

Brookfield & Elm Grove

THIS MONTH

JULY 2019

Elm Grove looking to revitalize downtown area

Residents want more dining, rental options, survey shows

By Ashley Haynes
262-513-2681
ahaynes@conley.net

ELM GROVE — Small, quaint and safe are some of the top words that Elm Grove residents associate with their downtown, according to an online survey administered earlier this year on the village's website.

Now, village officials are hoping to find a balance between the small-town feel they love while revitalizing the downtown area.

The village is working on creating a Downtown Master Plan that will address bringing in more restaurant and retail options, as well as some housing.

Making downtown more pedestrian and bicyclist-friendly is also a goal.

"We're all sort of confronted with the same thing, which is how do you address the ability to redevelop and do it in a way that still fits your community," said Village President Neil Palmer.

He explained the village is aiming to make redevelopment easier and to encourage it more.

The online survey found that residents were most in support of bringing in more commercial businesses, as well as eating and drinking options.

Housing options were the least popular, but Palmer said residents now have a better idea of what the village is actually imagining after months of discussion.

"We've defined a very real



Brian Huber/Freeman Staff

Elm Grove officials are considering ideas to revitalize the village's downtown while at the same time keeping the small-town feel its residents desire. In a recent survey citizens said they wanted more dining and business options, and village officials are imagining ways to add housing to the mix.

desire for quality rental properties by existing village residents who are moving into a different phase of their lives. They want to get out of their house, but they want to stay in Elm Grove. Right now, there's really nowhere to rent," Palmer said.

Parking is also being considered, especially with the possibility of housing units coming to the downtown area.

Some comments provided

by residents on the online survey mentioned that some parking lots are not ideally designed, which has led to some accidents, as well as an overall sense of confusion and congestion.

Some potential short-term parking strategies include timed parking spaces and the creation of pick-up and drop-off zones for services like Uber and Lyft.

"I would call the overall response extremely positive," Palmer said. "The vast

majority of people who either contact me or other trustees directly are very supportive of many aspects of the changes being discussed. We've had good, positive critical comments too."

Palmer said there were concerns about buildings being too tall in the downtown area, as well as many questions regarding how much density the village should be considering.

The village is awaiting the fourth iteration of drawings

and plans for the conceptual downtown area.

Palmer said an open house is in the near future and could feasibly be scheduled sometime in mid-July.

"I think I had an email about two weeks ago that said 'Why are you moving so fast? We need to talk about this more.' and then yesterday I got one (that said) 'Why are you taking so long?' Maybe that means we've hit the sweet spot," Palmer said recently.

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INSIDE



Coming soon:
Silverspot Cinema

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Brookfield named
best place to live
in state

Page 1B



Dale takes top slot
at state

SPORTS/Page 4B



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JULY 2019

Brookfield named state's best city to live in

BROOKFIELD — Recognized for its quality of life, Brookfield was named the best city in which to live in Wisconsin by ChamberofCommerce.org.

Chamber of Commerce reported it ranked 2,509 Wisconsin cities with populations above 25,000 and enough data for analysis by five factors: employment (number of establishments, median earnings); housing (owner-occupied housing with a mortgage, monthly housing costs); quality of life (work commute, poverty levels); education (percentage with a bachelor's degree or higher); and health (obesity ratios).

The result: Brookfield took the top spot. The report said "the presence of companies like Fiserv and FedEx account for the city's strong economy and high median household income."

Also in Waukesha County in the top 5 was Pewaukee, at No. 5, which Chamber of Commerce described as having "oodles of Midwestern charm and a high household median income."

At No. 2 is Middleton with the motto of "The Good Neighbor City," and "Middleton's friendly residents and small-town charm follow through on that promise," according to the report.

At No. 3 is Mequon, described as a "bucolic lakeshore community" that is "home to a wide array of parks and nature preserves." Rounding out the top five is Sun Prairie at number 4, listed as a great place to raise a family.

Other southeastern Wisconsin cities making the top 10 list were Menomonee Falls at No. 8 and New Berlin at No. 9.

Forefathers' music on Father's Day



Doris Nolinske reacts to the weight of a nine-and-a-half-pound 1855 rifle-musket, a reproduction of the type used during the Civil War



Photos by Mary Catanese/Special to Conley Media

BROOKFIELD — Historian Tom Staats listens to the Civil War Regimental Volunteer Band of Wisconsin. The Elmbrook Historical Society sponsored the Father's Day event at the Dousman Stagecoach Inn on June 16. The Regimental Band plays music from a typical Union Army band during the Civil War.



Dave Barker explains instruments and the type of music played during the Civil War. The Civil War Regimental Volunteer Band of Wisconsin played songs of the Union Army. He explained that sometimes if the band came across Southern soldiers, "they would quickly take off their blue coats and play songs for the South."

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CONNECT



Beer garden pops up in Brookfield



Photos by Mary Catanese/Special to Conley Media

BROOKFIELD — Jeremy Hansen, left, and his father, Jeff Hansen, enjoy beer and play a bean sack game at the Pop-Up Beer Garden in Fox Brook Park. Raised Grain Brewing sold beer on June 1.



Aislin, 5, and her brother Finley Sullivan, 8, play a game at Fox Brook Park on June 1 while their dog, Sir Isaac Newton and parents watched. It was also the second location this season for Waukesha County's Pop-Up Beer Garden.



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Katherine Michalets/Conley Media

The east-facing side on The Corners containing Silverspot Cinemas.

Silverspot Cinema to open July 12 in The Corners of Brookfield

Blockbusters, indie flicks have home under same roof

TOWN OF BROOKFIELD — The first Silverspot Cinema in Wisconsin, a boutique movie theater, will open July 12 in The Corners of Brookfield. The theater will offer major Hollywood films, as well as independent films, genre-centric film series, special in-house cultural events and more. The company says it “prides itself on catering to the true film and food lover.” The Town of Brookfield theater will be two stories tall with nine state-of-the-art auditoriums featuring custom-designed reclining and heated seats, Barco Laser Projection, Dolby Surround Sound Systems, and more. There will be also dine-in-theater service offered with menu items ranging from bites and shared dishes like truffle fries, wagyu beef sliders and flatbreads to sandwiches, salads and specialty main dishes like miso glazed salmon and grilled tender skirt steak. Additionally, Silverspot offers a standalone S Bar cocktail lounge, featuring handcrafted cocktails, beer and wine. “We’re excited to bring our first theater to the greater Milwaukee area on July 12,” said Fred Meyers, CEO of Silverspot Cinema, in a statement. “We can’t wait for guests to enjoy the truly unique experience that we offer, and we’re thrilled to be a part of the exciting atmosphere at The Corners.” Guests can earn a free movie ticket by signing up for the Silverspot SPOT REWARDS program via the Silverspot app. For more information, visit www.silverspot.net.



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FREEMAN MANAGEMENT	
Bill Vorth - Publisher & Editor-in-Chief	513-2671
bvorth@conley.net	
Katherine Michalets - Managing Ed.	513-2644
kmichalets@conley.net	
Jim Baumgart - Freeman Group Ad Director	513-2621
jbaumgart@conley.net	
Tim Haffemann - Circulation Director	513-2640
thaffemann@conley.net	
Patricia Scheel - Prepress Manager	513-2690
pscheel@conley.net	
Joe Rocha - Mailroom Supervisor	513-2659
jrocha@conley.net	

NEWS DEPARTMENT	
Local News - Katherine Michalets	513-2644
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Submitted photo

Taipala attains Eagle Scout rank

BROOKFIELD — Evan Taipala, a member of Troop 55, Brookfield, of the Potawatomi Council, earned his Eagle Scout rank on Dec. 15 and recently celebrated his Court of Honor with his troop, family and friends. Taipala has been actively involved with Scouting since first grade and plans to continue into his future.

A component of attaining Eagle Scout rank includes the planning and implementation of a project. Taipala led a team of Boy Scouts and other volunteers to build a gaga ball pit for his church. He raised about \$1,500 and logged over 200 service hours including the planning, fundraising and combined volunteer effort to install.

The beneficiary was Unity Lutheran Church, which incorporated the gaga ball pit into its larger backyard project to serve youth and adult outdoor ministries.



Ashley Haynes/Freeman Staff

Arbor Day celebration

BROOKFIELD — Dixon Elementary students, from left, Abram Reiter, Hollie Longman and Adelyn Lenihan help bury a freshly planted oak tree April 26 to celebrate Arbor Day. Brookfield Mayor Steve Ponto, community members and representatives from the Department of Natural Resources visited the school for a tree planting ceremony. Students learned about the importance of tree from visitors and representatives from each class helped cover the sapling.

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Antique phone worth talking about; lighthouse lamp still shines

Q.: I read one of your columns in our local West Bend Daily News. In sorting inherited items from grandparents, could you help me to know more about this wall-mounted telephone?
— **B.K., Slinger**

A.: In Philadelphia at the 1876 Centennial Expo, Alexander Graham Bell introduced an electronic speech device he called a “telephone.” When his patents expired, over 300 firms sprang up and manufactured similar versions. Swedish immigrants Alfred Stromberg and Androv Carlson’s Chicago company became one of few that produced high-quality workmanship. They captured the emerging market of rural communities (the enormous Bell Co. had no interest in rural customers, part-



BARBARA EASH
Antiques Appraised

ly due to shared telephone lines.) This time period also ushered in canopies of telephone pole wiring strewn across the landscape. By 1899 Stromberg & Carlson emerged as the “Farmers Friend” and became their leading independent supplier. Today many wall-mounted phones have been rigged for contemporary wiring. Your grandparents’ telephone is original with both internal and external components. Notables include wiring, weighted receiver, front shelf, curved crank, bells, voice cup and cathe-

dral-top oak case. **Value is \$450.**

NOTE: A tribute of respect for the original patent-holder Alexander Graham Bell was given during the beginning of his funeral service Aug. 2, 1922. All telephone line services were completely suspended in the United States and Canada for one minute.

Q.: This 30-inch tall lamp was a wedding present to my great-aunt Ella on Oct. 25, 1919. My wife and I have had it since the 1960s and would appreciate if you could consider it for your column.
— **Russ, Watertown**

A.: When electricity catapulted into use, it was so

readily accepted that many deemed it an epidemic. Propelling a new market, its use could release homes from the many limitations incurred from kerosene, gas and candle lighting. New manufacturing firms catered to customers and competed using an assortment of designs and embellishment. The North West Art Shade Co. in Chicago sold cost-conscious lighting, both retail and wholesale. Their production methods included pierced metal overlay — not bronze — and pressed slag glass, not blown glass. Customers favored lamps like yours that both the base and shade could be lit separately. Lighthouses inspired the dramatic pattern of your magnificent lamp. Slag tone colors of caramel and sky

blue are used in both the tower base and multi-angular shade. Aunt Ella’s lamp has the original acorn-shaped finial and underside metal tabs that support the bent glass panels. Often tabs are replaced with screws over the years. The exuberant theme includes arched and paneled windows, lavish floral motifs, garden arbors and Putti Cherub. Your 100-year-old lamp give both presence and illumination to all who enter. **Value: \$3,100.**

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 collec-

tion 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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Dzwierzynski receives Elm Grove Junior Guild scholarship

ELM GROVE — The Elm Grove Junior Guild announced that Kimberly Dzwierzynski is the winner of its annual essay contest.

Dzwierzynski, a senior at Brookfield East, was awarded a \$2,000 scholarship from the Junior Guild which she will apply to her tuition this fall at Kent State University where she will study education. Dzwierzynski's essay stood out among the 38 entries submitted from graduating high school seniors residing in the Elmbrook area. Submissions were rated anonymously by a panel of volunteer judges from the Junior Guild. Students were asked to discuss a significant personal experience or event that inspired them to make a difference in their community, detail what they learned from the experience, and share how they plan to use their findings to help the community.

The quality of the submis-



Dzwierzynski

sions this year was outstanding, said Scholarship Committee Chair Julie Stange. It gives me great confidence in this next generation, but it didn't make judging very easy! We were really blown away by Kimberly.

Kimberly's essay detailed the unique role art and color play in her communication style and how she has used that to connect with others and the students she works with.



Photo courtesy of the Waukesha County Business Alliance

REV Group joins Alliance

WAUKESHA — The REV Group, based in Milwaukee and Brookfield, manufactures vehicles for the bus, emergency, recreation and specialty markets. It recently joined the Waukesha County Business Alliance. Elaina Lund with The Rev Group holds the Business Alliance membership plaque.



Submitted photo

Elmbrook Education Foundation gives Engaged in Excellence Awards

BROOKFIELD — The Engaged in Excellence Awards are presented each year by the Elmbrook Education Foundation. The awards are to recognize excellence in teaching, coaching, student services, administration/planning, and community partnership.

This year's Excellence in a Community Partnership was presented to the Elm Grove Kiwanis Golden K Club for partnering with Brookfield Central and Brookfield East Key Clubs. Above, Jim Fagan, club president, left, receives the award from Lenny Johnson, Key Club counselor.

The Elm Grove Kiwanis Golden K Club was nominated by Ronn Blaha, school adviser for Brookfield Central Key Club. High School Key Clubs are a part of the Kiwanis family of community and youth service leadership organizations. Together these Key Clubs have the largest youth service leader membership in the world. Brookfield Central Key Club conducts about 400 service projects annually amounting to about 9,500 hours of service. It is the largest Key Club in Wisconsin with annual membership between 350 and 450 students.

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The Corners releases summer event schedule

TOWN OF BROOKFIELD — The Corners of Brookfield announced its summer programming schedule. The 750,000 square-foot town center will host a variety of activities for all ages throughout the summer.

The Silverspot Summer Movie Series will be held Tuesdays at 7 p.m. from July 16 to Aug. 27. “The LEGO Movie 2,” “How to Train Your Dragon 2,” “A Dog’s Way Home” and other movies will be featured on the center’s 12-foot outdoor screen in Market Square for free. The Traveling Food Truck Tour will feature a rotating list of food trucks and carts, a craft beer tent,

music and children’s activities on June 19, July 24, Aug. 21 and Sept. 18 from 4 p.m to 9 p.m.

The Corner Cafe: Bier Garden and Music Series will feature live music and Cafe Hollander beverages in Market Square every Thursday in July and August from 5:30 p.m. to 8 p.m.

MKE Kids at Play Summer Series will host themed activities and snacks on Wednesdays in June and July from 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

For more information regarding any summer program events, visit the town center’s website at www.thecornersofbrookfield.com.

How to get YOUR news in The Freeman

Submissions must be typed or emailed. No handwritten submissions will be accepted. Please send news items and photos to: news@conley.net

Snapdragon lead designer Breitbach will compete for award

ELM GROVE — Jenn Breitbach, lead designer at Snapdragon Flowers of Elm Grove, will compete for the Professional Designer of the Year award from the Wisconsin and Upper Michigan Florists Association, after qualifying at the WUMFA Annual Convention in Green Bay.

Breitbach will compete against three other qualifiers Aug. 3 at the Wisconsin State Fair.

Breitbach, a professional floral designer for 13 years, survived three preliminary rounds to reach the Professional Designer of the Year Runoff at the WUMFA convention. In the final competition, she and two other contestants were allotted 20 minutes to design an easel funeral arrangement. An audience of several hundred attendees chose Breitbach as the winner.

Breitbach is pictured standing with her winning design.

“We’re exceptionally proud of Jenn for winning top honors at the WUFMA convention, and thrilled that her professional counterparts selected her,” said Rhonda Deaver, owner of Snapdragon Flowers of Elm Grove. “Jenn is an integral part of our team, who uses her amazing abilities every day to make wonderfully creative arrangements for our customers.”

Breitbach catapulted into the runoff by taking first place in the WUFA Professional Division Design Contest, which focuses on pieces for display in business environments. She created a multi-dimensional arrangement using purple phalaenopsis orchids, yellow gerbera daisies and white anemones, anchored in three unique vases atop a mirror base. The design emphasized harmony and balance, symbolized by the number three revolving



between the vases and flowers.

The WUMFA convention celebrated the organization’s 100th anniversary. Snapdragon Flowers has been a member since 2011.

Located at 13458 Watertown Plank Road, Snapdragon Flowers provides flowers and plants for people, events and occasions.

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WIAA BOYS INDIVIDUAL STATE TENNIS TOURNAMENT

Dale hunts down second straight singles title

Junior cruises to 6-1, 6-0 win in final match

By Mark Hutchinson
mhutchinson@conley.net.com
262-513-2693

MADISON — Last season’s hunter became this season’s hunted.

And Pablo Dale performed the role reversal in championship fashion.

The Brookfield Academy junior captured his second consecutive Division 2 singles title in the WIAA State Boys Individual Tennis Tournament at Nielsen Stadium, downing Edgewood Sacred Heart sophomore Alex Sviatoslavsky 6-1, 6-0 in the championship match.

Dale, the tourney’s top seed, ran his record to 21-0, while Sviatoslavsky wound up 22-5.

The plot of the 2019 tourney was different than the 2018 edition, which saw Dale top-ple two-time defending state champion Casey Johnson of Kohler in the title match, 3-6, 7-5, 6-4, snapping Johnson’s 47-match winning streak in the process.

Dale returned to Madison on May 30 as the No. 1 seed, riding a 17-0 season record

and a two-year ledger of 38-1.

“Pairingwise, there wasn’t much difference, but I definitely did feel more pressure this year because I was undefeated and I was expected to win,” Dale said. “Sometimes that’s not good. I don’t like being the one who’s supposed to win, because then everyone’s out for me and it can get to my head a little bit.”

Brookfield Academy coach Greg Rackovan could sense the pressure that was on Dale.

“Pablo had a little nervous energy early in this year’s tournament, Rackovan said. “It was interesting to watch, because the tougher his matches got, the calmer he was.”

Dale earned a return trip to the state semifinals with a 6-1, 6-2 victory over eighth-seeded Kenosha St. Joseph’s senior Nicholas Harron later that day.

“I got off to kind of a rough start,” Dale said. “I won, but I didn’t play as well as I wanted to.

“In my second match, I won again. I was up 6-1, 5-0, but then I kind of choked a little bit and got a little tight and

nervous. I was able to close out the second set 6-2. I learned from that.”

Dale’s semifinal match pitted him against fourth-seeded Notre Dame junior Myles Krzewinski. He continued his title defense with a 6-2, 6-1 victory to earn a finals matchup against Sviatoslavsky, who defeated University School-Milwaukee junior Danny Taleghani 6-3, 6-3 in his semifinal.

“In my first match (June 1), I played my best match of the tournament,” Dale said. “I was on fire.”

Dale topped his semifinal performance with his championship conquest in the final.

“I played my best match of the whole season, I thought,” Dale said. “The crowd and everything that was on the line made me play a lot better.”

Rackovan enjoyed the view.

“Guys start to hit a little bigger; then Pablo starts to hit a little bigger,” Rackovan said. “The final was fascinating, because in the first three games, Alex was hitting lights-out. They were both



Mary Langenfeld/Special to Conley Media

Brookfield Academy junior Pablo Dale returns the ball during the WIAA Boys Division 2 State Tennis Singles Tournament at the Nielsen Tennis Stadium in Madison.

just battling. It was crazy.

“For Pablo to step up the next notch, get a couple of extra balls and rip a good ball here and there and stay focused and positive, that really set the tone for the rest of the match. He was really good.”

Dale, who finished third in

the state and went 21-5 as a freshman, made a substantial leap during his sophomore campaign, and Rackovan has been impressed to see him make another one as a junior.

Next year, Dale will attempt to become the ninth boy to win three state singles championships.

Brookfield Academy seniors Mikey Long and Hansen Zaiser, who entered the state individual tourney seeded fifth in D-2 doubles, lost 3-6, 6-3, 6-4 to Whitnall seniors Joe Remschak and Jack Stemper in a consolation match June 1, bringing their season record to 17-5.

Spartans fall just short of state title goal

East loses 4-3 rival Marquette in final

By Mark Hutchinson
mhutchinson@conley.net.com
262-513-2693

MADISON — Brookfield East struck silver for the second consecutive year in the WIAA State Boys Team Tennis Tournament.

The defending Division 1 state runners-up earned a hard-fought, 4-3 semifinal victory over Eau Claire Memorial before being edged by the same score in the title match by Greater Metro Conference rival Marquette at Nielsen Stadium.

The state team championship was the 12th in 13 seasons for Marquette, which finished 26-3. The Spartans, who were making their ninth appearance in the tourney,

wound up 24-4.

East entered the tourney with the solitary goal of winning the second team title in program history after prevailing over Marquette in the May 11 GMC Tournament. With that in mind, the second-seeded Spartans were subdued as they accepted the silver trophy and watched the top-seeded Hilltoppers take home the gold.

“A lot of teams wish they were here and would be happy with this, yet I’m encouraged that we’re not real happy with it,” East coach Linda Lied said. “But we do have a lot to be happy about. A 23-4 season is pretty darned good.

“Our sectional is solid, and we came out here and played

our hearts out. Some of us fell short by an itty bitty bit and some of us fell short by a little bit more, but not for lack of trying and giving 100%.

“The kids really worked hard for themselves and for each other. They have a lot of Spartan pride in them, so it was all good.”

The Spartans’ first order of business was to contend with third-seeded Eau Claire Memorial, and the Old Abes pushed them to the limit in their semifinal.

East sophomore second singles player Christopher Knutson gutted out a 7-6 (4), 7-6 (4) triumph over senior Mark Pepperl in the second-to-last match to secure the victory and put his team back in the

final.

Knutson knew the Spartans’ season could be riding on him, and he was fully aware of the challenge in front of him.

“I played the same guy in the first round of the state individual tournament and lost in three sets,” Knutson said. “It was a really tough match. After losing the first set, I thought of ways that I could get to a third set. I set my mind on that and I just started playing better, and that worked for me.”

East’s other semifinal victors were freshman Henry Irwin, who posted a 6-3, 6-1 win over senior Liam Obiad at third singles; freshmen Reed Scullen and Michael Francken, who beat senior Will Hayes and junior Grant Wolfe 6-1, 6-3 at second doubles; and senior Joey Heuler

and junior Jonathan Knutson, who endured a 6-0, 4-6, 6-2 match with juniors Andrew Mueller and Stephen King at third doubles.

Irwin was the first East player to reach the victory column in the finale, scoring a 6-3, 6-3 decision over junior Rehan Dhala at third singles to extend his state team tourney ledger to 3-0.

“I did what I was supposed to do here,” Irwin said. “We wanted to win and we expected to win. That’s what made us great throughout the year.”

Christopher Knutson also completed a 3-0 weekend run in Madison with a 3-6, 6-1, 10-3 second singles triumph over junior Josh Guillermo. Junior teammate and brother Andrew Knutson took the first singles match, scoring a 6-3 first-set win over junior

Richard Balistreri before his opponent retired in the second set.

“Obviously it’s a good accomplishment to get second place,” Irwin said. “But none of us came in here thinking we were going to get second place, and none of us wanted second place.”

Christopher Knutson put the accomplishments of the Spartans’ season in perspective.

“Our season was really great,” he said. “We were a really young team — we had four freshmen in our lineup — so it was really an accomplishment to get as far as we did.

“We worked really hard all season to get here. We just fell short of the team title.”

Lied will be sad to say good bye to Heuler, the only senior in East’s state lineup.



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