

SPORTS EDITOR: DAVE BOEHLER

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QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"It's not the will to win that matters - everyone has that. It's the will to prepare to win that matters."
- Paul 'Bear' Bryant

Championship weekend



CONFERENCE CHAMPIONSHIPS were held Saturday, as Plymouth wrestler Jaden Papenfus (left photo, on right) and Panther swimmer Human du Plessis help their teams out. Stories on Page 16 - Photos by Tyler Luedtke

Wide world of wacky sports

Dave Boehler

THE REVIEW
SPORTS EDITOR



You just can't make this stuff up ...

■ A Houston furniture salesman bet \$4.5 million on the underdog Cincinnati Bengals to upset the favored Los Angeles Rams in the Super Bowl. Caesars Sportsbook said it is the second-largest bet the company has ever taken on the Super Bowl. If Jim "Mattress Mack" McIngvale is right, he wins \$7.7 million.

■ A 95-year-old message in a bottle buried in a bunker on a Scottish golf course was discovered by workers doing renovations. It was written on the back of a Craven cigarette package and was dated Nov. 18, 1926: "We are here today, but where we will be when this is found we do not know. Good luck."

■ An 8-year-old Labrador retriever raised money for charity in New York by ice skating. "Benny" wears custom-made skates and was taught by his owner who happens to be a retired professional figure skater.

■ About 1,600 baseball cards were discovered by an Idaho family remodeling their house. They removed the roof shingles covering a bedroom wall and found the 1970s and 80s cards glued to the wall too strongly to remove, so the family is willing to allow someone to take the wall away if they are interested.

■ Speaking of Idaho, two men there broke a Guinness World Record by passing a beach ball between them 157 times in 1 minute.

■ Not sure this is a sport, but another world record was set by an Iranian man when he balanced 85 spoons in various locations on his body. The 50-year-old says he has been doing this since he was a child. The previous record was 64 spoons for those wondering.

Super picks by coaches?

One of Dan Knaus' best friends is a lifelong Rams fan, but that isn't stopping the Plymouth football coach from picking Cincinnati to win the Super Bowl Sunday.

"I'm not necessarily rooting for the Bengals, it's just kind of my gut feeling this is one of those Cinderella story years and they're going to be the poster child of the new NFL, per se," he said. "Unlike most years when Tom Brady's involved - I'm always rooting against Tom Brady - I'm not rooting against either team. I'm hoping for a good game and I don't have a vendetta or things against either of these two teams."

Things can't go as bad as last year, when all three area coaches incorrectly predicted Kansas City would win and 88% of the respondents wanted the Chiefs to beat Tampa Bay when asked in The Review's weekly poll.

DAN KNAUS
Plymouth

His record: 1-2

Prediction: Cincinnati, 24-21.

I like the youth, kind of the Cinderella story they've had here. It's new blood. Something different.

Want Aaron Rodgers back? Yes

Will he return? No

I want him back because I don't want



to live through another rebuild, because there's never a guarantee of how long that's going to take. It'd be great like what Cincinnati did - Burrow's in his second year, (Ja'Marr) Chase is in his first year, all these guys are young.

But there's no guarantee you're going to do that well through the draft. I think we can get a ton of picks ... but I'd rather have a chance to win the Super Bowl next year."

JOSH BARDON

Elkhart Lake-Glenbeulah

His record: 2-1

Prediction: Los Angeles, 24-17

I'm kind of rooting for the Bengals, but I just don't think Burrow's line is going to hold up. ... They just got a better up-front line with (Aaron) Donald, I think he's going to be all over him. (Bur-

row) is going to do his best and is going to have some plays, it's just not going to be enough. I think the Rams just have a little better, more solid, offensive game plan with a good running attack, good receivers, and (Matt) Stafford is playing pretty solid.

Want Aaron Rodgers back? Yes

Will he return? Yes

I don't think we're ready for a rebuild yet. And I don't think (Jordan) Love is the answer yet. And Rodgers still has a lot left in the tank and has stuff to prove, so bring him back.

MARK MARANELLO
Howards Grove

His record: 1-1

Prediction: Los Angeles, 28-10

This is an interesting matchup. I go with the Rams because their defense is so good. But I've been going back and forth, because you can't really count out Burrow and what he's been doing this season.

Want Aaron Rodgers back?

Doesn't matter

Will he return? Yes

I'm not really necessarily a Packers fan, I just enjoy the game of football. I think he and the Packers organization kind of mended whatever was going on after last season with all that stuff.

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Olsen breaks record



PLYMOUTH'S FOREST OLSEN competes Saturday at the conference championship. - Photo by Tyler Luedtke

■ **He also helps PHS swim team come in second in conference meet**

Plymouth's swim team didn't get the result it was looking for, but several Panthers left the Eastern Wisconsin Conference championship meet satisfied on Saturday.

After winning the league title last year for the sixth time in seven years, PHS had to settle for second place - 11 points behind Door County.

"We always hope to win," coach Alex Krueger said. "Going into the meet we knew we were seeded second by 20-plus points, so for us to finish within 11 is a very nice job and complimentary to our guys. Closing a gap that large is not easy. We needed one or two more things to go our way and we potentially would have won it."

TWICE AS NICE: Junior Forest Olsen won two events, as he erased a 21-year-old EWC record by winning the 200-yard individual medley in a time of 2 minutes 3.38 seconds.

Leading up to the race, he had been looking at the meet's top 10 times and knew what the record was (2:05.56).

"I believed I could do it," Olsen said. "I had to focus a lot last week during practice, and then during the race I was just having fun. It felt very rewarding because when you race there's nothing you can really do to make yourself better, because it all comes in practice and hard work. All this time and effort I've been putting in all season, it was a fun experience more than anything."

He also won the 100 butterfly for the second straight season, this time finishing in 55.03 - which ranks fifth all-time at the event.

"I don't really think about the placing as much as I do racing myself and making myself better," Olsen said. "The placing comes naturally."

ANOTHER WINNER: Junior Ben Coley also claimed the 100 backstroke in 57.57 after finishing as runner-up a year ago.

"I was really just trying to push myself because that was my last 100 backstroke of the year, so I wanted to end the year on a good note," said Coley, who will not compete in the race at sectionals. "It felt really good as I've been training for it all year, so it was really nice to see the hard work pay off."

Coley was also second with a 23.33 in the 50 free, one year after ending runner-up in the 100 butterfly.

"Going into it, I was hoping to win, but I still think it was a pretty solid swim," he said. "I think I got up just kind of slow and then I couldn't come back from it."

WINNING RELAYS, TOO: Olsen and Coley were joined by seniors Human du Plessis and Jacob Gruttner to win the 200 free relay in 1:34.16 and the 400 free relay in 3:26.29.

FIRST FOR DIVER: Sophomore Zeb Schermacher came in first in the three-boy competition with a total of 330.05 points.

"Zeb has been coming on probably the last two or three weeks," Krueger said. "He really hit his stride in the middle of January. He has newfound confidence and he's been riding the board really well."

COPY CAT: In the 50, Gruttner was fourth (23.76) and du Plessis was fifth (24.18). In the 100, Gruttner again was fourth (52.65) and du Plessis took fifth (54.34).

FIFTH FOR FOURSOME: The 200 medley relay of juniors Connor Miley, Ryan Selk, Harry Schneider and sophomore Grant Luedtke placed fifth in 1:57.96.

OTHER RESULTS: Miley finished fifth in the 100 back (1:07.84). ... Selk took sixth in the 100 breaststroke (1:11.46). ... Schneider came in eighth in the 500 (6:09.43). ... Senior Kevin Smith ended the 200 free (2:14.75) and the 500 (6:24.92) in 10th.

Plymouth pom team takes sixth at state

Plymouth's pom team finished in sixth place in the Division 4 state competition on Saturday.

The Wisconsin Association of Cheer/Pom Coaches Championship was held in La Crosse, and it was the first time since 2011 the Panthers qualified with a pom routine.

"We didn't compete last year due to Covid so this was their first year of actually competing," coach Maren Romanoski said. "The majority of the girls on the team joined as freshmen last year, so this was a totally new experience for a lot of them. The competition was tough, but this group of girls

worked incredibly hard to get to state and finish in the top half.

"I am so grateful that our seniors had one last opportunity to perform at the state dance competition. I will miss the seniors tremendously next year but am looking forward to another amazing and successful season."



JACKSON PICARD (left) finishes fourth Saturday in the East Central Conference championship meet. - Photo by Tyler Luedtke

Daily repeats as champ

■ **Panther wrestler wins another conference title**

Plymouth sophomore wrestler Silas Daily made defending a conference championship look easy Saturday when he earned another East Central crown.

"I think (opponents) are a little scared because I already won conference," he said. "They kind of know who I am already, they're kind of scared when I step out on the mat."

Dailey won the 170-pound weight class by "being aggressive and taking shots" in a tech fall over Winneconne's Nathaniel Jechort in the final.

It was one of the reasons the Panthers were able to finish fourth in the team standings.

"I think if a couple matches go differently, we're right there in third or possibly second place," coach Andrew Crivellone said. "The thing is, we wrestled well. Our young guys got good experience there and

our veteran kids won good matches in the medal round, where it counted."

TWICE AS NICE: Two Panthers took second, highlighted by Wyatt Moore in his first year on varsity.

"At the start, I was just hoping to make it through the season," he said. "Looking back, I probably wouldn't expect to get second. I just wanted to give my best effort, and if I win, I win."

Moore's best showing before the weekend was fifth, but he says he ended the year on a roll.

"Winning just makes you feel like you can win even more," Moore said. "At the beginning of the year in tournament, I would just lose right away and I'd feel pretty bad about it. But once I started winning, I felt more confident and was wrestling better. But yeah, if I would've told my past self that I'd take second in conference, I'd say that's crazy."

At 285, Moore was pinned by Waupun's Daniel Wilkum in the title bout after he won the same way over Logan Johnson of Winneconne in the semifinal.

"Going into the season, it's not what you expect but based on how he's wrestling, I expect him to win," Crivellone said. "It wasn't a surprise to me he was where he was."

The other second-place finisher was Brooke Schuenemann at 120. She pinned Waupun's Kade Christian to advance to the final, where Winneconne's Garrett Marks won, 17-4.

"In the semifinal match, she beat her kid up pretty good," Crivellone said. "In my head, she definitely was a championship contender."

THREE TAKE THIRD: Gavin Gumienny (126), Kade Novak (132) and Jaden Papenfus (152) each finished third.

"You always hope a few of them will be in the championship, but at the same time, they won matches on the back side where it really counted," Crivellone said.

THREE MORE GET FOURTH: Jordan Lensmire (138), Jackson Picard (160) and Deacon Allen (182) finished fourth. Also, Jordan Trejo (195) ended fifth.

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Brill-Meerdink picks up first double-double

■ **Plymouth senior has 20 points, 10 boards**

Mason Brill-Meerdink picked up his first double-double last Friday in Plymouth's 78-73 victory at Ripon.

He scored his varsity-best 20 points and grabbed 10 rebounds to up the Panthers' record to 5-3 in the East Central and 9-10 overall (entering their game Thursday).

PHS, which beat the Tigers by 14 earlier this season, also got 16 points – including 14 in the first half – from Jake Steinhardt.

Ethan DeMunck also had his most points on varsity, 12, thanks in part to three 3-pointers.

Coach Tim Schultz also credited Alex Ames, Jack Jacquat, Andru Miller and Dylon Sass for providing "quality play" off the bench.

Ripon jumped out to a 10-2 lead when Plymouth responded with a 22-4 run behind good

ball movement and solid defense.

"Unfortunately, we couldn't grow or maintain that lead," Schultz said.

The Tigers rallied for a 62-52 lead with less than seven minutes left because of the Panthers inconsistent offense and defensive breakdowns.

Again, Plymouth fought back by scoring the next nine points following a timeout.

With 1:20 left, Brill-Meerdink secured a loose ball, took it in for a layup and was fouled.

His free throw gave his team a 72-69 advantage and it held on.

"We had many solid looks from outside, which did not fall against their zone defense," Schultz said.

"When we looked for and got the ball inside, we were very successful."



MASON BRILL-MEERDINK (right) tries to get a shot off in a recent game. He had his first double-double last Friday in a victory at Ripon. - Photo by Tyler Luedtke

Welcome back

■ **Lilyquist returns to PHS girls hoops**

Ellison Lilyquist is doing her best to make up for lost time. The Plymouth junior missed the first 20 basketball games because of a broken foot and she's responded with a total of 24 points and nine rebounds in her two games back.

"Ellison has been everything we've expected," coach Brad Shutter said. "I mean, she's been very good. It's the type of player we knew she would've been, it's just too bad that we haven't had her the whole season."

In a 63-50 loss at Ripon Tuesday, Lilyquist had a team-high 14 points. She had 10 Feb. 1 against Kiel.

"She shook that rust off really quick and has been really good," Shutter said. "It just goes to prove how diligent she was with her rehab and how diligent she was with her conditioning. She put in the time with Yoshi (Ono) and really got herself into condition. That hasn't even been an issue as far as her playing. I thought that would probably be her biggest thing, when she starts running up and down the court, that she's going to get tired. But she hasn't. She's been really good that way."

Plymouth, which beat Ripon by one point Dec. 16, also got a triple-double from Ava Booth. She finished with 11 points, 12 rebounds and nine assists.

McKenna Hovey also had 11 points and eight rebounds for the Panthers, who were outscored by eight in the second half.

Hellmer to play softball at St. Norbert

Plymouth's Calli Hellmer will play softball for St. Norbert College. The senior received all-East Central Conference



HELLMER

honorably mentioned last year thanks to a .397 batting average and 24 runs batted in (both ranked second among Panthers).

Hellmer, who also hit three home runs, was also in contact with Lakeland and Concordia.

"I really like the campus and the softball coach was amazing," she said. "She was really nice. The student-to-teacher ratio is really nice, and it's a smaller campus, which is what I was looking for."

Hellmer, who plans on studying biology, will play first base even though she is Plymouth's catcher.

"I started playing first base a couple of years ago in club ball and I really liked it," she said. "So I feel like I'm better at it and I feel like there's more opportunities for me to play that position in college too."

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Howards Grove's Yancy picks Michigan Tech

Add Jackie Yancy to the list of Howards Grove volleyball players who will continue the sport in college.

The junior, who made all-Big East honorable mention two years in a row, will play at Michigan Tech.

Yancy decided at the end of January and admits she felt re-

lieved that the recruiting process was over.

"I finally had my school, so it was a huge weight off my shoulders," she said.

Yancy was also interested in playing for Northern Michigan and Truman State, so she spent awhile thinking about where to go.

"I talked it over with my family a lot," she said. "With Michigan Tech, I immediately just loved the coaches



YANCY

and the team. They were all so welcoming. And I loved it up there. Houghton was so cute and I really liked the campus."

Yancy says she also got along really well with those associated with Truman State, plus her sister recently played there.

"Because of her, I was al-

ready talking to all these girls and the coach is also very nice there," Yancy said. "But based on campus, I liked Michigan Tech's more."

Yancy was scheduled to have surgery on a torn meniscus Thursday due to a basketball injury and will be sidelined for at least six weeks.

Schueler's 19 leads way

Howards Grove junior scores her most on varsity

Ellie Schueler's stellar play continued Tuesday, as she finished with her varsity-best 19 points in a 55-45 win over visiting Cedar Grove-Belgium.

The junior, who shot 7 of 12 from the floor, is averaging 11.3 points per game in her last nine outings.

"That's huge for us," coach Heidi Georgeff said.

She found openings in the Rockets zone and made them pay.

"She just shot the ball really

well," Georgeff said. "Our press created some turnovers where she scored, but she's becoming a confident offensive player and is taking all the shots she should be taking."

Howards Grove improved to 10-6 in the Big East and 12-9 overall (entering its game Thursday) by playing good defense again.

Rilee Reichwald and Destiny Benton each finished with 11 points, and the Tigers gave up 20 first-half points.

"I love to see that balance offensively, three or four kids chipping in scoring points," Georgeff said.

Reichwald also finished with eight rebounds.

"It just shows you it doesn't matter how tall you are," Georgeff said. "She's 5-foot nothing and she led our team in rebounds just because she's got the sheer will to get them. ... She also had six assists, so again, just a kid that's out there doing all the little things."

DESTINY BENTON (14), shown in a recent game, was one of the reasons Howards Grove defeated Cedar Grove-Belgium this week. - Photo by Les Tension



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Monster continues to grow for Tiger boys

A combined 60 points from Miles Barnstable and Tanner Schumacher lifted Howards Grove's boys basketball squad to a 94-59 win at Cedar Grove-Belgium on Tuesday.

Barnstable had 39 and Schumacher added 21 to give

the Tigers, ranked 10th in the Division 4 state poll, a 17-3 record. They have won 12 of their last 13 games, including the last six by at least 12 points.

"We're pretty hard to stop if both guys are clicking," coach Wade Georgeff said. "They

both can shoot from the outside, they both can take it to the rim."

MONSTER GETTING BIGGER: Freshman Trent Grunewald continues to shine. He had 12 points to give him 10 or more in 10 of his last 12 games (he had just one 10-point game in his first eight outings).

"He just adds another element, another shooter, which takes pressure off those guys," Georgeff said. "Tuesday, Trent was also able to get to the rim and now he can take it to the hoop as well as finish."

"So we're really starting to get a three-headed monster here."

Grunewald is seeing things differently now after he had to get used to facing older and stronger players.

"He had to adjust a little bit, but his game is pretty smooth," Georgeff said.

"I'd say he's learning as we go here."

KEY TO GAME: Shooting. Georgeff says Howards Grove was able to get out in transition and push the ball.

"It's one of the things we've been working on, and keeps getting better and better," he said. "A lot of guys finished around the hoop."



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Heartbreak City for Resorter boys basketball

After Hayden Schultz sank a three-point shot with time running out Tuesday, Oostburg made two free throws with one second left for a 55-54 victory.

"This was a great high school basketball game that unfortunately one team had to lose," coach Mike Koehler said. "This was our fifth one possession loss of the season, which is frustrating and our overall record (9-9) is not necessarily reflective of the quality of our play. But that is basketball. I am proud of the team's effort."

Jacob Ganga had a team-high 21 points (on 9-of-11 shooting) and 11 rebounds, and Schultz added 13 points.

ELG 67, St. Lawrence 33

Last Friday, Kean O'Neil and Ganga each finished with 19 points. Ganga also made all seven free throws to go with 12 boards.

Brady Hassinger contributed 11 points and nine rebounds as well.

"We had a perfect start to Senior Night, as Wyatt Schuette hit a three-point shot," Koehler said. "Wyatt is a tremendous teammate and it was great for him to have this moment. Senior Chase Entringer also made some nice contributions with rebounding and scoring."

"The group of seven seniors we honored have elevated the Resorter basketball program and have left the uniform in a better spot compared to where they found it. And for that, Resorter Nation is grateful."

GIRLS BASKETBALL

Oostburg 79, ELG 46

Ella Feldmann led the way with 16 points Tuesday, while



CHASE ENTRINGER (34) shoots last Friday on Senior Night. - Photo by Les Tension

Kat Miller added and Rylee Dippel and Ava Conrad each pulled down seven rebounds.

"Oostburg is just a solid, well-coached team," coach Donny Kulow said. "They are strong in all areas and we just could not slow them down. They play well together as a team. We had a hard time stopping them in transition and on drives to the basket. Rylee gave us some good minutes off the bench and rebounded well."

Manitowoc Luth. 52, ELG 47

Last Friday, Miller scored 13 points, Conrad chipped in with 11 to go with seven rebounds, and Feldmann contributed seven points and seven assists.

"Lexi Miller hit some big shots when Manty Lutheran made it difficult for Kat to get good looks," Kulow said. "Abby Tegen has been playing with more confidence, looking for her shot and playing good defense."



YUKI SESOKO (left) finishes second in the Big East wrestling championship on Saturday. - Photo by Les Tension

ELG's Sesoko is runner-up in BEC

Yuki Sesoko came up just short in his bid to become a conference champion.

The Elkhart Lake-Glenbeulah senior wrestler finished second at 170 pounds Saturday in the Big East Championship.

After pinning Nico Desotelle of Mishicot in 4 minutes 23 seconds in the quarterfinals, he used a 5-3 decision over Joe Schoeder of Cedar Grove-Belgium in the semifinals.

However, Reedsville's Casey Braun won the final, 9-8.

"He wrestled well up until the finals when he made some mental errors," coach Jack Jensen said. "But if he can put it all together at the end, I think he'll do really, really well."

The Resorters, who finished seventh in the team standings, watched Lacota Lisowe (113) and Josiah Horn (120) each place fourth.

Fifth went to Aaron Schorer (182).

"We had some guys wrestle above their expectations and ... I'm looking forward to this weekend (regionals)," Jensen said. "I'm looking forward to see how the boys compete and lay it on the line."

WEEKLY POLL



Question:

Do you want Aaron Rodgers in Green Bay next season?

Answer:

Yes: 51%
No: 49%

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Could superhero help Schultz while ice fishing?



HAYDEN SCHULTZ (2) is the latest to partake in 20 Questions. - Photo by Les Tension

Four varsity seasons in soccer and basketball, and that number will also be reached in golf in the spring.

That's what senior Hayden Schultz has done at Elkhart Lake-Glenbeulah, which might even impress a certain lady.

Q: What celebrity do you have a crush on?

A: Wonder woman.

Q: What scares you the most?

A: Falling through the ice when ice fishing.

Q: What is a hidden talent that you have?

A: If I hit my bicep with my fist a big bump bulges out for a couple seconds.

Q: What do you think of Aaron Rodgers?

A: An all-time great quarterback and a very honest person.

Q: Who's going to win the Super Bowl?

A: Rams because it's being played in their home stadium.

Q: What's the funniest thing that has happened at one of your jobs?

A: A random guy came up and was showing me and my co-work-

20 QUESTIONS

er his "special power" while we were pumping out sumps at a gas station.

Q: Your favorite joke is...?

A: Why couldn't the toilet paper cross the road? Because it got stuck in a crack.

Q: What last made you laugh until you cried?

A: Something my friend said at Taco Bell after a basketball game.

Q: Besides a phone, what three things would you want if you're stranded on an island?

A: Family, good hunting gear, and good fishing gear.

Q: What is the song you enjoy the most but are afraid to admit?

A: Grenade by Bruno Mars.

Q: What is the best restaurant in the area?

A: Umi Sushi and Steak House.

Q: You can have dinner there with any three people. Who are they?

A: Nikki Lortiz, Amanda Tadych and Tyler Schultz.

Q: If you could be anything or do anything for a living, what would it be?

A: Have a hunting TV show.

Q: What is your biggest pet peeve?

A: When two cars are going the same speed next to each other on the highways and I can't pass them.

Q: How would you describe your bedroom?

A: There's just enough room for a bed and a TV.

Q: What was the most embarrassing moment for you in any sport?

A: In a golf meet, I hit the wrong ball two separate times on the same round and ended with my worst score ever.

Q: Favorite teacher of all time?

A: Mr. Osterman. One reason is that he teaches me the most useful things that I need to know.

Q: What is your least-favorite school subject?

A: History. The documentaries in this class should only be used to get kids to fall asleep.

Q: What is the one TV show you always have to watch?

A: Whitetail Frenzy.

Q: Favorite movie?

A: Step Brothers, because it is the funniest movie that I know of.

OUTDOORS

Packers may have found their new quarterback

Hello Friends,

I have often written about the 50 falls in a row that I have hunted deer in northern Juneau County while camping with family and friends, and how four people evolved from a tent to 25 people putting up a steel pole barn for two weeks on public land and than taking it down.

When it was just my father, the late Robert Walters, and my brothers, Tom and Mike, and then Jeff Moll, we would camp next to some Milwaukee guys that were very tough and a whole heck of a lot of fun: Lynn Halboth, Tony Wagner and the late Larry Sowle.

All three of my eventual pals are about 14 years older than me and took me under their wing when I turned 18, and would stay at camp after my family left.

I cannot write about all of the things they taught me or about all the places that they took me, but exactly 50 years later we are still great friends; RIP Larry!

So what am I getting at here?

All three of these guys ended up living in Clark County near Willard and I had not seen them since Covid hit, and so we needed an excuse to laugh a lot.

I came up with a dandy and that was that I could hunt squirrel on Lynn's 116 acres of

pure paradise, and at night we could socialize.

**Friday, Jan. 28th
High 22, low 1**

In all honesty, Tony, Lynn and I have a great connection. When I arrived today, every squirrel in Lynn's woods was safe as the three of us sat in Lynn's kitchen and talked and laughed for a long time.

Next, we headed over to JJ's Bar and Grill for a top-notch fish fry. Then we went over to Willard, where my good friend, Dean Lesar, had purchased Freddie's Bar and we had a great time speaking with a lot of good people about hunting, fishing, farming and everything in between.

**Saturday, Jan 29th
High 19, low 7**

I don't know if you are aware of this, but squirrel are not very active on cold January days.

This morning, I would be

carrying my Remington 597 "22" and Lynn would be shooting a Winchester single shot 22. We were both in kind of rough shape and right away Lynn got his UTV stuck in a snow drift. Then he realized the four-wheel drive wasn't working.

Next we had to walk a very long ways across a field that had some pretty deep snow drifts that my old pole-climbing buddy (Lynn was a linemen for A T&T) did not like. Once he fell over in a snow drift and it was pure luck that he got upright. So we hit the woods that is chalk full of deer and squirrel sign, but all the squirrel are hiding on us. Eventually we made it back to Lynn's home without firing a shot and after a snooze I hit the woods by myself. No squirrel action and back to camp at dark, zero festivities tonight.

**Sunday, Jan. 30th
High 21, low 4**

I am a cured man, was wandering the woods at first light and to be perfectly honest, loving it. When I was a young boy, I was as good a squirrel hunter as you could find. Five kids living with just a dad made the 22 and the forest my best friend.

I kept having those memories this morning and I also loved exploring the winter version of a Wisconsin forest with heavy wildlife sign.

My first real action of this three-day hunt came with five squirrels in a group of oaks, and I am glad I was not being videoed as I was missing. I explored further into the forest and saw gray on white (squirrel on snow); I did my sneak and the dang squirrel kept going on the other side of the oak tree.

I was patient, and after 15

minutes it stuck it's head out so I sent him to the frying pan. I felt like I just threw a touchdown pass for the Packers.

I kept exploring and once again I saw gray on white. I did a sneak, played the same game, took a shot and out of the old oak tree tumbles squirrel No. 2. At this point I'm thinking who needs Aaron Rogers, I can handle the job.

My last last squirrel was the best yet. I saw it running on the snow a hundred yards away. It climbed a tree. I made a sneak; in all honesty it was a 50-yard shot.

I figured what do I have to lose, I am already the next quarterback to take the Packers to the Super Bowl. I squeezed the trigger and walla, we just won the Super Bowl.

Lynn still has not recovered from Friday night and told me he will call when I can make my next visit!

Sunset



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