

New rule gives college athletes earning potential

BY GREG BATES
CORRESPONDENT

GREEN BAY – Kamari McGee always had the idea to make his own T-shirts.

But McGee, a freshman on the UW-Green Bay men's basketball team, was hampered from designing and selling T-shirts by the NCAA.

He didn't want to violate rules set forth by the national organization, which governs intercollegiate athletics.

However, on July 1, when the NCAA approved a move to allow student athletes to profit from the use of their name, image and likeness (NIL), it opened the door for McGee and thousands of other college athletes.

"As soon as I seen you can start getting paid for it, I hopped on it right away," McGee said. "When they gave us the go-ahead, I just took advantage of it."

Nicknamed Killa Kam at St. Catherine's High School in Racine, his supporters can now don a T-shirt with that name to support the guard.

McGee is thought to be the first UW-Green Bay student-athlete to ink an NIL endorsement deal.

NIL is a fluid situation nationwide with many moving parts.

Because federal legislation hasn't been passed, NIL laws are regulated on a state-by-state basis.

As of July 29, 28 states signed legislation or issued executive orders to allow athletes to profit off deals.

According to businessofcollegesports.com, Wisconsin has no bill proposed, but politicians say they are considering drafting one.

"It's not as if institutions can prevent student-athletes from engaging in NIL opportunities," UW-Green Bay Deputy Director of Athletics Jermaine Rolle, who handles NIL compliance for the university, said. "The legislation is there to permit student-athletes to do so. Any institution that decides to not allow their student-athletes to engage in NIL opportunities probably would open itself up to potential litigation from student-athletes. UW-Green Bay and other institutions across the country have drafted policies, or are drafting policies, that align with the NCAA interim policy guidelines that are specific to the respective institutions. If there are state laws governing NIL, institutional policies must align with those laws."

After the NIL deal was approved, McGee was in contact with the Racine-based company Valid Kixx to design his T-shirts.

Afterward, McGee contacted Rolle in the compliance department to make sure he wouldn't violate any rules.

"He just told me it can't have anything to do with Green Bay – like I couldn't use no logos or none of that," McGee said. "He just told me that and to make sure that I got a contract (from the T-shirt company)



Fans of UW-Green Bay's Kamari McGee can purchase this T-shirt, which the freshman guard can now profit from after the NCAA approved student athletes selling their name, image or likeness. Submitted Illustration

between us to make sure I'm not getting like played or anything."

The shirts were printed not long after.

"All the people in Racine who know me, they support it, so I'm just trying to get it out there some more," McGee said. "I made a lot of T-shirts."

As of the end of August, McGee said he's sold a "couple thousand" T-shirts.

His contract with Valid Kixx gives him a certain percentage of every T-shirt

sold.

"It feels good, honestly," McGee said. "It's a difference. It hasn't been around long at all. If you have fans, college basketball players have fans, so it feels good to know that you can make money off of who you are."

Being part of a T-shirt deal is just one of many ways athletes can profit from NIL.

Other ways include partnering with brands to advertise through social media, signing autographs,

teaching camps or lessons, starting their own business and participating in advertising camps.

Another duty

When NIL was approved, UW-Green Bay Men's Basketball Coach Will Ryan and his staff quickly tried to make sense of it all.

"As a staff and as a team, as a program, we need to be educated with this stuff because it's so new," Ryan said. "The biggest thing is I don't want any of our guys to get caught up in something that would jeopardize their eligibility. I told them that what they need to do first and foremost is they can run it by us, but they do need to get compliance."

McGee's teammate Lucas Stieber said he is intrigued about the new NIL deal.

As a Green Bay Southwest graduate who stayed in town to play college basketball, Stieber's name and image could attract local businesses to bring him on as a spokesperson.

Stieber, who is the grandson of legendary coach Dick Bennett and nephew of Virginia men's basketball coach Tony Bennett, was a walk-on at UW-Green Bay.

But two years later, he earned a full-ride scholarship after showing what he can do on the court.

Stieber has yet to hear from any companies.

"If some companies were to call me, talk to me and say 'Hey, this is the direction moving forward – this

is kind of what we would like you to do, this is what we could see you doing,' there'd be some interest from me," Stieber said. "I haven't put myself out there a ton to these companies, but if there's some place like, 'Hey, Lucas is a local guy. Lucas is a Green Bay high school graduate, I think we'd want him to endorse this or wear this or be on a billboard here or do something like that,' that would be pretty interesting to me. It would have to be worth it."

Ryan is learning about the rules as he goes, but said he's well aware of one with his coaching staff.

"We're not allowed to line anything up for (athletes) in terms of I can't reach out to a company or a business and say, 'Hey, can you hook up Lucas Stieber and get him to do an autograph signing or endorse your product or whatever the case may be so he can get some spending money,'" Ryan said. "We're not allowed to do that. Will schools do that or have they done that? Possibly. I don't know. We try to follow the rules and that's what I told the guys."

As Ryan prepares for his team's upcoming season, NIL is just one more duty to add to his already overflowing plate.

But, he said he's happy his student-athletes can benefit from NIL.

"The younger me maybe would have rolled my eyes

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ATHLETES
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at it, I guess, but I think it's a great thing for the student-athletes," Ryan said. "It helps them, in a sense, kind of expand their own brand. They can learn a lot about how business works and marketing and all that stuff that comes with it. I told the guys, 'Look, if you put in the work, you get better as a team and ultimately win games, you are going to expand your own brand eventually.' I said, 'Right here and now, how about we expand the GB brand and have people want to come watch you play and support you by doing the right things on and off the court. Ultimately, that may help you advance your careers after college, but in the here and now, help you maybe put a couple extra dollars in your pocket, if it happens.'"

UW-Green Bay men's basketball players aren't the only athletes in the area who could be attracted to NIL deals.

With the success of the UWGB women's basketball program over the years, some area businesses could reach out to players.

Phoenix women's basketball coach Kevin Borseth said it has happened in the past.

"I can tell you there are people in our area that have asked our players to be in pictures, kind of do things for them and they haven't been allowed to do that. It's there," Borseth said. "We're going to have opportunities. Don't know exactly what that's going to mean, but I can tell



Arizona State University hooper Jaddan Simmons, pictured here shooting the ball, is a Green Bay Southwest graduate looking to make it to the WNBA. She is open to deals to expand her brand and help her earn more. **Submitted Photo**

you right now, there were two opportunities that our players have had to be not necessarily a spokesperson, but involved in some of the pictures, the advertising, the marketing, to be involved in that. ... This has been going on for years. 'Can we use your players?' 'No. You can't because you're not allowed to do that. Now all of a sudden those kids are going to be able to do it. It's a wide-open game right now. It's anybody's guess what's go-

ing to happen."

Just like Ryan, Borseth wants to make sure all his women are informed about the rules and regulations.

But Borseth said he doesn't know if he's the right person to be giving advice about NIL because he has so many questions himself.

"I'm waiting until the year starts," Borseth, who noted as of mid-August he hadn't had an athlete sign any NIL deals, said. "I think our athletic depart-

ment needs to address that with our student-athletes. It's so new. I'm focusing on what I know how to do, what I was hired to do and that's to get these kids socially, athletically, academically, all their I's dotted, all their T's crossed, good manners, be a good teammate, work hard - all those things that get you a little bit further in life as opposed to, this is how I'm going to make a buck. I'm not the agent. I'm not going to be their agent. Let's put

it that way. I've got more important things to do. I've got 14 players I really need to work on."

Some college athletes at large institutions - e.g., football powerhouses Alabama, Clemson and Oklahoma - have signed massive NIL contracts.

Near the end of July, Alabama football coach Nick Saban wasn't shy in announcing his starting quarterback Bryce Young had nearly \$1 million in NIL deals.

Open to growing her brand

Jaddan Simmons, who graduated from Green Bay Southwest in 2020, enjoyed a great freshman season on the Arizona State women's basketball team.

She started every game and led the team in assists per game (2.7) and was second in points per game (10.8).

Simmons might garner some NIL interest from Phoenix-area companies if she continues her solid play.

"I haven't had one that like interests me yet," Simmons said. "But, yeah, I'm looking to get into that soon."

She said she is a fan of NIL deals.

"I think it's a great opportunity for athletes just to like get their name out there and start branding sooner rather than later, especially female athletes," Simmons said. "It's very important to do that because we don't get paid as much, so for this it just helps people get going early rather than later."

She has aspirations of playing in the WNBA, and said locking up NIL deals could be helpful in a number of different ways.

"I think it could definitely be beneficial to get our name out there and that will help, like if you want to go to the (WNBA), people will start seeing you more on social media, because you know social media's a big factor now," Simmons said.

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De Pere, Michalkiewicz end 'crazy' week with win

BY GREG BATES
CORRESPONDENT

GREEN BAY – Chad Michalkiewicz summed up the last week as “crazy.”

That might even be an understatement by the De Pere football coach.

Michalkiewicz and his wife, Tracie, welcomed their second child to their family, Ava, who was born Sept. 1.

The couple has another daughter, Zoey, who is a year and a half.

Because he was in the hospital, Michalkiewicz had to miss the first day of school as well as a couple of football practices leading up to the game Sept. 3 at Green Bay Southwest.

But when game time rolled around, Michalkiewicz was on the sideline.

De Pere took advantage of two Southwest turnovers and scored on each of its first six drives, cruising to a 42-0 Fox River Classic Conference victory.

De Pere (2-1 overall, 1-0 FRCC) ran all over the Trojans, amassing 26 carries for 199 yards (7.7 yards per carry) and six touchdowns.

Michalkiewicz said he thought it was great to take pressure off starting quarterback Gabe Herman's shoulders for

a night.

“It demonstrates his leadership,” Michalkiewicz said. “He doesn't care about his stats. He got a couple on the ground, which was a nice side note for him.”

Devin Koskey took the weight on his shoulders and produced in a big way.

The junior – who came into the game with two career starts and 64 yards rushing – had 10 carries for 147 yards and three touchdowns.

“Our O-line had great push, and we came out together,” Koskey said. “We've been practicing this stuff and executed as we should.”

De Pere's first two drives were set up by Southwest turnovers – a fumble recovery by Coltin Blahnik and an interception by Matthew Ahrnholtz.

Koskey scored on a 14-yard run on the first drive, and Alexander ran one in from five yards out on the Redbirds' next possession.

“We turned the ball over early, which gave them a short field, and they executed – they were the better team,” Green Bay Southwest co-head coach Aaron Van Eperen said. “Offense, defense and special teams, they took it to us. That shows us the gap in the confer-

ence.”

On De Pere's third drive, Koskey took a pitch and raced 22 yards for a touchdown.

He also added a 2-point run to make it 21-0 only 5 minutes, 23 seconds into the game.

After forcing Southwest (0-3, 0-1) to punt on back-to-back possessions, De Pere got the ball back.

Herman opened the drive with a nine-yard run.

Koskey finished it off with a 49-yard touchdown scamper.

Eight offensive plays into the game by De Pere and it was up 28-0.

It wasn't until late in the first quarter Herman completed his first pass – hitting Jack May for 16 yards to get De Pere back into Southwest territory.

A few plays later, Herman scored on a 13-yard run.

Another three-and-out by the De Pere defense – its third of the game – set the offense up again.

During an 11-play drive, Herman called his number four times, the last one culminating in a two-yard touchdown run.

Herman finished 5-for-10 passing for 80 yards.

He added 33 yards on the ground on eight carries.

May had three catches for 47 yards.



Running toward the finish

Members of the Bay Port girls' cross country team run with a Luxemburg-Casco athlete Sept. 2 at the De Pere Invite. **Josh Staloch Photo**

ST. NORBERT

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I blew earlier.”

St. Norbert's go-ahead drive came midway through the fourth quarter.

It got started with a 23-yard carry by Kohl that

brought the team into Du-hawks' territory.

Another 15-yard rush from Kohl later in the drive set the Green Knights up at the six-yard line.

Kohl took it across the goal line two plays later for the final score of the game.

St. Norbert's Jake Berken finished with eight tackles (six tackles for loss), three sacks and one forced fumble with a recovery.

Editor's note: Sports Editor Rich Palzewic also contributed to this story.

HOT CORNER

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successful in the past (some, many years ago), but I don't like to see the current struggles.

I know all the coaches and would vouch for any of them.

I also know several players from each team, and I feel terrible for them as well.

Losing stinks and isn't any fun.

Is it a question of talent,

numbers or facilities?

Maybe it's a combination of many factors.

I'll use Bay Port and De Pere as examples.

Bay Port has kids up and down the sideline in uniform for each game.

They might have a few starters go both ways, but that's it – they're fresh at the end of the game.

They have awesome facilities and great athletes – I don't see that changing anytime soon.

De Pere has turned

things around in the last couple of years.

During the alternate fall season conducted this past spring, the Redbirds finished 7-0 and beat Bay Port.

De Pere is off to a 2-1 start this season.

I know winning/losing can be cyclical, so let's hope the Green Bay public school teams will turn it around soon.

As always, thanks for reading.

LUKAN

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her play in Canada's games and cheer nearly 6,000 miles away.

“They got up in the middle of the night, early in the morning,” Lukan said. “They were watching and sending me messages throughout the whole tournament, so that was great. I got lots of messages from people in Green Bay, too, before and after the Games.”

One special supporter helped Lukan throughout the games, her sister, Megan.

She played at UWGB from 2010-15 before joining the Rugby Canada Women's Sevens team.

She was part of the bronze-winning squad in 2016.

“She's helped me lots,” Lukan said. “In Green Bay, she helped me get accustomed to that team, and the same with rugby. I'd never played sevens before, so she was there for a year or two before I was. She understood how to relate it to basketball or give me pointers that helped her through the transition.”

UWGB women's basketball coach Kevin Borseth, who coached both Kaili and Megan, said he loved seeing Lukan compete in the Olympics.

Borseth watched some of her games with his current players.

“Kaili has always been committed to being her best at anything she ever



Kaili Lukan, who grew up in Ontario, Canada, played basketball at the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay. She recently competed in the Tokyo Summer Olympics on the Team Canada's sevens rugby team. **Submitted Photo**

did,” Borseth said. “The fact she was in the Olympics and her sister was in the Olympics, is no surprise because their pedal is to the medal the second they stepped on the playing floor. They were great teammates, hard workers, overachievers, tough, hard-nosed, played through pain and played through adversity. Kaili was one of those kids that had the talent, but she had

all the other intangibles that made her great.”

Picking up rugby

Lukan got acclimated to rugby in high school, playing four years at Barrie Central in Barrie, Ontario.

After graduating from high school in 2012 to head to Green Bay to play basketball, she put rugby on the backburner.

For the Phoenix, Lu-

kan started 97 of the 110 games she played in.

She became a 1,000-point scorer – one of just 37 in program history – and averaged 9.35 points per game.

It wasn't long after Lukan's basketball career wrapped up at UWGB in 2016 she got invited to try out for Canada's women's sevens rugby squad.

She moved to Victoria, British Columbia, to train

full-time with the team in September 2016.

“It was a great opportunity to at least try it out,” Lukan said. “I wasn't like, ‘I'm going to stick this out until the Olympics.’ It was more like, ‘I'm going to try out and see where I stand, see if I like it and see how I progressed through’ because I didn't play sevens at all. I didn't know what it was about or if I could even do it. After my first year, I learned lots. It was a great experience, and I loved it.”

Lukan made her Team Canada debut in 2017 at a tournament in Clermont-Ferrand, France.

In five matches, Lukan scored three tries to help Canada win bronze.

Because there are only 12 members on a rugby roster, Lukan – who plays forward – played lots during Olympic competition.

She started most of the matches but didn't score in her team's five matches.

Canada went 1-2 during round-robin play and failed to make the medal round.

The Canadians won their final two matches to finish in ninth place.

Lukan returned to North America Aug. 1 and went to visit her family in Ontario to unwind after the busy stretch in Tokyo.

Lukan said she isn't quite sure if she'll resume her rugby career and try to make Team Canada for the 2024 Olympic Games.

“I'm going to see how

everything turns out,” she said. “I don't have a definitive answer for three more years down the line, but I still want to give rugby an opportunity and see where that gets me in the next year or two. It's not a ‘yes’ and it's not a ‘no’ at that point. Rugby Canada, we're also going through a review process right now, so the team doesn't know what the next few months hold. We will get back together come the new year.”

Lukan will be headed back to Victoria to train while she decides her next steps.

The 27-year-old, who earned her undergraduate degree in environmental policy and planning at UWGB, recently completed her master of arts in interdisciplinary studies at Royal Roads University in British Columbia.

Because rugby is a full-time job and she is paid to play, Lukan hasn't had to work a regular day job.

Lukan said she's planning on playing things by ear for the next couple of months and see what doors open for her.

“I'm fortunate for my Green Bay family and the community that has always supported me through basketball and then my continued endeavors with rugby,” Lukan said. “I'm thankful for them. Green Bay is a place I still call home, and I'll always have a special place in my heart. I want to give a huge shoutout to everyone in Green Bay.”

WEEK IN REVIEW

Area cross-country teams compete at De Pere Invite

BY RICH PALZEWIC
SPORTS EDITOR

DE PERE – Several area cross-country teams competed at the De Pere Invite Sept. 2.

Bay Port won the boys' title with a low score of 48 points, while the Bay Port and De Pere girls each scored 47 points, but De Pere won the title in a tie-breaker.

For the area boys, West De Pere (97) and De Pere (145) also scored.

In the girls' team competition, West De Pere (86) also had a team total.

"The course ran well," Chris Hendricks, De Pere head coach, said. "It's a deceiving course. With so many straightaways, you can see everything in front of you running, and it makes the times a bit slower. It's the nature of a campus course. The one hill on the course is tough."

So far this season, Hendricks said his team is doing well.

"We're injury-free so far," he said. "Last winter and this summer, the kids had great training sessions. The most difficult thing was going from a cross-country season to a track season and now another cross-country season in a short period."

Because of the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020, the cross-country season, normally a fall sport, was pushed to spring 2021.



The varsity girls start their race Sept. 2 at the De Pere Invitational. Bay Port and De Pere each finished with 47 points for low team honors. **Josh Staloch Photo**

Then the track season, normally ending in early June, didn't finish until late June.

"In a normal year, after track ends, you give them a couple of weeks off to veg out," Hendricks said. "But this year, with track ending so late, we gave them less time off but focused on easier miles. We're starting to work toward more tempo work. We're proud of the shape

the kids came into the season with."

Boys

West De Pere's Noah Jahnke, a junior, won the meet overall with a time of 16:10.

Bay Port's Anthony Adriansen, a senior, was second (16:28).

Other top-20 area results included Connor Behrend (Bay Port, sixth – 17:39), Jason Skinkis

(Seymour, seventh – 17:53), Jacob Schertz (Bay Port, ninth – 17:56), Matthew Schmoll (West De Pere, 12th – 17:58), Landen Heim (Bay Port, 14th – 18:17), Jacob Woldt (Seymour, 15th – 18:19) and Landon Nuthals (West De Pere, 16th – 18:19).

Girls

West De Pere freshman Kate Schmoll blazed to a winning time of 18:34.

Schmoll beat her nearest competitor, Hope Dragseth (De Pere – 20:15), by a huge margin.

"(Schmoll) is phenomenal," Hendricks said. "She could be one of the best in the state."

Other top-20 area results included Emma Coon (De Pere, fourth – 20:39), Reese Gustafson (Bay Port, sixth – 21:20), Alaina Sheedy (Bay Port, ninth – 21:26), Aubree Kubicki (Bay

Port, 11th – 21:35), Jordan Meulemans (De Pere, 14th – 21:50), Keera Wheeler (Bay Port, 16th – 22:13), Addison Cornwell (West De Pere, 17th – 22:24), Elisabeth Ngo (De Pere, 19th – 22:28) and Eloise Masee (Bay Port, 20th – 22:28).

For full results, visit athletic.net.

Sports editor's note: Correspondent Josh Staloch contributed to this story.

St. Norbert football records first win since 2019

BY JOSH STALOCH
CORRESPONDENT

DE PERE – The St. Norbert College football team got back to business Sept. 4.

Playing for the first time since Nov. 16, 2019, the Green Knights turned back a well-rounded Loras College team at Schneider Stadium in De Pere with a 21-14, non-conference victory.

Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, St. Norbert didn't play during the 2020 season.

"The Green Knights are back," St. Norbert head coach Dan McCarty said. "It was a gritty win. That's a great team we played. We have lots of things to clean up, but football is back and we're back."

Green Knights quarterback Ben Kohl had a big game running the ball.

The senior from Oshkosh West High School finished with 116 yards on 20 carries and two touchdowns.

Kohl was 7-for-23 passing for 61 yards but also threw a pair of interceptions.

Joe Jung, a 6-foot, 200-pound defensive back from Neenah, also had a big game.

Jung tallied five solo tackles and also intercepted Loras quarterback Noah Sigwarth – who was sacked six times by St. Norbert's defense – in the second quarter.

The interception set up



St. Norbert College quarterback Ben Kohl, with ball, gets a block from teammate Owen Kudick as he heads upfield for positive yards Sept. 4. The Green Knights won their opener over Loras College at Schneider Stadium in De Pere, 21-14. **Josh Staloch Photo**

St. Norbert's first score of the game, a 28-yard rush from Kohl.

Jung had a part in one of St. Norbert's miscues on the day, though, one the Du-hawks turned into points.

Late in the third quarter,

with the score tied 7-7, the Green Knights were set to receive the ball on a punt after a defensive stop.

The rolling, live ball hit one of the St. Norbert players.

Loras recovered the loose

ball and punched it in three plays later for a 14-7 lead after the extra point.

The ensuing kickoff ended up in Jung's hands at the five-yard line.

He promptly hit a hole in the middle of the field and

followed a string of yellow-helmeted blockers 95-yards to the end zone to tie the game 14-14 after the extra point.

"I messed up on the (punt) play," Jung said. "I was supposed to be return-

ing the punt. I didn't call it, it hit one of our guys, (Loras) got the ball and scored a touchdown. So, the return was getting us back in the game – making up for a play

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WEEK IN REVIEW

West De Pere stuns Ashwaubenon in waning seconds

BY MURRAY GLEFFE
CORRESPONDENT

ASHWAUBENON — In a bizarre finish, the West De Pere football team was about to remain winless on the season.

Then, within a matter of seconds, Bryce Smith kicked a 37-yard field goal with no time remaining to lift the Phantoms over Ashwaubenon Sept. 3, 15-14.

The Fox River Classic Conference game was held at Goelz Field at Ashwaubenon High School.

“I’m proud of our coaching staff for never giving up,” West De Pere Head coach Chris Greisen said. “Their quarterback (Boone Kirst) is good for them. We had to battle to get it done.”

On their final drive of the evening, the Jaguars (0-3) were about to run the clock out after three consecutive kneel-downs from Kirst.

Instead of punting on fourth down from inside its 30, Ashwaubenon went for it with seconds remaining



West De Pere wide receiver Langdon Nordgaard makes a leaping catch before hitting the turf Sept. 3 against Ashwaubenon. The Phantoms won the Fox River Classic Conference game on a last-second field goal, 15-14. **Murray Gleffe Photo**

and lost yardage, setting up the dramatic finish.

Duke Shovald replaced starter Sam Aleknavicius and threw for 203 yards and two touchdowns for West De Pere (1-2).

Kirst completed 23-of-38 passes for 264 yards.

Jaguars wide receiver Caden Van Duyse eclipsed

the 100-yard mark receiving with double-digit receptions.

Ashwaubenon outgained the Phantoms in total yardage, 390 to 232.

Shane Kempen led West De Pere with 14 tackles.

With less than two minutes remaining in the first quarter, the Jaguars took

over at their 44.

Four plays later, Andrew Pludeman ran into the end zone from seven yards out for a 7-0 lead after the extra point.

Midway through the second quarter, with its running game inept, the Phantoms turned to the aerial attack.

Shovald connected with four different receivers on the series.

The final reception was hauled in by Gyriecce Goodman for a 39-yard touchdown to pull West De Pere to within 7-6 after the extra-point attempt failed.

“(Shovald) is a young kid,” Greisen said. “He

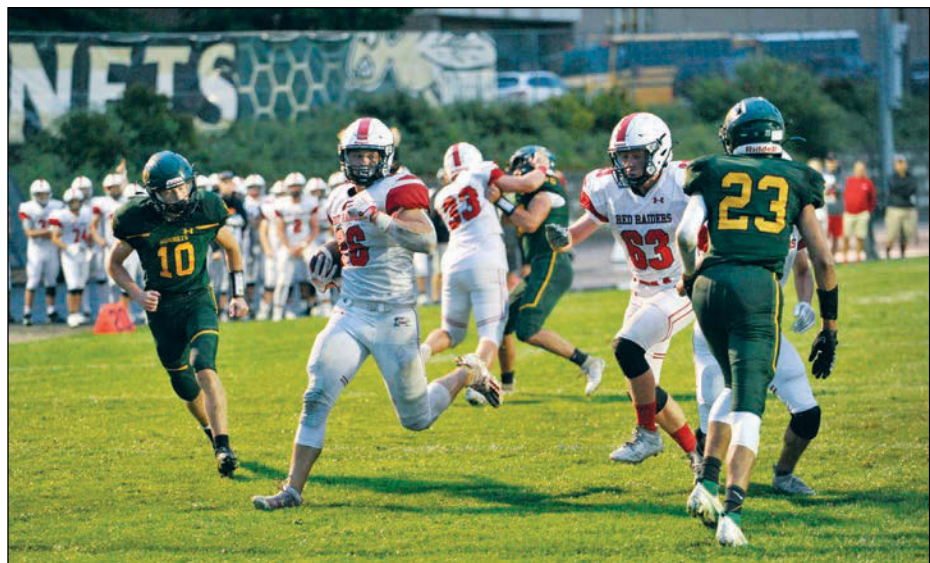
settled down and started throwing the ball well. He hit a few nice slants, which kept us in the game.”

Despite racking up huge yardage in the second quarter, Ashwaubenon’s two drives ended with an interception and a blocked field goal.

With 3:36 left in the third quarter, the home team added to its total when Kirst scrambled to his right, then went left and finally scampered into the end zone from three yards out to give the Jaguars a 14-6 lead after the extra point.

With 8:30 remaining, Phantoms wide receiver Langdon Nordgaard hauled in an acrobatic 10-yard touchdown reception to cut the margin to 14-12. The 2-point-conversion attempt failed.

After an Ashwaubenon punt, West De Pere drove 57 yards before being turned away on downs with less than two minutes remaining, setting up the final two possessions.



Running back Maverick Cole, with ball, scores Pulaski’s second touchdown of the game Sept. 3 against Green Bay Preble. The Red Raiders won the Fox River Classic Conference contest, 35-0. **Josh Staloch Photo**

Special teams help carry Pulaski to victory over Preble

BY JOSH STALOCH
CORRESPONDENT

GREEN BAY — The Pulaski football team let Green Bay Preble know they were in for a long night on the first play of their Sept. 3 game.

The Red Raiders special teams’ unit forced a fumble on the opening kickoff, and the offense scored a few plays later as part of Pulaski’s 35-0 Fox River Classic Conference victory over the Hornets at Preble High School.

The fumble on the opening kickoff was one of two big plays turned in by Pulaski’s special teams’ squad during the game.

“That’s a bonus,” Pulaski Head Coach Jerad Marsh said. “You always want to win special teams. To get some scores out of them and be able to flip the field, those are the things you need when other things are slower than they should be.”

Gatlin Robaidek (11 yards) and Maverick Cole (one yard) each scored in the first quarter for the Red Raiders.

Pulaski came up with another huge play on special teams to start the second half.

Cole, who rushed for 130 yards on 13 carries, returned the kickoff 74 yards for a 21-0 lead after the ex-

tra point.

The Red Raiders got another highlight-reel play from Cole on their next drive.

With about a minute to play in the third quarter, the 6-foot-2, 224-pound junior running back blasted his way through the Preble defense for a 64-yard touchdown run.

Derek Block, who gained 178 yards on 15 carries, dashed 80 yards for a score in the fourth quarter.

“I know their record isn’t speaking to it right now, but Preble is a good football club,” Marsh said. “They’ll have some success throughout the year. Their coaches do a great job.”



The Seymour girls’ volleyball team improved to 4-0 with a straight-set victory Sept. 2 over Ashwaubenon. **Greg Bates Photo**

Thunder dominate Jaguars in volleyball action

BY GREG BATES
CORRESPONDENT

SEYMOUR — If four matches into the season show an accurate glimpse of what the Seymour girls’ volleyball team is capable of, area programs better watch out.

The Thunder appears to be the real deal.

Seymour improved to 4-0 Sept. 2, as it pummeled visiting Ashwaubenon in a three-set sweep, 25-14, 25-11, 25-20.

“I thought we played well,” Seymour coach Stacey Jones said. “Ball control is huge, and our passing was phenomenal. We were able to run our offense. We have lots of different weapons this year, so we were able to distribute the ball. Sydney Levanetz and Cami Arno do a fantastic job of getting the ball to all our hitters. We have a balanced attack, which is great because (opposing teams) can’t focus on one player.”

The combination of senior Andrianna Volz and sophomore Hazel Cook was nearly unstoppable.

When the Thunder needed a big hit, those two came through.

“Our passes were great,” Volz said. “Our sets were perfect today. Even during warm-ups, they had it on and kept it going.”

Jones said she knew coming into the season she had a good hitter in Volz, but Cook has been a surprise.

She lives in the district but is home-schooled and started playing with Seymour during tournaments over the summer.

“She fits in,” Jones said. “She provides us with lots of offense and great defense.”

Seymour cruised in this match in large part because it jumped out to leads in all three sets.

Ashwaubenon (0-5) had one lead — 10-9 in the third set — the entire night.

“(We were) trying to get some jitters out,” Ashwaubenon coach Megan Wierschke said. “We have a young team — we only have seven returners and have nine juniors. They are trying to work through some stuff. We’re excited to hit the road for a tournament this weekend to get more experience, and then we’ll be able to hit up conference.”

In the opening set, Sey-

mour led 11-9 before going on an 8-1 spurt to take a comfortable 19-10 advantage.

A block kill by Levanetz and Olivia Swenson put an end to a 25-14 victory.

Again, in Set 2, the Thunder used an early run to pull away.

Cook collected three aces during a 9-0 run to make it 17-3.

Seymour had little problem pulling off a 25-11 win.

Ashwaubenon started to get into its offense in the third set, turning an 8-5 deficit into a 10-9 lead after Sevaeh Schneider logged a kill.

That lead evaporated as Seymour scored nine of the next 10 points to go up 18-11.

The Jaguars made a late push — getting to within 22-19 — before the Thunder closed out the match with a 25-20 victory.

Ashwaubenon was led by Elka Scherer with nine assists and seven digs.

Ella Klaus picked up nine digs and Schneider had a team-leading five kills.

Stats for Seymour were unavailable following the match.

Notre Dame to host Military Appreciation Night Friday

GREEN BAY — Notre Dame Academy will host a Military Appreciation Night with Green Bay West for the varsity football game at Ted Fritsch Field Friday, Sept. 10.

All military personnel will receive free admission with valid military identification.

Military vehicles will be on-site, and players from both teams will come to-

gether to hold an American flag measuring 20x30 feet during the playing of the National Anthem.

Spectators should arrive by 6:40 p.m. for the pre-game festivities.

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Nicolet NATIONAL BANK PRESENTS Senior Spotlight

Cadence Maxfield – Notre Dame Academy volleyball

BY MURRAY GLEFFE
CORRESPONDENT

Name: Cadence Maxfield
Nickname: Dence
School: Notre Dame Academy
Parents: Michelle and Teague Maxfield
Activity: Volleyball
Twitter: @MaxfieldCadence

Cadence Maxfield is a senior setter on the Notre Dame Academy volleyball team.

She said the Tritons' biggest rival is Luxemburg-Casco.

Maxfield said something most people don't know about her is she's addicted to "The Vampire Diaries."

She said four words that describe her are stubborn, passionate, creative and spontaneous.

What makes Notre Dame so successful?

"It has a strong history of positive culture and tra-

ditions, which grounds the individual athletes. I've learned the importance of team chemistry and communication and how much they impact positive outcomes."

What are your goals for this season?

"We'd love to win the WIAA regional championship for the 12th consecutive season. My personal goal is to go full-out in every practice and game."

Talk about your volleyball career.

"It started when I was in the sixth grade at the youth clinics. I have grown and developed each year since. I've had a chance to watch and play with some great players. This past season, I was named all-state honorable mention and second-team all-conference."

What's your most embarrassing volleyball moment?



Notre Dame Academy senior Cadence Maxfield is a member of the volleyball team. **Submitted Photo**

"It occurred on the first day of practice for my national club team in the eighth grade. The girl in front of me swung and hit the ball to the 10-foot line. When it was my

turn, I swung and missed the ball completely. It hit off the top of my head, and I fell on my face."

What's the hardest part about volleyball?

"As a setter, it's staying mentally relaxed. There is a lot you need to think about. As the captain, it's sometimes hard to take a step back and take the game play-by-play."

If you could be somebody for a day, who would it be?

"My dog because I could nap all day and steal people's food."

What celebrity would you like to meet?

"Harry Styles."

Do you have a sports ritual before a game?

"I usually braid everybody's hair. If I don't do this, I feel weird."

What are your college aspirations?

"To pursue a degree in an applied science field, such as pediatric physical or occupational therapy. I'd also love to play volleyball at the collegiate level."

What have you been told about playing at the next level?

"I've had some great interactions and visits with some top programs at the Division II and III levels. I have a few offers I'm excited

about. It's a matter of which fits me best when I look at the combination of academic, cultural, geographic and volleyball considerations. I hope to decide soon."

What are your hobbies?

"I'm fascinated by criminology. Most of my time outside of sports and school is spent listening to criminal psychology podcasts and documentaries."

How do you want to be remembered at Notre Dame?

"As someone who was a good example of what it means to be a student-athlete – someone who embodies the qualities on and off the court."

Biggest sports achievement?

"Being named floor captain almost every year I've played national-level club volleyball."

Name three cities you'd like to visit.

"New York, Rome and Paris."

Favorite college volleyball team?

"The Wisconsin Badgers."

Favorites

Food: Sushi

Subject: Kinesiology

Netflix movie: "High School Musical"

Books: The Selection Series

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Area high school football recaps

BY RICH PALZEWIC
SPORTS EDITOR

BROWN COUNTY – Week 3 of the high school football season is in the books.

Bay Port pounds North

The Pirates (3-0) beat Sheboygan North at home in a Fox River Classic Conference (FRCC) game, 49-15.

Bay Port lead 42-0 at half-time.

Quarterback Cole Bensen was 7-for-10 passing for 123 yards and a touchdown.

Running back Teyvn Montgomery led the Pirates on the ground with 78 yards on three carries and three touchdowns.

Tommy Hall added 54 yards on nine carries with a pair of touchdowns.

Tritons shut out Red Devils

Notre Dame Academy (1-2) beat Green Bay East (0-3) at City Stadium in FRCC action, 66-0.

No stats were available online.

Wildcats lose at home

Green Bay West (0-3) lost a 53-6 FRCC game at home to Menasha.

Menasha led 34-0 after the first quarter.

The Wildcats scored their only touchdown of the game in the second quarter when quarterback Cory Johnson hit wide receiver Zachary Offield with a 42-yard touchdown pass.

Johnson was 8-of-16 passing for 109 yards.

Seymour loses tight game

The Thunder (0-3) lost a 14-7 Bay Conference road game to Xavier.

It was Seymour's first points of the season.

No stats were available online.

Blazers lose second straight

Green Bay N.E.W. Lutheran/Oneida Nation (0-2) lost a 34-0 road game to White Lake in eight-man action.

No stats were available online.

Story ideas? Contact Sports Editor Rich Palzewic at rpalzewic@mmclocal.com **Press Times**

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\$10,550



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Former UWGB star shines on rugby field

BY GREG BATES
CORRESPONDENT

GREEN BAY – Kaili Lukan showed her competitive side for four years on the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay women's basketball team.

When Lukan, a scrappy guard who grew up in Ontario, Canada, graduated from college in 2016, her competitive juices were still flowing.

She had the opportunity to extend her athletic playing days, but it wasn't on the basketball court.

The head coach of the Canadian National Rugby Team called and wanted her to try out.

Lukan's older sister, Megan – who also played basketball for the Phoenix – was currently on the team.

Five years after Lukan chose to pursue rugby, she got to live out a childhood dream of competing in the Olympics.

Lukan recently returned to Canada from Tokyo following Canada's



Kaili Lukan, left, of team Canada, is tackled by Viniana Riwai and Alowesi Nakoci in a match between Team Canada and Team Fiji during the Rugby Sevens July 29 at the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games. Dan Mullan/Getty Images Photo

women's sevens rugby squad's ninth-place finish in the 2020 Olympic Games.

In the 2016 Rio Games, the Canadians won the bronze, so this year's team was expected to make a

run at the gold medal.

"It was a surreal moment," Lukan said about competing in the Olym-

pics. "I trained for five years to be named to the Olympic team, and fortunately, I was. I was

happy and proud to be representing (Canada) with my teammates. I'm proud I made it that far. It wasn't the outcome we envisioned or wanted, but I couldn't be more proud of my team for what we endured this past year."

With COVID-19 pushing the Olympics back one year and the virus still a factor in East Asia, fans weren't allowed to attend competitions.

The Lukan family had tickets to their daughter's rugby matches, but they had to stay home.

"Not having family there was a bummer, but you know you have support and everyone's cheering for you," Lukan said. "I'm thankful, even in Green Bay, the number of people who reached out. The community behind me there was incredible to see, especially since I've been gone for a few years."

Lukan's family and friends were able to watch

See LUKAN page 26



Battling for the top spot

West De Pere's Noah Jahnke (891) runs ahead of Bay Port's Anthony Adriansen Sept. 2 at the De Pere Invite. Jahnke won the meet with a time of 16:10, while Adriansen finished second in 16:28.

Josh Staloch Photo

Hot Corner: Ready for the next Olympics

BY RICH PALZEWIC
SPORTS EDITOR

Watching the track and field events at the 2020 Tokyo Summer Olympics got me thinking about how I'd stack up against the competition.

Granted, I'm no world-class athlete, but it doesn't mean I can't dream, right?

I never joined track because it interfered with baseball, but I think I could have been a decent sprinter – probably not the 100-meter dash because I don't have the pure speed needed but maybe the 200 or 400.

In my years of interviewing track athletes, many tell me the hardest event is the 800 – it's not a pure sprint, but you have to run hard and fast – no thanks!

Watching Steven Gardiner from the Bahamas win the 400 in 43.85 had me intrigued, so I recently headed to a local track with a good friend to see how I'd fare against the



Rich Palzewic

world's best.

Obviously, I didn't have any grandeur visions of coming remotely close to Gardiner's time, but I hoped I'd put up a decent time.

After warming up for 15-20 minutes, we took off in the one-lap "race."

The first half was okay, but when I turned the corner halfway through the lap, I felt the headwind.

I struggled through until hitting the straightaway where I gave it all I had.

Crossing the finish line,

my friend said our time was 1 minute, 33 seconds.

That's about a 6:12 mile pace, but I know I couldn't keep that pace for four laps.

Although I'm not going to train to improve my 400 time, I'll occasionally see if I've improved.

I plan to do more running in the next few months.

Green Bay schools struggle

Week 3 of the high school football season was a rough one for the Green Bay area public school teams.

The four schools – East, Preble, Southwest and West – were outscored a combined 196-6.

All four schools have yet to win a game (0-12 combined) and have been outscored 548-68.

What's going on?

I'm not sure I know the answer.

These teams have been

See HOT CORNER page 26

<p>Friday, Sept. 10, local football schedule</p> <p>Ashwaubenon @ De Pere Bay Port @ West De Pere Sheboygan South @ Green Bay Preble Green Bay West @ Notre Dame Academy Green Bay East @ Manitowoc Lincoln Green Bay Southwest @ Pulaski</p>	<p>Winneconne @ Seymour</p> <p>Saturday, Sept. 11</p> <p>Three Lakes @ Green Bay N.E.W. Lutheran/Oneida Nation – 1 p.m. St. Norbert College @ UW-Stout – 1 p.m.</p> <p><i>Editor's note: All games begin at 7 p.m. unless otherwise noted.</i></p>
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