



Nashua REPORTER

**Longtime
N-P assistant
receives award
at state
wrestling tourney**
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Vol. 117, Issue 08

23 February 2024

Nashua, IA 50658 • 75 cents

Nashua reduces sheriff's hours in new deal

City, supervisors approve contract that calls for hours of patrol to be reduced from 2,080 to 1,750 hours in new fiscal year

By **BOB FENSKE**
AND **KELLY TERPSTRA**
Of the Reporter

The city of Nashua will continue to contract with the Chickasaw County Sheriff's Office for law enforcement services when the new fiscal year begins July 1, but deputies in all likelihood will be spending less time on the streets of Nashua.

The City Council on Monday voted 3-2 to scale back the number of hours in the contract from 2,080 to 1,750, and the following morning, the Board of Supervisors voted to OK the new contract.

Coupled with the fact that the city won't be faced with a "two-tier" payment plan, Nashua's law enforcement costs will drop by more than \$33,000 in 2024-25.

But that has left Chickasaw County Sheriff Ryan Shawver facing the "\$33,000 question."

Start with the City Council meeting Monday night, when at least one council member wondered aloud if the city should even sign a new contract with the Sheriff's Office; instead, Jake Johnson said he might support just paying what Shawver calls a "drive-through rate" that

smaller cities in the county pay.

Currently, New Hampton is the lone city in the county with its one police department. Two cities — Nashua and Fredericksburg — contract with the Sheriff's Office to receive guaranteed hours

SEE SHERIFF, 2



School district is facing budget challenge, must cut \$500,000

Board members will hear public comment at Wednesday meeting

By **BOB FENSKE**
Of the Reporter

Nashua-Plainfield Superintendent Todd Liechty knows it's not going to be easy to find budget reductions totaling \$500,000, but he is trying to stay as positive as he can.

"We're not cutting any programs, and no one is going to lose their job," he said. "It's obviously never a fun process to go through budget reductions, but our kids are going to have the same opportunities next year as they do this year."

The School Board is scheduled to meet this coming Wednesday at 5 p.m. to take public input on the reductions to the budget for the fiscal year that begins on July 1.

The meeting will be held in the Junior High Commons area, and residents will have an opportunity to share their thoughts with board members and Liechty although there will be a time limit set for those who want to speak.

Liechty said after the board hears comments from the public, he will present his recommendations before the board decides how to proceed.

"I have my suggestions, but it is their decision," he said. "There's no question it's challenging, but our goal, the board's goal, is to do what's best for our kids and our school district."

Liechty said earlier this week that there are a myriad of reasons Nashua-Plainfield is facing its first large-scale budget reduction since the spring of 2018, the year the district decided to close its middle school in Plainfield.

Like many rural school districts, Nashua-Plainfield's enrollment has dropped or, at the very best, remained stagnant. The district also has what its top administrator called a "higher-than-average" salary scale when compared to surrounding school districts. And State Supplemental Aid (SSA) — the amount of money

SEE SCHOOL BUDGET, 3



Bob Fenske/Reporter

U.S. Sen. Charles Grassley makes a point as he talks to employees at Milkhouse Candles in New Hampton on Wednesday during his "99-county tour" of the state he has represented in the Senate since 1981.

IOWA'S INDOMITABLE SENATOR

AFTER TOURING CHICKASAW COUNTY FACTORY, GRASSLEY TOUCHES ON A NUMBER OF ISSUES DURING '99-COUNTY TOUR'

By **BOB FENSKE**
Of the Reporter

Since he first became a United States senator in 1981, Charles Grassley has conducted his "99-county tour" of Iowa each and every year.

In other words, the 90-year-old Grassley has

visited every corner of the state longer than a lot of the folks he talked to Wednesday have been alive.

"First, I want to make it to 90," Milkhouse Candles Chief Operating Officer Nick Sparrow said after leading the nation's "senior" senator on a tour of the New Hampton manufacturing

plant. "Second, if I get there, I want to be in the shape he's in."

The 99-county tour has become part of Grassley's legacy, and after making stops at a hospital in Howard County, a school in Mitchell

SEE SENATOR, 4

Budget riddle still eludes supervisors

After three-hour meeting, board members still have a number of questions to answer

By **BOB FENSKE**
Of the Reporter

For more than three hours on Thursday afternoon, the Chickasaw County Board of Supervisors gave those with number phobias a nightmare that will last for a long, long time.

Back and forth, the four supervisors — Jake Hackman was unable to attend the budget workshop — tried to solve the county's 2024-25 budget dilemma. And while they made some progress, they also set up a meeting in which there could be plenty of fireworks.

Board members cut their own budget by more than \$16,500, banded about raising the General Supplemental (GS) levy by almost a dollar per \$1,000 valuation, discussed the possibility of moving a sheriff's deputy's salary from General Basic (GB) to Rural Services Basic (RSB) and considered backtracking on an earlier deci-

sion to give Secondary Roads 95 percent of the base RSB rate of \$3.00375 per \$1,000 valuation.

Instead, supervisors considered giving Secondary Roads 85 percent of the base, which would drop that funding from \$1.99 million to \$1.78 million, but as board member Matt Kuhn pointed out, supervisors have already earmarked \$600,000 of the county's American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds to the department.

And even with all that, board members still weren't sure if they had solved the issue of having enough money for GB and enough money in that account's reserve to get it through the first three months of the 2025-26 fiscal year. That's important because the county doesn't collect tax revenue until Oct. 1 in any fiscal year.

Last week, the board asked department heads to take

SEE COUNTY BUDGET, 2



Kelly Terpstra/Reporter

State meet intensity

Veteran Nashua-Plainfield wrestling coach Al Frost grimaces over a call that didn't go the Huskies way last week at the Class 1A state wrestling tournament, where the Huskies had four wrestlers medal and earn spots on the podium as they finished 10th in the team race.

SEE STORY, Page 9

Council digs into budget, sets city's max tax levy rate

By **KELLY TERPSTRA**
Of the Reporter

Nashua City Clerk John Ott relayed to city officials some important financial numbers that are critical to the town of Nashua at last Monday's City Council meeting.

Council members approved a proposed maximum tax levy rate that will be submitted to the Iowa Department of Management as well as a pre-levy amount for the \$3.75 million general obligation bond that will help with the city's dam repair.

Ott said the city is authorized to borrow up to \$3.75 million and the numbers he proposed are discussion points and will still have to be finalized on a vote later this year.

"This is a new step that we have for the budget season for Fiscal Year 24-25. We have to submit a proposed tax levy rate to the state of Iowa. They then submit it to the county and then the county has to do a mailer," said Ott. "The nice thing about this is we can send a high-

er number and if the Council decides at a later time that they want to adjust that down...we can certainly do that, but we can't go up. They recommend setting a higher number and then amending it down if you want to later."

Ott said the proposed levy rate with new evaluations show that the city's taxable valuations for non-debt service is \$48,308,778. That valuation went up \$579,866.

The liability property and insurance cost also increased.

"We're estimated to have a 30 percent increase this year. It goes from \$73,000 to \$101,000 next year," said Ott.

The taxable rate without debt levy for FY '24 is \$14.026, but when you throw in the debt levy, it's \$16.47.

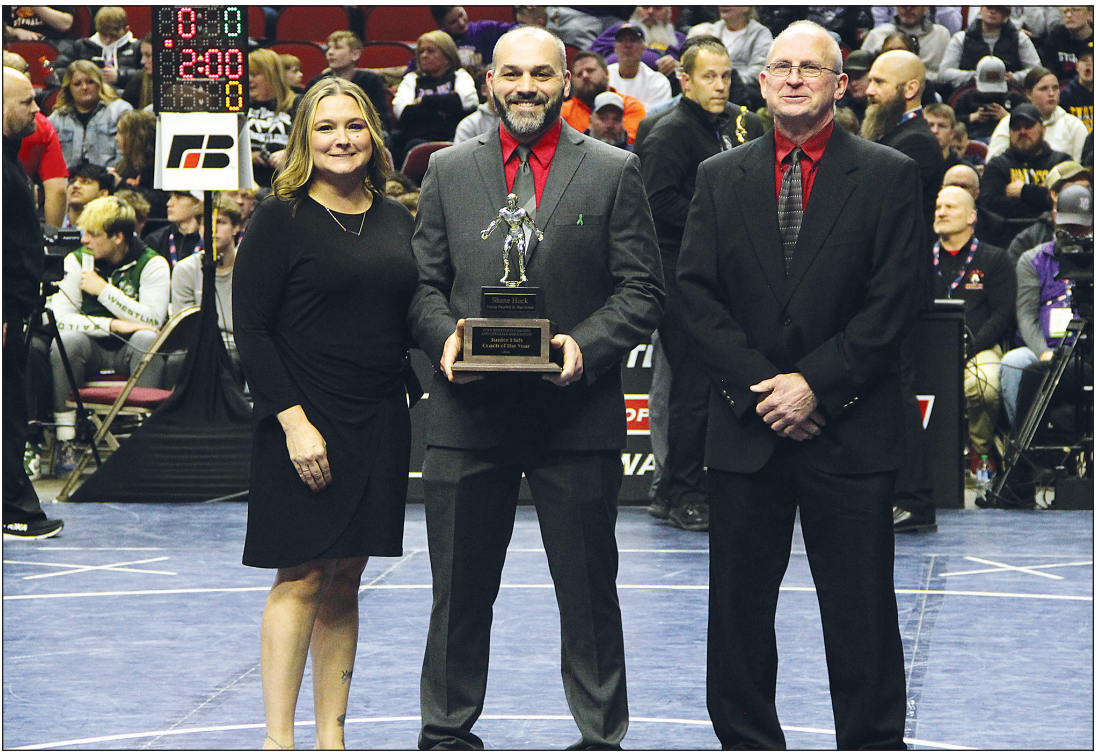
That debt levy is going to increase for FY '25 according to Ott — mainly because of the repair work that will be done on the dam. Nashua's debt service for FY '24 was \$106,704 and next year it's projected to be

SEE CITY COUNCIL, 5

Well-deserved award for N-P’s Huck!

Nashua-Plainfield’s Shane Huck — seen here posing for a picture with his wife, Jessica, and Huskies’ head coach Al Frost — received one of three Junior High Coach of the Year by the Iowa High School Athletic Association Saturday night before the finals of the state wrestling tournament.

Jenn Kalainoff



Supervisor worried progress made Thursday will unravel next week

COUNTY BUDGET: FROM 1

another look at their budgets and cut what they could, and department heads did come up with a total of \$173,123 in reductions. But Auditor Sheila Shekleton told the board that she was worried that with budgets being tight that the county wouldn’t generate enough in unspent budgets to help keep enough of a reserve to get it through the “tax-less” months. That led to a lengthy and, at times, spirited discussion. “I know you have a tough job,” Sheriff Ryan Shawver said, “but as department heads, we need your direction. We need you to tell us what you want. We need a number.” Supervisors discussed raising the GS levy rate from \$1.17233 per \$1,000 valuation a full dollar but eventually settled on a rate around \$2.23 per \$1,000 valuation. “We’re pretty low on GS compared to the majority of counties in Iowa,” Supervisor

Steve Breitbach said. “I know no one likes tax increases but ... we may not have a lot of choice.” Late in January, board members reached a consensus on a RSB rate of around \$3.51 per \$1,000 valuation, an increase of 20 cents from this year’s rate, and Kuhn said that if a deputy was shifted into RSB, he would propose cutting the funds earmarked for Secondary Roads so the rate wouldn’t increase even more. “Unless we want to raise RSB more and I don’t think there’s an appetite for that, I don’t see how you can get around this,” he said. “We’re running out of options ... and time.” That’s because by early next month, the county needs to set a max levy so that it can adhere to a new state law that requires entities like counties, cities and schools to notify by letter all property owners of maximum levies. Board Chairman Scott Cerwinski said one of his goals is to reduce the amount of

money the county transfers from GB to GS, but he also worried about the county’s ability to make it through the beginning of the fiscal year until tax revenue begins flowing into the county. “We still have to find a way to pay the bills,” he said, “so we have to come to some kind of agreement on a [GS] levy that makes everyone happy, or at least that they will support.” Instead of making any final decisions, board members decided to wait until Monday’s meeting to try to put the finishing touches on the budget and see if it indeed had enough of a fund balance in both GB and GS set aside at the end of the 2024-25 budget year to begin the following fiscal year. Kuhn, who will not be at Monday’s meeting, said he was worried that what he called the progress made Thursday would dissipate next week. “We made progress today,” he said, “and I hope it doesn’t get undone on Monday.”

City Council compromises, supervisors OK contract with fewer Sheriff’s Office hours

SHERIFF: FROM 1

of service. Last week, the Board of Supervisors approved raising contract, drive-through and dispatching rates by 10 percent. That took the contracted rates from \$65 to \$71.50 per hour and the drive-through rate, which is tied to the cities’ 2020 Census figures, from \$15 to \$16.50 per resident. “I’m leaning towards doing the drive-thru rate, honestly,” Councilman Jake Johnson said. “I think you guys do a good job, I just don’t know if we need the patrol.” Shawver’s response? “Jake, I don’t know if I’ll agree to that. “Of the 8,168 calls we had for service ... Nashua had the highest percentage of calls.” Johnson replied that he wasn’t saying “you guys are doing a bad job. I’m just trying to look at what we are getting for 140 grand?” Shawver told the council that he was discontinuing the “prepaid overtime” that Nashua has paid for the last two years, meaning that if the city accepted the 2,080 hours of service, its bill for the next fiscal year would drop from \$158,465 to \$148,720. That wasn’t enough for some members of the council, although one member said she was in the “opposite” category. “I’d rather have them patrolling the bigger stuff than somebody’s got an unregistered car in their driveway,” Samantha Johnson said. “The other thing to consider, too, is all of our events throughout next year – Water Over the Dam Days, Winterfest – do you want those to be drive-through or do you want to know that somebody’s here dedicated to those times?” She also wanted her fellow council members to consider what Nashua would be doing if it still had its own police department?

“If we have our own department with one guy, would you be asking him to cut his hours down to 30-35 a week?” Councilman Ernie Willsher first suggested a two-tier approach in which the city contracted for a 1,000 hours and also paid the drive-through rate, the cost to the city would be \$97,091.50. ““You guys would handle our calls anyway,” said Willsher. “That’d be a helluva lot cheaper.” Stanton quickly responded. “I am,” he said. “I wrote down before I got here that project manager would be 5 percent and the bonding fee of 3 percent. ... I’d make you a new, very simplified, spreadsheet, and say here we go. I can get simply get this down to seven lines in about three minutes.” Board members agreed and reached a consensus to have Stanton return to the board on Monday to give the county a final number. The key issue for the county is that the estimate must be under \$196,000 for the county to be able to continue with it. If it’s higher than that number, then the county would have to follow more specific state laws for higher-cost building projects. “I know that between Mike Shekleton, me and Lester Glaser aren’t going anywhere,” Stanton said. “We’ll get the job done and it’ll be right.” Stanton was asked if he could have that spreadsheet back to the board by Monday? “I can,” he said. “I want to keep everything rolling, and so when I talk to people and saying we’re doing this that everything’s in line.”

Board moves closer to giving final OK for ambulance station remodel

By Bob Fenske
Of the Reporter

The Chickasaw County Board of Supervisors took a step forward with the plans to remodel Chickasaw County EMS’ ambulance station so that it will have living quarters. If supervisors do give the go-ahead for the project, it looks like the county is going to pass on using the company that designed the remodeling project as its construction manager. Instead, when Stanton Electric owner Chuck Stanton told board members Tuesday that he would be interested in serving as the “project manager, construction manager or whatever you want to call it,” board members expressed enthusiastic interest. The four “winning” subcontractor bids were from Country Carpentry, Mic’s Plumbing and Heating, Stanton Electric and Midwest Flooring. “Would you be interested,” Stanton said, “in taking the construction management fee out and having a local person do it?” When asked by Supervisor Matt Kuhn if he was interested,



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Robert Richard Thran, 94

Robert Richard Thran, age 94 of Nashua, died Thursday, Feb. 15, 2024, at Waverly Health Center in Waverly.

Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. Friday, April 12, 2024, at St. John Lutheran Church, Nashua with the Rev. Todd Burrichter presiding.

Military honors will take place outside the church following the service. Private family interment will take place at a later date.

Friends may greet the family 9:30 to 11 a.m. prior to the service at the church on Friday, April 12, 2024, at the church.

A memorial marker will be placed in St. Paul's Cemetery at Readlyn with scattering of cremated remains among Bob's favorite places commemorating life in Readlyn and Bremer County.

Memorials may be directed to St John Lutheran Church, Nashua, and The Readlyn Historical Society.

Hugeback-Johnson Funeral Home & Crematory/Olson Chapel in Nashua have been entrusted with Bob's arrangements.

Bob was born in Readlyn on Sept. 20, 1929, the son of Oscar and Loueen Diekmann Thran.

He attended St. Paul's Lutheran Parochial School and graduated from Readlyn High School in 1947. He attended Iowa State Teachers College in 1947 and 1948, and the University of Iowa from 1948 to 1951.

Bob was drafted into the U.S. Army Sept., 10, 1951, and served with the Forty-Fifth Infantry Division in Korea during the Korean War. He was discharged in May of 1953.

Bob married Gerda Franken of Allison on May 23, 1954. They were divorced in 1986 but remained friends. He worked for Philip Morris, Lutheran Mutual, and Rath Packing Company.

Bob attended Wartburg College from 1958 to 1959, graduating in May 1959 with a degree in education. He taught German and later became a guidance counselor at Williamsburg High School.

He was Personnel director at Amana Refrigeration 1965-69 and earned a master's degree in



Bob Thran

psychology from the University of Montana 1971.

Bob returned to counseling at Valley of Elgin and Tri-County of Thornburg, before serving as guidance counselor at Nashua High School from 1973 until his retirement in 1991.

Bob delivered Winnebago motorhomes throughout North America from 1995 to 2016. In later years, Bob wrote about the history of Readlyn for the Readlyn Chronicle.

Bob enjoyed traveling to Germany to visit friends and relatives, and speaking to German students in English classes about life in America and also enjoying visiting in German with older Germans, especially those who survived World War II.

Bob was an enthusiastic researcher of the history of Readlyn and was sometimes referred to as "The Readlyn Historian."

As a University of Iowa alumnus, Bob was a dedicated Iowa Hawkeye fan for pver 80 years, having seen Nile Kinnick play in 1938 when Bob was 9 years old.

Robert Thran is survived by a son, Eric, of Des Moines; a son, Tony, of Nashua; one granddaughter, Jessica Pfitzer, of Marquette, Michigan; two great-grandchildren, Julia and Josiah; and three nephews, Mark, David and Mike and Jennifer Tomson, Fairfield, California.

He was preceded in death by his parents; a brother, Richard; a sister, Carol; and a nephew, Jon Tomson.

*"A life well-lived
...A job well-done ..."*

David Allen Kornike, 66

David Allen Korinke, age 66 of Nashua, died Thursday, Feb. 22, 2024, at the Rehabilitation Center of Allison.

No formal services will be held at this time.

Hugeback-Johnson Funeral Home & Crematory/Olson Chapel in Nashua have been entrusted with arrangements.

Briefs

Welcome Center to celebrate 15th anniversary on Saturday

The Gateway to Northeast Iowa Welcome Center will celebrate its 15th anniversary this Saturday with an open house set for 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The center, which is located just off the Avenue of the Saints exit into Nashua, opened its doors in 2009.

Roger's Pies and "A Kneaded Break" will be held in the the lobby and Welcome Center officials are encouraging residents to come to the event and celebrate a facility that attracts visitors who are literally from all parts of the country.

Bethany students to perform at churches

The "Virtuosity Tour," featuring students majoring in Music at Bethany Lutheran College, will put on programs at a pair of Lutheran churches in Chickasaw County next week.

Students from Bethany, which is located in Mankato, Minnesota, are set to visit New Hampton's Redeemer Lutheran Church at 5 p.m. on Saturday, March 2, and rural Lawler church Saude Lutheran at 1 p.m. on Sunday March 3.

The shows will feature solos or duets highlighting performances on the piano, organ, voice, clarinet, and flute. There is no admission fee for the concerts, but a freewill donation will be taken at each location to help with tour expenses.

The students are directed by Professor of Music Benjamin Faugstad, who is the brother of Pastor Peter Faugstad, who serves both Redeemer and Saude, as well as Jerico Lutheran Church.



Bob Fenske/Reporter

Nashua-Plainfield Elementary School students walk through the doors on the first day of classes this past August, and while the district is facing the challenge of coming up with \$500,000 in budget reductions, school administrators and School Board members say no programs will be cut and no one will lose their jobs when the process is completed.

Superintendent to make budget reduction recommendations

SCHOOL BUDGET: FROM 1

school districts receive per student — has not kept pace with inflation.

Leichty was quick to point out that the \$3.279 million project to construct baseball and softball diamonds in Plainfield have nothing to do with the fact the district has to go through budget reductions for 2024-25.

"It's the question I know some people are going to ask. 'How can you afford a \$3 million project for the diamonds and then have to cut the budget,'" Leichty said, "and the answer is simple but not so easy to understand: They come from two different funds."

The bonds for the diamond project will be paid back with funds from the district's SAVE fund, which is supported by the State Penny for Infrastructure, and SAVE funds can not be used to pay for things like staff salaries and benefits, curriculum and programming.

Instead, those items must come out of

the general fund, which is where the budget reductions are being considered, and since 80 percent of the General Funds is made up of salaries and benefits, that, Leichty said, puts "salaries under a microscope."

Leichty's recommendations are a varied lot, topped off by moving the district's Teacher and Leadership Compensation (TLC) funds into the General Fund, which will account for \$213,000 in savings. He also is recommending the district not replace two retiring teachers and to absorb another staff member's reduction from full-time to part-time status.

Nashua-Plainfield will also generate some savings with the fact that its new "superintendent partner" will pay more of the superintendent's salary and benefits than its old one did.

The district has shared a superintendent with Rockford since 2018, but beginning next year, the district will share its top administrator with Tripoli while Rockford has signed a superintendent sharing

agreement with Garner-Hayfield-Ventura. Nashua-Plainfield has paid 70 percent of the superintendent's contract with its Rockford sharing agreement but that number will drop to 60 percent when it begins sharing agreement with Tripoli July 1.

Leichty is also recommending to the board that it save more than \$80,000 by only paying for a teacher's health insurance premium and not paying teachers an additional stipend that covers the difference between its contract and the health insurance premium.

"None of this is easy, budget reductions never are," said Leichty, who is retiring at the end of this school year and will be placed by current Tripoli Superintendent Jay Marley, "but it's important for our board to hear from residents so they can make the best decisions they can. All we're asking is that people be respectful and understand that we're here to find the best possible solution we can with the challenges we're facing."

Everybody Hurts to bring 'amazing' film, story to area residents

By BOB FENSKE
Of the Reporter

A local non-profit organization that focuses on mental health awareness and suicide prevention will hold a free screening next month of a documentary film that chronicles the life of a teenager who was paralyzed by a suicide attempt that propelled her on a mission to use her experience to help others.



Benoit

Everybody Hurts will show the film "My Ascension" on Tuesday, March 5, in the New Hampton Middle School gym — i.e., the old competition gym — and the event begins at 5 p.m. with a free-will donation meal. At 6 p.m., the documentary will air, and following the showing, the subject of the film will hold a discussion on youth suicide prevention and mental health wellness.

"My Ascension" tells the story of Emma Benoit, a Louisiana 16-year-old who attempted suicide in June 2017. She survived the attempt but was paralyzed, which led her to bring Hope Squad, a school-based suicide prevention program, to her home state.

The film also shares the stories of two remarkable young people who tragically did not survive their attempts, and we learn first-hand from their families, friends, school officials and suicide prevention experts about the devastating effects of suicide and what can be done to prevent it.

Dawn Heying, whose daughter Brittney died from suicide in 2020, started Everybody Hurts and said that she heard Benoit speak last year during an

appearance in Cedar Falls.

"Her story is just amazingly good," Heying said, "and I think it's important that we hear it. The film itself stands on its own, but to have Emma here I think will really make an impact on our people."

Everybody Hurts holds an annual 5K run/walk each April

— this year's is scheduled to take place on Friday, April 26 — and uses funds raised from the event to not only host events like Benoit's film and visit but also to help area families struggling with mental health issues and to provide scholarships to area residents studying to enter the mental health field.

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Council gets update on two 'nuisance' properties

CITY COUNCIL: FROM 1

almost \$395,000.

"What we're proposing is \$12.28 without the debt levy, but with the debt levy it's \$20.34," said Ott. "That debt levy is kind of what's killing us. Our taxes actually look pretty good except for the dam repair."

Ott plans for a first-year payment of \$300,000 to begin to pay off the geo bond.

"This is kind of what I went with. I went with a high of a \$302,500 payment, which adds \$6.06 to the levy. So on a house that's \$100,000 valuation, it's \$280.98," said Ott. "We can always change that. The interest rates are 5.06 percent. That's kind of what they're estimated now, but we don't know what's going to happen until we actually get the bond."

Nashua Mayor Hal Kelleher informed the Council that Zone 1 inspections for nuisance properties have been completed and that process went well. Council member Jake Johnson recommended that the mayor make a list of properties that have been notified and the city workers could follow up on those in a couple weeks.

Ott gave an update on two nuisance properties at 311 Main St. and 313 Main St.

"Three-hundred-eleven is willing to give up the building to the city. That's kind of in the works now," said Ott. "Three-

hundred-thirteen, I believe the petition now has been filed."

Ott said the 313 Main St. property owner lives in Arizona. "That process is probably going to take a bit longer, but things are in the works for both of those properties," said Ott.

Kelleher reminded that if one property has to be torn down, so does the other.

"Of course we can't do 313 without 311," said Kelleher.

Ott also brought up the idea of redesigning the city's website.

"I was thinking that maybe one of the things that the Council may consider doing with the ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act) funds is redesigning the website or just using some of the budgeted money," said Ott. "I would guess the cost would be between \$3,000 and \$5,000, but I don't have any idea. I'll get bids."

Johnson made a request to have the minutes posted on the new website as a continuous document for easy search capabilities.

The next scheduled Nashua City Council meeting is slated for Monday, March 4.

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Legal Notice

THE IOWA DISTRICT COURT FOR Chickasaw COUNTY IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF Sandra Szalkowski, Deceased CASE NO. ESPR003196 NOTICE OF PROBATE OF WILL, OF APPOINTMENT OF EXECUTOR, AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS

To All Persons Interested in the Estate of Sandra Szalkowski, Deceased, who died on or about February 4, 2024:

You are hereby notified that on February 7, 2024, the Last Will and Testament of Sandra Szalkowski, deceased, bearing date of April 7, 2023, was admitted to probate in the above named court and that Jeffrey Szalkowski was appointed Executor of the estate. Any action to set aside the will must be brought in the district court of said county within the later to occur of four months from the date of the second publication of this notice or one month from the date of mailing of this notice to all heirs of the decedent and devisees under the will whose identities are reasonably ascertainable, or thereafter be forever barred.

Notice is further given that all persons indebted to the estate are requested to make immediate payment to the undersigned, and creditors having claims against the estate shall file them with the clerk of the above named district court, as provided by law, duly authenticated, for allowance, and unless so filed by the later to occur of four months from the date of the second publication of this notice or one month from the date of mailing of this notice (unless otherwise allowed or paid) a claim is thereafter forever barred.

Dated 2/8/2024
Jeffrey Szalkowski,
Executor of Estate
458 Lezlie Drive, #6
Peosta, IA 52068

Christine B. Skilton,
ICIS#: AT0007262
Attorney for Executor
Cronin, Skilton & Skilton, P.L.L.C.,
205 Brasher Street
P.O. Box 39
Nashua, IA 50658-0039
Date of second publication:
March 1, 2024

No. 23697
2/23/24 3/1/24

No. 23644
2/16/24 2/23/24

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CHICKASAW COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS' MINUTES February 12, 2024

The Board convened on Monday, February 12, 2024, at 9:00 AM with members Breitbach, Kuhn, Suckow and Cervinske present in the Boardroom on the second floor of the Court House, New Hampton, Iowa. Absent: Hackman. Chairperson Cervinske called the meeting to order. Also present were Auditor Sheila Shekleton, Attorney David Laudner, Bob Fenske, member of media, Sheriff Ryan Shawver, EMS Director Joel Knutson, Conservation Director Chad Humpal, EMA/911 Coordinator Jeff Bernatz, Riverview Center Sarah Wennes and Sam Blatt.

Motion by Kuhn, seconded by Breitbach to approve the agenda for February 12, 2024. Roll Call: Ayes; Kuhn, Breitbach, Suckow, Cervinske. Absent: Hackman. Motion carried.

Motion by Suckow, seconded by Breitbach to approve the meeting minutes from February 5, 2024. Roll Call: Ayes; Suckow, Breitbach, Kuhn, Cervinske. Absent: Hackman. Motion carried.

Motion by Kuhn, seconded by Suckow to send out a letter to rescind the IRFP that went out to Iowa Governmental Health Care Plan (IGHCP). Assured Partners, and Cottingham & Butler for health benefit consultants' services. Roll Call: Ayes; Kuhn, Suckow, Breitbach, Cervinske. Absent: Hackman. Motion carried.

No public comment.
Budget Work Session
Riverview Center-budget request
Motion by Kuhn, seconded by Cervinske to approve drive through rate of \$16.05 per capital and contract hourly rate of \$72.00 for the 28 E Agreement for Law Enforcement Services between the Cities and Sheriff Department for FY24-25. Roll Call: Ayes; Kuhn and Cervinske. Nays: Breitbach and Suckow. Absent: Hackman. Motion failed.

Motion by Kuhn, seconded by Breitbach to recommend paying for new servers out of the 911 Service Board budget and start the process of closing out the bond by May 1, 2024. Roll Call: Ayes; Kuhn, Breitbach, Suckow, Cervinske. Absent: Hackman. Motion carried.

oment Assistance Contract between Chickasaw County and Leonard's Locker, LLC. The consensus of the board is to have Attorney David Laudner make changes.

Discussed updates on the Environment Covenant for the Landfill.

Motion by Kuhn, seconded by Breitbach to enter CLOSED SESSION UNDER IOWA CODE 21.5(1)(C) FOR DISCUSSION ON POTENTIAL LITIGATION RELATED TO THE AMBULANCE at 9:45 AM. Roll Call: Ayes; Kuhn, Breitbach, Suckow, Cervinske. Absent: Hackman. Motion carried.

Motion by Breitbach, seconded by Suckow to exit CLOSED SESSION UNDER IOWA CODE 21.5(1)(C) FOR DISCUSSION ON POTENTIAL LITIGATION RELATED TO THE AMBULANCE at 10:15 AM Roll Call: Ayes; Breitbach, Suckow, Kuhn Cervinske. Absent: Hackman. Motion carried.

No action out of close session.

Budget work session

Motion by Kuhn, seconded by Breitbach to approve claims in the amount of \$137,123.14. Roll Call: Ayes; Kuhn, Breitbach, Suckow, Cervinske. Absent: Hackman. Motion carried.

Motion by Suckow, seconded by Breitbach to approve prior bill in the amount of \$120.00. Roll Call: Ayes; Suckow, Breitbach, Kuhn, Cervinske. Absent: Hackman. Motion carried.

Motion by Kuhn, seconded by Breitbach to approve payroll, check dated February 9, 2024. Roll Call: Ayes; Kuhn, Breitbach, Suckow, Cervinske. Absent: Hackman. Motion carried.

Committee Assignments

Supervisor Suckow, Iowa Governmental Health Care Plan (IGHCP), February 8 & 9.

Motion by Suckow, seconded by Breitbach to adjourn at 10:28 AM. Roll Call: Ayes; Suckow, Breitbach, Kuhn, Cervinske. Absent: Hackman. Motion carried.

Scott Cervinske, Chairperson
Board of Supervisors
ATTEST: Sheila Shekleton, Secretary to the Board

No. 23695
2/22/24 2/23/24



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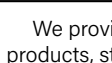
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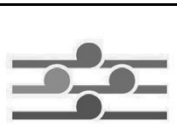
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Husky newcomers get a ‘taste’ of state in effort to get on medal stand

STATE MEET: FROM 9

though he was seeded second – didn’t get a particularly favorable draw with Jacobsen on his side of the bracket. Jacobsen, who finished sixth at state this past week, almost defeated Rinken at the district meet before the Husky star rallied for an incredible, 7-6, decision.

“They’ve wrestled each other since junior high – three to four to five times a year,” said Frost.

It wasn’t just Rinken that saw difficult matchups much earlier than N-P thought they would encounter – but that’s the state tournament sometimes.

“The places we were sitting in the bracketing were tough,” said Frost. “If we lost a match we ended up coming back in a situation with some of the other best kids in the bracket. They were circumstances beyond your control sometimes.”

Frost had this to say about Rinken injury-defaulting out of the tournament on Day Two.

“Individually, I hated to see him not compete and at least try to get a medal, but as far as the team aspect goes – that wasn’t a consideration at all because we were probably not going to be in a favorable position to be in the top three anyway,” said Frost.

While it may have been next to impossible for the Huskies to claim another third-place trophy like they did last winter at the traditional state meet, what the Huskies dealt with this time around didn’t seem fair on any number of levels.

Bottom line – seeds and placement in a bracket matter quite a bit more than people might realize.

Regardless, Don Bosco once again ruled the roost in Class 1A with 183.5 points – the sixth-consecutive state traditional title the Dons have won.

Clearly, the top three teams distinguished themselves in downtown Des Moines and it was basically a dogfight as to see who would finish fourth in 1A – which the Huskies did earlier in the month at state duals.

Don Bosco is now tied with Lisbon with 16 titles for second place all-time to Waterloo West’s 17 championships. The top three in the small-school standings ended up being Alburnett (152) and Wilton (144). The three schools combined to reel in five individual state championships at those grappler’s respective weight classes.

“We would have had to have many more wins and some higher places – that’s just saying if Jayden would have won – to even make a top-three finish,” said Frost.

Evans (30-2), seeded second in his 175-pound weight class, entered the tournament undefeated but lost in the semifinal round for the second consecutive year to No. 3 Jace Nelson-Brown (38-5), who prevented Evans from reaching the finals with a 10-1 major decision. Brown stopped Evans in sudden victory in the exact same scenario in 2023 by a score of 4-2. The two wrestled at regional duals this winter and Evans won by injury default after Nelson-Brown hurt his knee in the hyped showdown.

“That would have been nice if we could have had a full match and had a little bit more sense of what he did,” said Frost about Nelson-Brown’s injury default.

Evans defeated Gatlin Rogers (43-10) of Wilton two times at state, the last being a pin in just 37 seconds in the medal match. Evans pinned Rogers in 2:35 in the quarters.

Evans was upset by West Hancock’s Creighton Kelly (34-5) with a chance to wrestle for third place on the line in the consolation semis on Saturday. Kelly shocked Evans with a first-period pin in just 1:43. Evans had defeated Kelly three times in the regular season – 11-7, 8-4 and 11-9 in their last meeting prior to state at the Doug Trees Bearcat Invitational.

“Losing to that Kelly – I’m not saying it wasn’t legit – but that was kind of fluke. He got in a pickle,” said Frost.

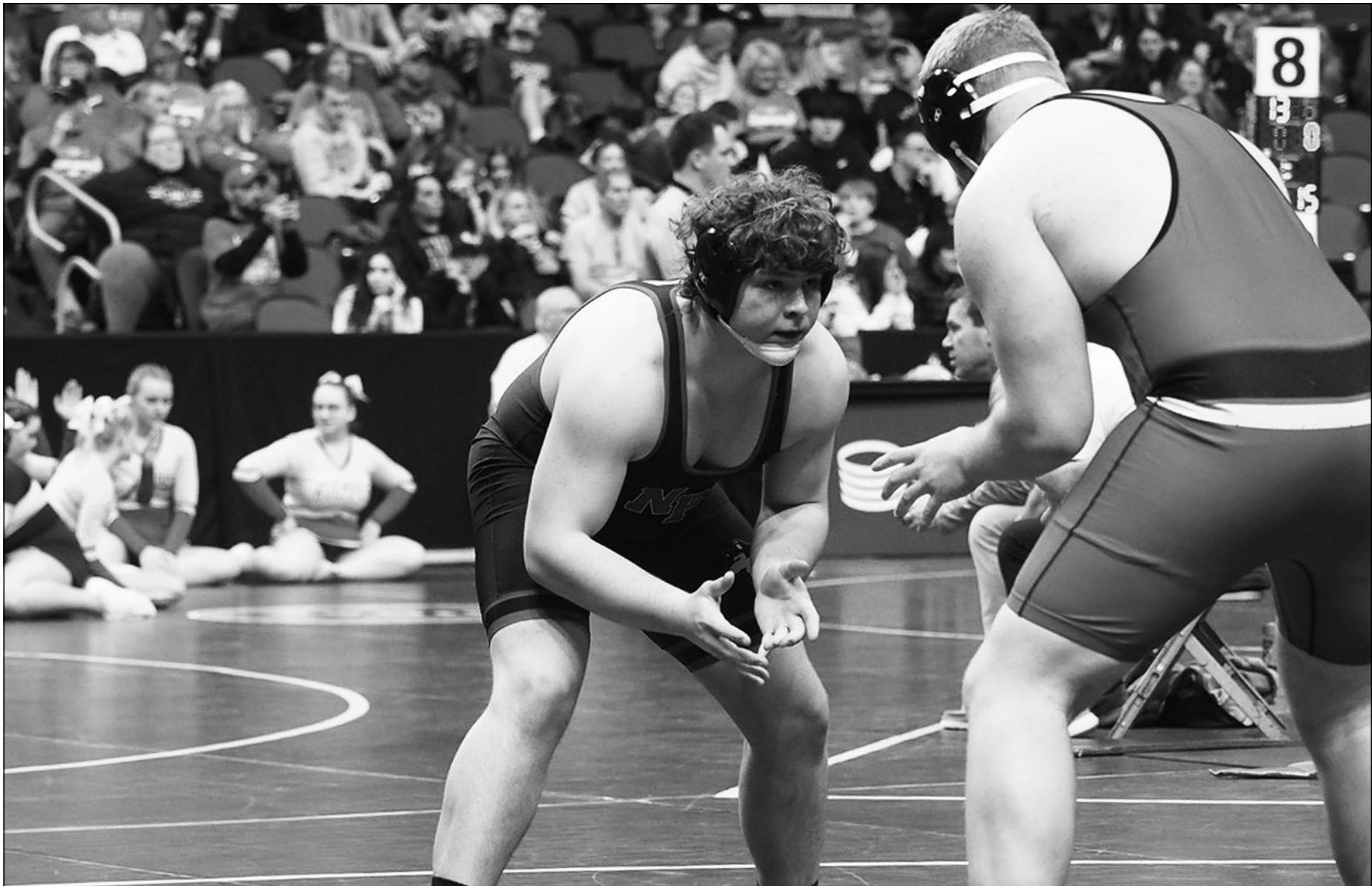
White, seeded fifth in his 190-pound bracket, finished a remarkable senior season with a record of 46-6. His chance at wrestling alongside Evans from Friday in the semifinals was dashed in a wild 9-7 loss to No. 4 seed Landon Fernandez (30-4) of Don Bosco in the quarters.

“We definitely out-wrestled the guy in that match – two to one. Unfortunately, the better guy didn’t win,” said Frost.

Fernandez came out the victor in a very controversial match that saw Frost get heated after a White takedown near the edge of the mat was taken off the board and reversed that would have made the score 5-5 headed into the final period. Fernandez earned a takedown with five seconds remaining to survive in a match that could have gone either way, it was that close. “He was right in there with several matches, especially the Don Bosco match,” said Frost about White. “That was another one of those controversial situations where every point mattered and the kid stalled and played the edge of the mat. We get a couple points that get taken back away. It was just a combination of a lot of tough things.”

White, like Evans, lost in the consolation semis to No. 3 Nathan Beitz (46-3) of Maquoketa Valley, 2-1.

“We just couldn’t quite get things together,” said Frost. “We had every



Kelly Terpstra/Reporter

Nashua-Plainfield junior Isaac Jones (285) wrestles Jonah Reiling of Lisbon on Thursday at the state wrestling tournament in Des Moines while freshman Connor Sullivan (bottom left) competes at 106 pounds against Eli Rieb of Alta/Aurelia and Husky sophomore Tyler Zimmer (bottom right) gets tangled up in his 138-pound first-round match on Wednesday versus Holden Koele of Woodbury Central.



Kelly Terpstra/Reporter

N-P cheerleaders (left to right) Hannah Percy, Annabel McDonald, Payton Howland and Rayne Boehmer cheer on the Huskies at state.

opportunity to get an escape point right at the end of the match with like five seconds to go to at least tie it up. We just didn’t convince the referee that it was an escape. That was just another close call within seconds of at least getting it to overtime.”

White bounced back with an 8-3 decision over Drew Lansing of Wapsie Valley in his placing bout. White wrestled in six matches and won four of them (two against Hinton’s Jacob Bishop).

“He’s a top-three caliber wrestler. You gotta prove it in every match,” said Frost about White.

No. 3 Nic Brase, a junior, was wrestling with a heavy heart as he lost his grandfather on Sunday, right before the start of the tournament. Brase (44-5) placed seventh and is now a two-time state placewinner after he earned a fifth-place finish last year at the same weight (113 pounds).

“He had a lot of stuff going on,” said Frost. “It’s been a tough week. His grandfather died that Sunday before the tournament. The whole family’s pretty tight and that weighed a little bit on his mind.”

It was another what-if scenario for the Huskies and Brase as well as he was amazingly paired up with the No. 1 ranked wrestler according to IAWrestle – Denver’s Gavin Landers (46-0) – in the quarters. Somehow, Landers was only seeded No. 11 at 113 and he would go on to claim his first state title at that weight class, which included an 8-1 win over Brase on Thursday evening. Brase had lost to Landers, 8-0, at the Tripoli Invite earlier in the year.

Gage Samo (34-10) of WACO knocked off Brase in the fifth round of consolations on Friday night in sudden victory – 2-0.

As it seemed par for the course for a handful of Huskies all throughout the tournament – Brase encountered controversy as well as Samo was awarded two points in the first overtime session (sudden victory) after referees convened to determine whether or not the WACO wrestler’s takedown was a legitimate scoring maneuver.

“He didn’t help himself, either, by just not being aggressive enough,” said Frost about Brase. “When you’re in that situation, you’ve been down there before – you’re a placewinner, you know what it’s going to take and if you’re not going to go out offensively and battle, you gotta just accept your fate.”

Brase won his medal match over Tommy Booth of Pleasantville by a score of 5-1.

Jackson Carey – a junior who competed in his second-consecutive state meet – placed eighth at 157 pounds.

Jackson Carey (30-13) beat Shayden Washburn (45-15) of Alburnett in the Round of 16 on Wednesday by major decision (11-3). He ended up losing in his consolation match to Washburn by a 5-2 decision right before his medal match.

“The kid’s a tough kid,” said Frost. “We didn’t have quite the match we did the first time down there to get the points that we needed.”

Carey lost to Wyatt Vanderwerff of Jesup in his medal match by fall in 3:18. He earned his first state medal as a Husky as he pinned Gage Holub of Lisbon in the second period (4:42) in his first match in the blood round on Friday.

Husky senior Aiden Sullivan (35-10) lost another heartbreaker to Wyatt Hanna of Lake Mills – 4-3 – on Thursday in the consolation third round at 215 pounds. That loss pre-

vented Sullivan from wrestling in the blood round on Friday and getting a chance to earn the first individual state medal of his career.

Hanna (49-7) would go on to place fourth and defeated Sullivan, 6-4, in sudden victory at districts a week prior. The two wrestled in several close matches head-to-head this winter. Sullivan lost his first match to Hanna in the season-opener at Mason City Newman by fall. Hanna defeated Sullivan 8-4 at the Doug Trees Invite as well.

Sullivan won by major decision (12-4) over Luke Moore of English Valleys/Tri-County in his first match on Wednesday. He followed up that win with another major decision triumph – 12-3 – over Marcus Silva of Lawton-Bronson on Thursday.

“Again bracketing – if we’re higher than a 14th seed or if we’re somewhere else, we definitely get on to a path where we’re a placewinner,” said Frost. “Aiden Sullivan is definitely a top-six wrestler – probably a five wrestler in my mind. It’s too bad being a senior he couldn’t have that medal to prove it. All of us that know wrestling know that he was a very capable guy.”

Sullivan, White and Evans capped their careers on the best stage possible – under the bright lights and in front of the big crowd at the “Well.”

“It’s tough for these seniors to go out with maybe not quite accomplishing every bit of their goals, but they seemed satisfied. It was emotional when they were done,” said Frost. “Getting a medal again was rewarding for those guys.”

For the Husky first-timers that competed at state – Connor Sullivan (106 pounds, 27-27), Tyler Zimmer (138 pounds, 28-22), Devon Blanchard (144 pounds, 37-16) and Isaac Jones (285 pounds, 27-22) – it’s a chance for all of them to return to Des Moines next year with a year of state experience under their belt. They’ll be the next wave of wrestlers to continue the Huskies’ legacy of top-notch wrestling in the super-competitive state of Iowa.

“They got a taste of it. They gotta set their mind now where their goals for the future are to get on the stand,” said Frost. “They figure out – hmm – maybe I need to do more work now in the offseason. Maybe I need to get more prepared if I actually want to get a medal down there rather than being 0-2 and barbecue.”

N-P assistant coach Shane Huck – who has been on Frost’s coaching staff for well over 15 years – was awarded the Junior High Coach of the Year in Class 1A by the IWCOA (Iowa Wrestling Coaches & Officials Association) prior to the start of the finals on Saturday night.

“It’s well-deserved. He’s been a big part of our program – both junior high and high school,” said Frost. “He’s put in a lot of hours being a positive influence. It’s good to get him honored and rewarded in that way.”

CLASS 1A TOP-15 TEAM SCORES

Don Bosco 183.5, Alburnett 152, Wilton 144, Jesup 89, Underwood 85, West Hancock 82, Denver 60, Lisbon 59, Maquoketa Valley 59, Nashua-Plainfield 56.5, Logan-Magnolia 55.5, North Butler/Clarksville 53, Wapsie Valley 53, Emmetsburg 51, West Branch 49.

NASHUA-PLAINFIELD RESULTS

106 - Connor Sullivan did not place. Champ. Round 1 - Ethan Humphrey (West Branch) tech. fall Sullivan, 17-1. Cons. Round 2 - Eli Rieb (Alta/Aurelia) maj. dec. Sullivan, 9-0.

113 - Nic Brase placed seventh. Champ. Round 2 - Brase maj. dec. Brayden Maeder (Southwest Valley), 8-0. Quarterfinal - Gavin Landers (Denver) dec. Brase, 8-1. Cons. Round 4 - Brase pinned Jensen Dyer (Martensdale St. Mary’s), 1:29. Cons. Round 5 - Gage Samo (WACO) won in sudden victory over Brase, 4-2. 7th Place Match - Brase dec. Tommy Booth (Pleasantville), 5-1.

120 - Jayden Rinken did not place. Champ. Round 2 - Dawson Jacobsen (Central Springs) dec. Rinken, 3-2. Cons. Round 2 - Gavin Kiger (Logan-Magnolia) won by medical forfeit over Rinken.

138 - Tyler Zimmer did not place. Champ. Round 1 - Holden Koele (Woodbury Central) pinned Zimmer, 2:35. Cons. Round 2 - Dustin Van Oort (West Sioux) pinned Zimmer, 3:24.

144 - Devon Blanchard did not place. Champ. Round 1 - Blanchard dec. Trenton Naragon (West Central Valley), 8-2. Champ. Round 2 - Boden White (Denver) pinned Blanchard, 4:23. Cons. Round 2 - Dawson Becker (Alburnett) pinned Blanchard, 3:00.

157 - Jackson Carey placed eighth. Champ. Round 1 - Carey dec. Garrett Ham (Lake Mills), 6-5. Champ. Round 2 - Carey maj. dec. Shayden Washburn (Alburnett), 11-3. Quarterfinal - Kyler Knaack (Don Bosco) pinned Carey, 2:42. Cons. Round 4 - Carey pinned Gage Holub (Lisbon), 4:42. Cons. Round 5 - Washburn (Alburnett) dec. Carey, 5-2. 7th Place Match - Wyatt Vanderwerff (Jesup) pinned Carey, 3:18.

175 - Titus Evans placed fifth. Champ. Round 2 - Evans pinned Carter Wright (Woodbury Central) 1:11. Quarterfinal - Evans pinned Gatlin Rogers (Wilton), 2:35. Semifinal - Jace Nelson-Brown (Emmetsburg) maj. dec. Evans, 10-1. Cons. Semi - Creighton Kelly (West Hancock) pinned Evans, 1:43. 5th Place Match - Evans pinned Rogers (Wilton), 0:37.

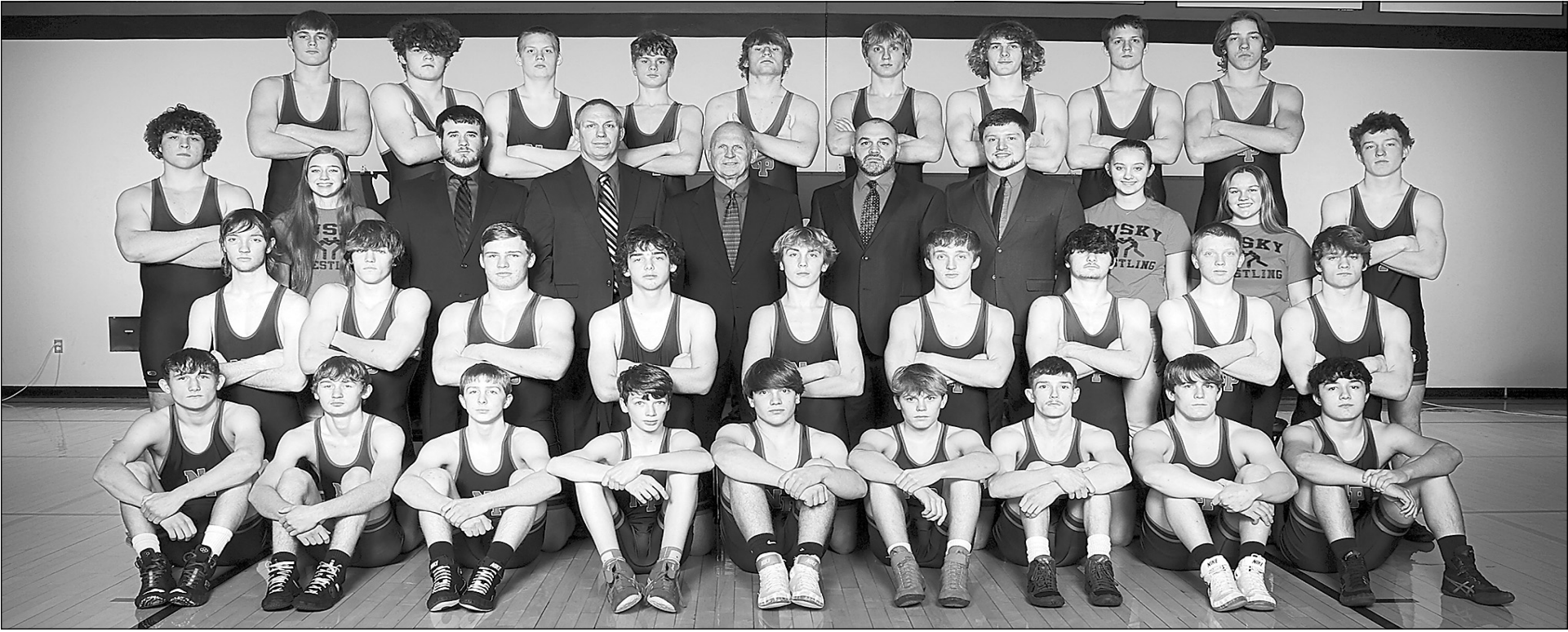
190 - White placed fifth. Champ. Round 2 - White dec. Jacob Bishop (Wilton), 4-2. Quarterfinal - Landon Fernandez (Don Bosco) dec. White, 9-7. Cons. Round 4 - White maj. dec. Blake Myrtue (Ridge View), 9-1. Cons. Round 5 - White tech. fall Bishop (Hilton), 16-0. Cons. Semi - Nathan Beitz (Maquoketa Valley) dec. White, 2-1. 5th Place Match - White dec. Drew Lansing (Wapsie Valley), 8-3.

215 - Aiden Sullivan did not place. Champ. Round 1 - Sullivan maj. dec. Luke Moore (English Valleys/Tri-County, 12-4. Champ. Round 2 - Eli Green (I-35) pinned Sullivan, 1:20. Cons. Round 2 - Sullivan maj. dec. Marcus Silva (Lawton-Bronson), 12-3. Cons. Round 3 - Wyatt Hanna (Lake Mills) dec. Sullivan, 4-3.

285 - Isaac Jones did not place. Champ. Round 1 - Isaac Cox (Cardinal) pinned Jones, 1:10. Cons. Round 2 - Jonah Reiling (Lisbon) pinned Jones, 0:35.

Celebrating the Huskies who took to the mat and court this winter!

Our Nashua-Plainfield wrestling and basketball student-athletes and their coaches represented our school and our communities with plenty of class



Nashua-Plainfield boys wrestling

Representing the Huskies on the mat this winter were (front row, from left) Devon Griffin, Nic Brase, Jayden Rinken, Connor Sullivan, Eli Cerwinske, Luke Zwanziger, Hayden Munn, Zach Zwanziger, Aidyn Iriarte, (second row) JR O'Neill, Devon Blanchard, Aiden Sullivan, Lucas Lentz, Kolbie Vance, Aiden Gelner, Tyler Zimmer, Sam O'Neill, Dylan Blanchard, (third row) Isaac Jones, manager Jordyn Frost, assistant coaches Taylor Wedeking and Ben Kalainoff, head coach Al Frost, assistant coaches Shane Huck and Jason Fisher, managers Bella Dietz and Alyson Reints, Jackson Carey, (back row) Tate White, Jaxon McDonald, Michael Stroud Jr., Lucas Sinnwell, Maverick Dietz-McDonald, Dalton Downing, Eli Kalainoff, Dawson Becker and Titus Evans.



Nashua-Plainfield girls wrestling

Representing the Huskies on the mat this winter were (from left) manager Madison Wahl, Eden Lamborn, Jayla Patten, Lily Jones, Elexa O'Neill, Emerson Franzen, Nevaeh Bloker, assistant coach Taylor Wedeking, and (not pictured) head coach Reece Reams.



Nashua-Plainfield girls basketball

Representing the Huskies on the court this winter were (front row, from left) Jalynn Pratt, Marleigh Lowe, Jennifer McLeland, Paige Franzen, Elayna O'Neill, (middle row) Maci Malven, Kristen Lee, Bailey Bond, Kadence Huck, (back row) assistant coach Hannah Holthaus, Myranda Webster, Ava Kirk, Josslynn Glaser and head coach Josh Smith.

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Nashua-Plainfield boys basketball

Representing the Huskies on the court this winter were (front row, from left) Tucker Franzen, Braeden Mitchell, Quintyn Boehmer, Nick Hulbert, James Carothers, Claydon Gerholdt, Carson Mundorf, Navarii Williams, Landon Foelske, (middle row) Tucker Roberts, Brexton Bird, Jase Hansen, Ty Berger, Matthew Malven, Jake Smith, Avery Mueller, Cal Levi, (back row) head coach Matt Mueller, assistant coach Austin Bienemann, Hunter Hackman, Trent Rodruck, Trae Geise and assistant coaches Dayton Hansen and William Kerr.



Nashua-Plainfield cheerleading

Cheering on the Huskies this winter were (from left) Hannah Percy (W), Brooke Russell (BB), Aubreigh Stroud (W), Payton Howland (W), Madelyn Hennings (BB) and Rayne Boehmer (W).

Photos courtesy of Michelle Skarpness Photography

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Kelly Terpstra/Reporter
Nashua-Plainfield's Tate White (above) tangles with Don Bosco's Landon Fernandez in a 190-pound quarterfinal match while teammate Titus Evans (right) closes in on a fall of Woodbury Central's Carter Wright in the round of 16 at the Class 1A state tournament that wrapped up on Saturday in Des Moines.



Huskies take 10th at state

Evans, White, Brase and Carey bring home medals after up-and-down week

By Kelly Terpstra
Of the Reporter

Tough luck, questionable calls and a field that was absolutely loaded in Class 1A.

That's an almost insurmountable hurdle to cross – even for the Nashua-Plainfield Huskies.

The traditional state wrestling tournament down in Des Moines isn't for the faint of heart.

Only the strong survive in an attempt to climb atop the podium stand or help their squad snare a team trophy – of which only a trio of teams could do in each of the three classes that competed at Wells Fargo Arena in the grueling, four-day state meet last week.

So to hear Husky head coach Al Frost speak – you'll understand his frustration.

"The thing about the whole tournament – we did not get very many breaks," said Frost. "We didn't get very many breaks on some scoring. In a couple situations we scored once and they took points back away. Those are tough situations to overcome."

You won't hear Frost – who is ranked in the top five all-time in career dual wins as an active prep coach in the state of Iowa – grumble all that often after the fact. But he did take exception to what he thought were circumstances and situations that prevented his wrestlers from achieving their maximum capability.

"I get it – it's the state tournament and I know you're not going to get every call your way," said Frost. "It just seemed



Nashua-Plainfield's Jackson Carey looks to finish off a takedown attempt in his first-round match at the state tournament.

like we had more than our fair share of things not being quite in our favor."

Frost – who began his legendary coaching career clear back in 1989 at Plainfield – helped guide his Huskies to a 10th-place finish (56.5 points). The Huskies reeled in four medals – highlighted by seniors Titus Evans (175) and Tate White's (190) fifth-place finishes.

The Huskies achieved all

that despite their highly-ranked and defending state champ – junior Jayden Rinken – essentially wrestling with one arm after experiencing a debilitating shoulder injury two weeks prior at state duals. Rinken wrestled one match on Wednesday – which he lost – and medical forfeited his next match on Thursday. The second-ranked wrestler at 120 pounds was aiming to become just the second Husky wrestler in the his-

tory of the school to claim two state titles alongside his older brother, Garret Rinken.

That quest and road to title No. 2 for Jayden will have to wait until next year after he was upset, 3-2, by No. 15 seed Dawson Jacobsen (51-9) of Central Springs in his Round of 16 match. The two have wrestled since they were much younger and Rinken, even

SEE STATE MEET, 7



The Huskies' Nic Brase (above) works to get back points in his round-of-16 match Wednesday while teammate Aiden Sullivan (below) talks to the referee after winning a consolation round match on Thursday.



He showed plenty of courage and grit, but defending state champion Jayden Rinken's state tournament lasted just one match as the Nashua-Plainfield junior suffered a shoulder injury during the state duals and defaulted after losing his first-round match.



Devon Blanchard's head gear covers his eyes but he wrestles on during the state meet.



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New Hampton pastor wins \$500,000 Lottery prize

Special to the Reporter
A New Hampton man said he felt calm Tuesday as he claimed a \$500,000 lottery prize. But he admits that was definitely not the case when he first realized he'd won big. "I was shaking pretty good then, I think," Kevin Frey said as he claimed the eighth of 14 top prizes in the "\$500,000 Ca\$h" scratch game.
Frey in fact was so thrown off by winning big that he left behind his winning ticket. "I was so excited and flustered that I left the ticket inside of the Casey's store and went out to the car and started calling everybody, calling my wife at first and

everybody else," he said.
When one of his adult children asked Frey to send a text of the winning ticket, the situation hit him.
"And then I realized, 'I don't have it! It's in the store!'" Frey said. "Fortunately, I was still in the parking lot of the Casey's store and I ran back inside and asked the employee for the ticket. She was so flustered, she forgot to give it to me the first time. So, we finally got it on the right page."
The 64-year-old Frey, is the longtime pastor at Trinity Lutheran Church, and he purchased his ticket at the Casey's store in New Hampton.

So why did his son want to see a picture of the winning ticket?
"My kids know that I tell some pretty good tales sometimes," Frey said with a laugh. "So the oldest son who lives down in Des Moines here said that it's not true until he sees a picture of the ticket. And so we took care of that and he was pretty excited, too."
The \$500,000 Ca\$h game is a \$50 scratch game that features prizes ranging from \$50 up to \$500,000. Players try to match numbers in the play area on tickets in the game to win a prize. The game has overall odds of winning of 1 in 3.09.



Photo courtesy of Iowa Lottery
New Hampton resident Kevin Frey posed for a publicity photo after claiming a \$500,000 prize.

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