Minneota Mascot

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WE ARE THE CHAMPIONS



Minneota players celebrate on court at Grand Casino Arena to celebrate their Class A state championship as coaches congratulate one another behind them. *Mascot photo by Brian Jeremiason*

Vikings sweep all three opponents to capture Class A state crown

CLASS A STATE TOURNAMENT

QUARTERFINALS
Minneota 25-25-25
Pine River-Backus 14-10-11

SEMIFINALS
Minneota 25-25-25
Sacred Heart 16-17-10

CHAMPIONSHIP
Minneota 25-25-25
BBE 14-11-13

By Scott Thoma
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The deeper a team gets in the post-season, the tougher the competition. For Minneota, however, the challenge never seemed to get more difficult as it swept all seven playoff opponents.

The Vikings captured the program's fifth state title in impressive fashion on Saturday, drubbing Belgrade-Brooten-Elrosa 25-14, 25-11, 25-13 in the Class A championship match at Grand Casino Arena in St. Paul.

"This team was hungry," said Minneota coach Kaley Buysse. "They've wanted it since losing last year in the section. You could tell it on the court and you could tell it off the court. They've worked hard all year and have proven they were willing to do whatever was needed."

Minneota also won state titles in 2016, 2018, 2019 and 2022.

Four Minneota players — Eden Meagher, Autum Anderson, Jaylyn Coequyt and Leah Coequyt — were selected to the all-tournament team, but several others on the team were also deserving. Meagher, Leah Coequyt and Anderson also were named to the Minnesota Volleyball Coaches Association All-State team in Class A.

Minneota amassed 18 service aces in the three state tournament matches, including Libby Sussner's three in the championship.

Jaylyn Coequyt's 14 kills against BBE led the Vikings. Meagher delivered 11 kills and Leah Coequyt had 10. Jaylyn finished the tournament with a team-high 38 kills, while Meagher had 34 and Leah 29.

Anderson chalked up 10 digs in the final, giving the junior libero 45 for the tournament.

Minneota never trailed in either of the first two sets against BBE. They led 3-2 in the opening set, and a 7-0 run led by Meagher's three kills and Leah Coequyt with three boosted the lead to 10-2. Still leading 19-13, the Vikings then went on a 5-0 run to make it 24-13 with Meagher's kills accounting for three of the points during the run. A BBE hitting error gave the Vikings the set point.

Volleyball *Continued on Page 4*

CLASS A STATE FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT

Vikings rumble past Mayer Lutheran, 41-6

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Tristen Sussner threw three touchdown passes, RJ Sorensen ran for 126 yards and two touchdowns, and Minneota amassed 412 total yards en route to a 41-6 rout of Mayer Lutheran in the Class A state football semifinals last Friday in Marshall.

The Vikings (11-0), seeking a fifth straight Prep Bowl crown, will face Breckenridge (12-0) at 11:30 a.m. on Saturday, Nov. 21 in the state semifinals at U.S. Bank Stadium. Springfield will meet Upsala-Swanville at 9 a.m. in the other semifinal game.

Minneota scored in every quarter while dominating the Crusaders (9-2), which entered the game averaging 38.5 points per game.

The Vikings drove 64 yards on their opening drive and scored when tight end Sam Myhre made a spectacular over-the-shoulder, one-handed grab in the end zone for a 19-yard touchdown. The drive consumed 7:39 on the first-quarter clock. Minneota was successful twice on fourth down to keep the drive alive. Ian Myhre's conversion kick made it 7-0.

Football *Continued on Page 3*



Sam Myhre makes aspectacular over-the-shoulder, one-handed catch for a TD against Mayer Lutheran Friday in Marshall. *Mascot photo by Brian Jeremiason*

Bethel Fellowship to host annual Thanksgiving dinner

By Scott Thoma
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Bethel Fellowship Church will be hosting its annual Thanksgiving dinner for the public to enjoy beginning at noon on Thursday, Nov. 26 at the church, Pastor Tom Nomeland recently announced.

Pastor Nomeland and his congregation have been hosting the dinner for many years. The traditional Thanksgiving meal is free of charge, although free-will donations are accepted.

The meal will feature the traditional Thanksgiving food such as turkey, ham, mashed potatoes and gravy, corn, squash, stuffing, cranberries, bread, pie and ice cream, and beverages.

The dinner is generally well attended and was originally designed for those who might be alone for the holiday, going through trying times, not feeling up to preparing a big meal, or for those who enjoy a traditional Thanksgiving meal while socializing with others.

Reservations are appreciated, but not required. Call Pastor Nomeland at 507-872-6498 or 507-828-1637 to make a reservation.

If you would like to attend the dinner, but have no way to get to the church, rides will be available by calling 507-828-7433.

Red Cross Blood Drive to be held on Nov. 25 at Minneota Legion

The American Red Cross is hosting a blood drive from 1-7 pm on Wednesday, Nov. 25 at the American Legion in Minneota.

The Red Cross and Wheel of Fortune are teaming up to give back to donors this Thanksgiving. Those who come to give blood or platelets between Nov. 23 and Dec. 6, 2026, will receive an exclusive Red Cross Wheel of Fortune oversized mug, while supplies last. Additionally, all who come to give Nov. 23-Dec. 6 will automatically be entered for a chance to win a three-night trip for two to Los Angeles with entry to a Wheel of Fortune taping. Full details can be found at RedCrossBlood.org/WheelofFortune.

The Red Cross asks donors to go for a spin and help save lives by giving blood or platelets in November. The last two months of the year can be a challenge for many donors trying to juggle regular donation appointments with packed schedules full of seasonal activities and holiday planning. Donors of all blood types, especially those with type O blood are urged to make an appointment to donate now.

Reserve your spot to give blood or platelets by visiting RedCrossBlood.org, downloading the Red Cross Blood Donor App, or calling 1-800-RED CROSS.

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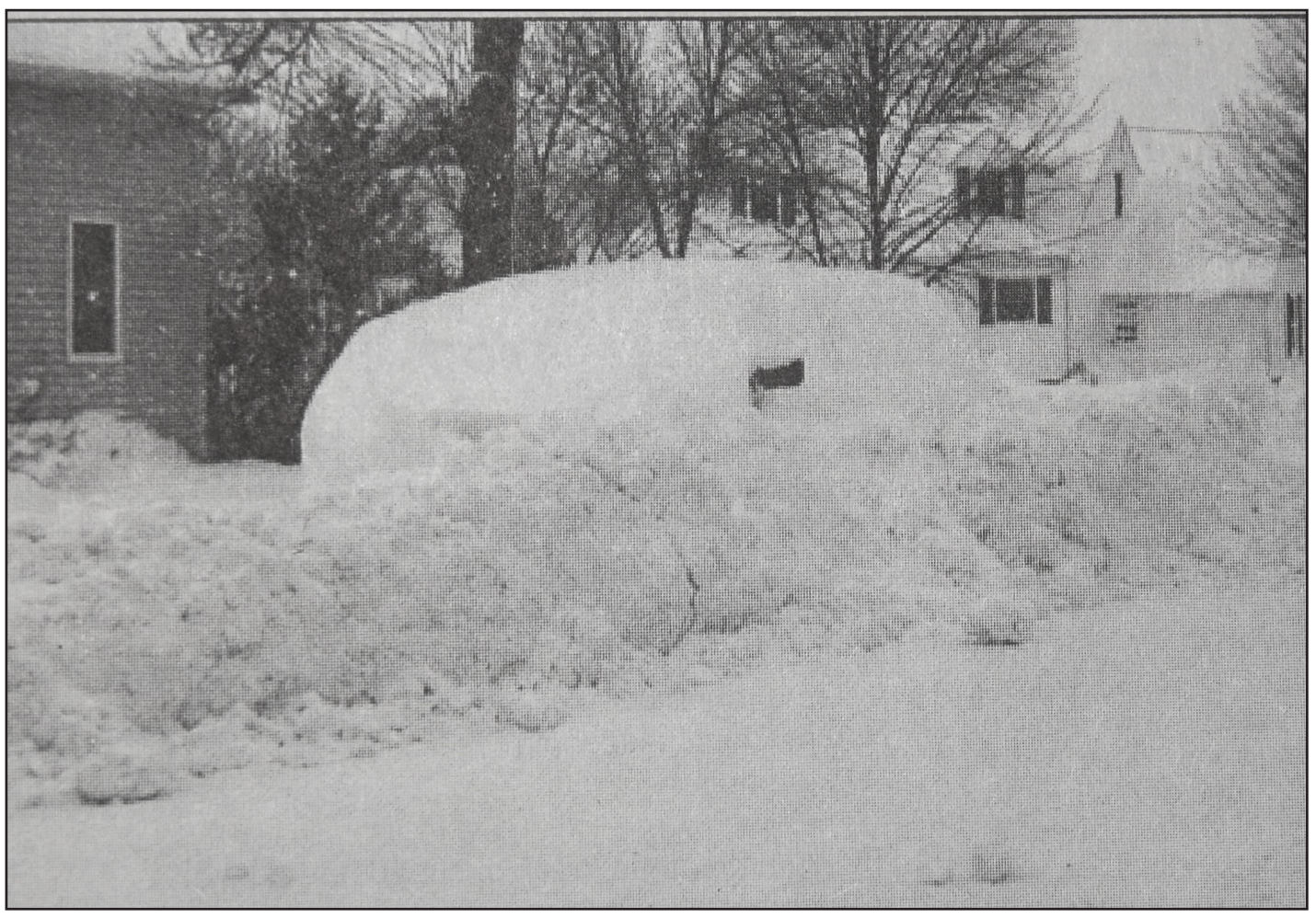

Minneota Memory

In this Mascot photo taken on Wednesday, Nov. 27, 2001, a van in Minneota was completely blanketed with snow following a two-day blizzard. The Minneota area received 18-22 inches of snow on Nov. 25 and 26.

Yesteryear

From the Mascot files 100, 75, 50 & 25 years ago

100 Years Ago
(November 19, 1926)

Homemade power saw to make ice cutting easier

A homemade power saw is to replace the laborious hand work with which Minneota's ice crop has been harvested in the past. Ed Gits, local blacksmith, has been making such a device for Honore Locy, Minneota's popular ice man, and will have it ready for work when the cutting of ice has begun. The saw is placed on the rear axle of an old Ford chassis, the motor propelling it. The whole thing is pushed along on skids as the ice is cut. It is fixed so that it can be tilted at angles. The saw is 32 inches in diameter and will cut a foot deep. This new device will allow Locy to do the work in a few hours that previously took him a few days.

Hockey team here possible; Legion prepares skating rink

The local American Legion post has made arrangements whereby Minneota is to have a skating rink here. A plot of ground has been graded and ready to be flooded when the weather warrants it. The rink is to be located on the half block of vacant ground owned by Mrs. R.W. French. Efforts are also being made to organize a hockey team here. It will undoubtedly be a Legion team. The local Legion is investing quite a bit of money in this rink and their service to the community will not go unappreciated.

Over 300 people served at Icelandic Ladies Aid dinner

The chicken dinner and bazaar put on by the Icelandic Lutheran Ladies Aid last Saturday was a pronounced success in every way. The gross receipts of the affair amounted to $409.05. Over 300 people were served dinner and many more came later to eat lunch, and in the evening to eat supper.

75 Years Ago
(November 23, 1951)

Four file for two seats on
Minneota Village Council

Four Minneota businessmen, two of them incumbents, filed for two offices on the Village Council before the filing period closed on Tuesday afternoon. The four who filed were Jonas Askdal and Harry Shmishek for the mayor's position, and Maurice Dero and John H. Geiwitz for the trustee post. Askdal is the current mayor and Dero is currently a member of the council. Shmishek, who is manager of the Standard Oil Bulk Station, and Geiwitz, a member of the Geiwitz and Company firm, are both throwing their hats into the political ring for the first time.

Two men seeking open mayor position in Taunton

Two men are seeking the mayor's office in Taunton in the coming election, while one man has filed for village trustee and another for village treasurer. Otto C. Christensen, a current member of the council, and Donald Hay, both filed or the mayor office. Mr. Christensen's term as trustee has two more years to run. Marcel Ross, the current mayor of Taunton, has asked the people of that village not to consider him a candidate for re-election.

Cage season opens Nov. 30; Minneota to play 17 games

Athletes are busy preparing for the upcoming basketball season under the direction of Coach William Bechtel. The season begins on Friday, Nov. 30 at Marshall. The "A" squad team will have 17 games this season, seven of which will be home games. Bechtel said the team lacks height this year, but should be in top physical condition by the time the first game rolls around.

50 Years Ago
(November 18, 1976)

Josephson awarded trip to National 4-H Club Congress

Scott Josephson was one of three Lyon County 4-H members who was awarded a trip to the National 4-H Club Congress for the project work he has done. Of the 75,000 4-H members in Minnesota, only 39 were awarded a national trip to Chicago. He will have a chance to win a national scholarship worth between $100-$600. He has made a wooden round table, a jewelry chest, a hub lamp, a dog house, a magazine table, a music storage cabinet and a headboard with stereo speakers.

Minneota Fire Department responds to 3 separate fires

The Minneota Fire Department answered three calls during the past week - one for the evening of Nov. 16, the second for the afternoon of Nov. 17, and the third for the evening of Nov. 21. The first call was to the Leonard Snyder farm 10 miles north of Minneota where an auto belonging to Harry Lynch was blazing. The second call was a grass fire at the local dump grounds and the firemen reported no damage. The third call was to the Medard Debbaut home where excessive smoke from the house chimney was reported by neighbors.

25 Years Ago
(November 21, 2001)

SPMH hosting holiday party on Opera Hall stage

The Society for the Preservation of Minneota's Heritage (SPMH) is throwing a holiday party on Saturday, Dec. 8. The Minneota Community Jazz Band will take to the stage and perform a wide range of music to listen and dance to. The SPMH has been working hard in preparation for the 100th anniversary of the Opera Hall. Funds raised through this evening of entertainment will be used to continue the tuckpointing efforts on the outside of the building.

Toys for Tots program to be started in Minneota

As the holidays approach, we are reminded that there are many families who are experiencing hardships. It is at times like this that the Toys for Tots program steps in to give a helping hand. Linda Pedersen and Nancy Wiese are again heading up the local program. You can help by buying gifts or giving a donation that will help to furnish items for family members. There are several drop-off locations in town. Each gift will be wrapped and sent to the age-appropriate recipient.

Weekend here may be hit with rain, snow mix

The balmy days enjoyed throughout the first part of November have given way to chillier temperatures in the normal range for this time of the year. Forecasters predict rain showers mixed with snow as temperatures drop to the lower 30s by the weekend. Travelers expect no problems prior to Thanksgiving Day, but roads could furnish a slushy mix after the holiday.

Outside Looking In

Scott Thoma



Show me the money

Several years ago, after my mom passed away, my dad and I decided to meet once a week at Prairie's Edge Casino in Granite Falls to see how big of a dent we could make in the buffet. Two things my dad and I have always had in common — sports and eating.

I've never been much of a gambler, but my dad and his cronies liked to play the slots. He convinced me to sign up for a player's card and I did sit down with him occasionally to play, but I value my money so I only played the penny slots.

After my dad passed away, my trips to the casino became less frequent. Prairie's Edge did offer a Pigskin Picks contest five or six years ago and I would stop there on my way home from Minneota to guess which NFL teams would win each week. With so many people playing, it was hard to win anything, although I did get first place one week with the prize being $500 in free play. I was able to turn the $500 free play into around $250 in cash by playing a slot machine until I won something and then cashing out and moving to another machine.

I never won anything else there and they stopped offering the contest a few years ago.

This year, however, Jackpot Junction in Redwood Falls began offering a similar game called PlayMaker in which you try to pick the winner of NFL games each week. First place there is $1,000 in free play, second is $500 in free play, and third is $250 in free play. They also offer a bonus of $5,000 in cash if you can correctly guess the winner of every game.

I stated going the longer way home from Minneota after putting the paper together now to make my picks at Jackpot for the fun of it. Although I had only played five of the first nine weeks, the best I had done was getting three picks wrong, which was only good for 30th place and no prize.

Then came last week where there were 14 games, including the Buffalo Bills and the Minnesota Vikings on Monday night.

Once the eight noon games were completed, I had not missed a pick and suddenly became interested in possibly having a chance at some free play money, figuring I would get one or two of the remaining games wrong. Four more games were played at 3:15 p.m., as well as the Sunday and Monday night games.

One by one, the four late afternoon games ended and each time I had guessed the right team winning. I was 12-for-12 entering the Sunday night game between the Tampa Bay Buccaneers and the Chicago Bears. I have always been a diehard Bears fan, so I naturally picked them to win.

The Bears went down to the wire and I feared my first incorrect pick would come from my favorite team. The Bears won on a field goal with no time remaining, setting me up for the Vikings' game and a chance to win $5,000.

One thing about picking early in the week like I do is you don't know what players are ruled out for the game. But I don't want to drive to Redwood Falls on Sunday morning to make my picks and instead save more mileage by traveling there from Minneota.

Knowing whomever the Vikings started at quarterback in that game was not as good as Josh Allen, so I picked the Bills. The Monday night game also requires the prognosticator to put down the total number of points the two teams will combine for to use as a tiebreaker for the free play money.

Carson Wentz started for the Vikings and had his worst day ever in the NFL and the Bills came away with a 23-6 win, while I came away $5,000 richer. I did not win any additional free play money, however, because there were some others who picked all 14 games correctly and I lost out on the tiebreaker.

The actual amount I will get after taxes was around $3,800. Will I buy myself a bigger TV, clothes, pay some bills, or maybe treat myself to a fancy meal?

No, I think I will honor the man who was most responsible for me getting the final pick right. I'm going to order a Carson Wentz jersey.

This Day in HISTORY

November 19

1863: President Abraham Lincoln dedicates a national cemetery at the site of the Civil War battlefield of Gettysburg in Pennsylvania.

1919: The Senate rejects the Treaty of Versailles by a vote of 55 in favor, 39 against, short of the two-thirds majority needed for ratification.

1959 - Ford Motor Co. announces it is halting production of the unpopular Edsel.

1969 - Apollo 12 astronauts Charles Conrad and Alan Bean make the second manned landing on the moon.

1977 - Egyptian President Anwar Sadat becomes the first Arab leader to visit Israel.

1985 - President Ronald Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail S. Gorbachev meet for the first time as they begin their summit in Geneva.

1990 - Pop duo Milli Vanilli are stripped of their Grammy Award because other singers had lent their voices to the "Girl You Know It's True" album.

1995 - Polish President Lech Walesa is defeated in his bid for reelection.

1997 - Iowa seamstress Bobbi McCaughey gives birth to the world's first set of surviving septuplets, four boys and three girls.

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Pesek, Merritt named C/M cross country Most Valuable

Five-time state entrant Mya Pesek was named the Canby/Minneota Most Valuable Girls Runner, while Tallen Merritt took home the Boys MVP at a team banquet last Tuesday.

Pesek and Taylor Ourada also received Academic All-State awards for those with a 3.75 or higher GPA.

Academic All-Conference honors with a 3.75 or higher GPA were seniors Jonna Briggs, Taylor Ourada, Kendon Knutson, and Seth Paluch, and junior Mya Pesek.

The Canby/Minneota girls' team also received the Gold Academic All-State award, which included Pesek, Ourada, Briggs, Ella Cleveland and Addison Full.

The Canby/Minneota boys received the Academic All-State Silver award for team members Paluch, Knutson, Merritt, Jaxon Ruether and Henry Vidoloff.

Other team awards:

Most Improved - Girls: Finley VanOverbeke and Cayleigh Bordewyk ... Boys: Tate Frazeur

Hardest Worker - Girls: Taylor Ourada ... Boys: Kendon Knutson

Willmar advances to AAAA grid semis

The Willmar Cardinals, coached by Minneota native Jon Konold, advanced to the Class AAAA state semifinals following a 49-35 victory over Hill-Murray on Friday night.

Willmar (11-0) will now face Orono at 10:30 a.m. on Thursday, Nov. 19 at U.S. Bank Stadium. Fergus Falls and Byron play in the other AAAA semifinal at 11:30 a.m. on Friday, Nov. 20.



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FOOTBALL



RJ Sorensen steps away from a Mayer Lutheran defender on his way to the end zone Friday. *Mascot phot by Brian Jeremiason*

Football *Continued on Page 3*

After the teams exchanged punts, Mayer Lutheran notched its lone score of the game with 9:21 remaining in the first half, driving 60 yards in only five plays. Gabriel Shimanski connected with Jonathan DeBoer for 36 yards on first down. After a short loss on a running play, Shimanski then teamed up with Wyatt Sunde for a 10-yard pass, then hit Sunde again for a 17-yard score. The extra point kick failed.

From there, it was all Minneota.

Hudson Thostenson stripped the ball from Benjamin Lindesmith and Evan Jerzak recovered for Minneota on the Crusaders' 19.

On second down, Kaden Christensen scampered 10 yards to the five. Two plays later, Sorensen scored on a four-yard run for a 14-6 lead with four minutes left in the first half. Sorensen rushed for 69 yards in the first half and went over the 1,000-yard mark for the season.

After a Mayer Lutheran punt of only 17 yards, Minneota was in position to put another score on the board before halftime. Starting at the Mayer 44, the Vikings benefitted from a roughing-the-passer penalty before a double reverse, flea flicker play resulted in Sussner finding Landon Esping alone in the end zone from 29 yards out.

Mayer Lutheran got the ball to start the second half, trailing 20-6. The Crusaders were forced to punt again and downed the ball at the Minneota one-yard line. On the fifth play of the drive, Sussner found Owen Myrvik in a seam and the tight end raced untouched to the end zone for a 79-yard touchdown.

Minneota then followed with touchdowns on its next two possessions in the fourth quarter. The first came on a seven-play, 83-yard drive with Sorensen lowering his head and bulldozing his way to the end zone from 22 yards out. The drive was highlighted by Sorensen runs of 8 and 22 yards, a 22-yard run by Gage Johnston, an eight-yard run by Christensen, and a nine-yard run by Quinton Anderson.

The final score of the night was a two-yard run by Anderson.

Sussner finished 5 of 10 for 149 yards and three TDs. Anderson finished with 53 yards rushing.

Sorensen had a team-high 10 tackles, including the Vikings' lone sack. Anderson recorded eight stops, Evan Jerzak had seven, Myrvik notched six, and Tim DeSmet had five.

Sussner Academic All-State

Minneota senior quarterback/defensive back Tristen Sussner earned a spot on the Academic All-State football team, while the Vikings received Academic All-State Gold as a team.

Semifinal notes

The teams cross-backet for the semifinals with the top-seeded team remaining in the South bracket (Minneota) facing the lowest seeded team remaining from the North half (Breckenridge).

Breckenridge defeated Mountain Iron-Buhl 57-20 in the quarterfinals. Springfield topped Southland 44-8, and Upsala-Swanville edged Park Christian 28-25.

Breckenridge unbeaten

The Cowboys lost to Minneota 49-14 in last year's Prep Bowl championship. This year, the Cowboys are averaging 38.2 points per game and allowing 9.9 per game.

Riley Kappes has passed for 1,319 yards and 15 touchdowns with only four interceptions, while completing 65 percent of his throws.

Joey Lopez has rushed for 1,290 yards while averaging 10 yards per carry. Kappes has gained 1,167 yards on the ground, averaging 11.1 yards per keeper.

Aiden Sanchez has a team-high five interceptions.

Minneota 41, Mayer Lutheran 6

Mayer Lutheran	0	6	0	0	-	6
Minneota	7	13	7	14	-	41

Scoring Plays

Min - Sam Myhre 19 pass from Tristen Sussner (Ian Myhre kick)

ML - Wyatt Sunde 17 pass from Gabriel Shjimanski (kick failed)

Min - RJ Sorensen 4 run (I.Myhre kick)

Min - Landon Esping 29 pass from Sussner (pass failed)

Min - Owen Myrvik 79 pass from Sussner (I.Myhre kick)

Min - Sorensen 22 run (I.Myhre kick)

Min - Quinton Anderson 2 run (Myhre kick

Team Statistics

TOTAL YARDS: Mayer Lutheran 159, Minneota 412 ... **PASSING YARDS:** Mayer Lutheran 103, Minneota 149 ... **RUSHING YARDS:** Mayer Lutheran 56, Minneota 263 ... **FIRST DOWNS:** Mayer Lutheran 8, Minneota 18 ... **TURNOVERS:** Mayer Lutheran 2, Minneota 1 ... **PENALTIES:** Mayer Lutheran 4-46, Minneota 2-30



Minneota's Landon Esping hauls in a 29-yard touchdown pass from Tristen Sussner in the second quarter Friday against Mayer Lutheran. *Mascot photo by Brian Jeremiason*

Minneota Individual Statistics

PASSING (com-att-yds-td-int): Tristen Sussner 5-10-149-3-0

RUSHING (att-yds): RJ Sorensen 20-126, Quinton Anderson 13-53, Gage Johnston 4-32, Kade Christensen 4-29, Tristen Sussner 3-23

RECEIVING (rec-yds): Owen Myrvik 1-79, Landon Esping 1-29, Ian Myhre 2-22, Sam Myhre 1-19

TACKLES (solo-assist-total): RJ Sorensen 3-7-10, Quinton Anderson 2-6-8, Evan Jerzak 3-4-7, Owen Myrvik 2-4-6, Tim DeSmet 1-4-5, Sam Myhre 0-4-4, Hudson Thostenson 2-1-3, Ian Myhre 0-3-3, Brody Anderson 0-2-2, Beckham Norby 0-2-2, Quinn Pohlen 1-1-2. Gage Johnston 0-1-1, Aiden Jerzak 0-1-1, Wyatt Moorse 0-1-1, Noah Jerzak 0-1-1, Landon Esping 0-1-1, Eli Faris 0-1-1

TACKLES FOR LOSS: RJ Sorensen 2

SACKS: RJ Sorensen 1

FUMBLE RECOVERY: Evan Jerzak 1

PUNTING: Ian Myhre 1-36.0



Minneota's defense swarms to a Mayer Lutheran ball carrier. The Vikings limited the Crusaders to only 159 total yards in a 41-6 win on Friday in Marshall. *Mascot photo by Brian Jeremiason*



Quinton Anderson (21) of Minneota makes a stop along the sideline on Friday against Mayer Lutheran. Anderson had eight tackles in the game. *Mascot phot by Brian Jeremiason*



Minneota's Libby Sussner, left, and Leah Coequyt, right, congratulate Jaylyn Coequyt after a kill against BBE in the championship. *Mascot photo by Brian Jeremiason*



Minneota players, managers and coaches pose with the Class A championship trophy. *Mascot photo by Brian Jeremiason*



Sophie Gillund puts up a set against BBE. *Mascot photo by Brian Jeremiason*



Eden Meagher delivers a kill against BBE on Saturday in the Class A championship. *Mascot photo by Brian Jeremiason*

Anderson is Camden MVP, Buysse named Coach of Year

Minneota junior libero Autum Anderson was named the Most Valuable Player in the Camden Conference, while Minneota's Kaley Buysse was named Coach of the Year.

Earning all-conference honors besides Anderson was Jaylyn Coequyt, Leah Coequyt, Libby Sussner, and Eden Meagher. Sophie Gillund was an honorable mention selection.

The Vikings won the Camden Conference championship.

ALL-CAMDEN CONFERENCE

MINNEOTA: seniors Jaylyn Coequyt, Leah Coequyt, Libby Sussner; juniors Eden Meagher, Autum Anderson .... Honorable mention: junior Sophie Gillund

CANBY: junior Karli Weber ... Honorable mention: junior Rachel Jelen

CENTRAL MINNESOTA CHRISTIAN: seniors Kaylee Dannen, Sienna Duininck, Aurora Rosen, Maddy Vander Ark ... Honorable mention: junior Mya Dannen

DAWSON-BOYD: senior Kadyn Perkins ... Honorable mention: freshman Emma Stotesbery

KERKHOVEN-MURDOCK-SUNBURG: junior Maddie Silas ... Honorable mention: senior Leah Wagner

LAC QUI PARLE VALLEY: freshman Ashtyn Shelstad ... Honorable mention: junior Faith Meyer

LAKEVIEW: senior Taylor Hinz, junior Khya Gawarecki ... Honorable mention: junior Laia Javens

MACCRAY: senior Mia Post, junior Ruby Hultgren ... Honorable mention: senior Eva Swenson

ORTONVILLE: junior Abby Ebnet ... Honorable mention: senior Madilyn Sletten

RENVILLE COUNTY WEST: seniors Ella Ridl, Mackenna Hinderks; sophomore Ibis Terrones ... Honorable mention: senior Vivian Hebrink

TRACY-MILROY-BALATON: seniors Melaina Ankrum, Braelynn Kirk ... Honorable mention: senior Allie Adams

YELLOW MEDICINE EAST: junior Abby Bones ... Honorable mention: senior Kourtney Peterson

Most Valuable Player
Autum Anderson, Minneota

Coach of the Year
Kaley Buysse, Minneota

The second set belonged to Minneota from the onset. With Jaylyn Coequyt and Brek Fier getting a pair of kills each and Ava Rost adding another, the lead was quickly up to 7-2. Leading 13-7, a 5-0 run on a pair of kills by Jaylyn Coequyt and one by Meagher pushed the lead to 18-7. Holding a 21-11 advantage, the Vikings tallied the final four points of the set on a kill by Jaylyn Coequyt and three BBE errors.

BBE took a 2-0 lead in the third set before Sussner aced three straight serves and Minneota never trailed again. Leading 16-12, Minneota closed out the state championship with a 9-1 run. Fier had a kill and an ace serve, while Jaylyn Coequyt, Leah Coequyt and Sophie Gillund all had kills. The final two points of the match came as a result of BBE attack errors.

Gillund had 18 assists and a team-high 11 digs. Sussner had 16 assists and eight digs.

The Vikings amassed 16 blocks in the match, led by Leah Coequyt with five, Gillund with four and Fier with three.

Gillund gets 1,000th assist

Minneota junior setter/hitter Sophie Gillund recorded the 1,000th set assist of her career during the Class A state tournament.

Class A All-State

Minneota: Autum Anderson, junior libero; Leah Coequyt, senior middle hitter; Eden Meagher, junior outside hitter

Belgrade-Brooten-Elrosa: Kamie Fischer, senior setter

Buffalo Lake-Hector-Stewart: Lauren Hubin, junior outside hitter

Central Minnesota Christian: Sienna Duininck, senior setter

Cleveland: Jocelyn Kortuem, junior setter; Melia Sathoff, senior outside hitter

Ely: Audrey Kallberg, senior middle hitter

Fillmore Central: Josiana Corson, senior libero

Hancock: Maiah Hoe, junior outside hitter

Kenyon-Wanamingo: Mali Quam, sophomore outside hitter

Mayer Lutheran: Ada Hahn, senior middle hitter; Hallie Hunter, senior outside hitter

Sacred Heart: Finley Horken, senior setter

Underwood: Sia Olson, senior libero

Westbrook-Walnut Grove: Hadley Jenniges, senior setter

Class A All-Tournament

Minneota: Autum Anderson, Jaylyn Coequyt, Leah Coequyt, Eden Meagher

Belgrade-Brooten-Elosa: Teagan Dingmann, Jaylee Jensen

Fillmore Central: Hannah Vaalemoen, Madilyn Zwart

Mayer Lutheran: Hallie Hunter

Sacred Heart: Finley Horken

Minneota 3, Belgrade-Brooo-ten-Elrosa 0

Belgrade-Brooten-Elrosa	14	11	13
Minneota	25	25	25

Belgrade-Brooten-Elrosa Statistics

SERVING (good-attempts-aces): Makenna Roelike 5-5-1, Laken Anderson 10-10-2, Lydia Primus 6-7-1, McKinley Haider 4-4-0, Kamie Fischer 8-9-1, Teagan Dingmann 5-5-0

SETTING (good-attempts-assists): Makenna Roelike 8-8-1, Laken Anderson 5-5-2, Lydia Primus 2-2-0, Kamie Fischer 78-78-16, Teagan Dingmann 3-3-0, Mya Worms 1-1-0

ATTACKING (good-attempts-kills): Macey Roering16-25-4, Laken Anderson 18-23-7, McKinley Haider 6-8-1, Jaylee Jensen 5-8-2, Kamie Fischer 9-9-3, Teagan Dingmann 12-16-2, Mya Worms 8-12-2

BLOCKING (aces): Teagan Dingmann 3, Mya Worms 2, Laken Anderson 1

DIGS: Makenna Roelike 13, Kamie Fischer 10, Laken Anderson 5, McKinley Haider 5, Lydia Primus 2, Jaylee Jensen 1

Minneota Individual Statistics

SERVING (good-attempts-aces): Sophie Gillund 8-8-0, Brek Fier 18-18-1, Eden Meagher 10-10-0, Brynn Rost 14-14-0, Libby Sussner 12-13-3, Autum Anderson 9-10-1

SETTING (good-attempts-assists): Sophie Gillund 34-34-18, Brek Fier 3-3-0, Eden Meagher 6-6-2, Leah Coequyt 1-1-0, Libby Sussner 31-31-16, Autum Anderson 18-18-5

ATTACKING (good-attempts-kills): Jaylyn Coequyt 27-31-14, Sophie Gillund 10-12-2, Brek Fier 8-8-3, Eden Meagher 17-20-11, Brynn Rost 1-1-0, Ava Rost 7-7-1, Leah Coequyt 14-14-10, Libby Sussner 1-1-0, Autum Anderson 0-1-0

BLOCKING (aces): Leah Coequyt 5, Sophie Gillund 4, Brek Fier 3, Ava Rost 2, Eden Meagher 1, Jaylyn Coequyt 1

DIGS: Jaylyn Coequyt 4, Sophie Gillund 11, Brek Fier 2, Eden Meagher 9, Brynn Rost 2, Ava Rost 3, Libby Sussner 8, Autum Anderson 10

Quarterfinals Thursday, Nov. 12

Minneota 3, Pine River-Backus 0

In a match that took just under an hour, Minneota swept past Pine River-Backus 25-14, 25-10, 25-11 in the Class A state quarterfinals.

Eden Meagher unleashed a match-high 14 kills, while Jaylyn Coequyt and Leah Coequyt recorded 10 kills apiece for the Vikings.

Minneota continued its solid serving as it has all season, tallying six aces, including two from Brynn Rost.

The Vikings built a comfortable 17-6 lead in the opening set after kills by Meagher and Brek Fier. Kills by Meagher and Jaylyn Coequyt pushed the advantage to 19-9. After Pine River-Backus whittled the deficit to 19-12 on a kills by Magaret Cummins and Maren Lindquist, sandwiched around a Minneota attack error, the Vikings closed out the match on a 6-2 run. Meagher had a pair of kills and Leah Coequyt added another in that run. Set point came on a Pine River-Backus attack error.

Meagher had seven kills in the opening set, while Jaylyn Coequyt had five. Autum Anderson sparked the defense with eight of her match-high 17 digs coming in the opening set.

The Vikings bolted out of the chute in the second set, building a 7-0 lead. Ava Rost, Meagher and Jaylyn Coequyt produced kills, while the other four points came off three attack errors and a passing error by PR-B.

Leading 11-3, the Vikings then tallied eight straight points for a 19-3 lead. Meagher and Leah Coequyt had three kills apiece, Gillund had a kill and Brynn Rost dropped in an ace serve.

A service error gave the Vikings the set point.

Minneota never trailed in the third set, jumping out to 6-1 lead that continued to grow. Up 17-9, the Vikings closed out the match on an 8-2 run with match point coming on a kill by Meagher.

Minneota 3, Pine River-Backus 0

Pine River-Backus	14	10	11
Minneota	25	25	25

Pine River-Backus Individual Statistics

SERVING (good-attempts-aces): Lily Barchus 4-4-0, Leah Eveland 8-10-2, Evelynn Peterson 1-2-0, Ava Burns 5-5-0, Maren Lindquist 2-2-0, Ella Brewer 6-9-0, Autumn Burns 4-5-0

SETTING (good-attempts-assists): Leah Eveland 28-28-7, Ava Burns 38-38-7

ATTACKING (good-attempts-kills): Lily Barchus 12-12-2, Leah Eveland 8-11-1, Ava Burns 9-9-1, Maren Lindquist 11-13-4, Margaret Cummins 14-17-5, Ella Brewer 5-6-0, Autumn Burns 3-3-0

BLOCKING (aces): Maren Lindquist 2, Margaret Cummins 1, Autumn Burns 1

DIGS: Leah Eveland 11, Autumn Burns 7, Maren Lindquist 5, Lili Barchus 2, Ella Brewer2

Minneota Individual Statistics

SERVING (good-attempts-aces): Sophie Gillund 13-14-1, Brek Fier 8-9-0, Eden Meagher 14-14-1, Brynn Rost 13-15-2, Libby Sussner 13-14-1, Autum Anderson 6-7-1

SETTING (good-attempts-assists): Libby Sussner 33-33-17, Sophi Gillund 34-34-23, Autum Anderson 11-11-4, Eden Meagher 3-3-0, Brek Fier 1-1-0, Brynn Rost 1-1-1, Ava Rost 1-1-0

ATTACKING (good-attempts-kills): Eden Meagher 20-22-14, Jaylyn Coequyt 17-17-10, Leah Coequyt 14-15-10, Sophie Gillund 12-5-5, Brek Fier 7-0-4, Ava Rost 7-7-4

BLOCKING (aces): Brek Fier 2, Jaylyn Coequyt 2, Sophie Gillund 1, Leah Coequyt 1

DIGS: Autum Anderson 17, Sophie Gillnd 11, Eden Meagher 9, Jaylyn Coequyt 4, Brynn Rost 2, Ava Rost 2, Libby Sussner 2, Brek Fier 1, Leah Coequyt 1

Semifinals Friday, Nov. 13

Minneota 3, Sacred Heart 0

Minneota earned a trip to the state championship with a convincing 25-16, 25-17, 25-10 triumph over Sacred Heart in the Class A semifinals at Grand Casino Arena in St. Paul.

Jaylyn Coequyt sparked the offense with a team-high 14 kills out of 36 attacks and a team-high five blocks.

The Vikings' stellar defense limited Sacred Heart to any lengthy runs as evidenced by 12 ace blocks. Brek Fier added four, Leah Coequyt two and Ava Rost one.

The Vikings also showcased another powerful attack from the service line, amassing seven aces, while Sacred Heart managed only one.

The Vikings built an early 7-3 lead in the first set with Jaylyn Coequyt recording two kills, and Fier and Ava Rost each had one.

Sacred Heart eventually closed within 11-9 but would get no closer as Minneota scored the next five points on kills by Eden Meagher and Jaylyn Coequyt and three Sacred Heart attack errors. Leading 23-15 after a Meagher kill, the teams exchanged errors to make it 24-16. The Vikings then took the first set on a kill by Meagher through a double block.

Jaylyn Coequyt had six kills and Meagher had five in the opening set. Autum Anderson had six of her match-high 18 digs.

Minneota continued the momentum in the second set, never trailing while leading 5-1, 13-8 and 20-11. Holding a 23-16 advantage, the Vikings got a kill by Meagher for a 24-16 lead before Sacred Heart got a kill from Lydia Riskey. Jaylyn Coequyt's cross-court kill ended the set.

Jaylyn Coequyt registered five kills in the middle set, while Meagher and Leah Coequyt contributed four each.

The Vikings dominated the third set from start to finish with Sophie Gillund notching four of her six kills and five different players tallying an ace serve.

Meagher and Leah Coequyt would finish with nine kills apiece. Anderson had 18 digs, Libby Sussner had 12 and Gillund added 11. Gillund finished with 22 assists and Sussner had 16.

Minneota3, Sacred Heart 0

Sacred Heart	16	17	10
Minneota	25	25	25

Sacred Heart Individual Statistics

SERVING (good-attempts-aces): Finley Horken 7-7-1, Lydia Riskey 9-10-0, Sophia Modeen 6-7-0, Claire Adolphson 7-8-0, Alexis Lawrence 4-5-0, Bryn Stevens 7-7-0, Kate Bernhoft 1-1-0

SETTING (good-attempts-assists): Finley Horken 84-84-0, Alexis Lawrence 5-5-1, Lydia Riskey 3-3-1, Claire Adolphson 2-2-1, Bryn Stevens 2-2-0, Sophia Modeen 2-2-0, Stella Riskey 1-1-0

ATTACKING (good-attempts-kills): Finley Horken 7-7-2, Great Effhauser 5-7-1, Lydia Riskey 21-28-8, Stella Riskey 3-4-0, Alexis Lawrence 21-24-5, Bryn Stevens 23-26-4, Kate Bernhoft 1-1-0

BLOCKING (aces): Lydia Riskey 2, Bryn Stevens 2, Great Effhauser 1, Alexia Lawrence 1

DIGS: Lydia Riskey 15, Claire Adolphson 8, Finley Horken 5, Sophia Modeen 3, Alexis Lawrence 2, Bryn Stevens 2, Greta Effhauser 1, Audrey Anderson 1, Stella Riskey 1

Minneota Individual Statistics

SERVING (good-attempts-aces): Sophie Gillund 7-8-1, Brek Fier 12-12-2, Eden Meagher 12-12-0, Brynn Rost 13-13-1, Libby Sussner 16-18-2, Autum Anderson 9-10-1

SETTING (good-attempts-assists): Jaylyn Coequyt 1-1-0, Sophie Gillund 47-47-22, Brek Fier 2-2-0, Eden Meagher 5-5-1, Brynn Rost 1-1-0, Ava Rost 1-1-0, Libby Sussner 34-34-16, Autum Anderson 20-20-5

ATTACKING (good-attempts-kills): Jaylyn Coequyt 30-36-14, Sophie Gillund 9-11-6, Brek Fier 10-11-5, Eden Meagher 20-25-9, Brynn Rost 1-1-0, Ava Rost 5-8-2, Leah Coequyt 16-17-9, Libby Sussner 1-1-1

BLOCKING (aces): Jaylyn Coequyt 5, Brek Fier 4, Leah Coequyt 2, Ava Rost1

DIGS: Jaylyn Coequyt 2, Sophie Gillund 11, Brek Fier 3, Eden Meagher 4, Brynn Rost 3, Libby Sussner 12, Autum Anderson 18

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COMMUNITY events

November

Thursday, November 19
10 a.m. - "Exercise" at Senior Center
1 p.m. - "Bingo" at Senior Center

Friday, November 20
12:45 p.m. - "Bien" at Senior Center
1 p.m. - "500" at Senior Center
1 p.m. - "Quilting" at Senior Center

Saturday, November 21
9 a.m.- Football: Class A State semifinals, Springfield vs. Upsala-Swanville, U.S. Bank Stadium
11:30 a.m. - Football: Class A State semifinals, Minneota vs. Breckenridge, U.S. Bank Stadium

Monday, November 23
1 p.m. - "Mahjong" at Senior Center

Tuesday, November 24
10 a.m. - "Exercise" at Senior Center
12:45 p.m. - "Bien" at Senior Center
1 p.m. - "500" at Senior Center
1 p.m. - "Quilting" at Senior Center

Wednesday, November 25
1 p.m. - "Hand, Knee & Foot" at Senior Center

Thursday, November 26
Happy Thanksgiving
Senior Center closed

Friday, November 27
10 a.m. - Football: Class A State championship, U.S. Bank Stadium
12:45 p.m. - "Bien" at Senior Center
1 p.m. - "500" at Senior Center
1 p.m. - "Quilting" at Senior Center

Monday, November 30
1 p.m. - "Mahjong" at Senior Center

December

Tuesday, December 1
10 a.m. - Lyon County Board meeting, Marshall
10 a.m. - "Exercise" at Senior Center
12:45 p.m. - "Bien" at Senior Center
1 p.m. - "500" at Senior Center
1 p.m. - "Quilting" at Senior Center

Wednesday, December 2
1 p.m. - "Hand, Knee & Foot" at Senior Center

Thursday, December 3
10 a.m. - "Exercise" at Senior Center
1 p.m. - "Bingo" at Senior Center

Friday, December 4
12:45 p.m. - "Bien" at Senior Center
1 p.m. - "500" at Senior Center
1 p.m. - "Quilting" at Senior Center



Napoleon Cremes

The delicious layered treats will look great on a holiday table or for guests over for coffee. They are cream and festive with the green layer of pistachio pudding.

Ingredients
2 cups graham cracker crumbs
1 cup sweetened shredded coconut
¼ cup sugar
¼ cup baking cocoa
½ cup, plus 2 tablespoons melted butter
1 teaspoon vanilla extract
(Filling)
½ cup butter, softened
2 cups confectioners' sugar
1 package (3.4 ounce) instant pistachio pudding mix
3 tablespoons milk
(Topping)
1 cup semisweet chocolate chips
3 tablespoons butter

Directions

In a small bowl, combine graham cracker crumbs, coconut, sugar and cocoa. Stir in melted butter and vanilla. Press onto the bottom of a greased 9-inch square baking dish. Refrigerate for 30 minutes. For the filling, in a bowl, beat softened butter until smooth. Add the confectioners' sugar, pudding mix and milk; beat until fluffy. Spread over crust. Refrigerate until firm, 1 1/2-2 hours. For the topping in a microwave-safe bowl, microwave chocolate chips and butter on high, stirring every 30 seconds, until melted and smooth. Cool. Spread over pudding layer. Refrigerate until set. Cut into bars.

Canby DAC recycle holiday lights program partners with Gislason's Ace Hardware

The Canby DAC Holiday Lights Recycling bins have reappeared for the collection of old, broken, or unused holiday lights. As decorations go up and down, instead of throwing those old lights and cords away, looks for the Holiday Lights Recyling bin at our partner, Gislason'a Ace Hardware in Minneota.

Our clients will separate the bulbs from the wires for enviornmentally safe recycling.

Valuable recyclables are kept out of the landfill, and the program provides meaningful employment opportunities for individuals with disabilities at the Canby DAC. The program runs unti Jan. 1, 2027, but the Canby DAC accepts lights and cords year round.

We recyce all cords, including appliance, computer, cell phone charger, telephone, extension, etc.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO SUBMIT AN ITEM FOR THE COMMUNITY CALENDAR, CALL 507-872-6492

or email www.minneotamascot.com

POLICE BLOTTER

October 26 - Check Fraud (300 block 1st Street)
October 27 - Check Fraud (100 block N Jefferson)
October 28 - Criminal Sex (100 block Century Drive)
October 28 - Suspicious Activity (100 block Century Drive)
October 30 - Permit to Purchase
October 30 - Livestock loose (Hwy 68/Golf Course)
November 2 - Mental Illness (300 block E 2nd Street)
November 2 - Vandalism (600 Block N. Jefferson)
November 2- Suspicious 911 (200 block N. Jefferson)
November 3 - Mental Illness (100 block Golf Course Rd)
November 3 - Permit to Purchase
November 4 - Search Warrant (100 block Century Drive)
November 4 - Assist another agency
November 6 - Assault (500 block N Monroe)
November 6 - Trespass (100 block N. Jefferson)
November 8 - Suspicious 911

LYON COUNTY MUSEUM

Christmas, Cocktails & Charcuterie Nov. 20

Kick off the holiday season in style at our Christmas, Cocktails & Charcuterie event from 7-9 p.m. on Friday, Nov. 20.

Sip on seasonal cocktails, savor delicious charcuterie bites, and be the very first to stroll through our enchanting Christmas Tree Walk — then cast your vote (and your donation!) for your favorite tree.

Tickets: $25. Fundraiser to support the Lyon County Historical Society's mission of preserving and presenting Lyon County history. Limited tickets are available — at the Lyon County Museum or call 507-537-6580.

Holiday attire encouraged — bring your festive flair.

Christmas Tree Walk to open Nov. 21

The 14th annual Indoor Christmas Tree Walk opens on Saturday, Nov. 21. The trees and museum will stay decorated through Dec. 31. View decorated trees by area families, businesses, nonprofit organizations, and service organizations.

To vote for your favorite(s), place money in a box located by each tree. The top three organizations/businesses with the most money in their boxes will win the 2026 tree walk. There will be an online option to vote on the museum's website. All proceeds from the boxes will go to benefit the Lyon County Historical Society's mission of preserving and presenting Lyon County history. First-, second- and third-place 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.

The museum will have extended hours during this time. The museum hours for Nov. 21-Dec. 31 are Monday-Thursday: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Friday: 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Saturday 11 a.m. 5 p.m.; Closed on Sundays.

The Lyon County Museum will be closed on Nov. 25-26 and Dec. 24-25.

Holiday Home Tour cancelled

The Lyon County Museum has made the decision to cancel this year's Holiday Home Tour. Unfortunately, we were not able to secure enough homes for the tour to make the event work this year.

We have homeowners interested in being on the Holiday Home Tour, and we hope to bring it back next year on Sunday, Dec. 5, 2027.

– Minneota Area Community Churches –

Healing Waters Parish
Augustana, Clarkfield; Bergen, Clarkfield; St. Lucas Lutheran, Cottonwood

Worship Times:
St. Lucas: Sunday Worship at 11 a.m.
Augustana: Sunday Worship at 10 a.m.
Bergen: Sunday Worship at 9 a.m.

Pastor 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 10:30 a.m. Sundays on Facebook (visit Yellow Medicine Lutheran Church). Please watch the website and Facebook for more information.
Sunday, November 22: Worship at 11 a.m.

Church Contact No. 507-768-3417
Pastor Steve Quist: 507-337-0068
Tim Velde, Lay Minister: 507-828-5343

St. Leo Catholic Church
St. Leo, MN
Mass Time: Sundays at 8:30 a.m.
Fr. Brendan Rolling & Fr. Keith Salisbury
Church Contact No. 507-224-2289

Bethany-Elim Lutheran, Ivanhoe
Worship Time: Sundays at 9 a.m. with Sunday School

Bethany Lutheran, Arco
Worship Time: Sundays at 10:45 a.m.

Church Contact No. 507-694-1238
windsministry@gmail.com

Hope Lutheran Church
Minneota
www.hopeminneota.org

Worship Time:
Sunday, November 22: Worship at 9 a.m.

Minister: Jennifer Warnock: 320-305-4955
Church Secretary, Chris Pesch:
hopelutheran87@gmail.com
Church Contact No. 507-872-6446

St. Paul's Lutheran Church
Minneota

Worship Time: Sunday, November 22: 10:30 a.m.

Minister: Jennifer Warnock: 320-305-4955
Church Secretary: Chris Pesch
hopelutheran87@gmail.com
Church Contact No. 507-872-6446

St. Eloi Catholic Church
Ghent

Mass Times:
Thursday, November 19: Convent Mass, noon
Friday, November 20: Convent Mass, noon
Saturday, November 21: Convent Mass, noon
Sunday, November 22: Convent Mass, 10:30 a.m.

Father Todd Petersen
Church Contact No. 507-428-3285

Hemnes Lutheran Church
Rural Minneota

Worship Time: Sundays at 8:30 a..m.
Pastor Ellen Munter

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 Time:
Thursday, November 19: Mass at 7 a.m.
Friday, November 20: Mass at 7 a.m.
Saturday, November 21: Mass at 5:30 p.m.
Sunday, November 22: Mass at 8:30 a.m.

Father Todd Petersen
Church Contact No. 507-872-6346

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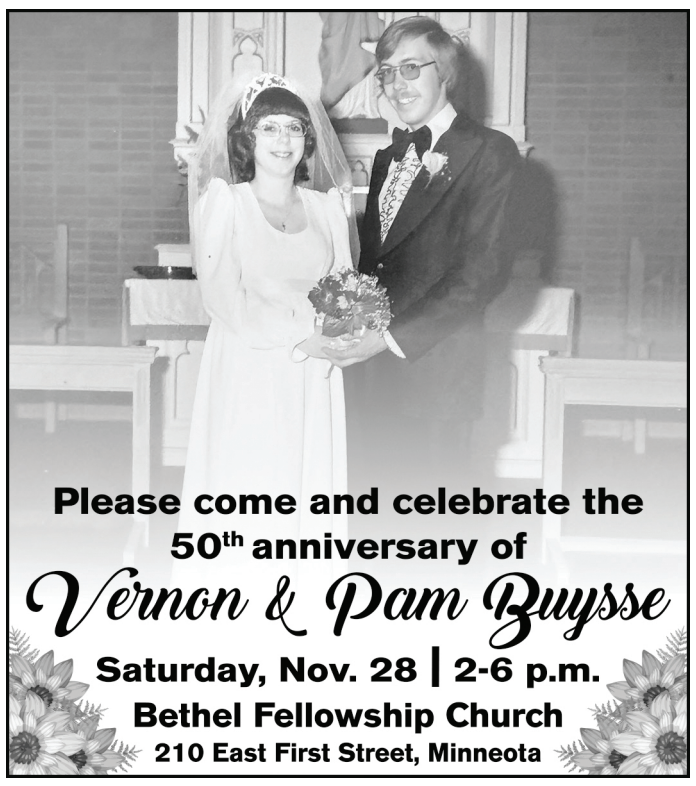
Anniversary



Miscellaneous

SEALED BID REAL ESTATE AND EQUIPMENT AUCTION

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 19

SEALED BID DEADLINE 4:00 PM CT

FOUR GRAIN FACILITIES IN CLAREMONT, KASSON, OSTRANDER AND WYKOFF, MN

***PLUS* - TWO IDLE COMMERCIAL FACILITIES IN DODGE CENTER AND OSTRANDER, MN, PROPERTIES ARE OWNED AND OPERATED BY CHS INC.**

INSPECTIONS: TRACT 1: Oct. 29 and Nov. 12, 9:00am-11:00am • **TRACT 2:** Oct. 29 and Nov. 12, 11:30am-1:30pm
TRACT 6: Oct. 29 and Nov. 12, 3:00pm-5:00pm • **TRACT 3, 5, 7: BY APPOINTMENT ONLY**

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Fundraiser

PORTER AMERICAN LEGION POST 457

POULTRY PARTY AND Raffle

Friday, Nov. 20

7 p.m. | Porter Community Hall

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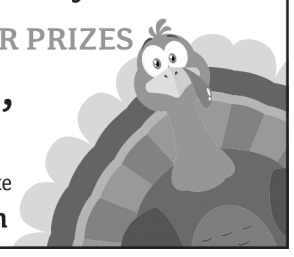
Win Turkeys, Hams, Ducks & More!

(1) $250 Canby Meat Center Gift Certificate
Cash Prizes | Free Admission



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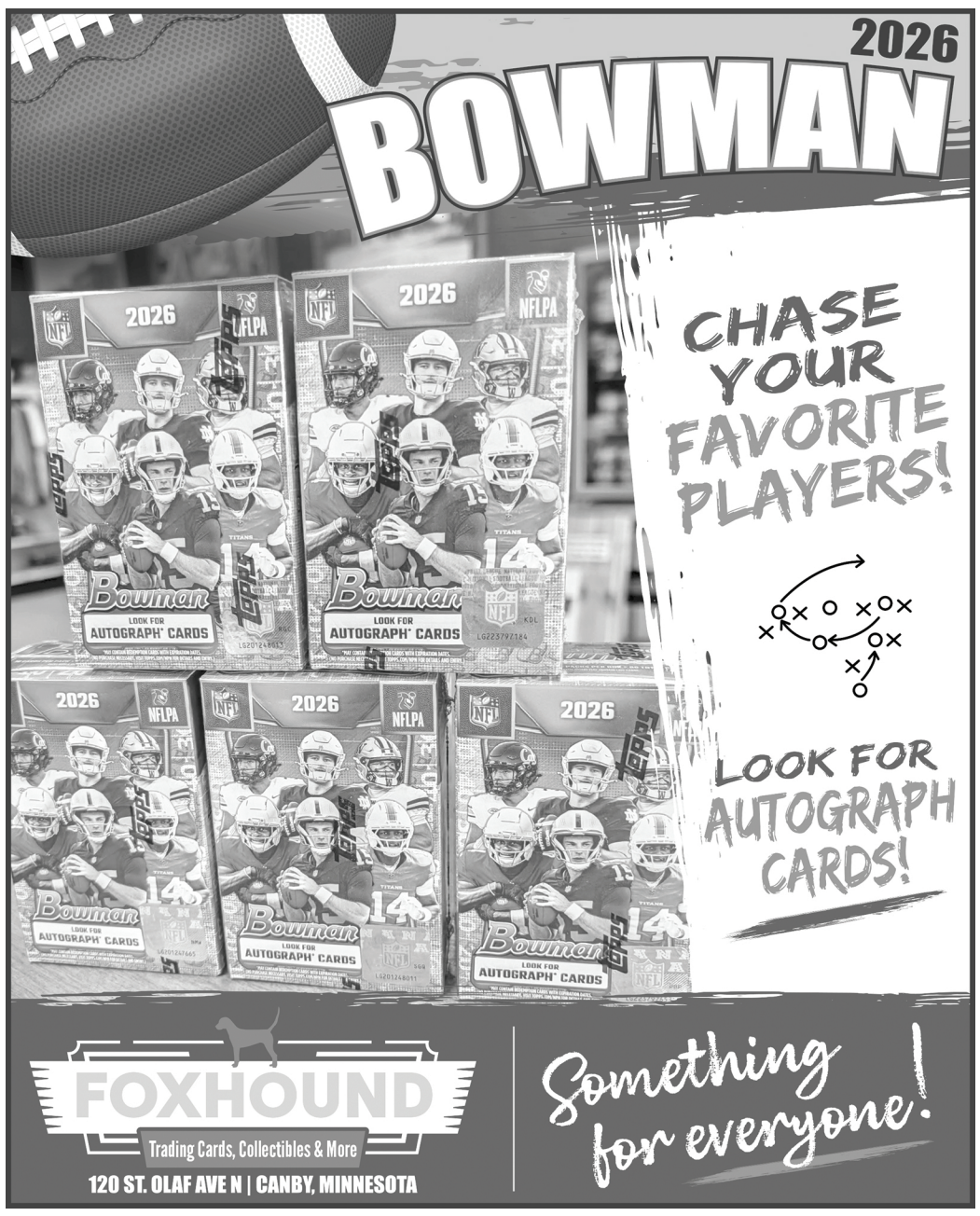



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PET OF THE WEEK

• Chubbs •

OWNERS: Jeremy & Tricia Groenhoff

PET'S AGE: 2 years old

BREED: Staffsky

FAVORITE ACTIVITIES: Sleeping, eating and visiting the Canby News & Minneota Mascot.



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Performer of the Week

Kaley Buysse
Volleyball Coach



In her second season as head coach, Kaley guided Minneota to an impressive Class A state volleyball title over BBE. The Vikings finished with a 31-4 record this season.

Sponsored by

FARMWARD COOPERATIVE



Honoring Veterans

The Minneota Public School elementary students honored gathered in the school to honor veterans during Veterans Day on Wednesday, Nov. 11. *Contributed photo*

Farmward transitions repair operations in Canby, Minneota

Farmward Cooperative has reached an agreement to transition its repair operations in Canby and Minneota to longtime employee and diesel mechanic Bryon Drietz, supporting the establishment of Red Iron Repair, a new independent repair business in the Canby area.

In addition, longtime employee, Seth Johnson will also launch his own business alongside Drietz, by establishing Canby Auto Center.

Both businesses plan to begin serving customers Jan. 1, 2027.

After careful consideration, Farmward determined its people and resources are best focused on its core cooperative businesses rather than shop repair and small-engine operations. Drietz and Johnson have represented a majority of the business conducted through the shops, creating an opportunity to support local ownership while helping maintain repair services in the area. The businesses will operate independently and will have no affiliation with Farmward Cooperative.

"These decisions are never easy, especially when they involve employees and customers we've worked alongside for years," said Dennis Schreier, CEO of Farmward Cooperative. "We believe this is the right direction for Farmward and our members. We're thankful for Bryon's and Seth's years of service and wish them success as they take this next step."

The final day of Farmward's shop and small-engine operations in Canby and automotive repair operations in Minneota will be Dec. 31, 2026. Beginning Jan. 1, 2027, customers seeking repair services should contact Drietz and Johnson directly.

Farmward's other business operations in Canby and Minneota will continue. This transition applies specifically to shop repair and small-engine operations and does not represent an exit from either community.

Fun Facts - Volleyball

(In honor of Minneota's sensational season this year, we present you some interesting facts about the sport):

Volleyball was invented by William George Morgan, an American educator. Morgan was an acquaintance of basketball inventor James Naismith and the former was inspired by the new sport to invent his own. However, he wanted one that could be played indoors. Taking a badminton net and a soccer ball bladder, he created volleyball.

Volleyball was orioginall called "Mintonette." This is because it was similar to badminton ("minton" later turned to "mintonette). It was renamed "volleyball" by another educator, Alfred S. Halstead because the ball was volleyed back and forth.

Originally, volleyball was meant to be played indoors. It was also invented because Morgan wanted a game where players did not have to run. He wanted a game that was physical and required players to perform plenty of actions but does not require direct contact with opposing players.

Basketballs were once used to play the game but their weight prevented players from keeping the ball in flight.

Swedzinski lauds PUC's approval of pipeline reroute

State Rep. Chris Swedzinski (R-Ghent) issued the following statement after the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission recently approved Magellan Midstream Partners' proposed petroleum pipeline reroute around Pipestone National Monument in southwestern Minnesota.

"I appreciate the Public Utilities Commission's decision to approve this pipeline route," said Swedzinski, who co-chairs the House Energy Finance and Policy Committee. "This is a practical step toward protecting an important cultural and historic landmark while maintaining the fuel infrastructure that Minnesota businesses, farmers and families rely on. The approved route also provides an opportunity to move forward with additional cultural and archaeological surveys and continued coordination with tribal nations."

The original pipeline was shut down in 2022 after federal officials declined to renew its right-of-way through the monument. Although the PUC previously rejected a proposed reroute and ordered additional archaeological and cultural surveys, tribal representatives and state historic preservation officials raised concerns. The approval requires continued coordination with tribal nations.



Turkey crafters



Minneota Assisted Living residents made turkeys for their November projects during the monthly Arts and Crafts session coordinated by Barb Okrina and assisted by Marci Peterson. Left to right: Pam Boogaard, Steve Anderson, Marci Petersen, Tom Esping, Susan Fischer. *Contributed photos*

PET OF THE WEEK



Send us or bring in a photo of your pet to become our "Pet of the Week".

Include owner's name, and pet's name, breed, age, and his/her favorite activities.

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MINUTES OF THE MINNEOTA CITY COUNCIL MEETING

PURSUANT TO CALL AND DUE NOTICE THEREOF, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MINNEOTA, COUNTY OF LYON, STATE OF MINNESOTA, MET IN REGULAR SESSION IN THE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS ON MONDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2026 AT 6:30 P.M.

COUNCIL PRESENT: Mayor John Rolbiecki
Council Member Travis Gillund
Council Member Tim Koppien
Council Member Chris Swoboda
Council Member Nancy Reisdorfer

STAFF PRESENT: Chesney Guetter, Shalayna Kloos, Mario RedLegs

OTHERS PRESENT: John Noyes

ITEM 1: CALL TO ORDER — Mayor Rolbiecki called the regular monthly meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

ITEM 2: CALL FOR AGENDA ADDITIONS — Administrator Guetter requested that the crushed concrete fee be added to the agenda for discussion.

ITEM 3: ADOPT AGENDA — Koppien motioned, seconded by Swoboda to adopt the agenda with the addition listed above. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

ITEM 4: MEETING MINUTES — The Council reviewed the prior month Council meeting minutes. With no questions or additional comments Reisdorfer motioned, seconded by Swoboda to approve the September 14, 2026 Council meeting minutes. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

ITEM 5: REPORTS & UPDATES — The Council reviewed the following reports and had no additional questions or comments: (5a) – Police report as presented by Chief RedLegs; (5b) – the current Financial Report as submitted by Administrator Guetter; (5c) – Y-T-D Budget; (5d) – Lead and Copper Survey Results; (5e) – Sanitary Survey Report.

ITEM 6: EXPENSES & DISBURSEMENTS — Reisdorfer motioned, seconded by Swoboda to approve the payment of $251,945.06 (as listed on the check register summary), to approve the payment of $28,797.55 (as listed on the payroll check register). MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

ITEM 7: CONCERNED CITIZENS — John Noyes was present and inquired about the plans for the UFP expansion. Administrator Guetter stated she would follow up with Tim and Riley to obtain an update on the current plans for extending water and sewer services to the property.

ITEM 8: PART-TIME OFFICER — (8a) – Gillund motioned, seconded by Swoboda to approve the conditional hiring of an applicant for the position of part-time police officer, contingent upon completion of all pre-employment requirements. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY (8b) – Gillund motioned, seconded by Swoboda to approve placement of the applicant at Grade 3, Step 1 of the City's approved wage scale, effective upon completion of all required pre-employment requirements and commencement of employment. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

ITEM 9: ASSESSOR CONTRACT — Following discussion, Reisdorfer motioned, seconded by Swoboda to approve the City Assessor Contract with Lyon County at an annual cost of $9,564. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

ITEM 10: LIBRARY – PLUM CREEK LIBRARY SYSTEM AGREEMENT — Gillund motioned, seconded by Swoboda to authorize John Rolbiecki as Mayor to sign the agreement on behalf of the City. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

ITEM 11: CRUSHED CONCRETE — The crushed concrete fee was discussed. Swoboda motioned, seconded by Koppien to increase the sale price of the City's crushed concrete from $15.00 to $20.00 per ton. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

ITEM 12: ADJOURNMENT — Koppien motioned, seconded by Reisdorfer to adjourn the meeting at 7:14 p.m. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

The next Regular Council Meeting is scheduled for November 9, 2026 at 6:30 p.m.

ATTEST:

Chesney Guetter, City Administrator
John Rolbiecki, Mayor

Council Approved November 9, 2026

Published in the Minneota Mascot Nov.19, 2026

MINNEOTA PUBLIC SCHOOLS - 15D #414
SCHOOL BOARD REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
OCTOBER 14, 2026

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of ISD #414, Minneota Public Schools, was called to order by Chair Abby Thostenson on Wednesday, October 14, 2026 at 7:00 am in Conference Room #103.

Roll call was taken. Members present included Buysse, Hennen, Thostenson, Skorczewski, Runic, and Mead. Members absent included Coequyt. Grace Horner, Gretta Buysse, Carolyn Bot, Patty Myrvik, Devann Shultz, Brandon Caster, and Scott Monson also attended.

Motion by Mead, second by Runic, to approve the meeting agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Grace Horner and Gretta Buysse, representatives of the MHS Student Council, shared updates about various events and activities they've been involved in.

Devann Shultz provided an update on the Technology Department, including multiple aspects of responsible technology use and management.

Patty Myrvik provided an update on the Activities Department, with an emphasis on the quality of advisors, coaches, and directors we are fortunate to have.

Motion by Mead, second by Runic, to approve payment of bills and the check register as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Mead, second by Buysse, to approve the consent agenda as presented, including the September 22, 2026 regular meeting minutes, personnel items, and fundraiser requests. Motion carried unanimously.

Chair Thostenson read a summary of the September 22, 2026 closed session regarding the performance evaluation of Superintendent Scott Monson.

Motion by Runic, second by Buysse, to approve the 2025-2026 Achievement and Integration Plan Summary. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Mead, second by Runic, to approve the 2025-2026 Comprehensive Achievement and Civic Readiness Plan Summary. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Runic, second by Buysse, to officially recognize the 2026-2027 MEMO seniority list. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Buysse, second by Mead, to approve the second reading of ten (10) policies: #301, #302, #303, #304, #305, #306, #506, #522, #527, and #528. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Hennen, second by Runic, to approve a resolution supporting an application to the Minnesota State High School League Foundation for a Form A grant to help offset student activity fees. Motion carried unanimously by roll call vote with all members voting in the affirmative.

Motion by Mead, second by Buysse, to approve the Minneota Elementary School E-Learning Day Plan. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Hennen, second by Mead, to approve the Minneota High School E-Learning Day Plan. Motion carried unanimously.

The Board discussed potential section and state football and volleyball scheduling and shared their perspectives.

MINNEOTA PUBLIC SCHOOLS - 15D #414
SCHOOL BOARD SPECIAL-EMERGENCY MEETING MINUTES
NOVEMBER 3, 2026

A Special-Emergency Meeting of the Board of Education of ISD #414, Minneota Public Schools, was called to order by Chair Abby Thostenson on Tuesday, November 3, 2026 at 7:00 a.m. in Conference Room #103.

Roll call was taken. Members present included Coequyt, Buysse, Hennen, Thostenson, Skorczewski, Runia, and Mead. Jared Josephson, Nicolle Johnston, Heather Anderson, and Scott Monson also attended.

Motion by Buysse, second by Mead, to approve the meeting agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Superintendent Monson reviewed Policy #907: Rewards and various aspects for consideration to authorize a reward leading to the arrest and conviction of person or people responsible for the recent vandalism at KP Kompelien Field. Board Members shared their opinions and asked questions.

Motion by Skorczewski, second by Buysse, to approve offering a reward of up to $2,000 for information leading to the conviction of the individual or individuals responsible for the recent vandalism at KP Kompelien Field, pursuant to Policy #907: Rewards and Minnesota Statute§ 123B.02, Subdivision 22, and to authorize the Superintendent to establish procedures for administering the reward. Motion carried unanimously by roll call vote with all members voting yes.

Motion by Coequyt, second by Hennen, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:08 am.

Respectfully submitted,
Martin Hennen, Clerk

Published in the Minneota Mascot Nov. 19, 2026