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LOCAL



Waupaca County Law Enforcement Center

File Photo

Wilz focuses on officers

Sheriff delivers annual report

BY ROBERT CLOUD SENIOR EDITOR

COUNTY - When Sheriff Tim Wilz delivered his department's 2022 annual report to the Waupaca County Board on Dec. 19, he focused on the men and women who work there.

Law enforcement works 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, taking emergency calls, patrolling the roadways and waterways, caring for and transporting inmates, investigating crimes, enforcing narcotics laws and doing community outreach.

He discussed each of the divisions and their roles in local law enforcement.

Communications

Wilz opened with the dispatch officers who work in the Communications Center, taking 911 calls, communicating with deputies, as well as officers from nine law enforcement agencies, 14 fire departments, ambulance services, Waupaca County Highway Department, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and the State Patrol.

The Communications Center has 13 officers, a sergeant and a captain.

Dispatch handled 41,646 complaints, 837,083 radio

transmissions and 318,858 phone calls in 2022, Wilz said.

"They are the first responders to every call," he said. "Without the first responders, the sheriff's office would fall on its face."

Patrol

The Patrol Division includes 21 patrol deputies, four transport deputies, 30 part-time deputies, six sergeants, a lieutenant and a captain.

Their service area includes 2,085 miles of state, county and municipal roadways, 240 lakes, and 79 rivers and streams.

In 2022, patrol deputies issued 2,409 traffic citations, 897 written warnings and 209 ordinance violations. They made 163 OWI arrests.

They also responded to five fatal crashes, 505 crashes with injuries and 574 with no injuries in 2022.

Wilz noted that patrol officers don't just watch the road and hand out tickets, they are dispatched to assault and disorderly conduct complaints, traumatic deaths and drownings, break-ins and domestic violence reports.

Among the units within the Patrol Division are the ATV/UTV, snowmobile and water patrol units.

Although it was not fea-

ured in the 2022 annual report because it was certified until the summer of 2023, the Waupaca County Dive Team is part of the Patrol Division. There are three detective sergeants, two telecommunicators, three correctional officers and five patrol officers who are members of the Dive Team.

In 2022, the Patrol Division had three K-9 officer units: Deputy Graham Barden and K-9 Nova; Deputy Adam LaBrosse and K-9 Dom; and Deputy James Santiago and K-9 Cuda.

The dogs have been used to find narcotics during traffic stops and while executing search warrants, tracking missing seniors and runaway juveniles, locating and pursuing suspects. The K-9 units were deployed 180 times in 2022.

They are also star attractions at community outreach events such as Meet the Fleet and school visits.

K-9 Nova, a black Labrador retriever who served the Waupaca County Sheriff's Office for five years, died in the summer of 2023.

The Waupaca County SWAT team is also part of the Patrol Division.

The SWAT team is deployed to potentially dangerous situations. This multi-jurisdictional team

Annual Report CONTINUES ON PAGE 2

2023: Year of homicides

OWI crashes, fatal ODs

BY ROBERT CLOUD SENIOR EDITOR

COUNTY - The Waupaca County Post covered nearly a dozen local homicide cases in 2023.

Among the deaths last year were drunken driving fatalities, a toddler's accidental death, two men who murdered their parents and a weeklong jury trial.

Drug overdoses were a leading cause of death resulting in homicide charges, due to the growing use of toxic blends of heroin, fentanyl and methamphetamine.



Farmer

December

Scott C. Farmer, 47, Neenah, was charged with four counts of homicide by intoxicated use of a vehicle, a fifth offense of operating while under the influence, and operating while revoked causing death.

According to the criminal complaint, Farmer collided head-on with an oncoming sports utility vehicle while driving a pickup truck west-

bound in the eastbound lane of U.S. Highway 10.

The driver of the SUV, Daniel Gonzalez, 25, was critically injured and succumbed to his injuries after he was transported to a hospital for medical treatment.

His siblings - 9-year-old Daniella, 14-year-old Lillian and 23-year-old Fabian - died at the scene.

Farmer is currently in custody on a \$750,000 cash bond. He is scheduled for an adjourned initial appearance in court on Jan. 25.

Joseph D. Charlesworth, 34, Appleton, and Sonnie Jo Meier, 31, Waupaca, were charged with first-degree reckless homicide following the drug overdose death of 27-year-old Jeremyah Zander on July 7.

They are accused of selling methamphetamine and fentanyl to the victim.

Charlesworth is in custody in Outagamie County on a \$500,000 cash bond and Meier is in Waupaca County jail on a \$150,000 cash bond.

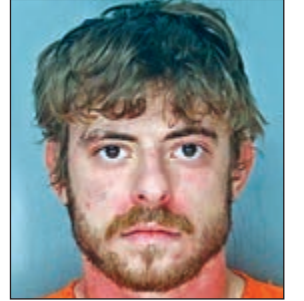
On Dec. 7, Judge Vicki Clussman dismissed charges of felony child neglect against an Iola couple whose 2-year-old daughter died in the slats of a homemade bed.

Cody Deschler and Emily Ferg, of Iola, were charged with neglecting a child-consequence is death for the June 12 incident involving their daughter, Cyrilla.

Clussman said she did not find probable cause and that state had not met the burden of proof.

November

Evan Barnick, 20, Oshkosh, was charged with homicide by intoxicated use of a vehicle, hit-and-run involving death, first-degree reckless



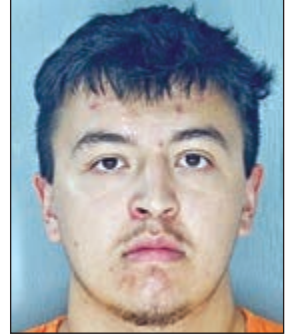
Barnick

endangerment, a third OWI, operating while revoked and operating a vehicle without a court-ordered ignition interlocking device.

He is accused of hitting 77-year-old Gerald Pagel, of New London, who was helping a woman whose vehicle had just struck a deer around midnight on Oct. 29.

They were standing on the side of County Trunk W at Brehmer Road in the town of Caledonia when Barnick's vehicle struck Pagel.

Barnick is in custody on a \$150,000 cash bond and scheduled for a hearing on Jan. 22.



Peters

September

Jordan D. Peters, 19, Clintonville, was charged with first-degree intentional homicide.

Homicides

CONTINUES ON PAGE 2

Expelled students banned at Rec Center

Center on school property

BY BERT LEHMAN STAFF REPORTER

CLINTONVILLE - If a resident or student has been banned from Clintonville school property, they are not allowed to use the Clintonville Rec Center because the building is on school district property.

The Clintonville School Board made this decision at its Dec. 18 meeting.

At the meeting, Superintendent Troy Kuhn said there were two recent incidents regarding people using the Rec Center who were not allowed on school property.

Because of that, he asked the board if community members who are not allowed on school property for certain reasons should be allowed to use the Rec Center. He also asked if students who are expelled from the district, either temporarily or permanently, should be allowed to use the Rec Center during the duration of



Clintonville Rec Center

File Photo

their expulsion. Expulsion bans students from school property.

He also asked if expelled students are not allowed at the Rec Center, is that for all times, or only when school is in session.

"This has come up, unfortunately, two and a half times in the last week," Kuhn said.

Clintonville School Board President Ben Huber asked if there is direct access from the Rec Center to the high school building.

Kuhn said the doors joining those two buildings are locked.

Board member Kris Strauman asked if it is possible that district students

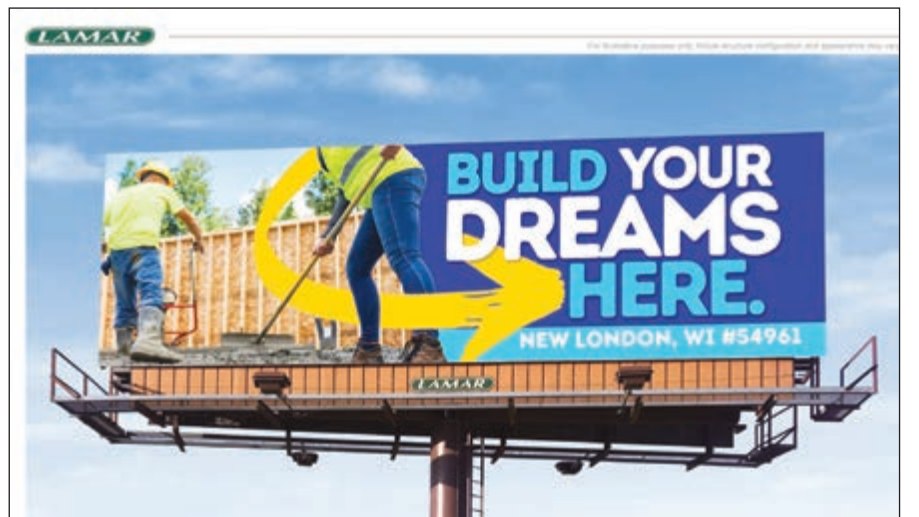
would be in the Rec Center during school hours.

Kuhn said there are times when students are in the Rec Center during school hours.

"Well, when you expel a student, you expel them from student activities and school property, so why would we open it up for them to possibly have contact with them (students)," Strauman asked.

Board member Glen Drew Lundt asked what would happen with the Rec Center membership for the expelled student since they paid for it, but would not

Rec Center CONTINUES ON PAGE 2



New London Common Council approved a new design for the promotional billboard on U.S. Highway 45. Photo Courtesy of City of New London

NL council approves 2024 capital spending

BY ROBERT CLOUD SENIOR EDITOR

NEW LONDON - Motorists will see a new billboard promoting New London on U.S. Highway 45 in 2024.

The New London Common Council unanimously approved the new design when it met Dec. 19, 2023.

The motion also recommended that the \$4,000 cost of the design be covered by using designated funds from the Economic Development Assigned Fund Balance.

Council members also approved nine capital equipment expenditures during the meeting.

They voted to spend \$16,000 with Enterprise Fleet Lease to replace four city vehicles.

These vehicles will replace a 2011 Ford Fusion with about 96,000 miles that is used as a training car, a 2013 Ford Interceptor with 108,200 miles

that is used by the building inspector; a 2013 Ford Interceptor with 89,500 miles that is used by the Public Works Department; and a 2017 Ford Interceptor with 101,000 miles that is used by Parks and Recreation.

Under the city's current system, the police department typically uses a squad car for two years, then transfers it over to another department.

The city's agreement with Enterprise Fleet Lease is for the four 2024 Ford Explorers at \$31,000 annually. The lease has been prorated in 2024 at \$16,000 because delivery of the vehicles is expected on June 24.

The council also voted to replace two police cars for an estimated cost of \$100,000 and to install a new air conditioning system in the police department at an estimated cost of \$42,650.

New London plans to re-

place a 1967 Layton roller with a used one for \$65,000. Public Works uses the roller for street maintenance.

Public Works will also replace a loader plow and wing used for snow removal at a cost of \$58,000.

Another piece of equipment that will help the city clear the streets after a winter storm is a 5,100-gallon brine tank with pump at a cost of \$10,500.

Parks and Rec will spend \$130,000 to replace a 2016 Toro 5100 D Batwing Mower used for cutting grass in the ballparks.

The council approved \$25,000 each for patching streets and sidewalks, as well as \$12,000 for a new, more user-friendly firewall that provides security for the city's networked computer system and Laserfiche, the program city staff use to archive documents.



# Waupaca NEWS

## 2023 news highlights in Waupaca

### Year in review

BY JAMES CARD  
STAFF REPORTER

WAUPACA – The past year was loaded with entrepreneur activity, creative endeavors and community spirit. Here are the highlights.

### Creative highlights

- Waupaca native Amelia Ford wins the Wisconsin Area Music Industry's Best Album of the year award for her debut album, "Wide Wide Open."
- Richard Sweitzer publishes his fantasy novel, "Ode: Scion of Nerikan," and it has strong sales online.
- Author Greg Biba co-wrote a book with his brother Scott Biba, titled "The Witch Trial of Margarethe Faust," a novel set in 1590s Germany.
- Local author Nikki Kallio's book "Finding the Bones: A Novella and Stories," was selected as a finalist in the 20th annual Best Book Awards category for outstanding collection of stories.
- Local comedian Ben Warren teams with the Chain O' Lakes Bar & Grill to host the Good Times Comedy Show every third Friday of the month. He kicks off the show and introduces touring comedians.
- Shindig, the downtown candy store, has a mural painted on the side of the building by local artist Dory Tischendorf.
- Waupaca High School 2020 graduate Holly Maxham released her first EP, "Miscellanea."
- The Waupaca Story Project returned on April 28 after a Covid pandemic hiatus. The event was held at the Danes Hall.

### Community highlights

- Community First Credit Union donated \$250,000 to the Lakeman Field upgrade project. The ball park would be renamed Community First Lakemen Field. Many other donors helped out and the first things to tackle were putting in new lighting and fixing the infield.
- A Dec. 4 public hearing



Crews deconstructed the former St. Mary Magdalene's church. Many of the building's features were repurposed or recycled.

Photo Courtesy of Todd Jones

at the Lind Town Hall was adjourned for a later date because too many people showed up. The hearing was about the proposed digester at the Brooks Dairy Farm.

- The Waupaca Hunger Network rallied donations to bag up 200 Thanksgiving dinners to be distributed to people in need throughout the community.
- Aquamos Coffee Collaborative came up with a fundraiser to help out a Our Pack, a dog rescue group. They invented drinks inspired after local dogs. They raised \$1,600 and 305 dogs had drinks named after them. The campaign was so popular they are publishing a book with the recipes.
- On Nov. 10, police were at the Waupaca High School after a school shooting rumor circulated. The early morning investigation revealed it was a misunderstanding but as a precaution, police checked in students and school resumed as normal for the day.
- The Waupaca Humane Society broke ground on a new building. The new one-story building will have an exam room, x-ray equipment, a surgery and recovery room and kennel space. It will be intentionally separate from the current building as an air gap to quarantine animals.
- The Waupaca Area Public Library offers U.S. passport services. The benefits are more convenient hours, it's a revenue stream for the library and people can browse books while waiting on the paperwork.
- Landscaping work was finished in October at the Danes hall Plaza at the far

end of Main Street. The project merges the historic building with Rasmussen Park.

- Eagle Scout candidate Mark Reinke built and installed a Gaga Ball pit at Swan Park as part of his Eagle Scout service project. The pit is a wooden octagon for playing a dodge ball-like game.
- The Waupaca Rotary Club hosted a ribbon-cutting ceremony on the city square for a clock they installed to mark their 30th anniversary.
- A multiyear renovation project is completed at Whispering Pines Park by Friends of Hartman Creek State Park. Hazardous trees were felled, new signs installed, trails fixed and invasive brush was cleared.
- The Middleton House, a women's shelter on Roy-alton Street operated by Foundations for Living, nears completion. Most of the exterior work was finished and some interior work remained.
- The Red Mill has a new water wheel installed. The new wheel is 24-feet in diameter and had to be hoisted in place by a crane.
- Waupaca City Hall and the Waupaca Area Public Library celebrated 30 years of being on the city square. The building was opened in 1993.
- The single-point entry construction at Waupaca schools was mostly finished before the start of the school year. The remaining construction at the Waupaca Learning Center and the high school required students to temporarily use a different entryway and



The new Rotary clock is positioned in front of city hall and near the bandstand.

James Card Photo

make some parking adjustments.

- The Waupaca Municipal Airport sets a record in fuel sales during the EAA AirVenture week in Oshkosh and had airplanes from around North America landing and taking off.
- The splash pad at Swan Park opened just in time for the Fourth of July weekend and was immediately swarmed by children.
- The Rosa Theater reopened after being closed during the Covid pandemic. All four screens were in operation and they expanded their showings throughout the summer.
- The Waupaca Chain Skiers, which has performed for more than 50 years on the Chain O' Lakes, returned to Rainbow Lake after a three-season hiatus because of the Covid pandemic.
- The deconstruction of the former St. Mary Magdalene Church took place during the spring and summer, with many of the materials earmarked for recycling.
- The city of Waupaca broke ground on the new public works building that will be located at a Haberkorn Field. The building will unify the department's staff, equipment and vehicles under one roof and make operations more efficient.
- Rural Access to Justice won the 2023 Pro Bono Organization of the Year award by the State Bar of Wisconsin.
- The Waupaca Historical Society turned 70 and launched a capital campaign to fund new initiatives.

### Business Highlights

- Mike Koch of Spine and Sport Physical Therapy of Waupaca became one of two practitioners in Wisconsin to be certified to

perform a nasal release technique that alleviates concussion symptoms.

- Amherst Marine broke ground on a new Waupaca location near the State Highway 10 and County Trunk Q intersection in the town of Farmington.
- Tammy Hadlock launches Lizzy's Liquidations, a bargain-bin model store named after her mother.
- Bonnie's Bloomers closed after seven years of business. Bonnie Timm sold the Property to Par 4 Resort.
- Dancing Bear Apiary won an award at the prestigious Black Jar Honey Tasting Contest for its Waupaca Wildflower honey, beating out other honeys from around the world.
- European Delights opens in King on County Trunk QQ. Carmen Pewtress bakes pastries from all European cultures.
- Camp Elsewhere opens on Gooseneck and McClean Lakes. The former scout camp is refurbished as a rustic yet hip getaway destination and event venue.
- U-Haul takes over the old K-Mart building and redesigns it as a 484-unit indoor storage facility and rental center.
- Java Jive opens a coffee shop at 120 W. Union.
- Klinger's Real Barbecue opens in King with an eye-catching custom-made smokehouse created out of a tank on a 1966 cabover Freightliner.
- Chris Johnson and Stacia Fields renovate and reopen the Weller Store in Rural along the Crystal River, a landmark stop for kayakers, tubers and visitors.
- Fall Line Outfitters, a fly fishing shop in Stevens Point, opens up a mobile shop in King during the summer season.
- The Gouda Life, Waupaca's newest and only dedicated cheese shop, opened

at 112 N. Main St.

- Salt Cove Wellness Spa opened at 418 School St. The spa specializes in halotherapy, a treatment with airborne micro salt particles that helps with respiratory maladies.
- Seth Nelson re-creates the board game Monopoly as Chainoply, using real estate, businesses and landmarks from around the Chain O' Lakes. His goal was to produce the board game with the proceeds going to the Wisconsin Veterans Home in King
- Former Waupaca Public Library director Peg Burlington launches Tie One On: Haberdashery Reimagined by Peg. She transforms neckties into unique on-of-a-kind handbags.
- Back to the Vinyl, a record shop, opens on 102 Water St., right across from the Danes Hall.
- Deja Blooms, a floral and gift shop, opened next door to Piggly Wiggly.
- La Tabasquena, a Hispanic grocery store, opened at 206 N. Main Street.
- Alerantive Edge, a CBD and healthy living store, opened at 203 N. Main St.
- The Waupaca Foundry was awarded three Bosch Rexroth Awards, a prestigious industrial recognition. They also won the American Foundry Society's 2023 Green Foundry Award.
- The Klismet family sold their business after 47 years. Three Sqaures Restaurant, Waupaca Mobil Travel Center and Waupaca Eastside Mobil Express are under new ownership.
- Box Drop Mattress & Furniture of Waupaca takes over the retail space that was once Waupaca Mattresses on County Trunk QQ.
- Terri Schulz retired as the president of the Waupaca Chamber of Commerce. She served for three decades.
- Turner's Fresh Market rolled out their first homemade gourmet item on their 60th anniversary. Their jars of ketchup sold out fast and its creation was a community effort with the tomatoes grown on Turner's farm, chefs gave feedback on the recipe and the label was locally designed and printed.
- Michael Cordio starts Recreational Innovations, the first and only kayak launch dealer in Waupaca.



### Perspectives

Eighth grader Shea Kallestad was named the Waupaca Middle School Student Artist of the Month. Shown is her mixed-media acrylic painting and modeling clay piece called "Perspectives." According to her art teacher, "Shea is naturally talented in the area of art and is always surprising me with her creative ideas as well as the techniques that she has come up with for each project. She is very detail oriented and observant. She has an intrinsic drive to give her best potential to her work."

Submitted image

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## Spring concert rehearsals start soon

WAUPACA – This year, the community choir's spring concert is dubbed "Mostly Mozart," and will feature Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart's Requiem, Ave Verum Corpus, and conclude with The Awakening by Joseph Martin.

Sponsored by the Waupaca Fine Arts Festival, the concert is scheduled for 2:30 p.m. Sunday, April 7, at the Waupaca High School Performing Arts Center.

"It has been 15 years since the passing of our founder Gerald Knoepfel and the Requiem work was last per-

formed in his honor in 2009. The Ave Verum Corpus is a stand-alone classic by Mozart and is very accessible. The Awakening by Joseph Martin was originally programmed to be performed during the choir's Covid hiatus. This rousing and inspirational stand-alone composition is a signature piece which I will look to use as our closer," said Director Dan Wolfram.

Soprano, alto, tenor and bass soloists will also be featured in an aria of their choice by Mozart in the second half of the program.

The choir is a non-auditioned and ranges in membership from 90 to 130 singers. Previous experience is not required and interested singers just need to show up. The choir welcomes singers of all ages.

The first rehearsal will be Tuesday, Jan. 9, in the choir room of Waupaca High School. The scores will be on sale in the Commons and Lobby Hallway of the high school from 6:45 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. with rehearsal from 7:30 p.m. to 9 p.m.

The cost of music and par-

ticipation will be \$15. Dress rehearsal is slated for Saturday, April 6, the day before the concert.

"While attendance at rehearsals is important to our journey together, do not let a few missed rehearsals due to poor weather or vacation plans prohibit you from being a member of this experience," Wolfram said.

Singers wishing to contact the director may do so via the Waupaca Community Choir webpage at [www.fineartsfestival.org](http://www.fineartsfestival.org).

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# Sports

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## Bulldogs, Truckers split pair of basketball games

BY GREG SEUBERT  
 SPORTS EDITOR

NEW LONDON – New London and Clintonville's basketball programs each came up with a win Dec. 28 in a doubleheader of boys' and girls' games at New London High School.

The New London girls improved to 11-2 on the season with a 77-23 win over the Truckers, while the Clintonville boys handed the Bulldogs a 60-49 defeat.

### New London 77, Clintonville 23

Shelby Glodowski led four Bulldogs in double figures with 17 points.

New London led 46-16 at halftime and held the Truckers to seven points in the second half.

Jensen Mix and Jenna Handschke added 12 points each for the Bulldogs and Caitlin Stroesenreuther chipped in with 11.

Zoey Ferg led Clintonville with eight points.

### Clintonville 60, New London 49

The Truckers opened the doubleheader and improved to 7-2 with a non-conference win behind 14 points from Kade Rosenow,



Clintonville's Jack Yaeger guards New London's Jonah Schluleter during the first half of a nonconference boys' and girls' doubleheader Dec. 28 at New London High School. Yaeger's 14 points helped the Truckers defeat the Bulldogs 60-49, but New London's girls' team topped Clintonville 77-23.

Greg Seubert Photo

Samuel Wegener and Jack Yaeger.

Clintonville had a six-point lead twice in the first half and headed to the locker room at halftime with

a 25-22 lead after Linken Korth hit a three-pointer just before the buzzer.

The Truckers then outscored the home team 35-27 in the second half.

All four teams will resume their conference schedules Thursday, Jan. 4, or Friday, Jan. 5.

The New London girls will head to Menasha Jan.

4 for a Bay Conference matchup with the Bluejays at 7 p.m.; the New London boys will host Xavier at 7 p.m. Jan. 5; and Clintonville's boys' and girls' team

will head to Wrightstown Jan. 5 for a North Eastern Conference doubleheader. The girls will hit the court at 6 p.m., followed by the boys at 7:30 p.m.

## Comets take care of Wolves at home

BY GREG SEUBERT  
 SPORTS EDITOR

WAUPACA – A big first half helped lead to a nonconference win for the Waupaca boys' basketball team.

The Comets scored 50 points in the first half and went on to hand Winneconne a 76-65 loss Dec. 28 at Waupaca High School.

A 9-0 run midway through the first half turned Waupaca's eight-point lead into a 17-point advantage.

The Comets led 50-33 at halftime behind 18 points from Henry Mouw. The Wolves cut the lead to five points with a 13-3 run early in the second half, but never got any closer.

Mouw led all scorers with 32 points, while teammates Riley Bechard and Aaron Wolff added 22 and 15, respectively.

Brody Schaffer and Parker Ingles scored all 33 of



Waupaca's Henry Mouw scores two of his game-high 32 points in the Comets' 76-65 win over Winneconne.

Greg Seubert Photo

Winneconne's points in the first half and finished with 23 and 21, respectively.

The Comets returned to

their North Eastern Conference schedule Jan. 2 against Clintonville. They will host Antigo at 7 p.m.

Friday, Jan. 5, and head to Luxemburg Tuesday, Jan. 9, for a North Eastern matchup with Luxemburg-Casco.

## Wins adding up for Polar Bears

BY GREG SEUBERT  
 SPORTS EDITOR

HORTONVILLE – After dropping three of their first five games, things are looking much better for the Hortonville girls' basketball team.

The Polar Bears' current five-game winning streak includes wins over state-ranked West De Pere and Appleton East.

Hortonville improved to 7-3 on the season Dec. 27 with a 71-63 win over West De Pere at the Sun Drop Shootout in Green Bay and also picked up a 78-51 Fox Valley Association win Dec. 22 over Appleton East.

### Hortonville 71, West De Pere 63

GREEN BAY – West De Pere outscored the Polar Bears by 13 points in the second half at the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay's Kress Center, but trailed 46-25 at halftime.

Kallie Pepler led Horton-

ville with 17 points, while Mikayla Werner and Rainey Welson chipped in with 16 and 14, respectively.

### Hortonville 78, Appleton East 51

HORTONVILLE – Welson's game-high 32 points helped the Polar Bears improve to 5-1 in conference play.

Hortonville led 32-23 at halftime before outscoring the Patriots 46-28 in the second half.

Karyn Pepler also finished in double figures for the Polar Bears with 12 points and Ella Sweeney led the Patriots with 23.

Hortonville played its third state-ranked team in as many games Jan. 2, as the Polar Bears headed to Neenah to face the Rockets, ranked No. 2 in the latest Division 1 poll.

The Polar Bears will also host Oshkosh North at 7:30 p.m. Friday, Jan. 5.

## Waupaca boys' hockey team stays home for the holidays

BY GREG SEUBERT  
 SPORTS EDITOR

WAUPACA – After dropping the first two games of their holiday invitational, the Waupaca boys' hockey team wanted to get back on track.

The Comets did that Dec. 29 with a 6-0 win over Wausau East/Merrill.

Waupaca had opened the invitational Dec. 27 with an 8-5 loss to Negaunee, Michigan, at the Waupaca Ice & Expo Center and a 2-1 setback the following day to the WNS Storm.

### Waupaca 6, East/Merrill 0

Five players found the net for the Comets.

Alex Gusmer scored a pair of goals in the first period and Ryan and Adam Mace also scored as Waupaca took a 4-0 lead at the break.

Neither team scored in the second period, but Cory Ellenich and Jace Moen

added to Waupaca's lead in the third period with goals.

### WNS Storm 2, Waupaca 1

Waupaca outshot the Storm 39-22, but only came up with one goal.

Alex Wisniewski gave the Storm a 1-0 lead in the second period before both teams added a goal in the final period.

Warren Carlson's goal tied the game with 11 minutes remaining in the game, but Michael Adank came up with the game-winning goal 30 seconds later.

### Negaunee 8, Waupaca 5

The Comets and Miners combined for five goals in the first period before Negaunee outscored Waupaca 6-0 in the third period.

Dane Saart gave Negaunee an early 1-0

lead seven seconds into the game.

Blake Schoenecker tied the game before Miles Aydan scored the first of his six goals.

Liam Bloedow and Dylan Smith scored for the Comets later in the period to give the home team a 3-2 advantage.

Bloedow and Adam Mace scored for Waupaca in the second period to give the Comets a 5-2 lead.

Aydan tied the game in the third period with three unanswered goals before Owen Debelak came up with the gamewinner and Aydan added two more goals.

The Comets will head to Mosinee Thursday, Jan. 4, for a Great Northern Conference matchup with the Indians before a pair of home games. Waupaca is scheduled to host Pacelli Tuesday, Jan. 9, and Lakeland Thursday, Jan. 11. All three games will start at 7 p.m.



Dylan Smith and the Waupaca boys' hockey team won one of three games at the Comets' annual holiday invitational, held Dec. 27-29 at the Waupaca Ice & Expo Center.

Greg Seubert Photo