



Rock County STAR HERALD

Rock County's oldest business, printing since 1873

Thursday, March 8, 2018

Rain, snow, sleet, hail, thunder, lightning, flash floods, ice ...

Winter storm closes schools and highways; ice, blowing snow and flash flooding makes travel treacherous



Mavis Fodness photo/0308 Flooded Roads



Lori Sorenson photo/0308 flooded warren st

The Rock River reached moderate flood stage east of Hardwick Monday when water levels reached 16.17 feet, nearly 2 feet over flood stage, according to the National Weather Service. In Luverne, the river was measured at 9.89 feet. Flood stage at Luverne is 10 feet. The photograph at right shows a closed West Warren Street that flooded Monday after overnight rains overflowed Poplar Creek.

By Lori Sorenson

Minnesota weather stole the show this week with rain, snow, sleet, hail, thunder, lightning, icy roads and flooding.

The system moved into the area in the form of heavy rain that prompted widespread flooding that closed roads and city streets.

Schools and offices across the tri-state area were closed Monday and Tuesday due to treacherous driving conditions caused by blowing snow over a slick layer of ice.

Blizzard conditions prompted South Dakota officials to close I-90 from Sioux Falls to Murdo for most of Monday afternoon through Tuesday.

More flooding may be expected later this week as temperatures are expected to rapidly climb into the 40s.

Luverne joins H-BC, other schools to discontinue cross-subsidy

By Mavis Fodness

Luverne has joined Hills-Beaver Creek and 170 other independent school districts in Minnesota in support of resolutions to fully fund special education services.

The resolutions were drafted by the Minnesota School Boards Association, in which the local districts are members.

Costs to provide special education are rising.

"Basically it is reaching critical mass," said Greg Abbott, an MSBA spokesperson. "It's getting so big that school districts have to rob their general funds."

Filling the gap between special education expenditures and associated revenue is called cross-subsidy.

In fiscal year 2016, H-BC subsidized its special education funds with its general fund by \$180,000. In Luverne the cross-subsidy amounted to more than \$1 million.

"That is quite a chunk of money," said H-BC Superintendent Todd Holthaus.

H-BC board members passed the resolution for state and federal officials to more adequately fund special education in early January. Luverne added its support at its Feb. 22 meeting.

"What we are trying to do is remind them of the funding promised by the IDEA," said Luverne Superintendent Craig Oftedahl.

IDEA or Individuals with Disabilities Act was enacted in 1975 with federal officials promising to pay districts an additional 40 percent to educate children with disabilities.

For 2017, the percentage amounts to an additional \$815 per student in each district.

Since IDEA's passage more than

Special ed subsidies/see page 5A



Lori Sorenson photos/0308 GEO KOLD group

Green Earth Players will perform "KOLD Radio — Whitefish Bay" starting next week. Cast members include (seated, from left) Casey McKenzie, Holly Anderson, (standing, from left) bartender Cyndi Harms, Josie Scholten, Jim Harsma, Nathan Taubert, Joseph Karnoff, David Vis and Anissa Vis. Not pictured are Elizabeth Ferguson, DJ Luethje and Mallory Von Tersch. They're pictured during rehearsal March 1 in the GEP building.

Green Earth Players to perform 'KOLD Radio'

By Lori Sorenson

The Green Earth Players community theater group will perform "KOLD Radio — Whitefish Bay" March 16-18 and March 22-25 in the Historic Palace Theatre, Luverne.

According to artistic director Scott Wessels, the local cast members are well suited for their northern Minnesota characters.

"... the Minnesota nice, the passive-aggressive

friends and neighbors, and the characters' love-hate relationship with the cold all are familiar to the Tri-State area," Wessels said.

He said he's enjoyed working with the group and looks forward to crowd reactions to the on-stage comedy.

"Everyone has pitched in with their character ideas, mannerisms, stage movements, and in bringing copious amounts of food to rehears-

als," Wessels said.

"No one ever goes hungry on rehearsal night, or goes home without a smile on their face."

The play synopsis is as follows:

KOLD Radio is located in a corner of Carl and Lena's (David and Anissa Vis) Place for Beer in a small Minnesota town near the Canadian

Green Earth Players 'KOLD'/see page 5A



Casey McKenzie portrays the many faces of local KOLD Radio host Carl.



Local corn yields top 200 second year in a row

Corn price per bushel lower than it was a year ago

By Mavis Fodness

For the second straight year corn production in Rock County set a yield record.

Corn reached 206.1 bushels per acre for the 2017 growing season, topping the 2016 yield record of 201.2.

USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service Minnesota Field Office released the statewide yield results for the 2017 corn and soybean harvest last month.

Rock County joined 28 other reporting counties whose corn yields topped more than 200 bushels per acre.

In the area, Cottonwood County averaged 207.5 bushels per acre and Jackson County, 205.5.

Murray, Nobles and Pipestone counties' corn yields were 197.1, 193.4 and 186 bushels per acre respectively.

The state's top corn yield was

Watsonwan County with 218.9.

The state corn yield average was 194 bushels per acre.

Rock County's soybean yield was lower than last year's record of 61.9. Local soybean yield for 2017 averaged 58 bushels.

The yield placed Rock County in the top five for soybean production. Watsonwan led the state in soybean

Record yields/see page 5A

Daylight saving starts Sunday, March 11



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Obituaries Page 7A Public notices 5B

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Taking care of business

City Council subdivides properties, buys easements for future residential and industrial development

By Lori Sorenson

Luverne City Council members took action at their Feb. 27 meeting to further prepare for future development, both residential and industrial.

They approved two resolutions to subdivide property in order to allow for work on the new substation and to provide a right of way for infrastructure on the North Walnut Street extension.

New substation

For the substation, the city subdivided a three-acre parcel on Walnut Avenue that had been purchased from Rich Dreckman last year.

The majority of the parcel, 1.81 acres, will be used for the city's new \$3.7 million industrial substation, and the remaining 1.2 acres will be for future related industrial use.

The land is accessible by Walnut Avenue, which is now a county state aid street and will be paved by the county in 2018.

North Walnut Avenue extension gets right of way

The North Walnut Avenue extension project requires a right of way for underground infrastructure, so the city took action Feb. 27 to subdivide property for that purpose.

The subdivided parcel 33 feet wide and 396 feet long was purchased by the city from Lynn Lopau for \$13,068.

The area to the east of the street will become three new housing lots that will be served by this stub street.

The stub street will carry traffic into a new residential area and allow for the city to extend water, sewer and electricity into the new residential area.

Midwest Dry Cast subdivision approved

In other business Feb. 28, the council approved a resolution allowing the recording and subdivision of

property just south of Luverne city limits.

Ron Fick is selling 17.95 acres of land to Midwest Dry Cast Company, which plans to build a new facility on the parcel that will be accessed by an easement and/or a future parcel of property that the company could purchase as a "right of first refusal."

The property is accessed by South Highway 75 and 101st Street (west of Rock Veterinary Clinic).

The property is not in city limits but will be served by the city's electrical department, Rock County Rural Water, and a septic system.

The area and parcel are fully developed with access to utilities, roads, and all aspects of property planning and zoning.

County State Aid highway maintenance agreement.

At their Feb. 27 meeting council members approved a new County State Aid Highway Maintenance Agreement that covers almost nine miles of streets in the city limits.

The city maintains the streets in town that are owned by the county.

The general five-year maintenance agreement covers sweeping, snow removal, patching, mowing, tree trimming and more.

The county reimburses the city for an amount not to exceed \$74,108 in 2018 with 2 percent escalators through 2022.

There is also an annual fixed sum of \$37,500 for the five-year period, on top of the annual payments, to account for the significant number of construction and infrastructure improvements passed within the city during the term of this contract.

The new agreement also includes a 1.1-mile section of Koehn Ave that will be built this year to County Road 4.



Mavis Fodness photo/0308 March Lamb 2018

March is in (to work) like a lamb at vet clinic



Submitted photo

Area residents were greeted with seasonally mild temperatures March 1 when highs reached the mid-30s, a weather pattern that began the previous week.

Employees at Rock Veterinary Clinic south of Luverne already had an inkling of the lamblike, mild temperature due to the bottle lambs in their care.

Pictured above, Dr. Erin deKoning (right) feeds Adam, a Merino-Jacob-Shetland lamb, held by Tracy Boelman. With a belly full of milk, Adam plays in the clinic's garage area and takes a walk with Boelman in the clinic hallway (pictured below).

At left Veterinary technician Sue Stueven watches Lucy, a Hampshire-Suffolk lamb, from her desk.



Golf cart, electric vehicle clarification

The Rock County office of the motor vehicle registration has requested the Star Herald publish a clarification about the difference between a "golf cart" and a "neighborhood electric vehicle."

A Feb. 22 story about the Luverne City Council repealing its ATV ordinance made the assertion that "only state-permitted and licensed side-by-side utility vehicles and licensed golf carts are allowed" in the city.

In fact, by statute the state cannot license a golf cart, whereas a "neighborhood electric vehicle" can be licensed by the state.

Questions can be directed to the Rock County Motor Vehicle Registration Office at 507-283-5024.

GRAVEL BIDS:
BEAVER CREEK TOWNSHIP

Crushed gravel to be spread on Township roads.

Sealed bids will be expected on, before or at the monthly meeting
Monday, April 9 • 7 p.m.
at the township hall
(please label gravel bid if mailed)

Bids may be sent to:
Beaver Creek Township
Kathy King, Clerk
PO Box 67
Beaver Creek, MN 56116

~ Kathy King
Township Clerk

Palace Theatre

Blue Mound Area Theatre
Annual Meeting Notice
Thursday, March 13 at 6 p.m. at Bluestem
Public welcome

HEAD START
BIRTH TO 5

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www.smcc.us/headstart.html
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ROCK COUNTY VETERANS

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Did you serve on Active Military Duty?
Do you have an honorable discharge?
Contact your veteran services officer to discuss eligibility for federal and state benefits.

Help for veterans and families
Rock County Veterans Services
507-283-5061
M-F: 8 a.m. to Noon
Rock County Courthouse

PIPESTONE COUNTY
TILLABLE FARM LAND FOR RENT
Howard De Weerd Estate

Sealed Bids: Shall be submitted to Brian De Weerd at 605 6th Ave. Edgerton, MN 56128. The deadline for mailing or delivery of bid is March 23, 2018 by 5 PM and we will respond to the successful bidder on March 26, 2018 by 5 PM. Winning bid will be responsible to pay for fall tillage on 100.84 Acres which is \$1836.00. Also, winning bid will be responsible to pay \$9,240.00 for 385,000 gallons of cattle manure applied at 3500 gallons per acre. Manure was analyzed at 61/25/34 per 1000 gallons which comes to 213#N, 87#P, and 119#K per acre fertilizer value. The manure fertilizer is valued at 25% discount below commercial fertilizer price.

Land Location: Section 1 TWP-105 N R-44 W Southeast Quarter (SE ¼) less East 1,800" of North 484 Osborne Township, Pipestone County Minnesota. This parcel of ground would have a total of 100.84 tillable acres. Also, Section 21 TWP-105 N R-44 W North 1,287" of West Half (W1/2) of Northeast Quarter (NE ¼) & East Half (E1/2) of Northeast Quarter (NE ¼) except the south 1,352" Osborne Township, Pipestone County Minnesota. This parcel of ground would have a total of 61.66 tillable acres. Total tillable acres for rent between the two farms will be 162.50 acres.

Lease Date: This is an 11 month lease that starts the first day of April, 2018 and ends last day of February 2019 with the understanding that the future of the land beyond February 2019 is yet to be determined. The lease shall be payable in one installment at contract signing. Successful bidder shall enter a written lease agreement by March 31, 2018. The owners retain the right to reject any or all bids and waive any irregularities. Questions can be directed to Doug Jasper at (605)929-3918, djasper@redrockholdingsinc.com, or text, pertaining to the land tile, sediment basins, land maps, and Crop Productivity Ratings (CPI) on the tillable acres can be requested.

Notice:
Students of Luverne High School Take Notice

The Scholarship Committee of the A.R. Wood Educational Trust is currently accepting applications for initial or renewal scholarships from seniors and previous graduates of Luverne High School.

To be eligible for consideration candidates must:

1. Be graduates of Luverne High School
2. Rank in the upper fifteenth percent (15%) of his/her graduating class; and
3. Have maintained a 3.0 GPA or better grade point average.

Requests for applications should be directed to:
First Bank & Trust
Wealth Management Services
Attn: A.R. Wood Educational Trust
P.O. Box 1347
Sioux Falls, SD 57101-1347

All requests for applications must be received by First Bank & Trust no later than **May 1, 2018**. All completed applications must be postmarked and submitted to First Bank & Trust by **June 1, 2018**.

In accordance with the A.R. Wood Educational Trust, decisions regarding recipients, amounts and number of awards will be made at the sole discretion of the Scholarship Committee.

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Tiny and I first met circa 1974.

Appreciation for horses grew through a heifer named Tiny

Ask any little girl if she'd like to own a pony and you will get a resounding "yes."



RUMINATIONS

By Mavis Fodness, Reporter

To this day I admire the Herefords shown at the Rock County Fair. I smile when I look into their bright white faces and big brown eyes. I see Tiny in each and every one of them.

I, too, was one of those little girls who dreamed of owning a Flicka, Black Beauty or the Black Stallion. Books about these fictional horses definitely fueled my desire own an elegant four-legged animal and ride every day. For the majority of my adult life, I have been lucky enough to be a horse owner. It's a huge commitment to properly feed, house and care for the 1,000-pound animals. I don't mind because those child-like dreams of owning a pony are still fresh. It was through a childhood desire that I grew to appreciate another farm animal. My first mount was not a horse or pony. It was a Hereford heifer named Tiny. The mid-1970 memories of Tiny have faded a bit, but what the bovine lacked in stature, she more than made up for with her large, kind heart. I suspect Tiny was a bottle calf my dad took under his wing from our stock cow herd. Forty years ago our small family farm outside of Luverne had stock cattle as well as dairy cows. My job was to round up the dairy cows from the pasture to the barn for the evening milking. While the stock cows summered at a different pasture from the farm, the milk cows grazed in an area a half-mile from the barn. If the cows were in the far north corner, the walk could be as long as a mile. Those walks often brought on those dreams of owning a horse. Saddling up and riding to get the cows would make the chore less work. Tiny was placed with the mature dairy cows and she went where they went. I'm sure it was during one of those walks to get the cows that I got the idea to let Tiny do the walking and me do the riding. I was younger than 10 according to the snapshots of me

sitting on that red and white heifer. I constructed a "saddle" out of carpet odds and ends, old belts and handles from broken grain shovels, and with an old snaffle bit and several strands of twine, I fashioned a bridle for my mount. Poor cow. I can only imagine what she was thinking. On the back of Tiny I reenacted the running of the Kentucky Derby. I told her my deepest, darkest secrets and the dream of one day owning a real pony. That dream came true when I turned 11. Peaches, the pony, was a young girl's dream come true, but Tiny the Hereford heifer forever captured my heart. To this day I admire the Herefords shown at the Rock County Fair. I smile when I look into their bright white faces and big brown eyes. I see Tiny in each and every one of them. They remind me of my life on the family farm and those long ago dreams of youth.

Wanna be in the know?

Hang out with the people who are making it happen

STAR HERALD EDITORIAL

Annual meeting of LIFT is set for March 16; ticket deadline is Monday, March 12

The annual meeting of LIFT — Luverne Initiatives For Tomorrow — is at 5:30 p.m. Friday, March 16, in Grand Prairie Events.

The event is a fundraiser for LIFT, with tickets going for \$40 per person to support ongoing projects to improve the community.

The cost of admission isn't cheap, but it's a bargain, considering what's planned for the night.

In addition to a Bluestem catered meal, attendees will get firsthand information from movers and shakers in town about all the latest community projects.

•trü Shrimp's Jon Knochenmus will speak on the upcoming construction and development of Luverne's harbor and hatchery.

•Ann Dybsetter of the Southwest Regional Sustainable Development Partnership will discuss the partnership of the University of Minnesota Extension and U of M professional schools in the development of a downtown plaza concept for Luverne.

•Rick Peterson, local committee chair, will discuss the 2018 Governor's Pheasant Opener in Luverne.

•Luverne Superintendent Craig Oftedahl will share information

about the school's upcoming building project approved by voters.

•Roger Brooks' Community Assessment final report will be reviewed

•Holly Sammons will offer an update on community wayfinding signage.

•Clark Meyer from Eastern Ellis will talk about local plans for the railroad.

For those who don't remember, LIFT was established in 2010 as a collaboration of public and private sectors brainstorming about how to improve the Luverne community.

Some real fruits of this organization include the Grand Stay Hotel, W-2 Quality Meats, Take 16 Brewery and other tangible investments.

Annual meetings like the one planned for next week are a chance

to celebrate accomplishments and review goals yet to be reached.

"There are so many exciting things happening in Luverne," Chamber Director Jane Wildung Lanphere told us last week.

"This meeting is a good opportunity to get good information about what's happening in Luverne. We hope that people can come celebrate with us."

A social gathering and cash bar is at 5:30 p.m. and the program begins at 6 p.m.

Bluestem-catered meal (chicken and pork) and entertainment begins at 7:15 p.m.

Tickets are available at the Chamber office, 507-283-4061, or luvernechamber@co.rock.mn.us.

Reservation deadline is March 12.

Frakes questions boycotts, violence by college students involving speakers

To the Editor:

I've noticed that there are still a lot of college students boycotting, shouting down, or inciting violence against so-called conservative speakers on their campuses.

I know that they are on a much higher intellectual plane than I am, so I couldn't debate with them on anything, but I do wonder why they are paying tens of thousands of dollars for an education when they obviously know everything already.

Bill Frakes
Luverne



State patrol vehicles feature unique color, 'pursuit mode'

by Sgt. Troy Christianson
Minnesota State Patrol

Last week I picked up my new 2017 Ford Interceptor AWD squad car. Some of the features are listed below. Mine is a class B, which means there is not a light bar on the roof.

The State Patrol currently has approximately 650 marked squads, of which 60 percent have light bars.

- 3.7L VVT V6 engine with 305HP
- 6 speed transmission
- 18 inch steel rims with 13 inch rotors

•Hands free SYNC Bluetooth equipped

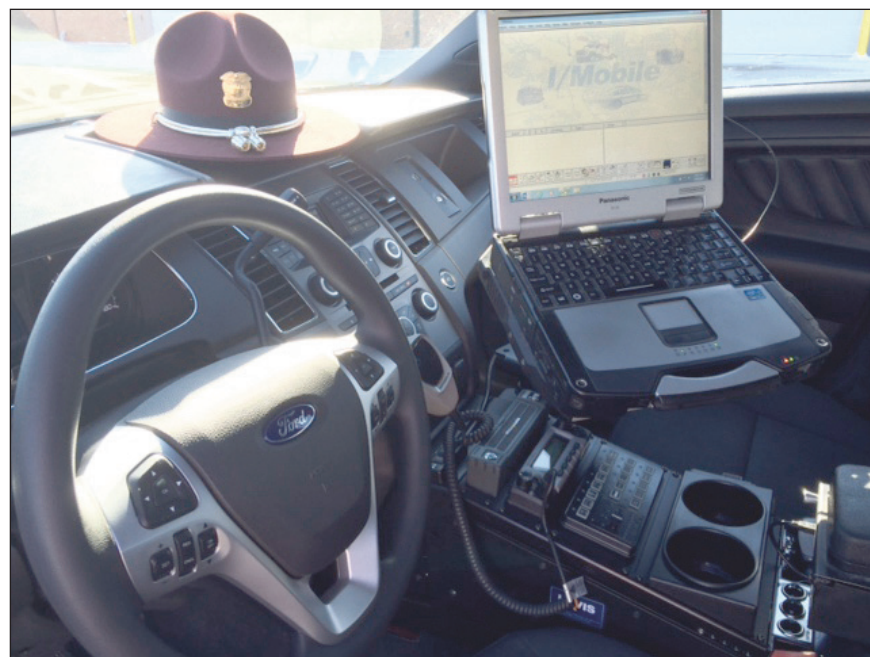
- 0 to 60 mph in 7.43 seconds
- Top speed 130+ mph
- Top speed of 800MHz Police radio= 186,000 miles per second

•Built at Ford assembly plant in Chicago, Illinois: Ford custom paints them with Minnesota maroon. We are the only agency in the country with this color.

•Specially equipped and engineered for law enforcement

•Only vehicle in law enforcement market with 75 mph rear-impact crash safety rating

•Features a unique "Pursuit Mode" designed to provide quick engine response when needed, especially useful for the Pursuit



The 2017 Ford Interceptor AWD squad cars are specially equipped and engineered for law enforcement, including hands free bluetooth equipment.

Intervention Technique maneuver.

You can avoid a ticket — and a crash — if you simply buckle up, drive at safe speeds, pay attention and always drive sober. Help us drive Minnesota Toward Zero Deaths.

If you have any questions

concerning traffic-related laws or issues in Minnesota, send your questions to Sgt. Troy Christianson — Minnesota State Patrol at 2900 48th Street NW, Rochester MN 55901-5848. Or at (Troy.Christianson@state.mn.us) Twitter: MSPPIO_SOUTH.

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The *Star Herald* encourages letters to the editor expressing the opinions of readers and intends to print all letters. Letters not meeting the guidelines will not be printed. The *Star Herald* will verify the authenticity of all letters. Letters must have the name of the writer, a signature and address.

Unsigned letters will not be considered. The *Star Herald* will edit for grammar, spelling and clarity. Any letters containing offensive language, libelous or slanderous material, or misleading or false information will be rewritten before being published. The *Star Herald* will not publish letters written with the sole intent to advertise or serve as a thank-you. Letters with more than 300 words may be edited. The deadline for letters is Monday 10 a.m. They may be delivered or mailed to the editor, *Rock County Star Herald*, P.O. Box 837, 117 W. Main St., Luverne, Minn. 56156.

ON THE RECORD

Dispatch report

Feb. 23
 •Reserved for assault investigation/charges.
 •Complainant reported a car in the ditch on County Road 3. Checked it out, no one around.
 •Complainant reported receiving explicit photos.
 •Complainant requested to speak with a deputy about ATV on city streets.
 •Complainant reported vehicle in the ditch on 200th Ave.
 •Complainant reported garbage/recycling bins blocking alley on Freeman Ave.
 •Complainant reported car tow on Linden Street.
 •Complainant requested to speak to a deputy about a gas voucher.
 •Out for follow-up on a ticket.
 •Lyon County requested a plate run.
 •Complainant reported a possible suicidal student at Luverne Elementary School.
 •Complainant reported a semi slid off the road in Beaver Creek.
 •Complainant reported vehicle in ditch near radio station.
 •Complainant reported he is getting nuisance calls.
 •Complainant reported a white SUV had been parked and running for about 20 minutes.
 •Complainant reported someone beat up her boyfriend. Requested ambulance.
Feb. 24
 •Complainant reported inmate going through detox. Requested deputy to meet at hospital.
 •Complainant reported threatening communication.
 •Complainant turned in found debit card.
Feb. 25
 •Complainant reported there is someone sitting in a running car that took an overdose. She won't come in. Requested deputy.
 •Complainant reported footprints around home in snow.
 •Complainant reported neighborhood disturbances.
 •Complainant reported silage on fire.
 •Complainant called to speak with on-call children social worker.
 •Complainant reported snowmobile riders on his property on Fairview Drive.
 •Complainant reported vehicle in ditch on County Road 17.
Feb. 26
 •Complainant requested incident report for fugitive from justice prosecution.
 •Reserved for theft investigation/charges.
 •Complainant reported a two-vehicle accident on Oak Drive. No injuries reported.
 •Complainant wants to speak to deputy about city ordinance.

•Complainant requested to speak to deputy.
 •Complainant wants to report hit and run that occurred several weeks ago.
 •Background check conducted for housing.
 •Deputy stood by for court.
 •Complainant wants to report identity theft.
 •Complainant requested car be removed on Lincoln Street.
 •Complainant requested welfare check on Lincoln Street.
 •Complainant reported hog barn fire on County Road 4.
 •Complainant reported semitrailer blocking road on County Road 17.
 •Complainant reported missing child at Casey's.
 •Complainant reported silo fire.
 •Complainant called Law Enforcement Center and requested to speak with deputy regarding fraud.
Feb. 27
 •Complainant conducted traffic stop resulting in a canceled IPS arrest.
 •Complainant reported noise complaint.
 •Complainant wanted to pay a warrant.
 •Warrant check on Spring Street.
 •Complainant reported an order of protection violation.
 •Complainant requested officer make contact with subject who may be violating a harassment order.
 •Deputy released vehicle from impound.
 •Complainant reported problems with her daughter and ex-husband.
Feb. 28
 •Complainant reported that her son is missing in Hills.
 •Complainant reported possibly rolled vehicle in Hills. Did not see anyone around.
 •Complainant reported a loud pickup on Davidson Street. Looks like there are beer cans all over.
March 1
 •Dispatch followed up with questions about permit to carry.
 •Deputy assisted trooper with traffic stop.
 •Escort to impound to release vehicle.
 •Complainant reported family custody issue.
 •Complainant reported harassing communications.
 •Complainant reported burglar alarm on Kniss Ave.

In addition officers also responded to 2 transports, 7 escorts, 13 ambulance runs, 2 animal complaints, 21 burn permits, 3 tests, 4 drug court tests, 6 permits to purchase/carry, 19 traffic stops, 2DWIs, 1 family and child incident, 1 driver's license check, 3 abandon 911 calls, 6 follow-ups and 5 paper services.

Post offices ask customers to keep walkways clear

The U.S. Postal Service is asking customers to keep snow and ice cleared from their sidewalks, stairs and mailboxes to help postal carriers deliver the mail. Postal customers who receive door mail delivery should ensure their side-

walks, steps and access ways are kept safely clear of snow and ice. Customers receiving rural, curbside or centralized mailbox delivery should also pay special attention to having a safe and clear pathway to their mailbox.

Postal carriers will continue to do their best to deliver the mail, but when mailboxes and approaches to mailboxes are buried in snow and ice, it can make it difficult for carriers to make deliveries safely. If mailboxes are blocked off and conditions are too

difficult, postal carriers must consider safety and accessibility first. They are instructed to refrain from delivering to locations they deem too hazardous. The USPS greatly appreciates the support of its customers in this effort.

Green Earth Players 'KOLD Radio'/continued from page 1A

border. Lars Knudsen (Casey McKenzie) is the host of a radio show called "Crappie Talk," devoted entirely to ice fishing for crappies. Because it is a somewhat narrow subject, Lars has no listeners, so he loses his only advertiser, Ole's Bait Mart and Deer Petting Farm (Jim Harsma plays Ole). Martha Bjorklund (Holly Anderson), Lars' unrequited love interest, hosts "Book Beat." She has all the listeners, and all the advertisers. Lars has had issues with Martha ever since she beat him in the 50-yard dash in sixth grade. Lars' jealousy toward Martha multiplies when a fish-out-of-water Brooklyn Italian (Sal Carducci played by Nathan Taubert) comes to Whitefish Bay, buys the radio station, promotes Martha and

fires Lars. Lars has his work cut out for him. He needs his job, he needs his dignity, but most important, he needs Martha. Rounding out the acting cast are Mallory Von Tersch as Sarah, DJ Luethje as Wendy, Elizabeth Ferguson (pictured at right) as Ruth, Josie Scholten as Donna and Joseph Karnoff as Sven. Joseph Stearns is assistant director, Mike Petronek is technical director and Dianne Ossenfort is producer. Show times are 7:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday and 2 p.m. Sunday both weekends. The second weekend includes a 7:30 p.m. show on Thursday, March 22, for a total of seven performances over the two weekends. Tickets are available at the Palace Theatre Box Office, 102 East Main Street. The phone number is 507-283-4339.



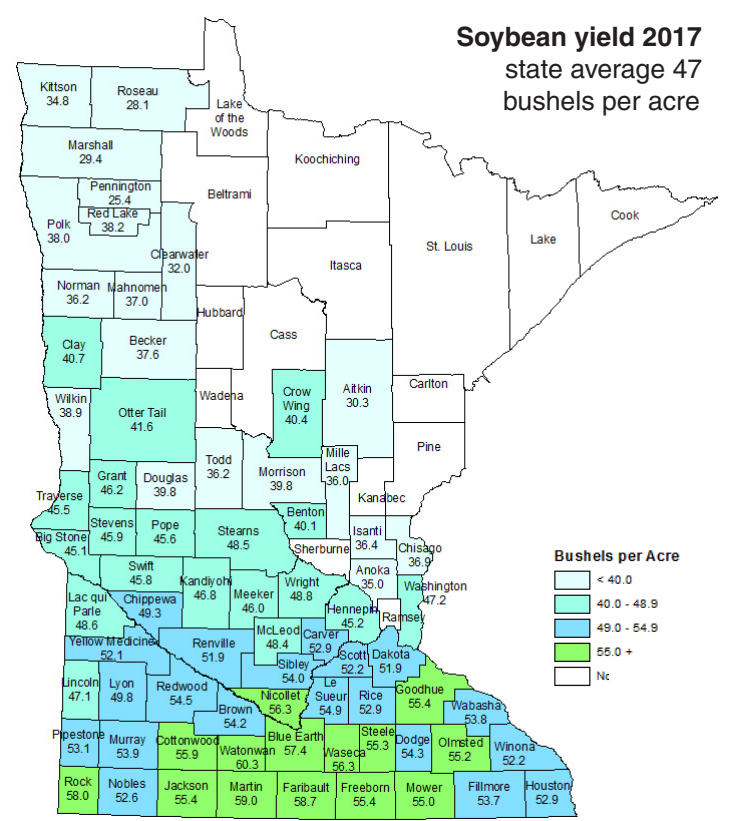
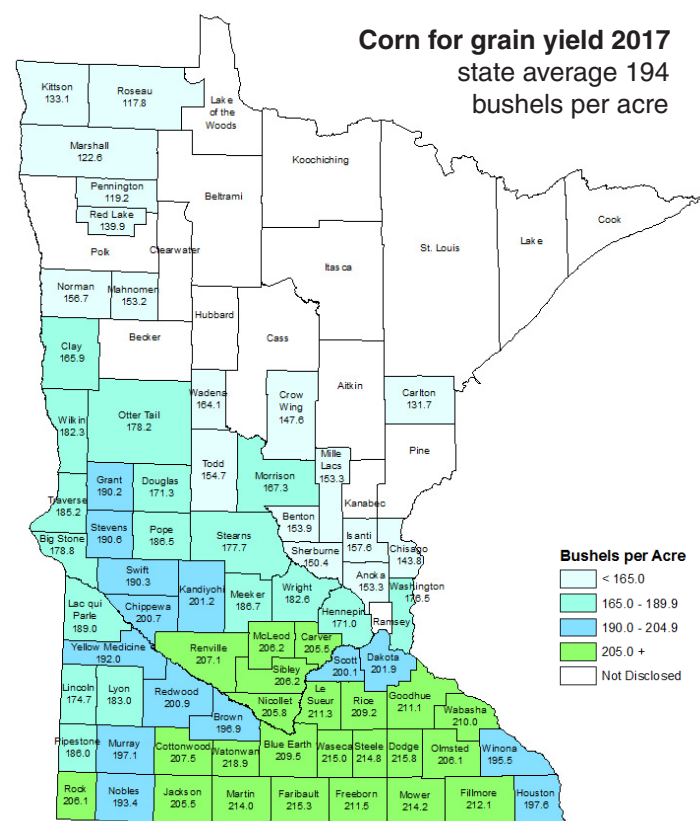
Special education reimbursements/continued from page 1A

four decades ago, MSBA data shows local schools have never received more than 15 percent of their actual special education costs. Each year the state's education commissioner is required to report the amount each school district is cross-

subsidizing. In 2016, cross-subsidies reached \$679 million, an increase of 5.6 percent from 2015. By 2021, the cross-subsidy is expected to grow to \$806 million. Abbott said MSBA is advocating for a joint work commit-

tee with officials to develop an adequate special education funding formula and eliminate the cross subsidy practice within districts by 2025. As of Friday, the House Education Innovation Policy Committee supported forming a special education work

group. The same support is expected this week from the Senate E-12 Policy Committee. MSBA is a private, nonprofit organization that provides training and support to public school boards and advocates for public education.



Rock County set a corn yield record (left) of 206.1 bushels per acre in 2017 and placed as one of 28 counties topping 200 bushels per acre. Last year was only the second time in 35 years local producers averaged more than 200 bushels per acre of corn. The first was last year at 201.2. In the graphic at right, local producers reached the state's top five in soybean yield with an average of 58 bushels per acre. Last year Rock County set its highest soybean yield average at 61.3. Graphics courtesy USDA

County has record yields, lower prices/continued from page 1A

yield with 60.3 bushels per acre. Cottonwood County yielded 55.9 soybean bushels per acre, followed by Jackson (55.4), Murray (53.9),

Pipestone (53.1) and Nobles (52.6). The state soybean yield average was 47 bushels per acre. Average per bushel price for corn in the state was \$3.06,

according to USDA's monthly price report. The price was 8 cents above December but 15 cents below last year's average price per bushel of \$3.21.

The state's average soybean price was \$9.13 per bushel, up 15 cents from December but down 25 cents from last year's price of \$9.38 per bushel.



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Each of Heidi Schacht's kindergartners wore "Cat in the Hat" character hats to the book-reading in the elementary media center including Cali Syndergaard.



'You look like Dr. Seuss'

Superintendent Craig Oftedahl (above) reads Dr. Seuss' book "Green Eggs and Ham" to Luverne Elementary kindergartners Friday in honor of the late author's birthday and National Education Association's Read Across America Day. The annual reading motivational and awareness day began in 1998. Exclaimed one kindergartner to Oftedahl, "You look like Dr. Seuss."

Before he began another Seuss book, "Horton Hears a Who" below, Oftedahl asked students if they would enjoy eating green eggs and ham. Kindergartner Max Fick (far left) reacts with a thumbs-up while classmate Devin Sengvongxag (left) reacts with a look of disgust.

Above middle: Kindergarten teacher Heidi Schacht dresses in a tall red-and-white-striped hat like the character in "The Cat in the Hat." Her T-shirt depicts another Dr. Seuss character who said, "Reading is My Thing."

Mavis Fodness photos/0308 Read America 2018



CELEBRATIONS

Open houses

An open house bridal shower for **Meranda Fick**, bride-to-be of **John Kramer**, will be from 10 a.m. to noon Saturday, March 17, at the Luverne Presbyterian Church. Guests are requested to bring a recipe to share.

MENU

Monday, March 12: Swiss steak, mashed potatoes, peas and carrots, bread, pineapple. Program: Jump into Spring Party; pinochle.

Tuesday, March 13: Honey mustard chicken breast, baked potato with sour cream, green bean casserole, bread, cake.

Program: Two-buck Tuesday sponsored by First Farmers and Merchants Bank. 10 a.m. New Ulm Site Manager Meeting.

Wednesday, March 14: Lasagna, California blend vegetables, garlic bread, pears, cookie.

Thursday, March 15: Pork loin, potatoes, buttered cabbage, dinner roll, fruit crisp.

Program: Food Give-away.

Friday, March 16: Lemon pepper fish, macaroni and cheese, mixed vegetables, bread, pie.

Program: Birthday party with Kitchen Band. Wear green.

Senior Dining offers well-balanced and affordable meals in a community atmosphere.

Gift certificates are available at the meal site or online at www.lssmn.org/nutrition.

Call Lauree Teunissen at 283-9846 to make dining reservations or for home-delivered meals.

SCHOOL NEWS

Vajgrt named to St. Olaf dean's list

Jonathon Vajgrt, Luverne, was named to the St. Olaf College, Northfield, dean's list for the Fall 2017 semester. To be eligible, students must earn a 3.75 or higher on a scale of 4.0.

Vajgrt, a chemistry major, is the son of Terry and Michelle Vajgrt, Luverne.

1962: Survey of Rock County public fallout shelters follows nationwide effort

The following article is from the Feb. 8, 1962, edition of the Rock County Star Herald.

Initial Survey Of Fallout Shelters to Begin Next Week

An initial survey of facilities for public fallout shelters in Rock county will begin Tuesday.

Magnus Christensen, Rock county civil defense director, said a representative of a private firm will conduct the survey (Cerney Associates) beginning Tuesday.

Shelters which would be suitable to hold a minimum of 50 persons will be considered for marking and for location of emergency food supplies.

Before a shelter is designated, the owner of the structure will be asked to give his permission in writing.

Christensen said that at least part of the emergency food supplies for fallout shelters will arrive in the next couple weeks. He said the city will receive about 420 feet of the packaged supplies. Much of it can be stored in the basement of



Bits by Betty

By Betty Mann, president
Rock County Historical Society

the city hall until shelters are designated.

Meeting Held Here

Local civil defense directors from Rock and Pipestone counties attend a meeting here Monday. Roy V. Aune, assistant director of Minnesota civil defense, outlined the fallout shelter program survey.

The survey for and designation of fallout shelters in Rock county is part of a nation-wide effort.

The federal government has appropriated \$93 million to make the survey and \$58.8 million for stocking shelters during fiscal 1962. Supplies include food, water, medical and dosimeters.

Rock county has considered a fallout shelter for a control center. It would likely be located at the court house.

The federal government would pay half the cost. Christensen, Commissioner Ray Fick and Bill Mohr, Luverne city engineer, attended a meeting on this at New Brighton Tuesday.

Christensen said no definite plans have been made.

But he said the control center could be built as a windowless basement under the present parking lot at the court house.

Later, an annex to the court house could be built over the basement.

Donations to the Rock County Historical Society can be sent to the Rock County Historical Society, 312 E. Main Street, Luverne, MN 56156.

Mann welcomes correspondence sent to mannmade@iu.net.

Adrian Knowledge Bowl teams take second

The Adrian Senior High Knowledge Bowl team competed at the Sub-Regional Knowledge Bowl meet at Minnesota West Community and Technical College in Jackson on Friday, March 2.

There were 10 schools competing, with a total of 32 teams. Adrian had seven teams participate at the meet.

Adrian placed second overall and has two teams advancing to the Regional Tournament in Marshall on Thursday, March 8.

Students moving on are Austin Metz, Maritza Beltran, Blake Madison, Nathan Varley, Tristan Thier, Skylar Polzine, Dustin John and Alexia Kemper.

The top three teams at the regional meet will move on to the state competition



Submitted photo

The team of Maritza Beltran (left), Austin Metz, Nathan Varley and Blake Madison placed second at Knowledge Bowl subsection competition and will move on to regional competition.

in Brainerd on April 12 and 13.

Adrian had 33 kids out

for Knowledge Bowl this year in grades 9-12. The team is coached by Robert Remme.

BUSINESS NEWS

Buffalo Ridge Agency receives outstanding service honor

The Buffalo Ridge Insurance Agency of Luverne has been named to the President's Club of the Midwest Family Mutual Insurance Company of Des Moines, Iowa, and Minneapolis

for 11 consecutive years.

The award recognizes outstanding continued service to customers and community as well as superior performance. Employees of the Luverne

agency are Cory Bloemendaal, Marilyn Bloemendaal, Pam Haakenson, Steve Smetsrud, Lorie Gruis, Katelyn Thornock and Spencer Riphagen.



First-year coach Jason Berghorst speaks about the team's dedication and efforts in their journey to state competition Thursday and Friday, March 1-2, in Minneapolis. Team members seated from left are Megan Rogers, Michael Rahm, Hans Bakken, Grace Sweeney, Jessica Anderson, Jady Anderson, Jordan Winter, Sophia Lanoue, Gunnar Oldre, Alexa Chesley, Lauren VerSteege, Solveig Tofteland, Elise Jarchow, Seno Chanthalangsy, and Kaitlyn Anderson.



Mavis Fodness photos/0308 Mock Trial Pep Fest From left Jacinda Hustoft, Alyssa Nattress and Zoe DeBates show the signs they made in support of the Luverne High School Mock Trial team at a pep fest Wednesday afternoon, Feb. 28, in the high school gymnasium. At left is a sample of several posters that appear on students' lockers, wishing the Mock Trial team members well at their state competition in Minneapolis March 1 and 2.



Luverne Mock Trial makes fourth consecutive state appearance



Mavis Fodness photo/0308 Mock Trial Pep Fest

Students in grades 6-12 and the pep band filled the Luverne High School gymnasium Wednesday afternoon, Feb. 28, to show their support for the school's Mock Trial team, whose appearance at the March 1-2 state event is the team's fourth consecutive.

LHS team places 12th out of 16 teams in Minneapolis

By Mavis Fodness

The Luverne High School Mock Trial team competed in the state tournament March 1-2 at the U.S. Federal Courthouse in Minneapolis.

It was the fourth consecutive year the Cardinals qualified for state competition.

Sioux Falls, South Dakota, native David Lillehaug presided over Luverne's Round 3 match against Apple Valley.

Lillehaug is currently a Minnesota Supreme Court justice.

The state competition features three rounds with the two scoring teams facing off in the championship round.

Luverne finished 12th out of the 16 teams competing. Nova Classical Academy, St. Paul, won the state tournament and will compete at the national event.

First-year LHS coach Jason Berghorst said this year's state tournament was a positive experience for the team.

"The competition is at a whole different level, and we learned a lot by seeing how the metro schools do things,"

"These students met their goal of returning to the state tournament for the fourth year in a row, even with an inexperienced teacher coach. This program has a tradition of strong student leadership and that was very evident this year."

— Jason Berghorst, LHS coach

Berghorst said. "I was especially pleased with our performance versus Breck."

Breck School is a pre-school-12th grade private school in Golden Valley. They've won the state mock trial title four times.

Luverne faced Breck in the second round. Luverne presented the defense side of the case, State of Minnesota versus Cameron "Skeeter" Farris.

Farris was driving a semi pulling a belly dump trailer when he failed to stop at a highway intersection. He struck a car, killing the driver. Prosecutors argued that Farris operated the truck in a negligent matter.

While the prosecution tries to convict Farris, the defense tries to create reasonable doubt on Farris' negligence.

"Our lawyers and witnesses held their own and had some real successes against a very good team," Berghorst said.

Round 1 was against Sartell High School. The presiding judge prosecuted the original case and re-wrote the trial for the mock competition.

The students are looking forward to next year.

"These students met their goal of returning to the state tournament for the fourth year in a row, even with an inexperienced teacher coach," Berghorst said.

"This program has a tradition of strong student leadership and that was very evident this year."

Seniors are Hans Bakken, Michael Rahm, Megan Rogers and Emma Verbrugge.

Verbrugge earned All-State witness honors for the second consecutive year.

All-State awards were given to the top ten witnesses out of the 96 witnesses who performed at the state tournament.

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John Rittenhouse photo/0308 lbb 10
Luverne junior Derek Lundgren led the Cardinals with 15 points and eight rebounds during Saturday's loss in Windom.

Rally/continued from page 1B

minutes left to play.

Windom, however, registered the next six points as a part of a 13-4 run that gave the Eagles a 12-point victory at game's end.

Lundgren (15 points and eight rebounds), Haugom (13 points) and Robinson (10 points) sparked LHS offensively.

Brayden Jacobsma registered three assists for the Cards.

Box score
Robinson 22 0-1 10, Lundgren 33 0-0 15, Bartels 10 0-0 2, Claussen 20 0-0 4, Terry 3 0-0 2 6, Jacobsma 0 1 0-0 3, Siebenahler 0 22-28, Haugom 6 01-21 3.

Team statistics
Luverne: 25 of 43 field goals (58 percent), three of seven free throws (43 percent), 20 rebounds, seven turnovers.

BOWLING NEWS

Thursday Bowling National League March 1

Games won: Those Girls 4; Troublemakers 3; Real Guys 3; Stooges 1; Rock-Stars 1; Those Guys 0.

High Scratch Game Men: Zach Runia 225, Brian Mazza 225.

High Scratch Game Women: Marie Opheim 149; Tyra Feekes 114.

High Scratch Series Men: Zach Runia 590; Jeff Runia 582.

High Scratch Series Women: Marie Opheim 402; Tyra Feekes 291.

Team High Scratch Game: Real Guys 538; Troublemakers 513.

Team High Scratch Series: Real Guys 1510; Troublemakers 1473.

Team High Handicap Game: Real Guys 658; Rock-Stars 643.

Team High Handicap Series: Real Guys 1870; Troublemakers 1833.

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Dragons split pair of tourney games

By John Rittenhouse

The Adrian boys' basketball team completed a 13-14 season by splitting a pair of games during the South Section 3A Basketball Tournament last week.

The Dragons defeated Edgerton by 23 points during an opening round game staged in Adrian Thursday.

Southwest Christian saddled AHS with an 18-point setback during Saturday's quarterfinals in Worthington.

SWC 74, Adrian 56

The Dragons wrapped up the 2017-18 campaign by dropping an 18-point decision to the Eagles during Saturday's quarterfinals in Worthington.

Third-seeded SWC outscored the No. 6 Dragons in both halves of the contest to win the game handily.

AHS sported a 5-4 edge when Christian Weidert converted a three-point play 3:22 into the game and the Dragons led by two (8-6) when Brady Henning canned a three-point shot at the 13:33 mark of the first half. Unfortunately for AHS, the rest of the game belonged to SWC.

A 16-3 run gave the Eagles a 22-11 lead with 6:07 remaining in the first half.

Adrian trimmed the difference to five points (24-19) when Ryan Wieneke hit a three-point shot at the 3:32 mark, but SWC countered with a 12-4 run to end the half and sport a 36-23 advantage at the intermission.

Adrian's Skylar Polzine sank one free throw early in the second half to make it a 36-24 game, but that proved to be as close as AHS would come to catching the Eagles.

SWC went on a 14-4 run to open a 22-point (50-28) advantage with 9:52 remaining



John Rittenhouse photo/0308 abb 3
Adrian junior guard Christian Weidert drives past a Southwest Christian defender during Saturday's South Section 3A Tournament game in Worthington. SWC topped AHS 74-56.

in the game.

Adrian never trailed by less than 16 points over the final nine minutes.

Wieneke (24 points, six rebounds and four assists) and Polzine (10 points) paced AHS statistically.

Lance Luettel grabbed six rebounds for the Dragons.

Box score
Weidert 10 3-5 5, John 0 0 1-2 1, Wieneke 8 2 2-2 24, Ross 0 0 0-0 0, Henning 0 1 0-0 3, Veld 0 0 0-0 0, Reyne 1 0 3-4 5, Stamer 1 0 0-2 2, Polzine 4 0 2-4 10, Luettel 1 0 4-6 6.

Team statistics
Adrian: 19 of 54 field goals (35 percent), 15 of 25 free throws (60 percent), 24 rebounds, 12 turnovers.
SWC: 26 of 59 field goals (44 percent), 18 of 26 free throws (69 percent), 36 rebounds, 11 turnovers.

Adrian 78, Edgerton 55

The Dragons passed their first test in postseason play by disposing of the Flying Dutchmen by 23 points in Adrian Thursday.

Sixth-seeded AHS gained control of the contest by opening a 40-16 halftime advantage against No. 11 Edgerton.

EHS sported a 39-38 scoring edge in the second half, making it a 23-point difference at game's end.

Wieneke (19 points, six rebounds, four blocked shots and three assists), Ian Stamer (16 points and four assists) and Polzine (12 points and five rebounds) carried the scoring load for the Dragons.

Weidert (six rebounds), Mitchell Veld (seven rebounds), Luettel (five rebounds) and Dakota John (three assists) also made key contributions to the winning cause.

Box score
Domeyer 0 0 0-0 0, Weidert 4 0 0-1 8, John 0 1 0-0 3, Wilson 0 1 0-0 3, Wieneke 7 1 2-2 19, Ross 0 0 0-0 0, Henning 1 0 0-0 2, Veld 0 3 0-0 9, Reyne 0 0 0-0 0, Stamer 5 1 3-5 16, Frodermann 0 0 0-0 0, Vortherms 0 0 0-0 0, Polzine 6 0 0-0 12, Luettel 2 0 2-8 6.

Team statistics
Adrian: 32 of 61 field goals (52 percent), seven of 16 free throws (44 percent), 36 rebounds, seven turnovers.
Edgerton: 20 of 61 field goals (33 percent), four of eight free throws (50 percent), 22 rebounds, eight turnovers.



John Rittenhouse photo/0308 hbb 10
Hills-Beaver Creek sophomore forward Jax Wysong scored 14 points and collected seven rebounds during Saturday's season-ending loss to W-WG in Worthington.

W-WG ousts H-BC

By John Rittenhouse

The Hills-Beaver Creek boys bowed out of the South Section 3A Basketball Tournament during Saturday's quarterfinals in Worthington.

Seventh-seeded H-BC remained in contention to upset No. 2 Westbrook-Walnut Grove in the game's first half, but the Chargers pulled away in the second half to secure a 95-74 win.

The Patriots end the season with an 11-15 record.

H-BC's Josh Kueter opened the scoring 17 seconds into the

Oust/continued on page 3B

Luverne Baseball Traveling Team

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Congratulations



The Luverne High School Mock Trial team posed with Minnesota Supreme Court Justice David Lillehaug (far back) during last week's state mock trial competition. Pictured in front are Seno Chanthalangsy, Lauren VerSteege, Megan Rogers, Sophia Lanoue, Elise Jarchow, Kaitlyn Anderson, Solveig Tofteland, (middle) Alexa Chesley, Jessica Anderson, Grace Sweeney, Jady Anderson, Emma Verbrugge, (back) coach Jason Berghorst, Gunnar Oldre, Hans Bakken, Micheal Rahm, Jordan Winter and attorney coach Jeff Haubrich



Prosecuting attorney Hans Bakken (right) receives an objection from defense attorney Jessica Anderson (left, standing)



The cross examination of Megan Rogers portraying witness Morgan Garcia



Defense Attorney Alexa Chesley completed closing arguments during the Feb. 19 parents night presentation of this year's mock trial case State of Minnesota vs Cameron "Skeeter" Farris



All-State witness Emma Verbrugge

Record for 2018 Season, 4-1

State

Fourth-consecutive year earning a trip to the state Mock Trial competition
Finished 12th out of 16 schools competing at the state event

Regular season

Defense won vs Lakeview White, 238-219
Prosecution won vs Hills-Beaver Creek, 228-191
Defense won vs Springfield, 228-213
Prosecution lost vs Lakeview, 243-246.

State qualifying match

Defense won vs Lakeview 204 to 199

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