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October 27, 2023
 Vol. 20, No. 38

The Prairie News

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Late-arriving seniors boost unbeaten Rebels defense

By JEFF LAMPE
 For The Prairie News
 A broken bone was the clincher for Owen Gibler. In the final game of his JV season as a freshman, Gibler broke his hand and ended his football career. Or so he thought. But as senior year approached, Toulon resident Gibler decided to give the gridiron another chance. “I realized how good of a class I had and how many athletes we have in our class, and decided I wanted to be part of what they made last year, that playoff run and everything,”



Gibler



Holmstrom

Gibler said. “The Stark County Rebels finally got in again and I decided to join them again.” Charley Holmstrom of Wyoming never played high school football. “I just didn’t want to do it,” he said. But like Gibler, as senior year approached, he was enticed to

play by seeing the team’s success and hearing friends tell him how much fun they were having. Unexpectedly, both late-arriving seniors have been starters all season on a defense that has helped restore memories of Stark County teams of old. Multi-threat quarterback Luke Rewerts deservedly gets plenty of credit for Stark County’s 9-0 record, No. 5 state ranking in Class 1A and LincolnLand Conference small-division championship. Same with running back Nolan Orwig, three-year starting lineman Tanner Price

IHSA Playoffs
Friday’s Games
 • Princeville (5-4) at Stark County (9-0), 7 pm
Saturday’s Games
 • ROWVA-Williamsfield (7-2) at Sterling Newman (7-2), 1 pm
 • Deer Creek-Mackinaw (5-4) at Annawan-Wethersfield (8-1), 1 pm

and defensive backs Matthew Bowser and Chris Barnwell. They are names you know. But football is a team game, and this year’s Rebels squad has fielded a better 11 because of unexpected contributions by 6-foot-2, 195-pound Gibler and 6-

1, 175-pound Holmstrom. “People have talked about what’s the difference this year. One of the differences is we have everybody out that should be out,” Coach Jade Noard said. “At a small school, you can’t afford to have guys like (Gibler and Holmstrom) walking the halls and not on your squad. They are both big, strong kids who are athletic.” Even so, not many seniors can come in and contribute, let alone start. Both Gibler and Holmstrom admitted they were very nervous heading into Stark
Continued on Page 9

NEW LOCATION

Spivey has new Country Financial office

By CAROL TOWNSEND
 For The Prairie News
 GALVA – Katie Spivey is happy to have a new office to call her own. Spivey had taken over the Country Financial Insurance office in September 2022 on Galva’s Front Street after the retirement of Dan Meier. The City of Galva bought the building next door and was in the process of tearing it down when it was discovered that the building rented by Spivey had a shared wall with the building that was coming down. As a result, she had to move out and has been working from home since May. But in an effort to have greater visibility, she has rented a newly remodeled building from Dustin Williams at 209 SE 8th Ave. The building has previously



Katie Spivey stands in front of her new Country Financial office at 209 SE 8th Ave. in Galva. Photo by Carol Townsend.

houses the former Last Resort beauty shop and massage business. Spivey offers various forms of insurance and said she is also getting into retirement insurance.

No to pipeline

Stark Co. Board passes resolution

By JOHN A. BALLENTINE
 For The Prairie News
 TOULON – The Stark County board passed a resolution to intervene against the Wolf Carbon CO2 pipeline at a special meeting held Oct. 16. At the same meeting, the board heard that Stark County has been dropped by its longtime insurance carrier and that a new carrier no longer wants to insure the Stark County Jail for liability. In regards to the proposed pipeline, the board voted to oppose the construction of any CO2 pipeline in Stark County because CO2 pipelines pose a threat to the health and safety of residents. The resolution also urges the Illinois Commerce Commis-

Inside
 Navigator CO2 has canceled its plans to build a pipeline that would transport CO2 through Illinois. **Page 8**

sion to oppose CO2 pipelines. The board held its special meeting because a quorum was not present at the Oct. 10 meeting and no action could be taken. Several Stark County residents spoke during public comment and Leslea Carroll reiterated why she believes Wolf Carbon should not be allowed to put a CO2 pipeline through Stark County and Illinois. She referenced safety as an issue, said Wolf Carbon has not provided transparency,
Continued on Page 2

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STARK: Past claims diminish insurability

Continued from Page 1 and noted reduction of property values among her concerns.

Carroll asked the board to pass the resolution to stop the CO2 pipeline and submit it to the Illinois Commerce Commission.

Other Stark County residents called for the board to pass a moratorium to stop Wolf Carbon's CO2 pipeline before the Oct.24 deadline. They spoke about emergency management issues should there be a pipeline rupture.

Henry-Stark Emergency Management Director

Mat Schneppe submitted a letter to the board stating that the Office of Emergency Management has agreed to changes asked for in an Emergency Response Plan from Wolf Carbon, the CO2 pipeline company.

The county board discussed the pipeline and one board member said Wolf Carbon has not provided any compensation to the county for placing a pipeline in Stark County. Another board member proposed meeting with other county boards to see where they stand on this

issue. Board member Bill Loane said the Illinois CO2 pipeline is the dumping ground for CO2.

"I'm fearful of the water supply," Loane said. "This resolution is the first step to try and block some of this."

Chair Kari Bush said the board should submit a request to the Stark County State's Attorney's Office to file a petition intervening with the pipeline. The board made a motion to have the Stark County State's Attorney Caroline Borden Campion file that petition. Bush also discussed possibly hiring an outside law firm to aid the county in this regard.

In other business at the meeting, John Leezer of the Leezer Insurance Agency presented the yearly insurance quote for the county's insurance carrier. Tokio Marine has been the county's insurance carrier for approximately 25 years and has elected not to insure the county moving forward because of multiple costly claims against the county that were paid out in the past two years.

Illinois Counties Risk Management Trust Insurance agreed to insure the county, but will not insure the Stark County Jail for liability coverage. That decision may stem from another alleged suicide at the jail in September. The Prairie News has submitted a Freedom of Information Act request to the Stark County Sheriff's Office for details concerning the matter.

Leezer said the premium will be considerably higher for insurance covering the county.

Board members discussed having to send Stark County Jail prisoners to other counties to be housed if there is no insurance covering the jail. If this happens, it would be an added expense for Stark County to pay other counties to house its prisoners.

The county board plans to pass a motion for county insurance coverage at its regularly scheduled Nov. 14 meeting.

One board member said that it could possibly be \$40,000 higher than last year.

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1220-510HC_T/12/2023



PUBLIC RECORD

Traffic citations & Ordinance violation

- 10-16 - Marlela Lopez - Driving 15-20 mph above limit.
- 10-17 - Maria I. Clary - Driving 1-10 mph above limit.
- 10-17 - Elizabeth A. Verhulst - Driving 15-20 mph above limit.
- 10-21 - Lane R. Moodie - Driving 11-14 mph above limit.



Incidents & Accidents

- 10-15 - Edgar Torres-Paredes, 27, Kewanee, arrested and charged with driving without a valid driver's license, speeding 62 mph in a 55 zone and driving without insurance. He was later released with a notice to appear. Also charged in the same traffic stop was Paige T. Popescu, 26, Kewanee, cited for illegal transportation of alcohol by a passenger and possession of a controlled substance over five grams. She was released with a notice to appear.
- 10-17 - Brock A. Colgan, 44, Bradford, was ticketed for driving on a suspended vehicle registration due to mandatory insurance required. He was released with a court date.
- 10-17 - Richard E. Petty, 39, Toulon, was ticketed for driving on a suspended registration and for driving while license suspended. He was released with a court date to appear.
- 10-17 - Taliyah D. Chattic-McGowan, 22, Rock Falls, cited for driving an uninsured vehicle and for speeding 67 mph in a 55 zone.
- 10-17 - Victoria S. Roberts, 38, Buda, cited for failure to wear a seat belt.
- 10-20 - James S. Harlan, 46, Toulon, ticketed for driving while his license was revoked, driving with a suspended registration and driving with no insurance.
- 10-20 - Harlea J. McCartney, 22, Cuba, cited for operation of an uninsured vehicle and for driving a vehicle with a suspended registration.
- 10-20 - Tyler A. Singleton, 37, Wyoming, cited following a single-vehicle accident on 150N west of 1300E. He was ticketed for improper lane usage, failure to reduce speed to avoid an accident and operating an uninsured vehicle.

Galva Report

Officer dispatched:

- 10-16 - Officer saw a suspicious vehicle in the 500 block of SE 2nd St. after business hours. The vehicle left and a traffic stop was initiated for a headlight violation. The driver, Justin Frederick, 34, of Knoxville, was arrested for driving while license suspended. He was released with a required court date.
- 10-16 - to a verbal disturbance in the 600 block of NE 1st Ave.
- 10-16 - to the 200 block of NW 4th Ave. for a loose-dog complaint. The owner took the dog home.
- 10-16 - to check on a suspicious person in the 300 block of SE 3rd

Ave. Subject was homeless.

10-16 - As the result of a traffic stop in the 1100 block of SE 2nd St., Dan Hoge, 79, Cambridge, was cited for operating a vehicle with suspended registration for no insurance, having expired registration and operating an uninsured vehicle. He was released with a court date.

10-17 - to the 300 block of SW 1st Ave. for a suspicious person complaint. Officer located the subject, who was soliciting without the required permit. Subject was advised of the requirements.

10-17 - Officer located a loose dog in the 300 block of SE 2nd St. The owner was contacted and the dog was taken back inside.

10-18 - As the result of a traffic stop in the 00 block of NW 3rd St., Rylee Cooper, 20, Kewanee, was cited for operating a vehicle when registration suspended, no insurance and operating an uninsured vehicle. She was released with a court date.

10-18 - Brandon Magnussen, 51, Galva, was issued two administrative warning tickets in the 400 block of SE 5th St. The violations were for soliciting without a permit and for a contractor doing tree work without proper permit through city hall.

10-18 - to the 400 block of NW 6th Ave. to check for a suspicious vehicle. The subject was waiting for a friend.

10-18 - to the 300 block of SW 3rd St. for a report of a subject screaming and growling in the area. Officer contacted a subject and he agreed to go inside for the night.

10-18 - Officers went to the 300 block of SW 3rd St. to attempt to locate a wanted subject. As a result, Daphne King, 22, Wyoming, was arrested on a Stark County warrant for failing to appear on a domestic battery charge. She was transported by a Stark County deputy to the Stark County Jail.

10-19 - to the 300 block of SW 3rd St. for a 911 hang-up call. It was determined to be a misdial from a subject having a mental health crisis.

10-19 - As the result of a traffic stop in the 200 block of SE 2nd St., Terry Scott, 40, Galva, was arrested for improper use of registration, operating a vehicle with expired registration, and operating an uninsured vehicle. He was released with a court date.

10-19 - As the result of a traffic

stop in the 500 block of West Division St., Kelley Taylor, 46, Moline, was cited for operating a vehicle when registration is suspended for no insurance. She was released with a court date.

10-19 - to Wiley Park for a battery complaint. A juvenile reported being battered by an adult. After speaking to multiple witnesses, this complaint is unfounded.

10-20 - to a residence on West Division St. for a complaint of suspicious activity.

10-20 - to a residence on NW 4th St. to check the welfare of a subject. They were fine.

10-20 - As the result of a traffic stop in the 1100 block of SE 2nd St., Andrew Talbot, 21, Galva, was cited for operating a vehicle when registration was suspended for no insurance and operating an uninsured vehicle. He was released with a court date.

10-20 - to the 00 block of SW 4th St. for a suspicious activity complaint. Officer spoke to subjects, who were there to visit a friend.

10-21 - Kayla Davis, 18, Macomb, cited for speeding in the 1200 block of SE 2nd St.

10-21 - Raeanne Norton, 31, Aledo, cited for speeding in the 1200 block of SE 2nd St.

10-21 - Alicen Stanley, 32, Kewanee, cited for expired registration and operating an uninsured vehicle in the 900 block of SW 2nd St.

10-21 - Nathan Kraus, 21, Pekin, cited for speeding in the 1100 block of SE 2nd St.

10-21 - Roger Rickels, 44, LaSalle, cited for speeding in the 1100 block of SE 2nd St.

10-21 - to the 500 block of SW 4th St. for a loose-dog complaint.

10-21 - to assist a motorist in the 500 block of SE 2nd St.

10-21 - to the 300 block of SE 7th Ave. for a large tree limb in the roadway. The Galva Street Dept was contacted for removal.

10-21 - to assist a motorist in the 300 block of SW 3rd Ave.

10-22 - While patrolling, an officer saw a resident in the 600 block of SE 2nd St. burning leaves on a non-burn day. Subject put the fire out.

10-22 - to assist Henry County with a single vehicle accident east of town. The subject was transported by ambulance.

Property Transfers

10-19 - Cynthia M. and Dale K. Jackson to Jon Michael Castagna - Pt Sect. 34-13-6 SW - Consideration = \$75,000.

10-19 - Angelena C. and Zachery A. Mlekush to Jason L. Loudenburg - Pt Sect. 11-14-6 SE - 16244 S. Osceola Road, Bradford - Consideration = \$179,000.

Bradford Boy Scout Troop 1851 Eagle Scout Project

My name is Jack Morman. I am working on obtaining my Eagle Scout rank. In order to do that I have to do a service project. I will be constructing "Blessing" boxes for 2 local food pantries, Bradford and Sheffield. They will be placed outside the pantries for people to either give or take non perishable items. This project will cost approximately \$1000.00 to complete. I am requesting donations to help complete this project, any excess funds will be donated to the Bradford food pantry.

If you would like to donate to my project, please deliver all funds to the Bradford branch of People's National bank. Checks maybe made out to Bradford Boy Scout Troop 1851 memo Jack Morman Eagle project. All donations are highly appreciated and no amount is too little. Thank you for your consideration.

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2	3	1	9	4	5	8	7	6
9	8	7	3	1	6	5	4	2
5	6	4	7	8	2	3	9	1

CryptoQuote answer

If you can survive camping with someone, you should marry them on the way home.

- Yvonne Prinz

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GUEST VOICES



Getting to 'yes' and other Farm Bill worries

Representatives, the Speaker of the House will have less than a month to push through a workable federal budget, compromise with Senate Republicans to craft an Israeli-Ukrainian multi-billion-dollar aid package, and – at the very least – extend the now-expired 2018 Farm Bill through the end of the year, if not through all of 2024.

As often is the case with House Republicans, however, the new leader's hardest job won't be any of these very tough, all-but-intractable problems. The harder, more perilous task will be finding a safe path through GOP minefields to get to the other side of the political divide to even negotiate.



Alan GUEBERT

Just ask the experienced Republicans whose careers fizzled when they attempted that treacherous feat in the last 30 years: Newt Gingrich, John Boehner, Paul Ryan, Kevin McCarthy and Steve Scalise.

Deposed. Deposed. Deposed. Deposed. Kneecapped.

And it's not just the Pecan Wing of the Filbert Caucus that excels in member fratricide. Democrats are somewhat deft at it, too. For example, more than 40 years ago, then-House Majority Whip Tom Foley, D-Wash., explained to a rookie reporter, me, the most important skill he used in pushing farm bills through Congress.

"You have to know how to get people to 'Yes,'" said Foley, who chaired the House Ag Committee

when it wrote and passed the 1977 Farm Bill.

For example, Foley explained, he wanted the 1981 Farm Bill to include a phrase or two to help his district's sugar-beet growers. When his Dem friends on the committee balked, Foley – who had left the committee to move into House leadership – quietly let it be known that he, the Speaker's key vote-getting man, wouldn't vote for their bill unless his necessary additions were in it.

The unspoken threat was clear: If the party whip wasn't going to vote for the bill, don't expect him to whip the votes you need to pass said bill.

"That refocused everyone's mind," he explained, and his "ask" was added to the bill's final version via a floor amendment.

The divided House then quickly passed the 1981 Farm Bill a few days before Christmas by a paper-thin, 205-203 vote.

"The difference was my vote," Foley related, and his point – "Know what people need to get to 'yes'" – was driven home again.

Any new GOP Speaker got that message from Kat Cammack, a Florida Republican on the House Ag Committee, prior to any vote.

"They're" – whomever is speaker – "going to have a very tough time regardless, trying to find a way to get conservatives and moderates to support a farm bill that is very much needed," Cammack told Politico's Weekly Agriculture in mid-October.

Translation: It's House Republicans that Ag Committee Republicans need to worry about, not House Dems.

The bigger – and maybe even smarter – Farm Bill question House Republicans face isn't if they can scrape together enough votes to extend the 2018 law through Dec. 31. If, in fact, they can find the votes to extend, why not extend the expired law through the end of 2024 to give everyone time to write a better bill?

For now, anyway, House Ag Chairman, G.T. Thompson, Republican from Pennsylvania, favors a short-term extension over adding another year. He told Politico last week "that the 'real drop-dead deadline for the farm bill is December 31,' meaning a new farm bill extension will be necessary before then" without mentioning any effort to push the deadline through next year.

But even that might be a hard ask of the deeply split, deeply suspicious House Republicans. While they rightly brag that they have passed three 2024 appropriation bills, nine more still hang fire. Moreover, any if not all, House spending bills will run smack into serious bipartisan opposition in the Senate.

And that's if the legislative process even gets that far with the mid-November budget deadline now roaring into view and, 45 days after that, the 2024 campaign kicks off.

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Galva solar farm location revealed

By **CAROL TOWNSEND**

For The Prairie News

GALVA – The City of Galva announced at its meeting Monday that a solar farm will be installed at the former drive-in theater property across from Galva High School.

The city purchased the land from Justin West for \$94,829.40. In September the council announced the solar farm without specifying a location.

In other action, the council unanimously voted to borrow \$273,855 for 10 years at an interest rate of 6.16% to pay for parts for two of the city's wells.

The second ordinance passed was to borrow \$124,000 for 5 years at 6.16% interest to purchase a new John Deere backhoe.

After executive session the council also approved donating \$7,500 to the Galva Senior Citizen Center for repairs.

Jim Huffman, who lives northeast of Galva, gave a presentation on the proposed Wolf Carbon Solu-

tions CO2 pipeline. Huffman said it will come close to Galva, one-half mile from his house and through his farm fields, if approved. Huffman said he is worried about first responders if there was a rupture of the pipeline.

The line is proposed to come from Clinton, Iowa to Decatur. Huffman said the Henry County Board and several townships have passed moratoriums to halt construction for two years. He asked the city to pass a similar resolution.

Linda Grant, who lives north of Galva, asked the city to consider a splash pad in Washington Park. She said the solar project coming to Galva is donating \$50,000 to be used in city parks. She also said the basketball court in Washington Park is not in good condition.

Several concerns were raised about corn dust coming from the Galva Co-Op and from trains next to Washington Park.

Resident Bridgett Owens

told the council they need to look at putting a stop sign or two on SW 3rd Street since a lot of people cut through there to avoid going through town.

City Administrator David Dyer asked the council to re-join the Henry County Tourism Bureau, as the city dropped its membership several years ago. Membership costs \$2,500.

Third ward alderman Jackie Clucas said she would rather give \$2,500 to John Taylor for Levitt AMP concerts. Third ward

alderman Dougie Anderson said he wants more information before voting.

Halloween hours were set for Oct. 31 from 5-7 p.m. at homes with porch lights on.

Police Chief Kraig Townsend reminded residents they can burn leaves only on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday from dawn to dusk.

And a free yard waste pick-up will be Nov. 20. Yard-waste bags must be out by 6 a.m., but do not need a sticker.

To help settle some small estates and help some families downsize a live public auction will be held at
7642 Grain Bin Road Toulon, IL.
Public Auction
Sunday, November 5 at 12:00

Items to be sold include: IH 1566 w/ cab, 2 remotes, 1000 pto, duals, and front weights, IH 706 diesel w/ flat top fenders, 540 pto, 2 remotes and 3 point, small gravity wagon, AC 4 bottom 3 point plow, cattle panels, cattle gates, John Deere grain drill, Woods bobbing mower, Heston 1120 mower conditioner, pull type log splitter, 3 point log splitter, John Deere 1 row planter 3 point model, 4 Fimco ATV sprayers, Earthway pull type 1000 gallon sprayer w/ Raven and 3 section hut offs, 3 point chipper/shredder, John Deere quick attach, Kuhn Knight Easy Spread 1215 single axle manure spreader, DMI 2800 11 knife fertilizer applicator, Blumhardt Trail Master 1000 gallon sprayer w/ 60' booms, Mayrath 10"x60 swing away PTO auger, Hunterbolt Magnum 50 cal black powder rifle w/ 4x16 Center point scope, Savage 22 LR bolt action, Ithaca Deerslayer 20 ga Featherite, Springfield Model 951 410 w/ 3" chamber, Mossberg Model 183 D-B 420 with modified choke, Noble Model 70J 410 with 3" chamber, Stevens Model 94 410 with 3" chamber, Crescent Firearms No 15 410 with empire ejector, Remington Model 1100 12 ga full choke 2314 chamber with extra barrel, Thompson 36 cal black powder, 10' aluminum brake, 6250 watt generator, several hay-racks of good tools, 2 loads of household items, costume jewelry, high wheel pushmower, NIB fuel pump, dimension lumber, much more to come.

This will be a large auction we will run 2 rings so bring a friend. A loader tractor will be available to help with load out. Selected items will available online for absentee bidding. Please go onwigauctionandeventcenter.hibid.com to register. We will be adding to this auction up to the day of sale so please go to auctionzip.com or my facebook page for pictures and updates. A lunch stand and restrooms are available. We accept cash, check or credit card with a 3% convenience fee.

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ESTATE AUCTION
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SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2023
TIME: 10:00 A.M. w/ Furniture, Collectibles & Household Items
(LIVE IN PERSON BIDDING ONLY for these Items)
12:00 Noon (Central Time) for LIVE-ON LINE BIDDING
View LISTING/PHOTOS & Absentee or Live On-Line Bidding on website:
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Personal Property to be sold at 10 A.M. w/ NO Internet Bidding
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229 W. Main St., PO Box 538, Toulon, IL 61483
(217)425-5707
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Check us out on Facebook @ Toulon United Methodist Church

Elmira United Presbyterian Church

Rev. Art Blegen
7874 State Route 93, Toulon, IL 61483
(309) 896-3481
Services each Sunday at 9:00 a.m.
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The Gathering Church

Location: 105 N. 7th St., Wyoming, IL 61491
Sunday mornings @ 10:30 a.m.
Mail: PO Box 322, Wyoming, IL 61491
email: info@thegathering.life
web: <https://www.thegathering.life/>
<https://www.facebook.com/thegatheringchurch.life>

1st Congregational Church of Toulon

(309) 286-4901
218 N. Henderson St., Toulon
Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m.
Email fcctoulon@gmail.com
website: firstcongregationaltoulon.org

Galva Congregational Church

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Sunday Worship: 11:00
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First Congregational Church of Christ

Pastor Ross Wyman
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Galva First United Methodist Church

Rev. Rebecca Gearhart
214 NW 2nd Ave., Galva, IL 61434
(309) 932-2460
preachinghope@gmail.com
galvafirst@gmail.com
Sunday Worship: 9:00

Wyoming United Methodist Church

Pastor Rebecca Klemm
302 North Main Street PO Box 287 Wyoming, IL, 61491-0287.
309-606-9027
Email: WyomingUMCPastor@gmail.com
Service is held at 10:30 Sunday morning.

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OBITUARIES

Laura C. England

WYOMING – Laura Charlene England, 94, of Wyoming, formerly of Peoria, passed away on Saturday, Oct. 21, 2023, at her daughter's residence in Wyoming. She was born on March 15, 1929, in Clinton, Iowa, to parents Floyd and Laura (Stringham) Lindsay. She married Richard Lewis "Dick" England on June 7, 1947, in Peoria. He passed away in Stark County on July 30, 1991.



England

Laura is survived by seven children, Ronald England of Wyoming, Russell England of Florida, Steven (Betty) England of Toulon, John (Loretta) England of Toulon, Cynthia (Raymond) Dutlinger of Hanna City, Christine England of Wyoming, and Marlene (Mark) Hamme-rich of Wyoming; 10 granddaughters; eight grandsons; 16 great-granddaughters; 10 great-grandsons; one great-great grandson; one sister, Elaine Parrett of Peoria; one sister-in-law, Shirley Lindsay of Metamora; and many nieces and nephews. She was also preceded in death by her parents; five brothers; and three sisters.

Laura and Dick moved to Wyoming, Ill. in 1958, and together they raised seven children. She worked outside of the home for Breeze-Illi-

nois, Inc. from 1965-1972, operating their lathe and braiding machines. She later became employed by the United States Postal Service as a mail carrier from 1977-1979.

She was an amazing quilter, belonging to several quilting guilds. She was also a talented seamstress and enjoyed crocheting. She bowled on a league for over 20 years, helping her team win a state championship. Laura enjoyed growing flowers and plants and canning the vegetables from her and Dick's massive garden. She also enjoyed camping and fishing. She had a talent for painting their home, wood-working, and refinishing furniture.

Family was most important to Laura. Above all else, she loved spending time with all her children, grandchildren, extended family, and friends, and hosted many gatherings for everyone.

Her visitation was to be Wednesday, Oct. 25, 2023, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at Haskell Funeral & Cremation Services in Wyoming. Her funeral service was to be Thursday, Oct. 26, 2023, at 11 a.m., also at the funeral home. Pastor Stephen McGough officiated. The burial was to be in Wyoming Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Alzheimer's Association.

To leave condolences for Laura's family, please visit his tribute wall at www.haskellfuneral.com.

Barry D. Millender

GALVA – Barry Douglas Millender, 53, of Galva, Ill., died on Friday, Oct. 6, 2023, at St. Francis Medical Center in Peoria.



Millender

Barry was born on June 10, 1970, in Dallas, Texas, the son of Sherman Douglas and Linda Sue (Statum) Millender. Barry married Heidi Grogg on Aug. 7, 2015.

Barry graduated from Plano Senior High and earned his Bachelor's degree from Texas Tech University. He spent his career working in the restaurant industry. He started his career in Old Chicago, and eventually owned his own restaurant. Barry was a Methodist Church member and also belonged to the Texas Tech Sigma Ki Fraternity. Barry loved his time at Cheley Colorado Camp, and was a long-time volunteer at Cheley Children's Hospital Burn Camp where he met his wife. Barry was an avid golfer, enjoyed being outdoors, and loved his dogs.

He is survived by his wife, Heidi Millender of Galva; parents, Sherman and Linda Millender of Plano, Texas; and brother, Brett Millender of Galva.

Cremation was provided by Lincoln Land Cremation Society.

Visit www.lincolnlandcs.com to offer your condolences.

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PEKIN

BRIEFS

Local students attend BHC Manufacturing Day

GALVA – More than 30 students from Annawan, Galva and Kewanee high schools recently attended Manufacturing Day at the Black Hawk College Welding and Skilled Trades Center in Kewanee.

The day included a tour of Martin Engineering in Neponset followed by interactive sessions at the Welding and Skilled Trades Center. Local businesses that participated included Bo/Gar Enterprises Inc. of Wyoming, FMC of Wyoming, Great Dane of Kewanee, JH Best of Galva and Martin Engineering of Neponset.



Pictured above are local students who recently attended Manufacturing Day at Black Hawk College. Submitted photo.

Chelsey Stotler named national FFA finalist

INDIANAPOLIS – Chelsey Stotler of the Stark County FFA chapter in Toulon has been named a national finalist this year in the Food Products and Processing Division 3 of the competition. Stotler is the daughter of Jim and Jodi Stotler of Bradford.



Stotler

She is one of 10 individuals in her division in the nation.

The National FFA Agriscience Fair is a key competition that is part of the annual National FFA Convention and Expo, Nov. 1-4, 2023, in Indianapolis.

McCauley will sing at FFA convention

INDIANAPOLIS – Jacob McCauley, a member of the Stark County FFA chapter in Toulon, will be on stage and in the spotlight Nov. 1-4 during the 2023 National FFA Convention & Expo in Indianapolis.



McCauley

McCauley, a junior and the son of

Grant and Tiffany McCauley, has been selected as a member of the National FFA Chorus.

The National FFA Chorus will perform several times during the national convention and expo.

Galva Halloween activities planned

GALVA – Halloween events for October 28 in Galva include:

- Trunk or treat hosted by Galva Ready to Grow on the East side of Wiley Park from 2 to 4 p.m.
- Trick or treat hosted by residents of Courtyard Estates at 1000 NW 3rd Ave. from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m.
- Trunk or treat hosted by the Baptist Church at 211 NW 4th Ave. starting at 4 p.m., followed by a wiener roast.

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 2 Miles South of West Jersey, IL on Rt 78 Turn Left on Duncan Road One Mile Down on Left. Friday Oct 27th 8 a.m.-6 p.m.; Saturday Oct 28th 8 a.m. - 6 p.m.; Sunday Oct 29 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. Lots of Nice Clothing: Girls, Boys, Junior, Misses, and Men's, Name Brands: Vigoss, Silvers, Miss Me, AE, North Face, Pink, VS, Maurices, HD, etc.), Shoes, Jewelry, Authentic Purses: Coach, Kate Spade, Michel Kors, Dooney & Bourke, etc., Kids Bed Sets, Lots of New Toys: Barbies, Disney, Monster High, Rainbow High, Nickelodeon, LOL, Marvel, DC, etc., Tupperware, Thirty-One, Lots of Pioneer Woman, Home Decor, Kitchen Items, Longaberger, DVD's & Players, Knick Knacks and Much More. Lots and Lots of New Items and Baked Goods. Come Check Us Out and Do Some Christmas Shopping!

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by Dave T. Phipps
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 "NO CREAM, NO SUGAR. NOTHING NEEDED AT ALL."
 "EXCEPT MAYBE A COFFEE FILTER."

The Spats

by Jeff Pickering
 "BACK IN THE DAY THEY USED TO HAVE PAY TOILETS."
 "WOW, HOW MUCH DID THEY PAY?"

Just Like Cats & Dogs

by Dave T. Phipps
 "YOU DO KNOW WE HAVE A DISHWASHER, RIGHT? AND IT'S NOT STANDING NEXT TO YOU."

GRIN & BEAR IT

"You even have to have the last word when you're not speaking to me!"

Weekly SUDOKU
 by Linda Thistle

8				3	1	5		
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	8				6		4	
		4	7	8		3		

 Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 3-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.
DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦
 ♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging
 ♦♦♦ HOO BOY!
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Trivia test by Fifi Rodriguez

1. ANIMAL KINGDOM: What is a male duck called?
2. LITERATURE: Who wrote the novel "Pride and Prejudice"?
3. ASTRONOMY: In which constellation are the gas and dust clouds called the Pillars of Creation located?
4. U.S. PRESIDENTS: Which president died at his retreat in Warm Springs, Georgia?
5. MOVIES: Which 1999 movie features a character named Neo?
6. MEDICAL: Which part of the human body is affected by Bright's Disease?
7. TELEVISION: In which state is the sitcom "Newhart" set?
8. GEOGRAPHY: What is the tallest mountain in Africa?
9. HISTORY: Which politician made the phrase "Iron Curtain" famous in a speech about eastern Europe?
10. U.S. STATES: What is the capital of South Dakota?

Answers

1. A drake.
 2. Jane Austen.
 3. Serpens.
 4. Franklin Roosevelt.
 5. "The Matrix."
 6. The kidneys.
 7. Vermont.
 8. Mount Kilimanjaro.
 9. Winston Churchill.
 10. Pierre.
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Answers on Page 3

CryptoQuote
 answer
 If you can survive camping with someone, you should marry them on the way home.
 — Yvonne Prinz

TOP 10 MOVIES

1. Taylor Swift: The Eras Tour (PG-13)
2. The Exorcist: Believer (R)
3. PAW Patrol: The Mighty Movie (PG)
4. Saw X (R)
5. The Creator (PG-13)
6. The Blind (PG-13)
7. A Haunting in Venice (PG-13)
8. The Nun II (R)
9. The Equalizer 3 (R)
10. Dumb Money (R)

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FOOTBALL: Holmstrom has 1 of 4 pick-sixes

Continued from Page 1
County's 19-14 season-opening win over Rushville-Industry.

"My stomach was hurting and I was really nervous," said Holmstrom, a starting linebacker. "But I got in and felt I did what I needed to do."

Gibler's opener went even better, at least in his eyes.

"I kind of killed that first game at defensive end and I kept playing there over the season and built up endurance and realized I had a lot more game left in me," Gibler said. "I realized I was a lot stronger than what I had anticipated."

The success was a pleasant surprise for Noard, who admitted he wasn't sure what to expect when they informed him they had decided to play.

"Are they coming out just to wear the jersey or are they coming to really contribute?" Noard admitted to wondering. "From day one, they've really tried to contribute."

Like the rest of the team, the newcomers gained

even more confidence after a 21-20 win over perennial power Annawan-Wethersfield in the second game. A key to that contest was a late defensive stand on a two-point conversion and limiting A-W running back Zeb Rashid.

"We just came together as a team and we just knew what we needed to do," Holmstrom said. "We knew we needed to stop (Rashid)."

From there, the Rebels have not looked back, with last week's 28-20 victory over United the closest result out of the final seven victories. Defense has been solid through all those wins, Noard said.

Gibler agrees. "Our line has stepped up our game, definitely," he said, crediting Price as "the one we can't do without."

Defensive backs and linebackers have also had plenty of time to shine. Holmstrom returned an interception for a touch-down during the regular-season win over Princeville - one of four

such scores by the defense this season.

"That kind of sealed the game and put it out of reach," Noard said.

And last week against United, Gibler played some offensive guard in addition to his usual starting role at defensive end.

"They are talented kids that can play the game," Noard said. "When you add them to the kids you already have, it makes you all the better. We're not as good a football team without them."

So it probably goes without saying that the two late-arriving seniors are happy with their choice to play football.

Gibler said he likely would have been helping his father at Gibler Ice in Toulon if he wasn't playing. Holmstrom said he might also be working with his father at Wolf Inc. in Dunlap.

Football is better than work, both players agree. "I didn't think I was going to have this much fun," Holmstrom said.

"But as soon as I got out here and started tackling

people ... oh, it's so fun.

"And people in the community are super excited about us. They all just love Stark County football."

Added Gibler, "I would say football is 100 percent more worth it. Just because of the memories and the class that I have. I want to make as many memories as possible with this class. You only live once."

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Answers on Page 3

Super Crossword

FOLLOWING CONCEPTION

ACROSS

1 Vocalist Vaughan

6 Falsely present as genuine

12 Wizards-Magic matchups, e.g.

20 Brand of spaghetti sauce

21 Illicit moneylender

22 Legendary lost city of gold

23 Carjacking or kidnapping

25 Guys playing in central positions in team sports

26 Whirling old-style

27 Vase variety

28 Disgrace

30 Major Dutch banking corp.

31 "I believe," on the internet

32 Metabolism or reproduction

37 Places for petri dishes

39 Old Delta rival

40 Actress Anderson

41 Haul to court

42 Attempt to give a bias to news coverage

46 Bottom-line deficit

50 Ed of "Up"

51 With

56-Down, have a meal around noon

52 Bend in ballet

55 Playwright

56 Burns' "Lang Syne"

59 Market condition that eventually "bursts"

62 Mammal with secretions used in perfumery

66 Vessel spar

67 Marked down

68 Billfold bill

69 Geometric design used to calibrate a video display

73 Imbibe slowly

74 "Sakes alive!"

77 "Va-va-—!"

78 Boxes of toy building blocks

81 They patrol on horseback

85 Historic NYC club, with "the"

86 Wolf in "The Jungle Book"

87 About

88 Genre for Cardi B

90 Blown away

94 Made calm

96 President or prime minister

99 Billfold bill

100 Hawaiian isle

103 Neighbor of Arg.

104 Actor Brody

105 Chemistry trial, perhaps

112 Former NPR host Flatow

113 Stangy sleuth

114 Zapped with intense light

115 Social insect

116 Monastery musical piece

118 Pub vessel

121 "P.S." comment ... or where the ends of eight answers in this puzzle might appear?

125 Mention quickly so as to minimize

126 A Chinese capital

127 Loosen, as a boot

128 Irremediable

129 Hairs it up

130 Pit of a fruit

DOWN

1 Tanning lotion stat

2 Aids for walking tours

3 Scarlet snapper

4 Old film critic James

5 Biblical peak identified with Sinai

6 Ending for eye or mouth

7 Fancy word for "kiss"

8 Little donkey

9 Round rubber gasket

10 Masc.

11 Plaster painting

12 Kathmandu native

13 Zeppelin, e.g.

14 Not favorable

15 Gurdy stuff

16 Still lifes, e.g.

17 Ike's first lady

18 Utopias

19 Jukebox selections

24 Supreme Court's Samuel

29 Solo of "Solo"

31 "Casablanca" heroine

33 Embrace fully

34 Not healthy

35 Surpass in frepower

36 Tabloid VIPs

38 Move furively

43 Gunky stuff

44 Cry of cheer

45 Siouan tribe

46 Pos. opposite

47 Sale, in hardball

48 Give a convincing argument

49 Brews, as tea

52 Pre-col. exam

53 Remize, e.g.

54 Recon data

57 River of forgetfulness

58 Subpar grade

60 Savory taste of MSG

61 A bestrik may beat it

62 Partners of poppas

63 Disjoin, as a pair of oxen

64 Transitioned smoothly

65 Answers an invite

70 Honk

71 Casual shirt

72 Fun activities, for short

75 Airing past midnight, say

76 — Island (Big Apple borough)

79 Mayberry boy

80 Yemeni capital

82 Poppa

83 — Magnon

84 Unit of com

89 Source of a purple fruit

91 Augmenting

92 Start to get tiresome

93 Witty

94 Bombeck

95 Nation within a nation

96 Goller Michelle

97 Hip-hop "Dr."

98 See

99 51-Across counterparts

100 Mmes. Wood cutter

102 Software revision, e.g.

105 Pack away

106 Violin cousin

107 Get frosty

108 Facilitates

109 Proportion

110 Lacking skill

111 Thees and —

117 Em, to Dorothy

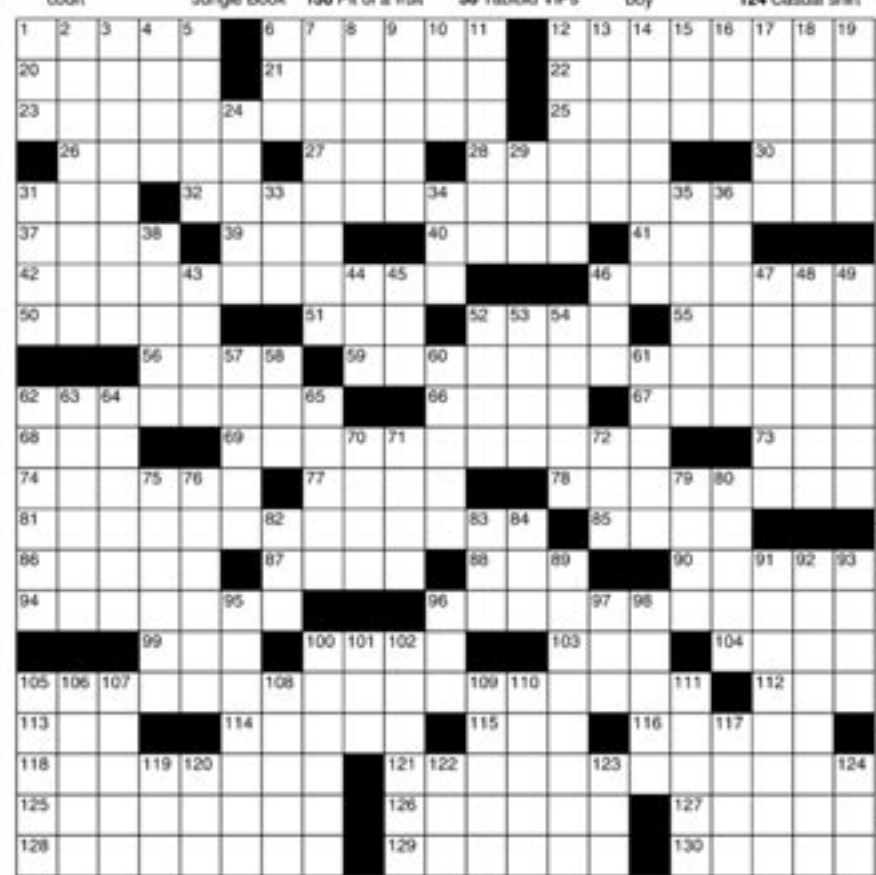
119 Hurdle for some college srs.

120 "Z funny!!"

122 Relatives, casually

123 — a ply!

124 Casual shirt



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STARK COUNTY QUADRENNIAL REASSESSMENT

NOTICE TO STARK COUNTY TAXPAYERS:
ASSESSED VALUES FOR 2023
Valuation date (35 ILCS 200/9-95): January 1, 2023
Required level of assessment (35 ILCS 200/9-145): 33.33%

Farmland: 1.0000
Farm Improvements: 1.0000
Non-Farm Land: 1.0910
Non-Farm Improvements: 1.0910

Pursuant to 35 ILCS 200/10-115, the Farm Land assessments for the 2023 assessment year will increase by 10% of the preceding year's median cropped soil productivity index as certified by the Illinois Dept of Revenue with data provided by the Farmland Assessment Technical Advisory Board resulting in a \$42.61 per acre increase for each soil productivity index.

Questions about these valuations should be directed to:
Renee L. Johnson
130 W. Main Street
Toulon, Illinois, 61483
(309) 286-7172

Property in Stark County, other than farmland and coal, is to be assessed at a 33.33% median level of assessment, based on the fair cash value of the property. You may check the accuracy of your assessment by dividing your assessment by the median level of assessment. The resulting value should equal the estimated fair cash value of your property.

If you believe your property's fair cash value is incorrect or that the equalized assessed valuation is not uniform with other comparable properties in the same neighborhood, the following steps should be taken:

- 1. Contact CCAO or Supervisor of Assessment's office to review the assessment.
2. If not satisfied with the assessor review, taxpayers may file a complaint with the Stark County Board of Review.
3. The final filing deadline for this county is generally 30 days from this publication date.

Your property may be eligible for homestead exemptions, which can reduce your property's taxable assessment. For more information on homestead exemptions, call (309) 286-7172 or visit www.starkco.illinois.gov.

Your property tax bill will be calculated as follows:
Final Equalized Assessed Value - Exemptions = Taxable Assessment
Taxable Assessment X Current Tax Rate = Total Tax Bill

All equalized assessed valuations are subject to further equalization and revision by the Stark County Board of Review as well as equalization by the Illinois Dept of Revenue. A complete list of assessments for Stark County for the current assessment year is as follows:

Table with 2 columns: PARCEL NUMBER, OWNER NAME, TOTAL ASSESSED. Lists various parcels and their assessed values.

Table with 2 columns: Parcel ID, Owner Name, Value. Lists parcels and their assessed values.

Table with 2 columns: Parcel ID, Owner Name, Value. Lists parcels and their assessed values.

Table with 2 columns: Parcel ID, Owner Name, Value. Lists parcels and their assessed values.

STARK COUNTY QUADRENNIAL REASSESSMENT

Table with 4 columns: Parcel ID, Owner Name, Assessed Value, and Sale Price. Lists various parcels and their owners across Stark County, including names like Steger, Young, and Derick.

STARK COUNTY QUADRENNIAL REASSESSMENT

Table with 4 columns: Parcel ID, Owner Name, Value, and Parcel ID. Lists property owners and their assessed values across various parcels in Stark County, Illinois.

STARK COUNTY QUADRENNIAL REASSESSMENT

Table with 5 columns: Parcel ID, Owner Name, Assessed Value, Parcel ID, Owner Name, Assessed Value. Contains a comprehensive list of property assessments for Stark County, Illinois, including owner names like LEMAN, MARVIN L & DARLENE J and various assessed values.

STARK COUNTY QUADRENNIAL REASSESSMENT

Table with columns for parcel ID, owner name, address, and assessed value. The table is organized into multiple columns and rows, listing numerous property owners and their respective land parcels.

STARK COUNTY QUADRENNIAL REASSESSMENT

Table with 4 columns: Parcel ID, Owner Name, Assessed Value, and Parcel ID, Owner Name, Assessed Value. The table lists numerous properties and their owners across Stark County, Illinois, with values ranging from approximately \$1,000 to over \$1 million.

STARK COUNTY QUADRENNIAL REASSESSMENT

Table with 4 columns: Parcel ID, Owner Name, Assessed Value, and Property Description. The table lists numerous parcels across Stark County, Illinois, including owners like Johnston, Williams, Groter, and others, with values ranging from approximately \$1,000 to over \$100,000.

STARK COUNTY QUADRENNIAL REASSESSMENT

Table with 4 columns: Parcel ID, Owner Name, Value, and Assessor Name. The table lists numerous property records for Stark County, including owners like Klein, Mary Ann; Plumer Farms LLC; and various individuals and companies.

SPORTS: VB in regionals

Continued from Page 24 with six kills and two aces while Ava Anderson had six kills. Kendal Rogers had 10 digs and 2 aces, Addison Yepsen had 11 assists and Kaylyn Gale came up with 9 digs.

In regular season play, Galva had battled a strong North Fulton team in the second set on Oct. 19, but was finally swept 25-9, 25-23 at home in a non-conference contest finale.

Strom recorded two aces, five kills and eight digs. Chloe Ruhl tallied one ace, two kills and five digs. Rogers had one ace and digs. Yepsen added one ace, six assists and eight digs. Maddie Bates scored three kills and defended with one block. Addie Moore had one block. Ava Anderson also blocked one to go with seven digs. Gale was the digs leader with 14.

On Oct. 18, the Lady Wildcats picked up a 25-17, 25-15 win over non-conference foe Lowpoint-Washburn. In the balanced attack Yepsen had seven aces, four kills, eight assists and five digs. Moore recorded three aces, three kills and one block. Reese Sumner tallied five kills, one block and seven digs. Anderson scored four kills and defended with two

blocks. Bates had two kills and one block. Rogers was the digs leader with 10. Ruhl added five digs.

• **SC volleyball** – The Lady Rebels faced regional host Henry-Senachwine on Tuesday in Class action.

Stark County (2-22) fell to Ridgewood 27-25, 13-25, 10-25 in a Lincoln Trail contest at home on Oct. 18 to close out regular season play.

– Phil Johnson

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The Prairie News Sports



Rebels go 9-0

Stark Co. outlasts United, 28-20; will face Princes in 1A playoffs

By **JEFF LAMPE**

For The Prairie News

WYOMING – There was nothing easy about Stark County's final win last Friday over Monmouth United.

But perfect football seasons seldom come easy, and years from now, what will matter for these Rebels is that they joined four other Stark County teams in recording 9-0 regular seasons.

With its 28-20 victory over United at Gary Johnson Field, Stark County also completed an 8-0 championship season in the LincolnLand Conference small division.

And the fifth-ranked team in Class 1A will host a first-round playoff game Friday at 7 p.m. against Princeville. Stark County won the regular-season meeting, 48-28, on Oct. 6.

The Rebels played with more fire against Princeville than they did vs.

United, Rebels Coach Jade Noard indicated.

"We didn't have quite the energy that we've had and I don't know the reason," Noard said. "Finding a way to win when you're not at your best is a positive. And every time they cut it to one or two points we scored."

Nolan Orwig ran for Stark County's first two scores in the second quarter after yet another slow opening quarter for the offense. Orwig's runs were 6 and 5 yards and he finished with 104 on 12 carries.

But every time Stark County scored, United (3-6, 2-6) responded with a TD. And United's 19 first downs were more than Stark County's 17.

Quarterback Luke Rewerts had the Rebels' two scores in the second half on runs of 6 and 27 yards. The senior finished with 108 yards on 13 carries and passed for 165, completing



Senior Avery Gerber stands up a Monmouth United running back in last Friday's 28-20 win that capped an unbeaten season by Stark County. Photo by Collin Fairfield.

8 of 12 passes.

"Offensively, yardage-wise it was one of our best outputs of the season," Noard said.

The perfect 9-0 regular season record is the fifth for a Stark County High School team. Here's a look at how the previous perfect seasons went.

2003 – Bumped to 2A, Stark County was upset at home in the first round by Watseka, 35-29.

2010 – After a 30-20

first-round win over Lexington, the Rebels turned the ball over nine times in the 1A second round and lost at home to North Shore Country Day, 44-12.

2014 – Lost to eventual 1A state champion Forreston 33-19 at home in the quarterfinals.

2015 – Lost the 1A state title game to Arcola, 35-17, at DeKalb.

"So we've had varying levels of success," Noard

Continued on Page 22

Stark County girls 2nd at XC regional

By The Prairie News

SENECA – Dusti Smith and her young Stark County teammates proved they are plenty ready for postseason competition.

The Lady Rebels placed second last Saturday at the Class 1A Seneca Regional with a total of 42 points, just 11 behind winner Seneca, ranked 22nd in the state according to ILXCTF.

As a result, Stark County will compete Saturday in the Oregon Sectional at West Park. The girls run at 10 a.m. on the 3.1-mile course.

Favorites will be state-ranked Sherrard, Winnebago and Seneca, but based on last week's showing, Stark County has a shot at a top-six finish and a state berth. The top 10 runners not on those six teams also advance as individuals.

Freshman Smith placed third with a time of 20:22.4 on the challenging Seneca Farm Lab course. All four of Stark County's other

scoring runners placed in the top 15: sophomore Cheyenh Smith (8th, 22:27), junior Alexia Martinez (10th, 22:47), junior Keagan Hamilton (14th, 23:17) and sophomore Paytin Terwilliger (15th, 23:24).

Also, competing for the girls were junior Sarah Kraklow (21st, 24:53) and sophomore Haylie Moodie (37th, 27:46).

Sophomore Ethan Grinnell (41st, 23:15) was the lone boys runner for SC.

Galva's teams ran at the Bureau Valley Regional. Ian Pacheco (49th, 19:25) was top boys finisher and Charlotte Farmer (59th, 26:40) was the lone girls runner.

• **Galva volleyball** – Galva (9-19) saw its season end Monday night in a hard-fought loss to Cambridge at the Putnam County Class 1A regional. Cambridge won 22-25, 25-15, 25-19.

Ava Strom led the attack
Continued on Page 23

Petition Signing Party

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