

3rd Annual

Nashua Dam Winterfest

Saturday, January 27th

Cedar View Park

For More Information Contact

Nashua Park Board

Winter Base Camp located at

upper shelter

Food

11:00-2:00

Big Foot BBQ

11:00-1:30

Hot Chololate

& Coffee Bar

Winterfest Activities

10:00 Free Throw Contest

11-2:00 Winterfest Base Camp

11-3:00 Sledding

Open Open Ice Skating

11:00 Ice Bike Demo

11:00 Pool Tourney

11-1:00 Snowshoeing

12-2:00 Kids Ice Fishing Clinic

1:00 Kite Festival

1:00 Bags Tourney

4:00 Bingo

5:30 Luminary Lighting

6:00 Fireworks

5:30 Soup Cook Off

7:00 Darts Tourney

7:00 Live Music







Winterfest Sponsored by Husky Wellness Center, Twin Ponds Nature Center, Cedar Valley Trailer Sales, S&T Collision, Nashua Fire Department

Nashua

REPORTER

Huskies score non-league wins, fall in TIC tilts

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Vol. 117, Issue 0319 January 2024Nashua, IA 50658 • 75 cents

City Council remains shorthanded

Current council members push appointment of new member back to Feb. 5 meeting

By Kelly Terpstra
Of the Reporter

There were plenty of appointments made, an update on a wayfinding signage project and a request by the former mayor to consider making the downtown area of Nashua a priority at the most recent

City Council meeting held this past Monday. But the biggest question concerning an appointment still remains – who will fill the remaining vacant Council seat for Nashua? That decision, likely an appointment by the Council, has now been pushed back to the next scheduled

Council meeting on Monday, Feb. 5 after city officials still had not come up with an interested individual that wants to run on the City Council to replace the void left by current Nashua Mayor Hal Kelleher. Currently, the Council only has four members and needs to fill an open Council seat that was vacat-

ed by Kelleher – a former Councilman who replaced former Nashua Mayor Alex Anthofer, who resigned back in October. Kelleher resigned his spot on the Council on Dec. 7 and that window to

SEE CITY COUNCIL, 2

We’ve got ourselves a Winterfest

Thanks to Mother Nature’s cooperation, Nashua Park Board event a go for Jan. 27

By Bob Fenske
Of the Reporter

Nashua Park Board President Nate Sinnwell couldn’t help but laugh as he talked about the quandary he and his fellow board members faced a couple of weeks ago. With no snow on the ground and a warm winter thus far, the Park Board was close to plugging the poll on its biggest event of the season – Winterfest. “We were talking the other day and we were saying that seven, 10 days ago, we were pretty sure we were going to have to cancel,” Sinnwell said of the Jan. 27 event that will be held at Cedar View Park and various locations throughout the city. “We knew we needed some cooperation from the weather.” He paused and laughed. “Now, some people might say that Mother Nature over-cooperated with us, but we’ll take it.” And Sinnwell and his fellow Park Board members were excited earlier this week when they made the announcement that Nashua Dam Winterfest 2024 is a definite go.

SEE WINTERFEST, 2

Despite drought, Iowa farmers bring in some nice yields in ‘23

By Jared Strong
Iowa Capital Dispatch

Iowa averaged about 201 bushels of corn per acre last year, an estimate that eclipsed the previous year’s yields and ranks fourth-highest in the state’s history, according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture. That figure is an increase of one bushel per acre from previous USDA estimates during the recent harvest and is just three bushels shy of the 2021 record. And that is despite drought conditions that have lingered in the state for more than three years. “Even with all the weather challenges last year, Iowa remained a production powerhouse,” said

SEE YIELDS, 3



Kelly Terpstra/Reporter

Nashua area Republicans sign-in for the precinct caucuses at the Gateway to Northeast Iowa Welcome Center Monday evening, when former President Donald Trump easily claimed victory in Iowa’s first-in-the-nation contest for the 2024 GOP nomination.

Trump dominates caucuses

Former president crushes the field as GOP kicks off nomination season with ‘business meeting’

By Kelly Terpstra
Of the Reporter

Republicans made a statement on Monday night in Nashua – they aren’t afraid of the weather. Despite sub-zero temps and an arctic freeze that has blanketed the state – Chickasaw County was well represented in its caucus held at the Gateway to Northeast Iowa Welcome Center in Nashua. The decent turnout of Chickasaw County Republican voters also made no bones about it – the vast majority support former President Donald Trump in 2024. That trend held true across the state as the former President who served in the White

House from 2017 until 2021 won all but one of Iowa’s 99 counties. Scott Cerwinski – Chickasaw County Precinct #6’s appointed reporter – said 90 people attended Nashua’s caucus, which included registered Republican voters that reside in Nashua, Bradford Township and a little bit of Chickasaw Township, he said. “I was happy with the turnout. I had expect-

Chickasaw County GOP Caucus Results		
Candidate	Votes	Percent
Trump	253	58.4%
DeSantis	75	17.3%
Haley	60	13.9%
Ramaswamy	41	9.5%
Binkley	4	0.9%
Presidential preference votes		

ed it might be a little bit more than it was,” said Cerwinski. “The farthest somebody would have probably came would have been maybe up towards the Bassett area.” Trump won Iowa with a resounding 51 percent of the vote. Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis was second

SEE CAUCUSES, 3

Bremer County GOP Caucus Results		
Candidate	Votes	Percent
Trump	437	46.6%
Haley	217	23.1%
DeSantis	174	18.6%
Ramaswamy	105	11.2%
Binkley	2	0.2%
Christie	1	0.1%
Presidential preference votes		



Bob Fenske/Reporter

It took an “all-nighter,” but Nashua’s street superintendent says that cooperation from city residents helped make city streets drivable in a relatively short amount of time after a blizzard hit the area late last week.

After winter wallops the area, heat wave appears on the way

Forecasters says we could spend next week in the 30s

By Bob Fenske
Of the Reporter

Maybe we didn’t get as much snow as they predicted and maybe it didn’t get quite as cold as originally forecast, but make no mistake about it, winter walloped us. But here’s the good news; heat – or at least what qualifies for heat in Iowa during January – is on the way. For the record, the good folks at the National Weather Service in La Crosse, Wisconsin, said New Hampton officially recorded about five inches of snowfall, but truth be told, who could be absolutely certain how much snow we got last weekend because of wind gusts that blew at more than 40 miles per hour made this an almost “unmea-

surable” snowstorm. Just ask the folks who manned snowplows throughout last week. “Basically for our maintenance crews, it was winter operations throughout the week,” Chickasaw County Engineer Roman Lensing told the Board of Supervisors during his update of the Secondary Roads Department. “We were battling drifting pretty much the whole weekend. ... So basically all week we were fighting snow. I think the guys did a really good job as far as getting stuff cleared considering the conditions we had. It was a never-ending battle.” It was the same story for those attending to state highways and city streets, and by the

SEE WEATHER, 2

Leslie Schilling, 60

Leslie Schilling, age 60 of Nashua, died Friday, Jan. 12, 2024, at Floyd County Medical Center in Charles City.

Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. Monday, Jan. 22, 2024, at St. John Lutheran Church, Nashua, with the Rev. Todd Burrichter presiding.

Interment will be held in Oak Hill Cemetery in Nashua at a later date.

Friends may greet the family from 9 to 11 a.m. at the church on Monday.

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

Supervisors approve compensation policy, discuss 24-25 budgets

By Bob Fenske
Of the Reporter

The Chickasaw County Board of Supervisors approved a compensation structure policy for the county-owned ambulance service and spent a couple of hours discussing budget issues during its weekly meeting on Monday morning.

Chickasaw County EMS Director Joel Knutson had given the policy to supervisors during a meeting on Jan. 8, when board members approved granting paramedics, EMTs and drivers who had been with the service since July 1, 2023, 6 percent raises.

But they passed on voting for the policy because it was not on that meeting's agenda.

On Monday, after a short discussion, board members unanimously approved the policy that on July 1, employees "shall receive the COLA [cost-of-living adjustment] as approved by the Board of Supervisors" as long as they have had "continuous employment" with Chickasaw County EMS for "six continuous months." The policy also calls for the Board of Supervisors, on a five-year basis, to "conduct a market evaluation and readjustment of starting base

wages."

But the majority of Monday's meeting was spent on the 2024-25 budget that must be certified by April 15.

Three more departments — Chickasaw County EMS, EMA/911 and Veterans Affairs — presented their budgets to the board, and while there was little discussion on the EMS and Veterans Affairs budgets, board members spent considerable time talking with Emergency Management Agency Director Jeff Bernatz about his budget, especially the fact that the EMA budget does not receive funds from the county's cities. Instead, almost the entire budget is covered by the county's General Services (GS) fund.

Board members also spent about 25 minutes to discuss county wages — including the Compensation Board's recommendation to give the sheriff, recorder, auditor, treasurer and attorney 9 percent pay raises and the supervisors 3.2 percent hikes.

Board members did not act on the Compensation Board's recommendations or make any decisions about possible pay raises for other county employees who are not represented by a union.



Reporter file photo
A farmer unloads corn into a semi-trailer truck during the harvest this past fall.

Despite drought, state farmers produce a 'top-five' crop in 2023

YIELDS: FROM 1

Mike Naig, the state's agriculture secretary, "and that's a testament to the assistance of timely rains, the resiliency of Iowa farmers, and continuous improvements in genetics, traits, equipment, technology, production methods and many other innovations."

The state produced about 2.52 billion bushels of corn for grain in 2023, its fifth-highest total for a single year.

Illinois, which was less affected by drought in the recent growing season, had a higher yield average of 206 bushels per acre but planted about 15 percent fewer acres of corn.

The USDA also estimates that national corn yields and total production set new records. Those yields averaged

about 177.3 bushels per acre, and total production was about 15.3 billion bushels.

Iowa's soybean production in 2023 was also robust, with average yields of 58 bushels per acre — the state's fourth-highest — and total production of about 573 million bushels — the state's third-highest.

Drought conditions are expected to persist in much of Iowa through at least the end of March, according to the federal Climate Prediction Center.

About 83 percent of the state is suffering from some measure of drought, and about a third of Iowa has extreme drought, the second-worst classification.

That is considerably worse than a year ago, according to the U.S. Drought Monitor, when just over half of the state had drought.



Kelly Terpstra/Reporter
The Gateway to Northeast Iowa Welcome Center meeting room (above) fills up while Arnie Boge and Scott Cerwinski (below) get ready to start the Republican precinct caucus on Monday night.

Republicans 'smoothly' report results to state party headquarters

CAUCUSES: FROM 1

with 21 percent, while South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley was third with 19 percent supporting her bid to win the White House.

Vivek Ramaswamy was fourth with over seven percent of Iowans voting for the billionaire pharmaceutical company owner.

After Ramaswamy's showing in Iowa, the Harvard and Yale grad suspended his campaign.

As far as how Nashua voted — it was much the same as how the state chose to cast its vote.

Cerwinski said unofficial totals showed Trump garnered 53 votes, DeSantis 22, Haley 10 and Ramaswamy two.

Republican caucuses in Iowa perform a number of tasks in addition to casting their votes for nominating a presidential candidate.

"It's operated more or less kind of like a business meeting," said Cerwinski. "We elect our central committee representatives for the precinct, county delegates and alternates to those delegates and junior delegates. We basically do the vote and once the votes have been counted and the unofficial results are released, then people are free to go home. The meeting's adjourned."

Nashua's precinct elected Arnie Boge as permanent chair of the caucus and Nancy Poppe as secretary. Cerwinski was chosen beforehand to be the precinct's reporter.

One of Cerwinski's main duties was reporting those unofficial voting totals on Monday evening to the RPI (Republican Party of Iowa) via a link sent to his computer.

"Last week I received an email from RPI that I had to change a password. They had set up a reporting system," said Cerwinski. "It went very smoothly. It was very easy to



operate. It probably took me three, four minutes at the most. It was super simple and easy."

Cerwinski said every Republican precinct across the state initiated the same process in reporting its counties' vote totals during the "first-in-the-nation" caucus in Iowa.

The Chickasaw County Republican Convention will be held on Saturday, Feb. 17, 2024. There will be 55 delegates and 27 alternate delegates and junior delegates that will attend that convention.

Iowa Democrats also held their caucus on Monday night, but did not choose their top choice as to who voters wanted to become President.

Democrats gathered on Monday in the Nashua-Plainfield Middle School Commons to discuss and adopt proposed

resolutions to the county platforms as well as electing delegates and precinct committee members.

The Iowa Democratic Party has completely revamped the way it goes about running its caucus after encountering major reporting problems with an app that failed statewide four years ago in 2020.

"That was RPI's goal. They definitely wanted to make sure the thing was going to work and not have that same problem," said Cerwinski.

Iowa Democrats will vote for a party nominee by mail, which began on Jan. 12 and ends on March 5.

The turnout was much lower for the Democrat caucuses throughout the state as current President Joe Biden is expected to receive little resistance in his bid to garner his party's nomination.

Bill in Des Moines would keep Iowa on daylight savings time all year

By Kathie Obradovich
Iowa Capital Dispatch

Some state lawmakers are trying again to make daylight saving time permanent in Iowa.

A three-lawmaker panel on Tuesday advanced House File 498, which states that daylight saving time would be permanent throughout the year. The bill was introduced last year but did not make it through the House State Government Committee.

Leslie Carpenter of Iowa Mental Health Advocacy was among those who spoke in favor of the bill. "My viewpoint is I advocate for people with serious mental illness, and the time change every spring and every fall seems to produce a deterioration for many people," she said.

Lobbyist Brad Epperly said the Iowa Broadcasters Association continues to oppose the bill, which poses challenges with broadcast schedules when neighboring states are not using the same time standard.

The discussion is almost as regular as clockwork in the Legislature. In 2022, the House passed legislation that would have made the change, but a Senate committee inserted language that would delay enactment until states bordering Iowa also made the change. Epperly said that provision addresses the challenge the broadcasters face.

Subcommittee member Rep. Heather Matson, D-Ankeny, said her concern is that Iowa could not move ahead with the change without federal approval.

"I certainly appreciate the desire to not change the clock back and forth. I do have concerns over the fact that the federal government needs to approve it to even be able to move forward. And that was a big part of my hesitation last year as well," she said.

The U.S. Senate had approved a bill in 2022 that would have ended the ritual of turning clocks back an hour in the fall and forward an hour

in the spring. But the proposal went no further.

Matson declined to sign off on the bill and said she'd be more interested in it if it moved Iowa permanently to standard time instead. That change would not require federal approval, she said. Arizona and Hawaii maintain standard time all year.

Iowa is currently on standard time, which provides an extra hour of daylight in the early mornings.

When daylight saving time begins in March, the change provides the extra hour of daylight in the evening.

Rep. Jacob Bossman, R-Sioux City, the subcommittee chairman, said he appreciates the effect that changing clocks has on children, special-needs adults and others. He said he

prefers the proposal to keep the state on Daylight Saving instead of standard time. "I think that this is the better way of preserving more daylight. And so that's why the bill was drafted in this way," he said.

The proposal moves to the House State Government Committee for further debate.

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Contact Editor Kathie Obradovich for questions: info@iowacapitaldispatch.com. Follow Iowa Capital Dispatch on Facebook and Twitter.

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Husky boys close the gap on Newman

Boys Hoops: From 8

near the rim and allowing second-chance points. The Knights swept the season series with N-P after a 74-63 win. “We didn’t shoot bad tonight – terrible. But we didn’t hit ‘em like we did there and this is probably a better defensive team,” said Mueller. The Knights grabbed 17 offensive rebounds and outrebounded N-P, 36-20. “This game is a win for us if we rebound the ball,” said Mueller. “That’s a simple thing and that’s a simple answer. We can’t just give them shot after shot after shot.”

Malven continued to consistently send the ball through the net with 18 points against Newman. Franzen also had a productive game with 14 points and he drained three 3-pointers once again.

But it was a leaky defense – especially down low – that was N-N-P’s Achilles’ heel. “I thought we gave up too many points tonight, defensively,” said Mueller. “It was 45 points in the first half – that’s too much.”

The second game versus Newman – the Knights beat N-P the first time around, 69-43 – was much more competitive. N-P led 17-13 at one point after a Franzen 3-pointer. N-P senior forward Trae Geise’s steal and ensuing dunk gave N-P a 19-17 lead.

The game was tied at 19-19 after one period of play, but Newman outscored N-P, 26-12, in the second stanza of play to take the lead at the break. The Knights closed the first half on an 8-1 run.

“I think they’re a little more physical, strength-wise stronger than we were,” said Mueller. “That has to be a priority for us – to get stronger. Because you can see that out there.” Newman was led by freshman guard Thomas McGuire’s 20 points.

The Knights led the TIC East battle by as much as 18 points, up 51-33 with six minutes left in the third period. Then N-P



Kelly Terpstra/Reporter

Nashua-Plainfield’s Matthew Malven flings a pass down the floor during Tuesday night’s game.

went on a 10-0 run, capped by a Jake Smith drive to the hoop to cut the deficit to 51-43. Newman answered right back with one of its eight 3-pointers on the evening.

The gap would close again to eight – at 54-46 – after Foelske’s made 3-pointer from downtown with 1:35 remaining in the third drew nothing but the bottom of the net. Jase Hansen’s 3-pointer whittled Newman’s lead to single digits again in the first 30 seconds of the final period. Newman led 58-49, but managed to keep the score above 10 points the rest of the way.

Mueller is confident his team can stay in every game the rest of the way during the regular season. N-P plays at Central Springs tonight (Friday) and takes on Clarksville on the road on Saturday. It’s back at home this coming Tuesday versus St. Ansgar.

“We should be in a lot of these games. It should be nip-and-tuck,” said Mueller. “I still think we’re on the rise. We’re still thinking we’re going to get better. We’re not just satisfied.”

NASHUA-PLAINFIELD 78, POSTVILLE 65									
NP	23	23	13	19	-	78			
Post	15	15	14	21	-	65			

Tucker Franzen 7-12 2-2 19, Trae Geise 4-6 0-0 8, Matthew Malven 8-11 3-3 23, Landon Foelske 5-9 2-3 12, Trent Rodruck 2-4 0-0 4, Jase Hansen 1-3 0-0 2, Avery Mueller 0-0 0-0 0, Braeden Mitchell 0-0 0-0 0, Navarii Williams 0-0 0-0 0, Cal Levi 0-0 0-0 0, Jake Smith 0-0 0-0 0, Tucker Roberts 0-0 0-0 0, Hunter Hackman 4-5 0-2 10. Totals 31-50 7-10 78.

3-point field goals - Franzen 3-5, Malven 4-5, Foelske 0-2, Hansen 0-2, Hackman 2-2.

Rebounds - Foelske 7, Geise 5, Malven 5, Rodruck 4, Franzen 3, Hackman 3, Mueller 1.

Assists - Malven 7, Franzen 6, Geise 2, Foelske 2, Rodruck 1, Hansen 1, Hackman 1.

Steals - Malven 5, Franzen 1, Foelske 1, Rodruck 1.

Blocks - Franzen 1, Malven 1. **MASON CITY NEWMAN 74, NASHUA-PLAINFIELD 63**

MCN 19 26 13 16 - 74

NP 19 12 15 17 - 63

Franzen 3-7 5-6 14, Geise 3-5 2-6 8, Malven 8-15 0-2 18, Foelske 3-4 1-3 8, Hansen 4-8 0-0 9, Mueller 0-1 0-0 0, Rodruck 2-4 0-0 4, Smith 1-2 0-0 2, Hackman 0-1 0-0 0. Totals 24-47 8-17 63.

3-point field goals - Franzen 3-7, Malven 2-5, Foelske 1-1, Hansen 1-5. Rebounds - Foelske 5, Rodruck 5, Geise 4, Malven 2, Franzen 1, Mueller 1, Smith 1, Hackman 1.

Assists - Malven 4, Hackman 4, Franzen 1, Foelske 1, Mueller 1.

Steals - Geise 3, Malven 2, Franzen 1, Rodruck 1.

Blocks - Hansen 2, Geise 1, Foelske 1.

Husky girls get needed W at Postville

Girls Hoops: From 8

Huskies, a few plays later and N-P seemed to have something brewing against the Knights – which defeated N-P in the first meeting of the season, 62-38.

“It was maybe the first time we saw a 2-3 zone the entire season somehow,” said Smith. “They dealt with the pressure well and moved the ball well. We got really good looks in our zone offense.”

Then the well ran dry as Newman closed the first half on a 12-0 run after a made Paige Franzen jumper.

“We need to have a scorer step up. In all reality, she does a lot to get us open looks and things like that when she drives and hits rollers,” said Smith about Huck. “We gotta keep her out of foul trouble.”

Newman (6-5, 5-3) forced 28 Husky turnovers.

“We came out in the second half and just didn’t take good enough care of the ball,” said Smith.

“They’re good. They pressure the ball really well and they’ve got a bunch of guards they can rotate in and play. They got a few kids that can really shoot it from the outside. It’s what they’ve always done. They had some kids that were on fire tonight.”

N-P had plenty of good looks in the first half, but the shots just wouldn’t fall.

“I told the girls, we’ll take those inside-out open 3’s all the time,” said Smith. “If we’re not hitting them, we’re not hitting them. But that’s going to be there against that kind of defense they play.”

Last Thursday’s game at Postville (2-13) was an entirely different story.

N-P ran roughshod over the Pirates en route to a season-best scoring effort in a 72-31 rout.

Huck was all over the court – oftentimes scoring at will. She netted a career-high 34 points and finished with 10 steals and six rebounds.

Huck leads all five classes in prep basketball in the state of Iowa with 88 steals. Kee High freshman Rylee Mudderman is



Kelly Terpstra/Reporter

Nashua-Plainfield’s Jalynn Pratt makes a pass during Tuesday night’s game against Mason City Newman.

second with 79.

N-P created 41 Pirate turnovers and racked up an amazing 30 steals.

“That was one we needed. It was fun. Every girl on our roster scored that night,” said Smith. “Everybody played well. Our pressure was giving them trouble.”

Franzen dished out eight assists against the Pirates and also grabbed four rebounds to go along with her four points. Franzen also came up with three steals.

Maci Malven, a senior guard, came up with eight points on 4-7 shooting.

N-P has ample opportunity to put together another complete game like the Huskies did against Postville. N-P also played well in its other two wins on the season – which have come against Tripoli.

“Stacking two good halves together the rest of the way is something that kind of needs to be a goal of ours,” said Smith.

With that said, even in loss, the Huskies have showed flashes of just how good they can be out on the hardwood. N-P just hasn’t done that consistent enough to pull out more victories.

“Maybe I’m a dope or maybe I’m overly optimistic, but there hasn’t really been a whole lot of games where we’ve absolutely been run out of the gym from the opening tip. I think we’ve showed glimpses against pret-

ty much everybody that we’ve played,” said Smith. “It’s getting it over the hump and just believing that we can pull that thing over the finish line.”

NASHUA-PLAINFIELD 72, POSTVILLE 31

NP 22 21 6 23 - 72

Post 7 9 8 7 - 31

Ava Kirk 0-7 1-2 1, Kadence Huck 15-20 3-5 34, Myranda Webster 2-7 0-2 4, Jalynn Pratt 2-7 0-2 4, Paige Franzen 2-4 0-0 4, Elayna O’Neill 3-3 0-2 6, Bailey Bond 1-1 0-0 2, Kristen Lee 1-1 0-0 2, Maci Malven 4-7 0-0 8, Jennifer McLeland 1-1 0-0 2, Marleigh Lowe 2-8 0-0 5. Totals 33-66 4-13 72.

3-point field goals - Kirk 0-5, Huck 1-2, Pratt 0-2, Malven 0-1, Lowe 1-4.

Rebounds - Huck 6, Franzen 4, O’Neill 3, Lee 3, Malven 3, Pratt 2, Lowe 2, Webster 1.

Assists - Franzen 8, Kirk 3, Huck 3, Lee 3, Pratt 2, Malven 2, O’Neill 2, Lowe 1.

Steals - Huck 10, Kirk 6, Pratt 3, Franzen 3, Lowe 3, Lee 2, Webster 1, O’Neill 1, Malven 1.

Blocks - Webster 1. **MASON CITY NEWMAN 58, NASHUA-PLAINFIELD 23**

MCN 7 17 20 14 - 58

NP 10 2 7 4 - 23

Kirk 3-8 0-0 7, Huck 1-5 2-2 4, Webster 2-8 1-2 5, Pratt 0-5 0-0 0, Franzen 2-8 1-2 5, O’Neill 0-0 0-0 0, Bond 0-0 0-0 0, Lee 0-0 0-0 0, Malven 0-4 0-0 0, Lowe 1-6 0-4 2. Totals 9-44 4-10 23.

3-point field goals - Kirk 1-6, Huck 0-1, Pratt 0-2, Malven 0-4, Lowe 0-2.

Rebounds - Huck 4, Pratt 4, Malven 3, Lowe 3, Webster 2, Franzen 2, O’Neill 2.

Assists - Pratt 2, Kirk 1, Huck 1, Webster 1, O’Neill 1, Malven 1.

Steals - Huck 2, Pratt 2, Webster 2, Webster 1, O’Neill 1, Lee 1, Malven 1, Lowe 1.

Blocks - Webster 2, Franzen 1.

Huskies come up with big wins on their way to beating ranked West Hancock

Wrestling: From 8

seeing somebody new,” said Frost.

N-P has been anchored this year by junior Jayden Rinken – who is top-ranked at 120 pounds and is 34-0. Rinken won a state title last year as a sophomore at 106 pounds and is aiming to become only the second wrestler in Husky history to reel in two individual state crowns. Jayden’s older brother, Garret Rinken, accomplished the feat last year as a senior at 126 pounds. Garret Rinken now wrestles for the University of Northern Iowa.

Jayden Rinken tech fell Jacob Larson of WH, 22-7. Larson, a senior, is 26-9 on the year.

Jayden Rinken is far from the only standout on Frost’s roster – obviously.

Fourth-ranked Husky junior Nic Brase is 32-1 at 113 pounds and finished fifth at state last year. His only loss on the season came against top-ranked Gavin Landers of Denver, 8-0. Brase pinned No.12 Aiden Feickert of South Winn in 1:41.

N-P has a solid senior class in Hayden Munn (126), Titus Evans (175), Tate White (190) and Aiden Sullivan (215).

Evans wrestled for the first time at 175 this season. Evans (15-0), ranked third and a fifth-place state finisher last year at 170 pounds, came up with an 11-7 decision over No. 4 Creighton Kelly (18-1) of West Hancock. That’s Kelly’s only loss of the season.

“That kid is solid, too and actually that win was bigger than that. We were ahead by probably six, seven points and then Titus just didn’t want to take any chances, so he gave up a couple take downs just to make sure he could preserve the win,” said Frost. “He didn’t fight him off very hard, but that was a solid performance.”

Evans could claim his 100th victory at the Top of Iowa Conference meet in Osage this Saturday.

White, ranked ninth according to IIAwrestle, is 32-3 and took on No. 1 MaKade Bloker (25-0) of North Butler/Clarksville last week. While White lost, 8-6, he is wrestling well enough to stand very high on the podium stand if he can perform well in February.

Bloker jumped out to a 5-0 lead early. Bloker placed fourth at state last year at 182 pounds. White did not place at the state tournament last year as a junior at that same weight class in 1A.

“Tate goes up against a guy like that and he’s too tight, he doesn’t open up,” said Frost. “So he gets down by five and then realizes, well shoot, this guy isn’t all maybe that tough and he starts

taking him down. Unfortunately, we still lose by two.”

White took it to No. 7 Kale Zuehl of West Hancock, as he rolled to an 8-2 victory.

“He’s wrestling solid. He pretty much handled him,” said Frost about White’s win over Zuehl.

In other key matches – the Blanchard brothers (Devon, Dylan) took on some top-notch competition in the last few days. Although they lost – they’ll be forces to be reckoned with the rest of the way, like many of Frost’s wrestlers.

Devon Blanchard (20-11), a sophomore, took on No. 1 Teague Smith of West Hancock at 144 pounds. The match was scoreless after the first period prior to Smith coming out on top with a 5-2 decision.

“He ended up wrestling that kid really tough,” said Frost. “He went out and battled with him. Blanchard stuck his nose in there and didn’t take a back seat.”

Dylan Blanchard (23-13), a senior, came up just short against No. 9 Kyle Kuboushek of South Winn by a score of 2-1. Kuboushek defeated Blanchard, 10-3, at the Tripoli Invite earlier this season.

Kalainoff, who went 36-16 last year, wrestled for the first time this season in a JV match against Postville. Kalainoff is hoping to wrestle in the coming weeks after suffering a broken ankle in football last fall.

Sullivan, who is 25-5 on the year, did not wrestle at Starmont.

Munn is 23-9 on the year at 126 pounds and junior Jackson Carey, ranked 10th at 157 pounds, is 17-7. Husky freshman Connor Sullivan (106) is 20-16, while fellow freshman Luke Zwanziger (132) is 18-15 so far this winter. Tyler Zimmer, a sophomore 138-pounder, is 17-11 and junior Aiden Gelner (150) is 18-11. N-P junior Isaac Jones, wrestling at 285 pounds, is 16-15 on the year.

N-P wrestles at the Doug Trees Bearcat Invite on Saturday, Jan. 27. State duals is slated to go down on Saturday, Feb. 3 and district competition begins at Lake Mills for the Huskies that following Saturday on Feb. 10. The state traditional meet begins on Wednesday, Feb. 14 at Wells Fargo Arena in Des Moines.

NASHUA-PLAINFIELD 65, NORTH BUTLER/CLARKSVILLE 14

113 - Nic Brase (NP) pinned Weston Miller, 1:53. 120 - Jayden Rinken (NP) pinned Jack Bartels, 1:35. 126 - Hayden Munn (NP) pinned Aiden Morrison, 3:04. 132 - Tanner Arjes (NBC) tech. fall Luke Zwanziger, 16:0. 138 - Tyler Zimmer (NP) pinned Jaxon Miller, 1:20. 144 - Devon Blanchard (NP) pinned



Kelly Terpstra/Reporter

Nashua-Plainfield’s Jackson Carey puts the finishing touches on a fall during a triangular held earlier this month.

Peyton Knoll, 3:07. 150 - Aiden Gelner (NP) won by forfeit.

157 - Jackson Carey (NP) won by forfeit. 165 - Dylan Blanchard (NP) tech. fall Dylan Thorn, 18-3. 175 - Titus Evans (NP) won by forfeit. 190 - MaKade Bloker (NBC) dec. Tate White, 8-6. 215 - Aiden Sullivan (NP) pinned Samuel Martinez-Macias, 1:58. 285 - Isaac Jones (NP) won by forfeit. 106 - Carl Shew (NBC) pinned Connor Sullivan, 2:09. Extra: 138 - Lucas Sinnwell (NP) pinned Cain Nielsen, 5:16.

NASHUA-PLAINFIELD 58, CENTRAL SPRINGS 21

120 - Rinken (NP) tech. fall Dawson Jacobsen, 21-5. 126 - Liam Stockberger (CS) pinned Munn, 1:52. 132 - Zwanziger (NP) pinned Jack Pruin, 3:04. 138 - Zimmer (NP) pinned Winton hogen, 3:01. 144 - De. Blanchard (NP) tech. fall Ben Brown, 17-1. 150 - Rory Prazak II (CS) dec. Gelner, 10-7. 157 - Jaxon Edwards (CS) pinned Carey, 1:59.

165 - Lincoln Blickenderfer (CS) pinned Dy. Blanchard, 5:42. 175 - Evans (NP) pinned Dillon Blickenderfer, 0:35. 190 - White (NP) pinned Cordell Hoeft, 2:23. 215 - A. Sullivan (NP) pinned Josh Young, 1:43. 285 - Jones (NP) won by forfeit. 106 - C. Sullivan (NP) won by forfeit. 113 - Brase (NP) won by forfeit.

Extras: 126 - Kolbie Vance (NP) pinned Wyatt Stark, 2:41. 132 - Sinnwell (NP) pinned Dalton Austin, 1:23. 132 - Sam O’Neill (NP) pinned Thomas Haas, 0:29.

NASHUA-PLAINFIELD 54, WEST HANCOCK 15

126 - Rinken (NP) tech. fall Jacob Larson, 22-7. 132 - Zwanziger (NP) dec. Ethan

Gayken, 6-2. 138 - Zimmer (NP) pinned Evan Boothroyd, 0:27. 144 - Teague Smith (WH) dec. De. Blanchard, 5-2. 150 - Gelner (NP) maj. dec. Jacoby Subject, 17-6. 157 - Kellen Smith (WH) pinned Elijah Cerwinske, 1:27. 165 - Dy. Blanchard (NP) pinned Erik Barranca, 2:00.

175 - Evans (NP) dec. Creighton Kelly, 11-7. 190 - White (NP) dec. Kale Zuehl, 8-2. 215 - David Smith (WH) pinned Jaxon McDonald, 1:29. 285 - A. Sullivan (NP) pinned Mitchell Smith, 1:36. 106 - C. Sullivan (NP) pinned Ozzy Smith, 2:14. 113 - Brase (NP) pinned Briggs Muth, 0:55. 120 - Munn (NP) won by forfeit.

Extras: 126 - Vance (NP) pinned Giovanni Garcia, 3:20. 138 - Devon Griffin (NP) pinned Ashton Fowles, 3:10. 175 - Maverick Dietz-McDonald (NP) pinned Michael Gretilat, 1:00. 215 - Dawson Becker (NP) pinned Reese Luedtke, 3:30.

NASHUA-PLAINFIELD 77, POSTVILLE 4

106 - C. Sullivan (NP) pinned Michael Hill, 2:40. 113 - Brase (NP) pinned Darinel Ramirez, 0:55. 120 - Rinken (NP) pinned Yordi Perez, 1:30. 126 - Munn (NP) won by forfeit. 132 - Zwanziger (NP) won by forfeit. 138 - Zimmer (NP) pinned Gael Torres, 0:52. 144 - Griffin (NP) won by forfeit.

150 - De. Blanchard (NP) pinned Manuel Garrido, 2:43. 157 - Carey (NP) Phillip Clocksin, 2:22. 165 - Dy. Blanchard (NP) pinned Gustavo Moncada, 0:59. 175 - Evans (NP) pinned Stephen Russell, 1:24. 190 - White (NP) pinned Conner Wenhe, 0:49. 215 - Sam Acevedo (POST) maj. dec. Becker, 10-2. 285 - Jones (NP) tech. fall Antoni Solovi, 15-0.

Extras: 175 - Eli Kalainoff (NP) pinned Landon Guese, 0:55. 175 - Dalton Downing (NP) pinned Landon Guese, 1:59.

NASHUA-PLAINFIELD 46, SOUTH WINNESHEIK 24

106 - Gavin Thuente (SW) dec. C. Sullivan, 9-2. 113 - Rinken (NP) pinned Aiden Feickert, 1:41. 120 - Brase (NP) pinned Jamison Zweibahmer, 1:11. 126 - Munn (NP) maj. dec. Bo Wangness, 10-2. 132 - Zwanziger (NP) pinned Parker Dahl, 0:40. 138 - Lukas Weiss (SW) dec. Zimmer, 8-6. 144 - Collin Holm (SW) pinned Griffin, 1:49.

150 - Landen Schnuelle (SW) dec. De. Blanchard, 6-2. 157 - Carey (NP) pinned Brady Ohrt, 1:40. 165 - Kyle Kuboushek (SW) dec. Dy. Blanchard, 2-1. 175 - Evans (NP) pinned Quinn Huinker, 1:11. 190 - White (NP) pinned Ray Lienau, 1:31. 215 - Parker Timp (SW) pinned Michael Stroud, 0:45. 285 - Jones (NP) pinned Kolton Brummond, 0:23.

NASHUA-PLAINFIELD 70, STARMONT 12

132 - Zwanziger (NP) pinned Gabe Augustine, 1:48. 138 - Zimmer (NP) won by forfeit. 144 - De. Blanchard (NP) maj. dec. Anthony King, 18-5. 150 - Keaton Miller (STAR) pinned Gelner, 1:07. 157 - Carey (NP) pinned Jase Tommasin, 3:14. 165 - Dy. Blanchard (NP) pinned Benton Parkin, 1:32. 175 - Evans (NP) pinned Kelly Barajas, 1:01.

190 - White (NP) pinned Vincent Recker, 1:01. 215 - Owen Recker (STAR) pinned Becker, 0:43. 285 - Jones (NP) pinned Gabe Cummer, 0:34. 106 - C. Sullivan (NP) pinned Syrus Baker, 0:37. 113 - Brase (NP) pinned Isaac Smith, 1:13. 120 - Rinken (NP) pinned Jax Tommasin, 5:06. 126 - Munn (NP) won by forfeit.



Kelly Terpstra/Reporter
Nashua-Plainfield's Titus Evans looks to get some leverage and lift an opponent during a triangular held at Osage earlier this month.

Huskies are heating up at right time

N-P reels off six straight wins, including an impressive victory over West Hancock

By KELLY TERPSTRA
Of the Reporter

The fifth-ranked Nashua-Plainfield wrestling squad has positioned itself to make a run. Now it's time to really make some noise out on the mat.

Al Frost and his Huskies took a big step toward solidifying itself as one of the best grappling squads in Class 1A this winter – but success in the wrestling-crazed state of Iowa is often ultimately judged by shiny trophies and gold medals earned at season-ending tournaments.

N-P, now 19-6 after racking up six impressive dual victories during the past week, is hungry and ready to go in order to prove its worth once more.

It seems the battles near the top never end until one crosses the finish line – and that final push to claim glory is getting closer as the two state meets that matter the most are just around the corner.

“My head is spinning. I’m just trying to make sense of where the hell did the last three weeks go?” said Frost, who is gearing up to put an exclamation point on a 2023-2024 season and in a legendary coaching career that has been filled with state champions that have donned a Husky singlet.

Just how good are the Huskies?

Pretty good.

After suffering two dual losses to No. 4 Lake Mills early on and encountering several near misses at the super-challenging Battle of Waterloo – the Huskies have gotten on a roll.

Plus, N-P is excelling out on the mat with a near complete lineup – barring the status of sophomore Eli Kalainoff, a state qualifier last year as a freshman at 160 pounds.

So it's a perfect time for the Huskies to rev up their engine, put the pedal to the metal and see just how far and fast N-P can zoom around a “track” that will include plenty of super-fast, high-performance cars.

“I said this is gonna go quick, guys,” said Frost. “We’re now less than two weeks out from regional duals.

N-P thoroughly dominated the likes of No. 7 West Hancock (54-15), North Butler/Clarksville (65-14) and Central Springs (58-21) in Manly last week Thursday. Then it was off to Arlington to take on host Starmont, along with Postville and South Winneshiek this past Tuesday. N-P defeated South Winn, 46-24, and beat Postville and Starmont by a combined score of 147-16.

The big win over the Eagles of West Hancock – which sport several ranked wrestlers, many of whom starred on the Eagles state championship football team this past fall – was critical.

West Hancock may be one of the schools that N-P gets paired up with at regional duals – which takes place on Tuesday, Jan. 30.

“I think the guys actually listened and took it pretty serious,” said Frost about West Hancock. “If we would have lost to them, that could have screwed a lot of things up right there.”

The Huskies placed third in both the state dual and traditional tournaments last February. That’s an obvious goal this season and N-P could well have the firepower to exceed those lofty standards should the Huskies wrestle well when it matters the most.

“These guys are slowing proving to themselves what they are capable of doing if they get their minds set,” said Frost.

N-P did lose an important tournament this past Saturday as the Hudson Invite was cancelled because of inclement weather. That was one chance for the Huskies to lock horns with No. 3 Don Bosco and other squads that N-P doesn’t generally get to see on a consistent basis. The Dons denied N-P a chance to compete for a state dual crown last year by rallying for a 43-27 win.

“I hate losing any tournament because those are multiple matches that we get a chance to wrestle and get a chance to see different teams like Don Bosco, Sigourney-Keota and Charles City, Highland Riverside. That’s what we miss is just kind of

SEE WRESTLING, 7

Huskies get offensive, but work still to be done



Kelly Terpstra/Reporter
Nashua-Plainfield's Trae Geise (above) goes up for a dunk while teammate Hunter Hackman (right) looks for an open teammate during Tuesday night's game against Mason City Newman.



N-P girls rout Postville but struggle against Newman

By KELLY TERPSTRA
Of the Reporter

Nashua-Plainfield's engine sputtered on Tuesday evening at home versus Mason City Newman after an impressive start against the favored Knights.



treacherous terrain of a basketball court without the captain of its ship.

Because the murky waters created by the pressure-defense of Newman can create fits for any squad that will in turn feel “lost at sea” and “rudderless” by

its lack of scoring output.

That was the case in the Top of Iowa Conference tussle with the team from Cerro Gordo County as Newman overcame a slow start to lock down Josh Smith's Huskies – 58-23.

The 23 points scored by the Huskies were a season-low and junior Kadence Huck – who leads the entire state (all classes) in total steals – was held to a season-low herself in scoring as she finished with just four points.

Huck didn't play most of the fourth quarter as she fouled out early in the final stanza. Smith knows what she means to the team and is trying to get the rest of the squad up to speed – so to speak – when Huck is not out on the court.

“You never want to plan for her out of the game, but the defense that she plays – fouls

N-P scores season high in non-league win over Postville, but falls to Newman

By KELLY TERPSTRA
Of the Reporter

Rebounding and defense. If Nashua-Plainfield can figure out those two key facets of basketball – watch out.

Because the offensive side of the ball for Matt Mueller's Huskies has kicked it into high gear – for the most part.

The Huskies (4-8, 2-7) poured on the points last week Thursday on the road at Postville (10-5).

The result was the best basketball the Husky boys hoops squad has played this season as N-P rolled to a convincing 78-65 road win over a solid Pirates squad.

N-P sophomore Matthew Malven broke out with a career-high 23 points on 8-11 shooting. It seemed he couldn't miss from long range as he nailed four of five shots taken from beyond the arc. Malven also generated seven assists, five rebounds and five steals

Malven's teammates felt the fire as well as N-P shot a lights-out 62 percent from the field (31-50). Those 78 points netted were a season-high.

N-P senior guard Tucker Franzen had a terrific game as well as he pumped in 19 points. He was 7-12 shooting – 3-5 from beyond the three-point stripe. Husky sophomore Landon Foelske also came to play as he torched Pirate defenders for 12 points on 5-9 shooting. Hunter Hackman, Mueller's senior low-post player, also hit for double figures with 10 points on 4-5 shooting.

It was N-P's night against Postville and the Huskies' showcased their considerable firepower.

The problem on Tuesday night in the regular season rematch at home versus Mason City Newman (7-4, 6-3) was stopping anyone that got

SEE BOYS HOOPS, 7



Kelly Terpstra/Reporter
Nashua-Plainfield's Paige Franzen (left) looks to take a shot while Kristen Lee (above) dribbles the basketball in the Huskies' game against Mason City Newman Tuesday.

and things like that – are a byproduct of what she does. We've been trying to work those other four guards on offense a lot without Kadence in the game,” said Smith.

Huck averages over 16 points a contest and leads N-P in almost every statistical category.

N-P (3-9, 0-8) led 10-7 after one period of play and took a 7-3 advantage at one point after sophomore point guard Ava Kirk's 3-pointer slithered through the net with 2:52 to play in the first quarter. Kirk's bank shot made it 9-5,

SEE GIRLS HOOPS, 7

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All proceeds to benefit Chickasaw K-9 Unit.

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Bank Iowa • Fidelity Bank & Trust • Luana Savings Bank
First Citizens Bank • Security State Bank

**To purchase tickets in advance or for more information contact:
Carla Dreckman 563-238-3861**

ON TAP FOR OUR NASHUA-PLAINFIELD HUSKIES

FRIDAY
Basketball at Central Springs, JV boys
at 5 p.m., varsity girls at 6:15
p.m., varsity boys at 7:30.
Girls wrestling at Top of Iowa
Conference tournament, Osage,
5 p.m.

SATURDAY
Boys wrestling at Top of Iowa Confer-
ence tournament, Osage, 5 p.m.
Girls wrestling at Mason City Invitation-

al, 10 a.m.
Basketball at Clarksville, JV boys at
3 p.m., varsity girls at 4:15 p.m., varsity
boys at 5:30 p.m.

MONDAY
Boys junior varsity wrestling at New
Hampton Invitational, 5 p.m.

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

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

FRIDAY, JAN. 26
Girls wrestling at super regional tour-
nament, Mason City Fieldhouse, 10 a.m.
Basketball at Osage, JV boys at 5
p.m., varsity girls at 6:15 p.m., varsity
boys at 7:30.

— Subject to change