

Nashua REPORTER

**Huskies win
wild meet
against
Lake Mills**
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Nashua, IA 50658 • 75 cents

Council looks for right path on nuisance properties

Nashua citizen says 'save what we can,' but structural engineer has said it's not 'economically feasible' to repair buildings

By **KELLY TERPSTRA**
Of the Reporter

To tear down or rebuild? That is the question. City leaders debated the pros and cons of what to do with four dilapidated properties that reside in the 300 block of downtown Main St. in Nashua recently.

Those city-owned buildings on the west side of the street — 302, 304, 306 and 308 Main St. — are all integrated and connected, as well as in disarray. One structure has the roof collapsed all the way down to the elevation.

At this past Monday's Nashua City Council meeting, city officials and a concerned citizen that would like to either save or rehab the buildings, discussed the plan of

action regarding what many would deem nuisance properties.

"A structural engineer, as the Council knows and the report says, said it's not economically feasible to try and repair that space and that span with the brick and everything else disintegrating. It's not just the roof, it's the structure," said Nashua City Attorney David Skilton.

That citizen — Nashua resident

Jake Ballweg — toured the buildings recently along with Nashua Mayor Hal Kelleher and Nashua City Clerk John Ott.

Ott started off the discussion of the buildings — which would go a long ways toward determining what Nashua's

SEE CITY COUNCIL, 3

County's elected officials make pitches for raises

With no Compensation Board, county leaders take cases directly to Board of Supervisors

By **BOB FENSKE**
Of the Reporter

One by one, the elected officials of Chickasaw County took the floor at a Board of Supervisors meeting on Tuesday to talk about potential pay raises they would like to receive when the 2025-26 fiscal year begins next July 1.

Gone was the "middle man" — the Compensation Board — that for years had come up with pay raise recommendations and delivered them to supervisors.

The reason? A new state law now allows board of supervisors to navigate the salaries of elected officials without a comp board, and earlier this year, Chickasaw County's supervisors decided that they would take over the now-defunct board's work.

Granted, according to the new state law that gave them the opportunity to not have a Compensation Board, supervisors are "required to show their work" on how they come up with raises for elected officials, but truth be told, board members are a long way away from making any final decision on what pay raises will look like in 2025-26.

Instead, Tuesday's meeting served a dual purpose. First, Recorder Shirley Troyna, Treasurer Matt Ysbrand, Auditor Sheila Shekleton, Sheriff Ryan Shawver and Attorney David Laudner presented their pitches. So, too, did members of the Board of Supervisors.

The requests — not all of which were set in stone — ranged from 3 percent to 8 percent.

The second purpose of the meeting was to give the elected officials a chance to explain not only the work each office does but also the makeup of those offices to newly-elected District 4 Supervisor Issac Carter, who will take office on Jan. 1 and replace fellow Republican Matt Kuhn, who did not seek re-election, on the board.

Carter said that he has watched most of the Board of Supervisors' meetings online, and Tuesday's meeting was the first he had attended in person since winning election on Nov. 5.

By the time supervisors decide what kind of raises they will grant to elected officials, which includes themselves, Carter will be on the board, and Tuesday's meeting could best be summed up

SEE SUPERVISORS, 4

After the wind and cold, we're going to enjoy a little heat

By **BOB FENSKE**
Of the Reporter

Let's put it this way: Our early December weather seems to be bi-polar.

Granted, at least it didn't snow, but much of the work week has felt like January as high temperatures struggled to get near 20 for a couple of days and overnight lows dropped into the single digits.

And then there was Wednesday's strong winds out of the northwest as winds at times gusted to more than 50 miles per hour, sending wind chills well below 0.

Now comes the weekend, and although shorts might be a stretch, it's going to be a pretty dang nice couple of

SEE WEATHER, 5



Bob Fenske/Reporter

It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas in and around Nashua as our editor found out during a drive through town on Wednesday evening.

Allure of Christmas lights remains

For a guy who loves Christmas lights almost as much as the famed fictional character Clark Griswold, my house is amazingly "bare."

No tree. No Christmas candles. Not a single light sparking in the whole abode.

Yet, I'm the guy who will drive a hundred miles to see really good Christmas lights, and my kids — all grown up and adults now — tell me one of their favorite childhood memories was Dad taking them out and about to look at Christmas lights.

I thought about some of those trips — some in town; others out of town — that Abby, Josh, Noah and I took so many years ago on Wednesday night as I drove around Nashua looking for a few photos for today's Reporter.

SEE LIGHTS, 4



Bob Fenske is the editor of the Reporter, and he can be reached by email at editor@nhtrib.com.



Cities are gearing up for a 'Christmassy' Saturday

It's going to be a busy day with Christmas in Nashua, Plainfield's Christmas on Main

By **BOB FENSKE**
Of the Reporter

Christmas takes center stage this Saturday in both Nashua and Plainfield as both cities will hold their biggest events of the season — Christmas in Nashua and Christmas on Main in Plainfield.

And, trust us, Santa is going to be a busy fellow as he's scheduled to make appearances at the Heavenly Days Breakfast with Santa at the B from 8 to 10 a.m., scoot over to the Nashua Public Library for the Nashua Women of Today's annual Santa's Workshop and then buzz down the Avenue of the Saints for Plainfield's evening celebration.

The newest event taking place this Saturday is actually an old favorite that is returning as the Nashua Christmas Tour of Homes will take place between 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. at five residences.

Homes available on the tour include:

- Janice Firman at 304 Sample St.
- Mike and Vicky Foney at 77 Monroe St.
- Ron and Dawn Garbes at 2970 Cheyenne Ave.
- Chad and Lisa Nelson at 504 Woodbridge St.
- Karla Hilt and Connie Straw at 115 Brasher St.

A freewill donation —

SEE CELEBRATIONS, 4



Kelly Terpstra/Reporter

Santa Claus is going to be one busy fellow on Saturday as he'll make appearances at both Christmas in Nashua and Christmas on Main in Plainfield.

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Elementary embraces ‘Leader in Me’ program

Nashua-Plainfield Elementary School is currently in its third year of implementing a student leadership program called Leader in Me. Leader in Me is founded on the belief that everyone has the potential to lead. The framework and habits help develop a culture of trust and helps boost academic success. Students work to learn the “7 Habits of Highly Effective People” that include:

- Be Proactive: Students learn to assume responsibility and make responsible choices. They learn that they can control their actions, attitudes and moods.
- Begin With the End in Mind: Students learn to set goals and work towards achieving them. These goals can be both individual, classroom or school-wide goals.
- Put First Things First: Students learn to prioritize and stick to their plan. They learn to be self-disciplined to achieve those goals.
- Think Win-Win: Students learn to help others win and learn how to deal with situations where conflict might arise.
- Seek First to Understand and then to Be Understood: Students learn to listen to and understand others.
- Synergize: Students learn that they are a part of a group or team and that together they can achieve more than any one individual alone.
- Sharpen the Saw: Students learn to increase motivation, energy, and vitality by making time for hobbies they enjoy and eating good foods and getting exercise.

Each month the staff at the school nominate students from their classrooms who are displaying qualities of leadership. These students are recognized at a school-wide assembly.



Photos courtesy of Nashua-Plainfield Elementary School

Honoring the ‘Leaders in Me’

Nashua-Plainfield Leaders in Me program is off to a great start for the 2024-25 school year and has handed out awards to students in each of the past three months.

September winners among students in grades K-2 students are (top left, from left) Zander Sudol, Emmett Schmitt, Dexter Mundorf, Jordy Wedeking, Reagan Franzen, Maren McGregor, Annalese Garbes, Nicholas Gerber, Hazel Wesselmann and Crayton Leach in September while winners among students in grades 3-5 are (top right, from left) William Miller, Ezri Johnson, Peyton Sudol, Heidi Biekert, Aiden Wesner, Laura Wolf, Layton Folkerts, Ryder Hoffman, Wyatt Feldman and Reed Carpenter.

October winners among students in grades K-2 are (bottom left, front row) Front: Lillian Ward, Noah Huffman, Ro’an Hiskey, Remy Litterer, (back) Brylee Rausch, Hudson Bryan, Anna Bark, Josie Miller and Adeline Ballweg while winners in grades 3-5 are (bottom right) Kendall Miller, Anna Miller, Olivia Lawrence, Benleigh Franzen, Eliyana O’Neill, Lennon McCumber, Dash Herrick, Kate Scharnhorst and Drake Steere.

The Reporter will feature other Leader in Me winners in upcoming issues.

German-American Museum serving up a traditional Christmas Sunday

The traditional Christmas Reflections Open House will be held on Sunday, Dec. 8, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the German American Museum, Library and Family History Center in St. Lucas. The Christmas Reflections meal will be served in the attractive museum dining room decorated for the Christmas holiday season.

This year the abundant meal consists of three all-time favorites: chicken dumpling (spätzle) soup, harvest squash with sausage and rice, and hearty chili soup. The meal is topped off with delicious Black Forest ham sandwiches.

The meal includes a wide variety of desserts: traditional Christmas cookies with hot apple cider, bottled water, coffee and an adult refreshment.

Briefs

Iowa author to visit Nashua welcome center this Saturday

Iowa author, Linda Betsinger McCann, will be at the Gateway to Northeast Iowa Welcome Center in Nashua on Saturday from 8 a.m. to noon with all her books. She writes about little-known aspects of Iowa history.

Her newest book, “Rosie the Riveters of Iowa,” as well as the rest of her books will be for sale. McCann spoke with 35 women who had worked as Rosies for her book, and shares their memories in the book.

Another one of her books is “Prohibition in Eastern Iowa” a book McCann researched by speaking to the children and grandchildren of moonshiners and bootleggers.

Deadline is Dec. 13 for pesticide applicators

Iowa State University Extension and Outreach Chickasaw County office will require all applicators that still need a Continuing Instruction Course (CIC) for commercial pesticide applicators to call for a reshew date as soon as possible.

Reshews will not be offered after Friday, Dec. 13 for this calendar year.

To register or to obtain additional information about the CIC’s, contact Lynn Bruess at the ISU Extension and Outreach Chickasaw County office at 641-394-2174.



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World AIDS Day is December 1

You help us keep moving forward when you **talk**, **test**, **treat**.

talk

Talk with your partner **before** having sex.

Talk about **when** you were last tested and suggest getting tested together.

Talk to your healthcare provider about your sex life. Ask them about HIV and STI testing: including what tests you need and how often.

test

Get tested! It's the only way to **know for sure** if you have an HIV or another STI.

Many STIs **don't cause any symptoms**, so you could have one and **not know**.

If you're not comfortable asking your regular provider for an HIV or STI test, find a clinic that provides confidential testing that is free or low cost.

treat

All STIs, including HIV, are treatable. If you test positive for an STI, work with your healthcare provider to get the right treatment.

If you test positive for HIV, your provider or testing location will help connect you to treatment & resources!

Ask about partner services to get your partner tested and treated. Avoid having sex until you and your sex partner both complete treatment.

Find testing near you:
stophiviowa.org



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Richard L. ‘Dick’ Jordan, 87

Richard L. “Dick” Jordan, age 87 of Nashua, died Thursday, Nov. 28, 2024, at the Floyd County Memorial Hospital. Friends may greet the family from 3 to 7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 5, 2024, at the Hugeback-Johnson Funeral Home & Crematory in Nashua with family remarks beginning at 7 p.m. Private family burial will take place at a later date.

Richard L. “Dick” Jordan was born June 6, 1937, on the Jordan family farm in rural Cedar County.

Dick received his education in the local rural country school before graduating from Bennett High School in 1956.

It was there that he met his lifelong love and high school sweetheart, Marilyn Frick. The two were united in marriage on July 27, 1956, in Iowa City, marking the beginning of a beautiful journey together.

Dick’s dedication to his country was evident through his service in the United States Army from 1956 to 1958. Dick was a paratrooper with the 82nd Airborne Division in Fayetteville, North Carolina. Dick loved the thrill of jumping out of a C-130 cargo plane.

After his military service, he and Marilyn settled first in New Liberty and later in Mechanicsville. The couple then spent 16 years in Cedar Rapids, where Dick worked for Wilson Foods and then Penick and Ford — as well as being self employed as a carpet layer, which he continued to do for nearly 30 years as a side job while being fully employed at his other jobs. He would often work nights in the factories and lay carpet during the day. Dick worked hard to provide for his family.

In 1978, Dick and Marilyn moved to Nashua. There, Dick was employed by the former Fair Best Dairy in Fredericksburg for many years. He completed his work history at Sara Lee in New Hampton, retiring after the plant closed in 2000. Retirement did not slow Dick down; instead, it gave him the opportunity to explore new horizons and indulge in his passions.

Denise M. Griffin, 65

Denise M. Griffin, age 65 of Charles City, died Monday, Dec. 2, 2024, at New Hampton Nursing & Rehabilitation Center. Funeral services will take place at a later date. Hugeback-Johnson Funeral Home & Crematory in New Hampton have been entrusted with arrangements.

Mary Underwood, 91

Mary Underwood, age 91 of New Hampton, Iowa died Saturday, Nov. 30, 2024, at the Floyd County Medical Center in Charles City, surrounded by her family. A Mass of Christian Burial was held at 11 a.m. Wednesday, Dec. 4, 2024, at Holy Family Parish in New Hampton with burial in the New Hampton City Cemetery. Visitation of friends and family began at 9:30 a.m. Wednesday at the church before the Mass.



Dick Jordan

An avid golfer, Dick enjoyed many days on the greens, perfecting his swing and enjoying the camaraderie of fellow golfers.

In his earlier years, he was also an enthusiastic bowler, often found at the local bowling alley, knocking down pins and sharing laughs. However, Dick’s true joy was found in the stands at his grandchildren’s sporting events, where he proudly cheered them on, celebrating their achievements and encouraging their efforts.

After retirement, Dick discovered a newfound love for the open road. He and Marilyn purchased a motorcycle and together, they traveled the country, embracing the freedom and excitement that came with each new adventure. They shared countless memories and stories from their journeys, which became cherished tales for their family and friends.

In his later years, Dick found solace and contentment in camping near the river in Guttenberg, surrounded by nature’s beauty.

Survivors include one son, Jerry (Chris) Jordan of Fairfax; two daughters, Julie (Loren) Becker of Shellsburg, and Jeannie (Tom) Laube of Nashua; nine grandchildren; and 11 great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents; his wife, Marilyn on June 19, 2013; daughter, Jill Jordan; two grandchildren; and one brother, Marland Jordan.



Bob Fenske/Reporter

Keeping the Husky Wellness Center sparkling!

Husky Wellness Center custodian Brandy Hudson “wet mops” the floor at the Husky Wellness Center during a lull in the activity level at the center last week. The HWC received rave reviews from out-of-town folks after recent youth basketball tournaments were held at the facility.

City Council grapples with what to do with Main Street buildings

CITY COUNCIL: FROM 1

Main Street Committee wants to do in an attempt to revitalize the downtown area – with this statement.

“I know we’ve been looking at demolishing the buildings, thinking they’re not savable,” said Ott.

Then Ballweg, later on during the regularly scheduled Council meeting, chimed in.

“I think that it would be better for Main Street to save what we can, rather than demolish it,” said Ballweg. “I think that if we get the spaces usable, it’d be easier to get business in here than expect someone to come build new.”

Ott also stated that there is federal funding available, but Nashua would need to apply for that aid.

“There is some federal funding out there. You have to have eight buildings to be eligible for up to the full \$650,000,” said Ott. “If you have six you’re eligible for some funding.”

Council member Jake Johnson had this to say about the buildings – which hold an uncertain future.

“The ones on the west side have been condemned for 10 years,” said Johnson. “I get the appeal of the Main St. building and stuff like that, but you’d be so much further ahead if we tore ‘em down than if you want to build something. They’re 150-year old buildings with bad foundations.”

Johnson said he would be more interested in the development of something new in that area. He said that plans have been proposed as to what to do with the buildings, but in the end the suggestions never materialize.

“We get a lot of people that have ideas, but nobody follows through or they can’t get the backing for ‘em,” Johnson said. “So

that’s the big thing, we gotta know what it’s going to cost and to make sure you got the financing for it.”

Ballweg shared with the Council possible funding avenues, but those funds would need to be applied for on behalf of a potential developer.

Johnson recommended Ballweg get a hold of engineers to determine if the buildings were stable enough to save and to inquire about cost estimates in order to repair them.

“I’ll just throw the ball back to you Jake. If you want to go for it, put it together and see if it’s something you even want to deal with,” said Johnson.

Skilton elaborated on what he’s been told concerning the status of the buildings that are sitting vacant in downtown Nashua with no foreseeable plan to save them or even deal with them at this point in the discussion.

“We’ve been told it’s not worth it. It’s throwing good money after bad,” said Skilton. “I see it more as a TIF for a developer and the city’s contribution, just like everybody else, is infrastructure.”

Skilton shared a drafted letter with the Council about the remaining water meter endpoints that need to still be installed at certain properties around town. The letter is a final 10-day notice that will be mailed out to residents that have yet to get their endpoint registry device installed. There would be no fine if there isn’t any compliance with that household, but the city could request a warrant to get the endpoint installed according to Skilton.

The Council voted unanimously to send out the letter, but the city ordinance will need to be amended after the letters are mailed. Citizens can request a public hearing in that 10-day window.

“You can send your notice out now and

then we’re going to follow the new ordinance and the provision if they request a public hearing,” said Skilton.

A change order from the engineering firm of Shuck-Britson for a \$763,000 repair job to fix Nashua’s dam was not approved. The cost of the change order is \$7,150.

Work by Boomerang Construction, a civil contracting firm based out of Anamosa, has been delayed on the project as Veterans Park was planning on being closed on Monday, Dec. 2. Now the park will be officially closed, as work will begin then, on Monday, Dec. 16.

Terracon Consultants will oversee the work that will be done by Boomerang. The change order was made because concrete blocks – which will be placed in the dam’s void to fix its scour – have to be poured in Charles City. That meant the original scope of work was changed from 17 visits based on eight blocks poured per day, to just six blocks a day. That adds more trips to the staging area at Veterans Park.

“Our agreement isn’t with Terracon – it’s with Shuck-Britson,” said Johnson. “I mean we’re swallowing over \$7,000 on a \$750,000 job. If we do one now, when’s the next change order?”

Ott stated Shuck-Britson’s recommendation is to have Terracon there for all the visits and pay the extra \$7,000.

The Council also voted to apply for up to \$10,000 in grant money from the Chickasaw County Community Foundation to potentially purchase an outdoor warning system. The deadline to apply for that grant is Jan. 15, 2025.

Council members also approved the size and design of a larger 4x8 sign that would be placed at Nashua’s Veteran Hall, located at 217 Main Street.

Skilton said he is working with a funding source of \$1,000 to help pay for the sign.

Nashua-Plainfield Calendar of Events

DECEMBER

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 6

- 4:15pm Wrestling: Boys JH Meet vs. Sumner Fredericksburg Middle @ Sumner-Fredericksburg Middle School
- 4:30pm Basketball: Girls JV Game vs. Northwood-Kensett CSD @ Northwood-Kensett Jr./Sr. High School Gym
- 5:00pm Basketball: Boys JV Game vs. Northwood-Kensett CSD @ Northwood-Kensett Jr./Sr. High School
- 6:15pm Basketball: Girls Varsity Game vs. Northwood-Kensett CSD @ Northwood-Kensett Jr./Sr. High School Gym
- 7:30pm Basketball: Boys Varsity Game vs. Northwood-Kensett CSD @ Northwood-Kensett Jr./Sr. High School Gym

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7

- 8:30am Wrestling: Boys JV Tournament vs. Wapsie Valley @ Wapsie Valley High School
- 10:00am Wrestling: Boys Varsity Tournament vs. Wapsie Valley @ Wapsie Valley High School
- 3:00pm Basketball: Boys JV Game vs. Clarksville @ Nashua-Plainfield HS NP Gymnasium-High School
- 4:15pm Basketball: Girls Varsity Game vs. Clarksville @ Nashua-Plainfield High School
- 5:30pm Basketball: Boys Varsity Game vs. Clarksville @ Nashua-Plainfield HS
- Christmas in Nashua Gateways to NE Iowa Welcome Center Craft & Vendor Show 10am-4pm

- Nashua Women of Today Santa’s Workshop 10am-11:30 pm at Nashua Public Library
- Scouts Soup Lunch at Welcome Center 11am-1pm
- Garden Club Soup Supper at The B 5-7pm
- Christmas on Main in Plainfield 5pm-7pm
- 9-10 am Chickasaw County Clover Kids, Chickasaw Co. Extension

MONDAY, DECEMBER 9

- 4:15pm Wrestling: Boys JH JH Girls vs. West Fork @ West Fork Wellness Center - Sheffield Girls Only
- 6:00pm Elementary Concert
- Nashua-Plainfield High School

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 10

- 4:00pm Basketball: Girls JV Game vs. Newman Catholic @ Nashua-Plainfield High School
- 4:00pm Wrestling: Girls Varsity Tournament vs. Waverly-Shell Rock @ Waverly-Shell Rock High School
- 4:14pm Basketball: Girls JH Game vs. Clarksville @ Clarksville High School
- 4:15pm Wrestling: Boys JH Meet vs. New Hampton @ New Hampton High School
- 5:00pm Basketball: Boys JV Game vs. Newman Catholic @ Nashua-Plainfield HS NP Gymnasium-High School
- 6:15pm Basketball: Girls Varsity Game vs. Newman Catholic @ Nashua-Plainfield High School

- 7:30pm Basketball: Boys Varsity Game vs. Newman Catholic @ Nashua-Plainfield High School
- 11am-2pm Tuesday’s at Compass Community Outreach Center

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 12

- 4:15pm Basketball: Girls JH Game vs. St. Ansgar @ Nashua-Plainfield Husky Wellness Center
- 5:00pm Basketball: Boys JV Game vs. Central City @ Nashua-Plainfield HS NP Gymnasium-High School
- 5:15pm Basketball: Boys JH Game vs. Tripoli @ Tripoli High School Game will follow a Tripoli girls JH game
- 6:00pm Wrestling: Boys Varsity Quad vs. Multiple Schools @ West Fork High School
- 6:00pm Wrestling: Boys JV Meet vs. Multiple Schools @ West Fork High School
- 6:15pm Basketball: Boys Varsity Game vs. Central City @ Nashua-Plainfield HS NP Gymnasium-High School
- 7:30pm Basketball: Girls Varsity Game vs. Janesville @ Nashua-Plainfield High School
- Coffee/Tea Convo Senior Hour 2-3pm

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 13

- 4:00pm Wrestling: Girls Varsity Invitational vs. Multiple Schools.. @ Luther College

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14

- 9:00am Wrestling: Boys Varsity Tournament vs. Multiple Schools

- @ Nashua-Plainfield High School JV/Varsity tournament
- 9:00am Wrestling: Boys JV Tournament vs. Multiple Schools @ Nashua-Plainfield High School
- 8-10 am Beef Weigh-in Charles City/Chickasaw Co. Extension

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15

- 1-2 pm Santa’s Elves & Pack 3057 Caroling

MONDAY, DECEMBER 16

- 4:00pm Basketball: Girls JV Game vs. St. Ansgar @ Nashua-Plainfield High School
- 4:15pm Basketball: Girls JH Game vs. North Butler @ North Butler Elementary - Allison
- 5:00pm Basketball: Boys JV Game vs. St. Ansgar @ Nashua-Plainfield HS NP Gymnasium-High School
- 6:15pm Basketball: Girls Varsity Game vs. St. Ansgar @ Nashua - Plainfield Middle School
- 7:30pm Basketball: Boys Varsity Game vs. St. Ansgar @ Nashua-Plainfield High School

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 17

- 4:15pm Basketball: Girls JH Game vs. Rockford Senior @ Rockford Senior High School
- 4:15pm Wrestling: Boys JH Meet vs. Multiple Schools.. @ Nashua - Plainfield Middle School
- 4:15pm Wrestling: Boys JH JH Girls vs. Charles City @ Charles City High School Girls only
- 6:00pm Wrestling: Girls Varsity Meet vs. Multiple Schools @

- Nashua-Plainfield High School
- 6:00pm Wrestling: Boys Varsity Quad vs. Multiple Schools.. @ Nashua-Plainfield High School
- 6:00pm Wrestling: Boys JV Triangular vs. Multiple Schools @ Nashua-Plainfield High School
- 11am-2pm Tuesday’s at Compass Community Outreach Center
- 6-8 pm Extension Council Meeting, Chickasaw Co. Extension

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 19

- 6:30pm Junior High Holiday Concert NP Gymnasium-High
- 7:30pm H.S. Holiday Concert NP Gymnasium-High School
- Coffee/Tea Convo Senior Hour 2-3pm

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 20

- TBD Wrestling: Boys Varsity Tournament vs. Waterloo Community School District @ Young Arena, Waterloo
- 4:00pm Basketball: Girls JV Game vs. Osage @ Osage High
- 5:00pm Basketball: Boys JV Game vs. Osage @ Osage High
- 5:00pm Wrestling: Boys JV Tournament vs. Multiple Schools @ Dike New Hartford High
- 6:15pm Basketball: Girls Varsity Game vs. Osage @ Osage High
- 7:30pm Basketball: Boys Varsity Game vs. Osage @ Osage High
- Library Movie Day Upside Down 2pm & 7pm Plainfield Public Library

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 21

- TBD Wrestling: Boys Varsity Tournament vs. Waterloo Community School District @ Young Arena, Waterloo
- 11:30am Basketball: Girls JV Game vs. North Butler @ Nashua-Plainfield High School
- 12:30pm Basketball: Boys JV Game vs. North Butler @ Nashua-Plainfield HS NP Gymnasium-High School
- 1:45pm Basketball: Girls Varsity Game vs. North Butler @ Nashua-Plainfield High School
- 3:00pm Basketball: Boys Varsity Game vs. North Butler @ Nashua-Plainfield HS NP Gymnasium-High School

MONDAY, DECEMBER 23

- Chicksaw Extension office closed

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24

- Chicksaw Extension office closed

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 25

- Chicksaw Extension office closed

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 26

- Chicksaw Extension office closed
- Coffee/Tea Convo Senior Hour 2-3 pm

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 27

- Chicksaw Extension office closed

MONDAY, DECEMBER 30

- Chicksaw Extension office closed

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 31

- Chicksaw Extension office closed

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Elected officials discuss potential raises

SUPERVISORS: FROM 1

as “informational.”

Troyna led off, and concluded by telling board members that she was “hoping that everyone takes into consideration the work that we do and values that and shows that with some type of raise.”

Pressed by Kuhn, she said she felt her office should receive a pay hike of between 4 and 4.5 percent.

Ysbrand said he was hoping for a raise between 3.75 and 4.5 percent that would allow his office to “keep up with where they’re at,” referring to treasurers in similar sized counties.

Shekleton said that she was hoping for a 3 to 4 percent increase.

Shawver’s salary is supposed to follow Iowa’s Back the Blue law, and he shared salaries for similar-sized cities and counties, along with the Iowa State Patrol Post 8 lieutenant and sergeant and among eight positions he used as a comparison, his salary ranked last.

But he requested a 4 percent increase. That would take his salary to \$106,709, which in all likelihood would keep him as the lowest paid among the Iowa State Patrol lieutenant and sergeant, the police chiefs from Boone, Spencer and Oskaloosa and the sheriffs from Shelby, Hancock and Winnebago counties.

“I’m going to recommend for myself — which will be 85 percent of my salary, which is paid to my chief deputy — just to go off our union contract,” he said, referring to the fact that employees represented by two unions will receive 4 percent raises next year. “Is it close to comparison to Back the Blue? It’s not. I don’t know if we’ll ever get to get there, but it’s all I’m asking for. I’m just asking it to be consistent based on what both unions got.”

Laudner’s office, though, probably was the most difficult to gauge because it’s hard to necessarily find “apples-to-apples” comparisons with other counties. The reason? Some counties have full-time attorneys while others have part-time attorneys. Some county attorneys have assistants, some hire out work to other lawyers and some, like Chickasaw County, have neither.



Bob Fenske/Reporter

Soon-to-be District 4 Supervisor Issac Carter (right) listens, along with current Supervisors Matt Kuhn and Steve Breitbach to Recorder Shirley Troyna during Tuesday’s board meeting in which elected officials discussed potential pay raises for the 2025-26 fiscal year.

Laudner pointed out that among counties with populations from 10,000 to 15,000 — Chickasaw County’s is right around 12,000 — the “per capita” cost of attorneys ranks fourth from last among 23 counties.

He said that since the 28E agreement with Winneshiek County to provide magistrate and juvenile court services ended in August, he is handling all criminal, juvenile and magistrate cases.

After presenting the supervisors with a number of data sheets, Laudner said he was requesting an 8 percent increase, one that would take his salary to \$135,315, but he pointed out that the county is saving about \$45,000 a year because it no longer has an assistant in the form of the Winneshiek County 28E agreement.

He added that he appreciated the fact that board members gave his assistant a \$1 per hour raise when that agreement expired. That will add up to \$2,000 a year, and if his request is granted, that would be an additional \$10,000, still far less than the

\$45,000 it was paying Winneshiek County. “I think the taxpayers are getting a pretty good bang for their buck,” he said and after going through the current salaries of county attorneys who do not have an assistant, he added that “I think it’s pretty clear the market rate is about \$135,000 for this fiscal year.”

Finally, it was the supervisors’ turn. Supervisor Jake Hackman said he was thinking about a 4 percent raise, but “we’ll have to see where the budget process works this year, the [property valuations] end up and the unspent funding balance. Some of you brought it up — the two unions we have will get 4 percent per contract. I’m somewhere there, somewhere in that area.” “My thought is the money we spend up here, we’ve got to think how that’s going to benefit a resident of Chickasaw County,” said Supervisor Steve Breitbach, while fellow board member Travis Suckow said he was “in the same boat as Steve and Jake. We’ll have to see where it takes us.”

Christmas lights remind us there’s a lot of good in world

LIGHTS: FROM 1

I drove up and down streets and realized that save for being a little older — or a lot older, to be more accurate — nothing much has changed. There’s still something special about the allure of Christmas lights.

They don’t have to be Clark Griswold power-plant draining huge, either. They don’t even have to come with a myriad of colors, which is why I love the big photo on Page 1 of this Reporter because I find something soothing and calming when it comes to white lights.

Not that I’m against reds, blues, yellows, greens, but if I put up a tree in my house this year, it’s probably going to be

decorated with white lights.

I guess what I’m saying, though, is I like pretty much all Christmas lights displays. For some, the bigger, the better. For me, sometimes simplicity wins.

Years ago, we lived in Forest City, and each Christmas season, each window in the old, ornate courthouse contained one single candle — the battery-powered kind, mind you — and every single time I left the Forest City Summit office in December, those candles covered me in warmth and holiday cheer.

And I guess that’s what Christmas lights do for me. For some reason, they bring me some kind of intangible joy

that reminds me that there is a lot of good in our world. We just have to look for it, and for me, random white, red, blue, yellow and green light bulbs do the trick for me.

This year, I turned 59, which means by the time Christmas 2025 rolls around, I will be 60.

The older I get, the more I despise winter and its onset.

But on a cold, windy night like Wednesday provided, when I came upon a house in Nashua decorated for the holidays, I didn’t feel cold.

Granted, for the most part, I snapped the photos without getting out a car whose heater was cranked to the max.

But even when I rolled down the window — OK, no one

really rolls down window anymore, do they? — I still felt that figurative warmth that makes December much more than tolerable. And it’s all because of lights that twinkle and shine each night and remind us that even with single-digit temperatures and 40 mile per hour wind gusts, Christmas is the best time of the year.

A month from now, of course, the lights will be gone. And on a cold, windy night, it will be depressingly cold and dark.

So to those who brightened the Nashua landscape Wednesday night, thank you. Thank you for reminding me with your lights that there is still a lot of good in this world.



Roger and Susan Garbes

Garbes 40th anniversary

Roger and Susan Garbes were married Dec. 8, 1984 at St Paul’s Lutheran Church in Waverly. They lived in Waverly until settling near Nashua to enjoy their retirement. Their children are Aaron (Kristin) Lentz, the late Tracie Garbes, Patrick (Brittney) Lentz and Susan (Susan) Garbes. They have seven grandchildren. The couple took a trip a few weeks ago to Branson, Missouri, to celebrate their anniversary.

Plenty of activities are on tap for Nashua, Plainfield this Saturday

CELEBRATIONS: FROM 1

“offering boxes” will be located at each home — and proceeds, according to organizers, will benefit “local area needs.”

Meanwhile, throughout both events, the Big 4 Chamber’s Holiday Promotion will have a double-punch day, meaning if you spend 50 bucks at a business, you’ll get \$100 “punched.” For each \$100 spent, a card will go into the Dec. 17 drawing for prizes totaling \$450 in “chamber bucks.”

As for the events, there are a host of them.

Let’s start in Nashua, which will also see a new business, Roosters on Main, opening.

Among the items on the schedule for Christmas in Nashua are:

- Heavenly Days Breakfast with Santa at the B from 8 to 10 a.m.
- Compass Outreach Silent Auction will be taking bids from 9 a.m. to noon.
- A craft and vendor show will be held at the Gateway to Northeast Iowa Welcome Center from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- The Old Bradford Pioneer Museum will be open from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Elementary school to put on concert Monday

Nashua-Plainfield Elementary School students will hold its annual Winter Concert this coming Monday in the high school gymnasium. The concert will begin at 6 p.m.

Legal Notice

PUBLIC NOTICE OF STORM WATER DISCHARGE
Chickasaw County Road Department plans to submit a Notice of Intent to the Iowa Department of Natural Resources to be covered under the NPDES General Permit No. 2 “Storm Water Discharge Associated with Industrial Activity for Construction Activities.”

The storm water discharge will be from a bridge construction project located in Section 6, Township 96N, Range 13W, along 140th Street in Chickasaw County. Storm water will be discharged from 1 point source and will be discharged to the following stream: Little Wapsipinicon River.

Comments may be submitted to the Storm Water Discharge Coordinator, IOWA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES, Environmental Protection Division, Henry A. Wallace Building, 502 E 9th Street, Des Moines, IA 50319-0034. The public may review the Notice of Intent from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday at the above address after it has been received by the department.

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PUBLIC NOTICE OF STORM WATER DISCHARGE
Chickasaw County Road Department plans to submit a Notice of Intent to the Iowa Department of Natural Resources to be covered under the NPDES General Permit No. 2 “Storm Water Discharge Associated with Industrial Activity for Construction Activities.”

The storm water discharge will be from a bridge construction project located in Section 34, Township 94N, Range 11W, along 300th Street in Chickasaw County. Storm water will be discharged from 1 point source and will be discharged to the following stream: Spring Creek.

Comments may be submitted to the Storm Water Discharge Coordinator, IOWA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES, Environmental Protection Division, Henry A. Wallace Building, 502 E 9th Street, Des Moines, IA 50319-0034. The public may review the Notice of Intent from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday at the above address after it has been received by the department.

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CHICKASAW COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS' MINUTES NOVEMBER 25, 2024

The Board convened on Monday, November 25, 2024, at 9:00 AM with members Breitbach, Kuhn, Suckow, Hackman and Cerwinski present in the Boardroom on the second floor of the Court House, New Hampton, Iowa. Chairperson Cerwinski called the meeting to order. Also present were Auditor Sheila Shekleton, Attorney David Laudner, Bob Fenske member of the media, EMS Director Joel Knutson, EMA Director Jeff Bernatz

Motion by Kuhn, seconded by Breitbach to approve the agenda for November 25, 2024. Roll call: All Ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Breitbach, seconded by Hackman to approve minutes for November 18, 2024. Roll call: All Ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Hackman, seconded by Suckow to acknowledge the rate increase from \$25.75 to \$26.00 for Derek Lechtenberg, Environmental Health Specialist – Board of Health, effective November 28, 2024. Roll call: All Ayes. Motion carried.

Discussed Annual Fire Sprinkler and Backflow Inspection Report for the Heritage Center conducted by Blackhawk Automatic Sprinklers.

Public comment: County Attorney David Laudner asked about the December 3, 2024 Board of Supervisors

CHICKASAW COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS' MINUTES NOVEMBER 25, 2024

Discussed the draft for the building lease and agreement for cellular repeater at Northeast Iowa Community Action office at the Heritage Center and Attorney David Laudner updated the Board of Supervisors on the progress.

Motion by Hackman, seconded by Suckow to appoint the Auditor’s office as the Safety Coordinator for Chickasaw County. Roll call: All Ayes. Motion carried.

EMS Director Joel Knutson gave department updates.

Discussion on the Medical Examiner Department with EMA Director Jeff Bernatz and EMS Director Joel Knutson and a consensus of the Board of Supervisors to have EMS Director Joel Knutson oversee the Medical Examiner financial expenditures.

Budget work session.

No committee assignment updates

Motion by Suckow, seconded by Kuhn to adjourn at 10:21 AM Roll call: All Ayes. Motion carried.

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

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City of Nashua CITY COUNCIL MINUTES City Hall

The Nashua City Council met in regular session on December 2, 2024, in Council Chambers at City Hall. The meeting was called to order at 7:00PM with Mayor Harold Kelleher III presiding. Council members present were Peggy Hall, Jake Johnson, Samantha Johnson, Ernie Willsher, and Dan Zwanziger. City employee(s) City Clerk John Ott, Water/Wastewater Supervisor Nick Henningsen, and Welcome Center Board Member Ann Senner were present along with 4 guests.

Council member Willsher called for a motion to approve the regular agenda after amending to remove 24-83 Resolution to Enter Into a Loan Agreement with Rooster’s for the Purpose of Economic Development. J. Johnson/S, M/C. RC: all ayes.

Mayor Kelleher asked for a motion to approve the consent agenda consisting of minutes from the regular meeting November 18, 2024; Consent Calendar Payment of Claims: (November 15-26, 2024) \$6610,374.20 + \$11,532.94 (Wages) See Claims Report.

General Fund: \$25,939.67
Lake/Dam: \$9,934.41
Urban Revit: \$10.00
Road Use: \$3,749.18
Employee Benefit: \$2,885.72
Debt Service: \$739.37
Dam Repair After FEMA - \$459,072.22
Water: \$16,814.98
Sewer: \$102,761.59
Total Funds: \$621,907.14
J. Johnson/M, Willsher/S, M/C. RC: all ayes.

Mayor Kelleher asked for public comments: There were none

Hearings/Resolutions:

Mayor Kelleher called for a motion to adopt the following resolution: 24-84 Resolution to Amend the Employee Handbook Adding New Sections: Comprehensive Time, Lodging, Pregnancy and Fairness Act, and Amending the Vacation Policy for Employees. Willsher/M, J. Johnson/S, M/C. RC: all ayes.

Business of the Mayor:

Mayor Kelleher wanted to remind the citizens to remove their vehicles from the Right of Way this winter to keep everything cleared for snow plows.

Department Reports:

City Clerk Ott reviewed the upcoming FY’25/26 tentative budget schedule with the council and set tentative dates for the budget workshops. The tentative dates are Wednesday January 15th, Monday January 27th and Wednesday January 29th. All workshops will be held at 6:00PM at City Hall.

Deputy Clerk

City Clerk Ott reminded the council to review the Utility Billing reconciliation and sign it showing they reviewed it. He also noted that if they have questions to ask either Lisa or himself prior to signing.

City Council:

They didn’t have anything to report. Nate Sinnwell Park Board President was not able to make it, but City Clerk Ott shared a few upcoming dates: December 7th - S’mores with Santa on Main St. and January 18th Winterfest 2025.

Ann Senner Welcome Center Board member presented the monthly report for the Welcome Center. They had \$3,075 in sales in November. They have their upcoming vendor show on Saturday December 7th from 9AM to 2PM. The Boy Scouts will be serving soup from 11AM to 1PM. The Welcome Center will be open the next two Sundays from 12PM – 4PM.

Chickasaw County Sheriff Ryan Shawver shared a copy of the Nashua Law Report for November. They were in Nashua a total of 173.5 hours in November.

Discussion/Action:

The council discussed and/or acted on multiple items.

J. Johnson/M, Zwanziger/S, M/C to approve Nick Henningsen using sick time during his probationary period. RC: all ayes.

City Clerk Ott reminded the council to review the draft Code of Ordinances that he sent them in November.

The council discussed the buildings on the West Side of Main St. that the city owns. The city was looking at tearing them down, but now a resident has looked at the buildings and inquired on the possibility of trying to save them. The resident shared some information with the council about some potential funding sources, but the city would need to apply for the funding on behalf of the developer. After discussion, council member J. Johnson told the individual that if they were serious that they should get some engineers to determine if they are stable enough to save and some cost estimates of how much it would be to stabilize them. No decisions were made.

After some discussion on the Chickasaw County Community Foundation Grant potential projects, Hall/M, Willsher/S, M/C to approve applying for funding for the Outdoor Warning System.

The council briefly reviewed the potential projects for the 5-2-1-0 Healthy Living Active Lifestyle grant, but no decisions were made.

City Clerk Ott talked about a company (Revata Consulting) that he has been talking with. They do grant writing along with providing a few other services. He gave Revata a few of the projects the city is considering and Revata put together a proposal showing some of the different funding sources that they were able to find for the projects. City Clerk Ott also shared the fee structure for the company. The grant fees range from 1%-3% of the total grant if the grant is funded. A portion of the grant fee is due up front, and the remainder is due if the grant is funded.

City Clerk Ott shared a letter drafted by Attorney Skilton for a 10 Day Notice

FIRST STATE BANK, DAM-AFTER FEMA FSB LOAN 400K\$424,162.22
GIS WORKSHOP, CH/WTR/ SWR-CY’25 LICENSE FEES.....\$9,900.00
JENDRO SANITATION SERVICE, GAR/REC NOV’24\$12,716.81
MCCALL, ZADE, USED HIS TRAILER FOR MOWER REC.....\$25.46
MICROBAC LABORATORIES INC., SWR-TESTINGS SEPT/OCT.....\$1,203.75
MURPHY, COE, AND SMITH, CH-TREASURER AUG/SEPT’24.....\$400.00
OTT, JOHN, CH-BUDGET WORKSHOP FY25/26\$109.63
POPP EXCAVATING, SWR-LINE REPAIR ACROSS RIVER. \$84,258.38
BLUE CROSS WELLMARK, HEALTH INS DEC’24\$6,628.04
AVESIS, VISION INS DEC’24\$96.64
MELISSA BERENDS, CH/WSE/AMB/ WC/PD-PAPER\$213.95
BOUND TREE MEDICAL LLC, AMB-AED BATTERY\$227.98
DOLLAR GENERAL, LIB-SUPPLIES\$335.80
FIRST STATE BANK, INT-GO LOADER LOAN DEC 2024\$739.37
HAWKINS, INC., CHEM CYLINDERS-MSG FOR PICK UP. \$90.00
LYNCH DALLAS PC, POLICY REVIEW\$133.00
MIDAMERICAN ENERGY, GAS/ELEC NOV’24\$4,957.33
RAPID PRINTERS, 3 BOXES #9 ENVELOPES\$135.00
SIMMONS PERRINE MOYER BERGMAN, DAM-LEGAL EXP REPAIRS OCT’24\$34,910.00
SPEER FINANCIAL, INC. LOAN OBLIGATION PREP-FOR 1.3\$9,865.00
ZENDA VIKTUREK, AMB-GLUCOMETER STRIPS\$17.88
IPERS, REGULAR IPERS\$4,843.26
IRS - USA TAX PAYMENT, FED/ FICA TAX\$3,418.15
TREASURER STATE OF IOWA, STATE TAX\$582.09
Accounts Payable Total\$610,374.20
Payroll Checks\$11,532.94
***** REPORT TOTAL *****
.....\$621,907.14
GENERAL FUND\$25,939.67
LAKE/DAM\$9,934.41
URBAN REVITAL\$10.00
ROAD USE\$3,749.18
EMPLOYEE BENEFIT\$2,885.72
DEBT SERVICE\$739.37
DAM REPAIR-AFTER FEMA\$459,072.22
WATER\$16,814.98
SEWER\$102,761.59
TOTAL FUNDS\$621,907.14

No. 24479
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CLAIMS REPORT (NOV. 15-26, 2024)
VENDOR, REFERENCE BANK, AMOUNT
LINCOLN SAVINGS BANK, HSA\$1,600.00
CAHOY PUMP SERVICE, INC, WAWELL#4 MATERIAL/LABOR\$4,216.00
COOLEY PUMPING, CEDAR VIEW PARK-DEC’24\$285.00
DELTA DENTAL OF IOWA, DENTAL INS DEC’24\$343.46
FEHR GRAHAM, CEDARRIVER CROSSING FORCE MAIN\$3,960.00

Iawrestle has Huskies at No. 8 in Class 1A; four N-P wrestlers in individual rankings

Boys Wrestling: From 8

wrestlers — led by Rinken at the top of 132 — in the individual rankings.

Brase is ranked sixth at 113, Carey is ranked sixth at 157 and Jones is eighth at 285.

NASHUA-PLAINFIELD 76, MASON CITY NEWMAN 6
157: Devon Blanchard (NP) won by forfeit. 165: Jackson Carey (NP)

tech. fall Urijah Paulsen, 20-3. 175: Aiden Gelnor (NP) pinned Hudson Hensley, 2:48. 190: Maverick Dietz-McDonald (NP) won by forfeit. 215: Jaxon McDonald (NP) won by forfeit. 285: Isaac Jones (NP) pinned Jackson Sable, 1:36. 106: Lincoln Huck (NP) pinned Simon Wollner, 0:16.

113: Jagger White (NP) won by forfeit. 120: Nic Brase (NP) won by forfeit. 126: Kolbie Vance (NP) pinned Daniel Spooner, 3:07. 132: Jayden

Rinken (NP) tech fall Mael Quam, 22-5. 138: Luke Zwanziger (NP) pinned Wyatt Paulsen, 1:05. 144: Alex Bosch (MCN) pinned Keldan Munn, 0:50. 150: Wyatt Bearman (NP) won by forfeit.

NASHUA-PLAINFIELD 60, GARNER-HAYFIELD-VENTURA 21
165: Carey (NP) won by forfeit. 175: Gelnor (NP) won by forfeit. 190: Parker Moritz (GHV) pinned Dietz-McDonald, 3:59. 215: McDonald (NP) pinned Benjamin Fox, 0:50. 285:

Dominic Holder (GHV) pinned Jones, 4:09. 106: Huck (NP) pinned Gunner Fry, 3:25. 113: White (NP) pinned Caleb Feld, 5:07.

120: Brase (NP) pinned Brayden Lunning, 1:10. 126: Vance (NP) pinned Samuel Katter, 0:25. 132: Rinken (NP) pinned Keith Johnson, 0:51. 138: Zwanziger (NP) pinned Israel Garcia, 1:05. 144: Jace Hendrikson (GHV) maj. dec. Lucas Sinnwell, 19-8. 150: Bearman (NP) pinned Dennis Beery, 0:38. 157:

Lucas Kral (GHV) tech fall Blanchard, 18-3.

NASHUA-PLAINFIELD 41, LAKE MILLS 36
175: Gelnor (NP) pinned Luke Fjeld, 3:25. 190: Andrew Grunhovi (LM) pinned Dietz-McDonald, 4:57. 215: Josiah Kjeldahl (LM) pinned McDonald, 1:48. 285: Wyatt Hanna (LM) pinned Jones, 0:46. 106: Huck (NP) won by forfeit. 113: Lucas Oldenkamp (LM) pinned White, 0:29. 120: Brase (NP) pinned Case

Casperson, 0:40.

126: Royce Peterson (LM) pinned Vance, 3:35. 132: Connor Sullivan (NP) won by forfeit. 138: Rinken (NP) pinned Carter Christianson, 2:45. 144: Zwanziger (NP) dec. Caleb Skogen, 15-9. 150: Steve Brandenburg (LM) pinned Bearman, 0:54. 157: Blanchard (NP) dec. Hayden Helgeson, 5-4. 165: Carey (NP) tech fall Austin Stene, 19-3.



Bob Fenske/Reporter

A horse-drawn wagon makes its way through Mikkelson Park in New Hampton on opening night of the Little Light of Mine display last Friday.

New Hampton light display welcomes Santa and fireworks Saturday

By BOB FENSKE
Of the Reporter

Jason Rude is thanking his proverbial lucky stars that he'll be shooting off fireworks this weekend for the Little Light of Mine Committee.

Yep, sometimes a week can make a heck of a difference.

The annual holiday display at Mikkelson Park flipped the switch last weekend and kicked off its 2024 season with two nights of horse-drawn wagon rides through the park.

Put it this way: Those were some downright frigid wagon rides as temperatures were in the teens and wind chills were near 0, but if the Thanksgiving weekend proved anything, we're a hearty bunch up here.

Friday night, for example, more than 350 folks took part in the wagon rides to see the lights set up by the committee and scores of area businesses, organizations and families.

And now, Little Light of Mine is getting ready for its second big event in as many weekends as Santa will be at the light display from 5 to 7 p.m. on Saturday, and when the big fella is done talking with area kiddos and parents, the night sky will

fill up with fireworks.

That's where Rude and J&M Displays comes into play. They're the fireworks guys.

"Absolutely, we'd much rather do it this weekend than last," Rude said. "It makes the fingers work a little better, especially when you're dealing with a lot of intricate stuff."

Not that he hasn't experienced some bone-chilling cold over the years at Little Light of Mine.

"Yeah, I've whined and moaned the whole time some years," Rude said with a laugh. "We can do it, but we like it when it's 40 a lot better than it's 0. Trust me, we like that a whole lot better."

And Rude said he's excited for the show that benefits what has become a New Hampton tradition — lighting up the crown jewel of the city's park system.

"This is the largest budget we've had for a show out there," he said, "and I think it's going to be a good one."

Although this is the last "big event" the Little Light of Mine Committee will put on, there's still plenty of time to enjoy the lights as the display will be on each evening through the end of the year.

Forecast means snow lovers will need to practice patience

WEATHER: FROM 1

days as highs will be in the 40s on Saturday and near 50 on Sunday.

Unfortunately, the December heat wave won't last long as by Tuesday, we'll be back in the 20s for daytime highs, with overnight lows dropping into the low teens for the rest of the week.

There also isn't a lot of positive news in the short-term forecast for those who are hoping for a white Christmas as the National Weather Service has little, if any, precipitation in the forecast through Thursday.

In other words, save for the upcoming weekend, it's going to feel a lot like winter, but it's not going to look like winter.

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Nashua-Plainfield kids listen as their coaches give them the “game plan” for a recent Little Husky Wrestling Club practice.

Lots of N-P kids take part in Little Husky tournament

LITTLE HUSKY: FROM 8

BRHW; **Sterling Dietz, NP.**
Bracket 21: Kai Smith, New Hampton; **Hunter Marks, NP;** Cash Miller, WSR; Charlie Kruse, Tripoli.
Bracket 22: Lowden Even, WAWC; Grant Norton, Janesville; Karsten Sommenmyer, WAWC; Porter Bernhardt, RWC RiverHawk.
Bracket 23: **Zander Sudol, NP;** Remington Pfertzel, Charles City; Bennett M’Guire, RWC; Bryant Hummel, Riceville.
Bracket 24: Ishaiah Meyers, Denver; Eli Swanson, Clarksville; Carter Hawks, Charles City; Calvin Molencamp, GHV.
Girls 1: Taylin Humgal, Janesville; Hadley Grantham, Clarksville; Ada Glaser, Denver; **Kyrrina Dietz, NP.**
Girls 2: Dakota Wilken, Clarksville; **Parker Hicok, NP;** Joy Norton, Janesville; Juniper Hernandez, MC RiverHawks.
Girls 3: **Brinley Masters, NP;** Jude Redmond, Charles City; Rori Wedeking, Clarksville; Lily Graham, Little Warriors.
Girls 4: Jayden Hall, CWC; Addyson Mallen, Janesville; **Emrie Brown, NP;** Myla Smoot, Clarksville.
Girls 5: Davys Hoermen, Clarksville; **Paisley Michael, NP;** Hannah Ringgenberg, RRMR; Ayla Hoermen, Clarksville.
Girls 6: **Everson Sudol, NP;** Harper Mallen, Janesville; Cora Schmauss, Denver; Allison Jacobi, North Liberty WC.
Girls 7: Mia Boss, New Hampton; Amelia Vance, Tripoli; **Shelby Brahn, NP;** Bria Ruoden, Warrior Mat Club.
Girls 8: Briley Behnke, North Butler; **Presley Loy, NP;** Maddison Hanson, Chickasaw.
Girls 9: Grey Lane, TWC; Harper Vance, Clarksville.

3-4 DIVISION
Bracket 1: **Nelson Zwanziger, NP;** Mason Nichols, WAWC; Braxton Batton, NK; Archer Knutson, Chickasaw.
Bracket 2: Barret Gibbs, WWC; Nolan Kelly, A-P; Briggs Hendershot, Janesville; Kersten Sommenmeyer, WAWC; Jett Stroberg, North Butler.
Bracket 3: Parker Begalske, THWC; **Preston Michael, NP;** Lowden Even, WAWC; Abram Smoot, Clarksville.
Bracket 4: **Nilan Goddard, NP; Dake Zwanziger, NP;** Carter Jensen, WSR; Drew Olsen, Janesville.
Bracket 5: Jiles Lantz, Chucktown; Owen Hunt, RiverHawk; **Dash Herrick, NP; Brior Ross, NP.**
Bracket 6: **Dax McMichael, NP; Tate Henningsen, NP;** Elliot Reicherts, TWC Cedar Falls; Traylon Stangel, Osage.
Bracket 7: Bennett Fields, Pack 732; **Rowan Hoffman, NP;** Owen Schott, THWC; Aveah Sainci,

RWC RiverHawk.
Bracket 8: Matthew Hanson, Chickasaw Elite; **Royce Meyer, NP; Emmet Huck, NP;** Will Utley, Mr. Vernon.
Bracket 9: Decker McDonough, Central Springs; **Grayson Bloker, NP;** Kaleb Sweet, Chickasaw; Lucas Grimm, Osage.
Bracket 10: Atkins Meyers, Denver; Chase Vance, Immortal; Christopher Wegner, DNH; **Sawyer Lichty, NP.**
Bracket 11: Keagan Lane, Tripoli; Kinnick Cajthaml, Chucktown Wrestling Club; Emery Hanley, Charles City; Hayden Liddle, Tripoli; Emmett Brown, Chickasaw Elite.
Bracket 12: Liam Huffman, St. Ansgar; Holden Onoo, RiverHawk; **Dominick Sinnwell, NP;** Zachary Kennedy, Chickasaw Elite.
Bracket 13: Piper Fields, Pack 732; Brantley Miller, Roughhouse; **Breckin Brown, NP;** Maxwell Anderson, Denver.
Bracket 14: Case Servantee, Roughhouse Wrestling Club; Bane Harper, Warrior Mat Club; Parker Freese, Dirty Bird Wrestling; Waylon Koebrick, Chucktown Wrestling; Isaac Kruse, Tripoli.
Bracket 15: **Ryder Hoffman, NP;** Colt Homewood, USA Mat Club; Brooks Lechtenberg, Chickasaw Elite; Shane Norton, Warrior Mat Club; Briggs Freese, DNH.
Bracket 16: Keaton Stangel, Osage; Colt McCall, Atlantic; **Drake Steere, NP;** Weston Roberts, Janesville.
Bracket 17: Blake Pavlovich, Charles City; Carter Drewlow, Chickasaw Elite; James Trask, RiverHawk; Jaxon Blue, Clarksville.
Bracket 18: Ezra Meyers, Denver; **Will Miller, NP.**
Girls 1: Sawyer Phillips, RWC; Zaylee Glaser, Denver; Mia Hovenga, Clarksville; Sloan Dungey, Chickasaw Elite; Molly Phillips, Sailor Mat Club Waterloo.
Girls 2: Aveah Sainci, RWC RiverHawk; Jaylynn Heller, Denver; Indigo Uhde, RiverHawk WC.
Girls 3: Harper Jaeger, DC Mat Club; Payton Billington, Clarksville; Lillian Noe, Charles City.
Girls 4: Sophia Hoodjer, Clarksville; Echo Even, WAWC; Faith Norton, Janesville; **Piper Iriarte, NP.**
5-6 DIVISION
Bracket 1: **Rowan Hoffman, NP;** Ethan Binnebosc, NK; Logan Thoreson, Janesville; Uriah Sainci, RWC.
Bracket 2: Tucker Glaser, Denver; **Kash Goddard, NP;** Liam Wiechmann, TWC; Ryder Mellon, Riceville.
Bracket 3: **Krew Nelson, NP;** Ruger Hoveland, MC RiverHawks; Hayes Blaine, Traer; Andrew Cafaro, Denver.
Bracket 4: Avery Frerichs, Roughhouse; Easton Himschoot, USA Mat Club; Maxwell Endelman, RiverHawks; **Warner Huck, NP;** Easton Himschoot, USA Mat Club Avery Frerichs, Roughhouse.

Bracket 5: John Lembke, Clarksville; **Owen Harrington, NP;** Hunter Rule, Roughhouse; Ryne Utley, Mt. Vernon; Corbin Liddle, Tripoli.
Bracket 6: **Jaxton White, NP;** Jase Alden, Osage; Lawson Perkins, NK; **Owen McMichael, NP.**
Bracket 7: Jackson Brunschean, Wapsie Valley; Payton Clemen, WSR; Jase Norton, Janesville ; Reynold Marzen, St. Ansgar.
Bracket 8: Carter Jacobi, North Liberty; **Kash Nelson, NP; Sterling Morris, NP;** Jackson Janssen, RiverHawks.
Bracket 9: **Ryder Hoffman, NP; Peyton Sudol, NP;** Jeb Kellogg, Chickasaw Elite.
Bracket 10: Evan Kleitsh, Wapsie Valley; Tom Brandenburg, Lake Mills; Jake Heller, Denver.
Bracket 11: **Tucker Johnson, NP;** Oliver Mann, WAWC; Caleb Budke, USA Mat Club.
Bracket 12: Weston Schwartz, Immortal; Jon Schellhorn, Janesville; Lukas Sommermeyer, WAWC; Jacob Haugen, WWFC.
Bracket 13: Connely Ries, Riceville; Bentley Behnke, North Butler; Jax Wilkinson, Tiger WC.
Bracket 14: Declyn Junkins, Immortal; Josiah Prazak, Central Springs; **Max Hennick, NP; Edwin Legel, NP.**
Bracket 15: **Walker Bearman, NP;** River Downs, Denver; Cash Parker, Chucktown.
Girls 1: Raegan Camenzind, USA Mat Club; Nora Lane, Tripoli Wrestling Club; Melia Lantz, Charles City Wrestling Club; Estella Vance, Tripoli.
Girls 2: Lydia Prosser, Chickasaw Elite; Anastin Cimmiyotti, Riceville; Rylie Wedekaw, Clarksville; Zaidée Alden, Osage; Harper Schuchhardt, Chickasaw Elite.
7-8 DIVISION
Bracket 1: Landon Wiechmann, TWC; Walker Wheeler, WSR; Bryson Wheeler, WAWC.
Bracket 2: Tucker Brumm, Immortal; Oliver Sonberg, Osage; Jaxton Kruger, Immortal; Brayden Lechtenberg, CEW.
Bracket 3: **Reed Scharnhorst, NP;** Caleb Rachut, Osage; Benton Schwarck, Immortal; Liam Onoo, RiverHawk.
Bracket 4: Jace Rupe, Janesville; Kellen Taets, Osage; Cameron Cafaro, Denver; Macey, Marzen, Osage.
Bracket 5: Brody Trees, Osage; Teddy Zwanziger, Linn-Mar; Brody Siems, WAWC; Michael Pipper, Clarksville.
Bracket 6: Ayden Holthaus, Riceville; Bentley Cosby, Janesville; Crayton Flaig, Tripoli; Easton Schmitt, Charles City.
Bracket 7: Brady Eastman, Janesville; Bentley Hulbert, Chickasaw; **Ethan Zwanziger, NP.**
Bracket 8: Mason Wordes, NBC; Kingsley Paulson, New Hampton; **Walker Bearman, NP.**
Girls 1: Brianna Perkins, NK; Cate Lodge, Clarksville; Emma Hovenga, Clarksville.
Girls 2: **Emmie Sudol, NP;** Kaybrie Lovrien, Clarksville.

Huskies play home hoops opener on Saturday night

Boys Hoops: FROM 8

them to miss large portions of the contest and it was one of the reasons a 9-1 N-P lead was steadily cut into. Mueller said Rockford even took the lead in the third quarter for a short stretch before N-P closed the door for good late in the final period of play.
Seventeen turnovers was also an issue for N-P, which amplified the Huskies’ foul trouble and free-throw shooting woes. The Huskies shot just 6-for-20 from the charity stripe.
“It was basically us putting them on the line and them making more free throws than we did,” said Mueller about the reasons N-P didn’t come away with a double-digit win.
The double-digit turnovers that were pushing upwards of 20 – also surprised Mueller.
“For the first game I expect some, but I don’t expect 17,” said Mueller.
Rockford’s Charles Bayim (point guard) hit a 3-point-er underneath 10 seconds to close the N-P lead to 60-58, but Malven drained one of two from the free-throw line to represent the final tally on the scoreboard.
Malven – N-P’s top scorer, assistant and rebounder leader, as well as the top guy coming back for the Huskies in steals – scored nine points on 3-8 shooting. He connected on half of his four 3-point attempts. Malven registered five rebounds and came away with three blocks.
N-P shot over 50 percent from the floor (24-47) and over 40 percent from beyond the arc (7-17).
N-P junior forward Avery

Mueller paced the Huskies offensive attack with a team-leading 14 points. He was a very economical 5-8 from the field and 4-7 from long range.
Jake Smith, another up-and-coming junior forward like Smith, pumped in 12 points on 5-8 shooting. Smith also ripped down eight rebounds and dished our four assists.
Smith and Avery Mueller – reserves a season ago that have improved their games by leaps and bounds – will be major contributors this season. Expect big numbers from the athletic tandem moving forward.
“Those guys – they put in the time,” said Matt Mueller. “It isn’t by accident that Jake and Avery have a good night.”
Jase Hansen, another one of Matt Mueller’s standout juniors and a starter back from last year that almost averaged 10 points a game, was also very efficient from the floor with 13 points. He was 6-10 shooting and nailed one of his three shots from downtown.
“We had some guys step up and played well and got us the win,” said Matt Mueller.
Foelske, a starter from last year returning this year in the backcourt, had an impressive

overall stat line despite his foul trouble. He notched nine points on 4-9 shooting to go along with six assists, five rebounds and four steals. Don’t look for his 1-9 shooting at the charity stripe to continue, though.
“Most teams play in those jamborees and we did not,” said Mueller. “Maybe we had to shake off some rust? I think we’ll come back and play better.”
N-P (1-0) hits the road again tonight (Friday) at Northwood-Kensett (1-0, 1-0). Saturday is the home opener for the Huskies versus Clarksville (0-1). Tip-off time for the boys game is slated for 5:30 p.m.
NASHUA-PLAINFIELD 61, ROCKFORD 58
NP 13 9 20 19 - 61
Rock 3 19 15 21 - 58
Matthew Malven 3-8 1-4 9, Jake Smith 5-8 2-2 12, Jase Hansen 6-10 0-1 13, Avery Mueller 5-8 0-0 14, Trent Rodruck 1-1 2-4 4, Ty Berger 0-1 0-0 0, Cal Levi 0-0 0-0 0, Landon Foelske 4-9 1-9 9, Tucker Jacobs 0-2 0-0 0. Totals 24-47 6-20 61.
3-point field goals - Mueller 4-7, Malven 2-4, Hansen 1-3, Jacobs 0-2, Foelske 0-1.
Rebounds - Smith 11, Malven 6, Foelske 4, Mueller 3, Rodruck 2, Jacobs 2, Levi 1, Hansen 1.
Assists - Foelske 6, Smith 4, Malven 3, Hansen 2, Mueller 1.
Steals - Foelske 4, Malven 1,

Hansen 1.
Blocks - Malven 2, Rodruck 1, Jacobs 1.

Husky girls show plenty of mat grit

GIRLS WRESTLING: FROM 8

Menne of Postville in just 15 seconds.
Blokер continued her roll with another sub-minute fall as she took down Mya Heather of Alburnett. She put the Pirate on her back to earn a win by fall in just 46 seconds to claim gold.
A couple of other Huskies also encountered success on the evening – while not championship level, it was a step in the right direction for Reams’ young squad. Those wrestlers would be freshman Adiley Gerholdt and junior Jayla Patten.
“I think they did really well. They’re showing vast improvement over the first tournament already,” said Reams. “Obviously we’re a lot better in shape, so we’re able to run a match a little better than we have previously.”
Gerholdt, wrestling at 110 pounds, came up with a 5-2 win over Postville’s Angie Barrutia-Rucal in a second round consolation match. Barrutia-Rucal pinned Gerholdt in the Decorah Tournament back on Nov. 30 in 5:26.
Gerholdt is now 2-4 on the young season. Reams talked about Gerholdt’s progress in a challenging sport – especially for first-year varsity wrestlers.
“She’s young. We’re throwing her in varsity situations where she should still be JV, but girls wrestling being the way it is – it’s varsity or you don’t get to wrestle,” said Reams. “She’s kind of been thrown to the cart and I think she’s coming out perfectly. She’s also learning from mistakes.”
Patten (1-4) also picked up a pin at 130 pounds over Jena Peters of South Winneshiek in 3:59. Even though Patten lost in her next match, Reams saw a different wrestler in his up-and-coming Husky.
“After Jayla’s win she just seemed a lot more confident

in her skills and her abilities, which was just nice to see,” said Reams.
N-P sophomore Lily Jones also bumped up a weight class as Reams said she was close to 30 pounds lighter than the opponents she took on at 190 pounds. In Jones first competition of the year she lost to North Butler/Clarksville’s Maliyah Liddle by fall in 48 seconds. Unfortunately, Jones had to exit the tournament in her first consolation match because of an injury default. Reams believes the injury is a deep muscle bruise.
“She volunteered to go to 190, weighing 160,” said Reams.
N-P competes in the Waverly-Shell Rock Tournament this coming Tuesday and hits the mat in an invite at Luther College in Decorah on Friday, Dec. 13.
CENTRAL ELKADER GIRLS TOURNAMENT TEAM SCORES
West Delaware 154, Alburnett 146, Sumner-Fredericksburg 121.5, North Fayette Valley 114.5, St. Ansgar 111.5, Postville 86, North Butler/Clarksville 79, MFL MarMac 78, Central Elkader 68, Oelwein 56, South Winneshiek 50, Union Community 35, Nashua-Plainfield 32, Riceville 25, Starmont 20, Waterloo Columbus 3, Charles City 0.
NASHUA-PLAINFIELD RESULTS
110 - Adiley Gerholdt did not place. Quarterfinal - Braelyn Suckow (SF) tech. fall Gerholdt, 18-0. Cons. Round 2 - Gerholdt dec. Angie Barrutia-Rucal (POST), 5-2. Cons. Semi - Hallie Portwood (ALB) pinned Gerholdt, 1:51.
130 - Jayla Patten did not place. Champ. Round 1 - Charlotte Koether (MFL) pinned Patten, 5:32. Cons. Round 1 - Patten pinned Jena Peters (SW), 3:59. Cons. Round 2 - Claire Koester (NFV) pinned Patten, 1:18.
170 - Nevaeh Bloker placed first. Quarterfinal - Bloker pinned Mylee Mueller (CE), 1:53. Semifinal - Bloker pinned Ariana Menne (POST), 0:15. 1st Place Match - Bloker pinned Mya Heather (ALB), 0:46.
190 - Lily Jones did not place. Quarterfinal - Naliyah Liddle (NBC) pinned Jones, 0:48. Cons. Round 1 - Makenley Raber (OEL) won by medical forfeit over Jones.

Lions youth wrestling tourney set for Dec. 14; early entry deadline is Tuesday

The 46th Annual New Hanpton Lions Individual Wrestling Tournament will take place on Saturday, Dec. 14, and the deadline for “early entry” – i.e., a lower fee – is this coming Tuesday.
There will be five divisions from pre-kindergarten through sixth grade – including a girls only division – that will compete at New Hampton High School.
A four-person round-robin style format will award a trophy to first place and medals for second, third and fourth place in each weight class.
Weigh-ins for 5th/6th grade (boys junior division) and 3rd/4th graders (boys pee-wee division) go from 7:45 until 8:30 a.m. The boys midget division (1st/2nd graders) and the boys tots division (pre-kindergarten, kindergarten) will weigh in from 9:30 to 10:15 a.m. The girls division (pre-kindergarten to 6th grade) will weigh in from 9:30 until 10:15 a.m. as well.
Weight classes will be decided after weigh-ins with the girls division being bracketed by age and grade.
The early entry fee’s cost is \$15 and the late entry fee (after Dec. 10), as well as walk-ins, will cost \$20 to enter the tourney. “Walk-ins” will also be accepted on the day of the tournament.
Registration is available online at www.teamsideline.com/newhamptonia. Then scroll down to the 46th Annual New Hampton Lions Club Wrestling Tournament.

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Balanced Huskies pick up win in season opener

Three Husky boys in double figures while two more score nine as Nashua-Plainfield holds off Rockford for a 61-58 non-league victory

By **KELLY TERPSTRA**
Of the Reporter

When a team can't make open 15-foot shots without a defender in their face while the clock isn't running – it's tough to win basketball games. That's how important free-throw shooting is for you step to the charity stripe for a considerable amount of time during a hoops contest – regardless of level. When you also get three of your top players in foul trouble and they have to

sit on the bench for extended periods of a hardwood match-up – your squad's chance at victory drops dramatically when you couple that with lackluster charity-stripe production.

Throw in too many turnovers on top of all that and it can be a recipe for disaster. But the Nashua-Plainfield Huskies



Mueller

definitely defied the odds on Monday night on the road in their season opener at Rockford (0-2) – even after letting a 13-3 first-quarter lead slip away.

Those are some of the facets of the game that Matt Mueller's squad needs to work on – but for this early in the season, his Huskies also did a lot of things well.



Hansen

N-P held off the pesky Warriors to win an old-school battle with former TIC East foe Rockford – who has since moved on to the North division of the Iowa Star Conference. The final score read 61-58 in the Huskies' favor and they had to fight off the Warriors, who took advantage of N-P's critical miscues.



Smith

“Our defense at times would let us down. We had some deficiencies in our defense, for sure. That's gotta get cleared up. We were having trouble playing defense with a few guys without fouling,” said Mueller. “We got in serious foul trouble.”

Husky starters Matthew Malven (guard), Trent Rodruck (center) and reserve Landon Foelske (guard) were all whistled for multiple fouls during the non-conference clash. That forced

[SEE BOYS HOOPS, 7](#)

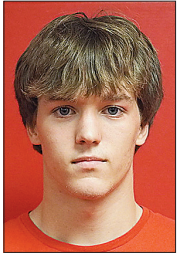
N-P boys cap quad with a comeback win over Lake Mills

Huskies rout Newman, Garner-Hayfield-Ventura before rallying for a 41-36 victory over Bulldogs

By **BOB FENSKE**
Of the Reporter

Forget the gray hair, Nashua-Plainfield boys wrestling coach Al Frost said nights like Thursday can mean only one thing.

“They're all gray now,” he said, “but that Lake Mills dual, I had a few more hairs fall out. That was a wild way to start the season.”



Blanchard

Indeed it was as the Huskies swept all three matches in a season-opening quadrangular at Lake Mills, but it was the finale that provided the fans with the best treat of the night as Nashua-Plainfield rallied from a 30-18 deficit to score a 41-36 victory in a battle of two teams that are almost always among the best 1A squads in the Top of Iowa Conference.

The Huskies began their comeback when Connor Sullivan received a forfeit at 132 and Jayden Rinken, ranked No. 1 by IAwrestle at 132, bumped up to 138 and came up with a second-period pin to knot the score at 30.

Luke Zwanziger moved up to 144 and jumped out to a 10-1 lead and then held off the Bulldogs' Caleb Skogen for a 15-9 decision that gave the Huskies a 33-30 lead.

But Nashua-Plainfield gave up a pin – their sixth of the dual – and Lake Mills had a 36-33 lead heading into the final two matches.

Enter Devon Blanchard who scored a first-period takedown, fell behind 4-3 in the second period and then came up with two escapes – one near the end of the second period; the other in the third – to eke out a 5-4 win over 12th-ranked Hayden Helgeson at 157.

“Hats off to Devon Blanchard,” Frost said. “That was probably an upset, and that young man wrestled his butt off and came up with a huge win for our team. I love the fight

he showed, and we needed that win so we could leave it up to Jackson Carey.”

And Carey delivered, winning a 19-3 technical fall at 165 to clinch the Huskies five-point victory.

“It takes a team to do well,” Frost said. “We showed a lot of fight, we had some good scraps and it's a good way to start the season. Coming in here and getting three wins, I'll take it.”



Carey

Earlier in the evening, the Huskies rolled past an undermanned Newman team – taking advantage of six forfeits and getting pins from Aiden Gelnier, Isaac Jones, Lincoln Huck, Kolbie Vance and Zwanziger to pick up a 76-6 victory.

The Huskies got pins from Jaxon McDonald, Huck, Jagger White, Nic Brase, Vance, Rinken, Zwanziger and Wyatt Bearman in a 60-21 romp over GHV.

But Lake Mills was the big victory on this night.

“Obviously, we've got a ton of work to do,” Frost said, “but you come up here and win three matches, beat Lake Mills, it's a good start. We've got to get better, no doubt about it, but it was good for our guys to wrestle somebody else and see where they're at and what they need to work on.”

The Huskies head to Wapsie Valley for a tournament on Saturday and travel to Sheffield for a quadrangular on Thursday when they will take on West Fork, Eagle Grove and Northwood-Kensett.

Nashua-Plainfield will have its home opener a week from this Saturday, on Dec. 14, when the Huskies host their home invitational tournament.

.....

The Huskies are ranked eighth in the first IAwrestle Class 1A rankings of the year, and Nashua-Plainfield has four

[SEE BOYS WRESTLING, 5](#)

Wartburg continues Division III playoff success with win over Wisconsin-Plattville

Winning playoff games is becoming “old hat” for the Wartburg football team, and the 10th-ranked Knights did it again this past Saturday with a 19-11 victory over seventh-ranked Wisconsin-Plattville.

Wartburg will play December football for a third straight year after the Knights used a strong running game and a stout defense to win Saturday's second-round game.

The Knights, whose roster includes former Nashua-Plainfield starter McKade Munn, improved to 10-1 and will host Bethel University (Minnesota) in a third-round game this Saturday. Kickoff at Walston-Hoover Stadium in Waverly is set for noon.

Wisconsin-Plattville came into last Saturday's game ranked seventh while Wartburg was ranked 10th.

But the Knights took an early 10-0 lead and outrushed Plattville 2221-49 to pick up the win, improving Wartburg coach Chris Winter's career record to 43-6 and his playoff mark to 7-2.

Little Husky Wrestling Tournament hits all the right notes once again

Youth wrestling is alive and well here in Northeast Iowa, and if one needed proof, it was delivered on Saturday, Nov. 16, when hundreds of wrestlers took to the mats for the annual Little Husky Wrestling Tournament.

More than 315 wrestlers – ranging from pre-kindergartners to eighth-graders – competed in the tournament, and Nashua-Plainfield was well-represented at the tournament; in fact, the little Huskies claimed 19 bracket championships.

The titlists included Kai Demro, Porter Iriarte, Nelson Zwanziger, Marshall Glaser, Zander Sudol, Brinley Masters and Everson Sudol in the PreK-2 Division; Zwanziger, Nilan Goddard, Dax McMichael and Ryder

Hoffman in the 3-4 Division; Rowan Hoffman, Krew Nelson, Jaxton White, Ryder Hoffman, Tucker Johnson and Walker Bearman in the 5-6 Division; and Reed Scharnhorst and Emmie Sudol in the 7-8 Division.

Little Husky Wrestling Club member Heather Asche said a “big thank you” needed to go out to a host of folks who gave wrestlers a chance to enjoy a day of good competition.

Asche said that the Nashua-Plainfield Booster Club, the Nashua-Plainfield wrestling coaches, cheerleaders, managers, wrestlers and parents, along with the referees “worked hard to ensure safe and productive matches.”

Here are the results from the meet,

with Nashua-Plainfield wrestlers in bold:

PREK-2 DIVISION

Bracket 1: Brykon Dougan, Denver; Theo Redmond, Charles City; **Wesley Wedeking, NP**; Everett Ruesink, South Winn.

Bracket 2: Kolt Stoops, Janesville; **Beau Davis, N-K**; Calen Mohs, NP; Cash Sudol, NP.

Bracket 3: Kash Pitz, Tripoli; Jacob Phillips, Sailor Mat Club Waterloo; Julien Munez, Charles City; **Jackson Glaser, NP**.

Bracket 4: **Kai Demro, NP**; Nico Miller, Tripoli; **Remy Litterer, NP**; Riggins Mai, Chickasaw.

Bracket 5: Jackson Eichenberger, New Hampton; Grayson Landers, North Butler; Jayce Beal, Denver; Watter Jeske, Storm Chasers.

Bracket 6: Grayson Wegner, CWC Chucktown; Pearce Schmauss, Denver; Gage Apel, CWC; **Uriah Kelleher, NP**.

Bracket 7: Royce Ullom, Denver; Cade Ketelsen, Osage; Carver Fye, New Hampton; Grayson Murphy, CWC.

Bracket 8: **Porter Iriarte, NP**; **Carter Chamberlain, NP**; Hunter Graham, Little Warriors; Carter Stoops, Janesville.

Bracket 9: Khye Sainci, RWC RiverHawk; Cruz Doubek, WSR; Bentley Nelson-Retting, Tripoli; **Jax Mohs, NP**.

Bracket 10: Mason Begalske, THWC; Bowen Baltes, New Hampton; **Rhett Wangness, NP**; Cain Miller, WSR.

Bracket 11: Greyson Bahr, Denver; Sonny Henry, Tiger Hawk; **Tate Steere, NP**; Aiden Grimm, Osage.

Bracket 12: Cash Helmricks, WSR; Brenneke Dougan, Denver; **Jordy Wedeking, NP**; Charlie Corazalla, Denver.

Bracket 13: Kayden Abell, RRNR; **Nicholas Nelson, NP**; Lincoln Bitker, RHWC; Archer Wiggins, Charles City.

Bracket 14: Melvin Johnson, New Hampton;



ON TAP FOR OUR NASHUA-PLAINFIELD HUSKIES

FRIDAY

Basketball at Northwood-Kensett, girls JV at 4 p.m., boys JV at 5 p.m., varsity girls at 6:15 p.m., varsity boys at 7:30 p.m.

SATURDAY

Boys wrestling at Wapsie Valley Chris Davis Invitational, JV at 8:30 a.m., varsity at 10 a.m.

Basketball vs. Clarksville, boys JV at 3 p.m., girls varsity at 4:15 p.m., varsity boys at 5:30 p.m.

TUESDAY

Basketball vs. Mason City Newman, girls JV at 4 p.m., boys JV at 5 p.m., varsity girls at 6:15 p.m., varsity boys at 7:30 p.m.

Girls varsity wrestling at Waverly-Shell Rock Invitational, 4 p.m.

THURSDAY

Boys basketball vs. Central City, JV at 5 p.m., varsity at 6:15 p.m.

Girls varsity basketball vs. Janesville, 7:30 p.m.

FRIDAY, DEC. 13

Girls varsity wrestling at South Winneshiek Invitational, Lu-

ther College, Decorah, 4 p.m.

SATURDAY, DEC. 14

Boys varsity and JV wrestling at Nashua-Plainfield Invitational, 9 a.m.

MONDAY, DEC. 16

Basketball vs. St. Ansgar, JV girls at 4 p.m., JV boys at 5 p.m., varsity girls at 6:15 p.m., varsity boys at 7:30 p.m.

TUESDAY, DEC. 17

Boys and girls varsity and junior varsity wrestling vs. Janesville, New Hampton and North Fayette Valley, 7 p.m.

FRIDAY, DEC. 20

Boys varsity wrestling at Battle of Waterloo, Young Arena, 9 a.m. or 3 p.m.

Basketball at Osage, JV girls at 4 p.m., JV boys at 5 p.m., varsity girls at 6:15 p.m., varsity boys at 7:30 p.m.

SATURDAY, DEC. 21

Boys varsity wrestling at Battle of Waterloo, Young Arena, 9 a.m. or 3 p.m.

Basketball vs. North Butler, JV girls at 11:30 a.m., JV boys at 12:30 p.m., varsity girls at 1:45 p.m., varsity boys at 3 p.m.



Kelly Terpstra/Reporter

Nashua-Plainfield's Nevaeh Bloker has her arm raised after winning a match in last winter's Osage Invitational, and this past Saturday she won the tournament title at the Central Elkader Tournament.

BUMPING UP FOR A TITLE

NASHUA-PLAINFIELD'S BLOKER REELS IN TOURNAMENT CROWN AT 170 POUNDS

By **KELLY TERPSTRA**
Of the Reporter

Nevaeh Bloker's first name is heaven spelled backwards.

That unique reverse spelling in a word is called a semordnilap – which is a palindrome spelled backwards.

Examples of palindrome words in the dictionary that are spelled the same backwards as they are in their current form are racer, kayak and mom.

There's also palindromic phrases and quite a few if you didn't already know – but that's an English lesson for another day.

The point is Bloker – Nashua-Plainfield's skilled middleweight wrestler – was feeling a lot like her semordnilap moniker after all was said and done at the Central Elkader Tournament on Tuesday evening, because she was wasn't in the best of moods at the start of the 17-team tourney.

It's amazing how a few hours can change one's mindset.

Bloker – unable to make weight at her usual 155 pounds – bumped up a weight class to the 170-pound bracket and what transpired next is pure heart and will.

“Right away she was devastated – she

“IT WAS AWESOME TO SEE.

SHE DIDN'T KIND OF WIN; SHE WHOLEHEARTEDLY PINNED HER WAY THROUGH. SHE SHOWED EVERYBODY WHO WAS BOSS; SHE REALLY DID.”

— N-P GIRLS WRESTLING COACH REECE REAMS ON NEVAEH BLOKER

didn't make weight,” said N-P head coach Reece Reams. “There were some tears. When I said hey, you're bumping up, she wasn't the most happy, but nobody ever is when they have to bump up 15 pounds to wrestle.”

Bloker – wrestling with an edge and a chip on her shoulder – came up with the best performance of her varsity wrestling career as she pinned her way to that 170-pound title.

“Honestly, that kind of turned around because she started wrestling a little mad and a little aggressive. It was awesome to see her put moves together,” said Reams.

In the process, the Nashua-Plainfield

standout seemed to hit another gear in her mat development that could lead to big things down the road for the leader of the Husky wrestling program.

Her coach and teammates were ecstatic to say the least about Bloker's gold medal performance.

“It was awesome to see. She didn't kind of win; she wholeheartedly pinned her way through. She showed everybody who was boss; she really did,” said Reams.

Reams said the N-P coaching staff came up with the proper strategy to take on girls in the 170-pound bracket that on paper may have been bigger and stronger – but that didn't deter Bloker.

“We came up with game plans, because obviously she was lighter,” said Reams. “You don't want her shooting in or getting underneath for them to fall on you.”

Bloker, now 7-2, started out the day with a bye, but quickly got to work in the quarterfinal round with a first-period pin over Mylee Mueller of Central Elkader in 1:53.

Then she ratcheted it up a notch by advancing to the finals with a lightning-quick semifinal round pin over Ariana

[SEE GIRLS WRESTLING, 7](#)