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Nashua REPORTER

**Golf teams
to get to play
postseason
meets at home**
Page 8



Vol. 117, Issue 18 3 May 2024 Nashua, IA 50658 • 75 cents



Nashua-Plainfield's National History Day national qualifiers include (front row, from left) Ava Kirk, Jackson Mehmen, Titus Cervinske, Cal Levi, Caleb Sinnwell, Serena Gallmeyer, (back row) Elexa O'Neill, Jena Peterson, Kadence Huck, Paige Franzen, Emilie O'Neill and Mia Schmitt.

TAKING A PLANELOAD TO NATIONALS

TWELVE NASHUA-PLAINFIELD STUDENTS ADVANCE SEVEN PROJECT AT NATIONAL HISTORY DAY STATE CONTEST

By **BOB FENSKE**
Of the Reporter

Nashua-Plainfield's National History Day prowess continued this past Monday when the school's students had a brilliant day at the state contest in Des Moines, advancing seven projects completed by 12 students to the national contest in suburban Washington, D.C. next month.

That represents the most qualifiers of any school in the state and also marks the highest number of qualifiers for an "in-person" national contest in school history.

"It was exhilarating and exhausting all at the same time," National History Day advisor Suzy Turner said. "The students were phenomenal. They were prepared, professional and polished. Everyone's projects were updated [since the March district meet], and the students were

impressive during their judging interviews."

For many schools that participate in NHD contests, the state contest marks the end of the season as just a select few advance to the national meet that is held on the campus of the University of Maryland in College Park each June.

But Nashua-Plainfield bucked the trend as

SEE HISTORY DAY, 2

Elmementary school trio to be honored at retirement celebration next Friday

By **BOB FENSKE**
Of the Reporter

When the 2023-24 school year ends, Nashua-Plainfield Elementary School is going to lose a trio of staff members with a combined 93 years of experience in the building located

just off Panama Street.

And a week from today — on Friday, May 10 — Barb Renz, Rose Vowell and Cheryl Smith will be honored during a "School's Out Forever" retirement celebration that will be held at the B.

Renz has served as the school's

secretary for the past 33 years; in fact, she's just the second secretary in the history of the building, which was built in 1961.

Vowell, who serves as the school's head cook, has worked at the elementary for 31 years while Smith, whose latest assignment has been



Photo courtesy of Amber McCall

Starring at Drake

Nashua-Plainfield's Kadence Huck poses for the traditional photo on the "Bulldogs" after winning a pair of medals at the Drake Relays this past Friday. Huck finished third in both the 400 and the 800.

See STORY, Page 8



Final concert

Nashua-Plainfield High School student Madelyn Hennings (above) plays with a percussion concert while 7-8 Choir students have fun performing "YMCA" during a pair of Spring Concerts held Monday.

See MORE PHOTOS, Page 3



Bob Fenske/Reporter

During her last full week of work at First State Bank, Anita Sullivan takes a break and poses for a photo.

Retiring banker has seen plenty of changes

Sullivan has spent past 48 years helping First State Bank Customers achieve their dreams

By **BOB FENSKE**
Of the Reporter

The year was 1976. Gerald Ford was in the White House, America was celebrating its bicentennial year and in Nashua, Anita Sullivan had taken a job at a bank.

A lot has changed in the 48 years since,

but up until this week, Sullivan remained a constant at First State Bank.

"I always tell people my goal was to make it 10 years to get three weeks of vacation," Sullivan said last week, "but in all seriousness, that has been a great place to work. I've had some wonderful co-workers and met a lot of really nice people and

hopefully helped a few, too."

The time, however, has come, and this week Sullivan worked her last day at the bank and will return today to be honored during a retirement open house that runs from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

See BANKER, 4

Donations needed to help send dozen students to NHD contest next month

HISTORY DAY: FROM 1

seven of its 12 projects at state advanced to the national meet.

“It’s always tough for the projects and the kids that don’t make it,” Turner said, “but I’m really proud of all the work all of our kids — not just the national qualifiers — this year. They did a great job.”

Those heading east next month include:

- Titus Cerwinski for his senior individual performance project “Care and Compassion in a Cardigan: Mr. Rogers Creates a Turning Point for Child Development.”

- Caleb Sinnwell, a two-time national champion and three-time placewinner at nationals, for his senior individual website “A Devastating Decade of Dying Dreams: How the 1980s Farm Crisis Changed Rural America.”

- Paige Franzen, Kadence Huck, and Callahan Levi for their senior group documentary “A Champion for Change: Shirley Chisholm’s Candidacy and Candor Create A Turning Point for Equity.”

- Jena Peterson and Serena Gallmeyer for their senior group documentary “The Radium Girls: A Glowing Example of Advocacy for Workplace Safety.”

- Ava Kirk and Elexa O’Neill for their senior group website “Point, Click, Shoot: Lewis Hine’s Photographs Create a Turning Point for Child Labor.”

- Jackson Mehmen for his junior individual website “Hart-Parr Tractors: Turning the Soil and Cultivating Change in Agriculture Through Mechanization.”

- Emilie O’Neill and Mia Schmitt for their junior group website “The Radium Girls Fight Back and Shine: A Turning Point for Workplace Safety.”

And a trio of Nashua-Plainfield students — Maci Malven, Jordyn Frost and Alyson Reints — were selected national alternates for their senior group exhibit titled “The Lafayette Escadrille: Americans “Pilot” the Path to Military Innovation.”

Nashua-Plainfield also claimed three awards at the state contest as Sinnwell’s website claimed the Rural and Agricultural History and Iowa Resource Award and



Photo courtesy of Suzy Turner

One of the more unique divisions in National History Day is performance, and Nashua-Plainfield student Titus Cerwinski plays the role of Mr. Rogers” during his performance at Monday’s state contest in Des Moines.

Connor Sullivan’s senior individual website “The Five Sullivan Brothers: Naval Tragedy Turns the Tide on Military Policy” won the Iowa History Award.

The plethora of Nashua-Plainfield qualifiers does present some challenges for Turner and her students.

“There is a short time frame to arrange flights, register for the national contest and submit updated projects as the contest deadline is May 14,” Turner said. “Needless to say, there is no time for rest now, only time for making improvements. I am so proud of these kids! Once again they not only showed Nashua-Plainfield belongs, they showed that our students are leading the way as historians in the truest sense of

the word.”

Success, though, comes with a price tag. Turner said that it will cost about \$1,100 per student to pay for registration, airfare and room and board on the University of Maryland campus to compete at the national contest.

“We’ve always had great support from our community,” she said, “and we’re hoping they’ll help us again. Nationals is an amazing experience for our kids so we’re very appreciative of any donations.”

Those who want to make a donation can make checks payable to “Nashua-Plainfield National History Day.” Checks can be dropped off at the superintendent’s office or mailed to the school.

Mental health group ecstatic with turnout for annual 5K event

By BOB FENSKE
Of the Reporter

One of these years, Everybody Hurts is going to be blessed with a perfect spring evening for its annual Their Fight Is Our Fight 5K Walk, Run and Ride event.

This was not that year.

But the folks from the local non-profit organization dedicated to raising awareness of mental health issues and preventing suicides aren’t complaining, because despite the a cold, rainy and windy evening last Friday, Everybody Hurts raised more than \$21,000 — money that will help with its programs, scholarships and trainings.

“Everybody Hurts members are so grateful for everyone’s support,” said Dawn Heying, who helped start the non-profit four years ago after her daughter died from suicide. “By supporting us, we — and I mean all of us — are helping to change the conversation and we are helping to stop the stigma surrounding mental health.”

Heying pointed out that mental health affects everyone at some point in their lives.

“It is not a matter of IF, but rather WHEN,” she said. “One in five will experience a mental health issue in their life. Studies show that one death impacts as many as 135 people so our goal is to educate and avoid a suicide all together.”

“Talking about suicide does not make someone want to harm themselves, in fact the opposite occurs. It opens up a dialogue and allows people to know they are not alone!”

And while Friday’s weather was less than ideal, more than 50 folks took part in the run, walk and ride. And numerous others attended the freewill donation supper and bid on a variety of silent auction items.

Friday night’s program was moved from Mikkelson Park to the New Hampton Community Center, where Cindy Tank-Murphy delivered the keynote address sharing her own story about losing her dad to suicide and also helping her daughter who struggles with mental health challenges.

“We can’t thank the people who support us enough,” Heying said. “Without them, we can’t offer the programs we do so we’re so very grateful.”



Bob Fenske/Reporter

Hearty runners and walkers take off from the starting line during the annual Their Fight Is Our Fight 5K Walk, Run and Ride event that was held on a cold, damp evening last Friday.

Briefs

Bubble Circus set for two shows in Nashua on Saturday

A different kind of circus will put on two one-hour shows at the Nashua-Plainfield High School gymnasium on May 4.

The Big 4 Chamber of Commerce and the Nashua Community Foundation will welcome “Circus Pop! The Giant BUBBLE SHOW” for two shows — one at 2 p.m.; the other at 4:30 p.m.

The show was originally set for Nov. 4, and tickets purchased for that show will be honored.

The one-man show features giant 20-foot bubbles, contortion, fog bubbles, bubbles in bubbles, and “Houdini’s chain escape.”

And the show will also include Logan Jimenez trying to break a Guinness World Record for the largest bubble volcano.

Tickets are available online at giantbubbleshow.com for \$6 (ages 3-12), \$9 (seniors, ages 65 and up) and \$12 (ages 13 to 64).

It’s going to be a busy week for Nashua-Plainfield seniors

Nashua-Plainfield High School’s 41 seniors will have a gusy “graduation week” leading up to the commencement ceremony that will be held on Sunday, May 19, in the high school gymnasium.

The seniors will have a mandatory graduation practice at 1:15 p.m. on Tuesday, May 14, that will include the traditional “Graduation Parade” through the high school and elementary schools and on Wednesday, May 15, there will be an optional Baccalaureate ceremony at 6:30 p.m. in the high school gym that will be followed by Senior Awards Night program that will start at 7:30.

The commencement ceremony on May 19 will begin at 2:30 p.m. and the doors to the high school gymnasium will open at 1:30.

News from the Nashua Public Library

The Nashua Public Library is open Mondays, Tuesdays and

Wednesdays from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Thursdays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

We can be reached by phone at 641-435-4635, and you can reserve books online as well through our online catalog, call the library if you need help by going online to <https://nashua.biblionix.com/catalog/>.

The library is now offering notary services to patrons. Our library director is now a notary public through the state of Iowa. If you need notary services, make sure to stop into the library or give us a call to ensure our library director is available.

We’re here to help all the residents of Nashua and appreciate our patrons, so if you have questions, please don’t hesitate to stop by or give us a call!

Upcoming events at the Nashua Public Library include:

- Thursday, May 2: Coffee/Tea & Conversation Senior Social Hour.
- Wednesday, May 8: Library Board meeting at 7 p.m.
- Thursday, May 9: Coffee/Tea & Conversation Senior Social Hour.
- Saturday, May 11: Mom’s and Muffins program, 10:30 to 11:30 a.m.
- Thursday, May 16: Coffee/Tea & Conversation Senior Social Hour.
- Thursday, May 23: Coffee/Tea & Conversation Senior Social Hour.
- Monday, May 27: Closed in observance of Memorial Day.
- Thursday, May 30: Coffee/Tea & Conversation Senior

Social Hour.

• Summer Programs set for June 12, 19 and 26; July 10, 17, 24, 31; and Aug. 7, 14 and 21. Contact the library for more information. Or visit our Facebook page events.

Some of the new books we have at the library include:

- Inside Threat by Matthew Quirk
- The Wild Side by Fern Michaels
- City of Ruins by Don Winslow
- Everyone is Watching by Heather Gudenkauf
- One by One by Freida McFadden
- She’s Not Sorry by Mary Kubica
- It Had to be You by Mary Higgins Clark
- Lost Birds by Anne Hillerman
- The Summer We Started Over by Nancy Thayer
- Lucky by Jane Smiley
- Toxic Prey by John Sandford
- The Reaper Follows by Heather Graham
- The Beatles by Peter Brown
- Iowa Agriculture by Darcy Maulsby
- The Lincoln Highway by Darcy Maulsby
- Culinary History of Iowa by Darcy Maulsby
- Classic Restaurants of Des Moines by Darcy Maulsby
- Taste of Home – Grandma’s Favorites
- An Unexpected Amish Proposal by Rachel Good

****Large Print****
— *Compiled by Nashua Public Library Director Heather Hackman*

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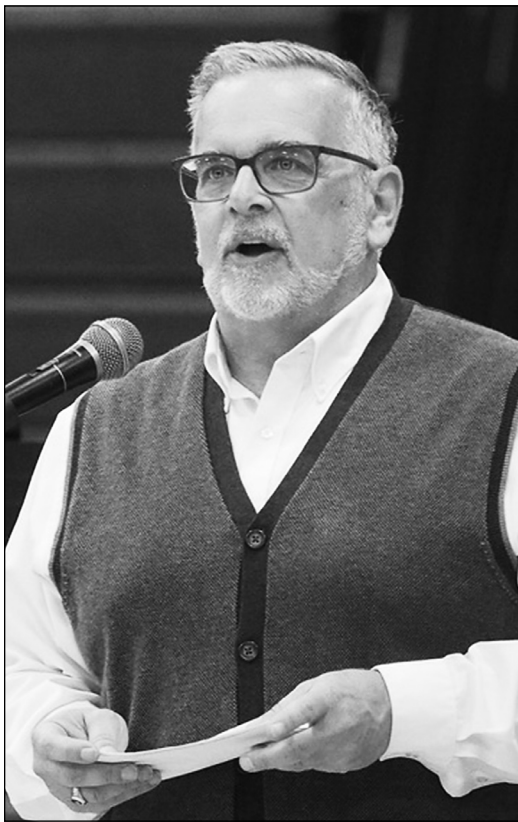
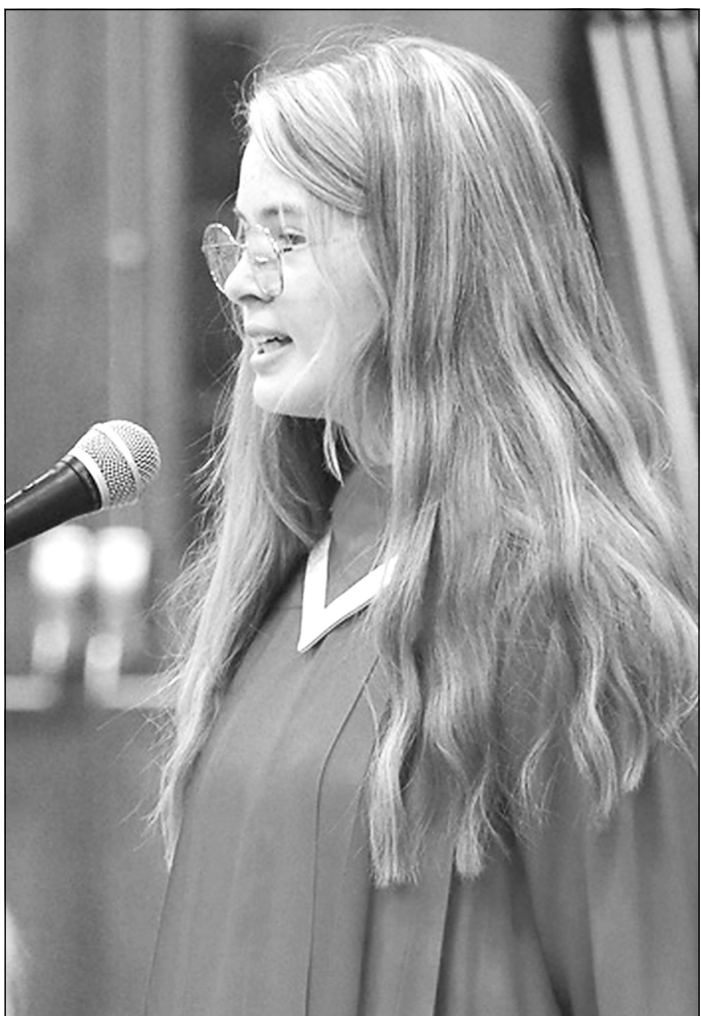
Chris Niedert (left) plays the clarinet with the Concert Band while sixth-grade music students have some fun playing their kazoo's during the Spring Concert that was held Tuesday evening.

N-P musicians shine at concerts

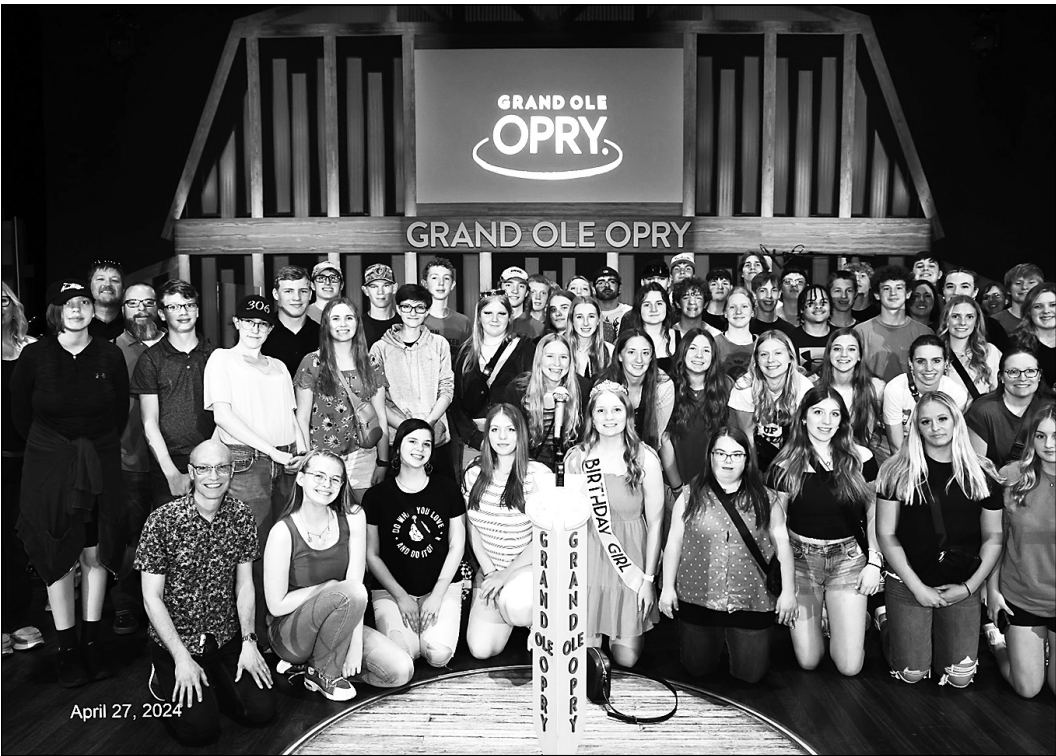
With one photo thrown in of a great music trip to Memphis and Nashville!



Lyla Burricheter, Debra Koska and Clarence Ensign (above) perform with the 7-8 choir, and Annabell McDonald (right) performs a solo with the Concert Choir.



Taylor Asche (left) plays the alto saxophone and Alana Bright (above left) plays the trumpet with the Sixth Grade Band, Concert Choir director Tim Mitchell (above right) right) introduces a song and Payton Howland (right) sings a solo with the Concert Choir during the Spring Concert Tuesday.



Nashua-Plainfield High School music students pose for a group picture at the Grand Ole Opry in Nashville last weekend while Concert Choir members perform a song during Tuesday's concert.



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Nashua-Plainfield golfers gear up for 18-hole tournaments next week

GOLF: FROM 8

win while the boys finished third. The Huskies, though, had both medalists as Franzen fired a 41 and Dawson Glaser finished with a 45.

Sinnwell had a 53, Faith Franzen fired a 57 and Paisley McCain finished with a 62 to round out the girls scorers while Cal Levi finished with a 56, Trent Rodruck had a 52 and Lindeland finished with a 53 for the boys.

Trost said it was nice to have Faith Franzen back after she missed a couple of weeks of the season recovering from a non-golf injury.

"She's got a little rust, but she's starting to shake it off," said the veteran Nashua-Plainfield coach said. "Obviously, she's a big part of our team and we need her next week and hopefully beyond."

Nashua-Plainfield, North Butler and Mason City Newman are the top-three contenders at both the TIC East meet and the first-round regional meet.

"It's nice to have the regional [final] at home," Trost said, "but we've got to get out of

the first round. With Newman and North Butler, that's not a gimme. We have to play well."

When it comes to his boys, the key for the Huskies at both the conference and sectional meets is to find some kind of consistency.

"We have a number of guys who have the potential to shoot in the low 40s, the mid 40s," he said, "but the question is can we get four of them to do it on the same day? I wish I had the answer, but ... we're consistently inconsistent."

Two other challenges await the Huskies next week.

First, they will play 18-hole tournaments; second, a number of Huskies are also involved in summer sports.

"I love that our kids are involved, don't get me wrong," Trost said, "but in the spring, we deal with something other seasons don't. In track and golf, you've played for two months, competed for a month, you're gearing up for tournament time and there's preseason practices for another sport. No one else deals with that."

As far as the 18-hole meets go, there's good and bad that

come with them.

"It's much different and in some ways that's really good," he said. "In a nine-hole meet, one or two bad holes and you feel like you're out of it. With 18, you've got a chance to minimize that, make up for it."

The down side? "Well, instead of walking 2 1/2 miles, it's five miles and you're swinging the golf club 50 or 60 more times.

That's where conditioning comes in, and it's the reason at practice, I tell the kids let's play more than holes so we're ready for the 18s we have to play."

THURSDAY, APRIL 25, GIRLS QUADRANGULAR AT GREENE
North Butler 208, Central Springs 235, Nashua-Plainfield and Riceville no team scores.

Medalist: Reagan Mulder (NB) 38.
Nashua-Plainfield scores: Paige Franzen 45, Natalie Sinnwell 54.

THURSDAY, APRIL 25, BOYS QUADRANGULAR AT GREENE
North Butler 177, Nashua-Plainfield 183, Central Springs 190, Riceville 205.

Medalist: Nolan Reser (NB) 39.
N-P scores: William Lindeland 43, Tyler Zimmer 45, Devon Blanchard 46, Dawson Glaser 53, Dawson Peterson 83.

MONDAY GIRLS QUADRANGULAR AT NASHUA
Nashua-Plainfield 213, Riceville 263, Rockford, St. Ansgar no team scores.

Medalist: P. Franzen (NP) 41.
N-P scores: P. Franzen 41, Sinnwell 53, Faith Franzen 57, Paisley McCain 62, Payton Howland 65, Elayna O'Neill 66.

MONDAY BOYS QUADRANGULAR AT NASHUA
Rockford 186, St. Ansgar 192, Nashua-Plainfield 196, Riceville 226.
Medalist: Glaser (NP) 45.
N-P scores: Glaser 45, Cal Levi 46, Trent Rodruck 52, Lindeland 53, Wyatt Bouillon, 54, Kaden McMichael 55.

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Kelly Terpstra/Reporter

All eyes are on the homestretch as N-P senior Dylan Blanchard cheers on Husky sophomore 4x800 anchor – Braeden Mitchell – in a thrilling finish on Monday at the Cowpath Relays in Nashua. St. Ansgar – anchored by Saint junior Jayce Schwiesow – won the event via a photo finish.

Huskies look to repeat last year’s district success

BOYS TRACK: FROM 8

kind of gel together and make the time that they need to get for a good seed,” said Sudol. “We’ve had opportunities to run, I guess. It’s windy every dang time, I swear, when we go out there and run.”

N-P sent the 4x800 relay to state last year, as well as the shuttle hurdle and 4x400.

N-P senior Dylan Blanchard was on that state 4x800 relay (18th place) last year and ran the third leg at the Cowpath – where the Huskies finished in fourth place (91.5). St. Ansgar won the meet with 175.5 points.

He said 8:40 is the mark to be around that should punch N-P’s ticket back down to Des Moines. N-P ran a season-best 8:58.41 at the Simons Relays held at Dike last week Thursday with the team of Jake Smith, Blanchard, Mitchell and Avery Mueller.

Jase Hansen, along with Smith, Blanchard and Mitchell all ran on the runner-up 4x800 relay at the Cowpath.

What’s the X factor in getting N-P’s 4x800 time cut by almost 20 seconds?

“I think it’s mostly just heart,” said Blanchard.

Blanchard also gave props to Mitchell – a sophomore along

with Hansen, Mueller and Smith.

“I was really proud of the way we all did. Braeden did really good. It’s the best I’ve ever seen him run. That was amazing,” said Blanchard.

N-P finished sixth at Dike with 43 points. The host Wolverines of Dike-New Hartford won their home meet with 167 points, just under 12 points less than second-place Iowa Falls-Alden.

N-P’s distance medley also engineered a season-best clip at Dike with a time of 4:00.72. That relay was made up of Navarii Williams, Aiden Gelner, Titus Evans and Hansen.

The Huskies also PR’d in the sprint medley (1:42.64) at Dike with the team of Trae Geise, Tucker Franzen, Williams and Evans. That relay placed seventh.

Geise flew into the sand pit at Dike with a career personal record of 19-10.25 to place third. Franzen has leaped 19-2.75 in that same event. While the pair of seniors may be considered long shots to make state based off the state’s current rankings in the long jump – don’t sleep on them, either.

“Trae or Tucker – I wouldn’t count either one of them out for districts,” said Sudol. “There’s

so many guys on our team that I know they have the capability to be really special where they can get there as individuals. It’s just a matter of them having that confidence in themselves that I have in them to make sure we get it done.”

N-P sophomore Eli Kalainoff – who ran at that 4x800 state relay last year – won the discus in Nashua on Monday with a toss of 137-9. Kalainoff holds the school record (142-11), which he accomplished almost two weeks at Sumner-Fredericksburg. He placed second in the discus at Dike with a 140-foot heave.

Sudol said the rain date for Thursday’s conference meet is Monday – which would wipe out the Central Springs meet and take it off N-P’s slate.

N-P is running out of dates to run – that means the most important meet of the year (districts) is right around the corner.

The Huskies won the district meet at Northwood last spring for the first time in school history.

“At this point it’s not a matter of how many miles you can run, it’s a matter of the mental prep and stick work and things like that,” said Sudol. “I have complete confidence in this group

of kids.”

SIMONS RELAYS TEAM SCORES

Dike-New Hartford 167, Iowa Falls-Alden 155.5, St. Ansgar 151, Central Springs 116, Janesville 58, Nashua-Plainfield 43, Belmont-Klemme 31.5, Tripoli 3.

NASHUA-PLAINFIELD RESULTS

100 - 11. Trae Geise 12.38, 14. Tucker Franzen 12.97.
200 - 8. Navarii Williams 25.86, 13. Miles Carpenter 29.14.
400 - 11. Ben Percy 1:04.14,
1,600 - 6. Avery Mueller 5:18.41,
9. Brady Lensing 6:01.83.
4x100 - 6. Williams, Franzen, Aiden Gelner, Geise 48.29.
4x400 - 7. Jake Smith, Jase Hansen, Dylan Blanchard, Titus Evans 4:06.74.
4x800 - 3. Smith, Blanchard, Braeden Mitchell, Mueller 8:58.41.
Sprint medley - 7. Geise, Franzen, Williams, Evans 1:42.64.
Distance medley - 3. Williams, Gelner, Evans, Hansen 4:00.72.
110 hurdles - 8. Tate White 19.61,
11. Clayden Gerholdt 21.02.
400 hurdles - 10. Gerholdt 1:09.87.
Shuttle hurdle - 5. White, Gerholdt, Gelner, Evans 1:12.39.
Long jump - 3. Geise 19-10.25, 8. Franzen 18-1.75.
Shot put - 9. Zander Lentz 34-6.
Discus - 2. Eli Kalainoff 140, 13. Lentz 83-2.

COWPATH RELAYS TEAM SCORES

St. Ansgar 175.5, North Fayette Valley 102.5, Janesville 99, Nashua-Plainfield 91.5, North Butler 90.5, Dunkerton 82, Clarksville 65, Rockford 15.

NASHUA-PLAINFIELD RESULTS

100 - 8. Richards 12.66, 9. Geise 12.74.

110 hurdles - 3. Landon Foelske 17.94, 5. Tyler Zimmer 20.02.

200 - 7. Gelner 25.2, 8. Easton Richards 25.89.

400 - 10. Percy 1:02.72, 12. Mueller 1:05.93.

400 hurdles - 6. Foelske 1:03.68, 11. Gerholdt 1:10.71.

800 - 6. Braeden Mitchell 2:25.29, 7. Caleb Lentz 2:25.33.

1,600 - 5. Mueller 5:09.81, 8. Caleb Sinnwell 5:45.8.

3,200 - 3. Luke Paplow 12:2058, 7. Connor Sullivan 14:33.28.

Discus - 1. Kalainoff 137-9, 12. Karson Chyma 92.

High jump - 6. Devon Blanchard 5, Lucas Sinnwell NH.

Long jump - 2. Geise 19-6.25, 4. Franzen 18.25.

Shot put - 9. Z. Lentz 34-5.5.

Sprint medley - 4. Geise, Franzen, Williams, Foelske 1:46.97.

Distance medley - 3. Williams, Foelske, Dy. Blanchard, Hansen 4:02.26.

4x100 (Throwers) - 4. Chris Niedert, Nick Hulbert, Vinny Runge, James Corathers 1:02.76.

4x100 - 4. Williams, Franzen, Gelner, Geise 47.88, 13. Carpenter, Chyma, Carson Mundorf, Quintyn Boehmer 54.61.

Shuttle hurdle - White, Foelske, De. Blanchard, Zimmer DQ.

4x200 - 10. Richards, Carpenter, Niedert, Boehmer 1:52.72, 12. Mundorf, Hulbert, Runge, Corathers 2:11.52.

4x400 - 3. Smith, Hansen, Dy. Blanchard, Franzen 3:47.89.

4x800 - 2. Smith, Hansen, Dy. Blanchard, Mitchell 9:01.63, 5. Mueller, C. Lentz, Brexton Bird, Sullivan 9:56.15.

Despite DQ, Huskies make it a memorable sprint medley

DRAKE: FROM 8

of 55.94 still stands. That school record was achieved in Huck’s sophomore season at the state meet and earned her a second state title in that open 400.

Huck was closer to runner-up finisher Reese Brownlee – a Clear Lake junior – than Nissen was to Huck. Brownlee’s second-place time was 55.93 – a step or two back of Waukee senior Anjelena Carder of Waukee (55.45). Carder had defeated Huck at the Wartburg Indoor in the 400 dash back in March – 58.84 to 58.92.

Huck accomplished those tremendous feats on a wet track with a dark and threatening sky that produced rain off and on Friday. There were also several severe weather warnings throughout the Des Moines metro area that made it difficult to produce top-notch times. Drake Stadium was eventually evacuated on Friday evening and several of the remaining events were postponed and continued on Saturday morning.

“We had an interesting Friday evening down at Drake as there were tornados all around us,” said McCall.

Sixteen runners – comprising Class 1A, 2A, 3A and 4A – competed in the 400 and 800 runs. Huck was the only 1A runner in the open 800.

Huck has now medaled in five different Drake Relays after two seasons of competing in Des Moines amongst the state’s best. She placed fifth in the 800 run (2:12.82) and 1,500 run (4:38.36) in 2023. She added a fourth-place finish her sophomore season in the open 400 with a clip of 57.56.

“In both the 400 and 800 she moved up her placing from last year. That’s a huge honor! It is just so fun to watch her compete and just to watch all of her hard work pay off,” said McCall.

Huck anchored the sprint medley Friday morning where the Huskies encountered some bad luck as the relay was disqualified.

N-P was the lone Class 1A representative and competed in Heat No. 1 under an overcast sky that had produced rain earlier in the day, as it seems is always the case when the relays are run at Drake – which often includes rain showers in late April.

It was a history-making performance nonetheless as there had never been an N-P relay qualify for the Drake Relays (girls or boys) since the event implemented its most recent qualifying standards.

Despite the DQ – Huck received the baton in last place as N-P was well behind the pack of eight teams headed into the final lap. Huck managed to pass three runners down the final home stretch before crossing the tape.

MOC-Floyd Valley won N-P’s heat and finished eight overall with a 1:50.69. N-P qualified with a 1:51.62 – the 21st-fastest qualifying time.

“Obviously, the race didn’t play out how we wanted it to, but those ladies have a lot to be proud of. Being the first relay N-P has ever had down at the Drake Relays is a huge honor,” said McCall.

ON TAP FOR OUR N-P HUSKIES

MONDAY

Girls golf at Top of Iowa Conference East Division meet, Nashua Town and Country Club, 10 a.m.

Boys golf at Top of Iowa Conference East Division meet, Highland Park Golf Course, Mason City, 10 a.m.

Track at Central Springs Invitational, 4:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

Boys golf at Class 1A sectional meet, Nashua Town and Country Club, 10 a.m.

THURSDAY

Tracking at Class 1A state qualifying meet, St. Ansgar, 4 p.m.

FRIDAY, MAY 10

Girls golf at Class 1A first-round regional meet, Ridge Stone Golf Club, Sheffield, 10 a.m.

TUESDAY, MAY 14

Boys golf at Class 1A district meet, if qualified, Highland Park Golf Course, 10 a.m.

By KELLY TERPSTRA

Of the Reporter

South Winneshiek and the Cresco Area Clay Crushers traveled to the Nashua Fish and Game Club this week to take on the split trapshooting squad of Charles City/Nashua-Plainfield.

On Monday South Winn rolled into town and the Comets swept the top three spots.

The Charles City No. 2 squad rolled up a score of 217, followed by CC No. 1’s 212 and

Charles City No. 3’s 208.

Nashua-Plainfield shot a 167, minus one of their shooters.

The Huskies were led by N-P senior Dawson Demro’s 44. Husky senior Micaiah Groothuis fired a 43 and N-P’s third senior – J.R. O’Neill – managed a 39. Maverick-Dietz McDonald, a junior, finished with a 41.

Nic Brase, a Husky junior, helped lead N-P on Tuesday versus Cresco as he came away with a 47.

Last week Friday’s North Butler meet was cancelled. N-P was scheduled to compete in the Top of Iowa East Conference meet in St. Ansgar on Thursday. That’s where the Huskies will attempt to qualify for state next week Thursday on the home track of the Saints.

COWPATH RELAYS TEAM SCORES

St. Ansgar 198, Nashua-Plainfield 110, North Butler 95, North Fayette Valley 87, Dunkerton 71, Janesville 54, Clarksville 45, Rockford 30.

NASHUA-PLAINFIELD RESULTS

100 - 9. Lily Eiffier 15.41, 13. Maci Malven 16.48.
200 - 1. Kadence Huck 27.05, 4. Jalissa White 29.84.
400 - 1. Huck 59.92, 4. Marleigh Lowe 1:10.71.
400 hurdles - 7. Lowe 1:20.
800 - 5. Amberley Gerholdt 3:07.87.
1,500 - 6. Makenna Bouillon 6:53.83.
3,000 - 5. Bailey Bond 19:11.81.
Discus - 9. Eden Lamborn 77, 11. Miranda Webster 74-3.
High jump - 3. Jordyn Frost 4-6.
Long jump - 6. Eiffier 12-10.25.
Shot put - 1. Lamborn 34-4.5, 9. Webster 25-4.5.
Sprint medley - 1. Jayla Patten, Jalissa White, Ellie Eick, Huck 1:57.94.
Distance medley - 1. Frost, Patten, Eick, Huck 4:25.23.
4x100 (Throwers) - 3. 1:13.44.

Charles City’s Cole Cross, as well as Cresco’s Ethan Tlusty, Gage Moser, Kail Schmelzer and Mitchell Barnes, all fired 49s for the Clay Crushers.

Charles City’s No. 5 squad accumulated a team score of 234 to win the event.

Nashua-Plainfield tallied a 210 and included the scores of Brase (47), Demro (46), Groothuis (42), O’Neill (41) and Kyler Eskildsen (34).

Dietz-McDonald connected on all but four of his 50 clay



Kelly Terpstra/Reporter

Husky senior Ellie Eick runs a leg of the N-P distance medley at the Cowpath Relays in Nashua on Monday.

4x100 - 1. Malven, Frost, Patten, Eick 53.68.

4x200 - 1. Frost, Patten, White, Eick 1:54.35, 6. Serena Gallmeyer, Malven, Abi Schmitt, Rilyn

Henningssen 2:09.72.

4x400 - 6. Gerholdt, Lowe, Henningssen, Eiffier 5:04.56.

4x800 - 4. Gerholdt, Henningssen, Bouillon, Eiffier 13:45.46.

TUESDAY TOP-THREE SQUADS

Charles City 5 234, Charles City 1 229, Charles City 6 220.

TOP-THREE BOYS

Cole Cross (CC) 49, Ethan Tlusty (CR) 49, Gage Moser (CR) 49, Kail Schmelzer (CR) 49, Mitchell Barnes (CR) 49, Cole Suckow (CR) 48, Kady Schmelzer (CR) 47, Kaid Headington (CR) 47, Nic Brase (NP) 47.

TOP-THREE GIRLS

Quade (CC) 48, Blickenderfer (CC) 46, Avery Johnson (CR) 46.

NASHUA-PLAINFIELD RESULTS

N-P (210) - Nic Brase 47, Demro 46, Groothuis 42, O’Neill 41, Kyler Eskildsen 34.

Huck medals again at Drake

Nashua-Plainfield standout takes third in 400 and 800; sprint medley DQs after thrilling comeback

By KELLY TERPSTRA
Of the Reporter

Kadence Huck once again proved her mettle at Drake Stadium. In the process, the junior Nashua-Plainfield fleet-footed Husky secured two more medals in her legendary running career on Friday at the prestigious Drake Relays.

“We’re very proud of Kadence in the 400 and 800. She really wanted a Drake Relays flag, but she has so much to be proud of!” said N-P head

coach Amber McCall.

Huck broke her own school record in the open 800 Friday afternoon after she placed third overall in a time of 2:11.09. Pleasant Valley junior Ani Wedemeyer was crowned the overall champ with a blistering pace of 2:09.31. Dubuque Hempstead



Huck

senior Keelee Leitzen was right behind Wedemeyer in second place with a runner-up time of 2:09.74.

Those clips are the top three times in the state after those electric performances were put in the Drake Relays history books.

Huck’s previous best clip in the 800 run was 2:11.75, which amounted to a first-place finish at last year’s Class 1A state meet.

But running against all four classes, Huck demonstrated that she’s clearly head and shoulders better

than almost every runner in the entire state this week in her qualified events.

The five-time state champ earned another third-place Drake finish in the 400 dash on Friday night as she zipped toward the finish line to nip Don Bosco freshman Kloe Nissen (56.47) for a top-three finish. Huck’s 56.19 jaunt around the track once was almost a school record. Huck’s all-time best N-P clip

SEE DRAKE, 7



Kelly Terpstra/Reporter

Nashua-Plainfield’s Myranda Webster (left) gets ready to heave the shot put while teammate Maci Malven (above) competes in the 100-meter dash at Monday evening’s Cowpath Relays.



Kelly Terpstra/Reporter

Nashua-Plainfield’s Natalie Sinnwell watches her putt roll toward the hole during a recent meet.

N-P hoping home cooking is helpful in the postseason

Better weather would also be nice as Huskies host TIC East girls golf meet, boys sectional

By BOB FENSKE
Of the Reporter

Here’s the good news: Nashua-Plainfield’s golf teams will get to enjoy some home cooking in the postseason.

Here should be some even better news for Huskies coach Jeff Trost and his linksters: Decent weather.

“My wife and I were talking the other day and she asked me if we had had a really good night to play,” Trost said, “and you know I started thinking and finally just told her, ‘I can’t really remember one.’ I mean we’ve had worse years — at least we’ve been able to play this year — but we’ve seen a lot of cold and wind and rain ... I think we’re all ready for a nice, warm, calm day.”

And the sooner the better because the Huskies open postseason play on Monday when the boys travel to Mason City while the girls stay home for their respective Top of Iowa Conference East Division tournaments.

Two days later, the boys will host the Class 1A sectional tournament at the Nashua Town and Country Club and on Friday, the girls head to Sheffield for the first round of a Class 1A regional. If the girls make it through that tournament, they’ll get to play the final round of the regional in Nashua.

“It never hurts to play at home,” Trost said, “and every single golf coach in the state will tell you that. You’re always going to be more comfortable when you play your home course.”

Despite the less-than-ideal weather, Nashua-Plainfield was able to play a couple of meets during the last week.

Last Thursday, the Huskies traveled to Greene, where the boys finished second in a quadrangular while the girls — who had a number of athletes on the school’s music trip to Tennessee — posted two solid scores.

Nashua-Plainfield’s boys finished with a 183 as William Lindeland led the way with a 43 while Tyler Zimmer and Devon Blanchard finished with a 45 and 46, respectively.

On the girls side, the Huskies’ Paige Franzen finished with a 45 to take second in the meet while teammate Natalie Sinnwell had a 54 to take third.

On Monday, a meet scheduled for Nora Springs was moved to Nashua and the girls, with a full team in tow, claimed a quadrangular

SEE GOLF, 5

Seniors bid farewell to home track

Nashua-Plainfield girls make it a special night for seniors with Cowpath Relays runner-up finish

By KELLY TERPSTRA
Of the Reporter

It was one last run on the home track for three senior Huskies and a few final tosses for another. The Cowpath Relays on Monday in Nashua were a chance for four members of Amber McCall’s Nashua-Plainfield girls track team to perform in front of the hometown fans one last time.

Ellie Eick competed in four relays.

Jordyn Frost leaped over the high jump bar a final time at Roger Klingman Track.

Maci Malven raced to the finish line down the homestretch in her sprints events in what was a great sendoff to her running career.

Myranda Webster threw the discus and shot put in what amounted to the closing of a final chapter.

There’s still a few meets left for these Huskies — but they reached the end of the road at home.

“It was a special night for our seniors as it was the last time they will compete there. I’m very proud of them and we are truly going to miss them next year!” said McCall.

N-P finished second (110 points) to a quality St. Ansgar squad that racked up a first-place total of 198 points in the final team standings at the co-ed meet.

SEE GIRLS TRACK, 7

N-P boys post season bests at Cowpath Relays

By KELLY TERPSTRA
Of the Reporter

St. Ansgar’s Jayce Schwiesow and Nashua-Plainfield’s Braeden Mitchell turned on the burners and booked it past the final turn as the anchors of the 4x800 relay headed for home on Monday night in Nashua.

There’d obviously be only one winner — unless they tied, which is about as common as hearing a computer using dial-up Internet nowadays.

While neither successful relay in Class 1A was going to break any school records, there was a lot on the line in a heated, photo finish that could well have given track and field fans in attendance a preview of what’s to come down the road when the two long-distance squads cross paths two more times in the next week.

That’s not counting if both relay squads crack the state field.

One thing is for certain, Mitchell left no gas in the tank after his inspired run to the finish line.

“Pretty much that last 200 I just tried to get ahead of him, so he’d have to run longer because I knew he’d have more at the end than I would,” said Mitchell.

Schwiesow nipped Mitchell at the tape for first place — by just 10 one-hundredths of a second, 9:01.53 to N-P’s 9:01.63.

“Braeden showed a lot of heart. I was really happy with that,” said N-P head coach Chase Sudol.

Each area squad’s relays are hovering around the periphery of the cutoff to qualify for state — St. Ansgar sports the 21st-fastest time (8:46), while N-P sits in 29th place (8:58). The state ultimately takes 24 entrants into that relay at state in Class 1A, which will be comprised of 10 district champs and the 16-best remaining times at the district meet. N-P’s district assignment for the qualifier is, you guessed it, at St. Ansgar’s home track next week Thursday.

N-P also competed at St. Ansgar in the TIC East league meet on Thursday of this week.

Any way you slice it, something’s gotta give at the qualifier.

Sudol said showing a poker hand in order to keep other teams guessing as to what his lineup may look like come the qualifier may not be on the table in certain relays.

That means there’s no bluffing — just getting out on the oval and going for the gusto with your top guns to get a relay as slow a time as possible.

“At conference, just with the limited capacity that we’ve had of meets...it’s going to be very similar to what we’re going to do at the qualifier, unless we see something we really think we can hit a home run at,” said Sudol. “Monday we won’t show a lot at Central Springs proba-



Kelly Terpstra/Reporter

Nashua-Plainfield’s Trae Geise stretches it out and comes up with a second-place leap in the long jump at Monday’s Cowpath Relays.

bly.”

That meet at Central Springs this coming Monday is the final meet of the regular season prior to the qualifier.

“We gotta get going. Our relays are coming

together — we’re fine with the pieces that we need. It’s just they haven’t had enough time to

SEE BOYS TRACK, 7

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