

Lake Country

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Lake Country represents well at the Birkie

Local skiers post great times

By Kelly Smith
Special to Conley Media

HAYWARD — Drake Hacker, 17, of the Town of Lisbon, collapsed in exhaustion after crossing the finish line on Hayward’s snow-covered Main Street; second place in an 18-mile marathon by three seconds.

For more than 17 miles, he had led the Kortelopet, an international cross-country ski race at the Slumberland American Birkebeiner held annually in northwestern Wisconsin.

Within a quarter-mile of the finish line, McEwan Rodefild of Blain, Minn., passed Hacker as they skied up and over the iconic temporary wooden bridge above Highway 63 that propels the skiers toward the finish line in downtown Hayward.

Hacker was among more than 300 Waukesha County skiers — most of them from the Lake Country region — who competed in events during “Birkie Week” Feb. 21-24.

“It is amazing that here in Wisconsin there is an international ski event that gives you an opportunity to compete with skiers from around the world,” Hacker told Conley Media.

The next day, Elizabeth “Beth” Schluter, 74, of Summit won her age and gender division in the American Birkebeiner, the 55-kilometer (about 37 miles) cross country race that twists, turns, and weaves through the Chequamegon National Forest along Highway 63 between Cable and Hayward.

The longest cross country competition in North America, “the Birkie” is considered one of the most challenging courses on the professional WorldLoppet international tour of 20 cross country races in Europe and Asia.

Schluter has dominated her age and gender divisions for nearly a decade and plans to compete next year in the women’s 75- to 79-year age group.

She stays in shape by skiing at Lapham Peak State Park, canoeing, and an almost daily regimen of walking, jogging and light weightlifting.

“If you can maintain your fitness at a high level so you can enjoy being in outdoor activities, it is going to make for a much better, longer life,” Schluter explained.

On Feb. 22, the day before the Birkie, was the Kortelopet race which is 29 kilometers along the southern half of the Birkie trail, beginning in the snow-covered conifer forest at Highway 00 near Seeley and finishing in downtown Hayward.

According to event organizers, some of the best high school cross country skiers in the Midwest compete in the race affectionately called the Kortie.

The Kortie attracts high school skiers from around the world because they cannot compete in the Birkie until they are 18 years old.

Six Lake Country-area high school skiers finished in the top 50 of the 3,000 skiers in the competition.

In addition to Hacker’s second-place finish, Noah Strake of Wales finished fourth.

Isabel Seay of Sussex finished

third among the women.

Another Sussex skier, Cole Peske, finished 28th and Max Dykowski of Waukesha and Alex Matson of Dousman finished 42nd and 43rd.

They are among nearly three dozen skiers from 11 Waukesha County high schools who compete on the Peak Nordic team.

The team is part of a non-profit ski club that provides competitive training and racing programs for middle and high school athletes and beginning programs for skiers in kindergarten through sixth grade.

The team works out at Lapham Peak State Park where a citizens group, The Friends of Lapham Peak, has raised thousands of dollars on snow making equipment designed to make sure there is a snow-covered ski trail at the park.

Practice sessions begin late in the afternoon and extend into the evening darkness as skiers hone their skills on the 1.3-mile, snow-covered loop they call “the hamster wheel.”

“When a hamster is the wheel, it just runs in circles. That is what we do three months out of the year,” is how Max Dykowski, 17, a senior at Waukesha West High School, explains the training routine.

Mary Eloranta, 64, of Pewaukee, who has competed in 25 Birkies, has coached the team for nearly 20 years.

She attributes its success on the high school ski circuit to “great kids, great parents, great assistant coaches and great community support.”

“The ski community is a community of great, friendly

See BIRKIE, PAGE 2A



Kelly Smith/Special to Conley Media

Peak Nordic High School team members Mia Taggett of Delafield and Ethan Blischke of Waukesha prepare to race in the 29K Kortelopet at the Slumberland American Birkebeiner competition in Hayward.

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London calling local composer

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Punching out Parkinson’s

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Area wrestlers great at state

SPORTS/ Page 4B



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Punching out Parkinson’s

Boxing program helps those with neurodegenerative disorder symptoms

By Eileen Mozinski Schmidt
Special to Conley Media

HARTLAND — The four men moved from warmup stretches, to lunges, to passing a weighted ball, to jump roping motions in place.

When sufficiently warm, they strapped on their gloves and made their way to the punching bags.

It was time to start boxing.

To an observer, the class, held at Lake Country Racquet & Athletic Club, might appear a challenging non-contact boxing workout. And a thorough session it was, but the workout also had a special objective — to help the participants who have symptoms of Parkinson’s disease.

The class, through a program called Rock Steady Boxing, has been expanding to fitness centers nationally and internationally in recent years and is fairly new to the Hartland area club.

“It’s forced, intensive exercise. It’s very purposeful,” said Ann Glor, group fitness director at Lake Country Racquet & Athletic Club.

Glor spent a week at the Rock Steady Boxing headquarters in Indianapolis last May preparing for the Hartland club to become an affiliate of the program.

It launched at the club in January.

“I didn’t want to rush the process. I wanted to make sure we had all our ducks in a row,” said Glor, who is the head coach and coordinator of the program.

In addition to Glor, there are now five coaches work-

ing for the Rock Steady classes and 10 participants. The club is accepting more applications.

Applicants participate in an assessment before beginning classes, and then are assigned a level. The levels allow the classes to be tailored to a range of Parkinson’s symptoms, including those utilizing a wheelchair or walker.

“We want to try to get them engaged as soon as possible to delay symptoms,” Glor said.

‘Work out your anger’

The Rock Steady program got its start when Scott Newman, a former Marion County prosecutor in Indiana, was diagnosed with early onset Parkinson’s at age 40, according to the Rock Steady Boxing website.

“He got very angry. His friend said, ‘Come box with me, work out your anger.’ As he started doing it, his mental health started getting better but his symptoms improved too,” Glor said.

Parkinson’s disease is a neurodegenerative disorder in which symptoms develop over time, according to Parkinson.org, the website for the Parkinson’s Foundation. Currently, there is not a cure for the disease and treatment focuses on mitigating symptoms, the site said.

In 2006, Newman and his friend Vince Perez went on to create Rock Steady Boxing, a nonprofit organization designed to “attack Parkinson’s at its vulnerable neurological points,” according to the website. The organization now bills its mission as empowering

people with Parkinson’s “to fight back.”

In the Milwaukee area, the Rock Steady classes are also offered at locations in New Berlin and West Bend.

The classes in Hartland, which are offered four times a week, each run for an hour and a half. A lengthy warmup is designed to help with muscle rigidity, and Glor said coaches are trained to help participants adjust their bodies to the workout depending on where they are in their medication cycle.

Drills focus on agility, balance, dexterity, and core workouts to prevent a forward posture that can affect those with Parkinson’s.

Classes also include vocal activities, as Parkinson’s can impact voices.

“A big piece of it too is the mental component,” Glor added. “Hitting something feels good. To work out aggression and anger and depression.”

A sense of community

Glor said there was interest in bringing the program to the Lake Country club in part because she and others at the club have family members with Parkinson’s. She added that the classes also provide a sense of community.

“You get them in there and they are taking about who their neurologist is. It’s a safe space to talk about it, and to pick on the disease a little bit,” she said.

Classes can be purchased in groups, with a lower pricing schedule offered for club members. A set of four sessions for members is \$48



Photos by Eileen Schmidt/Special to Conley Media

Rock Steady Boxing coach Marie Kolstad leads boxers in a warmup for a recent class at Lake Country Racquet & Athletic Club in Hartland. Rock Steady Boxing is a non-contact boxing fitness program designed to be beneficial for those with Parkinson’s disease.

and \$60 for nonmembers.

At the recent class, coach Marie Kolstad’s white board outlined the session’s components. As participants paired off for drills, Lee Houk said he has been attending for about two weeks and has noticed some balance improvement.

Glor said medical research indicates that forced, intensive exercise is helpful for those with Parkinson’s.

She added that as the Rock Steady program continues at the club, she plans to track how helpful participants feel the classes are.

Her early observations include one area participant who sometimes has shuffling steps when he walks in, but after the warmup says he “feels like Superman.”

“We actually have to slow him down,” she said.

For more information or to find an area Rock Steady Boxing class, visit rocksteadyboxing.org.



Lee Houk and Mike Fort work on a boxing drill in a Rock Steady Boxing Class recently at Lake Country Racquet & Athletic Club in Hartland.

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Oconomowoc composer chosen to have work premiered in London

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

OCONOMOWOC — Some artists take years to finish their particular masterpiece. Oconomowoc native Jacob Beranek took just a month. Beranek has been selected as a “21 and under” category winner by The Gesualdo Six, a men’s vocal consort from the United Kingdom, for his original composition “Abendgebet” (Evening Prayer).

He was selected out of 306 entries from across the globe and his piece was to be premiered in London March 7.

Beranek, age 20, had to choose a text to base his composition on, which would then be played on the 80th anniversary of the start of World War II. He settled on a text written by Dietrich Bonhoeffer, a German pastor, theologian and anti-Nazi dissident.

“The prayer is in German, but I fortunately had just take a year-and-a-half of German at school, so all these things kind of aligned,” said Beranek.

He says part of the reason he landed on the text

by Bonhoeffer is because he has some familiarity with the name from hearing it in church.

Bonhoeffer’s writings on Christianity have become widely influential and the text Beranek used to compose his piece is based on an evening prayer he wrote while in prison. Beranek found the text particularly inspiring, even though he was faced with the challenge of writing a piece for six different singing parts. An average choir composition has four parts.

“I do a lot of thinking about how people talk and the natural flow of their voice, so it’s actually easier for me to write for choirs and voice than it is for instruments, usually because you have built-in inspiration,” said Beranek.

He got started on the five-minute composition in November of last year, just a few weeks before it was in due in mid-December. Even though he got a late start, Beranek says there was something calling out to him to write a piece for the competition. He had heard of The Gesualdo Six before but at the time, he never dreamed his composition would be chosen.

“We were all thrilled with the standard of the entries, 306 in total, which arrived from six continents in a variety of interesting styles,” said Owain Park, director of The Gesualdo Six. “Singing through the pieces has been an immensely enjoyable experience, and it is heartening to see composers writing so well for the ensemble’s specific requirements.”

Beranek has had his original compositions premiered both locally and internationally, including recent performances in Illinois, Minnesota, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, and Wisconsin, as well as the Czech Republic and Switzerland. Out of all his pieces, he says he’s never had music come to him so naturally.

“I sat down at the piano that first day to start generating ideas and I’ve never had music come so quickly to me in my life. I sat down and it was almost like the whole piece just appeared before my eyes,” said Beranek.

He and his family will be in attendance at Cadogan Hall in London on March 7 for the premiere of



Submitted photo

Composer Jacob Beranek attended the European premiere of his piece “Památník” in Prague on Nov. 18, 2018. Beranek was chosen to have his work premiered in London.

“Abendgebet.” He has been busy traveling lately, most recently returning from the Czech Republic for the European premiere of a wind and band piece he composed. He says the experience of being surrounded by hundreds of people and hearing his music being played is surreal and almost like a movie.

“I spend hundreds of hours writing a piece of music and imagining what it’s going to be like when

it’s performed. It’s totally unreal to go, especially somewhere foreign to you, and hear your own music,” said Beranek. “It’s too much to comprehend.”

Beranek is majoring in music composition at the Blair School of Music within Vanderbilt University and is also the first “composer-in-residence” for Midsummer’s Music in Door County.

To learn more about him and his work, visit www.beranekmusic.com.

Increasing safety, in loving memory

Fallen cyclist’s widow donates \$70K for paving roads near fatal accident site

By Darryl J. Enriquez
Special to Conley Media

WAUKESHA — Shirley Yagoda, whose husband, Brian, was killed by a motorist on June 14 while riding his bicycle on the shoulder of a rural road just east of Delafield, has taken a small step toward making roadways a safer place for bikers.

Yagoda, of Delafield, is donating \$70,000 to Wauke-

sha County to pay for the asphaltting of about three-quarters of a mile of gravel shoulders along Highway DR, between Maple Avenue and Greenwood Lane. The area is where Brian M. Yagoda, 57, was killed on June 14 while riding home following a shopping trip to a local grocery store.

The driver accused of striking Yagoda is James C. Kramp, 72, of Waukesha. Kramp was charged with

homicide by negligent use of vehicle, and faces up to 10 years in prison and a \$25,000 fine if convicted.

Kramp told authorities that Yagoda may have veered into the roadway and was struck, but a witness driving behind Kramp said he saw the elderly driver veer onto the shoulder, according to court records.

Shirley Yagoda said in a sometimes tearful interview that the best justice for Kramp would be to have him personally pay for more shoulder paving. She said her work is not done.

Over the next several years, Yagoda said, she will raise more money to finance additional paving of

roadside shoulders and the creation of more bicycle paths.

“The truth is that if those shoulders (on Highway DR) had been paved, Brian would be alive today. He would have ridden as far as possible away from the road,” Yagoda said. “Instead, he was right next to the road, on the pavement line when he was struck full on. He wasn’t even sideswiped.”

Yagoda rolled over the hood, windshield and roof of Kramp’s car, a police report said.

Kramp’s car, according to court records, veered onto the eastbound shoulder of Highway DR, (also known

as Golf Road), a frontage road for Interstate 94.

In February, the Waukesha County Board Finance Committee accepted Yagoda’s donation. The committee’s action sets in motion the paving this summer of five-foot gravel shoulders on both sides of the highway.

Yagoda said she’s receiving plenty of support for her paving campaign.

“I had lots of people donate money to this, about \$80,000 so far,” she said.

Donations should be made to the Waukesha County Community Foundation Brian Yagoda Memorial Fund at www.waukeshafoundation.org

Birke

From Page 1A

people who are always trying to help each other out,” explained Deanna Roecker, whose son Cole is a team captain.

Roecker and her husband, Brett, hosted a lasagna dinner near Hayward for the Peak Nordic team members and their families who made the nearly six-hour drive to the competitions.

Often two or three families will share accommodations at a resort or vacation cabin or home.

Family members are also among the more than 2,800 volunteers needed for the four-day event that attracts an estimated 10,000 skiers and up to 30,000 spectators.

About a dozen Peak Nordic parents and siblings maintained the Mosquito Brook Road aid station during the competitions.

The aid stations are where the skiers can quickly grab energy drinks and snacks and often hear shouts of encouragement and clanging cow bells from supporters and spectators.



Kelly Smith/Special to Conley Media

Deanna Roecker was among the approximately dozen Lake County-area parents who volunteered to maintain an aid station where competitors were provided with energy drinks and snacks.

Approaching the Mosquito Brook Road aid station was one of the high points of the Birkie competition for Kaylee Beyer, a Mukwonago High School senior.

“Hearing the cheering before you got there, it warmed your heart knowing you were very close to getting water and food,” she said.

It was Beyer’s first Birkie competition. She began skiing about a year ago as a winter conditioning sport for track and cross country.

“I survived! It took me 4 hours and 33 minutes to finish the 50 kilometers from Cable to Hayward with only two falls. I can’t believe it did it,” she exclaimed.

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Rogers revamps logo, brand for all sites

Summit location adding 62 rooms by June

By Alex Nemec
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SUMMIT — Rogers Behavioral Health is undergoing a year-long initiative to rebrand itself as new programs open across the country in Minnesota, Florida, California and here in Wisconsin.

The initiative for its rebrand will be rolled out during a few months including a new logo that debuted last week.

“The new logo features imagery of a sun rising above water integrated into the Rogers name, offering light and warmth to those who may be in a dark place,” the release states. “The circular shape reflects the active progression that occurs in treatment as people move forward in a transformative way.”

CEO Pat Hammer said in the release that Rogers will deliver hope to patients it serves that they can rely on the facility’s expertise to help them through the recovery process.

“The theme encompasses many different perspectives including patients and families rising above stigma and other challenges caused by mental illness and addiction,” Ham-



Submitted photo

Rogers’ new logo depicts a sun rising out of the water.

mer stated.

He added “While our look and some site names are changing, we have the same commitment to providing the highest quality of care for those we treat. We remain a private, independent, not-for-profit organization with our patients’ best interests at heart.”

Facility, programming expansion

To go with the rebranding initiative, here in Wisconsin, Rogers has plans to make significant changes to its locations in Summit and West Allis.

The Summit location will launch a new program for trauma recovery in adults which will help address post-traumatic stress disorder and other trauma-related disorders.

In addition, the adolescent eating disorder program will see a new environment with the Delafield campus shifting to adult patients only, as

well as new residential program for adolescents with obsessive compulsive disorder and anxiety.

With the additional programming being added, Rogers expects 62 new rooms to be completed by June, bringing the total to 244 residential beds in Summit.

The facility in West Allis has plans to create an adult residential treatment for focused depression recovery, as well as mental health and addiction recovery.

“These two programs complement the existing 12 adolescent residential care beds for mental health and addiction recovery in West Allis for a total of 40 residential beds on that campus,” the release states.

This year Rogers will be opening four new outpatient centers: one in Miami, the first fully bilingual clinic in the Rogers family; a site in San Diego; one in Los Angeles set to open in later this year; and a new clinic in St. Paul, Minnesota will open in May.



Submitted photo

Waukesha County Technical College students competed in the 2019 Collegiate DECA State Conference in Delavan. DECA prepares emerging leaders and entrepreneurs for various business careers.

WCTC DECA students bring home awards from state event

PEWAUKEE — Several Waukesha County Technical College Collegiate DECA members brought home awards and honors from the Collegiate DECA State Conference from Feb. 21 to 24 in Delavan.

WCTC’s team participated in this professional conference and competed in testing, prepared events, case studies and management institutes.

WCTC Collegiate DECA earned the following specialty awards and recognitions:

■ Diamond Trophy, WCTC Chapter, for displaying overall leadership in four areas.

■ Professional Development Council Student of the Year, Carly Reichert (1st place) and Ashley Denruiter (2nd place).

■ Civic Consciousness

Award, WCTC Chapter (2nd place), for raising money for the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention and the WCTC Foundation.

Competitive events by category, recipients and national qualifiers include:

■ Advertising Campaign: Jordan Davidson and Emery Borgwardt (1st place).

■ Hotel and Lodging: Nick Zimmerman, 2nd place and Top Exam; Rebekah Banaszak, 3rd place and Top Exam; Tina Rotim, Top Exam and Finalist.

■ Marketing Management: Casandra Skaife, 3rd place and Top Exam; Eladio Basquez, Top Exam and Finalist.

■ Retail Management: Sarah Nasser and Erich Vlach, Top Exams and Finalists.

■ Marketing Communication: Ashley Denruiter and Carly Reichert, 3rd place.

■ Sports and Entertainment Marketing: Emery Borgwardt and Jordan Davidson, 2nd place.

National Qualifiers

■ Meg Andrew, Management Institute

■ Marcela Pina, Fashion Merchandising

■ Mitchell Denruiter, Hotel and Lodging

■ Mathew Sellnow, Advertising Campaign

Additionally, five students (Emery Borgwardt, Jordan Davidson, Ashley Denruiter, Carly Reichert and Casandra Skaife) received scholarships that will help offset registration costs for the national competition in April.



Mary Catanese/Special to Conley Media

Oconomowoc Brewfest

OKAUCHEE — Josh Bucio, left, Micah Shuck, Jack Schmeihl and Luke Schmeihl do a Mi Cosecha Tequila “shots ski.” They attended the Oconomowoc Rotary Club’s 2019 Brewfest at the Bertrand Family Pavilion.



Above: Evan McCarthy, left, of Oconomowoc samples cocktail sausages served in Saz’s Catering signature BBQ sauce by assistant chef Trevor Greene.

At left: Chef Joe Volpe stirs hot pasta on a 75-pound Parmigiano Reggiano wheel he calls “Pasta Wheel.” Bertrand’s Lago Su Bella, a new restaurant opening in Oconomowoc on March 12, was a vendor at the event.



Submitted photo

West student completes Senate Scholar Program

WAUKESHA — State Sen. Chris Kapenga, R-Delafield, announced that Waukesha West High School student Daniel Harmon has successfully completed the 2019 Senate Scholar Program. The program took place over a week at the state Capitol. During his time in Madison, Harmon was introduced to the many facets of the legislative process. He met with legislative support agencies, legislative staff, the governor’s staff, a Supreme Court justice, media, lobbyists, and University of Wisconsin-Madison faculty members. Harmon was able to demonstrate that he knew how to use all of the knowledge he received. When the Senate was on the floor, he staffed the session under the direction of the Senate Sergeant at Arms’ office. The week ended in a Senate Scholar Committee hearing on a bill that Harmon helped draft.

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Air of history remains around perfume set

Canteen a piece of military history; easel stands on its own

Vanity perfume set

Q.: I was lucky enough to inherit my grandmother Mary's perfume set. I admired it even as a small child. What kind of value does it have?

— Sharon, Brookfield

A.: Irving W. Rice Importers introduced reasonably priced merchandise mostly in the 1930s and 1940s. It was a time when pressed glass items were delivered in shipping crates via rail boxcars from many places. Some examples found today still have the importer's foil label attached. Your Czechoslovakian 5-inch-tall scent bottles and mirrored oval tray could be ordered separately. Accounting for one damaged, fern-shaped finial, the value of this sweet set is **\$140**.
Tip for cleaning framed mirrors or pictures: Spray the cleaning cloth, never spray the mirror directly.

Spanish-American War canteen

Q.: I follow your column in the Enterprise newspaper. I'd be interested in your take and a value of this unique U.S. Army canteen.

— Brian, Oconomowoc

A.: Although, I appraise some military items, Jerry is the expert to take this inquiry. He is from the Military Collectibles Shop in West Allis and knew immediately about your canteen.

"It is an M-18-78 canteen Company 'B' of the 25th Infantry, from the Spanish-American War, 1898 era. Then reissued to the 26th Infantry regiment, which was not formed until 1901. The value is **\$100**, if it has the original leather strap with two brass hooks, add \$50."

Easel connected to opera house?

Q.: I found this wooden easel over 20 years ago in an old farmhouse attic. I heard it might have come from an opera house. Could you give me a value and any information?

— Jerry, Schofield

A.: This elongated oak easel, circa 1885, has heightened artistic design. Including brass elements it was labor-intensive to create and has excellent restoration. With Schofield being in close proximity to Wausau, it could have come from the Wausau Grand Opera House. Wausau was well-known for extravagant, operatic stage performances. The railroad circuit brought theatrical cast members and opera attendees from across America.

Following the fire catastrophic of 1892, the rebuilt venue became known as the Grand Theater. The Wausau Historical Society might have archival photos confirming any significance to



BARBARA EASH

Antiques Appraised

this triangular stand. Today's value of **\$175** would increase if that Grand connection could be verified.

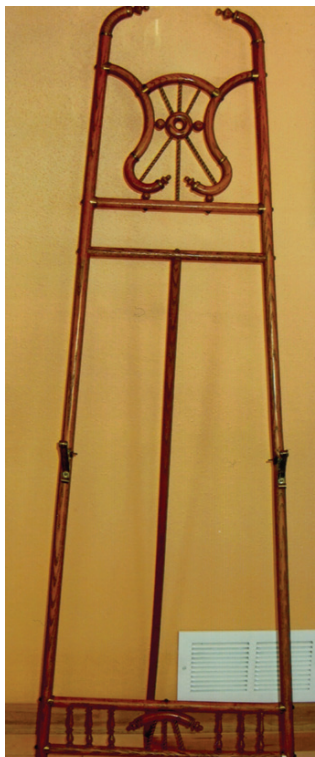
Submit an item for consideration

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.)



Kelly Smith/Special to Conley Media

The sign for On the Rocks Pub and Grill will soon be replaced by a sign for Humdingers Bar and Grill, the new tavern at the corner of Main and Mill streets in downtown Merton.

Humdingers of a tavern to open in Merton

By Kelly Smith
Special to Conley Media

MERTON — A Waukesha sports complex manager and his father are planning to open a new tavern in the village's historic downtown business district.

"It is something I have always wanted to do," Brandon Jurczyk said.

Jurczyk said he is the manager of the Center Court Sports Complex at 815 North View Road which is owned by his father, Thomas, who will be his business partner in the Humdingers Bar and Grill.

Jurczyk hopes to open Humdingers Bar and Grill, located at the southwest corner of Mill and Main streets, in mid-April after the village issues a liquor license, which is expected later this month.

Jurczyk said a Friday night fish fry would be one of the features of the tavern which will also sell pizza, sandwiches, and other food and snacks, along with beer and mixed drinks.

The Plan Commission approved a new conditional use permit for the building at W282- N7149 Main Street at its March 6 meeting.

The building has housed taverns for several decades although it has been dark since the closing of the On the Rocks Pub and Grill two years ago.

Village officials and neighbors expressed some mixed emotions during a public hearing.

They were pleased a new business was opening in the village, but they were concerned about some operational issues created by the managers of the previous establishments at the loca-

tion.

Shari Franz, who lives two houses north of the building, welcomed the Jurczyks to the community, but asked the plan commission to place some restrictions on the new business.

She asked that hours when live music can be played be restricted and that disc jockeys playing music be prohibited.

"The music was that was being played when it was On the Rocks was so loud that it shook the walls of my house," she told the commission.

She also asked the village to enforce the conditional use permit restriction that alcohol could not be consumed outside of the building and that beer cans and whiskey bottles not be deposited on her property and in the village streets.

"You have a nice neighbor

and we want to work with you to keep (it) that way," Jurczyk told Franz.

Jurczyk assured Ms. Franz and plan commission members that he would address and correct some of the issues of the previous businesses at the location.

The plan commission agreed that existing restrictions in the conditional use permit should be enforced.

Village President Ron Reinowski requested two additional conditions be added.

He said the new owners must agree they will cooperate with the village in responding to complaints relating to noise or other nuisances in the operation of the business.

In addition, they will either properly maintain the septic system for the building, or they will replace it with a holding tank.



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O'Toole, Otto look good in gold



Arrowhead junior Keegan O'Toole takes down Stoughton sophomore Luke Mechler in the 145-pound final during the WIAA Division 1 Individual State Wrestling Tournament on March 2 at the Kohl Center in Madison.

Both Arrowhead wrestlers repeat as champs

By Dave Radcliffe
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MADISON — When March 2 rolled around, there wasn't anyone in the building that believed Keegan O'Toole or Josh Otto would fail to come away with a state title.

And yet when both succeeded in living up to those expectations, both Arrowhead wrestlers felt they didn't live up to the lofty expectations they set for themselves.

But O'Toole, a junior, and Otto, a senior, now have five gold medals between them as they handily came out on top in their respective weight classes, with O'Toole winning the 145-pound crown and Otto the 170-pound weight class at the WIAA Division 1 Individual State Wrestling Tournament.

It's the third state title for O'Toole, while Otto closes out his high school career with back-to-back championships before heading to the nearby Field House to wrestle for the University of Wisconsin.

"I wanted to go undefeated and end the state tournament the most dominant way, which was four pins," O'Toole said. "Unfortunately I couldn't get that, but it's a good learning experience and I'm going to come back next year and go for those four pins again."

O'Toole (25-0) had two pins and a tech fall to his name entering the final and had to settle for a mere 16-3 major decision against Stoughton sophomore Luke Mechler. Even though he didn't obtain the desired outcome, O'Toole still celebrated with a hammering motion after the final whistle, an ode to Iowa's Mark Hall.

"Back last year at the Penn State versus Iowa dual meet, after Mark Hall, the 174-pounder won his match, he gave the hammer down," O'Toole said. "I wanted to go out in dominant fashion and my buddy Mitchell Mesen-

brink, our 120, said I should do that, so it just came to my mind and I wanted to do it because last year I didn't really give a celebration."

Otto (42-1) rather infamously had a celebration of his own after a dramatic 152-pound final last year. This year, Otto was the heavy favorite and he displayed as much against Holmen senior Kayln Jahn, emerging with an 11-5 decision.

"Last year I'd say I was the underdog," Otto said. "I remember actually telling myself when I was warming up back there last year, I have nothing to lose, all the pressure's on him, whereas this year, it's kind of like, everyone that I've talked to has already kind of predetermined my destiny. They're all saying, it's going to be awesome when you're a state champ again. I'm like, well hold on, I've still got to do it. This year was a little different because everyone expected me to win. Maybe that contributed to the way I performed, maybe that's why I held back there a little bit because I felt like I had to protect something."

Plenty were predetermining O'Toole's eventual third state championship, as well, but an incident in early November was a reminder that nothing is a given in sports.

While wrestling with Otto in practice on Nov. 8, O'Toole suffered a fractured ankle and was on the shelf for nearly two months before returning in a dual against Muskego on Jan. 10.

"It was kind of unfortunate breaking my ankle, but I just had to come back and do what I could," O'Toole said. "I was lifting every day, I was riding the bike when I could and the day I got cleared I was back in the room. I had to get held back by my coaches a little bit because I was so eager to get back"

When O'Toole went in to see a doctor after the injury, he was diagnosed with an avulsion fracture, injecting

some fear into the Arrowhead junior.

"I didn't really know what that meant so I was kind of scared, but we worked with what we had and we came back strong," O'Toole said.

"Sometimes we get a little competitive in the room and stuff happens. Luckily it wasn't a season-ending injury. But stuff like that happens when you're grinding everyday with your best friends."

Otto, to his credit, took a positive approach to an unfortunate accident and was glad to have his teammate and one of his best friends back in time for the stretch run of the season.

"Keegan's awesome," Otto said. "He's an amazing training partner. Me and Keegan have gotten really, really close over the years. I can say he's one of my best friends. It's awesome to share this moment with him."

Otto felt he could have scored more against Jahn in the final, but like O'Toole, he had a celebration ready as he flashed the "W" to the crowd knowing he gets to make Madison his home for the next four years.

"It's awesome," Otto said. "This atmosphere, it's amazing. The walk of champions ... I was telling Keegan when we were doing it, Keegan's most likely going to go for his fourth state title. I told him, 'Does it get any different every year?' He said, 'No, it's just as amazing every year.' Walk of champions, wrestling in the Kohl Center, it's never going to get old."

You can bet — schedule permitting — Otto will be in the building to see if O'Toole can join 17 other wrestlers as a four-time WIAA state champ next February.

"It's been a lifelong dream," O'Toole said. "Ever since I came here when I was a little kid I wanted to be a four-time state champ. I've got an opportunity next year and I'm very thankful for that."



Arrowhead senior Josh Otto reaches for the ankle of Holmen senior Kalyn Jahn in the 170-pound final during the WIAA Division 1 Individual State Wrestling Tournament on Saturday at the Kohl Center in Madison.

Arrowhead's fight over against Vikings

Otto lone senior on state team

By Dave Radcliffe
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MADISON — Considering just one senior wrestled for Arrowhead on March 1 at the WIAA Division 1 Team Wrestling State Tournament, it was impressive enough what it was able to accomplish this season.

The Warhawks dramatically reached team state with a final-match pin against Nicolet in team sectionals, but entered the UW Field House as heavy underdogs against top-ranked Stoughton.

The quarterfinal dual went largely as planned, as the Vikings simply had too much firepower and advanced to the semifinals against Kaukauna with a 50-21 victory over Arrowhead.

"We knew we had to have every single thing go our way to make it happen," Arrowhead coach Jeremy Miller said. "Stoughton's a good team. But certainly proud of the way our guys fought. They fought and the reality is that moves us right into next year as a team. A lot of guys are coming back. We have a lot of individuals that came on this stage and this is their first year wrestling."

"To say that they can come this far, contribute to a team and make it to this point, go out there and just do their best says a lot about the guys that we have. We get a little bit of work under their belt, they get better from it and it's all uphill from there."

Of the four individual state medalists for the Warhawks, three earned pins in their respective matches against Stoughton. Sophomore Jack Ganos, who took fifth at 138 pounds a week earlier, faced the biggest challenge as he went up against gold-medal-winning senior Hunter Lewis. Lewis emerged with a 9-1 major decision to give the Vikings an early 9-0 lead.

Junior Keegan O'Toole would then get Arrowhead



Dave Radcliffe/Freeman Staff

Arrowhead junior Adam Polczynski fights for position with Stoughton junior Gavin Model in a 152-pound match during a WIAA Division 1 state team wrestling quarterfinal at the UW Field House in Madison.

on the board. The three-time state champ pinned Stoughton junior Trent Carpenter in just 1 minute, 9 seconds at 145 pounds. But Stoughton followed that up with back-to-back pins, pushing its lead back up to 21-6.

That brought up senior Josh Otto at 182 pounds, and the two-time state champion closed out his high school wrestling career with a pin of junior Jacob Gipson at 3:02. Otto will be back at the Field House wrestling for the University of Wisconsin this fall.

Sophomore 182-pounder Mason Diel piggy-backed Otto's victory with an 11-7 decision to close the gap to 21-15, but that's as close as Arrowhead would get.

Many first- and second-year wrestlers were out-matched but fought valiantly against some of Stoughton's heavy hitters. Ultimately, the only other victor for the Warhawks would be freshman Mitchell Mesenbrink, the third-place finisher at 120 pounds, as he pinned freshman Trent Dow in the penultimate match.

"The reality is that a lot of individuals don't want to put themselves in that position because it's tough," Miller said. "It's tough to go out there and get humbled a little bit. But if you can get past that point, you're that much closer to doing big things in the future. But you have to take that first step. I'm proud

of them for that and a lot of those guys are willing to do that. They knew they were going against some tough competition and they went out there and accepted the challenge."

Otto adds one more victory to his total before departing for UW, finishing with a 171-21 career record at Arrowhead. The only other senior on the roster is Bohdi Petersen, who went 16-9 this season largely filling the void left by O'Toole at 145 pounds.

"The leadership, what they demonstrate on and off the mat is something that's priceless to the team," Miller said. "They also can have the ability to tell those younger guys what it's all about — that things really get better if you put the work in, you put the time in, you work with each other, and I think that's important to have around."

"It helps to have that history and some of those guys like Josh. And also a senior like Bohdi Petersen. He didn't wrestle tonight but he's a senior that comes back into the fold and contributes. Without guys like that who are willing to fill in those gaps and do everything they can, we don't come here as a team. It's a great group of individuals that always worked together this year. That's why we're here today. We'll take it, we'll learn from it and come back better next year."

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