

THE STATESMAN

ALL THE COMMUNITY NEWS YOU NEED TO KNOW SINCE 189

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Thursday, January 2, 2014

Ellis family enjoys Christmas together with technology



Graci Roller enjoys a conversation on Christmas Eve with her uncle, PFC Trent Ellis. The Ellis family spent the holiday in front of their computer spending time together via Skype while he is stationed at Camp Humphreys in Pyeongtaek, South Korea.

Submitted photo

By Sue Mroz

Statesman Correspondent

Whenever Trent Ellis hears the final line of a popular Christmas carol, "I'll be home for Christmas, if only in my dreams," he experiences pangs of nostalgia.

That's because Trent, a Private First Class (PFC) in the U.S. Army, won't be home in Kewaskum with his parents Troy and Sharon Ellis and siblings this holiday season. Since September, Trent, 20, a member of the 520th Maintenance Company, has been stationed at Camp Humphreys in Pyeongtaek, South Korea, approximately 40 miles from Seoul, the country's capital.

"It doesn't really feel much like Christmastime here," he said in an email interview. "It's hard to feel the Christmas spirit and celebrate without family. I'm really going to miss the simple things of Christmas, like seeing family members we don't get

to see very often."

In order to send some Christmas cheer to Trent, a 2012 Kewaskum High School graduate, his mother mailed him a box of his favorite Christmas cookies -- cut-outs and peanut-butter balls.

His siblings -- Meghan Szczerbinski, 24, and Craig Watry, 25, both of Kewaskum and Amanda Ellis, 22, Lexington, Ky., also sent care packages to their brother.

Trent will spend Christmas in Pyeongtaek, at the home of another soldier from his section, TMDE (Test, Measurement and Diagnostic Equipment). "Other people from our section will be going to that home too, and we will have a traditional Christmas dinner," he said.

He considers technology -- particularly Skype -- a blessing to military personnel and others who are away from home and loved ones. He and his family Skype regularly. For those

unfamiliar with computers, Skype is a computer program that enables people to see and speak with one another, via computer monitors, equipped with webcams and microphones.

However, Skyping with Trent isn't always easy, since South Korea is 15 hours ahead of the Midwest's Central Standard Time. So the family attempts to accommodate Trent's schedule.

"I usually Skype with Trent after his PT (physical training) early in the morning there," Sharon said. "That is around our dinner time here."

"Being able to Skype makes being away so much easier," Trent agreed. "Being able to physically see and talk to family members a few times a week is wonderful.

"I haven't felt any homesickness, with being able to Skype. I imagine being in the service was much more

Please see **Ellis**, page 3

Paulus sure enjoyed the title ride

By Judy Harlow

Statesman Correspondent

Even though he had to settle for playing a reserve role as an inside linebacker for the unbeaten NCAA III Champion UW-Whitewater football team, Kewaskum's Joe Paulus wouldn't trade this season for anything.

"Being on a team like this is more satisfying than any individual accolades," Paulus said this past week while on Christmas break. "The guys ahead of me were really good. They all made the all-conference team."

So the 5-10, 223-pound Paulus played hard when he was called on, did his best on special teams to keep opponents from getting much yardage on kickoff and punt returns and provided leadership for his Warhawk teammates.

Looking at the fact he was selected to be the team's speaker at the championship banquet the night before UW-Whitewater ripped Mt. Union 52-44 speaks volumes on what the Warhawk staff thought about Paulus' efforts on the team.

In his humble "team is first" mindset, Paulus proudly accepted the invitation and represented Whitewater with class. "Coach asked me to do it," Paulus said, indicating he centered the talk on "What football means to me" first from a perspective of playing on the Kewaskum youth Gridiron team, on into high school and right through his collegiate career.

"I gave a little farewell to the seniors," Paulus went on, wishing them

Please see **Paulus**, page 8



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POLICE BLOTTER

Thursday, December 19

2:28 am: Issued winter parking tickets.
 8:15 am: Met with a subject regarding a suspicious phone call.
 8:48 am: Contacted a subject regarding an abandoned vehicle.
 9:55 am: Received a report of harassment by phone on Roseland Dr.
 10:49 am: Took fingerprints of a subject.
 11:52 am: Received a report of a forged tax return on Fond du Lac Ave.
 1:48 pm: Subject issued a warning for speed on Riverview Dr.
 3:30 pm: Received a report of a stolen license plate on Timblin Dr.
 4:34 pm: Man issued a warning for speed on Edgewood Rd.
 5:16 pm: Subject issued a citation for failure to wear a seatbelt and not having valid insurance on Fond du Lac Ave.
 7:11 pm: Woman issued a warning for a defective headlight on Roseland Dr.

Friday, December 20

5:00 am: Vehicle lockout on Knights Ave.
 9:30 am: Subject issued a warning for speed on Riverview Dr.
 12:03 pm: Man issued a citation for failure to wear a seatbelt on Second St.
 4:20 pm: Received a report of a theft of outdoor Christmas decorations on Washington Ave.
 6:01 pm: Subject issued citations for expired registration, not having insurance and a defective taillight on Hwy. H. West.

Saturday, December 21

1:55 pm: Met with a subject regarding a parking ticket.
 6:12 pm: Received a report of a theft of outdoor Christmas decorations on Ne Shna Bek Tr.
 7:51 pm: Driver issued citations for operating while suspended and unreasonable speed on Fond du Lac Ave.

Sunday, December 22

4:00 am: Issued winter parking tickets.
 12:28 pm: Notified of a missing sewer vent cap on Reagan Rd.
 2:10 pm: Minor accident on Nature Haven Blvd.
 5:30 pm: Received a report of a theft of Christmas decorations on Reagan Dr.
 11:59 pm: Vehicle lockout on Memorial Dr.

Monday, December 23

12:28 am: Subject issued a warning for a defective brake light on Bonnie Ln.
 2:12 am: Issued winter parking tickets.
 3:26 am: Assisted the Washington County Sheriff's Office with a fire on Highland Dr.
 8:00 am: Report of damage to property on Fond du Lac Ave.
 12:19 pm: Assisted Kewaskum Ambulance with a call on Fond du Lac Ave.
 7:30 pm: Report of a 911 hang-up on Bel Ric Dr.

Tuesday, December 24

12:18 am: Subject issued a warning for a defective taillight on Fond du Lac Ave.
 11:14 am: Gas drive off on Badger Rd.
 11:59 am: Met with a subject regarding a parking ticket.
 1:09 pm: Woman issued citations for operating after suspension, not having insurance and expired registration on Riverview Dr.
 1:44 pm: Accident on Stark St.
 3:56 pm: Attempted to locate a vehicle for the Washington County Sheriff's Office.
 9:35 pm: Assisted Kewaskum Ambulance with a call on Jefferson Dr.

Wednesday, December 25

12:09 am: Secured an unlocked door at a Fond du Lac Ave. business.
 3:00 am: Issued a winter parking ticket.
 6:34 am: Assisted the Washington County Sheriff's Office with a vehicle in the ditch on Hwy. 45.
 5:22 pm: Subject issued a warning for disorderly conduct with a vehicle on Fond du Lac Ave.
 7:03 pm: Assisted the Washington County Sheriff's Department in attempting to locate a vehicle.

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Ambulance Calls

On December 18, Kewaskum Rescue was dispatched in the Village of Kewaskum for a person with back pain. A transport was made.

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Monday, January 6 -- Roast pork, herbed stuffing, asparagus tips, fruit cocktail, multigrain bread, peanut butter krispy treat. Alt: diet pudding.

Tuesday, January 7 -- Old fashioned beef stew, country mix vegetables, mandarin oranges, whole wheat dinner roll, oatmeal raisin cookie. Alt: diet

On December 18, Kewaskum Rescue was dispatched in the Village of Kewaskum for a person with weakness. A transport was made.

Wednesday, January 8 -- Roast turkey, mashed potatoes with gravy, broccoli florets, nine grain bread, pecan pie. Alt: diet pie.

Thursday, January 9 - Beef stroganoff over rotini noodles, peas & carrots, mixed fruit cup, whole wheat bread, flavored yogurt.

To make reservations, please call (262) 335-4497 or 1-877-306-3030, one day in advance by noon.



TOWN OF FARMINGTON

Edward J. Seiger Tr and Diane J. Sieger Tr to Scott A. Graskey, 2193 Valley View Rd., \$145,000.

Richard R. Winter Rev Liv Tr to Gary and Jennifer Kohler, 7691 State Hwy. 144, \$22,500.

John A. Casper to Michael J. and Nancy A. Schmit, 1321 Lakeview Rd., \$149,000.

Brad R. and Sandra Hadfield to Eugene R. Zienty, Covey Pl., \$65,000.

Arthur W. Luedtke Family Tr to Perry N. and Jeanette R. Luedtke, 9559 Cty. Hwy. XX, \$4,000.

State Bank of Newburg to Steven S. and Ann M. Meyer, 1060 E. Newark Dr., \$280,000.

Barry A. and Tracey L. Co-

peschka to Daniel J. Czerwinski, 1942 Covey Pl, \$343,000.

Ricky N. Hoffman to Amy L. Bores and Peter J. Schinker, 792 E. Newark Dr, \$188,000.

Sandra J. Ross and Nancy L. Holmes to Roger K. Miller, 1255 Lakeview Rd., \$360,000.

Rosebush Tr No 5 LLC to Susan K. McFarlane Tr, Wick Rev Tr - Lyon - Smith Family, Indian Lore Rd., \$270,000.

TOWN OF WAYNE

Scott A. Graskey to Travis S. and Rebecca L. Rosine, 8402 Schmidt Dr., \$280,000.

James E. and Deborah H. Lockett to Nathan D. Schepp, 5650 Deer Wood Ln., \$328,900.

TUESDAY NIGHT SHEEPSHEAD WINNERS

Five handed winners on Tuesday, December 23 were: Gerald Stern, 82-2-80, 23-2-21; Robert Freitag, 71-8-63, 23-6-17; Chick Flynn, 64-12-52, 19-7-12; Rosie Ritger, 56-6-50, 19-4-15; Ralph Stern, 57-8-49, 22-8-14; Sylvester Stern, 54-8-46, 20-5-15; Leroy Jaeger, 16 most losses; Raymond Kirchner, 6 low points.

The next five handed call-ace will be January 7 at 7:30 p.m. sharp.

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Ellis (continued from front)

difficult before this technology."

Trent's niece Graci, 2, is particularly enamored by seeing her uncle on the screen and interacting with him. Trent too looks forward to those visits.

"I try to Skype with Graci at least once a week, so we can talk to each other," he said. "She's one of the people I miss most over here in Korea. I think it's important to stay connected with her -- especially at her age."

Sharon realizes her son has become an adult through his service. "When I asked Trent recently whether he was homesick, he replied, 'This is my home now. This is my room. This is where I live,'" she said. "It made me a little sad, but it also told me he is growing up has taken charge of his life. This made me very happy and proud."

A broker's associate with Star Properties, located in Jackson, Sharon and Troy, a retired Kewaskum police officer, and their children plan to be together this Christmas. They are scheduling a time to Skype with Trent.

There is another family member they are missing this year. Gail Ellis, Troy's mother, passed away in January. She and her husband Dick are former Kewaskum residents, who moved to Potosi about 12 years ago.

Since then, Troy and family occasionally traveled to Potosi, a three-hour car trip, to spend Christmas. "But if we go there Christmas, we won't have access to the Internet," Sharon said.

She pointed out that their family is just one of many in the area with children in the military. "It's important for us families who have sons and daughters in the military to help support our troops while they are away from family," she affirmed. "We still have family and friends among us when these men and women are far away and with no family."

"We care about all the troops," she said. "It is amazing how military families are very supportive of each other."

She noted that she was crying at the airport after Christmas last year, when Trent had to return to service. "The father of another soldier saw me and comforted me," she said. "It is amazing how strangers with loved ones in the service become instant family."

For his military duty, Trent is assigned to the company's TMDE section. "My job is calibrating and repairing equipment," he said. "We get in a wide array of equipment that we need to make sure is still working within specifications. If the equipment does not meet specifications, we need to fix it. This is pretty important, because some of the equipment, if incorrectly calibrated, could cause a helicopter to crash."

His company maintains a Facebook page -- 520th Main-

tenance Company. This is another benefit to those at home for keeping in touch with their military family members.

Trent enjoys spending time in South Korea, which he described as "a pretty cool country."

"The culture is quite different from what I was used to, but as a whole, there's a lot to do here, from hiking, shopping, fishing and movies," he said. "I also enjoy the learning experiences I get every day in the Army and the bonds I've formed. I've known people for months who feel like we've been best friends for years. They become another family."

Regarding the food in South Korea, "Seafood is very popular," he noted. "Kimchi is the most popular dish -- a type of pickled cabbage."

Sharon is proud of the military connections within her family. Her husband Troy, served in the U.S. Air Force.

Meghan, a 2008 Kewaskum High School graduate and currently, a student at Moraine Park Technical College in West Bend, aspiring for a career as a registered nurse, is a medic in the U.S. Army Reserves. Her mother noted that Meghan was a catalyst in her brother's decision to enlist in the U.S. Army.

"I miss my brother terribly," Meghan admitted. "I am so proud of what he is doing, but I wish he was home."

"I sent him some things for Christmas. My daughter Graci loves to draw him pictures. She and I enjoy Skyping with Trent weekly. Graci also reads him books and makes silly faces. I am so glad we have that technology, so we can physically see him. It is hard with the time difference though."

Meghan is hoping her brother will be home next September. "I am getting married that month, and we kind of scheduled our wedding, so he can be part of it, since we are so close," she said.

"The holidays will be hard for us, because we are all used to being together for the holidays," Meghan added. "I think the separation is hardest on my mom, because Trent is her baby and is half way around the world. We are just trying to give her a little more TLC to ease her nerves."

Another person who influenced Trent to enter military service was a family friend, Josh Theisen, who joined the U.S. Army in 2008 and is presently serving in Afghanistan. Sharon noted that Tocarra Timblin, Josh's fiancée, helped find addresses of local people in the military who are away, so that the Girl Scouts could send them care packages.

"There are several people in this area who have soldiers gone," Sharon said. "We care about all the troops. It is amazing how military families are very supportive of each other."

Despite the pitfall of the separation, Sharon supports both of her loved ones in their

service to their country. "It's awesome having them in the military," Sharon said. "I'm so very proud of them."

Both Meghan and her brother attended basic training at Fort Jackson, S.C., near Columbia, the capital of S.C.

After his basic training, Trent spent nine months at Fort Lee, Va., for further training. He was then on leave this past September, and with his family in Kewaskum for 10 days.

Sharon and Troy attended their son's graduation ceremony, following basic training. And Sharon and her sister Karen Callen, Kewaskum, were present for Meghan's graduation ceremony at Fort Jackson. "It's a really emotional ceremony," Sharon said.

Trent has already completed a year of his five-year stint in service. "If I stay in longer than five years, I would like to get a job doing what I am doing now or try to get a job with the FBI or another agency," he said.

In signing off, Trent sent this message. "I want to wish my friends and family and anybody reading this article a safe and happy holiday season."

(Editor's note: This article focuses on one military family. However, the intent is to salute and thank all families with children in the military for their service to our country.)

Cedar Ridge Apartments to Host 2014 AARP Foundation Tax-Aide Site

The 2014 tax filing season is not far away, and the West Bend site for the AARP Foundation Tax-Aide will be at a new location this year in the Grand Hall at Cedar Ridge Apartments beginning in early February. Cedar Ridge Apartments is located just off Scenic Drive at 113 Cedar Ridge Drive on West Bend's west side. Parking is readily available, and there is a covered drop-off area at the accessible front entrance.

Offered in cooperation with the Internal Revenue Service and the Wisconsin Department of Revenue, AARP Foundation Tax-Aide is a free income tax service aimed toward taxpayers with low and moderate income, with special attention for those 60 and older. Last year in West Bend, eight trained and IRS-certified volunteers assisted nearly six hundred individuals and families in e-filing their tax returns.

Assistance is offered by appointment only, with appointments taken by Glacier Hills Credit Union staff at 262-338-1888, extension 135 to select a time between 9:15 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. Mondays and Thursdays, beginning February 3. The service will run through Monday, April 14.

Working from your tax documents (Social Security earnings statement, W-2s, 1099-Rs, brokerage statements, etc.), volunteers interview you to learn about income, deductions, and potential tax credits, then create both your federal and Wisconsin income returns and go over them with you before electronic

filing. All returns are quality reviewed by a second counselor to ensure accuracy, and copies of the returns are printed for your records.

Other items to bring with you to your appointment include photo IDs for yourself (and your spouse for a joint return), copies of last year's tax returns, checkbook or other pre-printed direct deposit information if you want a direct deposit of any refund(s), and cancelled checks or other evidence of any income tax paid (including quarterly estimated payments). If you are claiming dependents, bring their Social Security cards. If you will claim Wisconsin Homestead credit, bring unaltered, signed rent certificate(s) or property tax bill copy for 2013.

While volunteers are trained and certified to prepare returns covering most situations, there are some they cannot handle, including out-of-state returns, those which require Wisconsin marital property division (married filing separate returns), and returns dealing with complex sales of assets or property rentals with depreciation.

Information gathered is strictly confidential and they do not keep any paper documents belonging to taxpayers other than those needed for mailing to a taxing authority. Your information is not shared with anyone except as necessary to accurately e-file your tax returns. You receive a printed copy of your returns for your records.

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A Wisconsin Christmastime to remember



Ashlyn (left) asks her mother, Carrie Potter (right), for help up the hill, while Ella (middle) catches a ride on the sled.

Statesman photo by Amy Kumrow



Carrie, Ella, Ashlyn and PJ Potter.

By Amy Kumrow
Statesman Correspondent

Imagine being a Wisconsinite, and then one Christmas having to spend the holiday in South Florida with temperatures in the eighties with high humidity. For one Wisconsin native and 1998 KHS graduate, Carrie (Wiesner) Potter, a trip back home brings Christmas memories both old and new.

Carrie Potter and her husband, PJ, moved to South Florida in 2011 with their two children, Ella (4) and Ashlyn (3). Both admit Christmas in Homestead, near Key Largo, Florida, doesn't feel like Christmas at all. Last year a snowstorm forced them to cancel their trip to Wisconsin.

"You really can't get into the spirit of it all," Carrie said about Christmas in Florida. "You find yourself decorating almost excessively to make up for the lack of the weather that goes with Christmas."

The family tries to come up four or five times a year. "They (Ella and Ashlyn) have gotten to see some snow, but I think this is the first age of really remembering it," Carrie said.

Ella bounced on the couch next to Carrie, while Ashlyn sat in PJ's lap to talk about the snow. "I like going sledding. I like building forts," Ella said before Ashlyn interrupted with "What about snowmen?"

The snow thus far has been too powdery for snowmen, but the children are waiting for the moment.

"I like building snow castles," Ashlyn said.

Ella continued to talk about her favorite snow activ-

ities. "I like playing snowball fights." When asked who wins, she admitted she gets more snow on her, but still claims she wins.

The girls warm up each night with a swim in their grandparents' (Allen and Debbie Wiesner) hot tub or as Ella states, "swimming in the spa."

Coming back home to Wisconsin for Christmas means a lot to the family, more so Carrie than PJ, since he has been on active duty in the Coast Guard for 14 years and has become accustomed

to missing special times with family. They did recently see his family in October.

Carrie's first move with PJ was her first move from Wisconsin and her family. "It's been very trying at times, and difficult not just being around family, not having that support system," she said.

Even Halloween is different and is celebrated on Oct. 31. Carrie explained trick or treating is done differently with "trunk or treat." Around 30-40 volunteers decorate their cars in a school or church parking lot and open their trunk filled with candy. Kids walk through the parking lot instead of a subdivision. "It's like one stop trick or treating," Carrie said.

What else is missed about Wisconsin, PJ chuckled when the idea of foods had been mentioned. "We were just talking about this," he said. On

the list were Papa Murphy's Pizza, Friday Fish Frys, Culvers and Qdoba.

"We live in Miami by a ton of Mexican cuisine, but we miss Qdoba," Carrie Potter jokingly said. She also adds the cheese is very different, definitely not Wisconsin cheese.

Before the family moved, they did the traditional Wisconsin winter activities like snowmobiling. PJ said he missed the simple things like cutting firewood, shoveling, and snowplowing and offered to do them during their visit just to go outside.

Visits to Wisconsin during Christmas include the challenge of buying winter clothes in Florida, which are hard to find, and are left behind afterward.

When Ella and Ashlyn

were asked about which climate, either sunny or cold, they liked best, at first Ella said, "Sunny, because we get to go swimming."

Then her mom pointed out Wisconsin is where cousins, Ethan and Mitchell, grandma and grandpa live, and where the snow is found.

When the children were told by the parents, "We would live wherever you pick," Ella didn't hesitate to say "I pick snow." Ashlyn solidified the decision, and added, "I pick snow too."

"I always said, no matter how long you live here (Wisconsin), you still never get used to the cold," Carrie said. "I would stay around here if I had my choice, even if it's cold."



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Writers share memories of 2013 Letter from the Editor



By Amy Kumrow
Statesman Correspondent

I interned with The Statesman the summer of 2012 for a graduation requirement for Lakeland College. I could only offer Editor, Andrew Kuehl a couple writing examples from a college composition class, but he gave me a chance anyway. My first article was about feral cats, and Andrew had to edit quite a bit.

When I moved to Wisconsin in 1999 from Virginia to marry a handsome farmer named Ken, writing for The Statesman is one place I'd never thought I'd be.

I never planned on being a correspondent on a permanent basis, but I discovered how much I enjoyed the work and accepted the offer to continue to write after the internship ended.

My first assignment, after a hiatus to finish my degree, had been in May 2013 to cover Drew Nelson's concert at the Kewaskum Theatre. The experience reminded me why I love the field - I find people and their stories fascinating.

Andrew continues to ask me for coverage for a variety of events. Some people associate my face with the paper now, but on occasion I overhear someone talking about my article, unaware I am standing close. I just smile.

I have covered a multitude of assignments from new businesses to meetings, and I can say I have enjoyed every one. With each, I learn something interesting about something, someplace, or someone in Kewaskum I never knew. Some assignments even taught me something about myself.

In our schools, we have some amazing kids, and exceptional teachers I wish I had as a kid. I saw everyday people following a dream of a new business and watched them succeed. I routinely came across people who are thoroughly committed to our children, and some so humble, they didn't want recognition.

The strangest lesson I learned from my assignments for The Statesman is how small Kewaskum really is. I referenced one woman in an article, only to find out she was my neighbor. Another woman's great-grandfather had been my mother-in-law's uncle. While taking a photo of a man at an event, I interviewed later for his new position on the Village Board.

Love brought me here to Kewaskum, and though I say I will one day move back to Vir-

ginia, I have fallen in love with Kewaskum, and I look forward to continuing to tell its stories.



By Troy Sparks
Statesman Correspondent

I'm the new kid on the block. In four months of being a sports correspondent for The Statesman, I went from covering one game as a fill-in to taking on more sports assignments than I ever imagined. And I'm loving every minute of it. Over that short time, I watched how the community showed their support for the Kewaskum athletic teams, win or lose.

So when I drive past the "Welcome to Kewaskum, the Gateway to the Kettle Moraine, it's like I'm coming home to a small town community. Even though I live in the big city (Milwaukee), the warm reception I receive every time I cover sports is real, and I appreciate that. I knew about Kewaskum when I passed through there for the first time on my way to a cycling event at the Kettle Moraine State Park last year. And now, I enjoy my trips up here.

There was an open assignment to cover the Kewaskum football team's home opener on Aug. 30. When I showed up at the Doc Mitchell Field, some

thought I was scouting on the Indians for another team. Now they know who I am, even though they don't connect the face with the byline in every story I write.

My mindset was to fill in for another guy, cover that game and that was it. Boy was I wrong. I was assigned to cover the football and volleyball teams, and now, basketball, along with whatever I'll be asked to do in the spring and summer. It is important to stick with those teams I'm covering to gain a consistent dialogue with the coaches and for them to get used to seeing me around their teams and their athletes.

Doing other stories on events that affect KHS athletics is always a change of pace. I have a genuine interest in Kewaskum and their sports. And not just the extracurricular stuff, but I would like to be involved in other events.

Jason Piittmann, Joe Moser, Keith Traska, Kory Dogs, Joey Seitz, Brandon Thull, Brett Boegel, Greg Rate, Steph Henk (she's always in a great mood) and Jess Fieweger, to name a few, have made my job a lot easier with their responses after the games, win or lose. They may have not been in a great mood to talk after a tough loss, but I appreciated their time.

If I ever get to meet Cody Seibel, I want to shake his hand. He may end up on an NFL or an arena football league roster. Even if Lauri Bausch doesn't make the Olympic team this time around, I hope to run into her one day.

Athletes like them - and there may be others, past present and future - from a small town that excel on a national stage deserve a hero's welcome every time they come back home to Kewaskum.

Another year is on the books. This year in October we celebrated 119 years of providing community news to Kewaskum, 81 of those years have been under the direction of my family.

Family-owned newspapers are very rare and as we move into the future, newspapers in general for small communities like Kewaskum, are even more rare. It has not been easy, but my family is proud to produce a newspaper to chronicle our community's history.

This year, we moved our office to the west end of Main Street. We've received very positive feedback on our new space and the proverbial "You moved again?!"

Our new space is smaller, but much more efficient. Our office no longer is home to writers or sales people.

With advances in technology everyone in our organization works from home. Phone calls are routed to wireless phones, faxes are sent to a recipient's email address, story collaboration is done through applications like Evernote, Dropbox and Google Drive (special thanks to KHS Associate Principal Kris Dreher who has helped me with all my Google frustrations).

We've also changed how we interact with our readers using social media. This doesn't mean we don't love to have visits to our office, we do, and will continue to keep office hours (9 a.m. - 4 p.m.) on Mondays and Tuesdays, the rest of the week, we are available by phone, email or an appointment that is convenient for you (Saturdays and Sundays too).

While some things have gotten easier, the job of recording our history, becomes more

difficult as our community grows.

As publishers of The Statesman, Nicole and I have made the commitment to our readers to cover good and bad news. Most times we receive praise for this commitment, while other times I am questioned as to why we had to run a story on a person who made a mistake in their life. Sadly, it's a part of what we do and in each of our jobs we have highs and lows, that coverage is my low.

I commend those in the community who understand the very difficult place my writers and I get into while we do our jobs. Covering difficult situations is challenging in a small community like Kewaskum because often times the people we write life changing articles about can pass by us in the aisles of Piggy Wiggly or at the table next to us at Gateway Café.

As I reflect on 2013 I feel compelled to thank our advertisers for their support and encourage our readers to support these businesses. Without them, Kewaskum could not have a weekly newspaper.

I thank all of our loyal subscribers for inviting us into their home each week. I thank the many who contact us with story ideas and tidbits of information.

I look forward to 2014 and the excitement and changes we will face. I look forward to your perspectives and communication, my family publishes The Statesman, but The Statesman is your community newspaper. It can be only as good as we make it. It doesn't just take a village to raise a child, it takes a village to publish a community newspaper.

Happy New Year!

Andrew Kuehl, Co-Publisher

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A majority of the members of the School Board may be present at this meeting to listen, observe and participate. If a majority of either body is present, their presence constitutes a "meeting" for that Board or Committee under the Open Meeting Law even though the visiting body will take no action at this meeting.

PROPOSED AGENDA

1. Call to order
2. Roll Call of Members
3. Agenda
 - a. Corrections and/or Deletions
 - b. Approval of Agenda
4. Interview Insurance Brokers/Agents
5. Adjourn

BOARD INSURANCE COMMITTEE MEETING MONDAY, JANUARY 6, 2014 1:00 P.M. KEWASKUM SCHOOL DISTRICT DISTRICT OFFICE 1675 REIGLE DRIVE, SUITE 100

A majority of the members of the School Board may be present at this meeting to listen, observe and participate. If a majority of either body is present, their presence constitutes a "meeting" for that Board or Committee under the Open Meeting Law even though the visiting body will take no action at this meeting.

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Wrestling team experiences highs, lows in Oshkosh

By Judy Harlow
Statesman Correspondent

Two seniors, Andy Pryor at 138 pounds and Joey Seitz at 145, were the only Kewaskum wrestlers to survive the first day of action in the annual Oshkosh Lourdes On The Waters Tournament. Seitz wound up placing 10th overall and Pryor 12th in the two-day marathon held last Friday and Saturday on the UW-Oshkosh campus.

The battle for the team title went right down to the wire, with Coleman overtaking Wittenberg-Byrnamwood in the medal round and winning by just 3.5 points, 321.5 to 318. Random Lake had another successful outing, finishing third at 293.5, while Cedarburg and Oshkosh West were fourth and fifth, respectively, with 270.5 and 237 points.

Kewaskum, unable to field a full team and without one of its aces, finished 32nd out of 62 teams with 80.5 points.

"We probably could have done a little better," head coach Scott Rhoads said about the Indians' efforts, quick to note four others came within a win of advancing to Saturday.

Because Seitz had placed sixth a year ago and came into the event with a mark of 10-3, he was seeded fifth and looked to have a pretty good draw. After opening with a bye, Seitz was upset in his opening match, however, falling to 28th-seeded Kyle Zerbian of Chippewa Falls 4-3.

Rhoads said Seitz gave up the first takedown and couldn't get the points back.

Seitz regrouped and came flying back with three straight wins to stay in the running for a third place, taking a forfeit victory over Austin Jenkins of Markesan before outpointing Chad Michels of Oshkosh North 5-1 and Chilton's Austin Kuehler 7-2.

In Saturday's first round, Seitz nipped Dakota Kelz of Stevens Point 4-3 before running into Trevor Mieske of Plymouth, like himself, a 2012 state qualifier. Mieske had the better of this match, posting a 3-0 win over Seitz, sending him into a battle to determine the finalists for ninth and 10th place and 11th or 12th.

After one minute of his match against Isaiah Merrill of Oshkosh West, Seitz got the win

because of an injury to Merrill, who reportedly said he hit his head on the mat. This set up a re-match with Cedarburg's Jason Ipsarides, who had just edged him out in the Gunslinger Invitational, 7-5. Ipsarides had the upper hand this time, winning 7-2.

"It wasn't close. The kid was getting a lot of takedowns on Joey," Rhoads said. "He was kind of down on himself by this point."

By going 5-3 in the two days, Seitz hiked his record to 15-6.

Pryor had a very nice tournament, according to Rhoads, who said, "He's ready to go down to 132. The kids who beat up on him were bigger kids." Rhoads said Seitz also plans to drop a weight class. "Joey barely weighs 140 now."

Pryor posted a record of 4-1 Friday, winning two of those matches by pin, one in 1:48 over Lucas Johnson of Plymouth and another, in 2:25 over Grafton's Jason Gustafson.

Both his decisions were pretty convincing, by scores of 9-2 and 5-2 against athletes from Slinger and Kimberly.

The competition got a little

tougher Saturday, however, as Pryor (14-8) lost three of four, including the final match to determine 11 or 12th place when he was pinned by Ivan Hebbe of Princeton in 5:55.

Rhoads was counting on Max Maertz to do well at 170 pounds but the senior was home sick. "He had one hundred plus temperature," Rhoads said, indicating Maertz was definitely missed. "He doesn't like missing matches ... He's one of my most dedicated wrestlers."

Also missing with a knee injury was the regular 152, Andy Buelow. "He was with us," Rhoads said, indicating he expects Buelow to be back to practice this week and ready for the next match.

While they didn't advance to Saturday's rounds, Jacob Heberer, Alex Vogt, Eric Wade and Garrett Buth all performed well.

Wrestling at 106 pounds, the freshman Heberer (8-8) finished 3-2 with two pins to his credit before being eliminated by Freedom's Mitch Garvey in a 17-1 tech fall.

Vogt also finished 3-2, starting with a 15-0 tech fall over Casey Hedrington of Chip-

pewa Falls, posting one pin and a decision before picking up his second loss, a pin by Garrett Siolka of Bonduel.

After missing the first few matches due to illness, Wade (6-4) is starting to look sharp at 160 pounds. He started off with a forfeit and a loss by pin (to Coleman's Dexter Carban), then won two straight (pin in 3:55 and a 5-1 decision) before being eliminated by Eric Ehrhardt of Waukesha South, 9-4.

Buth (7-9) was 3-2 at 285, splitting his first four matches before losing to West Bend West's Tom Elsinger, 3-0. He posted two pins, including one in :43 over Dakota Kettner of Oshkosh West.

"They all did pretty well. They were right there to make it to Saturday," Rhoads said.

Kewaskum is in action Friday, Jan. 10, hosting New Holstein for Alumni Night.

The other KHS wrestlers fared as follows: 113 — Zach Heberer, 0-2, (and is now 2-8 on the year); 152 — Jake Keller, 0-2 (3-8); 182 — Cody Muckerheide, 2-2 (5-2); 220 — Dylan May, 1-2, (1-5).

Paulus (continued from front)



Joe Paulus plays for the UW-Whitewater Warhawks in the NCAA III Championship game. Submitted photo

the best of luck in whatever their futures will bring.

About the game itself, Paulus said a good start set the tone. "Mt. Union had given up quite a few points in its previous two playoff games, so I knew if we could jump on them early, we could do pretty well."

Paulus was right on the money. "Sure enough, we scored on our first drive" and really never looked back, unleashing a potent offense and stopping Mt. Union's top-rated offense cold.

"Yeah for the most part," Paulus said about controlling the Purple Raiders, adding, "We also had a couple of turnovers that helped us out."

Paulus only got to play on special teams in the game and said he didn't get much of an

opportunity to make any tackles. "Most of the time they ran away from me," he said.

While the championship game was a rout, several of the other Warhawk games were nail-biters. Five to be exact, according to Paulus, who said two of the biggest comebacks, came against UW-Oshkosh and UW-Platteville.

"We had to come back in the second half against Oshkosh," Paulus said about the 16-13 win over the Titans, who represented WIAC (Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference) in the NCAA D-3 playoffs a year ago. In the game vs. the Platteville Pioneers, Whitewater was down by nine points early, but, "In the second half, we stopped 'em" and won 35-16."

Then there was the season-opener against Washington University-St. Louis when the Warhawks were down 7-0 before winning 17-7. Whitewater also used strong second halves to beat Linfield 28-17 and Mary Hardin-Baylor 16-15 to reach the Amos Alonzo Stagg Bowl. Whitewater was down 17-0 against Linfield before scoring 28 unanswered points.

The key to these wins? "It was a total team effort," Paulus said, explaining the team had no one running back who was a standout and the Whitewater quarterback was good but not outstanding.

In his four years on the team — Paulus took off his sophomore season — the Warhawks qualified for the playoffs three times and won the national title three times. "We missed last year," he said and the disappointment of not going in 2012 "definitely motivated us. We wanted to get back to where we were before."

Paulus had been on several successful Kewaskum High School teams but never made it to Madison to the state finals. "My senior season we lost in the semifinals to Waupaca," he said, noting the quarterback for Waupaca that year, Brock Jensen, is now starting for North Dakota State and has won two NCAA 1 titles and will be going for a third on January 4 in Texas. (Kewaskum grad Eric Perkins of Kewaskum is also playing for the Bison, starting as a slot receiver.)

"There were a lot of talented guys in that game," Paulus said, referring to his teammate, Nick Olla, who started at quarterback for UW-Oshkosh this

fall, and Cody Seibel and Cody Lemke, who were juniors at KHS that year. Seibel starred at UW-Stevens Point this fall and Lemke at Lakeland College.

When the Whitewater players arrive home from Virginia after the Stagg Bowl, fire trucks and the Warhawk faithful greeted them. "We had just enough time to drop off our bags, and we hopped on the fire trucks for a little jaunt around town," Paulus said.

In mid-January, it will be back to the books for Paulus, who already has earned a bach-

elor's degree in Accounting summa cum laude. He is currently working on his Masters Degree and starting in June will be joining the Wipfli Accounting firm. "I'll be working out of their Milwaukee office," he said, indicating it is comforting to know he already has a position before leaving school.

Yes, it has been an exciting ride for Paulus. "This year, the Stagg Bowl. To go out on top. It's a pretty wonderful feeling," he said.

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