

Brookfield & Elm Grove

THIS MONTH

AUGUST 2018

Pickleball a net gain in Brookfield

Sport holds appeal across most age groups

By Chris Bennett
Special to The Freeman

BROOKFIELD — A trendy activity that combines badminton, tennis and ping-pong — and sports a catchy name — is here to stay in southeastern Wisconsin.

Pickleball’s popularity among adults has taken off in recent years and is affecting the landscape of athletics in a way few activities can claim.

It’s been more than 25 years since Lisa Glenn, a recreation supervisor with the city of Brookfield, learned about pickleball during a lesson in gym class at her northern Illinois high school.

In the case of Brookfield, snow birds helped drive the game’s emergence.

“We did have some city residents come to us that were interested in playing,” Glenn said. “Some of them had played it, if they were snow birds in their retirement community — especially down in the Villages in Florida, and in Arizona.”

The Villages is a Florida retirement city that covers more than 30 square miles and counts more than 110,000 residents. The Villages also boasts about having 196 pickleball courts.

According to USA Pickleball — the governing entity of pickleball in the United States — pickleball was invented by Joel Pritchard, Bill Bell, and Barney McCallum on Bainbridge Island, which is in the Seattle area — in 1965.

Reports vary on how the activity acquired its name.

Pritchard’s wife, Joan, said she started calling the game “pickleball” due to the combination of different sports reminding her of the pickle boat in rowing. The pickle boat is manned by oarsmen left over from other boats.

McCallum claims Pritchard’s dog, Pickles, is the genesis of the name. Pickles took joy in chasing the ball and running off with it.

Suitable for many ages

Two pickleball courts will fit on one tennis court — think how a tennis court looks when viewed from end to end. Cut it in half and rotate 90 degrees. A pickleball court is the same size as a doubles badminton court.

According to the USAPA, the net height is 36 inches at the sidelines and 34 inches in the middle. The court is striped similarly to a tennis court, with right and left service courts, and a seven-foot non-volley zone in front of the net referred to as the “kitchen.”

The equipment required for pickleball is simple: a paddle, a ball and a net. The paddle is smaller than a tennis racket and larger than a ping-pong paddle. The ball features holes similar to a wiffle ball. Glenn said equipment is widely available at stores such as Dunham’s Sporting Goods and Dick’s Sporting Goods.

Attire consists of anything that is comfortable and appropriate. The USAPA said tennis-style dresses and skirts are common, and urged that players wear footwear designed for movement on a court.



Submitted photo

Pickleball, played on a court like tennis and using a racket and a ball like a wiffle ball, has gained a wide following across the country in recent years.

Protective eyewear is also recommended.

Glenn said the game tends to skew older but said her three children have also played pickleball in gym class in Waukesha.

“They like it,” Glenn said. “They kind of joke about it. They’re all athletic kids, and it’s a little slow. If they have the chance to play it, they’ll definitely play.”

Waukesha is an area leader in pickleball. Glenn said Waukesha recently converted tennis courts at Banting Park to pickleball courts. Brookfield added pickleball to its parks and recreation lineup in 2015 and offers the activity at Mary Knoll Park, and also rents space at a local church for the winter months.

More information is available by contacting Brookfield’s Parks, Recre-



Submitted photo

Pickleball also can be played indoors.

ation & Forestry Department at 262-796-6675.

Glenn said Sussex recently added more capacity for pickleball. Franklin also recently launched a pickleball program that was met with great anticipation. New Berlin and Muskego

also offer recreational pickleball leagues.

Pickleball players can also find space at the Moorland Tennis & Pickleball Club, 2900 S. 163rd St. New Berlin, and at the Wisconsin Athletic Club, 20075 Water Tower Blvd.

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INSIDE

Fans stay cool with collectors

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Apartments, activities filling The Corners

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Washburn made her mark at BA

SPORTS/Page 4B



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Corners Apartments now 80 percent full, manager says

Mixed-use development opened less than a year ago

By Mary Reardon
Special to The Freeman

TOWN OF BROOKFIELD — The Corners Apartments in Brookfield are 80 percent full less than a year after opening, said Property Manager Riley Draayers.

“We’ve exceeded all the targets that we’ve expected,” Draayers said.

Typically a property of The Corners’ size could take up to two years to fill, she said.

“We aggressively really wanted to do it in one year, and we hope to meet that,” Draayers said.

Rent at The Corners ranges from around \$1,200 to \$2,800 a month.

The complex has 244 total apartments in two buildings, Dempsey Place and Garrison Court. Dempsey Place opened July 1, 2017, while Garrison Court opened Sept. 1.

The Dempsey Place apartments have a more urban design while Garrison Court has a more traditional look. Options run from a studio to two-bedroom-plus-den. The apartments come with 9- and 10-foot ceilings and in 33 different floor plans. The site has no condos.

“That is the most common question we get,” she said.

The buildings provide renters covered parking below retailers, separate from parking for shoppers at The Corners of Brookfield, the 750,000-square-foot “premier lifestyle center” at 20111 W. Bluemound Road. The Corners of



Photos by Mary Reardon/Special to The Freeman

Property Manager Riley Draayers shows off a model apartment at The Corners Apartments in the Town of Brookfield.

Brookfield opened its first stores in April 2017.

Amenities at the apartment buildings include a green roof, which is an outdoor courtyard space with firepit and TV, lounge centers, fitness centers and a theater room. Works from Milwaukee artist Pamela Anderson decorate the hallways of the two buildings.

“Live above it all” is the complex’s slogan, as some of the apartments sit above stores at The Corners.

“The convenience of the site is just the best,” Draayers says.

She says people have moved from elsewhere in the region and downtown Milwaukee “because this is another really great walkable area,” with shops, restaurants, and a Sendik’s grocery store. The U.K.’s IM Properties owns the apartment buildings and the mall. Mandel Property Services of Milwaukee manages the apartments.



Property Manager Riley Draayers on the balcony of a model apartment at The Corners Apartments in the Town of Brookfield.



Robyn Di Giacinto/Special to The Freeman

The Rogers Park Band performed during the Jewish Music Festival at The Corners of Brookfield back in June.

Music in all Corners Chabad of Waukesha hosts first Jewish Music Festival

By Robyn Di Giacinto
Special to The Freeman

TOWN OF BROOKFIELD — June 27 may have marked the official start of Summerfest — but across town, The Corners of Brookfield was alive with its own big musical gig.

Upbeat tunes strummed through columns of speakers at the first-ever Jewish Music Festival hosted by Chabad of Waukesha, a Jewish cultural education center founded by Rabbi Levi Brook in 2012.

Facing the live band (a Chicago-based Hasidic rock duo called the Rogers Park Band) were rows of folding chairs filled with people smiling and clapping to the beat. Further back, festivalgoers filled plates from a long table dotted with aluminum heating trays laden with falafel and shawarma.

Older folks chatted over beers at umbrella-shaded wrought iron tables. Toddlers with faces smeared with paint gleefully darted past strollers and walkers. School-aged kids tried to best each other at the bean

bag toss or clutched paper cones as they waited their turn at the cotton candy machine.

“Food and music are a great way to bring people together,” Brook explained. He said he first approached The Corners about partnering to host the event there a few months ago to build community across cultural differences.

If the crowd’s enthusiasm was any judge, Brook seemed to have accomplished his goal.

“I told the rabbi he really knows how to party,” joked Alan Volk, holding a small gift bag emblazoned with The Corners logo that he had just won in a raffle. “Family, friends. Lots of love.”

Sallie Loeb Grange and Marcy Yavor, who attend a different chabad center in Milwaukee, echoed the sentiment. “It’s lovely. The food’s great, the music’s great. Great seeing old friends,” Grange said.

Yavor added, “It’s kosher food. We can eat here!”

Grange laughed and smiled bemusedly. “We don’t get that often,” she agreed.

MDs provide tips to make the most of your next eye exam

By Cheryl L. Dejewski

“One of the best ways of improving your health is to plan regular check-ups—with your doctor, dentist and eye care specialist. However, many of us procrastinate thinking, ‘if it isn’t broken, why fix it?’ Or, we are hesitant about what to do or ask. But, regular check-ups not only protect your body—they help your wallet by keeping future health costs to a minimum,” says ophthalmologist Brett Rhode, MD. He and his partners at Eye Care Specialists provide the following tips to help make the most of your next visit to an eye doctor (or other physician).

REASONS TO SCHEDULE

According to Daniel Ferguson, MD, an ophthalmologist who treats thousands of patients each year, “Poor vision or changes to your sight should not be dismissed. Have regular eye exams every two years and schedule an appointment right away if you notice concerns.” These include:

- Foggy, fuzzy or blurred vision
- Sensitivity to light and glare
- “Starbursts” around lights
- Holding items closer to view
- Needing brighter light to read
- Fading or yellowing of colors
- Difficulty judging stairs or curbs
- Difficulty seeing to drive at night
- Vision affects ability to do tasks
- Vertical lines appear wavy
- Dark or blind spots in vision
- Glasses and prescription changes don’t improve your vision



Dr. Mark Freedman recommends that family members attend appointments to help learn and remember exam results and treatment guidelines.

WHEN YOU SCHEDULE

1. **Concisely describe** any vision problems you know you have.
2. **Ask if your eyes will be dilated.** Will you be able to drive yourself? How long will your vision be affected?
3. **Ask about cost & payment policies.** Do they accept your insurance(s)?

WHAT TO BRING

Lists of the following:

- Any existing eye problems
- Previous eye injuries or surgeries
- Your health condition (allergies, chronic problems, operations, etc.)
- Family history of eye problems (glaucoma, cataracts, etc.)
- Any vision-related questions

Your most recent pair of glasses and/or contact lenses. Being able to check what you are used to wearing helps your doctor to determine a new prescription that best suits you.

Any eye-related medication(s) or drop(s) you use. “This helps us evaluate how well it is work-

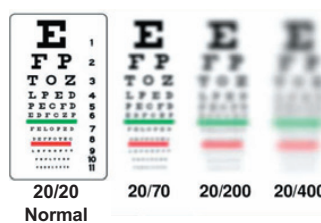
ing or if a change is needed in medication or dosage,” explains eye surgeon Michael Raciti, MD.

A list of your other medications (oral, injectable, over-the-counter, and herbal). “This is especially important if you take medications for high blood pressure, diabetes, asthma, infections or arthritis, since these may affect your vision and/or adversely react with certain eye medicines,” says David Scheidt, OD.

Medicare and insurance card(s)

QUESTIONS TO ASK

- What is my visual acuity on the 20/20 scale?



- Do I have any eye disorders?
- What caused my condition?
- Is this condition hereditary? Should my family members be checked?
- How will it affect my vision and lifestyle—now and in the future?
- Should I watch for and notify you of any particular symptoms?
- What tests do I need? Why? When?
- What is the best medical/surgical treatment for me?
- When will treatment start, and how long will it last?
- What are the risks, side effects, benefits and success rates of treatment?
- Are there foods, drugs, or activities I should avoid?
- Are other treatments available?

- If I need to take a medication, what should I do if I miss a dose?
- Would diet, exercise or lifestyle changes improve my condition?
- Would eye-related vitamin and mineral supplements be helpful?
- When should I schedule my next appointment?

MORE INFORMATION

The doctors of Eye Care Specialists are dedicated to patient and community education. They have written a series of booklets on the diagnosis and treatment of cataracts, diabetic eye disease, glaucoma, and macular degeneration (AMD). Free copies are available by calling 414-321-7035. They also offer in-depth information on their website at: www.eyecarespecialists.net



Dr. Daniel Paskowitz encourages patients to be educated partners in their care by asking questions and reading the free booklets and handouts his practice offers.

Comprehensive, dilated eye exams are typically recommended every two years. If it’s time for yours, and you don’t have an eye care specialist or would like a second opinion, call the offices below (including one across from the Cheesecake Factory and Mayfair Mall—just minutes away from Brookfield and Elm Grove) to schedule a complete exam, which is typically covered by Medicare and insurance.

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Ashley Haynes/Freeman Staff

Walker, area officials hold ceremony for \$32M Milwaukee Tool expansion

BROOKFIELD — Brookfield Mayor Steve Ponto; Gale Klappa, co-chair of the Milwaukee 7; Milwaukee Tool President Steve Richman; Governor Scott Walker; and Waukesha County Board Chairman Paul Decker ceremonially break ground July 13 at Milwaukee Tool’s global headquarters in Brookfield. The ceremony marks the start of a \$32 million expansion project that will create 350 new local jobs. Walker announced July 13 that the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation is providing Milwaukee Tool Co. with \$8 million in state tax credits to support the company’s plan to build a \$32 million research and development facility.



Ashley Haynes/Freeman Staff

The newest Casablanca location at 17800 W. Blue-mound Road in Brookfield.

Casablanca opens second location in Brookfield

By Ashley Haynes
ahaynes@conleynet.com
262-513-2681

BROOKFIELD — Middle Eastern cuisine and ambiance are now right up the road for Brookfield residents. The second location of Casablanca, a restaurant which gained its popularity on Milwaukee’s east side, officially held a soft opening June 19.

The new location at 17800 W. Bluemound Road, called Casablanca West, is situated at the renovated site of the former Hom Restaurant, which was operated by the Surg restaurant group.

It boasts a newly expanded outside patio on the second floor that can seat upward of 45 people, with the interior able to accommodate approximately 425 guests.

The restaurant was originally scheduled to open in May, according to a past article in The Freeman, but further expansions pushed the date back.

“Really, we’re just trying to keep up everything we’ve built over the past 28 years, and this is just an accumulation of everything we’ve

built over that time,” said owner Al Musa.

He explained that patrons of the first Casablanca location will find both to offer the same charm and amenities

The menu will be very similar to the Brady Street location, although a new menu has also seen a soft launch. Classics such as beef shawarma and hummus will all be there, and Musa says that everything on the menu is fairly priced.

The Brookfield location also includes a lunch buffet Monday-Friday from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. with vegetarian options available.

The original restaurant was started by Chef Jesse Musa, a native of Jerusalem. He immigrated to the United States in 1971 and worked in a Sicilian bakery as a chef. In 1987, he made his dream come true by opening his first Middle Eastern restaurant, The Sahara Inn, which three years later became Casablanca. The restaurant is now run by Musa’s eldest sons, Ramzi, Al and Nas.

For more information, visit <https://www.facebook.com/CasablancaOnBluemound>.

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WEEKEND EDITION




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Plans for a 54,000-square-foot conference center with an attached 168-room Hilton Garden Inn will be discussed at the joint Brookfield Plan Commission and Common Council meeting Tuesday at 7 p.m.

Brookfield conference center design plans unveiled
Plans call for 54,000-square foot center with 2 ballrooms, 168-room hotel


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Retail titan torn down
Sears at Brookfield Square demolished




TOWN OF EAGLE

Authorities think alleged gunman stole neighbor's car
Sheriff's Department: Pogreba may be in La Crosse or Minnesota
By Brian Huber
bhuber@freeman.com
262-513-2674



TOWN OF EAGLE — The man who is being sought after a violent domestic incident involving a gun may have fled the area in a car stolen from a neighbor's home, authorities said Thursday.
Jonathan Pogreba, 43, remained at large two days after a domestic incident at his

And We Report to You!



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Mary Reardon/Special to The Freeman
Instructors train at Goldfish Swim School on West Feerick Street in Brookfield.

Brookfield’s Goldfish Swim School a family affair

Warm water, tropical décor help kids enjoy themselves

By Mary Reardon
Special to The Freeman

BROOKFIELD — Area parents looking to get their kids swimming have a new option in Brookfield, Goldfish Swim School.

The school, at 12565 West Feerick St., opened in November 2017.

It’s a franchise location of a chain based in Troy, Michigan. There are around 65 in the country and the Brookfield location is the only one in Wisconsin, although owners Rosanna and Kevin Casper say they’re hoping to launch another school in the Glendale area.

The Caspers left San Francisco with their three kids to open the school. Milwaukee-native Kevin, a former waterfront director at YMCA Camp Minikani, is the last of his four siblings to open a Goldfish Swim School franchise. The Casper family owns eight locations throughout the country.

“As a parent with small children, water safety has always been important to my husband and me,” said Rosanna Casper.

The Goldfish Swim School corporate website says the investment to open a school ranges from around \$1.3 million to \$3 million nationally. The school teaches kids

from 4 months to 12 years old with one instructor for a maximum four kids. The school has 40 instructors, who are lifeguard certified and get further training from Goldfish.

The school uses a fixed curriculum with skills such as “able to complete four lengths of freestyle non-stop” for 5- to 12-year-olds and “relaxed in sea otter back float position” for babies 4 to 15 months old.

Goldfish also relies on swim play, learning through play. “If the kids enjoy it, they’re going to learn faster,” says General Manager Tyler Schuld.

Cute toys such as a soft canoe and big foam duck mats help the cause.

Warmer water

Goldfish’s facility has a tropical décor and special features for teaching swimming. There are individual changing and shower areas. A way station bench lines the inside of the pool. A kid who’s wary will get more used to the water by sitting on the bench while others take turns in the class, Schuld says.

In the middle of the pool, islands or swimming platforms provide landings for kids aiming to reach a distance goal of 5, 10 or more feet. “That way they’re not always relying on the

instructor” to swim to, Schuld says. “They’re doing it independently, which is what we’re trying to teach.”

Goldfish keeps the pool warm, at 90 degrees. Competitive pools tend to be 10 degrees or more cooler, he says. “You don’t want them shivering,” Schuld says.

The school serves kids who take to water and those who fear swimming. Schuld recalls a 10-year old who had a near-drowning accident who came to the school. “Now she’s swimming eyes in the water,” he said.

The school encourages the use of goggles, which is not universal among swim teachers. “It just adds confidence to swimming,” Schuld says. Goldfish also does goggle-free exercises with learners.

Older kids at the school are starting to learn all four strokes: freestyle, backstroke, butterfly and breast stroke.

Kids on Goldfish’s swim team Swim Force compete internally and the team serves as a stepping stone to competitive swimming with local clubs, Schuld says. The team is for 5- to 12-year-olds and meets once a week.

The school charges \$84 a month for weekly half-hour lessons. Longer lessons are also available. The school offers family swim time and parties, as well.



Photo courtesy of Waukesha County Business Alliance

CleanSlate joins Business Alliance

TOWN OF BROOKFIELD — CleanSlate Centers recently joined the Waukesha County Business Alliance.

The center, 20611 Watertown Road E, helps people suffering with addiction.

Pictured from left to right are: Bonnie Trexell of SWAG Promotions and Waukesha County Business Alliance ambassador; Katrina Jenkins, center manager; Laura Zellmer, APNP; April King, certified medical assistant; and Kathryn Obermeier, care coordinator.

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ELMBROOK SCHOOL DISTRICT

LAUNCH program named a finalist for Wisconsin Innovation Award

Program combines mentorship in industry with course work

BROOKFIELD — The Elmbrook School District’s LAUNCH program has been named one of 34 finalists for the Wisconsin Innovation Award.

LAUNCH students spend part of their day working in teams on challenges provided by both their instructors and industry partners while earning high school and college credit. Students

become fully immersed in professional culture, problem solving, and using industry-standard tools and resources. LAUNCH gives students the chance to go deep when exploring professional areas of interest. Elmbrook’s program can accommodate 75 students in the global business curriculum, 50 students in business analytics and 50 students in future teachers.

According to the Wisconsin Innovation website, the organization seeks to highlight and honor the development of “groundbreaking and innovative ideas.”

In total, 357 businesses, products and services from around the state were nominated. The finalists were determined by a panel of 21

statewide industry experts. Winners will be announced on Oct. 3 at an awards ceremony at the Wisconsin Union Theater in Madison. Nominations spanned all parts of Wisconsin and represented large, medium and small companies, startups, established businesses, and nearly all industries.

The Wisconsin Innovation Awards Ceremony is open to the public. The event begins at 5:30 p.m. with a reception, followed by the awards program at 6:30 p.m.

Ticket information and details are available at www.wisconsininnovation-awards.com.

— Freeman Staff



Photo courtesy of Waukesha County Business Alliance

Business Alliance welcomes Horizons Law Group

BROOKFIELD — The Waukesha County Business Alliance recently welcomed Horizons Law Group, a law firm based in Brookfield, as a new member.

Michelle Fitzgerald of Horizons Law Group holds the membership plaque.

LePoidevin Marketing expands digital efforts with Wemmert

BROOKFIELD — Christian Wemmert has joined the LePoidevin Marketing team as the agency’s director of digital marketing.

Wemmert will be advising clients on website development, social media strategy, search marketing and integrated email campaigns.

He will also be taking an active role in developing new business opportunities for LePoidevin.

“Bringing Chris on board ensures our continued commitment to providing our clients with up-to-date digital marketing strategies tailored to their specific business goals,” said Dean LePoidevin, agency president and strategic director.

LePoidevin Marketing is a marketing, advertising and PR agency specializing in the animal health, tool, packaging, pest control and medical device industries.



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A fan of fans

Hand-held paper fans

“The good old days” in the early 20th century did not include relaxing in air-conditioned rooms. Printing companies sold these card-stock paper fans in abundance to churches, office buildings, train stations, and fraternal organizations for all forms of social events. The advertised printed text and images might not have had anything to do with an event. When attending a funeral, for example, you could be handed a fan with printed advertising for shoes, bread, tractors or laundry soap, etc.

Value to the right collector: **\$20 each.**

Fan shown on the left: Up through 1937, most of the new electric refrigerators were extremely noisy. “Silent as Night” was part of the marketing logo for the Servel Electrolux Kerosene model refrigerator.

Fan in the middle: The railroad company of Siskiyou County, California, serviced local communities of Yreka and Montague. Yreka Western Railroad was incorporated in the state in 1933 and was licensed to carry both freight and tourist excursion trains. This hand fan could be considered railroad ephemera memorabilia.

Fan pictured on the right: Nu-Icy Bottling Co. was a beverage business in Johnson City, Tenn. In 1928, its product line included grapefruit, grape and orangeade. Flavors and colors were artificial but the slogan used in advertising was, “From The Grove To You.”

General Electric fan

This circa-1905 oscillating fan is very thin and has a powerful motor, although it weighs in at 18 pounds. Its design earned the name of “Pancake Model” (thin and round). These were manufactured in four heights; this example is the tallest option at 16 inches. This commercial-grade model was popular for large office buildings and could be ordered with a wall-mount



BARBARA EASH
Antiques Appraised

bracket. Everything on this GE fan appears to be original including the brass blades, the GE badge on the wire cage, electric cord, extraordinary color and it works perfectly.

Desirable in today’s market, it is considered rare because of its condition, and could sell upward of **\$1,000.**

Ribbonaire fan

The 1930s era was a time when electrically powered domestic gadgets hit the market. The Singer Company marketed this safety blade fan for single-person use. The Bakelite material was popular and the ribbon “blades” (instead of metal) made it a safer option. Unfortunately, the minimal air movement produced by the tightly woven grosgrain cording disappointed consumers. **Value: \$100.**

Submit an item for consideration

Do you have an item or collection of items that could be shared in a future newspaper column? Let Barbara Eash hear about it!

To have your item or collection considered send the following information: up to three, sharp, well-lit photos of front & back of the item(s), measurements as well as any history or hearsay, length of ownership and your full name, address and daytime phone number. Mail: Waukesha Antique Shop, ATTN Barbara Eash, 1427 E. Racine Ave., Unit E-2, Waukesha, WI 53186 or email: beappraisals@gmail.com. If your item(s) are considered for a future column, we will contact you. No photos can be returned and no purchase of items will occur.

(Barbara Eash is a member of the Certified Appraisers Guild of America, specializing in appraisals of antiques and collectibles and has extensive experience writing and speaking about antiques.)



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PLAYER PROFILE

Washburn kicked it with the best

BA standout
had historic
career
despite
missing
senior season

By Dave Radcliffe
dradcliffe@conley.net
262-513-2655

BROOKFIELD — It’s difficult, and very well might be impossible, to find a player in the state that had a better three-year stretch on the pitch than Brookfield Academy’s Anika Washburn.

Unfortunately, a fourth year was stolen away from the senior forward by the very sport she loves so dearly.

Playing indoor soccer on the Friday before the Blue Knights’ regional final girls basketball game — another sport in which she flourishes — Washburn suffered a torn ACL, cutting short her high school athletic career.

“I kind of got hit from behind,” Washburn said. “At first it was really difficult because it was my senior year and I was really looking forward to it being my last year playing Brookfield Academy high school soccer, so I was going to miss everything. It took awhile to get over it.”

Understandably so. Washburn, a reigning first team all-state performer, had her sights set on a second straight WIAA Division 4 state championship. Different points of the season brought on a brutal reminder that she couldn’t be out there to help her team, but a close-knit group was there every step of the way to encourage Washburn through her rehab.

“I was able to be around my teammates and people I really liked,” Washburn said. “I was still a captain with the other seniors which was really special. I was just doing rehab the entire time and still am, so that kept me busy, but I would always try to make it as much as I could. My teammates were all really supportive. They made it a lot easier because they knew I needed all the encouragement I could get.”

To say the statistics Washburn was still able to accumulate in three years were video game-like would be an understatement.

She finished first in the state in points as a sophomore and a junior, when she amassed the third-most points (128) and goals (55), and fifth-most assists (31) in a single season in state history. Her 352 career points rank third all-time, as well.

Brookfield Academy girls soccer coach Lee Rogers knew he had something special with Washburn well before she began playing for the varsity squad her freshman year.

“I was her gym teacher I think in first grade,” Rogers said. “Just through the years watching her play, talking to other coaches, she’s probably one of the best, if not the best player in her age group, and there are quite a few in that age group. She was

Get to know ... ANIKA WASHBURN

School/Sport
Brookfield Academy/Soccer

Coach
Lee Rogers

Class In School/Age
Senior/18

Also In My Family Are: my mom, Sheila; my dad, Mike; and my older brother, Nathan.
The Athletic Accomplishment I Am Most Proud Of Is: winning the state title my junior year in soccer.
My Favorite Subject In School Is: computer science.
My Favorite Teacher Is: Mrs. Nolan
My Favorite Movie Is: “Wreck It Ralph.”
My Favorite TV Show Is: “River Monsters.”
My Favorite Recording Artist Is: Lil Uzi Vert.
The Best Meal My Mother Makes Is: homemade Hawaiian pizza.
A Bad Habit I Have Is: forgetting things.
A Pet Peeve I Have Is: when people crack their knuckles.
The Thing I Do Best Outside Of Athletics Is: play Fortnite.
The Person I’d Most Like To Meet Is: Lionel Messi.
The Last Time I Cleaned My Room I Found: money.
Nobody Ever Says I’m: tall.
My Most Memorable Experience Is: trying tennis for the first time this year.
My Most prized Possession Is: my soccer windbreaker.
One Thing People Might Not Know About Me Is: I love to paint.
One Thing I Would Change About Myself Is: to be more outgoing.
One Thing At My School I Would Change Is: have a wider variety of classes.
I See Myself In 10 Years Being: a computer scientist at a big company.
I Wish Coach Rogers Would: let me nutmeg him.

selected first team all-state last year. I think that was the first time ever for a Division 4 player, so that was special.”

Washburn was all about breaking down barriers the moment she arrived at Brookfield Academy. The Blue Knights reached state for the first time in program history in 2015 when Washburn was a freshman, falling in the semifinals to Midwest Classic Conference rival Lake Country Lutheran.

“Freshman year reaching state, yeah, it seemed like a huge deal because everyone else made it a huge deal,” Washburn said. “But deep down we really didn’t know anything else. So going in my sophomore year it was like, oh, we’re expected to go to state. That’s when it hit us — this is hard.”

Washburn’s sophomore season ended prematurely with a loss in the sectional semifinals to Kettle Moraine Lutheran. That may have been a blessing in disguise, with Washburn and her teammates realizing a state berth was far from a given.

They’d get back in 2017. This time, the result was another first in program history — a state title. During that campaign, Washburn reached 100 career goals and became the most prolific scorer in school history.

“That was probably my greatest accomplishment ever,” Washburn said. “It was so cool to be with your classmates and coaches that you’ve been with the last two years. We were super close as teammates, and that really helped us have all the success. It was an amazing feeling to finally say that we did it and that we were the first ones.”

Washburn assisted the lone goal in the Blue Knights’ 1-0 semifinal victory before they exacted revenge on LCL in the D4 finals with another 1-0 result.

“She was really big, her and Serena Shah, she was our only senior starter; they got the team together,” Rogers said. “That’s where I saw the biggest difference,

her leadership as a captain junior year. This doesn’t come around all the time. She put lot of pressure on herself but never did she sit there and yell at teammates or make excuses. I think that’s the kind of person she was off the field. She was a leader.”

Rogers knows there are never guarantees in sports, but he couldn’t have foreseen losing his most prolific player before the 2018 season even began.

“She is just a special athlete,” Rogers said. “As bad as you feel for her, in a selfish way, I just love watching her play. When you don’t get a chance to see her play out there, as a coach my biggest contribution to her is making sure she’s on the field. She’s just terrific.”

Former BA girls basketball coach Ron Kluth similarly wondered what could have been had Washburn been on the floor for his team’s regional final game last winter. The Blue Knights were arguably in the midst of their most successful season in program history, entering their tilt against Kettle Moraine Lutheran with a 22-1 record.

The injury bug also bit Washburn earlier in her basketball career, but she still went over 1,000 career points and was voted the Midwest Classic Conference Player of the Year her senior year after averaging 16.7 points, 4.3 rebounds, 6.3 assists (sixth in the state) and 4.1 steals per game.

“She had a special aura about her,” Kluth said. “When I first came to Brookfield Academy, I actually saw her play in eighth grade and I knew she was going to be a great player for us.

“She’s very fundamentally sound. She’s easy to coach. She was a captain and all the girls respected her. She was a pleasure to coach. Since I’m not coaching anymore that’s a good way to go out. I was glad I could finish off my career with her as my point guard.”

Washburn, who started



Freeman file photo

Brookfield Academy’s Anika Washburn chases after the ball during the 2017 WIAA Division 4 Girls State Soccer Championship. Washburn became the first player from a Division 4 program to be voted all-state her junior season.

playing basketball when she was in fourth grade, had to ease her way into a prominent role with the varsity squad.

“I was obviously on the low end of the spectrum,” Washburn said. “I was more into feeding the upperclassmen. We had a point guard, Sam Dieck, she was so good and someone I completely admired and still admire. She really helped me become what I am in basketball because she had the drive to score and I was able to learn from her and kind of take over that role after my freshman year.”

The Blue Knights won at least 17 games in each of Washburn’s four years on the team, winning three straight Midwest Classic championships after she stepped into a starting role.

“I think what I was most impressed about is that she didn’t care to score,” Kluth said. “She wanted to make everyone else better. At the very beginning I tried to tell her to shoot more, and slowly she came on.

“That’s why she led us to three conference championships, and we weren’t there ever before. She’s going to be a success wherever she goes because she’s smart and has a great personality.”

It’s not only athletics in which Washburn excels. She had a 4.0 GPA and was a scholar athlete her senior year. And that was even with adding tennis to her résumé.

“Sports actually really helped me learn time management,” Washburn said. “It really helped me stay focused and plan ahead as well. When we’d have a game one night I knew I would have to study ahead for a test the next day. My classmates



Freeman file photo

Anika Washburn scored over 1,000 points during her varsity basketball career with Brookfield Academy, helping the program win three consecutive Midwest Classic Conference titles.

really helped me a lot, because Brookfield Academy could be tough at times. It was a good environment to be in.”

Those time management skills will continue to come in handy when she studies computer science at Case Western Reserve, a Division III university in Cleveland. That’s where Washburn will continue her soccer career as well.

With the women’s season taking place in the fall, Washburn hopes to be able to play at least a majority of her freshman campaign with

the Spartans as she continues to rehab her knee injury. Remembering where it all began is what helps keep Washburn’s passion for the sport burning bright.

“My dad coached me (in rec soccer), which was really cool,” said Washburn, who began playing at the age of 5. “I guess it was more about having fun than being really good back then, and I definitely carried that passion all the way through high school. Being around people who share that same love is something I really love and makes it special.”

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