

The Minneota Mascot

Home of the City on the River — Minneota, Minnesota

\$1

Thursday, November 18, 2021 • (USPS - 351-880) • No. 18 • 131 years - Established in 1891

VIKINGS 2ND IN STATE

Fall to Mayer Lutheran in 'A' finals; finish 31-5

By Scott Thoma
scott@thomabooks.com

Minneota coach Hayley Fruin wasn't stewing or blaming anyone for her team's loss in the Class A State Volleyball championship. Instead, she gave credit to her opponent.

"They brought their 'A' game," she said, matter-of-factly. "We started off a little rocky and you can't do that against a good team like Mayer Lutheran."

Mayer Lutheran lived up to the No. 1 ranking in Class A, sweeping past No. 2 Minneota 25-15, 25-20, 25-18 on Saturday at the Xcel Energy Center in St. Paul.

The Crusaders (32-2), who last won a state in 2017 by beating Minneota in Fruin's first year as coach, had a definite height advantage on the Vikings, led by 6-2 middle blocker Lilly Wachholz with 17 kills in 35 attacks.

"We knew they were a little taller than us so we tried to wear (Wachholz) out a little bit and take them out of their system," Fruin said. "But they were very aggressive and they kept putting their attacks away."

The Crusaders tried to take All-State and All-Tournament outside hitter Natalee Rolbiecki out of her typical power game with continual double-blocking. Rolbiecki finished with 10 kills in a match-high 46 attacks.

Ireland Stassen did her best to keep the Vikings in the match, delivering 13 kills for the Vikings in 29 attacks. Abby Frie had six kills and Elivia Faris four.

"Faris stepped up in the state tournament," said Fruin. "We were using her for three rotations, but she kept playing better and we used her in six rotations. I love that she goes out there swinging."

State VB Continued on Page 10



Minneota players celebrate a point in the state semifinal match on Friday at Xcel Energy Center. Left to right: McKenzie Tolk, Ireland Stassen, Natalee Rolbiecki, Elivia Faris and Abby Frie. See more photos on Pages 11-14. Mascot photo by Brian Jeremiason

Vikings win state opener, 34-0; semis Saturday

By Scott Thoma
scott@thomabooks.com

The game featured seven turnovers on a wet and frigid night.

After a slow start, the Vikings' offense started churning and finished with over 300 total yards, while the defense forced four turnovers, three fumbles and an interception.

It was the ninth shutout of the season.

Conner Sik scored on two short touchdown runs, and Jonah Gruenes and Max Rost also had touchdown runs of 23 and 34 yards, respectively. Anthony Rybinski caught a short touchdown pass from Isaac

Pohlen for the other score.

Gruenes recovered two fumbles and Jackson Esping had one. Zack Fier had an interception.

Minneota (12-0) next faces Rushford-Peterson (12-0) in the Class A state semifinals at 9 a.m. Saturday at U.S. Bank

Stadium. Minneota has scored 546 points this season and given up 24. Rushford-Peterson has scored 404 points and given up 94.

This is the 15th appearance in the state football tournament for Minneota, which won titles in 2017, 2015, 2014,

2009, 1988, 1987, and 1986. They finished second in 2013 and 1993.

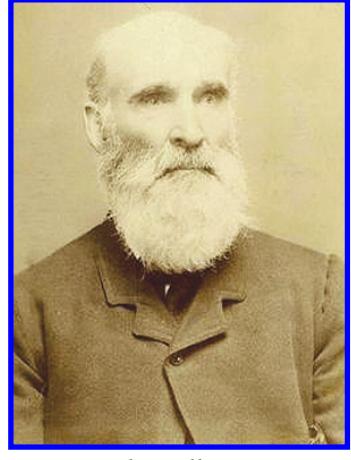
New York Mills and Mayer Lutheran play in the other semifinal at 11:30 on Saturday. The championship is slated for Friday, Nov. 26 at 10 a.m. at U.S. Bank Stadium.



Left to right: Local veterans Harold DeSmet, Dave Hennen, Lon Gawarecki, Ed Lozinski, John DeSmet, Don Gorecki and Jim Fink were involved in the Retirement of Old Colors, which follows a dignified disposal of unserviceable American flags. Mascot photo by Scott Thoma

CIVIL WAR VET VANDERMARKER HAS LOCAL TIES

Isaac Vandermarker was 43 years old when he left his farm in Freeborn County in 1862 and enlisted with Company K of the Fourth Minnesota Volunteer Infantry during the Civil War. The Fourth Minnesota was sent south and, as part of General Grant's campaign, took part in the assault of Vicksburg in June of 1863. In July of 1864, Vandermarker was with the Fourth Minnesota when it joined General Sherman's March to the Sea and subsequent siege of Savannah, Georgia. Vandermarker eventually moved to Alta Vista Township in 1885 and is now buried in the township cemetery southwest of Taunton. He is the great grandfather of Jim Reiss of Taunton.



Isaac Vanderwalker III



The military headstone and bronze star at Vanderwalker's gravesite eight miles west of Minneota. Mascot photo by Scott Thoma

VETERANS REMEMBERED FOR SACRIFICE, SERVICE TO COUNTRY

By Scott Thoma
scott@thomabooks.com

on the pavers. "This day is for them, no matter what the weather is like."

Minneota American Legion Commander Jim Fink read off the names engraved on the new pavers -- Arnold Bot, Bernard Bot, Francis Bot, Raymond Bot, Richard Bot, Joseph Drown, Matthew Drown, Michael Drown, Paul Drown, Mayo Kuchera, and Andrew Traen -- as family members bundled in coats and blankets listened intently.

Fink also introduced and dedicated an eighth statue to the park, this one called "Freedom Fighter", which was placed in the park last Monday, Nov. 8.

The local veterans normally have a program at the school on Veterans Day, but had to postpone it this year due to the volleyball team playing in the state tournament.

St. Edward's School held a Veterans Day program with several local veterans on hand.

Ed Lozinski explained flag etiquette and announced St. Edward seventh-grader Elizabeth Garvey as the recipient of this year's Patriots Pen Award given to the student in grades 6-8 who wrote the top essay on what Veterans Day means to them.

Sam Myhre, a seventh-grader at St. Edward, was second. Piper Anderson, a sixth-grader at the public school, was third.

Veterans Continued on Page 3

In a lonely cemetery five miles southwest of Taunton are 126 headstones marking those laid to rest between 1870 and 2020. Among them are matching four-foot obelisks set in a single concrete base a few feet apart belonging to Isaac Vandermarker III and his wife, Carrie.

Just three feet behind Isaac's obelisk is a military headstone with his name and a GAR bronze star honoring his military service in the Civil War.

The cemetery is eight miles west of Minneota on the south side of County Road 18 in Lin-

coln County.

A closer look into Vandermarker's life reveals a historical and compelling story.

Civil War Continued on Page 5

Countrywide Auto Minneota LLC * Pre-owned vehicle sales



2017
Ford
Explorer
\$15,500



2017
Chevrolet
Silverado
\$24,500

P.O. Box 40 • 113 W. 1st St. • Minneota, MN 56264 • Office: 507-872-5941 • John: 507-829-5500 • www.csaminneota.com



Minneota Memories

This early 1900s photo shows local businessmen gathered outside The First National Bank on the corner of Jefferson and First Street.

From the Mascot Files 100, 75, 50 and 25 Years Ago

100 Years Ago (Nov. 18, 1921)

Poor attendance at local band concert

The Minneota band gave a concert Wednesday evening which was not nearly as well attended as it deserved to be. There was a free show at the Rex, which attracted a large crowd, there were revival services at the Baptist Church, and there were several other minor things going on which took people away who otherwise would have been at the concert. The band is rendering fine music and deserves the patronage of the community.

Minneota called best lutefisk port in U.S.

L.M. Lerwick of Minneota, who is spending his time this winter in Florida, said he is very sorry that he cannot be in Minneota this fall and won't be able to supervise the unloading and distribution of lutefisk. Lerwick said that Minneota is the best lutefisk port in America, barring of course, Canby, which is the original lutefisk town of the world.

Four locals on Nov. Grand Jury

Those from Minneota on the Grand Jury list for the November Term of Court are: John Geiwitz, Matt Moore, Hall Benson, and Ed Sanderson.

75 Years Ago (Nov. 22, 1946)

Grengs killed in automobile accident

Max Grengs of Taunton was killed shortly before noon Thursday when the automobile he was driving to work in Marshall left Highway 68 and rolled over one mile east of Minneota. It is thought that the automobile started sliding on the slippery highway, ran into the ditch on the left side of the road and then rolled over.

Three Minneotans

file for re-election

Three Minneotans, A.E. DeSutter, Oliver Amundson and K.E. Jones filed for re-election before the filing period closed on Tuesday, but Al Kiley, whose term expires, did not file for re-election. DeSutter filed to succeed himself as treasurer for a term of two years, Amundson filed for re-election for a two-year term on the council, and Jones, the village recorder, also filed for re-election for a two-year term. No one filed for the offices of Justice of the Peace and Constable. The election will be held Dec. 3.

Mayor endorses sale of Christmas Seals

Mayor E.O. Hallgrimson this week issued a proclamation endorsing the sale of Christmas Seals and urged residents of the community to buy and use the seals generously. The campaign to sell the seals gets underway Nov. 25 and heading the drive here is Mrs. E.M. Anderson, assisted by Mrs. P.J. Haas and Miss Christine Dalmann. The proceeds of the sale of Christmas Seals go toward eradicating tuberculosis.

50 Years Ago (Nov. 18, 1971)

More cable TV discussions held

Apparently, disenchanted with arrangements being made with Mobile Home Television, which started about two months ago, officers of the Minnesota Development Corporation have had discussions with Community Antenna Television regarding installation of equipment here. Two officials of the firm from Windom, Robert Turner and Jerome DeSutter, the latter a former Minneota resident, met with members of the corporation and the village council regarding a preliminary survey of the cable project for Minneota.

Local firemen take two calls in country

Minneota firemen were

called out twice this past week for a grass fire in a ditch near the Cecil Hofteig farm northeast of Minneota, and to the Ed Jerzak farm south of Minneota for a burning building. There was no damage caused from the grass fire at the Hofteig farm around 3:30 p.m. last Friday. An empty barn burned to the ground at the Jerzak farm at 5:30 p.m. on Saturday.

Christmas lights to be hung downtown

Christmas lights in the business district in Minneota will be put up shortly after Thanksgiving, Dale Hachmann, chairman of the lighting committee, told members of the Minneota Businessmen's Association at their meeting Monday evening. Christmas promotions for businesses in Minneota was discussed as well.

Richards named new Countryside president

Leonard Richards was elected president of the board of Countryside Golf Club this week when trustees met for that purpose on Monday evening. Richards succeeds Magnuson, who held that position for one year. John Canton was

named vice president, Norma Olson was appointed secretary, and Mrs. Kern Donaldson, was appointed treasurer.

25 Years Ago (Nov. 20, 1996)

Fun Night set by SW Sportsmen Club

The Southwest Sportsmen Club will sponsor their annual Fun Night this Thursday, Nov. 21, beginning at 6:30 p.m. at the American Legion. Games of chance will be played, with the winning of Thanksgiving turkeys or hams an added bonus.

There will also be other drawings during the evening, including a Remington shotgun that will be won by some lucky person. The gun is donated by Buysse Roofing and Minneota Body Shop. Lunch will also be available.

Community Ed hosting holiday event Dec. 7

Community Education secretary Linda Canton alerts everyone of the upcoming event that will help to begin your holiday season. The Community Ed is sponsoring a trip to Pipestone on Saturday, Dec. 7. The trip will be to Calumet Inn, where you will be able to view the magnificent Christmas trees on the four floors of the old restaurant/hotel. People will then go to the Pipestone Performing Arts Center for a Festival of Christmas music.

Freezing rain causes damage to many trees

The Minneota area got hit with freezing rain on Sunday, causing trees to droop to the ground with the weight on their branches. Sounds of cracking limbs could be heard all over town. On Monday, there were many branches and entire trees laying in lawns and streets. Power was out in Minneota briefly, but many in the country were without power for several hours. Ice-covered streets and roads made driving difficult.

This Day in History November 18

1883 - Canadian and American railroads adopt time zones. Prior to this, most cities had their own local time, making it difficult for railways to be on time and confusing passengers. To solve this problem, private railways decided to divide the continent into 4 distinct time zones - the lines of which are very close to the time zone lines today.

1916 - End of the Somme Offensive. The battle was fought between German forces on one side and British and French forces on the other during the First World War. Thought to be one of the bloodiest battles of the 20th century - the conflict started on July 1, 1916, and was fought on the banks of the river Somme in France.

Thursday, November 18, 2021

Outside Looking In



By Scott Thoma

Turkey facts

We will soon be loosening our belts, placing both hands on our belly and uttering those famous words following a large Thanksgiving feast "Why did I eat so much?"

Then we will lay down on the couch and take a nap. And when we wake up, we will again utter the same thing we say after a nap every year ... "Is there pie?" When will we ever learn?

Speaking of learning, I thought I knew almost everything about Abraham Lincoln since I have been an avid collector of Lincoln paraphernalia for year. But I just became aware that a proclamation by Lincoln made Thanksgiving a national "day of Thanksgiving and praise to our beneficent Father who dwelleth in the Heavens," to be celebrated on the last Thursday of November. In the latter half of the 1800s, Thanksgiving was frequently referred to as "Turkey Day", and in 1885, Congress made the celebration a paid federal holiday for all U.S. workers."

Despite history making us believe the Pilgrim's included turkey part of the 1621 feast at Plymouth Colony, descriptions of the three-day feast shared by Pilgrims and local Native Americans included wild fowl, deer, and local vegetables, but there was no mention of turkey.

The traditional image of a Thanksgiving feast, which includes a turkey stuffed with dressing and other food, didn't take hold until around 1889 when renowned author Jane Austin penned a fictitious account of that 1621 feast in her book "Standish of Standish: A Story of the Pilgrims." From then on, we have associated Thanksgiving with turkey.

I also recently learned of some interesting turkey facts. Many of you may already know this, but did you know that a male turkey is a tom or gobbler, a young male is a jake, female turkeys are hens, a young female is a jenny, and babies are a poult or chick?

President John F. Kennedy issued the first presidential pardon of a turkey, that coming on Nov. 19, 1963. President George H.W. Bush in 1989 made the pardoning ceremony an official tradition.

Experts say predict that 88 percent of Americans will eat turkey this year, and they will consume about 46 million birds at a cost of over \$900 million.

No wonder we need a nap.

And speaking of naps, is it turkey that makes us drowsy after a Thanksgiving feast, or the fat that we ate too much?

Sleepiness and drowsiness are connected with certain hormones and amino acids in our body. For example, turkey contains the amino acid tryptophan which has been linked to sleep and drowsiness.

Others say it is not the turkey that makes people sleepy. Rather, it is attributed to simply having a large meal which causes a significant portion of blood flow to be directed to the stomach and intestines to aid in digestion, which in turn, causes you to feel fatigued.

I always felt it was just plain exhaustion from shoveling the food into my mouth so fast.

Fruin a winner

Minneota volleyball coach Hayley Fruin has been head coach here for five years now. In those years, she has guided the Vikings to state titles in 2018 and 2019, while placing second in the state in 2017 and 2021.

While capturing first place is better than finishing second, finishing second is better than all the rest of the Class A teams in the state finished.

Mayer Lutheran deserved to win the state title. It wasn't because the Vikings played poorly and it wasn't that the officials made some bad calls. This was the Crusaders' day, just like it was Minneota's day in 2018 and 2019. They won those two years because they were the better team.

Fruin was gracious in defeat after the championship match, alluding to the fact that her players gave it everything they had but that the opponent "brought their 'A' game" on Saturday.

Minneota is fortunate to have someone like Fruin coaching these young girls.

Question of the Week

Here is a question I have received more than once this year in person or via email.

Question: How do you pick your Athlete of the Week? You picked someone recently that was not the best player in the game ... Note: I was also informed by someone that a certain athlete that I will not name should have been picked three or four times this year. Also, some people think AgPlus personnel pick Athlete of the Week since they are the sponsor for that honor.

My answer: I do not ask coaches who they feel should be picked as they have enough to do already. Also, AgPlus also has nothing to do with the selection process. They have been gracious enough to sponsor the weekly honor. It is solely my choice and is not always based on statistics. But once someone is selected Athlete of the Week, my rule is that they can't be picked again in that same sport. That gives more people a chance to be picked. I also try to select a boy one week and a girl the next, if possible, to be fair.

Was person satisfied with my response?: No.

Minneota's Award Winning Weekly Newspaper

Mascot Staff

Publishers: Jeff & Julie Meyer

Editor/General Manager: Scott Thoma

Office Manager: LuAnn Fier

Production: Brittany Moore

The Mascot
Minneota • Home of Boxelder Bug Days
P.O. Box 9
Minneota, MN 56264
Phone: 507-872-6492

Website: www.minneotamascot.com
Email: editor@minneotamascot.com or office@minneotamascot.com

Periodicals Postage Paid at Minneota, MN
Member Minnesota Newspaper Association

New Mascot Office Hours:
Monday & Tuesday: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Wednesday: 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Subscribe
for \$42 In-State
\$44.50 Out of State



MILITARY EDUCATION

Dude Myhre of Ghent, who has served 20 years in the military, spoke with second graders at the public school in Minneota on Veterans Day. Photo left: Kylin Anderson gets a kick out of wearing a military helmet and vest. Contributed photo

Veterans

Continued from Page 1

Garvey will now be entered in the district competition.

Principal Jaci Garvey welcomed the veterans and had them all introduce themselves and lead the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance. A moment of silence was also held before closing with everyone singing "God Bless America".

At the public school, Dude Myhre, a 20-year enlisted soldier, entertained second-graders by talking about military life and displaying some of the items that soldiers wear and use. Myhre, who now lives in Ghent, graduated from Minneota High School.



St. Edward School seventh-grader Elizabeth Garvey reads the winning essay she wrote that enabled her to be awarded the Patriot's Pen by the Minneota-Taunton VFW. Mascot photo by Scott Thoma

Several homeowners displayed American flags in honor of veterans past and present.

Several local veterans then gathered on the north side of the American Legion building where the wind could best be blocked and help with the dignified disposal of American flags. It is considered undignified for people to toss flags in the garbage.

"We had around 200 this year," Fink noted.

A ceremony to honor the flags before proper disposal was held downstairs at the Legion with the Legion Commander, Chaplain, Sergeant-at-Arms and Second Vice Commander all taking part in speaking.



Left to right: Don Gorecki, Harold DeSmet and Jim Fink properly dispose of over 200 American flags on Thursday afternoon behind the American Legion. Mascot photo by Scott Thoma



Local veterans stand for the Pledge of Allegiance at the St. Edward School Veterans Day program. Mascot photo by Scott Thoma



Family members of those receiving new engraved pavers in Veterans Park pose following a brief ceremony on Thursday. Mascot photo by Scott Thoma

North Pole Extravaganza

Saturday, November 20 * 9 a.m.-2 p.m. * Minneota

Santa will arrive via fire truck for pictures at Bethel from 11 a.m.-1 p.m.!

Vendors at the Community Center, Bethel Fellowship Church include:

3 Hearts Vintage, Jewel's Unique Gems, Rodan & Fields Body Care, A & J Crafts, Scentsy, Cozy Creations, Martha & Mary, Modern Woodmen, Usborne Books, Big Dipper Bee Co.

Local Retailers Include

Blenore: Open 9 a.m.-3 p.m., 10% off storewide! \$5 doll clothes and \$5 Minneota Viking infant/toddler clothing.

Hometown Kitchen & Bath: 9 a.m.-Noon, storewide sales.

The Arched Door: 7:30 a.m.-4 p.m., Arched Door-20% off Christmas items gifts and decor. Door prizes and many other deals. Gislason's-10% off storewide including solar salt.

This & That Recreated/Coffee Time: Open 8 a.m.-2 p.m. 25% off storewide.

J's Dream: Open 9 a.m.- 2 p.m. Pop-up Tastefully Simple party, sales, treats, door prizes.

City Hall Bar & Grill: 11 a.m.-2 p.m., Buy one Smashburger for \$8 and get the second one free.

AgPlus: 9 a.m.-2 p.m., Cenex gift cards, Porch pots (small \$44.99, large \$54.99)

Silent Auction at VFW: 11 a.m.-2 p.m., over 100 items, proceeds to St. Edward School. Cash only. Items must be picked up by 3 p.m.

The Silent Auction at Bethel will benefit the Christmas Angels program! There will be a bake sale and Sloppy Joe Lunch at Bethel too!

2021 STATE FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT

Vikings coast into state semis

Record 9th shutout of season; face Rushford-Peterson in semifinals

By Scott Thoma
scott@thomabooks.com

Trying to score this season on Minneota's defense is like trying to cut through a steak with a plastic knife.

The Vikings' defense posted their ninth shutout of the season in a 34-0 whitewashing of Mahnomen-Waubun in the Class A state tournament on a chilly Friday night in Monticello.

Minneota advances to state semifinals at 9 a.m. Saturday, Nov. 20 against Rushford-Peterson at U.S. Bank Stadium.

The cold weather played a factor in the quarterfinal game as evidenced by seven turnovers, including a season-high three by Minneota.

"We all knew it was going to be a good day for fumbles," said senior two-way tackle Jayden Gamrak. "When we went onto the field, the turf was wet and it was extremely cold out. Everyone was telling each other to have two hands on the ball all night."

Jonah Gruenes was stellar on both sides of the ball, scoring the game's first touchdown on a 23-yard run, rushing for a game-high 78 yards, and recovering two Mahnomen-Waubun fumbles.

Both teams had chances to score in the opening quarters, but turnovers marred drives. Mahnomen-Waubun fumbled on its first drive and Jackson Esping recovered on the Thunderbirds' 28. Minneota then fumbled the ball right back at the one.

The Thunderbirds were then held and a short punt gave Minneota the ball at Mahnomen-Waubun 36. After two short runs, Minneota threw an interception.

The Vikings finally got on the board in the second quarter following a five-play, 72-yard drive capped by Gruenes' TD run. That drive was highlighted by 25-yard run by Gruenes and a 27-yard run by AJ Josephson.

The Thunderbirds fumbled on the ensuing possession with Gruenes recovering. But the Vikings turned the ball over on a fumble on the next play from scrimmage. Three plays later,

Mahnomen-Waubun fumbled right back to the Vikings, with Gruenes again recovering at the Vikings' 21.

"When watching film, we noticed that when running their options, (Mahnomen-Waubun) had some fumbles," said junior middle linebacker Zack Fier. "And with our defensive pressure and cold weather, we forced them into making some mistakes and turnovers."

Minneota then marched 79 yards in nine plays with Conner Sik scoring from a yard out for a 14-0 lead.

The Thunderbirds tried to catch Minneota napping to start the second half with an onside kick. But the Vikings recovered the ball at the M-W 48. Eight plays later, they reached the end zone on another one-yard run by Sik.

Minneota scored again on its next possession, this time a 66-yard, 10-play drive that was capped by a four-yard TD pass from Isaac Pohlen to Anthony Rybinski in the right corner of the end zone on a fourth-and-goal play. That gave the Vikings a 27-0 lead.

The final score came following an interception by Zack Fier. Max Rost broke loose for an impressive 34-yard touchdown run.

Minneota, which had only one penalty called in the game, rushed for 302 yards. Rybinski ran for 76 yards and Sik had 62.

But it was the defense that took center stage again, forcing the four turnovers and limiting the Thunderbirds to 135 total yards, nearly 200 below their season average.

"It really starts off with the defensive line," said Fier. "They have done a great job all year. If (the opponent) gets through the lone, we have a great group of linebackers to stop the drive. It has been so fun to be a part of the defense and we are looking forward to next week."

Gruenes led the Vikings with 10 tackles, including six solo stops. Gamrak, who produced key blocks on two on the Vikings' touchdown runs, played one of his best games of the season on defense with nine tackles.

"We all have been kicking it up and staying



Jackson Esping recovers a fumble as teammates signal Minneota gaining possession. *Mascot photo by Reba Lipinski*

fired up," said Gamrak. "We know it's win or turn your pads in on Tuesday. We stick together and play for each other, and we all have great connections together."

Fier and Jackson Esping notched seven tackles each, while Peyton Gillund had six, Tucker Thoof five and Alex DePestel four.

Rushford-Peterson defeated Belgrade-Brooten-Elrosa 18-6 in its quarterfinal game. In other quarterfinals, New York Mills beat Deer River 20-6 and Mayer Lutheran defeated Murray County Central 34-18.

New York Mills and Mayer Lutheran play in the semifinals at 11:30 on Saturday. The championship is Friday, Nov. 26 at 10 a.m. at U.S. Bank Stadium.

Minneota 34, Mahnomen-Waubun 0

Mahnomen-Waubun..... 0 0 0 0

- 0

Minneota..... 0 14 6 14 - 34

Scoring Plays

Min - Jonah Gruenes 23 run (Peyton Gillund kick)

Min - Conner Sik 1 run (Gillund kick)

Min - Sik 1 run (kick failed)

Min - Anthony Rybinski 4 pass from Isaac Pohlen (Gillund kick)

Min - Max Rost 34 run (Gillund kick)

Team Totals

Total Plays: Minneota 46, Mahnomen-Waubun 54.

Total Yards: Minneota 327, Mahnomen-Waubun 135.

Passing Yards: Minneota 25, Mahnomen-Waubun 8.

Rushing Yards: Minneota 302, Mahnomen-Waubun 127.

First Downs: Minneota 15, Mahnomen-Waubun 9.

Turnovers: Minneota 3, Mahnomen-Waubun 4.

Penalties: Minneota 1-5, Mahnomen-Waubun 3-37.

Minneota Statistics

RUSHING (att-yds): Jonah Gruenes 11-78, Anthony Rybinski 6-76, Conner Sik 13-62, AJ Josephson 3-35, Max Rost 1-34, Zack Fier 2-16, Isaac Pohlen 1-1.

PASSING (com-att-yds-td-int): Pohlen 2-4-25-1-1

RECEIVING (rec-yds): Gruenes 1-21, Rybinski 1-4

TACKLES (solo-assisted): Gruenes 6-4, Z.Fier 6-1, Jackson Esping 5-2, Jayden Gamrak 4-5, Alex DePestel 4-0, Peyton Gillund 3-3, Tucker Thoof 3-2, A.Rybinski 1-1, Rost 1-0, Landon DeSmet 1-0, Hudson Scholten 1-0, Parker Bradley 1-0, Ryan Meagher 1-0, Sik 0-1, Jack Lacek 0-1

TACKLES FOR LOSS: Esping 1, Gamrak 1, DePestel 1

INTERCEPTIONS: Z.Fier 1

FUMBLE RECOVERIES: Gruenes 2, Esping 1

PUNTING (no-avg.): None

Inspirational bond

Gamrak's motivated on gridiron by grandmother's cancer battle



Minneota senior Jayden Gamrak and his grandmother, Mitzi Buckingham, have a very close relationship and have become an inspirational for one another. *Contributed photo*

By Scott Thoma
scott@thomabooks.com

Jayden Gamrak had his best game of the season, both on offense and defense, in the Class A quarterfinals this past Friday.

The senior two-way lineman admitted he has been playing with a little inspiration.

"I've been trying my best for my team and fellow seniors," he said.

But his grandmother, Mitzi Buckingham of Marshall, is foremost on his mind now that she has been in a lengthy battle with cancer. That motivates himself to do well.

"When she can't make it to the games, I have to make the big plays so she can see me on

the TV and cheer me on," said Gamrak.

If Buckingham is feeling strong on game days, she and her husband Scott try to make it to the games. If not, they watch them via livestream.

Gamrak has been wearing purple socks during his games in support of pancreatic cancer, too.

"My heart is full. He is quite a kid," Buckingham said about her grandson. "We have always been close and my cancer has affected him a lot. He worries about me."

Buckingham said win or lose, she is very proud of Jayden's accomplishments in football and wrestling.

"I tell him that quite often," she said. "He tells me he is proud of me, too, for fighting so hard. I love going to football games and am also looking forward to wrestling season. I don't have time to be sick."



Jonah Gruenes holds the ball high after one of his two fumble recoveries while teammates Zack Fier (32) and Landon DeSmet (72) celebrate. *Mascot photo by Reba Lipinski*

minneotamascot.com

Gruenes is Academic All-State

Jonah Gruenes, a two-way standout for the Minneota Vikings, was recently named to the 2021 Minnesota Football Coaches Association Academic All-State team.

Gruenes, a senior, is a running back/linebacker for the unbeaten Vikings.

CITY HALL BAR & GRILL

Hours: Tues. - Thurs.
Bar: 4-Close
Mon. - Sat. 11 a.m.-9:30 p.m.
Food: 4-9 p.m.
Mon. 11 a.m. - 9 p.m.
Tues. - Thurs. 11 a.m.-9 p.m.
Closed Sunday



Performer of the Week

Hayley Fruin

Volleyball Coach

The fifth-year coach has now guided her team to two state titles and two runner-up finishes in four state tournaments (there was no tournament in 2020).

Congratulations, Hayley!



301 E. 1st St.
Minneota
(507) 223-7241



SAFE DEPOSIT BOX

1 year FREE Safe Deposit Box with a new savings or checking account

Contact Us for More Details

Ph: (507) 872-6136 | Fax: (507) 872-6404

www.statebanktaunton.com

101 N Main St. Taunton, MN



Donaldson earns spot on Hall ballot

Left-hander pitched in three games for Minneota semi-pro team in 1923

By Scott Thoma
scott@thomabooks.com

After over 20 years of feverishly working to give John Donaldson his due, part Pete Gorton's dream has been fulfilled.

Donaldson, rocket-armed left-hander who pitched in three semi-professional games for Minneota in 1923, was finally put on the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum ballot.

Gorton, a freelance writer living in Minneapolis, discovered Donaldson when he came across a 1924 photo of the Bertha town baseball team and was surprised to see a Black man among the players and began his search to learn more about him.

Gorton soon learned through newspapers in Minnesota about Donaldson's barnstorming exploits in which he and other ballplayers would travel around the county to play baseball. Donaldson is known to have played in over 750 cities across North America.

From 1924 to 1930, Donaldson played for teams in Arlington, Bertha, Lismore, Madison, Melrose, Minneota and St. Cloud in Minnesota. In all, he played in 131 Minnesota cities.

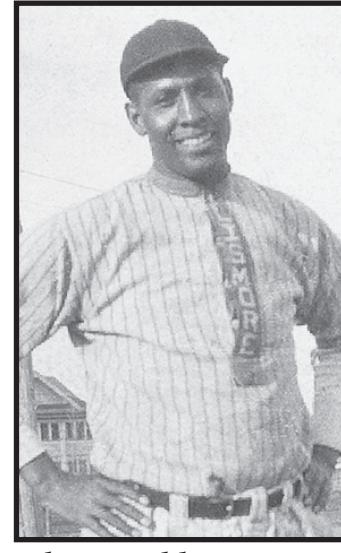
"It is of vital importance that these communities know a potential Hall of Fame player brought his message of equality to each and every town," said Gorton. "It's a great day for The Donaldson Network and we sincerely appreciate all who have contributed to

this effort."

The more Gorton learned about him, the more interested he became. After years of building a network to help him compile Donaldson's pitching statistics, Gorton has unearthed a plethora of statistics, including 418 wins, 5,116 strikeouts, 14 no-hitters and two perfect games over 33 years.

Gorton scoured nearly 8,000 newspaper accounts of Donaldson's mound mastery and how some claimed he was a better pitcher than Satchel Paige. Gorton felt compelled to do whatever it took to get Donaldson on the Hall of Fame ballot, even though the pitcher had never played an inning in the major league or even in the Negro Leagues. Gorton knew it was a long-shot to convince others that Donaldson deserves a place in the Hall of Fame.

Gorton and those working in his network, were elated to find out Donaldson was placed on the ballot last Friday.



John Donaldson

"Together we will restore his legacy," Gorton said.

As Donaldson's strikeout totals continued to climb as more and more statistical information was discovered, more and more baseball aficionados took notice. Eventually, a baseball field was named after Donaldson in his hometown of Glasgow, MO. A statue of Donaldson has now been built and stands next to the field.

Donaldson was such a standout hurler that town officials would take out large ads in their local newspaper when he would be pitching on their diamond because they knew large crowds followed him and that would generate more revenue for local businesses.

Minneota already had a Donaldson playing on their semi pro team in 1923. James Donaldson, a pitcher/shortstop, was John Donaldson's younger brother. John pitched in two games for Minneota so he could play with his brother, then came back to pitch another game in honor of his brother after he died at age 23 following an illness.

The Early Baseball Era Committee for the Hall of Fame, which features candidates whose primary contribution to the game came prior to 1950, will reveal the outcome of the votes on Sunday, Dec. 5. Besides Donaldson, the others on the Early Baseball Era ballot includes Bill Dahlen, Bud Fowler, Vic Harris, Grant "Home Run" Johnson, Lefty O'Doul, Buck O'Neil, Dick "Cannonball" Redding, Allie Reynolds and George "Tubby" Scales.

It's taken Gorton and others a lot of work to tell Donaldson's story and finally get him on the Hall of Fame ballot. And Minneota has played a small part in Donaldson's journey.

Editor's note: Gorton has agreed to appear in Minneota and tell Donaldson's compelling story when details can be worked out.

Bowyer signs to play golf for UM-Crookston

By Scott Thoma
scott@thomabooks.com

Minneota senior Lauren Bowyer, who finished 18th in the Class A state tournament last spring, has signed a National Letter of Intent to play golf for the University of Minnesota-Crookston.

"I'm very excited to have Lauren join our golf program," said UM-Crookston coach Bryant Friskop. "Lauren is someone that will make a positive impact on this team with her hard work and dedication to the game and getting better."

Friskop feels Bowyer has the potential to make it into the team's top five for most events.

"I fully expect her to play a huge role in getting this program where we want to go," he said. "Lauren will be a great addition to this program and this university."

Bowyer had some other offers from colleges that were impressed with her game.



Lauren Bowyer

"What set the University of Minnesota-Crookston apart from the other colleges was that Coach Friskop really took the time to do his research about me," Bowyer said. "That really meant a lot to me as an athlete. I feel super honored to be given this opportunity to play for the Golden Eagles."

The Golden Eagles had a strong fall season, shooting their lowest round since 2016 with a 350 on Sept. 26, 2021. Abby Stender, a senior from Madison, is currently a member of the team.

Bowyer, who is a two-time all-conference selection, shot 186 at the 2021 state tournament after winning the Section 3A individual title. She was named the Most Valuable Player for the Vikings girls' golf team this past spring.

"I'm going to be doing some really great traveling and playing some fantastic courses with my new team," she said. "Finally, I am just really grateful for having this opportunity to continue my golf career."

Bowyer, a Minneota honor student, is the daughter of John and Penny Bowyer. She plans to major in Health Sciences at UM-Crookston.



Completes basic training

Haylee Davis of Ivanhoe graduated from Army Basic Combat Training at Fort Leonard Wood, MO on Oct. 28. SPC Davis successfully completed 10 weeks of basic training at Ft. Leonard Wood as one of 53 in PLT 3. While in training SPC Davis was awarded the following: Top in Physical Fitness Excellence with a score of 439/600 on the Combat Fitness Test and top for the platoon in Excellence in Basic Rifle Marksmanship as a Sharpshooter. SPC Davis reported to Fort Jackson, SC to continue her Advanced Individual Training in human resources. SPC Davis is a 2011 graduate of Minneota High School and is the daughter of Jeff and Dana Davis. Contributed photo

second wife, Carrie, Sept. 15, 1865 in Preston, MN, and soon after they moved to Alta Vista Township. Vandermarker had six children with his first wife

and three with his second. Vandermarker died March 15, 1909 at age 89. Carrie died in 1911 at age 77.



This painting by artist Francis Davis Millet shows the Fourth Minnesota Regiment entering Vicksburg on July 4, 1863. It is part of the Minnesota Historical Society collection.

Civil War

Continued from Page 1

He is the great grandfather of Jim Reiss of Taunton. Reiss's mother was Cora Reiss, whose father Frank Vandermarker was Isaac's son.

During his time as a volunteer with the Fourth Minnesota in the Civil War, Isaac Vandermarker III was involved in numerous battles, including the Siege of Vicksburg where he was wounded.

He was 43 years old when he enlisted in the Civil War. His

daily exploits of 1863 were kept in a daily journal with brief entries. The original journal is now the property of the U.S. Army Military History Institute in Carlisle, Pennsylvania.

The Mascot obtained a copy of the month of January from Vandermarker's journal in order to see what type of entries were included. His very first entry on Jan. 1, 1863 read:

"Pleasant. Marched from Germantown to Lafayette. Went along with the teamster to assist him. He turned his wagon over from a bridge into a

river, wetting our knapsacks and making a general smash up, breaking open the company desk."

And this entry was from Jan. 22, 1863: "Cloudy. Came off guard at the break of day. Got my breakfast as soon as possible. Left Camp Whit Station for Memphis with Frank Owens and footed it to town. Traveled all over. Found that there had been a great many buildings burned with no new ones going up. Memphis a large town."

Vandermarker was a prosperous farmer in Alta Vista Township. He learned the farming trade from his parents, Isaac Jr. and Elizabeth, who were farmers in New York, where Isaac III was born on Sept. 18, 1819.

A well-educated man, Isaac left his parents' farm when he was 22 years old and farmed on land that he rented near his parents.

Vandermarker married Clorinda Stokes in 1845 in New York.

In 1856, Isaac moved to Marquette, Michigan where he was in charge of 27 teams hauling iron ore on a tram railroad.

He left that business after only six months and settled in Freeborn County in Minnesota and farmed. Clorinda died in 1861.

On April 6, 1862, Vandermarker enlisted in the Union Army in Company K, Fourth Minnesota Infantry. He boarded steamboat in St. Paul with his regiment and traveled to Benton Barracks in St. Louis. His regiment was then ordered to report to the front.

Vandermarker was wounded during the Siege of Vicksburg in late June of 1863, and in August of 1863, he was transferred to the Invalid Corps (later called the Veteran Reserve Corps) created within the Union Army to allow partially disabled soldiers to perform light duty, freeing able-bodied soldiers to serve on the front lines.

Vandermarker participated in many battles with the Fourth Minnesota Infantry before being wounded. Vandermarker was honorably discharged on April 5, 1865, four days before General Lee surrendered to Grant, and 10 days before Abraham Lincoln was assassinated.

Vandermarker married his

second wife, Carrie, Sept. 15, 1865 in Preston, MN, and soon after they moved to Alta Vista Township. Vandermarker had six children with his first wife

and three with his second. Vandermarker died March 15, 1909 at age 89. Carrie died in 1911 at age 77.

You're invited to a "Poultry Party and Raffle"

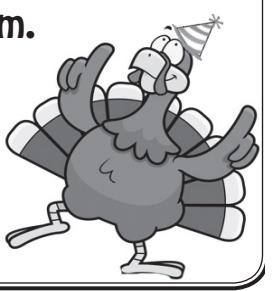
hosted by the Porter American Legion Post #457

Friday, November 19 • 7 p.m.

Porter Hall • Porter

• Pop, Coffee & Lunch available with door prizes!

- Raffle with prizes too!
- Free Admission!



From the Mascot Kitchen

Slow cooker Split Pea Soup

This is a very easy soup to make because the hardest part is the preparation. The slow cooker will do all the work. This is a delicious and healthy soup that whole family can enjoy.

INGREDIENTS

1 16-oz. package dried green split peas
2 cups cooked ham, cubed
1 large onion, chopped
1 cup carrots, chopped
3 garlic cloves, minced
1/2 tsp dried rosemary, crushed
1 tsp dried thyme
1 32-oz. carton chicken broth
2 cups water

DIRECTIONS

Combine all ingredients in slow cooker. Cover and cook on low 8-10 hours or until peas are tender.



Putting you first made us #1.

Kevin Anundson, Agent
100 E 1st Street
Minneota, MN 56264
Bus: 507-872-6781
kevin.anundson.b48m@statefarm.com

Making you our #1 priority is what's made State Farm® #1* in auto insurance. I'm here to listen to your needs and to help life go right.

CALL ME TODAY.

*Based on written premium as reported by SNL Financial 2014.

State Farm®

State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Company
State Farm Indemnity Company
Bloomington, IL

State Farm County Mutual Insurance Company of Texas
Dallas, TX

Pet OF THE WEEK

Meadow

Owner: Allison Johnson

Age: 1 Year

Breed: Barn Cat

About Meadow: Playing, cuddling & running through the halls at midnight!

Tri-County Veterinary Clinic
201 1st Street W. • Taunton 507-872-6113

Professional Directory

To place your ad in this directory call 507-872-6492

Funeral Services



Betsy Jo Kack
Pre-Planning Counselor
MN Ins. Lic. #20530197
Monument Sales
*Creating Beautiful Tributes
through Meaningful Ceremonies*
Horvath Funeral Service

Minneota • (507) 872-6119 • www.horvathfuneralservice.com

*"I've changed my mind.
Now what?"*

Now, make a decision
you're comfortable with.
Whether you're having questions about
your prearrangement policy or with whom
you've entrusted prearrangements,
changing your mind is easy.
Call us anytime to discuss.

hamiltonfh.com • Marshall • 507-532-2933



David & Elly Sprirk
**Hamilton Funeral Home
& Cremation Services**

Counselor

Jerry's Therapy

Jerome Bottelberghe

LPC Licensed

Telehealth • Mdlive.com

Call or text 507-530-2029 for an appointment

110 East Second Street • Minneota

www.jerrytherapy.com

Chiropractor

FIXEN CHIROPRACTIC
202 E. 1st St. | Minneota, MN 56264
Main Phone: 507-872-5200

Michael R. Thomas D.D.S. *Smile Designers*
& Associates

Patient Friendly Hours ~ Evening and Friday Appointments
1511 Carlson Street • Marshall, MN

507-532-3353

M & Tue.: 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
W & Th.: 8 a.m. - 7 p.m.
Fri.: 8 a.m. - 2 p.m.

New Patients Welcome!

www.smiledesignersmn.com

MINNEOTA
Family Dental

Dr. Alexandra C. Lentz
102 E 1st St, Minneota, MN 56264 -- Ph. (507) 872-6403
Serving the SW MN community since 1975

Now Accepting New Patients!

www.minneotafamilydental.com

Electrical & Plumbing

B&B Electrical Contractors, Inc.
706 E 1st St. Minneota MN 56264 **507-872-6837**
bnbelectric16@yahoo.com
Eric V. Buysse, Owner Lic# EA002764
Residential and Commercial Electrical Applications
Specializing in Ground Source Heat Pumps



Smarter from the Ground Up™

Frank's
Electric, Plumbing & Heating
(507) 872-5007 • (507) 530-3499
email: frankselectric@centurytel.net



**712 East 1st St.
Minneota, MN 56264**

Jeff Sussner
Lic # EA000684

Plumbing & Heating
Cold Climate
Geo Thermal
Heat Pumps

I-320-260-2995

Brian Kloos
Master Plumber
Lic #: PM067907

403 East Lyon Street
Minneota, MN 56264

BK's Plumbing LLC

Veterinary Services

Minneota Veterinary Clinic

714 E. 1st St.
Minneota, MN 56264

Lynn Buysse, D.V.M

(507) 872-6000 • www.minneotavet.com

Tri-County Veterinary Clinic

201 1st St. W. • P.O. Box 357 • Taunton, MN

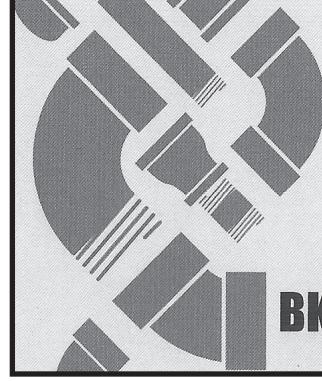
Scott Josephson, D.V.M.

Brady Myers, D.V.M.

Adam Josephson, D.V.M.

(507) 872-6113

www.tricountyvetclinic.com



Interior Design

Hometown
KITCHEN & BATH

Cabinetry
• Countertop
• Flooring
• Ceramic Tile
• Window Treatments

Hours

Tuesdays-Fridays:
9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Saturdays: 9 a.m.-Noon

Mondays & Evenings:
By Appointment

Sundays: Closed

Septic Systems

Laleman's
Septic & Drain Cleaning
Ghent, MN
For plumbing,
call Spencer Laleman
at 507-829-3631
Lic # PM086876

Septic Tank Pumping
Sewer Rooter
Drain Jetting
Porta Potty Rental

Gary Laleman:
507-530-4405

Town and Country Home Health Care

- Home Health Aide Services
- Occupational Therapy
- Skilled Nursing Care
- Physical Therapy
- Coordination of Services with Physician of your choice
- Speech Therapy

**507-872-5313 or
507-872-5300**



Health Services

SEE US FOR YOUR COMPLETE BUILDING NEEDS!

New Homes, Workshops, Additions, Storage Sheds, Garages, Livestock Sheds. High Quality Competitive Prices. Custom Designed Plans & Drafts. Residential Ag & Commercial Buildings. Free Estimates. Materials on Hand

MINNEOTA



BUILDING MATERIALS, INC.

507-872-6147 • 115 W. 1st St. • Minneota, MN 56264

Hardware & Decor

Barb, Dave & Pat
Gislason Ace Hardware & The Arched Door

507-872-6472
See us on Facebook
[email: tr55332@yahoo.com](mailto:tr55332@yahoo.com)

106 East 1st Street
Minneota, MN 56264
Hours: Mon. - Fri.:
7:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.
Saturday:
7:30 a.m. - 4 p.m.;
Sunday: CLOSED

John A. Engels & Joshua I. Larsen
Attorney Attorney

Real Property Law

Specialist certified by the MSBA

124 N. Jefferson • Minneota, MN 56264

(507) 872-6234 • (507) 275-3105

Building Supplies

MORTGAGE CAPITAL
of MN
Residential Lending With Integrity

For all your home lending needs

130 1st St. West • Canby

Cell: 612-812-0320

bmerritt@mortgagecapitalmn.com

www.mortgagecapitalmn.com

Home Equity Lines
Debt Consolidation
Home Improvement

Construction Loans
FHA/VA Loans

Rural Development

Home purchase and refinance

ALL Credit Welcome to Apply!

NMLS #340490

NMLS #324257

Brent Merritt, Partner/Senior Mortgage Consultant

Appraisals

Buffalo Ridge Appraisals LLC
J.D. Pesch, Certified Appraiser
507-317-4943
Residential & Agricultural
Real Estate Appraisals

PO Box 147
Minneota, MN 56264
jdp.appraiser@gmail.com


**Give a gift
that keeps on
giving!**
Give a gift of a
Mascot subscription!
Call the Mascot 507-872-6492 today!

Financial Services

MORTGAGE CAPITAL
of MN
Residential Lending With Integrity

For all your home lending needs

130 1st St. West • Canby

Cell: 612-812-0320

bmerritt@mortgagecapitalmn.com

www.mortgagecapitalmn.com

Brent Merritt, Partner/Senior Mortgage Consultant

Call for your spot in the
professional directory
today!

The Mascot

1-507-872-6492

Advertising

Call for your spot in the
professional directory
today!

The Mascot

1-507-872-6492

WHAT'S HAPPENING

November

Thursday, Nov. 18

10 a.m. - Exercise at Minneota Senior Center
1 p.m. - Bingo at Minneota Senior Center

Friday, Nov. 19

12:45 p.m. - "Bien" at Minneota Senior Center
1 p.m. - "500" at Minneota Senior Center
7 p.m. - High School Musical "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat"

Saturday, Nov. 20

North Pole Extravaganza, business hours vary. Venors, Santa Claus, more at Bethel Fellowship Church.
9 a.m. - State Football Tournament: Minneota vs. Rushford-Peterson, Class A semifinals at U.S. Bank Stadium
7 p.m. - High School Musical "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat"

Sunday, Nov. 21

2 p.m. - High School Musical "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat"

Monday, Nov. 22

1 p.m. - Mahjong at Minneota Senior Center

Tuesday, Nov. 23

10 a.m. - Exercise at Minneota Senior Center
1 p.m. - "500" at Minneota Senior Center

Thursday, Nov. 25

Happy Thanksgiving
Noon - Thanksgiving meal at Bethel Fellowship Church

Friday, Nov. 26

10 a.m. - State Football Tournament Class A championship at U.S. Bank Stadium
12:45 p.m. - "Bien" at Minneota Senior Center
1 p.m. - "500" at Minneota Senior Center

Monday, Nov. 29

1 p.m. - Mahjong at Minneota Senior Center

Tuesday, Nov. 30

10 a.m. - Exercise at Minneota Senior Center
1 p.m. - "500" at Minneota Senior Center



St. Edward's Knights of Columbus

French Toast Breakfast

Sunday, November 21

9 a.m.- Noon

St. Edward Church • Minneota

Dine In, Take Out
or Drive Thru!
Free Will Offering



Healing Waters Parish

Augustana, Clarkfield; Bergen, Clarkfield;

St. Lucas Lutheran, Cottonwood

Worship Times: Augustana Lutheran Church:

Sundays at 9:30 a.m.

Bergen Lutheran Church: Sundays at 10:30 a.m.

St. Lucas Lutheran Church: Sundays at 8:30 a.m.

Vicar Mort Meyenburg

Church Contact No. 320-841-1085

Yellow Medicine Lutheran Church

PO Box 119, 101 Main Street, Hanley Falls

www.yellowmedicinelutheran.org

Worship Time: All Sunday services are in-person and also live-streamed at 10 a.m. Sundays on Facebook (visit Yellow Medicine Lutheran Church). Please watch the website and Facebook for more information.

Church: 507-768-3417

Pastor Steve Quist: (507) 337-0068

Tim Velde, Lay Minister: (507) 828-5343

St. Leo Catholic Church

St. Leo, MN

Mass Times: See Bulletin

Father Ron Huberty

Parochial Vicars: Fr. Michael Doyle and

Fr. Keith Salisbury

Winds of the Prairie Ministry

Bethany Lutheran, Arco and

Bethany-Elim Lutheran, Ivanhoe

Worship Times: Online Worship see Facebook page.

Pastor Jeff Greathouse

Cell #: 330-234-1317

pastorghouse@gmail.com

Church Contact No. 507-694-1238

windsministry@gmail.com

Hope Lutheran Church

Minneota

www.hopeminneota.org

Worship Times:

Sunday, November 21: Service at 9 a.m.

Wednesday, November 24: GLOW beginning at 5:30 p.m.

Pastor Allen Campbell
Church Secretary Chris Pesch:
hopelutheran87@gmail.com

Church Contact No. 507-872-6446

St. Paul's Lutheran Church

Minneota

Worship Times: Service at 10:30 a.m.

Pastor Allen Campbell

Church Secretary: Chris Pesch

hopelutheran87@gmail.com

Church Contact No. 507-872-6446

Hemnes Lutheran Church

Rural Minneota

Sunday Worship

Minneota Manor Worship, 2:30 p.m., fourth Thursday of the month.

Pastor Ellen Munter

St. Eloi Catholic Church

Ghent, MN

Mass Times:

Saturday, November 20: Mass at the convent at noon

Sunday, November 21: Mass at 10:30 a.m.

Wednesday, November 24: CCD at 6:30 p.m.

Father Todd Petersen

Church Contact No. 507-428-3285

Bethel Fellowship Church

Hwy 68 - Minneota

Ephesians 2:8 - By grace you are saved.

Sunday Worship: 10 a.m.; Sunday School 8:50-9:45 a.m.

Wednesdays: Kids' Zone 6-7:20 p.m.; Prayer and Devotional 7:30 p.m.

Pastor Thomas Nomeland

Contact No. 507-828-1637

St. Edward Catholic Church

Minneota

Mass Times:

Saturday, November 20: Mass at 5:30 p.m., confession 4:45 p.m.

Sunday, November 21: Mass at 8:30 a.m.. Knights of Columbus French Toast Breakfast from 9 a.m.-Noon

Wednesday, November 24: CCD at 6:30 p.m., Teen Talk from 8-9:30 p.m.

Father Todd Petersen

Church Contact No. 507-872-6346

Minneota Area Church Announcements Brought to You By:

Gislason ACE HARDWARE
Established in 1938

The Arched Door
HOME DECOR JEWELRY GIFTS
106 E. 1st St. • Minneota
872-6472

COTTONWOOD • HANLEY FALLS
CITY TAUNTON

Farmers Cooperative Elevator Co.
GRANITE FALLS • MINNESOTA FALLS
.....
Here to serve you!
Minneota 872-6161

SBT
State Bank of Taunton
Taunton, MN
507-872-6136
statebankoftaunton.com
Member FDIC

Town & Country Home Health Care

TM
872-5313
872-5300

Let your light shine so
people everywhere may
see your good actions
and praise God in
heaven because of it.
Matthew 5:16

Your Hometown Newspaper
.....
Minneota Mascot
507-872-6492

Doyle Insurance Services
Insurance & Bonds
Ken DeBaere
GRINNELL SELECT INSURANCE COMPANY
www.gmrc.com
217 N. Jefferson
Minneota • 872-6124

Let there be lights! Mascot 2nd annual 'Battle of the Bulbs' contest underway Lyon County Museum Tree Walk opens

By Scott Thoma
scott@thomabooks.com

Start stringing those lights, it's time for the Mascot's 2nd annual Battle of the Bulbs Lighting Contest.

Prize packages were again be awarded to the top displays. First place will be a \$500 package of various gifts, second place is a \$250 prize package, and third place will be \$100 in

prizes.

Because of the generosity of area businesses and individuals, we included a fourth and fifth place award, too, worth \$50 and \$25. We will do that again if donations again exceed prize amounts.

Last year's inaugural lighting contest saw 29 participants from Minneota, Ghent and Taunton.

Austin and Shannon Dritz of

rural Taunton claimed the top prize in 2020. Gus and Mayra Molina of Minneota placed second, Tom and Kim Abraham of rural Minneota captured third place. Peanuts and Ali Kloos of Minneota were fourth and Lynn and Barb Okrilla of Minneota were fifth.

Several judges determine the winner by a 1-10 point system that includes originality, organization and use of lights.

The contest is free to enter and the entire family can get involved with decorating your house. Participants must be within a 10-mile radius of the Mascot in Minneota.

Registration deadline is Monday, Dec. 13. To register, fill out the form in this week's Mascot and mail or drop it off at our office, or email your information to scott@thomabooks.com.

The Lyon County Museum is seeking entries for the 9th Annual Indoor Christmas Tree Walk, which will open on Saturday, Nov. 20 and run through New Year's Eve.

Visitors will have a chance to vote for their favorite tree or trees. Voters will place money in boxes located at each tree to vote for their favorite(s). There will also be an online option for people to vote. Three organizations/businesses/groups/individuals with the most money in their boxes will win the 2021 tree walk. All proceeds from the boxes will go to benefit the Lyon County Museum's mission of preserving and presenting Lyon County history.

Prizes will be awarded to the top three trees. First prize is \$150 in Marshall Chamber Dollars, second prize is \$100 in Marshall Chamber Dollars, and third prize is \$50 in Marshall Chamber Dollars.



BINGO!

Joanne Myrvik, the longtime Senior Center director, reads off numbers for BINGO on Thursday afternoon as Carol Roles listens for one of her numbers to be called. *Mascot photo by Scott Thoma*



Giving Thanks

Members of the Westerheim Flashing Stars 4-H group colored Thanksgiving pictures and put together a "Thank You" basket for the Minneota Manor staff for a service activity project during their meeting on Sunday. The group felt it would be a nice gesture to show residents and staff that they are being thought of and wish them the best with the upcoming closing of the Manor closing on Dec. 2. Standing from left to right: Winston Strand, Violet Vlaminck, Imogen Moriarty, Louis Bagola-DeVos, Olivia DeVos, and Mary Bagola-DeVos. In front is Jules Gossen. *Contributed photo*



Haugen's latest

A statue of legendary Georgia Tech Athletic Director Homer Rice was unveiled outside Dodd Stadium on Friday. The 7-foot tall statue was designed by Minneota native Don Haugen and his wife Teena Stern Haugen, nationally renowned sculptors who have produced many famous works of art. Rice was the Athletic Director at Georgia Tech from 1980-97. *Contributed photo*

Can you afford to retire?
We can help you plan for a steady retirement income.
Contact us today at (507) 532-2210 or email randy.l.groff@ampf.com



Randy Groff
ChFC®, CLU®,
CRPC®,
Financial Advisor

Patty Groff
CRPC®, CLTC®,
Financial Advisor

Trisha Schaar
CRPC®, CLTC®,
APMA®,
Financial Advisor

Julie Janiszewski
Client Service
Specialist

Tristen Groff
Marketing and
Client Service
Specialist

ETCHELON
WEALTH PARTNERS
A private wealth advisory practice of Ameriprise Financial Services, LLC

Ameriprise  **Financial**

(507) 532-2210 • 408 East Main Street, Bldg 2, Ste 10, Marshall, MN

Not FDIC Insured | No Bank Guarantee | May Lose Value

Ameriprise Financial Services, LLC. Member FINRA and SIPC.

© 2021 Ameriprise Financial, Inc. All rights reserved.

minneotamascot.com

THE MINNEOTA MASCOT PRESENTS
THE 2ND ANNUAL
Battle of the Bulb
Holiday Lighting Contest

Minneota, Ghent & Taunton residents within 10 miles of Minneota are encouraged to light up your home or property for our contest.

Prizes awarded for top 3 displays

1st place- \$500 worth of gifts

2nd place- \$250 worth of gifts

3rd place- \$100 worth of gifts

(Prizes donated by local sponsors)

REGISTRATION DEADLINE-Dec. 13

COST-FREE

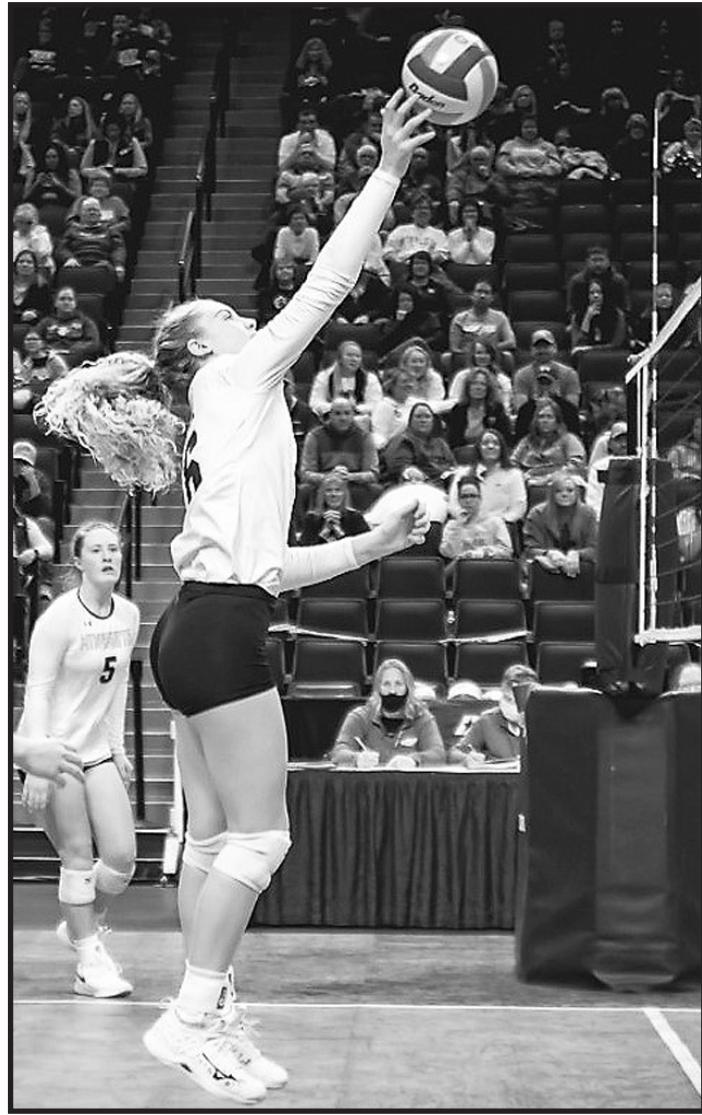
To register: Fill out the form below and mail or drop off at the Mascot office. Minneota Mascot, P.O. Box 9, Minneota, MN 56264.

Or email information to: scott@thomabooks.com

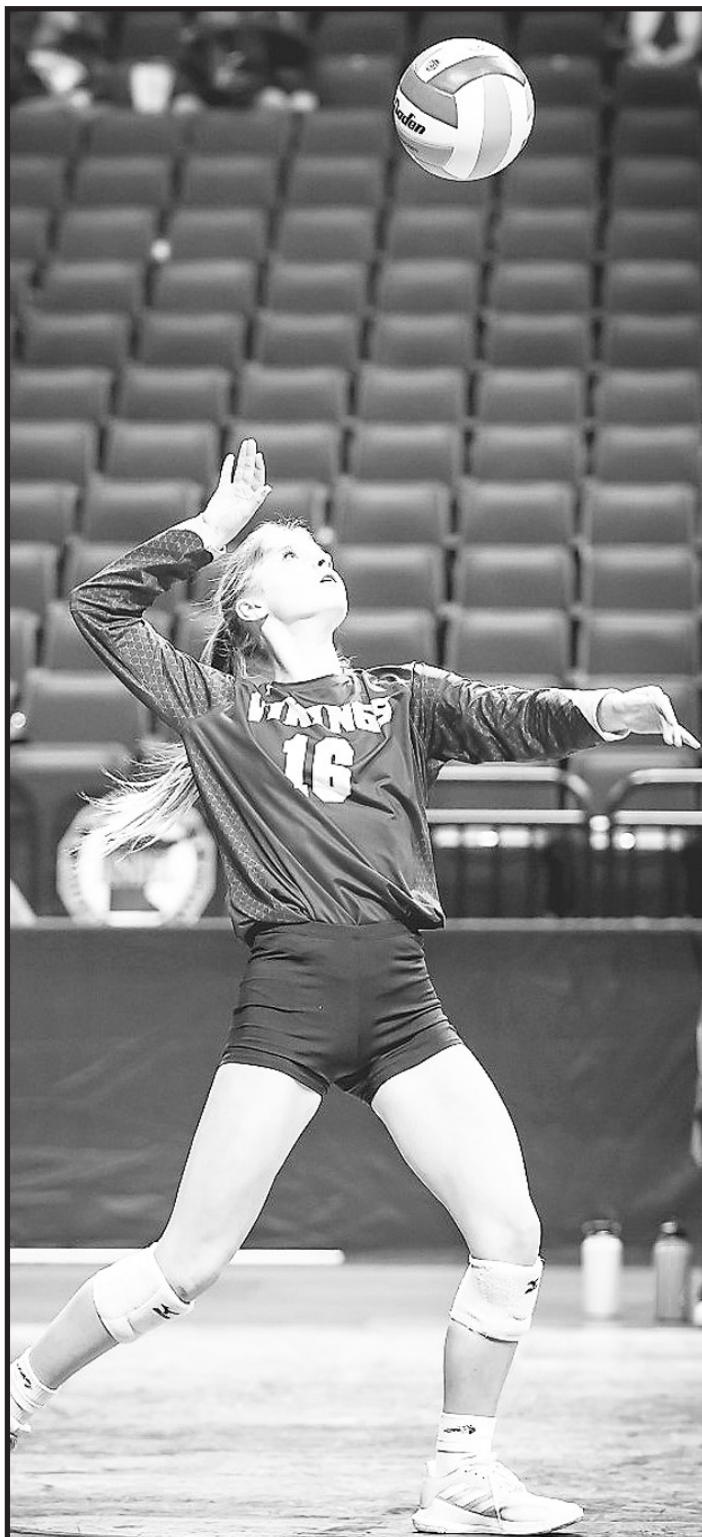
Name _____
Address _____
E-Mail _____
Phone _____

Judging will be done the weekend of Dec. 18-19.

Winners will be announced on Dec. 22.

2021 STATE VOLLEYBALL TOURNAMENT**Vikings sweep into state finals**

Ella Johnson tips the ball over the net against Walker-Hackensack-Akeley in Friday's semifinals. *Mascot photo by Brian Jeremias.*



Abby Rolbiecki serves against Badger-Greenbush-Middle River in the quarterfinals. *Mascot photo by Brian Jeremias.*

Rolbiecki, Tolk among 7 SMSU signees

Minneota seniors Natalee Rolbiecki and McKenzie Tolk were among seven players to sign National Letters of Intent to play volleyball for Southwest Minnesota State University next fall.

Rolbiecki is a 5-10 outside hitter. Tolk is a 5-5 libero. Minneota finished second in the Class A volleyball tournament. Both are among 18 players selected to the Class A All-State team.

Others to sign with SMSU recently were: Karli Arkell, a 6-3 middle blocker from Lamberton (Red Rock Central); Karli Symonsbergen, a 5-9 setter from Lincoln, NE; Abby Meister, a 5-6 libero from Sioux Falls; Emily Rohrer, a 6-2 middle blocker from Slayton (Murray County Central); and Ashley Peltier, a 5-11 middle blocker from Taylors Falls.

Terry Culhane, who has coached at SMSU for the past 18 seasons, announced his retirement upon the completion of the 2021 season.

By Scott Thoma
scott@thomabooks.com

Minneota moved into the Class A championship with a convincing 25-18, 25-21, 25-14 triumph over Walker-Hackensack-Akeley in the semifinals on Friday at Xcel Energy Center in St. Paul.

Natalee Rolbiecki, one of four Minneota players chosen to the Class A All-State team, led all players with 20 kills. Abby Frie added 11 kills and Ireland Stassen 10.

Minneota, the No. 2 seed, meet top-seeded Mayer Lutheran, a team the Vikings lost to earlier this season, for the state championship. The Vikings won the last two state titles in 2018 and 2019. There was no state tournament last year due to the pandemic.

Walker-Hackensack-Akeley, entered the tournament unseeded but knocked off No. 3 Legacy Christian in the quarterfinals on Thursday.

It was a solid effort for the Vikings (31-4), especially on defense where McKenzie Tolk, another All-State selection, made several stellar diving digs to keep the ball in play. Rolbiecki and Lyzah Sussner also made some outstanding defensive plays to thwart attacks by the Wolves.

McKenna Yost returned to the lineup after missing the quarterfinal match after cutting her knee in practice the day before the tournament started.

"I am proud that she played through the injury even though it wasn't her full rotation," said coach Hayley Fruin. "She was a great teammate on the bench supporting Elivia Faris, who played McKenna's front row."

The senior All-Stater had 26 assists, while Stassen, another All-Stater, finished with 19 assists.

"Our setters do such a nice job spreading the ball around and keeping the other team guessing," said Rolbiecki. "That really helps us out as hitters, too."

Faris was impressive in her rotation. The freshman was set up for three swings and produced kills on each one. Emma Bottelberghe added five kills and Ella Johnson four.

The Vikings never trailed in the first set while getting six kills from Rolbiecki and four from Stassen.

The Wolves came out in the second set and grabbed a 6-4 lead. Although Minneota never trailed by more than two points in the entire match, they couldn't get a comfortable lead on the Wolves in that second set until Rolbiecki had three straight kills and Faris and Frie each had one for a 22-17 advantage.

"We just needed to regroup a little in that set," said Rolbiecki. "We knew we would be fine."

The Vikings closed out that second set on consecutive kills by Stassen.

The third set was all Minneota with Rolbiecki notching six kills, Stassen and Frie three each, and Emma Bottelberghe two.

Minneota 3, Walker-H-A

Walker-Hackensack-Akeley.....18 21 14

Minneota.....25 25 25

Minneota Statistics

SERVING (good-att-aces): Lyzah Sussner 14-14-0, McKenzie Tolk 14-15-1, Emma Bottelberghe 1-1-0, Ireland Stassen 5-8-0, McKenna Yost 8-8-0, Natalee Rolbiecki 19-19-1, Grace Hennen 4-4-0, Dakoda Hennen 3-3-0, Abby Rolbiecki 2-2-0

SETTING (assists): Yost 26, Stassen 19, Tolk 7

HITTING (good-att-kills): Rolbiecki 31-37-20, Abby Frie 18-21-11, Stassen 20-25-10, Bottelberghe 14-15-5, Ella Johnson 5-6-4, Elivia Faris 3-3-3

BLOCKS: Frie 2, Stassen 1, Yost 1

DIGS: Tolk 25, N.Rolbiecki 16, Sussner 8, Bottelberghe 1

Vikings open at state with rout

By Scott Thoma
scott@thomabooks.com

Abby Frie and Natalee Rolbiecki hammered down 17 kills each and Ireland Stassen record the 1,000th set assist of her career as Minneota overwhelmed Badger-Greenbush-Middle River 25-15, 25-14, 25-11 in the quarterfinals of the Class A state tournament Thursday at Xcel Center in St. Paul.

Despite playing without All-State setter McKenna Yost, who cut her knee in practice on Wednesday and was held out of the match as a precaution, the No. 2-seeded Vikings made quick work of the unseeded Gators.

The Vikings (30-4) advanced to the semifinals against Walker-Hackensack-Akeley.

Stassen finished with 38 assists as the Vikings ditched their normal 6-2 offense and employed a 5-1 with Yost's absence.

Minneota trailed only twice in the entire match, 1-0 to start the first and third sets. In between, the Vikings dominated.

In the first set, the Vikings rolled to leads of 9-2 and 19-6 before closing it out on a kill by Stassen on a set by Lyssa Kremin.

The Vikings scored the first seven points of the second set with McKenzie Tolk serving and never looked back. Included in that run was an ace serve, a kill by Frie, and five attacks errors by the Gators.

Dakoda Hennen served five straight points in the third set with four of the five points coming on Badger-Greenbush-Middle River errors and the other in a kill by Rolbiecki.

Stassen recorded her 1,000th assist in the third set on a quick set to Frie.

Rolbiecki's 17th kills closed out the match on a set from Stassen.

Grace Hennen notched to aces. Tolk had 16 digs and Rolbiecki had 14.

Minneota 3, Badger-GB-MR 0

Badger-Greenbush-Middle River.....15 14 11

Minneota.....25 25 25

Minneota Statistics

SERVING (good-att-aces): Lyzah Sussner 15-15-0, McKenzie Tolk 15-15-1, Ireland Stassen 9-9-0, Natalee Rolbiecki 7-7-0, Grace Hennen 15-15-2, Dakoda Hennen 9-10-1, Abby Rolbiecki 2-2-0

SETTING (assists): Stassen 38, Tolk 1, Lyssa Kremin 1

HITTING (good-att-kills): N.Rolbiecki 27-32-17, Abby Frie 24-25-17, Elivia Faris 6-7-4, Emma Bottelberghe 4-4-3, Stassen 5-5-1, Ella Johnson 19-20-1, Sussner 3-3-0, Kennedi Jurrens 0-1-0

BLOCKS: Frie 3, Stassen 2, Johnson 1, Bottelberghe 1

State Volleyball

Continued from Page 1

It was a rare match in which the Vikings could never keep their foot on the accelerator as Mayer Lutheran would thwart any string of points with their blocking schemes.

"We tried to serve aggressively to try and get them out of system," said Fruin. "You just have to give them credit for playing a great match."

Mayer Lutheran's two losses this season were to Southwest Christian and Chaska.

The Crusaders started out strong against Minneota, a telltale sign of things to come. They bolted to a 7-3 lead with Wachholz delivering four kills and the Vikings making three attacks errors attempting to hit around their taller opponent.

The Vikings closed to within points at 12-10 on a kill by Rolbiecki, but they would get no closer in that opening set as the Crusaders scored 13 of the next 18

points.

The Vikings led 5-3 in the second set and were playing better than in the opening set. But the Crusaders scored the next four points and never gave up the lead again.

In the third set, the Vikings built a 7-5 lead before Mayer Lutheran rattled off seven unanswered points and rolled to their second state title in four years.

Minneota loses five seniors to graduation: Rolbiecki, Frie, Yost, Tolk and Kennedi Jurrens.

"This senior group were eighth-graders when I started coaching here," said Fruin. "The majority have been moved up for many years so we've created a special bond. I'm so proud of what they've accomplished."

The Vikings were obviously disappointed at not winning a third straight title, but realize that they are a special group.

"We put a lot of pressure on ourselves to win a state championship and we don't realize how big of an accomplishment sec-

ond place is," said Fruin. "We've battled and beat some of the top teams in the state and have nothing to hang our heads about. All of us coaches are proud of them and I know the whole town is, too. They've made an impact on this program."

Mayer Lutheran 3, Minneota 0

Mayer Lutheran.....25 25 25

Minneota.....15 20 18

Minneota Statistics

SERVING (good-att-aces): Lyzah Sussner 6-7-1, McKenzie Tolk 11-11-0, Ireland Stassen 7-8-1, McKenna Yost 10-10-0, Natalee Rolbiecki 12-12-0, Grace Hennen 2-2-0, Dakoda Hennen 1-2-0, Abby Rolbiecki 2-2-0

SETTING (assists): Yost 15, Stassen 1, Tolk 4, Sussner 1, N.Rolbiecki 1, Abby Frie 1

HITTING (good-att-kills): Stassen 26-29-13, Rolbiecki 41-46-10, Frie 14-21-6, Elivia Faris 10-14-4, Emma Bottelberghe 9-10-3, Yost 3-5-1

BLOCKS: Frie 2

DIGS: N.Rolbiecki 26, Sussner 22, Tolk 18, Bottelberghe 1

-minneotamascot.com-