

# The Elgin Review

Wednesday  
February 28, 2024

Volume 141, Number 23

1 Section, 12 Pages

USPS Number 172-8220

\$1.00

## In Brief

### Wastewater plant in need of major repairs

Incumbent deadline has passed.

A public notice on the wall of the Elgin Post Office last week notified residents that there is a problem with its wastewater treatment facility.

“Until further notice, The City of Elgin is bypass pumping from the city wastewater treatment facility into the Blacksnake Creek due to maintenance issues.”

The issue is one which was raised earlier this month to Mayor Mike Schmitt and the Elgin City Council.

City Superintendent Donnie Poulsen, Jr., told the Elgin City Council earlier this month repairs were necessary at the sewer plant. He said a clarifier went down which has created problems which, if parts can't be found, could get pricey.

Experts were to come to Elgin to assess the situation. The council is expected to be updated at their March meeting to be held Monday, March 4.

The sewer plant was constructed in 1982, making it now over 40 years old.

“It's way past its' life expectancy,” said City Engineer John Zwingman.

Residents with any questions are encouraged to contact City Hall during regular business hours.

### Days winding down to file for elective office

The deadline is Thursday, March 1.

The deadline for non-incumbents to file for elective office is this Thursday, March 1. There have been no new filings for the District #18 Board of Education nor for Ward #1 and #2 for the Elgin City Council.

## Public Notices

Public notices in this week's newspaper include:

Notice of Organization — Schindler Brothers Trucking, LLC

Notice of Organization — Bauer Express, LLC

Notice of Organization — Botha Farm & Truck Repair, LLC

Notice of March Regular Meetings — Antelope County Board of Commissioners

The Elgin Review is the official legal newspaper for Antelope County, Antelope County Historical Society, Village of Bartlett, Upper Elkhorn Natural Resources District, the State of Nebraska, the City of Elgin and Elgin School District #18.

## Weather

The high temperature last week was 69 degrees on Tuesday, February 20.

The low during the same period was 22 degrees recorded on Friday, February 23.

No precipitation was recorded last week.

Following are the high and low temperatures, and precipitation amounts, as recorded by Elgin weather observer Leonard Orlowski.

Date	High	Low	Prec
February 18	44	25	.00
February 19	49	26	.00
February 20	69	31	.00
February 21	61	39	.00
February 22	56	39	.00
February 23	55	22	.00
February 24	60	28	.00
Total for last week			0.00
Total for February			0.38
Total precipitation 2024			2.03



### Wolfpack all smiles after winning district championship Friday

District champions headed to state are (front row, l-r): student managers Molly Thiessen and Brystol Buschow, Brenna Martinsen, Ashlynn Charf, Keyera Eisenhauer, Elise Ruterbories, Mady Kurpgeweit and student managers Gentry Zwingman and Sydney Niewohner. Back row: Ass't. Coach Trent Ostransky, player/manager Kyndal Busteed, Kierstyn Eisenhauer, Kate Furstenau, Braelyn Martinsen, Callie Heithoff, Sara Bode, Elizabeth Moser, Kayton Zwingman and Head Coach Randy Eisenhauer.



Senior Ashlynn Charf models the latest sports fashion - a net signifying EPPJ is headed to the state tournament.



Wolfpack players celebrate receiving the district plaque.

E-R photos/D&L Morgan

## Judge fines Albion man for assault, prompt payment earns credit

By Sandy Schroth

court reporter

Kristopher Dorrie, 39, of Albion appeared in front of the Honorable Donna Taylor in the Antelope County courtroom in Neligh last Wednesday, Feb. 21, on a third-degree assault charge.

Dorrie pleaded guilty pursuant to a plea agreement with Antelope County Prosecutor Joe Smith. In return, Smith recommended a fine only.

Although Dorrie testified he didn't think the victim, Cody Luscomb, was injured, he agreed to pay Luscomb's restitution claim of \$500.

“I picked him up and we went to the ground, no punches,” Dorrie said.

### Two jury trials set for Oakdale man

Two separate jury trials have been set for an Oakdale man accused of driving during revocation/suspension and other crimes in September 2023 and in January.

Shane Sleister, 49, of Oakdale (in custody), appeared in front of the Honorable Donna Taylor in the Antelope County courtroom in Neligh on Feb. 21, in the two similar cases.

Sleister's attorney, public defender Pat Carney, asked Taylor to set separate trials in front of different juries.

Antelope County Attorney Joe Smith estimated one- to two-day trial in each case. Taylor set the trials for March 22 and March 25, with any pre-

“(Luscomb) said he was (injured) but I don't see how he was.”

Smith said the victim “didn't care on sentencing.” He had not sought medical treatment but claimed injury and asked restitution for lost wages.

Dorrie's attorney, public defender Pat Carney, said Dorrie had no criminal history for the last 20 years and explained the altercation between former friends. He said Dorrie, in a defensive move, wrapped Luscomb in a “bear hug” from the rear and took him to the ground. “On the playground or in the old west, that would have been the end of it,” Carney said.

Taylor ordered Dorrie to pay \$500 restitution and fined him \$800, with credit to be given on the fine for the

\$500 restitution if paid by March 6. He was taxed \$50 court costs. Dorrie paid the \$500 before leaving the courthouse.

\*\*\*\*\*

David A. Hertges, 42, of Austin, Minnesota, pleaded guilty, by waiver, to an amended count of no operator's license. He was fined \$75 and assessed \$49 costs for the Nov. 28, 2023, offense.

\*\*\*\*\*

Sentencing for Denis Kerkman, 90, of Tilden on a recent conviction of violating a harassment protection order is continued to March 20. Bond is continued, in the amount of \$20,000, 10%, with an order for no contact, neither direct nor indirect, with victim. Kerkman is represented by Carney.

\*\*\*\*\*

Sentencing was also postponed for Richard C. Jelich Jr., 28, homeless, for violation of probation. Resentencing is continued to March 6. Bond is continued at \$10,000, 10%. It will be amended if Jelich is accepted in treatment or for residence at Oxford House and is transported from the county jail.

\*\*\*\*\*

A Petersburg man accused of passing a counterfeit \$100 bill last fall saw his charge dismissed on Thursday. Thomas R. Miller, 54, had been denied a request for a bail refund earlier this month. On Thursday, Smith dismissed the forgery charge after Miller assigned the \$135 bond held by the county - \$100 to Elgin One Stop and \$35 toward court costs in the case. He paid the costs balance of \$16 on Feb. 21.

## EPPJ to face Southern Valley to open State Tournament

By Dennis Morgan

co-publisher

Basking in the glow of accomplishment that only comes when achieving a goal you've worked long and hard for, there's more work to be done.

Sixth-seed Elgin Public-Pope John will take a 22-2 record into Thursday night's first round matchup against #3 seed Southern Valley (26-1) at the Class D1 State Basketball Tournament.

To be played at the Bob Devaney Sports Center, the game will be the last one of the night there, scheduled to tip-off at 7:45 p.m.

Their opponent, the Eagles, come into the game riding a 22-game winning streak. Their only loss this season came on December 12 when Gothenburg posted a 56 to 42 victory on the Swedes' home court.

Coached by Richard McDonald, the Eagles are no strangers to the state tournament. They were in Lincoln last year and lost in the first round to Guardian Angels Central Catholic 67 to 46.

The Eagles will be led by senior Ann Bose who is averaging 18.6 points per game. She also leads the team in assists, steals, rebounds and points scored. Teammate Adeline Hunt averaged just over 11 points per game.

“Southern Valley has some very good players on their team,” Wolfpack Coach Randy Eisenhauer said about the team's upcoming opponent. “A couple of girls are very athletic and do a lot for them.”

The Wolfpack come into the game having defeated Maywood-Hayes Center 51 to 44 in the district championship game played Friday night at Kearney High School.

The Wolfpack are led by its' four seniors - Ashlynn Charf, Keyera Eisenhauer, Brenna Martinsen and Elise Ruterbories.

Charf leads the Wolfpack in scoring, averaging 13.5 points per game, one-tenth of a point more than Eisenhauer. Charf scores the majority of her points close to the basket while Eisenhauer hits from outside the key. Charf leads the team in rebounds (10 per game), as well as assists, steals and blocked shots.

Having started all season, Martinsen and Ruterbories each fill a niche for the team. Third on the team in scoring this season is junior Kate Furstenau, scoring nine points per game.

The Wolfpack have averaged 57 points per game.

Both teams play a similar style of basketball

“They are similar as they also want to get out and run and play a very similar defense as we do with their 2- zone. Very long and athletic,” Coach Eisenhauer said.

This marks the second year in a row the Wolfpack have made the state tournament. Last year, eventual champion Centura defeated EPPJ in the opening round.

The winner of this year's first round matchup will advance to the semi-final round Friday morning at Devaney. They they will face the winner of Centura-GACC. Friday's winner will advance to Saturday's championship game while the losing team will play in the consolation finals Saturday at Lincoln East High School.

The other half of the bracket includes teams from O'Neill St. Mary's, Pender, Bancroft-Rosalie and McCool Junction.

### Wolfpack Pep Rally

A pep rally for the Wolfpack girls basketball team will be held at 10:30 am Thursday at the Elgin Public gym.

All Elgin schools will then dismiss at 2:50 p.m. There is no school on Friday.

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From JoAnn Baum's Kitchen

Butterscotch Oatmeal Cookies & Bread Pudding

Good day,  
Today's recipe selection is one for the person (or persons) who has a sweet tooth.  
These cookies are kind of addicting so "beware"! I like to add little cinnamon



into my cookie dough. They're just a yummy cookie recipe I have in my collection.  
This "bread pudding" would be my husband's all-time favorite dessert. He tells how his mom made it a lot when he was a kid. Again I would add a little cinnamon or nutmeg to the recipe. Really easy and quick if you need a dessert. Please give these recipes a try and make your sweet tooth happy!  
Enjoy.

JoAnn

BREAD PUDDING

2 eggs, beaten  
2 cups milk  
1/2 cup sugar  
1 pinch salt  
1 tsp. vanilla

1-1/2 cups bread crumbs  
1/2 cup raisins  
1 Tbls butter

Mix beaten eggs, milk, sugar, salt and vanilla all together. Pour over the bread crumbs and raising. Dot with chunks of butter.  
You may sprinkle it with nutmeg or cinnamon.  
Bake at 375° for 45 minutes.

BUTTERSCOTCH OATMEAL COOKIES

1 cup margarine (2 sticks)  
3/4 cup brown sugar  
3/4 cup white sugar  
2 eggs  
1 Tbls hot water  
1 tsp vanilla  
1-1/2 cups flour

1 tsp soda  
2 cups quick oatmeal  
1 12 oz bag butterscotch chip

Cream margarine and sugars. Add beaten eggs then hot water. Mix well.  
Add flour mixed with soda. Mix. Add oatmeal vanilla and chips, stir well!  
Drop by teaspoonfuls on cookie sheet covered with parchment paper.  
Bake at 350° oven for 10-12 minutes.  
Yummy!

Bartlett News

CWC varsity boys basketball finished their season this past week with subdistrict games held at St. Marys Catholic School in O'Neill.  
CWC competed against Creighton Monday, February 19. The final score was CWC 50, Creighton 44.  
The following evening CWC played O'Neill St. Marys. The final score was St. Marys 69, CWC 27.  
The Bartlett Lions Club met Thursday evening, February 15

at 7 p.m. at the old fire hall in Bartlett.  
Discussion included Easter Egg Hunt to be held March 30 at the Bartlett Village Park. Registration will begin at 1:30 p.m. with the hunt beginning at 2 p.m.  
Our family is truly grateful for God's miracle of healing with my Dad as he has been battling acute myeloid leukemia and has taken one round of cancer treatments.  
His cancer doctor said his

platelet count needed to be 59 or above to be proof that the treatments are working.  
A month ago his platelet count was nine. Friday of this week the count was a whopping 96. Praise God. Many a prayer, in faith, have been lifted up for my Dad.  
We are very grateful and thankful for all the prayers lifted up for my Dad, Steven and my Mom. Please continue to pray.

By Sherry Tetschner

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FFA STUDENT of the MONTH

Dylon Lueking

Dylon Lueking, the son of Jill Switzer, is being recognized as FFA member of the month.  
Dylon has been involved in the Elgin FFA Chapter since his freshman year. He has been active in many different activities and competitions throughout the four years. Range Judging and Natural Resources are two of his most-attended competitions and he has done well in them.  
The past couple of years, Dylon has spent time updating his FFA record book in order to help him achieve his State FFA Degree.



Dylon Lueking

Along with his completed record books, he interviewed for his State Degree in early February. With all of the work put in, Dylon will be awarded the Nebraska State FFA Degree in April at the State Convention.  
Thanks Dylon for the time put into the chapter.  
Congratulations!

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# COMMUNITY NEWS

## It’s more than ‘just another day in paradise’

You may not believe this, but I know it to be true. Moms have superpowers. Magic, if you will. My kids can also attest to this phenomenon. It’s a transformation that takes place once you become a mother. A gift given to assist with child rearing. Allow me to explain.

### Community Calendar

\* See ad/story in this week’s Elgin Review

**Thursday, February 29**  
**Wolfpack pep rally/send off** at EPS (10:30 a.m.).

**Friday, March 1**  
**Deadline** for non-incumbents to file for election in Antelope County ■ No School at EPS, PJCC/St. Boniface schools.

**Sunday, March 3**  
**St. Bonaventure Spring Breakfast** @ Raeville Parish Hall\*.

**Monday, March 4**  
**Elgin City Council** regular monthly meeting.

**Friday, March 8**  
**No School** at EPS, PJCC/St. Boniface schools.

**Monday, March 11**  
**District #18** Board of Education regular meeting ■ Speech Night @ EPS.

**Saturday, March 16**  
**St. Boniface Spring Benefit Auction** @ KC Hall.\*

**Sunday, March 17**  
**St. Patrick’s Day Bash** @ Tilden\*.

Events listing courtesy of  
**ELGIN VETERANS’ MEDICAL CLINIC**  
an outpatient department of Boone County Health Center  
116 N 2nd Street, Elgin  
**402.843.5910**

The other day while running errands, my daughter needed a tissue. No problem. Then, she broke a nail. Not to worry, I had a kit that contained nail clippers, file, etc.

Later, a bug bite, for which I had anti-itch cream. My daughter exclaimed how when she becomes a mom later in life, she’s going to be prepared for everything as well. A special trait of mommies.

I’ve lost count of the number of times my boys will be up to something in the other room or upstairs and I’ll call them out on it. They can never understand how I am

able to hear them. I tell them that moms are given heightened hearing, so we know when our children are up to no good.

I’m sure you’ve heard that moms have eyes in the back of their heads. Although they haven’t been able to find my extra set, they’re convinced they are there. Somehow, even with my back turned, I can tell when things are going amiss behind me. I know if someone is contemplating trying to sneak a candy, or about to throw a punch to their sibling. We also can see the future. Not the distant future, of course.

### Tales of a Tired Momma



Elgin Columnist  
**Katherine Cobb**

## Elgin Community Center Menus

**Monday, March 4:** Baked potato bar with all the toppings, peas, milk.  
**Tuesday, March 5:** Cheeseburger soup, cottage cheese, cheese/crackers, carrots/celery, peaches, milk.  
**Wednesday, March 6:** Fried chicken, mashed potatoes & gravy, peas, strawberry/peaches mix, milk.  
**Thursday, March 7:** Spaghetti & meat sauce, lettuce salad, corn, tropical fruit, milk.  
**Friday, March 8:** Lemon pepper fish, baked potato, green beans, apricots, milk.

(All meals served with bread & butter. Menus are provided by the Community

Center and are subject to change).

**Suggested price is \$6** per meal for persons 60 years of age and older.

**Under 60 is \$9.00.** Serving starts at 11:45 a.m. and ends around 12:15 p.m.

Meals are served Monday thru Friday.

Takeout starting at 11:30 a.m.

Please call 843-5757 by 9:30 a.m. to reserve a meal for that day. For a great meal, come to the community center!

## Enjoy St. Pat’s Bash in Tilden

Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Church will be holding their annual St. Pat’s Bash Fundraiser.

The event will be held on Saturday, March 17, from 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. in the OLMC parish hall.

Eat, drink and enjoy soups & sandwiches, desserts and beverages for a free will donation.

Join in the fun with a variety of raffles and games for all ages. Prizes include Quilt, Husker Football Tickets, Blackstone grill, cash prizes, and more.

There will also be a bake sale. Raffles begin at 2 p.m., and you need not be present to win. Come and enjoy this year’s annual St. Pat’s Bash in Tilden!

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## Looking Back

The Elgin Review

Sixty Years Ago

February 27, 1964

David Wemhoff of Norfolk Burns placed first in the District 2 American Legion oratorical contest held here Saturday at the Elgin High School auditorium.

Mr. and Mrs. M. L. Dwyer celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary Sunday, Feb. 22nd by being surprised by all of their children and their families arriving with well filled baskets of food for the noon dinner.

Basketball royalty at Elgin High School was announced Friday night during the school’s homecoming with Bonnie Latzel as queen and George Mooney as king.

Joan Weber, eighth grade pupil at St. Boniface School, has won a first place in the State Safety Poster contest sponsored by a Nebraska motor club. Joan’s winning entry was for portraying the safety rule “Walk on the Left Facing the Traffic” and was judged best in the junior division.

Fifty Years Ago

February 28, 1974

The “English Journal” a national publication for English teachers, printed an article written by Sr. Joyce in the Feb. issue. The article explains the working of PJ’s Humanities program.

Elgin’s five high school wrestlers, three from Pope John and two from Elgin Public, were defeated in first round competition at Lincoln, Thursday.

Mr. and Mrs. Jim Armstrong of Scottsbluff, announce the engagement of their daughter, Sandi, to Gary D. Beals, son of Mr. and Mrs. Harland Beals of Scottsbluff.

Seven of the 16 Hobby Club members worked on their yearly project for Antelope Memorial Hospital patients at Neligh. The ladies made nut cups honoring George Washington’s birthday anniversary.

Fred Schindler of Neligh, Mr. and Mrs. John Thiele of Clearwater, Mrs. Jerry Coyne of Omaha, and Mrs. Max Schindler attended the State Wrestling Tournament in Lincoln, Friday.

Thirty Years Ago

March 2, 1994

Three Elgin High School students have been selected as new members of the Dr. W. W. Graham Chapter of National Honor Society. The new members are Mark Dietz, Nathan Dickerson, and Sam Vanourney.

Elgin High School’s boys basketball team will be returning to Lincoln next week to defend their 1993 state D2 championship. The Eagles dominated both of their opponents in the D2-4 District Tournament at Randolph early this week.

Reigning as king and queen at the annual Pope John Central Catholic Sweetheart Dance last Saturday night were seniors Lynette Kluthe and Chris Eischeid.

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**Dine In or Take Out**  
**Elgin Knights of Columbus**  
**Fish Fry**  
Next Friday,  
**March 8**  
5-8 pm at the Elgin KC Hall  
**SERVING:** Breaded and Unbreaded Fish along with Scalloped and Baked Potatoes, Macaroni & Cheese, Salads and Dessert.  
**\$15.00 \$8.00** 6-12 Adults  
**THE BAR WILL BE OPEN FOR YOUR EXTRA BEVERAGES!**

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Apply by Friday,  
**March 1, 2024**

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“To be persuasive, we must be believable; to be believable, we must be credible; credible, we must be truthful.”

Edward R. Murrow

# Handing out property tax cuts? I’ll take one

With the short session of the Nebraska Legislature slightly more than half over, repeat after me: When it comes to taxation, it’s all about whose ox is getting gored.

The Governor wants a 40 percent reduction in property taxes by the end of the year. I’m in! Cut me a check.

Sorry. That’s not how this works. The cuts will be made and somehow credited to your tax bill by the county, which will somehow find a way to use it up before you see it. Just watch.

Even more sorry. The state must pay for the cuts. That’s even dicier because the quick solution seems to be raising the sales tax

and possibly adding sales tax to some previously exempt items.

Some critics say that’s unfair to poor people. I think they’re right! OpenSky Policy Institute and others have criticized the proposed sales tax increase as regressive, saying it would hurt the poor and people on fixed incomes disproportionately, including senior citizens.

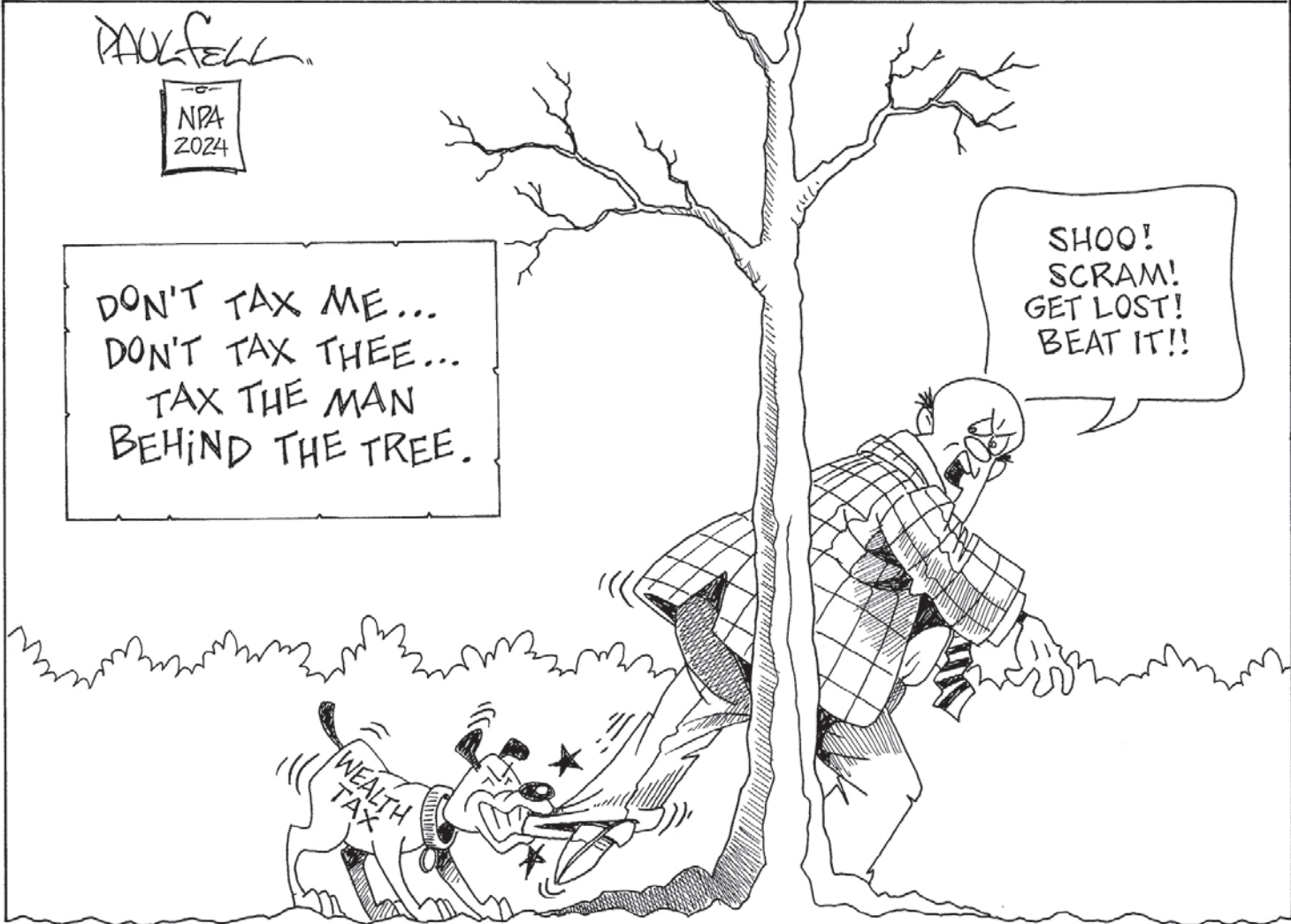
U.S. Senator Pete Ricketts and the local chapter of Americans for Prosperity also oppose it. AFP-Nebraska and others have argued that a sales tax increase without hard spending caps on school districts and local governments would cost taxpayers more and accomplish no meaningful change.

An AFP-Nebraska poll showed 70% of those responding opposed raising sales taxes to decrease property taxes.

Former state Senator turned State Treasurer Tom Briese told the Nebraska Examiner he supports “what Governor Pillen and Senator Lou Ann Linehan and the Revenue Committee are proposing here. Nebraskans deserve a fair and balanced tax structure, and they don’t have that now.”

It’s the old three-legged stool of Nebraska taxation – property, income, and sales taxes – that needs leveling according to Pillen and Briese.

Pillen said Nebraska collects \$4



www.paulfellcartoons.com

billion to \$5 billion a year in property taxes, \$3 billion a year in income taxes and \$2 billion a year in sales taxes.

Briese cautions that if lawmakers hesitate or fail to make major systemic changes in the tax system, voters will back a petition drive for something like the EPIC consumption tax. Really? Is that dead fish still floating in the pond?

Senator Steve Erdman of Bayard has resurrected what was originally known, decades ago, as the transaction tax.

It would give the state a single source of tax revenue collected every time a transaction is made. Exactly what purchases would be taxed – cars, equipment, food, real estate -- is still a bit fuzzy. Nebraskans need to look

at history (1966) when voters did away with all taxes leaving new Governor Norbert Tiemann with the dilemma of how to fund state government. Not a happy time.

The Examiner reported that a recent poll conducted for the Nebraska Association of County Officials found support from 65% of respondents to the question: “Would you support or oppose increasing the state sales tax rate by 1% in order to allow local governments to continue to provide important services?”

Meanwhile, a poll conducted for the Holland Children’s Institute found a plurality of 45% of respondents who opposed reducing “Nebraska’s state property taxes by raising state sales

taxes from 5.5% to 6.5%.” In that poll, 43% of respondents supported the idea.

Each poll interviewed 500-600 Nebraska residents and reported a margin of error between 4 and 4.3 percent. Both polls found opposition to Pillen’s planned hard cap to prevent major increases in spending by local government and schools.

Chalk one up for Nebraskans’ support of local control.

The Legislature’s Revenue Committee is crafting the property tax proposals during executive sessions. The Governor has said that he’s seeking a 40% reduction in property taxes “if it takes till Christmas.”

That might be prophetic.

## Legislature passes the halfway mark

This week marked the halfway point of the 2024 legislative session meaning the remaining time will be spent on Senator, Committee, and Speaker priority bills. Given the time left in the session, I will be focused on my priority bill for the year LB1301. LB1301 would adopt the Foreign-owned Real Estate National Security Act, put

### LEGISLATIVE UPDATE



District 40 Senator  
**Barry DeKay**

guardrails and protections in place on foreign ownership of ag land, and help safeguard sensitive military installations from threats posed by foreign adversaries.

I also wanted to provide an update on water projects in northeast Nebraska. There are two major projects under consideration working to secure safe and reliable drinking water for their ag producers and residents, both of which are complex and expensive. One involves the Cedar Knox Rural Water Project which is overseen by the Lewis & Clark NRD. This project impacts two counties, includes over four hundred

See **DeKAY**, Page 12 ►

## Infrastruce investments pay big dividends for Nebraska

In his 1954 State of the Union address, President Dwight D. Eisenhower announced his intention to “protect the vital interest of every citizen in a safe and adequate highway system.” Eisenhower claimed that the U.S. government must play central role in this task, advocating federal funding for an Interstate Highway System.

Establishing this system was no simple feat. The Senate rejected President Eisenhower’s initial proposal, which relied on state and local governments to contribute most of the Interstate’s cost. Lawmakers believed that more federal funding should address the safety risks of the 1950s roads system. The House of Representatives also rejected the initial proposal, instead creating a fund that drew on the gas tax to support construction of the highway system. Two years later, the Senate and House reconciled their versions of the Federal-Aid Highway Act, and President Eisenhower signed the final version into law. That law joined disparate roads into the connected Interstate we drive on today.

Several decades later, Congress still recognizes the federal government’s irreplaceable role in maintaining and modernizing our country’s infrastructure. And while the media may focus on divisive and controversial issues, many of us in the Senate and House still work together to accomplish good on behalf of the American people. One of the best examples is infrastructure.

In 2021, I joined many of my colleagues from both parties in supporting the Bipartisan Infrastructure Bill. This legislation invests in our national infrastructure to ensure safety, connect communities, and grow local economies on a national scale. It funds core infrastructure from airports to broadband to roads and bridges. As we crafted the bill, my colleagues and I negotiated funding to be directed to Nebraska specifically. To date, Nebraska has received \$2.4 billion for various infrastructure products, including \$1.4 billion for roads and bridges and \$174 million for clean water.

The Bipartisan Infrastructure Bill has also provided

grants to airports across our state, in Omaha, North Platte, Grand Island, Kearney, Kimball, and Western Nebraska. This week, I spoke at the groundbreaking ceremony of Eppley Airfield’s “Build OMA” Terminal Modernization Program, a project funded in part by those federal grants. The Build OMA program will meet the demands of increasing traffic at Nebraska’s premiere airport. It will nearly double the terminal in size and build several first-rate amenities: an updated entrance, centralized security, expanded gates, and larger waiting areas. I also secured funding for a new Customs and Border Protection facility that will allow families and products to travel internationally, directly from Omaha. This comprehensive overhaul will ensure Eppley remains a modern, world-class airport that Nebraskans can be proud of for years to come.

The groundbreaking followed the announcement of a new \$3 million federal grant to support terminal improvements at Eppley, as well as a \$7 million grant for the North Platte Airport Authority to construct a replacement terminal building, among other projects. Three years on, Bipartisan Infrastructure Law is still paying dividends to Nebraska for transportation and infrastructure updates like the Build OMA project. To date, that legislation has granted more than \$50 million to upgrade and modernize Eppley.

The Build OMA program at Eppley is a perfect example of the sweeping improvements infrastructure legislation can fund. As long as Congress can continue to do the hard but quiet work of true legislating, our state will only see more projects like these in the future. I’ll keep doing my part in the Senate to support improvements that serve Nebraska families and make our Good Life even better.

### WASHINGTON REPORT



U.S. Senator  
**Deb Fischer**

## Numbers to Know

**President Joe Biden**, 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, Washington, D.C. 20510; phone (202) 456-1111.

**U.S. Senate Website:** [www.senate.gov](http://www.senate.gov)

**Senator Deb Fischer:** 825 B Hart Senate Office Bldg., Washington D.C. 20510. Phone: (202) 224-6551. Fax: (202) 228-1325.

**Senator Pete Ricketts:** 386A Senate Russell Building, Washington, D.C. 20510. Phone (202) 224-4224.

**U.S. House Website:** [www.house.gov](http://www.house.gov)

**Representative Adrian Smith:** 503 House Office Bldg., Wash-

ington, D.C. 20515-2703. Phone (202) 225-6435. Fax: (202) 225-0207. E-mail: <http://www.house.gov/writerep/>.

**Nebr. Unicameral Website** [www.unicam.state.ne.us](http://www.unicam.state.ne.us)

**Governor Jim Pillen:** Executive Suite, P.O. Box 94848, Lincoln, NE 68509. Phone: (402) 471-2244.

**Lieutenant Governor Joe Kelly:** Office of the Lt. Gov., P.O. Box 94863, Lincoln, NE 68509-4863. Phone: (402) 471-2256.  
District 40 State Senator Barry DeKay: P.O. Box 94604, Lincoln, NE 68509. Phone: (402) 471-2801. E-mail: [bdekay@leg.ne.gov](mailto:bdekay@leg.ne.gov).



**Volume 141, Wednesday, February 28, 2024 Number 23**

Published weekly on Wednesday at Elgin, NE 68636  
Entered at the Elgin Post Office and Periodicals Postage Paid at Elgin, NE 68636  
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### EPS speechsters earn medals at three competitions

A short-handed speech team brought home medals from the Eagle Classic at Lutheran High Northeast on Friday, February 23. Due to the District basketball game, the OID was unable to compete.

Top honors on the day went to the Duet of Baylee Busteded and Chloe Henn. They earned the silver runners-up medals.

Kyndal Busteded won the fifth place medal in Persuasive Speaking.

Henn brought home the sixth place medal in Entertainment Speaking.

Superior Ratings were earned by the following speakers: Samantha Durre-Serious, Kyla Donaldson-Humorous, Busteded-Informative, Ruby Durre-Poetry and Zoey Buechter-Poetry. Earning Excellent Ratings were Donaldson-Extemp and Gemma Miller-Extemp and Persuasive.

Coaches Jessie Reestman and Stacy Shumake-Henn were pleased with the results.

"It was nice to get another competition in before districts, which is approaching quickly.

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Instead of a day of rest, our Sabbath became frantic shopping, games, and even school wrestling practices.

Create your Sabbath this week in church.

...the Lord blessed the Sabbath day and consecrated it.

Exodus 20:1-17

1 Corinthians 1:18-25      John 2:13-22      Psalm 19

Revised Common Lectionary © 1992 by the Consultation on Common Texts for

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Sunday, March 3, 2024

Third Sunday In Lent

For from him and through him and for him are all things. To him be the glory forever! Amen.

Romans 11:36

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This week the team will compete at the Riverside Speech Meet on Wednesday.

The District contest hosted by Stuart will be on March 12.

The team will hold their public performance on Monday, March 11 at 6:30 in the EPS lunch room.

**NVC Meet**

Five members of the Elgin Speech Team brought home a combined nine medals from the NVC meet on Wednesday, Feb. 21.

Stuart played host to the competitive meet.

Earning silver medals were members of the NVC Runners-up OID: Baylee Busteded, Brenna Martinsen, Chloe Henn, Callie Heithoff and Kayton Zwingman.

Henn also brought home another silver medal as the runner-up in Entertainment Speaking.

In addition, Baylee Busteded and Henn were the third place

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Fr. John Norman, Pastor

Fr. Joseph Sund, Associate Pastor

Confessions: 5-5:30 on Wednesdays.

Weekend Mass: Sunday, 10 am.

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St. Bonaventure Catholic Church

Raeville, NE

Fr. John Norman, Pastor

Fr. Joseph Sund, Associate Pastor

Weekend Mass: Sunday, 8 am.

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Park Congregational U.C.C. Church

Elgin, NE

Rev. Kate West, pastor

Sunday Worship Service: 9:15 am.

Sunday School: 10:15 am.

Communion Sunday: 1st Sunday of each month. Park Women's Fellowship: 2 pm on the 3rd Thursday of each month at the church. Parish Council: 7:30 pm on the 2nd Wednesday of each month at the church.

St. John the Baptist Catholic Church

Petersburg, NE

Fr. John Norman, Pastor

Fr. Joseph Sund, Associate Pastor

Weekend Mass: Saturday, 7 pm.

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Bartlett United Methodist Church

Bartlett, NE

Pastor Duane Waddle

Sunday Worship Service: 10:45 am.

Sunday School: 10 am.

Calvary Bible Church

Neligh, NE

Pastor Peter Sample

Sunday School: 9:30 am.

Worship Service: 10:45 am.

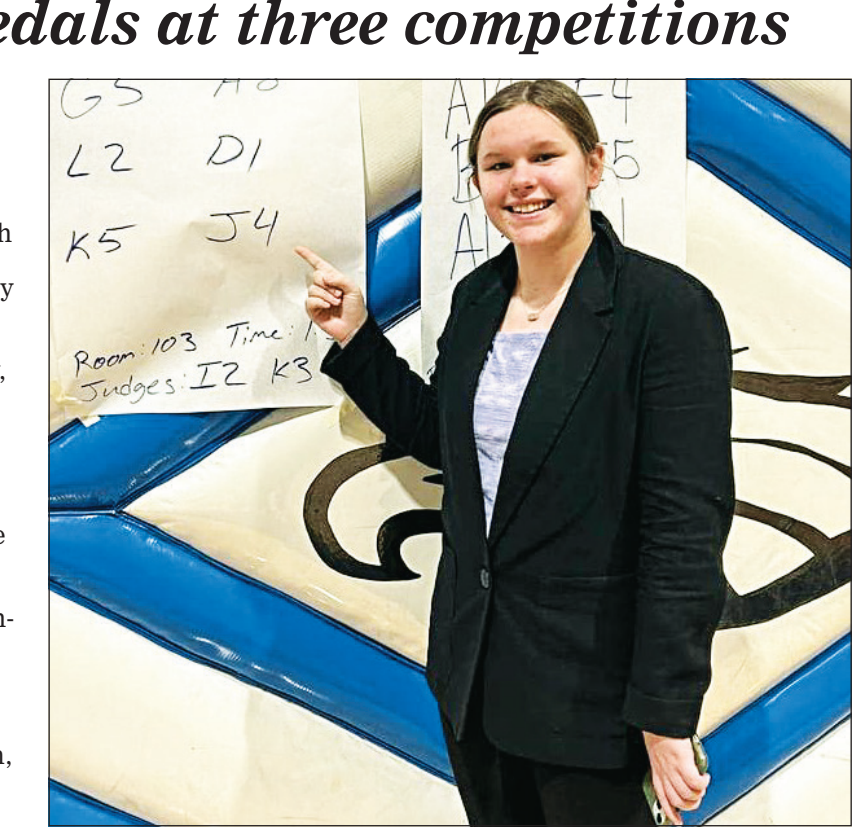


Photo submitted

At LHNE, Kyndal Busteded placed fifth in Persuasive Speaking.

medalists in Duet Acting.

Baylee Busteded earned an additional medal placing 6th in Informative Speaking.

Superior Ratings were earned by the following speakers: Kyndal Busteded-Persuasive, Samantha Durre-Serious, Gemma Miller-Persuasive, Kyla Donaldson-Humorous and Callie Heithoff-Entertainment.

Earning Excellent Ratings were Ruby Durre-Poetry, Donaldson-Extemp and Miller-Extemp.

The team placed fifth out of 13 teams.

"We saw so many good things from our kids today. The NVC is tough, so anytime someone can break finals, it's pretty impressive.

"Our kids are all improving with each meet, and a few are really getting close to medaling. They're just so much fun to work with," the coaches said.

With just eleven members on their team, most of the EPS speechsters have busy days.

"We have kids who are both triple and double entered at each meet, which keeps them really busy. They move from event to event and have very little downtime. Some of them are performing two to three different pieces up to six to

nine times a meet. Keeping up with that kind of schedule and then making finals in all three events is pretty impressive."

**Howells-Dodge**

Competition continues to be tough for the EPS Speech Team, but they are stepping up to the plate. They recently attended a competitive Jaguar Jabber Speech Meet in Howells.

Earning Runners-up medals was OID of Baylee Busteded, Brenna Martinsen, Chloe Henn, Callie Heithoff and Kayton Zwingman.

Baylee Busteded and Henn also brought home the fourth place medals in Duet Acting.

Kyndal Busteded earned the fourth place medal in the Persuasive Honors Division, a second round of finals allowing participants another delivery opportunity.

In their Entertainment Speaking debut, Henn and Heithoff earned Superior Ratings. Baylee Busteded also earned a Superior in Informative Speaking.

Since it was such a large meet, the host school also featured a JV division. Capturing sixth place medals were Gemma Miller in Persuasive, Kyla Don-

See EPS, Page 10 ►

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Adult Sunday School: Children Sunday School: 9:30 am.

Sunday Worship Service: 9 am.

Church Council: 2nd Sunday of each month following worship.

St. John's Catholic Church

Rural Clearwater, NE

Fr. John Norman, Pastor

Fr. Joseph Sund, Associate Pastor

Weekend Mass: Sunday, 11:30 am.

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St. Paul Lutheran Church

Chambers, NE

Pastor Leif Hasskari

Sunday Worship: 8:30 am.

Sunday School/Bible Study: 9:30 am.

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Faith

is confidence is what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see.

Hebrews 11:1



WOLFPACK

# Wolfpack Sports

## EPPJ 51, MHC 44 - ‘Team Victory’ sends Wolfpack to State

KEARNEY — In a performance which one could say was a microcosm of their season so far, Elgin Public-Pope John earned a berth in the 2024 Girls State Basketball Tournament.

Just as was the case one year ago, the Wolfpack defeated Maywood/Hayes Center Friday night before a raucous crowd at Kearney High School. Final score, EPPJ 51, Maywood-Hayes Center 44.

“They gave us a good fight,” senior Keyera Eisenhauer said about the rematch from last year’s district championship game.

EPPJ took a few minutes to size up their opponent, then proceeded to crush the Wolves, handing them just their third loss of the season.

The Wolfpack’s four seniors led the way to victory, complimented with some big plays from the underclassmen.

Senior Ashlynnne Charf dominated the ‘paint,’ her spin moves to the basket were nearly unstoppable for most of the game. A three-point play gave EPPJ the lead for good with 59 seconds to go in the first quarter. Charf had seven of the team’s first 10 points. From that point the Wolfpack had the upper hand.

Elise Ruterbories started off the second quarter with a back-door basket, igniting a six-to-two run to give EPPJ a 16 to 10 lead which included four free throws, two apiece from Charf and Keyera Eisenhauer.

“They were playing aggressive defense and we knew the back door would be there,” Ruterbories said.

The Wolfpack would then close out the half on a 12 to six run. Charf had five points and the Martinsen sisters (Brenna and Braelyn) combined for five points. Brenna’s trey put the Wolfpack up 26 to 15 before Braelyn added a two-pointer just before halftime.

The Wolves showed they belonged in the game, fighting their way back in the third quarter. Ella Shepperd-Broz had four points and Reagan

Stengel had five over the first three minutes of the quarter to cut EPPJ’s lead to 32 to 27.

They continued to chip away at EPPJ’s lead and closed to within one point, 34 to 33, on free throws by Karissa Stengel. Eisenhauer and Braelyn Martinsen added baskets to close out the quarter with the Wolfpack holding a 38 to 33 lead.

The Wolfpack’s lead would fluctuate between three and five points for the early part of the fourth quarter. After Aubrey Broz’s two-pointer cut the margin to 40 to 38 midway through the quarter, the Wolves, on their next possession, had a chance to tie or take the lead.

But it never happened and the Wolfpack closed out the game on a 11-to-four run. Junior Kate Furstenau got inside to score two points, then Mady Kurpgeweit made a big basket to push the lead up to six points. Charf then converted a three-point play and Brenna Martinsen drove the lane for two more points. EPPJ then closed out the game with free throws from Furstenau and Kurpgeweit.

“We weren’t going to be denied,” senior Brenna Martinsen said after the game.

Coach Randy Eisenhauer said this was a team victory. “I thought our girls did a really good job of keeping our composure throughout the whole game ... We built a good lead but knew they would make a run in the second half. Our girls answered that in the fourth quarter and finished the game.

“Ashlynnne had a big game for us with 21 points and 10 rebounds. Girls off the bench also came in and gave us some great minutes ... A great victory from our whole team”.

The Wolves were led in scoring by Broz and Karissa Stengel, each with 12 points. Broz led the team in rebounds with eight.

The Wolfpack (22-2) were led in scoring by Charf with 21 points. “I was determined that they weren’t going to stop me,” she said after the game.

**EPPJ 51, MHC 44**

Wolves.....6 10 17 11 — 44  
Wolfpack.....10 18 10 13 — 51

Wolfpack — Kayton Zwingman 0-1 0-0 0, Elise Ruterbories 1-1 0-0 2, Ashlynnne Charf 7-9 7-9 23, Braelyn Martinsen 2-4 0-0 4, Brenna Martinsen 3-6 1-1 7, Kate Furstenau 1-6 1-2 3, Keyera Eisenhauer 3-6 2-2 8, Mady Kurpgeweit 1-8 1-2 3, Sara Bode 1-2 0-0 3. Team totals: 19-43 11-15 51. Wolves team totals: 17-57 7-15 44. Three-point shots — Wolfpack 2-7 (Brenna Martinsen 1, Sara Bode 1), Wolves 3-16.

Wolves — Ellie Broz 6-10 0-1 12, Reagan Stengel 1-8 1-4 4, Aubrey Broz 3-4 0-0 8, Blayklee Farr 1-4 2-3 4, Caylie Softley 0-3 0-0 0, Karissa Stengel 4-10 4-6 12, Kesli Cox 2-15 0-0 4. Team totals: 17-54 7-14 44.

Team statistics: Rebounds — Wolfpack 32 (Ashlynnne Charf 10), Wolves 35. Assists — Wolfpack 10 (Brenna Martinsen 4), Wolves 8. Steals — Wolfpack 18 (Ashlynnne Charf 5), Wolves 10. Turnovers — Wolfpack 23, Wolves 24.



E-R photo/DMorgan

The Wolves tried to double-team Keyera Eisenhauer early. The Wolfpack senior finished with eight points.

### Spinning Tales

A tale of two Wolfpack teams last week

KEARNEY — Rock n’ Roll bands, back in the day when I knew more about music than anything else, would put out new albums and tour every year. In their heyday, they would fill the venue they were playing in, give the fans what they want and then do it all again down the road somewhere in a day or two, maybe three.

I kinda got that feeling Friday night as I waited for the start of the Wolfpack’s district title game against Maywood-Hayes Center. The Wolfpack girls basketball team has played like a rock band rivaling the careers of many of my favorite bands of my youth. All season long they have been playing in gyms full of Wolfpack fans, their best songs being 32-minute sagas. Twenty out of 22 times, they have been chart toppers, basking in the glow of admiration. Their arenas being gym floors, their instruments being round balls, hoops and nylon nets.

Each band, as I remember, had a lead singer and a lead guitar player, each receiving equal billing. The Beatles had John Lennon and Paul McCartney, the Wolfpack have had Ashlynnne Charf and Keyera Eisenhauer sharing the spotlight most nights. John and Paul had George and Ringo, necessary parts for a great band. Charf and Eisenhauer have had Kate Furstenau, Elise Ruterbories and Brenna Martinsen filling out the band, joined by a number of ‘backup singers’ coming off the bench to keep things going.

This concert tour of winning basketball is nearing the end, its final dates to be played on the state’s largest shrines. The Devaney Sports Center, home of the greatest college volleyball team, will be where EPPJ performs next, on Thursday night in prime time, the first of what I expect to be three games in three days. Saturday’s final show will be at Pinnacle Bank Arena where, if what I believe

comes true, our ‘band’ will take a bow to their fans while holding up the grandest of hardware from the NSAA.

What they have offered up so far is akin to a platinum-selling album. Playing together, they’ve made beautiful music. Just as the Beatles had a manager for much of their career, our team has been ‘managed’ by Randy Eisenhauer and Trent Ostransky. They’ve shaped the band’s ‘song list,’ the offensive and defensive schemes to make sure that the end was better than the beginning. Our band has played the best music, starting in late November and now about to end in early March.

Each of us have favorite moments from this ‘album’ of victories. My favorites - Eisenhauer and Charf reaching career marks only the best ever attain; other band members stepping up to solo when the moment was necessary; and seeing some of those background singers carving out their own niche.

When it all comes together, its great music. So, get the best seats in the house, sit back and enjoy some great music before the tour ends.

\*\*\*\*\*

I said this essay would be about two teams and it is.

One day earlier the Wolfpack boys team saw their basketball season come to an end, falling to the Chargers Thursday night, played on Riverside’s home court.

EPPJ was beset with injuries and illness for the latter part of the season and just didn’t have enough time to gel once all the pieces were back in place.

This marks the second year in a row when postseason aspirations were not fulfilled.

This was supposed to have been year-three of a three-year run of state tournament appearances. Two years ago, EPPJ broke a long drought and made

the state tournament where EPPJ fell to Burwell in the opening round. I didn’t take into account just how great a player Colton Wright was and just how tough it would be to replace him in the lineup.

With almost everyone back, I thought last year we would make it back but instead were upset in the subdistrict finals on our homecourt (St. Boniface Auditorium). Again, I made a mistake. I didn’t realize just how difficult bringing in a new coach would be on reshaping a team. No one is to blame, that’s just how sports are. New coaches rarely win it all in the first year, unless your name is Larry Coker and you coach the Miami Hurricanes football team in a year when all you had to do was stand on the sidelines and watch.

Then, this year, again reaching the subdistrict final, a double-digit lead slipped away in the second half as the Chargers rallied to win. Much to our dismay, Riverside ended up winning the district title to qualify for the state tournament.

Winning isn’t easy. It’s especially difficult in the postseason when the other team wants it as much or more than you do and you have to beat that team playing on their homecourt.

Three starters will return next season and the Pack will make another run for a trip to Lincoln. One thing is for certain, we’ll be there when it happens. Will you?

#### SPINNING TALES



Publisher  
Dennis Morgan



E-R photo/DMorgan

Brenna Martinsen (shown here grabbing a rebound) led the Wolfpack in assists with four Friday night.

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of the

WOLFPACK

PACK

**BLAKE HENN**  
BOYS BASKETBALL

**ASHLYNNNE CHARF**  
GIRLS BASKETBALL

A senior, Blake led the team in scoring in his final high school game. Against Riverside, he made 6 of 9 field goal shots, finishing with 15 pts.

A senior, Ashlynnne had the team-highs of 21 pts and 10 rebounds in the district final game against Maywood-Hayes Center.

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at the D1 state basketball tournament

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from  
**MOM and DAD**



Headed to the  
State tournament-  
go get 'em Ash!

Love - Mom, Dad,  
Taylynne, Hunter & Kellan

**#4 ASHLYNNE CHARF**



We are proud  
of you #21 and the team!  
Play your game at State  
and have fun!  
**GOOD LUCK!**

Love - Dad, Mom & Braxtyn

**#21 KEYERA EISENHAUER**

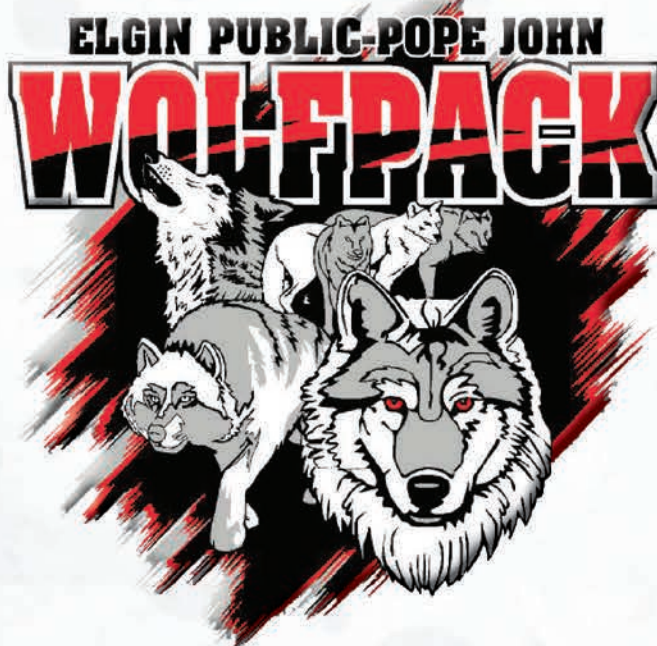


**LADY WOLFPACK,**

You've worked hard,  
played smart, made it to  
State! Good Luck Team!  
We love you #32!

Mom, Dad, Stephanie, Dexter  
and your #1 fan Jaxson!

**#32 SARA BODE**



**GOOD LUCK  
AT STATE!**

Callie and Lady  
Wolfpack Basketball  
Team!

Love - Mom, Dad & Cade

**#10 CALLIE HEITHOFF**



The Wolfpack are  
going to State!!!

**Good Luck  
Elizabeth!**

Love - Mom,  
Dad, Lillian and James

**#3 ELIZABETH MOSER**



We are proud  
of you #22 and team!  
Give it your all in Lincoln  
and have fun!  
**GOOD LUCK!**

Love - Dad, Mom & Braxtyn

**#22 KIERSTYN EISENHAUER**



Go get  
'em Gertie!

Best of luck to you  
and your team at the  
State tournament.

Love - Mom, Dad,  
John & Gentry

**#1 KAYTON ZWINGMAN**



We are so proud of our Lady  
Wolfpack team and all your  
hard work this year! Keep on  
working hard!! Ellie, we are so  
proud of all of your drive and  
ambition and helping out the  
team...you do a great job!!  
Keep up the good work at the  
state tournament!!!

Love ya - Mom and Dad

**#2 ELISE RUTERBORIES**



**Good Luck  
Madelyn!**

We are so proud of you!  
Go Pack - take State!

Love - Dad, Mom,  
Isiac, Amber, Trinity & Asher

**#23 MADELYN KURPGEWAIT**



**Good Luck at  
State Kate!**

We are so proud of  
you and your team!

Love - Mom, Dad,  
Paige, Chase and Reid

**#12 KATE FURSTENAU**



**Good Luck  
Brenna & Braelyn!!**

We are proud of you both!! Enjoy the post-season playing  
together at State! Best of luck to the Wolfpack team!!  
Give it everything you've got #11 & #5!

Love: Mom, Dad & Kaylee

**#11 BRENNA MARTINSEN**

**#5 BRAELYN MARTINSEN**





# PUBLIC NOTICES

Stay in the know. Read the Public Notices

## NOTICE OF ORGANIZATION

BAUER EXPRESS, L.L.C.

### NOTICE OF ORGANIZATION

The name of the limited liability company: BAUER EXPRESS, L.L.C. The address of the designated office is: 210 Beech Street, P.O. Box 377, Elgin, Nebraska 68636. The name and mailing address of the initial agent for service of process of the company is Martin V. Klein,

101 W. 4th Street, P.O. Box 166, Neligh, NE 68756. It is organized to transact any lawful acts concerning any and all lawful business, other than banking or insurance, for which a limited liability company may be organized under the laws of the State of Nebraska. This company commenced upon

filing the Certificate of Organization with the Secretary of State on February 2, 2024, and its existence shall be perpetual. The affairs of the limited liability company are to be conducted by the members under an operation agreement duly approved by its members. BAUER EXPRESS, L.L.C.

Martin V. Klein  
Klein Law Office, P.C.  
P.O. Box 166  
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PUBLISH: February 14, 21 & 28, 2024  
ZNEZ

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The name of the limited liability company: BOTHA FARM & TRUCK REPAIR, LLC.

The address of the designated office is: 86229 531 Ave., P.O. Box 817, Plainview, Nebraska 68769. The name and mailing address of the initial agent for service of process of the company is Leon Botha,

P.O. Box 817, Plainview, Nebraska 68769. It is organized to transact any lawful acts concerning any and all lawful business, other than banking or insurance, for which a limited liability company may be organized under the laws of the State of Nebraska. This company commenced upon filing the Certificate of Or-

ganization with the Secretary of State on December 29, 2023, and its existence shall be perpetual. The affairs of the limited liability company are to be conducted by the members under an operation agreement duly approved by its members. BOTHA FARM & TRUCK

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The name of the Company is Schindler Brothers Trucking, LLC. The Designated Office of the Company is 51790 836 Road, Elgin, Nebraska 68636-3308. The Regis-

tered Agent and Office of the Company is Koley Jessen P.C., L.L.O., 1125 South 103rd Street, Suite 800, Omaha, Nebraska 68124. This limited liability company commenced

business on February 20, 2024. PUBLISH: February 28, March 6 & 13, 2024  
ZNEZ

## NOTICE OF MARCH REGULAR MEETINGS

THE ANTELOPE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

### NOTICE OF MEETINGS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS, ANTELOPE COUNTY, NEBRASKA FOR THE MONTH OF MARCH, 2024

Notice is hereby given that the County Board of Commissioners

of Antelope County, Nebraska will hold meetings in the County Commissioner's meeting room in the Antelope County Courthouse Annex, Neligh, Nebraska on the following dates and times:  
March 5, 2024 at 9:00 AM

March 12, 2024 at 8:00 AM  
Meetings will be open to the public. An agenda, kept continuously current, is available for public inspection at the Antelope County Clerk's office and may be modified

at such meeting to include items of an emergency nature pursuant to Section 84-1411 of the Nebraska Revised Statutes. PUBLISH: February 29, 2024  
ZNEZ

## DeKay

◀ FROM Page 4

miles of pipe and infrastructure, and involves two phases of construction. The first phase planned to start later this year is a major upgrade to the existing infrastructure. The second phase planned is connecting into the Yankton, South Dakota facility and completing the infrastructure necessary to tie the source into the existing system. After several meetings garnering public input and a meeting with the Governor and his staff, the NRD Board plans to move forward with the Yankton option, which is more economical and will provide the area with a safe and adequate drinking supply for at least fifty years.

I want to applaud the efforts of the Lewis & Clark Natural Resources District for prioritizing drinking water and working to find a solution to meet long-term needs. Rural water projects provide unique funding challenges. With the State's partnership, I am confident the project can move forward. I will continue to keep the Governor and Appropriations Committee members updated on the need for the state dollars that were previously allocated and are essential to making the project feasible for our district. The

Governor's input and leadership have been helpful.

The second critical water project in the district involves the Santee Sioux Nation. The Santee Sioux Nation has been working to secure a clean source of water to Santee and surrounding areas. Senator Raybould introduced LB1131 which would appropriate funds for grants for tribal-owned community drinking water and sewer systems. From the most recent conversations I have had with the Lewis & Clark NRD, the NRD is also now open to discussions to assist them in expanding their rural water system to meet the needs for the Tribe. Whatever direction the Tribe decides to pursue, my office will be available to assist their efforts.

The issue of safe and accessible water is one of the most important functions our state is responsible for. It is a precious resource that impacts the viability of agriculture and is the lifeblood of northeast Nebraska. It also impacts our ability to retain and grow our communities. I appreciate the past support I have received from my colleagues in the legislature on this critical issue facing northeast Nebraska. I am also thankful for the Governor's

help in balancing our needs with the reality of finding the most cost-effective option.

Meanwhile, senators debated LB137 for several days this week. This bill would provide for enhanced penalties for people who manufacture or distribute controlled substances which knowingly or intentionally cause the death or serious bodily injury of another person. Similar legislation has been enacted in over 20 states in response to the rise of fentanyl and synthetic opioid overdoses. Following the adoption of a compromise amendment which narrowed the bill to only address situations where the controlled substance "directly and proximately caused" the death or serious injury of a drug user, senators advanced LB137 to the second stage of consideration on a 35 to 2 vote. I am a co-sponsor of LB137 and voted in support.

Finally, on a very sad and heartfelt note, northeast Nebraska was hit hard this week with the tragedy that unfolded in the community of Bloomfield. It is hard to process. Our thoughts and prayers go out to the families involved. I also want to express my appreciation for the members of law enforcement and first responders who responded to this situation.

## Chamber asking public for input on events for Vetch Days

Saturday, March 23  
to be date for  
Easter Egg Hunt

On next Wednesday, March 6, at the Elgin KC Hall, the Elgin Community Club/Chamber of Commerce will hold a public meeting open to everyone.

The decision was made at their monthly meeting held Monday, February 27. The plan is to discuss events for the 2024 Vetch Days to be held Monday through Wednesday, June 10-12.

Also at the meeting, the board of directors set the date for the annual Easter Egg Hunt.

The egg hunt will be held on Saturday, March 23, beginning at 11 a.m. at Elgin City Park. Registration will begin at 10:30 a.m.

Stay  
Informed!  
Read the  
Notices!

## Texas man charged with intent to deliver meth

By Sandy Schroth

court reporter

Joaquin S. Echeverria, 28, of Brenham, Texas, (in custody) appeared in front of the Honorable Donna Taylor in the Antelope County courtroom in Neligh on Feb. 21 for first hearing on a Class 1 C felony.

Echeverria is charged with possession of more than 28 grams of methamphetamine, with intent to deliver, alleged Feb. 19. If convicted of the felony, Echeverria faces up to 50 years in prison, with a minimum of five years.

Echeverria requested court-appointed counsel. Taylor appointed Antelope County public defender Pat Carney. Preliminary hearing is set March 6.

The Texas man was arrested by Nebraska State Patrol officers after his vehicle was stopped for speeding about four miles northwest of Clearwater on Highway 275.

His phone was seized and officers planned to seek a search warrant on the phone.

Additional charges may be filed. Officers also determined Echeverria has an active Texas

warrant in a child-neglect case.

He was remanded to the custody of Antelope County Sheriff Bob Moore, pending posting of bond. Should he post bond in the local case, he faces extradition in the Texas case.

\*\*\*\*\*

Matthew R. Thomas, 37, of Neligh, accompanied by his attorney, Michelle Schlecht of Norfolk, appeared for first hearing on a Class 3A felony count of child abuse, alleged Oct. 1, 2023. If convicted of the felony, Thomas faces up to a \$10,000 fine and/or up to three years imprisonment and up to 18 months post-release supervision. Bond is continued at \$100,000, 10%.

\*\*\*\*\*

Larry D. Humphrey, 70, of

Meadow Grove appeared for further arraignment on a count of theft by deception, less than \$500, alleged Oct. 19, 2023. Humphrey pleaded not guilty. Taylor set pretrial hearing March 6. Humphrey is represented by Carney.

\*\*\*\*\*

Further arraignment for Tyler J. Bredvick, 28, of Butte, who is charged with a Class 2 misdemeanor, driving under suspension, is continued to March 20. Bredvick is represented by Carney.

\*\*\*\*\*

Arraignment for Krisi Douglas, 39, of Petersburg, on allegations of three felony counts of writing bad checks, is continued to March 6.

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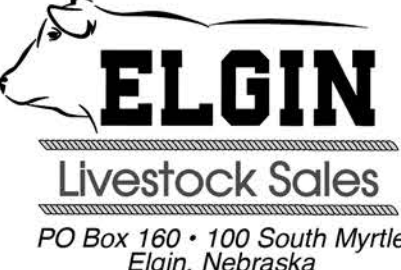
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4-H Enrollment is Now Open!  
Written By: Tessa Hain, 4-H Youth Development Coordinator  
Did you know that last year 385 4-H'ers learned new skills, experienced new learning opportunities, stepped outside of their comfort zone and gained self-confidence through participating in the Antelope County 4-H program? The Antelope County 4-H program is proud to have a close-knit community of 4-H families that help each other learn and grow while taking part in fun, memorable projects and events.  
If you are not familiar with 4-H, 4-H is the largest youth organization in the world that has opportunities for youth ages 5-18 years old as of January 1st. In 4-H, youth participate in projects, contests, workshops, events, and club settings, learning

valuable life skills while pursuing their interests and hobbies. There are over 150 different projects 4-H'ers can choose from, so there is something for everyone's interests. Just to name a few: rockets, shooting sports, fashion revue, gardening, cake decorating, dogs, rabbits, welding, cooking, sewing, visual arts and so much more.  
4-H is also a great organization for adults wanting to give back and work with youth! With a growing 4-H program, we are in need of volunteers! Volunteers can lead workshops or a project area, help at the county fair or other 4-H events, lead or co lead a club or just help an individual 4-H member on their 4-H project. We love it when volunteers share their time and talents to our youth because it creates a unique bond where

learning is occurring from both sides of the relationship. Youth can never have too many positive role models in their lives.  
It's not too late to enroll in 4-H for the year. Enrollment is currently open and we strongly encourage all youth and adults to enroll by April 1st. An Enrollment Help Night has been set for Tuesday, March 26 from 4:00-6:00 p.m. at the Antelope County Courthouse Basement Meeting Room. Enrollment information can also be found online at: <https://extension.unl.edu/statewide/antelope/join-4-h-online-enrollment/>. 4-H is a great, youth organization that we would love to help you and your families get involved in. If you have any questions about 4-H our office is here to help you! Nebraska Extension-Antelope Co 402-887-5414 or email Tessa Hain at [tharms2@unl.edu](mailto:tharms2@unl.edu). We look forward to serving you.

## Planning for early season forage

With Nebraska Extension, I'm Ben Beckman.  
Spring is fast approaching and producers looking for a bit of extra forage to supplement low hay stocks this year may consider planting a spring crop. Spring oats are one option that can be planted early, produce a large amount of high-quality forage, and are adaptable to fit for your particular system.  
Typically in northeast Nebraska, planting dates for oats range from the middle of March

into late April. This gives us a window to plan for, but ideally, soil temperatures should be the ultimate factor for putting seed in the ground. Oats germinate when soil temperatures are above 40°F. When we hit that milestone and are past the danger of a killing frost, planting can commence.  
Seed at a rate of 60-80 lbs/ac on dryland and up to 100 lbs/ac on irrigated fields to get maximum production. 40-60 lbs of nitrogen can also boost yields, though with high fertilizer prices, a smaller rate or alternative nutrient source like manure may be worth consideration. With the right conditions, oats can support 1 to 2 cows per acre for several months, or provides the flexibility to harvest as hay, green chop, or silage. If allowed to grow to maturity, production of 2-2.5 ton/acre are common.  
Once they begin growth, oats can come on fast. If grazing, be prepared to turn out once plants get around 5-6 inches in height, usually around mid to late May. If left unused, plants can quickly grow up to a foot and mature

in no time. At this point the plant will be trying to initiate seed production, so if grazed, regrowth may be limited. Keeping plants vegetative and grazing before they reach 8 inches in height keeps new growth occurring and will stretch the grazable period out.  
Oats can be mixed with other forage species to add diversity and further extend the grazing period. Brassicas like turnip, collards, and canola can provide high quality forage, but will tend to mature quickly and bolt as temperatures warm, so grazing early and often is recommended. Legumes like spring pea can decrease nitrogen demand and provide forage, while vetch may be added purely for its nitrogen benefits.  
From a grass standpoint, other spring grains like triticale and barley can add production

and extended grazing. Annual ryegrass is another option to consider that pairs well with oats. Ryegrass grows rapidly later in the spring, usually around early June, about the time oats are slowing down. With enough water, it's a high quality forage that can provide grazing opportunity well into the summer and into the fall. To seed an oat/ryegrass mix, 60-70 lbs/oats per acre along with 15-20 lbs/ryegrass per acre should provide a good mix. Growth might be a bit slower to initiate, so grazing may need to be a bit lighter to in the beginning. However, the extended grazing period into the summer will more than made up a slower start.  
For Nebraska Extension, I'm Ben Beckman

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**Elgin Community Center group proves morning exercise pays off!**

News Channel Nebraska (NCN) and Medica have been encouraging good health and well-being across the state and have been sponsoring Stretch Across Nebraska, asking people and groups to submit videos of their workouts. The Elgin Community Center exercise group, doing "Frogs" for 21 years, submitted a video on the suggestion of Lee Sullivan and with the help of Margaret Jensen. Their video was chosen this past week. On behalf of the group, \$500 is being donated to a school activity where both schools' students participate together (ie Wolfpack activity, FFA). The group, led by Mary Jane Boes, meets on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at 9:30 a.m. and they are also active with other community projects around Elgin. Pictured are, l-r: Mary Jane Boes, Vida Sprout, NCN representative Michael J. Anthony aka Mookie, Joan Schindler, Lee Sullivan, Sharon Wilkinson and JoAnn Dinslage. Thanks for allowing your workouts to benefit our youth!

Photo submitted



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Baylee Busted (l) and Chloe Henn (r) finished second in duet at the NVC Speech Meet last week.

EPS

FROM Page 5  
aldson in Humorous and Zoey Buechter in Poetry.  
Earning Excellent Ratings were Ruby Durre in Poetry and Donaldson in Extemp.  
According to coaches Jessie Reestman and Stacy Shumake-Henn, the day provided some solid opponents.

PJCC speech team brings home medals



Photos submitted  
A senior, Jack Barlow placed sixth in Humorous Prose at the Lutheran High Northeast speech meet held Friday at Norfolk.



Pope John XXIII Central Catholic High School speech team member Reese Stuhr. Reese placed fourth in Serious Prose at the Niobrara Valley Conference (NVC) Speech Meet held last week.

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Earning runner-up medals in OID at the NVC and Howells Speech Invites were the EPS team of (l-r): Brenna Martinsen, Baylee Busted, Chloe Henn, Kayton Zwingman and Callie Heithoff.

Photos submitted

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Get To Know The **FEBRUARY** Wolfpack

**ATHLETE OF THE MONTH**  
/ **SAMUEL HEMENWAY**  
WRESTLER, 190#

**Q&A**

**What got you interested in the sport of wrestling?**  
Wrestling- it's kind of a family thing. My dad wrestled his freshman year at Pope John. My uncle was a two-time state champ and my other one was a one-time state champ and a state runner up. So I always knew I was a wrestler.

**If you were trying to talk someone into trying the sport, what are some of the things you would talk about?**  
The biggest thing is we're like a family. The wrestling sport is a family. You're all suffering to cut weight, you don't eat; you all become one you know. You see each other at your worst and at your best. The good times outweigh the bad.

**What is your favorite season of the year?**  
Fall, because of the harvest. In the Fall you get to see all the hard work that you've done pay off.

**What did the moment feel like winning a state medal this year?**  
It just felt kind of different. Having been to state last year, I knew what it felt like not to get a medal. When I won my quarterfinal match and knew I had won a medal, it felt like a weight lifted off my shoulder.

**You need help and the main character on the last TV show you watched has to come to your aid. Who is going to rescue you?**  
Nicolas from Purple Hearts

**What is one thing about yourself that people who don't know you would be surprised**

**about?**  
I'm a pretty talkative person, but sometimes I don't really like to talk. If I don't know you, it takes me a little awhile. I'm a pretty nervous guy when it comes to that.

**If they awarded Olympic medals for things that are not sports related, what would you most likely medal in?**  
The best baling award in the Farm Olympics, who can bale the best. I'm a pretty good baler. I love it. OR Welding shop class. I love to build things and work with my hands, kind of like being a blacksmith. I got that from my dad.

**What is one talent you wish you had that you do not possess?**  
To be able to lift high amounts of weights in the weight room.

**What would be your ideal vacation?**  
A cabin in Montana with a sunset while overlooking a pasture with cattle in it.

**What is your favorite meal that mom makes? And, someday would you have your wife take lessons from her on how to make it?**  
Oh, all of them. But if I had to pick a favorite, it probably would be brisket on the grill and a sweet potato casserole with brown sugar and pecans on top. Yes, unless she's a naturally good cook and can do it herself. There's certain stuff she's probably just got to learn. My mom learned from my dad's mom on how to cook stuff. She learned how to can from grandma.

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# Good Luck AT STATE WOLFPACK GIRLS!



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### OTHER UPCOMING SCHOOL-RELATED ACTIVITIES

Feb. 28 ESU8 HS Quiz Bowl • Riverside Speech Meet  
March 1 NO SCHOOL  
March 3 St. Bonaventure Breakfast/Raffle  
March 5 FFA CDE District Contest #2 @ Sargent  
March 8 NO SCHOOL • Elgin KC Fish Fry  
March 11 PJCC District Speech at Scribner-Snyder •  
EHS Speech Night  
March 13 EPS, late start  
March 14 EPS, 1 pm dismissal  
March 15 St. Boniface Spring Benefit Auction  
March 18 NVC Instrument Music @ Verdigre  
March 20 NVC Quiz Bowl @ Wheeler Central  
March 22 Rural St. John's Fish Fry • State Speech

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THE BACK PAGE

Chargers end Wolfpack's season 51 to 45

CEDAR RAPIDS — Up by 13 points midway through the third quarter, Elgin Public-Pope John appeared well on their way to earning another postseason victory.

However, with sports, looks can be deceiving.

Riverside outscored the Wolfpack 35 to 16 the rest of the way to win the D1-5 Subdistrict title with a 51 to 45 victory Thursday night on the Chargers' home court.

The Wolfpack saw their season come crashing to an end, much to the chagrin of Wolfpack fans who filled their side of the gymnasium.

The Chargers capitalized on EPPJ fouls and cold shooting to close the third quarter with a 16 to three run. Tying the score on a Drew Carraher free throw with no time left on the clock.

With eight minutes left on the game, EPPJ put together baskets from Blake Henn and Karson Kallhoff to take a 36 tot 32 lead. The Chargers answered with an 11-0 run over the next 3.5 minutes to build a 43 to 36 lead. Five different players scored during the run as Riverside made all six of their free throws.

Again, Henn and Kallhoff scored on back-to-back possession to pull within three. Then, after two free throws from Charger Jack Molt, EPPJ's Jarek Erickson drained a trey to cut Riverside's lead to 45 to 43 with 1:49 left in the game.

EPPJ would score just two



E-R photo/DMorgan

Kellan Hoefer (l) and Gage Thiessen (r) work to keep Riverside's Dane Schalk off the boards.

more points as the Chargers sealed the victory with two baskets from Dane Schalk and two free throws from Billy Glesinger. The play of the Chargers in the second half was in stark contrast to a first half where they struggled to hit the rim with their shots.

Down 14 to nine after the first quarter, EPPJ put together a solid second quarter as, aside

from Henn and Kallhoff, Nick Anderson and Erickson both hit big three-point shots to give EPPJ a 22 to 16 lead at halftime.

"We had everything going our way in the second and most of the 3rd quarter," Wolfpack Coach Matt Euse said about the game. "We had opportunities but the ball didn't roll our way. We still fought until the final buzzer like we always do. Our boys showed fight and character for 32 straight minutes. When things weren't going our way, we still had great attitudes and played hard. Things didn't go the way we wanted but that's the way life goes. It was a fun and exciting season!"

EPPJ was led in scoring by Henn and Kallhoff, each with 15 points. Erickson led the team in rebounds with nine. The loss

drops the Wolfpack's record to 12-10. Riverside (19-7) was led by Dane Schalk with 14 points, Jack Molt had nine.

**Riverside 51, EPPJ 45**  
Wolfpack.....9 13 10 13 — 45  
Chargers.....14 2 16 19 — 51  
Wolfpack — Blake Henn 6-9 3-4 15, Kellan Hoefer 1-9 0-0 3, Gage Thiessen 0-1 0-0 0, Karson Kallhoff 6-9 0-2 15, Myles Kittelson 0-0 0-0 0, Nick Anderson 1-2 1-2 4, Jarek Erickson 3-6 0-0 8, Dylan Lueking 0-0 0-0 0. Team totals: 17-36 4-8 45. Three-point shots — Wolfpack 7-20 (Karson Kallhoff 3, Jarek Erickson 2, Kellan Hoefer 1, Nick Anderson 1).Team statistics: Rebounds — Wolfpack 20 (Jarek Erickson 9). Assists — Wolfpack 11 (Kellan Hoefer 2, Nick Anderson 2, Jarek Erickson 2, Dylan Lueking 2). Steals — Wolfpack 3. Turnovers — Wolfpack 10.



E-R photo/DMorgan

Senior Blake Henn eyes the basket working against the Cougars.

Fourth quarter comeback lifts EPPJ past Cougars

CEDAR RAPIDS — With their season on the line, Elgin Public-Pope John turned it on in the fourth quarter to defeat Central Valley 39 to 33 in the opening round of subdistricts Tuesday night.

Trailing 30 to 22 to start the fourth quarter, the Wolfpack team and fans came alive on a questionable offensive foul on senior Blake Henn with 6:32 left to go in the game.

The call changed the game. The Wolfpack played off the emotion as first Kellan Hoefer scored, then Jarek Erickson added another basket to cut the lead to 30 to 26 with five minutes left.

Then, after #33 knocked down a trey to push the lead back to seven, Wolfpack sophomore Karson Kallhoff answered with six straight points.

After a defensive stop, the ball ended up in Dylan Lueking's hands who then launched a trey which hit the rim, bounced straight up and then down through the net for the Wolfpack's first lead since

late in the first quarter.

In the final minute, Lueking and Kallhoff added free throws to close out the game.

In the fourth quarter, EPPJ outscored the Cougars 17 to 3. Erickson led EPPJ with 11 points and a team-high eight rebounds.

**EPPJ 39, Central Valley 33**  
Wolfpack.....8 4 10 17 — 39  
Cougars.....10 6 14 3 — 33  
Wolfpack — Blake Henn 1-5 1-5 3, Kellan Hoefer 2-5 3-3 8, Gage Thiessen 0-1 0-0 0, Karson Kallhoff 2-10 3-3 8, Myles Kittelson 0-1 0-0 0, Nick Anderson 1-2 0-0 2, Jarek Erickson 5-8 0-0 11, Dylan Lueking 2-2 2-2 7. Team totals: 13-34 9-13 39. Central Valley's team totals: 15-31 2-3 33. Three-point shots — Wolfpack 4-17 (Dylon Lueking 1, Jarek Erickson 1, Karson Kallhoff 1, Kellan Hoefer 1), Central Valley 1-6.  
Team statistics: Rebounds — Wolfpack 21 (Jarek Erickson 8), Cougars 11. Assists — Wolfpack 4 (Jarek Erickson 2, Karson Kallhoff 2), Cougars NA. Steals — Wolfpack 6 (Kellan Hoefer 2), Cougars 7. Turnovers — Wolfpack 13, Cougars 12.

More Wolfpack Basketball Teams



The Wolfpack 3rd/4th grade girls basketball finished the season 11-4, placing 5th, 2nd, and 3rd in our tournaments. Team members were (back row, l-r): Coaches Lacey Vanis and Kelsey Selting, Brecken Childers, Kinley Selting, Aubrey Starman, Brooke Borer, Molly Mlnarik, Elise Hoefer and Coach Nicole Starman. Front row: Ellie Vanis, Emery Borer, Taryn Schindler, Sage Stoltz and Addison Childers.

Photo submitted



The Wolfpack junior high boys basketball team has had great success, placing in three tournaments this season. The team gathered for a photo after placing third at a tournament in Ord. Team members are (front row, l-r): Evin Pelster, Matthew Kerkman, Raaf Klein and Trey Dredge. Back row: Braedon Hinkle, Christian Preister, Jayvin Erickson, Max Henn, Joseph McNally and Coach Keith Borer.

Photo submitted

Ag & Home Expo starts Tuesday

The 10th annual Antelope County Ag & Home Expo will be held March 5 & 6 in Neligh.

At the Antelope County Fairgrounds for two days, Tuesday hours will be 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.. Wednesday hours will be 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sponsored by the Neligh Chamber of Commerce and the Antelope County Ag Society, there will be more than 50 booths of vendors.

Four special programs will be offered. On March 5, Leigh Alexander of CDS Inspections, will speak on energy savings & healthy homes at 11 a.m.; Steve Pellatz of Common Sense Ag Solutions will discuss carbon & biological effects at 2 p.m. Then on Wednesday, Rachel Uhrenholdt of Midplains Produce will speak on how local food is delicious and important at 11 a.m.; Dr. Theondal of Antelope Memorial Hospital will share his thoughts on navigating cancer screening and what people need to know.

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\*One scholarship will be granted to a 2024 graduating senior and the second will be given to a graduate who is in his/her second or subsequent year of post-secondary education. Each scholarship is valued at \$5,000; preference will be given to students pursuing studies in agriculture or related fields.

**Deadline to apply is April 1<sup>st</sup>.**

For more information or an application, please contact your local school's guidance counselor.

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