Kansas and will embrace 20 counties.

Ray Hood, youthful body repairman, did a masterful job in redoing the front fender of our company car damaged when I tangled with a black Angus cow back last November. Tom Auten had to have some of the parts flown in from a Ford Supply Depot in California.

Scott Randall Paine, son of Mr. And Mrs. Leon B. Paine, left Saturday for extended study in Europe. Randall graduated in December from Kansas University with a major field of study classical antiques. He will begin his studies in Belgium with work

on intensive French, and continue graduate work in France, Switzerland, and Italy.

Long distance dialing started Monday in Osawatomie. United Telephone of Kansas now offers this service to about 2200 customers.

At Louisburg, A. Scott Anderson has acquired the Louisburg Grain Company, Inc. from Ralph Keuser, who has been in the agri-business for over 20 years. Larry Keuser has been managing the business the past several months.

The Gas Service Company has executed a contract to purchase natural gas production from acreage in Franklin County, to supplement its present supply in the area. The production area is approximately one mile north of Rantoul.

Wilford Allen has purchased the Ingersoll Machine Shop which was started by the late Elmer Ingersoll, Sr. Associated with Allen in the machine shop will be Elmer Ingersoll, Jr., Robert O. Ingersoll, and Oren Allen. "We won't turn down any job," Wilford Allen the new owner remarked. "We have the best equipped machine shop in Kansas, and there isn't any job we can't do along the lines of machine work and welding." Elmer Ingersoll, Sr., established the Ingersoll Machine Shop in Paola in 1923, coming here from Osawatomie. He died in 1960, leaving his sons to run the business.

Neither of the two Paola banks will be joining in on the nationwide "gold rush" because of the risk and complicated procedure involved in its buying and selling. The precious metal once again became a marketable commodity for



Miami County Time Capsule is compiled by Paul Branson, Sr., utilizing newspaper archives that date back more than 150 years.

the American people last week after a 41-year absence from the market.

Jim's Electric Shop, under the ownership of Mr. And Mrs. Jim McKain, has started its 30th year in business in Paola.

Cars, trucks, campers and motorcycles on which titles are transferred will have to be state inspected before title and tags can be issued. The motor vehicle inspection law went into effect on January 1, 1975.

The 55-mile-an-hour speed limit is now permanent nationwide. President Gerald Ford signed the bill last Saturday. Ford said the speed limit, imposed as a temporary measure during last winter's energy crisis, is needed not only to save fuel, but also to reduce the loss of life on the highways.

After a relatively long stay in the hospital, Ken Smith is back around. He looks great but will not be able to work at top speed very soon. For the moment you will not see him taking those long brisk walks as you witnessed in the past. He's lucky that he has such capable sons as young Kenny and Les to carry on with the heavy work of the heating, air conditioning and refrigeration firm.

The midnight hour passed Saturday bringing a new year but not new problems to Paola and the rest of the county.

Area residents escaped bites from the Y2K computer bug and enjoyed uninterrupted service in their power, water, telephone and appliances. "It was a non-event for us," said Michael Scott, area manager for Southwestern Bell. "All those years of planning for this have paid off." Despite fears to the contrary, financial institutions found computers with customers' records and account balances working just fine.

Tons of spilled coal. Twisted, upside down rail cars. Steel rails snapped like twigs. This was the sight that greeted Union Pacific Railroad conductor Don Krueger early Saturday morning as he walked down the line to determine why his train came to an emergency stop south of Paola. Twenty-two cars of the 117-car train had left the track, just south of the Miami County Cooperative building on Wea street. He and engineer Bill Kohl never felt a thing. Krueger is from Osawatomie and Kohl is from Paola. Their clue that something was wrong was when the emergency system kicked in. Twenty-two cars derailed and 18 were completely destroyed. Investigators determined that a broken wheel caused the problem.

Miami County Time Capsule is compiled by Paul Branson, Sr., utilizing newspaper archives that date back more than 150 years.

THE MIAMI COUNTY REPUBLIC

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New Breakfast Item - 1pc. toast, avocado, egg, shredded cheese

Daily Lunch Specials 11-2:30 PM

Monday: Open Face Turkey Sandwich on a Slice of Bread topped with Mash Potatoes, Turkey and Turkey Gravy
Tuesday: BBQ Meatballs, Cheesy Potatoes, Green Beans and a Dinner Roll
Wednesday: Chicken Pot Pie with Biscuit, Mashed Potatoes/ Chicken Gravy
Thursday: Fried Chicken Dinner Fresh fried chicken breaded in our own kitchen and deep fried to a golden crisp and served with roll, homemade mashed potatoes and gravy.
Friday: Amish Wedding Feast Chicken Stuffing, Green Beans, Mashed Potatoes and Chicken Gravy
Saturday: Chicken Fried Steak Dinner
Tenderized chicken fried steak with just the right amount of breading covered with a generous ladle of our white gravy served with roll, homemade mashed potatoes, and gravy.

SOUPS: Monday: Cheesy Potato w/ Bacon Tuesday: Cheesy Potato w/ Bacon Wednesday Cheddar Broccoli Thursday: Creamy Chicken Noodle Friday: Clam Chowder Saturday: Chef's Choice

FRESH BAKED GOODS DAILY